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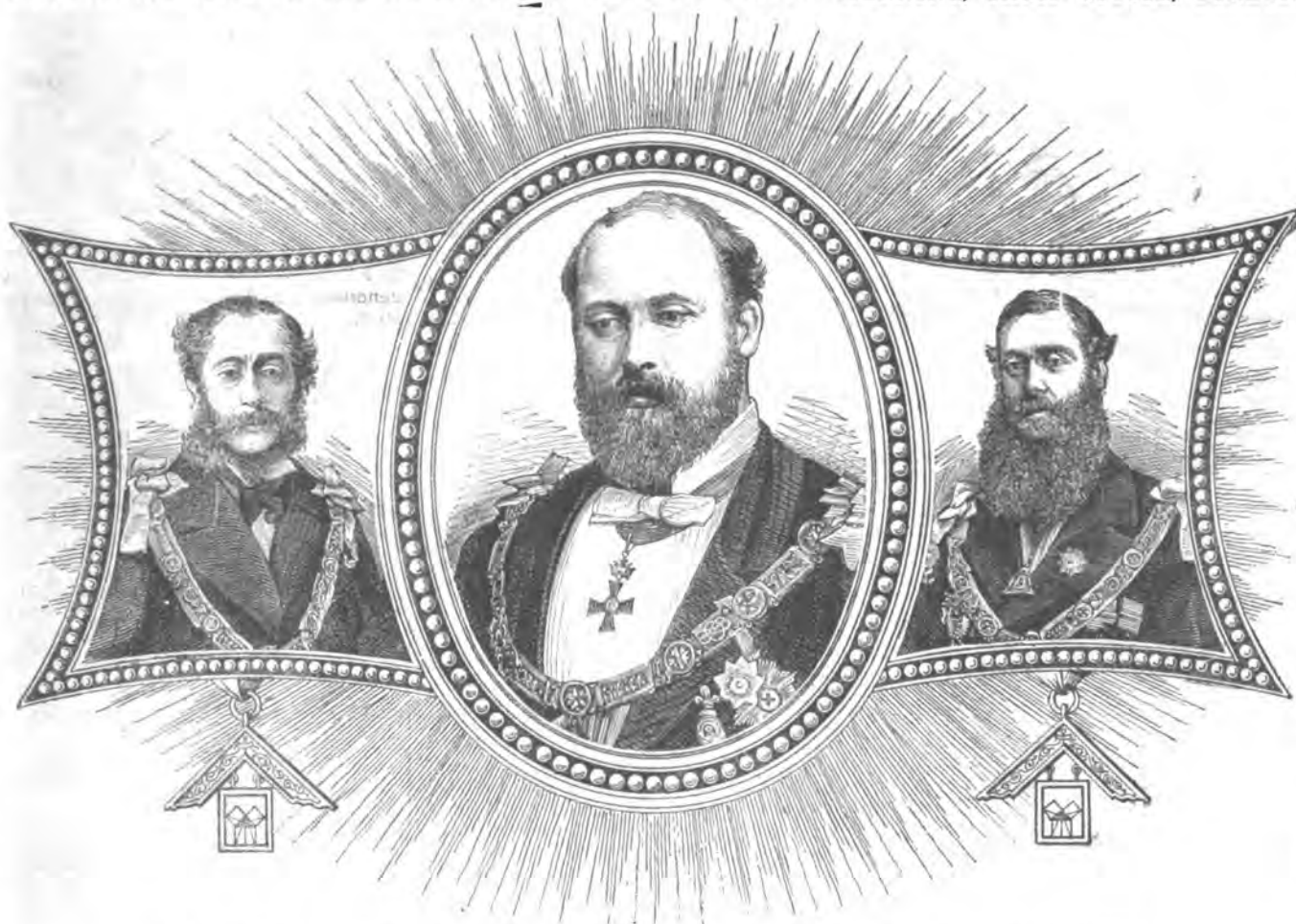
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FREEMASONRY IN EVERY DEGREE.

VOL. IX.

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PREFACE.

THE NINTH VOLUME of the *Freemason* is completed, and offered to kind friends and readers wherever the English language is spoken; in fact, in all parts of the world. It is truly a cosmopolitan work, as it records the events which take place, week by week, in every portion of civilized nationalities, and its completed volume will therefore have much interest for all who like to keep before them an authoritative record of Masonic "sayings and doings" during each successive twelve months. It may perhaps be said without any egotism or bravado, that few journals have so much claim on the Craft generally as the *Freemason*. It offers in the first instance, a great desideratum in all legitimate trade, a very good article, at a very reasonable price. Indeed, it is not too much even to add that we know of no publication anywhere which affords so much to its readers at so little cost. Its zealous and Masonic Publisher has from the first most manfully laboured to give it not only a status in this country and in all countries, but also to put before his large circle of subscribers, and the reading public, as week follows week, a simple Masonic Paper of literary merit and of careful compilation which might command the attention of all ranks in our Order, and fitly serve as trustworthy chronicle of the "notabilia," and the "bene notanda," of our great Masonic fraternity at home and abroad. And who can venture to deny that to him has been vouchsafed the prestige both of mercantile success and personal approval? The *Freemason* is read, as we know just now, in every known portion of the world, and its circulation is weekly increasing. When we remember the history of Masonic literary labour in this country, we see at once how exceptional and how triumphant has been the onward progress of the *Freemason*. Its Publisher has never been daunted by difficulties or doubts. He has offered in the open market of Freemasonry an honest ware, (warranted not to shrink), at a very reasonable price, and he has left the matter as it can only be left, to the good sense, fair judgment, manly criticism, and kindly sympathies of his brethren. He has not been [disappointed; since never in the history of Freemasonry has so much Masonic support been ever received before in Great Britain, by any Masonic Paper. But still, being alike energetic and persevering in business, as well as in Freemasonry, our Publisher naturally wishes to enlarge still more his circle of readers, so as to render the support he receives from the body generally, commensurate as far as may be, with the numerical and social importance of the Craft. One fact he wishes to impress on the minds and memories of his readers is that a large proportion of Freemasons read no Masonic Journal at all, and the margin between those who can take in a Masonic Paper and those who do not, for some reason or other, is very wide indeed. He trusts therefore that in 1877, much of the past apathy may be remedied—more of this present ignorance of the *Freemason* may be dispelled. He will spare no pains in the present or future, as in the past, to make the *Freemason* worthy of the Order. During the last 12 months, he has very frequently increased the 16-paged paper to 20 or 24 pages, in order not to lag behind with the "copy," so kindly forwarded from all parts; he has improved the quality of the paper in striking measure, and he will be always willing to make any sacrifice in the interests of the *Freemason*, which passing news may require, or the exigencies of superabundant correspondence may demand.

He thanks again one and all who have read, or circulated, or subscribed to, or written for the *Freemason* in 1876, most heartily and sincerely for all their truly fraternal efforts, and he trusts that the same kind support will be tendered to him in 1877.

The Editor also begs to join with the Publisher in offering his heartfelt acknowledgments to all, whether readers or writers, who have cheered his humble labours in 1876, and he is inclined to hope that 1877 will witness no deterioration in the quality of the *Freemason* in any respect, but will manifest to all who look over it, or carefully con over its interesting pages, that as good Freemasons, those who manage it are zealously striving week by week, and year by year, to add to its own intrinsic worth as a true, sound, creditable, fair Masonic Journal, and to claim the confidence and maintain the patronage of old and new friends.

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REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS.

Craft Masonry.

MOUNT LEBANON LODGE (No. 73).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held on Tuesday, the 21st ult., at Bro. Spencer's, the Bridge House Hotel. The W.M., Bro. L. J. Hooper Wilkins, as is customary with him, took the chair punctually at half-past five, the time named in the summons, supported by his officers, viz., Bros. Charles Rayden, S.W.; Knott, J.W.; Keeble, S.D.; Iretton, J.D.; Cooper, I.G.; Harris, P.M., Treasurer; Free, P.M., Secretary; Ebsworth, P.M., D.C.; and Rose, P.M., W.S. Notwithstanding that it was election night, the general attendance was below the average. The close proximity of Christmas may have had something to do with this, as many brethren would probably be so much engaged in other matters that they could not attend "without detriment to themselves or connexions." It may be, too, that the election was considered as a foregone conclusion, as no one would vote against the Senior Warden, so popular is he among those over whom he is so soon to rule. There being no work on the agenda, the election of W.M. for the ensuing year was proceeded with, and the result, as we have already anticipated, was unanimously in favour of Bro. Rayden. The ballot for Treasurer was next taken, which was unanimously in favour of Bro. Edward Harris, P.M., who has now filled that office for, we believe, 38 years, during the whole of which time he has only been absent from the lodge on three occasions, and then only through illness. Bro. Harris is not only the oldest P.M. but is the oldest member of the lodge; hence he may lay a double claim to the title of father of the lodge, and a very good father he is, for he is at all times ready and willing to give advice and instruction to his younger brethren. Bro. Laing was re-elected Tyler. Bro. Harris next proposed the usual sum from the lodge funds to purchase a Past Master's jewel to be presented to Bro. Wilkins on his vacating the chair, and in the course of his remarks he paid a very high compliment to the W.M. for the skill and ability with which he had governed the lodge during the past year. Were he to propose, he said, double the amount he had named he was certain it would be cheerfully given; but with Bro. Wilkins that was not necessary. The jewel, whatever it was, would be valued not for its intrinsic worth but as being a souvenir of his year of office. It is needless to say that the motion was unanimously passed.

METROPOLITAN LODGE (No. 1507).—The regular monthly meeting of this lodge was held on the 16th ult., at the Metropolitan Club, 269, Pentonville Road. The W.M., Bro. J. J. Michael, presided and performed the work of the lodge, assisted by his officers, Bros. Thos. Williams, S.W.; B. Kingham, J.W.; Rose, Treas.; G. Tims, Sec.; John Douglas, S.D.; C. J. Scales, J.D.; W. M. Stiles, D.C. Geo. Colls, W.S.; W. Side, I.G.; Jas. Willing, I.F.M. Visitors: Bros. J. Gardner, 1563; Fenner, 1227; S. Mills, P.M. 157; Geo. Jones, One and All; H. Masse, P.M. 619 ("Freemason"); and 34 lay brethren of the lodge. The work consisted of raising Bros. H. Stiles, J. Gilbert, jun., Swaagman, and Solomon; passing Bro. Cave, Van Camp, and Lowgrove; and initiating Messrs. F. Baddeley, George Edwards, and Henry Scales. The brethren were engaged in these ceremonies for over three hours, and at its termination they adjourned to an excellent repast, provided by Bro. George Cox, the manager of the Metropolitan Club. The toasts followed the banquet, and the Prince of Wales's health, together with success to his journey in the far East, was most heartily drunk. The Prov. and Deputy Grand Masters' health was as drunk, and the W.M. in proposing it drew attention to the great ability of both these rulers in the Craft. O. Willing proposed "The Health of the W.M.," who came into the lodge 15 months ago an obscure country brot. He had, however, so applied himself to Masonic studies that since his connection with the lodge he had blossomed and borne magnificent fruit. He meant to go on as he had begun. His working in lodge had been excellent, his gentlemen had come up for initiation, and the W. had consequently had no easy time of it. Other des were also required of him, and in this lodge the W. was expected to collect a large amount of money for the charities; to keep the brethren well supplied with all they wanted; and also to leave a large balance in the Treasurer's hands when the chair was passed to the next M. That evening they had

had a very agreeable meeting, and the W.M. had done his best to make it so. He had, in fact, proved himself in all respects fitted to occupy the chair. (Applause.) The W.M., after some allusions to the endeavour which had been made in the lodge to render all the brethren comfortable, and at the banquet table not to stint them of good cheer, expressed his pleasure in ministering, even though sometimes in a small degree, to the extension of Freemasonry. Freemasonry did not consist in eating and drinking. This lodge was now becoming very powerful, and it was the lodges that were powerful which exerted the greatest influence in the Order. This lodge therefore should set the example to other lodges. What they could afford they should spend, but at the same time they should remember that they should leave something to be applied to the cause of charity. The Metropolitan Lodge would never forget this, and it was one of the greatest objects of its promoters that the cause of benevolence and charity should ever be its distinguishing feature. The lodge had freed itself from all engagements, and it could now devote itself to the objects it had in view. This was a very proud position for so young a lodge to attain to; and it was also a proud position for a brother to occupy its chair when it had so far fulfilled its mission. He was much obliged to the brethren for having drunk his health so heartily, and he trusted that on all occasions they would support him as loyally and heartily as they had hitherto done. If they did he should when his year of office expired retire into the ranks of the Past Masters with his best wishes to them all. (Cheers.) Bro. Michael then gave "The P.M.," and, quoting Barham's "Jackdaw of Rheims," said his "words were too faint his merits to paint, and so they agreed to make him a saint." (Laughter.) Fortunately they did not want reminding of the P.M.'s many good qualities, and if they did there was that in the lodge room to bring him to their memory (referring to the oil painting which was presented on the occasion of Bro. Willing becoming I.P.M.). The promotion of the lodge was due to Bro. Willing, through whose indefatigable exertions night and day they had obtained their warrant. When they considered the amount of pleasure he had been instrumental in affording all of them, they could not but feel what an immense debt they owed him. Freemasonry, to his (the W.M.'s) mind, afforded pleasure to all its members. It was one of the greatest pleasures of life; and if for nothing else the establishment of this lodge had endeared Bro. Willing to all of them. (Hear, hear.) Bro. Willing replied. He had always experienced kind feelings from the members of the lodge. If it was difficult for him to speak now, what would it be a few years hence, when as one of the many Past Masters he should have the pleasure of meeting many happy faces sitting alongside him as Past Masters. He felt deeply the good feelings of the brethren, and anything that appertained to Freemasonry, he could assure them, was ever of interest to him. Any one who took the same interest in the well-being of the Craft naturally became a close friend of his directly. Certainly he was the founder and father of the lodge; but it must be remembered its success depended on the hearty support it received from others. The brethren who assisted him in its formation had no idea when they established it that they would be able to make it more than 30 strong at the end of the year. But such success had attended it, that the difficulty now was not to bring members in, but to keep them out. There was the great question of want of accommodation looming in the future. But then, where were they to go? Anderton's Hotel, one of the best places of meeting in the whole of the metropolis, the London Tavern, Cannon-street Hotel, Freemasons' Tavern, all had the objection of not being so easily accessible for the brethren, who by the circumstance of their residential localities were conveniently situated for the Metropolitan Club. It behoved Freemasons to build halls of their own. In many parts of the country, Freemasons were better accommodated than in London; and it must be known to the brethren that it was essential to the proper performance, of the ceremonies that there should be every accommodation. More especially was this the case for the ceremony of initiation, for it was on a brother's primary introduction to the Order that the greatest impression was made on him. Proper Masonic halls erected in different localities would provide this requisite. He would now speak of the Charities, which up to the present time the brethren had liberally supported. He then appealed to the brethren to assist him in making up a good list for the Benevolent Institution's Festival, of the 9th February. (This was responded to by the contribution of some £30.) The W.M. afterwards gave "The Visitors," for which compliment Bro. Mills, P.M. 157, and several other brethren responded. The W.M. next proposed "The Initiates," and exhorted them to join the Lodge of Instruction, and obtain a further insight into Masonic mysteries than they had obtained that evening, crossing as it were the threshold of Freemasonry. The Initiates having responded, the toast of "The Officers" followed, and these brethren having replied, the evening, which had been enlivened by some very nice singing, was brought to a close.

HULL.—Humber Lodge (No. 57).—An unusually large number of members of this old and important lodge assembled on the evening of Tuesday, the 21st ult., for a purpose at all times of great Masonic interest, viz., the election of W.M. for the ensuing year. During the last year the office has been fulfilled by Bro. Jonathan West, and we are merely relating a fact in stating that his year of office has been as pleasant and as prosperous as a year as can be recollected by the oldest members of the lodge. Bro. West is, in himself, a striking instance that genuine Masonic worth, such as kindness and courtesy, adherence to Masonic principles, and attention to Masonic duties are certain to be recognised and rewarded amongst us. In addition to these qualifications, Bro. West has the advantage of possessing many genial and attractive social

attributes, which always make their influence felt in a large lodge, and tend to promote that harmony and good feeling so essentially necessary to "mother comforts." Bro. West, we are assured, leaves the chair with the best and most fraternal wishes of his brethren, who, in appreciation of his many brotherly qualities, intend making him the recipient of some tangible mark of their approbation through the medium of a Masonic presentation. The W.M. elect is Bro. A. W. Ansell, who will, no doubt, have the example of his predecessor constantly before him, and who, we believe, will zealously strive to maintain the happiness and prosperity of the lodge. There is one thing to which, as we are now referring to this lodge, we may, with propriety, allude, and that is, the somewhat indiscriminate admission of members. Many of the brethren appear to think that the success of a lodge relies more upon quantity than quality, and, therefore, instead of adding to Masonry those capable of shewing to advantage its principles and teachings, and taking an active part in its promulgation, they get those who, after becoming full fledged M.M.'s, degenerate into thinking that the essence and spirit of Freemasonry consist in the Knife and Fork Degree. The Humber Lodge is one of the largest in the kingdom, as well as one of the richest. At present the list of members number nearly 300, and as the lodge is worth some thousands of pounds, the rapid increase of members cannot be on account of money wanted. There seems to be a desire on the part of the W.M.'s to initiate as many candidates as possible, so that such W.M. may say he has done more to increase the lodge than his predecessor. During Bro. West's Mastership somewhere about thirty candidates have been initiated into Freemasonry. What will ultimately become of the lodge if the manufacturing goes on at this rate we cannot tell. It is hoped that those to whom the future prosperity of the Old Humber is dear will take this subject into consideration, and that Bro. Ansell during his year of office will set an example which has long been wanted. A report of the installation will duly appear.

BURY.—Prince Edwin Lodge (No. 128).—The usual monthly meeting of the above lodge was held on Wednesday, the 15th ult. Amongst a number of other visiting brethren present we observed Bros. Tunnah, Provincial Grand Secretary for East Lancashire, and Newton, of Bolton. After the minutes had been read and confirmed, the lodge proceeded to the election of W.M. for the ensuing year. The presiding W.M., Bro. Warwick Wood, recommended as Master Bro. W. S. Barlow, the S.W. of the lodge. The election was by ballot in the form prescribed by the Book of Constitutions. The W.M. declared Bro. Barlow to be unanimously elected, and congratulated him thereon. Bro. Barlow briefly thanked the brethren for the honour conferred upon him. The lodge then proceeded to the appointment of the rest of the officers: Bros. Thomas Hood being Treasurer; Wright Greenhalgh, Tyler; and S. Holt and S. Horrocks, the Auditors. Bro. Tunnah concurred in the manner in which the election had been conducted, and congratulated the lodge on the result. The W.M. then, in a highly eulogistic speech, presented to Bro. Ramsbottom, Secretary, a massive silver cup and a Past Master's jewel, subscribed by the brethren of the lodge. The cup was chastely engraved, and underneath a suitable Masonic emblem. On the side of same was the following inscription: "Presented by the Officers and Members of Prince Edwin Lodge to Bro. Thomas Ramsbottom, who for upwards of 40 years has served the lodge with zeal and fidelity." Bro. Tunnah, at the request of the W.M., then proceeded to invest Bro. Ramsbottom with the Past Master's jewel, and in doing so alluded, in very eloquent and earnest terms, to Bro. Ramsbottom's long and valued services to the lodge, which he stated had extended over nearly half-a-century, and notwithstanding that their honoured Secretary was verging upon fourscore years, he found him still in harness, and to all appearance able to serve the lodge for many years to come with pleasure to himself and profit to the lodge. He (Bro. Tunnah) was glad to have the opportunity of making this investiture. He thought there was a peculiar fitness in that ceremony having fallen into his hands, for he believed that, as Bro. Ramsbottom was the oldest lodge Secretary in the province, he (Bro. Tunnah) was the oldest Provincial Secretary in Lancashire. They had held their respective offices for a longer period than any of their predecessors, and he was quite sure they both had no higher ambition than "to die with harness on their backs." He concluded by requesting the W.M. to adjourn the lodge from labour to refreshment, that he might have the satisfaction of filling the very handsome cup just presented, and pledging Bro. Ramsbottom therein. The W.M. consented, when "the loving cup," filled and re-filled several times by Bro. Tunnah, was passed round the lodge until every member had quaffed therefrom to the aged veteran's health and happiness.

SHEERNESS.—Adams Lodge (No. 158).—The regular meeting of this highly prosperous and excellent lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, which is fairly entitled to rank as one of the best worked and most harmonious lodges in the extensive Province of Kent, met on Tuesday, the 7th ult., for the first time, in their new rooms, at the Victoria Hall Buildings, Trinity Road, Sheerness-on-Sea, which has been decorated in a most beautiful way, and is now considered equal to any in the province. These rooms were originally designed for a Masonic Lodge by Bro. C. B. Shrubsole, P.M. of this lodge and P.P.G.S.D. of Kent, and great credit is due to him for the judgment he displayed. Bro. T. J. Firminger, W.M., presided, assisted by the following officers:—viz., Bros. A. Spears, P.M., Treas., P.P.G.O., acting I.P.M.; W. T. Carpenter, P.M., acting S.W.; J. H. Brett, J.W.; J. Bagshaw, P.M., Sec.; J. P. Watts, S.D.; J. F. Nunn, J.D.; C. Perkins, I.G.; A. Donavan, Steward; and J. Akhurst, acting Tyler, and the following brethren:—Bros. R. Derry, C. Moore, J. H. McLachlan, R. Coleman, J. Brown, A.

Thompson, G. Wager, H. E. Hammond, F. C. Paul, A. Steadman, T. F. Brown, J. Davidson, E. J. Penney, G. Ayton, E. Goldborough, and J. Taylor. Among the visitors we noticed Bros. T. M. Rigg, P.M. of 1089 and P.P.G.R. of Kent; R. Warlow, J.W. of 378 and P.P.S.B. of South Wales; J. Nixon, E. Garrett, M. W. West, P.M.; and H. A. Johnson, of 1089; J. Harper, 521; R. Pyke, 175; A. Bean, 336; S. Reeves, 358; and F. Blaas, 184. The lodge was opened in due form and with solemn prayer. When the minutes of previous meeting were read and confirmed the ballot was taken for Mr. C. W. Bradley and Mr. Arthur W. Bird, who were elected unanimously. The W.M. then called upon Bro. A. Spears, P.M. and P.P.G. Org., to address the brethren on this occasion; when Bro. Spears first complimented the brethren on their first meeting in the new lodge room, then taking the subject of the groundwork of Masonry being holy, he illustrated it by giving the history of the three grand offerings, which made it holy, as we find recorded in the volume of the Sacred Law, and characterized them as three distinct offerings to complete one great purpose, the first being an offering of faith, the second an offering for disobedience, the third an offering of thanksgiving and worship, and alluded to the great number of years that elapsed between the first offering and the third, and the complete fulfilment of the promises that God had made to Abraham when he called him to go and offer up his only son on Mount Moriah. He then exhorted the brethren to practise the grand principles of Masonry—brotherly love, relief and truth, and in their daily walk and conversation, to display to the world the happy effects of our honourable Order, and to practise not only that charity which supplies the wants of the needy, but act to our neighbour as we would our neighbour to act to us, concluding with a prayer for the prosperity of the lodge and Craft in general wherever dispersed. After this address the brethren sang the following ode:—

Genius of Masonry, descend,
And with thee bring thy spotless train;
Constant our sacred rites attend,
While we adore thy peaceful reign.

The above was much appreciated by all present. The business of the lodge was then proceeded with, which was as follows:—Bro. E. Goldborough, F.C., who had previously been found qualified, was raised to the Sublime Degree of a M.M., and Bro. Thos. F. Brown and Bro. G. Ayton, E.A., who had also been found qualified, were passed to the Second Degree of F.C.; the ceremony of passing and raising were worked by the W.M. in a very creditable manner. The business of the lodge being ended the lodge was closed in due form and with solemn prayer. The brethren then adjourned to the Britannia Inn for refreshment, and after spending a short time in song and sentiment, they separated, happy to meet again.

BATH.—Lodge of Honour (No. 379).—A meeting was held at 4 p.m. on Monday, Dec. 13th, the most important one in the year, being that at which the officers are changed. Bro. J. S. Bartrum, W.M., opened the lodge, assisted by Bros. G. H. Cook, S.W.; H. Gore, J.W.; C. S. Barter, Treas.; H. Culliford Hopkins, Sec.; W. C. Dickenson, S.D.; J. M. R. Leir, I.G.; Gazzard, Tyler; R. Cook, P.M.; E. E. Phillips, I.P.M.; C. A. Bush; H. G. Bush. As visitors there were present Bros. Capt. Phayre, 53; C. Milson, P.M. 53; Simmons, I.P.M. 53; Wilton, P.M. 41; Trevor, 944; Gen. Doherty, P.M. 53; W. Hunt, 41; J. F. Draper, P.M. 243; Dr. H. Hopkins, 41, P.P.G.S.W., and P.M. 43 and 958; J. L. Stothert, P.M. 53; Colonel Ford, P.M. 53; Else, D.P.G.M. for Somerset. Bro. Phillips, P.M., gave the charge to Bro. Bush, which was omitted at his initiation at the previous meeting. He then took the chair and examined and entrusted the candidate. The latter retired for preparation, and the lodge was opened in the Second Degree. On his return he was duly passed as a F.C. by the I.P.M. The working tools were explained by Bro. Dickenson, who during the ceremony had acted as J.D., Dr. Hopkins taking the duties of S.D., and also giving the charge. Bro. Else then took the chair, he having kindly undertaken the duties of Installing Master. The preliminary proceedings being concluded, the lodge was opened in the Third Degree, the brethren below the chair retired, and in their absence Bro. Cook was regularly inducted into the chair of K.S., the ceremony thus far and afterwards being ably conducted by the D.P.G.M. On the return of the brethren the usual processions, salutations, and addresses took place, the lodge being resumed at the proper time in the Second and afterwards in the First Degree. The following appointments were made, and the brethren named were duly invested: J. S. Bartrum, I.P.M.; H. Gore, S.W.; H. C. Hopkins, J.W.; C. S. Barter, Treas.; Dickenson, Sec.; H. N. Smythe, S.D.; Leir, J.D.; C. E. Little, I.G.; C. Bush, D.C.; Gazzard, Tyler. The W.M. briefly addressed the brethren on his installation. A unanimous vote of thanks was passed to the retiring W.M., and also to the late Secretary, who had most efficiently filled the office for two years. A similar compliment was paid to the D.P.G.M., who had travelled far to perform the ceremony of installation, and had performed the duty efficiently and gracefully. Several other matters of lodge business were transacted, and the proceedings were brought to a close at 6.30. About twenty brethren afterwards partook of a banquet at the Castle Hotel.

ROCK FERRY.—Rock Lodge (No. 1289).—The installation of W.M. of this lodge took place on Friday evening, the 10th ult., at the lodge-room, Bedford House, Rock Ferry, Cheshire. The brethren assembled at 5.30 p.m., when the retiring W.M., Bro. Lilley Ellis, passed Bro. Fergusson to the Fellow Craft Degree, the ceremony, in the perfectness of its working, being illustrative of the able manner in which the work of the year had been performed by him. There was a large number of visitors present, including several P.P. Grand Officers and W. Masters of neighbouring lodges. The W.M. elect was Bro. Francis

L. Bolton, and the chair of Installing Master was filled by Bro. Edward Friend, P.M., P. Prov. G.J.D., himself the first W.M. of the Rock Lodge, and by whom all the succeeding Masters have been installed. The Wardens' chairs were taken by Bros. J. and T. Platt, P. Prov. G.J.W. and P. Prov. G.J.D. respectively, and the installation ceremony was performed in such an impressive and skilful manner by the Installing Master as to elicit the warm approbation of all the brethren present, who, later in the evening, expressed their cordial thanks for his untiring interest in the welfare of the lodge, and their appreciation of the mode in which he had performed the whole of the ceremony. The newly-elected W.M., having been saluted according to custom, appointed the following brethren as officers for the ensuing year:—Bros. Dr. J. Wilson Paton, S.W.; W. S. Stanton, J.W.; F. K. Stevenson, P.M., P. Prov. G.S.B., Treas.; P. J. Pearson, Sec.; Archd. Wallace, S.D.; Richard Townsend, J.D.; J. Phillips, I.G.; J. R. Ross and E. Overbeck, Stewards. A Past Master's jewel was presented to Bro. L. Ellis, I.P.M., by Bro. Stevenson, P.M., as a mark of the appreciation of the Master's able and courteous manner in which he had presided over the lodge during his year of office, and was by him feelingly and suitably acknowledged. The brethren afterwards dined together, and Bro. J. Platt reported that the result of the three entertainments given by Bro. Chas. Du Val on behalf of the Cheshire Masonic Institution had been a substantial addition to the funds of the charity.

ECCLES.—Victoria Lodge (No. 1345).—The last meeting of this young and well-worked lodge was held at the Cross Keys Hotel, on Wednesday last. The members present were Bro. Wright, W.M.; Bros. Rudman, S. W.; Ballard, J.W.; Shaw, S.D.; Holt, J.D.; Pearson, I.G.; J. Brooks and T. Buxton, P.M.'s, and others. The lodge having been duly opened, and the minutes read and confirmed, Bro. Wilson was passed to the Second Degree by Bro. Brooks, P.M. Bros. Rev. J. Harper, J. C. Mather, and W. Pendlebury were raised to the Sublime Degree by Bros. Wright, W.M.; Gillman, P.M.; and Buxton, P.M., the work throughout being performed in a most solemn and impressive manner. Bro. Buxton, P.M., Treasurer, having announced his intention to attend as Steward at the next festival of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons, the sum of £20 was unanimously voted to be placed on his list. Bro. Mountain proposed a brother as a joining member. Hearty good wishes were expressed from several visiting brethren. All business being ended, the lodge was closed in ancient form. The brethren afterwards partook of refreshments, the W.M. receiving the congratulations of those present on the prosperous state of the lodge, having, during his year of office, been enabled to pay off all outstanding debts, and given several donations to various charities, including one of thirty guineas to the Boys' School, in addition to the amount voted that evening.

CHATHAM.—Brownrigg Lodge (No. 1424).—The installation of W.M. of this lodge took place in the Assembly Rooms, Brompton, Kent, on Friday, the 17th ult., when one of the most brilliant gatherings of the brethren ever seen in this locality assembled to do honour to this excellent lodge. The W.M., Bro. Jervis, took the chair at 2.45 p.m., with Bro. Wood, W.M. 20, as S.W., and Bro. Watson, P.M., P.G.R., as J.W. The D.P.G.M. for Kent, supported by several other distinguished brethren, having taken his seat on the dais, with Bro. Jervis, the Director of Ceremonies called upon the brethren to salute the D.P.G.M. according to ancient custom. The following lodges were represented by brethren:—Bros. Wood' W.M. 20; May, W.M. 212; Santi, W.M. 706; Nicholls, W.M. 1050; White, 1174; Pownall, W.M. 1536; Kappay, P.M. 20; Watson, P.M. 1050; Wyles, P.M. 1050; Coles, P.M. 20; Bates, P.M. 1424; Warne, P.M. 20; and brethren from Nos. 1174, 20, 1536, 1050, 158, 733, 184, 1257, 87, 1393, 1321, 1331, 407, 706, 262, 1536, 212, 77, 503, and 13. Bro. William Simmons was presented by Bro. Bates, P.M., to the W.M. to receive at his hands the benefit of installation as W.M. of this lodge. The installation ceremony was one of the most magnificent ever held in the province; the sacred music by the organ and string instruments of the choir harmonised most beautifully with the impressive delivery of this grand ceremony by Bro. Jervis, and the general effect of so solemn a rite will not be easily forgotten by those who were so fortunate as to be present on this occasion. The W.M. invested the following brethren as his officers for the year, the full explanation of the Masonic meaning of their respective jewels and their duties in the lodge being given by Bro. Jervis, the Installing Officer:—Bros. H. L. Fowler, S.W.; W. Cottrell, J.W.; Thomson, Treas.; Magee, Sec.; Ramsden, S.D.; Johnstone, J.D.; Piker, I.G.; Crane, D.C.; Crisp and Stammers, Stewards; Snape, Organist; Drago, Tyler. Bro. Jervis, the I.P.M., had the honour of receiving from the hands of the D.P.G.M. a handsome P.M. jewel in recognition of his services to the lodge as W.M. for the past year, the D.P.G.M. remarking that from what he had seen and heard of Brother Jervis never was a jewel more worthily bestowed, and he took occasion to point out to the brethren what a high degree of skill and knowledge in the Craft diligence and careful attention to every detail would give, them as exemplified by the working of Bro. Jervis. The I.P.M., in thanking the brethren for the mark of approbation they had been pleased to bestow upon him, pointed out the advantage of attending good Lodges of Instruction, as he owed his present knowledge of the Craft to the excellent teaching of the Past Masters of his mother lodge (1050) and other Lodges of Instruction to which he belonged. Bro. Watson, P.M., P.G.R., proposed and the W.M. seconded a vote of thanks to Bro. Jervis, for the admirable manner in which he had performed the installation ceremony. Carried unanimously. The I.P.M. having replied, Bro. Cottrell, J.W., proposed a gentleman

for initiation and a joining member. The I.P.M. then proposed the W.M. as representative of the Brownrigg Lodge at the Provincial Charity Committee. Carried unanimously. The I.P.M. having also nominated an Audit Committee for the ensuing year, the W.M. closed the lodge in due form. The brethren then adjourned to the banquetting-room, at the Mitre Hotel, Chatham. About seventy-three sat down to the banquet. The whole arrangement was magnificent, the room being tastefully decorated with beautifully designed Masonic emblems, flags, exotics, &c. A novelty in bills of fare was placed near every brother's plate—it was an elegant folding card in white and gold, containing the menu, and photographs of the W.M., I.P.M., S.W., J.W., and Treasurer of Brownrigg Lodge. The W.M. took his seat, with the D. Prov. G.M., S.G.W., Prov. G. Registrar, and other Grand Officers on his right, the I.P.M., with Bros. Major Santi, W.M. 706; Captain Coles, P.M.; May, W.M. 212; Pownall, W.M. 1536; Warne, P.M.; and several other Past Masters on his left. The W.M. was, however, unfortunately taken ill at the commencement of the banquet, and reluctantly obliged to retire, so that Bro. Jervis, I.P.M., took the chair. The usual Masonic toasts were then proceeded with. When the I.P.M. gave the toast of "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, Grand Master," a pair of crimson curtains behind his chair were drawn aside by invisible hands, and a recess disclosed, in which was a large transparency of H.R.H. the Grand Master, in full Masonic costume as he appeared on the occasion of his installation last April; this was illuminated by a strong light from behind; and the other parts of the recess were filled with plants, flowers, ferns, &c., presenting a pleasing effect, which was heartily greeted by the brethren present. Bro. Fowler, S.W., sung "God bless the Prince of Wales." The D.P.G.M., in replying to the toast of "The Provincial Grand Master and Grand Officers," pointed out to the brethren the great progress Masonry had made latterly in the kingdom, and stated that forty-one lodges had been added to the roll of the Grand Lodge of England during the past year, and exactly 150 since the formation of the Brownrigg three years ago. He expressed his desire to visit all the lodges in Kent, in order to make himself acquainted with the brethren of his province, and spoke in the highest terms of approval of the Brownrigg Lodge, and of the fine installation ceremony performed by Bro. Jervis that day, which he stated had given him an amount of pleasure he could scarcely express, and he trusted other lodges would strive to attain a similar degree of excellence. The D.P.G.M. also explained the objects and benefits of the provincial charities, and earnestly requested the attention of the lodges of Kent to their support. Bro. Cottrell then sang a capital song, suitable to the occasion, composed and arranged by himself. The toast of "The Visitors" was suitably responded to by Bro. May, W.M., and Bro. Pownall, W.M. 1536, both these brethren speaking enthusiastically of the admirable manner in which the duties had been performed by the officers of the Brownrigg Lodge. The D.P.G.M. proposed "The Health of the Past Masters of the Lodge," which toast was replied to by Bros. Jervis, Bates, and Watson. "The Health of the Officers of the Lodge" having been drunk, Bros. Fowler, S.W., and Cottrell, J.W., responded. The latter, in his reply, called the attention of the brethren to the debt of gratitude they owed Bro. Burfield, P.M., and Bro. Gamon, J.W. 20, for the beautiful decoration of their banquetting-room. Bro. Wood, P.G.S.W., in proposing "The Masonic Charities," made a most earnest appeal on their behalf, and forcibly exhorted the brethren to support that great principle of Masonry in its fullest sense, an appeal which we hope and believe will not be neglected by those who heard it. A most pleasant evening was passed, the excellent singing of Bros. Giffin, Edwards, Percy, Cottrell, Gaus, and Walker, and the recitations of Bros. Bates and Gamon, being thoroughly enjoyed by the brethren, the Tyle's toast bringing the whole to a close. We may conclude by drawing attention to an excellent system which has been carried out by the Brownrigg Lodge since its formation, and which may be adopted with advantage by other lodges—that is, the publication of an annual balance sheet, which shows the whole receipts and expenditure of the lodge for the past year. This is forwarded to every member of the lodge, and enables him to be quite cognisant of its financial proceedings and position.

BIRMINGHAM.—Lodge of Israel (No. 1474).—An event, somewhat unusual in Masonic customs, was celebrated in Birmingham in connection with the Lodge of Israel last Monday. Bro. Michael Davis, W.M., was entertained by the brethren to a complimentary banquet, in recognition of his valuable services to the lodge from its foundation to the present time. This lodge, which was established some twenty-four months ago, has prospered eminently, and its prosperity is to a great extent due to the zeal of its first W.M., Bro. Michael Davis, who at the termination of his first year of office was unanimously re-elected. It was resolved to give some slight recognition of his valuable services by certifying him and Mrs. Davis at a banquet, which was held last Monday at the Midland Hotel. Bro. Rev. G. J. Empuel, B.A., Chaplain, occupied the chair, the vice-chair being filled by Bros. Barnett Lazarus and Philip W. Newmann, J.D. The rev. Chairman, in proposing "The Health of Mr. and Mrs. Davis," spoke of them in terms of his eulogium, and animatedly urged upon the merits of Bro. Davis as a W.M. Bro. Davis feelingly and appropriately replied. Bro. Muggleton proposed "Prosperity to the Lodge of Israel," which was responded to by Bro. S. Lyons, W. "The Chairman" was proposed by Bro. Lazarus, and suitably acknowledged. "The Visitors" received due honour from W. Bro. Joseph Myers, "The Ladies," of whom a goodly number were present, being toasted by W. Bro. Geo. Baker, P.M., and answered for by Bro. Newmann, D., singing, recitations, and dancing followed, and the company, about 105, separated at 2 a.m.

Royal Arch.

BATH.—Royal Cumberland Chapter (No. 41).—The anniversary meeting was held at the Masonic Hall, on Monday, December 21st. The chapter was opened at 4.30 by Exs. Companions Jelley, M.E.Z.; Jas. Parfitt, H.; Thompson, J.; in the presence of Comps. Moutrie, P.Z. and Treas.; Mann, P.Z.; Keene, P.Z.; Mitchell, P.Z.; G. Parfitt, P.Z.; Reeves, P.Z.; Dr. Hopkins, P.Z. 328, 587, 710; General Doherty, P.Z. 53. On the admission of Comps. Hill, N.; Hearn, P. Soj.; Brown, A. Soj.; Faulkner, Williamson, Davis, and Gazzard, the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The Treasurer gave the details of his accounts, which were very favourable, showing a balance in hand of nearly £50, and a cordial vote of thanks was passed to him for his successful efforts in that office during 15 years. Propositions were made, to be considered at the next meeting, for a grant of £5 5s. to the widow of the late Tyler, and of £10 10s. to the Girls' School. Other business of only private interest was discussed and settled. A ballot was taken for a brother to be exalted at their meeting in January, which was unanimous in his favour. The following officers, previously proposed, were elected by ballot:—Jas. Parfitt, M.E.Z.; Thompson, H.; Carey, J.; Hill, E.; Hearn, N.; Brown, P. Soj.; the latter appointed Comps. Young and Faulkner as his assistants. Comp. Bigwood was appointed Janitor. The companions below the chair then left the chapter, a Board of Installed Principals was constituted, and the three newly-elected Principals were installed in their several chairs by E. Comp. Dr. Hopkins, P.Z. The board was closed, and the companions were re-admitted. A vote of thanks was passed to the Installing Principal for the effective manner in which he had performed the duty. The proceedings were brought to a close at about 7 o'clock, and the brethren adjourned to partake of banquet at the Castle Hotel, breaking up, after a very enjoyable evening, soon after half-past 10.

BARNSTAPLE.—Chapter of Loyalty and Virtue (No. 251) held its 54th annual meeting on Monday last, at the Masonic Hall, Queen Anne's Walk under the Mastership of Comp. Willshire. A large number of companions attended. Two brethren of Lodge No. 251 were exalted, and the officers of the chapter for the year ensuing appointed as follows:—Comps. W. H. Brewer, Z.; W. Britton, H.; J. T. Shapland, J.; Oliver, Scribe E.; Forse, Scribe N.; W. J. List, Treas.; J. Brewer, P.S.; W. Baze, A.S.; T. Hancock, A.S.; and Alfred Bates and H. J. Hancock, Janitors. An excellent dinner was afterwards partaken of by the companions at the Royal and Fortescue Hotel, and a very pleasant evening spent.

Mark Masonry.

IPSWICH.—Albert Victor Mark Lodge (No. 70).—The quarterly meeting of this prosperous lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, Ipswich, on Monday, the 10th ult., when the following were present:—Bros. Geo. Cresswell, W.M.; Rev. R. N. Sanderson, P.M.M., P.G. Chap.; C. T. Townsend, P.M.M., P.P.G. Sec.; Emra Holmes, P.M.M., P.G.I. of W.; W. T. Westgate, P.M.M.; W. Clarke, J.W.; J. H. Townsend, and others. The minutes of last lodge were read and confirmed, and the ballot was taken for Bro. Wm. Watson, of the Prince of Wales Lodge, who was a candidate for advancement to the honourable degree of Mark Master. The brother was unanimously accepted, but was prevented by business engagements from attending. This being the meeting for the installation of W.M., Bro. Sanderson was presented for that purpose. All brethren not installed Masters having retired, and Bro. Cresswell having resigned the gavel into the hands of Bro. Townsend, P.G.D., the worthy and expert Secretary duly obligated and inducted our reverend brother into the Chair of Adoniram. The brethren being re-admitted, saluted the new W.M. in ancient form, and Bro. Sanderson proceeded to invest his officers as follows, addressing a few suitable words to each:—Geo. Cresswell, I.P.M.; W. Clarke, S.W.; D. F. Ranking, J.W.; F. Bennett, M.O.; B. M. Ranking, S.O.; J. Calthorpe, J.O.; W. T. Westgate, S.D. and M.C.; J. Parsons, J.D.; D. Slemmeck, I.G. Bro. C. T. Townsend was re-appointed Secretary; Bro. Rev. J. B. Tweed, Chaplain; and Bro. J. H. Townsend, Reg. of Marks. The current business being disposed of, the lodge was closed, and the brethren retired for refreshment. "The Queen," and "The Earl of Limerick, Grand Mark Master Mason," were the only toasts drunk, but the brethren enjoyed a no less pleasant evening because there was a lack of the speechifying now so common at all Masonic gatherings. We ought not to omit to mention that Bro. Westgate, P.M.M., proposed a vote of thanks to Bro. Cresswell for his conduct in the chair during the past year, which was cordially seconded by Bro. Emra Holmes, carried unanimously, and directed to be recorded in the minutes. The Albert Victor has always been a very prosperous Mark lodge, but under the gavel of so excellent and erudite a Mason as the Rev. R. N. Sanderson, who now presides for the second time over this lodge, there is little doubt but this year will be one of more than ordinary prosperity, for there are no Freemasons in the whole of Suffolk more widely esteemed and respected than our clerical brother, and no one who holds so distinguished a position in the high degrees as Bro. Sanderson. We hope to see the day when the first Mason in Suffolk is honoured with an office in the Grand Lodge of England, which, if he does not desire, he most certainly deserves.

WIPE YOUR FEET.—The best Cocoa Nut Mats and Matting are made by Treloar and Sons, 69, Ludgate-hill.

Ancient and Accepted Rite.

Victoria Chapter Rose Croix.—The annual meeting of this chapter was held at the Masonic Hall, Ipswich, on Monday, the 13th ult. Present: Ill. Bros. Emra Holmes, 31, M.W.S.; W. T. Westgate, P.M.W.S., Actg. Recorder; Dr. Mills, 1st General; G. Cresswell, and General. Chapter was opened; the minutes were read and confirmed; a candidate's name was withdrawn in consequence of his being about to leave the town. The election of M.W.S. and Treasurer for the ensuing year was proceeded with, when Dr. Mills was unanimously elected to fill the former post, and Bro. W. Cuckon re-elected to the latter. There being no other business, the chapter was closed.

Scotland.

SUPREME GRAND ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER OF SCOTLAND.

The quarterly communication took place on the evening of the 15th ult., in the Grand Chapter Rooms, Grand Lodge of Scotland. Although no business of great importance was before the Grand Chapter the meeting was a large one. Among those present were Major W. H. Ramsay, of Garion H. 40, and Second G. Soj. Acting First G.P.Z.; Geo. W. Wheeler, Z. 72, Acting Second G. Principal H.; Alex. Mitchell, P.Z. 99, Acting Third G. Principal J.; Lindsay Mackersy, W.S., Grand Scribe E.; James Duthie, Z. 69, Acting First G. Soj.; W.S. Carmichael, M.D., P.Z. 100, acting Second G. Soj.; I. Shiells, J. 73, acting Third G. Soj.; R. S. Brown, Z. 83; Jas. Berry, Z. 6; W. M. Bryce, Z. 12; W. I. C. Abbot, P. J. 53; Geo. Murray, C.A. P.Z. 77; C. G. C. Christie, P.C. 110; David Knight, P.H., 126, and others. The business commenced by the reading of the minutes of the last quarterly communication; also the minute of Grand Committee, which were confirmed. Presents from the Grand Chapter of New Jersey and Colorado, U.S., consisting of the published proceedings of these Grand Chapters were received, and the thanks of the Supreme Grand Chapter were voted therefore. Petitions for new Chapters, St. Blane, Rothsay, and St. David, Dundee, were granted. The following motion by Comp. W. M. Bryce, P.Z. 12, seconded by Comp. W. S. Carmichael, P.Z. 100, viz., "That in future the quarterly communications of the Supreme Grand Chapter be held at six o'clock, p.m., was, after some discussion and altering the hour to five o'clock, agreed to by a large majority. This alteration of the hour of meeting will give great satisfaction throughout the provinces. The present hour of meeting—eight o'clock—often compelled those from the provinces to remain in Edinburgh all night. The hour now fixed—five o'clock—will, no doubt, increase the number of members attending the quarterly communication, and allow the members to return home that night. There was no other business before the meeting, and Grand Chapter was closed in due and ancient form.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF ARGYLL AND THE ISLES.

This lodge was re-opened on Friday, 17th ult., after having been obsolete for a number of years, by Bro. Charles Dalrymple, M.P., of Rothsay Saint John's, No. 292, being installed Provincial Grand Master. The Grand Lodge of Scotland issued a commission in his favour, and appointed Bro. Alexander Smollett of Bonhill, Provincial Grand Master of Dumbartonshire, to conduct the proceedings for the Grand Lodge. Accordingly on Friday night, Bro. Smollett and the office-bearers of Prov. Grand Lodge of Dumbarton opened the Grand Lodge in the Bull Hotel, Rothsay, and installed Bro. Dalrymple with all the honours and ceremony. There were also deputations present from all the lodges in the province, with the exception of Commercial, Oban, 180, viz.:—St. John, Inverary, 50; St. John, Campbeltown, 141; St. John, Rothsay, 292; Argyll, Dunoon, 355; Kelburne, Cumbrae, 459; St. Munn, Ardenadam, 426; Kildalton, Port Ellen, Islay, 552. The Grand Lodge was opened, passed, and raised to the Sublime Degree by Bro. Smollett, and was reduced and closed after installation by Bro. Dalrymple. The hon. brother thereafter opened the Provincial Grand Lodge of Argyll and the Isles, when he installed the following office-bearers nominated by him:—Provincial Grand Substitute-Master, Quinten Montgomery Wright, Inverary; Senior Warden, Peter McNeil, Campbeltown; Junior Warden, Robert Stirling, Dunoon; Chaplain, Ker H. H. Richardson, Millport; Secretary, Archibald Morrison, Rothsay. Bro. Smollett addressed the newly-appointed office-bearers and other brethren in an eloquent speech, detailing the benefits of Masonry, and concluding with the hope that they would all so act as to hand down Masonry pure and unsullied. Bro. Dalrymple replied, and thanked the brethren for their attendance, especially the Provincial Grand Master for coming at his advanced age, at this season of the year, and the brethren from the distant parts of the province. Thereafter the 10th Psalm was sung, and the Rev. H. H. Richardson invoked the blessing of the Great Architect of the Universe on their proceedings. The lodge having been closed in due form, the brethren adjourned to refreshment, when the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed, and received all the honours. Occasion was taken to compliment the re-opening of the Provincial Grand Lodge, the great impetus it would give to Freemasonry, and the zeal displayed by the attendance of brethren from such distances as must have been inconvenient. In replying to

"The Provincial Grand Master of Argyll and the Isles," Bro. Dalrymple stated that answers of the most cordial kind had been received from all the lodges in the province expressing satisfaction at the re-opening of the Provincial Grand Lodge, and expressing the kindest sentiments to himself personally. It must be regretted that no representative had arrived from Lodge Commercial, Oban, as arranged, but this was not to be wondered at considering the difficulties of travelling at this time of the year. He assured the brethren that the interests of Freemasonry would be promoted by him as far as he could, and he hoped to be able to visit all the lodges in the province in person within a month or two. Among the other toasts that followed was that of "The Oldest Mason in Scotland," Bro. George Grant, Chaplain of Rothsay St. John's, who has been a Freemason for 65 years, to which the venerable Chaplain replied. Song, toast, and sentiment were the order of the evening, which was spent with the happiest of Masonic harmony and goodwill.

GLASGOW.—Lodge St. Mungo (No. 27).

The regular meeting of this lodge took place in St. Mark's Hall, 213, Buchanan-street, Glasgow, on Thursday, the 16th ult. Bro. Dugald Butler, R.W.M., presided, supported by Bro. Dr. McInnes, S.W.; William McCall, acting as J.W.; and the other office-bearers. On the lodge being opened, Bro. William Niven, Secretary, read the minutes, which were adopted. Messrs. James Dickie and John Goldfinch were unanimously accepted, obligated, and initiated as E.A. Freemasons, the ceremony being performed by Bro. John Scott, P.M. Bros. A. Monteith, J. Kidd, Robert Spiers, and Thomas Bell were duly passed to the F.C. Degree, James Gilles, P.M., officiating. There was no further business, and the lodge was closed. Among the visitors present were Bros. A. Bain, P.M. Union and Crown, 103; Robert Jack, R.W.M. Shettleston, 128; Robert Brodie, D.M. 360; W. H. Bickerton ("Freemason"), &c.

GLASGOW.—Lodge St. Mark (No. 102).

The regular meeting of this lodge was held in their hall, 213, Buchanan-street, on the 13th ult. In the temporary absence of the R.W.M., Bro. J. F. Mitchell, P.M., took the chair, and was ably supported by all the office-bearers, and a large number of brethren and visitors. Among those present we observed Bros. Thos. Halket, P.M.; Captain Lindsay Gray, D.M.; Thomas Kerr, S.M.; J. Burton, S.W.; J. Thomson, J.W.; A. T. Patrick, Treas.; H. McMillan, S.D.; J. Singleton, I.G., &c. Among the visitors were Bros. W. Bell, R.W.M. 34; McMillan, P.M. 34; D. M. Nelson, D.M. 34; A. Sage, P.M. 360; R. Aikman, R.W.M. 570; W. B. Paterson; J. Stewart, 360, &c. The meeting of office-bearers was held previous to the hour of the lodge meeting, in a side room. When the lodge was opened, the minutes read and confirmed, the First Degree was given to Mr. John E. Hays by Bro. J. F. Mitchell, I.P.M., in his usual painstaking manner. Bro. J. Oswald Smith, the R.W.M., now being present, Bro. Halket, P.M., proceeded to install him in his office, this being omitted at the regular night of installation on account of his illness. Bro. Aikman, R.W.M. 570, received the Installed Master degree, along with Bro. Oswald Smith. Bro. Halket pointed out the numerous and difficult duties a Master of a lodge had to perform, and the great responsibility that was attached to him. The R.W.M. on taking the chair thanked the brethren for the high position they had placed him into, and if at first he appeared to be a little rusty, it would be his earnest endeavour to wipe that away, and he trusted that in this he could calculate upon the support, not only of his own office-bearers, but also of the past office-bearers and members of the lodge. He then moved a vote of thanks to Bro. Halket, for the able manner he had gone through the ceremony of installation. Bro. Halket feelingly returned thanks. Bro. Aikman, R.W.M. 570, returned thanks for the brotherly act of kindness shown him that night, in conferring the installed Master degree upon him, and said he would be delighted if some of St. Mark's brethren would pay him a visit to his own lodge at Springburn. After a little more business of a routine character, the lodge was called to refreshment for a short time. After the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given, Bro. J. F. Mitchell, P.M., proposed "The Health of the R.W.M.," remarking that he had seldom met a brother, in all his experience, so capable to fill the chair of that lodge. Bro. Oswald Smith returned thanks, remarking that he was no speaker, but in all his course he had tried to act the part of a true Mason, so far as he understood it, and now that he was placed in a position he would have scope to practise it; he would make it his duty to do so. Bro. Bell, P.M. 34, proposed "The Health of the P.M. of St. Mark's Lodge," which Bro. Mitchell gracefully replied to. The next toast was "The Visiting Brethren," replied to by Bro. McMillan, P.M. 34, and Bro. Sage, P.M. 360. This brought the proceedings to a close.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Union and Crown (No. 103).

On Friday evening, 10th ult., Bro. David Murray, W.M., met in a social capacity with about some five-and-twenty brethren, on the occasion of his election to the chair of this old and respected lodge. The meeting took place in the County Buildings' Restaurant, Wilson-street (Bro. Wileman's). Bro. Murray presided, Bro. William Thomas officiating as Croupier. Among those present were Bros. James Gilles, P.M., and P.G.S.D.; A. Bain, P.M., and P.G.B.B.; Robert Munro, D.M.; William Forsyth, J.W.; Major J. S. McCaul, Third L.R.V.; and others. The chairman proposed the usual loyal and Masonic toasts, which were duly honoured, and in proposing "The Provincial Grand Lodge of Glasgow," said as far as Masonry went, the Western Province was probably the most important in Scotland, and the amount of business brought before the Provincial Grand Lodge was very great, and in

regard to the Benevolent Fund alone, it was very hard work, and they deserved the heartiest thanks of all the brethren for the time and labour they expended in the performance of their gratuitous duties. They had among them to-night those who were office-bearers in the Provincial Grand Lodge, and who for years had given their kindest and best consideration to the duties thereof, and he begged to couple with the toast the name of Bro. James Gillies, P.G.S.D. In acknowledging the compliment, Bro. Gillies had to endorse the statement of the chairman to the effect that the Provincial Grand Lodge of Glasgow was second to none on the roll of the Grand Lodge of Scotland. It was doing an amount of duty which the world did not know of. They had the widow and the orphan coming almost daily before them, and they never scrupled to launch out for their relief, while on the other hand, it behooved them to be careful about doubtful cases. To such applicants they applied the work test, and if they declined that, they had nothing to do with them. He was glad to state that at present they had £300 to their credit, at 5 per cent., besides a floating capital to help needy and deserving brethren in their distress. The toast of "Past Masters and Office-Bearers of Lodge 103" was proposed by Bro. A. Bain, P.M. He could assure them that the Past Masters of Union and Crown had done the best they could to make the lodge respected in the province and to bring it to a point of moral excellence, which it would be the duty of the new Master and his office-bearers to keep it up to. The toast was coupled with the name of the chairman, who, in replying, observed that Bro. Bain had shown what Lodge Union and Crown had been and what they must keep it to, and, if possible, surpass. As he (the chairman) had mentioned in open lodge after the election, he saw the weakness of his own position to maintain the lodge in its present state of excellence, unless with the full concurrence and full co-operation of every office-bearer and every member. He wanted therefore their thorough assistance and hearty support, and nothing should be wanting on his part to maintain the dignity, honour, and respectability of Lodge Union and Crown. In proposing the toast of "Lodge Union and Crown," Bro. Gillies gave some interesting reminiscences of its history during a period of over twenty years that he had been connected with it. It had its changes, and at one time he even left it for a while unsatisfied. He had now, however, lived to see it in a position to vie with any lodge in the province in respect to their good order and harmony generally; not a jarring word could be heard at their largest meetings. The toast was coupled with the name of Bro. George Muir, and by him acknowledged. An unusually pleasant evening was brought to a close at a timely hour by the singing of "Auld Lang Syne." It may be mentioned that mine host (Bro. M. Wileman) served a most substantial supper in his usual fine style.

PARTICK.—Lodge St. Mary (No. 117).—The meeting of this lodge on the 15th ult. was largely attended by the members, who displayed a lively interest in all that took place. Among the many present were Bros. W. Wylie, R.W.M.; R. Granger, P.M.; Brunton, P.M.; Alex. Campbell, P.M.; D. Peacock, S.W.; A. Agnew, J.W.; J. M. Wylie, Treas.; Albert Lawrence, Sec.; J. Bain, S.M., &c. Bro. Wylie, R.W.M., took his place, and opened the lodge. The Secretary was called upon to read the minutes of last regular meeting. The minutes embraced an abstract of the annual balance, which was very favourable. Minutes relating to several emergency meetings were also read, all of which were agreed to and passed. A long and animated conversation took place in reference to the consecration of their new hall, which was now ready. It appeared that the P.G. Secretary had been requested to get arrangements made and fix a day for that purpose, but owing to the P. G. Master, W. M. Neilson, being out of town, and the D.P.G.M. having resigned, no conclusion could be come to, but Bro. McFaggart, P.G. Secretary, had explained that after Bro. Neilson, P.G.M., had been communicated with, and should he not be able to come himself, Bro. J. Baird, P.G.S.W., would no doubt consent to perform the ceremony, and notice accordingly would be sent to the R.W.M. of the lodge. It was unanimously resolved that, as the new hall was all ready to walk into, the next regular meeting in January would take place there. It was also agreed that a supper should take place in the new hall to celebrate St. John's day, on the 27th ult. The initiation of Mr. Allan McKay was then proceeded with, Bro. Brunton, P.M., performing the ceremony. A vote of thanks was then proposed to Bro. Latto for his ready and uniform kindness and attention to them since they became his tenants, the same to be recorded on the minutes, and a copy transmitted to Bro. Latto, which was agreed to. There being no more business before the lodge, and the night being "young," it was agreed to go into harmony for a while, which was carried out under the watchful care of the J.W. The usual toasts being rapidly gone through, great merriment was caused by an amusing recitation, by Bro. Bain. After several other toasts and songs, the toast of "The Press" was given from the chair, coupled with the name of Bro. G. B. Adams ("Freemason"), who very briefly replied, but pointed out very forcibly that it was very pleasant to hear them all admiring the "Freemason," "Masonic Magazine," and other works, but exceedingly disheartening to reflect on the meagre support they afforded it, but he trusted this would not long be the case. The lodge was then recalled to labour, and closed in due form.

PAISLEY.—Lodge St. Mirren (No. 129).—The annual meeting of this lodge was held on Monday evening, 20th ult., in their hall, No. 5, Moss-street, Paisley. The business included the election of office-bearers for the ensuing year. Bro. H. S. Edmonds, R.W.M., presided, supported by Bros. Gemmell, S.W.; and Fisher, J.W. The following brethren were duly elected as follows:—Bros. H. S. Edmonds, R.W.M.; T. Bustard, D.M.; W. Gemmell, S.W.; George Fisher, J.W.; Peter Blair, Treasurer;

Alexander Macpherson, Secretary; Rev. W. Fowler Mills, Chaplain; Robert McLeod, jun., S.D.; H. Hutton, J.D.; Robert Sharp, Architect; William Scott, Jeweller; J. Barnett, S.S.B.; A. Moffat, J.S.B.; Alexander Morrison, S.S.; W. Hodgart, J.S.; James Spence, Dir. of Music; J. Gould, Clothier; W. Craig, I.G.; and W. Alexander, Tyler. From the annual financial statement it appeared that the income had been £92 1s. 5d., and the expenditure £92 12s. 7d. The income had been chiefly derived from membership subscriptions, and the expenditure had this year been increased by some extraordinary items. On the motion of Bro. Wallace, it was agreed that, on and after December 27th, the fees for initiation be advanced from £2 6s. 6d. to £3 3s. Among the visiting brethren were Bros. George Glen, R.W.M. Prince of Wales, Renfrew, 426; and William Sim, P.M. 426. After going through a good deal of other business, the lodge was closed in due form.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Star (No. 219).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held in their hall, 12, Tron-gate, on Monday, the 13th ult., Bro. John Morgan, R.W.M., in the chair, supported by Bros. James Horn, S.W., and David Mearns, J.W. There were also present Bros. Jasper Martin, D.M.; B. Black, Treas.; F. Dow, Sec.; and others. Among the visitors present there were Bros. D. Reid, R.W.M. Lodge St. Andrew, 465; Robert Jack, R.W.M. Shettleston, 128; J. Fraser, P.M. Lodge Thistle, 87; G. McLeod, P.M. Lodge Shettleston, 128; Wm. H. Bickerton ("Freemason"); and, as usual, a large attendance of members and visitors. The lodge having been duly opened by Bro. Morgan and the minutes confirmed, the following gentlemen, who were unanimously accepted, were obligated and initiated as E.A. Freemasons, viz.:—Messrs. Martin McLymont; John McMurray, S. McFarland, the ceremony being performed by the R.W.M., Bro. John Morgan. The lodge being opened in the Second Degree, Bros. G. Forest and G. Westcott were passed to this degree, also two members of Lodge St. Andrew, 465, Bro. Morgan, R.W.M., again officiating. During the evening, balance sheets showing the receipts and expenditure of the lodge for the past year were laid upon the table for the inspection of the brethren present, every one expressing themselves highly pleased with the present prosperous condition of the lodge, and we are glad to be able to say, under the careful management of Bro. Morgan, there is no doubt of Lodge Star still prospering. Bro. G. McLeod, P.M. Lodge 128; and Bro. W. H. Bickerton ("Freemason"), were honorarily affiliated into Lodge Star by Bro. Morgan.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Caledonian Railway (No. 354).—This lodge met in the Masonic Hall, 30, Hope-street, on Wednesday, the 15th ult., being their regular meeting, Bro. James Shaw, R.W.M., presiding, supported by Bros. A. B. Ferguson, S.W.; John Harley, J.W.; and the other office-bearers. The lodge having been duly opened, and the minutes confirmed, Mr. Julius Weyer-gang, was unanimously accepted, obligated, and initiated as an E.A. Freemason, the ceremony being performed by the R.W.M., Bro. James Shaw.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Commercial (No. 360).—The regular meeting of this prosperous lodge was held in their hall, 30, Hope-street, Glasgow, on Friday, the 17th ult. Present: Bros. John Monro, R.W.M., presiding; J. M. Olliver, S.W.; T. Graham, J.W.; John Smith, Secretary; G. Scott, Treasurer; William Finlay, S.M.; William Keiller S.D.; R. Reid, J.D.; Hugh Jamieson, I.G.; James McCosh, D.C.; R. Brodie, Director of Music; A. Sloane, B.B.; James Minnoch, Tyler. Among the visitors were Bros. James Shaw, R.W.M. Lodge 354; James Booth, R.W.M. Lodge 87; Dr. Humphreys, M.E.Z. 69. On the lodge being opened the minutes were read and adopted. Messrs. William Mann, Andrew Harvey, and David Jones, who were unanimously accepted by the lodge, were then obligated and initiated as E.A. Freemasons, Br. J. M. Olliver and Bro. James Shaw performing the ceremony most impressively and carefully. Bros. the Rev. D. McCorquodale and Julius Weyer-gang were passed to the Degree of F.C., Bro. John Monro, R.W.M., officiating in his usual efficient and impressive manner. The lodge met on Monday, the 27th ult., to celebrate the Festival of St. John.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Clyde (No. 408).—held their bi-monthly meeting on the 17th ult. The R.W.M., Bro. Harper, presided, supported by Bros. Bisland, S.W.; Williamson, J.W.; J. W. McInnes, S.M.; Anderson, Treas.; J. Stewart Duncan Downie, P.M.; R. Prout, R.W.M. No. 4, &c. The meeting was well attended by the members of the lodge. A request was read from the R.W.M. of No. 4, asking the favour of conferring the First Degree upon two candidates for them, their names being Messrs. Thos. Beal (ship steward) and John Douglas (ship steward). This was agreed to, and the R.W.M. conferred the E.A. Degree upon them. A similar request was made by the R.W.M. of St. Mark's, No. 102, for the F.C. Degree, which was also complied with. The lodge being passed to the Square Degree, Bros. J. E. Hays and A. McKenzie Cameron (for St. Mark's), and Bro. Baxter (for the Clyde), were admitted to this, Bro. Wheeler officiating. The lodge was then raised to the Sublime Degree, and Bro. Baxter was made a M.M., Bro. Wheeler again officiating.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Athole (No. 413).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held in St. Mark's Hall, 213, Buchanan-street, Glasgow, on Tuesday, 14th ult., Bro. John Wallace, R.W.M., presiding, supported by the Wardens and the other office-bearers. The lodge was opened and the minutes confirmed. The ballot was then taken on behalf of Mr. John McLachland, and having been unanimously approved of, this gentleman was duly and impressively initiated into the mysteries of the Craft by Bro. Wallace, R.W.M. The business of the evening was then proceeded with—the election of office-bearers for the ensuing year, which resulted in the brethren being elected that were nominated at the previous meeting. The

office of S.D. being contested, Bro. G. Robertson was duly elected to that office. Bro. John Miller, P.M., then installed the brethren into their offices in a most efficient manner. On Bro. James Louttit, the newly-installed Master of the lodge, taking his seat on the dais, the lodge was called to refreshment.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Glasgow (No. 441) met in their hall, 21, Struthers-street, on the 14th ult. Bro. Hugh Tulloch, R.W.M., took the chair, supported by nearly all his office-bearers, and a very large number of members of the lodge. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. Two gentlemen having been proposed at last meeting for initiation, viz., Messrs. William Alexander and Robert Paton, they were prepared and received the First Degree from the R.W.M. The election of office-bearers for the ensuing year was proceeded with. There being only two offices contested, the election was got through rapidly and quietly. The following comprises the list:—R.W.M., Bro. Woods; D.M., Jackson; S.M., Sloan; S.W., McInney; T.W., Neagle; Secretary, Goldie; Treasurer, Martin; S.D., Seiwright; Chaplain, Caldwell; B.B., Cunningham; Std. Bearer, Waters; Jeweller, Lawson; Architect, McHirdy; S.S., Malcolm; J.S., French; P.S.S., Murray; I.G., W. Murray; Tyler, Price. The installation was then gone on with, Bro. Tulloch gracefully performing that ceremony.

GLASGOW.—Lodge St. Andrew (No. 465).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held in their hall, Gargad-road, on the 16th ult., at 7.30. The meeting was an exceedingly large one, all the office-bearers being present with the exception of the S.D. A considerable number of visiting brethren were also present, including Bros. J. Booth, R.W.M. 87; J. Morgan, R.W.M. 219; G. W. Wheeler, G. B. Adams ("Freemason"), and others. Bro. D. Reid, I.P.M., took the chair, and opened the lodge, when the Secretary was called upon to read the minutes of the previous meeting, which were confirmed. The annual report was then taken up and discussed, Bro. Annand went over the balance sheet, which was in the hands of the brethren, criticising at considerable length various items, with a view to have them further explained, after which he moved the adoption of the report. Bro. Clark seconded this, and it was agreed to. The acting R.W.M. then resigned the chair to Bro. Morgan, R.W.M. 219, who installed the office-bearers while the R.W.M. was receiving the Installed Master's Degree in another room. The following compose the office-bearers for the ensuing year, viz.:—D. Gilchrist, R.W.M.; D. Reid, I.P.M.; Jas. Clark, D.M.; J. McLeish, S.M.; G. B. Davidson, S.W.; Wm. Chalmers, J.W.; Robt. Donaldson, Treas.; W. Campbell, Sec.; C. Gibb, S.D.; D. Anderson, J.D.; the Rev. W. E. Braidshaw, Chaplain; Daniel McMaster, B.B.; Wm. Calderwood, Architect; R. Maxwell, Jeweller; Alex. Clelland, S.S.; J. Morrison, J.S.; P. Douglas, I.G.; Peter Johnston, Tyler. Bro. Morgan, though suffering from a severe cold, went fully into the details of the installation ceremony, after which he delivered a most excellent address to the installed brethren, explaining in a clear manner the nature of the duties they had undertaken in support of their R.W.M. and Masonry in general. The R.W.M. then entered the lodge, along with the Installing Masters. Bro. Morgan invested him with the jewel and clothing belonging to his office, and placed him in the chair, and also invested Bro. Reid, I.P.M., with the jewel of his office. The office-bearers and brethren were formally introduced to their new R.W.M. A vote of thanks to Bro. Morgan and the Past Masters present for their services that night brought the business to a close, and the lodge was called to harmony. After toast, song, and sentiment had passed round, the toast of "The Masonic Press" was given, coupled with Bros. Wheeler and G. B. Adams ("Freemason"). Bro. Wheeler replied at some length, Bro. Adams briefly acknowledging the compliment. He urged upon them to give greater support to the Masonic press.

HELENSBURGH.—Lodge St. George (No. 503).—The installation of office-bearers of this lodge took place in the Oddfellows' Hall, on Thursday evening, the 16th ult. Deputations were present from Lodge Dumbarton, Kilwinning, No. 18, headed by the R.W.M., Bro. William Barr; and Lodge St. John's, Greenock, No. 175, headed by the R.W.M., Bro. McMaster. The ceremony of installation was performed by Bro. McMaster, R.W.M. 175. After a service of cake and wine had been served, the brethren proceeded to the Queen's Hotel, where an excellent supper had been provided, Bro. Marsland, the immediate Past Master, in the chair. A very enjoyable evening was spent. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed, and heartily responded to.

Reports of the following Scotch Lodges stand over:—Neptune Kilwinning, 442; Govandale, 437; Clydesdale, 556; Union, 332; Thistle, 87.

ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

The annual Christmas and New Year's entertainment to the aged inmates of the Asylum at Croydon will be given on Wednesday next. The usual Christmas fare will be provided, and the company will sit down to dinner about two o'clock. In the evening, after tea, there will be several amusements provided, among which, it is hoped, will be some prestidigitatorial wonders of an eminent professor. Every year these entertainments have been very successful, and it is a pleasing reflection to those who inaugurated them that they are highly prized by those annuitants who are provided with a comfortable home in the Asylum. By the earnest advocacy of Bro. James Terry, the Secretary of the Institution, and several brethren, members of the Committee, who take a deep interest in the welfare and progress of the Institution, numerous lodges, chapters, and individuals have contributed to a list which has been opened to defray the expenses of the evening. We shall give a full account of the proceedings in our next issue.

COMPLIMENTARY MASONIC BANQUET TO
SAMUEL HOMFRAY, ESQ.

To use the vernacular of sporting circles, this interesting event "came off," at the Royal Albert Hall, Newport, on Tuesday, the 7th ult., on which occasion above two hundred brethren assembled together to do honour to their invited guest, Samuel Homfray Esq., J.P., on his having attained to the advanced age of eighty. Additional interest was also imparted to this great Masonic gathering from the fact that the Deputy Provincial Grand Master of the Province, Bro. S. G. Homfray, also attained to his forty-fifth year. From the moment the assembled brethren first caught sight of the venerable form of their respected guest on his entrance to the balcony of the hall, until he reached his allotted seat, escorted by a goodly array of Provincial Grand Officers, their greeting was continuous and hearty. The scene which was presented to the observer at the moment when Mr. Homfray bowed his acknowledgments to the vast assemblage before him for the wealth of welcome tendered him, was one of an imposing character. The hall had been tastefully decorated with various Masonic banners, by skilful and willing hands, and these emblems, combined with the glittering jewels and varied colours of Masonic clothing, profusely displayed by the brethren, produced a coup d'œil not often witnessed. The general effect of the scene was also greatly enhanced so soon as the masterly touch of Mr. Riseley was applied to the noble organ, at which he presided, drawing forth from its inner depths a concord of sweet sounds both inspiring and elevating in the extreme.

By virtue of Masonic etiquette in that respect, Bro. Colonel C. Lyne occupied the chair in his capacity of Provincial Grand Master of the province. On his right the chairman was supported by the guest of the evening, S. Homfray, Esq., and by Bros. H. P. Bo't (the Mayor), L. A. Homfray, P.M. 683, P. Prov. G.J.W., and Admiral H. R. Foote. On the left of Bro. Col. Lyne were placed Bros. S. G. Homfray, D.P.G.M. of Monmouthshire, A.G.D.C. of England, Capt. Perkins, P.G.J.W. Somerset, — Bradford, P.M., Swansea, and W. H. Watkins, W.M. 683. It is impossible within the space at our command to enumerate all the brethren present, but we saw the old familiar faces of the following brethren, viz, C. H. Oliver, R. J. Chambers, J. W. Gratte, W. West, W. Pickford, Charles Rowe, R. B. Evans, C. R. Lyne, B. Lawrence, J. Middleton, Dr. G. A. Brown, R. Bond, J. Lewis, — Swandenbrend, W. West, jun., Walter West, L. Hermessen, H. Heller, W. Whitehall, J. Piggford, E. Wells, J. S. Stone, W. Needham, G. Hoskens, W. H. Watkins, J. Horner, J. L. Lloyd, W. J. Lloyd, S. Cradock, Noble, Kerslake, Davies, J. Griffiths, Dr. W. W. Morgan, S. Goss, H. Appleby, E. J. Grice, James Thomas, Martin, Gibbs, Bopitt, Billingham, Hobbs, Matthews, Richards, Rennie, Saunders, Jacob, Hibbard, Villiers, Brook, Fornacon, Thomas Bailey, Berlia, Huxtable, Wheeler, C. Phillips, Pratt, Davies, Nathan, Woolf, McBean, Pearman, Stevens, and others. The Chairman in proposing "The Queen and the Craft," spoke in eulogistic terms of the many high qualities possessed by Her Majesty, and referred in graceful terms to her close identity with the Craft, in the persons of her three sons, one of whom was now in India, using his power and influence to bring the two countries into closer bonds of unity. The toast of "The M.W. the Grand Master of England, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales," was given with equal felicity by the Chairman, who then proceeded to propose "The M.W. the Pro Grand Master of England, the Earl of Carnarvon, and the Officers of Grand Lodge," which he gave with true Masonic fervour. This toast was responded to by Bro. S. G. Homfray, as one of the officers of the Grand Lodge, in a speech of an impressive character, comprehending an allusion to the honour which had been conferred upon him by H.R.H. the Prince of Wales in appointing him to the office of A.G.D.C. of England, as well as to other circumstances of interest connected with the present meeting. The toast of "The R.W. the P.G.M., Colonel C. Lyne," was entrusted to Bro. L. A. Homfray, who acquitted himself in a manner to elicit considerable applause. We need hardly say that Colonel Lyne responded to the toast in a style peculiarly fitting to the occasion. Bro. Captain Perkins proposed the toast of "The W. the D.P.G.M., Bro. S. G. Homfray," in a speech marked, not only by consummate taste, but also by evidences of considerable culture. The felicitous manner in which he described the apparent powers of ubiquity possessed by Bro. S. G. Homfray was enjoyable in the extreme. Bro. Homfray responded to the toast in his accustomed hearty manner, and expressed his personal gratification at the steady development of Masonic strength throughout the province. The toasts we have particularised now brought us to the principal toast, viz., "The Guest of the evening, S. Homfray, Esq., with the hearty congratulations of the Freemasons of the Province on his attaining the advanced age of 80, and wishing him many happy returns of the day." This toast raised a cheer of the unmistakable volume which only the throats of Britons can pour forth as a manifestation of their inward spirit. The ordeal which both the chairman and the guest had to go through was a crucial one. On the one hand, the proposer of the toast had to embody the feelings, wishes, and desires of those by whom he had been deputed to convey them. On the other hand, the respected guest, sitting before an animated assembly, at the ripe age of 80, listening to a record of his public usefulness and private worth, with three sons within his reach, all high in the Craft who were doing him honour, conjointly with the rest present, these are materials potent enough to shake the stoicism of any man, and we cannot help thinking they must necessarily have had an effect upon the venerable guest. Nevertheless, both were equal to the occasion. Colonel Lyne proved fully alive to the trust confided to him.

The estimate he drew of the character of the guest of the evening, and the manner he painted, as it were, the gradational steps by which Mr. S. Homfray had attained to such general respect, was neither overcoloured in fact, or fulsome in phraseology. The concluding portion of the Chairman's speech, more especially at that part where he presented the birthday present of a silver vase, subscribed for by a few Masonic friends, was gracefully and chastely performed. Well, the response. When Mr. Homfray rose to respond, he must have felt conscious by the hearty cheer accorded him, he had ears and hearts open and willing to receive every utterance. His speech was characteristic of the man, warm-hearted, truthful, and full of aspirations for the general weal. The contrast he drew between the past and the present of the district, not only with reference to its general prosperity and extended area, but also in its great strides towards the more efficient conduct of rapidly increasing local traffic, combined with increased facilities of locomotion, was the history of a life of experience, observation, and active work. The occasion we are commemorating was something to be remembered, but we are admonished that our labours must cease. Personal inclination would lead us to dwell upon the other toasts in the programme, were we not restricted to certain limits. We would fain pay a passing tribute to the ladies who graced the balcony in charming force on this occasion, but we must rest content by simply noting the fact of their presence, and their evident identity with the spirit of the scene. We believe, taking the banquet in the main, many a pleasant memory will survive from the commemoration of Mr. Samuel Homfray's eightieth birthday.

Rebels.

"CHARITY AND THE POOR LAWS." By Francis Peek, member of the School Board for London for City of London.—Day, Savoy-street, Strand. The name of Peek is not unknown in connection with distinguished services to our charities, and Mr. Francis Peek, one of the members of the London School Board, who has shown more than an earnest desire to inculcate a knowledge of the Volume of the Sacred Law, for he has endowed his purpose of encouraging the knowledge among the poor children of London at a cost to himself of £500 a year, has now come forward with a small volume, under the title of "Our Laws and our Poor," in which he advocates that system of discriminate charity carried out by our brotherhood, and indicates a statesmanlike knowledge of the Poor Laws, of the defects of details, of the results of maladministration, and of the evils to the community at large resulting from the ignorance displayed by the mere politicians who fill the high places. Mr. Peek's book is opportune, for changes must come into our Poor Law, and in pity to the poor to whom relief is administered, and on behalf of the poor, some of whose hard earnings go in rates, it is to be hoped that Mr. Peek's earnest expressions will bring to him helpers in his work. In his own words, he hopes to accomplish two things—"to induce some benevolent men and women, now hesitating as to their vocation in life, to cast in their lot with the many workers, who, while differing in forms of faith and much beside, are yet united in one great desire to resist the progress of those mighty powers of evil which day by day are degrading, crushing into misery, and destroying so many of our fellow-creatures, strewn our paths with human wrecks on which it is difficult to look without pain and humiliation, if we contrast what they are with what, but for bad social customs, bad laws, and selfish neglect, they might have been." The second purpose Mr. Peek desires to accomplish is explained in language which deserves to be studied by that large class of charity givers who, generally acting upon impulse, and to save themselves from importunity, may be said to give alms, but to bestow no charity. Mr. Peek says that he hopes by these essays to "enable many of those who, from warm-hearted benevolence, have thrown themselves into the struggle, to realise that in this, as in every other good work, there is necessity for self-restraint, wise forethought, and much earnest thought, if they would avoid justifying, in some measure at least, the bitter sarcasm of a late cynical writer—"that a great part of the work of the wise is to correct the evil effects resulting from the efforts of the good." There is too good reason for these remarks, and Mr. Peek, in the first of his essays, draws attention "to certain aspects of the present social condition of England," pointing out that the fact of large masses of our people living in a state of vice and degradation is "at once a disgrace and danger to the commonwealth," and that in some circumstances "there is a great cause for anxiety and regret" in the relations of employer and employed, the separation of classes, and the widening gulf between extreme luxury and extreme poverty. In regard to our Poor Laws, Mr. Peek says, "The want of proper discrimination in the management of our poor-law relief is one of the worst defects of the present system—it begins in the workhouse nurseries and schoolrooms, where the orphan children of the deserving poor are herded with the children of the refuse of society; it is continued among the able-bodied, where the virtuous widow is sent to pick oakum among the most degraded of her sex; it extends even to the death-bed, where the poor invalid, who, to save herself from such a fate, has worked till she could work no longer, and starved till she could starve no longer, is carried from her wretched home to linger out life's last hours on a bed, on each side of which may lie depraved wretches, whose every word is foulness or blasphemy." Though much good has been done to abolish the possibility of such things in London by the Act of 1867, which, to the honour of our legislature, was carried by the benevolent combination of both political parties, yet it is to be

feared that the Poor Law administration requires a constant glare of public sight upon it to prevent abuses of its easily deranged machinery, and Mr. Peek could have done his fellow creatures no greater good than by turning sharp attention to defects in our laws, as well as to defects in the actions of the so-called charitable. The appeals he makes on behalf of the helpless orphans committed to the Poor Laws, and the points he urges on their behalf, show that he has not overlooked any one operation of these laws, and we cannot help wishing that time and circumstances will bring Mr. Peek into a position where he may have a vocation in directing an improved administration of laws, which now, as he shows, in too many respects afflict the weak, and encourage the idle and worthless. J.W.

"THE HISTORY OF INDIA."—Cassell and Co.

This first part of an illustrated History of India promises very well. It is accompanied by a welcome portrait of the Prince of Wales; and, we think, will be likely to be much appreciated by the reading public just now. For India has so much interest for all of us at home, so many dear interests and precious memories are indissolubly bound up for us with that strange and distant land that to us the History of India is almost a matter of the deepest and most abiding personal interest. We shall watch the progress of this work with interest, and doubt not that it will prove to be a valuable addition to our contemporary literature. W. F. A.

ERRATUM.—By a mistake, Benjamin D'Israeli was substituted for Isaac D'Israeli, in the Review of "Scottish Proverbs."

ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

A drawing-room entertainment of a very attractive description was given on the 23rd ult. in the hall of the Oriental Buildings, New Bridge-street, Blackfriars, for the benefit of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution. The site was gratuitously placed at the disposal of the entertainers by Bro. Major Wieland, who had the gratification of seeing the hall crowded to the doors by both ladies and gentlemen. Among other brethren who were present we observed Bros. Major Wieland, F. T. Isitt, a member of the firm of Messrs. J. and C. Boyd and Co., of Friday-street; Bro. W. Hammond, P.G.J.D. Midx.; Pawson Hooton, W.M. 1572; James Terry, Prov. G.D.C. Herts Secretary of the Masonic Benevolent Institution; J. A. Farnfield, and T. W. Ockenden. Vocal and instrumental music and the performance of two farces were on the programme, the whole of which was admirably carried out. Amongst the most noticeable productions was a pianoforte solo by Miss Hammond, who also superbly rendered Gabriel's song, "Would you be a Sailor's Wife?" which was most heartily applauded. She also sang, in company with her sister, Miss J. Hammond, Smart's duet, "When the Wind Blows in from the Sea," a performance which likewise produced rapturous approval. Not the less well received was Hatton's trio, "The Woodthrush," in which the Misses Lawrence acquitted themselves so admirably that their perfectly artistic skill was at once apparent. Owing to the length of the programme encores could not always be complied with, but on several occasions during the evening the satisfaction of the audience expressed itself by demands for a repetition of the songs, which, in some cases, were given. This was the case with Mr. Tregenza, who sang "Poor Chinee," "Hearts of Oak," was given by Mr. Metherell, and "The Spanish Champion" by Mr. Tarn; and the recitation of "Ben and the Butler," by Mr. Binfield, was so humorously delivered as to convulse the house.

Messrs. Ratcliffe, Tew, and Woomansee sang the always pleasing trio, "Mynheer van Dunck," much to the enjoyment of the audience; and this was followed by Maltby's farce, "Two Flats and a Sharp," in which Messrs. Gully, Lane, and Satchell acquitted themselves very well.

Mr. Sturgeon sang Adams's "Warrior Bold," and Mr. H. Warren Edwards sang the comic song of "The Tragedy," which being encored, he sang the music hall ditty, "I am so Volatile," Mr. Wilkinson having very successfully fulfilled his part by singing Maynard's "Old Soldiers." Mr. Ockenden followed by reciting "One Niche the Highest," in which he was greatly applauded. Mr. Tew sang Rockstro's "Reefer," and Martin Beecher's farce, "In Possession," concluded the entertainment. In this Messrs. Marvin, Binfield, Tregenza, Dunn, and Lane took the characters, and filled the different parts not only with spirit, but with taste and judgment. At the conclusion of the entertainment Bro. Ockenden proposed a vote of thanks to Bro. Major Wieland for his kindness in granting the use of the hall. To this vote Bro. Wieland said he was unable to reply in a speech, but he would give a song, which he did, and was applauded to the echo. Bro. James Terry moved a vote of thanks to Bro. Ockenden, and the ladies and gentlemen who had assisted in getting up the entertainment, which had produced large pecuniary results in favour of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution; and after this had been duly responded to the company separated, acknowledging that the evening had been eminently agreeable and successful.

The usual Twelfth-night entertainment will be given to the pupils of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls at St. John's Hill, on Thursday next.

The annual Christmas entertainment to the children at the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, at Wood Green, will be given next week. It is expected to surpass all former entertainments, although last year it was far above the average, when Mr. Bridgman Smith added some novelties which produced a great sensation.

TO OUR READERS.

The *Freemason* is a sixteen-page weekly newspaper, price 2d. It is published every Friday morning, and contains the most important and useful information relating to Freemasonry in every degree. Annual subscription in the United Kingdom, Post free, 10/. Brethren in foreign parts, wishing to have this newspaper sent them regularly from the office of publication, should, in sending their remittances, add to the 2d. per week the postage on 202. newspapers.

TO ADVERTISERS.

The *Freemason* has a large circulation in all parts of the Globe, its advantages as an advertising medium can therefore scarcely be overrated.

For terms, position, &c., apply to
GEORGE KENNING, 198, Fleet-st.

Answers to Correspondents.

All Communications, Advertisements, &c., intended for insertion in the Number of the following Saturday, must reach the Office not later than 12 o'clock on Wednesday morning.

M. DAVIS.—The question is quite inadmissible.
EGERTON, 1392—Yes.

The following stand over:—"The Order of the Temple," Tudor Trevor; W. P. Buchan; W.M. Dunbar Castle, 75; Report of Chaucer Lodge, 1540; and several Scotch Lodge reports.

BOOKS, &c., RECEIVED.

"Evening Hours," edited by Lady Barker; "The Garden"; "Our Laws and our Poor," F. Peek; "East Anglian Hand Book," "All the World Over" No. 11, Cook & Son; "Boletino Officiale del Grande Oriente Nazionale Egiziano;" The Craftsman; "The Provincial Grand Lodge of Ohio;" "The Colonist," "The Belgian News."

REMITTANCES RECEIVED.

	£	s.	d.
Bailey, F. A., Australia (P.O.O.)	1	1	4
Bate, O. H., The Cape (P.O.O.)	0	2	3
Beg, Rev. Dr., N.S.W. (P.O.O.)	1	2	0
Borg, R., Egypt (Stamps)	0	7	6
Crossley, J., The Cape (P.O.O.)	1	8	6
Dorrell, W., Hasskien (P.O.O.)	0	10	6
Hall, J., Smyrna (Stamps)	0	9	8
Jevon, H., Egypt (Stamps)	0	6	0
Monaghan, W.M. St. Thomas's Mount (B.O.E.)	2	5	0
Peake, H. H., Ballarat (P.O.O.)	1	0	0
Petty, G., Cadiz (Cash)	0	10	8
Toby, C., Tasmania (Draft)	3	0	0
Trelease, Corsica (Cash)	0	9	0
Tyndall, P., Malta (Stamps)	0	5	0
Warrington, H. W., Punjab (Draft)	3	7	4
Zitman, Thomas, Demerara (Cash)	1	0	0

The Freemason,

SATURDAY, JAN. 1, 1876.

OUR ROYAL GRAND MASTER'S VISIT TO INDIA.

Our Royal Grand Master has reached Calcutta, where his reception has been most enthusiastic. There have been several State Ceremonies, and a grand assembly of Indian Princes, to which we shall recur in our next. Our Royal Grand Master is quite well, and has won all hearts. We shall treat the subject more fully in our next.

THE NEW YEAR.

The flight of time has ever exercised, so to say, much and deeply the poet and preacher, the thoughtful and the sage. The stern and often unpalatable truth to man—of Time's rapid decay, "its effacing fingers," and its inevitable and often premature ending, have appealed to the feelings and conscious perception of all mortal generations. Time is like a flowing river which we think will run parallel to our course or road, and yet a sudden bend hides it from our view; and we go on our way and behold it no more! For whatever may be our actual views of life per se, whether pleasant or mournful, whether philosophical or paradoxical, we cannot deny this in controvertible truth, that Time is often of very short duration for us and ours, that it often ceases for us at a moment when we least expect its departure, and even when all is summed up, when we have seen the best of it, when we have enjoyed its fleeting hours to the full, it bids us farewell, and seems to us, whether in its longest retrospect or in its often hasty flight, simply like a "tale that is told." How short after all do the hours of our little, if even longish life, appear to us to-day. It seems but yesterday that we were beginning the journey of time. Blithe

comrades were at our sides, we were marching on, a goodly and a stalwart band, the way was pleasant and refreshing, we were traversing flowery meads and the "woodland green;" no clouds were on our path, all was full of hope and of contentment! Life has run on, years have sped away, and we hardly can realize that here we are to-day, moving on with halting steps to our journey's close, weak and weary, footsore and dispirited! We hardly can believe actually the lapse of years and the flight of time! Why it was only yesterday, we feel disposed to say, that this and that happened to us here and there, that ours was the pleasant friendship, ours was the endearing re-union, that for us this world was full of happiness, and life had many charms. And yet here has January whitened into December, and the wintry sky has covered the scene with its dimmer and its duller rays. How quickly old time has passed, how rapidly its days, and seasons, and scenes have vanished away, leaving us only the illusion of memory, or the dream of fond regrets, those ghosts and shadows of olden hours, which serve only to remind us of what once has been, but never, never can be more for us poor sojourners for a little season here below. Youth and hope, and health and happiness, and pleasant association, and tender trust, all are in our "far away;" like many others in this wilderness of life, we have outlived even the warmth of affection, the reality of friendship, and the sympathy of fellow feeling. How many a poor mortal has thus to complain, as it were, to himself, as the hours roll on, and life grows old, and the hurrying years bring with them their inevitable changes, and time leaves us standing, perhaps downcast and depressed, on that great and sombre shore, which hems in the "silent sea." But then, the philosopher, while he admits this normal state of being, this inevitable condition of time, will not therefore really take either a dreary or doubting view of things. So it is, so it ever has been, so it ever will be, in the good Providence of God. This very shortness of time is actually the best thing for us all, though we may not à priori like to think so, and offers to us ever the best of reminders, and the truest and soundest of teaching. For after all, who would really wish time to be more enduring than it is? We may say so, or affect to think so, but we doubt if any one really does so say or think truly, except in the gross ignorance of materialistic unbelief. None of us ever pretend to assert or to believe, that this life is satisfying, that time is our best portion. Take life and time at their very best, their very, very best, what do they ever demonstrate to every thoughtful mind amongst us, but that they are alike imperfect, and transitory, and deceiving? Under the mask of human follies are many heartaches; under the pomp and glitter of terrestrial wealth are ceaseless worries, and sordid cares; health often gives way utterly, and leaves us helpless creatures to-day, a "wreck of the past," a touching instance of shattered strength. When gaiety and merriment are at the highest, there are many who laugh, simply, as Figaro did, to prevent him from crying; and as the lights die out, as the music ceases, as the viands grow cold, as the flowers crumble into dust, we often only look back on those white-robed phantoms, which tell us of baneful pleasures, or whisper to us in sadder tones of golden moments, whose waste we never can repair, of pleasant faces we only recall with the sigh of remorse! Such has ever been the great and unvarying condition of time, that it is disappointing, disheartening, and departing! It is here to-day, and gone to-morrow. It never allows us hardly even to finish our plans, or complete our happiest schemes. If it does so, perchance, it often leaves us in the hour of fruition, and like the fairy palace of old, the building we have created with so much care, after so many long years' work, has crumbled away, and disappeared in the night. Now we all know this, and we all admit this, the preacher and the congregation, the teacher and the pupil, the lecturer and his audience. Hence we venture to believe, despite some few rash assertions of either the worldly wise, or the coldly cynical, or the sceptical epicurean, that none of us really wish time to endure for ever, that none of us honestly desire that we ourselves might "live always." No! there comes over us all, sooner or later, the clear conviction that

it is far better for us all, that things are as they are in this respect! We could not bear a too lengthened continuance of time, we could none of us desire to live life over again. As year follows year, as the new year succeeds the old, as generations give place to generations in their onward march, as the cycle of time keeps ever filling up, and completing its course to us all alike, ours must be the thought and the admission, that not only "sic fata voluere," but that it is idle to complain of the flight of time, and that all things are for the best, and that we must all grow old. If any of us are even tempted to say "ah mihi præteritos si referet Jupiter annos," it is an unreal wish, it is a hurtful aspiration; as, after all, the Great Architect of the Universe has given us all our proper times and seasons, in which to do our work for him, and to help our brother man. Let, then, the departure of 1875, and the advent of 1876, tell us in a clear and thrilling voice of our own mission and our own responsibilities. Let us not, because all things do not go with us as we wish, or want, become sad or sighing, cross-grained or ungenial! We have still something to do, however humble, for our great Grand Master and for our brethren here; let us labour on to the close, so to say, with "harness on our backs" to the last, humbly seeking to do our duty, where God has been pleased in His omniscient wisdom to place us; and then time will leave us without vain regrets, because time is to us but a symbol of that great eternity, into which we all are wending, as the years hasten from us, and our sands are running out.

REPORTS OF LODGE MEETINGS.

With the New Year, and our first issue of the "Freemason" for 1876, we wish to impress upon many of our excellent correspondents, the need and advisability of somewhat condensing the normal reports of the proceedings of the lodges, alike at work, and above all at refreshment. We are quite aware, that one of the "specialités" of the "Freemason" consists in the full and verbatim records it invariably offers to the Craft of lodge proceedings, and Masonic speeches. But of late there has been somewhat of a tendency to be a little too prolix, and a little too diffuse. Much has been sent to us and has appeared in print that in our humble opinion might as well have been kept back and omitted without detriment to the report itself, and without any disrespect to the sender, or the lodge. For instance, we would earnestly call the attention of our many correspondents to the advisability of eschewing for the future all references to the work done in lodge, all ritual arrangements, as we shall assuredly, in justice to our ourselves, to economize our own space, and please our readers and the Order generally, as we know; have otherwise to forbear printing such passages in our weekly correspondence. We also, would respectfully urge a little more condensation as to the reports themselves, and the non-introduction of any thing but what is absolutely necessary or purely Masonic. And lastly, as regards the "after dinner speeches," and the records of "the feast of reason and the flow of soul," we venture to ask, from all our friendly and communicative correspondents, a little alike of curtailment and reserve. We cannot afford, owing to our limited columns, to print the stereotyped phrases, such as "the banquet gave the greatest satisfaction to all who partook of it, and was a credit to the caterer." Neither can we announce week after week that "Bro. Juggins supplied a most admirable entertainment, and the viands and wines were of the first quality." We think that many speeches might be left out, and more might be shortened; and we trust that our brethren who give us, "currente calamio," such elaborate accounts of addresses, which all sound pretty much the same, will pardon us when we say, that while we always hail eloquence or originality, or the sound advice, or the telling point, we, and our brethren equally, are not improved or edified by hearing that "Bro. Thompson returned thanks and said that it was the proudest day of his life, and that he loved Masonry and had worked hard for it, &c., &c., &c." It is all perfectly true, no doubt, and the greatest credit is due to Bro. P.M. Thompson, but Masonry is

not benefitted by this repetitive self-laudation, and the intellectual character of the "Freemason" is materially affected. So we hope that all will take in good part what we have thought well to say to-day, and will assist us in our endeavour to raise as far as we can the staple character of the lodge reports and after dinner speeches. We are quite sensible of the need and advantage of having good and full reports of lodge meetings, and even of Masonic speeches, pace Mr. Heckethorne; but we think there is a via media in all things, and even in this. We quite agree, that some reports may be too terse and condensed, such as that which announces that "Lodge 2044 met on the 22nd inst. Present Bros. Jones, Brown, Robinson, &c., &c. Mr. Johnson was balloted for, and being unanimously accepted, was introduced and admitted into our ancient and honourable fraternity. The lodge being duly closed, the brethren then partook of an excellent banquet, &c." Between the too diffuse and turgid report, and the report too condensed and technical (with nothing but the dry bones of Freemasonry, so to say), there is clearly a possibility of a judicious and spirited lodge report, which will give every information to the Order, and yet not weary the reader with needless repetitions, and stereotyped phrases. So we hope to find and to take the golden mean between these two extremes, and if our brethren will only aid us in the somewhat difficult effort, we doubt not, but that the "Freemason" will still continue to supply full and satisfactory and readable lodge reports, and that gradually the character of Masonic speeches generally will be raised, not only in the opinion of "outsiders," but in that of many an intellectual brother of our good old Craft.

THE COMPARATIVE COST OF THE BOYS' SCHOOL.

We don't think that much has come of this controversy, or that any good can be gained by continuing it, and so we close it in our columns to-day. The matter is confessedly a difficult one, and requires much careful handling, serious consideration, and impartial statements. It is idle for any one to jump up and say "The Boys' School costs so much. I know of a school where the boys are maintained and educated and clothed for £30 less than the Boys' School, and it is therefore £20 in excess of this school, or that school." Be it so, even, what then? Before we can form any opinion on the merits of the case we must ascertain several things. 1st. The class of boys educated. and. The system of education pursued. 3rd. The rate of allowed expenditure per head; and, 4th. What are the special circumstances of the case? For the education of boys, orphan boys like the sons of Freemasons, is in itself a somewhat difficult problem, and requires to be carefully and cautiously dealt with. It is hopeless to attempt to deal with it as an eleemosynary institution only, or as a pauper school, or to suppose that our point can be gained by giving a "minimum" instead of a "maximum" of education, or of anything else. Just now all such institutions are in danger of being gravely affected by quacks and charlatans, by those who have never made scholastic work their study, or by those who take a hard and fast line on the subject, and treating the boys like a set of machines, say "giving a certain amount of money, the strictly necessary expenses ought only to be so much per head." Such a line of reasoning may have done in years ago; it can avail no longer. The general advance of education is so great, and will be greater, that it is positively childish for any one to attempt to lay down one rigid level of expense, and maintenance, and instruction. In some orphan institutions, indeed, where the class is special, and the inmates are many, it is possible, perhaps, by strict sumptuary arrangements, to reduce the expenses, but then in those cases we always find that much depends on the dietary prescribed. Some institutions do not give meat to the children more than three or four days a week, it is said, some not even so often. Therefore each institution must be judged by its own merits, and its own work and condition, and it is most absurd to suppose that any one in the world can fix an

arbitrary amount, and say that figure represents moderation and economy—beyond, waste and extravagance; and that all schools in excess of such amount ought to be reduced to the expenditure per head of the schools where the average is of the amount specified. The Freemasons' Boys' School, owing to its contrasted classes of orphans, renders every such suggestion utterly inadvisable and impossible, and we have every reason to believe that the dietary of the school has been formed in a liberal spirit, and we know with the best results to the health of the inmates. Bro. C. Pegler, of Leeds, who has entered the lists on the hobby-horse of economy, in his last letter, we fear, will have not strengthened his position in the eyes of the metropolitan brethren or the Craft at large, because it must be patent to all, that his entire argument rests on two great fallacies. First he takes certain institutions, and says their average is so and so, the average of the Boys' School is much higher, and if the amount of the Boys' School expenditure be reduced to this lower average, nearly double the number of boys can be educated. But the fallacies are these. He assumes that all the schools are on a similar level in everything, whereas, as we said before, not only must every institution be considered on its own merits and character, but the Freemasons' Boys' School has a special character of its own, which requires a special treatment. And he (Bro. Pegler) goes on to say, what must have made many brethren smile, for he gravely contends that living is cheaper in London than in the provinces, and thirdly, that the schools can be provided from wholesale houses, in grocery, butchers' meat, and flour. If Bro. Pegler really thinks it is cheaper to live in London than in the provinces, we recommend him to come and live in London for twelve months, and we will undertake to say from personal experience, that at the end of that period his house expenses in London will exceed 35 per cent. those in Leeds. But in most cases, as a rule, contracts cannot be made by institutions like the Boys' School with wholesale houses. Contracts can be made with retail houses, and are made, but we have never heard of the former arrangement, and do not believe it exists, or could practically be worked. The matter here rests, and must rest where it is. Bro. Binckes has conclusively shown that the argument of the West Yorkshire Charity Committee of 1868 still holds good, and that the averages they gave then fairly represent the averages of 1875, and that on the whole the Boys' School does not suffer by the comparison. We give Bro. Pegler credit for being wishful to make our means go as far as they can, but we venture, in all respect to him, to express our humble opinion that his argument is fallacious, and his complaints are groundless. We believe that every economy is practised in the management of the Boys' School, consistent with the objects of the institution, namely, the health of the pupils, good education, and comfortable clothing and maintenance.

Original Correspondence.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for, or even as approving of the opinions expressed by our correspondents, but we wish, in a spirit of fair play to all, to permit—within certain necessary limits—free discussion.—Ed.]

MASONIC FORBEARANCE.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

In reference to a letter in your paper of to-day, headed "Masonic Forbearance," I am much grieved, on reading it, to find that I am accused of having bullied (a very harsh expression, and quite foreign to my character) a brother, as it states, for taking my apron, &c., home, instead of giving it up, on finding it, to the proper authorities. On my attending my lodge on the following Thursday, after losing it, I had a letter handed to me by the Secretary, stating that on applying in Cheapside I could obtain my property. On calling there, I can most positively assert that I thanked the finder two or three times, at the same time telling him that he had laid himself open to be prosecuted for taking it away, and that I had been put to a great deal of trouble, and had been in communication with the general manager at King's Cross, and for saying this I am accused of gross incivility. On recovering what I had lost I immediately wrote to the railway to that effect, stating how I obtained it. If they took further steps, owing to his kindness, I am very sorry that he should have been further troubled. I was not aware until to-day that he was a brother, for I did not recognise him, nor he me, though I must have travelled with him

from Wood Green, being one of the five, and also a member of 1185, and the question was asked at my lodge if the writer was a Mason, and the Secretary stated, from the wording he should say not. I am sure, on reflection, he will remember that I only treated him as one gentleman would another, and that our next meeting will be in a friendly spirit.

I enclose my card.

Yours faithfully and fraternally,

JUSTICE.

CAN A TYLER VOTE?

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

A question was asked by Bro. S.C.H. in your number of the 25th December, 1875, in reference to the right of the Tyler to vote for a member of the lodge when proposed as Master, or for any other purpose; and Bro. S.C.H. does me the honour to quote a passage from my article "Ballot" in the Royal Masonic Cyclopaedia, p. 65, in which occurs the following expression:—"The Tyler (who is not necessarily a member of the lodge, and in the case of payment for his services, has no vote)." In almost every lodge the Tyler is a paid officer, and attends professionally as such upon many lodges, making a legitimate source of profit of his Masonic abilities, hence it would seem clear that he is not necessarily a member of the lodge he attends, and the money payment makes this still more clear.

It may so happen in the lodge to which Bro. S.C.H. belongs that the Tyler prefers to subscribe, and I honour the feeling which actuates him to do so, in which case, like any other subscribing member he would have the right of voting, but in exercise it would become necessary for him to delegate his duties to some other brother, and hence cease, while recording his vote, to be Tyler, and become a simple subscribing member.

I consulted the Grand Secretary on points in connection with this, and he bears out the view I have ventured to print. The Grand Tyler, he informs me, is scarcely considered a Grand Officer, and from his situation and duties whether as Grand Tyler or Tyler of a private lodge, it is impossible for him to take part in discussions, and, if he cannot do this, his vote, even if it were conceded to him as such, would not be of much avail.

Wishing you a happy new year, I remain, dear Sir and Brother, yours very fraternally,

KENNETH, R. H. MACKENZIE, (Cryptonymus),
Editor of the Royal Masonic Cyclopaedia.

Chiswick-sq., W. 28th Dec. 1875.

[We adhere to our opinion, notwithstanding the great authority of our excellent Grand Secretary, quoted by Bro. Mackenzie. A Tyler who is a subscribing member of a lodge, (not having been initiated in it as a serving brother), is entitled by the provisions of the Book of Constitutions to vote, and nothing can take away his right. How he is to vote is simply a matter of detail. The case of the Grand Tyler is not analogous.—Ed.]

THE VATICAN AND PHYSICS.

We take this striking proof of Ultramontane intolerance from the "Times" of the 18th ult. :—

Sir,—A learned French friend has favoured me with a copy of a letter recently published in France, and bearing the following title:—"Letter of Monsignor the Bishop of Montpellier to the Deans and Professors of the Faculties of Montpellier." Its date is the 8th of the month of December, 1875. One or two extracts from it may not be without their value to the people of England and of America, on whom, in our day, has fallen the problem of education in relation to the claims of Rome.

The Bishop writes to the Deans and Professors as follows :—

"Now, gentlemen, the holy Church holds herself to be invested with the absolute right to teach mankind; she holds herself to be the depositary of the truth—not a fragmentary truth, incomplete, a mixture of certainty and hesitation, but the total truth, complete, from a religious point of view. Much more, she is so sure of the infallibility conferred upon her by her Divine founder, as the magnificent dowry of their indissoluble alliance, that even in the natural order of things, scientific or philosophical, moral or political, she will not admit that a system can be adopted and sustained by Christians, if it contradict definite dogmas. She considers that the voluntary and obstinate denial of a single point of her doctrine involves the crime of heresy, and she holds that all formal heresy, if it be not courageously rejected prior to appearing before God, carries with it the certain loss of grace and of eternity.

"As defined by Pope Leo X. at the Sixth Council of the Lateran, 'Truth cannot contradict itself; consequently, every assertion contrary to a revealed verity of faith is necessarily and absolutely false.' It follows from this, without entering into the examination of this or that question of physiology, but solely by the certitude of our dogmas, we are able to pronounce judgment on any hypothesis which is an anti-Christian engin. 'war rather than a serious conquest over the secrets and mysteries of human nature.'

Liberty is a fine word, tyranny a hateful one, and both have been eloquently employed of late in reference to the dealings of the secular arm with the pretensions of the Vatican. But "liberty" has two mutually exclusive meanings—the liberty of Rome to teach mankind, and the liberty of the human race. Neither reconciliation nor compromise is possible here. One liberty or the other must go down. This, in our day, is the "conflict" so impressively described by Draper, in which every thoughtful man must take a part. There is no dimness in the eyes of Rome as regards her own aims; she sees with a clearness unapproached by others that the school will be either her stay or her ruin. Hence the supreme effort she is now making

to obtain the control of education; hence the assertion by the Bishop of Montpellier of her "absolute right to teach mankind." She has, moreover, already tasted the fruits of this control in Bavaria, where the very liberality of an enlightened King led to the fatal mistake of confiding the schools of the kingdom to the "Doctors of Rome."

Your obedient servant,
Athenæum, Dec. 16.

JOHN TYNDALL

CONSECRATION OF A NEW CHAPTER IN LIVERPOOL.

The increase in Royal Arch Chapters has been as marked in the province of West Lancashire as amongst Craft Lodges, and the number of those already in existence within the division was swelled on Wednesday, the 22nd of December, when the De Grey and Ripon Chapter, No. 1356, was solemnly and duly consecrated at the Masonic Hall, Hope-street, Liverpool. The chapter stands attached to a highly influential lodge, and those identified with the principal offices and organisation of the newly-consecrated chapter are justly recognised as leaders in the Masonic Order. Its birth has taken place apparently under a "lucky star," and there is little doubt that the new chapter will soon grow up to a fine manhood, under the fostering care of those who have the government in their hands. The ceremony of consecration was fixed to begin at three o'clock, and shortly after that hour the interesting proceedings were commenced, the following being amongst those present:—Comps. H. S. Alpass, Prov. G.S.E.; R. Wylie, P. Prov. G.D.C., M.E.Z. 292; B. B. Marson, Z. designate of the new chapter; Joseph Bell, H. designate; Richard Brown, J. designate; J. A. Edginton, S.E. designate; E. Kyle, 220; J. Arcellano Hall, P. Prov. G.S.N., P.Z. 32; J. Holland, Z. 823; J. McKune, P.Z. 216, P. Prov. P. Soj.; H. Nelson, P.Z. 673, P.G.D.C.; W. Fletcher, 292; J. Hilton, 203; M. Corless, 673; A. Woolrich, 203; J. Beesley, Z. 216; H. Ashmore, 823; W. Doyle, P.G. 3rd Principal; J. P. McArthur, Z. 1086; J. Lunt, P.Z. 1086 and Z. 241; T. Clark, P.Z. and Z. 673; J. Thornton, P.Z. 673; G. Peet, 241; J. Skeaf, 216; W. Shortis, Z. 1094; T. Evans, J. 203; R. Roberts, 203; J. W. Baker, 241; J. Archdeacon, 249; J. Winsor, 241; P. M. Larsen, J. Keet, 203; J. Bailey, 680; H. Burrows, 673; J. W. Williams, J. Williams, 220; J. Wood, Treas. 249 (Freemason); J. T. Callow, P.Z. 673; R. Webster, 203; W. Morris; E. Jones, 220; J. E. Jackson, P. R. Thorn, A. Samuels, H. 477; A. Winkup, T. Chesworth, P.Z. 1086; J. R. Johnson, P.Z. &c.; and R. Pearson, Z. 20.

Comp. H. S. Alpass took the chair as Z.; Comp. J. McKune being H.; Doyle, J.; Hall, P.S.; Goepel, First A.S.; J. Lunt, Second A.S.; J. W. Baker, S.E.; Beesley, S.N.

The chapter was opened according to ancient custom, and then Comp. H. S. Alpass proceeded to consecrate in a masterly style, assisted by Com. R. Wylie. Comp. J. W. Baker, acting S.E., read the warrant constituting the De Grey and Ripon Chapter, No. 1356, and the consecrating prayer was offered by Comp. Alpass. The corn, wine, oil, and salt were carried by Comps. Amons, Callow, Clark, Shortis, and Baker, and the chapter was declared duly consecrated by Comp. R. Wylie. The Principals invested were Comps. B. B. Marson, Z.; Joseph Bell, H.; R. Brown, J.; with Comps. J. A. Edginton, S.E.; Keet, S.N.; and P. M. Larsen, Janitor. After about twenty propositions for exaltation, the chapter was closed in accordance with ancient custom.

The majority of those present subsequently sat down to an excellent banquet, provided liberally and efficiently by Comp. W. Vines, of the Canton Hotel. Comp. B. B. Marson, M.E.Z., presided, supported by the other Principals and officers of the new chapter. About 50 special invitations had been issued, and the majority of these were accepted.

The M.E.Z. said:—

I have the honour of proposing "The Health of Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen," and I well know this, the first toast upon our list, will be received and honoured with that enthusiasm which every feeling of love towards her person can prompt us to bestow. In this country it is the happy privilege of Freemasonry to be intimately associated with the throne, for whilst we gladly recognize the Prince of Wales as our supreme head, we are equally proud to mention the Queen as a liberal patroness of our Masonic Charities, and endeared as she is to all classes of her subjects, I am proud to know, in hoping she might long be spared, and blessed with health and strength, that my words will only express the wishes of all true and loyal hearts.

M.E. Comp. Marson, in giving "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, the Supreme Grand Principal, the Princess of Wales, and the rest of the Royal Family," said—

Provincial Grand Officers, Chiefs, and Companions,—I have the honour and privilege of proposing "The Health of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales," and I am quite certain this toast will be honoured with every demonstration of loyalty, for whether we regard His Royal Highness as our future King, or in that closer bond of union towards ourselves, as the Supreme Grand Principal of England, he is every way worthy our esteem. Sojourning now in that mighty Empire, where British valour has often times been sorely tried, and as often amply proved, I know he has our best wishes for his health, and our prayers for his safe return to his native home.

"The Health of the Provincial Grand Superintendent of West Lancashire, with the Provincial Grand Officers," was proposed in a most happy and excellent manner by Comp. R. Browne, the M.E.Z. of the new chapter. The name of M.E. P. Grand Scribe, Comp. Alpass, was coupled with his toast, and it was received with the greatest warmth.

Comp. Alpass, in replying on behalf of Lord Skelmersdale and the Provincial Grand Officers, thanked the companions present for the hearty manner with which the last

toast had been received, and, introducing the subject of charity in a most elaborate speech, impressed on all present the necessity of supporting Lord Skelmersdale as Chairman of the Benevolent Institution in London in a manner worthy of the Province of West Lancashire, speaking in the warmest terms of the officers appointed to govern the De Grey and Ripon Chapter, and his belief that it would be ruled in a most able and exemplary way under their supervision. He then proposed "The Health of its Chiefs and Officers," the toast being received with the greatest enthusiasm.

Comp. B. B. Marson, Z., in returning thanks, said the founders of the De Grey and Ripon, remembering that happy Christmas time just drawing upon them, when every heart grew larger and every generous impulse was increased, thought that some good deed on their part would convey better than any words they could utter how highly they estimated the good opinions of the companions present; and he was proud and happy as their First Principal to place in the hands of the P.G. Scribe the sum of £10 to represent the De Grey and Ripon Chapter, remarking that he was very glad to state that the founders of the chapter had given him that sum more than a week ago; and he trusted the example set by the latest addition to the Province of West Lancashire would stimulate every chapter and lodge under Lord Skelmersdale's rule to support him at the Benevolent Institution, London, in such a manner that his lordship might justly be proud of his province.

Comps. Joshua Bell, H., and Richard Brown, J., each in a very able speech, supported the remarks of the Z. and the thanks he had given for the hearty reception accorded to their healths.

Comp. B. B. Marson, Z., proposed "The Consecrating and Installing Officers," thanking them very warmly for their services, and the splendid manner in which those ceremonies had been performed.

M.E. Comp. R. Wylie, P. Prov. G.D. of C., returned thanks, and assured the companions how gratified he was to have done anything to forward the interests of the De Grey and Ripon Chapter. The remaining toasts were "The Chiefs of other Chapters," coupled with the name of Comp. Hall, of Chapter 32; "The Visitors," coupled with the name of Comp. A. Winkup, and "The Provincial Grand Organist, Comp. Skeaf," and remembering the last toast the Companions withdrew at 9 o'clock, after spending a most enjoyable evening, which was greatly enhanced by the musical efforts of Comps. Brown, Woolrich, Winkup, Edginton, and Skeaf.

PRESENTATION TO A WORTHY LIVERPOOL BROTHER.

On Tuesday afternoon, the 21st December, a number of gentlemen waited upon Bro. R. C. Yelland, W.M. 1094, Superintendent of the Liverpool Salvage Brigade, at Hatton-garden, Liverpool, for the purpose of making a presentation in recognition of his services for the last nine years. The testimonial, subscribed for by Masonic and private friends, consisted of a splendid English gold keyless chronometer, with 18-carat gold guard and seal, and a 21-day black marble dining-room timepiece inlaid with malachite and gold scrolls. The watch and timepiece both bore the inscription:—"Presented to R. C. Yelland, Esq., Superintendent of the Liverpool Salvage Brigade, by a number of friends and admirers, for services rendered to the town and as a token of esteem." The handsome testimonial was entirely subscribed for by friends of Bro. Yelland; and although a large number of warehouse owners desired to subscribe, the committee thought it better to decline, so as to raise the presentation above suspicion. Bro. Alderman Taylor, P.M. 823, who presided at the presentation, said that while it was incumbent upon every man to discharge his duties without hope of reward beyond that of a good conscience, there were certain circumstances which deserved recognition in this way. When a man like Bro. Yelland risked life to save the lives and property of others, it was felt that those services were worthy of notice. The subscribers to this testimonial were therefore anxious to recognise the nine years' faithful service of Bro. Yelland as the head of the salvage brigade, and more especially his services at the Lancelots-hire fire, where by his brave efforts he saved much valuable property. The chairman referred to the good feeling which existed between the salvage corps and the police fire brigade, and concluded by expressing a desire for Bro. Yelland's long life and prosperity. Bro. Yelland, in acknowledging the presentation, said it had always given him pleasure to render assistance to every one in a time of need, and he hoped that feeling would always actuate him in the performance of his duties. He had now been for nine years chief of the salvage brigade, and during that time they had worked harmoniously with the police, with a desire to do good service to the best of their ability. Bro. Dr. Kisch moved a vote of thanks to the chairman, which was seconded by Bro. J. Clegg, and carried by acclamation. Bro. R. R. Martin moved, Bro. D. W. Winstanley seconded, and Bro. P. Macmurdow supported, a vote of thanks to Bro. J. Clegg as chairman of the committee; and after this had been carried the proceedings terminated.

CENTENARY FESTIVAL OF ST. THOMAS'S LODGE, No. 142.

This very interesting event took place on St. Thomas's day, at the City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street, the ordinary place of meeting of the lodge, under the presidency of Bro. G. A. Rooks, the W.M.; F. T. Dubois, P.M., as S.W.; and J. Lewis Thomas, P.M., as J.W. A lodge of emergency was called for the purpose, and the official document from Grand Lodge, acknowledging the continuous existence of the lodge for 100 years, and granting permission to wear the centenary jewel, was read by the Secretary, Bro. H. C. Levander, and ordered to be entered on

the minutes. Letters were read from Lord Carnarvon, Lord Skelmersdale, Lord Hartington, Colonel Francis Burdett, Sir Albert Wood, and Dr. Woodman, Grand Sword Bearer, expressing their regret at being unable to attend. Bro. Battye, P.M. and Treasurer, proposed that the event should be commemorated by voting the sum of £20 to be placed on the list of Bro. Thomas, who was nominated to represent the lodge as Steward at the forthcoming festival of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and Widows of Freemasons; this was seconded and carried unanimously, as was also the proposition to present an extraordinary Past Master's jewel to the W.M., to mark the approbation of the brethren of his having so ably filled the chair for two consecutive years. There being no other business, the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to the banquet hall, being honoured by the presence of about 45 guests distinguished in the Craft. Amongst the number we noticed Bros. John Hervey, G.S.; J. C. Parkinson, P.G.D.; Rev. Dr. Brette, Francis Robinson, O. Hansard, Rev. P.M. Holden, Colonel Peters, Major Shadwell Clarke, Hyde Pullen, R. Wentworth Little, P.G.S.W. Midx; J. Shervill, G.S.; John Boyd, P.G.P.; F. Binckes, P.G.S.; John Oliver, W.M., Granite; E. Letchworth, J. Terry, Secretary of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution; F. Hogard, H. G. Buss, P.G.T. Middlesex; Magnus Ohren, and others. The lodge being limited by its rules to 25 members, was well represented by Bro. Rooks, W.M.; Cockcroft, P.M.; Battye, P.M.; Thistleton, P.M.; Huguenin, P.M.; and representative from the Grand Lodge of Switzerland; F. T. Dubois, P.M.; J. Lewis Thomas, P.M.; Scarth, I.P.M.; Levander, P.M. and Secretary; Beattie, S.D.; Macaulay, J.D.; Powell, P.M. and I.G.; Lea, Hannan, H. A. Dubois, Giles, Le Pays, and Bailey. Illness prevented the attendance of the popular and esteemed W.M. elect, Bro. William Dyott Burnaby. The musical arrangements were under the direction of Bro. G. Carter, assisted by Bros. Montem Smith, Lester, and Lawler, which gave great delight and satisfaction.

The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given in very appropriate terms by the W.M., who dilated upon the immense impetus given to Masonry by the advent of H.R.H. the Most Worshipful Grand Master, and alluded to his present tour in India as likely to have a most beneficial and enduring influence on the Craft. Bro. Hervey responded in his usual well chosen terms for the "Grand Officers." Bro. J. C. Parkinson proposed the toast of the evening, "Prosperity to St. Thomas's Lodge." He regretted that he was not better able to do justice to the toast, but acknowledged the pride he felt in being called upon to do honour to so distinguished a lodge, whose birthday they were then celebrating. He traced its history, as ascertained from its old minute books, by which, as an old Athol Lodge, it was proved to be in existence long before the date of its present charter in 1775. He mentioned many names amongst its members not unknown to fame. Conspicuously foremost was that of Dr. Johnson, and, coming down to our own day, the lamented Shirley Brooks and Albert Smith. The toast was drunk with enthusiasm.

The other toasts, in their order, were "The Visitors," proposed by the Master, and responded to by Bro. Major Shadwell Clarke and Hyde Pullen; "The Charities," proposed by Bro. James Lewis Thomas, P.M., and responded to by Bro. Terry; "The Master," proposed by Bro. John Hervey, G.S., and responded to by the W.M.; "The Past Masters," proposed by the W.M., and responded to by Bro. Battye, P.M. and Treasurer.

The spirit of the meeting was well sustained by each of the speakers, and it is not too much to say, that the speeches, which were not only strictly practical and suggestive, especially noticeable in the pathos which seemed to inspire the advocate of the charities, but at times attained and maintained the elevation of the highest eloquence.

The Tyler's toast brought the proceedings to a close. Tea and coffee were served in the drawing-room, and the W.M., Wardens, and brethren of St. Thomas's Lodge were congratulated on the success of their centenary meeting. The Masonic body are not unreasonably proud of the prestige and increasing importance of this lodge, which has held on its undeviating path for more than a century, and to the outer world we can only echo the time-honoured motto of the lodge "Noli esse incredulus sed fidelis."

THE MASONIC AND GENERAL LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY.—We have received the seventh annual report of this company, and note with pleasure the progress which it has been the duty of the Directors to communicate to the members. The business is not so large as should be done by an office appealing to so influential a class as the Masonic body. The office is well conducted, and what is more, the assets are proportionate to the liabilities. From what has recently come to our knowledge, it appears that the business is rapidly extending, in fact, there is every reason to believe that the forthcoming year will be a most prosperous one. We, therefore, confidently call the attention of our readers, (most especially those who are about assuring their lives) to the special advantages afforded by the Masonic Life Office. The papers forwarded to applicants are worthy of the most careful perusal and consideration, hence we would recommend that application be made to the Managing Director of the Company for any required information, which we feel sure he will most cheerfully supply.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS AND OINTMENT.—Each quarter of the year tests the constitution, and discovers its weakest link. By the variable temperatures of the present season, the human system is severely tried; chest complaints, disordered digestion, and biliousness are generally more or less frequent. The winter will save both pain and hazard by the early use of these infallible remedies. Holloway's Ointment, well rubbed upon the skin nearest the seat of disease, exerts most wonderfully purifying powers, never fails in expelling all noxious matters and removing all temporary obstructions, thus restoring healthy action to the organs. While the Ointment gently re-arranges disordered action, Holloway's Pills should be taken to remove all contaminations from the blood.

FREEMASONRY IN THE UNITED STATES.

GRAND LODGE OF ILLINOIS.—At the annual communication of the M.W. Grand Lodge of Illinois, held at Chicago, on 5th, 6th, and 7th of October, the following Grand Officers were elected and installed to serve for the ensuing Masonic year:—G. E. Loonsbury, M.W.G.M.; J. Robbins, R.W.D.G.M.; W. J. A. De Lancey, R.W.S.G.W.; Henry E. Hamilton, R.W.J.G.W.; Harrison Dills, R.W.G. Treasurer; John F. Burill, R.W.G. Secretary. The communication was a harmonious one, and showed the condition of Masonry throughout the Grand Jurisdiction to be very prosperous.

GRAND LODGE OF MONTANA.—At the annual communication, held at Radersburgh, October, 5th, 6th, and 7th, the following officers were duly elected and installed, to serve for the ensuing Masonic year:—Bros. Harry R. Conly, Helena, M.W.G.M.; J. M. Knight, Virginia City, R.W.D.G.M.; J. S. Mendenhall, Bozeman, R.W.S.G.W.; R. T. Kennon, Deer Lodge, R.W.J.G.W.; Henry M. Parthen, Helena, R.W.G. Treas.; Cornelius Hedges, Helena, R.W.G. Sec.

GRAND LODGE OF PENNSYLVANIA.—On the 1st ult. the following brethren were elected Grand Officers for the ensuing Masonic year, beginning on St. John's Day next:—Robert Clark, of Philadelphia, R.W. Grand Master; James Madison Porter, of Easton, R.W. Deputy Grand Master; Michael Nisbet, of Philadelphia, R.W. Senior Grand Warden; Samuel B. Dick, of Meadville, R.W. Junior Grand Warden; Thomas R. Patton, of Philadelphia, R.W. Grand Treasurer; John Thomson, R.W. Grand Secretary.

BENEVOLENT LODGE—THREE SCORE AND TEN.—This old and distinguished lodge observed the ceremonial of the annual election and installation of officers. The occasion was marked by circumstances of more than ordinary interest. That harmony which has always characterized its history was universal, and the very large attendance of membership evinced a devotion and zeal which has ever been a prominent feature in this time-honoured organisation. A most pleasing episode preceded the installation ceremonies in the formal reception by the Grand Master of New York, who presided, of R.W. Wm. H. Davis, Past Master of this lodge, as representative near the Grand Lodge of New York, of the M.W. Grand Lodge of Indiana. Grand Master Thorne took occasion to say that he considered the election of R.W. Bro. Davis not only as a compliment to the Grand Lodge of New York, and reflecting credit upon Benevolent Lodge in the person of one of its oldest Past Masters, but alike justifying the good sense, appreciation, and intelligence of the appointing power which had conferred this distinguished honour. The Grand Master's address was exceedingly felicitous, and most cordially received. R.W. Bro. Davis, in reply, remarked that since he had become a member of the fraternity he had adopted the axiom that it was un-Masonic to seek or decline office; that the high compliment which he had received, and to which Grand Master Thorne had referred in such kindly words, came to him unsolicited; and while he felt that some one more worthy might have been named to fill the place, yet he had accepted it with a full determination to do justice, so far as his humble abilities might permit, to the honourable trust confided to his keeping, to the end and purpose that the Grand Lodges of New York and Indiana might neither regret their diplomatic association. The installation ceremonies having been concluded, the goodly company adjourned, by invitation of the representative of Indiana, to the Ashland House, where mine host Brockway did the agreeable in his most recherche style; and at a late hour the company retired in good order and condition.

A Grand Templar parade is announced to take place at Philadelphia during the Centennial celebration, to which each State is expected to contribute at least one Commandery. There is no reason why such a project should not prove a success.

The corner-stone of the old Masonic Hall at Halifax, which was laid by Queen Victoria's father, in 1800, has been exhumed, with the inscription in a fair state of preservation. It will be built into the wall of the new Temple, whose corner-stone was laid on the 31st of October.

Illinois contains over 39,956 affiliated Master Masons. There were 2700 initiations last year, and nearly 1000 applicants were refused admission into the fraternity. This state of affairs in the only State which can support an anti-Masonic journal speaks volumes for the popularity of the Craft.

Bro. Foster Pratt has resigned the editorial chair of the "Michigan Freemason," and has been succeeded in that capacity by Bro. W. J. Chaplin.

TIDINGS FROM DISTANT LANDS.—Through the kindness of Worshipful Bro. Wm. Fowler, Master of Metropolitan, 273, of New York, we were able to lay before our readers an evidence of the universality of Freemasonry, in the form of a notice of the election of lodge officers in a thriving lodge in South Africa, but under what jurisdiction it received its authority we cannot say. This will prove of interest from the fact that we have here, abbreviated, some titles of officers entirely new to us. The Lodge Aurora, East of Pretoria, S. A. Republic, list of officers for the ensuing Masonic year:—Bros. P. A. J. Kirsten, S.P.R.W. Master; J. R. Lys, S.P.R. Dep. Master; J. W. Henshall, M.M. Senior Warden; J. F. De Beer, M.M.

Senior Warden; J. C. Preller, S.P.R. Orator; J. C. Krogh, Sec.; F. C. Rex, M.M. Treas.; C. Moll, Senior M.M. Amb.; W. R. Meintjes, M.M. of C.; T. W. Beckett, M.M. Alm.; S. J. Meintjes, M.M. Prep.; F. C. Rex, M.M. of M.; J. P. Sleightholm M.M., In. G.; Vetalis Von Musa, O.G. and T.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.

The last meeting of the General Committee for the year 1875 was held on Thursday afternoon, at Freemasons' Hall. Bro. J. A. Rucker presided. The Committee was very fully attended. There were also present Bros. Thomas W. White, H. Browne, W. Paas, John Symonds, H. W. Hemsworth, Benjamin Head, John Boyd, H. A. Dubois, Thomas Massa, A. H. Diaper, George King, jun., H. Massey ("Freemason"), H. M. Levy, Walter Wellman, Thomas Bartlett, George Sinclair, Robert B. Webster, Edward Clark, J. J. Wilson, F. G. Baker, Griffiths Smith, F. Binckes, W. H. Main, R. Sanford, E. H. Thellay, and R. Wentworth Little, (Secretary).

On the motion of Bro. Benj. Head, seconded by Bro. J. Symonds, a recommendation was made to the next Quarterly General Court, that twenty guineas be presented to Miss Moss, the third governess of this Institution, on her leaving, she having been elected head governess of the British Orphan Asylum.

Authority was then given to the Chairman to sign cheques for salaries.

The petitions of candidates for election were afterwards taken into consideration, and they were numerous. Several were put on the list for next election, but several others were deferred, the candidates showing lamentable deficiency in power to read, although above eight years of age. Some, however, though much younger, exhibited a marvellous facility in reading.

The Secretary reported that there would be eleven vacancies in the school for next period of election.

A vote of thanks was then passed to the Chairman, and the brethren separated.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

On the evening of the 17th ult., after the meeting of the House Committee, the members repaired to the dining hall, where the whole of the pupils were assembled, with the head and assistant masters and matron, and presented a vote of thanks, beautifully inscribed on vellum, appropriately illuminated, and bearing the autograph signatures of the pupils forming the leading members of the various cricketing "elevens," to Bro. Edward J. Page, who for many years has carefully supervised and kept in order the bats, balls, wickets, &c.

The testimonial originated entirely spontaneously with the boys themselves, and on that account was especially gratifying to the recipient, who expressed himself in warmly appreciative terms of the unexpected recognition of what he had done in providing to a small extent the means of recreation of the pupils of an institution in which he felt so deep an interest.

The inscription on the testimonial was as follows:—

"Presented by the Pupils of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys to W. Brother Edward J. Page, P.G. Std., P.M. No. 23, 1381, &c., in testimony of their gratitude for his kindness in providing them, for several years, with the means of outdoor recreation, especially those required for football and cricket."

There were present, in addition to those mentioned above, Bros. W. C. Moutrie (Chairman of the day), B. Head, W. Paas, H. Browne, W. Roebuck, J. Wordsworth, S. Rosenthal, R. W. Stewart, George Plucknett (Treasurer), with F. Binckes (Secretary).

Bro. James Terry, Sec. R.M.B.I., was also present, and received a vote of thanks for having given effect to the wishes of the subscribers by the production of so beautiful a specimen of writing; the frame by which it was surmounted being at the same time much admired.

The ringing cheers from young lungs which accompanied the presentation must have afforded Bro. Page the best evidence of the hearty and genial thankfulness with which his generosity was acknowledged.

THE RED CROSS.

In continuation of the list given under this heading in our issue of the 18th ult., we add the following names of workers under the Red Cross, during the Franco-German war, extracted from the published "Report of the Operations of the British National Society for Aid to the Sick and Wounded in War, 1870-71."—Alfred Anderson, Aug. F. Andresen, Duret Aubin, M.D.; Marcus Beck, M.B.; F. G. Bennet, R. Bingley, Byron Blewett, M. Blok, Edward Bovill, J. L. Boylan, J. C. Bushman, Rev. J. W. Butler, Hon. Reginald Capel, W. D. Chapman, Hugh Clark, B. B. Connolly, M.B.; Arthur Dorin, Douglas Duke, A. S. Duncan, E. Engelhardt, Captain Jas. Gildea, A. S. Grant, Geoffrey C. Hall, W. Hardwicke, M.D.; R. W. Harris, W. S. Headman, Frederick Hewitt, W. C. Hinton (late 25th foot), J. C. Hirschfield, Sir Paul Hunter, Bart., R. H. Hutchings, James Inglis, F. Junter de Lange, M.D.; Ralph N. James, A. F. Jerningham, J. F. Jeune, J. Roberts Job, W. Kane, M.D.; James D. LeCru, Austin H. Lee, Robert Lightfoot, M.D.; R. H. Lloyd, Frank Lungley, A. B. Lyman, W. W. Lyman, F. Mansfield, Alfred Markheim, John McIntosh, John Murray, M.D.; Captain Richard Nevill, W. F. Norman, A. T. Norton, R. W. Parker, Rev. Reginald Porter, W. S. Pratt, A. R. R. Preston, O. W. Rawson, Charles Ryan, H. A.

Reeves, Alexander Rettich, James Rodger, M.B.; Foster Rugg, Captain J. Cecil Russell (10th Hussars), H. Sandwith, M.D., C.B.; Charles Sartoris, Eugene Sauvage John Scott, W. Schodts, H. Sewill, A. Barton Smith Thomas E. Smith, G. D. P. Thomas, F. A. Thomas, W. J. Tyler, W. Ward, George Warriner, W. G. Watson, W. Woodham Webb, M.D.; Thomas A. Wethered, John F. Williams, Hon. Charles Lihdley Wood, John Wyman, Lieutenant Allatt (46th foot), Lieutenant-Colonel Berrington, John Blundell, Captain Brenton Casey, Colonel J. W. Cox, C.B.; M. Goodenough, Captain Charles Knowles (67th foot), L. G. Leslie, H. M. Merridew, James Molloy, Captain Norman Ainacke, M. Vaillant, Captain C. F. W. Wedderburne, William Wilcox, Major-General Sir Vincent Eyre, K.C.G.; Colonel N. Elphinstone, S. Coultolene, Lieut. Dowling, 34th Foot; Lieut. R. E. C. Jarvis, 67th Foot; Lieut. J. F. E. Knox, 67th Foot; Stephen S. Lee, Miles T. Terris, Captain Charles Trench, R.A.; Captain C. L. Harvey, 71st Highlanders; Major Lewis, J. F. Jones, Aug. Kleinmann, C. G. M. Thomas, G. D. P. Thomas, Deputy-Inspector General of Hospitals, Thomas Guy, M.D.; Surgeon T. Ball, R.A.; Staff-Surgeon J. Jameson, M.D.; Staff-Surgeon Julius Wiles, Staff-Assistent Surgeon J. V. T. Malcolm, M.D.; Assistant Surgeon MacRobin, Assistant-Surgeon H. F. L. Melladew, M.D.; Assistant-Surgeon Sandford Moore, M.B.; Staff-Assistent Surgeon J. L. Power, W. E. B. Atthill, Henry Bonham Carter, Colonel the Hon. W. J. Colville, Chas. A. Cooper, Robert W. Edis, J. C. Galton, Rt. Hon. Sir Percy Herbert, K.C.B.; A. C. Horner, Capt. Herbert de Kantzow, R.N.; A. Kirkman Loyd, D. Chas. Mayo, Geo. Milson, B. M. Reichel, H. Rundle, T. T. Pratt, Cateron Smith, Capt. Leopold Swaine, Thos. Wildon French, William Forster, E. K. Korke, M. Moss, M. Gerard, F. F. Langstaff, M. Gaudin, M. Albrecht, M. Niessen, and Commissionaires Barrett, Bertrand, Carty, Connell, Cowell, Laws, Lee, Love, Mc Keown, Norris, Sonder, Willis.

Ladies:—H.R.H. Princess Christian, the Marchioness of Lothian, the Lady Agnes Frank, the Hon. Mrs. Lloyd Lindsay, Lady Lechmere, Miss Nightingale, Miss Stanley, Miss Granville, Miss de Winton, Mrs. Alsager, Miss E. A. Barclay, the Lady Superior of All Saints, and Sisters Catherine, Cecilia, Charlotte, Eliza, Emily, Helen, Mary, Ann, and Rosamond; the Hon. Mrs. Capel, Mrs. Chater, Miss M. Goodman, Mrs. Hotteman, Miss Hornby, Mrs. Mason, Miss Z. Veitch.

FREEMASONRY IN AUSTRALIA.

The annual installation meeting of the Yarra Yarra Lodge, No. 714, E.C., took place at the Myrtle Hotel, Coventry-street, Emerald Hill. Bros. T. H. Lempiere, D.G.S.; L. H. Hart, D.G.S.D.; M. Krakowski, W.M. King Solomon Lodge; D. A. McNicoll, W.M. Australasia Lodge; and several P.M.'s were present. After the ordinary business of the lodge had been concluded, the W.M., Bro. J. Whiteman, vacated his chair, and Bro. H. W. Lowry, P.D.G.S.W., proceeded to instal Bro. A. Hart as Worshipful Master of the Yarra Yarra Lodge for the ensuing year. The ceremony was performed by Bro. Lowry. The following officers were then installed:—Bros. C. Dungey, S.W.; Wm. Marshall, J.W.; J. McCutcheon, Treas.; R. L. Brown, Sec.; Thomas Ford and G. Oldham, S.D.; and J.D.; J. Harding, I.G.; and Levey, Tyler. At the conclusion of the ceremony the brethren adjourned to the Mechanics' Institute, where the annual banquet was prepared under the direction of Bro. Gibson. Nearly one hundred sat down. The room was decorated with flags and evergreens and the tables with flowers and other ornaments. One particular feature was a group of new and handsome silk flags showing the crest of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales as head of the Masonic fraternity, exhibited for the first time by Bro. Gibson, they having only recently arrived in the colony. The chair was occupied by the W.M., and vice-chairs by the S.W. and J.W. respectively. The following are a list of the toasts:—"The Queen and the Craft," "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, Grand Master of England," "District and Provincial G.M.'s and their officers," responded to by Bro. L. H. Hart, P.M., on behalf of the English Constitution, and Bro. P.M. J. Cahill for the Scotch. "The Installing Master, Bro. Lowry," acknowledged on his behalf by Bro. Whiteman (his delicate health precluding him from staying to participate in the banquet). Bro. Whiteman then proposed "The Worshipful Master, Bro. A. Hart." In a few succinct remarks the W.M. responded. He then gave "The P.M.'s of the Yarra Yarra Lodge," which was acknowledged by Bros. Whiteman, Cahill, Foote and Exon. Bro. P.M. Cantor responded to "The Visitors," and to the toast of "The Officers of the Lodge," they individually responded. "Our Musical Brethren" was then proposed by the W.M. and acknowledged by Bro. Braim. The proceedings were enlivened by several quartettes and part songs rendered by members of the Combermere Lodge choir (Bros. Braim, Kaye, Trowell, Lamble, Straker, D. Madden and Hornidge), assisted by Bros. Exon and T. Ford.

A very successful meeting of the "Lodge of Emerald Hill, Melbourne," under the Grand Lodge of Scotland, was held at the George Hotel. The following were elected as the first officers of the lodge:—Right Worshipful Master, Bros. R. P. Negus; Joseph Cahill; W.S.M., D. McNicoll; W.S.W., Wm. Marshall; W.J.W., Thomas Ford; Treasurer, James H. Horner; Secretary, A. L. Krone; S.D., J. Robertson; J.D., C. Dungey; I.G., W. Smitham; Tyler, L. Levy.

HEALTH, comfort, and economy promoted. Gas superseded in day time, and daylight reflected in dark rooms by adopting Chappuis' Patent Daylight Reflectors. Manufactory, 69, Fleet-street, London.

Masonic and General Tidings.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—On Monday last the number of visitors was 47,000. We are informed that the directors are about to make an important change in the price of admission to the Palace. On and after Saturday next the rate of admission on ordinary Saturdays will be 1s., and on ordinary Mondays on and after Monday next, January 3rd, the admission will be 6d. The railway fares will be greatly reduced on and after January 1st, for all days; and on Mondays visitors to the Palace will be able to travel from all London stations on the London, Brighton, and South Coast and London, Chatham, and Dover Railways, the return tickets, together with admission to the Palace, being 1s.

Mr. Cross visited Liverpool on Wednesday, and unveiled, in St. George's Hall, a memorial statue of the late Mr. S. R. Graves, who represented the borough in Parliament from July, 1865, until his death three years ago.

A telegram from Rangoon announces that a Masonic address to the Prince of Wales will be sent from all the lodges in Burmah in a silver casket of finest Burmese manufacture.

The amount collected by the Grand Orient of France for the Inundation Relief Fund had on the 12th ult., reached the large amount of 64,000 francs.

Miss Moss, of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, having been elected Head Governess of the British Orphan Asylum, Mackenzie-park, Slough, will enter upon her new duties about the 3rd of January. The House Committee of the Girls' School have appointed Miss Emily Redgrave (who has been trained by Miss Davis) an Assistant Governess in the place of Miss Moss.

ALEXANDRA PALACE.—The report of the directors of the Alexandra Palace Company shows that the net profit on the six months' working was £13,024. The directors state that they have every reason to congratulate the shareholders upon the results of the first season's operations. The total number of the visitors during the half-year was 1,307,857.

The "Liberté," publishes the following interesting piece of information: "Mr. Stone, the late Lord Mayor who came to Paris at the opening of the Opera, revels in honours. France sent him the cross of a Commander of the Legion of Honour, and his Government has appointed him Justice of the Peace of Hastings, an honorary office hitherto reserved for members of the Royal family.

The Earl of Shrewsbury has fixed Wednesday, the 16th of February, for the annual dinner of the British Orphan Asylum, to be held at the London Tavern.

Bro. Captain Webb has been presented with the gold medal of the Stoke-upon-Trent Athletic Club and an address of congratulation from the Potteries. In reply he said there was not one man in a hundred in the merchant service who could swim, but swimming ought to be part of the education of every child in the kingdom.

Her Majesty's New Year's Gifts will be presented this day (Saturday), in the Riding School of Windsor Castle, in the presence of the palace authorities and local clergy.

We regret to learn that Bro. the Right Hon. Lord Leigh, Lord-Lieutenant of Warwickshire, Provincial Grand Master, while out with the North Warwickshire hounds, has been thrown from his horse while clearing a fence, and seriously shaken. The accident was caused by the horse's foot getting entangled in a wire. His lordship fell heavily on the embankment, and was picked up partially unconscious. After resting for some time in a cottage, his lordship was sufficiently recovered to be sent home to Stoneleigh Abbey in a conveyance.

The St. James Lodge, Enfield, will be consecrated on the 12th inst., by Bro. Robert Wentworth Little, G.S.W. Middlesex.

Bro. His Royal Highness Prince Arthur, who was on Wednesday last on his way to Malaga, was obliged to return to Gibraltar on account of the bad weather prevailing at sea.

METROPOLITAN MASONIC MEETINGS

For the Week ending Friday, January 7, 1876.

The Editor will be glad to receive notice from Secretaries of Craft Lodges, Royal Arch Chapters, Mark Lodges, Preceptories, Conclaves, &c., of any change in place or time of meeting.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 1.

General Committee, Boys' School, at 4.
Lodge 1559, New Cross, New Cross Hall.

INSTRUCTION.

Manchester, 77, London-st., Fitzroy-square.
Lily, Greyhound, Richmond.
Star, Marquis of Granby, New Cross-road.
Sinai Chapter, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.

MONDAY, JANUARY 3.

Lodge 12, Fortitude & Old Cumberland, Ship & Turtle.
" 25, Robert Burns, F. M. H.
" 72, Royal Jubilee, Anderton's Hot, Fleet-st.
" 144, St. Luke's, M. H., Basinghall-st.
" 188, Joppa, M.H., Masons' Avenue.
" 1319, Asaph, F. M. H.
Chap. 28, Old King's Arms, F. M. H.
Mark Lodge, 139, Panmure, Balham Hot., Balham,

INSTRUCTION.

Prince Leopold, Lord Stanley Tav., Kingsland.
Strong Man, Jerusalem Tav., St. John's Gate.
Sincerity, Railway Tav., Fenchurch-street Station.
Camden, Stanhope Arms, Up. James-st., Camden To.
Eastern, Royal Hot., Mile-end-road.
St. James's Union, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Wellington, White Swan, Deptford.
West Kent, St. Saviour's College, Forest-hill.
Perfect Ashlar, Victoria Tav., Lower-rd., Rotherhithe.
Sydney, White Hart Ho., Church-rd., Upper Norwood.
Metropolitan, Coach and Horses Hot., 323, Strand.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 4.

Colonial Board, at 3.
Lodge 7, Royal York of Perseverance, F. M. H.
" 101, Temple, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.
" 172, Old Concord, F. M. H.
" 765, St. James's, Bridge House Hot.
" 1298, R. Standard, Wellington Club, Upper-st., N.
" 1381, Kennington, Surrey Tav., Kennington Oval.
" 1397, Anerley, Thicket Hot., Anerley.
" 1472, Henley, Three Crowns Hot., Woolwich.
General Meeting, Surrey Masonic Hall Company, 2, Gresham Buildings.

Mark Lodge 1, St Mark's M.H., Masons' Avenue

INSTRUCTION.

Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney.
Domestic, Surrey M. H., Camberwell New-road.
Faith, 2, Westminster Chambers, Victoria-st.
Prince Fredk. Wm., Lord's Hot., St. John's Wood.
Dalhousie, King Edward, Triangle, Hackney.
Prosperity, Gladstone Tav., Bishopsgate-st. Within.
St. Marylebone, British Stores Tav., St. John's Wood.
Constitutional, Wheatsheaf Ho., Hand-court, Holborn.
Percy, Grapes Tav., Little Windmill-st., W.
Israel, Rising Sun Tav., Globe Road.
Royal Arthur, Prince's Head, York-road, Battersea.
Metropolitan Chapter, St. Michael's Alley, Cornhill.
Beacontree, Red Lion, Leytonstone, at 8.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 5.

Lodge 511, Zetland, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
Chap. 55, Constitutional, Private Rooms, Leytonstone.

INSTRUCTION.

Mt. Lebanon, Windsor Cas. Tav., Southwark-bdg.-rd.
Pythagorean, Prince of Orange, Greenwich.
New Concord, Rosemary Branch Tav., Hoxton.
Royal Union, Horse and Groom, Winsley-st., Oxford-st.
Confidence, White Hart Tav., Abchurch-lane.
Peckham, Maismore Arms, Park-road, Peckham.
Stanhope, Thicket Hot., Anerley.
Finsbury Park, Finsbury Park Tav., Seven Sisters'-rd.
Southwark, Southwark Park Tav., Southwark Park.
Duke of Connaught, Havelock Tav., Dalston, E.
United Strength, Grafton Arms, Kentish-town.
Mount Edgumbe, 19, Jermyn-street, St. James's.
Islington, Crown and Cushion, London Wall.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 6.

Lodge 45, Strong Man, M. H., Masons' Avenue.
" 192, Lion and Lamb, Terminus Hot., Cannon-st.
" 227, Ionic, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.
" 231, St. Andrew's, F. M. H.
" 538, La Tolerance, F. M. H.
" 554, Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney.
" 1360, Royal Arthur, Club, L. H., Wimbledon.
" 1445, Prince Leopold, Lord Stanley Tav., E.
" 1539, "Surrey Masonic Hall."

INSTRUCTION.

Egyptian, Hercules Tav., Leadenhall-st.
Fidelity, Yorkshire Grey, London-st., W.
Finsbury, Jolly Anglers' Tav., Bath-st., City-road.
United Mariners', Three Cranes, Mile-end-road.
Whittington, Crown Tav., Holborn.
Temperance in the East, Catherine-st., Poplar.
Ebony, 12, Ponsonby-st., Millbank.
Highgate, Bull and Gate, Kentish-town.
The Great City, 111, Cheapside.
High Cross, Coach & Horses, High-road, Tottenham.
Salisbury, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Marquis of Ripon, Albion Tav., Albion-rd., Dalston.
Doric Chapter, Three Cranes Tav., Mile-end-road.
Prince Frederick William Chapter, St. John's Wood.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 7.

Lodge 890, Hornsey, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-street.
Chap. 3, Fidelity, London Tav., Bishopsgate.

INSTRUCTION.

Union Waterloo, Thomas-st., Woolwich.
St. George's, Globe Tav., Royal-hill, Greenwich.
Robert Burns, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Belgrave, Lyceum Tav., 354, Strand.
Unions Emulation (for M.M.'s), F. M. H.
Temperance, Victoria Tav., Victoria-road, Deptford.
Clapton, White Hart, Clapton.
Stability, Guildhall Tav., Gresham-st.
Metropolitan, Portugal Hot., Fleet-st.
Westbourne, Horse & Groom, Winsley-st., Oxford-st.
Metropolitan, Pentonville-road.
United Pilgrims, Surrey M. H., Camberwell New-road.
St. James's, New Tanners' Arms, Grange-rd., Bermondsey.
Duke of Edinburgh, Silver Lion, Penny-fields, Poplar.
Doric, Earl Grey Tav., Mile-end-road.
Burgoyne, Grafton Arms, Prince of Wales's-road, N.W.
St. Luke's, Commercial Tav., King's-road, Chelsea.
Chigwell, Bald-faced Stag Hot., Buckhurst-hill.
Burdett Coutts, Approach Tav., Victoria Park.
Pythagorean Chapter, Prince of Orange, Greenwich-rd.
Royal Standard, Finsbury Park Tav., Holloway.
Ranelagh, Clarendon Hot., Hammersmith.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN WEST LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE.

For the Week ending Saturday, January 8, 1876.

MONDAY, JANUARY 3.

Lodge 113, Unanimity, Assembly R., Bull Hot., Preston.
" 1045, Stamford, T. H., Altrincham.

" 1051, Rowley, M. H., Athenæum, Lancaster.
" 1264, Neptune, M. H., Liverpool.
" 1380, Skelmersdale, Queen's Hot., Waterloo.
Everton L. of I., M. H., Liverpool.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 4.

Lodge 673, St. John's, M. H., Liverpool.
" 995, Furness, Masonic Temple, Ulverstone.
" 1256, Fidelity, Bridge Hot., Poulton-le-Fylde.
" 1476, Blackpool, Clifton Arms Hot., Blackpool.
Chap. 203, St. John of Jerusalem, M.H., Liverpool.
Merchants' L. of I., M. H., Liverpool.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 5.

Lodge 730, Ellesmere, Royal Oak Hot., Chorley.
" 1013, Royal Victoria, M. H., Liverpool, at 6.
" 1335, Lindsay, 20, King-st, Wigan.
" 1354, Marquis of Lorne, M. R., Leigh.
De Grey and Ripon L. of I., 80, North Hill-st.
Downshire L. of I., M. H., Liverpool.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 6.

Lodge 249, Mariners, M. H., Liverpool.
" 1473, Bootle, Molyneux A. R., near Liverpool.
" 1476, Blackpool, Clifton Arms Hot., Blackpool.
Chap. 758, Bridgewater, M. H., Runcorn.
Alpass Preceptory, 123, M. H., Liverpool.
St. John's L. of I., M. H., Liverpool.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 7.

Lodge 680, Sifton, Adelphi Hot., Liverpool.
" 1375, Architect, Didsbury Hot., Didsbury.
" 1387, Chorlton, M. R., Chorlton-cum-Hardy.
" 1505, Emulation, M. H., Liverpool.
Duke of Edinburgh L. of I., M. H., Liverpool.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN GLASGOW AND VICINITY.

For the Week ending Saturday, January 8, 1876.
All the Meetings take place at Eight o'clock.

MONDAY, JANUARY 3.

Lodge 124, Kilwinning, Union Tavern, Ayr.
" 129, St. Mirren's, St. Mirren's Hall, Paisley.
" 138, Operative, Blue Bell Hot, Ayr.
" 237, St. John, Masonic Arms, Girvan.
" 332, Union, 170, Buchanan-street, Glasgow.
Chap. 119, Rosslyn, 25, Robertson-st.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 4.

Lodge 34, St. John, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
" 68, Doric, 44, Church-st., Port Glasgow.
" 73, Thistle and Rose, 170, Buchanan-st.
" 87, Thistle, 30, Hope-st.
" 173, St. John, M. H., Largs.
" 233, Hamilton, Spalding's Hot., Hamilton.
" 331, St. Peter's, Portland Arms, Galston.
" 406, St. John Dalziel, M. H., Motherwell.
" 433, St. Thomas, Eglinton Hall, Dalmellington.
" 497, St. John's, Brewery Hall, Catrine.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 5.

Lodge 0, Mother Kilwinning, M. H., Kilwinning.
" 4, Glasgow Kilwinning, 170, Buchanan-st.
" 21, Old St. John, M. H., Lanark.
" 86, Navigation, Commercial Hall, Troon.
" 117, Partick St. Mary's, M. H., Partick.
" 126, St. Andrew, George Hot, Kilmarnock.
" 128, St. John, M. H., Shettleston.
" 166, St. John, 29, Graham-st., Airdrie.
" 198, Royal Arch, King's Arms, Maybole.
" 354, Caledonian Railway, 30, Hope-st.
" 442, Neptune, M. H., Ardrossan.
" 571, Dramatic, 213, Buchanan-st.
Chap. 87, Shamrock and Thistle, 12, Trongate.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 6.

Lodge 11, St. John, King's Arms, Maybole.
" 23, St. John's Kilwinning, George H., Kilmarnock.
" 27, St. Mungo, 213, Buchanan-st.
" 149, St. Andrew, M. H., Irvine.
" 157, St. John, Main-st., Beith.
" 165, Royal Arch, King's Arms, Ayr.
" 202, St. Clement's, Trades Tav., Kilmarnock.
" 320, St. John Royal Arch, M. H., Ardrossan.
" 370, Renfrew, M. H., High-st., Paisley.
" 465, St. Andrew's, M. H., Garngad Road.
" 556, Clydesdale, 106, Rose-st., S.S.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 7.

Lodge 114, Royal Arch, M. H., Cambuslang.
" 116, Royal Arch, Council H., Rutherglen.
" 135, St. James', Crown Inn, Tarbolton.
" 175, St. John, St. John's H., Greenock.
" 215, St. Andrew, Avondale Inn, Strathavon.
" 217, Cumberland, Kilwinning, T. H., Port Glasgow.
" 242, Houston, Cross Keys Hot., Johnstone.
" 248, Lockhart St. John, M. H., Carnwarth.
" 275, Shamrock and Thistle, 22, Struthers-st.
" 360, Commercial, 30, Hope-st.
" 408, Clyde, 170, Buchanan-st.
" 459, Kelburne, Cumbræ Hot., Millport.
" 512, Thorn-tree, M. H., Thornliebank.
" 551, Clydesdale, Royal Hot, Larkhall.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 8.

Lodge 28, St. John's, Black Bull Inn, Kirkintilloch.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN EDINBURGH AND VICINITY.

For the Week ending Saturday, January 8, 1876.

MONDAY, JANUARY 3.

Lodge 429, St. Kentigern, Royal Hotel, Penicuik.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 4.

Lodge 5, Canongate and Leith, 86, Constitution-street.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 6.

Lodge 97, St. James, High-st., H., Writers'-ct., High-st.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 7.

Chap. 56, Canongate, Masonic Hall, John-st.

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REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS.

Craft Masonry.

FAITH LODGE (No. 141).—The brethren of this lodge met at Anderson's Hotel on the 30th November last. In the absence of Bro. Waygood, the W.M., Bro. Kennett, the I.P.M., presided, assisted by Bros. D. Davis, acting S.W.; Mallet, J.W.; Scott, S.D.; Darcy, J.D.; Rumbold, acting I.G.; Stuart, P.M., Sec.; Carter, P.M., Treas.; Hopwood, P.M., W.M. 1512. The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, Bro. Kennett passed Bros. Elverstone and Ormiston, and having an engagement, which necessitated his leaving the lodge, vacated the chair in favour of Bro. Themans, P.M., who initiated Messrs. Colin, Gintz, Robinson, Smithers, and Goldsmith, and raised Bro. Martin. The brethren partook of a slight refreshment. There were no toasts, but the evening was agreeably devoted to conviviality, in which Bros. Themans, Hirsiger, Martin, D. Davis, Walls, and others assisted. Amongst the visitors who attended the lodge were Bros. Dr. Hirsiger de Berne, P.M. Philadelphia, Paris; Fortune, 240; Teamans, 501; Tolmie, Finsbury. The next meeting of this lodge will be held on the last Tuesday in January.

DOMATIC LODGE (No. 177).—The Audit and Removal Committees appointed by this lodge met on the 31st ult., at Anderson's Hotel, Fleet-street. The W.M. of the lodge, Bro. George Everett, presided, and was supported by Bros. Treadwell, S.W., and W.M. elect; James Willing, J.W.; Palmer, S.D.; Buscall, J.D.; Clarke, I.G.; Tims, Walford, Kent, Foulger, Joseph Smith, P.G.P., Treas.; E. W. Kent, Spiller, Sergeant, Montague, Foxcraft, Richards, Potter, and Plummer. There were also two visitors present, Bros. H. M. Levy, P.M. 188, and Stiles, Assistant Secretary 1507. The accounts were thoroughly examined, and it was found that after paying over £80 to Grand Lodge and the Masonic institutions, a balance remained in hand of over £50, besides the sum of £90 due to the lodge. This was considered eminently satisfactory. The committee appointed to enquire into the subject of the removal of the lodge to larger premises, on account of the greatly increasing number of the members, having witnessed the great alterations made in the lodge-room by Bro. Clemow, and satisfied themselves that Bro. Clemow had done as much as the existing building allowed, adjourned without fixing a day for another meeting. During the meeting of the two committees, Bro. Treadwell announced his intention of promoting every officer, and also of appointing Bro. McLean, an old member of the lodge, his junior officer.

LODGE OF JOPPA (No. 188) met on Monday evening at the Albion, Aldersgate-street, for the purpose of installing the new W.M. An emergency meeting was held last week to ease the lodge of the initiations, and there only remained the raisings and installation to be performed. Bro. S. L. Hickman, W.M., presided, and there were present 154 brethren. Among these were Past Masters O. Roberts, L. Alexander, H. Berkowitz, H. M. Levy, M. Alexander, J. Phillips, E. P. Albert, A.G.P.; and L. Auerhann. Among the visitors were Bros. Samuel May, P.G.S.; W. Buckland, W.M. 205; S. Lazarus, J. Horth Ross, W.M. 185; A. Lynes, 205; Lawrence, 1228; G. Lilley, 720; E. Coombs, 1046; W. Vine, P.M. 1046; W. Myers, 185 ("Jewish Chronicle"); H. Massey, P.M. 619 ("Freemason"), and a very long list of visitors. The W.M. raised Bros. Creamer, Dewsnap, and Hellier, and afterwards installed with great fluency and impressiveness Bro. Alfred George Dodson as W.M. of the lodge. The Board of installed Masters consisted of 24 brethren. The brethren appointed as his officers by the W.M. were Bros. L. Lazarus, S.W.; Miller, J.W.; A. Auerhann, S.D.; M. Spiegel, J.D.; Berkowitz, Chaplain; L. M. Auerhann, Treas.; E. P. Albert, A.G.P., Sec.; H. Hymans, I.G.; Camplon, D.C.; Baker and H. Isaacs, Stewards; P. E. Van Noorden, Org.; and T. Woodstock, Tyler. Bro. Cohen, 205, was elected a joining member. Bro. Berkowitz, on his appointment as Chaplain, acknowledged the compliment, and said it was very gratifying to him to have heard the W.M. state his intention during his year of office strictly to adhere to the principles of the Lodge of Joppa with reference to the ceremonies—that he would have the Hebrew Bible before him; and he trusted that the Hebrew brethren of the lodge would also notice that the W.M. had expressed his intention of having the Hebrew grace said at refreshment. He hoped it would not be too long for the Christian brethren; it would not be too long for the Hebrew brethren. We could not thank the Almighty Giver too much for what we received, neither could we ask too much of Him. The lodge was then

called off, and the brethren repaired to the banquet hall, where a sumptuous repast was provided by Bro. W. G. Jennings. At the conclusion of the banquet grace was said by Bro. Berkowitz, and the dessert was then provided. The toasts were given with excellent point and brevity by Bro. Dodson, and Bro. Albert, A.G.P., who was received with deafening cheers, responded for the Grand Officers. "The Benevolent Fund," of the Lodge of Joppa, was the next toast, and Bro. L. Alexander, P.M., was called upon for a reply, after Bro. Albert had read the balance sheet. This showed that there was now £1229 ros. 2d. invested and in hand, and Bro. Albert informed the brethren of the relief which the committee of the fund had been able to bestow during the past year. The brethren heartily applauded the announcement of this result, and additional voluntary contributions by brethren and ladies were thereupon made to the fund, amounting to the sum of £17 17s. Bro. L. Alexander then replied to the toast, and said there was not a member of the committee but was most heartily thankful for the cordial reception given to the toast. The fund had been largely subscribed to by the brethren. Having been a member of the board for something like 21 years, and a Vice-President for 17, he (Bro. L. Alexander) felt a great interest in the fund. He was happy to say, that each time he had the honour of addressing the brethren on the subject the subscriptions were enhanced, and the fund increased in amount, notwithstanding the calls which were made upon it. Established in 1849 by a now deceased brother, who was President for some years, it had gone on increasing till, as stated, it now amounted to £1229, a large sum of money truly. He might state for the information of the new brethren that the committee had relieved brethren frequently with separate sums of £100. Sometimes there were circumstances which warranted them in giving so much as that. The last time that this occurred the brother receiving the sum expressed himself more than satisfied, and the brethren would be glad to know that it was ample for him to release himself from his difficulties, and give him a start in life again. He was not aware of any one case where the brother relieved was not satisfied. Bro. Hickman proposed "The Health of the W.M.," who he had no hesitation in saying would discharge the duties of his high and important office to the entire satisfaction of the brethren, with honour to the lodge, and credit to himself. The W.M., in reply, acknowledged the enthusiastic way in which the complimentary remarks of Bro. Hickman had been received, but asked for the forbearance of the brethren if they witnessed any shortcomings on his part. No doubt he would require assistance, and he asked the brethren to afford it to him. The W.M. then presented Bro. Hickman with a massive Past Master's jewel, and trusted that the Almighty Architect would give him health, strength, and long life to wear it for many years to come. Bro. Hickman responded, thanking the brethren, not only for their gift, and for the enthusiastic way in which they had received his name, but also for the many tokens of their approval that they had been good enough to evince towards him on many occasions. He was happy to see that his endeavours to please the brethren had not been wholly unsuccessful; and it was a source of gratification to him to know that his year of office had been financially a success. The Lodge of Joppa was in a most prosperous and flourishing condition. He had not been ignorant of the intention of the brethren to present him with a mark of their approval, but he had not been prepared to receive such a magnificent and valuable jewel as had just been presented to him, or for the very flattering remarks of the W.M., which had been echoed with such enthusiasm by the brethren. Being totally unprepared, he could not find words sufficient to express his feelings on that occasion. It was a great thing to secure the esteem and goodwill of every brother of such an ancient, numerous and influential lodge as the Lodge of Joppa. However much his efforts had been directed to make his year of office a success, he had to thank the brethren for their kind forbearance. They had rewarded him even more than he thought he was entitled. (No, no.) He trusted he might long meet the brethren, one and all in the lodge, and that the friendships which, thank God, he had been so fortunate as to foster might be cemented and become more and more lasting. They might rely upon it that he would always be ready to serve the Lodge of Joppa with all the power at his command. He concluded by wishing all the brethren a happy and prosperous new year. Bro. J. Horth Ross, W.M. 185, responded for "The Visitors." Referring to the hospitality of the lodge, he said its magnitude was not second to that of any lodge; it had rather eclipsed it. With regard to the ceremony of installation, it was most admirably performed. The Lodge of Tranquillity, of which he was Master, prided itself both on its hospitality and on its good working; but the Lodge of Joppa, he thought, had distanced them. Bro. S. V. Abrahams, 1017, also acknowledged the toast, and said it was something like twenty years that very evening that he was brought in that lodge and that room to be initiated. The lodge would consequently always have his warm affection. It was an honour to itself; and it was respected throughout the Craft. He complimented the lodge on the magnificence of its entertainment, and also on the good effected by its benevolent fund. The brethren shortly afterwards separated. During the evening a splendid musical entertainment was given, under the direction of Bro. Van Noorden, by Bros. Donald King, Prentiss, Mori, and Heind Hugo, and Mdle. Denham Mori.

KENNINGTON LODGE (No. 1381).—The usual monthly meeting of this lodge was held at the Surrey Club House, on the 7th ult. In the unavoidable absence of the W.M., Bro. S. Gardner, the duties of presiding over the lodge were carried out by Bro. Stuart, P.M., Sec., assisted by Bros. Everett, W.M. Domatic; Page, P.M., Treas.; Higgins, acting J.W.; Webb, acting S.D.; Walls, acting J.D.; Hayward, acting I.G. The minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed, the acting W.M.

raised Bro. Brooke, passed Bros. Saunders and Muller, and initiated Messrs. Andrews and Collins. The whole of the ceremonies were most ably and effectively performed by that veteran in the Craft, Bro. Stuart. A letter from the widow of the late J.W., Bro. Harry Painter, acknowledging the letter of condolence from the lodge on her heavy affliction, having been read, the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned until the first Tuesday in the present month.

DUKE OF CONNAUGHT LODGE (No. 1524).

—An emergency meeting of this lodge took place on Thursday, the 29th ult. Among the brethren present were Bros. W. H. Lee, W.M.; T. C. Chapman, S.W., W.M. elect.; B. Meyer, Treas.; J. B. Shackleton, S.D.; Philp, Brand, H. Meyer, Alford, and Dallas. Visitors: Bros. Gibson, P.M. 901; Lambert Payne, 757; and Marx Gross, 1278. Bro. John Varney was raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason; Bros. Moon and Payne (757), passed; and Mr. Woodward Smyth initiated, the whole of the ceremonies being given by the W.M. in his accustomed excellent manner. After the closing of the lodge two hours of social intercourse were spent, when the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given.

CHAUCER LODGE (No. 1540) held its regular meeting on Wednesday, 22nd ult., at the Bridge House Hotel. Present: Bros. T. J. Sabine, P. Prov. G.S.B. Middlesex, P.M. 73, W.M.; J. C. Mason, S.W.; E. S. Stidolph, J.W.; W. Hudson, Treas.; W. J. Kemp, S.D.; C. Hudson, J.D.; H. Faija, I.G.; A. J. Hawkes, D.C.; A. P. Stedman, W. Steward; W. J. Laing, P.M. 45; Tyler, P.M. Bro. T. J. H. Wilkins, who acted as Past Master; and also Bros. G. H. Mason, J. H. Spencer, W. Wetherley, R. H. Willats, W. J. Walsham, C. Graham, and others. The visitors were Bros. E. Clark, P. Prov. G.S.W. Mid., P.M. 1194, 1326, &c.; E. Howard, S.D. 181; R. Griggs, S.W. 228; G. W. Frodsham, 256; J. Newson, 315, &c. The lodge was opened at four o'clock by the W.M., Bro. T. J. Sabine. The minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday, October 27th, were read, unanimously confirmed, and signed by the W.M. Bros. E. Emanuel, J. Emanuel, J. Worster, P. W. Crosbie, and R. H. Willats were raised to the Third Degree, the ceremony being beautifully rendered by the W.M., Bro. T. J. Sabine. Several candidates were proposed for initiation. The Steward for the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution representing the lodge made an eloquent appeal on behalf of that charity, which no doubt will feel a benefit from his untiring exertions. After lodge was closed, the banquet and dessert followed.

MIDDLETON.—Imperial George Lodge

(No. 78).—On Thursday, 23rd ult., at the Ashteton Arms, the installation of Bro. Reid as W.M. took place, followed by the Festival of St. John. The brethren assembled at 2.30 p.m. In the goodly number we noticed the following visitors: Bros. Cox, 625, P.G.S.D. Derbyshire; Hind, P.M. 204; Dickson, P.M. 325; Timperley, P.M. 993; Austin, P.M. 1009; Andrews, I.P.M. 1219; Studd, P.M. 1375; Harwood, 204; Proctor, 277; Barlow, 462; Horne, 462; Crompton, 992; Murray, 1055; Milling, 1134; Davies, 1387; Dec, 1387. The lodge having been opened by Bro. W. H. Kershaw, W.M., he then vacated the chair of K.S. in favour of Bro. John Wood, P.M., D.C., Installing Master, and presented to him Bro. David Reid, W.M. elect, who, having assented to the "Ancient Laws and Regulations," was duly installed W.M. in such an impressive and correct manner that gave to the ceremony the solemnity due to it, also showing that the Installing Master was truly a man of Masonic mind. After the usual salutations had been paid to the newly-installed Master, he appointed the following brethren as officers whom he then invested:—Bros. Geo. Bradbury, S.W.; W. Percival, J.W.; Harvey Heywood, Treas.; F. Fothergill, Sec.; S. Lawton, S.D.; J. Millhouse, J.D.; J. Wood, P.M., D.C.; J. Hatton, I.G.; John Kent; Tyler; Clark, E. Hatton, P. Lawton, and Newton, Stewards. Four candidates were then proposed for initiation at the next meeting. The lodge was then closed, and the brethren retired to celebrate the Festival of St. John. The first toast of the evening, that of "The Queen," was proposed by the W.M., Bro. David Reid, who having accorded to her the eulogium she so well merits, sat down. The brethren then sang "The National Anthem" with fervour, showing their allegiance to the Sovereign of their native land. The W.M. in giving the next toast, "H.R.H. Bro. Albert Edward Prince of Wales, the Princess of Wales, and the rest of the Royal Family," said Masons were all proud of their Royal Chief. He was a great ornament to the Craft; although abroad in foreign lands, he was persuaded that everybody present had a kindly thought for him and wished him God speed. The W.M. reminded the brethren of that grand spectacle, in which some of them took part, in the Albert Hall in April last, and of those grand watchwords, Loyalty and Charity, which rang through that vast assembly and cheered and warmed each heart. In memory of that day, and of him who was the centre of all our affections, the brethren of the lodge who were present at the installation of His Royal Highness were desirous to commemorate that great occasion by presenting to the Imperial George Lodge a portrait of the Illustrious Leader of the Craft. Having partially carried out that desire, they would now complete it. He therefore requested the Secretary, Bro. F. Fothergill, to unveil the same. This surprise was an agreeable one, few being aware that the portrait already graced their lodge room. The W.M. hoped that the Great Architect of the Universe would direct and guide His Royal Highness throughout his eventful journey, and restore him safely to his home, which is adorned by that "Lady of England" his consort, "The Princess of Wales," whose health, with that of their Grand Master, and the rest of the Royal Family, they must one and all drink heartily. "God bless the Prince of Wales" was then sung. The next toast was in-

roduced by Bro. W. H. Kershaw, I.P.M., "The Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon, Pro G.M." He observed that next in Masonic rank to our G.M. stood the noble earl; the fact that men holding such high position in the social scale were also connected with our Craft showed that something more than outward appearances was vested in the Order of Freemasonry. He asked all to drink to the health of one who was able and willing to occupy the exalted position of Pro G.M. Bro. Wood, P.M., D.C., proposed "The Health of the R.W.D.G.M. and the rest of the Grand Officers." He stated that when he was present at the installation of our G.M., Lord Skelmersdale reminded him of that "pillar of beauty" of Masonic origin; he also was doubly one of ourselves, being a Lancashire man, a county man of whom all should be proud. The toast was received with acclamatory feeling. The brethren had next to toast "Lieut Colonel Le Gendre N. Starkie, R.W.P.G.M.E.L." Bro. Garlick, P.M., said powers of eloquence in him were indeed low; he could not do justice to the colonel in a speech. He stood something like A 1 in Masonry; although not at their head, he was at the head of those in East Lancashire, one of his greatest Masonic ornaments was that of charity, like his Masonic brother, Lord Skelmersdale, he was of northern origin, being a descendant of one of those true sons of England who in time gone by was one of the back bones of our country and our Craft. "The Health of W. R. Callender, Esq., M.P., V.W.D.P.G.M.E.L., and the rest of the P.G. Officers," was proposed by the W.M.; he said that of all brethren whose health he received or proposed in a toast, that of Bro. Callender, "brother of Hearts" was one of the most pleasing to him. He is one who occupies a noble position in Masonry in this province, and who has more than once cheered our lodge with his smiles, and guided us by the wisdom of his counsel. He regretted that he could not speak of his health in glowing words, he having been laid upon a bed of sickness by the Great Architect; but it is improving, and he hopes ere long to take an active part in those duties he so much enjoys. He then asked all to drink with subdued pleasure to his better health, and that he might soon be restored to us. The toast was received with a suitable and sensitive feeling. The toast of the evening now followed, that of "The Worshipful Master," those merits were dilated upon by the Installing Master, Bro. Wood, P.M., D.C., in a masterly manner, although he intimated that he wished it was in better hands. He had long proved the qualities of their newly Installed Master, and knew him to be a good man and true, and one to whom the distressed could always prefer their suit; his hand was always extended to the needy. He knew that the toast would be supported with the prestige it deserved. Here Bro. Crompton effectively rendered that appropriate melody, "We'll drink his Health in a Song," the brethren all joining in the chorus, which added to the impressiveness of the toast. The W.M., in reply, said that Bro. Wood was his "Masonic father," he had sown in him good seeds when he initiated him into Freemasonry, he had cared for and guided him until maturity, and had now installed him in that position in which he hoped to bring forth good fruit. This he trusted to be able to accomplish by the aid of that wisdom from above, the wise counsel of "the fathers" of the lodge, and the cordial co-operation of the rest of the brethren; and hoped that his work would prove that he had not sought the position they had honoured him with for vanity or ambition, but with a higher and purer motive. Bro. Harvey Heywood, P.M. and Treas., in proposing "The Masonic Charities," drew attention to the engravings before the brethren, which represented two noble institutions, supported by the Masonic body. He was sorry to say that the Imperial George Lodge had done but little for those charities. He hoped that all would remember the advice they received on initiation into Freemasonry, with respect to those who, in our ranks, were reduced to poverty. Having a W.M. whose excellence had not been too much extolled that evening, he would suggest that he signalized his year of office by doing something for the Masonic charities. The brethren acknowledged the toast with feeling. The W.M., in proposing "The I.P.M. and P.M.'s of the Lodge," asked "What should we have done without our parents?" They had taught us how to do our duty, and some with Masonically grey hairs were present around him. As being a toast of a double nature, he wished to say that Bro. Kershaw, the I.P.M., had set a good example in the working of the lodge. It was the duty of all to accord to him their most heartfelt thanks. They would do so, and would carry out their words by deeds. He therefore, on behalf of the lodge, would present and invest him with a Past Master's jewel. The decoration that he placed upon his breast he worthily deserved. He hoped that it would pass down for many years to his posterity, and that they would look upon it as a reward for virtue and services rendered. The I.P.M., in reply, exhibited signs of emotion, and thanked the brethren for their good wishes in a neat and concise speech. P.M.'s Dyson, Garlick, Heywood, and Wood also replied. The latter, as Installing Master, said his ideas that evening were that "speech is silver, silence is golden." He had performed that evening for the first time the ceremony of installation. He hoped that it was an earnest that he would not shirk. He did not agree with the idea held by many P.M.'s that it was not necessary to attend the lodge so regularly after they had passed the chair of K.S. The W.M. then gave the toast of "The Visiting Brethren" in appropriate remarks, and thanked them in the name of the lodge for the honour they had conferred by their presence, and begged them soon to repeat the favour. Bro. Cox, P.G.S.D. Derbyshire, in replying, spoke of the united, earnest, and hearty feeling that appeared to prevail in the lodge, and of the excellent way the duties of the evening had been performed. Each visitor responded, but the space will not permit a digest of all; we however must mention that Bro. Harwood referred

to the telling remarks made by Bro. Heywood, P.M., with regard to "the Masonic Charities," and asked to be permitted at that meeting, as a visiting brother, to contribute to the said fund; and in his usual practical manner closed his speech, by presenting a donation on behalf of the "Imperial George Charity Fund." Bro. Dyson, P.M., proposed "The Newly-Invested Officers," to which Bro. Bradbury, S.W., replied in a brief speech, time being on the wing. The last but not least on the list of toasts was the Tyler's, "To all Poor and Distressed Masons." Bro. John Kent, O.G., gave this in his customary style, and which was heartily acknowledged. "Auld Lang Syne" was then sung by all the brethren. 10 p.m. had arrived, the brethren separated, all gratified and pleased with their "red letter day," anniversary; a day which had been honoured more than once since its nativity in 1752. We must record the fact that the musical arrangements were very successful; Bros. Compton, Dee, Dixon, and Fothergill enlivened the evening by a nice selection of glees, &c. Bro. Garlick, P.M., also sung that grand old Lancashire lyric "Jone o' Grenfelt," a song full of wit and humour.

RICHMOND (Yorkshire).—Lennox Lodge (No. 123).—The members of this lodge celebrated the Festival of St. John the Evangelist on Monday, 27th ult. The installation of the Hon. W. T. Orde-Powlett, of Wensley Hall, Bedale (brother-in-law of the Earl of Zetland, P.G.M. of the North and East Ridings of Yorkshire), as W.M., took place at the Masonic Hall, the pleasing ceremony being performed in the presence of a large muster of the brethren. The newly-installed W.M. then proceeded to invest his officers for the ensuing year as follows:—Bros. C. Norman, S.W.; J. W. Smith, J.W.; Rev. Dr. Pollock, Chaplain; T. Thompson, Treas.; R. H. Belkows, Sec.; W. R. Walpole, S.D.; W. Todd, J.D.; R. Spence, I.G.; J. H. Rooks, Org.; Newton, Tyler; Heslop, Steward. Subsequently a sumptuous banquet was provided at the King's Head Hotel. On removal of the cloth the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed and duly honoured, and a very enjoyable evening was passed.

SOUTHAMPTON.—Royal Gloucester Lodge (No. 130).—On Thursday, Dec. 30th, Bro. W. J. Hickman was installed W.M. of the Royal Gloucester Lodge of Freemasons by the Rt. W. Provincial Grand Master of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight (Bro. W. W. B. Bezch, M.P.). The ceremony took place at the Masonic Hall, Bugle-street, when the P.G.M., accompanied by his Deputy (Bro. W. Hickman), and several past and present provincial officers, was received with the customary honours. The installing board comprised no less than twenty-two Past Masters; and there was a large attendance of brethren at the installation ceremony, which the P.G.M. most impressively performed. The newly installed W.M. of the Royal Gloucester had filled the office of S.W. during the past year, and succeeds in the chair Bro. Morris Miles, whose Mastership had done credit to himself and honour to the lodge, and has been attended by a gratifying measure of progress and prosperity. After the W.M. had been inducted and proclaimed, he proceeded to appoint and invest his officers as follows:—Bros. R. Sharpe, S.W.; C. W. A. Jellicoe, J.W.; M. Miles, I.P.M.; the Rev. E. Y. Nepean, P.P.G.C., Chaplain; J. E. Le Feuvre, Treas.; J. R. Weston, Sec.; Jas. Coles, S.D.; Jennings, J.D.; S. Myer, I.G.; H. M. Pike, Org.; Robertson and Obree, Stewards; Biggs, Tyler. At the conclusion of the proceedings a cordial vote of thanks, proposed by the W.M. and seconded by the I.P.M., was tendered to the P.G.M. for his kindness in specially attending to perform the ceremony of installation. The P.G.M., in responding, expressed the pleasure it always afforded him to visit the Royal Gloucester Lodge; and then presented to D.P.G.M. Hickman the patent of his appointment as Deputy Grand Master of the province, which had been beautifully written in illuminated text. He bore personal testimony to the value of Bro. Hickman's services in the high office which he filled, and said that his Masonic labours both in this province and in London were cordially recognised and approved throughout the Craft. The D.P.G.M., in accepting the same, conveyed his sense of the high honour conferred upon him by the P.G.M. in appointing him as his deputy, and said the pleasure and satisfaction had been greatly enhanced by the cordial manner in which all the lodges he had visited in the province had, by their reception of him, endorsed that appointment. It would ever be his endeavour to promote the true interests of Freemasonry, and to render every possible assistance to the P.G.M. in discharging the important and responsible duties associated with the government of the province. The W.M. then proposed, and Bro. T. P. Payne, P.M., seconded, a vote of thanks to Bro. Morris Miles for the efficient and assiduous manner in which he had discharged the duties of W.M. during the past year, and that he be presented with a Past Master's jewel in recognition of the same. This was cordially supported by the P.G.M., who spoke very highly of Bro. Miles's Masonic services; and the vote having been unanimously agreed to, it was suitably and gracefully acknowledged. Another gratifying incident followed in the presentation to Bro. P.M. Booth, who has recently undergone a long and painful illness, of a testimonial, consisting of a purse and an illuminated address, recording the value of the services rendered by him in the various offices he has filled during a lengthened Masonic career, and especially his readiness at all times to aid and instruct individual members of the Order. The testimonial was raised chiefly in the Gloucester Lodge, but several brethren connected with other lodges contributed to it in order to manifest their esteem towards Bro. Booth. The P.G.M. referred in terms of commendation to Bro. Booth's services, and spoke approvingly of the course which the lodge had adopted in giving this practical expression of its regard to one who so well deserved it. In some kindly and well-chosen words he asked Bro. Booth's acceptance of the testimonial and the latter in re-

turning thanks, said that nothing had so much cheered him during his recent illness as the knowledge that his brethren of the Royal Gloucester Lodge were intending to make him this presentation. There were but three present who were members of the lodge when he joined it—Past Masters G. Dunlop, H. Abraham, and T. P. Payne. Time made great changes among them; but he hoped that he might still be spared to render further service to Masonry, and especially to the Royal Gloucester Lodge—his mother lodge—to which he was deeply attached. D.P.G.M. Hickman then proposed, and Bro. J. E. Le Feuvre, P.M., seconded, that the thanks of the lodge be tendered to Past Master H. Abraham, and hereafter recorded in a more permanent and substantial form, for the able manner in which he had discharged the duties of Treasurer during a period of twenty-two years, to the great advantage of the lodge, whose finances, mainly owing to his exertions, were in a most flourishing condition—as shown by the fact that there was a good balance in hand and also an accumulated fund. The proposition was passed with great cordiality, and P.M. Abraham, in responding, expressed the satisfaction it had afforded him to render the service which he had been enabled to do as Treasurer of the lodge. He was pleased to say that he had handed over to his successor a balance of more than £90 which showed that the finances were in a very different position to what they were when he first took office. He had not, moreover, waited till old age and incapacity came upon him before resigning his position; but in the prime of life and the pride of health, he had surrendered it to their worthy Bro. Le Feuvre, and was glad to be able to advise him to do as he himself had done. The I.P.M., Bro. Miles, then asked the lodge to accept a handsomely framed and glazed tablet, recording the names of the Masters and Wardens of the Royal Gloucester Lodge from its commencement, which he had collated from the minute books. This the brethren very cordially did, with an expression of thanks to Bro. Miles for his handsome present. The lodge duties were shortly afterwards brought to a close; and at seven o'clock a large party sat down, under the presidency of the W.M., to an admirable banquet, provided by Dr. Dartnall in his very best style, at the conclusion of which the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured, and the healths of the newly-installed Master, the P.G.M., the D.P.G.M., and many others were drank with great heartiness. Bro. Sir F. Perkins, P.M. and M.P., was present at the banquet. The proceedings throughout were of a truly fraternal character; and the Royal Gloucester, under its new Master, enters upon another year amid the most favourable and encouraging auspices.

WARRINGTON.—Lodge of Lights (No. 148)

—The annual installation meeting of the members of this old and flourishing lodge took place on Monday last, at the Masonic Rooms, Sankey-street. Those who have had the privilege of witnessing many installations must have been frequently struck by the unusually lively and animated appearance of the whole scene. The brethren begin to assemble shortly before the time specified for the commencement of business, and at once proceed with their robing. Fresh arrivals are now frequent, and the friendly and fraternal "grip" is as frequently given and reciprocated. Each countenance is radiant with pleasing anticipations, and each heart seems to go out to his brother. Friendly converse and sometimes "chaff" is the order now, and rarely, if ever, is perfect harmony disturbed. The W.M. elect—proud man—is the centre of attraction, and receives—as he well deserves—an unusual share of friendly greetings. The retiring Master is usually a very popular man with the brethren of his lodge, and a brother of great importance in the lodge. To him falls the duty of installing his successor, and a high honour he considers it, but few retiring Masters attempt this part of their prerogative, perhaps for one reason, because of its difficulty, and, for another reason, it requires great tact and judgment, and like Christmas it comes but once a year. The brethren are in full dress Masonic clothing, and very nice they appear,—every one looks nice in evening dress. Surely there must be something good in Freemasonry, and those who witnessed the beautiful ceremonies so admirably rendered by our worthy Bro. Bowes, on Monday, must have experienced a real treat. Bro. William Robinson, S.W.; a very worthy brother who had been elected to fill the chair at a previous meeting by the unanimous voice of his brethren was in his place and ready to receive further "light." Bro. Bowes, P.M., &c., the very deservedly popular W.M. of the lodge took his place in the evening precisely as the old Trinity clock struck three, and at once opened the proceedings. The following, among other brethren, were present:—Bros. Stringer, P.M.; Harding, P.M.; Finney, P.M.; Pointer, P.M.; Richardson, P.M.; Sharp, P.M.; Pollitt, P.M.; Hepherd, P.M.; and others. The sound of the G. in the E., and the call to order, brought the brethren to their feet, and the business of the lodge began. Bro. Robinson, S.W., and W.M. elect, was presented for the benefit of installation by Bro. Harding, P.M., and, having made the preliminary declaration, awaited further advancement. Another phase of the lodge was now presented, and a Board of Installed Masters was formed, Bro. Bowes taking his place in the E. as Installing Master, and being assisted by Bro. Finney, P.M., as S.W., and Bro. Pointer, P.M., as J.W. In this position of the lodge Bro. Robinson was placed in the chair of K.S. with all our ancient ceremonies, and amid the salutations of the brethren of this advanced degree. The Board of Installed Masters having been closed in form, the brethren of the other degrees were admitted, and offered their greetings in the usual way. The new W.M. then appointed and invested the following brethren as his officers for the ensuing year, viz.:—Bros. Tunstall, S.W.; Pickethall, J.W.; Bowes, Sec.; Armstrong, Treas.; Hannah, I.G. At the close of the proceedings Bro. Bowes received a well-merited and unanimous vote of thanks for "the admirable, able, and impressive manner in which he had performed all the duties of Installing Master this day."

That worthy and distinguished brother having acknowledged the compliment, the lodge was closed in due form, and with the usual solemnities. The brethren, in goodly numbers, now adjourned to the Patten Arms Hotel for the banquet. The W.M. took the chair, and was honoured with the presence of an unusually large number of distinguished Masons. Of the banquet we must say that it was sumptuous in the extreme, and reflected the highest credit upon Bro. and Mrs. Hughes, the worthy host and hostess. The wines were of the choicest vintage. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and responded to, and we regret that our space does not admit of our giving them in extenso. We must, however, say, in conclusion, that the most perfect harmony and good fellowship prevailed throughout the entire proceedings, and we desire to offer our congratulations to Bro. Robinson on his attaining so high an honour—the highest honour it is in the power of any lodge to confer upon any one of its members.

LANCASTER.—Lodge of Fortitude (No. 281).—The members of this lodge assembled at their hall, the Athenaeum, on the 29th ult. for the purpose of installing the W.M. elect, and also to celebrate the anniversary of St. John the Evangelist. Bro. Edward Airey, I.P.M., occupied the Master's chair, and there was a numerous attendance of brethren. The lodge was opened in the First Degree, when Bro. Longman, S.W. 1051, was unanimously elected as a joining brother, and Mr. Aldous, professor of music, was initiated into the mysteries of the Craft. An abstract of the balance sheet was afterwards read, which showed the lodge to be financially in a very prosperous condition. The next business was the installation of Bro. Thomas Atkinson, S.W., as Worshipful Master for the ensuing year, the installation ceremony being very ably performed by Bro. Dr. J. D. Moore, P.G.S.B. of England, as Installing Officer. On the conclusion of the ceremony the Master received the congratulations of the brethren in the usual manner. He then appointed and invested his office-bearers for the ensuing year, as follows:—Bros. R. Taylor, S.W.; J. Jowitt, J.W.; James Hatch, Treas.; John Hatch, Sec., (re-elected); E. Cardwell, S.D.; J. McRaith, J.D.; W. Warbrick, I.G.; J. J. Crookell, S.S.; John Atkinson, J.S.; and John Watson, Tyler (re-elected). The officers were inducted to their several offices by the Installing Officer. On its conclusion, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Bro. Dr. Moore for the able and efficient manner in which he had conducted the installation. After the transaction of some formal business, the lodge closed in peace and harmony. The brethren then adjourned to the house of Bro. Sly, the King's Arms Hotel, when about forty sat down to an excellent banquet, prepared by the worthy host of the establishment. The chair was occupied by the newly-elected W.M., and on the removal of the cloth the usual loyal and patriotic toasts were given from the chair, and responded to in the usual manner. The toasts of "The M.W.G.M., Pro G.M., and D.G.M. of England, and other Grand Lodge Officers" followed, the latter being coupled with the name of Bro. Dr. Moore, who responded. Bro. Dr. Moore then gave "The Health of the Worshipful Master," and in highly complimentary terms spoke of the manner in which he had filled the lower offices in the lodge. He also impressed upon the Past Masters a more regular attendance at the lodge meetings, contending that nothing could exert a greater sway over the minds of young Masons than the fact that a number of Past Masters, who, themselves had passed through the office, were in their places obeying the lawful commands of the Master. That fact of itself was a very great and important matter, and conducted very materially to the success of a large lodge. The toast was enthusiastically received, and the W.M. responded, and in a few well chosen sentences expressed himself conscious of the high honour which had been conferred upon him, and also thanked those Past Masters, and there were many of them, who had kindly offered their assistance during his year of office, if he should require it. Nothing should be wanting on his part to fulfil the duties of the office satisfactorily to the lodge, and also creditably to himself. Bro. Simpson proposed "The Health of the Immediate Past Master," and expressed regret that he had been obliged to remove to the south of England. Bro. Airey gave "The Health of the S.W. and J.W.," who duly responded. Bro. Kelland proposed "The Health of the Treasurer and Secretary" in highly commendatory terms; the Chairman, "The Health of the W.M.'s" of the other Masonic lodges in the town; Bro. King, "The Health of the other Officers;" the Chairman, "The Health of the Newly Initiate;" Bro. Hall, that of "The Press," and Bro. Simpson, the Tyler's toast, all of which were severally responded to. The brethren separated at an early hour, after having spent a most enjoyable evening. In the course of the evening the piece of plate bequeathed to the lodge by a deceased brother, circulated pretty freely amongst the brethren.

TORQUAY.—St. John's Lodge (No. 328).—The annual festival was held at the Masonic Hall, on St. John's-day, Dec. 27th, for the purpose of installing Bro. J. Piggott as W.M. for the ensuing year, when a large number of brethren assembled, including several P.M.'s from lodges in the surrounding district. Among them were Bros. Warren, W.M. of the Torbay Lodge; Johnson, W.M. of the Jordan Lodge; Goodridge, P.M.; Murray, P.M.; Oliver, P.M.; Law, P.M., and P.P.G.D. for Herts and Surrey; Rev. R. Bowden, P.M. and Chaplain 328; D. Watson, P.M., who acted as the Installing Master, and performed the entire ceremony, including the addresses to the W.M., Wardens, and brethren, in a most effective and impressive manner. After the lodge had been closed the brethren adjourned to the Royal Hotel, where the annual banquet was served. The W.M. had as his right hand guest Bro. Sir Lawrence Palk, Bart., M.P., lord of the manor; and as this was the first occasion on which the worthy and honourable baronet had attended a Masonic

gathering in Torquay he was warmly and fraternally greeted. In responding to the toast of his health, Bro. Sir L. Palk alluded to the vast antiquity of Freemasonry, records of which are found in every part of the world, adding that an institution which inculcates universal charity and good feeling, and tends to bring men together, is worthy of all encouragement and support, especially in Torquay. The usual routine of toasts having been duly honoured, and the harmony of the evening promoted by the vocal exertions of several who were present, the brethren separated, looking forward to a successful year under the rule of the new W.M.

BODMIN.—One and All Lodge (No. 330).—This influential lodge in the Province of Cornwall held its annual meeting on the 29th of December, to install the W. Master for the ensuing year. Bro. Capt. Colvill, P.M., P.P.S.G. Warden of Cornwall, presided as Installing Master. Fifty brethren, including seventeen Past Masters, who formed the Board of Installed Masters, were present on the occasion. Bro. Crauz, Mayor of Bodmin was duly installed. The W. Master then invested the following brethren as his officers:—Bros. Colvill, P.M., as I.P.M. and Treas.; Rowe, S.W.; Hon. C. Agar Robartes, J.W.; Reek, P.M., Sec.; Dr. Adams, S.D.; Sercoe, J.D.; Vincent, D.C.; Jacobs, Org.; Jones and Treverton, Stewards; O'Neil, I.G.; and Carrol, Tyler. A vote of thanks was passed to Bro. Colvill by acclamation for the admirable manner in which the ceremony of installation had been performed, also for his able services as acting W. Master during the past year. Prior to the time appointed for the installation of the W. Master elect a lodge of emergency was held, under the emergency clause, to ballot for and initiate Mr. George Hext, second son of Bro. Hext, P.M. of One and All, 330, P.P.J.G. Warden of Cornwall. The candidate being a Lewis under age, a dispensation was obtained from the Provincial Grand Master. The eldest son of Bro. Hext was initiated on his coming of age in March last. The pleasing circumstance of having two only sons of so distinguished a brother enrolled with the father as members of the lodge is unique in the history of the lodge, and highly gratifying to the brethren. The lodge was called off from labour, the brethren repaired to Bro. Past Master Sandoe's, Royal Hotel, for refreshment, at 5 pm., when a sumptuous banquet in celebration of the festival, of St. John the Evangelist awaited them, of which about sixty brethren partook. Visitors from neighbouring lodges were welcomed as guests in a true Masonic spirit. The usual Masonic toasts were given from the chair, and ably responded to by the respective brethren to whom the duties were assigned. The proceedings were greatly enlivened by the singing of Bros. Rowe and Hawken, Past and Present Junior Wardens, and other brethren, accompanied by Bro. Jacobs, the talented Organist of the lodge, also of St. Petroc's Church, Bodmin. A memorable day in the annals of One and All Lodge was brought to a close in "order, harmony, and brotherly love."

Royal Arch.

JERUSALEM CHAPTER (No. 185).—A convocation of this chapter was held at the Freemasons' Tavern, on the second Tuesday in December last. The chapter was opened at six o'clock by Comps. Smith, M.E.Z.; Hammond, H.; Elsam, J.; Davidge, S.E.; Wagner, N.; Robinson, P.S.; Manders, acting 1st S.; Horfield, (Treasurer); Holbrook, P.Z.; Loewenstark, P.Z.; Whitley, Walls. The minutes of the previous convocation having been read and confirmed the M.E.Z. Comp. Smith, exalted Bro. Abraham Stewart, Southern Star. The very arduous, and difficult ritual was completely and most excellently rendered in its beautiful and impressive entirety by the M.E., who had the able assistance of Comps. Hammond and Elsam, who discharged their duties as Second and Third Principals in a manner that left nothing to be desired. The junior officers were also well up in their work, and the whole ceremony may be pronounced a success. Comp. Chandler, P.Z. and P.P.G.J. of Wiltshire, visited the chapter, and expressed himself highly pleased at the manner in which the ceremony of exaltation had been conducted. The companions then adjourned to an excellent banquet. The M.E. gave the usual loyal and R.A. toasts. Comp. Holbrook having been entrusted with the gavel proposed "The Health of the M.E." in well set terms, in which he stated that the companions of the Jerusalem ought to be proud of so earnest and indefatigable a worker as Comp. Smith, who never allowed an opportunity to slip of being present at their convocations, although he had sometimes to travel several hundred miles in order to be at his post to discharge the onerous duties of his position. This toast having been warmly received, the M.E. responded. In the course of his brief reply Comp. Smith stated that he had the prosperity and the credit of the chapter very much at heart, and he was sorry that he had not more opportunities of personally mixing with the companions of his mother chapter, but being a resident in the provinces and his business frequently calling him to the most remote parts of the kingdom, he could only find time to run up to London on the chapter days, and he was very proud to think that his endeavours to further the interests and working of the chapter were so highly appreciated by the companions. "The Health of the P.Z.'s of the Chapter" was then given and severally replied to by Comps. Holbrook, Horfield, Loewenstark, and Davidge. In proposing "The Health of the new-exalted Comp. Stewart," the M.E. hoped that he would never regret having entered the Supreme Degree; and having heard that he was a good worker in Craft Masonry, he trusted that in due time, by attention and perseverance to the mysteries of the R.A., Comp. Stewart would fill the chair of First Principal in his mother chapter. Comp. Stewart having acknowledged the toast, the M.E.Z. proposed "The Healths of the Second and Third Principals." In his

speech he paid them a very high compliment by stating that the Jerusalem Chapter should be proud of having two so distinguished members of the R.A. and Craft Degrees as Comps. Hammond and Elsam fulfilling the duties of H. and J. They had both held Provincial Grand rank in the Craft, and the former had but recently been appointed to a high office in the Middlesex G.C.; and in conclusion the M.E. stated that it augured well for the future prosperity of the chapter when the reins of government were to be successively held by those energetic and worthy companions. The toast having been honoured, Comps. Hammond and Elsam briefly replied by thanking the companions, and stating that should they have the good fortune of being elected in turn by the chapter to the position of M.E.Z., they would endeavour to merit the encomiums that had been passed upon them by the M.E. that evening. The healths of the Treasurer, S.E., and junior officers then followed, and were responded to by Comps. Horfield, Davidge, Wagner, Robinson, & Manders. In the intervals Comps. Robinson, Manders, and Walls vocally and dramatically amused the companions, who separated at a late hour. The next convocation will be held on the second Tuesday in February.

CHESTER.—Grosvenor Chapter (No. 721).—Some time ago, at a meeting of the members of this chapter, it was resolved, on the motion of Comp. Gerrard, P.Z., seconded and supported by Comp. Dennis and Comp. H. Lloyd, P.S.G.W. Cheshire, that a testimonial should be presented to Comp. R. W. Worrall, P.Z., P. Prov. G.S.B., P.M., in recognition of his distinguished services while principal officer of the chapter. At a chapter held on Tuesday evening, the 28th Dec., Comp. J. McEvoy, Z., presiding, Comp. Worrall was presented with a handsome and valuable gold watch and chain, as a testimonial from the chapter and the Lodge of Independence. At the banquet which followed he was further presented with a gold locket for Mrs. Worrall. The Worshipful Masters elect for Chester Masonic lodges are Bro. G. M'Hattie for the Cestrian Lodge, and Bro. J. Cunnah for the Lodge of Independence.

Mark Masonry.

ST. MARK'S LODGE (No. 1).—The January meeting of the above lodge was held on Tuesday last at Bro. Goslen's Masons' Hall, Basinghall-street. Present: Bros. Dr. Greatrex, as W.M.; Charles Horsley, S.W.; Shepherd, J.W.; P.M. Holden, W. E. Newton, Hall, Wilkinson, R. Wentworth Little, Sec.; H. C. Levander, Treas.; Thos. Cubitt, P.M.; Rev. W. B. Church, P.M.; George Kenning, P.M.; H. A. Dubois, Wm. Stephens, P.M. Visitors: Bros. Greatrex and Smith. Bros. Howe and Simmons were received as joining members. The usual business of the lodge being over, the brethren dined together. Much regret was occasioned by the absence of the Worshipful Master, Bro. Dr. Brette, D.D., through indisposition.

Scotland.

KILWINNING.—The Mother Lodge Kilwinning (No. 9).—The members of this lodge met on Tuesday, the 21st ult., in their hall, for the purpose of proceeding with the annual election of office-bearers. In the absence of the Grand Master (Colonel Mure, of Caldwell, M.P.), the Substitute Master (Bro. J. G. Halkett, J.P.) presided. There was a large attendance of the brethren. The following office-bearers were elected for the ensuing year:—P.G.M., Col. Mure, of Caldwell; Deputy Master, R.W. Cochran Patrick, of Woodside; Proxy Master, R. Montgomerie, M.P.; Proxy Senior Warden, J. A. Ferguson; Proxy Junior Warden, J. Tweed; J. Johnston, S.W.; J. Gibson, J.W.; Revs. W. Lee Ker, J. Syme, and A. Inglis, Chaplains; R. Wylie, Sec.; J. Whinton, Treas.; R. Aird, S.D.; G. Jack, J.D.; A. H. Rodgers, S.S.; W. Paterson, J.S.; C. Aitken, I.G.; J. Melvin, Tyler. In the evening the brethren assembled in the Eglinton Arms Hall to celebrate the festival of St. Thomas, and the lodge was visited by large deputations from the following lodges in the province:—St. John Kilwinning, Kilmarnock, 22; Navigation, Troon, 86; St. Andrew, Irvine, 149; St. John, Beith, 157; Thistle and Rose, Stevenston; Blair, Dalry, 290; St. Matthew Kilwinning, Dreghorn, 549. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and responded to, and after spending a very happy night, at the usual hour of twelve the lodge was called to labour, and closed in due and ancient form by the S.G.M.

GLASGOW.—Lodge St. John (No. 34).—The largest meeting of this lodge ever known to have been held was that of Tuesday evening, the 21st inst., within their hall at No. 226, Buchanan-street. The occasion was the election of office-bearers, and the special event of the evening the contest for the chair, for which there were three duly nominated candidates, viz., Bros. D.J.M. Nelson, D.M.; Dalziel, Treas.; and David Horne, J.W. So great was the interest taken in the matter, that brethren were qualified to vote were present from distant parts, whilst others turned up who had not been within the lodge for years, and there must have been very close upon 200 present. The lodge having been duly opened by the R.W.M., Bro. W. Bell, and the minutes of last regular and one emergency meeting read and passed, the chairman called upon the Secretary (Bro. J. Dick) to read the following note, which he (the Chairman) had received from a well-known brother:—"City Chambers, Glasgow, 17th Dec., 1875. Wm. Bell, Esq. Dear sir,—The position in which my brethren proposed to place me I considered a high mark of honour, and I intended carefully to consider if I could accept it with justice to myself and the lodge. My late serious illness, however, incapacitates me, and compels me to decline the proffered honour. I wish success to Masonry in general, and

to our lodge in particular. I enclose a cheque for £10, to be spent in such manner as the R.W.M. and the office-bearers of the lodge may deem most useful.—Yours faithfully, J. Balin." When the Secretary had read the note Bro. J. Baird, P.M., said he might explain what had brought it forth. In view of the chair becoming vacant by the retirement of Bro. Bell, a few of those among them who had held office in the lodge, took upon themselves to call upon the Lord Provost and ask him if he would take it, thinking that if he would do so it might be of benefit to the lodge. He asked a few days for reflection, and this was the result. Of course his late illness would scarcely have permitted him taking the office at present; but, from the terms of the note they had just heard read, everyone could see that he was a brother well qualified for the position. He moved the receipt of the note be printed in the books, and the thanks of the lodge sent to Brother Bain for the handsome donation accompanying it. Bro. J. McMillan, P.M., seconded the motion. The Chairman said he was sure they could do nothing less than heartily endorse what had been said in the moving and seconding of this motion. He might at the same time just mention to them that in all probability Bros. Bain and Lord Glasgow would shortly take a very prominent part in connection with the Order in the West of Scotland. Bro. Dalziel, Treasurer, submitted the financial statement for the past year, from which it appeared that the income of the lodge from all sources had been £361 3s. 9d., and the total disbursements £343 14s. 4d.—upwards of £50 of the latter being in the cause of charity. The membership of the lodge had been increased by seventy-seven; and fifteen shares of the St. John's Lodge Association redeemed from the shareholders on behalf of the lodge. The Chairman said they would now proceed to the election of office-bearers, which was accordingly done in the case of the chief officer, that of chairman, by means of calling over the roll, and each member as he was called naming for whom he voted, and in that of the others by a show of hands. In the contest for the chair the struggle lay between Bros. Nelson and Dalziel, and for a short time the running was exceedingly close. At the close, however, it was found that Bro. Nelson, was the successful candidate, by a majority of about twenty votes. On the candidates being called in, and this result announced, Bro. Nelson said that in the fulness of his heart he would only at present ask them to accept one word of thanks, and to consider that he shook hands mentally with every brother present, whether they had voted for or against him. The election of the other contested offices was then proceeded with, and concluded; the list for 1876 accordingly being as follows:—Bros. D. M. Nelson, R.W.M.; Wm. Bell, I.P.M.; J. D. Young, D.M.; Thomas B. Bell, S.M.; J. Sellars, S.W.; P. Brownlie, J.W.; J. Dunn, Treas.; J. Dick, Sec.; A. Cameron, S.D.; D. Paton, J.D.; D. Lindsay, Chap.; R. Craig, B.B.; J. Ritchie, Archt.; T. A. Tennant, Jeweller; A. Carriek, D. of M.; J. Wilson, G. Marshal; R. D. Samuels, R.S.; and J. Wright, Tyler.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Thistle (No. 87).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held in the Masonic Hall, 30, Hope-street, on the 21st ult. Present: Bros. J. Booth, R.W.M.; Robert Barr, S.W.; Walton Stewart, J.W.; J. G. Ritchie, S.M.; J. Louttit, R.W.M. 413; J. McLaren, S.D.; J. Miller, S.S.; Samuel McPhee, P.G.S., and others. The meeting was largely attended. An apology from the Secretary for non-attendance through illness was read. Bro. Annand read the minutes, which were confirmed. A letter read from a member of this lodge, now in Canada, who had lost his diploma at sea, and could not gain admittance to any lodge in Canada. The Secretary was ordered to send him a letter of clearance and demit in the mean time, he showing clear on the books. A letter from the Secretary of 360 was read, granting the Thistle, 87, liberty to place a harmonium in the lodge for their use on their meeting nights. The lodge was then passed to F.C., when three brothers received that degree in a very able manner at the hands of Bro. Booth, R.W.M. The names of the brethren are Angus McLaughlan, John Ritchie, and Geo. Blace. The brethren were then called to harmony. After the usual toasts had been run through, "The Health of the last squared Brethren" was proposed from the chair in very graceful and complimentary terms. Bro. McLaughlan briefly replied. The R.W.M. then gave the toast of "The Masonic Press," coupled with Bro. Adams ("Freemason.") He said the Masonic Press was a great auxiliary, and the careful manner all reports of meetings were guarded, and the great quantity of valuable information contained, was a great boon, and he wished it every success. Bro. Adams replied, carefully finishing by saying that the way to continue it as a success was to rally round it, and give it their individual support. The next toast was "The Visitors," coupled with Bro. Louttit, 413. Bro. Louttit briefly returned thanks, "Success to Masonry" from the S.W. chair.

KILBARCHAN.—Lodge St. Barchan's (No. 156).—On the evening of the 27th ult. the brethren of this lodge met in their hall, Kilbarchan, to celebrate the Festival of St. John. Bro. Cunningham, I.P.M., occupied the chair, and was supported by Bro. Andrew Buchanan, D.M.; D. Scrymgeour, S.M.; Andrew Grant, Sec.; and others. After the lodge had been opened by the P.M. the brethren formed a torchlight procession, accompanied by a brass band, and, according to use and wont, went to bring home their recently-elected R.W.M., Bro. Wm. Lewis, M.D. Having met the carriage of Bro. Dr. Lewis, they perambulated the various streets of the village, and returned to the lodge, when the R.W.M. took the chair, and called the brethren from labour to refreshment. Thereafter a pleasant evening was spent with song, toast, and sentiment, combining to make everything agreeable.

WIGTON.—St. John's Lodge (No. 327).—On Monday, 27th ult., the brethren of this lodge held an emergency meeting for the purpose of installing Bro. W. H. Hoodless, S.W., as W.M. for the ensuing twelve months.

The lodge was called for "high twelve," but it was somewhat after that time before the brethren assembled. It was opened by Bro. McMechan, then went through a portion of the installation ceremony, the remainder being given by Bro. Porter, P.G.S.W., in very full and finished style. Bro. Hoodless (now W.M.) then took the Master's chair, and proceeded to invest his officers as follows:—Bros. McMechan, I.P.M.; Lazonby, S.W.; J. Robinson, J.W.; Rev. C. H. Gem, Chap.; Porter, P.G. Org. Treas.; W. J. Carrick, Sec.; R. Twentymann, S.D.; J. Johnston, J.D.; R. Dugdale, I.G.; and T. Richardson, Tyler; Bro. P. F. Freeman, P.G.O. presided at one of Alexandre's cabinet organs during the ceremony. Later on in the day a banquet was provided at the Lion and Lamb inn. About twenty sat down, the chair being taken by Bro. Hoodless, and the vice-chair by Bro. Lazonby. The chairman was supported by Bros. McMechan, I.P.M., P.G.S.; Porter, P.M., P.G.S.W.; Gate, P.M., P.P.G. Reg.; Freeman, P.G. Org. Kewick; Armstrong, P.G.D.C. Maryport; J. C. Mason, J.W. Bective Lodge, Carlisle; Banks, S.D. Maryport. Supporting the vice-chairman were Bro. J. G. Twentymann, Liverpool, and Bro. Jos. Johnston. Amongst the brethren present were Bros. T. Richardson, P.M.; J. Pearson, P.M.; Bewes, P.M.; P. H. Taylor, P.M.; W. J. Carrick, Robinson, J. Harris, J. Jefferson, and Forester. Agreeable music was supplied during the dinner by a powerfully-toned musical box with drum and bell accompaniments, belonging to the Chairman. At the head of the table was hung a copy of the large and excellent portrait of Bro. Lemon, P.M., P.G. Treasurer, recently published by Bro. McMechan, one of which has been coloured and emblazoned in gold for the lodge by Bro. W. H. Hoodless. We may here remark that much regret was expressed by the brethren at Bro. Lemon's unfortunate absence through illness, and during the proceedings a telegram was sent off by the W.M. to Bro. Lemon, in the name of himself and the brethren, sending their fraternal regards, expressing their regret at his absence, and pleasure at hearing of his improvement. We believe we are not wrong in saying that this will be about the first St. John's anniversary Bro. Lemon has missed attending at Wigton for over forty years. On the removal of the cloth the chairman gave the usual loyal and patriotic toasts, which were loyally and heartily responded to.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Union (No. 332).—On Monday, 13th ult., the regular meeting of this lodge was held in the Masonic Hall, 170, Buchanan-street. The meeting was large and business important, viz., installation of office-bearers. Bro. J. B. Macnair, R.W.M., took the chair and opened the lodge. Bros. McKirdy, S.W.; Murray, J.W.; J. Laird, Treas.; J. McInnes, Sec.; J. Balfour, P.M.; Wm. Morrison, R.W.M. 215; A. Sage, P.M. 360; J. Louttit, R.W.M. 413; J. McInnes, S.M. 408; P. Brownlee, 33; D. McIntyre, 34; and others. The Secretary was called upon to read the minutes, which were passed. A minute was read in reference to the Mark Degree, from which it appeared that a Mark Lodge was constituted in connection with the Union Lodge; it is called the Union Lodge of Mark Masters, and the office-bearers are all appointed, and the lodge in working order. At a later part of the evening Bro. Macnair explained a little more fully the nature of the Mark Lodge, and intimated that those brethren wishing to become members could do so at the next meeting for a fee of 2s. 6d., after which the fee would be 5s. The balance sheet of the annual expenditure of the lodge, after a little discussion was favourably received. Installation was then commenced by the R.W.M. stepping forward, and P.M. Macnair delivering a short but amiable address. All having retired, except Installed Masters, the new Master was entrusted with that degree. The members having re-entered the lodge in the usual form, M.M., F.C., and E.A., respectively, Bro. Macnair called upon the brethren to pass round the lodge and salute the new Master, after which he placed him in the chair, and put into his hand the emblem of his office. The remaining office-bearers were then installed into their respective offices by Bro. Macnair, a few words of earnest counsel being given by Bro. Macnair to each, after which "three times three" was heartily given for the new Master. It was intimated that the annual festival of the lodge would take place on the 7th January, and the tickets were in the hands of the Secretary and Festival Committee, to whom those wishing to attend should apply at once; the members of the lodge would be supplied with tickets first, as they were limited, those left over would be placed at the disposal of members of other lodges who might wish to be present. Messrs. Frederick Jinkinson, stone mason; Wm. Findlay, merchant; and David Proven, manufacturer, who were waiting for initiation, were prepared, and received the First Degree, the R.W.M. officiating.

ARDROSSAN.—Neptune Kilwinning Lodge (No. 442).—At the annual meeting of this lodge held on Monday the 20th ult., R.W.M., Bro. Francis Goodwin, presiding, the following office-bearers were elected for the ensuing year:—Bro. Goodwin, R.W.M.; J. Robertson, P.M.; J. Robertson, D.M.; C. Adair, S.M.; W. Reid, S.W.; A. Bell, J.W.; W. Wyllie, Chaplain; W. Ross, Treas.; T. McNidder, Sec.; W. Robertson, S.D.; T. Pateon, J.D.; D. Gemmel, S.S.; A. Kelso, J.S.; C. Anderson, D. of C.; D. Fullarton, D. of M.; J. Vance, I.G.; and H. Barr, Tyler. The ceremony of installation, according to the ancient Scottish ritual, was performed by Bro. J. Robertson, P.M., in a very impressive manner. The Auditors' report showed the lodge to be in an excellent financial position, £30 having been added to the funds during the year.

KILDALTON.—Kildalton Lodge (No. 552).—This lodge celebrated the anniversary of St. John on the evening of the 29th ult. The brethren met at five o'clock in the evening, and proceeded to elect the office-bearers for the ensuing year, the following being the return, viz.:—

A. Johnstone Hodge, R.W.M.; Donald Campbell, S.W.; Robert Peffers, J.W.; John McMillan, S.D.; Duncan McArthur, J.D.; Francis Kean, I.G.; Peter McDougall, Tyler; Dugald Johnston, Treas.; and the Secretary's office remaining for the time unfilled. After dispatching the business of the evening and closing the lodge, the brethren marched in procession through the village by torch-light, and, the night being favourable, the effect was excellent. The people turned out in hundreds, old and young, and accompanied the march, and many of the houses were illuminated. At seven o'clock the office-bearers, and a number of the brethren, accompanied by their lady friends, sat down to a sumptuous dinner provided by Bro. Lachlan McCraig, the tables being laid in a granary, tastefully decorated with evergreens and flags. Ample justice was done to Bro. McCraig's catering, and when the tables were cleared, the usual loyal toasts followed from the chair and vice-chair, occupied by Bro. Hodge and Bro. McCraig, "The Army, Navy, and Volunteers," by Bro. Colin Hay, was responded to by Capt. McCraig, of the 7th A.A.V. Bro. Hodge, from the chair, then proposed "The Craft," and in doing so the following observations fell from him, after reminding the company of his endeavour at the last year's anniversary dinner to enlighten them a little as to the great fundamental principles of Masonry:—"Referring to the year that is past, I cannot say it has been of such a stirring description as its predecessor, at least so far as the Kildalton Lodge is concerned. That is to say, in the way of initiations. We have not had so many candidates for admission but this was only to be looked for. It could not be expected that in an island like ours, the same rapid accession of strength could go on for any great length of time. On the contrary it was only to be expected that when the rush of those gentlemen who were anxious to join us had passed, and the lodge had been well formed, an occasional candidate only would come forward, and such has in point of fact proved to be the case. I believe however, I am justified in saying that the Kildalton Lodge is now in the full vigour of life, and the same feelings of brotherhood and affection exist amongst us in undiminished strength. But, if the past year has been of an uneventful character to the Kildalton Lodge, it has been the very opposite to the Craft generally. Indeed, Masonry has experienced a very marked revival during the past year. While it was still young, the Heir Apparent to the throne of these realms was installed Grand Master Mason of England, and his brother Prince Leopold, the scholar of the Royal Family, has at its close accepted the Mastership of the Apollo Lodge, at Oxford. Such patronage as this has shed a lustre on Freemasonry, which has been reflected on every lodge throughout the length and breadth of the land. The consequence has been the arousing of an amount of enthusiasm truly surprising. Masonry has stepped forward like the early spring in beauty and fresh life, and vindicated her undoubted rights to be considered a power for the amelioration of human suffering. Lodges have sprung up in all directions, halls have been built, charity funds organised, and gentlemen of influence have taken their places in the front of the movement, and as a result of all this the field of Masonic labour has been very much extended. Here we are to a great extent shut out from these stirring events, but it is cheering to know that our noble Order is undergoing a process of purification, reform, and re-invigoration, and it is surely a satisfaction to know that we are associated by such close ties with the only institution the world has ever known that provides a platform on which the warrior, politician, theologian, and men of every country, and of every shade of opinion, can lay aside all their differences and meet on the level, and part on the square of friendship. Knowing these things then, our duty is perfectly clear. We must discountenance everything calculated to bring disrepute upon our Order, and cherish and encourage every step that leads in the direction of the true Masonic platform of brotherly love, relief, and truth. The toast was then drank amidst cheers. Bro. D. Johnston then proposed "The Civil Service," responded to by Bro. James Allen. Then followed "The Clergy," by Bro. D. McArthur; "The G.M.M. of Scotland," by Bro. Kean; "The G.M.M. of Ireland," by Bro. Peffers; "The G.M.M. of England," by Bro. McDougall; "The Ladies," by Bro. D. Campbell, responded to by Bro. R. A. Chatworthy; "The Kildalton Lodge," by Bro. Hay, responded to by Bro. A. J. Hodge, who before sitting down gave "All Poor and Distressed Masons, wherever dispersed, speedy relief, and a safe return to their country if desired." Bro. Campbell proposed "The Health of the Tyler," acknowledged by Bro. P. McDougall. The tables were then removed, and dancing became the order of the night. The music, supplied by native talent, was everything that could be desired, and square, circle, figure dance, reel, and jig succeeded each other rapidly, with songs at intervals, until early morning brought to a close a night of perfect enjoyment, the company leaving the room "sorry to part and happy to meet again."

[Reports of the following Scotch Lodges unavoidably stand over:—34, 7, 18, 31, 88, 111, 114, 116, 117, 129, 156, 169, 175, 187, 198, 258, 360, 391, 413, 459, 497, 531. List of Officers of Edinburgh Lodges.]

ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

The Christmas entertainment to the aged inmates of the Asylum at Croydon, was given on Wednesday last. The former events, which were tried as an experiment, having proved entirely successful, have given all those engaged in getting them up the encouragement to adopt them as a periodical institution, and the brethren and widows who occupy the almshouses may look forward to occasional treats to enliven their stay at the institution, and a visit from the ladies and brethren, who always take

an interest in their welfare. No pains had been spared to make them comfortable and happy, and the building had been adorned under the direction of Bro. Terry with illustrated reminders of the festive season in the enjoyment of which all of us have lately been participating. The hall, which stands over the principal entrance to the building, was neatly decorated with wishes for a merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, shields or "lozenges" with arms painted on them, and several reproductions of the Prince of Wales's plume, which were acquired by the institution when His Royal Highness was Chairman of its festival. "Welcome" was also profuse on the walls and at the entrance, and an air of cordiality and friendship was plentifully infused into the whole structure. Bro. Terry, Mrs. Terry, Miss Terry, and Mr. J. E. Terry were present acting the part of host and hostess, and with their accustomed geniality most hospitably received the aged people, and those ladies and gentlemen friends of the institution, who had come down with the intention of adding their quota to the general amusement. The hospitable reception they met with at once made them a family party, every individual of whom at once threw themselves with the spirit of the gathering. Among those who were present were Bros. Charles G. Hill and James Terry, Mr. J. E. Terry, Mrs. Terry, Miss Terry, Bros. W. Lane, and James Linzell, Mrs. Linzell, Bro. John G. Stevens, and Mrs. Stevens, Bros. Geo. Knill, and A. H. Tattershall, Mrs. Tattershall, Bros. H. J. Green, and Richard Pearcey, Mrs. Pearcey, Bros. W. J. Crutch, and R. H. Halford, Mrs. Halford, Bros. Geo. F. Cook, and Richard Fowler, Mrs. and Miss Fowler, Bros. H. W. Alford, Mrs. Gogerty, Mrs. Hill, Bro. H. Massey ("Freemason") and Mrs. Massey, Bro. John Constable and Mrs. Constable, Bro. George Ford, Bro. W. W. Morgan and Miss Morgan, Dr. Strong, Mrs. Strong, Bro. John Horth Ross and Mrs. Ross, Mr. Gannon, Miss Haines, Mrs. Baber and Mrs. Dubois. The pensioners were first entertained with an excellent dinner, at which Dr. Strong presided, and the other brethren, and visitors, rendered all their assistance to see to the wants of the party. Every inmate was afterwards presented with a goodly portion of tea and tobacco for consumption in their residences and tea was provided under the direction of Mrs. and Miss Terry, and the "Matron" of the institution, Miss Morris. In the evening feasts of legendariness were exhibited by Professor Lane, and wine and cake and bonbons were supplied at numerous intervals to the whole party of inmates and visitors. Bro. John G. Stevens gave a happy illustration of a vestry meeting, which won for him rapturous applause and convulsive laughter. Bro. W. W. Morgan admirably recited "The Wreck of the Hesperus," and Miss Terry, Mrs. Baber, Mrs. Dubois, the Misses Strong, Miss Haines and Miss Morgan filled up several intervals in the evening with some charming singing and clever execution of pianoforte music. The amusements lasted till nearly ten o'clock, when votes of thanks were proposed, first on the part of the inmates by one of the brethren of the asylum, Bro. Morris, and then by Bro. Terry to those ladies and brethren who had assisted. Bro. Terry acknowledged the vote, which was proposed on behalf of the inmates, and told the brethren that all those who were connected with the institution had their interest at heart, and always endeavoured to make them happy. It was as much pleasure to the subscribers to the Institution to see their friends at Croydon enjoying themselves as it was to the inmates themselves, and he trusted that for many years to come they would have similar happy meetings to this one. In proposing a vote of thanks to the ladies and gentlemen who had taken part in the amusements of the evening, he acknowledged the great kindness which had been shown by them, and the readiness with which they were at all times ready to assist in a good cause. To Dr. Strong, he moved a special vote of thanks for his earnest desire to promote the happiness of the old people, and for his unremitting attention to them in all their little ailments. The different votes of thanks were unanimously carried, and the London brethren and ladies, who were the last to leave the building, returned to town after enjoying one of the most pleasant days on record.

UNPARALLELED MASONIC MUNIFICENCE.

COMMUNIQUE.

I have just heard from my dear friend and Bro. Charles E. Meyer, of Philadelphia, of the handsome gift by W. Bro. Henry C. Fox, which, so far as I know, is greatly in advance of any contribution heretofore of its kind, and deserves some special recognition not only by the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, U.S.A., but general and particular acknowledgment in the columns of every Masonic journal in the world, as well as heartfelt appreciation by the Craft universal. The particulars communicated to me are as follows. At the stated meeting of the Covenant Lodge No. 456, held in the Grand Masonic Temple, Philadelphia, on the 14th ult., the Worshipful Master, Henry C. Fox, presented to the permanent fund of the lodge the sum of 5000 dols. (£1000) as a "slight tribute of the affection he felt towards the members thereof, and his reverence for the pure principles of Freemasonry." The presentation was a great surprise to the brethren, the secret having been entrusted only to the Trustees of the lodge, and I can quite fancy—though I should fail to depict—the feelings of his hearers as the words fell from the lips of their Worshipful Master. I have never heard of such a munificent gift being made to any lodge in this country, or indeed under any Grand Lodge, and save the solitary exception of the splendid contribution by the lamented R.W. Bro. Stephen Blair to the "Royal Masonic Institution for Boys," I believe that such an amount has never before been given to any Masonic institution whatever by an individual brother. As one of the Stewards for 1876, on behalf of the "Royal Masonic Institution for Boys," how

much I should enjoy having even a tenth of such an amount on my list from a brother, and yet such hitherto unequalled Masonic munificence ought not to be beyond the capabilities or generous impulses of our wealthy brethren. Indeed I doubt much if the annual contributions to our three great Masonic Charities—great as they are—amount to a sum at all commensurate with the wealth and social position of the English Craft, and I do most heartily pray that the gift of our American brother may lead to similar results in this country, and that not only may the permanent fund be thus increased, but may we be able to alleviate all the distress and misfortune which it behoves us to do, and succeed in finding a home for every destitute orphan, the legacies of our unfortunate brethren to the English Craft.

Bro. Fox's munificent gift did not, I am glad to say, prevent the inauguration of another unparalleled Masonic event, viz., that the donor of the £1000 invited the members and certain privileged guests to a banquet, prior to his retiring from the chair, and so on Wednesday evening, the 15th December last, some 400 brethren assembled in honour of the occasion in the banquet hall of the Masonic Temple, the whole arrangements, according to the circular before me, being evidently most thoroughly Masonic. The toasts embraced "The Right Worshipful the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania," "The Fraternity," "Our Visiting Brethren," "Woman," "The Centennial," "The Press," and, though not noted, doubtless "the toast of the evening" was "The Health and Prosperity of the Host," Bro. Henry C. Fox. I understand that an account of the banquet and speeches will appear in the racy "Keystone," and in all probability it will have been issued ere this short notice sees the light.

I must not forget to mention that a marked feature of the banquet was the total absence of all spirituous and malt liquors, a fact certainly to the credit of all concerned.

The brethren separated after a most pleasing evening, after singing "Auld Lang Syne."

I await with much interest the next unique fact in the annals of Freemasonry in the "Keystone" State. It has the honour, according to present evidence, of introducing the Masonic Craft in new England, the first lodge being held in Philadelphia, in which city the first Masonic Hall was erected, and now contains the largest and finest Masonic Temple in the world. According to our esteemed Bro. McCalla, the first of almost everything that is good had its origin in the City of Philadelphia, and so we must all proceed there to witness its reception of the Centennial exhibitors and visitors, and if I am able to go I hope to grasp the hand of Bro. Fox, the donor of £1000 to his lodge, as well as the hands of many dear friends.—W. J. HUGHAN.

Obituary.

BRO. ALEXANDER GORDON, 871.

Bro. Alexander Gordon, Royal Oak Lodge, 871, died on the 18th December somewhat suddenly. He was initiated in 871 in August, 28th, 1873, and continued a full subscribing member up to his death. He declined to take any office in the lodge on account of the many other duties he had to attend to. He was proprietor of the New Cross Tavern (Glass House), and was well respected by all who knew him. At his funeral there was a large assemblage of highly respectable persons, together with a goodly number of the brethren, which showed how well he was respected by all who knew him. He has left a daughter to deplore his loss.

Masonic and General Tidings.

The Prince of Wales on Saturday last witnessed some tent-pegging, and subsequently visited the principal hospitals. In the afternoon, at Government House, His Royal Highness received a Masonic deputation, who presented an address, enclosed in an elaborate casket.

His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught has sent a cheque for ten guineas to Mr. Pashley, the founder of the United Soldiers' and Civilians' New Home, North Camp, Aldershot. The Duke of Connaught is expected to perform the formal opening ceremony of this institution next March.

His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught paid a visit to Ceuta on the 19th ult. in his yacht Vega, and was received with the greatest courtesy by the Military Governor of Ceuta, General Satorius, and the officers of his staff. After luncheon at the General's house, His Royal Highness rode through the town and visited some of the barracks occupied by the Spanish troops, some of whom were paraded for the Prince's inspection. On Christmas-day the Duke of Connaught visited the inmates of the Naval and Military Hospital. Surgeon-General Balfour conducted His Royal Highness round the wards. The Duke made many inquiries, and conversed with the sick.

Bro. Lord Henry Thynne, who has accepted office as Treasurer of Her Majesty's Household, has been re-elected for South Wilts without opposition. His proposer was Mr. Bennett-Stanford, M.P. for Shaftesbury, and his seconder Mr. E. Hinxman, of Durnford House, Salisbury. The noble lord did not address the electors.

H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M., graciously received a deputation of Freemasons of Bankipore on Tuesday last.

Bro. the Earl of Rosslyn, P.G.M. of Scotland has sent a supply of game for the patients of the German Hospital.

In consequence of the death of his father, Bro. Boord, M.P. for Greenwich, will not, it is stated, make his annual address to his constituents during the Parliamentary recess.

A number of gentlemen assembled at the residence of Bro. Dr. Jabez Hogg on Saturday evening, and presented Mr. Torrens, M.P., with a purse of £200, as a slight acknowledgment of his services as senior member of the Borough of Finsbury.

The meetings of the Prosperity Lodge of Instruction, No 65, will in future be held at No. 1, Camomile-street, Bishopsgate.

Dean Stanley, in his annual sermon to children in Westminster Abbey on Innocents' Day, referred to the gallant conduct of the boys on board the Goliath, and especially of the little boy Bolton, who refused to leave the ship till the last, and whom he was proud to claim as a Westminster lad.

We have to record the death of Bro. James Rogers at his residence, 16A, Clarendon-square, on the 24th ult. Bro. Rogers was in his 81st year. He was for 54 years with the Mercers' Company, and founder and, for 36 years, Secretary of the London Coffee and Eating House Keepers' Benevolent Association; also Secretary to the Lodge of Confidence (193) for 31 years.

Bro. Alderman Ellis has arranged with the executors of the late Mr. F. J. Clark to undertake the responsibilities of the business of Messrs. Farebrother, Clark, and Co., at 5, Lancaster-place, Strand. Bro. Alderman Ellis will retain his City offices, No. 18, Old Broad-street, as heretofore.

Bro. William Ramsey, of Farringdon-street, has been commissioned by the Lord Mayor to prepare a stained glass window to take the place of the "Cotton" window in Guildhall, which is to be removed to the museum at Kew Gardens. The new window will be divided into two compartments, the upper representing Queen Elizabeth reviewing her troops, and the lower, the Armada Thanksgiving service at Old St. Paul's.

The City Masonic Club of Instruction, which holds its meetings at the Jamaica Coffee House, has just celebrated its sixth anniversary. About forty brethren were present. In the absence of the president, through illness, Bro. Tilley was called to the chair. It was stated during the proceedings that in the short space of six years this club, by devoting its receipts to Masonic charities, had become vice-presidents of both the Boys' and Girls' Schools, and would by the close of the year be qualified as vice-presidents of the other charities connected with the Craft.—"City Press."

TESTIMONIAL TO A BANK MANAGER.—We are pleased to observe that a committee is being formed for the purpose of presenting Bro. William Herbage (Lodge 177), the late manager of the City Bank, Ludgate Hill, and the present joint manager of the London and South-Western Bank, with a testimonial in acknowledgment of his zeal, assiduity, and courtesy. We observe that Bro. Alderman Hadley, P.G.D., is the chairman, and Bro. Frederick Kent, P.M., of 8, Red Lion Court House, Cannon-street, the hon. sec. to the fund, to which we sincerely wish success.

The "Evening Standard" states that the Address of the House of Commons, in answer to the Speech from the Throne, will be moved by Mr. Matthew White Ridley, member for North Northumberland, and seconded by Mr. Mulholland, member for Downpatrick.

It is a noteworthy and significant fact that at the recent elections of Common Councilmen, the City displayed a vigorous vitality and a very much stronger interest in the proceedings than usual. In many of the wards exciting contests took place, and men of position and influence came to the front and vigorously entered into them, in many cases with success; notably in Farringdon Without, the largest Ward in the City, when Mr. G. H. Mason, a new candidate, polled the unprecedented number of 975 votes, the highest ever recorded on a similar occasion in the annals of the Ward, and was elected by a majority of nearly 250, although several of the old representatives (who, by the way, polled more than usual at former contests) are among the most distinguished members of the Court of Common Councilmen.

The "Masonic Magazine" for January contains a portrait of Hon. Mrs. Aldworth, the "Lady Freemason."

ALEXANDRA PALACE AND PARK.—From the day of opening to the present time the visitors have averaged 8000 a day.

The first sixpenny day at the Crystal Palace on Monday resulted in the attendance of 8287 visitors, of whom 6186 were admitted by payment, and 2101 by season tickets.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS AND OINTMENT.—Dangerous catarrhs, bronchitis, asthma, and influenza are rife at this season of the year; hepatic and renal congestions frequently occur as the result of checked skin action, giving rise to serious symptoms and preventing attention to business or pleasure. No time should be lost in the first appearance of any indications of the invasion of these diseases for the symptoms may be checked effectually by the use of these valuable remedies. The penetrating local effect of the Ointment acts surely on the affected parts, and restores them to a healthy condition; and the Pills, judiciously taken in accordance with the lucid directions, relieve the congestive capillaries and materially lessen the chance of serious mischief supervening.—ADVT.

TO OUR READERS.

The *Freemason* is a sixteen-page weekly newspaper, price 2d. It is published every Friday morning, and contains the most important and useful information relating to Freemasonry in every degree. Annual subscription in the United Kingdom, Post free, 10s. Brethren in foreign parts, wishing to have this newspaper sent them regularly from the office of publication, should, in sending their remittances, add to the 2d. per week the postage on 20z. newspapers.

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Answers to Correspondents.

All Communications, Advertisements, &c., intended for insertion in the Number of the following Saturday, must reach the Office not later than 12 o'clock on Wednesday morning.

The following stand over:—Letter from Bro. C. Burgess; A Masonic Presentation; Reports of Carnarvon Lodge, No. 1573; Love and Honour Lodge, 75; Lodge Victory, No. 557.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

"Boletino do Grande, Oriente Unido, &c., do Brazil." "Era Almanack" received, a review of same will appear next week. "History of British Guiana;" "The Golden Pheasant," J. Henderson; "The Artist;" "The Westminster Papers;" "Young Folks;" "The Ladies' Treasury."

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

BIRTHS.

RAMSON.—Dec. 24th, at 169, Huskisson-street, Liverpool, the wife of Bro. E. Ramson, Lodge 249, of a daughter.

WOLF.—Dec. 26th, at 46, Seymour-street, Liverpool, the wife of Bro. Isaac Wolf, Lodge 1503, of a son.

The Freemason,

SATURDAY, JAN. 8, 1876.

H.R.H. PRINCE LEOPOLD.

We learn that the Most Worshipful Grand Master has been pleased to appoint H.R.H. Prince Leopold Provincial Grand Master for Oxfordshire.

OUR ROYAL GRAND MASTER IN INDIA.

The reception of the Prince of Wales at Calcutta has been most loyal, and everything seems to have passed over with the greatest success. The Investiture of the Order of the Star of India was most striking and imposing, and there can be no doubt whatever but that the visit of our Royal Grand Master to India will have produced the best effects. By the time our readers read these lines the Prince of Wales will have left Calcutta, and the "Pioneer" publishes the following as the final arrangements for the Prince of Wales's tour after his departure from Calcutta, adding that the only alteration in the least degree probable is an extension of his Royal Highness's stay at Jeypore by one day:—On Monday evening, the 3rd of January, he will leave Calcutta by the East Indian Railway, and will arrive at Benares on the evening of the 4th, visiting Bankipore en route. Leaving Benares on the morning of the 6th, he will get to Lucknow the same evening. The Prince will spend the 7th, 8th, and 9th at Lucknow, and will proceed on the morning of Monday, the 10th, to Cawnpore, where he will spend the day, starting at night for Delhi. After remaining at Delhi from the 11th to the 17th he will go on to Lahore, arriving there on the morning of Tuesday, the 18th. The remainder of the 18th and the whole of the 19th will be passed at Lahore. Leaving that city on the morning of Thursday, the 20th, he will arrive at Jummoo on the evening of the same day, and will remain there as the guest of the Maharajah of Cashmere until the morning of Saturday, the 22nd, when he will set out on his return to Lahore. Sunday will be spent at Lahore, and on Monday, the 24th, the Prince will take the train for Agra, visiting Umritsur en route. At Agra a halt will be made from the 25th to the 30th. The visit

to Scindiah at Gwalior will occupy the 31st and the 1st of February, and on Wednesday, the 2nd, the Prince will return to Agra. On the 4th, he will go on to Jeypore, where he will remain until the evening of Sunday, the 6th. The night of the 6th and the whole of the 7th will be spent in travelling towards Nynce Tal, via Moradabad and Kaladoongee, and then will commence a shooting expedition in Kumanon and the Nepal Serai, lasting from the 8th to the 2nd of March. Bareilly will be reached on the morning of Friday, the 3rd, and will be left on the evening of the same day. A few hours of the 4th will be spent at Allahabad, and on the morning of the 6th His Royal Highness will arrive at Indore, where he will remain as the guest of the Maharajah Holkar until the evening of Tuesday, the 7th. On the evening of the 8th he will arrive at Ellora, where he will stay until the next evening. He will then go on to Bombay, and will embark on or about the 10th of March.

THE LIMITS OF RELIGIOUS THOUGHT AND TEACHING.

We published last week an interesting letter from, we understand, Professor Tyndall, with reference to a recent allocution or circular of the French Roman Catholic Bishop of Montpellier. No doubt Professor Tyndall calls the attention of the "Times," in which journal the letter originally appeared, to this last deliverance of an energetic Roman Catholic prelate, on account of anew by Roman Catholic authority. It is this, practically, the unchanged teaching of Roman Catholicism, which sets it so much at variance with the reason, intellect, feeling, and public opinion of the day. For what is this claim on the part of Rome? It is simply this, that the Roman Catholic Church, as the Church, has the right to pronounce and hold any and all scientific teaching contrary to the truth of Revelation, and to denounce it and condemn it "ad fideles" accordingly! But the Church—quæ the Church in our opinion—has no such inherent authority, or proper power. It is to proclaim spiritual truths not scientific, its great domain is the world of Grace, not the world of Nature. It may and probably does illustrate its teaching, from the wondrous storehouse of animate or inanimate creation, from the marvels of discovery, from the realms of science, from the laws which govern our material being, from the condition and normal existence of created man, but it has no right to pronounce dogmatically on these subjects ex cathedra, much less to make them questions of religious belief, or irreligious heresy, at least, so we hold. It would be very absurd if the Archbishop of Canterbury, for instance, were to say to any learned professor or scientific teacher amongst us, "You are propounding certain theories concerning the 'law of selection,' 'gravitation,' 'optics,' 'ethnology,' 'zoology,' 'anthropology,' 'geology,' &c., &c., and inasmuch as your researches seem to contravene the words of the Bible I claim the right of the Church to condemn your views, and denounce your discoveries." In our humble opinion, that would be travelling beyond the limits of religious thought and teaching! It is true that there may be "oppositions of science falsely so-called." It is, no doubt, correct to say that many writers have, in late years especially, advanced very questionable statements, which they hold tenaciously as "dogmata," and have spoken but little reverently of the Bible, which, as true Freemasons, we recognize and revere as God's word. But still, though this be so, it overpasses, as we regard it, the real limits of religious teaching, when any religious body professes to have a right quæ a religious body, to deal with the deductions of skilled writers, in any branch of the natural laws of this wondrous world of ours, the researches of pure science, the study of psychological phenomena, and to pass a religious opinion upon them, and declare them to be true or false, sound or unsound, contrary to God's word, or opposed to revealed truth. We cannot see or understand how such power can be vested in one or any denominational body. A church—the Church that we consider the church, has a right no doubt to lay down terms of communion, to declare on its infallible or fallible authority, as the case may be, certain spiritual verities

and distinct doctrines to be the truth for its members, and to reject all who refuse to accept them, or be bound by them; but it cannot, as it seems to us, say, or lay down anything more, rightly or lawfully. It clearly has no warrant to say that, because certain truths of the Bible are seemingly affected by certain discoveries of science, those discoveries must be untrue. The Church may command its preachers to aver certain truths to be absolute and essential truths, and, e converso, to condemn by implication, all opposing dogmata, and leave the result to the understanding or faith of the people. But it can rightly do no more, and go no further. The claim of the Church of Rome to supervise and give its "inprimatur" to scientific discovery cannot be admitted by any who value the freedom of the intellect, or believe in a right use of reason. Poor Galileo said that the sun was a "fixed body," with the "earth continually revolving round it on its own axis," but the Inquisition, because the Bible had said that the "sun stood still in the Valley of Ajalon," believed that the sun moved round the earth, and not vice versa, and condemned the great astronomer as a heretic. And so it still is, Rome claims to-day, to pronounce on all the discoveries of science, on all the results of modern investigation on the bearings of the natural laws of the universe, on the careful conclusions of the student and the sage. Such a claim, as we said before, cannot be conceded, and must be resisted. It is one of the main elements of the great struggle which is now going on. We are not among those who oppose ourselves, because we are Freemasons, to religious teaching, or the proper limits of religious thought and dogma. Far from it, we are neither secularists nor sceptics, humanitarians or unbelievers, but we venture to contend for the liberty of scientific studies, just as we uphold freedom of commerce, toleration of opinion, and inviolability of worship. We regret deeply to find that the Church of Rome is embarking on a contest, in which she must be defeated, since in this, as in many other things, the absurdity of her demands, and the unreasonableness of her teaching, will, end in her own overthrow, by the spirit of public opinion, and bring down to the ground with her much that otherwise might have been willingly upheld, and safely maintained.

THE "FREEMASON."

We are still on the threshold of the new year and we have been taking stock; and the result is, on the whole, gratifying. We do not indeed wish or seek to come forward with magniloquent phrases, or conventional "bunkum." We are not very anxious to praise ourselves at the expense of others, or for the kindly purpose of annoying somebody else, give forth with boastful flourishes what we intend to be satirical, but what we know to be untrue. Far be from us any such ignoble feelings. It may suit those who deal in "cheap and nasty" wares to obtrude an inferior article on a gullible public! But we need follow no such course, nor be characterized by any such tactics. Ours is both plain sailing and straight running. We do not wish to "tout" for patronage, nor laud ourselves for support. We take approval and disfavour as they come and go; we rate them at their proper worth, we care neither for the one nor for the other, to tell the honest truth. We try to do our duty honestly, justly, liberally, by the Craft, and we have no fear that our motives will be misconstrued, or our efforts disregarded. The "Freemason" has never yet appealed to anything but the public opinion and approval of the Craft, and it never will. It has ever pursued a straightforward even course; it has neither been subsidized by friends nor patronized by any select body of Freemasons; it has had no public company to back it up; it has never been the organ of a party or the journal of a coterie, but it has asked for a "fair field and no favour;" and thanks to the liberality, and sympathy, and justice of the Craft, it has obtained a hearing. It was originally set on foot when Masonic literature seemed to have found the "facilis descensus Avernus," and since 1869, the date of its publication, it has unobtrusively pursued the even tenour of its way. It has had, like all newspaper properties, its brighter and its darker days; but owing to the energy, and perseverance, and pluck of its

publisher, it has tided over many difficulties, and successfully weathered the gale. At the present time it can boast of a larger circle of readers and subscribers than any English Masonic paper has ever received, and, with one or two exceptions, perhaps than any foreign Masonic journal. It has been the first that has taken a high standard of Masonic literary excellence, and has maintained up to the present moment its intellectual character and its archaeological tone. It has led the way to that more critical study of our records, and annals, and monuments and MS., which has practically developed the modern Masonic historical school, and all passing topics it has handled with prudence and firmness, with proper liberty of discussion, and yet with often needful reticence. And, one especial feature of its career has been its toleration of, and its consideration for contemporary Masonic literature! it has never attacked and never maligned, it has never even condescended to the covert insinuation, or the ill-mannered taunt, but has always been free and fair, plain dealing and plain speaking, honest and aboveboard, firm in its own principles, but courteous to all! We think it advisable at the beginning of 1876, to say all this, not to "sing our own praises," nor to be our own "trumpeter," but simply in justice to our publisher and ourselves! Such as we have been, such we shall continue to be. We hope still to merit the confidence of our subscribers, and the approval of our readers. In the year before us, just as in the years behind us, we shall strive to keep up the high character of the "Freemason," alike for correctness in our reports, independence of thought in our leaders, and an anxious endeavour to deserve the good opinion and sympathy of a very numerous and very kindly clientèle. We thank sincerely those good friends and brethren of ours, who have cheered us so greatly, and encouraged us so warmly, by their Masonic countenance and support in times past, and especially the last twelve months, and we beg to ask them with the new year for a continuance of their liberal patronage, their welcome contributions, and their zealous co-operation.

MASONIC SWAGGER.

We all of us know that a little swagger goes often a great way in common things and in daily life. Many unsophisticated natures, as well as easy going people, are sometimes alike imposed on and affected by pretentious swagger. As a general rule the swaggerer is, to use a common and slang term, a "duffer," who covers the vacuity of his brain, or the tenuity of his acquirements, mental, critical, or intellectual, by the pretentious assumption or the overbearing demeanour! And even in Freemasonry, as in all other mundane institutions, we often find plenty of swagger, and not a few swaggerers. Who of us all does not recall even now that amiable but intolerable bore who will ever expatiate "ore rotundo" on what he has done for Freemasonry, and what he knows of Freemasonry? To hear him talk, to peruse his magniloquent phrases, you would suppose that he was some Delphian oracle, some Masonic "Deus ex machina!" Nobody knows anything of Freemasonry as well as he does, nobody writes like he does, nobody has ever done anything for Freemasonry, either in its literary development or its oratorical studies, until he came to the rescue, until he burst on our astonished Order, in the plenitude of his archaeological knowledge, and the beauties of his ornate style. Well, they say every one has a delusion in this world, and why should he not have his, poor fellow; if it amuses him, it does not hurt any one else that we know of. So we shrug our shoulders with a look of pity on such harmless self-deception. For if the truth be told, the perpetrator of this Masonic swagger for the most part, is certain never to "set the Thames on fire." He has, no doubt, great readiness of assertion and a considerable amount of "native brass," but when he comes to "chapter and verse" the true Masonic student soon "spots" his deficiencies and is amused both by his blunders and his ignorance, which are pretty much "on a par." We have listened to not unfrequently the Masonic swaggerer, and found him generally to be a plausible sciolist. We have perused many specimens of Masonic swagger, and for the most part they were only

that and nothing else. The froth on the surface, not to say the scum of the pot. Such communications for the most part are very melancholy reading. If the fool will wear his motley let him do so by all means, and jingle his bells and rattle his "bauble" in the great vanity fair of life, but let him leave Freemasonry alone. It is far too serious a matter to be handed over to the empirical, the charlatan, the swaggerer, and the ignorant. The students of Freemasonry know well to-day both the difficulties and the dangers of their course. They are seeking, all real ones are at any rate, to master historical truth, plain honest reliable truth "pur et simple," without any admixture of fable, or fiction, or gloss, or myth, truth without pretence, alloy, or swagger of any kind. But the swaggerer does not take this more real and enlightened course. Not he. He has not studied the subject carefully or critically, and so he objects to and denounces all who have been so rash as to do so. "He does not approve, he says, of doubters or iconoclasts." He does not like going too deep into any theory. He has got a smattering of Masonic history, or archaeology or symbolism, or ritualism, as the case may be, and swagger does the rest for him. Now he always undervalues privately, and publicly deprecates the labours of ardent students of humble enquirers. "He said so and so," "his opinion is to this effect," "he does not see the good of such enquiries," "he knows all that needs be known," and "beyond that he thinks," we "are going too far, and he disapproves of it, &c., &c., &c." How often in our life, have we heard these dreariest of utterances, how often have we seen the "wet blanket" thrown upon the intelligent, and the enquiring. When then, any lodge is blessed by that brother who "will be heard," and "won't be put down," who swaggers in the lodge, and at the banquet, whose whole Masonic career is summed up in the one word "swagger" whose ignorance is only equalled by his impudence, and whose overbearing disposition is only surpassed by his unconquerable "cheek," we pity that lodge deeply, and unless some good fates or some countervailing influence should intervene for it, is doomed to the "husks" and rubbish, and "debris" of Freemasonry as long as that untoward specimen of Freemasonry rules the roost. We do not wish to pursue the subject further, except to say, that we do not ourselves believe that "swagger" happily ever long prevails after all. We have to encounter it daily, we peruse its "outcome" every now and then, but luckily we are living in a discerning age, and though it treats all its friends even to its own childish impertinence, or its own idle boasting, it does very little harm indeed, after all, and may safely we think, be left to the discernment of the intelligent, the pity of the intellectual, and the contempt of the wise and instructed Craftsman.

Original Correspondence.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for, or even as approving of the opinions expressed by our correspondents, but we wish, in a spirit of fair play to all, to permit—within certain necessary limits—free discussion.—Ed.]

THE ORDER OF THE TEMPLE.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I am sure the kindly letter signed "Richard Woolf, Sub-Prior of Worcestershire," which appeared in your issue of the 18th ult., has been read with much interest and satisfaction by all the members of the Order of the Temple, as coming from one who has most evidently the "true interests" of the Order at heart, and who really desires to lend his "influence and aid" towards the healing of those differences which most unhappily exist amongst us at the present time. The publication of the paper issued from the Chancery, to which you have given so prominent a position on page 591 of your issue for the 25th ult., was not only an act of fairness on your part, as you had from time to time inserted in your columns memorials against the new statutes, but I consider it is an act calculated most strongly to serve the "true interests" of our Order, as "throwing (as you have already stated) considerable light upon the compilation and authorship of the new statutes," against which there has been, and is, I am sorry to see, so much opposition. A careful and calm perusal of this document will, I hope, convince many that the changes which have been made are at least not the results of either hasty or clandestine legislation, and that the objections which have been raised to these changes are answered in a straightforward and courteous manner. The province in which I have the honour to hold office memorialised the Great Prior, under date 25th February last, and I think if you will be so good as to publish the ac-

companying copy of our memorial it may help to throw a little more light on the matters in dispute. I find it necessary, however, to correct a misapprehension which seems to have arisen regarding the receipt by the officers of the Great Priory of a similar copy of our said memorial some five or six months ago. It has been thought by some that these copies were sent out from the office of the Chancery of our Order because our memorial was in favour of, and not against, the new statutes. This is a thorough mistake. By direction of our Provincial Prior I sent them out myself after my arrival in England in May last, each cover being addressed in my own handwriting. I wrote and asked the Vice-Chancellor, it is true, to send them out, as he had the addresses of the officers of the Great Priory, but he declined to accede to my request, and referred me to the Calendar for the information I required. If then any officer of the Great Priory has not received a copy of our memorial, it has been because I was unable to trace his name and address.

Trusting you may find room for this communication in your next issue, and with many good wishes,

I am, dear Sir and brother, yours faithfully and fraternally,

TUDOR TREVOR,
Provincial Chancellor Bombay.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

In the "Freemason," December 25th, there appears an article under the head of the United Orders of the Temple and Hospital, in one part of which the writer draws a comparison betwixt Knights Commanders, and Past Masters of lodges ceasing to be subscribing members. Of the latter he says "But in Craft Masonry, if he ceases to subscribe for a year his right lapses, and he becomes a mere Master Mason, nor can he recover his position and franchise without again serving as Master of a lodge."

This is a theorem which admits of considerable doubt, being opposed to the spirit and principle of Masonry, contrary to the usages and customs of the Order, and unsupported by law.

In order to understand this matter more clearly it will become necessary to ascertain what is meant by Past Master, and in what relationship does he stand to a Master Mason. "In ancient times no brother, however skilled in the Craft, was called a Master Mason until he had been elected into the chair of a lodge," so that originally the term Master and Master Mason were synonymous, but the Act of Union laid down that pure Masonry should consist of three degrees, viz., Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft, and Master Mason, and inasmuch as no community or body of men can conduct their deliberations in proper order without a governor, or head, it still remained that the brethren should elect one of their number to preside over them, who, after he had been installed, they should call Master. Hence arose the distinction between Master Mason and Master of a lodge, nor is this a distinction without a difference. The law says "He shall be duly installed in the chair according to ancient usage," at which ceremony "mere Master Masons" are not admitted, and none but actual Installed Masters, or Past Masters, can take part in the proceedings; even a W.M. elect cannot be admitted. It will therefore appear that, de forma, this is a fourth degree, as superior to a Master Mason as the latter is to the Fellow Craft, inasmuch as there are obligations, signs, words, &c., which are held as sacred from a "mere Master Mason," as from the popular world; and further, so long as memory retains its seat, these entitle him to be recognized as a Past Master, equally as the rites, &c., of the Master Mason or Fellow Craft entitle them to their distinctions.

In addition to this, the law grants him certain privileges subject to certain conditions. First, that so long as he holds the office of Master he shall be a member of Grand Lodge, and having executed that office for one year shall, so long as he continues a subscribing member of any lodge, rank as a Past Master, and be a member of Grand Lodge.

Having ascertained the difference in position, rank, and privilege possessed by a Master, or Past Master, above that of a "mere Master Mason," let us next consider the conditions upon which he continues to secure those privileges, and what he sacrifices by failing to comply with those conditions.

What is it then that entitles him to a continuance of those privileges? Continuous subscription to a lodge which if broken or interrupted for twelve months "he shall no longer continue a member of Grand Lodge." Observe! it does not say he shall no longer be a Past Master, nor does it say he shall become a "mere Master Mason." By ceasing to subscribe he loses his lodge membership, and the privileges connected therewith; he also sacrifices his right of membership of the Grand Lodge.

The writer of the article grants that by ceasing to subscribe he does not cease to be a Mason. If then we admit the axiom "once a Mason always a Mason," by the same course of reasoning it may be demonstrated that once a Past Master always a Past Master; and that the rights and privileges of the one are no more affected by ceasing to subscribe than the rights and privileges of the other: one ceases to be a member of a private lodge, while the other, in addition, loses his membership of the Grand Lodge, the Masonic rank of each remaining unchanged.

This brings us then to the consideration of the latter part of the writer's theory. "Nor can he recover his position and franchise without again serving as Master of a lodge."

On what law does he establish this statement? The Constitutions are comparatively silent on this point. Certainly they provide for a brother becoming affiliated to a lodge after his privileges have lapsed, through not subscribing or otherwise; but nowhere, even by implication, do they warrant the assumption of the writer of the article. On the contrary, they seem to imply that on a Past Master rejoining a lodge (after a "apse") he does so in the posses-

sion of his former rank. Rule 25, page 66 B.C., reads thus:—"Each lodge shall annually make a return to the Grand Secretary of the Masters, Wardens, and Past Masters of the lodge, and of all members who claim to be entitled to attend the Grand Lodge as Past Masters, having served the office of Master in some other lodge, and specifying the lodge in which each of them has served the office of Master." Obviously the above are Past Masters whose rights of membership in G.L. have lapsed through not contributing. It would also appear that on such brethren becoming affiliated to another lodge, they are to be returned as Past Masters, in support of their claim to attend Grand Lodge; otherwise, if they were contributing members of the lodge wherein they served as Master, they would also be members of Grand Lodge, and entitled to attend as such, and consequently the last sentence of the above rule would be unnecessary, viz., "and no brother shall be permitted to attend the Grand Lodge unless his name shall appear in such return." There is nothing here about his "again serving as Master of a lodge."

Then, as to the usages and customs of the Order, would any one dream of refusing admission to a well-known Past Master to participate in the ceremony of installation, simply on the ground of his not being a subscribing member? Further, it has been already determined that such an one is eligible to the highest office in the Royal Arch.

Therefore, the new statute of the Knights Templar is nothing more than an embodiment of the spirit and intention of the Antient Law of Craft Masonry as regards Past Masters. To wit, every Master who has executed that office for one year shall be a Past Master for life, and shall be a member of Grand Lodge, "and have a right of voting in the great body, or Parliament, of the Order," so long as he continues to subscribe to some lodge, "Nay, he may cease to do so for any length of time," but so soon as his name becomes placed on the roll of a regular lodge his rights and franchise revive."

I remain, yours fraternally,

HENRY INGHAM, P.M.

Batley, Dec. 29th, 1875. P.Z. 258; H. 1214.

[Our correspondent is entirely wrong. If he will look at law 18, section 1, Book of Constitutions, he will see that any P.M. ceasing to subscribe for twelve months, forfeits his privileges, and cannot regain his seat in Grand Lodge until he is again installed Master of a lodge, and is, in fact, again a subscribing member. There is no clearer or better known law in Masonry, and we wonder much that Bro. Ingham should be so oblivious of the Book of Constitutions. Section 25, p. 69, applies to another state of affairs, and presupposes that none of the P.M.'s have lost their privileges. If these privileges are forfeited they can only be regained in one way—re-installation.—Ed.]

GRAND LODGE OF ALL ENGLAND.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

In reply to Bro. Hughan, will you permit me to say that he is perfectly right, and that I am wrong in speaking of my lodge as holding its warrant from the Grand Lodge of All England. I was led into the error by a reference in Mackey's Lexicon, stating that in past times there were "two Grand Masters in England who assumed distinctive titles, the Grand Master of the North being called Grand Master of All England, while he who presided in the South was called Grand Master of England." My lodge has a date previous to the year 1800, and its jewel is of the same date. The warrant is from the York Grand Lodge. I should be glad to read Bro. Hughan's "Memorials of the Union" if he will kindly let me know where it is to be obtained. W.M.

THE COST OF SOLOMON'S TEMPLE.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

At page 575, December 18th, of your columns, and in the report of a lecture by the Rev. Mr. Agnew, delivered at Auckland, New Zealand, I find the reverend lecturer stating that the cost of Solomon's Temple amounted to no less a sum than nine hundred and forty-three millions of pounds sterling! Where our learned brother got that piece of information I know not, unless, indeed, he is a bit of a spiritualist, and the ghost or spirit of Hiram Abiff's clerk of works being in a jocular mood sent it to him. As to his other statement, that "The true origin of Masonry lay in the Temple of Solomon," I fear it will also have to be taken cum grano salis.

Turning to page 596, December 25th, I find another brother under no less formidable a cognomen than "A Provincial P.M.," gravely informing "such of your readers as may not be aware of it, that St. Alban formed the first Grand Lodge in Britain in A.D. 287, and King Athelstan granted a charter to Freemasons in 926, the same year in which Prince Edwin formed a Grand Lodge at York." As his authority for these wonderful assertions, "A P.P.M." mentions the "Freemason." Now as a constant reader of, and pretty frequent contributor to, the pages of the "Freemason," I was not aware of this before, and I greatly fear that our no doubt worthy brother is drawing rather largely upon his imagination, and that he has failed to read the columns of the "Freemason" with due discrimination between quoted fictions and published facts.

Before "A Provincial P.M." rushes into print again, talking nonsense, I would respectfully hint that it might do him no harm to get a little better posted up in the subject by sending Bro. Kenning a little of his spare cash, who, in return, would send him some reliable information in such works as those by Findel, Hughan, and Lyon. Perhaps, also, our brother might do worse than send up his name as a subscriber to the New Encyclopedia.

Yours fraternally,

W. P. BUCHAN.

Glasgow, December, 29, 1875.

CAN A TYLER VOTE?

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

The letter signed by Bro. Kenneth R. H. Mackenzie, which appeared in your issue of January 1st, 1876, states in the third page that the Grand Secretary informs him, "The Grand Tyler is (scarcely) considered a Grand Officer, and, from his situation and duties, whether as Grand Tyler, or Tyler of a private lodge, it is impossible for him to take part in discussions, and, if he cannot do this, his vote, even if it were conceded to him as such, would not be of much avail."

I cannot understand why "scarcely" is used; the Grand Tyler is, or is not, a Grand Officer; firstly, if he be not a Grand Officer, why does Grand Lodge permit him to wear Grand Lodge clothing? secondly, if he be not a Grand Officer, why is the title "Grand" Tyler given to him in the Book of Constitutions, page 41? thirdly, if he be not a Grand Officer, why is the print of the jewel to be worn by him in the Book of Constitutions? fourthly, if he be not a Grand Officer, why are his duties as Grand Tyler laid down in the Book of Constitutions? (vide page 41.)

The Grand Tyler (and all other Tylers) retains his membership, and all privileges of Grand Lodge, as a P.M. and a subscribing member of a lodge (vide Book of Constitutions, page 18, par. 1, also page 37, par. 1, last four lines); consequently he has his vote, and I should think, right of discussion, the same as any other member, but it would not be quite in good taste for any paid officer of Grand Lodge, to enter into discussion in Grand Lodge.

Tylers are not balloted for, therefore they are not members of the particular lodge they tile, indeed, if I understand the Book of Constitutions, no brother can possibly be a member of a lodge unless he has been regularly balloted for, (vide Book of Constitutions, page 83, par. 1.) except an initiate, and then only provided he express his wish (to be a member) on the day of his initiation, (vide Book of Constitutions, page 61, par. 13.)

I fear our worthy Bro. Mackenzie must have misunderstood the Grand Secretary, and I should like to see an official answer to the question, as it must necessarily affect a great number of brethren acting as Tylers, and the Grand Tyler in particular, as they cannot possibly enter into the matter with good taste.

I am, dear Sir and Brother, yours fraternally,

JAMES WEAVER,

P.P.G. Org., Midx., P.M. 862 and 1319, &c.

[We have reason to believe, that Bro. Mackenzie is in error in attributing the opinion he has quoted to our worthy Grand Secretary. The opinion he expressed has no official weight, and must be considered as Bro. Mackenzie's individual deliverance on the matter.—Ed.]

PROPER USE OF NAMES.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

The remarkable "paper" issuing from the headquarters of the "Order of the Temple," and published in the "Freemason" of the 25th ult., after remarking that "it is strange to find men persistently advocating the perpetuation of an historical error," goes on to state that "the equivalent designation of the Hospitaliers was Commander and their estates were called Commanderies, where as those of the Templars were termed Preceptories."

The Charter of Philip and Mary, which restored in England the Order of St. John of Jerusalem, contains the following passage—"Ac dilectos nobis Ricardum Shelley Turcupuler Turcupulerum commendatorem seu preceptorium de Slebiche et Halston, commendatorem seu preceptorium, Petrum Felices de la Nuca ballivatum de Aquila ballivum, Cuthbertum Laithen de Newland, Edwardum Browne de Templum-Bruer, Thomam Thornell de Willoughton, Jacobum Shelly de Temple-Combe, et Oliverum Starkey de Quenington, etiam Commendatores seu Preceptores ejusdem Hospitalis ordinavit et prefecit."

A folio copy in my possession of "English Houses of the Knights Hospitaliers of St. John of Jerusalem," published in 1817, by Longman and Co. and Joseph Harding, gives a list of 53 preceptories of the Hospitaliers, and references are adduced in support of the notice of almost every preceptory. I will quote one or two:—

"Transcripta cartarum et aliorum instrumentorum Ballivae de Saundford ordinata et coadunata tempore fratris, Roberti le Escrop tunc (Scil. A.D. 1274) preceptoris ibid cont. fol. 113 MSS. in Bibl. Bodl. Oxon. Wood 10."

"Rentale, &c., per sacramentum tenentium et residentium infra dominica Preceptorie de Saumpford, 14 Feb., 1512; fol. MS. in Bibl. Corp. Christi. Oxon."

Again, de terris in Com. Ebor. ad Preceptoriam de Ribstane."

And, "Quod vicarius de Thorp juxta Stow debet percipere de Preceptore de Willoughton quinque Marcas annuatim." (Claus 16, Edw. II., M. 10.)

And, "the latter term (preceptories) was in use by both Orders." (Templars and Hospitaliers).

Let me add a modern instance. The Sandilands, Lords of Saint John of Torphichen, are, I believe, to this day hereditary Preceptors of Torphichen of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem, by virtue of letters from Queen Mary, to whom Sir James Sandilands, Knight of Malta, in 1564, handed over certain property of that Order.

Without here going into the question of the promulgation of error by those who, in their desire to advocate unsound doctrine, adopted the view that they "might call themselves Masonic or not, as they pleased," I ask your readers to consider whether it be the authors of the "paper" of November, 1875, or those who object to their proceedings, who "persistently advocate the perpetuation of an historical error."

I am, dear Sir and Brother, fraternally yours,

CHAS. J. BURGESS.

CONSECRATION OF THE LODGE OF EMERALD HILL, VICTORIA, AUSTRALIA.

On Monday, 25th October, 1875, the most important ceremony ever held in the district took place at the George Hotel, Coventry-street, on the occasion of the consecration and erection of the Lodge of Emerald Hill, under the Grand Lodge of Scotland. The ceremony and its surroundings will always be remembered with pleasure by all who had the honour of being present. The brethren signing the petition were all well-known and respected in the Craft, and from the very favourable start the new lodge has made it promises to be second to none in the colony. Worshipful Provincial Substitute Grand Master, Bro. De Gruchy (in the absence of Bro. A. K. Smith, Provincial Grand Master, through illness), opened the Provincial Grand Lodge of Scotland, assisted by that veteran and enthusiastic officer, Bro. H. W. Lowry, and the Rev. J. Stobbs, V.W. Provincial Grand Chaplain. The following Grand Officers were also present:—Bros. Joseph Cahill, W.P.G. S.W.; E. Parnell, W.P.G.J.W.; C. R. Martin, P.G.S.D.; D. Nicholson, P.G.J.D.; W. Elms, P.G. Treas.; G. F. Martin, P.G. Bard; D. A. McNicoll, P.G.I.G.; William Gane, P.G. Director of Ceremonies; John Robertson, C. F. Erichson, and H. Kelson, P.G. Stewards; W. St. John Caws, P.G. Organist, and others, by whom the solemn ceremony of consecration was very ably performed. There were about thirty Installed Masters present, representing the most important lodges in the province. In courtesy to their neighbours, the W.M., Bro. A. Hart, with the P.M.'s and officers of the Yarra Yarra Lodge, held in the same town, were also invited and were present. The impressive ceremony was considerably enhanced by a grand organ, and the vocal efforts of several musical brethren, under the direction of Bro. Thomas Ford. After the dispensation had been read and some remarks made by the V.W.P.G. Chaplain, the officers and members of the new lodge were presented, and after the following beautiful Masonic hymn had been rendered by the choir, the Provincial Grand Lodge was closed:—

To Heaven's high Architect all praise,
All praise, all gratitude be given;
Who design'd the human soul to raise,
By mystic secrets sprung from Heav'n.

Great Architect, receive our praise,
And hear when we our voices raise;
To thank Thee for thy gracious care,
And for the love all Masons share.

To Thee we look with thankful heart,
Rejoicing that 'tis e'en our part;
In humble faith to seek to grow,
And do Thy will while here below.

May all our acts Thy glory prove,
May we be worthy of Thy love;
Be it, O God, our constant aim,
To live in honour of Thy name.

Thus may Freemasonry extend
With Thee, O Lord, its greatest friend;
And fostered by Thy mighty hand,
Built on a rock for ever stand.

"The Lodge of Emerald Hill" was then declared open, and Bro. Robert Patterson Negus was presented and duly installed as the first R.W.M. of the lodge—the ceremony being performed in Bro. Lowry's well-known impressive manner, after which the following brethren were installed as the first officers of the lodge:—Bros. Joseph Cahill, W.D.M.; D. McNicoll, W.S.M.; Wm. Marshall, W.S.W.; Thomas Ford, W.J.W.; J. H. Horner, Treas.; A. L. Crone, Sec.; J. Robertson, S.D.; C. Dungey, J.D.; Wm. Smitham, I.G.; L. Levy, Tyler. The whole of the ceremony of consecration and installation was exceedingly striking and effective, and many will remember it as the inauguration of a lodge which is sure to prosper. The Provincial Grand Officers then retired, and after the names of a number of candidates had been submitted, the lodge was closed in due form. The brethren, numbering nearly sixty, then adjourned while the installation banquet was being laid on the tables. The following is a list of the toasts, which were proposed in telling terms, and responded to with the greatest loyalty:—"The Queen and Craft," "The Three Worshipful Grand Masters" (H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, Duke of Abercorn, and Sir M. R. S. Stewart), "The District and Provincial Grand Masters, under England and Ireland, and their officers," "E.W.P.G.M., of the Scotch Constitution and their officers," coupled with the name of Bro. De Gruchy; "The R.W.M., Bro. R. P. Negus." The proposer of this toast eulogised the services rendered by Bro. Negus, in every degree of Masonry, which was fully endorsed by all present, the toast being most enthusiastically received. In reply Bro. Negus remarked that he considered that it was a great honour in being installed first Master of the new lodge, which, with the assistance of the efficient staff of officers he had been fortunate in obtaining, he intended making a perfect lodge, one which may be looked upon as a model with respect to the working. The next toast was that of "The Installing Master." Every one present was aware of the interest Bro. H. W. Lowry had always evinced towards Masonry, and his readiness at all times to further its interests in every possible way. Bro. Lowry replied in a few feeling and appropriate remarks. The "Visitors" was next given and heartily responded to, Bro. W. Small, P.M. 714, E.C., making a very happy and telling speech on their behalf. "Our Musical Brethren" followed, and Bro. Exon, P.M. 714, E.C., replied. In doing so, he spoke of the advantage to the ceremony, when music was properly rendered by a choir. From the number of musical brethren residing in the district, and who at the present time give one of the metropolitan lodges the benefit of their services, a very complete choir might be formed in the new lodge, thus

making it even more attractive to visitors, and the ceremony more impressive to candidates by the introduction of appropriate music. "The W.M.'s of Lodges under the three Constitutions in Victoria." The name of Bro. W. Spedding, W.M. of the Prince Alfred Lodge, E.C., was mentioned in the toast as being the youngest Master present—he having been only installed a few days previously. His remarks were acquiesced in by the other Masters, and before sitting down he proposed "Prosperity to the Lodge of Emerald Hill." This toast was given with great enthusiasm. After "The Health of the Officers of the Lodge" had been given and acknowledged by the various officers present, the "Last Toast" was given in consequence of the lateness of the hour through the length of the ceremony, and thus terminated the most important Masonic gathering ever held in the district. Great credit is due to all who had the management of the arrangements for their completeness—more especially Bro. T. Ford and the musical brethren who contributed the harmony at the ceremony and the banquet.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

The General Committee of Subscribers of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys held their usual monthly meeting on Saturday last, in the Board-room, Freemasons' Hall. Bro. Raynham W. Stewart presided. Among the other brethren present were:—Bros. John Symonds, H. Browne, Jesse Turner, John Wordsworth (Leeds), John Boyd, H. W. Homann, Thomas Bartlett, H. Massey, ("Freemason"), W. Paas, S. Rosenthal, W. Mann, F. Adlard, Charles Horsley, James Terry, W. F. C. Moutrie, Hyde Pullen, Richard Motion, and F. Binckes (Secretary).

After the reading and confirmation of the minutes of the former meeting of the General Committee, and the reading of the minutes of the House Committee for information, the subject of the infirmary accommodation was brought forward, when it appeared from a statement by the Chairman that in the event of any illness breaking out in the school, which required the isolation of the infected pupils, there was no sufficient provision for this purpose. From explanations offered for the information of the brethren by the Chairman and Secretary, the hospital portion of the building, erected before the enlargement of the school, was shewn to have been occupied in great part by the additional servants rendered necessary by the greater number of boys, and the institution was consequently left with an increased number of pupils and a smaller amount of infirmary. It therefore had become evident to the House Committee that this was an unsatisfactory condition of affairs, as at any time the varying climatic influences of the country might produce illness, which would require good infirmary provision, and in an establishment so large as the Masonic Boys' School such emergencies should be provided against. The Chairman thought that no time should be lost in supplying the deficiency, and he suggested that an expenditure of not more than £2000 should be authorised to erect a suitable infirmary for the boys.

Bro. Charles Horsley, Prov. Grand Registrar of Middlesex, intimated his opinion that the authorisation of any specified expenditure before enquiries were made of competent judges as to what would be required was rather putting the cart before the horse, and he would therefore suggest that the architect should be consulted on the subject in the first instance. For this purpose he moved, "That the House Committee be empowered to ascertain the amount and position of the ground at disposal for the purpose of erecting a building with all necessary accommodation for thirty boys in case of illness, and that they instruct an architect to furnish plans with proper elevations and sectional details, together with an estimate of the actual cost of erecting the same, and within what period from the commencement of the building."

Bro. John Symonds, Vice-Patron and Trustee, thought this was the proper course to pursue, and he enquired what was the ordinary per centage of inmates of large institutions for which infirmary accommodation was usually provided.

The Secretary said 15 per cent.; and, there being 178 boys at present in the school, Bro. Horsley's proposition was adequate to that number.

The motion was then seconded and carried.

The petitions were thereafter considered, and five boys were added to the list, vacancies being declared for nine, and the list of approved candidates being settled at fifty-nine.

A letter was read from the Secretary of a lodge, which recommended the case of one candidate, desiring in the name of the members of the lodge to withdraw their candidate. After some discussion on the subject, the Secretary was instructed to acknowledge the receipt of the letter, and to inform the lodge that before the candidate could be withdrawn the consent of the candidate's petitioner must be obtained to the withdrawal.

The Secretary informed the Committee that notice had been served on him that the Wakeling bequest was before the High Court of Justice in a suit for a declaration of the rights of parties under Bro. Wakeling's will. The solicitor, Bro. Hopwood, had been consulted, and he advised that the institution should watch the proceedings, especially as it was probable that the costs of all parties would be allowed out of the estate, and that this institution and the Girls' School (which were also beneficiaries under the will) might be represented by one solicitor.

The Committee agreed to the suggestion.

An outfit of the value of £3 was unanimously granted to an ex-pupil, who had obtained a situation, and was giving every satisfaction to a firm of accountants by whom he had been engaged.

The Secretary read a letter from a brother of West Yorkshire, informing him of the appointment of a Committee

to examine into the management and expenditure of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, with a view to a more judicious and less expensive management.

Upon this several questions were asked, when it was elicited that one of the members of the Committee named was not even a subscriber to the school.

Bro. John Symonds, P.G.D., said that every individual subscriber had a right to inspect the accounts, and enquire into the management of the School, provided that he did not interrupt the work that was being carried on; but the province of West Yorkshire could not nominate an individual, or a body of individuals, of its own accord to do this, nor could any province, or any lodge; for if they were allowed so to act the time of the whole of the officials of the Institution might be taken up in attending to different committees of the kind. If parties wanted united action in such a matter their course was to apply to the General Committee, and the Quarterly Court, and move before those bodies for a committee of investigation. This General Committee could not recognise the committee named, or any committee appointed by anybody. Any individual subscriber, however, who required information would have every facility afforded him by the Secretary.

The Secretary said that he had given the brother who had written to him substantially this answer.

The letter, with copy of resolution, was ordered to lie on the table.

Notices of motions being asked for for next Quarterly Court (next Monday), the Secretary said there was one for a perpetual presentation for the province of Warwickshire, on payment of £1050.

Bro. Charles Horsley, Prov. Grand Registrar Middlesex, asked whether any reply, written or oral, had been received from Bros. Tew and Perrott to the invitation of the Special Committee appointed to examine into the charges brought by those brethren against the accuracy of the accounts, to come forward and make any statements further than those which had been found by the Special Committee to be inaccurate.

The Secretary said there had not; whereupon a vote of thanks was passed to the Chairman for presiding, and the proceedings terminated.

THE GRAND PRIORY OF THE ORDER OF THE TEMPLE, &c.

The following has been sent to us for publication:—

To the Right Honourable the Earl of Limerick, Very High and Eminent Great Prior of the United Religious and Military Orders of the Temple and of St. John of Jerusalem, Palestine, Rhodes, and Malta, in England and Wales and the Dependencies thereof.

The humble memorial of the Sir Knights of the Province of Bombay in Provincial Priory assembled:

Sheweth,

That your memorialists view with pleasure and approbation the restorations recently made in the constitution of the Order [by the newly-enacted statutes of the Convent General, and emphatically desire to express their approval of the fair and straightforward manner in which those restorations were proposed for the acceptance of the Grand Conclave.

Your memorialists are of opinion that the omission of the erroneous term "Masonic" from the title of the Order was most desirable. They believe that the Order has never really been a Masonic Order, for, if it had been, entrance into it would have been possible for all in possession of the previous Masonic degrees. But such has never been the case, for reception into our Order has always been impossible for all who have been unable truly to declare that for salvation they trust in our Blessed Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, a qualification which excludes many Masons.

Your memorialists therefore consider that the adoption of such names and titles as "Encampment," "Eminent Commander," "First and Second Captains," &c., was erroneous, and had no historical foundation, and that the restoration of the names and titles "Preceptor," "Preceptor," "Constable," "Marshal," &c., is most judicious, because it is founded upon historical authority. Such restorations, they believe, will increase the dignity of our Order by emancipating it from the anomalous position into which it had been thrust, and in which it was erroneously made to appear to be an off-shoot or dependent of Freemasonry, instead of the parent of the Craft in Europe; it really was. Your memorialists' opinion is founded upon the following facts, that is to say: The Templars, during their residence in the Holy Land, were received into the Syrian Fraternities, which, under the name of mysteries, taught the principles of moral truth and virtue, the liberal arts and sciences, and a more definite idea of the being and attributes of God than was possessed by the uninitiated. The Templars taught these mysteries to those whom they affiliated, but divested the ceremony of all its heathen rites. These mysteries are identical with those of Freemasonry, and there is no record of the existence of Freemasonry in Europe previous to the institution of the Order of the Temple.

Your memorialists consider the abolition of Past Rank, as it heretofore existed, to be most judicious, as tending to enhance the value of the elective offices of the Order. The officers of the Grand Conclave and Provincial Grand Conclaves were very numerous, and, with the exception of the Treasurers, they were all the nominees of the Grand Master and Provincial Grand Commanders, and though many of them had not attained the dignity of Eminent Commander, and their duties were merely nominal, yet they ranked, during their term of office and for ever afterwards, above all Eminent Commanders who had not attained Grand Conclave or Provincial Grand Conclave Rank superior to their own. This was manifestly unjust to Eminent Commanders, who by their installation had attained a degree, or at least a dignity, higher than that of ordinary

Knights, and, therefore, never ought to have been superseded by them. Your memorialists, therefore consider, that the opposition which some are making to the abolition of Past Rank, as it formerly existed, is very ill-advised.

Your memorialists also consider that it is very desirable to retain the newly created honours of "Knight Grand Cross" and Knight Commander," because it would be absurd to make our Grand Master "the Fountain of Honour and Grace," (p. 10, Statutes of the Convent General), and then to deprive him of the power of conferring honours.

Your memorialists, however, respectfully suggest that, since "the hope of reward sweetens labour," some reward should be given to those who faithfully and zealously perform the duties of the offices entrusted to them in the Great Priory and Provincial Priorities. This reward might be granted to Preceptors in the shape of a distinction, entitling them to rank above all other Preceptors who have not held a dignified office equal to their own, and to ordinary Knights in the shape of a distinction entitling them to rank above all other ordinary Knights who have not held a dignified office equal to their own, but not above any Preceptor. Your memorialists would further suggest that it be enacted that the attainment of such distinctions shall constitute those who attain them members of the Great Priory or Provincial Priorities in which they respectively attain them, and that it shall qualify such of them as are not Preceptors, but who may become subscribing members of preceptories in other provinces, for election as members of the Provincial Priorities of those provinces respectively, in which, whether attending as visitors or members, they shall be entitled to such rank and precedence as their respective distinctions confer upon them, seniority of date of distinction giving precedence to holders of distinctions otherwise equal in rank.

Your memorialists have purposely refrained from defining what the distinctions should be, because, in their opinion, that point can best be decided after full discussion in the Convent General.

Your memorialists therefore pray that your lordship will be pleased to take such steps, as to your lordship may seem meet, to bring this memorial before H.R.H. the Most Eminent and Supreme Grand Master and the Convent General at as early a date as the rules of that august body will permit.

And your memorialists humbly pray that no alteration be made in the statutes of the Convent General with respect to the name of our Order, or the names and titles of the bodies and officers in it, or with respect to the power of H.R.H. the Most Eminent and Supreme Grand Master to confer the honours of "Knight Grand Cross" and "Knight Commander," but that some provision be made for rewarding those who may faithfully and zealously perform the duties of such offices as may be conferred upon them in Great Priorities or Provincial Priorities, to take effect from the date of the enactment of the present statutes of the Convent General.

Signed on behalf of the Provincial Priory of Bombay.

G. S. JUDER, Provincial Prior of Bombay.

H. MORLAND, Provincial Sub-Prior of Bombay.

TUDOR TREVOR, Provincial Chancellor of Bombay.
Provincial Priory of Bombay,
Bombay, 25th February, 1875.

PRESENTATION TO BRO. EMRA HOLMES.—The following address, signed by the Collector and all the superior Officers of Customs at Ipswich, and by a large number of merchants, ship brokers and others, has been forwarded to Bro. Emra Holmes:—"To Emra Holmes, Esq., Collector of H.M. Customs, Woodbridge. Sir,—Whilst heartily congratulating you on your promotion to the Collectorship of H.M. Customs at the port of Woodbridge, as a post of duty for which we think you are eminently qualified, we cannot refrain from expressing our regret at the loss of your services at the Custom House of Ipswich. Having had such frequent business intercourse with you in the long room at Ipswich, as merchants and brokers, or as brother officers, we wish to assure you of our respect and esteem for yourself in such relationship, and to convey to you our acknowledgment of the intelligence and courteous treatment we have therein received. Wishing for your health and happiness during your continuance in your now more important sphere, till another yet higher may soon be opened up to you, we are, yours truly." [Here follow the signatures.] Bro. Emra Holmes's reply was as follows:—"H.M. Customs, Woodbridge, 18th December, 1875. Dear Sir,—The address signed by yourself and others was forwarded to me last evening, and I hasten to acknowledge the receipt without delay. As it is in your handwriting, and I conclude originated with you, may I ask you to be the medium for conveying my most grateful thanks to the gentlemen who have joined with you in this flattering and, I feel, undeserved expression of regard and esteem. I believe that an officer of the Crown who endeavours to perform his duty faithfully cannot hope to be universally popular, but it is some consolation to know that he may at least win the respect of all those whose good opinion is worth having. Although connected with you no longer officially, I yet hope to come amongst you as time and opportunity offer; and wherever, in the course of my official career, I may be stationed, I shall always look back with pleasure to the many happy years spent in Ipswich. Reciprocating your good wishes, and again thanking you most cordially for this testimony of your good will, I remain, faithfully yours, Emra Holmes.—Wm. Budden, Esq., shipbroker, &c."

DAYLIGHT reflected in dark rooms. Gas superseded in day time. Health, comfort, and economy promote it by adopting Chappuis' Patent Daylight Reflectors.—Manufactory, 69, Fleet-street, London.

Reviews.

"EVENING HOURS." Edited by LADY BARKER.

This very charming book we especially commend to our brethren for their little Lewises and Masonic blossoms. It is admirably illustrated, and, we feel sure, will be perused by all with equal pleasure and profit. It is sound healthy reading, and cannot be too much commended to mater familias for her little flock.

GRAND IMPERIAL COUNCIL STATE OF ILLINOIS.

We have received this beautifully printed book. We are very much pleased to note how much the engravings in the "Life of Constantine," published by Bro. George Kenning, are appreciated in America, and they are admirably reproduced. We have looked through this interesting pamphlet carefully, but we have not yet found any acknowledgment of the source from whence these effective illustrations were taken. Masonic comity and chivalric equity might, we think, have led the excellent compilers to say a friendly word for the publisher of the "Life of Constantine," the more so as he is a Constantinian himself. We are, however, heartily glad that we have enabled our good brethren in Illinois to issue so well-printed and pleasant a report.

THE EAST ANGLIAN HANDBOOK.

This is one of those local handbooks which have their interest and use for those who live in the provincial area for which they are drawn up. It is a readable book, and contains a great deal of useful local information, and we are obliged to the publisher for calling our notice to it.

MEMORIAL MASONIC WINDOW.—The Earl of Mount-Edgcombe, Grand Master of the Province of Cornwall, has designed a window to be erected in the Guildhall, Plymouth, to commemorate the joint meeting of the Freemasons of Devon and Cornwall in the Hall, to welcome H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, Grand Master of England, on the occasion of his opening the building, August, 1874. The circle of the tracery contains a portrait of the Prince; the cinquefoils have the All-Seeing Eye, the Bible, the Crown, the badge and motto of his Royal Highness, the emblems of Faith, Hope, and Charity; and in the quatrefoils are the arms of the Prince and of the Grand Lodge of England. The tracery has appropriate Masonic borders. The design itself is so arranged, that at first sight it has the appearance of a subject-picture, but it really is composed of four subjects, viz., Brotherly Love, a figure supporting another in distress; Relief, a female with a child being succoured by a figure who consents to take charge of the child; Truth, a figure representing the Master Mason; and Obedience, figures representing the Fellow Craft, and the Entered Apprentice, who are receiving instruction from the Master Mason. The lower part of the window is occupied with the arms of the Grand Masters of Devon (the Rev. Jno. Huyshe) and Cornwall (the Earl of Mount-Edgcombe). The design has been cordially approved, and Messrs. Fouracre, East Stonehouse, have been entrusted with the work of carrying it out. Other windows in the hall represent the receipt of the news of the Spanish Armada, the sailing of the Pilgrim Fathers from Plymouth Sound, Sir Francis Drake bringing water into the town, the siege of Plymouth during the reign of Charles I., the arrest of Raleigh, and the old Plymouth pottery.

METROPOLITAN MASONIC MEETINGS

For the Week ending Friday, January 14, 1876.

The Editor will be glad to receive notice from Secretaries of Craft Lodges, Royal Arch Chapters, Mark Lodges, Preceptories, Conclaves, &c., of any change in place or time of meeting.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 8.

Quarterly General Court, Girls' School, at 12.
Lodge 108, London, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.
" 176, Caveac, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
" 1328, Granite, F. H.
" 1361, United Service, Greyhound Hot., Richmond.
" 1426, The Great City, Terminus Hot., Cannon-st.
Chap. 1393, Burdett, Mitre Hot., Hampton Court.

INSTRUCTION.

Manchester, 77, London-st., Fitzroy-square.
Lily, Greyhound, Richmond.
Star, Marquis of Granby, New Cross-road.
Sinai Chapter, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.

MONDAY, JANUARY 10.

Quarterly General Court Boys' School, at 12. See Advt.
Lodge 5, St. George's and Corner Stone, F. M. H.
" 29, St. Alban's, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
" 59, Royal Naval, F. M. H.
" 90, St. John's, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
" 193, Confidence, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
" 1366, Highgate, Gatehouse Hotel, Highgate.
Chap. 22, Mount Zion, Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-st.
1118, University, F. M. H.
" 1319, Asaph, F. M. H.
R.C. Con., 2, Plantagenet, Regent M. H., W.

INSTRUCTION.

Prince Leopold, Lord Stanley Tav., Kingsland.
Strong Man, Jerusalem Tav., St. John's Gate.
Sincerity, Railway Tav., Fenchurch-st. Station.
Camden, Stanhope Arms, Up. James-st., Camden To.
Eastern, Royal Hot., Mile-end-road.
St. James's Union, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Wellington, White Swan, Deptford.
West Kent, St. Saviour's College, Forest-hill.
Perfect Ashlar, Victoria Tav., Lower-rd., Rotherhithe.
Sydney, White Hart Ho., Church-rd., Upper Norwood.
Metropolitan, Coach and Horses Hot., 313, Strand.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 11.

Lodge 46, Old Union, Terminus Hot., Cannon-st.
" 166, Union, London Tav., Bishopsgate.
" 180, St. James's Union, F. M. H.
" 198, Percy, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.
" 211, St. Michael, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
" 548, Wellington, White Swan Tav., Deptford.
" 917, Cosmopolitan, Terminus Hot., Cannon-st.
" 933, Doric, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.

INSTRUCTION.

Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney.
Domestic, Surrey M. H., Camberwell New-road.
Faith, 2, Westminster Chambers, Victoria-st.
Prince Fredk. Wm., Lord's Hot., St. John's Wood.
Dalhousie, King Edward, Triangle, Hackney.
Prosperity, 1, Camomile-st., Bishopsgate.
St. Marylebone, British Stores Tav., St. John's Wood.
Constitutional, Wheatheaf Hot., Hand-court, Holborn.
Percy, Grapes Tav., Little Windmill-st., W.
Israel, Rising Sun Tav., Globe Road.
Royal Arthur, Prince's Head, York-road, Battersea.
Metropolitan Chapter, St. Michael's Alley, Cornhill.
Beacontree, Red Lion, Leytonstone, at 8.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 12.

Gen. Com. Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, at 3.
Lodge 9, Albion, Regent's M. H., Regent-st.
" 11, Enoch, F. M. H.
" 13, Union Waterloo, M. H., Woolwich.
" 15, Kent, F. M. H.
" 87, Vitruvian, White Hart, College-st., Lambeth.
" 147, Justice, White Swan, High-st., Deptford.
" 238, Pilgrim, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.
" 749, Belgrave, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-street.
" 781, Merchant Navy, Silver Tav., Limehouse.
" 1017, Montefiore, F. M. H.
" 1306, St. John of Wapping, Gun Tav., Wapping.
" 1503, Francis Burdett, Albany Hot., Twickenham.
Chap. 1360, Hervey, F. M. H.
" 1305, St. Marylebone, Brit. Stores, St. John's Wood.
Precep. 129, Holy Palestine, M. H., Regent-st.

INSTRUCTION.

Mt. Lebanon, Windsor Cas. Tav., Southwark-bdg.-rd.
Pythagorean, Prince of Orange, Greenwich.
New Concord, Rosemary Branch Tav., Hoxton.
Royal Union, Horse and Groom, Winsley-st., Oxford-st.
Confidence, White Hart Tav., Abchurch-lane.
Peckham, Maimore Arms, Park-road, Peckham.
Stanhope, Thicket Hot., Anerley.
Finsbury Park, Finsbury Park Tav., Seven Sisters'-rd.
Southwark, Southwark Park Tav., Southwark Park.
Duke of Connaught, Havelock Tav., Dalston, E.
United Strength, Grafton Arms, Kentish-town.
Mount Edgcombe, 19, Jermyn-street, St. James's.
Islington, Crown and Cushion, London Wall.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 13.

Lodge 19, Royal Athelstan, Terminus Hot., Cannon-st.
" 91, Regularity, F. M. H.
" 206, Friendship, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.
" 263, Bank of England, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
" 534, Polish National, F. M. H.
" 657, Canonbury, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
" 860, Dalhousie, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
" 879, Southwark, Park Tav., Southwark Park.
" 1076, Capper, Marine Hotel, Victoria Docks.
" 1288, Finsbury-park, Finsbury-park Tav., Holloway.
" 1321, Emblematic, Tulse Hill Hot., Tulse Hill.
" 1457, Bagshaw, Bald-Faced Stag, Buckhurst Hill.
" 1471, Islington, Cock Tav., Highbury.
" 1558, Duke of Connaught, Surrey Masonic Hall.
Chap. 73, Mount Lebanon, Bridge House Hot.
" 140, St. George's, Globe Hot., Greenwich.
Rose Croix Chapter 8, St. George's, 33, Golden-square.

INSTRUCTION.

Egyptian, Hercules Tav., Leadenhall-st.
Fidelity, Yorkshire Grey, London-st., W.
Finsbury, Jolly Anglers' Tav., Bath-st., City-road.
Whittington, Crown Tav., Holborn.
Temperance in the East, Catherine-st., Poplar.
Ebony, 12, Penonby-st., Millbank.
Highgate, Bull and Gate, Kentish-town.
The Great City, 111, Cheapside.
High Cross, Coach & Horses, High-road, Tottenham.
Salisbury, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Marquis of Ripon, Albion Tav., Albion-rd., Dalston.
Prince Frederick William Chapter, St. John's Wood.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 14.

Lodge 134, Caledonian, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.
" 157, Bedford, F. M. H.
" 177, Domestic, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
" 1420, Earl Spencer, Northcot Hot., Wandsworth.
Preceptory D., Mount Calvary, London Tav., Bishopsgate-st.

INSTRUCTION.

Union Waterloo, Thomas-st., Woolwich.
St. George's, Globe Tav., Royal-hill, Greenwich.
Robert Burns, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Belgrave, Lyceum Tav., 354, Strand.
Unions Emulation (for M.M.'s), F. M. H.
Temperance, Victoria Tav., Victoria-road, Deptford.
Clapton, White Hart, Clapton.
Stability, Guildhall Tav., Gresham-st.
Metropolitan, Portugal Hot., Fleet-st.
Westbourne, Horse & Groom, Winsley-st., Oxford-st.
Metropolitan, Pentonville-road.
United Pilgrims, Surrey M. H., Camberwell New-road.
St. James's, New Tanners' Arms, Grange-rd., Bermondsey.
Duke of Edinburgh, Silver Lion, Penny-fields, Poplar.
Doric, Earl Grey Tav., Mile-end-road.
Burgoyne, Grafton Arms, Prince of Wales's-road, N.W.
St. Luke's, Commercial Tav., King's-road, Chelsea.
Chigwell, Bald-faced Stag Hot., Buckhurst-hill.

Burdett Courts, Approach Tav., Victoria Park.
Pythagorean Chapter, Prince of Orange, Greenwich-rd.
Royal Standard, Finsbury Park Tav., Holloway.
Ranelagh, Clarendon Hot., Hammersmith.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN WEST LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE.

For the Week ending Saturday, January 15, 1876.

MONDAY, JANUARY 10.

Lodge 292, Sincerity, M. H., Liverpool, at 4.
" 314, Peace and Unity, Militia Mess Rooms, Preston.
" 613, Unity, M. H., Southport.
" 703, Clifton, Clifton Arms Hot., Blackpool.
" 1021, Harrington, Customs House Building, Barrow-in-Furness.
" 1398, Baldwin Castle, Dalton-in-Furness.
Chap. 148, Gleas Ashmole, Chapter Rooms, Warrington.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 11.

Lodge 178, Antiquity, Royal Hot., Wigan, at 6.30.
" 241, Merchants', M. H., Liverpool, at 5.
" 897, Loyalty, Fleecce Inn, St. Helen's.
" 986, Hesketh, Grapes Inn, Croston, near Ormskirk.
" 1250, Gilbert Greenall, Mas. Rooms, Warrington.
" 1256, Fidelity, Bull Hot., Poulton-le-Fylde.
" 1325, Stanley, M. H., Kirkdale.
Downshire L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 12.

Lodge 231, Fortitude, Athenæum, Lancaster.
" 1052, Callender, P. H., Rusholme.
" 1061, Triumph, M. H., Lytham.
" 1094, Temple, M. H., Liverpool.
" 1356, De Grey and Ripon, North Hill-st.
" 1403, West Lancashire, Commercial Ho., Ormskirk.
" 1547, Liverpool, M. H., Liverpool.
Chap. 1345, Victoria, Cross Keys, Eccles.
Neptune L. of I., M. H., Liverpool.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 13.

Lodge 216, Harmonic, Adelphi Hot., Liverpool.
" 333, R. Preston, Victoria Garrison Hot., Fulwood.
" 477, Mersey, 55, Argyle-st., Birkenhead.
" 786, Croxeth, United Service, M. H., Liverpool.
" 1035, Prince of Wales, M. H., Kirkdale.
" 1182, Duke of Edinburgh, M. H., Liverpool.
" 1213, Bridgewater, Cross Keys Hot., Eccles.
Chap. 220, Harmony, Garston Hot., Garston.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 14.

Lodge 1289, Rock, Bedford House, Rock Ferry.
Chap. 549, M. H. Liverpool.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN GLASGOW AND VICINITY.

For the Week ending Saturday, January 15, 1876.
All the Meetings take place at Eight o'clock.

MONDAY, JANUARY 10.

Lodge 102, St. Mark, 213, Buchanan-st.
" 204, St. Paul, Whip Inn, Ayr.
" 205, Garthland, St. Winnoch, Lochwinnoch.
" 219, Star, 12, Trongate.
" 307, Union and Crown, M. H., Barrhead.
" 362, St. Clair, 25, Robertson-st.
" 384, Athole, Washington Hotel, Kirkintilloch.
" 403, St. George, Oddfellows' Hall, Helensburgh.
" 541, Marie Stuart, M. H., Crosshill.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 11.

Lodge 177, St. James, Masonic Hall, Coatbridge.
" 230, St. Barnabas, Black Bull Hot., Old Cumnock.
" 413, Athole, 213, Buchanan-street.
" 419, Neptune, 35, St. James's-street, Kingstons.
" 426, Prince of Wales, Mas. Hall, High-st., Renfrew.
" 441, Glasgow, 22, Struthers-street, Glasgow.
" 543, St. John's, M. H., Dalmuir.
Chap. 69, St. Andrew, 170, Buchanan-st.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 12.

Lodge 178, Scotia, 170, Buchanan-st.
" 333, St. George, 213, Buchanan-st.
" 510, Maryhill, 167, Main-st., Maryhill.
Chap. 113, Partick, M. H., Partick.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 13.

Lodge 88, New Monkland, Town Hall, Airdrie.
" 109, St. Marnock's, Crown Hot., Kilmarnock.
" 179, St. Mungo, London Hot., Mauchline.
" 203, St. John's Operative, Olive Hall, Airdrie.
" 290, Dalry Blair, White Hart Hot., Dalry.
" 553, St. Vincent, 162, Kent-road.
Chap. 50, Glasgow, 213, Buchanan-st.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 14.

Lodge 18, Kilwinning, Mission Hall, Dumbarton.
" 170, Leven St. John's, Black Bull Inn, Leven.
" 399, Royal Blues, Commercial Hot., Kilbirkie.
" 427, St. Clair, M. H., Cambusnethan.
Chap. 144, St. Rollox, F. M. H., Garngad-rd.
Lodge 524, St. Andrew's, Masonic Hall, Kilbride.
" 544, St. Andrew's, M. H., Coatbridge.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN EDINBURGH AND VICINITY.

For the Week ending Saturday, January 15, 1876.

MONDAY, JANUARY 10.

Lodge 145, St. Stephen's, St. James's Hall, Writers' Court.
TUESDAY, JANUARY 11.

Chap. 1, St. Mary's Chapel, Waterloo Ho., Waterloo-pl.
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 12.

Lodge 2, Canongate, St. John's Chapel, St. John-st.
Chap. 1, Edinburgh, F. M. H., George-st.
THURSDAY, JANUARY 13.

Lodge 8, Journeyman, Blackfriars-st., High-st.
FRIDAY, JANUARY 14.
Chap. 156, Canongate, M. H., St. John's st.

WIPE YOUR FEET.—The best Cocoa Nut Mats and Matting are made by Treloar and Sons, 69, Ludgate-hill.

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REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS.

Craft Masonry.

LION AND LAMB LODGE (No. 192).—Arduous was the work which this lodge had before it at the meeting on the 6th inst., the outgoing W.M. having the three degrees and the installation ceremony to work. The promise made in the summons was not broken to the hope in the lodge, and Bro. Newman's great powers were quite equal to the occasion. The W.M. and his officers were put upon their mettle by the presence of nearly forty visitors, including Bros. Colonel Francis Burdett, P.S.G.W., the Provincial Grand Master of Middlesex; Charles Horsley, P.G.R. of Middlesex, W.M. of the Acacia, &c.; F. Binckes, P.G.S., Secretary of the Boys' School; G. Everett, W.M. 177, and W.M. elect of the Kennington Lodge; C. Jardine, P.M. St. George's, 140; D. Pearce, P.M. Canonbury; W. Worrell, P.M. of the Wm. Preston; Farthing, I.P.M. of the Constitutional; Garrod, P.M. of the Belgrave; John While, W.M. of United Strength ("Freemason"); Braun, I.P.M. of the William Preston; G. Clarke of the Domestic; Burgess Perry; H. B. Dunn, of 28; and H. B. D. Dunn, of 1288; and others. Bro. Newman raised Bro. Portch, passed Bro. Borer, and initiated the candidate proposed by Past Masters Kenning and Abbott, the initiate now being Bro. G. Statham. Bro. Cohu, the W.M. elect, was then presented, and after the usual ceremony in the lodge of F.C., received from his predecessor the benefits of installation. In this work Bro. Newman was fully equal to the expectations formed of his powers by the experienced Board of Installed Masters summoned to see the ceremony performed according to ancient custom, among the several Past Masters of the lodge present being Bros. Kenning, Abbott, Marsh, and King. The W.M. invested as his officers Bro. Arkell, as S.W.; Bro. C. Jones, as J.W.; Bro. George Kenning, as Treasurer (unanimously elected at the last meeting); Bro. Lieutenant J. G. Marsh, P.M., as Secretary; Bro. Legge, as S.D.; Bro. Francis Fellowes, as J.D.; Bro. W. T. Rickwood, as I.G.; Bro. Lucas, as D.C.; and Bro. E. King, W.M., as W.S. The usual complimentary speeches were made in lodge, the members of which voted the retiring P.M. the customary jewel of the lodge, and resolved to reimburse him the payment he had made for the installation jewel, he acting as Steward at the installation of the Prince of Wales as Most Worshipful Grand Master. The large gathering, very few short of a hundred, then banqueted in the pillar hall, the banquet being excellent in every respect. After the usual devotion to the table the more devout on this occasion, on the part of many, from the many hours "work" in lodge the W.M. commenced the list of toasts by the usual loyal one to the "Sovereign and the Craft," and followed this by the toast of "H.R.H. the Grand Master," who, the speaker said, it was to be hoped would return from his visit to a country famed for its Masonic treasures with a mind enriched with knowledge, and a body invigorated by the change. The toasts having been fully honoured, the W.M. gave "The Health of the Pro Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, and the rest of the Grand Officers, Past and Present." In giving this the W.M. spoke of the honour which had been done to the lodge by the attendance of Bro. Col. Burdett, with whose name he coupled the toast. The Pro Grand Master of Middlesex, in responding, expressed the pleasure with which he spoke for the Grand Officers before that splendid gathering, and he said, it was rarely that a lodge could present so noble an appearance as the Lion and Lamb then presented. The lodge, in its good working, its truly Masonic feeling, and its aid to the charities, was a credit to the Order. As to its working, as he had had the pleasure and happiness of seeing the lodge work in bygone years—and he was present when Bro. Kenning was installed—he could judge for himself how the lodge had progressed, and he could say that its work was as near perfection as possible. Bro. Newman had that day performed an immense amount of work in a most masterly manner, and to use a phrase used in the army when a soldier thoroughly knew and discharged his duties, Bro. Newman had gone "fairly through the book." It was a good thing for Grand Officers to visit the different lodges, for by so doing they could understand the feelings and wants of the Craft, and could see how the work was done, and as a visiting Grand Officer that night he begged to thank the Lion and Lamb Lodge for the reception they had given him that night. The I.P.M., Bro. Newman, then, amid great applause, proposed "The Health of the W.M.," wishing him all happiness and prosperity during his year of office. The speaker said the members of the lodge were so well acquainted with their

W.M.'s good parts that it was unnecessary to say that he would do his best to keep the lodge up to the mark in every respect, and, if anything, might be expected to excel previous Masters. The members hoped that their Bro. Cohu at the end of his year of office would be as proud of leaving the chair as the lodge was that night placing him in it. The toast was received with all honours, and the W.M., in responding, said he should be happy indeed if he maintained the character of the lodge for working; but he could not expect to excel the working of the Masters who had preceded him, for that indeed would be impossible. He then proceeded to propose the toast of "The Initiate," and would tell him, he said, what was said to himself when he sat by the Master's chair many years ago. He then was told that that was the only time he should sit at that end of the table until he returned there to preside over the lodge. That was his proud position that night, and he urged the brethren to use their best endeavours to reach that position. The toast was drunk with all honours, and the Initiate responded. The W.M. then proposed "The Visitors," and Bro. Charles Horsley, in response, made a laughable speech on the zoological name of the lodge, saying that Landseer never, in all his experience, painted such gentle lions, and that in this lodge, at all events, the lambs were to be found lying down with the lions. The W.M. then proposed "The Past Masters," and expressed his pleasure that their numbers had received so excellent an addition as Bro. Newman would be to them. The interesting ceremony was then performed of decorating Bro. Newman with a splendid P.M. jewel, bearing the old banner of the lodge in enamel on gold (the jewel being manufactured by Bro. Kenning); and Bro. Newman rose with his new decoration amid the cheers of the brethren. He thanked the brethren warmly for the handsome and valuable jewel, and said he had that night taken upon himself what was an innovation in the lodge—that of installing his successor. This ceremony in this lodge had been performed for many years by an esteemed Past Master but, Bro. Newman, said he, being desirous of making a change in the direction of having each Master instal his successor, had "broken the charm" of many years by his action of that night. He was led to this by a remark he heard many years ago from Bro. Charles Horsley—that it was not only the duty, but that it ought to be the ambition, of every Master to instal his successor, and not to seek for some great luminary in the Craft to do it for him. He trusted that his example would be followed, and that each Master would feel it a duty to perform the ceremony. Bro. Newman thanked the lodge for the support given to him, and for the invariable kindness and courtesy with which they had treated him. Bro. Abbott also spoke for the Past Masters, and the W.M. then proceeded to propose "The Masonic Charities," and spoke of the endeavours needed to place the son of Past Master Trott in the school, this being the only occasion upon which the boy could stand for election. The W.M. said that doubtless, Bros. Terry and Wentworth Little were at some good work that evening or they would have been present. Bro. F. Binckes, in the course of his reply, said that this lodge had so well done its duty towards the charities, that it was needless to say a word before its members as to the merits, wants, and claims of the charities. He reminded them that the three institutions could only be supported by the action of the brethren—that there was no appeal outside the Craft—but, he said, so well were their wants kept in mind, that the £30,000 necessary each year for the support of the institutions would always be forthcoming. In regard to the forthcoming Festival of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution on the 9th prox., he bespoke, in Bro. Terry's absence, the support of the brethren, and then with regard to the candidature of their late Past Master's son, he warned them that they would require 2000 votes to warrant them in looking for success. Speaking generally of outside and general charities, he said their purposes were such as would arouse the deepest and holiest sympathy; but he urged upon the brethren not to support other charities to the prejudice of their own institutions, which, he said, notwithstanding the views of those who had but a superficial knowledge of their working, were institutions of the highest character in work, purpose, and management. He trusted that the Lion and Lamb would be true to its traditions in all time to come, and not forsake the Masonic institutions. Bro. Horsley and Bro. Pearce promised their votes for the boy. The W.M. then proposed "The Masonic Press," coupling the toast with the name of Bro. John While, of the "Freemason," and in reply Bro. John While said that the paper he represented not only filled the useful function of giving all necessary news of the Craft, week by week, but it would in the future fill that void which every Mason desirous of learning the history of the lodge felt at the present day, in the want of volumes recording past proceedings in and in connection with lodges. The toast of "The Officers" followed, and the S.W. and Secretary responded. In the course of the evening, Bro. Burgess Perry and other musical brethren greatly delighted the assemblage with some excellent chants.

ASAPH LODGE (No. 1319).—The usual monthly meeting of this lodge was held on Monday, the 3rd inst., at Freemasons' Hall. There were present Bros. C. S. Jekyll, W.M.; W. A. Tinney, S.W.; Edward Terry, J.W.; E. S. Jones, Secretary; E. Swanborough, J.D.; Harry F. Cox, Dir. of Cer.; G. R. Egerton, Org.; Charles Welland, I.G.; C. Coote, P.M.; John Chamberlin, jun., Joseph Perry, H. Sniders, W. Graves, J. R. Poulter, Arthur Thomas, Robert Hilton, H. Stephenson, E. Coles, Arthur Swanborough, J. Horton, George Arnold, Victor Tussaud, A. Henson; and visitors: Bros. P. A. Charrier, P.M. 1210; Ernest Sibold, 782; H. F. Moate, 1376; A. J. Phassey, C. Mordaunt Walthew, 263; H. Massey ("Freemason"), W. Robertson, 221; and J. Gilbert, Tyler. Messrs. Frederick Delevante and James L. Hambleton were initiated; and the lodge, which had met as early as one

o'clock in the day, was closed shortly before four. The members in this lodge are steadily increasing, and it continues to hold the high position originally marked out for it by its founders, both in working and in support of the Masonic institutions.

KENNINGTON LODGE (No. 1381).—An exceedingly strong meeting of this lodge was held at the Surrey Club House, Kennington Oval, on Tuesday, the 4th inst. There were present Bros. S. Gardner, W.M.; G. Everett, S.W. (W.M. Domestic); Koch, I.P.M.; Mann, P.M.; Stuart, P.M. (Sec.); Webb, acting J.W.; Higgins, acting S.D.; Walls, acting J.D.; Marston, acting I.G.; Kohler, A.W.S. The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the W.M., assisted by Bro. Stuart, P.M., raised Bros. Saunders and Muller, passed Bros. Collins and Andrews, and initiated Mr. Grimwade. This being the night of election of W.M. for the ensuing year, the Secretary read the names of the brethren eligible for the office, and the ballot having been taken and investigated by the W.M. and I.P.M., was found to be unanimously in favour of the S.W., Bro. George Everett, who virtually vacated the Chair of K.S. at the Domestic on the 10th ult., an office which he had filled to the universal satisfaction of the members, and consequently he will bring a year's experience in one of the largest working lodges in the Craft to bear on the position as W.M. of the Kennington. Bro. Everett, in a few well-chosen sentences, expressed his thanks to the brethren for having unanimously elected him to the chair, and assured them that nothing should be wanting on his part to further the interest and enhance the prosperity of the Kennington Lodge, and he hoped to have the pleasure on a future occasion of further thanking them for the honour they had done him. Bro. Page, P.M., who unfortunately was absent through indisposition, was unanimously re-elected Treasurer, the duties of which office he has through a series of years so well discharged. Bro. Longstaffe, after some discussion, was re-appointed Tyler, and Bros. Cruse, Muller, and Brook appointed to audit the accounts on Wednesday, the 10th inst. Several communications having been made by the Secretary, and the customary P.M.'s jewel voted to the retiring W.M., the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to the banquet. Upon the removal of the cloth, the W.M. proposed "The Queen and Craft," which was well received. In giving "The Health of the M.W.G.M.," Bro. Gardner spoke at length upon the reception which had been given His Royal Highness by all classes of society in India, and, in conclusion, said it was a proud day for the Craft when the Prince, notwithstanding the many arduous duties of his position as Hereditary Prince, accepted the responsibilities of Grand Master of this ancient body. After the toast of "The Pro Grand Master," &c., &c., had been given and received the I.P.M. rose and proposed "The Health of the W.M.," who had done his best during his year of office to carry out the duties of his position. This toast having been duly honoured, and Bro. Walls having contributed "Tom Bowling," the W.M. responded at length. In the course of his speech he stated that he had been somewhat unexpectedly elected to the chair, and although he had been a member of the Craft many years, he had not had opportunities, in consequence of his business requiring his personal supervision, of thoroughly qualifying himself for the position of a Master, but he had done, since his election, as the I.P.M. had said, "his best" to give the lodge satisfaction, and he hoped to be spared many years to hold the proud position of a founder and P.M. of the Kennington Lodge. In conclusion, he stated that at the risk of becoming unpopular he had diminished the number of banquets, and in consequence he left the monetary affairs of the lodge in a very prosperous condition, and he believed that his worthy successor, Bro. Everett, would exercise a like retrenchment in the administration of their funds. The initiates, Bros. Andrews Collins and Grimwade, having been toasted, severally replied. The Tyler's toast terminated the proceedings at a late hour. Amongst the visitors were Bros. Hart (Stockwell) and Tait (1145).

THE GREAT CITY LODGE (No. 1436).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held on Saturday last, at the City Terminus Hotel, under the presidency of Bro. J. Hamilton Townend, W.M. The lodge was opened at a quarter-past-three p.m., when a long list of business was presented for disposal. All three ceremonies had to be performed, and at half-past three Bro. N. B. Headon, I.P.M., raised Bros. Powell, Keith Frith, Luggar, and Hudd to the Third Degree. At five o'clock the W.M., Bro. Townend, passed Bros. Shore, Wyler, Lawson, and Ginders to the Second Degree; and on the termination of this ceremony lodge was called off for tea. On resuming, Messrs. Royd, A. F. Roberts, J. H. Boote, S. White, and T. A. De Leliva were initiated, the ceremony being performed by Bro. Edward Moody, P.M., who was the proposer of the last named gentleman, and the seconder of Messrs. Roberts, Boote, and White. The labours of the evening were not concluded till a late hour, all the work being performed, as usual in this lodge, with the strictest observance of Masonic ritual and form. Lodge was numerously attended both by members and visitors. Among the latter were Bros. Turner, 157; R. Cumming, 534; E. Wilts, P.M. 144; Smith, 144; Barnam, 144; Betley, 749; W. Phillips, 514; O'Leary, 1216; F. Binckes, P.G.S.; C. F. Matier, P.M. 645. On account of the absence of Bro. Stanway, S.W., Bro. Blackie, S.D., occupied the second chair in the lodge.

METROPOLITAN LODGE (No. 1507).—An emergency meeting of this lodge was held on Thursday week at the Metropolitan Club House, 269, Pentonville-road. The W.M., Bro. J. J. Michael, presided, supported by a numerous concourse of the brethren, amongst whom were Bros. Kingham, acting as S.W.; Side, acting as J.W.; James Willing, I.P.M.; George Tims, Secretary; Scales, S.D.; Siles, J.D.; Read, I.G.; and Bros. Cavett, Carter, Solomon, Cheek, Gilbert, Walters, Rapkin, Clarke,

H. Stiles, Jones, Rogers; and visitors Bros. Bertie, J.W. 1185, and Yeats, 14. The work performed was raising Bro. Sayers; passing Bros. P. E. Vanderpump and E. J. Vanderpump; and initiating Messrs. Owens, Wrigley, Morgan, and A. B. Greenslade. At the conclusion of this work, several propositions were given in for more initiates at next meeting, and the brethren afterwards adjourned for refreshment, and partook of a bountiful banquet provided by the brother who is caterer of the club.

CARNARVON LODGE (No. 1572).—The first regular meeting of this very young lodge was held at the Albion on Saturday, the 1st inst. The lodge is little more than a month old; and, we suppose upon the principle of new brooms sweeping clean, every officer was at his post punctually to the minute, and the lodge was opened precisely at three o'clock by the W.M., Bro. Pawson Hooton, supported by Bros. W. S. Whitaker, S.W.; J. Cowan, J.W.; J. Clarricoats, Treas.; Montagu Scott, Sec.; T. S. Hellier, S.D.; Nelson Reed, J.D.; G. A. Brock, W. Stwd.; G. Briggs, I.G.; T. Brown, D.C. There being naturally no Past Masters, Bro. Montagu Scott, Sec., and P.M. of 765, officiated as I.P.M. The visitors were Bros. Townend, the W.M. of The Great City Lodge, 1426; J. Lee, and J. Chapman, both of the Alexandra Palace Lodge, No 1541. There were also present of the rank and file of the lodge Bros. Dafforn, Tucker, Willcocks, Crump, Munro, and Margetts, comprising every member of the lodge except five, who were unavoidably absent. The minutes of the meetings held preliminary to the formation of the lodge, and of the consecration meeting, were read and confirmed. There were five candidates for initiation, Messrs. J. C. Werring, F. Morgan, R. Cotton, G. C. Searle, and H. G. Edwards, and they all attended, and were separately and distinctly initiated, the W.M. thus setting a very good example for so young a lodge. The proposed bye-laws were referred to a committee of the whole lodge. Several candidates were proposed for the next lodge, and after closing in due form, the brethren adjourned to a refined and recherché banquet, given in the very best style of the Albion.

WINDSOR.—Etonian Lodge of St. John (No. 209).—On Tuesday, the 4th inst., the annual festival of the lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, Windsor. The W.M., Bro. J. O. Carter, presided, supported by Bros. W. R. Denne, S.W. (W.M. elect); Canvin, J.W.; the Rev. J. S. Brownrigg, D.P.G.M., Chaplain; Pulling, Treas.; Strange, P.M.; Hume, J.D.; J. Roberts, I.G.; Schieman, D.C.; Nicholes, S.; Pears, S.; Dixon I.P.M.; G.P.D.C.; Stacey, P.M.; Wilson, P.M.; Reid, P.M.; McIlwham, P.M.; Bryett, P.M.; Stedwell, P.M.; Duffield, Stollery, Pennicott, Whistler, Christian, Webster, Hiscock, Andrews, H.T. Spindler, Prince, Willoughby, Cousins, and others. Amongst the numerous visitors were Bros. Sir D. Gooch, Bart., M.P., P.G.M., Bucks; Lieut. Col. F. Burdett, P.G.M. Middlesex; Major General Brownrigg, P.G.M. Surrey; W. Biggs, P.G.S., Berks and Bucks; Hickson Briggs, P.G.R., Middlesex; W. Johnson, W.M.; T. Nash, P.M.; W. Bingham, P.M. 771; Tolley, P.M. 771; Grisebrook, P.M. 771; Cantrell, 1501; Hatch, 771; Hopwood, P.M. 141; and others. The lodge opened at 4.30. The minutes having been confirmed, Mr. G. Blizard, after passing the ordeal of ballot, was initiated by the W.M. The presentation of a testimonial voted by the lodge to Bro. Tolley followed, who was addressed by the W.M. as follows:—Brethren, before I vacate the chair, I have a very pleasing and agreeable duty to perform, a duty the character of which you are all well acquainted with. Personally, I consider it a privilege to be the medium of conveying from this lodge to our excellent Bro. Tolley a small token of our sincere regard and esteem. Since we have been located in this Temple, as so many of you know, Bro. Tolley, although not a member, has attended here night after night, and I fear sometimes at considerable inconvenience, in order to assist at the working of the several ceremonies. During the time I have occupied the chair I have been congratulated, over and over again, by brethren, particularly visitors, upon the effective manner in which the musical portion of the degrees have been rendered. It has been to me, and I know it was the same with my predecessor a wonderful help in discharging the duties of the chair, whilst it at all times must have forcibly appealed to the feelings of the candidates, thereby enabling us to add solemnity and beauty to the working of the degrees, and, if I may use the expression, even have a tendency to elevate Freemasonry itself. Well, brethren, it has been thought the time has now arrived when we could no longer delay offering to Bro. Tolley this small token of our esteem and regard. Do not let me be misunderstood: this is not in return for Bro. Tolley's services, for if we were to make him an adequate return our offering would be of a far more extensive character than it is. It is to let him know and see that we are not insensible of his repeated acts of kindness. It is not my intention to make a long speech, to extol the virtues of Bro. Tolley; they are well known to you all. His character may be fairly described as a perfect monument of "wisdom, strength, and beauty." With regard to the form this recognition should take, perhaps I may be allowed to say a few words. It was Bro. Tolley's wish that it should be in some way connected with Freemasonry; and a decision was made in favour of a Provincial Grand Officer's clothing. Well, brethren, we felt we could not allow it to cease there, as Bro. Tolley, to the knowledge of so many of us, is as much appreciated in his family circle as in the lodge; and we therefore decided—whilst carrying out Bro. Tolley's wish as to the form in which what I may call the Masonic offering should be—that it should also embrace some token of his house. And the result has been, as you now see before you—a clock—and which it is my duty to ask Bro. Tolley's acceptance. Bro. Tolley, as the mouthpiece of the Etonian Lodge, I sincerely hope the Great Architect of the Universe may grant you many years of happiness and prosperity. May He

show his blessings on your wife, and to your children may He ever be mindful; and as they rise, as I trust they will, to positions of honour and usefulness, may it be a consolation to you to find that the excellent precepts so forcibly taught them by their parents were not in vain. Bro. Tolley, with evident emotion, thanked the W.M. and the brethren for so very handsome a recognition of services that were totally inadequate to justify the regard, thus shown. He had contributed only very small services to the best of his ability in the past; but this expression of their good will and esteem towards him would be an incentive in the future to merit their kindness. The W.M. then proceeded to instal the W.M. elect; who afterwards appointed his officers as follows:—Bros. Canvin, S.W.; Hume, J.W.; Rev. J. S. Brownrigg, Chaplain; Wilson, P.M., Treasurer; Carter, I.P.M., Secretary; Roberts, S.D.; Schieman, J.D.; Nichols, I.G.; Strange, P.M., Dir. of Cer.; Pears, S.; Webster, S. The addresses were forcibly given by Bros. G. W. Dixon, Bryett, and Wilson, P.M. The W.M. afterwards presented the Immediate P.M. with a massive P.M.'s jewel and a gold Albert chain to Bro. Pullen, P.M., for the eminent services he has rendered to the lodge as Treasurer during the past twelve years, having been closed in due form, the brethren assembled at the Windsor Town Hall, kindly placed at their service by the Mayor of Windsor, where over fifty sat down to the banquet, most admirably and bountifully served by Bro. J. Johnson, of the White Hart Hotel. Upon the conclusion of the banquet the W.M. rose and proposed "The Queen and Craft." They were, he said, within the precincts of the Royal residence, where, as elsewhere, her Majesty was beloved. He need say little to obtain a response for so honoured a toast as "The Queen," "National Anthem," Bros. Tolley, Christian, and Smith, of the Chapel Royal, The W.M. asked that glasses might be charged to drink "His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, Grand Master of England, and the rest of the Royal Family." He said the position of His Royal Highness, as Grand Master, was one of which the Craft might indeed be justly proud. He (the W.M.) had the honour of attending the Prince's Installation at the Albert Hall, and he was impressed deeply, for it was a wonderful ceremony, the like of which had never been seen by the present generation of Masons. After referring to the Prince's visit to India, and the great good that would come from that visit, the W.M. concluded by wishing His Royal Highness a God-speed back to the old country, when the Craft would receive him with all the enthusiasm of brotherly love. Drink with honours. The W.M. said the next toast was also one of high honour, which he knew would receive their recognition most heartily—"The Healths of the Most Worshipful the Pro Grand Master, the Deputy Grand Master, and Grand Officers of Grand Lodge of England," with which toast he coupled the name of Colonel Burdett, Provincial Grand Master of Middlesex, whose presence with them that day would be felt as a great honour by the Etonian Lodge. Drink with honours. Bro. Colonel Burdett expressed himself highly gratified with the honour the W.M. had done him in connecting his name with the toast of the Grand Lodge of England, and which was given in language far more flattering than he deserved. He had seen that day in the Etonian Lodge that which many other lodges might well take a lesson from. He had never seen "working" superior to what he had witnessed that day; and the hall itself and its arrangements were in keeping with the excellent ceremonies conducted by the lodge officers. For the hospitality they had extended to the Provincial Grand Masters he felt grateful; and in the name of the officers of Grand Lodge, with which his name had been associated, he thanked them very heartily. Drink with honours. The W.M. asked the brethren to drink, with all the enthusiasm they could give it, "The Health of the Right Worshipful the Grand Master of the Province, Sir Daniel Gooch," who he regretted had to leave them so early. He need scarcely say how delighted they were to have Sir Daniel with them that evening. Drink with honours. Bro. Sir D. Gooch thanked the W.M. and brethren very much. He could only express his high approval and satisfaction with what he had witnessed. It was not the first time he had attended the Etonian Lodge of St. John. He was with them a year ago; and he was glad to see them maintain their excellent character and position. He would have stopped longer, but he had to catch a train. He hoped they might spend a very pleasant evening. Drink with honours. The W.M. next gave "The Health of Gen. Brownrigg, Provincial Grand Master of Surrey," who had also honoured the Etonian Lodge as a visitor. He gave the General's health with the usual honours. Bro. General Brownrigg felt exceedingly flattered by their expression of feeling towards him, as well, also, in breaking through the usual routine of toasts in his favour at that early hour of the evening. He would not detain them, but it would not be affectation in him to express the great interest he felt in the lodge. It was a happy augury in the provinces represented that evening to be geographically united—Bucks, Middlesex, and Surrey—it was an omen for good. With the three provinces united together, showing a good front, they would be powerful for every purpose of fraternal excellence. From his heart he thanked them for their cordial reception. Drink with honours. The W.M., in eulogistic terms, gave "The Very Worshipful the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, the Rev. J. S. Brownrigg." The Rev. J. S. Brownrigg briefly responded. He congratulated the senior lodge of the province upon its eminent position holding its laurels for excellence, and setting so good an example to the junior lodges of the province. He heartily echoed the sentiments of General Brownrigg as to the union for good, charitable works of different provinces, and instanced what had been effected in Wiltshire and other places. He concluded by proposing what he considered the toast of the evening, "The Health of the Worshipful

Master of the Etonian Lodge, Bro. W. R. Denne." The W.M. thanked them for the high honour of his position that day, as also for the assemblage that had given him so generous a welcome. He might now well be proud to be the W.M. of the Etonian Lodge, which, thanks to the energy and devotion of the W.M.'s and officers of the last few years, had risen so progressively. To his predecessor some share of praise was due, and he proposed "The Health of the Immediate Past Master, Bro. J. O. Carter." Bro. J. O. Carter had during the past year received many proofs of their kindness, but he felt this, perhaps, more than any other occasion, occurring, as it did, at the close of his year of office. He promised them twelve months ago to do all in his power to maintain the true principles of Freemasonry, to uphold the dignity of the lodge, and at the same time, as far as was consistent, to study the comfort of the individual members. He trusted he had not been found wanting in the proper discharge of his duties as W.M. He asked them not to think that, because his connection with the lodge as W.M. had ceased, that he would cease to take interest in the lodge. They might believe him that it would always be his chief endeavour to support their elected W.M. to the best of his ability. He hoped they would accept his sincerest thanks for their kind wishes—to the W.M. for the manner in which he had proposed his health, and to the brethren for the way in which they had received it. The other usual toasts followed, and were duly honoured. In response to "The Visitors," Bro. Hickson Briggs, Prov. Grand Registrar for Middlesex, expressed the pleasure his visit had given him, and regretted he had not been before. He confessed he had been fairly surprised at the admirable working of the lodge, which had surpassed everything he had seen in his neighbourhood. During the evening, the intervals between the toasts were agreeably sustained by sweet harmony in glees and part songs by Bros. Tolley, Christian, and Smith, the pianoforte being presided over artistically by Bro. Tolley.

PLUMSTEAD.—Pattison Lodge (No. 913).—The winter banquet of the above lodge took place on Thursday, the 6th January, at the lodge house, Bro. Tucker's, the Lord Raglan, Plumstead, when upwards of a hundred of the brethren and visitors sat down to enjoy the good cheer provided for them by the worthy host. It being the regular monthly meeting of the lodge, some excellent work was done by the W.M. in lodge; Mr. A. Wallis, of the Oaks, Plumstead, being regularly initiated into Masonry, and Bro. T. Cartland raised to the Sublime Degree. The working of Bro. Penfold, the esteemed W.M., is too well known to need eulogy, suffice it to say that one and all were delighted with it. The other officers present were Bros. J. McDougall, P.M.; C. Coupland, P.M. and P.G.S. for the Province of Kent; W. T. Vincent, S.W.; H. Butters, J.W.; A. Jessup, Treas.; T. Denton, P.M. 706 and Sec.; W. B. Lloyd, S.D.; J. Chapman, I.G.; B. Lester, Tyler; R. J. Cook, D.S.; and Mason, W.S. Among a large circle of visitors were Bros. Capt. C. Phillips, R.A., P.M. 13 and 1536; T. Ward, W.M. 700; F. J. Dawson, P.M. 700; W. Weston, S.W. 1536; F. Sales, 13 and 706; G. Spinks, J.W. 1536; H. Picken, S.D. 1536; F. Hastings, S.W. 829; E. J. De Salis, 1331; C. Beard, 700; E. Tappenden, 781; S. Waters, J.W. 700; H. Carlin, 1536; J. Pudney, 829; R. Thompson, 1536; W. McCoy, 700; C. Cook, 13; J. Knight, 1536, and others. In proposing the toasts the W.M. hoped much from the visit of the Grand Master to India, believing it to be a good thing both for Masonry and the country at large, and trusted that our Royal brother would have a safe return to his native land. The toasts were Masonically received and responded to. In returning thanks for the well-deserved compliments paid him by P.M. McDougall in proposing his health, and the hearty reception it met with from the brethren, the W.M. gave the credit entirely to the valuable assistance received from the P.M. of the lodge, and said, that for himself, if he had by his endeavours made every brother content with himself, and content with every other brother of the lodge, he had his reward; and concluded some very happy and apposite remarks by thanking them for their kindness to him. In proposing "The Health of the P.M.'s," he spoke highly of their zeal and love for Masonry, and Bros. Coupland and McDougall replied, the former adverting strongly to the necessity of supporting the charities, "the magnificent charities" of the Order, and, having accepted the office of Steward at the next Festival for the Boys' School, pleaded the cause of that section most eloquently and effectively. "The Visitors" received a warm welcome, and in putting the toast, the W.M. expressed his pleasure and the gratification of the lodge at seeing so many present; it was a great compliment to the good working of the lodge, and sprung from the seed sown by the former Master, the fruits of which they were now gathering. He took no credit to himself, but was proud and pleased to welcome them to the Pattison Lodge. Bro. T. Ward, W.M. 700, replied, and wished both Master and lodge a happy and prosperous new year. "The Initiates," health was of course given. "The Health of the Officers of the Lodge" was then proposed by the W.M., who spoke warmly of the great assistance he had received from them in carrying on the duties of the lodge. Bro. Vincent, S.W. responded, and after a truly Masonic treat the Tyler's toast concluded the proceedings.

INSTRUCTION.

UNITED PILGRIMS' LODGE (No. 507).—This lodge held its first meeting this year on Friday, 7th inst., at the Surrey Masonic Hall. The officers were:—Bros. R. N. Field, W.M.; Cass, S.W.; Taylor, J.W.; Durham, S.D.; Harvey, J.D.; Watts, I.G.; Geider, Tyler; M. S. Larham, Preceptor; Francis, Secretary; and others. The lodge was duly opened and the minutes of the previous meeting read and confirmed. The ceremony

of initiation was ably rehearsed by the W.M., Bro. Francis being the candidate. The first, fourth, fifth, sixth, and seventh sections were worked by Bro. Larlham, assisted by the brethren. Bro. Cass was elected W.M. for the ensuing week, and appointed his officers in rotation. Bro. Larlham was elected W.M. for Friday, February 4th, on which occasion the members will hold the annual festival. It was decided to open the lodge on that occasion at six p.m., when three sections in the first lecture will be worked as follows:—Second by Bro. J. W. Watts; third, by Bro. H. J. Harvey; and the fourth, by Bro. E. A. Francis. The dinner is to be on the table at 7.30. Bro. Larlham returned thanks to the brethren for electing him W.M. for the festival night, and hoped that he should be numerously supported on that evening. The lodge was then closed, and adjourned in perfect harmony till Friday, the 14th inst., at 7 p.m.

Scotland.

GLASGOW.—St. John's Lodge (No. 34).—The annual festival of the St. John's Lodge was held on Tuesday evening, the 28th ult., in Maclean's Hotel. Previous to the dinner the ceremony of installing the office-bearers for the ensuing year, elected at last meeting, took place in the hall of the lodge, 213, Buchanan-street, the rite being performed by Bro. A. McTaggart. The following is the list of office-bearers:—R.W.M., Bros. D. M. Nelson; P.M., W. Bell; D.M., D. Young; S.M., T. B. Bell; S.W., J. Sellars; J.W., P. Brownlie; Treas., J. Dunn; Sec., J. Dick; B.B., R. Craig; Chap., D. Lindsay; S.D., A. Cameron; J.D., D. Paton; Archt., J. Ritchie; Jeweller, T. A. Tennent; D. of M., A. Carrick; G.M., J. Wilson; I.G., A. Peddie; Tyler, J. Wright; P.S., R. D. Samuels; Auditors, G. Park, J. McMillan, T. Fletcher. The dinner in Maclean's Hotel was well attended, both by members of the lodge and by visiting brethren, about seventy gentlemen sitting down. R.W.M. D. M. Nelson presided; Bros. J. Sellars, S.W., and J. D. Young, D.M., fulfilling the duties of croupiers. Supporting the R.W.M. were Bros. Sheriff Clark, Rev. R. Thomson, J. Baird, P.M.; A. McLean, W. Kyle, J. Kyle, R. McDonald, W. Bell, P.M.; R. Craig, P.M.; A. McTaggart, P.M.; ex-Deacon Robertson, D. Lindsay, J. McGaw, and J. Dick. The usual loyal toasts having been duly honoured, the Chairman proposed "The Grand Lodges of England, Ireland, and Scotland," which was responded to by Bros. W. H. Bickerton for the English, and by Bro. J. Baird for the Scotch Grand Lodge. Bro. Buchanan also spoke to the toast, complimenting the old St. John upon her antiquity and still flourishing condition. In proposing the toast of "The Grand Lodge of Glasgow and the Benevolent Fund," Bro. T. Fletcher, P.M., said that the fund was being dispensed to great advantage, many poor and indigent widows having received assistance from it. He would be glad if the Lodge St. John would form a fund for the assistance of brethren who, from whatever causes, had fallen into decayed circumstances, using as a nucleus the donation of £10 which had been received from a worthy member. Bro. J. Baird, P.G.S.M., responded, and gave "The Army, Navy, and Reserve Forces." This was followed by the toast of "The Lord Provost, Magistrates, and Town Council of Glasgow." Bro. McTaggart then proposed the toast of the evening, "The Lodge of Glasgow St. John (No. 34), and its R.W.M." After a reference to the question of the great antiquity of St. John's Lodge, he stated that, however old she was, she was worthy of their drinking prosperity to her with the warmest enthusiasm. St. John (No. 34) stood forth on the honoured roll in the Grand Lodge of Scotland, but she had maintained a very high position for the last twenty-five years in Glasgow. She had spared no effort in raising Masonry, and had been a loyal daughter. More than this, she had led in every good work. He was delighted to hear the suggestion put forward to establish a small fund in the lodge for the assistance of brethren. Bro. McTaggart then spoke on the question of fees of admission, and advocated a still higher scale than that adopted in St. John (No. 34). He held that this was one, and not the least important, of the conditions of elevating Masonry in Scotland, and the chief way in which the benevolent work of the Craft could be carried on. He coupled with the toast the name of the R.W.M., Bro. Nelson, who, in responding, asked for the co-operation of the elder brethren in the work of carrying on the business of the lodge worthily. He agreed with Bro. McTaggart on the question of raising the fees, and, as an argument for Scotch Masons bestirring themselves more in the work of benevolence, stated that in England last year £16,504 had been raised by Freemasons for the institutions established by the Craft, £6630 being sent in on one day. He then again acknowledged the toast, and sat down amid applause. Amongst the subsequent toasts chiefly prominent was that of "The Learned Professions," proposed by Bro. James Ritchie, Architect of the lodge, and responded to by Sheriff Clark in so happy a vein, that after a few remarks from the Chairman and Bro. Smillie, following upon his lordship's reply, the latter expressed his willingness to give in the lodge hall a lecture on "The Antiquities of Masonry"—say somewhere about November next. The evening altogether was a thoroughly pleasant one.

DUMBARTON.—St. John's Kilwinning (No. 18).—The annual meeting, and installation of office-bearers for the ensuing year, and the anniversary of St. John, was held in the lodge-room on the evening of Friday, the 24th ult. Bro. Barr, R.W.M., presided. The annual report was read, showing the addition of twenty members, and the income for the year to be about £50 odd, most of which was spent in benevolent purposes, the furnishing of the lodge, and working expenses, this leaving the amount at the lodge's disposal £96, the same as last year, and a private benevolent fund, which is at

the disposal of the R.W.M. An inventory of articles belonging to the lodge was likewise read, amounting to £210. The election was proceeded with, but, there being no opposition for any office, the members proposed at the regular nomination meeting were declared duly elected, viz.: Bros. Wm. Hodge, R.W.M.; John Johnstone, D.M.; Robt. B. Thomson, S.M.; John Barr, S.W.; John McCall, J.W.; John McKay, Treas.; Tho. Boyd, Sec.; Rev. H. R. Williamson, Chaplain; Wm. Campbell, S.D.; Robt. Swan, J.D.; W. F. Henry, S.S.; Arch. Brodie, B.B.; Wm. Ledgett, I.G.; Wm. Lawson, S.B.; Jas. Buchanan, Tyler—all of whom were installed to their respective offices by the Presiding Officer, Bro. P. M. Barr, who in vacating the chair said the office of R.W.M. was one of the highest positions to which a member could attain, and the most honourable to which the brethren could elect a brother. Thousands covet the office, but with it there was great responsibility in the discharging the duties aright, the maintaining the dignity of the lodge, and in instructing the brethren to have credit to fill the offices, likewise to make true and upright Masons. In their new R.W.M. they were losing nothing but gaining much, and without the assistance of the officers he cannot perform his duties aright, but during the past four years I occupied as R.W.M. my knowledge of the brethren is that the lodge should be proud of their officers, and while we have appointed those to rule over us we must not forget our duties. The R.W.M. of any lodge has a certain amount of arbitrary power, so long as he keeps by the Constitutions; but so long as we aid and support him and his officers it is not at all likely that he will be called upon to be arbitrary. We must all attend to the grand principles we profess, and in concluding he trusted that the harmony which had existed during his term of office may not in time be disturbed. On the new R.W.M. taking the chair, along with his D. and S. Masters, the brethren accorded to them the grand honours. Bro. Hodge, R.W.M., in reply, said he had to thank the Installing Master for the manner he introduced him to the brethren, and to them also for the high position they had raised him to, and in his new sphere he trusted that he would do credit to his mother lodge. In accepting office he was stepping into the shoes of one who had occupied the position of R.W.M. with credit to himself and his lodge, and his (Bro. Hodge's) endeavour would be to fill those shoes worthily and well, and from the support that the brethren had promised to accord him he had the more confidence of success. In conclusion he hoped the Great Architect of the Universe would grant him wisdom so to govern the lodge that the brethren would have profit and pleasure thereby. The lodge was then passed from labour to refreshment, and the celebration of the anniversary of St. John's. A blessing having been asked by the Rev. Chaplain, the brethren did ample justice to the repast, purveyed by Bro. Young Baker in his usual creditable manner. The R.W.M. read letters of apology from Bro. Denny and others for unavoidable non-attendance. The usual loyal and Masonic toast was then proposed by the R.W.M., "The Queen and the Craft." She could not be a Mason, but she had done the next thing to it, she had allowed her sons to join the Order, which was a good thing for the Craft. They had already attained a high position in the Order, and he concluded by referring to the various Masonic ceremonies the Prince of Wales had engaged in during his journey through India. As for the Craft, Masonry teaches morality, brotherly love, relief and truth. By the acting to the true principles of Masonry men may attain to all the blessings of the world to come. "The Holy Lodge of St. John's," by the R.W.M., who in proposing it referred to the interest that St. John took in Masonry. When above 90 years of age he was appointed Grand Master of Jerusalem. "The Three Grand Lodges, England, Ireland, and Scotland," proposed by Bro. J. Barr, S.W. "The Prov. Grand Lodge," by P.M. Barr, who said that the Province of Dumbarton might be proud of their Prov. Grand Master, Bro. Smollett, a man of the highest standing, literary and political, and an honour to the fraternity for the interest that he takes in Masonry at his advanced age—the endeavours he takes to spread the principles of Masonry. All would be gratified to see that he had been appointed to instal the Provincial Grand Master of Argyle and the Isles, a duty he did with credit to himself and the province of Dumbarton. It was the interest, desire, and prayer that he may be long spared to preside as Prov. Grand Master. The toast was coupled with the name of Bro. John Babbie, G.S.W., who, in replying, thanked the brethren for the expression of their sentiments, and, in addition to what P.M. Barr said in regard to Bro. Smollett, that all the brethren must be highly delighted that a man of 74 would, in the middle of winter, proceed into the Highlands, and perform at his age so arduous a duty, thus showing his lasting interest in Masonry, and his endeavour to promote the worthy cause was a matter of great congratulation. Many attended that installation that it took at this time of the year eight days to come and return home. "The New R.W.M., Bro. Hodge," was proposed by Bro. Babbie, who said that, with a little experience, he would obtain the respect of all. Whatever he undertook he was sure to carry it to a successful issue, and his career in the office of R.W.M. would be a prosperous one, from the great interest that he took in Masonry. R.W.M. Hodge regretted that Bro. Barr thought it his duty to retire, but, after consideration, he was convinced that the promotion of officers should be more frequent, for by so doing it stimulated the brethren to aspire to higher things, but it was always desirable to retain the services of a brother such as Bro. Barr, but in his new office he would endeavour to succeed Bro. Barr worthily. D. Master Councillor Johnstone said that he had been requested to take the next part in the proceeding of the evening. He would rather it had fallen to other hands than his, but the committee considered that their Chairman was the proper person for

the occasion. So, brethren, you must take the will for the deed. A more pleasant duty could not have fallen to my lot, namely, that of presenting our now worthy Past Master with a token of our respect and esteem for the very efficient manner in which he has presided at the head of our lodge as R.W.M. for the last four years. His duties were faithfully performed. During his reign 126 members have been added to the roll, thus showing the amount of work performed by him, that the position of the lodge is improved, and that he added more to the roll than any of his predecessors. Many other likely subjects might be multiplied, but most of you are conversant with them without my recapitulating them. Charity is the distinguishing characteristic of Masonry, and a desire for the enlightenment and welfare of our fellow creatures is the wish and work of every true Mason. But to any one who occupies the office of R.W.M., this love for mankind seems to be doubly in their heart, and I am sure Bro. Barr has an extra supply of this love. Many are the occasions that a R.W.M. is called upon to exercise charity, and many were the appeals made to Bro. Barr, as R.W.M., to all of which he cheerfully responded. His desire to enlighten his brethren was shown by the careful attention he paid to his office, and the numerous nights he spent in instructing the younger brethren. If it had not been for the love of Freemasonry the nights thus spent might have been employed by him and gained for him and his many pecuniary advantages, and likewise they might have been occupied in instructing his family for their future welfare—but time he found for all. When the proposal was made to present him with a testimonial, liberally and unanimously did the brethren subscribe to it, and put the committee in a position to present Bro. P.M. Councillor Barr with the purse of sovereigns and this handsome gold P.M. jewel. The former will secure many of the comforts of life—but of course Bro. Barr is not deficient in them—and the latter will in after years bring to his remembrance the forms of those with whom he associated in this lodge, and among whom was his delight to be; and may the square and compass guide and guard his actions through life, and God, the great Architect of the Universe, be with him, and the star point his thoughts to that haven above where all true Masons hope to meet. He concluded by proposing "The Health and Prosperity of P.M. Barr," which was duly responded to. (Loud and prolonged cheers.) P.M. Barr on rising was the sign for those expressions being again and again repeated. P.M. Barr, in reply, said he did not know how to express his thoughts. He felt his own unworthiness. He tried to do his best, but was never satisfied with the result. When first asked to become R.W.M. (four years ago) he decidedly refused, but he was proposed to the lodge and accepted. From the first three previous years he took a great interest in everything connected with Masonry. During his term of office he was assisted well by all the brethren. The first year Bro. Graham, then R.W.M. of No. 321, gave him great assistance, but since his removal to another quarter the brethren all had materially assisted him, especially Bros. Thomson and Boyd. He had formed association with many who had gone abroad, many who had gone to their long home, and many who were present; these associations were cemented with truly Masonic love, and were never to be forgotten. They were always men with whom he was proud to meet. This handsome present has entirely taken me aback. Brethren, you must accept my heartfelt gratitude. I have gained a great deal of instruction since I joined the Order, and I intend to gain more from our new R.W.M., in whom we have found a worthy Master to conduct the business of this lodge, and do honour to the Craft. Again he expressed his thanks to all. "Departed Brethren," proposed by Bro. Rev. H. R. Williamson, who said that this was the solemn toast of the evening. Many brethren had departed to foreign climes—but, as our P.M. has said, others had gone to their long home—the way of all the earth. It was his fortune to stand around the death bed of many, and hear expressions uttered. With greater feeling of reverence did I attend the death bed of two, son and grandfather, who died recently—both Masons. Their departure was joy to them. Masonry teaches us to cherish a kindly feeling for the widow and fatherless. It is a sad thing to guide the helm when the bark is tossed on the sea of life. Masonry is good when it supports such. The toast was drunk with due solemnity. "The Visiting Brethren," by R.W.M., replied to by Bro. Valentine, Lodge St. Machar, 54, Aberdeenshire; "The Sister Lodges," by R.W.M., reply by Bro. Alexander, 543; "The Ladies," by Bro. Paton, reply by Bro. Boyd; "The Festival Committee," by P.M. Barr, reply by Bro. J. Allen; "Wisdom, Strength, and Beauty," proposed by Bro. A. Booth, reply by R.W.M.; "The Chairman," by Bro. S. M. Thomson, reply by R.W.M. The following brethren gave songs:—Johnstone, Lawson, Campbell, Dewar, Findlay, Dawson, Momson, Barr, and Easton.

DUNBAR.—Dunbar Castle Lodge (No. 75).—Monday Dec. 27, having been the festival of St. John, the brethren of Dunbar Castle Lodge No. 75 assembled at their lodge room in goodly numbers. The lodge having been opened in the Three Degrees, Bro. D. Vallance, P.M., in the chair, Bro. Charles Nelson, J.W., was installed R.W.M. for the ensuing year, having been proclaimed in the East, West, and South in due form. The lodge being lowered to the First Degree, the following brethren were elected and installed office-bearers for the ensuing year:—D. Vallance, P.M.; J. Sharp, D.M.; A. Melvin, S.M.; J. Blake, S.W.; H. Payne, J.W.; J. Smith, S.D.; Wm. Wilkinson, J.D.; P. Morrison, Steward; A. Main, Asst. Steward; J. McGraw, I.G.; R. Knox, Tyler. The lodge was then closed, and the brethren retired to the Castle Inn for supper, Bro. Charles Nelson, R.W.M., in the chair. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts having been given and heartily responded to, a most enjoyable evening was spent. This lodge is, and has for some time been, in a most flourishing condition; and we

understand that Bro. Captain Dennistoun, 64th Regt., P.M., has recently forwarded a donation of ten pounds for the benefit of the lodge.

GLASGOW.—Commercial Lodge (No. 360).—This lodge celebrated the Festival of St. John on Monday afternoon, the 27th December, in Bro. Thornton's Clarendon Café, 251, Argyle-street. The brethren met in their lodge room at 6 o'clock p.m., which was opened in due form, Bro. J. Monro, R.W.M., in the chair, Bro. J. M. Oliver, S.W., and Bro. T. Graham, J.W., and a large number of brethren present. The R.W.M. raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason Bros. Rev. D. McCordale, 360; T. Greenlees, 541; and J. Tweigergang, 354. Mesars. W. S. Stewart, James Porteous Scott, and Robert Wylie received the Entered Apprentice Degree. Bro. J. M. Oliver, S.W., performed the ceremony in a masterly style. The brethren, numbering over 60, adjourned to Bro. Thornton's, where a substantial and excellently purveyed supper was fully enjoyed by the brethren, and after doing ample justice to the good things set before them, returned to the lodge, which was again re-opened and put under the care of Bro. Graham, J.W. Among the most distinguished were the following:—Bros. John Monro, R.W.M. (Chairman); J. M. Oliver, S.W., and T. Graham, J.W. (Croupiers); A. Morton, I.P.M. 360; Wm. Findlay, S.M.; George Scott, Treas.; John Smith, Sec.; J. McCosh, 360; G. Steven, 360; J. Gibson, 360; A. Sloan, 360; J. Clark, 360; Morton, 360; James Colquhoun, 360; G. Macpherson, 360; W. B. Paterson, 360; J. Shearer, 360; J. Minnoch, 360; John Davidson, P.M. 360; A. Sage, P.M. 360; Rev. D. McCordale, 360; J. D. Porteous, P.M. 360, 541, and 37, E.C.; W. McG. Mason, R.W.M. 541, Marie Stuart; J. Brode, P.M. 541; W. Gillies, D.M. 541; John Fraser, S.W. 541; Robert Walker, sen., 541 (Chaplain); Robert Walker, jun., 541 (Secretary); David Kinghorn, 437, P.G.J.W. of Glasgow; John Peters, R.W.M. 153; James Shaw, R.W.M. 354; C. McKenzie, 354; J. B. McNair, P.M. 332; James Murray, 153; W. Ferguson, P.M. 543 ("Freemason"); John Macnab, 1356, E.C.; F. Cushing, U.M., E.R.; Robert Hunter, 219; Beaton, 45; McDonald, 102; Mann, 27; McIntyre, 541; Brodie, 541; Renton, 541; Blair, 541; J. B. Fitzroy, 333; Humphreys, 234; and others. The Chairman gave the first toast, "The Queen and the Craft," which was received with honours. "The Three Grand Lodges, England, Ireland, and Scotland, with their respective Grand Masters," "The Prince of Wales and other Members of the Royal Family," "The Army, Navy, and Volunteers," proposed by Bro. Peters, R.W.M. 153, and coupled with the name of Bro. Lieut. John Macnab, R.N.R. (1356 E.C.). "The Provincial Grand Lodge of Glasgow" was proposed by Bro. J. D. Porteous, and in doing so said:—It is with the greatest pleasure I propose this toast, and with all due respect to the other P.G. Lodges in Scotland, there is none which occupy so proud a position as the P.G. Lodge of Glasgow. Bro. James Shaw, R.W.M. 354, replied in behalf of the P.G. Lodge in suitable terms. "The Lodge Marie Stuart, 541," was proposed by Bro. Davidson, P.M. 360, who said: "There is no toast this evening will receive the same interest (keeping of our own lodge), as we may say that it is a child of our own, and I am proud to say it has been very prosperous, and have no doubt it will go on to prosper; it will always have the sympathy of the brethren of the Commercial. I have therefore now much pleasure in proposing the 'Prosperity of Lodge Marie Stuart, 541.'" Bro. W. McG. Mason, the R.W.M., acknowledged the toast in feeling terms. Bro. Julius Brode, P.M. 360 and 451, on rising to propose "The Health of Bro. Porteous," was received with cheers. He said: Brethren, in complying with the request made to propose this toast and hand over to Bro. Porteous a presentation, I can assure you I am glad to have the pleasure of doing so. I need not flatter Bro. Porteous, but confine myself to a few facts regarding Bro. Porteous's career in the Province of Glasgow and Renfrewshire East. He became Secretary to Lodge Athole (413) at its erection, and did his duty well. He joined this lodge when it was at a low ebb, and did it great service and brought it to a prosperous condition, and occupied the position of R.W.M. for two years. Bro. Porteous then went south, and was the means of starting a lodge there in 1873, and although not large in numbers there is, I can assure you, good quality. Bro. Porteous was R.W.M. of that lodge (Marie Stuart) until his removal to England about 8 months ago. Bro. Col. Campbell, P.G. Master Renfrewshire East, appointed him P.G.J.W., but on account of his removal from this country he did not enjoy that high position long. I now beg leave to present you, Bro. Porteous, in name of the subscribers, with this handsome set of tea and coffee service, and salver, bearing the following inscription:—"Presented by the brethren of the Lodge Marie Stuart, Crosshill, No. 541, conjointly with the principal office-bearers of the P.G.L.R.E. and several members of Lodges Commercial, No. 360, and Athole, No. 413, Glasgow, to Bro. James D. Porteous, 18, M.M. 384, Past Secretary 413, P.M. 360, P.M. 541, and P.P.G.J.W.R.E., December, 27th, 1875." And, Bro. Porteous, may it please you—may it compensate you for your able and untiring work in Freemasonry amongst us. You have endeared yourself to us all, and may you be long spared to enjoy these along with your better half in England, and hand it over to your children and their children to shew our appreciation of your services. I therefore conclude, wishing you every prosperity. Bro. Porteous, in replying, said: Brethren, I must say I have no eloquence on my part to thank you for the kind expressions used by my friend and brother (Brode), and allow me to say I shall never forget the warm-hearted friends I left in Scotland. On behalf of my partner in life I thank you. It shall give me the greatest delight in handing this excellent gift over to her. I do not know how she will contain herself for this mark of your appreciation. "The Clergy" was proposed by Bro. J. M. Oliver, S.W., who said he was glad that one

of the last laid stones was a clergyman, and trusted that many more of the same profession would join our Order. Bro. the Rev. D. McCordale replied in a neat and very humorous speech. "The Lodge Commercial, 360" was proposed by Bro. Humphreys, who said it was one of the brightest lodges in the Province of Glasgow, always first in the van with all good deeds. I am now 17 years in Glasgow, and have visited the Commercial many times, and have always found it in harmony. I have therefore to propose "Prosperity to Lodge Commercial." Bro. J. Monro, R.W.M., replied, and thanked the brethren for the manner in which they received the toast; and said: We have harmony amongst us, and that is the reason we are in such a prosperous condition, and would still persevere until 360 would be second to none in the province. "The Last-laid Stones" was proposed by the R.W.M. Bro. J. P. Scott replied on behalf of himself and the other two brethren who were initiated along with him that night. The R.W.M. proposed "The Health and Prosperity of Lodge St. Mary's, Partick, No. 117," who have met to-night in their new hall, and have kindly sent a deputation to wish us a happy evening. Bro. Brunton, P.M., who headed the deputation, replied. "The Press" was proposed by Bro. Colquhoun, and replied to by Bro. William Ferguson, P.M. 543 ("Freemason"). Bro. Paterson proposed "The Past Masters of the Commercial," and Bro. Davidson, P.M., replied. Bro. Graham, J.W., proposed "The Visiting Brethren," and Bro. C. McKenzie, 354, replied. Bro. Gibson proposed "The Ladies," and Bro. Sloan replied on their behalf.

GOVAN.—Lodge Govandale (No. 437).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held in their hall, Portland Buildings, Govan, on Tuesday evening, the 21st ult., Bro. John McFarlane, R.W.M., in the chair, supported on the dais by Bros. A. Campbell, P.M.; John Miller, D. M.; R. Muir, S.W.; G. Wilson, J.W.; J. Sutherland, Sec. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The Auditors' report was then read, showing the lodge to be in a very prosperous condition. The election of office-bearers for the next twelve months then took place, and the following brethren were duly elected:—Bros. J. Miller, R.W.M.; J. McFarlane, I.P.M.; J. Hutcheson, D.M.; W. Ferguson, S.M.; R. Muir, S.W.; A. James, J.W.; A. Blair, Treas.; J. Sutherland, Sec.; J. Wilkinson, Chap.; J. Carrick, S.D.; W. Colville, J.D.; C. J. Headman, B.B.; J. Robertson, Arc.; P. Farquhar, Jewr.; W. Maxwell, S.B.; L. Hamilton, D. of M.; W. H. Charles, D. of C.; R. Blyth, P.G.S.; T. Paton, S.S.; J. McPhail, J.S.; J. Moggie, I.G.; and J. McIntyre, Tyler. The lodge was then transferred to refreshment, under the care of the Junior Warden, Bro. McFarlane, I.P.M., presiding. The usual loyal, patriotic, and Masonic toasts were given from the chair and heartily responded to. "The Past Office-bearers" was proposed, and replied to by Bro. Campbell, I.P.M. "Bro. Miller (R.W.M. elect)" was proposed by Bro. McFarlane, I.P.M., and in doing so paid him a high compliment for the way in which he always endeavoured to promote the interests of the lodge since its erection, he being one of the founders of the lodge, and wished him every success during the ensuing year. Bro. Cameron proposed "The Health of Bro. McFarlane, I.P.M.," which was enthusiastically received by the brethren. Bro. McFarlane replied at some length, thanking the office-bearers and members for the support he received at all times at their hands. Bro. Campbell proposed "The Visiting Brethren," and Bro. Wm. Ferguson, P.M., No. 543 ("Freemason"), replied. After the Tyler's toast the lodge was recalled and closed in due form.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Clydesdale (No. 556).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held in the Masonic Hall, 106, Rose-street (S.S.), on Monday evening, the 20th ult. Bro. William Phillips, R.W.M., in the chair; Bros. John McNaught, S.W.; and Thomas Phillips, J.W. There was a large attendance of members and visiting brethren. Among the latter we noticed Bros. Robert Jack, R.W.M. No. 128; David Ronald, R.W.M. No. 275; William Findlay, S.W. 275; G. H. C. McNaught, P.M. 275; Peter Hepburn, S.W. 178; William Forsyth, J.W. 103; William Ferguson, P.M. 543 ("Freemason"); Owen Short, 87; James Henderson, 87; James Watt, jun., 219; and others. The minutes and Auditors' report were read and confirmed, after which a motion was brought forward to alter the meeting nights to the first and third Thursdays of each month (June, July, and August excepted), commencing on Thursday, the 6th January, which was unanimously agreed to. The installation of office-bearers was then proceeded with. The ceremony of installing the R.W.M., D.M., and S.M. was performed by Bro. William Ferguson, P.M. 543; and the other office-bearers were installed by the newly re-elected R.W.M. in a very creditable manner. It was agreed to hold the annual festival on Friday, the 28th January, in Crown-street Hall. The lodge was then transferred to refreshment.

The "Canadian Masonic News" for January contains an excellent photograph of the late Earl of Zetland.

The Fifteen Sections will be worked in the Star Lodge of Instruction, No. 1273, at the Marquis of Granby, New Cross, on Saturday, the 22nd January next, when the Preceptor, Bro. Govan Macdonald, will preside. Lodge will be opened at 6.30 precisely.

HEALTH, comfort, and economy promoted. Gas superseded in day time, and daylight reflected in dark rooms by adopting Chappuis' Patent Daylight Reflectors. Manufactory, 69, Fleet-street, London.

DISTRICT GRAND LODGE OF BENGAL.

A Quarterly Communication of the District Grand Lodge of Bengal was held at Freemasons' Hall, 55, Bentinck-street, Calcutta, on Wednesday, the 22nd of September, 1875. Present: Bros. John B. Roberts, Past Deputy D.G.M., as District Grand Master; W. B. Mactavish, D.S.G.W.; Major T. N. Young, W.M. 1374, and P.M. 552, 836, 988, and 1065, as D.J.G.W.; W. H. Fitze, Past D.G.D., acting D.G. Treasurer; H. H. Locke, Past Dep. D.G.M., as D.G. Secretary; W. Girling, Past D.G. Dir. of Cer., as D.S.G. Deacon; A. LeFranc, D.J.G. Deacon; Jas. Watson, D.G. Dir. of Cer.; P. C. Dutt, D.G. Assist. Dir. of Cer.; J. H. Turner, Past D.G. Sword Bearer, as D.G. Sword-Bearer; C. H. Compton, Past D.G. Org., as D.G. Org.; W. H. T. Ayres, D.G. Pursuivant; N. C. Bural, S.W. of Lodge Anchor and Hope, 234, D.G. Master's Banner-Bearer; C. F. E. Allen, Bar-at-law, H. M. Rustomjee, J. L. Anderson, Robt. Monk, District Grand Stewards; G. Alexander, District Grand Tyler.

The following lodges were represented:—Star in the East, 67; Industry and Perseverance, 109; True Friendship, 218; Marine, 232; Anchor and Hope, 234; Courage with Humanity, 392; Harmony, 438; St. John, 486; Excelsior, 825; Temperance and Benevolence, 1160; Sandeman, 1374.

The visitors were Bros. F. Sebastian, H. M. Mehta, of Lodge 229; J. Pearson, of Lodge 232; Jas. Brander, P.M. of Lodge 232; P. Basu, of Lodge 334; A. B. Mitchell, of Lodge 392; J. W. Pritchard, of Lodge 486; W. E. Thompson, F. G. Webb, J. C. Orr, of Lodge 1374.

District Grand Lodge was opened in form at 6.30 p.m. The Acting District Grand Secretary reported the receipt of apologies from several brethren for unavoidable non-attendance.

The District Grand Master in the chair said that before opening the business of District Grand Lodge, as set down in the agenda paper, he wished to ask some of the brethren present to perform a duty which he thought would be as pleasant to them to do as it was to him to ask them to do.

At the last Quarterly Communication of District Grand Lodge, as they would all remember, a committee had been appointed to consider and report upon the means by which the erection in Calcutta of a Freemasons' Hall worthy of the Province of Bengal might be secured. After six weeks of almost unintermitted labour the committee presented a progress report, in which certain proposals were submitted, upon which it was necessary that the opinion of District Grand Lodge should be expressed before the committee could proceed further.

A special communication of District Grand Lodge had been held on the 14th of previous month to consider these propositions, and the result was the adoption of the committee's scheme for the formation of the "Bengal Freemasons' Hall Building Association, Limited," and the passing of a resolution directing the committee to take such further steps as might be necessary for the due launching of the company.

The first thing had of course been the framing of the memorandum and articles of association. Great care had been bestowed upon this work by W. Bro. Bonnetjee, barrister-at-law, their District Grand Registrar, and by Bro. G. C. Farr, solicitor, and he (the District Grand Master in the chair) could not allow the present opportunity to pass without acknowledging the obligations under which those brethren had placed not only himself but, as he thought, District Grand Lodge and the brethren generally, by the labour and pains which they had so freely and ungrudgingly given to this work.

The memorandum and articles were now complete, and the former was duly engrossed and lay upon the pedestal before him for the signatures of such applicants for debentures as might then be present, and whom he would ask to append their signatures accordingly, after hearing the documents read.

W. Bro. Thomas Jones, P.M. 67, District Grand Registrar, objected to the documents being either read or signed in District Grand Lodge, no notice of the business having been entered upon the agenda paper. W. Bro. Jones was proceeding to address District Grand Lodge on the subject of the Building Association, to which he was opposed, when

The District Grand Master in the chair said it was impossible for him to allow W. Bro. T. Jones to continue his remarks, seeing that there was no motion before District Grand Lodge—that in fact the business of District Grand Lodge had not commenced.

W. Bro. T. Jones then expressed his desire to move a resolution upon the subject.

The District Grand Master in the chair could not allow W. Bro. Jones to move any resolution whatever or to address District Grand Lodge in any way at that stage of the proceedings, but would have no objection to his doing so later in the evening, under the provisions of Art. 28 of the District Grand Lodge Bye-laws.

The District Grand Master in the chair then called upon the District Grand Registrar to read the memorandum of association of the "Bengal Freemasons' Hall Building Association, Limited," and the said memorandum was read.

Bro. G. C. Farr, was then requested by the District Grand Master in the chair to read the articles of association of the "Bengal Freemasons' Hall Building Association," and they were read accordingly.

The memorandum of association of the "Bengal Freemasons' Hall Building Association" was then signed by those brethren present who had applied for debentures.

W. Bro. T. Jones asked if he might then move his resolution regarding what had just taken place.

The District Grand Master in the chair said he thought the regular business set down in the agenda paper ought to be dealt with before any other motion was brought to the vote, but as far as he was concerned personally he had no objection to accede to W. Bro. T. Jones' request. If,

however, any single member of District Grand Lodge objected he (the District Grand Master in the chair) would be obliged to refuse what W. Bro. Jones asked for.

No one objecting, W. Bro. T. Jones then moved—"That as the solemn proceeding which has been authorized by the Officiating District Grand Master, in the signature by certain brethren present of the deed of association of the Masonic Hall Building Association, was not announced to the Craft in the usual Masonic mode by means of the agenda paper, this District Grand Lodge will in no sense hold itself bound by, or be considered, in its representative character as the Grand Lodge of the District, to countenance, the proceeding in question."

W. Bro. T. Jones in moving the foregoing resolution addressed District Grand Lodge at considerable length and in very strong terms, depreciative of the proposed Building Association and condemnatory of the step taken by the District Grand Master in the chair in laying the memorandum of association before the members of District Grand Lodge, in communication assembled, for signature, without notice having been given, in the agenda paper, that such business would be brought forward. W. Bro. Jones considered that the action of the Acting District Grand Master was altogether ultra vires.

Bro. C. F. Egerton Allen, J.W. 109, and District Grand Steward, seconded W. Bro. T. Jones' motion.

After some remarks on the subject from W. Bro. H. H. Locke, Past Deputy District Grand Master, and acting District Grand Secretary,

Bro. C. Compton, Past District Grand Organist, moved, and W. Bro. Girling, W.M. 232, and Past District Grand Director of Ceremonies, seconded the following amendment to W. Bro. Jones' resolution:—"That this District Grand Lodge entirely approves of the step taken by the acting District Grand Master in placing the memorandum of association of the Bengal Freemasons' Hall Building Association before the brethren for signature this evening, inasmuch as considerable trouble to the acting District Grand Secretary will thereby be saved."

Bro. Compton's amendment to W. Bro. T. Jones' motion was put to the vote, when there appeared thirty-two for and two against it. The amendment was accordingly declared to be carried.

The minutes of the proceedings of the District Grand Lodge of Bengal at the Quarterly Communication of the 24th June, 1875, having been printed and circulated, it was proposed by W. Bro. W. Girling, W.M. 232, and Past District Grand Director of Ceremonies, and seconded by W. Bro. J. T. Limpus, P.M. 1160, and Past District Grand Pursuivant, that the said minutes be taken as read. Carried.

W. Bro. W. H. Fitze, P.M. 218, Past District Grand Deacon, and Acting District Grand Treasurer moved "That the minutes of the proceedings of the District Grand Lodge of Bengal at the Quarterly Communication of the 24th June, 1875, be confirmed." Seconded by W. Bro. W. Girling, and carried.

W. Bro. Prosunno Coomarr Dutt, W.M. 234, and District Grand Assistant Director of Ceremonies, moved, and W. Bro. Major T. N. Young, W.M. 1374, P.M. 552, 836, 988, and 1065, and Acting District Junior Grand Warden, seconded "That the minutes of the proceedings of the District Grand Lodge of Bengal, at a special communication held on the 14th August, 1875, having been printed and circulated, be now taken as read." Carried.

W. Bro. W. C. Bonnerjee, barrister-at-law, W.M. 67, and District Grand Registrar, moved, and W. Bro. J. H. E. Beer, W.M. 218, and Past District Grand Organist, seconded, "That the aforesaid minutes of the 14th August, 1875, be confirmed." Carried.

The District Grand Master in the chair addressed the District Grand Lodge as follows:—"Worshipful Brethren,—Yours time has already been so much taken up this evening in ways that, were you disposed, you might well say it ought not to have been so treasured upon, that I will make the remarks which you are accustomed to hear from this chair before proceeding to the consideration of the reports of the committees in as few words as possible. I am sorry to find in the report of the Committee of General Purposes the mention of arrears of dues by 'Lodge Courage with Humanity' and another Masonic body (Rose Croix) for rent—that is to say, I am sorry that there were arrears—not that the committee brought them to notice, that of course they were bound to do, as it would have been a failure of duty on their part had they omitted to do it. In the last named of the two cases the committee were satisfied with the explanation offered, and I trust that the communication which the committee directed should be made to the Worshipful Master of Lodge 'Courage with Humanity' will have the effect of preventing any further necessity for complaint. I regret to have to report to you three exclusions—all for non-payment of dues. Both the Acting District Grand Secretary and myself have had many enquiries put to us as to whether any reply has been received to the memorial which was sent from this District Grand Lodge to the Most Worshipful the Grand Master on the subject of the appointment of a District Grand Master for Bengal, on the 29th of June last. I am sorry to say that no answer of any kind has been, as yet, received. I wish to bring to your notice that a handsome presentation of some plate, in the shape of certain table requisites of a very useful character, has been made to us by Bro. St. Aubyn King, on the part of the District Grand Stewards of last year, out of a surplus which their fund exhibited at the close of their labours. I am sure that I carry you with me when I beg Bro. St. Aubyn King and his colleagues to accept our best thanks for their exceedingly useful and handsome present. (Applause.) As the hour is already late, and we have yet a considerable amount of work before us, I will detain you no longer from the consideration of the business which stands next upon the agenda paper, the report of the Committee of General Purposes."

The report of the Committee of General

Purposes at a meeting held on the 4th September, 1875, was read.

W. Bro. Major T. N. Young, W.M. 1374, P.M. 552, 836, 988, and 1065, and Acting D.J.G.W., moved, and W. Bro. J. H. E. Beer, W.M. 218, and Past D.G. Org. seconded, "That the accounts, as exhibited in the abstract, contained in the report of the Committee of General Purposes, be accepted as correct and passed; and that the recommendations of the committee in respect to the investment of the balances at credit of the General, Musical Instrument, and Freemasons' Hall Funds, in debentures of the Bengal Freemasons' Hall Building Association, be adopted."

W. Bro. T. Jones, P.M. 67, and Past D.G. Reg., moved the following amendment:—"That before any funds under the control of this District Grand Lodge be assigned over to the purposes contemplated in the resolution, the committee appointed to consider the proposal for establishing the Bengal Masonic Hall Association be requested to submit a further report on the subject for the information of this District Grand Lodge."

In moving the foregoing resolution, W. Bro. Thomas Jones addressed District Grand Lodge at great length, and went very elaborately into figures, with a view to showing that the outlay which the building scheme would involve would amount to at least Rs. 11,000 per annum, and that this was more than District Grand Lodge could provide. Bro. T. Jones complained also that one feature in the scheme as set forth in the committee's first prospectus, namely, the swimming bath, had subsequently been omitted, but nothing had been said as to how the amount which it had been calculated would be derived from this source was to be made up without it. It might be that it was intended to increase the rates charged to lodges for rent—in fact, he had elicited this admission from a tolerably good authority. Now Masonry was not what it used to be, either in respect to the number, or the wealth and position, of those who formed our lodges, otherwise no doubt they would be very willing to accede to an increase in their rent payments; but as it was, no such increase could be looked for. He was therefore of opinion that the scheme, which he regarded as crude and impracticable, should be sent back to the committee, with the request for such details as would enable District Grand Lodge to understand clearly how it was proposed to raise the sum which would certainly be required, month by month, after the hall was built. He (Bro. Jones) had no wish whatever to oppose a sound scheme for the building of a Masonic Hall, there was nothing that he would more heartily support, but he felt compelled to condemn the present one (which he regarded as ridiculous) in the strongest manner. It was in his opinion a wholly impracticable project, and such as must inevitably lead to disastrous results.

Bro. C. F. Egerton Allen, J.W. 109, and District Grand Steward, seconded W. Bro. T. Jones' amendment. Bro. Allen deprecated the idea that he was otherwise than most favourably disposed towards such an undertaking as the building of a new hall. Nothing would give him greater regret than to see the project abandoned; but he felt compelled to oppose the resolution now before District Grand Lodge as to the investment of their funds in this particular scheme, until it had been more fully explained and its details more clearly put before them.

W. Bro. H. H. Locke hoped that District Grand Lodge would, by its utter rejection of W. Bro. T. Jones' amendment, mark in an unmistakable manner its sense of the exceedingly objectionable line of procedure which Bros. T. Jones and Egerton Allen had adopted in respect to the violent opposition which they were offering to the building scheme. He would forbear to characterize the nature of the conduct in question (both as to what had taken place that evening and what had been done outside by the two brethren he referred to during the last few weeks) lest he should be betrayed into stronger language than it was desirable should be used in that room; but he would ask District Grand Lodge to consider one or two facts (which it would be impossible for W. Bro. T. Jones to deny) and to form their own conclusions thereon. The committee to which District Grand Lodge had entrusted the work of preparing a scheme for the building of a Freemasons' Hall in Calcutta for the Province of Bengal consisted of 25 members, of whom 12 were the elected representatives of private lodges, 4 the ex-officio representatives of the officers of District Grand Lodge, and the remaining 9 were brethren of well-known ability and experience in the Craft (all of them, save one, Past Masters), who had been specially added to the committee by the Acting District Grand Master, in accordance with the resolution passed by District Grand Lodge in June last, for this particular work, for which each and all of them had seemed in some way or other to possess such qualifications as would be of material assistance in the preparation of a sound scheme for the attainment of the object in view. Surely it would be no stretching of terms to say that a committee thus constituted consisted of 25 of the best men for the purpose which the Masonic fraternity could command in Calcutta. This alone would probably induce District Grand Lodge to hesitate before rejecting what had been a laborious and long considered work on the part of the committee merely at the bidding of Bros. Jones and Allen. Not that he (Bro. Locke) was in any way a supporter of the tyranny of majorities. He would not even say that it was an utter impossibility, and would express no opinion as to the probability, that W. Bro. Jones should be right and the other twenty-four members of the committee wrong; but he would ask District Grand Lodge to consider the following points in the line of procedure adopted by W. Bro. Jones, and to say whether that procedure bore evidence of a desire simply to steer clear of difficulties and disastrous consequences, and to base the project under discussion upon a sure and safe foundation, or whether it was dictated by a factious and violent antagonism of which it was unnecessary

to seek very far for the cause. W. Bro. Jones was a member of the committee to which the framing of the building scheme had been entrusted; surely if he were so competent to point out miscalculations and to detect flaws and errors in the committee's scheme as he had endeavoured to make District Grand Lodge believe, it was his duty to have pointed them out to the committee and to have assisted to remove them. This was a duty which, with every desire to use language as temperate as possible, he (Bro. Locke) was constrained to declare thus publicly to District Grand Lodge that W. Bro. Thomas Jones had most conspicuously neglected. (Hear, hear.) The committee had met four times for the framing of the building scheme, and W. Bro. Jones had attended once only. Bro. Jones might of course say that on the three other occasions it had not been convenient to him to attend; but seeing that printed minutes of the proceedings of the committee at each meeting had been furnished weekly to every member it must have been quite easy for Bro. T. Jones to see what was being decided upon, and to make known to his colleagues any objections, or any suggestions for improvement, that might have occurred to him. There was no possible excuse for his not having done this; not only had printed minutes of each meeting of the committee been furnished to every member as soon after such meeting as was possible, but after the last meeting (held on the 24th July) a complete set had been issued for the deliberate consideration of every member, more than a fortnight previous to the special communication of District Grand Lodge, held on the 14th of August, for the one sole purpose of considering the committee's scheme. Why had not Bro. T. Jones assisted his colleagues, as he ought to have done? Why had he not pointed out whatever objections he had to make at the proper time and in the proper place? Why had he not even brought them forward at the meeting of District Grand Lodge, held for the especial purpose of considering the building scheme? This was not the proper time for going into figures to show how the calculations of the committee had been made, otherwise he (Bro. Locke) would have been perfectly prepared to show the utter absurdity of the financial statements made by Bro. T. Jones. It was, however, wholly unnecessary to notice them. The question before District Grand Lodge was not whether the committee's scheme was practicable or impracticable—that had been decided on the 14 August, after full publication of the committee's proposals. What they had now to decide was this: would they in a practical manner demonstrate that confidence in the undertaking which was declared by the resolutions of the 14th August, last by investing their own funds therein? Could they expect that others would put money into the undertaking if District Grand Lodge itself did not? However sound the scheme might be, it was absurd to suppose it possible for it to succeed unless the debentures were promptly taken up, and how could they expect this to be done if District Grand Lodge showed reluctance to invest its own balances in them? If, by any chance, the scheme did fail, he should always consider Bros. Jones and Allen to be responsible for having brought it about by the manner in which, during the last few weeks, they had, in various ways, done their best to damage it. He would mention one other fact which would enable them to judge as to the value they might attach to the vehement opposition which Bro. T. Jones was exhibiting towards the building scheme. At the last meeting of the Committee of General Purposes, the report of which they were then considering, Bro. T. Jones had commenced a hot attack against what he said was an impracticable feature in the project, namely, the swimming bath; and it had been necessary to inform him that the committee had themselves decided against that feature (which had only been thrown out as a suggestion by one member at the beginning), and that it was entirely omitted in the final scheme submitted to, and accepted by, District Grand Lodge. This would show the care with which Bro. Jones had acquainted himself with the papers which had been furnished to him, and with what the nature of the building scheme really was!

(To be continued).

Mulum in Barbo; or Masonic Notes and Queries.

THE WILSON MS

I am now trying to trace this MS., and have found a clue not to the MS. actually, but to the collection of MSS. of the house where the MS. is said to have been. If I succeed, I will report proceedings.

A. F. A. WOODFORD.

Obituary.

BRO. J. J. FARNHAM.

We deeply regret to read in "The East Anglian Daily News," of January 10th, the death, by drowning, of Bro. J. J. Farnham, late Curate in charge at West-horpe, Suffolk, Past Dist. S.G.W. of Bombay.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS AND OINTMENT.—Intermittent and continued Fevers, Dyspepsia, Heartburn, Hysteria, and general Debility are best treated by these remedies, as they possess within themselves a gently stimulating and tonic principle, which invariably produces the desired result; they impart tone to the mucous membrane of the stomach, expel flatulence, increase the appetite, and produce a grateful sense of internal warmth and elasticity of mind and body. As a detergent in Scrofulous and foul ulcerations, and as a healing and soothing application in burns, scalds, and excoriations, the Ointment will be found most valuable, as it promotes the healing action, and cleanses off all foul discharges, and neutralises any noxious matter that may be present. Very plain directions accompany them.—ADVT.

TO OUR READERS.

The *Freemason* is a sixteen-page weekly newspaper, price 2d. It is published every Friday morning, and contains the most important and useful information relating to Freemasonry in every degree. Annual subscription in the United Kingdom, Post free, 10/. Brethren in foreign parts, wishing to have this newspaper sent them regularly from the office of publication, should, in sending their remittances, add to the 2d. per week the postage on 202. newspapers.

TO ADVERTISERS.

The *Freemason* has a large circulation in all parts of the Globe, its advantages as an advertising medium can therefore scarcely be overrated.

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GEORGE KENNING, 108, Fleet-st.

Answers to Correspondents.

All Communications, Advertisements, &c., intended for insertion in the Number of the following Saturday, must reach the Office not later than 12 o'clock on Wednesday morning.

The following stand over:—

Letters from "A Provincial P.M." Bro. Tudor Trevor, Bro. Kenneth, R. H. Mackenzie.

Reports of Hartington Lodge, 1085, Derby; Albert Edward Lodge, 1560, Leicester; Scientific Lodge, 88, Cambridge; Lodge of Honour, 379, Bath; Ellesmere Lodge, 758, Runcorn; Social Lodge, 93, Norwich; St. James's Union Lodge, 180, London; Unanimity Lodge, 104, Walsham; Enoch Lodge, 11, London; Lodge of Hengist, Bournemouth; Henley Lodge, 1472, North Woolwich; Lodge Fortitude, 105, Plymouth; Benevolent Lodge, 303, Teignmouth; Perseverance Lodge, 164, Sidmouth; Wentworth Lodge, 1239, Sheffield; Rowley Lodge, 1051, Lancaster; Duke of Lancaster Lodge, 1353, Morecambe; Earl Ellesmere Lodge, 678, Kersley; Alfred Lodge, 344, Oxford.

The Installation of Bro. E. Hodgson; The Masonic career of the Earl of Shrewsbury; Masonic Ball in Sheffield. BOOKS &c., RECEIVED.

New York "Square." "Lloyd's List." "Keystone." "Friemaurer Zeitung;" "Die Bauhütte;" "Garden Oracle and Horticultural Year Book."

The Freemason,

SATURDAY, JAN. 15, 1876.

OUR ROYAL GRAND MASTER'S VISIT TO INDIA.

The Prince of Wales since he left Calcutta has visited Lucknow, Cawnpore, and Delhi. He has been over the ground of the great mutiny, and has been reminded everywhere of the heroism of the Feringhee. Many noble soldiers are lying in their humble graves along his route, whose blood has "spilt like water" for the name of the Queen, and in devotion to old England. We can quite understand that the Prince will have been deeply impressed; it could not well be otherwise. All honour to "John Beetlecrusher," and "peaceful resting places and quiet graves" for those who fought so gloriously and died so well. One very touching sight at Lucknow was the review of those surviving natives who adhere so loyally to the English "Rag," and shared no nobly the privations and dangers of these white-faced comrades. They were all presented to the Prince of Wales. The telegraphic account in the "Times" is most interesting up to the 11th, and we subjoin it:—There is every reason to be satisfied with the favourable impression produced on the Talookdars and the people by the Prince's visit to Lucknow. At noon, on the 10th, His Royal Highness presented colours to the 1st Battalion of the 14th Regiment of the Line. After the ceremony, Lieuts. Le Grice and Taylor's Batteries, with the 65th, 14th, 6th, and 41st Native Infantry, marched past. The march past of the 6th was much admired. At 2.30 on the 10th the Prince bade good-bye. The special train to Cawnpore arrived at 4. The Prince thanked Sir George Couper for the reception at Oude. He drove to the Memorial Church with a Guard of Honour of the Buffs and a cavalry escort. There was an Artillery salute. Mr. Prinsep, Colonel Maude, the civil and military authorities, and multitudes of natives were present. The Prince spent some time examining the church and reading the mural inscriptions. Then they proceeded to the fatal Well and the Enclosure, which stand in a fair park, with flower beds. The Prince remained inside a quarter of an hour, and walked to the Cemetery, close at hand. It is beautifully

kept, and forms a strong contrast to the Crimean graveyard. From the Cemetery the Prince proceeded to Mr. Prinsep's. He dined there, leaving at 9.30 by special train to Delhi. Cawnpore is very quiet. Thousands were sitting by the road sides to see the Prince. The Prince of Wales entered Delhi at 9 a.m. on the 11th. Lord Napier of Magdala was present, and the Generals and an immense mounted staff rode with the suite through the lines of Artillery, Cavalry, and Infantry from the station through the city out by the Lahore Gate over the ridge for four miles to the camp, where the Prince held a levée of European and Native officers, lasting two hours. The Prince dined with Lord Napier, who is not yet able to ride. Crowds of natives are lining the route. Extraordinary triumphal arches have been erected with inscriptions. The general attitude of the population is very respectful and courteous. The Prince received an address from the Delhi Municipality. His Royal Highness was much interested in passing the memorable sites, surrounded as he was by many who had borne a share in the great siege.

H.R.H. PRINCE LEOPOLD.

We feel sure that the entire Craft will rejoice to hear of the nomination of H.R.H. Prince Leopold by his Royal brother our Royal Grand Master, to be Prov.G.M. for Oxfordshire. The close connection of the Royal family with our Order has always been a subject of heartfelt satisfaction to every loyal Freemason, and we feel convinced that on the present occasion that satisfaction will be largely augmented, and universally expressed. H.R.H. Prince Leopold is well known to have many attributes of personal tastes and feelings, greatly in unison with that of our peace-loving and philanthropic sodality. He is a patron of the fine arts, a friend to education in its widest sense, "simpatico" with all those pursuits and tendencies which serve to improve, to adorn, to elevate the human race; most anxious to give his countenance to all that may conduce to the social advancement and æsthetic culture of his fellow citizens; no mean proficient himself, if report be true, in those studies which enlighten, and those branches of learning which civilize, the great family of mortal man. He is a soldier of peace, a pioneer, like his great father, of national advance, of cosmopolitan unity and welfare. And therefore to-day it is that a discerning brotherhood hails its newest ruler with genuine welcome and heartfelt pleasure. May that distinguished province over which he is so fitly called to rule soon demonstrate the benefit of his genial sway, and may it in the future, as in the past, ever maintain its high character for true Masonic principles, for sound Masonic teaching, and for the practice and development of those Masonic virtues and graces without which our highest dignities and our most venerated symbols are but as "sounding brass or a tinkling cymbal."

A MUNIFICENT MASONIC GIFT.

Our pages last week record a most munificent donation by Bro. H. C. Fox, of Philadelphia, to his lodge, the Covenant Lodge, 456, Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, of 5,000 dollars, or £1,000. Bro. W. J. Hughan has kindly called our attention to the circumstance, and we agree with him in his estimation of the act as a remarkable one, and deserving both of record and remembrance. Nay, we may go a little further and say—yes—imitation. For, to say the truth, we have often thought ourselves how much local Masonic charity might be aided in the ever increasing demands on our funds, private and general, by the voluntary offerings to our lodges of some benevolent and well-to-do brethren. As a general rule our lodges are not rich and have but small investments; but we feel sure of this, that much good would accrue to our Order, if lodges had good Benevolence Funds of their own, and if, as a general rule, individual liberality came in to supplement the formal amount of the annual lodge subscription. Many brethren think when they have paid their annual subscription to their lodge that they have done their duty by the Order. We have always held this to be a mis-

take, and we are glad to see our worthy Bro Fox, of Philadelphia, U.S., so to say, "breaking" the ice" and setting an example of lodge donations. We must not shut our eyes to one fact, that though Freemasonry is very prosperous just now it has inevitably its day of trial in store, for the large present admission of members must result ere long in increased demands on all its institutions and all its resources. Now then is the time, while we are sailing before a prosperous wind, to make provision for future possible "dirty weather;" and the only way in which we can do this is by largely increasing our funds of lodge benevolence, and, if possible, making lodges themselves dispense local and immediate aid to deserving applicants. Just as the poor laws, it is most fully and generally admitted, require to be supplemented and aided by individual effort, if ever we are to break down the dreadful "incubus" on honest industry of habitual pauperism, so, if our general funds are to be preserved and relieved, in the pressure which is assuredly coming upon them by anything, it can only be done by the increase of our lodge funds, and the development of lodge relief, judiciously given and carefully supervised. There is a tendency in lodges to throw relief on to the Provincial and the Grand Lodge funds, forgetting, that if our professions are worth anything, if our principles are true, such needful and beneficial work of true Masonic charity, should begin with the lodge in which the recipient first saw the light or received the teaching of Freemasonry. There is another tendency at the present day, equally unsound in practice, to make the aggregate do, what the unit should effect in the first instance. As we hold, that all true work is individual and not general in the world, and that great results are achieved by the unit-worker, not by the aggregate, by the person, not the community, so if Masonic charity is to become properly organised and thoroughly efficient, and sound alike in its theory and practice, it must begin with our lodges, and the Provincial and Grand Lodge Funds should not be appealed to until the actual exigencies of the case required it, or until in justice to others local relief had reached its furthest possible limit. Having said this, we greatly commend and admire Bro. H. C. Fox's munificent gift to the lodge in itself, and call the attention of many large-hearted and liberal-minded brethren in this country, to this seasonable and striking display of American Masonic sympathy and active good will.

THE GIRLS' SCHOOL.

The scheme for the enlargement of the Girls' School is still a thing of the future. At the Quarterly Court on Saturday Bro. Kenyon withdrew his resolution, wisely in our opinion, and the whole matter is now practically before the Committee again. We shall await its report with interest, and we trust that when it appears it may be characterized by clearness of scope, and largeness of vision, and that it may deal efficiently and effectively with the undoubted necessities of the Order. We may add that 21 new candidates were accepted on Saturday.

MASONIC IMPOSTORS IN IRELAND.

We have been requested from Ireland to caution the brethren against some "false brethren," who are now seeking to "loot" the Masonic "Treasury" in that country, and who may perhaps ere long pay us in England, and our brethren across the borders, a fraternal visit. They profess to be American Freemasons, shipwrecked somewhere, but are deliberate Masonic swindlers and vagrants. They are probably some of those worthies who, named in the American Masonic prints, have found the United States too hot for them, and are now seeking to prey on confiding brethren in the old country. We recommend for them an "interview" with the police. We may observe, that one gentleman of this interesting fraternity is now expiating his vagabond raids by a prolonged term of seclusion, little food, and much work, in one of the American penitentiaries. We call attention to an extract elsewhere, taken from the "Keystone," which may assist our good Irish brethren in the matter.

Original Correspondence.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for, or even as approving of the opinions expressed by our correspondents, but we wish, in a spirit of fair play to all, to permit—within certain necessary limits—free discussion.—Ed.]

THE SUPREME COUNCIL 33° IN SCOTLAND.

Letter from D. G. A. Walker Arnott, to Alexander James Stewart, Grand Clerk of the Grand Lodge of Scotland.

2. Victoria Terrace,
Downhill, near Glasgow,
18 April, 1872.

My dear Sir,

To answer your letter fully would consume a vast deal more time than I can afford, particularly as you seem to be perfectly ignorant of what preceded the formation of the Supreme Council of the 33° by Dr. Morrison. The order of Mizraim of 90° was established in Scotland about 40 years ago, I think in 1822, but perhaps earlier; at all events, it was long before March 1829. The heads of that body were the Messrs. Bedarride, of Paris. The late Duke of Athole, and Bro. H. R. Roux and some others were admitted to the 90th degree, and in March several others to the 99th and inferior degrees. I had once a copy of the printed original list, but it seems to have gone astray. Alexr. Deuchar, Sir Patrick Walker, and some others were admitted to the 90th in 1829. The same year it was established here the Bedarride established it in Ireland, and there it forms the third series of their Supreme Council of Rites. The order of Mizraim contained all the degrees that belong to the Rite Ancient of 33° (and many more), except the two highest degrees, the 32° and 33°. You must be aware also, that what was called Prussian Masonry, or the Rite of Perfection, consisted of 25 degrees, and that the highest is the "Princes of the Royal Secret," and identical with the 32nd of the "Ancient Scottish Rite." These were the original degrees, but in America an addition took place in the beginning of the century (4th December, 1802, at Charleston), so as to make the total number 33° (the number of years our Saviour was on earth). No new degree was however concocted, except the 33° itself, all the other 7 were taken from the floating degrees belonging to several small rites in France and elsewhere, all perfectly puerile.

Now the Rite of Perfection of 25 degrees was brought to Scotland, from America, before the Rite Ancient, and Alexr. Deuchar and some others initiated. Deuchar, however, had a wish that all Masonic degrees above M.M., should, if not Christian, be placed under the Royal Arch series; and all those that were Christian, made part of those of the Temple. No arrangement was however completed, although many of the degrees were in accordance with that view, given by him in the Royal Arch Chapters and Templar "Encampments."

The history of the Ancient and Accepted Rite in Scotland is more obscure. From documents shewn to me by Mr. A. Deuchar, it appeared that both he and the late Duke of Athole had received the 33° regularly, as they believed, and, in consequence, Mr. Deuchar received from France, in French, the Ritual of the 33°, I think also of the 31° or 32°, but these he already had.

I was admitted by A. Deuchar to the first degree of Mizraim as far as the 77th on 23rd November, 1842, and as Mr. Deuchar was anxious that I should relieve him of the trouble of looking after the high degrees, I was soon after promoted to the 90°, and I also obtained the highest degree of all the other rites.

No one doubted the perfect legality of our practising these until Dr. Morrison came, and, as the proper documents had been lost, he deemed that the Rite Ancient had been properly established, in consequence of the body with which he was connected in Paris laying down certain forms, which were not regarded necessary by the other body in France which practised the Right Ancient, viz., the Grand Orient of France, the only one now permitted to practise Masonry, and by which our body here would be regarded as irregular, having derived its authority from the polluted source of their opponents.

From this you will at once understand that, although there may be a doubt about the power of the Scottish Council of Rites, formed by the amalgamation of all the rites, to initiate any one into the Rite Ancient generally, we had a full right to confer all the degrees it contains except the 33° itself.

The object of establishing these degrees here was one merely of curiosity; no one considered it to be of the smallest value, and the only object was to keep up the knowledge of them as a record of the folly of those who aspired to "high degrees." A mere trifle was therefore charged for initiation, or rather affiliation, from those who resided in Scotland, but a higher rate was taken from those out of Scotland, because they had some peculiar object in view.

Now, if my memoranda be correct, James Bell and two others, all Knights of the Royal Order and Royal Arch companions of the Chapter Edinburgh, No. 1, were affiliated into the Degree of Rose Croix in March, 1845, and as our rule was to admit them members of all the rites as far as the same degree, in each, this would probably be done. The same at least were all admitted to the degree of K.H., and afterwards to the 87th Degree of Mizraim, to the 25th Degree of Rite of Perfection, and 32nd Degree of the Ancient Rite. Archibald Douglas alone was then admitted to the 33°, but I know that others were afterwards, but feel sure that among these Mr. Bell was not.

After Dr. Morrison established the 33° in his own fashion, I, feeling that there was great impropriety in there being two such powers in Scotland, refused to hold any meetings of the original body, although I did not object to confer the degrees in Mizraim and Rite of Perfection—in short, all except the "Grand Inspector General." I formed

the determination rather to allow the whole to drop than to do anything that would cause umbrage. I ought to mention that Bro. W. Alex. Laurie, Secretary to the Grand Lodge, had been admitted to the Rose Croix, to the 90th of Mizraim, and to the 33rd Degree of the Ancient Rite in September, 1845.

After Dr. Morrison's death—at least, I think it was not till then—a proposal was made to me to join the 33°, as there was then a vacancy. I refused, unless arrangements could be made to admit also to the same degree they who had obtained from my Supreme Council all those in my list—and at a trifling fee—and that if there was no place for them at present in the corresponding degree they were to be received into that of next highest, with the understanding that they were to be promoted when a vacancy occurred, or at all events were to be so according to seniority—they to rank from the date at which they had obtained the degree from Supreme Council.

This was agreed to by the late J. L. Woodman, and I find a memorandum among my papers, dated Glasgow, 1st May, 1857, (at the time I left Glasgow and came to reside here, and when my Masonic papers were likely to get into great confusion by the flitting—indeed, some have entirely disappeared), to the following effect:—

"In consequence of the Rite Ancient having been established in Scotland by Dr. Charles Morrison, in connection with the Supreme Council of the 33° of France, and as the late Alex. Deuchar had left no documents to show that this Rite had been properly established in Scotland, and that he had been admitted a member of the 33rd Degree according to the precise manner laid down in its regulations, the members of the Supreme Council of Rites agreed, without any formal meeting, that they would no longer grant any degree as part of the Rite Ancient, and on the other hand the newly-formed body agreed to admit, as far as there was a place for them, those of the 33°, in connection with the Council of Rites, either to the 33°, or to the next highest degree in which there might be a vacancy, on payment of a modified fee. It was in consequence agreed, also, by the members of the Council of Rites, that in future they would not grant any degrees but those belonging to the Order of Mizraim, and, moreover, that they would not grant more than the 45th Degree to one who was not a member of the Royal Order, or of the 18th of the Rite Ancient, or more than the 63rd Degree until one had obtained the 30th of the Rite Ancient, or the 66th Degree to one who had not received the 31st in the Rite Ancient. This was agreed to, so as to avoid any collision, and in the hope that the fees would be made so moderate as not to exclude brethren. But the members of the Order of Mizraim reserved to themselves power at any time, if they saw cause, to act quite independently of the Rite Ancient, especially if they found it placed obstacles, either by high fees or the ballot, in the way of any brother of respectability, although not of civil rank, obtaining all the degrees up to the 31st inclusive.

"In consequence of the above, no meeting has taken place for several years, the general wish being to allow the Order of Mizraim to die out, unless for the purpose of admitting some worthy brother who would take charge of the papers of the body."

I do not recollect what the modified fees were (but think £1 1s.) made by the Supreme Council of 33°. I alone was admitted to the 33°, there being only one vacancy. Archibald Douglas and some others of my 33° were admitted to the 32°; others cared so little about it that they would not apply or pay the fee. W. A. Laurie, I believe, refused. Dr. MacRitchie and Thomas Elder MacRitchie were both entitled to join the 32°, but I do not know if they did so. Mr. Bell, about whom you wrote, was entitled to join the 32°, but not the 33°; or, if the number was limited, and no place for him, he was entitled to join the 31st, it being distinctly understood that the modified fee was to be a single payment for all the 31°, 32°, and 33°, and that no fee whatever was to be paid for K.H., or Rose Croix, unless they wished a diploma, when they were to pay for the parchment, &c.

I have faithfully kept to my part of the bargain, and hope that the Supreme Council will keep to theirs.

I regret to say that in the matter of the Royal Order, and the 18°, it was distinctly understood by Woodman and myself, when the articles of agreement were made, that every one admitted by the Royal Order as a Knight was entitled to be affiliated into the 18° without ballot or fees, the Royal Order paying the fee of £1 1s. for them. Had Woodman been alive this paction would never have been attempted to be broken, and will force me to grant the Rose Croix of the Order of Mizraim. You will recollect, also, that the Rose Croix formed part of the degree of the Temple in England and Scotland long before Dr. Morrison introduced the 33°. Mr. Bell's oath to the body under me prevents his publishing any secrets, and I do not believe he ever had access to the rituals, at least not from me.

Yours, very truly,

G. A. WALKER ARNOTT.

P.S. As I know you dislike reading or writing long letters, I shall here add a summary—my reasons being given above.

1. Mr. Bell was a member of the 32° before the Rite Ancient was established in Scotland by Dr. Morrison.

2. Mr. Bell is entitled to be admitted to the 31° of your now established Rite Ancient, in virtue of the agreement between me and Mr. Woodman—although rather late of asking to be affiliated with you.

3. Mr. Bell is not entitled to be affiliated except on payment of the modified fee, I believe £1 1s., but the Supreme Council books will show what the others paid—as Archd. Douglas, &c.

4. Mr. Bell is not entitled to free himself from his oath and publish any rituals, &c., unless you violate the paction with me.

5. Mr. Bell remains still a member of the 87° of Mizraim, which I regret you do not combine with the Rite

Ancient, nearly as done in Ireland, in the one Supreme Council of Rites, and so end these squabbles.

6. The first principles of Masonry, I was taught, were equality as far as regards civil rank or private fortune, and to give high office to those only who had proved themselves best Masons, provided their character in the world was unblemished. By these principles I have been actuated throughout; and as Mr. James Bell had been admitted in the Royal Order, and afterwards into the Order of Mizraim, Perfection, &c., at a time, too, when it was difficult to rouse any one to assist in (the giving) the higher degrees, I see no reason why he ought not to be admitted at once to the 32°, or, if the number is limited, into the 31° until a vacancy in the 32° takes place, and that for the modified fee, but without ballot, and by merely taking the vow of allegiance to you.

7. I furnished Mr. Woodman at the time with a list of all (not many) who belonged to the several rites under me, and the degree in the series of 33° to which each was entitled. It would cost me too much trouble and time now to furnish another, from my having allowed the rites to become almost obsolete.

G. A. W. A.

Be so good as to read this postscript to Mr. Bell, or I will send a copy if you wish it.

Since writing the preceding I have found the following memorandum, apparently a copy of the one I gave to Woodman.

Members of Rite Ancient.

Archibald Douglas, 33°, admitted 22nd March, 1845.
F. Sennebler, 31°, 22nd March, 1845, elected, but not obligated.
W. Burn Callender, 31°, ditto.

Thomas Elder MacKitchie, { 32°, 22nd March, 1845.
 { 33°, 4th July, 1845.

James Bell, 32°, 22nd March, 1845.
Edouard Fischer, (in Belgium), member of the 33° Rite
Prin de Naumur, 30° 4th June, 1845.
Lieut. Walter Lawrence, 32°, 6th June, 1845; 33°, 5th January, 1846.

John Grant, surgeon, Calcutta, 33°, 6th June, 1845.
J. L. Hamilton Bourgoyne, 31°, 4th July, 1845; 33°, 12th September, 1845.

A. D. Harrowman, 31°, 4th July, 1845.
W. D. MacRitchie, 32°, 4th July, 1845; 33°, 12th September, 1845.

W. Laurence, Esq., 33°, 4th July, 1845.
W. A. Laurie, 33°, 12th September, 1845.
Viscount Suidale, 32°, 5th January, 1846.
George Phil. Stanhope, 30°, 5th January, 1846.
J. L. Woodman, 33°, 5th January, 1846.

I freed Woodman from his obligation to us when he wished to join Dr. Morrison's body.

The letter, hitherto unpublished, by Dr. G. A. Walker Arnott to Alexander James Stewart (formerly Grand Clerk, then Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Scotland, and Secretary General to the Supreme Grand Council 33°), is a most important document, and should be carefully noted by your numerous Scottish readers. The career of Dr. Arnott is too well known to require any notice from me, and masonically, I presume, few would claim to be his equals in knowledge, and none his superiors, throughout Scotland, his death being a great loss to the Craft. Bro. Stewart also was well known as Grand Clerk, and subsequently as Grand Secretary; the latter office he held but for a short time prior to his decease. Of the names mentioned I have but to state that Bro. Archibald Douglas (deceased) was a searcher of Public Records in Edinburgh. Bro. T. Sennebler (deceased) was a teacher of the French language and a foreigner. Bro. W. B. Callender (deceased) a landed proprietor, resided in Edinburgh. Bro. T. E. MacRitchie, a writer to the Signet, I am happy to state is still living, and a member of the present Supreme Grand Council 33°. Bro. James Bell (deceased), a solicitor in the Supreme Grand Courts of Scotland, and was proprietor of a bi-weekly newspaper called the "North Briton," published in Edinburgh. Bro. W. D. MacRitchie was a medical practitioner in the same city, since deceased. Bro. W. A. Laurie was the Grand Secretary of Scotland prior to Bro. Stewart. Bro. Laurie succeeded his father in that office, and the present Grand Secretary is a representative of the same family, beloved and respected by all who know him. Bro. Viscount Suidale became subsequently Earl of Donoughmore, and Grand Warden of Scotland, and Bro. T. L. Woodman was a writer to the Signet, Grand Clerk to the Grand Lodge of Scotland, and has been dead for many years.

In the other names I have not discovered any particulars worth chronicling here.

W. J. HUGHAN.

A QUERY FOR BRO. J. C. PARKINSON.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Do I understand our excellent Bro. J. C. Parkinson, to say Dr. Samuel Johnson was a Freemason, as appears from a speech at the centenary festival of St. Thomas's Lodge, recently reported in the columns of the "Freemason"? This is a new fact, and if a fact, most interesting to all.

Yours fraternally.

A MASONIC STUDENT.

BRO. BURGESS AND THE MARK DEGREE.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Will you in the cause of fair play allow me to say in the "Freemason" that, having learnt on the 26th of November last that a meeting of the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons would be held on the 30th of that month, I at once addressed a letter to the Secretary, asking him to place before that Grand Lodge my claim, to be at once re-instated, on the ground of my expulsion having been illegally carried out, in defiance of Article 13 of the

Constitutions of the Mark Degree, which provides that no brother shall be expelled from the degree without a hearing in Grand Lodge; and that my claim was suppressed from the meeting of Grand Lodge? I only ask for fair play, but the Temple is too strong in the government of the Mark Degree to let me have it.—Faithfully yours,

CHAS. J. BURGESS.

LAYING THE FOUNDATION STONE OF THE NEW PRINCE'S DOCKS, BOMBAY.

One of the most interesting of all the ceremonies connected with the visit of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales to India, was the laying of the foundation stone of the Prince's Dock, with full Masonic honours, on Thursday, November 11th, when our Royal Grand Master made his first appearance in Asia as the head of our noble Craft.

As our readers will remember, these docks have long been talked of and written about, and a certain section of the community have even persuaded themselves that the vast City of Bombay would be better off without them at all! However, now that a beginning has been made, let us hope that the work may proceed rapidly, and that before many years are over "the Liverpool of the East" will be seen in possession of dock accommodation suitable to the requirements of its extended commerce. The new docks will accommodate thirty large ships and will be available at all seasons. The dimensions will be 1460 feet by 1000 feet, with a jetty 700 feet in length, the total area being 30 acres. The wharves round the dock are from 120 to 200 feet wide. The sills are to be laid at 59.30 on Bombay datum, so that there will be 21 feet on them at half tide, 24 feet at high-water of neaps, and from 27 to 30 feet at spring tides. The walls are to be from 37 to 45 in height, according to the nature of the foundation, and 17 feet thick at the bottom. They are to be of rubble masonry, with a facing of small ashlar and large binders. The stone will be of Bombay basalt, set in mortar made of local lime, mixed with ground pumice from Aden. These walls are about a mile and a half in length; the timber for the dams being procured from the forests of the Austrian Alps, and about 1000 tons have already arrived by the P. and O. Company's steamers from Venice. There are to be two entrances, each 60 feet wide in the clear, with a single pair of gates to each. The stones for the pointing sills are to be of Cornish granite, and are being supplied by Messrs. Freeman and Sons, of Penryn. These are of large dimensions, running up from 4 tons to 15 tons each. The last is the weight of each of the heel-stones. The platform will be secured by means of sluices on each side. A cast iron syphon-pipe is to be laid under both entrances, to hold the pressure-pipes for working the hydraulic gear of the gates, &c. The openings will be spanned by a swing-bridge 180 feet long, turning on the central pier. It is intended to have cranes and shears fit to lift weights up to 60 tons. The excavation from the dock will probably be deposited at Moody Bay, in continuation of the reclamation of that part of the foreshore. For the dredging of the entrance-channel plant is now being made in England. The dredger will be a very powerful machine. Each bucket will hold a ton, and 15 bucketsful will be discharged every minute into hopper barges alongside. The machine can be worked in water from 7 feet to 35 feet in depth. The dredger is being constructed by Messrs. J. and G. Rennie, of Blackfriars and Greenwich; and the three hopper barges are being made by Messrs. John Elder and Co., Glasgow. Each barge will carry 500 tons in its hopper, and the load can be discharged at once through the bottom, by means of tripping chains. The dredger and the hoppers will be all propelled by screws, and their engines are compound surface condensing, working with 60lbs. steam. The dredger's engine is 300 indicated horse-power, and each engine in the hopper is 180 indicated horse-power. The fleet—dredger and hoppers—will be sent out by the Suez Canal, and as their construction is now well advanced, they will probably be here by the end of the next monsoon. These docks are part of a great scheme, commenced about twelve years ago, and on which two millions sterling have been already expended. The whole scheme of reclaiming the harbour foreshore originated with the Hon. A. Malet, a member of Lord Elphinstone's government, in 1854, and has been supported by each successive government up to the present time.

The scene was most animated and picturesque, and the outside public evidently felt great interest in the unusual sight. Over the site a large mandwa had been erected, at the east end was placed the Grand Master's chair, which was of fine carved work, draped with crimson velvet and standing on a dais of green carpet. On either side thereof the visitors were accommodated, whilst the Masons, ranged under their respective banners, lined the pathway from the entrance to the chair. The posts supporting the roof were all draped with coloured cloths, and from the canvas covering hung numbers of flags and banners, arranged with a pleasing artistic effect. Conspicuous amongst the decorations were a number of shields bearing the coats of arms of the several Governors of Bombay, during whose administration the works, and the discussion arising out of them, have been successively carried on, viz.—Lord Elphinstone, Sir Geo. Clerk, Sir Bartle Frere, Sir Seymour Fitzgerald, and Sir Philip Wodehouse. The approach from the street to the spot where the stone stood was a distance of some 200 yards, and was covered in the whole way, and the floor, all along the centre, was carpeted with crimson cloth. Close to the entrance, and on either side, were two robing-rooms, erected for the convenience of the brethren in donning their Masonic attire; and from that point a long avenue, enclosed on either side, led to the main structure and the scene of the ceremony. Above and behind the Prince's chair, and forming a rich and striking background, was hung a beautiful standard

emblazoned with all the quarterings of the Grand Master's arms, worked in various coloured silks, and adorned with a heavy fringe of crimson and gold. This banner, we believe, cost Rs. 4000. In the centre, behind, was worked in gold letters the following inscription:—"Presented by H. H. Mahabat Khanji, K.C.S.I., Nawab of Junagadh. Kathiavad, 1875." In front of the Prince's seat, and to the side of the stone, stood a table, on which was placed a splendid carved ebony casket, containing the implements to be used by His Royal Highness in laying the stone, viz.—A trowel, a mallet, and a plumb-level. The trowel-blade was of silver, richly chased with gold, and with a carved ebony and silver-gilt handle; and the plumb and mallet were both of carved ivory, mounted with silver and gold. They were all beautiful models of the useful instruments they were intended to represent. The face of the trowel bore this inscription—"The foundation stone of the Prince's Dock, Bombay, laid by H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, 11th November, 1875." And on the reverse side was another and longer inscription, which read as follows:—

"Wet Dock, 1460 ft. long and 1000 ft. wide; area 30 acres; depth on sill, neap tides, 24 ft., spring tides, 27 ft. Estimated cost, Rs. 67,43,397. Thomas Ormiston, M. Inst. C.E., Engineer. His Excellency the Honourable Sir Philip Edmond Wodehouse, K.C.B., Governor of Bombay. Trustees of the Port, Col. John A. Ballard, C.B., R.E., Chairman; the Hon. Edward W. Ravenscroft, C.S.; Lieut.-Col. Henry F. Hancock, R.E.; Commander George T. Robinson, late I.N.; Forster F. Arbuthnot, C.S.; Wm. G. Hall, Esq.; Geo. A. Kittredge, Esq.; Geo. F. Henry, Esq.; Henry P. LeMesurier, M. Inst. C.E.; Francis Mayhew, M. Inst. C.E.; The Hon. Nacoda Mahomed Ali Rogay; Sorabji Shapurji Bengali, Esq.; Geo. Manson, Secretary."

The casket itself stood on four silver claws, and had two massive silver handles and a silver plate on the top, bearing the inscription:—"Presented by the Trustees of the Port of Bombay to H.R.H. Albert Edward Prince of Wales, on the occasion of his laying the foundation stone of the Prince's Dock, Bombay, 11th November, 1875."

On the same table stood a sealed bottle, which was intended to be deposited in the cavity of the stone, and which contained copies of five Bombay newspapers:—"The Bombay Gazette," the "Times of India," the "Indian Statesman," the "Guzerat Mitra," and the "Indu Prakash;" a plan of the docks; and the current Indian coins, viz.:—Gold-mohur—ten rupee piece, and five rupee; Silver—rupee, half rupee, quarter rupee, and two annas; Copper—half anna, quarter anna, and pie. A copy of the "Masonic Record of Western India," in a hermetically sealed case, was added to these.

The foundation stone is of Bombay basalt, and bore, on the top the Prince's monogram A.E., and on each side the "Marks" of the Prince, the District Grand Master, the Grand Master of Scottish Freemasonry in India, Bro. Ormiston and R.W. Bro. M. Balfour, were chiselled in the stone, and brought prominently into notice by being marked with red paint. The upper portion of the stone was raised by means of a pulley, and in the lower half was the cavity intended for the reception of the bottle of coins, and papers, and the usual inscribed copperplate.

The seats began early to receive their occupants, and both sides soon presented a gay and picturesque appearance. The native side, filled with gorgeously-dressed rajahs and Parsee ladies, boasted the greatest variety of colour; but the Europeans, with the bright uniforms of military and naval officers plentifully sprinkled among the sober black of the civilians' evening dress, and the pretty and tasteful toilets of the ladies, formed also a striking and interesting spectacle. Among the native chiefs, there were present such distinguished and imposing-looking personages as Sir Salar Jung and other members of the Nizam's deputation, Sir Madhavarao, the Jam of Nowanuggur, the Thakore of Palitana, and H. H. Ali Shah; but the greatest attention was paid to the young Gackwar, who sat apart with his guardian, Sir R. Meade. The young prince wore the black velvet and gold-laced doublet in which he has usually appeared in public while in Bombay, and, besides his magnificent necklace of diamonds, a large gold medal, a silver scabbard and gold-hilted sword (almost as big as himself), and a beautiful gold watch and chain. The last three ornaments have been presented to his highness by the Prince of Wales, and he seemed immensely proud of them, exhibiting them freely, and with evident gratification, to a large number of ladies and gentlemen, who, attracted by the appearance of so young a boy so splendidly decked out, and interested by his extraordinary history, expressed a desire to be presented to him. The boy appeared much interested and pleased with the scene, and listened eagerly to the explanations and information given him by Sir R. Meade. Among the Bombay gentlemen present, we observed Sir William Merewether, Commissioner of Sind; Major-General Kennedy, R.E., Secretary to Government, P.W. Department; A. T. Crawford, Esq., C.S.; Dr. Lumsden, Sanitary Commissioner of the Presidency; Colonel Worgan; Mr. C. P. Cooper, Mr. G. W. Allen, T. C. Glover, Esq., the Contractor; the Trustees of the Port, viz.:—Col. Ballard, Lt.-Col. Hancock, Mr. Ravenscroft, Mr. Arbuthnot, Mr. Hall, Captain Henry, Mr. LeMesurier, Mr. Mathew, the Hon. Nacoda Mahomed Ali Rogay, and Mr. Sorabjee Shapurjee Bengalee, and Messrs. Maclean, Maneckjee Cursetjee, Wadia, and others.

The ceremony was announced to commence at a quarter to five, and shortly before that time the members of the District Grand Lodge, the Grand Lodge of Scotland for Hindustan, and the representatives of the various lodges, to the number of 550, were marshalled into order by Wor. Bro. Rowe (England), the District Grand Master of Ceremonies, aided by Bro. Yates (Scotland), the English brethren lining the right side and the Scotch the left. The banners looked particularly well, chief among them being

those of the Grand Lodge of Scotland. While the brethren were being marshalled, H.E. the Governor, Sir Philip Wodehouse, arrived, and was received by Colonel Ballard and the members of the Trust, and shortly afterwards a cheer from the crowd outside announced the arrival of the Prince. His Royal Highness drove in a carriage and four, escorted by a party of the 3rd Hussars, and was received by a guard of honour of a Native regiment, who saluted as he passed. He was accompanied by Sir Bartle Frere, the Duke of Sutherland, K.G., and his suite, and was received by the Governor, who presented Col. Ballard, C.B., with whom the Prince shook hands, and the other members of the Port Trust. On alighting, the Prince disappeared for a few moments into the robing-room, and shortly emerged, wearing his apron, cuffs, and collar, as M.W. Grand Master of Freemasonry in England. He was otherwise dressed in a plain black frock-coat and white trousers, and the only ornament he wore beside his Masonic emblems was the Star of India; Sir Philip Wodehouse wore the Star of the Bath, Sir Bartle Frere that of the Star of India. While the Prince was dressing, the Governor and other non-Masonic members of H.R.H.'s suite, and the Port Trustees, proceeded to their places near the stone.

[The remainder of the report will appear next week.]

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

The Quarterly Meeting of Subscribers to this Institution was held on Monday, at Freemasons' Hall. Bro. John Symonds, Past Grand Deacon, Vice-Patron, presided. Bros. Lieut. Col. Creaton, P.G.D.; John Symonds, C. F. Matier, H. Browne, A. H. Diaper, H. Massey ("Freemason"), W. Stephens, and F. Binckes, Past Grand Steward (Sec.), were also present. A long list of minutes of previous meetings of committees, &c., were read, after which nine vacancies were declared for filling up at next election out of a list of fifty-nine approved candidates.

The brethren then proceeded to consider the following recommendation of the General Committee, as notice of motion:—"That the right to the presentation of a properly qualified boy in perpetuity for admission to this institution be secured to the Province of Warwickshire on payment to the funds of this institution of one thousand guineas."

Bro. F. Binckes having read this notice of motion, which had been duly advertised,

The Chairman was about to put it to the meeting for adoption, when

Bro. W. Stephens asked whether the amount of £1000 to be paid for the privilege of having one boy in the school in perpetuity was quite sufficient. It appeared to him to be a small sum.

Bro. Binckes replied that before the institution came to the conclusion to fix that sum, the brethren took the opinion of an eminent actuary, who calculated that this was the right amount to charge. On this opinion they acted.

Bro. Henry Browne was of opinion that the amount was not sufficient, and he very much feared that if the law of the institution, that this sum was the price of a perpetual presentation, remained there would soon be a great number of presentation boys in the school.

Lieut. Col. Creaton did not think there ought to be any presentations at all. Still, the law was on the books that there should be, and until it was altered they could but follow it.

The Chairman said there was no law at all on the subject. There was a law as to the price of a presentation for life, but not one for a perpetual presentation.

Bro. Henry Browne asked what was the price of a presentation for life?

Bro. Binckes: 500 guineas.

Lieut. Col. Creaton: There is a law by which we can do it.

The Chairman: Oh, yes.

Bro. Henry Browne: I think we ought to amend the law, but it will take us some two months to do it according to our rules.

Bro. Binckes having read the law that a life presentation should be 500 guineas,

Bro. Henry Browne said that that bore no comparison to a presentation in perpetuity; it was very extravagant compared with that. They must, however, accept the rule that day; but he hoped some one would consider the matter and move the Court to alter the law.

The Chairman: There is no law adequate to this: it is a special law for each particular case. We have struck out the law by which any one was entitled to claim it.

Bro. Binckes said that a rider might be added as an expression of opinion to the resolution granting the presentation to Warwickshire that it was inexpedient that after the present time the privilege should be secured to a province in perpetuity at this sum.

The Chairman thought this could not be done without notice.

Bro. Binckes: But only as an expression of opinion.

Bro. W. Stephens said it would call the attention of the governors and subscribers to the matter.

Lieut. Col. Creaton: Yes; and some one will no doubt take it up.

Bro. W. Stephens said that more than one province now had a perpetual presentation, and that with the instances of these provinces before them other provinces might follow their example. This would be stopping the income of the institution to a great extent, because the different provinces would subscribe a sum of money that they might present a boy in perpetuity, and not subscribe further.

Lieut. Col. Creaton thought until there was a law passed against this granting of presentations they must pass this motion, but he was of opinion that it was right to add the rider suggested to the resolution.

The Chairman, therefore, put the motion, "That the ap-

plication be granted on the recommendation of the General Committee; but that in the opinion of this meeting it is not desirable that any future similar presentation should be granted."

The motion was carried.

On Bro. C. F. Matier rising to propose the following motion, seconded by Bro. J. H. L. Hime, "That any brother not serving the office of Steward who may collect for the R.M.I. for Boys the sum of fifty guineas shall, when that sum is completed, be made a life subscriber, and have one vote for life, and should he collect a further sum of fifty guineas shall, on the completion thereof, receive an additional vote, and so on for every further fifty guineas he may collect."

The Chairman appealed to him not to press it at present, because pains had been taken to assimilate the laws of the Boys' School and the Girls' School, and no similar notice had been given to the latter institution. He might perhaps be told that it was competent for the Girls' School at the next Quarterly Court to adopt this resolution; but three months would elapse before that meeting took place, and then a different class of minds might be present and the motion might not be passed. It had been found very valuable in administering the affairs of the two institutions to have their laws similar; and on this ground he would appeal to Bro. Matier not to press his motion at present. He did not want to discuss the motion itself, as it would be out of place for him to do so; but he thought its terms would require consideration if brought before a future court. A hard and fast line should not be drawn. A difference might be made between Stewards and non-Stewards, and there should be perhaps a certain amount of option.

Bro. Matier expressed his readiness to comply with the Chairman's wish.

Bro. Henry Browne could not see any reason whatever in the argument of the excellent Chairman as regarded the Girls' School. He was quite satisfied that there would be notice given of a similar motion for that institution if it was carried now in the Boys' School. If it was withdrawn here, however, a brother might hesitate to give notice of the motion there. If a brother worked hard to get 50 guineas for either institution why should he not be rewarded with the privilege of a vote at each election for every 50 guineas he collected? He was quite at a loss to understand the pith of the Chairman's argument. If the motion was adopted in the Boys' School, he was sure in his own mind that the Girls' School would adopt it too. If it was good for one it was good for the other. The object of passing it now was that they would have the benefit of it at the next festivals of the Boys' and Girls' Schools, for which there was now ample time if the motion was passed that day. He did not wish to have the matter deferred, and consequently he was quite prepared, if Bro. Matier would proceed with his motion, to second it himself.

The Chairman, in explanation, said he did not propose that in all cases this school should have to follow the Girls'. He would rather that an important alteration of this kind were made at a Special Court of the two institutions, held jointly on the same day, so that there might be no possibility of a divergence of opinion between them. Notwithstanding all the arguments of Bro. Browne, he was not satisfied that it was absolutely certain that a law passed at this institution would be passed at the other. If it was not passed at the other, then they would be immediately breaking up the printing in parallel columns of the rules, which was their great beauty.

Bro. C. F. Matier said that as it was the wish of the Chairman he would defer his motion till next quarterly meeting; but he believed that such a law, if carried, would be found to bring in a large staff of unpaid canvassers. It would cost the institution nothing but a vote. It had been found that the large-hearted men who gave their ten guineas and five guineas placed their money on the Stewards' lists; but the bulk of the Craft, who could give their half-guinea or guinea, were not appealed to. It was for the purpose of getting them appealed to that he brought forward his motion. However, in deference to the wish of the Chairman, he would postpone it till next Quarterly Court.

The Chairman again suggested that there should be a Special Joint Court of the two institutions to discuss the question. As trustee of the Boys' School he had the power to request Bro. Binckes to summon a Special Court of the Boys' School, and Lieut.-Col. Creaton, who was present, had the same power with respect to the Girls' School.

Lieut.-Col. Creaton concurred.

Requisitions were then drawn up and signed for the summoning of a Joint Special Court of the two institutions for the 5th Feb., at three o'clock p.m., and with a vote of thanks to the Chairman for presiding the proceedings of the day terminated.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

The annual entertainment of the boys who did not go home for the holidays was given on Friday, the 7th inst., at the school house, Wood Green. The inclemency of the weather was against a large attendance of visitors, but several brethren of the Lewis Lodge, No. 1185, were present, with the members of their families, to take part in the amusements of the evening, and assist in making the pupils happy. The Rev. Dr. Morris, the head master, was present; Bros. C. F. Matier, of Manchester; Binckes, Secretary; Miss Hall, matron, and the general staff of the institution also. There were numerous amusements provided for the boys, the principal one, however, being Mr. Bridgman Smith's two lectures, "The World," and "Cinderella," accompanied by his excellent dissolving views. Those of the former illustrated the natural wonders to be seen in different parts of our globe, and of the latter the well-known fairy tale. The entertainment was highly

appreciated, and gave our young friends especial delight. On Tuesday last the entertainment was supplemented by the boys being taken to see the capital pantomime at the Alexandra Palace.

The subscriptions to this institution amounted in 1875 to the enormous sum of £13,211, thus exceeding the estimated amount announced at last festival by £500.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.

A Quarterly Court of the Governors and Subscribers of the above Institution was held on Saturday last in the Board-room, Freemasons' Hall. Bro. Lieut.-Colonel J. Creaton, P.G.D., Vice-Patrol, was voted to the chair. Among the other brethren present were Bros. H. Browne, P.G.D.; John A. Rucker, P.G.D.; Walter Wellsman Samuel Poyater, Thomas W. White, E. H. Finney, George Kenning, Rev. A. F. A. Woodford, P.G.C.; Robert Kenyon, Robert B. Webster, Thomas Massa, Joseph Smith, P.G.P.; John Symonds, P.G.D.; E. J. Barron, P.G.S.; S. Rawson, P. Dist. G.M. China; Raynham W. Stewart, P.G.D.; George Wright, H. Muggeridge, W. Roebuck, A. H. Diaper, H. M. Levy, W. F. C. Moutrie, W. Dawson, John Boyd, P.G.P.; F. D. R. Copestick, Fredk. Keily, W. Hall, H. Massey ("Freemason"), and R. Wentworth Little, Prov. G.S.W., Middlesex (Secretary).

Bro. Little having read the notice calling the meeting, and the minutes of former meeting, which were put and confirmed, the Chairman called on Bro. Kenyon to bring forward the following motion, of which he had given notice:—"That a branch school be established as soon as practicable, and that a committee of five Governors be appointed to inspect a freehold estate at Sunninghill, comprising about ten acres and a half, with a view to purchasing the same, and erecting the requisite school thereon; that the outside cost of the land and buildings shall not exceed £15,000."

Bro. Kenyon said that out of due deference and respect to the members of the Special Committee, to whom this question had been amongst others referred, he wished to postpone all discussion on his motion set down for consideration that day. The Christmas holidays had intervened since he gave notice of this motion, and no meeting of the Committee could possibly have taken place. He, therefore, should propose that until that committee had made its report he should not bring on any discussion of his motion. He would, therefore, either withdraw his notice, and give a fresh notice for next Court, or postpone the present motion till that time. He would ask not to be called upon at present to make his motion (hear, hear), and it was out of respect to the committee that he did so.

Bro. Joseph Smith, P.G.P., thought Bro. Kenyon should withdraw his motion, and he would propose that that should be done, because it was hardly fair perhaps, while the subject was before the Special Committee, to get this motion on before the Quarterly Court. Bro. Kenyon had exercised a wise discretion. He (Bro. Joseph Smith) should have opposed the motion tooth and nail if it had been brought on. If Bro. Kenyon's motion had been carried it would have been by stealing a march upon the committee.

Bro. Kenyon begged (Bro. Joseph Smith's) pardon. He had given notice that he would bring on his motion at this meeting, and having appeared in his place for the purpose of doing so he had fulfilled his plan. The report of the committee might render it unnecessary for him to renew his motion.

The Chairman asked whether he understood that Bro. Kenyon withdrew his notice of motion.

Bro. Kenyon replied that he thought that would be the right course.

The notice of motion was accordingly withdrawn.

The Chairman then called for Bro. H. W. Hemsworth to bring forward the motion of which he had given notice, "That not more than two children of same parents be admitted to this institution at the same time," but Bro. Hemsworth not being present and no brother moving on his behalf, the matter fell to the ground.

Bro. Robert B. Webster thereupon brought on his motion, upon the recommendation of the General Committee:—"That the sum of twenty guineas be granted to Miss Moss, late assistant governess, as a gratuity on her retirement from the school." Miss Moss, he said, had been in the school now something like twenty years, and had during that time won the confidence of every one connected with the institution. (Hear hear.)

Bro. John Symonds, Past Grand Deacon, and Vice-Patron of the institution, said that he had the greatest pleasure in rising to second the motion. Having been for many years connected with the school he had had an opportunity of seeing Miss Moss's career in that school. He was sure that every brother must feel she thoroughly deserved the higher promotion she had obtained. She had faithfully followed in the steps, first of Miss Brandenburgh, of the London Orphan Asylum, and afterwards of Miss Davis, in the school. The British Orphan Asylum in obtaining Miss Moss as head governess had secured the services of a most efficient mistress. She had earned the respect of all the brethren; and the very least compliment they could pay her on her leaving the Masonic Girls' School was to present her with a gratuity of the nature proposed. (Hear hear.)

The Chairman observed that if he might be allowed to add a few words on the subject he would say that he quite concurred in all the remarks that had fallen from the two preceding speakers. Miss Moss had been a most valuable governess, and she had been connected with the school nearly twenty-one years. He was only sorry that the sum proposed to be given her was not larger than it was. Twenty guineas was really too small a sum. Some short time ago they had given £20 to the gardener's

wife, who had not one tithe of the claim on them that Miss Moss had. He only wished he had the power of moving that the sum should be larger.

Bro. Raynham W. Stewart, Past Grand Deacon, said perhaps Bro. Webster would withdraw his motion for the present, and then bring forward at the next court a motion including the increased sum.

Bro. Webster replied that he would do so.

Bro. W. Roebuck quite agreed with Bro. Stewart. Miss Moss at the present time ought to have held a much better position than she had (a Brother: "No doubt about it.") He would be glad to see the amount increased to fifty guineas.

Bro. John Symonds, P.G.D., entertained much the same view on the subject as the worthy chairman, a feeling of regret that the sum proposed was not larger than twenty guineas, but as that sum had been recommended by the General Committee to this Court, it would not do for the brethren now to take any exception to it. He was, however, quite sure that the course which had been suggested would commend itself to all of them, and it was on that ground he would second the proposition to withdraw the motion.

Bro. Raynham W. Stewart, P.G.D., would, in a friendly spirit, move as an amendment to Bro. Webster's proposal that the matter be referred to the House Committee. They could recommend it to the General Committee, and then it would come back to the Quarterly Court.

The Chairman said he quite advocated such a course; the House Committee would, he felt sure, fall into the views which had been expressed.

Bro. John A. Rucker, P.G.D., as a member of the House Committee, informed the Court that there was a very strong feeling among the brethren of the House Committee that the sum of twenty guineas which they were proposing was too small; and, it was only from fear that the larger sum would not be carried unanimously at the Quarterly Court that they determined on recommending the smaller sum. They thought it would be better to give a small sum, unanimously voted, than run the risk of a large sum not being unanimously granted.

The Chairman: I am sure that explanation is very satisfactory.

The matter was then referred back to the House Committee, on the motion of Bro. Robert B. Webster, seconded by Bro. John Symonds.

Eleven vacancies were then declared for next election, and the list of candidates was settled at forty-four.

On the motion of Bro. John Symonds, P.G.D., seconded by Bro. S. Rawson, Past District Grand Master of China, a vote of thanks was passed to the Chairman for presiding, and the Chairman having replied, the brethren separated.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.

The annual Twelfth-night celebration which is provided by the members of the House Committee of this Institution to the girls who remain in the school during the Christmas holidays was held on Thursday week, on the premises at Battersea Rise. Thirty-nine of the pupils had not gone home for the holidays, but their Christmas had been merrily spent, and everything had been done to make them happy and comfortable. And very happy and comfortable they had been, for Christmas cheer had been bestowed upon them, and Christmas amusements had been partaken of. The crowning point, however, of these amusements is reached on Twelfth-day, when the House Committee, with the ladies of their families, Bro. Little, the Secretary of the Institution, and Mrs. Little; the familiar old form of Bro. Henry Muggeridge, the collector; Bro. Hedges, Miss Jarwood, the matron and centre figure, with the governesses, all join the young people in the general festivities. Miss Davis, the head governess, was this year away on her holidays, but Miss Redgrave, the successor of Miss Moss (who has become head governess of the British Orphan Asylum), most ably discharged the hostess's duties. The weather without the walls of the Institution was cold and cheerless; snow fell in large quantities, and the traveller by road felt the necessity of Christmas cheer. In bright contrast to this wintry weather, and the brighter for the contrast, was the aspect of the building from the exterior. The festivities commenced early in the afternoon, and when darkness set in, the lights in the windows, the fires burning, the music playing, and the sounds of dancing and cheerful voices within the house, promised the visitor a hearty welcome. Flitting to and fro along the corridor were to be seen through the glass doors of the entrance hall the little girls walking in couples to an fro, neatly dressed waiting maids, and here and there a committee man or his wife, anxious that nothing should be wanting that might add to the evening's enjoyment. On entering, this was more manifest, for in addition to the hearty welcome with which a visitor was received, "Welcome," in Christmas emblems, was profusely displayed on the walls. The children's tea was provided at four o'clock, and in the interval between that and the visitors' tea, which was partaken of at five, visitors and children engaged in dancing and music. At five the visitors sat down to tea, and among those present were the following:—Bros. Benj. Head (without whom these agreeable gatherings would lose much of their charm), H. Collington, Joshua Nunn, Mrs. Nunn, Miss Nunn, Mrs. Rowland, Miss Rowland, H. A. Dubois, Miss Dubois, Robert B. Webster, H. C. Levander, H. d'Antier, John A. Rucker, H. M. Levy, R. H. Tattershall, H. Massey, ("Freemason"), Thomas W. White, H. Muggeridge, Mrs. Muggeridge, Miss Muggeridge, Miss Sawyer, R. W. Little, Mrs. Little, E. H. Thiellay, Edward Cox, John Boyd, Mrs. and Miss Massey, Bro. Hedges, and F. J. Cox. No time was lost; and the visitors after tea again joined the children in the merry dance. Before seven o'clock Bro. F. J. Cox (optician of Ludgate-hill) had kindly furnished his beautiful dissolving views and an operator and lecturer,

and the large exercise room was fitted up for the exhibition. Nearly two hours of this excellent entertainment was provided, and visitors, matron, governesses, pupils, and servants of the institution participated in it. It was admirable in design and execution, and met with unqualified admiration. After this the children went to supper, when the twelfth-cake, wine, bonbons, and drawing for characters occupied the attention of every one for another hour. Again, dancing, refreshments to visitors, bonbons, and characters, cheerful and happy conversation, reminiscences of the old school, always gratifying (some of the pupils had come down to join in the entertainment), and then more dancing and singing. In the last acquirement, Miss Josephine Mackay created great excitement by her wonderfully beautiful execution of the song, "The Bridge." Her careful singing and exquisite voice took the company entirely by surprise, and she was greatly cheered on her resuming her seat. Thus matters went on till ten o'clock at night, when London visitors, knowing "the perils that do environ" travellers by Clapham Junction, had to think of the principal peril of losing a train. On a wintry night this was a weighty consideration, and even the bright happy faces of the children, the hospitable reception, and the warm rooms of the building, could not induce them to stop. Therefore, after having spent a most happy evening, and wishing all the inmates a happy new year and many of them, they took their departure. The amount of subscription to this institution during the past year is £8663 14s., £1600 more than was announced at the last festival. This is exclusive of the grants made to the institution by Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter, and also exclusive of dividends on invested funds.

ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

The monthly meeting of the Committee of this Institution was held on Wednesday last, in the library, Freemasons' Hall, Lieut. Col. Creation in the chair. There were also present Bros. S. Rawson, Benj. Head, Raynham W. Stewart, Charles Lacey, R. Wentworth Little, W. Hale, W. Hilton, James Brett, W. Stevens, H. M. Levy, Geo. Bolton, Joshua Nunn, Thomas W. White, John Newton, Henry G. Warren, John M. Stedwell, L. Stean, F. Adlard, Dr. Jabez Hogg, John Constable, H. Massey ("Freemason"), and James Terry, Secretary.

After the minutes had been read and confirmed, the Secretary reported the deaths of nine annuitants, five men and four women. The Wardens' report, which was also read by the Secretary, informed the committee of the receipt of 56 sacks of coals, the gift of Grand Lodge. The report also conveyed the thanks of the inmates for the very successful entertainment given to them on the 5th inst., and also for Bro. W. Hale's gift of 11b of tea to each inmate, and for the gifts of tobacco, &c.

The Financial Committee's report was received, to which was appended a recommendation that on account of the Secretary's duties being so much increased an addition of £50 a year be made to his salary. (This will come before the Committee at their next meeting.)

The brethren then proceeded with the consideration of the petitions, which occupied an hour. In the end it was found that 12 women and 6 men had been passed. One case (male) was rejected, and one widow's petition for half her late husband's annuity was granted. The petition of a widow, who some time since left the asylum to live with her friends, to be allowed to return, was allowed, though the principle was objected to. The petition of the friends of Louis Holberg, for the return of 50 guineas which he had given to the institution, was refused, the grounds advanced for such return being decided to be totally insufficient. The list of candidates for next election was thereafter settled, the number being 59, 26 men and 33 women; 21 new male cases, and 5 brought forward; and 17 new female cases, and 16 brought forward.

The Committee passed a vote of thanks to the Chairman, and adjourned till the 8th February.

ORGANS.—We have much pleasure in calling the attention of our readers to the many advantages offered by THE ESTEY AMERICAN ORGAN, and to this original and genuine instrument the credit for superior excellence alone belongs. Among the numerous improvements introduced the Patent Vox Humana is deserving of special attention, a wonderful invention, imparting to the tone a charming wave-like effect, hitherto unknown in instrumental music. In addition there are numerous patents in connection with THE ESTEY AMERICAN ORGAN, among which we select for notice the Patent Octave Coupler, and the Manual Sub-Bass, &c. These organs are designed for the Drawing-room, Public Halls, Churches, Schools, Lodges, &c., in prices varying from 12 to 125 guineas, especial attention being called to an eight-stop organ, 38 guineas, possessing sufficient power for the Drawing-room, with great variety and sweetness of tone; and a ten-stop Instrument, with many patented improvements, 50 guineas—of the latter, no need organ of its size and price will bear comparison to it. We strongly advise Masonic brethren visiting London, and those resident in Town, who are about purchasing, either for private use or Public Halls, Masonic or otherwise, Churches, &c., to visit the ESTEY AMERICAN ORGAN COMPANY'S Show Rooms, 6, Argyll-st., Regent-st., where every attention and information will be afforded, and the several instruments can be seen. Every instrument made by the firm fully warranted, and so simply arranged, that the most ordinary performer can manage it. Illustrated pamphlet and price-list on application and post-free.

The installation meeting of the Enoch Lodge, No. 11, took place on Wednesday last. A report of the proceedings will appear in our next.

Reviews.

"THE GOLDEN PHEASANT," "YOUNG FOLKS' WEEKLY BUDGET."—London. J. Henderson.

We are struck with these evidences of the love of fairy tales which exist amongst us, nay, seems to be increasing amongst us at the present hour. In our young days even fairy tales were going out, and realistic stories like "Sandford and Merton," "The Boys' own Book," &c., were coming in. Not that "Robinson Crusoe" was unknown, or the tales of the Genii unread, or the "Arabian Nights" were strange to us then—no, they were duly perused, alike at a "scoob" at Winchester, and on a wet day, and before the fire. But the "Swiss Family Robinson Crusoe," with its greater details of actuality, and the "Old English Baron," and "The Seventh Champion of Christendom" gave way to Peter Parley's tales, and countless other useful and improving booklets for youth. And here we are after the lapse of how many years?—well never mind—with a fresh "outcome" of fairy literature before us. A profound writer who has been "discoorsing" eloquently and "elegantly" on fairy literature, in the "Times" newspaper, as they say, hardly seems to realize the immense amount of current productions of this kind, which find a ready sale, and countless young and trusting readers. He may be au fait as regards the past, and he writes very well about it, but as to the present he is certainly not "up," and we must therefore deal with the subject as a subject "sui generis" ourselves. Well, we do not find fault with the taste for this fairy literature on the part of the young, though some have decried it, and more have condemned it. And for this reason. We believe, that in this love of fairy literature, we discern the traces of those nobler aspirations which still amid many weaknesses, much debasement, and patent evil, seem to cling, so to say, to our poor humanity. For in fairy tales we have vice, if triumphant for the moment, eventually overthrown, virtue prevailing, and good upheld, the base and the cowardly, and the crooked go to the wall, and the honourable, and the brave, and the upright, win the race, and conquer in the struggle. The good fairy always appears at the right moment, says the right thing, and does the right act. Why then is youth to be blamed, if in an ideal world of its own it seeks to find the typical representatives of virtue and constancy, of right and faith, of trust and duty, of all that is fair, and loving in this darkened world of ours? We do not, ourselves, much care how you implant a love of these graces and virtues in the youthful mind, if only you do so. Some minds are affected by the essay and sermon, others by the imaginative and mystical; all in our opinion ought to be pressed into the moral education of the young, as then if ever, the admiration of the true, the beautiful, the right, is to be implanted in their tender breasts. King Pippin and the Golden Pheasant, will be read, no doubt, by many trusting juvenile students, and we find no fault with their tastes, neither do we frown on their love of the marvellous, because we firmly believe au contraire, that in their loyal hearts and loving sympathies they admire all that is gracious and noble, and beneficent and brave, and they condemn with their happy earnestness the lower teaching of that grovelling school, which delights to picture dirt, and is utterly reckless of dishonour, and ignorant of moral truth and beauty.

THE LADIES' TREASURY. Edited by MRS. WARREN.—BEMROSE & SONS.

This is a most interesting magazine for what the intelligent foreigner called "our vimmins" and we have pored over its pages with much of mental admiration. Certainly the ladies are ahead of us, and if you may judge by the "Ladies' Treasury," they are equally "au fait" of the latest Parisian fashions, or of the last excursions into the ologies; poetry, and romance, crochet work and cookery, sentiment and sobriety, all are "fish for their net," and if the men don't look out, as old John Jones says, there'll be no "holding 'em in." Nay, if our own domestic angel wishes to see how best she can be dressed, or how well she can be instructed, let her study the "Ladies' Treasury."

THE WESTMINSTER PAPERS.—W. KENT & CO.

An interesting serial for proficient in chess and lover of whist. We commend it to both classes, as we think both games deserve to be cultivated amongst us, despite the opposition of some well meaning but fanatical persons.

THE ARTIST.—HARRISS & SON.

This is a new weekly journal for the artistic world, and very promising it is.

WHITTAKER'S JOURNAL.

This is also a new venture, and we are dealing with No. 1. It seems to us very likely to be a success; and we wish it heartily a good "trade wind." We are especially struck with "As Long as She Lived," and shall follow the story with interest and pleasure.

THE "ERA" ALMANACK.

We wish that we could give to this useful and interesting publication the space it deserves. We could linger a long time by it, for it is rendered doubly interesting by the autographs of actresses and actors, with whose names and features we are many of us so familiar. Among the former appear the well-known names of Marie Bancroft, Madge Kendal, Ada Swanborough, Lydia Thompson, Ellen Terry, Marion Terry, Adelina Patti, Charlotte Saunders, Ada Lester, Mrs. John Wood, Emily Fowler, Rose Hersee, Emma Albani, Genevieve Ward, Fanchita, Mrs. K. Crowe, Helena Ernstone, Adeline Billington, Caroline Hill, Ada Ward, Fanny Brough, Minnie Walton, Myrie Fairfax, and Ellen Meyrick. Among the latter we note the popular appellations of G. W. Anson,

Dion Boucicault, Wm. Terris, George Conquest, Joseph Eldred, John Ryder, Henry Compton, Henry Howe, John Clark, Henry Sinclair, Frank Holland, Wm. Kendall, C. Santley, G. Clarke, Thomas Thorne, and many more, all living representatives of the "poor actors," who still can warm our sentiment, delight our sympathies, arouse our emotions, and excite our risibility. We are among those who wish well to the stage and to those who play their parts so well, for the amusement of us ungrateful mortals. Let Mawworm denounce, let Bartolo calumniate actresses and actors the ornaments of the crowded theatre, may equally adorn private life, with unostentatious virtue, and kindly natures. That the stage has its pitfalls, and its snares, and its dangers, who will deny? But so has human life, and in our opinion, the prejudice which too often accompanies the word "actress" or "actor," is a disgrace to civilization, and we will even say to religion. We look upon the stage as a great school of morals, and a passing if genial satire upon our follies and faults, our high flown pretensions and our baser developments; and if it ever degenerates into licence, or is vitiated by a forgetfulness of propriety and decorum, the fault is not with the stage itself as a profession. If in order to raise the cachinnations of the gaudier, or to gain the applause of the anser, indecency and vulgarity mark its utterances, the blame is to be visited, not on those who live to please, but on perverted intellects, and debased sympathies, on the taste and temper of the age, on those who tempt only to betray, and who insolently patronize only to degrade. We thank the editor of the "Era Almanack" for a very readable and pleasant book.

Masonic and General Tidings.

Having completed his University education, H.R.H. Prince Leopold has given up his residence at Oxford, known as Wykeham House, and has taken up his abode at Boyton, Codford, Wilts, where his goods have been recently removed. The installation of His Royal Highness as Provincial Grand Master of the Freemasons of Oxfordshire will, it is understood, take place on February 22nd.

The annual banquet and meeting of the Unanimity Lodge, No. 102, was held on Monday last, the visitors including the Grand Master of the Province of Norfolk, Bro. Lieut. Col. the Hon. F. Walpole, M.P. At this meeting Bro. the Rt. Hon. Lord Suffield, the W.M. elect, should have been installed, but, as his lordship is now in India with H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, that ceremony is postponed until his return. A fuller report of this meeting will appear in our next.

A quarterly court of the Needleworkers' Company was held in the Guildhall, when a considerable number of the livery were present. The Master, Bro. J. C. Parkinson, Past Deputy Prov. Grand Master for Middlesex, J.P., delivered an address, advising them to do all in their power to maintain the company's ancient rights and privileges, and presented to each liveryman a certificate, engrossed on vellum, of his admission to the freedom of the company.

The Royal York Lodge, No. 315, held a private ball on Tuesday night, at the Pavilion, Brighton, in aid of the Masonic charities. The band of the Royal Scots Greys attended, by permission of Col. Nugent and the officers of the regiment, and the company numbered about 150.

Bro. Alderman Stone has contributed £5 5s. to the funds of the Gifford Hall Mission.

The Town Council of St. Helen's, Lancashire, have bought the local gas-works for £131,000.

The members of the Benevolent Fund attached to the Lodge of Joppa met on Monday evening last, at Bro. Albert's, the Hon. Sec., to elect a President for the ensuing year. After a short discussion, owing to a member of the lodge being present who was not eligible to serve on the committee, the brethren proceeded to ballot, when Bro. Lewis Alexander, P.M. and Senior V.P., was elected by a considerable majority. We regret to say that Bro. S. E. Hickman, I.P.M., one of the trustees, was unable to attend in consequence of meeting with an accident the day before.

The Cestrian Chapter, No. 423, will be consecrated on Monday next, the 17th inst., at the Grosvenor Hotel, Chester, by the Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Superintendent, Lord de Tabley, for which purpose his lordship has given directions for a convocation of R.A. Freemasons to be summoned for 2-30 p.m. on that day. His lordship will be assisted in the ceremonies of consecration of the chapter and installation of the Principals by his Provincial Grand Officers and Comp. Henry Muggeridge, Past Grand Standard Bearer of England. The Principals (Designate) of the chapter are Comps. Horatio Lloyd, M. E.Z.; John Chesworth Robinson, H.; and John Oswell Bury, J.

The Captain Superintendent of the Goliath, who has been so warmly commended for his kindness to the poor boys under him, and for the example of courage he placed before them in standing on the burning ship until the last, saying, when urged to leave, "That's not the way at sea, my boys," is an old brother, and every Mason will rejoice that Bro. Captain Bouchier succeeded in rescuing so many of the poor boys. He was warmly supported by Bro. Jenkins, the Harbour Master of Gravesend.

The annual Masonic Ball in Liverpool, which took place at the Town Hall, last Tuesday, was a very successful affair, and the funds of the West Lancashire Masonic Educational Institution will doubtless be greatly augmented in consequence. A full report of the ball will appear in next week's "Freemason."

Bro. Major E. S. Stillwell, of the 1st London Engineer Volunteers, has been gazetted Lieut.-Colonel.

The Metropolitan Club of Instruction, No. 1507, will hold its anniversary festival at 269, Pentonville-road, on the evening of the 28th inst. The brethren will sit down to banquet at half-past six o'clock.

A MASONIC PRESENTATION.—At a meeting of the Provincial Grand Chapter of Staffordshire, held at Tamworth, on the 23rd of September last, it was resolved to give a wedding present to Lady Theresa Talbot, eldest daughter of the Earl of Shrewsbury, Provincial Grand Master of Staffordshire, on her marriage with Viscount Castlereagh. Accordingly, a committee was appointed, consisting of Major Tudor, P.D.P.G.M.; Mr. Frank James, D.P.G.M.; Mr. H. Woodhouse, P.P.G.D.; Mr. James Rodgers, P.P.G.D.; and Mr. J. Jacobs, P.P.G.R., and the movement having been heartily taken up by the various lodges in the province, it was decided that the present should take the form of a diamond pendant and necklet, bearing appropriate Masonic emblems. The ornament is in 18-carat gold, and is surmounted with an earl's coronet, jewelled with diamonds, rubies, and emeralds. Around the locket proper are 34 large diamonds, and Masonic emblems in the centre—namely, the square and compasses, and the five pointed star, with the word "Staffordshire" underneath. On the reverse side of the locket is the following inscription:—"Presented by the Freemasons of Staffordshire to Viscountess Castlereagh, eldest daughter of the P.G. Master, October 2nd, 1875." The necklet consists of alternate oblong and circular links, the latter bearing the five-pointed star and other ornamentations, and the links are joined together at the bottom with the Staffordshire knot. The jewel is enclosed in a handsome case, and altogether it is a very pretty present. It is expected that the Viscountess will return from her honeymoon next week, when the presentation will be made; and for this purpose the committee, with Mr. Davis, have been invited to Ingestre Hall, by the Earl of Shrewsbury.—"Daily Post," Dec. 25th, 1875.

INFORMATION OF IMPOSTORS.

In pursuance of our purpose to aid in shielding the Craft from the numerous impostors who strive to ply their nefarious trade at the expense of the charities of the fraternity, we give below brief, pointed descriptions of several who have been recently detected in this jurisdiction. We are indebted to Bro. John P. Clark, Secretary of Newport Lodge, 381, F. and A.M., Newport, Perry County, Pa., for the following names and descriptions, and we will thank other Secretaries to further us in our laudable undertaking to aid in exposing those who have been discovered to be impostors.

It will be observed that all of the following claimed to hail from jurisdictions outside of our own:—

We are indebted to a Louisiana brother for the following description of an impostor who is now, or lately was, in that State, having come from Illinois:—Name, W. W. Temblum, with several aliases; about five feet eight inches in height; dark complexion; large, full, blue eyes; well built; about thirty-five years of age; fluent in speech; and "bright."

James Potter, Franklin Lodge, No. 20, A.F. and A.M., Westerley, Rhode Island, about fifty years old, five feet nine inches in height; a little stooped; florid complexion; slight Irish accent. Is not a member of No. 20, but has assumed the name of the W.M. of No. 20, R.I.

T. C. O'Neil, Jeffree More Lodge, No. 95, Morenci, Michigan. Hair steel-mixed; eyes grey; gray whiskers below jawbone; height about five feet five inches; thin; face pallid; large and long upper lip; says his age is seventy-seven in September; keen look out of his eyes; is known in Morenci; is not a member of any lodge in the United States.

John P. Hale, Independence Lodge, No. 131, A.F. and A.M., Kansas; professed to be going to friends in Westmoreland Co., Pa.; a little lame; about fifty years old; is not a member of Independence Lodge, or of Equity Lodge, No. 131, Kansas.—"Keystone."

METROPOLITAN MASONIC MEETINGS

For the Week ending Friday, January 21, 1876.

The Editor will be glad to receive notice from Secretaries of Craft Lodges, Royal Arch Chapters, Mark Lodges, Preceptories, Conclaves, &c., of any change in place or time of meeting.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 15.

- Lodge 715, Panmure, Terminus Hot., Cannon-st.
 " 1329, Sphinx, Bridge House Hot., London Bridge.
 " 1364, Earl of Zetland, Old Town Hall, Hackney.

INSTRUCTION.

Manchester, 77, London-st., Fitzroy-square.
 Lily, Greyhound, Richmond.
 Star, Marquis of Granby, New Cross-road.
 Sinai Chapter, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.

MONDAY, JANUARY 17.

- Lodge 1, Grand Master's, F. M. H.
 " 21, Emulation, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
 " 58, Felicity, London Tav., Bishopsgate-st.
 " 185, Tranquillity, Terminus Hot., Cannon-st.
 " 720, Panmure, Balham Hot., Balham.
 " 862, Whittington, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
 " 901, City of London, Gurney's Hot., Little Britain.
 " 907, Royal Alfred, F. M. H.

- Lodge 1159, Marquis of Dalhousie, F. M. H.
 " 1201, Eclectic, F. M. H.
 Chap. 12, Prudence, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.
INSTRUCTION.
 Prince Leopold, Lord Stanley Tav., Kingsland.
 Strong Man, Jerusalem Tav., St. John's Gate.
 Sincerity, Railway Tav., Fenchurch-st. Station.
 Camden, Stanhope Arms, Up. James-st., Camden To.
 Eastern, Royal Hot., Mile-end-road.
 St. James's Union, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
 Wellington, White Swan, Deptford.
 West Kent, St. Saviour's College, Forest-hill.
 Perfect Ashlar, Victoria Tav., Lower-rd., Rotherhithe.
 Sydney, White Hart Ho., Church-rd., Upper Norwood.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 18.

- Board of General Purposes, at 4.
 Lodge 30, United Mariners', Guildhall Tav.
 " 73, Mount Lebanon, Brid. Hou. Ho., London-brid.
 " 95, Eastern Star, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.
 " 162, Cadogan, F. M. H.
 " 165, Honour and Generosity, London Tav.
 " 194, St. Paul's, Terminus Hot., Cannon-st.
 " 435, Salisbury, F. M. H.
 " 704, Camden, Bull and Gate, Kentish Town.
 " 857, St. Mark's, Half Moon Tav., Herne Hill.
 " 1441, Ivy, Windsor Castle, Southwark Bridge-rd.
 Chap. 46, Old Union, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
 " 890, Hornsey, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.

INSTRUCTION.

- Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney.
 Domestic, Surrey M. H., Camberwell New-road.
 Faith, 2, Westminster Chambers, Victoria-st.
 Prince Fredk. Wm., Lord's Hot., St. John's Wood.
 Dalhousie, King Edward, Triangle, Hackney.
 Prosperity, 1, Camomile-st., Bishopsgate.
 St. Marylebone, British Stores Tav., St. John's Wood.
 Constitutional, Wheatheaf Hot., Hand-court, Holborn.
 Percy, Grapes Tav., Little Windmill-st., W.
 Israel, Rising Sun Tav., Globe Road.
 Royal Arthur, Prince's Head, York-road, Battersea.
 Metropolitan Chapter, Jamaica Coffee Ho., Cornhill.
 Beacontree, Red Lion, Leytonstone, at 8.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 19.

- General Committee Grand Chapter.
 Lodge of Benevolence, at 6.
 " Grand Stewards.
 " 140, St. George's, Trafalgar Hot., Greenwich.
 " 174, Sincerity, Guildhall Tav., Gresham-st.
 " 190, Oak, F.M.H.
 " 619, Beadon, Greyhound Tav., Dulwich.
 " 700, Nelson, M. H., William-st., Woolwich.
 " 969, Maybury, F. M. H.
 " 1044, Wandsworth, Spread Eagle, Wandsworth.
 " 1349, Priests, Cheshire Cheese, Crutched Friars.
 " 1382, Corinthian, George Inn, Cubitt Town.
 Chap. 10, Westminster and Keystone, F. M. H.
 " 141, Faith, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
 " 192, Lion and Lamb, Terminus Hot., Cannon-st.

INSTRUCTION.

- Mt. Lebanon, Windsor Cas. Tav., Southwark-bdg.-rd.
 Pythagorean, Prince of Orange, Greenwich.
 New Concord, Rosemary Branch Tav., Hoxton.
 Royal Union, Horse and Groom, Winsley-st., Oxford-st.
 Confidence, White Hart Tav., Abchurch-lane.
 Peckham, Maismore Arms, Park-road, Peckham.
 Stanhope, Thicket Hot., Anerley.
 Finsbury Park, Finsbury Park Tav., Seven Sisters'-rd.
 Southwark, Southwark Park Tav., Southwark Park.
 Duke of Connaught, Havelock Tav., Dalston, E.
 United Strength, Grafton Arms, Kentish-town.
 Mount Edgecumbe, 19, Jeremy-street, St. James's.
 Islington, Crown and Cushion, London Wall.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 20.

- House Committee, Girls' School, at 4.
 Lodge 23, Globe, F. M. H.
 " 55, Constitutional, London Tav., Bishopsgate-st.
 " 63, St. Mary's, F. M. H.
 " 169, Temperance, White Swan, High-st., Deptford.
 " 179, Manchester, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
 " 181, Universal, F. M. H.
 " 813, New Concord, Rosemary Branch, Hoxton.
 " 1139, South Norwood, Public Hall, South Norwood.
 " 1278, Burdett Coutts, Approach Tav., Victoria Park.
 " 1287, Great Northern, F. M. H.
 " 1365, Clapton, White Hart Tav., Clapton.
 " 1425, Hyde Park, 1, Craven-road, W.
 " 1507, Metropolitan, 269, Pentonville-road.
 " 1512, Hemming, Lion Hotel, Hampton.
 Chap. 733, Westbourne, Lord's Hot., St. John's Wood.
 Preceptory E., Observance, 14, Bedford-row.

INSTRUCTION.

- Egyptian, Hercules Tav., Leadenhall-st.
 Fidelity, Yorkshire Grey, London-st., W.
 Finsbury, Jolly Anglers' Tav., Bath-st., City-road.
 Whittington, Crown Tav., Holborn.
 Temperance in the East, Catherine-st., Poplar.
 Ebury, 12, Ponsonby-st., Millbank.
 Highgate, Bull and Gate, Kentish-town.
 The Great City, 111, Cheapside.
 High Cross, Coach & Horses, High-road, Tottenham.
 Salisbury, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
 Marquis of Ripon, Albion Tav., Albion-rd., Dalston.
 Prince Frederick William Chapter, St. John's Wood.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 21.

- House Committee, Boys' School, at 4.
 Lodge 6, Friendship, Willis's Rooms, St. James's.
 " 143, Middlesex, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
 " 201, Jordan, F. M. H.
 Preceptory 48, Kemeys Lynte, 33, Golden-sq.
INSTRUCTION.
 Union Waterloo, Thomas-st., Woolwich.
 St. George's, Globe Tav., Royal-hill, Greenwich.

- Robert Burns, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
 Belgrave, Lyceum Tav., 354, Strand.
 Unions Emulation (for M.M.'s), F. M. H.
 Temperance, Victoria Tav., Victoria-road, Deptford.
 Clapton, White Hart, Clapton.
 Stability, Guildhall Tav., Gresham-st.
 Metropolitan, Portugal Hot., Fleet-st.
 Westbourne, Horse & Groom, Winsley-st., Oxford-st.
 Metropolitan, Pentonville-road.
 United Pilgrims, Surrey M. H., Camberwell New-road.
 St. James's, New Tanners' Arms, Grange-rd., Bermondsey.
 Duke of Edinburgh, Silver Lion, Penny-fields, Poplar.
 Doric, Earl Grey Tav., Mile-end-road.
 Burgoyne, Grafton Arms, Prince of Wales's-road, N.W.
 St. Luke's, Commercial Tav., King's-road, Chelsea.
 Chigwell, Bald-faced Stag Hot., Buckhurst-hill.
 Burdett Coutts, Approach Tav., Victoria Park.
 Pythagorean Chapter, Prince of Orange, Greenwich-rd.
 Royal Standard, Finsbury Park Tav., Holloway.
 Ranelagh, Clarendon Hot., Hammersmith.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN WEST LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE.

For the Week ending Saturday, January 22, 1876.

MONDAY, JANUARY 17.

- Lodge 721, Independence, M. R., Eastgate-row, Chester.
 " 1502, Israel, M. H., Liverpool.
 Chap. 32, Jerusalem, M. H., Liverpool.
 " 995, Furness, M. T., Ulverston.
 Everton L. of I., M. H., Liverpool.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 18.

- Lodge 667, Alliance, M. H., Liverpool.
 " 1225, Hindpool, Hartington Ho., Barrow-in-Furness.
 " 1276, Warren, Seacombe Hot., Seacombe.
 " 1384, Equity, Walker's Commercial Hot., Widnes.
 Chap. 605, De Tabley, Seacombe Hot., Seacombe.
 Merchants' L. of I., M. H., Liverpool.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 19.

- Lodge 537, Zetland, 55, Argyle-st., Birkenhead.
 " 823, Everton, M. H., Liverpool.
 " 1086, Walton, St. Lawrence's Scho., Kirkdale.
 " 1345, Victoria, Cross Keys, Eccles.
 " 1353, Duke of Lancaster, Athenaeum, Lancaster.
 Chap. 580, Unity, Wheat Sheaf, Ormskirk.
 Downshire L. of I., M. H., Liverpool.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 20.

- Lodge 203, Ancient Union, M. H., Liverpool.
 " 343, Concord, Queen's Arms, Church-st., Preston.
 " 425, Cestrian, M. R., Eastgate-row, Chester.
 " 605, Combermere, Seacombe Hot., Seacombe.
 " 1299, Pembroke, Rawlinson's Hot., West Derby.
 St. John's L. of I. (673), M. H., Liverpool.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 21.

- Preceptory Jacques de Molay, M. H., Liverpool.
 Duke of Edinburgh L. of I., M. H., Liverpool.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN GLASGOW AND WEST OF SCOTLAND.

For the Week ending Saturday, January 22, 1876.
 All the Meetings take place at Eight o'clock.

MONDAY, JANUARY 17.

- Lodge 332, Union, 170, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
 St. Mungo Encampment, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 18.

- Lodge 34, St. John, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
 " 73, Thistle and Rose, 170, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
 " 87, Thistle, 30, Hope-st., Glasgow.
 " 437, Govandale, Portland Buildings, Govan.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 19.

- Lodge 117, St. Mary's, M. H., Partick.
 " 354, Caledonian Railway, 30, Hope-st., Glasgow.
 " 571, Domestic, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
 Chap. 150, Shettleston St. John, M. H., Shettleston.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 20.

- Lodge 22, St. John's, George Hot., Kilmarnock.
 " 27, St. Mungo, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
 " 465, St. Andrew's, M. H., Garnad-rd.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 21.

- Lodge 12, Greenock Kilwinning, Town Hall, Greenock.
 " 31, St. Mary's Coltness, Scott's Hall, Wishaw.
 " 306, St. Thomas, 90, Wellgate-street, Larkhall.
 " 321, St. Andrew's, Public Hall, Alexandria.
 " 360, Commercial, 30, Hope-st., Glasgow.
 " 408, Clyde, 170, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
 " 471, St. John's, Stane Inn, Shotts.
 " 551, Clydesdale, Royal Hot., Larkhall.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 22.

- Lodge 28, St. John's, Black Bull Inn, Kirkintilloch.
 " 305, St. John's Woodhall, M. H., Holytown.
 Chap. 143, Robert Burns, M. H., Holytown.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN EDINBURGH AND VICINITY.

For the Week ending Saturday, January 22, 1876.

MONDAY, JANUARY 17.

- Lodge 44, St. Luke, F. M. H., George-st.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 18.

- Lodge 36, St. David, Ship Hot., E., Register-st.
 " 405, Rifle, F. M. H., George-st.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 19.

- Lodge 160, Roman Eagle, Iona Hot., Nicholson-st.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 20.

- Lodge 48, St. Andrew, Freemasons' Hall, George-st.
 " 226, Portobello, Royal Hotel, Bath-st.

- Chap. 152, Perseverance, 86, Constitution-st., Leith.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 21.

- Chap. 83, St. Andrew, F. M. H., George-st.

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REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS.

Craft Masonry.

ENOCH LODGE (No. 11).—This old lodge met on Wednesday 12th inst. at Freemasons' Hall, for the installation of the new W.M. Bro. E. J. Bradstreet, W.M., presided, and raised Bros. J. S. and S. Cakebread, Hanneford, and John Smith. Afterwards, the veteran Bro. Peter Matthews installed Bro. E. C. Taylor as W.M., thus adding another year to the many annual occasions on which he has performed this important office. The following brethren were appointed to office:—Bros. Tubbey, S.W.; Oxenham, J.W.; Charles Watson, P.M., Treas.; Peter Matthews, P.M., Sec.; Pigott, (D.C.L.), S.D.; Heald, J.D.; Garrett, I.G.; Oakley Coles, M.C.; Charles Venables (Prov. G. Organist, Berks and Bucks), Organist; and Bro. J. Woodstock, Tyler. As Bro. Charles Watson stands as Steward for the Benevolent Institution £5 was voted to his list. Two guineas were voted to the Girls' School and two guineas to the Boys. A handsome P.M.'s jewel was presented to Bro. Bradstreet, and a sumptuous banquet was provided for the brethren at the conclusion of the working of the lodge. When this was over the W.M. proposed the toasts with fluency and brevity, and the brethren in the intervals were treated to some beautiful singing by Bros. Farquharson, F. H. Cozens, and H. D. Martin, the music being very superior and obtaining the heartiest applause. One of Bro. Colard Moutrie's oblique grand pianos, similar to those supplied to the two schools, and to the institutions in Ireland, was used, and the musical brethren elicited its magnificent capabilities, to the great delight of the company. Bro. Bird, a very old P.M. of the lodge, replied for the P.M.'s, and referred with great feeling to the "old times" when he used to meet in the lodge faces which have long been missed from this sublunary sphere; nevertheless, there were many old P.M.'s present, and among them were Bros. Henry Potter, Isaac Bird, W. F. C. Moutrie, George J. Palmer, W. H. Honey, John Young, J. H. McQueen; besides Bros. C. Watson and Peter Matthews. The members and visitors present were Bros. H. Smith, P.M. 1360; E. Peacock, 1360; F. A. Barnard, Clydesdale, S.C. 1360; E. Preston, 65; Reginald Taylor, 177; G. A. Garnett, P.M. Camden; T. Boyce W. Lane, W.M. 28; F. H. Cozens, Org. 907; Thomas Young, Peace and Harmony; Gilbert Venables, 357; W. A. Holden, Peace and Harmony; G. W. Martin, 1309; R. Farquharson, 99; H. Massey ("Freemason"). The brethren of this lodge, according to ancient custom, entertained the numerous visitors with the greatest hospitality. Bro. Venables, Organist (Prov. G. Org. Berks and Bucks), informed the W.M. that he would in the forthcoming year, as he had before, be glad to place the services of his choir at the disposal of the lodge once during the season, when the brethren would have the gratification of hearing some good music. The W.M. expressed his willingness to accept Bro. Venables' proffered kindness, and thanked him for the offer which he had made.

DOMATIC LODGE (No. 177).—The Domatic Lodge, which now numbers 190 members, met on Friday week at Anderson's Hotel. Bro. George Everett, W.M., presided for the last time during his year, and raised Bros. Gilbert, Ferrier, Billingham, W. J. Bennett, Zoebeli, and Simner. He also initiated Messrs. Guym, W. Cook, S. R. Stevens, and John Abrahams. Afterwards Bro. Joseph Smith, P.G.P., installed Bro. A. Treadwell as W.M., when the following brethren were appointed to office:—Bros. James Willing, S.W.; Wm. Palmer, J.W.; Joseph Smith, P.G.P., Treas.; T. Williams, Secretary; J. Buscall, S.D.; G. Clarke, J.D.; E. White, I.G.; McLean and Spinks, Stewards; and Daly, Tyler. The joining fee of the lodge was raised, and after which the brethren adjourned to banquet. 135 sat down, of whom 33 were visitors. Among the latter were Bros. E. P. Albert, A.G.P.; J. J. Michael, W.M. 1507; H. G. Thompson, W.M. 299; F. W. Koch, P.M. 820; W. H. Stokes, P.M. 861; G. T. Carter, P.M. 145; H. Massey ("Freemason"); W. Worrell, P.M. 766, &c.; and D. S. Bayfield, P.M. 1158. Among the Past Masters of the lodge were Bros. F. Kent, C.C.; J. R. Foulger, H. Elmes, W. F. Smith, George Tims, J. E. Walford, C.C.; and Joseph Smith, P.G.P. At the proposition of the toasts, Bro. E. P. Albert, A.G.P., replied for the D.G.M., &c. Bro. G. Everett proposed "The W.M.," and said that since his last appearance he had been elevated to the bench and now took his seat in an entirely new character. For six years he had had the pleasure of addressing the bre-

thren, from the position of I.G. to that of Master. He had now arrived at that very coveted place, a seat among the Past Masters. He should not therefore ask for the kind indulgence which was readily accorded to the inexperienced, because he was now somewhat used to the business. His first duty as a P.M. was of a most pleasurable and agreeable description. It was to propose "The Health of the W.M." Bro. Treadwell had been elevated to the highest position it was in the brethren's power to confer; he had been for 20 years a member of the lodge, three years longer than he (Bro. Everett); had followed him step by step, and had been a most able auxiliary. He had done everything he could to assist, and the position he had been elected to he thoroughly deserved. Now that he had become Master he would do all in his power to promote the welfare of the Domatic Lodge, but he would not be able to do that if the brethren did not afford him their assistance. Without such assistance he had no chance at all, and he (Bro. Everett) asked the brethren to extend to Bro. Treadwell the same support they had extended to him. He would then at the termination of his year of office a satisfactory state of affairs to show. (Cheers.) The W.M. in reply said that though he had been a member of the lodge 20 years, he had not gone into office till six years ago, because he had not the time to devote to it. Having arrived at his present proud position he trusted that the brethren would assist him in maintaining the dignity of the chair. (Hear, hear.) The Master of a lodge was its chairman, the chief magistrate and highest authority. Therefore he must be allowed to rule. He would do it very mildly and would give the brethren the greatest possible liberty. (Applause.) Bro. W. Worrell, P.M. 766, replied for "The Visitors." Bro. Joseph Smith, P.G.P., Treasurer, made an admirable address to the brethren on behalf of "The Charities," informing them that before they met again the Festival of the Benevolent Institution would take place, and that Bro. Everett would represent the lodge on that occasion. It was necessary that the brethren should support him. The Domatic Lodge was the largest lodge in the Order, and therefore a greater responsibility rested on them than on small lodges. When a Steward undertook to represent them, therefore, they should send up the largest subscriptions of any lodge. Five shillings gave a vote, and he hoped the brethren would put down such sums as 5s., 10s., 15s., or 20s. They must remember they were taking the poor aged Freemasons and widows of Freemasons under their care, and making them comfortable for the rest of their lives. While in prosperity the brethren should do this, and they would thus show that they were not only professing but practising Freemasonry. A list was then sent round, and a considerable sum was added to it. "The Initiates" having been proposed and responded to, the W.M. gave "The P.M.'s," remarking that it was a great privilege to be W.M. of the Domatic Lodge, as, in so numerous a lodge, it required great tact to govern it. For himself he was already on the road to be a P.M., although he had only commenced his journey on a long lane, whose end he would see in a twelvemonth. Bring on that road, he had consequently to talk of the P.M.'s merits. (Laughter.) Many of them had been initiated since he became a Mason, and among these was, as they had been informed, Bro. Everett, whom he had known 23 years, who had always been a hard worker, and had come to be the most successful and popular W.M. the Domatic Lodge had had for the last 10 or 12 years. (Hear, hear, and cheers, in the midst of which the W.M. presented Bro. Everett with a handsome P.M.'s jewel, manufactured by Bro. George Kenning.) Bro. Everett in acknowledging the gift, after the toast had been enthusiastically drunk, said he was very much obliged to the brethren for the cordial way in which they had received the toast. He had already stated that he appeared that evening in a somewhat singular position. A year since he took the command of the good ship Domatic, which was going on a twelvemonth's voyage. He knew when he undertook the duties, he was assuming a great responsibility. He knew there were a great many dangers and difficulties attending them, that there were shoals and quicksands he might encounter; but he knew he had a good pilot on board, in the person of Bro. Joseph Smith, a good boatswain in the person of Bro. Willing (a rare fellow he was for piping all hands); officers and men second to none; and last, though not least, a merciful admiralty board, in the shape of P.M.'s, and if any disaster overtook him on his voyage, it would be looked upon considerably by them. (Laughter.) Starting as he did under very favourable auspices, could it be wondered at that he had had a successful voyage, and had brought his ship into port very little the worse for wear. He believed his brother officers would bear him out in saying that they had had a very happy and prosperous year. They had certainly been overtaken by severe storms about July somewhere off the coast of Dulwich (laughter) at the summer festival; but kind friends came to the rescue in great numbers, and they were in difficulty for a very short period, and that which they were afraid would be a great failure turned out a brilliant success. (Hear, hear.) He was very proud indeed to have got through his year of office in the manner he had, and he was pleased to meet them all that night at the end of his term in order that he might thank them very heartily and sincerely for their kindness to him throughout his year. (Cheers.) Bro. Everett again thanked the brethren for the Past Master's jewel, and sat down amidst loud applause. Bro. Williams responded as Secretary to the toast of "The Treasurer and Secretary," and Bro. Joseph Smith as Treasurer. The latter brother reminded the brethren that he was the father of the lodge. The "boys," not using the word offensively, sometimes thought the "old dad" went a little too far. If he did so it was with the best intention, believing that what he did was for the benefit of the lodge. If he could not take a liberty with them he did not know who could. As "the old governor," he tried to keep them right, and he

was pleased to say that up to the present time he had given satisfaction, for they had honoured him by re-electing him a great many years as their Treasurer. As long as they chose to honour him with their confidence he should be with them to the end of the chapter. He wished them every happiness and prosperity. The remaining toasts were then given, and the brethren separated. During the evening the brethren were treated with some good singing by Bros. Dawson and Carter. Some recitations, and Sir Pertinax Macsycophant's narrative of his mode of success in life, which was admirably given by Bro. Hudson, of Brighton, and of the Chaucer Lodge.

ST. JAMES'S UNION LODGE (No. 186).—The installation meeting of this lodge was held on Tuesday, 11th inst., at Freemasons' Hall. Bro. W. C. Parsons, W.M., presided, and after initiating Mr. Heathcote, installed Bro. Gillard, S.W. and W.M. elect, as Master of the lodge. The brethren appointed to office were Bros. W. C. Parsons, I.P.M.; F. Annett, S.W.; Pillin, J.W.; G. Bubb, P.M., Treas.; H. A. Stacey, P.M., Sec.; Smith, S.D.; Harrison, J.D.; Farwig, I.G.; J. P. Stacey, P.M., D.C.; Stollard, W.S.; and Gilbert, Tyler. A splendid P.M.'s jewel was presented to Bro. Parsons, and the W.M. in presenting it said, he wished that every Master of a lodge was like Bro. Parsons, of whom the lodge might well be proud. Wishing he might live many years to wear the jewel, he fastened it on his breast. After Bro. Parsons had acknowledged the gift he announced his stewardship for the forthcoming festival of the Benevolent Institution, and asked the support of the brethren for his list. Banquet followed, to which seventy-nine brethren sat down, including sixteen visitors.

BOLTON.—Anchor and Hope Lodge (No. 37).—The installation meeting of the above lodge (constituted 1731) took place in the Freemasons' Hall, Bolton, on Monday, 10th Jan. There was a good attendance of members of the lodge, amongst whom were Bros. James Walker, W.M.; W. H. Horrocks, S.W.; R. H. Freeman, J.W.; Jno. Tunnah, Prov. G. Sec.; J. H. Winder, P. Prov. G. Reg.; G. P. Brockbank, P. Prov. S.G. Deacon; W. Slater, P. Prov. S.G. Deacon; Robt. Harwood, P. Prov. G. Supt of Works; Reuben Mitchell, P. Prov. G. Swd. Bearer; James McAdam, P. Prov. J. G. Deacon, Derbyshire; F. W. Pacey, P. Prov. G. Org. Berks and Bucks; John Robinson, P.M.; James Newton, P.M.; Thos. Wilson, P.M.; James Pilkington, P.M.; Walter Pennington, P.M.; and others; also visiting brethren, Thomas Entwistle, P.M. 221; P. Prov. G. Supt of Works; Henry Maiden, P.M. 1012, P. Prov. G. Swd. Bearer; J. W. Taylor, P.M. 221; P. Prov. G. Org.; Lever Rowbottom, P.M. 178; Jno. Wild, W.M. 146; James Horrocks, P.M. 348; and others. The lodge being opened in the First Degree, the minutes of the preceding meeting were read and confirmed. The lodge was then opened in the Second Degree, when the W.M. elect, Bro. W. H. Horrocks, was presented to the retiring W.M., Bro. James Walker, to receive the benefit of installation at his hands. The usual ceremonies were performed in the Second Degree, and the lodge then proceeded to the Third Degree, when the brethren below the rank of Installed Master retired, and Bro. Horrocks was installed into the chair of K.S., according to ancient custom, by Bro. Walker, in the presence of the goodly number of nineteen Installed Masters or Past Masters. The remainder of the brethren were then admitted, and the newly-installed master was proclaimed and saluted in the three degrees. The lodge being closed down to the First Degree, Bro. Walker invested the officers, viz.:—Bros. R. K. Freeman, S.W.; J. Brown, J.W.; G. P. Brockbank, Treas.; Walter Pennington, Sec.; Samuel Crowthier, S.D.; Rooke Pennington, J.D.; Robert Harwood, Master of Ceremonies; F. W. Pacey, Org.; Johnson Mill, Inner Guard; W. Redman, Tyler. A cordial vote of thanks was given to the Immediate P.M., Bro. James Walker, for his services during the past year, and also as Installing Officer on this occasion. Three candidates for initiation were proposed, as also a brother to become a joining member. The closing of the lodge followed, and the brethren adjourned to the banquet table.

CAMBRIDGE.—Scientific Lodge (No. 88).—A meeting of the members of this ancient and flourishing lodge was held at the Lion Hotel, on the 10th inst., the chief interest being the installation of Bro. W. J. Basham, W.M. elect. There was a large attendance of brethren to witness the installation. The ceremony of installation was preceded by raising Bros. Walker and Long to the Third Degree. At the conclusion of the above ceremonies, the W.M. Bro. J. F. Fetch, resigned his gavel to Bro. P.M. Dimmock, P.G.S.W., the Installing Master, who as a skilled workman performed the ancient ceremony in a most able manner, the musical part being effectively performed by the Organist, Bro. P.M. J. R. Ling. At the close of the ceremony the following appointments were made:—Bros. J. F. Fetch, I.P.M.; A. Heed, S.W.; H. Chennell, J.W.; W. F. Jarrold, S.D.; A. H. Moysen, J.D.; T. Hunnybun, I.G.; B. W. Beales, Treas.; T. Nichols, Sec.; W. Boys, Dir. of Cer.; W. Davidson, P.M., Steward; F. Grain, P.M., Chap.; J. R. Ling, P.M., Org. The lodge was closed in due and ancient form, when about 50 brethren sat down to a sumptuous banquet. Bro. W. J. Basham, W.M., presided, supported by the D.P.G.M., Bro. J. Deighton, the P.M.'s of the lodge. The visitors comprised Bros. J. G. Barber, W.M. 441; E. Haggs, P.M. 441; A. F. Donagan, P.M. 441; F. Bailey, 441; H. Nickell, 441; W. M. Fawcett, 859; — McCullum, 1250; F. M. Dowell, 52; — Tomlinson, 441; J. Hinge, 441.

NORWICH.—Social Lodge (No. 93).—On Tuesday evening, 11th inst., the usual meeting of this lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, when, as this was the occasion for installing the W.M. elect, there was a very large attendance of brethren, both members and visitors. After the Town Clerk of Norwich (W. L. Mendham) had been duly initiated into Masonry, the retiring W.M., Bro. C. H. Capon, proceeded to instal as his successor Bro. J. J. Commins. The ceremony, which was performed by

him in its entirety, was gone through in a most impressive manner, and its effect upon the brethren was most marked. The new W.M. then invested his officers as follows:—S.W., C. Havers; J.W., G. Stockings; S.D., J. Moore; J.D., J. B. Bridgman; I.G., Fox. Bro. Dunsford was appointed Director of Ceremonies; G. Brittain, Organist; and J. Marshall, Sec. and Treas.

NORTH WALSHAM.—Unanimity Lodge (No. 102).—The annual banquet and meeting of this lodge was held on Monday, Jan. 10, at the lodge house, King's Arms Hotel, North Walsham, Norfolk. There was a good attendance of the brethren and several visitors, including the Grand Master of the Province, Lieut. Col. the Hon. F. Walpole, M.P.; the P.G.S.W., Bro. Lieut. Col. H. L'Estrange; the P.G. Sec., Bro. H. Barwell. At this meeting the W.M. elect, Bro. the Right Hon. Lord Suffield, should have been installed, but as his lordship is now in India with the Grand Master, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, that ceremony is postponed until his return. The retiring W.M., Bro. Lieut. Col. J. Duff, P.G.J.W., will continue to hold the office until his lordship's return. The business of the lodge consisted of two initiations, and this ceremony having been ably and accurately performed by the W.M., the brethren proceeded to the banqueting-room. Here a magnificent repast awaited them, the cuisine being in charge of Bro. Chapman, who performed his duties so well as to leave nothing to be desired. After dinner the W.M. proposed the usual loyal and Masonic toasts, and these were, of course, heartily received. The toast of "The G.M. of the Province" was drunk with Masonic honours. The Provincial Grand Master, in responding, said that as this was the first lodge he had visited since his installation, he must say that which he had unfortunately forgotten to say on the occasion of his being placed in that proud position. He omitted altogether to refer to the great loss sustained by Freemasonry in Norfolk by the death of the late P.G.M., Bro. Benjamin Bond Cabbell. The late P.G.M. was ever distinguished by a desire to do everything in his power to promote Freemasonry. He was ever foremost in subscribing to the different Masonic charities, and he was always ready to lend a helping hand to everything that tended to the interest of the Craft. In him the province had lost one who had endeared himself to all the brethren, and that loss they would never cease to deplore. In conclusion, the P.G.M. said he should do his best to follow in the footsteps of his predecessor, and should consider himself well rewarded for his efforts if he succeeded in winning for himself but a small part of the esteem in which their late P.G.M. had been held. The next toast was given by the S.W., Bro. Cubitt, and was that of "The W.M. of the Lodge"—a toast that was also received with full Masonic honours. The W.M., in responding, thanked the brethren for the kind and courteous reception they had given him, and promised to continue his efforts to deserve their approbation and esteem. This was one of the most successful meetings this lodge has ever held.

SIDMOUTH.—Lodge of Perseverance (No. 164).—On Wednesday, the 5th inst., the annual festival of St. John was celebrated at the Masonic Hall, Sidmouth, by the brethren of the above-mentioned lodge, when V.W. Bro. W. Hine Haycock, P.M., Prov. S.G.D., was again installed as W.M. by installing Master Bro. B. T. Hodge, P.M., Treas., 30°. Amongst those present were Bros. W. Mitchell, S.W.; J. Orchard, P.M.; P.G.S. Devon, J.W. pro tem; G. Beard, Sec.; W. Salter, S.D. pro tem.; W. T. Orchard, J.D. pro tem.; R. Perryman, I.G.; T. Paul, Tyler; P. Masters, Bros. W. Hine Haycock, Prov. S.G.D.; W. Pile, J. Northcott, J. Purse, H. Dawe; Bros. R. T. Thornton, A. J. Thornton, J. Godfrey, S. Cummings, Thos. Halse. Visitors: Bros. Rev. J. Huyshe, M.A., R.W. Prov. G.M. Devon, P.G.C. England; Rev. W. H. Coyte, Prov. G. Chaplain, Cambridgeshire; W. Elphinstone Stone, P.P.G.J.W., P.M. 372; Fredk. Horspool, P.M. 1254; H. Woodgates, P.M. 847; G. Evans, P.M. 1181; W. Salter, P.M. 1181; Rev. — Swansborough, Chap. 1181; J. Read, J.W. 847; W. H. Banfield, 847; T. Acland, Org. 847; J. Hussey, S.W. 837; L. Loveridge, S.W. 1181; Henry Ford, 1181; W. Willis, 1181; J. Skinner, 372; H. Layzell, 847. Shortly after opening the lodge the brethren retired to the large ball-room, adjoining where a procession was formed, and the R.W. Prov. Grand Master escorted into the lodge, he was then formally saluted, after which he took his seat at the right of the W.M. Bro. P.M. Hine Haycock, then entered the W.M.'s chair and performed the ceremony of initiating Messrs. Wilders, Salter, and Algar in a most able and praiseworthy manner, the whole of the officers above-mentioned assisting him with admirable precision. W. Bro. Hodge, the Installing Master, then proceeded to install the W.M. elect, Bro. P.M. Hine Haycock, performing that beautiful ceremony in a skilful and impressive manner. The W.M. then proceeded to appoint his officers, and the following brethren were duly invested: Bros. Dawe, I.P.M., W. Mitchell, S.W.; T. H. H. Orchard, J.W.; J. Thornton, Sec.; R. T. Thornton, S.D.; W. T. Orchard, J.D.; R. Perryman, I.G.; Paul, Tyler. W. Bro. Hodge was again unanimously elected Treas., and invested. W. Bro. Fredk. Horspool delivered the customary address to the new officers. At the conclusion of the appointment of the officers the W.M., Bro. H. Haycock, on behalf of the lodge, presented the R.W. Prov. G. Master with a handsome portrait of the M.W. Grand Master, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, nicely framed, together with a beautiful and appropriate address. The R.W. Prov. G. Master most feelingly and suitably acknowledged the compliment, expressing the great pleasure it gave him to receive so unexpected a mark of the esteem of the brethren. A vote of thanks to W. Bro. H. Woodgates for his kindness and ability in presiding at the organ during the ceremonies of the lodge having been unanimously passed and acknowledged, the lodge was closed. The brethren then adjourned to the banqueting-room. The healths of "Her Gracious Majesty," and "The M.W. Grand Master and the Grand Officers" were proposed and respec-

tively honoured, followed by the toast of "The Prov. Grand Master of Devon," which was received with great enthusiasm, and suitably acknowledged by that R.W. brother. "The Health of the W.M., Bro. H. Haycock," was proposed by the R.W. Prov. G. Master, and received with considerable warmth, showing how much that brother is esteemed and appreciated. "The Health of Bro. P.M. Hodge, the Installing Master," was given, and met with an equally warm reception, that worthy brother having sustained the lodge in its less prosperous days, and filled the chair of W.M. no less than six times. These toasts were appropriately responded to, and various other complimentary toasts followed, and a very pleasant evening was spent.

BOURNEMOUTH.—Lodge of Hengist (No. 195).—This lodge celebrated the festival of St. John the Evangelist at the Masonic Hall adjoining the Belle Vue Hotel, and previous to the ceremony of installation of the W.M. elect, the Installing Master, Bro. P.M. McWilliam, in the name of the lodge, presented to Bro. P.M. E. W. Rebbeck, W.M., a Past Master's jewel, value ten guineas, made by Bro. Kenning, suitably inscribed, in recognition of his services during his year of office, he having held during the past year nineteen lodges, initiated nineteen, passed fifteen, and raised fourteen brethren, being the largest number admitted in any one year in this lodge, which celebrated its centenary in 1870. The ceremony of installation was most effectively performed by Bro. P.M. McWilliam, after which the W.M., Bro. D. Sydenham, appointed his officers as follows, viz.:—Bros. P.M. E. W. Rebbeck, I.P.M.; Weissmüller, S.W.; Wheaton, J.W.; Merson, S.D.; Jolliffe, J.D.; P.M. Atkinson, Sec.; W. J. Worth, I.G.; P.M. Rogers, Chaplain; Lane and Briggs, Stewards. Bro. Plank was invested as Treasurer; and Bro. Green was elected Tyler. There were twenty-six brethren present, and after the lodge was closed the brethren adjourned to the Bath Hotel, where an excellent banquet was provided by Bro. Briant, when several brethren who were unable to attend the duties of the lodge were present.

OXFORD.—Alfred Lodge (No. 340).—The anniversary festival of this lodge was held on Tuesday, 11th inst., at the Masonic Hall, Alfred-street, when the Worshipful Master for the ensuing year, Bro. Jules Buc, M.A., was duly installed in his office. There was a large attendance of brethren, and among the representatives of other lodges who were present were the Grand Junior Deacon of England (Bro. F. P. Morrell, M.A.); the Past Deputy Provincial Grand Master (Bro. R. J. Spiers), the Worshipful Master of the Apollo Lodge (Bro. the Rev. H. A. Pickard, M.A.), the Worshipful Master of the Bowyer Lodge (Bro. J. Sladden), Past Master Captain Ferrier (of the Churchill Lodge), Bro. Green (of the Marlborough Lodge), and other strangers. The installation ceremony was admirably performed by the Immediate Past Master, Bro. W. Thompson, and at its conclusion the new Worshipful Master appointed his officers as follows:—Senior Warden, Bros. J. Pratt-Junior Warden, F. W. Ansell, Treasurer, H. Hough; ton, P.M.; Secretary, W. R. Hobbs; Senior Deacon, J. Jenkin, Junior Deacon, H. C. Helier; Senior Master of Ceremonies, J. Chapman; Junior Masters of Ceremonies, G. Brunner and Butt; Inner Guard, F. R. Hall; Organist, H. Plunridge; Stewards, E. Horn and S. Harris; and Tyler, W. Stevens. After the installation, a handsome Masonic jewel was presented by the lodge to Past Master G. T. Prior, in acknowledgment of his past services. At the conclusion of the business an elegant banquet was served, the arrangements for which were excellently carried out by the Stewards, and to which about 40 sat down. The newly-elected Worshipful Master presided, and proposed the usual loyal and Masonic toasts in particularly felicitous and graceful terms. Many excellent songs were contributed, and the proceedings were of a very festive and enjoyable character. During the evening much enthusiasm was excited by the announcement, by the Worshipful Master of the Apollo, that a telegram had been received from India during the past few days from the Prince of Wales, in which His Royal Highness appointed Prince Leopold to the office of Provincial Grand Master of Oxfordshire. The latter was last term elected to succeed Bro. Pickard as Worshipful Master of the Apollo on the expiration of the present term of office, and his selection to preside over this province, whilst it will be appreciated as a high honour by Masons throughout the county, will be received with great satisfaction by the Craft generally. The installation of His Royal Highness will probably take place on the 22nd of February.

BATH.—Lodge of Honour (No. 379).—At the regular meeting held at the Masonic Hall, the new W.M., Bro. Cooke, for the first time opened the lodge at 8 p.m., supported by Bro. Bartrum, I.P.M.; Gore, S.W.; H. Culliford Hopkins, J.W.; Dickenson, Sec.; Barber, Treas.; Little, I.G.; C. A. Bush, P.M.; and a few other members. The minutes having been read and confirmed, and also the bye-laws, a formal procession entered the room, consisting of Bros. Clark, W.M.; Brown, S.W.; Wilton, P.M.; Ashley, P.M.; Cooper, P.M.; Dr. H. Hopkins, P.P.G.S.W. and P.M. 43 and 958; Braham, J.D.; and others, all of the Royal Cumberland Lodge, No. 41, of whose attendance previous notice had been given, and they were received with the usual honours. The report of the Treasurer, which had been duly audited, was adopted. The report of the Provincial Grand Treasurer was also presented. Out of these two arose a discussion with regard to the expense of a meeting of Provincial Grand Lodge held at Bath in 1874. This had entailed an expenditure of £40, divided between the three lodges, which was felt to be a heavy tax upon so small a lodge as 379. The consideration which suggested itself was that the Provincial Grand Lodge should bear its own expenses, more especially as it had money in hand and invested to the extent of about £5000. The result was an expression as to the desirability of ventilating the matter

at the next meeting of that body. Other business was disposed of, and the lodge was opened in the 2nd Degree. It had been arranged that the ceremony of raising the candidate should be performed by his Bro. C. A. Bush, who had initiated and passed him, but as he was not very well, Bro. Dr. Hopkins was at a moment's notice called upon to take his place. He accordingly entered the chair, and having examined Bro. H. G. Bush, complimented him on the perfect accuracy of his replies to the questions, entrusted him, and dismissed him for preparation. The lodge was opened in the Third Degree, and the whole of the ceremony was performed by Dr. Hopkins, including the traditionary history and the charge. Bro. Cooper impressively recited the passages of scripture bearing upon the subject, and Bros. C. A. Bush and Dickenson acted as Deacons. The W.M. again took the chair, resumed the lodge in the 2nd, and afterwards in the 1st Degree. On the proposition of the S.W., seconded by the J.W., a vote of thanks was passed to Bro. Dr. Hopkins for his assistance in conducting the ceremony. A similar vote was passed to the W.M. and members of No. 41 for their attendance. Suitable acknowledgments were made, and the lodge was closed at 10 o'clock.

STOKESLEY.—Cleveland Lodge (No. 543).—The twenty-eight anniversary festival of this, the mother lodge in Cleveland, was held in the lodge-room at the Golden Lion Hotel, on Monday evening, Jan. 10th, just previous to which a lodge was held. Present: Bros. J. H. Handyside, P.M., as W.M.; Richard Watson, P.M., as S.W.; James Coulson, J.W.; William Scarth Dixon, S.D.; David Dixon, J.D.; W. R. Sharp, I.G.; and William Harrison, Tyler. The principal business was the installation of Bro. William Guthrie Forbes, M.B., as W.M., the ceremony being performed in an impressive manner by Bro. George Marwood, of Bushy Hall, J.P., P. Prov. D.G.M., one of the P.M.'s of the lodge. The W.M. then appointed as his officers the following brethren, who were invested accordingly:—Bros. James Coulson, S.W.; William Scarth Dixon, J.W.; David Dixon, S.D.; William R. Sharp, J.D. and John Hall, I.G. The lodge re-elected Bros. J. H. Handyside, P.M., Sec.; Richard Watson, P.M., Treas.; and William Harrison, Tyler; all of whom were re-invested with the jewels of their office. The lodge being closed and the meeting adjourned, the brethren retired from labour to refreshment, an excellent dinner having been provided by Mr. and Mrs. Laws. Bro. Marwood officiated as chairman at the banquet, and Bro. Handyside as vice. The usual Masonic and loyal toasts were given, Bro. T. Bowren, a Grand Officer of the neighbouring Province of Durham, and Bro. John Sutherst, the W.M. elect of the Zetland Lodge, replying to the toast of "The Visiting Brethren," of whom several from Gisbrough were present. Benjamin Richardson, the I.P.M., proposed "The Health of the Chairman, Bro. Marwood," who was at all times ready to act as Installing Master for their own and many other lodges in the province. The Chairman, in responding, said that he always felt it a great pleasure as well as a duty he owed to the Craft to render any services in his power either to that, his mother lodge, or to any other in the province of which he had for several years been Prov. D.G.M. Some thirty years had elapsed since he was made a Mason in that room, and he had always felt that Masonry had made him a better man; not only more charitably disposed to his brother Masons, but to all mankind. "Bro. Forbes, W.M.," was proposed by Bro. Wilcox, P.M.; "Bro. Benjamin Richardson, the I.P.M.," by Bro. Handyside, and "Bro. Handyside, the Father of the Lodge, by the Chairman; all of whom responded in suitable terms. Bros. Johnson and Coulson briefly responded for the late assistant officers. Bros. Harrison and Robinson favoured the brethren with recitations, and several songs were sung by Bros. Emerson, Messenger, Wilcox, Purdy, Sharp, Watson, Marwood, W. R. Richardson, Rontree, and W. S. Dixon, and a very agreeable evening was spent, to the satisfaction of all the brethren.

FARNWORTH.—Earl Ellesmere Lodge (No. 678).—A meeting was held at the Church Hotel, on the 5th inst., for the purpose of witnessing the ceremony of the installation of Bro. T. Laycock in the W.M. chair. The lodge was opened at 4 o'clock by Bro. T. Holme, W.M., and the minutes of the previous meeting read and confirmed. The chair was assumed by Bro. Robert Whittaker, P.M., P.P.G.D. of E. Lancashire, as Installing Master; and the W.M. elect, Bro. Laycock, was presented by Bro. W. H. Kirkman, P.M. A Board of Installed Masters having been formed, Bro. Thomas Laycock was installed as W.M. for the ensuing year, the ceremony being most ably and impressively performed by the Installing Master, Bro. Whittaker. The W.M. appointed the following brethren as officers:—Bros. T. Entwistle, S.W.; D. A. Elliott, J.W.; R. Warburton, P.M., Treas.; R. Whittaker, P.M., Sec.; J. Thorpe, S.D.; T. A. Martin, J.D.; J. Barrow, sen., P.M., D.C.; T. Barlow, Org.; J. Pickford, I.G.; Pendlebury and Atherton, Stwds.; and Brooks, Tyler. Two brethren were proposed as joining members. The brethren retired to celebrate the Festival of St. John. About sixty of the brethren, twenty of whom were Past Masters, then partook of an excellent banquet. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and responded to. During the evening Bro. W. H. Kirkman, P.M., in the name of the members of the lodge, presented to Bro. R. Whittaker, Sec., a very handsome and noble timepiece as a small token of the esteem in which he is held by the brethren. Bro. G. Chatton presented the lodge with a beautiful and highly finished engraving of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W. Grand Master, in handsome emblematic Masonic frame. Bros. T. Holme, I.P.M.; Thomas Laycock, W.M.; and David A. Elliott, J.W., also presented the lodge with three handsome oak chairs for the W.M. and Wardens; these were supplied by Bro. George Kenning, London,

and gave universal satisfaction on account of their chaste workmanship and finish. Amongst the visitors present were Bros. J. Tunnah, P.G. Sec.; S. Isherwood, P.P. G. Treas.; W. Slater, P.P.S.G.D.; Maden, P.P.G.S.B.; J. Wild, W.M. 146; A. Crabtree, P.M. 146; Pilling, W.M. 350; J. Varley, W.M. elect 350; N. Horrocks, P.M. 934; Milne, P.M. 1012; T. Cort, 146; Plews, P.M. 1161; T. Newton, P.M. 37, and others. The evening was enlivened by several good songs. The brethren separated at an early hour, full of zeal for the coming year. This was one of the most successful meetings that has taken place in this lodge for many years.

DEAL.—Wellington Lodge (No. 748).—This lodge met on the 13th inst., at the Assembly Rooms, Park-street, Deal, for the installation of W.M. for the ensuing year. The brother elected to that distinguished position was Bro. H. S. Goodall, J.W.; and to witness his installation a very large number of brethren assembled, comprising members of the lodge and visitors, among the company being a great many past and present Provincial Grand Officers. Bro. J. E. Apps, W.M., presided, having Bro. A. F. S. Bird, P.M., as S.W. pro tem., and Bro. William Harding, P.M., as J.W. pro tem. Before the ceremony of installation was commenced, the W.M., addressing the brethren, said that Bro. A. E. Ralph, P.M., and P.P.G.J.D. Kent, had kindly consented to have his name inserted in the summons as Installing Master, as his (the W.M.'s) presence was very uncertain. He (the W.M.) had, however, been able to be present, and so would have the pleasure of installing his successor himself. He was, nevertheless, exceedingly obliged to Bro. Ralph for the readiness with which he had agreed to take the duties of Installing Master on himself, and if he had been called upon to perform them the brethren certainly would have had a treat which they must not expect from him (the W.M.). But he was anxious to instal the W.M., and he would therefore do so. Nevertheless, the brethren would have the pleasure of hearing Bro. Ralph deliver the charges. Bro. Ralph then presented Bro. Henry Stephen Goodall, J.W. and W.M. elect, as Master of the lodge, and performed his duties with great ability. The Board of Installed Masters was composed of 16 brethren. After the installation Bro. Goodall, having been duly saluted, appointed as his officers the following brethren:—Bros. Hayman, S.W.; George Moon, J.W.; the Rev. C. E. Shirley Woolmer, M.A., Rector of St. Andrews's, Deal, Chaplain; J. E. Apps, P.M., Treasurer; W. M. Cavell, P.M., P.P.G.S.D. Kent, Secretary; F. Fitch, S.D.; Tyson Stubbs, J.D.; John Green, I.G.; Thomas Paul, D.C.; S. Olds and E. L. Bridge, Stewards, and J. W. A. Norris, Tyler. Bro. Ralph delivered the addresses, after which, on the motion of Bro. Apps, seconded by Bro. Cavell, the brethren elected the W.M. to serve on the Charity Committee of the province for the year. A long list of letters of apology for absence was read by the Secretary from brethren, among them being the Prov. G.M., Lord Holmesdale, Bro. Knatchbull-Hugessen, M.P.; Grand Secretary (Bro. Hervey), the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, Bro. Eastes, and Bro. Frank Toole. The W.M. proposed a vote of thanks to the Installing Masters for the admirable manner in which the ceremonies had been carried out. Bro. Browning seconded it, and it was carried unanimously. Bros. Apps and Ralph both acknowledged the compliment, after which the lodge was closed. A choice banquet was then partaken of, and the customary toasts followed. In giving the toast of "The Queen and the Craft" the W.M. expressed the hope that the Queen and the Craft might long be united. The next toast was "The Grand Master, the Prince of Wales," and the W.M. said that none of the brethren who were present at the installation of H.R.H. could fail to believe that he took the greatest interest in Freemasonry. He trusted his Royal Highness would speedily and safely return from India, and long adorn the Craft by his presence. The W.M. trusted that the Earl of Carnarvon would long be with the Freemasons of England, when proposing "The Health of the Prov. Grand Master." After giving "The Health of Lord Skelmersdale, D.G.M.," the W.M. gave "The Health of Lord Holmesdale, Prov. G.M. of Kent," and regretted that his lordship was not then present; but said his absence was caused by entirely unavoidable circumstances. Bro. Ralph responded to the toast of "The Deputy Prov. G. Master, Bro. Eastes," who was absent on account of the serious illness of a near relation. He was sure every one regretted Bro. Eastes' absence, more especially on account of its cause. It was a matter of pleasure to any lodge to entertain distinguished visitors. The Grand Officers of the Province were always well received, and the lodges of the province felt very much honoured by their presence. When prominent members of a province visited a lodge the brethren were always very pleased to see them; but as regarded this lodge it had not yet had many opportunities of entertaining distinguished brethren of the province. The members had, however, hoped on that day to have the presence of Provincial Grand Officers, and to have a sort of gala day. But unavoidable circumstances intervened and the Prov. G.M. and other notabilities in the Order were prevented from coming. In their absence he, as a Past Prov. G. Lodge Officer, thanked the lodge for the honour they had done them. Bro. Emerson, P.P.G.S.W., proposed "The Health of the W.M." He had been associated with the W.M. in Masonry from almost the very moment of his initiation and subsequently to his becoming a Master Mason he (Bro. Emerson) had had the happiness to assist in the ceremony of the W.M.'s exaltation in the R.A. Degree in the chapter belonging to the Wellington Lodge. From the experience he had had of the W.M.'s antecedents he might say he did not know of any brother who was more peculiarly adapted to fill the position which he now occupied. That day he had been impressed with the charge which had been delivered to him by the Installing Master,

and he was sensible of the responsibility of those duties which devolved upon him in the position which he filled; but of this he (Bro. Emerson) was well assured, that the W.M.'s best talents and energies would be exerted in maintaining the honour, reputation and usefulness of the lodge, and that on all occasions he would endeavour to promote the feeling that in acquiring a knowledge of Masonry, Masons should ever be guided by humility and faith. Masons should always remember the words of the poet:

All nature is but art unknown to thee,
All chance direction which thou canst not see,
All discord harmony not understood,
All partial evil universal good;
And spite of pride in erring reason's spite,
One thing is clear, whatever is, is right.

The W.M. would impress upon the brethren the Masonic virtues of benevolence and charity, and not only by precept but by example teach those moral or social virtues which must tend not only to the individual happiness of the brethren, but the welfare of their fellow men. He hoped that the W.M. would have a prosperous year, and that at its expiration he might have the satisfaction of feeling that in exerting his best talents and abilities to promote the interests of the Order he had secured the fraternal regard, esteem and respect not only of the members of his own lodge but of the Craft in general. (Cheers.) The W.M., in reply, said he could not find words to express his heartfelt thanks for the kindness of the brethren in drinking the health which had been so warmly proposed by Bro. Emerson. He felt deeply honoured by the confidence the brethren had reposed in him, and by the presence of so many distinguished brethren. He was quite at a loss for words to thank them sufficiently for all their kindness. In giving "The Health of the Installing Masters," the W.M. said he was sure that none of the brethren who were present at the installation would have failed to admit that Bros. Apps and Ralph had gone through the ceremony with satisfaction to every one in the lodge. (Applause.) Bros. Apps and Ralph replied, the former stating that although what he had done had met with the approval of the brethren, it would have been much more pleasing to himself if he had done it better. It was, however, his first attempt, although he had been Master of the lodge twice, and was the oldest P.M. As W.M. it was his duty to instal his successor, and he resolved to do it. If he had hesitated at all it was the tongue that failed, and not the heart, which was still the same. Bro. Ralph said that his share of the ceremony was very slight, and it was quite unnecessary to thank him for it. The brethren had thanked him in the lodge-room, and he had already responded there. It was at all times a pleasure and satisfaction to him to advance the interests of Freemasonry by every means in his power, and if he had contributed to this end by taking part in the installation he was very much gratified. The Chaplain of the lodge, the Rev. C. E. Shirley Woolmer, then rose to propose the toast of "The Masonic Charities." In doing so he said the brethren were all met together that evening as speculative Masons, and therefore it would hardly become him to go back into the old charities of the operative Masons. If he did he would have to take the brethren into the very old times of antiquity; but still they saw the remains of the old operative charities in all the ancient cathedrals and fane with which our land of England was especially adorned above all other lands on the face of the earth. The speculative Masons came into existence 150 years ago upon the foundation of the old operative Masons upon that one word of "charity." Charity must first of all exist between themselves before that bright light could send its radiance forth to illuminate more distant parts. It must be first of all that love between brethren, concord and harmony among men, which would enable them to work together in order that they might perform works worthy of their great Creator, and of themselves as being formed in His image. Masonry therefore was originated in order to bind together men who by religion—which ought to bind us all together—in politics—which ought to bind us all together as having but one polity—were nevertheless brought into discord. Speculative Masonry was introduced for that purpose. It was that science of love and harmony by which men of different views in religion and politics might be bound together, and meet together; might perceive in themselves and amongst themselves the real germs of a principle—love to God and love to their neighbours. He hoped and trusted that this speculative Masonry, after having existed now in the world 150 years, had fulfilled the duties performed by its ancestors, the old operative Masons. These had monastic bodies. Let the brethren remember that Freemasonry was but monasticism—the old monastic bodies revived, whether they were Dominican, Cistercian, Franciscan, or other, all of whom differed vitally from each other on certain points of religion and temporal politics; but, nevertheless, they all united when they met as a monastic body; they were all bound together for one simple purpose of helping, aiding, and supporting the weak and those who required help, and in carrying love throughout the world. Freemasonry was doing this now. He was happy to say that in Deal, and also in other parts of England where he had been, in Lancashire, Devonshire, or elsewhere, there never had been a great building erected, either for the assistance of the aged, or for educating and sustaining children—either for orphanages or almshouses—but the Masons of the district had always been the first to come forward and lay the ancient monastic gavel upon the stone. And then, with regard to themselves and their individual love and friendship, he thought we lived in a very good world of political and religious turmoil in this 19th century, and he would ask them to put it to themselves whether they were not then sitting round the table some extreme radicals, some extreme high tones, some dissenters and some high church, but still they all felt they were children of one Father, and members of one family. If this was not one of the things that Masonry was and did, he did not know what Masonry was. Now,

to speak of the Masonic Charities of the present day. He expected that if we were to be able like the old gentleman in Le Sage's old Spanish book, "The Devil on Two Sticks," to take off the roofs of houses and look inside, we should see a great many hearts made joyous by the efforts of Masons. (Hear hear.) He should say there were a good many people in some little corners of England, many an old man or old woman, would say their declining years were made comfortable and pleasant through the agency of Masonry. He could point out a great many parishes where that had taken place, not only in almshouses, but through the individual charity of lodges which had been poured out, where men and women had been made happy. And it was this object which actuated the Duke of Cumberland starting a school 100 years ago for keeping children of whatever politics their parents might be, but simply because they were the children of Masons, and feeding, clothing, and educating them, whether they were of the highest or the lowest grades in the land. Freemasons are now maintaining, clothing, and educating nearly 400 children of both sexes. This could only be done, not simply through lodges, but also by the individual efforts of the brethren, by each Mason taking an interest in it. When people met on some great occasion, like the building of a church or a cathedral, there was a grand procession, plenty of noise, something to be seen, and every one wished to take part in it. When it came, however, to the simple piece of Masonic work in the charities there was not much fuss. But though there was less ostentation, there was a great deal of work done by small means. As an old milk woman once said when she was asked to subscribe to a charity, "I cannot afford to do what all you gentlemen do, put down a guinea a year; but I am able to give, and shall be very glad to give my shilling a week down." (Laughter.) He did not say much for her arithmetic, but he would say a great deal for her heart. Applying the old milk woman's principle to Freemasonry, suppose the Mason gave sixpence a week, what a lot that would be in the course of the year. If they could not give sixpence let them give a threepenny bit a week. Remember that charity one towards another, true love and charity which was worthy of being preserved to the great day of doom, the taking care of the aged, and educating the young, was carrying out the principle of Masonry, and was what they called Masonic charity. (Cheers.) Bro. Bird responded. The Masons of the neighbourhood were doing what had been suggested by the Chaplains. During the last year they had instituted charitable quartets; four brethren would join, each subscribing sixpence a week, which was placed in the hands of one of the four as trustee for the whole four. At the close of the year they had £5 4s., and they then balloted for a life governorship of one of the Masonic Charities, and the fortunate winner added one shilling to make the same five guineas. They had had two of these quartets, and he thought it was only on account of the system not being known that they had not had more. This lodge contained 56 members, and he hoped they would make up a number of these quartets, as he thought it would be a valuable aid to the Masonic charities. He would mention another subject. Once a year they sent round the charity box, and he proposed that this should be now done. He was happy to say that this year the lodge would be represented by a Steward at one of the Masonic festivals for the first time, and he entreated the brethren not to let him go empty handed. The W.M. resided in London, and there was this advantage in that fact, that he was able to attend Grand Lodge and the different meetings of the Lodge of Benevolence. Bro. Goodall, while he had been J.W., had constantly attended Grand Lodge, and had given, as he always would give, every attention to the interests of this lodge. (Cheers.) Bro. Woodroffe replied to the toast of "The W.M.'s of the Neighbouring Lodges." The Chaplain responded to the toast drunk specially in his honour. Bro. H. Massey ("Freemason") acknowledged the toast of "The Masonic Press," which, he said, not only endeavoured to advance the interests of the Order generally, but was particularly devoted to promoting the good of the Masonic charities. The "Freemason," which he had represented almost from its birth, had always kept this end in view; and without wishing to flatter it, or claim for it a title which it did not possess, it would be absolutely wilful blindness if he shut his eyes to the fact that through the instrumentality of that paper there had been a very large accession to the funds of the three institutions. Bro. Emerson (No. 1426), and Bro. Soutter (No. 65) replied to the toast of "The Visitors," all expressing their great pleasure in visiting the lodge, and Bro. M'Niven informing the brethren of the great service the Order had been to him in the course of his travels. When he had placed himself under the guidance of Masonry he had never been deceived. The S.W. responded to the toast of "The Officers," and assured the lodge that he and his brother officers would exert themselves to support the W.M. during his year of office. The brethren separated at a late hour, after having experienced a great Masonic success. Excellent singing and recitations were furnished by Bros. Doore, Bird, Harrison, Stubbs, Apps, Emerson, and McNiven. The list of visitors comprised the names of Bros. W. M. Cavell, P.P.G.S.D. Kent; A. E. Ralph, P.P.G.J.D.; L. Hall, 1206, Prov. G. Sup. Wks.; R. J. Emerson, P.P.G.J.W.; Usher, Prov. G. Steward; Harrison, P.M. 1096; Ayling, S.W. 1096; Rolfe, 1101; McNiven, 1426; Soutter, 65; R. L. Harrison, 1206; Smeeth, 1208; Gorton, 199, and H. Massey ("Freemason").

NEWBURY.—Loyal Berkshire Lodge of Hope (No. 754).—The members of this lodge held a successful gathering on Friday, the 7th inst., in connection with the installation of Bro. W. H. Herbert, Senior Warden, as Worshipful Master for the ensuing year. A portion of the Town Hall having been partitioned off, the lodge was

After the newly Installed Master had received the accustomed salutations Bro. Newton invested the following brethren with the collar and jewel appertaining to their respective offices:—Bros. John Tennant, S.W.; L. Wilkinson, J.W.; Geo. Riley, Treas.; W. C. Hamer, Sec.; J. L. Hawksworth, S.D.; J. Gilbert, J.D.; J. Bradshaw, I.G.; J. Sharples, and T. Hargreaves, Stewards; and H. Ainsworth, Tyler. The brethren then adjourned from labour to refreshment, when "The Queen," "Grand and Provincial Officers" and other toasts were proposed by the W.M. in brief but suitable terms. "The Health of the W.M." was proposed by Bro. Tunnah, P.G.S., in a characteristic speech. He spoke in very high terms of the new W.M., who, in conjunction with his father, the retiring W.M., had shown such praiseworthy zeal in the cause of Freemasonry. The establishment of the Albert

Edward Lodge had necessarily brought Bro. Edmund Heywood and himself very frequently together, and therefore, he knew more perhaps than anyone else how much the lodge was indebted to him for its existence. He felt sure Bro. Heywood would fill the position to which the suffrages of the brethren had appointed him with credit to himself and honour to the Craft, and that he would preside over their meetings with impartiality and discretion. It had given him very great pleasure to install Bro. Heywood, and he congratulated the lodge on his accession to the chair. The W.M. made a suitable acknowledgment. He thanked Bro. Tunnah for coming so great a distance at his period of life to install him in the W.M.'s chair of the Albert Edward Lodge. It was an event he should never forget, and it would be his endeavour during his tenure of office to merit the continued approbation of the brethren. He felt deeply the responsibility of his position, and whether in the government of the lodge or in the promulgation of the true principles of Masonry, no exertions would be spared to enhance the prestige of the Albert Edward Lodge. "The Health of Bro. Tunnah, the Installing Master" was proposed by Bro. W. T. Holden, P.M., in appropriate terms. Bro. Tunnah, in reply, expressed the satisfaction he had experienced in being with them. He hoped he should come again, for on looking round he recognised the stamp of "good fellowship" on all their faces. "The Visitors" was proposed by Bro. L. Wilkinson, J.W., to which toast he coupled, especially, the name of Bro. Forrester, who had befriended the lodge in a most handsome manner. Other toasts were proposed and replied to, and a most pleasant and agreeable evening was spent, an evening we are happy to say which would bear the morning's reflection. Bros. Towers, Berkett, Sanderson, and Jones, enlivened the evening at intervals with excellent singing. In closing our brief notice we must not forget to congratulate our Clayton-le-moors brethren on the beauty and excellence of their furniture and appointments.

LEICESTER.—Albert Edward Lodge (No. 1560).—The second regular meeting of this lodge was held at Freemasons' Hall, Leicester, on Tuesday, January 11th. In the absence of the W.M., Earl Ferrers, the chair was occupied by Bro. G. Toller, jun., I.P.M. There were also present Bros. W. Kelly, P. Prov. G.M.; Rev. Canon Burfield, P.M., S.W.; John Hunt, J.W.; Clement Stretton, P.M., Treas.; W. Langley, P.M., Sec.; J. G. Richardson, Asst. Sec.; Rev. F. H. Richardson, S.D.; J. F. Rolleston, J.D.; S. S. Partridge, P.M., Dir. of Cers.; W. Sculthorpe, P.M., and Captain Goodchild, Stewards; Dr. Buck, I.G.; G. Morris, P.M. 279; Dr. Clifton, P.M. 1391; C. C. Woodcock, P.G. Reg., and others. Visitors: T. Worthington, W.M. 50; J. M. McAllister, W.M. 279; T. A. Wykes, J.W. 523, and W. Millican, P.M. 523. The minutes of the previous meeting having been confirmed Bros. Burgess and H. Fowler, after being examined, were passed to the degree of F.C. The Rev. C. H. Wood having been approved on the ballot, and being in attendance, was then initiated into Masonry by the acting W.M., assisted by Bro. W. Kelly. Bro. Wykes presided at the organ. Time did not permit of the lecture being given in either degree. After the remaining business had been disposed of the lodge was closed, and a banquet took place, to which the W.M.'s of all the other lodges in the town had been invited as guests, but unfortunately only the W.M. of 279 was able to attend. The alms having been collected, the various toasts were well received and duly honoured, and altogether a very pleasant evening was spent.

Scotland.

EDINBURGH.—The annual celebration of the Festival of St. John took place on Monday, the 27th ult. In Edinburgh most of the lodges held meetings for the election and installation of office-bearers, and thereafter dined together at their respective rendezvous. During the evening the R.W. Masters interchanged deputations, and sent their congratulations and wishes for the prosperity of the different lodges. The weather being favourable, these visitations were carried out with a degree of comfort almost unlooked for at this usually inclement season of the year. At the meetings the loyal and Masonic toasts were given with great enthusiasm, especially the toast of "The Prince Patron of Scottish Freemasonry, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, Grand Master Mason of England." We give a list of office-bearers of the respective lodges:—

Lodge of Edinburgh Mary's Chapel (No. 1).—Bros. R. F. Shaw Stewart, W.M.; Bailie J. J. Muirhead, P.M.; G. Dickson, M.D., D.M.; E. W. Nightingale, S.M.; W. J. Shireess, S.W.; J. Crichton, J.W.; J. R. Campbell, Treas.; J. Webster, Sec.; Rev. J. Hill Tait, Chap.; J. Jameson, S.D.; Captain C. E. Phipps, J.D.; J. Fleming, B.B.; F. Law, Jeweller; J. A. Hamilton, Architect; R. Davidson, D. of M.; H. Gunther and J. Bryce, Sword Bearers; W. Grant, J. White, J. B. Brodie, W. Erskine, J. Muir, D. Smith, and C. J. Macara-Finnie, Stewards; J. Ness, Tyler.

Canongate and Leith, Leith and Canon-gate (No. 5).—Bros. Ebenezer Drummond, W.M.; J. Laurie, P.M.; G. Hudson, D.M.; D. Laird, S.M.; R. Stoddart, S.W.; J. Simpson, J.W.; W. R. Kelly, Treas.; A. Elder, Sec.; Rev. W. Graham, Chap.; D. Maney, S.D.; J. Morris, J.D.; C. R. Sey, Architect; A. R. Brown, B.B.; P. Gardner, Poet Laureate; W. D. Johnson, D.M.; G. M. Davidson, C.M.; C. Green, G.L.S.; J. Anderson, S.B.; T. Elliot, L.S.; A. M'Urlick, I.D.G.; A. Henderson, Tyler.

Journeyman (No. 8).—Bros. J. Davidson, W.M.; J. Ronaldson, S.W.; J. Kerr, J.W.

St. David's (No. 36).—Bros. L. M. Tracy, R.A., W.M.; W. W. Kennedy, P.M.; C. G. C. Christie, P.M.; J. Harkom, D.M.; W. Pettigrew, S.M.; W. Edwards, S.W.; J. Inglis, J.W.; W. Milne, Treas.; G. Ferrier, Sec.; C. Gaillard, J.D.; J. Webb, J.D.; J. Fleming, Chap.; J. Russell, B.B.;

C. Sey, Bard; W. H. Darling, M.C.; D. Clunas, Arch.; F. Law, Jeweller; Maclean and Veitch, Stewards; D. Edwards, I.G.; A. Robertson, Tyler.

St. Andrew (No. 48).—Bros. J. Carmichael, W.M.; J. T. Douglas, P.M.; Dr. W. S. Carmichael, D.M.; A. C. Edmunds, S.M.; J. C. Pottage, S.W.; L. Cole, J.W.; L. Mackersy, W.S., Treas.; D. Knight, Sec.; Rev. W. Graham, Chaplain; R. Hamilton, S.D.; J. M'Clumpha, J.D.; W. Hay, Architect; Addington, B.B.; D. Robertson, Steward; A. C. Mackenzie, D. of M.; P. Baker, I.G.; D. Young, Tyler.

St. James (No. 97).—Bros. R. Gordon, W.M.; Dr. J. R. Turnbull, P.M.; J. Melville, D.M.; Jas. Wilson, S.M.; W. Niven, S.W.; C. Cooper, J.W.; W. Hannah, Treas.; J. Hall, Sec.; J. Fowler, Chap.; T. Millar, S.D.; J. M'Dowall, J.D.; D. Small, Architect; J. Anderson, B.B.; L. Arrigri, S.B.; W. Bell, Steward; C. Pedreschi, I.G.; J. Newbigging, Tyler.

St. John Fisherrow (No. 112).—Bros. T. Carse, W.M.; M. Mackenzie, P.M.; A. Mitchell, D.M.; G. Nisbet, S.M.; J. Britton, S.W.; G. W. Wood, J.W.; R. Archibald, Treas.; F. Doleman, Sec.; J. B. M'Leod, Chap.; R. M. Archibald, S.D.; W. B. Moffat, J.D.; J. Taylor, Arch.; A. Hay, Jeweller; R. Blythe, B.B.; H. Renton, Steward; A. Black, I.G.; T. Cartwright, Tyler.

St. Stephen (No. 145).—R. Wadler, W.M.; Bros. R. S. Brown, P.M.; J. Walker, D.M.; W. C. Linton, S.M.; W. W. Mooney, S.W.; W. Greig, J.W.; R. S. Brown, Treas.; R. Hart, Sec.; D. McCallum, Chap.; W. Henry, S.D.; A. A. West, J.D.; J. H. Pepperday, Arch.; J. Amos, B.B.; A. Robertson, Steward; S. Crawshaw, I.G.; J. Montgomery, Tyler.

Lodge Roman Eagle (No. 160).—Bros. G. Laing, W.M.; W. Cowrie, P.M.; Dr. Stevenson, D.M.; B. Miller, S.M.; T. Willmott, S.W.; W. Mossman, J.W.; T. Ronaldson, Treas.; A. Scott, Sec.; J. Cowan, sen., Chap.; W. Newsam, S.D.; W. Gunn, J.D.; G. Crichton, Jeweller; H. Gray, B.B.; J. Smith, P.L.; A. Foote, Champion; J. H. Brownlie and A. Grant, E. B.; A. G. Jameson, D.M.; R. Young, Steward; R. Marshall, I.G.; W. L. Hogg, Tyler.

Trafalgar (No. 223).—Bros. J. Campbell, W.M.; A. Wallace, P.M.; D. Stalker, D.M.; D. Turner, S.M.; J. Turner, S.W.; W. B. Lamb, J.W.; R. Mackie, Treas.; J. Johnstone, Sec.; J. Hadden, S.D.; D. Stodart, J.D.; J. Hume, Archt.; Rev. A. S. Muir, Chap.; T. Leslie, B.B.; W. Turner, S.B.; A. White, G.L.S.; W. Rutherford, L.S.; M. Cribbes, Jeweller; W. C. Miller, Bard; J. Murray, I.D.G.; C. Campbell, Tyler.

Celtic Lodge of Edinburgh and Leith (No. 291).—J. Dundas Grant, W.M.; D. Kinnear, P.M.; C. Thompson, P.M.; Dr. Coghill, D.M.; G. Glen, S.M.; G. G. Russell, S.W.; T. B. Wemyss, J.W.; A. Hay, Treas.; J. Walker, Sec.; D. Nimmo, Chap.; Donald M'Kay (late Scots Greys), S.D.; R. Baillie, J.D.; F. W. Bridgman, Poet Laureate; C. Dejay, Steward; T. H. Menzies and L. M'Lean, S.B.; J. L. Clunie, Physician; J. H. Inches, Jeweller; A. Robertson, Arch.; W. Henderson, I.G.; D. M'Lean, Tyler.

St. Clair (No. 349).—Bros. G. Dobie, W.M.; A. Henry, P.M.; J. Dawson, D.M.; R. Hogg, S.M.; J. Greenaway, S.W.; J. Moonie, J.W.; A. M. Bruce, Treas.; J. Taylor, Sec.; R. Smart, Chap.; H. Manners, S.D.; W. G. Duncan, J.D.; A. Colville, B.B.; J. Bobie, and Thiem, Stewards; R. Smith, I.G.; C. Stockel and R. Shillinglaw, S.B.; J. Baikie, Tyler.

Caledonian (No. 392).—Bros. Andrew D. Cairns, W.M.; D. Swanson, P.M.; J. White, D.M.; P. Nevin, S.W.; Geddes Calder, J.W.; W. M. Bryce, sen., Treas.; W. Marshall, Sec.; Rev. A. S. Muir, Chap.; W. Donaldson, S.D.; H. Sale, J.D.; R. Cunningham, Architect; J. Gray, B.B.; C. Robertson, Steward; D. Young, Tyler.

Rifle (No. 405).—Bros. Albert T. Apthorpe, W.M.; T. Ford, P.M. and Treas.; J. Thomson, D.M.; R. Bryce, S.M.; J. C. Bryce, S.W.; J. H. Forrester, J.W.; J. P. Knott, Sec.; Rev. J. Murray, of Eddleston, Chap.; D. M'Kay, S.D.; J. Jameson, J.D.; W. Urquhart, Architect; G. Bisset, B.B.; W. L. Frost, Musical Director; J. Henderson, Org.; J. H. Forrester, Jeweller; J. B. Howard, Poet Laureate; L. P. Lipman, S.B.; E. R. Yerbury, Photog.; J. Gentle, J. F. Petrie, Stewards; R. Lumsden, I.G.; T. Moses, Tyler.

RUTHERGLEN.—Royal Arch Lodge (No. 116).—The annual election of office-bearers of this lodge took place in their lodge room on Monday, 27th ult., when the following brethren were duly elected and installed into office by Bro. W. Robertson, P.M., viz.:—J. Hamilton, W.M.; W. Ferguson, P.M.; T. Kinnon, D.M.; T. C. Bradbury, S.M.; J. Callen, S.W.; F. Price, J.W.; J. M'Cormick, Sec.; W. M. Duncan, Treas.; H. Sommerville, S.D.; T. Paterson, J.D.; D. Hodges, Chap.; G. Love, S.S.; J. Steven, J.S.; D. Colquhoun, I.G.; J. Millar, O.G. It may be interesting to state that Bro. J. Cross, who was initiated a member of this lodge in the year 1807, and consequently the oldest Freemason living in Scotland, on this occasion recorded his vote.

HAMILTON.—Kilwinning Lodge (No. 7).—Monday night, the 27th ult., was the annual festival of St. John, which was held in the Masonic Hall. The following office-bearers were elected and installed:—Bros. J. Mackie, W.M.; C. Spalding, D.M.; T. Thomson, S.M.; C. M'Geehan, S.W.; W. Chalmers, J.W.; W. Dunlop, Sec.; A. Taylor, Treas.; C. Turner, Architect; A. Kellar, Chap. and B.B.; J. Clark, S.D.; T. Fleming, J.D.; T. Minto, G.S.; J. Scott, J. Wheeling, and W. Nollis, Assistant Stewards; J. Annan, Org.; J. Brown, J. Scott, R. Miller, J. Dick, and W. Wheeling, Assistant Masters; J. Johnston, I.G.; J. Gardner, S.B.; T. Wheelan, Tyler; T. Thomson and J. Annan, Auditors.

PARTICK.—St. Mary's Lodge (No. 117).—On Monday evening, the 27th ult., the handsome hall erected

at the instigation of the above lodge in Douglas-street, which has already been described in our columns, was opened with a grand Masonic banquet. The hall, which has been tastefully painted and artistically decorated with emblems of the Craft, including the representation of the "all-seeing eye" above the R.W.M.'s chair, and an inscription, centered by the compasses and square, giving the name of the lodge and date of laying the memorial stone, together with chastely-arranged sun-lights drooping from the roof. R.W.M. Wylie occupied the post of honour in the east, and Bro. Murdoch, in the absence of S.W. Bro. Peacock, through indisposition, discharged the duties of Senior Warden, Bro. A. Agnew being in his usual place as Junior. Around the R.W.M. on the dais were Bros. Brunton, I.P.M.; Bain, D.M.; Donaldson, S.M.; J. M. Wylie, Treas.; Lawrence, Sec.; J. Baird, S.P.G.M.; Hendry, No. 12; Smellie, A., &c. The J.W. had around him Bros. Perry, Granger, Captain Rowlings, Maclellan, M'Gregor, &c. About 100 members of the order were present. After an excellent supper, purveyed by Bro. William M'Farlane, the toasts of the "Queen and Craft," "Prince and Princess of Wales," the "Grand Lodges—Provincial," was given from the chair, and responded to by Bro. Baird. "The Army, Navy, and Volunteers" found a champion in the person of Bro. Agnew, J.W. The toast of the evening was then given from the chair. In the course of a racy and able speech the R.W.M. traced the history of the ancient lodge, an old document, from which he read extracts, showing that it had been formed as far back as 1767, when their ancestors celebrated the occasion by a grand musical parade and "spree" at a certain house kept by a J. Craig. What would the said ancestors now think if they could only see their successors assembled in this handsome new hall? remarked the R.W.M. They would indeed be proud of this temple of beauty, and admit that their sons had reared a monument worthy of St. Mary's Lodge, No. 117. They would indeed be rather astonished at seeing an illuminated palace like this. The document he held in his hands showed that as far back as 1763 there was a split in the lodge, and after some time spent in litigation, their forefathers made it up again, but an offshoot from the original obtained powers from the Grand Lodge, and formed the present St. Mary's in 1769. He concluded by hoping that in their fine new hall the lodge would be as successful and prosperous in the future as she had been in the past. (Loud cheers, and all the honours.) Bro. Brunton then gave "Sister Lodges," which was duly acknowledged by Bro. Hendry, No. 12. "Visiting Brethren" was proposed by the Treas., and responded to by Bro. Davidson, who headed a deputation from No. 390. The other toasts included "The Builder," to which Bro. Smellie replied; "The Press," "The Ladies," &c.

STEVENSTON.—Thistle and Rose (No. 169).—The election of office-bearers took place on Monday, 27th ult., when the following gentlemen were chosen to fill the different offices:—Bros. J. A. Beattie, W.M.; T. Lambie, D.M.; D. Park, P.M.; J. Kilpatrick, S.W.; A. Guthrie, J.W.; R. Walker, T.; Peter Kilpatrick, S.G.; Kilpatrick, S.D.; J. Scott, J.D.; W. Fleck, B.B.; D. Smith, S.S.; W. Scott, J.S.; W. Alexander, S.B.; J. Hunter, I.G.; A. Thomson, O.G. Deputations were received in the evening from Mother Kilwinning; Irvine St. Andrews, 149; Blair Dalry, No. 290; Royal Arch, West Kilbride, 314; and St. Matthews Kilwinning, Dregthorn, 549.

GRANGEMOUTH.—Lodge Zetland (No. 391).—On Monday night, 27th ult., about 40 of the brethren of this lodge assembled in Bro. Dunkel's Royal Hotel, for the celebration of St. John's festival, previous to which the following office-bearers were duly installed for the ensuing year:—James Baxter, W.M.; A. Taylor, P.M.; T. Allan, D.M.; E. Christensen, S.M.; J. Kennedy, S.W.; James Walls, Sec.; A. Thomson, Treas.; G. Young, S.D.; T. Osborne, J.D.; G. Palmer, S.S.; T. Dunkel, J.S.; S. Selstrom, I.G.; G. Wilson, Tyler. After the installation a most sumptuous supper was served to the brethren, to which ample justice was done. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly proposed and heartily responded to. During the evening a number of the brethren gave a selection of songs and recitations. A special vote of thanks was awarded to Bro. Dunkel for the handsome manner in which he had discharged the duties of purveyor, after which the lodge was closed.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Athole (No. 413).—A meeting of this lodge was held on Tuesday night, the 28th ult., in St. Mark's Hall, Buchanan-st., Bros. J. Louttit, R.W.M., in the chair; D. Leeds, S.W.; A. Holmes, J.W. The R.W.M. was supported on the dais by Bros. W. Neilson, D.M.; J. Baikie, S.M.; P. Agnew, Treas.; R. Graham, Sec.; W. Ferguson, P.M. 116; A. Sage, P.M. 360; and W. Ferguson, P.M. 543 ("Freemason"); there were also present Bros. A. Stoddart, No. 0; J. Brisbane, 34; J. Grant, 127; W. F. Forrest, 321; and J. Menzies, 391. The minutes having been read and confirmed, Bro. John McLachlan was passed to the F. C. Degree by Bro. W. Ferguson, P.M. No. 116.

BRIDGE OF ALLAN.—Lodge Abercromby (No. 531).—This lodge met at the Royal Hotel on Monday evening, 27th ult., for installation of office-bearers, and celebration of St. John's festival. The following are those elected for the ensuing year:—Bro. J. Carmichael, R.W.M.; W. Cousins, P.M.; R. Philp, P.M.; W. McCowan, D.M.; J. Drysdale, S.M.; R. Dow, S.W.; J. Simpson, J.W.; Rev. J. Reid, Chap.; W. Henderson, Treas.; G. Miller, Sec.; P. Jaffray, S.D.; J. Cramp, J.D.; A. Anderson, Steward; W. Macgregor, I.G.; and L. McKinnon, Tyler. After the installation the brethren adjourned to refreshment, when the loyal and Masonic toasts were given and responded to.

The following reports of lodge meetings in Scotland stand over:—61, 111, 114, 175, 223, 362, 370.

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Answers to Correspondents.

All Communications, Advertisements, &c., intended for insertion in the Number of the following Saturday, must reach the Office not later than 12 o'clock on Wednesday morning.

The following stand over:—

Cecil Lodge, 449, Hitchin; St. John's Lodge, 279, Leicester; Friendly Lodge, 1573, Barnsley; Lodge of Tranquillity, 185, London; Benevolent Lodge, 205, Teignmouth; Sincerity Lodge, 174, London; Concord Lodge, 757, Bombay; Abbey Lodge, 614, Burton-on-Trent; St. Nathalie Lodge, 259, Ballater; Lebanon Chapter, 73, London; Cestrian Chapter, 425, Chester; and several Scotch Lodge reports, noted under that heading.

Several other communications remain for consideration.

The Freemason,

SATURDAY, JAN. 22, 1876.

OUR ROYAL GRAND MASTER IN INDIA.

H.R.H. the Prince of Wales has been to Lucknow, Delhi, and Cawnpore, and on the 16th was again at Madras. He has been most admirably received, and the natives seem to have vied with Europeans in expressions of loyalty and devotion. He has been over ground and made a pilgrimage to spots very dear to English memories and English hearts. He has traversed the country, if not the line of march, on which gallant Havelock and fiery Neil hastened on to the "rescue," and where their averging little columns performed such wonders, and did their duty so well. He has looked on the defences of Lucknow, and beheld traces everywhere of the heroism which animated Sir Harry Lawrence and those brave men, and brave women, and loyal natives, who maintained the honour of old England amid the crumbling walls and devastated cantonments of Lucknow. He has stood within the walls of Delhi, and heard the dark tale of abominable treachery, and the glowing recital of what an English army can do, and he will, no doubt, like many more, have kindly remembered these stout hearts who are now sleeping so peacefully, "life's fitful dream being o'er," many on the spots where they fell, like the good knights of old, with their "harness on their backs," doing their duty under every difficulty chivalrously and cheerfully to the last. He has seen Cawnpore, that place where one has sung,—

"Babes and women butchered lie
Round those bloodstained walls,"

and has, in his always kindly disposition, visited the cemetery where sleep so many gallant and devoted soldiers and servants of the Queen. One little trait of our Grand Master is very characteristic and not a little touching. In the cemetery rests a very gallant officer of the Rifle Brigade, a son of Field-Marshal Sir A. Woodford, Lieut.-Col. Charles John Woodford, who fell at the head of his men "in the very moment of victory." The Prince is reported to have plucked some

leaves from the tree overhanging his soldier's grave, an act as thoughtful as kindly. Though the visit of the Prince is intended to cement all classes in that now happily peaceful land, owing to the peculiar disposition of the native mind "to take things easy," whether good or bad, it is well to be reminded of a sterner past amid the shouts of the present, and better and brighter hopes for the future. The account of the 16th leaves our Grand Master at Madras, and next week we shall continue our narrative of his Royal progress.

THE PERPETUATION OF MASONIC ERROR.

It is wonderful how long error clings to the traditions and teachings of our human race. It may be exploded and mastered over and over again, it may be clearly refuted and calmly silenced, and yet after a little while it reappears as bold and as brazen as ever. Like the clowns in the pantomime, its cry always seems to be to its sympathetic audience "Here we are again!" And this common law of life holds good in Freemasonry as in the profane world. It is very difficult to remove, above all to eradicate, Masonic error. As "each dear delusion fades and dies" before the light of truth or careful criticism, it leaves us "pro tempore," only to re-appear after a little cycle of time. In nothing is this fact so evident as in the history of what some have mistakenly called the Locke MS., though the original document, such as it is, is not a MS. at all. The latest Masonic deliverance on the subject we have seen boldly treats the MS. as a reality, and declares "ore rotundo," that a "copy was taken by Leland and preserved by him in the Bodleian Library. This has been recopied and was first published in Frankfurt in 1748." The writer also talks of the "acute comments of Leland upon it," and asserts that its date is practically 1445. Now we beg to say that such an averment on the part of a Masonic writer in 1876 is, as Talleyrand said of a mistake, "worse than a crime." It is an insult practically to the critical studies of our period, it is in itself absolutely incorrect and unhistorical from beginning to end, and demonstrates that this Masonic scribe, whoever he may be, has not mastered the first rudiments of Masonic archæology. In Germany such a remarkable assertion will be simply laughed at. Indeed, we have never seen more errors in a short statement. So far as modern research can be depended upon, no such MS. exists in the Bodleian, nor does Leland any where say that he had made a copy of it. Indeed, we are inclined to believe that Leland never saw the MS., and nowhere records it. We have long asked for the passage in Leland which points to this MS., but so far in vain. No such MS. can be found in the Bodleian, or is known anywhere to exist, as stated—and even Locke's letter is now very much and properly questioned. There is a MS. copy of this pamphlet or printed catechism, in the British Museum among the additional MSS., but it is very late 18th century, and is, we believe, in the handwriting of Essex, the architect, who seems to have made a small collection of Masonic MSS. But this MS. was copied apparently from the printed form, and not the printed form from it. The document first appeared in the "Gentleman's Magazine" for 1753, and was said to be an "Ancient MS. on Freemasonry, and a copy of a small pamphlet consisting of 12 pages in octavo, printed at Frankfort, in Germany, in 1748." It also is stated to have been found on the writing table of a deceased brother, and to have been translated from the German. Now, of this German or English pamphlet nothing is known. The perpetuator of error states that it was published in 1748 at Frankfort, but of this fact no evidence is forthcoming. Kloss doubts it, and Kloss's doubts are most other peoples' certainties. It appeared first of all in the "Gentleman's Magazine" in 1753, as we said just now, and is reprinted by Preston in 1772, and Hutchinson in 1775, having previously appeared in the Constitutions of 1767 and 1769. At this moment we cannot put our hands on the Constitutions of 1756. The document professes to be a translation from the German of an English original, and, notwithstanding this self-evi-

dent absurdity, has been handed on as a genuine Masonic evidence. And, though later students have shown its unreal character historically and critically, it is still gravely declared to exist in the Bodleian as copied by John Leland. Thus error is perpetuated, and how are we to stop it? Experts in MSS. have long doubted the "archaisms" of the document, and above all that remarkable vocabulary. Locke's letter has never been traced, and the whole "surroundings" of the MS. or pamphlet are full of suspicion. As an evidence of 1445 it is worthless. In its present form it does not represent 1445 or 1545, and we do not believe 1645. It is in all probability the adaptation by some of those restless, hermetic, alchemical, and Rosicrucian Masons, who, about the middle of the last century, were adepts at inventing and palming off Masonic documents on credulous brethren. It may have for its basis an old Masonic or Lodge Catechism, conjoined with an alchemical or hermetic one, and is in fact a "fraus pia" on the Masonic world, in what it claims and in what it asserts. But such is the perpetuation of error that it survives often all the laborious efforts of the scholar and the critic, and is, as ever, greedily received and industriously perpetuated by the charlatan and sciolist. But in the true interests of Masonic archæological science, we protest again to-day against this perpetuation of error, this unscientific and uncritical method of dealing with the antiquities and history of Freemasonry.

THE SUPPLY OF MASONIC LITERATURE.

It was one of the old objections to lodge libraries that books were few, and all pretty much the same. "Cui bono?" was the ancient cry, whenever any more ardent minds raised the question of a lodge library. The plea of no books, or few books, cannot now be made, and if the objection to lodge libraries is to prevail it must be based on other grounds, viz., that inertness and immovability which characterize our excellent Order on the subject of Masonic literature generally. Despite our increase and advance, despite our æsthetic tastes, and ritual improvements, we are inclined to fancy and to believe that the same objections to lodge libraries as were potent with our Masonic fathers will prevail with their Masonic children! Still, as we know, in things extern to Freemasonry, the way to remedy a grievance, or to amend a shortcoming is not to talk about it. Talking goes a very little way, and costs nothing; action takes many steps in advance, and entails some sacrifices. In order, then, to facilitate the wish, if any, for lodge libraries, in order to meet the want, if any, of Masonic literature, Bro. Kenning offers, as appears in detail in another column, to supply a certain amount of Masonic literature at a given price to lodges and chapters. And in order to accommodate the less pronounced views and wishes of some lodges on the subject, as well to suit the state of their finances, he has arranged four prices for the beginning of a lodge library, or the addition to an existing one, the lowest £2, the highest £10, the intermediate amounts being £7 and £5. We, therefore, call the attention of our readers to this liberal offer, as, no doubt, Bro. Kenning will endeavour to meet the wishes of lodges and chapters, and to exchange any books he now offers them, if already in their possession, for others. We venture to think the proposal is a liberal one, a reasonable one, and a sound one. We have far too long neglected our lodge libraries, we have taken no care of our archives, minute books are missing, records are wanting, and if they exist they are buried away in inaccessible houses or dusty lofts. We therefore say to all our readers, with the new year let us turn over a fresh leaf in our literary history, and seek to revive among us a taste for Masonic literature. The books so offered are all worthy of acceptance and purchase. Bro. D. M. Lyon's work is a book which ought to be in every lodge library; it is truly a remarkable work, and is most important for all Masonic students in the information it gives, and the light it throws on past centuries of Masonic life and work in North Britain. Bro. Findel's is the best Masonic

history of our days. We do not wish to seem to say too much on the subject, or puff the wares of our enterprising publisher, but we think it well to commend the offer to the notice of our lodges, as we think that many lodges may be willing to make these interesting works the nucleus of a Masonic collection which may one day grow into a useful and valuable library. We know of course what Bro. Prudent, and Bro. Pickpoint, and Bro. Rational, and Bro. Keepsawere will say at once, the objections that will be made, the resistance that will be probably offered; but believing the movement to be a true one, and a right one, we have no doubt that if, delayed for a time it will eventually succeed. Bro. Kenning offers it a helping hand to-day, and it has our hearty good wishes for the improvement and intellectual culture of our kindly and useful Craft.

Original Correspondence.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for, or even as approving of the opinions expressed by our correspondents, but we wish, in a spirit of fair play to all, to permit—within certain necessary limits—free discussion.—Ed.]

URGENT APPEAL ON BEHALF OF THE ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR AGED FREEMASONS AND WIDOWS.

19, Montague-road, Dalston,
January 12th, 1876.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Will you kindly allow this letter to appear in your next, in reference to my appeal to the wives, mothers, and daughters of Freemasons on behalf of the aged and decayed.

I have issued nearly 2000 circulars and lists for contributions, giving the date for return on or before the 4th of January, but I am sorry to say up to the present time I have only received the following lists:—

	£	s.	d.
Mrs. Robert Clarke	5	0	0
" Louis J. Wolff	2	15	0
" Gottlieb	1	0	0
" Blaxland	1	0	0
" J. Boor	1	1	0
Miss Mayo	0	5	0

I take the opportunity of thanking the above ladies for their kind consideration and contributions.

I trust the brethren who have received lists for contributions will (if not already done) place the same into the hands of the ladies, and I have no fear of the result. The members of the Craft who have not received my list can on application to the above address, or at 51, Threadneedle-street, E.C., obtain as many as they require post free.

The total expenditure of the institution is over £8000 annually, and at the present time has 233 annuitants (men and widows). To meet this the institution only receives an income of about £2100, including the grant from Grand Lodge of £950, so that it has to rely on the liberality of the Craft to make up a deficiency of over £6000 annually.

The brethren will see by this what work there is to do. I thought that during the Christmas festivities the old men and women would not have been forgotten. This was the object I had in view in appealing at that time (I pray the Grand Architect of the Universe the appeal will yet be answered liberally). Observe our position, twenty-one unsuccessful candidates at last election, and at the coming one about forty male and an equal number of female candidates, while, at the present time, only six vacancies.

In conclusion, let me earnestly entreat, on behalf of our aged brethren, a liberal response to my appeal; and, praying for contributions on or before the 30th January,

I remain, dear Sir, yours fraternally,

FRANCIS FELLOWES,
Lion and Lamb, 192.

THE ANTIQUITY OF FREEMASONRY.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

In the "Freemason" of the 8th inst., page 18, a few paragraphs appear adverting to my communication in your issue of the 25th ult., relating to the antiquity of Freemasonry in Great Britain.

The remarks made being incorrect, I had thought they did not require notice, yet, when your Glasgow correspondent attempts to review, criticise, or advise, he ought to be well versed in the subject.

He stated that I had taken as my authority for the assertions, the "Freemason." Here he committed a very great error; I merely referred to your valuable newspaper, as to the remarks made by the Rev. P. P. Agnew.

As to the antiquity of the Craft, I quoted the "Masonic Miscellanies," by S. Jones, P.M., published about the commencement of this century (the book is dated 1811).

I have not written on this topic without having authority for the observations made, still, I am not alone in publishing what is here referred to, as, by a singular coincidence, there appears in the "London and Provincial Illustrated Newspaper," page 58, 8th January, 1876, "A Preliminary Sketch of Freemasonry," by Bro. Kenneth R. H. Mackenzie, who supplies in similar words, the dates 287 and 926, &c., as before mentioned.

Since your correspondent is a brother, I forbear noticing the want of courtesy displayed in his personal remarks.—Yours fraternally,

A PROVINCIAL P.M.

[The "Freemason" is for archaeological discussions, not

for personal discussions, and we can admit no more letters in this style. We have seen Bro. Mackenzie's paper, but such dates cannot be dogmatically asserted to be landmarks of speculative Masonry, only of Craft or operative Freemasonry.—Ed.]

CAN A TYLER VOTE?

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I believe it was rather the way in which I stated my own views which caused them to be regarded with an authority to which they might not be considered entitled, being founded on an incidental expression of opinion. I, therefore, assume the entire responsibility of what I said. I may be perhaps allowed to add that it would not be possible for the Tyler of the Grand Lodge to have any other title than Grand Tyler. As such he performs, and with remarkable ability. I had no idea of making any imputation against the Grand Tyler, or the Tyler of any other lodges, and I am glad to find my views so fully borne out by so experienced and distinguished a Mason as Bro. Weaver; his words are so explicit that I may be pardoned for bringing them forward again. He says "Tyler's are not balloted for, therefore they are not members of the lodges they tile," precisely my meaning. A Tyler in one lodge may be a Deacon, Warden, or Master in another, or at any rate a private member. This was all I wished to bring forward, and the case mentioned by Bro. S.C.H. must, according to Bro. Weaver's view, be a very exceptional case. It is scarce worth while occupying your valuable space with any remarks on the other portion of the paragraph of Bro. Weaver's letter, it being foreign to the immediate question.

I remain, dear Sir and Brother, yours faithfully and fraternally,

KENNETH R. H. MACKENZIE.

Chiswick Square, W., Jan. 10th, 1876.

[We are glad that Bro. Mackenzie disclaims the use of the high name and great authority of our esteemed Grand Secretary, Bro. John Hevey. It is clear that Bro. Mackenzie had no authority to quote his opinion, and is in error as to payment per se being a disqualification.—Ed.]

A FRIEND AND A BROTHER.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Onnord Sur,

As I know that you are a friend to wot his right and prupper, I think it to be my dooty to hinform you of a wery quere proceeding on the part of won of your Masonic lot. Tho honly a newsboy, I ave a soul above peepers and halways has ad a sense of wot is "strait." And as I thinks the gent com I ham a writing to you hof wants a talking too, I troubles you with this here statement, or memo, as the swells calls it. "Jimmy is my name, and Brixton is my station," and I sells there for Smith and Son of oom you may ave eerd on the moornin and hevenin peepers. The hother day a gent walks up to our stall, and takes up the "Freemason." Thinks hi to myself he is a coming down with his tuppence, and perhaps a penny hover for me, like a brick. I ave allers eerd say as Masons is "bricks." But no such thing. Not E. He actually read the "Freemason," all through hadvertisements and hall, and then he puts the paper down and quietly walks away. He nearly missed his train owing to his occupation, but not a blessed farthing did he pay up. Now this Sur is wot I calls cheap liteurtoor with a wengeance. How about its being nasty too for any one to hact, as I would ave scorned to ave done? The chap seemed well to do too, but I do think it were right mean of im. How is newsboys to live, and Smith and Son, let alone heditors and newspaper proprietors, and them "chaps in the chapel." This is a joke of mine.

Now sur, do you think sich conduct, and it haint uncommon, fair of im, or fair on hus, or fair on Bro. Kenning, as I ear them calling im. No! brother, brother, brother, says he, but vry dont you hact as a brother should hact, says hi. If that worthy hindividual sees this letter, praps he'll come to the Briston Station and buy a "Freemason," and give me summat for my trouble, not monkey's hallowance.

Some folks his so different. The hother day a wery good looking yung ooman came and basked for the "Freemason." I said to her, his you one, Miss. She said I'm a sister. So I gives her a "Freemason," and she gives me sixpence, and says you may keep the fourpence for yourself. So I says to her Thank you, Miss, and good luck to the sisters I says to you to-day.

I hopes as ow you will put in this letter, for I've been in a Board School, and am

Yours respectfully,

A News Boy,

Brixton Station.

[We thank our observing correspondent. We entirely agree with his view of the matter, but, as he truly says, such behaviour is not uncommon. We wish brothers would practice "fraternity" and not merely "spout" it.—Ed.]

HISTORICAL ENGRAVING OF THE INSTALLATION OF H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES, M.W.G.M.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I wish through the medium of your columns to inform the brethren generally that the above engraving is rapidly and most satisfactorily progressing, the eminent engraver employed upon it sparing no labour or pains to produce a result worthy of the great event. Upwards of 400 portraits are now in hand, and I wish especially to call attention that I can insert fully 200 more; but these portraits must all be collected and arranged by the end of February next, which will be the latest period that I can receive portraits for insertion. I therefore particularly request qualified brethren to lose no time in forwarding their portraits to me.

I have a large number of the nobility, gentry, and brethren generally, a complete list of which I shall shortly publish in your columns. As I am sure the Craft generally will be glad to see the engraving as complete as possible, I will conclude by again requesting that portraits be forwarded to me without further delay.

I am, dear Sir and brother, fraternally yours,

EDWARD J. HARTY.

213, Regent-street, W.

P.S. I may add that brethren calling at this address can point out the position they occupied and be at once photographed, it not being necessary that the photograph should be in Masonic costume.

LETTER FROM DR. ARNOTT.

CORRECTION.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I see you have my name appended to the letter of Dr. Arnett's, and in justice to the brother who forwarded it for publication I must not allow it to be considered as my contribution (which it is not), my part being simply to furnish the editor with particulars of the brethren mentioned in Dr. Arnett's most interesting communication.

WM. J. HUGHAN.

[We quite confirm Bro. Hughan's statement.—Ed.]

RE-WILSON'S MS.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Any particulars respecting the above from Bro. the Rev. A. F. A. Woodford, M.A., will prove most acceptable to Masonic students generally, and in particular to

WM. J. HUGHAN.

GRAND LODGE OF ALL ENGLAND AND "W.M."

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

In answer to our Bro. W.M., I must again object to the terms he uses as to "York Grand Lodge," and his lodge warrant, &c.

The "York Grand Lodge" was of course the "Grand Lodge of All England," held at York, to which W.M.'s lodge did not belong, so the warrant under which his lodge works was not from the York Grand Lodge, though he says it was.

I have no doubt but what W.M. refers to the "Grand Lodge according to the old Constitutions," held in London from 1753 to 1813, and which united in the latter year with the regular Grand Lodge, known for a short title by the name of the "Moderns," and the former by the name of the "Ancients," though in reality the "Ancients" so-called were the Modern seceders, and the "Moderns" so-called were the Ancients.

My "Memorials of the Masonic Union of 1813" are out of print, but if Bro. W.M. will state the name and number of his lodge (which he has not yet done) I can give him the information desired, or lend him my list of lodges.

WM. J. HUGHAN.

BROS. BINCKES, PERROTT AND TEW.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

May I ask Bro. Binckes, through your columns, if he knows anything of the "Boys' School Investigation Committee" of the Province of West Yorkshire, or of the "Report" of the same announced for presentation at Leeds, January 26th?

May I ask him, has he been examined, or any of the House Committee, or any brother who knows anything really about the school at all?—Yours fraternally,

FAIR PLAY.

BRO. BURGESS AND THE MARK DEGREE.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I have hitherto abstained from replying to any of the numerous letters and articles which have appeared in your columns under the heading "Bro. Burgess and the Mark Degree," and this for reasons known to others as well as myself.

I cannot, however, in justice to the Mark Grand Lodge, its rulers and executive, refrain from stating, in reply to the letter in your last issue, wherein Bro. Burgess makes use of the following words—"My claim was suppressed from the meeting of Grand Lodge"—that he is on this point entirely mistaken.

Not only was Bro. Burgess's letter not "suppressed" but its reception was duly announced, and on motion, duly proposed and seconded, it was unanimously resolved that it be referred for consideration and report to the General Board.

I am, dear Sir and Brother, yours faithfully and fraternally,

FREDERICK BINCKES,

G.S. G.L.M.M.M.

LAYING THE FOUNDATION STONE OF THE NEW PRINCE'S DOCKS, BOMBAY.

Continued from page 28.)

The procession, on reaching the pavilion, opened out, and His Royal Highness walked forward and took his seat on the chair surrounded by the Grand Lodge Officers, &c.

His Excellency the Governor then addressed His Royal Highness as follows:—May it please your Royal Highness,—On behalf of the people of the Presidency of Bombay, I have to request that your Royal Highness will be good enough to lay the foundation stone of this structure, which is to be called the Prince's Dock.

The Prince bowed graciously, and said—With much pleasure.

H.E. the Governor then requested Col. Callard, Chair-

man of the Port Trust, to explain the history and object of this work, which he did in the following terms:—

May it please your Royal Highness,—Before commencing the ceremony, I will briefly give the reason for the trustees of this port undertaking the great engineering work which your Royal Highness had condescended to gratify us by this day inaugurating. It is not long since the place on which we now stand was covered by the tide, which almost reached the houses of the native town, which you see before you. A concession of the right to reclaim this foreshore was made by government to a company called the Elphinstone Land Company, who, by the year 1870, had brought the reclamation and the line of wharves to a state little different from what it now exhibits. In that year, Her Majesty's Government seeing the benefit which would accrue to trade, were this line of wharves to become public property, repurchased the whole estate on behalf of the town of Bombay, and invested it in trustees, to whom was also committed the general charge of the conservancy, lighting, and pilotage of the harbour. In order to afford increased facilities for the landing and shipping of cargo, as well as to improve their property, the trustees resolved to construct a wet dock, capable of containing with ease 30 large vessels, on the site of the basin beside us, which indeed has been planned with this view. For this purpose, Government has given us a loan of £700,000. The works have been designed by Mr. Ormiston, who is the Chief Engineer of the Port Trust, and the contractor is Mr. Glover. Both gentlemen have given proof, by the large works they have carried out in the course of their professional career, that they are possessed of the skill and resources necessary to cope with the difficulties which such a vast piece of hydraulic engineering is sure to entail. We hope the Dock may be completed in five years, and that large vessels (perhaps the Serapis) may be berthed close to the spot on which Your Royal Highness has so graciously condescended to do this service for the trustees, and for which we desire to render our humble and hearty thanks.

The Grand Master said: The ceremony will now commence.

The District Grand Chaplain (Rev. Mr. Gilder) offered the following prayer:

"Most Glorious God, Grand Architect and Governor of the Universe, we entreat Thee to pour down Thy blessing upon us, and upon the duty of which we are about to perform. Grant that this great work that is begun in Thy name, may contribute to the welfare of this community and the prosperity of this port. We pray Thee to bless this city. May its rulers be guided by Thy gracious counsels, and may its people be distinguished by truth, loyalty, and uprightness. Give peace in our time, O Lord, that all merchants and traffickers may have the free and interrupted enjoyment of their trade, and reap the fruits of their industry and enterprise. Confer, we pray Thee, Thy choicest blessings upon our Sovereign Lady the Queen; upon our Grand Master, Albert Edward Prince of Wales; Alexandra, Princess of Wales, and all the Royal Family. Grant to the Viceroy of this Empire, the Governors, and all in the authority, strength and wisdom to carry out their duties to the honour of Thy name and the welfare of the people. Vouchsafe, O Lord, to aid and preserve our Masonic Order, and to inspire us with a spirit of unity, peace, and concord. O thou whom winds and waves obey, crown this undertaking with success; and may those engaged in it be preserved from all danger, and their work, founded in wisdom, be established in strength, and adorned with beauty. Amen, so mote it be."

The whole of the brethren responded solemnly "So mote it be;" and with a peculiarly impressive effect.

The Prince wrote inside the Bible that was used on the occasion the following words, adding at the end of his signature a Swedish mark; as His Royal Highness was first affiliated in Sweden:—This Bible was used on the occasion of laying the Foundation Stone of the "Prince's Dock," Bombay, November 11th, 1875.

ALBERT EDWARD,
Grand Master.

The M.W. the Grand Master then directed the Grand Treasurers, W. Bros. J. N. Wadia (Scotland), and C. Langley (England), and the Grand Registrars, W. Bro. H. W. Barrow (England), and Phiroshah M. Mehta (Scotland) to place the coins and papers in the stone, and as both coins and records were sealed up in one bottle, carried by W. Bro. Barrow, the ceremony of placing the bottle was jointly performed by those four brethren.

The Grand Master next called on Bro. Ormiston, the Engineer of the Works, to read the inscription on the plate to be placed over the cavity in the stone. It was as follows:—

"To provide increased facilities for the commerce of Bombay, the Trustees of the Port, with the sanction of Government, resolved to construct a Wet Dock for the accommodation of the largest sea-going vessels, and by the favour of Almighty God, and in the presence of His Excellency the Honourable Sir PHILIP EDMOND WODEHOUSE, K.C.B., Governor of Bombay, and many of the Native Princes, Chiefs, and Nobles of the Empire; His Royal Highness ALBERT EDWARD, Prince of Wales, K.G., &c., Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Free and Accepted Masons of England, and Patron of the Order in Scotland, assisted by the Honourable JAMES GIBBS, Right Worshipful District Grand Master of Bombay and its Territories, HENRY MORLAND, Esq., Most Worshipful Grand Master Mason of Scottish Freemasonry in India, and a numerous assemblage of the Craft, laid the foundation-stone of this work, to be called the Prince's Dock, on the 11th of November, A.D. 1875, and of the era of Masonry 5875, and in the 38th year of the reign of Her Most Gracious Majesty Victoria, by the grace of God, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and of the Colonies and Dependencies thereof in Europe, Asia, Africa, America, and Australasia, Queen, Defender of the Faith, &c. The Most Honourable ROBERT CECIL, Mar-

quis of Salisbury, Secretary of State for India; His Excellency the Right Honourable THOMAS GEORGE BARING, Baron Northbrook of Stratton, G.M.S.I., Viceroy and Governor-General of India. TRUSTEES OF THE PORT OF BOMBAY:—Colonel John Archibald Ballard, C.B., R.E., Chairman; the Honourable Edward W. Ravenscroft, C.S.; Lieut.-Colonel Henry F. Hancock, R.E.; Commander George T. Robinson, late I.N.; Forster F. Arbuthnot, C.S.; William G. Hall, Esq., George A. Rittredge, Esq., George F. Henry, Esq., Henry P. Le Mesurier, M. Inst. C.E.; Francis Mathew, M. Inst. C.E.; the Honourable Nacoda Mahomed Ali Rogay, Sorabji Shasoorji Bengali, Esq., George Manson, Secretary; Thomas Ormiston, M. Inst. C.E., Engineer; Glover and Company, Contractors. May the Great Architect of the Universe bless and prosper the work."

The plate was then laid on by Bro. Ormiston, Mr. Glover, the contractor, spreading the cement.

The Grand Master then completed this part of the ceremony by touching the stone with the trowel, and Bro. Ormiston lowered the stone into its place. The Junior Grand Warden (Scotland), W. Bro. Murzban, the D.D.G.W. (England), and the Deputy District Grand Master (England and Scotland) having received the commands of the M.W. the Grand Master to press the stone with the plumb, the level and the square, severally reported that the work was proper and that the craftsmen had done their duty.

The Grand Master struck the stone three times with the mallet and said I declare this stone well and truly laid. May the blessings of Heaven be on this work.

The Grand Master then poured from three separate silver ewers, corn, wine, and oil upon the top of the stone, the D.G. Chaplain meanwhile pronouncing the words—May an abundance of corn, wine, and oil be vouchsafed to us and to all men; and may the Great Architect of the Universe bless this undertaking, and promote the prosperity of this great work, the brethren all solemnly rejoicing "So mote it be."

The Prince, having examined the plans, returned to his seat, when

The Hon. Mr. Gibbs, D.G.M., addressed him thus—Most Worshipful Grand Master,—May it please your Royal Highness to receive a humble address from the Masons of Bombay.

His Royal Highness bowed his permission, and the District Grand Master then read the following address:—

To the Most High, Most Puissant, and Most Illustrious Prince, ALBERT EDWARD, Prince of Wales, K.G., K.T., K.P., G.C.B., G.C.S.I., &c., &c., Most Worshipful Grand Master of the United Fraternity of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of England, Patron of Scottish Freemasonry, &c., &c. &c.

May it please Your Royal Highness,—We, the District Grand Master of Bombay and its Territories, and the Grand Master of all Scottish Freemasonry in India, for ourselves, and on behalf of the District Grand Lodge of Bombay, the Grand Lodge of all Scottish Freemasonry in India, the Masters, Past Masters, Wardens and brethren of all the lodges here holding under the English and Scottish Constitutions, greatly rejoice to welcome your Royal Highness to Bombay, the oldest of Her Majesty's possessions in India.

We avail ourselves of the opportunity thus graciously afforded us of declaring our firm and indissoluble loyalty and devotion to Her Majesty the Queen, and expressing our profound attachment to your Royal person; and we now, with grateful pride, beg to offer the homage due to your Royal Highness as Grand Master and Patron of our Ancient and Honourable Order.

The wide extension and material progress of Freemasonry in the Presidency during the past decade, and the welcome accession to your fraternity of an ever increasing number of lodges entirely supported by our loyal and enlightened Parsee, Hindoo, and Mahomedan fellow-subjects, afford just ground for congratulation, and for the belief that this visit of your Royal Highness will give a lasting impulse to the advancement of the Craft in India; and strengthen, if it be possible, that unswerving allegiance to and veneration for our Rulers and Patrons which have ever distinguished Freemasonry.

We earnestly pray that your Royal Highness may long be spared to exercise the power and influence of your most exalted station in forwarding the interests of our beneficent institution, whose aim and end it is to promote the growth of virtue and morality, and lessen the aggregate of human misery and vice.

Commending your Royal Highness to the constant guidance and protection of the G.A.O.T.U., we have the honour to subscribe ourselves, your Royal Highness' most obedient, faithful, and devoted servants,

HENRY MORLAND, G.M.F.S. India.
J. GIBBS, D.G.M. Bombay.

Dated at Bombay, this 14th day of November, A.L. 5875, A.D. 1875.

The Grand Master listened attentively to the address, and bowed graciously at two or three points.

When R.W. Bro. Gibbs had concluded, R.W. Bro. Morland stood forward and said—May it please your Royal Highness,—The Lodge Rising Star of Western India had hitherto been honoured by the Grand Masters of Western England receiving their Founder's Medal, and I have been deputed by the brethren to request, on this occasion, your gracious acceptance of that medal.

The Grand Master,—I have the greatest pleasure in accepting it. R.W. Bro. Morland handed him the medal, enclosed in a carved wood case.

The Grand Master then replied to the address. He said—Right Worshipful, Worshipful, and other Brethren,—I thank you for your address. I have learned with great pleasure the flourishing condition of the Craft in this part of India, and the efficiency with which lodges annually increasing in number fulfil the objects of the institution by uniting together men of various castes and creeds in the bonds of fraternal brotherhood, by giving them common

objects of exertion for extending the knowledge of our ancient Craft and for promoting the good of all mankind. It is a great pleasure to me to join the brethren in Bombay in a work which will tend to the protection of life and property to the extension of trade, and to add to the prosperity and happiness of large bodies of our fellow men.

This speech was followed by loud cheering, amid which the procession was reformed, and His Royal Highness retired.

MASONIC CAREER OF THE EARL OF SHREWSBURY.

COMMUNIQUE.

The Right Hon. Bro. the Earl of Shrewsbury and Talbot was installed P.G. Master of Staffordshire about six years ago, and at once took great interest in the various lodges in his province, establishing quarterly communications for the different parts, holding a meeting in each part every three months, so that all Masons could have an opportunity of attending Prov. Grand Lodge, and becoming acquainted with its members. He himself regularly attended these meetings and consequently soon knew all the prominent members of each lodge, which enabled him much better to select the P.G. Officers at the annual meeting at Stafford. He also causes at each of these four meetings, the charity box to go round, giving largely himself; the proceeds to go to a fund called the "Shrewsbury Fund," for local charity only. He also took very great interest in the three great Masonic Charities, volunteering to take the chair of each at the annual festival dinners in rotation. He began with the Boys' in 1872, at which £5510 was collected, Lord Shrewsbury himself giving a large sum he had collected from his friends to the Stewards from his province, who supported him on that occasion. In the following year he presided at the Girls' School, giving away at Clapham the prizes to the various young ladies who had earned them, assisted by Lady Shrewsbury and his daughter, Lady Theresa Talbot; expressing his great delight at the splendid schools, and the proficiency of the scholars. To celebrate the event the Masons of his province subscribed and Lady Shrewsbury presented the schools with an entirely new service of pottery ware, breakfast, dinner, &c., sufficient to supply the whole school, and a few over in case of breakage. Each article is impressed with a design of the schools, and under is the Staffordshire knot, which gives a very pretty effect, and will remind the girls of the donors. In 1875 he presided at the dinner for the Aged Freemasons, when £7020 was collected, the largest amount yet obtained at the annual festival. There is in his province an association which other provinces would do well to follow—the "Staffordshire Masonic Charitable Association," established just five years ago for the increase of subscribers to the various Masonic charities, which is done by annual subscriptions of one guinea a year for five years, a ballot taking place every half-year for priority of life subscriptions. Thus 100 members give £100 guineas each year, which will make twenty life-subscribers; a ballot is taken which of the 100 shall be first entitled to his life vote, and as all promise, under pain of losing what he may have already paid, to pay each year one guinea, in five years the whole hundred will be life subscribers of any institution they may select, thus collecting a large amount for the various charities, and giving the province such a large number of votes that in a few years they will be able to place their candidates in the schools almost on the first application. The P.G. Master is the President, and took the chair at the annual meeting held at Stafford last December, when forty life-subscribers were balloted for. There is also in connection with it a benevolent fund, which is to educate the children of deceased local brethren, who are too old, or who cannot get into the schools. Perhaps, however, Lord Shrewsbury's Masonic love for the brethren of his province was best shown when H.R.H. the Grand Master was installed. Knowing that a good many brethren would then be in London who were not in the habit of often going, and that they would not know where to go on their arrival, he caused his P.G. Sec. to issue circulars inviting all the Worshipful Masters, Wardens, P.G. Officers, &c., who were going, to meet at his house in Dover-street, Piccadilly, where he had a splendid lunch ready, and sufficient carriages and omnibuses to take the whole of the brethren to the Albert Hall, giving to each a ticket on which was the number of his carriage, to prevent confusion, and appointing a place to meet again. When the installation was over the carriages were again waiting, and the brethren were taken back to Dover-street, the noble lord driving them first in his own carriage to welcome the brethren on their arrival at his house, where another substantial meal was ready for those who would partake of it, and wine in profusion was served during the whole time the brethren were present. Such a truly Masonic gathering did not take place in any house in London on that great day, and the Staffordshire Masons felt justly proud of their Prov. Grand Master, and it was with very great pleasure when, at the annual meeting of Pro. Grand Chapter, it was arranged to present a marriage present to Lady Theresa Talbot, who was about marrying the Viscount Castlereagh. Almost every member of the province subscribed; they felt that it would in a small way show the respect and esteem in which they held the Earl of Shrewsbury and Talbot, their Provincial Grand Master.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS AND OINTMENT: Indigestion, bilious headache.—These ailments may sometimes be considered by the young and thoughtless to be trifling inconveniences, but it should be borne in mind that by simple inattention and neglect they often end most seriously. The wise without delay rectify a deranged stomach. They take Holloway's Pills, rub his celebrated Ointment over the pit of the stomach and liver, and they at once perceive the change for the better in the system, spirits, appetite, strength and energy. The improvement, though it may be gradual, will be thorough and lasting. They preserve from a recurrence of the malady. Holloway's Pills will be found to purify the blood, and give healthy action to every organ.—ADVT.]

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS. FESTIVAL 1876. BY WILLIAM JAMES HUGHAN.

It has occurred to me that a few words respecting the above institution might be acceptable to our brother Stewards for 1876, as to its origin and early history.

In the report of our excellent Secretary Bro. Binckes, dated June, 1875, is a most interesting sketch of the commencement of the institution, which merits our careful attention, and especially as it communicates valuable information hitherto unnoticed by the fraternity.

The popular notion is that the R.M.I. for Boys was founded by certain members of the Lodge No. 23, under the "Ancients" A.D. 1798, and that the "Moderns" had no such society, theirs being for girls alone, (the R.M.I. for Girls having been established in 1798) or that the institution for Girls originated with the "Moderns," (so called) and the Boys with the "Ancients" (so called).

Undoubtedly Lodge No. 23 (United Mariners), has the honour of starting the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, and at a meeting convened of "Ancient" Masons, held on the 3rd day of July, 1798, it was agreed, according to the recommendation of that lodge to "establish a Masonic Society for clothing and educating the sons of indigent Freemasons." The Grand Lodge "according to the old constitutions" soon took the matter in hand most earnestly, and passed a law, that upon registering each initiate in London, or in the country, the sum of five shillings, or two shillings and sixpence shall be paid respectively towards the funds of that society, and under the patronage of the M.W.G.M. the Duke of Athol, the institution flourished, some fifty children being so educated and clothed every year.

The regular Grand Lodge, in the person of one of its most distinguished members, Bro. Sir Francis C. Daniel, M.D., however formed an independent society. In a memoir of this good brother, now brought into notice by Bro. Binckes, we find that Sir Francis Daniel established a "Masonic charity, for clothing and educating the sons of indigent Freemasons; and in July, 1798, (1808 is believed to be the year), the foundation stone of this institution was laid. This praiseworthy undertaking was accomplished under the wing of the Royal Naval Lodge, No. 50, London, on the roll of the "Moderns," and of which lodge the worthy knight (Daniel) had been Master for seventeen consecutive years, and resumed the same office twice since at different periods.

During his long period of Mastership of the Royal Naval Lodge he initiated "upwards of 600 American captains and near 400 British Naval Commanders," so that it is quite evident that the lodge had every right to its title. Sir F. C. Daniel was succeeded by the Right Hon. the Earl of Kingston as W.M., and was presented by his lordship, in requital of his eminent services, with a silver cup unanimously voted him by the lodge.

In the minutes of a General Meeting of the subscribers to the Masonic charity, instituted by Bro. Daniel, held at the Royal Naval Lodge on Friday, 23rd June, 1809, it would appear that the Society, especially active from March 25th, 1808, had then received subscriptions in one year amounting to £330 (circa), and expended £151 for the same period. The Earl of Kingston was then its noble patron, and the Earl of Moira and other distinguished brethren, Vice-Presidents, the well known Chevalier B. Ruspini being prominent as usual in any and every good Masonic work.

It is then a fact that Sir Francis's next "Grand Masonic Act" was to institute a second charity for the purpose of protecting the widows and orphans of the regular Masons, and is noted in the memoir, by which it would appear that the institution alluded to is in reality the one already mentioned, and that the foundation was 1808, and not 1791 as stated in another paragraph. I think it likely that the writer of the memoir has erroneously taken the year of origin of a similar institution under the "Ancients" to refer to Bro. Daniel's Society, and so we may fairly take it for granted that the Society for the education of the sons of deceased and indigent Freemasons was originated by that brother in 1808. This is evident also from the purport of a circular issued by Sir F. C. Daniel, asking for subscriptions, dated Nov. 6th, 1809.

In consequence of the glorious Union of 1813, by which the "Moderns" and "Ancients" were consolidated into one body, Bro. Sir Francis C. Daniel, after three months' arduous exertion accomplished the Union of the two charities, in which work he was much indebted to Bro. W. Williams, Esq., M.P., Provincial Grand Master for the County of Dorset, and Sir William Rawlins, Past Senior Grand Warden, without whose able assistance he would have had much difficulty. These two gentlemen, along with Sir Francis, subscribed additional sums in order to accomplish this desirable object. The effect of these noble exertions, by the consolidation of this excellent institution, has been that it provides for 70 children, who are neatly clothed and educated the same as in the best academies, and on calculating the numbers from the establishment it is ascertained that near 1000 children have been provided for, and about 400 families relieved, including a pension for several widows.

The union of the two charities was consummated on the 26th May, 1817, and in a circular issued during the same month the energetic knight again implored the aid of the fraternity, in the names of the noble patrons, the Dukes of Sussex, Kent, and Athol, and others, and for the sake of "upwards of forty boys imploring protection." The number "left out in the cold" is still more at the present time, and should incite the Stewards for 1876 to strive to their utmost in the glorious cause of Masonic Benevolence, not only for the boys, but for the sister institutions of which we, as Masons, are so justly proud.

In this year of the foundation of the Masonic Institution for Boys by the "Ancients" there were six lads provided

for, now there are fully 170 more! What need be said more than this simple yet eloquent fact to cause a large influx of subscriptions?

It is pleasant to note that the two lodges, to whom the honour is justly due of originating the institution in question, exist to this day. The Royal Naval Lodge having been warranted A.D. 1738, and was numbered 57 immediately before the Union, as we have seen. At the union that number was changed to 79, then in 1832 to 70, and in 1863 to 59. The "United Mariner's Lodge," (both names singular to say having to do with the Navy) before the "Union" was No. 23 under the "Ancients," afterwards it became No. 36, in 1832 No. 33, and in 1863 No. 30. Long may they exist, and help to maintain our great Masonic Charities.

CONSECRATION OF ROYAL PRINCE OF WALES'S LODGE, NO. 1555, PENANG, STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

The rapid progress that our ancient and honourable Craft is making in Europe is fully equalled in proportion in the far East. Where, a few years ago, Masonry was hardly represented, now it exists as a well-known and flourishing institution, its noble and honourable tenets respected, and its ancient landmarks guarded and upheld by men whose names are associated with that nobleness of mind and purpose which are the ramparts of social and moral virtue.

In Japan, China, Singapore, Batavia, Manilla, and other places, lodges have been existing for some time, and now another support has been added to the old Masonic Oak by the founding and full establishment of a lodge in Penang, (or Prince of Wales's Island), Straits Settlements.

The Royal Prince of Wales' Lodge, No. 1555 (deriving its name from a double source, viz., from our M.W. Grand Master in England, and from the Island in which it is situated), was commenced in April last by the resident and seafaring brethren, numbering in all some fifteen or sixteen. These in a most liberal manner furnished the necessary funds, and through the truly fraternal help and kindness of the R.W. Bro. F. H. Gottlieb, of Singapore, in Masonic charge of the Eastern Archipelago, the formal and proper application was made and forwarded to the United Grand Lodge of England for a warrant of constitution, &c. Fortunately, the R.W. District Grand Master, Bro. W. H. Read, then on a visit to England, at once gave the matter his undivided attention, and to whose untiring energy, and great interest taken in the proceedings we may attribute our present success. The warrant, bearing the sign manual of our Royal Brother the M.W. Grand Master, and dated July 5th, 1875, was duly received, though it was not until the 4th of December last that the consecration and installation could be arranged to take place. On that day these ceremonies were carried through under the presidency and direction of R.W. Bro. W. H. Read, D.G.M., and R.W. Bro. F. H. Gottlieb. The members of the lodge, numbering thirty-six, were all present, besides numerous visitors. Many of our naval and military brethren were unavoidably absent, having to be present at the scene of the disturbances in the adjacent territory of Perak. How sorely did we miss the one whose cruel and treacherous murder by the Malays, in Perak, had necessitated the presence of troops and naval forces to avenge his death.

W. Bro. the Hon. J. W. W. Birch was one of the brightest stars of Masonry in the East, and, with his great love for its principles, was respected by the whole Craft here.

He, together with Bro. Captain Innes, R.E., were both members of the lodge, and had looked forward with much pleasure to joining in these ceremonies, which alas! they were not to see. They died as Masons should die—for duty.

Never will those brethren who had the honour of being present forget the impression left by these beautiful services. The perfect working of the R.W. brethren and the marked unanimity and love prevailing made it an occasion to be remembered by all.

W. Bro. the Rev. Arthur Fearon, Colonial Chaplain, was installed as first W.M. of this lodge, and the brethren have good cause to congratulate themselves that circumstances should have permitted of their choosing one to rule that is so well known and respected for his great admiration and love for the fundamental principles of our Masonic Craft.

Much satisfaction was expressed at the furniture, regalia, &c., which had been supplied by Bro. George Kenning, of London, and the reasonable prices charged.

At seven o'clock in the evening the inauguration banquet took place in the library and committee room, and, thanks to the energy and kind attention of the Stewards, Bros. Lavine, Comrie, Hill, Fox, Anthony, and Ainslie, was a complete success.

The usual Masonic and loyal toasts were drunk with honours, and after a very pleasant and sociable evening, it being Saturday night, the brethren broke up and dispersed to their homes about eleven o'clock.

The officers for the year 1875-6 are W. Bros. the Rev. A. Fearon, W.M.; A. Ainslie, S.W.; S. A. Fox, J.W.; W. D. Hill, Treasurer; J. Wilkinson, Secretary; W. Marshall, S.W.; J. King, J.W.; E. S. Cohen, I.G.; W. Penegar, Tyler.

Metropolitan Lodge of Instruction, No. 1507, which will hold its annual festival next Friday at the Metropolitan Club, 269, Pentonville Road, at half-past 6 in the evening, was incorrectly described in our last impression as the Metropolitan Club of Instruction. As "Clubs of Instruction" are not allowed by Grand Lodge, the brethren who read the paragraph must have seen that this was an unintentional error.

Knights Templar.

PRESCOT.—William de la More Preceptory.—A conclave of the Knights attached to this preceptory was recently held at the New Masonic Hall, Prescott. The proceedings were opened about half-past three o'clock by Sir Knight J. Kellett Smith, E.P., and the others present were Sir Knights G. Turner, P.E.C.; J. W. J. Fowler, P.E.C.; R. Brown, Prelate; R. Young, First Cap.; T. Ashmore, Second Cap.; H. Nelson, Registrar; J. Wood, Treasurer; W. Tyrer, Almoner; J. W. Ballard, Expert; W. J. Thomson, Cap. Lines; E. M. Sheldon; and the visitors were Sir Knights H. R. Beswick Roysds, Sub Prior; W. Doyle, E. C. Alpass, Preceptor and Constable Lancashire; T. Berry, P.G. S.B. England and P. Prov. First Grand Cap.; and J. E. Jackson, First Cap. Alpass. After some preliminary business, Sir Knight H. R. Beswick Roysds, Sub Prior of Lancashire, took the chair, and proceeded with the installation of Sir Knight R. Young as the E.P. for the ensuing year, the work being done in a remarkably effective style throughout. The E.P., having been saluted in the usual form, proceeded to invest the following as his officers:—Sir Knights T. Ashmore, C.; H. Nelson, M.; W. Tyrer, P.; R. Brown, R.; J. Wood, Treasurer; J. W. Ballard, A.; W. J. Thomson, E.; and Dr. E. M. Sheldon, C. of the L. Sir Knight Captain G. Turner, in name of the Sir Knights, presented Sir Knight Dr. J. Kellett Smith, I.P. Preceptor, with a valuable solid silver cigar case, as a slight recognition of his valuable services during the past year as E.P. After the transaction of some business, the preceptory was closed, and the assembled Knights adjourned to a sumptuous banquet. Sir Knight Young, E.P., presided.

Red Cross of Constantine.

LANCASTER.—Red Cross Conclave (No. 12).—The regular and installation meeting of this conclave was held on Monday, 18th Jan., at the Masonic Rooms, Athenæum, when the following officers were present:—Em. and Perf. Sir Knt. Wm. Hall, M.P.S.; Em. Sir Knt. W. H. Bagnall, V.E.; Illus. Sir Knt. J. Daniel Moore, M.D., Insp. General; Sir Knt. F. Dean, S.G.; Sir Knt. E. Airey, J.G.; and others. After the preliminary business had been transacted, and two candidates elected, a senate of Sovereigns was opened, and Sir Knt. Moore, as Installing Officer, duly enthroned Sir Knt. Bagnall into the chair of C., and a college of Viceroys being declared, afterwards inducted Sir Knt. F. Dean into the chair of E. The Knights were re-admitted, and paid their obeisance to the M.P.S. and V.E. The officers were then appointed as follows:—Sir Knts. J. D. Moore, Treas.; E. Airey, S.G.; W. J. Sey, J.G.; W. Wearing, Prefect; R. Taylor, Sentinel. There being no other business, the conclave was closed in due form.

MASONIC BALL AT SHEFFIELD.

One of the most successful balls of the season was given on Friday night (January 7th), in the Cutlers' Hall, by the Freemasons of Sheffield. As usual they engaged the whole suite of rooms, and made the most complete and elaborate arrangements for the comfort and enjoyment of their guests. They did not wish the Masonic Ball to stand pre-eminent in point of number of visitors, but what they have always wished to bring about, and what they again achieved, was firstly to keep it select, and secondly that their guests should be thoroughly satiated with pleasure. The large handsome banqueting hall (of world-wide renown) was devoted to dancing, the ladies' gallery being occupied by the band. The hall was excellently laid. The ball-room was approached from the vestibule by an ornamental passage formed by a screen and awning; this passage was laid with rich carpet, on which appeared the Prince of Wales's plume (used during Royal visit), and the awning, screen, &c., were decorated with festoons of flowers and gilt heading. The supper gave every satisfaction, as also did the wines. The tables were tastefully decorated with choice plants and flowers, which contributed to make up a brilliant scene. The ball-room (same as used during the recent Royal visit) presented a very animated appearance, the chandeliers casting down a flood of light upon the dancers. Amongst the regalia worn we noticed that of Craft, Provincial Grand Craft, Royal Arch, Mark, Provincial Grand Mark, Rose Croix, 30°, Knights' Templar, Red Cross of Constantine, K.H.S., and the Royal Order of Scotland; others in military uniforms. These, together with the light costumes of the ladies, made up a most enchanting picture. The band was under the conductorship of Bro. Charles Harvey, and in addition to his ordinary string band there was the principal viola and bassoon from Mr. Charles Halle's band, (Manchester), and the principal violoncello of Mr. De Jong's band, (Manchester). The programme consisted of eighteen dances, exclusive of supper dances. The whole of the arrangements were under the supervision of a committee of twelve, selected from the three lodges, Bros. S. B. Ellis and Joseph Binney acting as Honorary Secretaries; the Stewards (which included the committee) were Bros. J. A. Andrew, R. Arnison, P.M., &c.; H. H. Bedford, J. Binney, W. H. Brittain, P.M., &c.; J. Clark, T. Collinson, P.M.; H. Eeroyd, W.M.; S. B. Ellis, S.W.; John Fawcett, W.M.; H. J. Garnett, P.M., &c.; G. W. Hawksley, P.M.; S. Hayes, P.M.; J. F. Moss, P.M.; H. W. Pawson, P.M.; R. Renton, A. Scargill, P.M.; R. Schott, John Sutcliffe, P.M., &c., (Grimsby); Dr. W. R. Thomas, J.W.; Geo. W. Webster, J.W.; W. White, W.M. The dancing commenced at 9, and continued until 4 o'clock. Upwards of 300 were present, some of whom came from Rotherham, Chesterfield, Worksop, Nottingham, Manchester, York, London, Liverpool, Barnsley, and Grimsby.

MASONIC LITERATURE.

Bro. Kenning offers:—	£	s.	d.
Vols. I. and II. Masonic Magazine	0	19	0
History of Freemasonry (Findel)	0	10	6
Illustrated Catalogue of Masonic Clothing and Jewels	0	5	0
Masonic Gatherings (Taylor)	0	5	0
A Defence of Freemasonry (Woodford)	0	2	6
Israelites found in the Anglo-Saxons (Carpenter)	0	2	6
Cosmopolitan Masonic Pocket-book, 1876	0	2	0
Grand Lodge Constitutions with Charges and the E.A. Song	0	2	0
Freemasonry in relation to Civil Authority and the Family Circle	0	1	0
Reflected Rays of Light upon Freemasonry	0	1	0
Total	£2	10	6

£2 PARCEL.

"Freemason," Vols. 1, 2, 3 and 4	2	2	0
History of the Lodge of Edinburgh (Lyon)	1	11	6
History of Freemasonry (Findel)	0	10	6
Illustrated Catalogue Masonic Clothing and Jewels	0	5	0
Life of Constantine	0	5	0
Mackey's Encyclopedia	0	5	0
Masonic Gatherings (Taylor)	0	5	0
A Defence of Freemasonry (Woodford)	0	2	6
Israelites found in the Anglo-Saxons (Carpenter)	0	2	6
Cosmopolitan Masonic Pocket-book, 1876	0	2	0
Grand Lodge Constitutions, with Charge and E.A. Song	0	2	0
Freemasonry in relation to Civil Authority and the Family Circle	0	1	0
Reflected Rays of Light upon Freemasonry	0	1	0
Total	£5	15	0

£5 PARCEL.

Vols. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7 Freemason	4	7	0
History of the Lodge of Edinburgh (Lyon)	1	11	6
Vols. 1 and 2 Masonic Magazine	0	19	0
History of Freemasonry, (Findel)	0	10	6
Illustrated Catalogue of Masonic Clothing and Jewels	0	5	0
A Defence of Freemasonry (Woodford)	0	2	6
Israelites found in the Anglo-Saxons (Carpenter)	0	2	6
Cosmopolitan Masonic Pocket Book	0	2	0
Reflected Rays of Light upon Freemasonry	0	1	0
Freemasonry in relation to Civil Authority	0	1	0
Total	£8	2	0

£7 PARCEL.

Vols. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7, Freemason	4	7	0
Freemason's Liber Musicus (complete)	3	0	0
History of the Lodge of Edinburgh (Lyon)	1	11	6
Volumes 1 and 2 Masonic Magazine	0	19	0
History of Freemasonry (Findel)	0	10	6
Illustrated Catalogue of Masonic Clothing and Jewels	0	5	0
Life of Constantine	0	5	0
Defence of Freemasonry (Woodford)	0	2	6
Israelites found in the Anglo-Saxons (Carpenter)	0	2	6
Cosmopolitan Masonic Pocket-book, 1876	0	2	0
Freemasonry in Relation to Civil Authority	0	1	0
Reflected Rays of Light upon Freemasonry	0	1	0
Total	£10	7	0

£10 PARCEL.

INTERESTING PRESENTATION TO A WORTHY BROTHER.

There is no more familiar firm in Liverpool and neighbourhood than "Vandyke and Brown," the eminent photographers, and on the occasion of Bro. R. Brown, W.M. 241, Hon. Sec. to the West Lancashire Masonic Educational Institution, resuming the sole proprietorship of the business he originally founded under the above well-known title, he entertained at his residence a few evenings ago the principal artists connected with his numerous establishments. These numbered some sixty or seventy ladies and gentlemen, who sat down to an elegant banquet, supplied by Bro. W. Vines, and afterwards the party resolved itself into a most enjoyable ball, which was kept up with great spirit until the following day. It is probable that so large a gathering, in connection with the comparatively new business of photography, could not be produced by any other than this well-known Liverpool firm, which promises, under new auspices, to continue its prosperous career. Advantage was taken of the occasion to present Bro. Brown with a testimonial, signed by the staff present.

Bro. R. Brown is most deservedly esteemed very highly in Masonic circles for his untiring energy and zeal in the cause of charity and in every work which will further the cause of the Craft, and every brother in W.L. will rejoice that he has thus been honoured by those whom he employs. His name and fame are known in all the lodges, and every brother desires him the greatest success in the business of which he is now the sole proprietor.

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LODGE OF BENEVOLENCE.

The monthly meeting of the Lodge of Benevolence was held on Wednesday evening, at Freemasons' Hall. Bro. James Brett, Junior Vice-President, presided, having Bro. Joseph Smith, P.G.P., in the Senior Vice-President's chair, and Bro. E. P. Albert, Assistant Grand Pursuivant, in the Junior Vice-President's chair. Bro. John Hervey, Grand Secretary, attended, with Bros. H. G. Buss, Grand Registrar of Middlesex, and A. A. Pendlebury. There were also present Bros. James Glaisher, P.G.D.; Samuel May, P.G.S.; Griffiths Smith, P.G.S.; C. A. Cottebrune, P.G.P.; Samuel Poynter, P.M.; W. T. Howe, Prov. G.S. Middlesex; H. Potter, P.M. (No. 11); W. Mann, P.M. (No. 186); John Bingemann, W.M. (No. 55); Herbert Dicketts, P.G.S.; W. Hilton, P.M. (No. 780); W. H. Myers, W.M. (No. 820); H. Lloyd Thomas, P.M. (No. 449); C. Pulman, W.M. (No. 720); H. W. Hemsworth, P.M. (No. 1193); W. R. Marsh, I.P. M. (No. 9); W. H. Morris, W.M. (No. 1489); F. Driver, W.M. (No. 45); J. J. Canelley, W.M. (No. 13); B. Carter, W.M. (No. 898); Alfred Savill Tomkins, W.M. (No. 822); Stephen Lewin, W.M. (No. 861); John Mason, W.M. (No. 1567); E. Wahn, W.M. (No. 1437); T. G. Day, W.M. (No. 1076); B. Brayshaw, W.M. (No. 1472); G. R. Shervill, W.M. (No. 23); G. A. Rooks, W.M. (No. 142); H. Massey, P.M. No. 619 ("Freemason"); Wm. Gardiner, W.M. (No. 780); B. H. Mallam, W.M. (No. 1363); Charles Wise, W.M. (No. 1158); Henry Bartlett, P.M. (No. 147), and Wm. Stephens, P.M.

The grants of from £40 to £15, each (amounting in all to £425), made at the last Lodge of Benevolence, which required confirmation were confirmed.

The lodge then proceeded with the new cases, of which there were 16, 7 widows and 9 brethren. One case was dismissed, and two cases were deferred. The remainder were relieved with £180; which was composed of one £40, three £20, two £15, and five £10. A new case was brought up without any previous notice; but although it was of a case of very great distress, the constitutions of Grand Lodge not having been complied with, (three days' notice) it could not be entertained.

The brethren then adjourned.

ROSICRUCIAN SOCIETY.

The Quarterly Convocation of the Metropolitan College was held at 17, Great James-street, on Thursday, the 13th inst. Present: Bros. the Rev. W. B. Church, R. Wentworth Little, Dr. Woodman, H. A. Dubois, T. Cubitt, Dewar, Matier, Kenning, Hubbard, Thomas, Rosenthal, and others. Several brethren were received into the M.C.

Obituary.

BRO. THOMAS TASSEL.

Bro. T. Tassel, P.M. 79, died on Friday, 14th inst., at his residence Church-street, Deptford. Some years back he took an active part in politics, afterwards he left Deptford for a short time, on his return he rarely mixed in company of any sort. He carried on business as a chemist, and dying at a comparatively young age under fifty. He never relinquished his profession. His wife died some time ago, but he has left children to lament their loss. He was initiated in Pythagorean Lodge, 79, where he passed the chair about ten years ago; of late he did not attend any Masonic meetings.

DOMESTIC WATER SUPPLY OF GREAT BRITAIN.—One of the most important questions of the present day is how to secure for our water supply, purity and freedom from putrescent organic matter. This subject is deeply interesting to a body concerned in SCHOOLS, ASYLUMS, and other kindred INSTITUTIONS; and a filtration that ensures the decomposing of organic matter should at once be fully recognised. The Royal Commission on Rivers Pollution (1868) states, "Whenever towns have the misfortune to be supplied with water from rivers polluted by sewage, efficient filtration should always be stringently insisted on," and of all materials with which the Royal Commissioners experimented, animal charcoal and spongy iron were found to be the most effective in removal of organic matter; the Thames water assumes the chemical character of deep well water, bright, sparkling, palatable and wholesome. Bischoff's Patent Sparkling Iron Filtrates to the consumer the most powerful and lasting action in purifying water, with perfect control over the speed of filtration, and is officially recommended by Royal Commission, as superior to all other Filters tested. Copies of the Original Official reports can be seen, and extracts obtained at the Depot, 505, Oxford-street, where inspection and every information is afforded. Special attention is called to the last Report of the Registrar General (January, 1876), that one of the worst London waters, after filtration through Spongy Iron Filters, was even considerably purer, so far as chemical character is concerned, than the Kent Company's water—unpolluted and drawn from deep wells—and which the Registrar's Official Report states "was of its usual quality." We are glad to note this important and convincing statement, and commend it to the attention of our readers.

An entertainment will be given this (Saturday) evening by the members of the School of Dramatic Art, at Ripon House, Woburn-place, Russell-square, at 7 o'clock. The entertainments will include Andrew Halliday's Comedy "Checkmate," and S. T. Smith's Comedietta "Happy Pair."

ANNUAL GRAND MASONIC BALL IN LIVERPOOL.

The 27th Annual Grand Ball of the Freemasons in and around Liverpool, which took place at the Town Hall, on Tuesday, the 11th inst., was, in point of attendance, the most successful, with one exception, which has ever been held, and a great amount of this success must be attributed to the great zeal, tact, and enterprise shown by Bro. H. Nelson, the Hon. Sec., P.M. 673 and 1505. "Honour to whom honour is due" demands that primary credit should be given to him for his keen and brotherly exertions in connection with the honourable office, and the very substantial addition to the funds of the West Lancashire Masonic Educational Institution which will be the result, will doubtless be to him sufficient return for his almost night-and-day labours to make the 1876 ball a great success. This noble charity, which is the pride and pet of Freemasons in West Lancashire, was again the object of the annual festive gathering of Masons, and it must have been satisfactory to those who enjoyed the brilliant assembly that they were in some degree contributing in some measure to the strengthening of the foundations of that charity.

The W.L. Masonic Educational Institution, which has been founded and fostered by true Masonic hearts and hands, is perhaps one of the noblest Masonic organisations in the country, and the annual help it receives from the Craft assembling at the town hall is cordially seconded by the individual efforts of every one of the 79 lodges in the province. As a result of this brotherly pulling together, the "W.L." now boasts the possession of a vested capital of £13,000; and out of this sum there are at present between 60 and 70 children who are educated by its instrumentality at a cost of from £8 to £45 each. The voluntary subscriptions of the brethren go a long way towards securing this noble end; and its flourishing condition is largely due to the enthusiasm displayed by all the lodges in the maintenance of its efficiency and usefulness. The success of the institution is largely due to the untiring efforts of Bros. R. Brown, the Hon. Sec., W.M. 241, and R. Wilson, P.G.S.D., the Hon. Treas. Previous balls have invariably resulted in a large addition to the funds of the institution, and that of last evening is likely to be even more helpful to the cause of charity than any which has been given for several years.

The ball enjoyed the patronage of His Worship the Mayor (Lieut.-Col. Thomson) and Mayoress, both of whom were present during a considerable part of the evening, and the other patrons and patronesses were Right Hon. the Countess Bective, Right Hon. Lady Skelmersdale, the Hon. Lady Constance Stanley, Mrs. Bousfield. Bros. Right Hon. Earl of Carnarvon, Pro G.M. England; Right Hon. Lord Skelmersdale, D.G.M. England, R.W. Prov. G.M. West Lancashire; Major Starkie, R.W. Prov. G.M. East Lancashire, P.G.W. England, W. Prov. S.G.W. of West Lancashire; Right Hon. Lord De Tabley, R.W. Prov. G.M. Cheshire; Major G. C. Legh, M.P., W.D. Prov. G.M. Cheshire; Edward Samuelson, Esq., P. Prov. S.G.D. Cheshire; Hon. Frederick A. Stanley, W.D. Prov. G.M. West Lancashire; Gilbert Greenall, Esq., M.P., P.S. G.W. England, and W.P. Prov. S.G.W. of West Lancashire; Charles Fryer, Esq., W. Prov. S.G.W. West Lancashire; W. C. Deeley, Esq., W. Prov. J.G.W. West Lancashire; Sir J. Ranaden, W.P. Prov. G.S.W. W. Lancashire; Lieut.-Col. Birchall, W.P. Prov. G.J.W., West Lancashire; John Prescott, Esq., W.P. Prov. G.J.W., West Lancashire; Earl Bective, R.W. Prov. G.M., Cumberland and Westmorland; W. R. Callender, Esq., M.P., W.D. Prov. G.M., East Lancashire; Sir W. W. Wynn, Bart, M.P., R.W. Prov. G.M. Shropshire and North Wales Major N. G. P. Bousfield, M.P.; John Pearson, Esq., J.W. 680, High Sheriff Lancashire; W. Rathbone, Esq., M.P.; Right Hon. Viscount Sandon, M.P.; Colonel Ireland Blackburne, M.P.; J. Torr, Esq., M.P.

The arrangements, as usual, were well considered and admirably carried out by an efficient committee, constituted as follows:—President.—Bro. Right Hon. Lord Skelmersdale, D.G.M. England, R.W. Prov. G.M., W.L., Vice-President.—Bro. Hon. F. A. Stanley, M.P., W.D. Prov. G.M., W.L. Chairman of Committee.—Bro. H. S. Alpass, Prov. G. Sec., W.L. Vice-Chairman.—Bro. W. M. Chudley, P.M., 241. Treasurer.—Bro. G. Hutchin, S.W. 241. Thanks to the capital generosity of an active band of Stewards (who wore handsome Masonic rosettes supplied by Bro. G. Kenning) and the committee, the comfort of the visitors was greatly promoted. This was no easy task, when it is stated that about 1000 persons were present at the ball. For their accommodation the entire suite of noble rooms at the Town Hall was brought into requisition, the council chamber being used as a general supper room. Nearly every Order in Freemasonry was represented, and as clothing and insignia of office were worn by nearly all the brethren present the ensemble was particularly picturesque and striking. The ladies dresses as a rule were in exquisite taste, and greatly aided in completing a picture of singular beauty and effect. Dancing commenced shortly after nine o'clock, and was kept up with spirit until about three, every one present seemingly having enjoyed the merry meeting.

Bro. H. M. Molyneux was again an efficient Master of Ceremonies. The catering of Bro. W. Vines gave great satisfaction. The musical arrangements were under the superintendence of Bro. G. A. W. Phillips.

At a specially served supper, presided over by Bro. Alpass, Chairman of the committee, having the Mayor and Mayoress on either hand, a select company was present.

"The Health of the Mayor and Mayoress" was proposed by the Chairman, and the Mayor paid a similar compliment to Bro. Alpass.

The "Voice of Masonry," (Chicago), for January contains a portrait of Bro. Albert G. Mackey, M.D.

Masonic and General Tidings.

The Excelsior Lodge of Instruction is now held at the Commercial Dock Tavern, Plough Road, Rotherhithe, every Tuesday evening at 8 o'clock.

The ceremony of installation will be worked at the Metropolitan Lodge of Instruction, 1056, Portugal Hotel, Fleet-street, E.C., on Friday, January 28th, 1876, by Bro. John Bingemann, W.M. 55. The lodge will be opened at 7 p.m. precisely.

Sir Knight John Hervey was installed as Eminent Preceptor of the Mount Calvary Preceptory on Friday, the 14th inst., at the London Tavern.

H.R.H. Prince Leopold will be admitted to the 30th Degree this month.

The Freemasons in Denmark held their annual grand festival on Thursday week. The Grand Master, the Crown Prince, as well as Prince Hans, the brother of the King, and nearly four hundred brethren, assisted at the banquet. The reception of the Grand Master was unusually warm, and the whole festival was most successful.

MASONIC SERMON.—On Sunday 27th ult., the Rev. Bro. Mills preached a special sermon in the Trinity Episcopal Church to the Masonic Lodge of St. Mirren, Paisley (129), of which he is the Chaplain. Members were present from the following lodges:—St Mirren's Lodge, 129, Paisley; Royal Arch, 116, Rutherglen; Houston Lodge, 242; Operative Lodge, 347, Rutherglen; St. Mungo, 27, Glasgow; Renfrew County Kilwinning, 370, Paisley; Prince of Wales, 426, Renfrew; St. Mark's, 102, Glasgow; Irish Constitution, 41, Belfast; Union and Crown, 305, Barrhead; St. Andrew's, 215, Strathaven, East Kilbride, and Marie Stuart, Crosshill; St. Winnoch, 205; St. Barchan, 156, Kilbarchan; and a number of others. Altogether there were about 250 present. The Rev. Mr. Mills preached a very eloquent discourse from the 133rd Psalm, "Behold how good and pleasant it is for brethren to dwell in unity." There were special hymns sung upon the occasion by the choir of the church.

At the January meeting of the Britannia Lodge, No. 139, Sheffield, notice of motion was given that, at the next regular lodge its sanction would be asked in support of a petition for a new lodge to be held in Sheffield. We hail this movement with much satisfaction, seeing that there are only three Craft Lodges in Sheffield, viz., 139, 247, and 1239, numbering respectively (about) 100, 60, and 70 members; the population of the town being nearly 300,000, there is clearly room for two or three more lodges, and taking the proportion of neighbouring towns, Sheffield has not kept pace with the times.

The oldest Freemason in Scotland, Bro. T. Cross, who was initiated in the Royal Arch Lodge, Rutherglen, in 1807, recorded his vote on a recent occasion.

On Monday, the 3rd inst., Bro. Emra Holmes delivered his lecture, "Olds and Ends of Wit and Humour," at the Town Hall, Hadleigh, Suffolk, to a large audience, some 300 being present. In the absence of the rector, the Very Rev. C. Spooner, co-Dean of Bocking, the chair was taken by one of the Churchwardens, Mr. Wm. Grimwade, bank manager. The lecture was one of a series given by various clergymen and gentlemen, the object being that thoroughly Masonic one—to assist the funds for the restoration of the parish church. The present rector, who is brother-in-law of the Archbishop of Canterbury, has been most energetic in completing the work begun by his predecessor. On this occasion the Rev. Craufurd Tait, his Grace's son, was to have lectured, but the programme was altered, and Bro. Holmes took his place. The lecture was listened to with great attention, and was provocative of great laughter and hearty applause. The county Conservative paper, the "Ipswich Journal," speaks of it in very complimentary terms, as does the "East Anglian Daily Times," of the 7th inst., and a cordial vote of thanks was proposed at its conclusion by Dr. Muriel, and carried by acclamation. Hadleigh Church is, in truth, well worth lecturing for. It is one of the largest and most beautiful in Suffolk, and about £3000 has been expended over it, we believe, during the last few years. In the interior is an ancient font with a singular Greek inscription, which reads equally as well backwards as forwards, and there is the tomb said to be that of Guthrum, the Dane. The great tower and gateway of the rectory, which adjoins the churchyard, bears the date 1490. Hadleigh was formerly incorporated, but lost its charter, we do not know why, in the reign of James II. Dr. Rowland Taylor, once a rector of this parish, was burnt on Haldam Common, in 1555, during the reign of "Bloody" Mary. Bro. Holmes' lecture will shortly appear in the pages of the "Masonic Magazine."

The racing colours of the Prince of Wales appear for the first time in the new volume of the "Racing Calendar." They are—"Purple body with gold braid, scarlet sleeves, and black velvet cap, with gold fringe."

VISIT OF THE DUKE OF CONNAUGHT TO MALTA.—The "Malta Times" says the Duke of Connaught is about to visit Malta, and that Her Majesty's dispatch-boat Helicon will proceed to Gibraltar this month to convey the Duke to the island.

The committee on dedication of the new Masonic Temple, New York City, received in all for that purpose the sum of 13,771.25 dols., and expended 9,809.34 dols., leaving a balance of 3,961.91 dols., which has been paid to the Trustees of the Hall and Asylum Fund.

METROPOLITAN MASONIC MEETINGS
For the Week ending Friday, January 28, 1876.

The Editor will be glad to receive notice from Secretaries of Craft Lodges, Royal Arch Chapters, Mark Lodges, Preceptories, Conclaves, &c., of any change in place or time of meeting.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 22.

Audit Committee, Boys' School, at 3.
Lodge 1293, Burdett, Mitre Hot., Hampton Court.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Manchester, 77, London-st., Fitzroy-square.
Lily, Greyhound, Richmond.
Star, Marquis of Granby, New Cross-road.

Sinai Chapter, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.

MONDAY, JANUARY 24.

Lodge 4, R. Somerset Ho. and Inverness, F. M. H.
" 26, Castle of Harmony, Willis's Rooms, W.
" 28, Old King's Arms, F. M. H.
" 183, Unity, London Tav., Bishopsate-st.
" 902, Burgoyne, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
Chap. 25, Robert Burns, F. M. H.
Mark Lodge, Mallet and Chisel, Bridge House Hot.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Prince Leopold, Lord Stanley Tav., Kingsland.
Strong Man, Jerusalem Tav., St. John's Gate.
Sincerity, Railway Tav., Fenchurch-st. Station.
Camden, Stanhope Arms, Up. James-st., Camden To.
Eastern, Royal Hot., Mile-end-road.
St. James's Union, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Wellington, White Swan, Deptford.
West Kent, St. Saviour's College, Forest-hill.
Perfect Ashlar, Victoria Tav., Lower-rd., Rotherhithe.
Sydney, White Hart Ho., Church-rd., Upper Norwood.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 25.

Audit Committee, Girls' School, at 4.

Lodge 14, Tuscan, F. M. H.
" 92, Moira, London Tav., Bishopsgate-st.
" 141, Faith, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
" 145, Prudent Brethren, F. M. H.
" 186, Industry, M.H., Basinghall-st.
" 205, Israel, City Terminus Hot., Cannon-st.
" 259, Prince of Wales's, Willis's Rms., St. James's.
" 1158, Southern Star, Montpellier Tav., Walworth.
" 1196, Urban, Old Jerusalem Tav., St. John's Gate.
" 1348, Ebury, 12, Ponsonby-st, Millbank.
Chap. 21, Cyrus, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.
Rose Croix Chapter, Palestine, 33, Golden Square.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney.
Domestic, Surrey M. H., Camberwell New-road.
Faith, 2, Westminster Chambers, Victoria-st.
Prince Fredk. Wm., Lord's Hot., St. John's Wood.
Dalhousie, King Edward, Triangle, Hackney.
Prosperity, 1, Camomile-st., Bishopsgate.
St. Marylebone, British Stores Tav., St. John's Wood.
Constitutional, Wheatheaf Hot., Hand-court, Holborn.
Percy, Grapes Tav., Little Windmill-st., W.
Israel, Rising Sun Tav., Globe Road.
Royal Arthur, Prince's Head, York-road, Battersea.
Beacontree, Red Lion, Leytonstone, at 8.
Metropolitan Chapter, Jamaica Coffee Ho., Cornhill.
Excelsior, Commercial Dock Tav., Rotherhithe.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 26.

Lodge 2, Antiquity, F. M. H.
" 212, Euphrates, M. H., Basinghall-st.
" 507, United Pilgrims, Horns Tav., Kennington.
" 754, High Cross, Seven Sisters, Tottenham.
" 808, Temperance in the East, 6, Newby-pl., Poplar.
" 1056, Victoria, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
Chap. 435, Mt. Lebanon, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.
" 735, Prince Fredk. William, St. John's Wood.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Mt. Lebanon, Windsor Cas. Tav., Southwark-bdg.-rd.
Pythagorean, Prince of Orange, Greenwich.
New Concord, Rosemary Branch Tav., Hoxton.
Royal Union, Horse and Groom, Winsley-st., Oxford-st.
Confidence, White Hart Tav., Abchurch-lane.
Peckham, Maismore Arms, Park-road, Peckham.
Stanhope, Thicket Hot., Anerley.
Finsbury Park, Finsbury Park Tav., Seven Sisters-rd.
Southwark, Southwark Park Tav., Southwark Park.
Duke of Connaught, Havelock Tav., Dalston, E.
United Strength, Grafton Arms, Kentish-town.
Mount Edgumbe, 19, Jermyn-street, St. James's.
Islington, Crown and Cushion, London Wall.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 27.

General Committee, Girls' School, at 4.
Lodge 22, Neptune, Guildhall Tav., Gresham-st.
" 34, Mount Moriah, F. M. H.
" 60, Peace and Harmony, London Tav.
" 65, Prosperity, Guildhall Tav., Aldersgate-st.
" 66, Grenadiers', F. M. H.
" 99, Shakespeare, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
" 766, William Preston, Terminus Hot., Cannon-st.
" 871, Royal Oak, White Swan, High-st., Deptford.
" 1421, Langthorne, Swan Hot., Stratford.
" 1524, Duke of Connaught, Pownall-rd., Haggerston.
Chap. 5, St. George's, F. M. H.
" 177, Domestic, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
" 534, Polish National, F. M. H.
" 834, Andrew, Royal Sussex Hot., Hammersmith.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Egyptian, Hercules Tav., Leadenhall-st.
Fidelity, Yorkshire Grey, London-st., W.
Finsbury, Jolly Anglers' Tav., Bath-st., City-road.
Whittington, Crown Tav., Holborn.
Temperance in the East, Catherine-st., Poplar.
Ebury, 12, Ponsonby-st., Millbank.
Highgate, Bull and Gate, Kentish-town.
The Great City, 111, Cheapside.

High Cross, Coach & Horses, High-road, Tottenham.
Salisbury, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Marquis of Ripon, Albion Tav., Albion-rd., Dalston.
Prince Frederick William Chapter, St. John's Wood.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 28.

Lodge 197, Jerusalem, F. M. H.
" 569, Fitzroy, Hd.-Qrtts. Hon. Art. Co., City-rd.
Precp. 26, Faith and Fidelity, Terminus Ho., Cannon-st.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Union Waterloo, Thomas-st., Woolwich.
St. George's, Globe Tav., Royal-hill, Greenwich.
Robert Burns, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Belgrave, Lyceum Tav., 354, Strand.
Unions Emulation (for M.M.'s), F. M. H.
Temperance, Victoria Tav., Victoria-road, Deptford.
Clapton, White Hart, Clapton.
Stability, Guildhall Tav., Gresham-st.
Metropolitan, Portugal Hot., Fleet-st.
Westbourne, Horse & Groom, Winsley-st., Oxford-st.
Metropolitan, Pentonville-road.
United Pilgrims, Surrey M. H., Camberwell New-road.
St. James's, New Tanners' Arms, Grange-rd., Bermondsey.
Duke of Edinburgh, Silver Lion, Penny-fields, Poplar.
Doric, Earl Grey Tav., Mile-end-road.
Burgoyne, Grafton Arms, Prince of Wales's-road, N.W.
St. Luke's, Commercial Tav., King's-road, Chelsea.
Chigwell, Bald-faced Stag Hot., Buckhurst-hill.
Burdett Courts, Approach Tav., Victoria Park.
Royal Standard, Finsbury Park Tav., Holloway.
Ranelagh, Clarendon Hot., Hammersmith.
Pythagorean Chapter, Prince of Orange, Greenwich-rd.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN WEST LANCASHIRE AND
CHESHIRE.

For the Week ending Saturday, January 29, 1876.

MONDAY, JANUARY 24.

Chap. 241, Friendship, M. H., Liverpool.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 25.

Lodge 1393, Hamer, 22, Everton-rd., Liverpool.
" 1570, Prince Arthur, 80, N. Hill-st., Liverpool.
Chap. 1094, Temple, M. H., Liverpool.
Merchants L. of I., M. H., Liverpool.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 26.

Lodge 32, St. George's, Adelphi Hot., Liverpool.
" 220, Harmony, Garston Hot., Liverpool.
" 724, Derby, M. H., Liverpool.
Chap. 1052, Callender, P.H., Rusholme.
Neptune L. of I., M. H., Liverpool.
De Grey and Ripon, L. of I., 80, North Hill-st.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 27.

Lodge 594, Downshire, M. H., Liverpool.
Chap. 292, Liverpool, M. H., Liverpool.
" 1086, Walton, St. Lawrence's Schools, Kirkdale.
Mariners' L. of I., M. H., Liverpool.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN GLASGOW AND WEST
OF SCOTLAND.

For the Week ending Saturday, January 29, 1876.

All the Meetings take place at Eight o'clock.

MONDAY, JANUARY 24.

Lodge 102, St. Mark, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
" 187, St. John, Black Bull Inn, Carlisle.
" 219, Star, 12, Trongate, Glasgow.
" 362, St. Clair, 25, Robertson-st., Glasgow.
" 541, Marie Stuart, M. H., Crosshill.
Chap. 122, Thetis, 35, St. James-st., Kingston, Glasgow.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 25.

Lodge 413, Athole, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
" 543, St. John, M. H., Dalmaur.
Chap. 67, Cathedral, 22, Struthers-st., Calton, Glasgow.
" 73, Caledonian Unity, 170, Buchanan-st., Glsgw.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 26.

Lodge 505, Burns, St. Mary, Commercial Inn, Hurlford.
" 510, Maryhill, M. H., Maryhill.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 27.

Provincial Grand Lodge, Glasgow, 213, Buchanan-st.
Lodge 290, Dalry Blair, White Hart Hall, Dalry.
" 334, St. John, Castle Inn, New Cumnock.
" 570, Springburn, M. H., Springburn, Glasgow.
Chap. 117, Govan, Portland Buildings, Govan.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 28.

Lodge 51, London Kilwinning, Black Bull, Newmilns.
" 118, St. Bride, M. H., Douglas.
" 125, St. James, Masons' Arms, Newton, Ayr.
" 153, Royal Arch, M. H., Pollockshaws.
" 236, Wilsontown, St. John, Forth Inn, Carnworth.
" 347, St. John, M. H., Rutherglen.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN EDINBURGH AND
VICINITY.

For the Week ending Saturday, January 29, 1876.

MONDAY, JANUARY 24.

Lodge 349, St. Clair, F. M. H., George-st.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 25.

" 151, Defensive Band, Alexandria H., Cockburn-st.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 26.

" 112, St. John, Royal Hot., Musselburgh.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 27.

" 392, Caledonian, F. M. H., George-st.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 28.

" 223, Trafalgar, 54, Bernard-st., Leith.

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REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS.

Craft Masonry.

ALBION LODGE (No. 9).—This lodge met at the Regent's Masonic Hall on Wednesday, 12th January. Present: Past Masters E. Coste, H. S. Friend, S. Vallentine, W. Willy, E. W. Storr, J. S. Cater, S. Coste, J. A. Abbott, T. Moring. The visitors present were Col. Burdett, H. Pullen, P.G.S.B.; G. de Maid, P.M. 1328; E. B. Burr, 1188; D. H. Jacobs, 27; H. J. Lewis, P.M. 907; W. R. Best, P.M. 3; D. Dewarr, W.M. 1415; W. A. Littis, P.M. 27; C. W. Gray, P.M. 22; G. Haddock, 1364; T. R. Eames, W.M. 22; W. Black, W.M. 19. Bro. W. R. Marsh, W.M., having passed Bros. Elliott and Watson, then vacated the chair to Bro. S. Vallentine (an old P.M. of this lodge) as installing Master, who proceeded to install Bro. E. Kimber, and completed the ceremony in the most impressive manner. The W.M. appointed his officers as follows:—Bros. W. T. Scott, S.W.; W. R. Lake, J.W.; F. McCarthy, S.D.; G. Robey, I.G.; T. Moring, Treas.; J. A. Abbott, Sec.; S. Coste, D.C.; J. Forbes, Org.; S. Vallentine, Treas. Benevolent Fund; and E. Coste, Stwd.; J. Rawles, Tyler. Bro. W. R. Marsh, the late W.M., was presented with a Past Master's jewel. The working of the lodge was most admirably carried out. On the closing of the lodge the brethren adjourned to banquet, which was all that could be desired. The musical arrangements were complete. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given, and the charities not forgotten.

TEMPERANCE LODGE (No. 169).—The installation meeting of this lodge was held at the White Swan, Deptford, on Thursday, the 20th inst. The lodge was opened by the W.M., Bro. Dingle, who proceeded to pass Bros. Wilson and Hayward to the Second Degree, and Bros. Skidden, Craster, and Coles to the Third. The W.M. then vacated the chair in favour of Bro. G. Bolton, P.M. A Board of Installed Masters was opened, and Bro. T. Debac was installed. The officers are Bros. Neild, W.S. and Secretary; Denton, J.W.; Brown, P.M., Treasurer; G. Moore, S.D.; Preecham, J.D.; Cooper I.G.; and Goddard, Tyler. The selection of the W.M. appeared to give unbounded satisfaction to the brethren—indeed, Bro. Wild received quite an ovation. The ceremony of installation was performed and the addresses given with that accuracy and finish that always distinguishes Bro. Bolton's working. The Board of Installed Masters was unusually well attended, and amongst those present we noticed Bros. Tabblis, Bolton, Rosenstock, Pulley, Lettlecott, Brown, and Dingle, P.M.'s of the lodge; while the visitors included Bros. Dilley, Roper, Ball, Chapman, and Lightfoot, P.M.'s; and Bros. W. Andrews, W.M. of the Justice Lodge, 147; G. Andrews, P.M. 871, and H. Moore, P.M. 73; G. Macdonald, S.W. 1155; Fixture, J.W. 272; Lover, J.W. 1178; Syers, Secretary 13; Church, J.D. 1471; Harries, D.C. 1426; Forge, D.C. 619; Hutchings, 147; C. Porter, 147; Lemon, 871; Bellamy, 91; Thomas, 871, and many others. After the ceremony the W.M. in the name of the lodge presented the I.P.M., Bro. Dingle, with a P.M.'s jewel, in recognition of his services during the past twelve months. Bro. Dingle, in suitable terms, acknowledged the presentation, and assured the brethren that he would always have the welfare of the lodge at heart. The sum of £5 was voted from the benevolent fund to a distressed brother, and an earnest appeal was made to the brethren on behalf of the widow and children of the late Brother Searle. The brethren adjourned to the banqueting-room, where some sixty of the brethren and their visitors sat down. The W.M., in felicitous terms, proposed the usual loyal and Masonic toasts. Bro. Dingle, I.P.M., in proposing "The Health of the W.M.," observed that they had worked through the different offices in the lodge together, and that he had always found Bro. Debac a most zealous and efficient officer, and he had no hesitation in saying that they had in their present W.M. a Mason well able to perform the onerous duties appertaining to that high office. The W.M., in reply, thanked the brethren for the great honour they had conferred upon him, and assured the brethren that it was his earnest desire to promote the welfare of Freemasonry in general, and the Temperance Lodge in particular. In proposing "The Health of the Visitors," the W.M. dilated on the great pleasure it always afforded the brethren of the Temperance Lodge to welcome the members of other lodges amongst them, as it showed that kindly feeling that should at all times characterise Freemasons. They had so many visitors that evening that they must forgive him if he did not dilate on their individual merits; but he felt greatly honoured by the presence of three eminent Preceptors in Masonry, Bros. Dilley, Macdonald, and Andrews. They had also among them

Bro. H. Moore, P.M. of the Mount Lebanon Lodge; Bros. Bellamy, Maltby, and many other distinguished Masons, who he was sure they were heartily pleased to see among them. Bros. Maltby, Moore, Dilley, Andrews, Macdonald, and Bellamy responded to the toast in appropriate terms. Bro. Dingle, in responding to the toast of "The Past Masters," thanked the brethren again for the jewel they had presented him with, and, alluding to the peaceful year of office he had enjoyed, suggested that in future the lodge should be called the "Temperance and Unanimity Lodge." Bro. Tibbals, the father of the lodge, also responded for the Past Masters, and in a very eloquent speech urged the brethren not to lose sight of the grand principles of Freemasonry, and trusted that the lodge would long continue in its present prosperous condition. "The Health of the Officers of the Lodge" having been duly honoured, the Tyler's toast brought the evening's proceedings to a conclusion. The evening's entertainment was greatly enlivened by some excellent songs by Bros. G. Moore, C. Porter, Denton, Dilley, and others.

LODGE OF SINCERITY (No. 174).—This lodge held its annual installation meeting on Wednesday, the 19th inst., commencing business at 3 p.m. There were present Bros. Moore, W.M.; Wells, S.W.; Hilyard, J.W.; Appleby, S.D.; Sedden, J.D.; Dunstan, I.G.; Webb, D.C.; Newton, P.M., Sec.; Rawley, P.M., Treas.; Miller, W.S.; Past Masters Lacey, Barlow, Buller, Tuck, and several other members of the lodge and visiting brethren. After opening the lodge with the usual Masonic prayer, and the minutes of the previous meeting had been read and confirmed, the business of the lodge commenced by raising Bro. Blaine, and then initiating Messrs. Wyld and Taylor, followed by the installation of Bro. Wells, S.W., to the chair of W.M. The ceremony was performed in a most impressive and imposing manner by Bro. Lacey, P.M., assisted by the well known, and most highly, and worthily appreciated Bro. Terry, Secretary for the Institution of Aged Men and Women belonging to the Fraternity. We are sure that those brethren who witnessed the ceremony for the first time will retain it in their hearts for many a long year. The W.M. then proceeded to elect his officers, which he did in rotation; Bro. Jones becoming D.C. Bros. Renton, Sec.; Rawley, Treas.; Bro. Miller, Wine Steward; and Berry, Tyler, were all re-instated in their former offices, so thoroughly have they gained the esteem and respect of all the brethren in the lodge, and those, whose name is legion, with whom they were acquainted out of their own lodge. The business of the lodge concluded with the payment of fees, distribution of certificates, &c., &c., and the brethren adjourned to banquet shortly after seven, the members having increased by this time to nearly 100. When the repast was ended the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and received, "The Queen," "The Prince of Wales," (Bro. Palmer, "God bless the Prince of Wales"), "The Pro Grand Master, Lord Skelmersdale, and other Grand Officers," to which Bro. Banning, one of the Grand Officers responded; "The Initiates," to which they responded, and Bro. Batten sang "The Entered Apprentice," "The W.M." (Bro. Batten, "The Old Musketeer"); "Visitors;" "I.P.M." (Air "She wore a wreath of roses," with variations most excellently rendered). The next was a very important toast, for it produced a reply of great interest to Masons, viz., "Our Masonic Institutions," coupled with the name of W.M. Wells, the Steward from Lodge 174 for the next festival, and Bro. Terry, the Secretary, who told us that at present there were 246 inmates in the old people's establishment, and room for only 28 more with 60 candidates, and he sincerely hoped that this state of things was not going to last, and that while he heartily thanked the Lodge of Sincerity for their contributions, always so cheerfully, largely, and consistently given, he still hoped that they would see what more they could possibly spare for so worthy a cause; that the three institutions cost £7000 a year and that though they managed to fill them, they were like Oliver Twist, always asking for more. During this and the previous toasts, replies, and harmonies, Bro. Newton, assisted by Bro. Lacey, collected over £25 for the W.M., as Steward, to take up to the coming festival, which, with what had been previously collected, would make a very handsome contribution. The toast of "The P.M.'s, Secretary, Treasurer, and Officers of the Lodge," being duly given and responded to, the Tyler's toast closed a very pleasant and satisfactory meeting.

LODGE OF TRANQUILLITY (No. 185).—The regular monthly meeting of this lodge was held on the 17th inst. at the City Terminus Hotel, under the presidency of Bro. J. H. Ross, assisted by the following brethren:—J. D. Barnett, S.W.; D. Posener, J.W.; G. S. Pare, S.D.; W. D. Bayley, J.D.; F. Crooker, I.G. The notice convening the meeting contained many items of business, which were accomplished with proficiency and expedition. Messrs. Simon Lowenthal and Frederick Upson, were initiated, Bros. Rowley, Schultze, Lederer, and Davis passed, and Bro. Saillard raised. The business of the evening was the election of W.M. for the ensuing year, which fell unanimously upon the S.W., Bro. J. D. Barnett, whose genial, kind, and gentlemanly behaviour has endeared him not only to every member of the lodge but his large circle of friends. Bros. J. Peartree and Philip Levy were elected respectively Treasurer and Secretary for the 16th time; Bro. Rawles, Tyler. The Committee of the Benevolent Fund were re-elected, and Bros. P.M. Hart, and Solomon appointed Auditors. The sum of £10 10s. was voted from lodge funds to present the W.M. with a testimonial on his retirement from the chair. We understand the brethren intend supplementing this sum to make the present more substantial. Mr. Maurice Harris was proposed for initiation by his father, who, we understand, will initiate his son upon the next occasion of meeting. The members having adjourned to a frugal meal, to which ample justice was done, the W.M. gave the toasts with the considerable brevity and force. The visitors, of whom there was a goodly array, one and all testified

their pleasure with the very perfect rendering of the ceremonies and the harmonious feeling exemplified by the members of the lodge, and particularly in the election of W.M., no other name being put in the box than that of the S.W. The W.M. elect could not find words adequate to express his appreciation of the high position to which he had been exalted, and though he was afraid he could not add much lustre to the lodge during his Mastership, yet he assured the members that no stone should remain unmoved to maintain its prestige. Bros. Pare and Bayley, as officers, spoke of the W.M. in glowing terms, who had devoted much of his spare time in fitting them to perform the duties they had the pleasure to fulfil, and if they should rise to the dignity of the chair it must be attributed to the ambition the Master caused in them by his many acts of kindness and labour of love. The brethren numbered upwards of forty, amongst whom were Past Masters Bloomfield, Harfeld, Moss, Harris, and Constable; Bros. Smith, Gotthiel, Gluckstein, and others. The visitors were Bros. Brown, 1426; Lewis, 779; Jason, 879; Gompertz, jun., 869; Webb, 521; Jolliffe, 22; Mead, 141. Bros. Bayley, Webb, Gompertz, Barnett, and Constable contributed to the harmony and amusements of the evening. The installation in this lodge will take place on the 21st prox.

UNITED STRENGTH (No. 128).—An emergency meeting was held on the 18th inst., at St. John's Gate, Clerkenwell, for the purpose of clearing up the work of the present Master's year of office, that the W.M. elect, when installed, might commence with a clear programme. There was a necessity for so clearing the books of old work, inasmuch as that, notwithstanding a material increase in the joining and initiation fees, seven gentlemen stand as well and worthily recommended candidates for initiation, while several brothers are down for joinings. The lodge commenced its work punctually to time, and all the officers were present, namely, Bros. While ("Freemason"), W.M.; Griggs, W.M. elect, S.W.; J. Hill, J.W.; Snare, S.D.; Halford, J.D.; and Piercy, I.G. Three brethren initiated at the previous meeting were passed a degree, namely, Bros. Hanchet, Coles, and Adams. The lodge was raised, and the next degree was conferred upon Bros. Breinholt, Baker, Gedge, Bellott, and Holmes. The repetition of the ceremonies gave hard work to those actively engaged, and at the conclusion the lodge was closed down. Though only an off night the lodge had a goodly assemblage of the brethren present, and among others P.M. Joseph Crump, the Secretary for nearly a quarter of a century; P.M. James Terry, the Secretary of the Masonic Benevolent Institution, and P.M. Davies. After the lodge had been closed the brethren supped together, and "The Healths of the W.M. elect, the Master, and Past Masters" were cordially toasted. The lodge has so increased of late that it has almost overgrown its place of meeting, and the work of the installation day, when the outgoing Master will install his successor, and the new W.M. will initiate five candidates, will be performed in the small hall in order to facilitate the after proceedings.

BURDETT COUTTS LODGE (No. 1278).—The regular January meeting of this lodge was held on the 20th inst., at the Approach Tavern, Victoria Park, Bro. W. J. Crutch, W.M., presiding. Mr. Henry Fairbank and Mr. Charles William Davies were initiated, and Bro. William Cambden, of 901, was elected a joining member. The brethren who were candidates for the Second and Third Degrees did not attend. On the motion of Bro. James Terry, P.M., Treasurer, seconded by Bro. Berry, the sum of £10 was unanimously voted to be placed on Bro. G. Ward Verry's list for the Benevolent Institutions' Festival of next Wednesday week. Bro. Verry, in thanking the lodge for this gift, took occasion to inform the brethren who were not aware of it of the nature of the institution, the benefits it conferred on the aged of both sexes, and the small amount of subscription, 5s., which entitled subscribers to one vote; and he solicited the brethren to support him and enable him to take up a total which would sustain the prestige of the Burdett Coutts Lodge. He reminded the brethren of what the lodge had done hitherto in the cause of benevolence, and exhorted them after having put their hands to the plough not to look back. Bro. Verry also stated that the charitable association which had been formed four years ago for obtaining life governorships of the institutions for brethren by the payment of a shilling a week, had come to an end by effluxion of time, every member having obtained his life governorship. He was himself now a life governor of all three institutions, which he probably never would have been but for these associations. Therefore, he should wish all the other brethren to obtain that rank, and to give them that opportunity he informed them that another association would now start, to meet once every four weeks. Bro. Verry's appeals were at once responded to, several brethren putting their names on his list for 5s. each, and also enrolling themselves members of the association. After this, the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to supper. When this was over, the loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured, and Bro. Terry proposed "The Health of the W.M." with spirit, brevity, and point. He selected the salient features of Bro. Crutch's Masonic career as his topic, informing the brethren that Bro. Crutch was the first initiate in the lodge, and also the first initiate of the lodge who had passed through the three chairs. His work that evening had shewn them what he could do, and they were all sorry that the candidates for passing and raising had not afforded them an opportunity of shewing what more he could do. At next meeting no doubt this would be done, and the brethren would then see that he combined in himself the excellencies of all the Masters who had preceded him. The W.M. said that if it gave a brother pleasure to propose a toast it gave the respondent pain to reply to it, because the proposer always eulogised him up to the skies when he knew very well he did not deserve it. Throughout the various offices that he (the W.M.) had held in the lodge he had

endeavoured to discharge his duties to the best of his ability, and by punctual attendance to set an example to the brethren, while duly supporting the W.M. What he had done in the past he hoped he should do in the future, and he trusted that at the end of his year of office the brethren would have the same kindly feelings to him as they then shewed. (Hear, hear). The great event of the evening then took place. It will be remembered that in July last the Baroness Burdett Coutts presented to this lodge three magnificent chairs made of oak and surmounted by her ladyship's arms. The chairs were those of the Master and two Wardens; but as the Baroness understood nothing of the peculiar construction of each of these chairs, which she intended to be strictly Masonic in build, she deputed to Bro. James Terry, the first Master of the lodge, and Bro. Verry, the Secretary, the supervision of their manufacture. This necessarily involved the expenditure of much time and labour, but the duties confided to these brethren were eminently successful in their result, as was also the ceremony of presentation by her ladyship, which was made in lodge, to which ladies were admitted, at Freemasons' Hall. Her ladyship on that occasion expressed her great satisfaction with the proceedings of the day, as also with the admirable arrangements that had been made, but especially with the great work of Freemasonry. In recognition of the efforts of Bros. Terry and Verry in executing the Baroness's wishes, the brethren of the lodge at a subsequent meeting passed resolutions by which they thanked them for what they had done. This was done by the lodge as a lodge; but the brethren as individuals thought that something more should be done as a testimony of their opinion, and that a souvenir of their appreciation of these brethren's efforts should be presented to them. A private subscription was therefore arranged, and a beautiful silver epergne was purchased for Bro. Terry, and a massive gold Past Master's and Secretary's jewel for Bro. Verry. The W.M. now rose to present both these testimonials, and addressing the brethren, he narrated the facts given above. Bro. Terry was the first brother to respond, and while modestly keeping any mention of himself as much as possible in the background, traced the history of the Burdett Coutts Lodge and his connection with it from the beginning. It appeared, however, that it was mainly to him that the lodge was indebted for its name, in which project he had the hearty co-operation and assistance of Bro. Henry Lloyd, P.M. Bro. Terry was entrusted with the application to her ladyship for permission to attach her name to the lodge, and this having been made, the Baroness, then Miss Burdett Coutts, presented the lodge with the bible. When she was raised to the peerage she was desirous to shew to the lodge that she had not forgotten the lodge, and to give a mark of her appreciation of the honour which had been conferred on her by Her Majesty. Every brother who was in the lodge when the chairs were presented would always look back with feelings of pride and pleasure to the occurrences of that day, and the more so as it was the first time in the annals of Freemasonry when ladies were admitted to their proceedings. To himself the event gave a great amount of pleasure. He had been honoured by the W.M. with a request that he should preside; and to that worthy brother he felt under a deep debt of gratitude. Speaking of the handsome present that had just been made to him, he assured the brethren that he did not need it, and would have been happy if the amount of money subscribed for it, had been devoted to another purpose. Nevertheless, as it had been resolved that it should take its present form, he could but accept it with thanks, and he begged the brethren to believe that it would be preserved in his family as an heirloom, and as a memento of a very pleasing day in his life. His wife and family would prize it equally with himself. Bro. Verry thanking the brethren for the jewel of which he was the proud recipient, mentioned his connection with the lodge, and was pleased to feel that he had been in some measure a contributor to the present success of the Burdett Coutts Lodge. When he and Bro. Terry undertook the duties connected with the presentation of the chairs, they little dreamt that the gifts of the epergne and the jewel would be the result of their labours. Their great anxiety had been to do all they possibly could to make Lady Burdett Coutts's presentation at Freemasons' Hall a success; but, though it involved much labour and trouble, they were amply rewarded by the very successful issue. Every one who witnessed the presentation expressed unlimited satisfaction, and this was no slight reward. The toast of "The Masonic Charities," was acknowledged by Bro. Verry, as Steward for the Benevolent Institution's Festival, and Bro. Terry supplemented his remarks by saying that the institution was now giving annuities to 246 old men and old women, and there were 59 candidates on the list for next election. At the last committee there were 21 fresh applicants, all of whom had been in affluent circumstances. There were but 25 vacancies, and it rested with the brethren to say whether the number of annuitants should be increased. Last year the amount given in annuities were increased by £1500. At the festival he wanted to see £7500 collected, and at the election to put on 12 new annuitants. He hoped at the festival to announce Baroness Burdett Coutts as a Life Governor of the Institution. (Applause.) The remaining toasts were honoured, and the brethren shortly afterwards separated.

FINSBURY PARK LODGE (No. 1288).—The installation of Bro. R. Davies as W.M. of this lodge was performed on the 13th inst. by Bro. Stacey, P.M. of St. James's Union, and Preceptor of the Metropolitan Lodge of Instruction. The lodge is held at the Finsbury Park Tavern, Seven Sister's-road, and there were present Past Masters Thomas Meekham, I.P.M.; S. Price, Smith, and John Frost, Sec. The visitors included Bros. Charles Morton, R. Albert, Dunn, and S. Dickinson. The ceremony was worked in Bro. Stacey's best style, and was perfect in

ritual and language. The brethren afterwards partook of an excellent banquet, and the toasts usual on the occasion were given and responded to, full justice in language being done to the services of the Installing Master, to the merits of the new Master, and to the services of the Past Masters.

WOOLWICH.—Union Waterloo Lodge (No. 13).—This lodge, the mother lodge of all lodges in the Woolwich district, has at last begun to gather her children around her, and by a vigorous effort striven to revive the old and glorious traditions that were once so well and worthily hers among the Alma Maters of the Order. Her first effort has been directed to the revision of the rules of the lodge; and at the usual monthly meeting on Wednesday, the 12th inst., at the Masonic Hall, William-street, the principal business before the brethren was the receipt of the Revising Committee's report, and the sanctioning or amendment of such alterations as they recommended to the lodge, and after a lengthy discussion several important amendments were made, provision being especially made for a larger support of the Masonic charities by the raising both of the yearly subscriptions and the initiation fee. The time of the next installation was altered from March to July, and altogether the recommended alterations were well received by the brethren. The other business before the lodge was the initiation of Mr. W. W. Prophet, sail maker, of Deptford, which ceremony was most impressively rendered by Bro. T. J. Carnelly, the W.M. The following officers were present beside the W.M.:—Bros. G. Davies, P.M.; G. W. Reed, J.W.; J. Henderson, P.M. and Treasurer; H. Syer, Secretary; J. P. Moore, S.D.; J. Hutton, J.D.; N. Brown, I.G.; and B. Norman, Tyler. Bro. J. Reilly taking the S.W. chair in the unavoidable absence of Bro. Pownell. Among the visitors were Bros. A. Penfold, W.M. 913; E. De Salis, 1331; E. M. Fisher, 700; J. Coghlan, 928; C. Glazier, 700; P. Jorkey, 1107; and C. Jolly, 913. After the lodge had been duly closed the brethren remained in the hall for refreshment, and passed a few social hours in harmony, the usual loyal and Masonic toasts being of course duly honoured.

PLYMOUTH.—Lodge Fortitude (No. 105).—The annual banquet of this lodge was held on the 10th inst. at Bro. Walters' Hotel, Union-street, the spread being one of a very substantial character and reflecting the highest credit upon the host. The W.M., Bro. Bunce, presided, and amongst a large and influential attendance were Bros. L. P. Metham, D.P.G.M. of Devon; Colonel Elliott, P.P.G.S.W.; S. Jew, P.P.G.T.; R. Rodda, P.P.G.R.; J. Way, P.P.G.T.; W. Whitley, P.G. Chap.; J. B. Gover, P.P.G.A.D.C.; H. Cochran, P.G.J.D. of Cornwall; E. A. Davies, P.P.G.S. Works; C. Cooper, I.P.M.; Anthony, P.M.; R. B. Twose, P.M.; Hillson, P.M.; W. J. Thuell, P.M.; Ingram, P.M.; J. Curteis, P.M. 189; Avery, P.M. 70; H. W. Thomas, W.M. 70; J. Rendle, P.M. 1247; M. Williams, P.M. 105; J. Manning, P.M. 156; W. Coath, P.M. 89; A. Lethbridge, I.P.M. 159; R. Bird, W.M. 1550; D. Bux, W.M. 156; J. H. Keats, S.W. 1247; S. Hyne, S.D. 1205; F. Bond, I.G. 1550; J. Gouley, 153; J. Trevan, 159; Husson, 70; R. L. Blight, 1205; C. Mutton, D.C. 1205; J. James, S.W. 105; G. Hillson, S.D. 105; Harris, J.D. 105; Pinkham, I.G. 105; H. Davey, D.C. 105; G. W. Field, S.S. 105; C. H. Walters, J.S. 105; Northey, A.S. 1205; J. R. Horncastle, J. Northey, Woodcock, I. W. N. Keys, Jackson, Murch, W. Martin, J. Griffin, G. P. Reed, Pleace, E. A. Lyons, Luscombe, R. Stancombe, Roach, and others. After dinner the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given. That of "The Health of the esteemed Prov. Grand Master of Devon" was, as usual, drunk with considerable enthusiasm. A letter was read from the P.G.M. expressing his deep regret that the state of his health prevented him from accepting the invitation of the W.M. to be present. Bro. Whitley responded for the toast of the D.P.G. Master and in so doing he said it gave him great pleasure as a minister of religion, and as one who was, to a great extent, cut off from what was generally known as the pleasures of this world, to meet upon the common platform—none the less grand and glorious because it was common—of Freemasonry. It was on these occasions that they met free from all religious or political feeling—he meant the feeling of strife and opposition, for religious feeling they all had, and there was no true Mason who was not a man of religion; and being separated from these strifes, if there was a community in the universe where joy ought to be realised when assembled it was the community of Freemasons. He must say that in all his experience he had found no community equal to that for real, innocent recreation and pleasure. He counselled them all to be true to their principles, otherwise they would fail to carry out the grand objects for which their Order was founded. Bro. Cooper in complimentary terms proposed "The Health of the W.M.," and the toast having been very warmly received, Bro. Bunce, in responding, said he was anxious that the lodge should stand well in the estimation of the whole province, and that they should have a class of men amongst them of whom no one need be ashamed. Bro. Twose responded for "The Past Masters of the Lodge," Bros. Jew and Cooper for "The Treasurer and Secretary," and the other toasts were "The Senior and Junior Wardens, the Senior and Junior Deacons, and other Officers," "The Army, Navy, and Volunteers;" "Sister Lodges and Visiting Brethren," "Masons' Wives and Sweethearts," and "Our Poor and Distressed Brethren." The musical responses of the evening—instrumental and vocal—were ably conducted by Bros. C. Rodda and Jew. A very agreeable evening was spent.

GIBRALTAR.—Inhabitants Lodge (No. 153).—The annual installation meeting of the Inhabitants Lodge was held on the 3rd inst., when Bro. Barker, P.S. W., was placed in the chair of K.S., and the following brethren appointed to their offices:—Cunningham, S.W.; R. Gillmore, J.W.; Randall, S.D.; Conroy, J.D.; Collins,

Sec.; Hunt, Treas.; Brewster, Dir. of Cers.; Briggs, I.G. Paxton, Bacon, and Compton, members of committee, and Llamas, Tyler. Upwards of sixty brethren attended, amongst them Bros. Leslie, Vine, Franceri, P.M.'s. The lodge was opened in due form, when the report "Grand Lodge" was given. The D.G.M., Bro. Cornwell, attended by Bros. R. B. Hepper, D.G.S.W.; J. H. Haynes, D.G. J.W.; Glassford, D.G.J.D.; C. V. D. Saury, D.G. Sec.; Imossi, G. Sup. of Wks.; Brewster, D.G.D. Cers.; Clarkson, D.G.I.G., were then received with due honours and conducted to the dais, after which the ceremony of installation was proceeded with, Bro. W. J. Henry, P.M. 30, acting W.M., kindly officiating as installing officer. The ceremony being concluded, the D.G.M. was addressed by Bro. Henry, and the attention of the brethren drawn to the presence amongst them that evening of the highest Masonic authority in the district, together with a few remarks on the present hopeful signs in connection with the future of the lodge. The D.G. Master, in reply, made a few eloquent remarks as to the pleasure he felt at being among the brethren and the harmonious feeling prevailing, and congratulated them on the manner in which the ceremonies of the evening had been conducted. The D.G.M., accompanied by his officers, then retired, the brethren paying the usual honours. The ordinary business of the evening was then proceeded with, which brought the labours of the evening to an end. The lodge was then closed in due form.

PLYMOUTH.—Lodge Charity (No. 223) celebrated the festival of St. John on the 12th inst. There was a very pleasant gathering, and the occasion was marked by special features of interest. The lodge was opened in due and ancient form in the lodge-room, Union-street, Plymouth, the following officers being in their places:—Bros. E. Patten, W.M.; J. Dupre, I.P.M.; J. Moysey, S.W. pro tem.; J. Lewarn, J.W.; H. S. Hill, S.D.; T. Mair, J.D. pro tem.; R. Blight, I.G.; W. J. Yeo, A.D.C.; J. Ivey, O.; and M. Stevens, J.S. The brethren called off to refreshment, adjourned to Bro. H. Matthews's, J.D., Bedford-street, and partook of a most excellent luncheon, admirably served. About seventy sat down, the W.M. being supported by Bro. Metham, D.P.G.M. of Devon; Bro. L. Latimer, P. Prov. G.J.W.; Bros. Colonel Elliott, P. Masters, Wolf, Hifley, Browning, Witheridge, Phillips, Anniss and Cornish, of Charity; Dupre, of St. John's; and Stentford, of Brunswick. All the officers of Charity were present. "The Queen" having been given, Bro. Latimer proposed "The W.M., H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, G.M. of England and the Craft," with a reference to the Masonic welcome that had been accorded the Prince in India as indicative of the universality of Freemasonry. The toast was drunk, with a hope for his Royal Highness's safe return. In a speech, characterised by graceful compliment and eulogy, Bro. Dupre followed with "The R.W. the Rev. J. Huyshe, P.G.M. of Devon, and Bro. L. P. Metham, D.P.G.M. of Devon." Bro. Metham responded, and in the course of his remarks touched upon the respective responsibilities of Masons to the calls of public life and the Craft. Afterwards he proposed "The W.M. of Charity," urging that all in his position should act on their own responsibility in the office, after having sought the aid of the counsel of the Past Masters. Bro. Patten appropriately responded. The Secretary announced that that day the P.G.M. had sanctioned the alteration of the bye-law, by which the lodge had increased its initiation fee to seven guineas. Accompanying the sanction was a letter congratulating the lodge on the wise step it had taken. The D.P.G.M. took occasion to remark on the great importance of lodges seeing the clearing-off certificate of every brother seeking to join. There had been a lamentable laxity in this respect in Plymouth lodges. Bro. Cornish gave "The I.P.M. of Charity," who, during his year of office, had conclusively shown that he had the interest of the lodge at heart. The W.M. pinned on the I.P.M.'s breast the Past Master's jewel voted by the lodge, and Bro. Anniss accepted it as an evidence—a jewel of infinitely more worth to him—that they felt the confidence reposed in him had been found to be not misplaced. The brethren had shown their interest in the lodge by a very large attendance. During his year of office retiring rooms had been added to their accommodation, and he hoped that ere long a scheme would be started for providing a handsome Masonic Hall for Plymouth. The W.M. proposed "The Treasurer and Secretary," and Bro. J. W. Cornish, the Treasurer, at the conclusion of his response, proceeded to present the Secretary with a handsome gold watch, voted by the lodge in recognition of the high ability and fidelity he had displayed in the office held for nine years. Bro. Browning feelingly responded, saying that the kindness and good-fellowship extended to him by all had more than amply repaid him. Bro. Wolf responded for "The Past Masters," proposed by the S.W. Bro. Hifley proposed "The S.W. and J.W. of Charity," and Bros. Boon and Lewarn respectively responded. Bro. Anniss proposed "The S.D., the J.D., and Assistant Officers of Lodge Charity," and Bros. Hill, S.D.; H. Matthews, J.D.; Blight, I.G.; Lavers, D.C.; Yeo, A.D.C.; Ivey, O.; Holland, S.S.; and Stevens, J.S. severally acknowledged the toast. Bro. Dupre, P.M. of the senior lodge (St. John's), responded for "Our Sister Lodges," proposed by P.M. Phillips. Bro. Latimer responded for "Our Visiting Brethren," proposed by P.M. Wolf. Bro. Latimer, proposing "Our Masonic Charities," spoke of the benefits of the Fortescue Fund of the Devon Province, and took occasion to deprecate the general scramble that sometimes took place in Grand Lodge to obtain a vote for institutions outside Freemasonry, when their own charities were in need of support.

GIBRALTAR.—Friendship Lodge (No. 278).—The installation of the W.M. elect, Bro. R. B. Hepper, took place on the 29th ult., Bro. B. Carver acting as installing officer. In spite of the frown of God Pluvius there was a good gathering of the brethren, amongst them the D.G.M., Bro. Cornwell, J. Francis, P.M.; J. Cortes,

P.M.; W. J. Henry, P.M. 30°; T. Haynes, P.M.; J. Haynes, W.M. 115; J. Ashton, P.M.; G. Bolland, W. J. Stanley, W. Glassford, C. V. De Santy. The officers appointed for the year are Bros. A. Patterson, S.W.; A. T. Preston, J.W.; H. Clavacasso, S.D.; M. Bensilum, J.D.; A. Aparicio, I.G.; E. Harrison, M.A., Sec.; Ward, Dir. of Cers.; J. Speed, Treas.; J. Peterkin, Tyler. The lodge may be congratulated on the selection of Bro. Hepper, and a successful year may be looked forward to.

LEICESTER.—St. John's Lodge (No. 279).—On the evening of the 5th inst. this lodge met in due form, pursuant to regular notice, for the purpose of celebrating the Festival of St. John, and to install the W.M. for the year ensuing. Bro. J. W. Smith, the W.M., occupied the chair, and was supported by the following brethren, who occupied seats on the dais:—Bros. Kelly, R.W. P.P.G.M.; S. S. Partridge, P.G.S.; Rev. J. H. Smith, P.G. Chaplain; Stretton, P.M.; Soller, P.M.; A. Palmer, P.M.; Baines, P.M.; W. B. Smith, P.M., and Pro Grand Treas.; Thorpe, W.M.; Worthington, W.M. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The Installing Master, Bro. Partridge, Provincial Grand Secretary, took the chair. Bro. Smith, the retiring W.M., presented the Master elect. Bro. C. S. Stretton read the ancient charge, and Bro. J. M. McAllister took the O.B. as Master for the year ensuing. A Board of Installed Masters was formed and the interesting and impressive ceremony of installation, was performed, and Bro. McAllister declared Master of the Lodge of St. John for the year 1876. The installation here concluded in solemn grandeur, and the thrilling effect produced by Bro. Partridge at this ceremony will be long remembered by all lovers of Masonry who had the good fortune to be present. The W.M. appointed his officers as follows:—Bros. G. Statham, S.W.; C. S. Stretton, J.W.; Rev. J. H. Smith, Chaplain; S. Cleaver, Sec.; Dr. Buck, S.D.; J. L. Jarndale, J.D.; Jessop, I.G.; Weare, and Cleaver, Stewards; Bembridge, and Dunn, Tylers. The Treasurer's account and report for the financial year was then read by Bro. Weare and adopted. A ballot took place for the Treasurer for the year ensuing, and the W.M. declared Bro. Gurden elected. The lodge was afterwards closed with the usual solemnities. The banquet followed; the W.M. presided, and the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and responded to.

TEIGNMOUTH.—Benevolent Lodge (No. 303).—The annual meeting of the members of this lodge was held in the Lodge, Holland's-road, on Monday, 3rd inst., for the purpose of installing the W. Master elect, Bro. S. L. R. Templar. There was a good attendance of members, and there were eleven Past Masters present, some of whom came from Plymouth, Exeter, Torquay, Dawlish, and Newton. This ceremony was admirably performed by Bro. H. Walrond, P.P.G.M., and after the installation the W. Master appointed the following brethren as his officers: C. H. Collings, I.P.M.; J. Kerstreman, S.W.; W. F. McIlwhain, J.W.; G. H. Croydon, Chap.; J. Whidborne, Treas.; T. B. Gibbs, S.D.; Godfrey Lee, J.D.; F. Tomes, Sec.; De Courcy Dashwood, D.C.; G. Etheridge and W. R. Gilpin, Stewards; G. Norris, I.G.; P. Haggerty, Tyler. The finances of the lodge are in a good position, much progress having been made during the past year in clearing off a debt which had been incurred in the building of a new lodge. After the lodge had been duly closed the brethren adjourned to the Royal Hotel, where they partook of a very handsome banquet, provided by the I.P.M., Bro. Collings, who catered for the party most excellently. The chair was occupied by the W. Master, and the vice-chair by the S. Warden. After dinner the customary loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed and duly responded to, and the evening was passed most agreeably.

ROCHDALE.—Probity and Freedom Lodge (No. 367).—The regular monthly meeting of this lodge was held on Thursday, the 20th Jan., at the Bull's Head Hotel, Smallbridge. The lodge was opened by the W.M., Bro. Schofield. The first candidate for initiation was Mr. Wren (son of Bro. Wren, P.M., who has been a member of the lodge over a quarter of a century). Being under age, a dispensation from P.G.M. was read, and Bro. T. Baker Ashworth, P.M., then initiated him. Bro. Ashworth also initiated Mr. W. Hooson. Bro. J. J. Ashworth, I.P.M., afterwards initiated Messrs. Holt and Stanfield. There was one candidate proposed for initiation next lodge night, and the lodge was then closed. Supper was afterwards served by the host, Bro. McOwen.

CHESTER.—Cestrian Lodge (No. 425).—The annual festival of this old lodge was celebrated at the Grosvenor Hotel, Chester, on Thursday, the 20th inst. The R.W.P.G.M. of Cheshire, Lord De Tabley, was present upon the occasion; and among the visitors were the following brethren:—Bros. E. H. Griffiths, P.G. Sec.; C. Dutton, P.P.S.G.W.; J. Lewis, P.P.G.S.D.; J. Taylor, P.P.S.B.; J. Cunnah, W.M. 721; E. R. Parr, W.M. 979; G. H. Wilson, P.M. 537; A. Walker, P.M. 1124; D. Sherratt, P.M. 9; R. J. Sisson, P.M. 721; H. Johnson, P.M. 721; J. McEvoy, M.E.Z. 721; and others. The ceremony was performed by the Installing Master, Bro. J. Williams, P.S.G.D., in an impressive and masterly manner. Bro. J. McHattie having been raised to the chair, appointed the following brethren as officers:—Dr. Taylor, S.W.; T. M. Lockwood, J.W.; the Rev. J. S. Darvill, Chap.; E. Minshall, Treas.; W. C. Hunt, Sec.; J. Knox, S.D.; J. G. Smith, J. D.; F. A. Dickson, I.G.; David Baines, Tyler. A banquet was afterwards held in the assembly room, when about ninety were present. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed by the W.M. In responding to the toast of the R.W.P.G.M., Lord De Tabley said he had looked forward with pleasure to again visiting that lodge, with whose historical associations, loyalty, and good works on behalf of Masonic charities, he was so well acquainted. He was pleased to find that the brother who had officiated that day as Installing Master, in a manner he had scarcely ever seen equalled, had been made an

officer of that Masonic Boys' School to whose funds the lodge had that day voted £25. He congratulated them upon the P.G. Cheshire Lodge responding to the call for the restoration of the old cathedral at Chester, and was pleased to be informed that the P.G. Lodge of West Lancashire was about to do the same. The W.M., in responding to the toast of his health, intimated his intention to promote the Masonic charities, and to create the office of W.M. of that lodge into a vice-presidency of the boys' institution, so that their lodge would be in the proud position of having a vice-patron and two vice-presidents of the institution among them. Speeches were delivered by Bros. H. Lloyd, P.M.; J. C. Robinson, I.P.M.; J. Williams, P.S.G.D., and others.

HITCHIN.—Cecil Lodge (No. 440).—The Cecil Lodge met on the 13th inst., at the Sun, Hitchin, Bro. William John Fitch, W.M., presiding. This worthy brother, having opened lodge, deputed his duties to Bro. H. Lloyd Thomas, P.M., who proceeded immediately to install Bro. Richard Shillitoe as W.M. The ceremony was performed in a style which was remarkable for its completeness and impressiveness from its opening to the last of the charges; and the Installing Master was greeted with the applause of the brethren on his concluding. The W.M. appointed Bros. George D. Groom, S.W.; Geo. H. Smith, J.W.; R. R. Shillitoe, P.M., Treas.; W. J. Fitch, P.M., Sec.; Armigell Wade, S.D.; Joseph Hargreaves, J.D.; and Francis Shillitoe, I.G. To the great regret of the brethren, Bro. John Sugars, who has been Honorary Secretary of the lodge for more than thirty years, was, through serious illness, unable to accept a renewal of his appointment. There are in this lodge some brethren who are very old members, and among others the Treasurer, Bro. Shillitoe, the father of the present W.M., is the oldest living P.M. of the lodge. The work of the lodge was followed by one of Mr. Hill's admirable banquets, and a very delightful evening, in which each brother vied with every other to contribute to its success.

SEACOMBE.—Combermere Lodge (No. 605).—This lodge celebrated its annual installation festival at the Seacombe Hotel, on Thursday, the 20th inst. Amongst those present were Bros. J. P. Platt, P.P.J.W.; T. Platt, P.P.G.J.D.; Dr. Spratley, P.P.G.S.D.; Dr. Lambert, P.M. 537; Laidlaw, P.M. 477; J. G. Adam, W.M. 477; D. Fraser, I.P.M.; L. Ellis, P.M. 1289; J. Ridhalgh, P.M. 1276; J. Radcliffe, P.M. 477; and others. The lodge was opened by Bro. E. J. Hadden, W.M., who was supported by a full complement of officers. Bro. Dr. S. Spratley, P.P.S.G.D., subsequently took the chair, and installed Bro. Matthew C. McNeerney as W.M. for the ensuing year in a remarkably effective and impressive manner. The officers invested were Bros. E. J. Haddon, I.P.M.; J. T. Lee, P.P.G.S. of Works, M.C.; T. Shaw, S.W.; E. Jones, J.W.; J. Sillitoe, P.M., Treas.; T. Lighton, P.M., Sec.; W. Parry, Org.; J. Jones, S.D.; T. Gregory, J.D.; J. A. Cleator, I.G.; Harris, S.S.; Roberts, J.S.; and Holtaway, Tyler. Before the lodge was closed a valuable Past Master's jewel was presented to Bro. Haddon by Bro. Ellis Davies, P.M. in the name of the members of the lodge. At the conclusion of the business, the brethren sat down to a capital banquet. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given by the W.M. It was incidentally stated that the annual performance in aid of the Cheshire Masonic Educational Institution will take place at the Theatre Royal, Birkenhead, on the 23rd and 24th February, under the management of Bros. Asher, Radcliffe, and Lees, "Macbeth" and "The Two Poles" being the promised pieces.

DEVIZES.—Wiltshire Lodge of Fidelity (No. 663).—The installation meeting of this lodge took place at the Town Hall, Devizes, on Tuesday last, the 18th inst., when Bro. T. Barker Fox, the S.W. for the past year, and W.M. elect, was duly installed by Bro. W. Nott, P. Prov. G. Reg. Wilts. and P.M. of this lodge, in the presence of the following Installed Masters:—H. I. Ward, W.M. 663; the Rev. T. F. T. Ravenshaw, P.G. Chap., P.M. 663; J. H. Chandler, P.M. 663; J. Chandler, P. Prov. G.S.W. Wilts., P.M. 663, &c.; the Rev. H. Richardson, P. Prov. G. Chap. Wilts., P.M. 663; T. H. Chandler, P.M. 355; C. Milsom, P.M. 53, P.G.J.W. Somerset; R. de M. Lawson, P. Prov. G.S.W. Wilts., P.M. 632; Thos. Waite, P.M. 144; and W. J. Mann, W.M. 632. After the ceremony of installation had been completed, the W.M. appointed and invested the officers for the ensuing year, the list of whom was as follows:—H. I. Ward, I.P.M.; J. W. Burman, M.D., S.W.; J. Parker, J.W.; Rev. H. Richardson, M.A., Chap.; D. A. Gibbs, P.M., Treas.; W. Nott, P.M., Sec.; W. H. Burt, S.D.; H. Howse, J.D.; T. Ford, I.G.; Thos. Waite, P.M., M.C.; W. Day and S. Badham, Stewards. Addresses to the officers on their investiture, and explaining their several duties, were delivered by the Rev. H. Richardson, P.M., and the usual ones to the W.M., brethren, &c., by the Installing Master. A ballot took place for Bro. W. E. Fulford, of Lodge of Israel, 205, as a joining member, and proved unanimous in his favour. Two candidates for initiation having been proposed for ballot at the next meeting, the lodge was duly closed, and the brethren adjourned to a banquet at the Crown Hotel, to which Bro. Watson Taylor, of Erlestoke Park, had, with his accustomed liberality, contributed a supply of venison and game.

LIVERPOOL.—Alliance Lodge (No. 67).—The annual installation meeting in connection with this lodge took place at the Masonic Hall, Liverpool, on Tuesday, the 18th inst., and no more popular brother has been placed in the chair for a long time than Bro. John E. Jackson, the W.M. elect, by the unanimous voice of the brethren. There was a very large gathering of Masons, including P.G. Officers, W.M.'s, and P.M.'s of other lodges. The chair at the opening was occupied by Bro. T. Ockleshaw, W.M., and among those present were Bros. W. Bulman, P.M.; J. E. Skillicom, P.M.; W. Doyle, P.P.J.G.D., P.M., Treasurer; J. E. Jackson, S.W.; G.

S. Willings, J.W.; J. Ellis, Secretary; H. Firth, S.D.; T. Peake, I.G.; D. Lloyd, S.; J. Bentham, J. Douglas, W. J. Chapman, J. Bowyer, J. Pascoe, W. Richards, J. Mellon, J. Norminton, H. Jones, W. E. Birks, J. Bailey, R. Dawkins, T. Mason, J. Parkin, W. T. Barry, J. Archdeacon, R. Foulds, R. S. Hudson, W. Ladyman, W. Brittain, A. Bucknill, D. S. Buchanan, and others. The visitors included Bros. J. T. Callow, W.M. 1505; T. Paul, 823; J. R. Smith, P.G. Reg.; J. Gallagher, P.M. 1011, W.M. 1459; W. T. Cox, P.M. 1021; J. Bluck, 1393; P. B. Gee, W.M. 1264; D. Jones, P.M. 155; D. Wainwright, 220; R. Brown, W.M. 241; H. Pearson, P.M. 249; W. Forrester, 1035; S. Jacobs, 241; J. Bell, W.M. 1356; G. Turner, P.M. 823; J. P. Bryan, 1035; J. A. Muir, 823; J. Skeaf, P.G.O.; J. Pemberton, P. G.S.; A. Cotter, J.W. 1264; A. Morrison, J.W. 1570; W. T. May, P.M. 1393; T. Clark, P.M. 673; G. Hutclim, S.W. 241; R. R. Martin, P.M. 1094; H. M. Molyneux, P.M. 823; A. Winkup, P.M. 1356; and J. Goodacre, P.M. 1086. After one initiation and the transaction of some formal business, the position of Installing Master was taken by Bro. W. Doyle, P.P.G.J.D., P.M., Treasurer, who placed Bro. J. E. Jackson in the chair of W.M. in a remarkably efficient manner. The following were invested officers of the lodge:—Bros. T. Ockleshaw, I.P.M.; G. S. Willings, S.W.; J. Ellis, J.W.; W. Doyle, re-elected Treasurer; H. Firth, Secretary; T. Yeatman, Organist; H. Gregory, S.D.; T. Peake, J.D.; D. Lloyd, I.G.; C. Bentham, S.S.; R. Douglas, J.S.; and Monk, Tyler. An excellent banquet was subsequently served by Bro. Ball, P.G. Tyler, and during the evening a handsome P.M.'s jewel was presented to Bro. T. Ockleshaw, I.P.M. An excellent musical programme was furnished by Bros. A. Child, J. P. Bryan, J. Queen, H. J. Atkinson, J. A. Muir, W. Forrester, and R. N. Hobart, Bro. J. Skeaf, P.G.O., presiding at the pianoforte. It is doubtful whether the brethren have ever had such a musical treat as this, and as a consequence every one was in ecstasy with the lovely glees, catches, &c., given by these capital-voiced brethren. The speeches during the evening were very pithy and to the point, and the lodge was closed at a comparatively early hour, after a thoroughly enjoyable evening, under the promising rule of Bro. J. E. Jackson, the W.M.

CHACEWATER.—Boscawen Lodge (No. 699).—This lodge held their annual festival on Tuesday, 4th inst. The lodge was close tyed at 1 p.m. The W.M. elect, Bro. C. Rapson, was duly installed into the chair by W. Bro. J. Ninness, P.M., P.P.G.R., who acted as Installing Master throughout. The other P.M.'s present were:—Bros. J. Paull, P.P.G.S.D.; Rev. G. L. Church, P.P.G.C.; S. Mitchell, P.P.G.S.; Jas. Holman; Jno. Chegidden, and Bro. Heath (Druids). The W.M. having been regularly proclaimed and saluted, he invested the following officers: Bros. W. T. Davey, I.P.M.; F. J. Lee, S.W.; N. Pascoe, J.W.; J. Paull, P.M., Sec.; J. Edwards, Assistant Sec.; J. Ninness, P.M., Treas.; Rev. W. A. Blake, Chap.; J. Jackson, S.D.; J. T. Hooper, J.D.; O. Matthews, Org.; G. C. Hancock, D.C.; W. Bennett, and J. Tregoning, Stewards; T. Chinnock, I.G.; and W. Lean, P.P.G.T., Tyler. Bro. Rev. G. L. Church was appointed Steward to the Cornwall M.A. and B. fund. The Treasurer having read the annual statement, a credit balance of about £200, the present number of members being 126, the lodge was closed. The annual banquet, provided by Bro. N. Paull, was presided over by the W.M. and attended by sixty brethren. In addition to the above-named, the W.M. was supported by Bros. E. T. Carlyn, P.G. Sec.; T. Solomon, P.P.G.S.W.; W. H. Jenkin, P.P.G.S.W.; S. G. Moyle, P.P.G.S.; W. P. Hugoe, P.P.G.S.; W. Bray, P.M. 699; Rev. Gillan (Tregullow); W. Lidgley (Druids), &c. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and responded to, accompanied by appropriate music. That of the Prov. G. Master, given by Bro. W. H. Jenkins, and acknowledged by Bro. Rev. G. L. Church, was heartily received, as was also that of the Prov. D.G.M., and the other P.G. Officers, by Bros. W. P. Hugoe and J. Paull; much applause greeted the toast of "The W.M." by Bro. W. T. Davey. "The Visitors," was ably given by Bro. W. Bray, and responded to in interesting speeches. "The Masonic Charities," by Bro. Church, and acknowledged by Bro. J. Ninness, afforded an opportunity of urging the brethren to renewed support of the great Masonic Institutions.

MAZAGON.—Lodge Concord (No. 757).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held in the Freemasons' Hall, Mazagon, on Saturday, the 18th December, 1875. Present:—Bros. W. C. Rowe, W.M.; G. R. Henderson, I.P.M.; B. Robinson, P.M.; F. Burdett, as S.W.; W. Fearn, as J.W.; F. Burdett, Treas.; O. Tomlinson, Sec.; J. Spiers, S.D.; W. G. Davie, J.D.; J. Luke, D.C.; J. E. Tyers, Org.; J. F. Grew, Steward; L. Thomas, I.G.; J. W. Seager, Tyler. Members: Bros. W. E. Craddock, G. F. Cardewell, W. W. Wilson, J. Armstrong, J. A. da Gama, J. Jones, J. Anderson, W. Hobbs, T. W. Brownnutt, H. Watson, J. Gerson da Cunha, S. Needs, and others. Visitors: Bros. T. Counsell, W.M. 1100, E.C.; S. N. Cooper, W.M. 1189, E.C.; J. E. Baird, 351, S.C.; W. Martin, 1100, E.C.; W. Catrall, 1100, E.C.; T. C. Lafond, 1100, E.C.; T. Lafond, 1100, E.C.; F. K. Patrick, 1189, E.C.; D. M. Cooper, 1189, E.C.; T. Thompson, 1100, E.C.; C. Parker, 1100, E.C.; R. Shackle, P.M. United Mariners, 30, E.C.; and Thomas Eison, 739, E.C. The lodge was opened at 6.15 p.m. The minutes of the last regular meeting were read and confirmed. The minutes of the emergency meeting of the 7th December, 1875, were read and confirmed. The minutes of the last meeting of the Permanent Committee were read and adopted. The W.M. then stated, that in consequence of the dispensation not being sanctioned to raise Bro. T. W. Brownnutt, S. Needs, and J. A. da Gama to the Third Degree he would not be able to confer that high honour on them this evening, but would arrange an emergency

meeting to raise them, in accordance with the Book of Constitutions, at the earliest possible date. The ballot was then taken for Mr. James W. Watson, senior assist. to Supt. H.M. Common Jail, Onecarry, candidate for initiation, and announced duly elected. The ballot was then taken for Bro. G. C. Taylor, of Lodge St. Andrew in the East, No. 343, S.C., and announced clear. Mr. J. W. Watson was duly initiated. Bro. John Armstrong was raised to the degree of a Master Mason. The W.M. then explained the Third Tracing Board, and presented the working tools of a M.M. to our newly-raised brother. The election was then taken for the W.M., Treasurer, and Tyler for the ensuing year. W. Bro. G. R. Henderson, I.P.M., was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing year. Bro. F. Burdett was unanimously elected Treasurer for the ensuing year. Bro. J. W. Seager was unanimously elected Tyler for the ensuing year. The Grand Lodge certificates of Bros. O. Tomlinson, W. G. Davie and J. E. Tyers were then duly signed and delivered in open lodge. A letter from the W.M., Wardens, and Secretary of Lodge Hindpool, No. 1225, E.C., was then read, stating they had, as requested by this lodge, duly passed and raised Bro. R. Sowden. The W.M. then suggested a letter of thanks be written in the name of the lodge to the W.M., officers, and brethren of Lodge Hindpool for the favour conferred on this lodge. This was carried by acclamation. A letter from Bro. F. G. Sweeney, tendering his resignation to the lodge, and asking for a clearance certificate, was then read, and his resignation accepted with regret. A letter from Bro. R. Sowden, 44, Crelling-street, Barrow-in-Furness, Lancashire, England, tendering his resignation, was then read, and his resignation accepted with regret, and the Secretary directed to forward him, an E.A. clearance certificate, and send Grand Lodge certificate fees to the W.M. of Hindpool Lodge, No. 1225, E.C., and ask him to make application for Bro. R. Sowden's Grand Lodge certificate, and deliver the same in due course. A letter from the W.M., authorising the Treasurer to pay Rs. 20 to a distressed brother, enclosing a donation of Rs. 10 from himself, was then read and put to the lodge, and carried by acclamation. The Secretary was then requested to arrange an emergency meeting as early as possible, in accordance with constitutions, for the purpose of raising Bros. T. W. Brownnutt, S. Needs, and J. A. da Gama. W. Bro. B. Robinson, P.M., proposed, and W. Bro. G. R. Henderson, I.P.M., seconded, Bro. W. Ollroy as a joining member. The Secretary was then requested to write to the W.M. of Lodge Friendship and Harmony, No. 1270, E.C., for Bro. H. Hobbs' Grand Lodge certificate.

An emergency meeting of this lodge was held in the Freemasons' Hall, Mazagon, on Tuesday, the 7th Dec., 1875. Present: Bros. W. C. Rowe, W.M.; B. Robinson, P.M.; F. Burdett, as S.W.; W. Fearn, as J.W.; F. Burdett, Treas.; O. Tomlinson, Sec.; J. E. Tyers, Org.; J. Luke, M.C., as S.D.; W. G. Davie, J.D.; L. Thomas, I.G.; J. W. Seager, Tyler. Members: Bros. J. May, E. Lucas, W. E. Craddock, J. F. Grew, W. W. Wilson, J. Armstrong, S. Needs, T. W. Brownnutt, J. Middleton, F. Lean, J. A. da Gama, H. Watson, and others. Visitors: H. Benner, 710, E.C.; and others. The lodge was opened at 8.10 p.m. The summons convening the meeting was read. The dispensation to hold this meeting and to pass Bros. T. W. Brownnutt, J. A. da Gama, and S. Needs to the Second Degree was then read. The W.M. then asked for information if the time (7 days) had elapsed since the said brethren were initiated, and the Secretary showed the said brethren were initiated on the 20th Nov., 1875. Bros. T. W. Brownnutt and Samuel Needs were passed to the Second Degree; and Bro. F. A. da Gama was passed to the Second Degree. Bro. J. F. Grew proposed, and Bro. L. Thomas seconded, Mr. J. W. Watson, sen. asst. to Supt. H.M. Common Jail, Onecarry, as a candidate for initiation. Bro. E. Lucas proposed, and Bro. Burdett seconded, Bro. George Taylor, No. 343, E.C., as a joining member.

CONSTANTINOPLE.—Bulwer Lodge (No. 891) held its anniversary in the Masonic Temple, Pera, on the evening of Thursday, January 13th. The minutes of the last regular lodge were read and confirmed. The first business was to ballot for Bro. Yorgerson as joining member, who was unanimously accepted. The principal business of the evening was to instal Bro. W. Keay, W.M. elect, as successor to W. Bro. Temple. Here W. Bro. G. R. Warren, P.M., took the chair in the East as Installing Master, which he has done many times before, and as usual very ably performed the ceremony of installation, in the presence of a large number of members of the Craft of Constantinople. Amongst the distinguished visitors, although members of the lodge, were W. Bros. Laurie, P.D.D.G. Master; Pears, D.G.R.; Hopper, D.G. Sec. of the D.G. Lodge of Turkey; W.M. and Wardens of the Italia Resoria; W.M. and Wardens of the Lodge Oriental, Wardens of the Lodge Pesdos; also many other visitors from other lodges. The newly Installed Master invested his officers as follows:—Bros. O. Dingler, S.W.; Hallenstine, J.W.; Keppen, Treas.; Donald, Sec.; Yorgerson, S.D.; W. Morris, J.D.; W. Harvey, I.G.; Magyania, Org.; Gingell, Tyler. The W.M. then rose and thanked the brethren of the lodge for the honour that had been conferred upon him, in a short but eloquent address, trusting he should receive every support from the brethren of the lodge throughout his year of office. The brethren adjourned to banquet, W.M. took the chair. The usual Masonic toasts were given, and heartily responded to by one and all.

WORKSOP.—The Pelham Lodge (No. 939).—The brethren of this prosperous and united lodge met on Thursday, the 20th of January, at their rooms in the Corn Exchange, Worksop, for the purpose of installing the W.M. elect Bro. the Rev. F. Vernon Bussell, M.A.). The lodge was opened by Bro. J. Baxter, P.M., the first business being to initiate the Rev. William John Humble, clerk in holy orders; after which Bros. King

and Tomlinson were passed to the Second Degree. The ceremony of installation afterwards took place, the installing officer being Bro. Joseph Allen, P.M. of the Lodge of Peace (No. 149), Meltham, West Yorks—a brother conspicuous for that fervency and zeal in the conduct of the ceremonies of Freemasonry without which no Master can preside over a lodge with credit to himself or complete satisfaction to his brethren. Bro. Allen having required and received from the W.M. elect the usual assent to the ancient laws and regulations, dismissed the brethren below the chair and opened a Board of Installed Masters (12 being present). Bro. Bussell was then installed in the East with the customary honours, after which the brethren were re-admitted, and the newly installed successor to K.S. was saluted in due and ancient form. The working tools of the three degrees were presented by Bro. Ensor Drury (P.M. of the Royal Brunswick Lodge, Sheffield, and P.P.G.W. West Yorks) in his usual masterly style, which is peculiarly his own, and which never fails to render most deeply impressive those Masonic ceremonies in which he takes a part, be they those of the Craft or of the Royal Arch Degree. The ceremony being ended, Bro. Bussell appointed his officers as follows:—Bros. A. J. F. Bussell, I.P.M.; William Mallender, S.W.; William Allen, J.W.; Rev. H. A. Steel, Chaplain; Edward Baxter, P.M., Hon. Secretary; P. Lowe, S.D.; Thomas Henderson, J.D.; John Appleton, I.G.; William H. Caparn, Organist; and T. Mallender, Tyler. The brethren afterwards banqueted together at the Lion Hotel, being excellently catered for by the worthy host, Mr. R. Morris. The Worshipful Master occupied the chair, supported by Bros. the Rev. Canon Maltby, W.M. of the Royal Sussex Lodge (402), Nottingham; Rev. E. Hawley, vicar of Worksop, and Past Chaplain to the Pelham Lodge; William Newton, P.P.G.W. Notts; Edward Baxter, P.P.G.W. Notts; Ensor Drury, P.P.G.W. West Yorks; Thomas Webster, P.P.G.D. Notts; Henry Ecroyd, W.M. of the Royal Brunswick Lodge (261), Sheffield; Thomas Harrison, P.M. of the Goderich Lodge (1211), Leeds; Rev. J. R. U. Elliott, of the Yarborough Lodge (422), Yarborough; Edward C. C. Hart and Robert Raines, of the Minerva Lodge (250), Hull; and others. After the loyal toasts, "The Health of the Worshipful Master" was proposed and ably responded to by Bro. Bussell, who gave the toast of "The Visiting Brethren," coupling with it the names of Bros. the Rev. Canon Maltby and Henry Ecroyd. Other speeches followed, in which allusion was made to the present unsatisfactory state of the Prov. Grand Lodge of Nottinghamshire, which is now to all intents and purposes in abeyance, owing to the Prov. Grand Master—the Duke of Newcastle—neglecting the duties of his most important office. No Prov. Grand Lodge has recently been held, and thus the progress of Craft Masonry in the Province of Nottinghamshire has been seriously affected, and the brethren cut off from all participation in provincial honours, to which every Past Master ought to aspire. The Past Prov. Grand Officers present cordially united in the expression of regret at this state of things, and it is to be hoped that our Royal Grand Master will be pleased to appoint an active and working Prov. Master, for this neglected but truly Masonic province. "The Health of the Newly-Initiated, Bro. Humble," was proposed, and responded to in a pleasant speech, in which Bro. Humble congratulated himself on having been initiated on the occasion of the installation of his old schoolfellow and college-friend, Bro. Bussell. He had hitherto considered that the principal events in a man's life, were three in number, viz. his birth, his marriage, and his death. From this time forward he should add a fourth to the list, viz. his initiation into Freemasonry. Songs and recitations were afterwards given by Bros. Rev. E. Hawley, the worthy vicar; J. Allen, P.M.; William Mallender, S.W.; Rev. W. J. Humble, J. Baxter, P.M.; and others; and an unusually pleasant evening was closed in order, harmony, and brotherly love. "Happy to meet, sorry to part, happy to meet again."

SOUTHEND.—Priory Lodge (No. 1000).—The annual festival of this lodge took place on Tuesday, the 11th inst., at the Middlesex Hotel, Southend. Bro. A. Lucking, P.M. 160, Prov. A.G.D.C., W.M., presided. After the lodge had been opened and the minutes of the previous meeting confirmed, the W.M. passed Bro. B. Mackie to the Second Degree, and afterwards in a very able and impressive manner installed Bro. E. E. Phillips, S.W., P.M. 379 (who had been unanimously elected at the previous meeting), as the W.M. for the ensuing year, Bro. H. Rowley, P.M., P.P.S.G.D., acting as Dir. of Cer. The Board of Installed Masters consisted of thirteen brethren. After the W.M. had been saluted and proclaimed, he invested as his officers V.W. Bros. Rev. S. R. Wigram, P.M. and P.Z. 214, Grand Chaplain, S.W.; W. Frost, J.W.; F. Wood, P.M., P.P.S.G.W., Treas.; J. A. Wardell, P.M. 160 and 1000, P.P.J.G.D., Sec.; Rev. T. W. Herbert, P.M., P.P.G. Chap.; W. Chaplin, S.D.; W. P. Belliss, J.D.; W. Chignel, I.G.; J. C. Johnstone, P.M. 20 (I.G.), D.C.; G. R. Dawson and A. F. Godward, Stewards; H. Mountain, Tyler. The newly Installed W.M. then proceeded to initiate the Rev. H. Hayes, Messrs. Briggs, and W. H. Locket into the mysteries of the Craft, the ceremony being admirably performed, and received the well merited applause of the brethren. Bro. Rev. S. R. Wigram, Grand Chaplain, delivered the charge to the initiates. Bro. A. Lucking received a cordial vote of thanks for the manner in which he had performed the duties of Installing Master, who having acknowledged the compliment, the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to a sumptuous banquet, presided over by the W.M., Bro. E. E. Phillips. Besides the before mentioned there were present Bros. J. R. Hemmann, P.M., P.J.G.D.; S. Cox, P.M.; Harris, P.M., P.P.A.G.D.C.; Rev. H. J. Hatch, S.W. 160, Prov. G. Chaplain; F. V. Jillings, W. Waterhouse, J. Shepherd, G. F. Jones, G. J. Glasscock, H. Luker, W. Allen, jun., C. Serbett, G. Berry. Visitors: Bros. Rev. Harris, P.P.G.

Chaplain; J. Reeve, W.M. 160; E. Bonner, S.D. 95; E. Kemp, W.M. 1024; De L'Anderson, 654; A. C. Carter, 697; Chas. Relph, P.M. 77 and 188, P.P.S.G.D. Kent; T. King, 160; J. C. Underwood, 160; S. G. Fairlough, P.M. 1073, P.D.G.D. Malta; J. Weston, 25 (I.C.); J. Pritchard, E. C. Riley. During the evening the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured. The W.M. on behalf of the lodge presented the I.P.M. with a P.M.'s jewel. The I.P.M. thanked the brethren for their kindness. The intervals between the toasts were agreeably sustained by some excellent singing by the W.M., Bros. Rev. H. J. Hatch, De L'Anderson, Bonner, Ryley, Briggs, and others. The Tyler's toast terminated the proceedings at a late hour, and the brethren separated, looking forward to a successful year of office under the rule of the new W.M.

KESWICK.—Greta Lodge (No. 1073).—The annual meeting of the above lodge was held in the lodge room, Court Buildings, Keswick, when Bro. the Rev. F. R. Rutherford, P.M., P.G.A.C., was duly installed by Bro. J. Wood, P.M. 1073, P.P.G.O. The interesting ceremony attracted a good muster of the brethren. The following brethren were appointed officers for the ensuing twelve months:—Bros. T. Usher, I.P.M.; J. D. Wivell, S.W.; W. Lamony, J.W.; J. Wood, P.M., Sec.; P. T. Freeman, P.G.O., Org.; D. Pape, S.D.; C. H. Williams, J.D.; R. P. Hunter, I.G.; J. Wales, Treas.; W. Hodgson, D.C.; C. Thompson, Tyler. The annual banquet was held at the Royal Oak Hotel, and was served up in the well-known style that Bro. Armstrong and Mrs. Armstrong are justly celebrated for. A delightful evening terminated about ten o'clock.

BARNSELY.—Lodge Friendly (No. 1513).—On Thursday, the 6th inst., the installation of Bro. Braithwaite as W.M. of this lodge took place, followed by the celebration of the Festival of St. John. The lodge was opened at 2.30 p.m. by Bros. R. Carter, P.P.G.W., W.M.; Hesketh, W.M. 361, as S.W., and Braithwaite, J.W. Among the brethren present were Bros. the Rev. H. J. Day, rector of Barnsley, Chaplain; Gratton, Unsworth, Bankes, Lane, Sutton, Marsden, Ormsworth, Bustard, Lawrance, Shepherd, Morris, Watson, Hutchinson, Jackson, Burnley, Alderson, Booth, Clarkson, Kell, and the following visitors:—Bros. Woodhead, P.M. 652 and 1462; Seed, 1302; Firth, P.M. 1302; Smith, P.G.S. of West Yorks; Taylor, P.M. 1007; Smith, P.P.S.G.D., and P.M. 290; Barrett, 1302. The W.M. then vacated the chair in favour of Bro. W. Smith, P.P.S.G.D. of West Yorks, Installing Master. Bro. Braithwaite, W.M. elect, being presented, and having given assent to the ancient laws and regulations, was duly installed. The ceremony under the able hands of our worthy Bro. W. Smith lost none of its natural impressiveness. On the re-admission of the brethren, and the customary salutations having been rendered to the newly installed Master, he proceeded to make the following appointment of officers for the ensuing year:—Bros. J. H. Gratton, S.W.; W. Unsworth, J.W.; Rev. H. J. Day, Chaplain; J. H. Watson, Treasurer; T. F. Shepherd, Secretary; J. Sutton, S.D.; W. H. Chambers, J.D.; S. Clarkson, I.G.; J. Morris, Organist; Bankes and Alderson, Stewards; and Smith, Tyler. The W.M. upon the investment of the officers made a few remarks pertinent to the duties devolving upon each of them. The business of the lodge was brought to a close at 4.30 p.m., and the brethren afterwards sat down to a sumptuous banquet, provided for them in their handsome lodge room at the King's Head Hotel by the well known host, Mr. T. Smith, the W.M. presiding. He was supported on his right by the I.P.M., Bro. Richard Carter, P.M. 61, P.P.G.W. of West Yorks (Mayor of Barnsley), and Bro. H. Smith, Provincial Grand Secretary of West Yorks; and on the left by Bro. Alderman Taylor, of Manchester, P.M. 1007, and several P.M.'s of the Yorkshire and Lancashire Provinces, the newly-elected Wardens taking their respective positions at the festive board. The customary Masonic and other toasts were duly proposed and honoured by the brethren, who separated after having thoroughly enjoyed this their first Festival of St. John.

Royal Arch.

MOUNT LEBANON CHAPTER (No. 73).—The regular meeting of this chapter was held on Thursday, 13th inst., at the Bridge House Hotel. Comps. J. H. Budden, M.E.Z.; H. A. Dubois, H.; J. W. Baldwin, J.; T. J. Sabine, P.Z., Treas.; F. Walters, P.Z., S.E.; J. T. Moss, P.Z., and others opened the chapter. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. Comp. J. Mason, 177 and 1194, was unanimously elected a joining member. The bye-laws having been read, the elections were proceeded with. They were unanimous in favour of Comps. H. A. Dubois, M.E.Z.; J. W. Baldwin, H.; John Mason, J.; T. J. Sabine, P.Z., re-elected Treas.; F. Walters, P.Z., re-elected for eleventh time S.E.; B. Isaacs, S.N.; J. C. Mason, P.S.; Laing re-elected janitor. The Auditors were elected, in addition to those provided for in the bye-laws. The usual five guinea P.Z.'s jewel was unanimously voted to Comp. John Henry Budden, M.E.Z., for his services rendered to the chapter. The ballot was unanimous in favour of the admission of all the candidates for exaltation. Unavoidable circumstances prevented them from attending. Several candidates were proposed for exaltation at next meeting. The chapter was closed. Refreshment followed labour. Visitors: J. Griffin, P.Z., 79, 933; J. Mason, 177, 1194; H. Cutress, 1326.

LION AND LAMB CHAPTER (No. 192).—The January meeting of the above chapter was held on Wednesday, the 19th inst., at the City Terminus Hotel. The chapter was opened by Comps. H. Muggeridge, P.G.S.B., as Z.; George Newman, H.; F. D. R. Copestick, J.; King, P.Z.; Garrod, P.Z.; Kenney, P.Z.; and Lucking, J. Comps. present: H. Birdsey, J. Copestick, Ar-

well, Chapman, Cheese, Cox, Barker, Yeoman, Phythian, Stor, Kent, Hooton. Visitors: Comps. Pearse, Leard, Garrod, P.Z.; Lucking, Wardell, Dubois, Kingston, and others. Bro. Alfred Durrant, W.M. Lewis Lodge, 1183, was exalted. Comp. Henry Muggeridge, P.G.S.B., then installed the Principals for the year. Comps. George Newman, M.E.Z. 1056, as M.E.Z.; F. D. R. Copestick, H.; H. Birdseye, J.; Kenning, Treas.; Fellowes, S.E.; Jones, S.N.; Arkell, P.S.; Chapman, 1st Assist.; Gilbert, Janitor. The companions dined together, the usual toasts being given and honoured. Comps. H. Muggeridge, H. Cox, Chapman, Phythian, H. Birdseye, and others contributed some good songs and recitations, adding considerably to the pleasure of the evening.

BATH.—Royal Cumberland Chapter (No. 41).—At a regular meeting held on Tuesday, January 18th, at the Masonic Hall, the chapter was opened punctually at 7.30, the First Chair being occupied by Ex. Comp. J. Parfitt, Z., the Second by Ex. Comp. G. Parfitt, P.Z., acting as H.; the Third by Ex. Comp. Dr. Hopkins, P.Z., acting as J., in the absence of the proper officers owing to illness. There were also present the following P.Z.'s:—Rubic, Reeves, Keene, Mann, Moutrie, Wilton, and Tudor Trevor, of the Chapter of Perseverance, Bombay. The following companions were afterwards admitted:—Hill, E.; Hearn, N.; Brown, Pr. Soj.; Young, Sen. Soj.; Falkner, Jun. Soj.; Howse, Davis, Dutton, Brooke, Gazard, Bigwood, jun. The minutes were read and confirmed, and the bye-laws were also read. A ballot was taken for Bro. Paquer, which was unanimous in his favour. Bro. Gummer was admitted, properly prepared for exaltation, having been previously balloted for. As far as the O.B. the ceremony was performed by the M.E.Z., when his chair was taken and the duty completed by Ex. Comp. Dr. Hopkins, P.Z., who also gave the Historical, Symbolical, and Mystical Lectures, of which those present expressed their approval by acclamation; and on the proposal of the M.E.Z., seconded by the acting H., a cordial vote of thanks was passed for the assistance thus rendered. Comp. Hill most efficiently discharged the duties of Principal Sojourner in the ceremony. A report of the Committee appointed to examine into the condition of the furniture and robes was presented, and arrangements were agreed upon in reference to the proposed renovations. No other business offering, the chapter was closed at 9.30.

PROVINCIAL GRAND CHAPTER OF DEVON.

A special Provincial Grand Chapter of the Royal Arch Masons of Devon was convened yesterday at Newton Abbot. Ten years since Newton considered that in addition to its other institutions it ought to possess a Masonic lodge, and the matter was accordingly submitted to the Masonic authorities of the province, subsequently to the Grand Lodge in London, and eventually Lodge Devon, No. 1138, was duly instituted, dedicated, and consecrated. Since then a suitable suite of lodge-rooms, forming a handsome addition to the buildings of the town, has been erected for Masonic purposes in general, and the use of Devon Lodge in particular. With the prosperity and progress of Freemasonry in the town has sprung up among the brethren of Devon Lodge a desire to add to their lodge the honours of a Royal Arch Chapter. The following companions were accordingly elected as the first officers of the chapter:—Ex. Comps. the Rev. Robert Bowden, Z.; Captain F. D. Bewes, H.; P. D. Michelmores, J.; Comps. F. Pratt, S.E.; Bickford Prowse, S.N.; Ex. Comp. H. G. Beachey, P.S.; and J. Saunders was nominated as the first S. The consent of the P.G. Superintendent was obtained, and at a recent quarterly convocation of the Grand Chapter the usual petition was presented, and a warrant granted containing the names of the companions mentioned as the officers empowered to open the new chapter. Yesterday over seventy of the companions of the province attended the Provincial Grand Chapter to take part in the dedication and consecration of the Devon Chapter. Among those present were the Rev. John Hayshe, M.A., the Provincial Grand Superintendent, who presided; J. W. Keyworth, P.G.J.; W. G. Rogers, P.S.E.; Dr. Woodgates, P.G. Reg.; Lieutenant-Colonel Fitzgerald, 189; the Rev. Robert Bowden, P.Z. 710; Captain R. Dawkins, R.N., Adams; Captain E. W. Fawcett, R.N., Calpe; J. Harris, P.P.G.T.; Commander W. E. Stone, R.N., P.P.G. Reg.; J. Heath, P.P.G. Reg.; E. A. Davies, P.P.G. Reg.; W. Joll, P.P.G., first S.; T. Daud, P.P.G.B.B.; H. G. Beachey, P.Z. 710; B. Prowse, first S., 710; S. B. Colston, P.P.G. S.B.; G. Barry, J. 248; R. Lamswood, S.E. 248; W. B. H. Maye, J. 710; J. P. Phillips, Z. 223; C. H. Law, P.Z. 92; W. T. Maynard, P.P.G.P.S.; A. Bodley, P.G.B.B.; W. Haynes, P.Z. 106; P. D. Michelmores, H. 710; P.G. Supt.; S. N. Burden, P.G.S.N.; G. W. Ormerod, Z. 303; S. Loran, J. 303; T. Perry, H. 328; W. Easton, P.Z. 112; P. Sherwin, H. 106; W. Bishop, Z. 106; J. J. Drake, 303; W. Ball, 303; M. L. Brown, 303; F. C. Frost, 70; T. Morgan, 189; S. Templer, P.S. 303; J. Hammick, 248; J. Crocker, 710; J. E. Saunders, 710; W. L. Blanchard, 112; J. Rogers, P.G.A., Janitor. At first all went merry as a marriage bell, but a dilemma soon occurred, one of the high contracting parties having declined to attend. This was Captain Bewes, the H. elect, and a deputa-tion under the leadership of Comp. Stone was at once organised and despatched to the companion's residence. In half an hour the gallant commander returned with the announcement that Captain Bewes could not be prevailed upon to alter his decision. The Provincial Grand Superintendent stated that in all his experience of Masonry this was the first time he had witnessed such conduct. As Captain Bewes was recorded on the Grand Chapter warrant as the H. the business could not proceed. The companions would have to elect another H., and the matter must be submitted to the Grand Chapter. It was rumoured that Captain Bewes had not received notice un-fil-

that morning of his attendance being required at that meeting early in the afternoon. If that was the case an awkward dereliction of duty must have occurred somewhere. Comp. P. D. Michelmores was nominated to the vacant office of H., and Comp. F. Pratt nominated J. This closed the proceedings. A large party of the companions dined together at the Queen's Hotel in the evening.

DISTRICT GRAND LODGE OF GIBRALTAR.

The general meeting of this lodge was held at the Friendship Rooms, on Wednesday, 29th Dec., the attendance being rather under the usual average. The D.G.M., Bro. G. F. Cornwell, and Bro. G. Gilbard, D.D.G.M., presided, and the following brethren were appointed or elected as officers for the ensuing year:—R. B. Hepper, D.G.S.W.; J. H. Haynes, D.G.J.W.; Barker, D.G.S.D.; Glassford, D.G.J.D.; C. V. De Santy, D.G. Sec.; W. J. Henry, D.G. Treas.; Clarkson, D.G.J.D.; Brewster, D.G. Dir. of Cers.; Bensilum, D.G. Purst.; Balland, D.G. Swd. Br.; J. B. Invozzi, D.G. Sup. of Wks. After the transaction of the usual business, the D.G.M. had the pleasing duty of presenting a silver inkstand to the late D.G. Sec., Bro. R. B. Hepper, as a testimonial in recognition of the services rendered by him to the lodge. A few well chosen words from the D.G.M. brought the proceedings to an end, and the lodge was closed in proper form. It is to be regretted that the meetings of this lodge are held at an hour that precludes many brethren from attending. Were the meetings held during the evening double the number would without doubt assemble to do honour to the occasion.

FREEMASONRY IN CONSTANTINOPLE.

On the evening of Thursday, the 23rd December, the brethren of Lodges Leinster, No. 166, I.C., and Caledonian, No. 489, met together in the Masonic Temple, Hasskieu, the purpose being the installation on the same night of office-bearers for both lodges. This arrangement was deemed advisable, and most fraternally acceded to by the brethren of both, for the following reasons:—1st. Convenience. Many brothers located far from the place of meeting, but, desirous of being present with both, could not find it convenient to do so—hence this unity. 2nd. Economy—not niggardly economy—but of that kind which prompts good men and true to count the cost, have all things decent and in order, and when the reckoning is made, a balance, if any, to the poor and needy, so as to endorse the greatest of all great principles—charity. And 3rd. The final and grand reason was brotherly love—that others might know, though our banners hailed from separate and distinct towers, our aims and hearts were one. The Caledonian was constituted first as a lodge by W. Bro. W. Dorrell; who, the usual preliminaries over, in the most impressive and solemn manner installed the officers for the year 1876:—Bros. H. T. Rand, W.M.; J. Blair, S.M.; R. McGill, D.M.; J. Noble, S.W.; W. Morrison, J.W.; D. Chalmers, Treas.; D. Fransen, Sec.; T. C. Luckner, S.D.; G. Sutherland, J.D.; D. Beith, I.G.; C. Robson, Org.; D. Hayne, M.C.; and Alex. Scott, Tyler. Installation over, W. Bro. Rand, in terse, but complimentary terms, thanked the brethren for the high position they had placed him in, and congratulated P.M. Bro. Dorrell for the very efficient manner he had discharged so onerous and important a duty. Bro. Dorrell's reply was succinct and appropriate. The lodge was then closed in due form, and the Leinster was opened by solemn rite, W. Bro. He presiding. As in the former lodge, business over, labour was proceeded with, and again the interesting ceremony of installation began, W. Bro. He having, in a manner creditable to himself, and most gratifying to the brethren present, performed all the duties devolving on Installing Master. The office-bearers of Lodge Leinster for the year 1876 are:—W.M. Bro. J. J. Dunn, who, following the Irish ceremony (per Constitutions) very Masonically installed his officers, viz.:—Bros. T. Dickenson, S.W.; T. Johnson, J.W.; W. He, P.M., Treas.; H. Wetherill, P.M., Sec.; Jas. Blair, S.D.; Geo. Saunders, J.O.; B. Brooker, I.G.; Dorrell, P.M., D.C.; and P. Flucker, P.M., Tyler. W. Bro. Dunn, in conclusion, fraternally for himself and his lodge, spoke of their indebtedness to P.M. Bro. He for the able manner he had discharged his duty. Bro. He's reply was pointed and brotherly. Both lodges were honoured by the presence of numerous visiting brethren, and the not least interesting feature of the night's labour was in the attendance of no less than ten Past Masters, "each racing with each" in fraternal fellowship and goodwill to make all things "square." The brethren adjourned, after formally closing, to Bro. J. Rane's "British Restaurant," by whom a banquet was prepared, consisting of every delicacy British taste and Eastern ingenuity could devise or cater for. W. Bro. Dunn, and in the lamented absence of W. Bro. Rand, P.M., Bro. McGill, for the nonce, occupied the chair in the E., while Bros. Dickenson and Noble ably assisted alternately in the S. The toasts from the first division were loyal, Masonic, and patriotic, while the other three quarters of the sphere, kindly and appropriately spoke of home, kindred, and the altars which our fathers worshipped at, regardless of creed, colour, or status. Perhaps in the annals of the Craft, when its history in the capital of the "Star" and the crescent shall be written by some wandering scion of a second "Old Mortality," ransacking and furbishing up from the archives of Scottish 489, or Irish 166, the not least interesting chapter in the Masonic tome, and dedicated to the "Imperial" occupants of the throne by the Marquis of Marmora's sweet waters, will be the union at the close of the year 1875 of the Thistle and the Shamrock in the Suburban District, Hasskieu, near to the once smokeless city.

MASONIC BANQUET AT MORLEY HALL.

Morley Hall, the seat of Bro. J. Bathurst Graver Browne, Esq., was on Tuesday evening the scene of a very novel and interesting gathering. Having been recently installed W.M. of the Doric Lodge, Bro. Browne, with that generosity and genial kindness for which he is distinguished in every relation of life, and in none more conspicuously than that of Masonry, gave a grand banquet to the brethren of the lodge. Held under such circumstances, a lodge without legal warrant and the doors of which were open wide, so that the uninitiated could peer within, necessity was made a virtue, and the mystic ceremonies of the Craft were dispensed with; but an ample compensation for them was found in the warm-hearted welcome accorded to all by the worthy host and his amiable lady, who were most solicitous for their pleasure and enjoyment, and in the dinner table being graced by the presence of Mrs. G. Browne, Lady Stracey, and one or two other ladies. The dining-room presented a charming appearance on the seats being all occupied, and the lodge banner was placed immediately behind the chair. Nothing could have been more highly successful in every point of view, and the pleasure of the evening will long be remembered by those present. The W.M. was supported by several visitors, including Bro. Sir H. J. Stracey, Bart., Bro. Lieut.-Col. Bignold, Bro. D. Stracey, Messrs. Charles, Reginald, and F. Bignold, and the other guests were as follows:—Bros. S. Barrell, S.W.; J. P. Plowman, J.W.; J. Parker, S.D.; J. Utting, I.G.; Rev. F. B. DeChair, Chap.; W. Standley, jun., Hon. Sec.; E. Beeston, P.M. and M.C.; Caudall Clarke, P.G.R.; D. W. Hughes, Rev. D'Arcy Preston, H. J. Martin (Cabbell), W. W. Clarke, A. Davey, H. Feltham, S. T. Cann, J. B. Pearce, W. Elliott, T. G. Colman, J. R. Wellington, J. Hare, A. Death, J. Ringer, C. Hipperson, T. W. Cross, W. Evans, J. Harrison, A. Hart, F. Winfield, W. Barker, C. H. Wright, H. Hipperson, J. Dickerson, F. Winfield, F. P. Atkins, W. Patrick, C. Cowell, and others. The Prov. G.M., the Hon. F. Walpole, M.P., and the D. Prov. G.M., Bro. A. M. F. Morgan, received invitations, but were unable to be present. After dinner, and the ladies having withdrawn, a few toasts were duly proposed and honoured, and interspersed with some vocal music.

The W.M. proposed "The Queen and the Craft," which was drunk with true Masonic enthusiasm.

The W.M. said he had now to give "The Prov. Grand Master, the Hon. F. Walpole, M.P., and the Officers of the Grand Lodge of Norfolk."

Sir H. J. Stracey returned thanks.

Bro. the Rev. F. B. DeChair, in giving the toast of the evening, "The Worshipful Master of the Doric Lodge and the Kind and Hospitable Entertainer of this Evening," remarked that all who knew Bro. Graver Browne were well aware of his great amiability of disposition, and how he was renowned all the country round for his kindness of heart, and his unbounded hospitality. (Loud cheers.) This was not an occasion in which to trespass on their time by making a long speech, but they would allow him in their name to return their most sincere thanks to Bro. Graver Browne for the hospitality he had extended towards them, and for the opportunity he had afforded them of meeting under his roof; at the same time sincerely wishing him a long life of health and happiness, with a retention of the honoured name he now enjoyed for genial and unbounded kindness in every sense of the word. The toast was drunk with honours, which were led by Bro. De Chair.

The W.M., after a renewal of cheering, returned thanks.

Bro. Col. Bignold gave the next toast, "Prosperity to the Doric Lodge."

Responding to the toast, the W.M. said that the true spirit of Masonry animated the brethren of the Doric Lodge, and the best wish that he could express towards the Craft generally was that every lodge would emulate the Doric, and show the same high regard for the great aims and objects of the institution. (Cheers.)

The toast of "The Ladies" having been responded to in very effective terms by Bro. Charles Bignold, the W.M. said there was one toast which had been forgotten, but which he must propose, "The Press," because in those countries where the press was fettered there was an absence of that freedom among the people which was the proudest boast and most cherished heritage of Englishmen. A free press was the greatest safeguard against oppression and injustice; and it was in the truest sense a bulwark of the State. Indeed, he believed that had the press in France been free, the empire would not have been overthrown, but would have lived to this day, and that unhappy country have been saved the humiliation and internal strife which she had experienced within the last few years. (Hear, hear.) He had great pleasure in coupling with the toast the health of Bro. Martin, whom he was always pleased to welcome at Morley.

Bro. Martin having returned thanks, some time was spent in pleasant conversation, and the party broke up.

WIPE YOUR FEET.—The best Cocoa Nut Mats and Matting are made by Treloar and Sons, 69, Ludgate-hill.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.—Influenza, Bronchitis, Asthma, and kindred complaints, too frequently present themselves as a fierce and pitiless plague at the fall of the year, and little less deplorable is the fact that with darkening days and changing temperatures the digestion becomes impaired, the liver disordered, and the mind despondent, unless the cause of the irregularity be expelled from the blood and body by an alternative like these Pills; they go directly to the source of the evil, thrust out all impurities from the circulation, rescue distempered organs to their natural state, and correct all defective or contaminated secretions. Such easy means of instituting health, strength, and cheerfulness should be instantly available to check the first symptoms of approaching illness.—ADVT.

TO OUR READERS.

The *Freemason* is a sixteen-page weekly newspaper, price 2d. It is published every Friday morning, and contains the most important and useful information relating to Freemasonry in every degree. Annual subscription in the United Kingdom, Post free, 10/. Brethren in foreign parts, wishing to have this newspaper sent them regularly from the office of publication, should, in sending their remittances, add to the 2d. per week the postage on 202. newspapers.

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Answers to Correspondents.

All Communications, Advertisements, &c., intended for insertion in the Number of the following Saturday, must reach the Office not later than 12 o'clock on Wednesday morning.

The following stand over :—

West Kent Lodge, 1297; Lodge of Israel, 205; Metropolitan, Lodge 1507; Ivy Lodge, 1441.

Bro. Tudor Trevor's letter in our next.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

"The Garden Oracle and Horticultural Year Book, 1876. Edited by Shirley Hibberd.—W. H. and L. Collingridge, 117, Aldersgate-st.

"Our Young Folks Weekly Budget."

"Food and Fuel Reformer."

"Michigan Freemason."

"Keystone."

The Freemason,

SATURDAY, JAN. 29, 1876.

OUR ROYAL GRAND MASTER'S VISIT TO INDIA.

By a mistake of the telegram, Madras was substituted for Lahore in our last article. H.R.H. has been in the North Western Provinces, and has visited Lahore and Sealore. He has been well received by all classes of the gallant Sikhs, and has enjoyed a native reception and some hunting. He is very well, but has experienced benefit by the change from Delhi to the cooler atmosphere of Lahore. Some of his suite have been, as the French say, "un peu indisposé," but are now convalescent. His Royal progress continues to be a great success. He is now at Agra.

MONSIGNORE NARDI.

Monsignore Nardi, whom the "Times" terms, and probably justly, "one of the ablest men about the Court of Rome," has just devoted two columns of the "Voce della Verità" (is the name intended for a sarcasm?) to a highly laudatory sketch of our late Grand Master the Marquis of Ripon. We should have very little to do, indeed nothing, with this ornate apology for the last great "victim of papal fascinations" had it not been, that Monsignore Nardi, "thorough man of the world as he is," and knowing we feel sure much better, has made a thorough goose of himself when talking of the Freemasons, of whom, by the way, the Church of Rome professes to know all the secrets. Noticing Lord Ripon's connexion with Freemasonry, Monsignore Nardi, though detesting all secret societies, and the Masons above all, acknowledges that English Masons are quite different from Italian, German, Swiss, Spanish, and Brazilian. "As there is one species but many races of men, so it is with the Masons, who, it appears, in England are chiefly given to eating, drinking, and merry making, although they occasionally do harm and are in general enemies of our Church." If this is all Monsignor Nardi could say, we fancy many Roman Catholics will agree with us, that in this respect, as in many others in daily life, the old proverb is most true which declares the "least said is soonest mended." It appears as the

"Times" puts it, "That the Marquis looks back regretfully to the Craft he has been obliged to renounce, and has a weakness to be treated with a gentle hand. This account of the brotherhood must have Lord Ripon's concurrence—indeed, by the expression 'it appears' one may almost suppose that his lordship has stated in equivalent terms the only business English Masons ever meet for. They meet, if we are to believe Monsignore Nardi and his informant, to eat, drink, and be merry in old English fashion; and it is only when they are sufficiently sober or sufficiently inebriated that they do a little harm, the Church of Rome being, of course their pet aversion. Monsignore Nardi thinks this the best apology he can make for certainly the greatest man, by common measure of human greatness, that Rome has acquired from us since the days of Henry VIII. and Elizabeth, he refers to. This man, whose advent is a sign of the conversion of England and the world, has, it seems, for the best part of his life, been rising step by step to the highest position in a society claiming all-important secrets and an unknown antiquity, but all the time doing nothing but eat and drink, and sometimes misbehaving themselves accordingly. This, it seems, is the best thing to be said for Lord Ripon, and the best recommendation Monsignor Nardi can give him to the regards of Roman society." And then the next question comes. Are these views Lord Ripon's real views? we will not ask are they worthy of him? We have heard him over and over again in eloquent language declare his belief in the noble purposes and great objects of Freemasonry. We cannot believe that he would thus libel an Order which trusted in him, and followed him with unwavering loyalty to the last. We prefer to believe that the opinions expressed are Monsignore Nardi's own, characteristic as they are of the real or helpless ignorance of the Roman Curia as regards Anglo-Saxon Freemasonry, and not in any way Lord Ripon's. If they were we, should say at once with the "Times":—"If Lord Ripon allows Monsignore Nardi's account of Freemasonry to pass without any protest on his part, it will be fair to assume, not only that he regards it as true, but that it is the apology—the confession we should rather say—he made on entering his new Communion and presenting himself to its Chief. Outsiders in general will certainly attach this significance to the pompous eulogy in which the Marquis's arrival at the Court of Rome is trumpeted to the world. In this case it will devolve upon the English Freemasons, not to disclose any secret, but to assure the world that they do something more than eat, drink, and be merry, and are something more than a 'Goose Club'—the apology actually offered for them at Rome some years ago by a distinguished English Prelate of the Roman Church. What we read in our Roman contemporary sounds very like a betrayal of secrets—that is, a confession that there is no secret at all—inconsistent as that may seem with the devoted membership of a British statesman. If what the Monsignore says be true, then a bubble has burst, and it is the Marquis of Ripon's honesty, or self-reproach, which has told the world what it has so long suspected. It would, however, be interesting to know whether the Marquis has given the same account of the other bodies in which he has served, and over which he has presided. Has he been able to inform Monsignore Nardi that in the War Office, the India Office—nay, in Her Majesty's Privy Council—they do nothing but eat, drink, and make themselves merry? If he could say this of the Joint High Commission on the Alabama Claims, it might afford some clue to the results. If the Marquis is in a candid mood, perhaps he would throw some light on the mysteries of official administration which so often puzzle the world, and seemed to admit only of the sort of explanation given of the great Masonic mystery." Perhaps the best way to treat the last unjust and undeserved caricature of Monsignore Nardi will be either with a hearty laugh or with silent contempt. We are accustomed to the "chaff" of the "Times," we can well bear it, and we take it exactly at what it is worth—namely, the algebraic "unknown quantity." We may possibly recur to the subject of Monsignore Nardi's oration.

THE HISTORY OF FREEMASONRY.

Though in our humble opinion the time for writing a complete and true history of Freemasonry has not yet arrived, inasmuch as we are still only on the threshold of enquiry after all, we yet always gladly welcome all the "waifs and strays" cast up here and there from time to time on the great open shore of Masonic Archæology. We have recently congratulated our Masonic reading public on Bro. Fort's very interesting and scholarly work. We have properly praised Bros. Todd's and Cowling's unpretending but valuable history of the York Grand Lodge and the York Lodge, and we have now to record with appreciation and approval Bro. Kenneth Mackenzie's "Preliminary Sketch of the History of Freemasonry," which appeared in the columns of the "London and Provincial Newspaper" of the 8th January. Bro. Mackenzie's contribution is only a preliminary sketch, and can only be treated as such, but we heartily agree with the general outline he has thus limned for his readers of the true annals of our Order. Bro. Mackenzie adopts the "Guild Theory," as it is called, and which, having ourselves upheld for many years, "in season and out of season," and almost "totidem verbis," with Bro. W. J. Hughan, we are glad to see it submitted in its general proposition to Masonic students. Those of us who are most friendly to the Guild Theory, who may be said to have originated it practically in this country, at any rate of later years, are equally most sensible of many difficulties attendant on it. Indeed, no account or explanation of Freemasonry can be free from some objections, owing alike to its very "raison d'être" and its peculiar organisation and system. But in the choice of difficulties, the Guild System has always appeared to us the least objectionable, and the most easily defended. And when we have said this, we have nearly said all we can say about it critically. It is but fair to remark that those who advocate the Guild Theory are not all of one school. There are those who, like Bro. Findel, would limit the Guild Theory to the 12th century. There are those who admit the Guild Theory, but make the revival of 1717 an adaptation for speculative and social purposes of the terminology and customs of the operative guilds. While there are those again who look upon the Speculative Grand Lodge of 1717 as the lineal descendant of revived, and continuation of the Operative Grand Assembly. It appears to us that Bro. Mackenzie hardly set sufficient store by the evidence arising out of Elias Ashmole's Masonic Memoranda. It is quite clear to us that neither Nicolai's theory nor that of Lessing's, however ingenious, can meet the demands of accurate and exhaustive criticism. Nicolai's view that Freemasonry sprung from the author of the "Nova Atlantis," as an hermetical society with Ashmole and others, is no more tenable than that Sir Christopher Wren is the founder of modern Masonry. Both theories are very imaginative, but very unhistoric. The facts recorded by Ashmole, and especially when taken in conjunction with those mentioned by Dr. Plot in 1682, serve to shew, that in the 17th century a Masonic body identical with our own existed in England. Of its actual conditions or system we are at present unable distinctly to speak, but we do not despair of yet obtaining more light upon the subject. But this one thing is clear. The society of "Freemasons," to which E. Ashmole belonged, is not identical with the "Masons' Company of London," but is an organization "sui generis." And for this reason. The records of the Masons Company show us, that the meeting which Ashmole mentions in 1682 at Masons' Hall was not a meeting of the Masons' Company, whose meeting for that year is duly mentioned in minutes still extant, and that Elias Ashmole was not a member of the Masons' Company. All the names mentioned however by E. Ashmole—with, we believe one exception—have been found to be members of the Masons' Company. Hence, the meeting of March 10, 1682, was a meeting of a "Society of Freemasons." Robert Padgett, who declares himself "Clerk of the Worshipful Society of Freemasons, of the City of London, in 1686," four years later, was not Clerk to the Masons' Company. Hence,

the "society" to which he belonged has yet to be verified. It has been suggested that the "society" or lodge, was the precursor of the Antiquity Lodge, but this, though a most ingenious surmise, is so far only a surmise. We have said enough to demonstrate the importance of further enquiry, before we can pronounce definitely on many points of Masonic archæology, the "vexata quæstio" of the grades or degrees among others, for instance. The whole 17th century English Freemasonry is practically still a "terra incognita" to us, and until we can throw a little more light upon it than we now possess it appears impossible to us to express any dogmatic opinion, or to come to a clear conclusion on many points upon which much has been written and said, but very little is known.

DISCUSSION ON THE BALLOT.

In answer to a brother who raises one or two important questions, we beg to say that the object of the ballot being clearly to ensure both freedom and secrecy of voting, all discussion in open lodge on the result of a ballot is, in our opinion, highly irregular, and ought to be stopped at once by the W.M. In many lodges, one of the bye-laws specially, forbids any discussion or disclosure, or attempted violation of the secrecy of the ballot, and such law ought to be, we think, in all lodge bye-laws. An enforced ballot is a very difficult question, as it is quite clear to us, that no bye-law of a private lodge can compel all the members to vote by ballot, "nolentes volentes," as any brother, we apprehend, has a right to decline to vote on some ground or reason sufficient and good to himself. There is no law possible, if not laid down by the Book of Constitutions, which can force a member to vote. But equally the very object of the ballot is done away with if any discussion is allowed upon it. We do not say that no circumstances will justify a discussion, but they must be, and are, happily, very rare indeed. We shall be glad to publish any temperate letter on the subject, as the matter is a very important one, in our opinion, for the best interests of lodges.

DEATH OF BRO. W. ROMAINE CALLENDER, M.P.

We regret to learn of the death of Bro. W. Romaine Callender, which sad event took place on Saturday last, at St. Leonards, where our popular and much-respected brother had been for some weeks, in the hope of regaining his health. Bro. Callender was a Past Grand Deacon, and Deputy Provincial Grand Master for East Lancashire; was also Deputy Grand Mark Master Mason for the Grand Mark Lodge of England, Intendant General Red Cross for the province of South Lancashire, and a member of the 31st. Bro. Callender, who was in his 51st year, was returned for Manchester at the general election of 1874, when he was second on the poll, with 19,649 votes, 314 over the number given for Sir Thomas Bazley, M.P., and 920 more than were recorded for Mr. Jacob Bright, whose seat he secured. The deceased gentleman was one of the most active promoters of the revival of Conservatism in Lancashire, and entertained Mr. Disraeli and the late Viscountess Beaconsfield when the present Premier visited Manchester in April, 1872.

Original Correspondence.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for, or even as approving of the opinions expressed by our correspondents, but we wish, in a spirit of fair play to all, to permit—within certain necessary limits—free discussion.—Ed.]

BROS. TEW AND PERROT.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

In reply to the questions put by "Fairplay" in your paper of 22nd inst., I state,

1. I know nothing more of the Report of the "Boys' School Investigation Committee of the Province of West Yorkshire" than is recorded in the report of the proceedings of the General Committee of Saturday, 1st inst., given in your issue of the 8th inst.

2. I have not been examined, neither has any "member of the House Committee," nor, so far as I am aware, has "any brother who knows anything really about the School at all."

It is true I received on 10th January a letter signed "J.

Quartermaster, Secretary of the W.Y. Committee," with a paper signed by nine brethren, "Life Governors of the Boys' School and members of the Committee of Investigation appointed by P.G.L. of W.Y.," asking for explanations under four heads. This communication I answered to the effect that I was precluded by the resolution of the General Committee from recognising the—so called—"West Yorkshire Committee of Investigation;" and that Bro. Quartermaster not being a contributor to our funds, I could not admit his right to demand information which would have been readily at his service had he been qualified to ask for it.

I am, dear Sir and brother, yours faithfully and fraternally,
FREDERICK BINCKES,
Secretary R.M.I.B.

MASONIC CONGRESS AT LAUSANNE.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I do not know if your attention was directed to the congress of deputies of all Masonic Grand Lodges, which was held in the month of September last year in Lausanne, in Switzerland, during three weeks. It published a manifesto against so many defamatory attacks which ignorant outsiders, and particularly Catholics and Jesuits, used to divulge from their hotbed of Rome. I found the manifesto in the "Augsberger Allgemeine Zeitung," and having translated it from German into English, I beg to send it to you for publication in your valuable "Freemason," if you have not done so already. I do this somewhat tardily, but I received the above mentioned newspaper only lately from Germany. At the same time I hope you will excuse if my English, is not quite right; being only two years in England and never having spoken English before, perhaps you will set it right. The manifesto says thus: "At the moment the congress examines most diligently and attentively the old Institutions of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite, and wishes to preserve with piety and esteem the wise laws of this rite; at the moment the congress liberates Freemasonry of all its superfluous fetters, and wills that Freemasonry shall be permeated by the spirit of freedom which enlivens our age; at the moment the congress unites the Freemasons of the whole globe in a union which is based fundamentally never to be shaken—in such a moment the congress cannot separate without having answered by a plain and convincing manifesto to the calumnies and condemnations which were divulged against Freemasonry. Therefore the congress publishes officially the principles of Freemasonry proposed, accepted and represented by the congress as follows:—Freemasonry proclaims, as it has always done since its first origin, the existence of a creative being called by the name of the Great Architect of the Universe; it sets no limits to the investigation of truth; it guarantees all who join it this freedom, but it wants this freedom also for itself from all. Freemasonry, therefore, is attainable by men of every nation, rank, and confession; it forbids in all its lodges every political and religious discussion; it admits as member every free and honest man, and does not even care whatever his religious or political views may be; its goal is to fight against all intolerance, and it is a school for life founded on reciprocity, the programme of which is the following:—"To obey the laws of the country, to live according to the laws of honour, to exercise justice, to love one's neighbour and to work incessantly for the welfare of mankind."

I am, dear Sir and Brother, yours,

J. T. STRAUSS,
Member of the Harmony, 600, Bradford.

BRO. BURGESS AND THE MARK DEGREE.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I learn from Bro. Binckes's letter in the "Freemason" of Jan. 22 that my claim to be re-installed in the Mark Degree was not suppressed from the knowledge of the Mark Grand Lodge held on the 30th November last. Why Bro. Binckes has withheld this information from me until now I am at a loss to conceive; but the facts remain. 1st. That the Mark Grand Secretary's letter to me, dated the 3rd December, made no mention of my claim having been before Grand Lodge on the 30th November. 2nd. That the printed agenda paper of business for that day, sent to me by Bro. Binckes on 3rd December, contains no reference to my claim as part of the business for consideration. 3rd. That the published report of proceedings of 30th November likewise contains no such reference. 4th. That Bro. Binckes in his correspondence with me since 3rd December has neither directly nor indirectly informed me that my claim had come before Mark Grand Lodge. A day or two ago I casually met a brother who was present on 30th November, and then for the first time I learned privately that I was mistaken in supposing that my letter had been suppressed. I had written to you to state this, but as my communication was evidently too late to appear in that day's "Freemason," I did not send it on.

I fail to understand why my claim should have been referred to the General Board. It was Mark Grand Lodge which expelled me, and to the same body I addressed my appeal for re-installation. The claim should, I contend, have been then and there adjudicated on. To transfer its consideration to another body is not a fair way of dealing with it, because if a wrong has been done, proper manly feeling should actuate a desire to make immediate reparation, instead of continuing the wrong for another six months.

The General Board (to whom my letter was not addressed) now charges me with making in it accusations against "absent Mark Masters." Absent from what? The persons to whom I referred are members of Mark Grand Lodge, and it was their duty under the Constitutions to be present at its meeting. This new charge is the more remarkable because the pith of my claim for restoration is

that, contrary to Article 13 of the Constitutions, I have been expelled in my absence, and without any opportunity of a hearing having been afforded to me.

The principles of the Temple seem to have obliterated all sense of fair play from "the rulers and executive" of the Mark Degree of Freemasonry; and it becomes doubtful whether it is worth while to fight for restoration to a body which has so evidently lost all self-respect and independence.

Faithfully yours,

CHAS. J. BURGESS.

ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Noticing the appeal of Bro. Fellowes for the Institution of Aged Masons and Widows, and the result of the appeal up to the present moment does not at all surprise me. Everybody knows we are a rich and influential body, and can carry out any scheme for charity we once commence to the perfect satisfaction of the Craft.

Bro. Fellowes has a good and large heart undoubtedly, but I consider our institutions and charities ought to depend on the Craft alone, and not to make appeals to outsiders. I say outsiders—Masons' wives, mothers, and daughters—do not confine the subscription list to themselves, but make applications among their friends. This is not what we want—anything started like the appeal of Bro. Fellowes. I am not surprised at its non-success, I know that Masons feel some pride that the excellent charities are supported by Masons only; we have done it, we can do it, and we will do it again, if the members of the family of a brother desire to contribute to any of charities they can do it through him. True Masons' widows and children feel the benefit of our institutions, but being outside of the Craft they do not feel so strong, perhaps, on the point, knowing as they do how well the charities are supported by the brethren, and been so well conducted hitherto.

The brethren ought to rejoice at the institutions being supported by the Craft alone, and with feelings of pride support them. Every appeal to the Craft has been nobly answered, and will be again to any motion brought forward in the proper course of business, and I consider the efforts of a single brother (noble and generous they may be) ought to be done through his lodge without appealing outside himself. Supposing there are six vacancies and 30 to fill them, we can do it, if it is thought proper by the officers to bring it forward for the benefit of the Craft. We can do anything if properly brought before us.

I think Bro. Fellowes will agree with me that we are strong, rich, numerous, and powerful enough to support our institutions and charities, without appealing to any but Masons themselves, all the more glory to us.—Yours most faithfully and fraternally,

A MASTER MASON.

PROV. GRAND LODGE OF EAST LANCASHIRE.

A special meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge was held in Freemasons' Hall, Manchester, on Tuesday, 18th of January, for the purpose of confirming the following resolutions passed at the meeting of Provincial Grand Lodge, held at Heywood on the 3rd November, 1875, viz. :—

1. "That an institution to be called 'The East Lancashire Systematic Masonic Educational and Benevolent Institution' be and is hereby established in this Province."

2. "That the bye-laws and regulations now presented by the committee be and are hereby adopted as the bye-laws and regulations of the said institution."

There was a numerous attendance of the brethren, amongst others present being Bros. Col. Le Gendre N. Starkie, R.W. Prov. G. Master; J. L. Hine, P. Prov. G. Warden, as Dep. Prov. G. Master; J. T. Dugdale, Prov. S.G. Warden; C. H. Coates, Prov. J. G. Warden; T. G. Parker, P. Prov. G. Warden; Thos. Glaister, P. Prov. G. Warden; C. R. N. Beswick-Royds, P. Prov. G. Warden; Jno. W. Maclure, P. Prov. G. Warden; James A. Birch, P. Prov. G. Warden; Jno. G. Smith, P. Prov. G. Warden; Rev. F. A. Cave-Browne-Cave, Prov. G. Chaplain; Rev. C. J. Bowen, P. Prov. G. Chaplain; Samuel Statham, Prov. G. Treas.; John Barker, P. Prov. G. Treas.; Charles Heywood, P. Prov. G. Reg.; John Tunnah, Prov. G. Sec.; Peter Royle, M.D., Prov. S.G. Deacon; G. P. Brockbank, P. Prov. G.D.; Herod Turner, P. Prov. G.D.; W. H. Prince, P. Prov. G.D.; Jno. S. Vevers, P. Prov. G.D.; Isaac W. Petty, P. Prov. G.D.; Thos. Croxton, P. Prov. G.D.; Thos. Rose, P. Prov. G. Supt. of Works; Thos. Entwisle, P. Prov. G. Supt. of Works; Robt. Whitaker, P. Prov. G. Dir. of Cers.; Thos. Grime, Assist. Prov. G.D.C.; C. M. Jones, P. Assist. Prov. G.D.C.; Thos. Taylor, Prov. G. Swd. Bearer; Henry Maiden, P. Prov. G. Swd. Bearer; G. W. Barlow, P. Prov. G. Swd. Bearer; J. W. Taylor, P. Prov. G. Orgt.; and others.

The Provincial Grand Lodge was opened in due form, after which, on the proposition of the R.W. Prov. G. Master, the resolutions as above stated were unanimously confirmed.

The Provincial Grand Lodge was then duly closed, and the first general meeting of the new institution was held under the presidency of the R.W. Provincial Grand Master.

The objects of the institution are the education and advancement in life of children of indigent or deceased Freemasons of the Province of East Lancashire, and to afford relief or assistance, where considered desirable, in aid of Freemasons and their families in the said province, and generally to promote the cause of Masonic charity. The constitution of the society consists of a President (the Rev. Prov. G. Master, for the time being), Trustees, Patrons

Vice-Presidents, Treasurer, Honorary Secretary, Life Governors, and annual subscribers. A donation of fifty pounds by one payment, or in sums of not less than five pounds each, constitutes the donor a Patron, entitled to fifty votes at all elections of children. A donation of twenty pounds by one payment, or in sums of not less than five pounds each, constitutes the donor a Vice-President, entitled to twenty votes at all elections of children. A donation of five pounds constitutes the donor a Life Governor, entitled to five votes at all elections of children. An annual subscription of five shillings entitles the subscriber to one vote at all elections of children.

The business transacted at the meeting was the appointment of Bro. Wm. Birch, P. Prov. G. Warden, as a Trustee in addition to the K.W. Prov. G. Master and the W. Dep. Prov. G. Master; the appointment of Bro. Jas. A. Birch, P. Prov. G. Warden, as Treasurer; and of Bro. Chas. Heywood, P. Prov. G. Reg., as Honorary Secretary. The following fifteen subscribers were also appointed members of the General Committee, viz.:—Bros. J. L. Hine, George Mellor, R. H. Hutchinson, C. H. Coates, John Tunnah, John Barker, G. P. Brockbank, Isaac W. Petty, J. L. Barrett, Hy. Maiden, C. M. Jones, Edwin Haddon, T. J. Hooper, Thos. Blackburne, and Benj. Smith.

A vote of thanks was accorded to the Committee (appointed by Prov. Grand Lodge) for their services in preparing the bye-laws and in organizing the institution.

A subscription list was opened in the meeting for the purposes of the institution, the R.W. Prov. G. Master (Col. Starkie) heading the list with a donation of £100, and the total amount promised at the meeting exceeded £1000, thus evincing the zeal and energy with which the cause of the institution is being supported by the province.

CENTENARY OF THE LODGE OF PRUDENT BRETHREN, No. 145.

The centenary of this lodge was celebrated on Tuesday evening at Freemasons' Hall. So great an event as the attainment of the age of 100 years was not likely to be allowed to pass by without some especial notice, particularly by brethren so enthusiastic in the cause of Masonry as the Lodge of Prudent Brethren. Consequently they combined to make the event memorable in the annals of the Craft, and they gathered together, members and visitors, to the number of about 200. The original intention was to have many more, and for that purpose they endeavoured to secure the large hall of Freemasons' Tavern. But the Robert Burns festival always occupies that room on the 25th January, and the Crown-room only was at the service of the lodge. As this will only accommodate a couple of hundred persons, the arrangements had to be restricted to that number; but even with them there was no fear of the event being otherwise than successful. The arrangements had occupied several brethren's time and attention for a considerable period previously; but these brethren were well rewarded by the result.

Lodge was opened in the Zetland-room, which presented its ordinary appearance, there having been no attempt at any kind of decoration.

At half-past five lodge was opened by Bro. Geo. Purkess, W.M., assisted by Bro. E. H. Thielley, S.W.; Bro. Mould, J.W.; the other officers, Colonel Burdett, Bro. Joshua Nunn, Bro. Cottebrune, and others. Bro. Thomas Bull, P.M., acted as D.C.

Shortly after the opening of the lodge Bro. John Boyd presented to the W.M. the centenary warrant for the lodge, issued by Grand Lodge, and authorising the brethren so long as they were members of the lodge to wear a centenary jewel. After this Bro. John Boyd was deputed by the W.M. to take the chair and instal the incoming Master.

Bro. Boyd then took the chair, and Bro. Bull presented to him Bro. E. H. Thielley, Senior Warden, for installation, when Bro. Boyd installed him in due form. The following brethren were invested as officers:—Bros. Mould, S.W.; Haslett, J.W.; John Boyd, P.M., Treasurer; G. S. States, P.M., Secretary; Manby, Assistant Secretary; Hughes, S.D.; Leggett, J.D.; Lewis, I.G.; Lyster, D.C.; Wilkinson, A.D.C.; Torrie, W.S.; and Grant, Tyler. After the delivery of the addresses the lodge was called off, and the brethren adjourned to the tavern, where the Crown-room was beautifully and tastefully prepared for their reception. There was a nice show of flowers on the tables, and two of Rimmel's perpetual fountains. Every brother had had his place assigned to him previously, and as it was shown on a diagram before he entered the room he had no difficulty in finding his place, and thus all confusion was avoided. The brethren present were:—B. Swallow, W.M. City West; Pendlebury, P.M.; Pythian, P.M.; Welshman, P.M.; Swanborough, P.M.; C. A. Long, P.M. 25; J. Cox, W.M. Grosvenor; Smith; Venn, P.M. Gihon; J. Lewis Thomas, P.M. St. Thomas's; Thomas Lane, P.M. (of Eastbourne); Charles Martin, W.M. Globe; R. W. Little, P.M., Secretary Girls' Institution; Charles Duke, P.M. 40 (of Hastings); Dr. Trollope, P.M. 40 (of St. Leonards); the Rev. Dr. Thompson, Chaplain Girls' Institution; Herbert Dickets, P.G.S., P.M. 25, &c.; Frederick Binckes, P.M., G.S.L., Secretary Boys' Institution; Henry Norman, P.M., G.S.L.; Dr. Croucher, S.W. 40 (St. Leonards); H. Buss, P.M.; Colonel Peters, Bank of England Lodge, P.M. Thames Valley Lodge; J. Jermyn Boyd, 23; T. W. C. Lent, 23; Mills, Grosvenor; Amor; Douglas, 23; Kirkby, Matthews, Bellrage, F. Godfrey, Grosvenor; Moody, P.M. Great Northern and Great City; Rev. M. Holden, City of Westminster; H. Reed, P.M.; H. M. Levy, P.M. Joppa; H. Massey, P.M. ("Freemason"); David Jacobs, P.M. Egyptian; J. Terry, P.M., Provincial Grand Standard Bearer Herts; J. T. Moss, P.M.; F. Walters, P.M.; P. Naylor, C. States, Distin, Carter, P.M.; John Constable, P.M. 185; C. Hammerton, P.M.; George Kenning, P.M. Lion and Lamb, 192; Captain Phillips, 33; Major Shadwell Clerke, 33; Charles Cottebrune, P.G.P.; Thomas Cubitt, P.G.P.; Joshua Nunn,

P.G.S.B.; Colonel Creaton, P.G.D.; John Hervey, P.G.D., Grand Secretary; Colonel Francis Burdett, P.G.W., Prov. G.M. Middlesex; Charles Ashenden (M.R.B.S., Hastings).

Letters of apology for absence were received from Lord Carnarvon, Lord Shrewsbury, the Rev. C. J. Martyn, Bros. E. J. McIntyre, Q.C., W. Digby Seymour, Q.C., and John Monckton, P.G.D. (Town Clerk). All these letters expressed the regret of the writers, and wished every success to the lodge.

At the conclusion of the banquet the toasts were proposed, and a selection of music was given in the intervals by Bros. Geo. Carter and Theo. Distin, Madam Osborne Williams, and Miss Matilda Scott. After the health of the Queen and the Grand Master had been given, that of "Pro Grand Master, &c.," was proposed, and Col. Burdett replied in a speech in which he revived the recollection of the brethren as to the Earl of Carnarvon's administrative powers, and the skill with which he managed the concerns of the Craft. As long as he was in the position which he now held Freemasonry would continue to flourish throughout the country. A similar compliment he paid to Lord Skelmersdale.

Bro. Hyde Pullen proposed "Prosperity to the Lodge," a toast which he said he felt almost unequal to give properly. He therefore claimed the brethren's special indulgence. The brethren were aware that this was the celebration of the 100th anniversary of its existence. The lodge had travelled for 100 years, and each year during its passage had been marked by some one kindly event doubtless in the working of the lodge. The lodge was one of the old Athole Lodges, and so worked until the Union in 1813, when it became the Prudent Brethren Lodge. The brethren worked it and carried it on thoroughly and well. He believed the first meetings were in the West End, but the lodge was afterwards removed to the East, to Bethnal Green. It was afterwards taken to Belgrave Square, when Belgrave Square was not what it is now. It was now held at Freemasons' Hall, and it had much changed during its existence. But there was this to be said, that whatever changes it had undergone the brethren had worked their way steadily, modestly, firmly. At one time they were very, very much reduced in numbers, but still they went on holding their meetings; there was no break or cessation. Therefore it was that they were now celebrating their centenary. It was mysterious to contemplate these many years. He could fancy the brethren showing many acts of kindness during that time, stretching out a helping hand to many a brother, and assisting him to overcome his difficulties. He could conceive the brethren never halting to render assistance, that the heart had been opened over and over again to receive the kind expressions, or the sympathetic feelings, which were exhibited when a brother had poured forth his distresses. In that time the kind hand must have been extended many and many a time, and much good must have been done. These were the qualities that he was sure had actuated members of that lodge years and years ago. But still there was no tale about it. Everything had been done modestly. The whole of the work had been to convey the lodge onwards, and the brethren had succeeded in doing so. He could well conceive many brethren having housed the wretched, visited the sick, administered comfort, relieved pain, and done all in their power to do to assuage suffering; and when a poor brother's spirit had been passing away into the valley of the shadow of death, had sat by his bedside and cheered his way, and afterwards assisted his widow. Many a time and oft must this have been the case in such an old lodge. Unless such had been the case the lodge could not have arrived at its present age, or to the position to which it had attained. It was by such acts as these the brethren had been held together. Such acts had united them as a lodge. They had banded themselves together for the performance of such deeds. There was one little record in the minutes he would refer to. There was a resolution passed in the old days of the lodge that every visitor should pay a fee of 2s. towards the general expenses. To him it had a most significant meaning. It told him most distinctly and absolutely that these brethren of the lodge were given to feelings of hospitality. They were always pleased to see visitors, and yet that the visitors were ready to help their cause. He trusted that the lodge might long go on and prosper, and that it might celebrate many more such events as the one it celebrated that day.

Col. Burdett proposed "The Health of the W.M." He said he had known Bro. Thielley from the commencement of his Masonic career. He had been through every office of the lodge, which he believed very few brethren could say of the lodge in which they had been initiated. He had always found him a most zealous and earnest Mason, doing his work thoroughly. He was confident that he would continue in that course, and he would not be surprised when Bro. Thielley left the chair that all the brethren would be satisfied with the efficiency which he had displayed.

The W.M. responded. He had been much impressed with the honour that had been conferred upon him by placing him in the dignified position of W.M. It was the crowning point of his Masonic aspirations to be the Master of his mother lodge. The Prudent Brethren Lodge was exemplary for its concord, and unsurpassed for its good fellowship and general harmony. He was deeply grateful for the confidence thus reposed in him, and he would give his best attention to the functions of his office. He might have some shortcomings, being of foreign origin, but the brethren would extend to him some consideration, and at the end of his term he hoped to resign his trust into the hands of his successor as pure and unsullied as he had that day received it from the I.P.M. He had now to perform a very pleasing duty. Although he felt his inability to do proper justice to his throne, he would give way to nobody in the esteem he had for Bro. Boyd. He could not attempt to relate the many good services rendered by that brother to the Craft; but he could say that Bro. Boyd had been a

most active member of the lodge for upwards of a quarter of a century, holding office as W.M. for two successive years, and discharging the duties of Treasurer also for many years. The lodge was honoured by being associated with such a distinguished member of the Craft, who was also a Past Grand Officer. (Cheers.) In the name of every member of the lodge, he begged to present him with a silver service, as the oldest member of the lodge, as a token of their fervent esteem; and also a gold centenary jewel. (Cheers.) He might add that the ceremony of installation had been given by Bro. Boyd to the general satisfaction of the brethren, and that the arrangements for the festival, which had largely devolved upon Bro. Boyd, were also entirely satisfactory. He trusted Bro. Boyd would long live to enjoy these tokens of the brethren's esteem, and to remember that eventful day. He then read the inscription on the silver salver which formed part of the service, the aggregate weight of which was nearly 200 ozs.: "Presented to Bro. John Boyd, Past Grand Pursuivant, Past Master, Past Z., by the members of the Lodge of Prudent Brethren, as a token of their sincere regard, and as a mark of their great appreciation of the many services rendered by him to the lodge of which he is the Father, January 25th, 1876." The toast was drunk with the greatest enthusiasm.

Bro. Boyd, who was much affected, in replying said he might as well at once acknowledge that the brethren had placed him in considerable difficulty. He had had the honour of replying a good many times in various capacities, sometimes as a Grand Officer, sometimes as P.M., sometimes as Treasurer, sometimes as a Steward for the Charities. To-night he was placed in a different position, and it was very difficult for him to express fully his feelings in being presented with such a handsome silver service, and the centenary jewel. In the fulness of his heart he thanked them. He could only say, thank you. He hoped that it would have an effect both on the members and visitors, by proving to them that it was impossible for a lodge to deserve the name of Prudent Brethren, which this lodge most certainly did, unless they could keep a secret. Now this testimonial he found had been in agitation about a twelvemonth; but so strictly was it kept private, that it was only recently that any one of the brethren had opened their lips to him about it. He looked upon it as a gift doubly and trebly enhanced by that secrecy. By this it had a greater charm for him. The whole proceedings of the evening had been exceedingly pleasing to him.

Bro. Boyd then proposed "The Visitors," to which toast Bros. John Hervey, G.S., and Col. Creaton, P.G.D., responded; both however, very briefly, on account of the lateness of the hour.

Bro. Thomas Bull, P.M., proposed "The Masonic Charities," and referred to the support which the lodge had always extended to those institutions, and which he hoped and believed it would extend in the future.

Bro. James Terry, Prov. G.D.C. Herts, responded, and made special allusion to the fact of more than £30,000 having been collected during last year to the three charities. He also called attention to the circumstance of the greatly increasing number of candidates for relief, which he could not but feel would in future become larger instead of smaller. He advised every member of the Craft to give a small donation, which would then enable the managers of the institutions to relieve all candidates. 8000 additional Masons were made every year. He knew the charities had the sympathies of the brethren and their most cordial co-operation in this lodge. Bro. Purkess, I.P.M., was Steward for the Benevolent Institution, and he exhorted the brethren to give him hearty support and send him up with a good list.

The W.M. then proposed "Bro. Purkess' Health," and presented him with a Past Master's and centenary jewel.

Bro. Purkess, in reply, after thanking the brethren for the gift, also reminded the brethren of his Stewardship, and appealed to the brethren to support it.

The remaining toasts were afterwards given. Lodge was resumed and closed, and the brethren separated, after having spent a most delightful evening.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.

The General Committee of this Institution met on Thursday at Freemasons' Hall. Col. Creaton, V.P., presided. There were also present Bros. Benj. Head, Thomas W. White, Raynham W. Stewart, H. A. Dubois, Thomas Massa, John Boyd, Henry Browne, A. H. Tattershall, S. Rawson, Magnus Ohren, W. Stephens, Robt. B. Webster, Collard Meutrie, Dr. Ramsay, Hyde Pullen, H. Massey ("Freemason"), W. Roebuck, A. H. Diaper, Dudley Rolls, W. H. Hemsworth, Major Finney, Robt. Kenyon, T. F. Peacock, and R. W. Little, Sec.

After the reading and confirmation of the minutes, the Chairman said he was very glad that the Audit Committee had recommended to the General Committee that the salary of the Secretary (Bro. Little) should be raised £50 a year. The duties of the office had very much increased, and they had been discharged, as the brethren all knew, with zeal and fidelity. He therefore, gave notice that he would move at the next Quarterly Court, "That in consideration of the increased work in the office, and the large augmentation of the receipts of the institution, the salary of the Secretary be raised £50 per annum, commencing from 1st January, 1876." He further stated that on account of the above increase in the duties of the office, he gave notice that he would move that the salary of Bro. Hedge's, Bro. Little's clerk, be raised £20 a year.

Both these announcements were received with cheers. One petition was then received, one child was withdrawn from the list of candidates, and Bro. Matier's motion, similar to that given at the Boy's School, was read, prior to its being considered at the Special Joint Court of the two Institutions.

The committee then adjourned.

SUPREME GRAND CHAPTER.

The following is the paper of business before Grand Chapter next Wednesday, which will meet at seven o'clock p.m.:

The minutes of the last quarterly convocation to be read for confirmation.

The Report of the Committee of General Purposes to the Supreme Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of England:—

The Committee of General Purposes beg to report that they have examined the accounts from the 20th October, 1875, to the 18th January, 1876, both inclusive, which they find to be as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
To balance Grand Chapter	149	10	7
" " Unappropriated account	156	5	11
" Subsequent receipts	371	19	9
	£677	16	3
By disbursements during the quarter	165	1	4
" Balance	349	9	6
" " in unappropriated account.....	163	5	5
	£677	16	3

which balances are in the hands of Messrs. Willis, Percival and Co., bankers of the Grand Treasurer.

The Grand Chapter Committee beg to report that the Grand Scribe E. officially announced the lamented death of Comp. John Savage, P.S.B., their President, which intelligence was received with very deep and sincere regret.

The Grand Scribe E. further announced that the M.E. Prov. First Grand Principal had appointed Companion Lieut.-Colonel Creation, P.S.B., President, in the room of Companion Savage, deceased, and Companion Robert Second Assistant Sojourner, to fill the vacancy caused by his death.

The Committee have likewise to report that they have received the following petitions:—

From Companions William Lawrence Twentyman, as Z.; William John Doveton, as H.; Richard Nathan Hubbersty, as J.; and ten others, for a chapter to be attached to the Lodge of the Rock, No. 260, Trinchinopoly, to be called "The Rock Chapter," and to meet at Trinchinopoly, Madras, East Indies.

From Companions Charles Godtschalk, as Z.; James Jackson Avery, as H.; Henry William Thomas, as J.; and ten others, for a chapter to be attached to the Dundas Lodge, No. 1255, Plymouth, to be called "The Dundas Chapter," and to meet at the Huyshe Masonic Temple, Plymouth, Devonshire.

From Comps. Henry Griffiths, as Z.; William Henry Lloyd, as H.; Thomas Waite, as J., and six others, for a chapter to be attached to the Kennard Lodge, No. 1258, Pontypool, to be called "The Kennard Chapter," and to meet at the Masonic Hall, Pontypool, Monmouthshire.

From Comps. Percival Allyn Nairne, as Z.; William Viner Bedolfe, as H.; James Hadland Vockins, as J., and seven others, for a chapter to be attached to the Sphinx Lodge, No. 1329, Camberwell, to be called "The Sphinx Chapter," and to meet at the Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell.

The foregoing petitions, being in all respects regular, the Committee recommend that the prayers thereof be respectively granted.

The Committee have further to report that they have received petitions:—

From Comps. Richard Miles Roberts, as Z.; Richard William Hoskins Giddy, as H.; Francis Henry Samuel Orpen, as J.; and seven others, for a chapter to be attached to the Richard Giddy Lodge, No. 1574, Kimberley, South Africa, to be called "The Richard Giddy Chapter," and to meet at Kimberley, South Africa.

This petition is regular, excepting that the proposed J. is not yet registered as an Installed Master.

From Comps. Gabriel Joshua de Cordova, as Z.; Osmond Dilgado, as H.; David Barned, as J.; and nine others for a chapter to be attached to the Phoenix Lodge, No. 914, Port Royal, Jamaica, to be called "The Phoenix Chapter," and to meet at Port Royal, Jamaica.

This petition is also regular, excepting that the lodge recommendation is not attached thereto.

The Committee therefore recommend that, subject to the proof of the proposed J. being an Installed Master in the case of No. 1574, and the recommendation of the lodge in the case of No. 914, which have both been written for, being respectively received, the prayers of these petitions be granted.

It having come under the notice of the Committee at their meeting on the 20th October, 1875, that Comp. Price, who was one of the petitioners for a chapter to be attached to the Royal Lebanon Lodge, No. 493, Gloucester, and who had been exalted in the Foundation Chapter, No. 82, Cheltenham, as far back as the 10th October, 1866, had not been registered until October, 1875, the Committee directed the three Principals of the chapter to be summoned to account for the neglect, and to produce their books and charter, dispensing, however, in the first instance, with the personal attendance of the Principals.

The Committee regret to say that, on an investigation of the books and registry book of Grand Chapter, a most inexcusable amount of laxity appears to have prevailed in the registration of companions exalted in the Foundation Chapter, companions exalted in 1865-6 and 7 not being registered until 1869; one exalted in 1863 and one exalted in 1866 were not registered until 1870; three exalted in 1859, one in 1863, and one in 1865 were not registered until 1871; and, without going through the whole list, it would almost appear that no companion was registered until his certificate was required for some special purpose.

The Committee therefore, to mark their sense of the great irregularities which have prevailed in the Foundation

Chapter, and its total disregard of Art. 20, page 19, of the Royal Arch Regulations, Edition 1869, or Art. 64, page 21, Edition 1875, which requires a regular return from each chapter once in every year, have inflicted a fine on the chapter to the extent of three guineas.

The Committee hope and believe that the business of the chapter for the last year or two has been conducted with more regularity, so far as relates to the registration of its members."

(Signed) JOHN CREATION.
President.

CONSECRATION OF A NEW CHAPTER AT CHESTER.

On Monday, the 17th inst., the ceremony of consecrating the Cestrian Chapter (No. 425) of Royal Arch Masons was performed, in an impressively solemn manner, by the Rt. Hon. Lord de Tabley, R.W.P.G.S. Cheshire, assisted by his provincial officers and Comp. Muggidge, P.G.S.B. England, at the Grosvenor Hotel, Chester. The following were appointed principals and officers of the chapter:—Comps. Horatio Lloyd, M.E.Z.; J. C. Robinson, H. and Treas.; J. O. Bury, J.; T. M. Lockwood, S.E.; J. Taylor, S.N.; and A. G. Smith, P.S. Among the companions present were the following:—C. Dutton, P.G.H.; S. Spratley, P.G.J.; G. W. Latham, P.G.S.E.; W. Goodacre, P.G.P.S.; W. R. Bachelor, P.G.F.A.S.; W. Fair, P. Prov. G.S.B.; C. S. Coates, P.G.C.S.; J. Whitlow, P.G.S.B.; R. Newhouse, P.G.D.C.; J. S. Darvill, J. A. Birch, P. Prov. G.J.; D. Thomas, M.H. 721; J. Bowes, P. Prov. G.S.B. West Lancashire; J. Salmon, 721; J. Ormiston, 368; R. J. Sisson, 721; J. J. Cunnah, 721; and others. The proceedings concluded with a banquet.

Scotland.

GLASGOW.—Lodge St. John (No. 34).—An emergency meeting of this lodge was held within their hall, 213, Buchanan-street, Glasgow, on Tuesday evening, 17th inst. The W.M. Bro. D. M. Neilson, presided, with Bros. Sellars, S.W.; Brownlie, J.W.; and John Dick, Secretary, in their respective places. The lodge having been opened the following brethren were passed to the Degree of F.C. by Bro. Thomas B. Bell, S.M.:—James Hamilton, Alex. Govans, John Park, Samuel Palmer, David Gardiner, Robert S. Donaldson, John Riddell, A. Ramsay, Alex. Smith, and John Adams. At the same time Bro. Natham, from Lodge Marie Stuart, No. 541, also received the same degree on behalf of that lodge. At the regular meeting of the lodge, which immediately followed the sederunt being the same, two approved candidates were initiated into the Order at the hands of Bro. William Bell, I.P.M. The lodge thereafter went on to harmony. The agreeable character of the meeting was much enhanced by the presence of Bros. Stenbridge, Ray, and Robert Fraser, the well-known professional vocalists.

COLTNESS.—Lodge St. Mary's (No. 31).—The annual meeting of this lodge took place in Bro. Scott's hall, on Monday, 27th ult., to celebrate the festival of St. John, and elect office-bearers for 1876. The lodge was opened by Bro. Kelso, W.M., when the report of the Auditing Committee was read and approved. Mr. David Cumming, who was proposed at last meeting, was initiated in the E.A. Degree by Bro. Brownlie. The election of office-bearers was then proceeded with, when the following were duly elected:—Bros. R. Kelso, W.M.; Charles Gilchrist, P.M.; R. Shaw, D.M.; S. Naismith, S.M.; A. Brownlie, S.W.; J. Barr, J.W.; J. Scott, Treasurer; M. Walker, Secretary; W. Forrest, Chaplain; W. C. Wilson, B.B.; D. Shaw, S.D.; J. Moore, J.D.; J. A. Frost, S.S.; E. Naismith, J.S.; C. Fisher, S.B.; J. Jackson, I.G.; T. Bradwood, Tyler. The election over, about forty of the brethren sat down to a banquet provided by Bro. Scott, and a very happy evening was spent. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and heartily responded to.

STONEHAVEN.—St. John's Lodge (No. 65).—On Monday, the 27th ult., the election of office-bearers of this lodge took place at Stonehaven, when the following members were elected, namely:—W.M., J. Crockett; P.M., J. Thom; S.W., R. B. Tawse; J.W., J. R. Wilson; S.D., J. Chisholm; J.D., J. Murray, jun.; I.G., G. Tawse; Chap., G. Caird. After the business of the lodge was over the brethren sat down to an excellent supper, laid in their hall, Arbutnot-street, where a very agreeable evening was spent, under the chairmanship of Bro. Crockett, assisted by Bro. R. B. Tawse as croupier.

PARTICK.—Lodge St. Mary (No. 117).—A meeting of this lodge was held in their new hall, Douglas-street, on Friday evening, the 14th inst., Bro. William Wylie, W.M., presiding, Bro. David Peacock, S.W., and Bro. Andrew Agnew, J.W. There was a large turn out of members. The lodge having been opened, Bros. George T. Trotter, Alexander Goudie, James Jamieson, Samuel Blackstock, John McKenzie, John Reid, Donald Bain, John McConnachie, David Forsyth, Allan McKay, and Robert Ramsay, were raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason by Bro. Wylie, W.M.

PAISLEY.—St. Mirren's Lodge (No. 129).—The annual festival of St. John of the brethren of Paisley St. Mirren's Lodge, No. 129, took place on Monday, 27th ult., in the hall, at which there was a goodly attendance. The chair was occupied by the W.M., Bro. H. S. Edmonds, who was supported by the Depute Master, Bro. T. Bustard, P.M.'s Bros. A. McLeod, J. Gilmour, A. Wallace, and J. Carswell; Bro. A. McPherson, Sec.; P. Blair, Treas. The S.W., Bro. Gemmell, and the J.W., Bro. Fisher, were in their respective places. The lodge having been opened, an excellent dinner was partaken of. Thereafter the loyal toasts were given, as also those of the G. Lodges of England, Scotland, and Ireland, and the P. Grand Lodge of Renfrewshire East, by the R.W.M. Bro. G. Fisher gave

"The Army, Navy, and Volunteers." The W.M., in proposing the toast of the evening, said it was with satisfaction that they viewed year after year the continued prosperity of the lodge. During the past year they had added to the roll twenty-four affiliated members. The income had been in excess of the expenditure, the latter having been during the past unusually heavy, owing to repairing and redecoration of the hall. With all that they had not been unmindful of those who by misfortune had been reduced in circumstances, and in all such cases the brethren had subscribed liberally. Referring to the proposed Masonic Benevolent Institution, he expressed the hope that by next year it would be in working order. Its objects were to provide halls in the Scottish Universities to receive and maintain, clothe and educate, the sons of Freemasons of every religious denomination, who were in needful circumstances; also to provide schools for girls in similar circumstances; and also to provide an asylum for destitute Freemasons and their widows, or annuities to maintain them. The Chairman concluded by saying that it must be with satisfaction that the members of St. Mirren's heard that Bro. Gilmour had tabled a motion for the increase of the funds payable to the benevolent funds from 1s. 6d. to 2s. 6d., and he expressed the hope that it would be carried. During the evening deputations were sent to Lodges Renfrew County Kilwinning, No. 370, Houston St. Johnstone, No. 242, and Renfrew Prince of Wales; and deputations were received from these lodges respectively, and also from Lodge Dalmuir St. John's, No. 543.

KILBARCHAN.—Lodge St. Barchan (No. 156).—On the evening of Monday, the 27th ult., this lodge met in their hall there to celebrate the festival of St. John. After the lodge had been opened by Bro. Cunningham, P.M., the brethren formed a torchlight procession, accompanied by a brass band, and, according to use and wont, met their recently-elected W.M., Bro. W. Lewis. They then preambulated the various streets of the village, and returned to the lodge, where the W.M. took the chair, and called the brethren from labour to refreshment. Thereafter a very pleasant evening was spent, with repast, combining to make everything agreeable.

MAUCHLINE.—Lodge St. Mungo (No. 179).—On Thursday evening, the 13th inst., the brethren of this lodge held their anniversary in the London Hotel. There was a good number of the members present. After dinner the lodge was duly opened, when the following brethren were installed into office, viz.:—Bros. T. Harvey, solicitor, W.M.; R. Armour, P.M.; J. Reid, D.M.; A. Pollock, S.W.; D. Laurie, J.W.; G. Campbell, Treas.; J. Reid, Sec.; Rev. G. Fairlie, Chap.; G. Lambie, S.D.; J. Killen, Steward; R. Lennon, I.G.; and J. Learie, Tyler. Bro. R. Armour, on retiring from office, was presented with a handsome Past Master's jewel and a purse of sovereigns. The jewel was presented by Bro. J. Reid, D.M., and after spending a happy evening the brethren closed the lodge in due form. The jewel was supplied by Bro. George Kenning, 9, West Howard-street, Glasgow.

CARLUKE.—St. John's Lodge (No. 187).—The annual election of office-bearers of this lodge took place on Monday, 27th ult. The following elections were made:—Bros. T. Sommerville, W.M.; Campbell, P.M.; W. Findlay, S.M.; A. Moffatt, J.W.; J. Gray, Sec.; R. Finlay, Treas.; A. Hamilton, D.M.; H. Robertson, Substitute; P. Edmond, S.D.; W. Campbell, J.D.; J. Moffat, I.G.; W. Gegg, S.S.; R. Moffat, J.S.; A. Marshall, Chap.; J. Sommerville, S.B.; A. Bankier, Tyler. The brethren of the lodge sat down to supper in the Black Bull Inn, Carlisle, Bro. Campbell, P.M., in the chair.

BALLATER.—St. Nathallan's Lodge (No. 259).—The annual general meeting of the brethren of this lodge was held in the Albert Memorial Hall on Monday, the 10th inst. After initiation of several new members the brethren proceeded to the election of office-bearers for the ensuing year, when the following were elected:—Colonel J. R. Farquharson, of Invercauld, W.M.; J. Reid, P.M.; J. Deavy, D.M.; Dr. Beattie, S.M.; W. Coutts, S.W.; D. Mitchell, J.W.; J. Pringle, Treas.; L. Ritchie, Sec.; C. Milne, S.D.; J. Donald, J.D.; J. Stephen, Chap.; W. Lowe, S.S.; D. Wilkie, J.S.; J. Ingram, I.G.; and J. Coutts, Tyler. After the election the brethren formed in order, and marched to Monaltrie House, one of the country seats of Colonel Farquharson, headed by Bro. McHardy, who played on the bagpipes; thence they marched to Invercauld Arms, where the brethren, to the number of fifty, sat down to dinner. The usual loyal and patriotic toasts were given and cordially responded to. To the toast of "The Sister Lodges," Bro. Dinnie, of St. John's Lodge, Aboyne, suitably replied. A spirited ball was opened in the hall at half-past nine o'clock, and kept up until an advanced hour in the morning. Music was supplied by the Brothers Blair, ably assisted by Anderson and Ingram.

ROTHESAY.—Rothsay St. John's Lodge (No. 292).—The Rev. R. G. Weldon, Honorary Chaplain of this lodge, preached to the brethren on Sabbath evening, 26th ult., in the Episcopal Church, to a full congregation. The sermon is to be printed. St. John's anniversary was celebrated on Monday evening in the Victoria Hotel, when about eighty brethren supped together. The brethren paraded the town by torchlight, and were headed by the new Rothsay brass band.

GLASGOW.—Lodge St. Clair (No. 362).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held in their hall, 25, Robertson-street, on Monday evening, the 10th inst. Bro. W. J. Hogg, W.M., is the chair; Bro. A. Rutherford, sen., S.W., and Bro. C. Galletly, J.W. There were also present:—Bros. G. Thallon, P.M.; R. Glass, D.M.; W. Pascoe, Treas.; G. Fraser, Sec.; W. Galbraith, S.D.; Mack Fox, J.D.; A. Taylor, Org.; A. Bowie, Chap.; R. Genese, 362; J. Henderson, 34; R. Kearney, 86; J. Melville, 173; J. Annand, 465; and W. Ferguson ("Freemason"). The lodge having been opened and the minutes of last meeting read and confirmed, a committee was appointed to make the necessary arrangements for holding the annual festival, in the latter end of February.

next. Mr. A. Rutherford, jun., was initiated into the mysteries of the First Degree of Freemasonry by Bro. W. J. Hogg, W.M.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Union (No. 332).—A meeting of this lodge was held in the Masonic Hall, 170, Buchanan-street, on Monday evening, the 17th inst., Bro. D. McKirdy, W.M., in the chair, supported by Bros. J. B. McNair, I.P.M.; J. M. Innes, S.W.; H. Apperson, J.W.; John Laird, Treas.; and J. H. Gill, Sec. The lodge was opened and the Secretary read the minutes of last meeting, which were approved of. Mr. Robert Carnachan was initiated by Bro. McKirdy, W.M. After disposing of other minor business, the lodge was closed.

GLASGOW.—Lodge St. George (No. 333).—The regular monthly meeting of this lodge was held in the Masonic Hall, 213, Buchanan-street, on Wednesday evening, 12th inst. In the unavoidable absence of Bro. Thomson, W.M., Bro. J. Winton, P.M., presided; Bro. J. Forsyth, S.W., and Bro. R. Anderson, J.W. There was a fair attendance of members and visiting brethren present, among whom were Bros. J. Findlay, S.M.; A. Dunn, Treas.; Archd. McIntyre, Sec.; J. Stewart, P.M.; A. Boyd, S.D.; T. Hill, J.D.; J. Stewart, 360; and W. Ferguson ("Freemason"). Three gentlemen were initiated into the First Degree by Bro. Findlay, S.M., viz.: Messrs. R. Hunter, J. Cormack, and J. R. Adams. It was afterwards agreed to hold the annual festival on the 24th of March, and a committee was appointed for that purpose.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Caledonian Railway (No. 354).—The regular monthly meeting of this lodge was held in the Masonic Hall, 30, Hope-street, on Wednesday evening, 19th inst., Bro. James Shaw, W.M., presiding; Bros. Adam B. Ferguson, S.W.; and John Harley, J.W.; there were also present Bros. A. A. Smith, P.M.; R. W. Lean, Sec.; D. Leitch, S.D.; James Harley, J.D.; D. Reid, P.M. 465; James Duthie, 219; R. Walker, jun., Sec. 541; Robt. Fraser, 413; and Wm. Ferguson, ("Freemason"); and others. The lodge having been opened the Secretary read the minutes of a meeting of the lodge committee, held on the 17th inst., to consider the resignation of office by the W.M., of which he had given notice at last regular meeting. After minor business had been transacted, the W.M., Bro. Shaw, said it was now his duty to place his resignation in the hands of the P.M. of the lodge, and he begged to do so accordingly. Bro. A. Arrick Smith, P.M., said he had been very sorry to hear of Bro. Shaw's intention to resign the chair. He (Bro. Smith) should be very happy should he yet see fit to continue, but if not, it was his duty in the absence of the I.P.M., Bro. W. Montgomerie Neilson to accept of the resignation, which he did with deep regret, and he thought the least thing they could do was to minute a vote of thanks to him for his conduct in the chair for a period of two years and the portion of a third year. He had formally to move that Bro. Shaw's resignation be accepted. Bro. James Reid said that if it must be done, he had, with great reluctance to second the motion, which was accordingly passed. The lodge then proceeded to the arrangement of office-bearers entailed by Bro. Shaw's withdrawal. Bro. A. B. Ferguson, S.W., was elected to the Office of W.M. Bro. John Harley, J.W., to the Office of S.W., Bro. Colin McKenzie, to the Office of J.W., and Bro. James Reid to the office of Jeweller, vacated by Bro. McKenzie. The lodge thereafter adjourned to refreshment.

PAISLEY.—Renfrew County Kilwinning Lodge (No. 370).—This lodge met on the 16th ult., when the following office-bearers were elected for the ensuing year:—Bros. John Marshall, W.M.; James Anderson, P.M.; Richard McGibbon, S.W.; Mark Cook, J.W.; James Lee, Treas.; John Nicholson, Chaplain; John Gordon, Archt.; Charles Galbraith, S.D.; John Harkness, J.D.; John Lyle, Jeweller; Matthew Gilmour, S.S.; John Hutton, J.S.; Duncan McCullum, Org.; Wm. Niven, S.B.; Edward Morrison, B.B.; Peter Fulton, I.G.; Thomas Cochrane, Tyler. After the election the retiring R.W.M. duly installed Bro. John Marshall as W.M. After some conversation it was agreed to celebrate the Festival of St. John in their lodge on Monday, the 27th ult., on which evening the lodge met for that purpose. At seven o'clock the W.M. took the chair, supported on the right by Bro. John Barr, from New Zealand, and P.M. Jas. Anderson; and on the left by Bro. J. A. MacKean, P.M.; and Bro. Geo. Masson. There was a goodly attendance of members of the lodge, and representatives from Paisley St. Mirren's and St. John's, Greenock. The company partook of a substantial supper, served in his usual good style by Bro. Sinclair. After the cloth was removed, the Chairman and others gave the toasts, "The Queen," "The Craft," "The Prince and Princess of Wales," "The Grand Lodge of Scotland, England, and Ireland, with their respective Masters," "Provincial Lodge of Renfrewshire East," coupled with Colonel Campbell, Provincial Grand Master, replied to by Bro. R. McGibbon, which were all duly responded to, the toasts being intermingled with songs and recitations. The Chairman then referred to the financial state of the lodge, and said that it was in a pretty good condition, and hoped that in the ensuing year it would not be in a less prosperous condition. The W.M. then called upon Bro. Ex-Bailie Masson, who in a neat and appropriate speech presented a handsome silver tea-service with the following inscription:—"Presented to Bro. James Anderson, P.M., by Lodge R.C.K., 370, 1876, as a token of respect, and in acknowledgment of his past services and good work for the benefit of the lodge in the various offices he had filled, and more especially during the past three years as W.M.," which was very feelingly replied to by Bro. James Anderson. Bro. John Barr, New Zealand, gave several pieces in prose and verse of his own composition, which were all exceedingly well received, especially "The Pedigree of the Clans," and "The Tinker's Wedding." Bro. McGibbon rendered effectively several sentimental songs. Bro. Lewis caused great laughter by the comic song, "The

Ark." "The Auld, Auld Wife," from W.M., was also very well received. Before closing the lodge resolved to go on with good work, and not to stop "Till man to man, the world o'er, would brothers be and a' that."

CATRINE.—St. John's Catrine (No. 497).—On the evening of the 27th ult., the brethren of the above lodge celebrated St. John's day by having supper in the Crown Hotel Hall. The brethren assembled in their lodge-room, from whence, preceded by the Bleaching Works Brass Band, they went in procession through the village. After arriving in the hall, the lodge was opened in due form, and the brethren having been called from labour to refreshment, an excellent supper was served up by mine host, Bro. T. Drysdale, in a style which gave the utmost satisfaction to all. The cloth having been removed the R.W.M. (Bro. C. McDonald) gave in succession "The Queen," "The Prince of Wales," and "The Three Grand Lodges," which were duly honoured. During the evening "St. James, Tarbolton, 135," was given, coupled with Bro. Alex. McCall, and "St. John's, New Cumnock, 334," coupled with Bro. P. Milligan, was given, and duly honoured and acknowledged. Toast, song, recitation, and sentiment filled up the remainder of a pleasant evening. Toast and sentiment from the W.M., also Bros. Hair, Montgomery, Hamilton, Brown, Meikle, and Hood; songs from Bros. Gemmell, Mearns, Gillies, and Stirling; and recitations from Bros. McDonald, Drysdale, Meikle, and Hood. After "Auld lang syne," and high twelve having been indicated, the lodge was closed in due and ancient form, about sixty sitting down to supper.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Clyde (No. 408).—A meeting of this lodge was held in the Masonic Hall, 170, Buchanan-street, Glasgow, on Friday evening, 21st inst. Bro. William Harper, W.M., in the chair. Wm. Bilsland, S.W.; W. S. Williamson, S.D., acting J.W. Present: Bros. Duncan Downie, P.M.; John Buchanan, P.M.; John McInnes, S.M.; Wm. Anderson, Treas.; Alex. Cross, Sec.; John Bannerman, D.M. 73; Malcolm Stark, 419; and W. Ferguson, ("Freemason"). On the lodge being opened and the minutes read and confirmed, Bro. Peter McMillan was passed to the Fellow Craft Degree by Bro. Harper W.M. No other business of importance was brought forward.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Glasgow (No. 441).—This lodge met in the Masonic Hall, 22, Struthers-street, Calton, on Tuesday evening, the 11th inst., Bro. J. Wood, W.M., presiding, supported by Bros. Taylor, P.M.; P. McInaney, S.W.; J. Neagle, J.W.; Martin, Treas.; and Goldie, Sec. Among others present were Bros. E. Arthur, Mother Kilwinning; G. W. Wheeler, 73; A. Gillen, 129; and W. Ferguson ("Freemason"). The lodge was opened and the Secretary read the minutes of the two previous meetings, which were adopted. Mr. C. W. Marlow was initiated by the W.M., and Bro. W. Alexander passed by Bro. W. Taylor, P.M. Bro. W. B. Fisher, M.M. Lodge St. James, Newton Ayr, No. 125, was affiliated a joining member.

MILLPORT.—Kelburne Lodge (No. 459).—The ancient festival was celebrated in the Cumbrac Hotel on Monday, 27th ult., by the brethren of this lodge. About half-past six o'clock a grand torchlight procession was formed, and marched through the burgh to the merry strains of the band of the 2nd Bute Artillery. At eight o'clock a large company sat down to an excellent supper in Mrs. King's hall. The chair was occupied by Bro. M. Swan, W.M., Bro. J. Cunningham, S.W., acting as Croupier. The usual loyal toasts were ably given from the chair, and heartily responded to. Dr. MacGowan, in a humorous speech, gave "The Army, Navy, and Volunteers," which was acknowledged by Sergeant Gibb. The toast of "The Millport Bailies and Commissioners" was enthusiastically received, and ably responded to by Bailie Robertson. "The Press" was replied to by Bro. R. W. Brown, and "The Chair" by the W.M. Altogether a pleasant evening was spent, the proceedings being much enlivened by the music of the band and the singing of the brethren.

UDDINGSTON.—A large and influential meeting was held on Tuesday evening, the 18th inst., in Mr. Buce's schoolroom, Bro. McMurdo in the chair, when it was resolved to apply to the Grand Lodge of Scotland for a charter constituting a Masonic lodge, to be held in Uddingston, and dedicated to St. Bride, the patron saint of Bothwell. Twenty-four candidates having been enrolled for initiation, the meeting elected the following office-bearers, viz.:—Bros. Easton, W.M.; Wilson Walker, S.M.; Halkett, S.W.; J. Baird, jun., J.W.; Shoot, Treas.; Crawford, Sec.; J. Walker, S.D.; Robertson, J.D.; Bryden, S.S.; Watson, J.S.; Ruddoch, I.G.; and Wray, Tyler.

COCKBURN'S UNITED SERVICE AGENCY SOCIETY.—On several occasions reference has been made to the usefulness of the Cheque Bank system for small amounts, the origination of which system is claimed by Cockburn's United Agency Society, established 1871. After five years' experience, and in complete working order, special advantages are stated, viz., the allowance of 2½ per cent. annually, at Christmas, on the minimum monthly balance in even ten pounds of all accounts then open. COCKBURN'S GUARANTEED CHEQUE BOOKS are issued in amounts from £1, £3, £5 to £100; and the attention of officers of both services, travellers and residents at home, the Colonies, India, America, and Continental States, in addition to securing guaranteed cheques is directed to the society's undertaking the several duties of Agency business; offering to the members, at an economic rate, advantages unattainable by other medium. On application to the chief office, 41, Haymarket, S.W., every information is afforded.

HEALTH, comfort, and economy promoted. Gas superseded in day time, and daylight reflected in dark rooms by adopting Chappuis' Patent Daylight Reflectors. Manufactory, 69, Fleet-street, London.

Masonic and General Tidings.

A movement has been initiated among the Freemasons of East Lancashire, for establishing "a systematic Masonic Educational and Benevolent Institution." At a recent meeting held at the Masonic Hall, Cooper-street, Manchester, the Prov. G.M. (Bro. Le Gendre Starkie) introduced the subject to the brethren, and a code of regulations was considered and approved of. The objects of the institution were defined to be the "education and advancement in life of children of indigent or deceased Freemasons of the province, and to afford relief or assistance where considered desirable in aid of Freemasons and their families in the said province, and generally to promote the cause of Masonic charity." It was decided to elect annually, from the general committee, a certain number of members to act as an education committee, whose duty should be to supervise the education of all children elected on the institution, select schools for them, arrange terms, and require reports from schoolmasters, parents, and guardians. It is provided that in case of any child exhibiting peculiar talent for a particular branch of education calculated to be practically useful in after life, instruction shall be provided accordingly, and a sum of £20 awarded to any deserving pupil on finishing the educational course. There was a large attendance of Masters and Past Masters of the various lodges in the province, Bolton, Bury, Burnley, Accrington, and Preston being among the towns represented. The Prov. G.M. headed the subscription list with £100. It was also suggested that each brother in the province should, through his lodge, subscribe not less than 2s. 6d. per annum, to the fund.

For a number of years there has been a talk of forming a lodge in the neighbourhood of Neston and Parkgate, several miles from Birkenhead, for the convenience of numerous brethren resident in that district. Nothing definite, however, was done in the matter till last August, when a preliminary meeting was held in Bro. Acton's Union Hotel, Parkgate, with the view of establishing a Craft lodge in the neighbourhood. At a well attended meeting it was agreed upon to present the required petition to Bro. the Rt. Hon. Lord de Tabley, R.W.P.G.M., for the purpose of obtaining the warrant to constitute the lodge, to be called the Dee Lodge. The warrant has been obtained, and it is expected the lodge will be consecrated next Thursday, 3rd February, by Lord de Tabley. The Master elect is Bro. T. Chesworth, P.M., and the Secretary Bro. N. J. Lewis, 193, Rothes Maryshire. The lodge will hold its meetings at the Union Hotel, Parkgate.

We ("Figaro") hear there is every likelihood that Sir N. M. de Rothschild, M.P. for Aylesbury, the heir of the late Sir A. de Rothschild, will, though a Liberal, be raised to the peerage by Mr. Disraeli. The same journal states that Sir Anthony de Rothschild's fortune, in realty and personality, nearly reaches ten millions sterling.

Bro. J. D. Allcroft, the treasurer of Christ's Hospital, has, at his own expense, leased, for the recreation of the Blue-coat boys, a field leading from Dulwich to Herne Hill.

A number of the citizens of Dublin have resolved to forward to the Queen a request that she might visit the Irish capital this year.

A telegram from Vienna announces that Bro. Alderman Stone, late Lord Mayor of London, has been made a Knight Commander of the Order of Francis Joseph, by the Emperor of Austria. Upon Bro. Vine, secretary to the Lord Mayor, the Gold Cross of Merit has been conferred.

It is stated that in consideration of the painful circumstances under which the late Commodore Goodenough, C.B., lost his life at Santa Cruz, while in the execution of his duty, the Treasury has sanctioned the award of a special pension of £300 per annum to the widow of this lamented officer.

THE PRINCESS OF WALES.—One of her Majesty's couriers passed through Dover on Wednesday, en route for Copenhagen, to make arrangements for the return of the Princess of Wales. Her Royal Highness is expected to arrive at Dover on or about Feb. 4.

The fifteen sections will be worked by Bro. Mark Gross, at the Duke of Connaught Lodge of Instruction, on Wednesday next, at 7 o'clock, at the Havelock Tavern, Albion-road, Dalston.

Bro. T. W. Boord, M.P. (320), for the Borough of Greenwich, has announced his intention of addressing his constituents at Woolwich on February 1st, and at New-cross, February 3rd.

The Fifteen Sections will be worked at the Metropolitan Lodge of Instruction No. 1507, 269, Pentonville-road, on Monday, February 7th, at 6.30 p.m., by Bro. J. R. Stacey, P.M. St. James's Union Lodge, Preceptor of the Metropolitan Lodge of Instruction, No. 1056, and brethren from the lodge. The brethren of one lodge will thus visit the brethren of the other. The chair will be taken by Bro. T. A. Adams, P.M., P.G.P.

A Re-union of Knights Templar, we are informed by an official circular from the Grand Commandery of Pennsylvania, will take place in the City of Philadelphia, on the 30th May, 31st May, and 1st June of this year. A Grand Templar parade will be announced on the latter date.

METROPOLITAN MASONIC MEETINGS

For the Week ending Friday, February 4, 1876.

The Editor will be glad to receive notice from Secretaries of Craft Lodges, Royal Arch Chapters, Mark Lodges, Preceptories, Conclaves, &c., of any change in place or time of meeting.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 29.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Lily, Greyhound, Richmond.
Star, Marquis of Granby, New Cross-road.
Sinai Chapter, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.

MONDAY, JANUARY 31.

Lodge 79, Pythagorean, Ship Hot., Greenwich.
Chap. 188, Joppa, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Manchester, 77, London-st., Fitzroy-square.
Prince Leopold, Lord Stanley Tav., Kingsland.
Strong Man, Jerusalem Tav., St. John's Gate.
Sincerity, Railway Tav., Fenchurch-st. Station.
Camden, Stanhope Arms, Up. James-st., Camden To.
Eastern, Royal Hot., Mile-end-road.
St. James's Union, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Wellington, White Swan, Deptford.
West Kent, St. Saviour's College, Forest-hill.
Perfect Ashlar, Victoria Tav., Lower-rd., Rotherhithe.
Sydney, White Hart Ho., Church-rd., Upper Norwood.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 1.

Colonial Board at 3.

Lodge 7, Royal York of Perseverance, F.M.H.
" 18, Old Dundee, London Tav., Bishopsgate-st.
" 101, Temple, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.
" 172, Old Concord, F.M.H.
" 217, Stability, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-street.
" 765, St. James's, Bridge House Hot.
" 1257, Grosvenor, Caledonian Hot., Adelphi.
" 1259, Duke of Edinburgh, Cornmercial-rd., E.
" 1261, Golden Rule, Regent M.H., W.
" 1298, Royal Standard, Wellington-st., N.
" 1381, Kennington, Surrey Tav., Kennington Oval.
" 1397, Anerley, Thicket Hot., Anerley.
" 1472, Henley, Three Crowns, North Woolwich.
Chap. 166, Temperance, White Swan, Deptford.
" 507, United Pilgrims, Horns Tav., Kennington.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney.
Domestic, Surrey M. H., Camberwell New-road.
Faith, 2, Westminster Chambers, Victoria-st.
Prince Fredk. Wm., Lord's Hot., St. John's Wood.
Dalhousie, King Edward, Triangle, Hackney.
Prosperity, 1, Camomile-st., Bishopsgate.
St. Marylebone, British Stores Tav., St. John's Wood.
Constitutional, Wheatheaf Hot., Hand-court, Holborn.
Percy, Grapes Tav., Little Windmill-st., W.
Israel, Rising Sun Tav., Globe Road.
Royal Arthur, Prince's Head, York-road, Battersea.
Beacontree, Red Lion, Leytonstone, at 8.
Metropolitan Chapter, Jamaica Coffee Ho., Cornhill.
Excelsior, Commercial Dock Tav., Rotherhithe.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 2.

Grand Chapter, at 7.

Lodge 511, Zealand, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
" 1491, Athenaeum, Camden-road, Holloway, N.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Mt. Lebanon, Windsor Cas. Tav., Southwark-bdg.-rd.
Pythagorean, Prince of Orange, Greenwich.
New Concord, Rosemary Branch Tav., Hoxton.
Royal Union, Horse and Groom, Winsley-st., Oxford-st.
Confidence, White Hart Tav., Abchurch-lane.
Peckham, Maismore Arms, Park-road, Peckham.
Stanhope, Thicket Hot., Anerley.
Finsbury Park, Finsbury Park Tav., Seven Sisters'-rd.
Southwark, Southwark Park Tav., Southwark Park.
Duke of Connaught, Havelock Tav., Dalston, E.
United Strength, Grafton Arms, Kentish-town.
Mount Edgumbe, 19, Jernyn-street, St. James's.
Islington, Crown and Cushion, London Wall.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 3.

Lodge 10, Westminster and Keystone, F.M.H.
" 27, Egyptian, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
" 45, Strong Man, Old Jerusalem Tav.
" 192, Lion and Lamb, Terminus Hot., Cannon-st.
" 227, Ionic, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.
" 231, St. Andrew's, F.M.H.
" 538, La Tolerance, F.M.H.
" 554, Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney.
" 822, Victoria Rifles, F.M.H.
" 1178, Perfect Ashlar, Gregorian Arms, Bermondsey.
" 1351, St. Clement's Danes, 265, Strand.
" 1445, Prince Leopold, Lord Stanley Tav., E.
Chap. 2, St. James's, F.M.H.
" 9, Moriah, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Egyptian, Hercules Tav., Leadenhall-st.
Fidelity, Yorkshire Grey, London-st., W.
Finsbury, Jolly Anglers' Tav., Bath-st., City-road.
Whittington, Crown Tav., Holborn.
Temperance in the East, Catherine-st., Poplar.
Ebony, 12, Ponsonby-st., Millbank.
Highgate, Bull and Gate, Kentish-town.
The Great City, 111, Cheapside.
High Cross, Coach & Horses, High-road, Tottenham.
Salisbury, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Marquis of Ripon, Albion Tav., Albion-rd., Dalston.
Prince Frederick William Chapter, St. John's Wood.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 4.

Lodge 706, Florence Nightingale, M.H., Woolwich.
" 890, Hornsey, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
" 1489, Marquis of Ripon, Balls-Pond-road, N.
Chap. 8, British, F.M.H.
" 259, Prince of Wales, Willis's Rooms, St. James's.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Union Waterloo, Thomas-st., Woolwich.
St. George's, Globe Tav., Royal-hill, Greenwich.
Robert Burns, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Belgrave, Lyceum Tav., 354, Strand.
Unions Emulation (for M.M.'s), F. M. H.
Temperance, Victoria Tav., Victoria-road, Deptford.
Clapton, White Hart, Clapton.
Stability, Guildhall Tav., Gresham-st.
Metropolitan, Portugal Hot., Fleet-st.
Westbourne, Horse & Groom, Winsley-st., Oxford-st.
Metropolitan, Pentonville-road.
United Pilgrims, Surrey M. H., Camberwell New-road.
St. James's, New Tanners' Arms, Grange-rd., Bermondsey.
Duke of Edinburgh, Silver Lion, Penny-fields, Poplar.
Doric, Earl Grey Tav., Mile-end-road.
Burgoyne, Grafton Arms, Prince of Wales's-road, N.W.
St. Luke's, Commercial Tav., King's-road, Chelsea.
Chigwell, Bald-faced Stag Hot., Buckhurst-hill.
Burdett Coutts, Approach Tav., Victoria Park.
Royal Standard, Finsbury Park Tav., Holloway.
Ranelagh, Clarendon Hot., Hammersmith.
Pythagorean Chapter, Prince of Orange, Greenwich-rd.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN WEST LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE.

For the Week ending Saturday, February 5, 1876.

MONDAY, JANUARY 31.

Lodge 148, Lights, M.R. Warrington.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 1.

Lodge 673, St. John's, M. H., Liverpool.
" 995, Furness, M.T., Ulverstone.
Chap. 203, St. John of Jerusalem, M. H., Liverpool.
Mark Lodge, 161, Walton, St. Lawrence's Boys' School.
Merchants L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 2.

Lodge 730, Ellesmere, Royal Oak Hot., Chorley.
" 1013, Royal Victoria, M. H., Liverpool.
" 1335, Lindsay, 20, King-st., Wigan.
" 1354, Marquis of Lorne, M. R., Leigh.
Chap. 477, Fidelity, M.C., 55, Argyle-st., Birkenhead.
De Grey and Ripon L. of I., N. Hill-street, Liverpool.
Downshire L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 3.

Lodge 249, Mariners, M.H., Liverpool.
" 950, Hesketh, Royal Hot., Fleetwood.
" 1032, Townley Parker, Howard's Arms.
" 1070, Starkie, Black Horse Hot., Kirkham.
" 1473, Bootle, Molyneux Rooms, Bootle.
" 1476, Blackpool, Clifton Arms Hot., Blackpool.
Chap. 758, Bridgewater, M. H., Runcom.
St. John's L. of I., M. H., Liverpool.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 4.

Lodge 680, Sefton, Adelphi Hot., Liverpool.
" 1375, Architect, Didsbury Hot., Didsbury.
" 1387, Chorlton, M.R., Chorlton-cum-Hardy.
" 1505, Emulation, M.H., Liverpool.
Duke of Edinburgh L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN GLASGOW AND WEST OF SCOTLAND.

For the Week ending Saturday, February 5, 1876.

All the Meetings take place at Eight o'clock.

MONDAY, JANUARY 31.

Lodge 103, Union and Crown, 170, Buchanan-st. Glasgow.
Chap. 122, Thetis, 35, St. James-st., Kingston.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 1.

Lodge 34, St. John, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
" 68, Doric, 44, Church-st., Port Glasgow.
" 73, Thistle and Rose, 170, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
" 87, Thistle, 30, Hope-st., Glasgow.
" 173, Largs, St. John, M. H., Largs.
" 233, Hamilton, Spaldings Hot., Hamilton.
" 331, St. Peter's, Portland Arms, Galston.
" 406, St. John, Dalziel, M.H., Motherwell.
" 433, St. Thomas's, Eglington Hall, Dalmlington.
" 437, Govandale, Portland Buildings, Govan.
" 497, St. John's, Brewery Hall, Catrine.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 2.

Lodge 0, Mother Kilwinning, M.H., Kilwinning.
" 4, Glasgow Kilwinning, 170, Buchanan-st.
" 21, Old St. John, M.H., Lanark.
" 86, Navigation, Commercial H., Troon.
" 117, St. Mary's Masonic Hall, Partick, G.P.
" 126, St. Andrew, George Hot., Kilmarnock.
" 128, St. John, Masonic Hall, Shettleston, G.P.
" 166, St. John, 29, Graeme-st., Airdrie.
" 198, Royal Arch, King's Arms, Maybole.
" 354, Caledonian Railway, 30, Hope-st., Glasgow.
" 452, Neptune, M.H., Ardrossan.
" 571, Dramatic, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow, at 3.
Chap. 87, Shamrock and Thistle, 12, Trongate, Glasgow.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 3.

Lodge 11, St. John, King's Arms, Maybole.
" 22, St. John's, George Hot., Kilmarnock.
" 27, St. Mungo, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
" 149, St. Andrew, M.H., Irvine.
" 157, St. John, Main-st., Beith.
" 165, Royal Arch, King's Arms, Ayr.
" 262, St. Clement's, Trades Tav., Kilmarnock.
" 320, St. John, R.A., M.H., Ardrossan.
" 370, Renfrew, M.H., High-st., Paisley.
" 465, St. Andrew, M.H., Garngad-rd., Glasgow.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 4.

Lodge 114, Royal Arch, M.H., Cambuslang.
" 116, Royal Arch, Council H., Rutherglen.
" 135, St. James, Crown Inn, Tarbolton.
" 175, St. John, St. John's Hall, Greenock.

Lodge 215, St. Andrew, Avondale Inn, Strathavon.
" 217, Cumberland, T. H., Port Glasgow.
" 242, St. Houston, Cross Keys Hot., Johnstone.
" 248, Lockhart St. John, M.H., Carnworth.
" 275, Shamrock and Thistle, 22, Struthers-st.
" 360, Commercial, 30, Hope-st., Glasgow.
" 408, Clyde, 170, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
" 459, Kelburne, Cumbrac Hot., Millport.
" 512, Thorntree, M.H., Thornliebank.
" 551, Clydesdale, Royal Hot., Larkhall.
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 5.
Lodge 458, St. John, Wilson's H., Busby.
" 544, St. Andrew's, M.H., Bank-st., Coatbridge.

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REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS.

Craft Masonry.

UNITED MARINERS' LODGE (No. 30).—

This lodge held its monthly meeting on Tuesday, 18th January, 1876, at the Guildhall Coffee House, Bro. H. Bethell, W.M., in the chair, assisted by his Wardens, Bros. Lefaux and T. Smith. The minutes of the former meeting were read and confirmed. Bro. Bailey was raised to the degree of M.M. A Board of Installed Masters was formed, consisting of Bros. R. E. Barnes, P.M. 15; J. Turner, P.M. 30; T. Johns, P.M. 30; W. Ansell, P.M.; G. T. C. Smith, P.M.; J. Harling, P.M. 30; J. Driscoll, P.M. 30; W. McDonald, P.M. 30; R. Sennett, P.M. 160; R. H. Williams, P.M. 1314; W. Manger, P.M. 1314; J. C. Cox, W.M. 1257, who, according to ancient usage, installed Bro. A. Lefaux to the chair of the lodge. The W.M. appointed his officers as follows:—Bros. T. Smith, as S.W.; A. Gladwell, as J.W.; J. Turner, P.M., as Treas.; R. E. Barnes, P.M., as Hon. Sec.; C. Davey, S.D.; J. Clark, J.D.; C. Cosedge, I.G.; J. Driscoll, W.S.; Grant, Tyler. Resolved—“That the thanks of the lodge be given to Bro. Joseph Driscoll, P.M., for the very efficient manner in which he discharged the duties of Installing Master.” The brethren adjourned to the banquet, prepared by “mine host” in his usual recherché style. The usual loyal toasts being given and responded to, Bro. Henry Bethell, P.M., proposed “The Health of the W.M., Bro. A. Lefaux.” He observed that the lodge had occasion to be delighted with the selection they had made in the choice of a Master to preside over them; his efficiency in the discharge of his duties was creditable in the highest degree, his punctuality of attendance, and the zeal he at all times manifested for the welfare of the lodge, was such as to merit their warmest approbation. Bro. Lefaux, W.M., in reply, assured them he felt highly honoured with the encomiums passed on him. As Master of the Lodge he should endeavour to promote its welfare, and during his year of office would use his utmost energies to merit the continuance of the esteem evinced towards him. The W.M., Bro. Lefaux, then craved the attention of the lodge for a short time. He said the period had arrived when the important feature of the proceedings, the presentation of a testimonial to Bro. H. Bethell, was to take place, and he (Bro. Lefaux) wished that it had fallen to the lot of some other brother who could have done greater justice to it. In the name of the brethren he presented to Bro. Bethell a handsome gold Past Master's jewel, for the zeal he had evinced for the welfare of the Craft during his Mastership, with every wish for his health, happiness, and prosperity. The testimonial bears the following inscription:—“Presented by the United Mariners' Lodge, No. 30, to Bro. H. Bethell, P.M., to mark the zeal evinced for the welfare of the lodge, and the very efficient manner in which he discharged the duties of W.M., January 18th, 1875.” Bro. Bethell, P.M., returned thanks in an appropriate speech, and assured the brethren that he should ever esteem it a great honour conferred on him by the lodge in which he was initiated; that when placed on his breast he would ever be reminded of the estimation in which he was held by his brethren in Masonry. He accepted with great pleasure the jewel presented to him, and which he should more highly prize as coming from his mother lodge. The toast of “The Visitors” was duly given and responded to; as also “The Health of the Officers of the Lodge.” The remaining toasts, amongst which was “The Treasurer and Hon. Secretary, Bros. Turner and Barnes,” were given from the chair, and the brethren parted, much gratified with their evening's entertainment.

LODGE OF ISRAEL (No. 205).—The installation meeting of this lodge was held at the City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street, on Tuesday, 25th ult., Bro. Buckland, W.M., in the chair. After the ordinary lodge business, which included the raising of Bro. Da Costa, the ceremony of installing the W.M. elect, Bro. Lionel Jacobs, was very ably performed by Bro. Latour. The appointment of officers was as follows:—Bros. Cohen, S.W.; M. J. Emanuel, P.M.; J.W.; C. Coote, Treas.; A. M. Cohen, Sec.; Bassington, S.D.; J. Crosthwaite, J.D.; Phillips, I.G.; and Illogard, D.C. Among the visitors present were Bros. Sigismund Millar, 88; M. H. Stephens, 1049; Famber, 1158; Lazarus, 55 93, 355; Bowley, 148; Dodson, 188; L. Lazarus, 188; Ridler, 219; Asher, Tranquility; Musto, 1349; Rodger, 188; Rooks, 142; and Edmund C. Massey (“Freemason”). At the conclusion of the business the lodge was closed in perfect har-

mony, and the brethren, to the number of about fifty, sat down to an elegant repast, to which ample justice was done. On the removal of the cloth, Bro. Jacobs, W.M., rose and proposed “The Health of the Queen and the Craft,” observing that anything he could add would be superfluous, as Her Majesty the Queen was dear to the heart of every British subject. The toast was drunk with the usual Masonic honours. The W.M.: The next toast I have to propose is that of “H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, the Grand Master of Freemasons.” The Prince of Wales has endeared himself to every one of Her Majesty's subjects by his attention to every part of his duties as a Prince and a Mason over the four quarters of the globe; he has never neglected any duties he has been called on to perform. “The Health of the Earl of Carnarvon, Pro G.M.; Earl Skelmersdale, the Deputy G.M., with the rest of the Grand Officers,” was then proposed, coupled with the name of Bro. Albert, who, in responding, observed that it was the duty of the Grand Officers to keep a zealous watch over the working of ordinary lodges, which duty they performed with credit to themselves and benefit to the Craft at large; and it gave him great pleasure to respond to this toast. Bro. Buckland, I.P.M.: I rise with great pleasure to perform for the first time the duty of proposing “The Health of our new W.M.” He is a thoroughly good working Mason; he has gone through the various offices in this lodge in a most efficient manner, and I have no doubt that he will perform the high functions he is now called upon to undertake in a very proper manner, and that he will thus reflect credit on your choice. I beg to propose “The Health of the W.M.” The W.M.: Brethren,—I have to return you my sincere thanks for the hearty manner in which you have responded to the toast proposed by Bro. Buckland. I shall not make a long speech, as I feel short of words, but I hope I may be able to perform the duties, and I shall only assure you that no endeavour shall be spared by me to have these duties fulfilled with becoming propriety. The W.M.: The next toast I have to propose is always welcome in the Lodge of Israel. It is “The Health of the Visitors.” There are among us many distinguished visitors, men whom we have known in the Craft for years, whom we cannot help admiring. Brethren, when the Lodge of Israel has the honour of entertaining visitors like these the least we can do is to show that we appreciate it, and I trust you will do so by the way in which you receive this toast. The toast was acknowledged by various visiting brethren in the name of the sister lodges, Joppa, Tranquillity, and Montefiore. The W.M.: The toast I have now to propose is one that I am sure will meet with your sympathy. It is “Prosperity to the Benevolent Fund” belonging to this lodge; it is available for any one of us who may be in want. We none of us know how soon misfortune may fall upon us, and it is right that all should contribute towards its support. Brethren, I am not able to speak as fully as I could wish, for I lack the words that express my feelings, but I am sure you will support the toast as it deserves. Brethren, “The Benevolent Fund.” Bro. Cohen, P.M., Sec.: As the representative of the Benevolent Fund of this lodge, I could tell a great deal as to the usefulness of the institutions, but on this occasion, as our numbers are so few, I will not attempt to do so in the few remarks I am now about to make. I beg, in the name of the lodge, to state that we do not take contributions from visitors; the fund is only for members of the Lodge of Israel, and I beg, therefore, that my visiting brethren will not attempt to give anything. But, I beg the members to further this fund as far as they can; I only make a strong plea to you once during the year; I have always been successful, and I beg you not allow me to be less successful this evening. A petition has come before the lodge this evening, which has been referred to the Benevolent Fund Committee; this shows the benefit of having such a fund. We have not had as much pleasure accorded to our appetites as we usually do, but I ask you whether any pleasures of the appetite can give so much pleasure as the pleasure derived from contributing to this fund. No matter how fortunate we may be, we may totter on the uneven paths of adversity. I say, while we can, let us contribute towards this fund, so that when brethren have to come to this fund we may have something like valuable relief to give, something that will do them good in a future career, and enable them to return to this fund, not only the money they take from it, but great interest upon it. You know, brethren, that there is no greater pleasure than to relieve your fellow creatures in distress. Brethren, that is the object of this fund. None know what may happen in course of time. Young or old may be compelled to come to this fund. We don't want to give with a niggard hand, and I therefore ask you to support this fund as freely as you can—that is, the members of the Lodge of Israel. The W.M.: Brethren the toast I have to propose is “The Health of the Immediate P.M.,” and this toast I ask you to receive with the cordiality it deserves. The P.M. has had many difficulties to contend with during his year of office. I am sure you will agree that he has discharged his duties in a most efficient manner in regard to the difficulties he has had to combat. Those difficulties were of no light order, and I give you Bro. Buckland's health, trusting that you will receive it with all the cordiality it deserves. Bro. Cohen, P.M.: Worshipful P.M. Buckland, I have been deputed as the Senior P.M. of this lodge to present you with this testimonial. It is a mere sign of the appreciation that the brethren have of your services, which appreciation must not be measured by the intrinsic value of this jewel. I only wish it was of far greater value. Bro. Buckland: I beg to thank you most sincerely for drinking my health, and for the kind sentiments that have been expressed towards me for performing the duties during the past year. I am afraid I have not done them very well, but no man can do more than his best. I shall always wear this jewel in kindly remembrance that it was presented by the brethren of the Lodge of Israel. “The Health of the Past Masters and Officers

of the Lodge” was then proposed and duly honoured, and the company separated after a very pleasing evening's entertainment.

FITZ-ROY LODGE (No. 569).—The installation meeting of this lodge was held on the 28th ult., at the headquarters of the Honourable Artillery Company, London. Bro. Griffiths Smith, W.M., presided, supported by his officers, Past Masters, and an immense array of visitors and members. On the 21st ult. Bro. Griffiths Smith held an emergency meeting, when he initiated Messrs. Robert Parker, Alexander McKenzie, Lewis Thomas Crook, William Parker Piggott, and John A. Hunt. At the installation meeting Bro. Griffiths Smith initiated Serjt. Major John S. Simmonds, Mr. Charles Stoddart, and Ensign Aug. M. Soule. The installation ceremony was performed by Bro. Peter Matthews, P.M., and Bro. J. Egles, P.M., who impressively rendered the ceremony, and placed Bro. Frederick Graves in the Worshipful Master's chair for the year 1876. Twenty-seven Past Masters formed the board, which number agrees with the number of years that the lodge has been in existence. The following brethren were invested by the W.M. as his officers for the year.—Bros. Griffiths Smith, I.P.M.; Spicer, S.W.; Webster, J.W.; Peter Matthews, P.M., Treas.; J. Egles, P.M., Sec.; Everingham, S.D.; Sanderson, J.D.; Stohwasser, I.G.; Jolliffe, D.C.; and T. Woodstock, Tyler. The W.M. at the conclusion of the ceremony placed a handsome P.M.'s jewel on the breast of Bro. Griffiths Smith, voted by the lodge in recognition of his services as W.M. for the past year. Three propositions for initiation and one proposition for joining were then presented, and the lodge was then closed. A nice banquet, accompanied by some choice wines from the cellar of the lodge, followed, and the toasts were afterwards proposed and drunk, interspersed, however, with solo and part songs by Bros. T. Baxter, Carter, Thornton, and Winn. After “The Health of the Queen and the Craft” had been duly honoured, the W.M., in proposing that of “The Grand Master,” referred to his journey to the East, where he was now assisting most materially in cementing that bond of union which ought to subsist between the natives and the whites. He was also doing more; he had attended lodges out there, and had helped by that means to make Masonry flourish in that distant part of our possessions. (Hear hear.) Bro. James Mason, P.G.S.B., responded for “The Pro G.M., the D.G.M., &c.,” and adverted to the very satisfactory manner in which Bros. Matthews and Egles had performed the ceremony of installation, who were intensely gratified with it, as well as with the initiations by the I.P.M., Bro. Griffiths Smith. He concluded by wishing the lodge as a regimental lodge, peace, plenty, and unanimity. Bro. Griffiths Smith proposed the “The Health of the W.M.” He was but speaking the truth when he said that Bro. Graves was one of the best men the brethren had had in the lodge for some time. He was a most worthy man, irrespective of being a Mason. He had been in the lodge longer than he (Bro. G. Smith) had. He had done his duty not only in the Artillery Company but in the lodge. He had worked his way through all the offices of the lodge, and when he came to perform the ceremonies of initiation, passing, and raising at next meeting the opinion they had been able to form of him from what he had done that evening would be confirmed. He (Bro. Griffiths Smith) would conclude by wishing him good health, and that the lodge might prosper under his care. (Cheers.) Bro. F. Graves, W.M., in acknowledging the toast, said it had been his ambition for a long time past to become Master of the Fitz-Roy Lodge, and having attained the summit of his ambition he should use his best endeavours to uphold the honour of the lodge in every respect during his year of office. (Cheers.) After this he proposed “The Initiates,” of whom there were eight, and Bros. Parker and McKenzie replied. The toast of “The Visitors” followed, and the W.M. remarked that there were forty-one present, a thing very rarely found in a lodge. He selected Bro. Loftus, P.P.G.J.W. Norfolk, P.M. 1193, to respond. It would be remembered that a year or two ago a detachment of the Hon. Artillery Company marched into Norfolk. On its reaching there Bro. Loftus entertained not only those of them who were Masons, but every member of the detachment, in the most hospitable manner. Consequently, he thought he was a fit brother to respond to the toast. (Applause.) Bro. Loftus, who was received with the greatest enthusiasm, in reply, said that this was the first Masonic lodge he had ever been present at in London, and he had come there with no idea that he would be called upon to respond to a toast, and especially he thought he should have been free from doing so when there were so many distinguished Masons who were visitors as well as himself. Still, he was old enough in Masonry to know that his duty towards the chair was to obey the W.M., and as he had been selected he would respond. As the W.M. had referred to the Hon. Artillery Company's march into Norfolk he might be excused for mentioning that he (Bro. Loftus) was at the time Grand Junior Warden of that province, and when he was told that so distinguished a corps, which included many distinguished Masons, were coming, he thought he would not be doing his duty as Provincial Junior Warden if he did not entertain them. He had looked forward to his visit to London with very great pleasure for many a day, but though he had been there three months he had not until that evening entered a Masonic Lodge, it being his sincere wish that he should visit the Fitz-Roy before any other. He would like to inform the brethren present that for what he did as Master of his lodge, and humbly representing the province of Norfolk, the Fitz-Roy Lodge presented the Doric with a handsome silver snuff-box, which was now in the lodge, and which was held up before the brethren every evening they met, and they were very proud of it. It was one of the most pleasing reflections he had in his Masonic life that he had been able to give a proof that he knew how to perform his duty, and he could assure the Hon. Artillery

Company if they marched into Norfolk again they would be received with the same Masonic feeling as they were before. The W.M. then proposed "The Health of the I.P.M., Bro. Griffiths Smith," who, having gone now into the ranks of the P.M.'s of the lodge, would be found equally ready with the other P.M.'s to come to the assistance of the W.M. when he required help in the performance of any of the ceremonies. Bro. Griffiths Smith in reply said that along with the other P.M.'s of the Fitz-Roy Lodge he had always tried to promote its good. He had to thank the brethren for the assistance they had rendered him. Apart altogether from the lodge toast, he had to inform the brethren of a subject which they would like to hear. During the last month he was Master it was proposed that the ball should be given under the patronage of the Fitz-Roy Lodge; and he wished that the brethren should send in their applications for tickets at once; as the number was limited. The ball would be a private ball, but yet it would be under the patronage of the Fitz-Roy Lodge. W.M. proposed "The Treasurer and Secretary," both of whom had held these offices for many years. They had been annually chosen all that time, and that would not have been the case if they had not fulfilled their duties in a most able manner. Bro. Peter Matthews and Bro. Joseph Egles responded. The former said he had been 40 years in Masonry and had at all times felt great pleasure in it. The Fitz-Roy Lodge was now in its 27th year. It was prosperous and had fulfilled the expectations of those who started it. He then gave a history of its origin and progress. They had £135 in their Treasurer's hands besides a good stock of wine in the cellar, which they were very glad to dispense among visitors as well as themselves. As a proof of the prosperity of the lodge, 78 brethren had sat down to banquet that evening, and 27 P.M.'s were at the installation. There must be some good in Masonry for such a result. But in all they did at their lodge they never forgot the charities. In 27 years the lodge had collected about £1000 for these institutions, which last year received from the whole Masonic body more than £30,000. He concluded by begging of the brethren never to forget the boys and girls, the old men and the old women. Bro. Egles in his reply made special reference to the initiates, who he hoped would see in Masonry something which taught them to work harmoniously and with a friendly feeling together. Let them carry those feelings outside the lodge. All could do something in their time to produce kind feelings, and they might gather from Masonry much that was good. What Masonry was in years gone by it was to the present time. It reminded him of a few lines he had committed to memory about a lamplighter:

From lamp to lamp he hurries on
Till he has lighted every one;
Behind he leaves a track of light;
In front, the shades of coming night;
The wayworn traveller hails from far
The kindling of each earthborn star.
Let us then, like the lamplighter,
Illuminate our little sphere,
To cheer where all is dark and dreary
To lend aid to careworn and weary,
That they who travel bear in mind
We leave a track of light behind.

The brethren shortly afterwards separated.

GREAT NORTHERN LODGE (No. 1287).—On Thursday, 26th ult., the installation meeting of this lodge was held at Freemasons' Hall, Bro. James Forbes, W.M., presiding. There was a large gathering of brethren on the occasion, and among the visitors present we observed Bros. Parsons, 180; Mackull, 134; Kingston, 862; Bartlett, 186; Pulling, 144; Busbridge, 1063; Koester, 438; Cutmore, Whewell, Foster, Trimsell, 1425; Arkell, 172; Dyer, 22; Standage, 241; J. Wright, 1158; Friswell, 1348; Turner, 157; and Edmund C. Massey ("Freemason"). The following gentlemen were ballotted for and initiated:—Mr. Richard Cane, Mr. John Jackson, and Mr. Charles Kempton, after which Bro. E. Lancaster, J.W., was presented to the W.M. for installation, and having been obligated in the customary form was presented to a Board of Installed Masters and inducted into the chair of K.S. The whole of the ceremonies were performed and the charges delivered by the W.M., Bro. Forbes, in a very able manner, although he was suffering much from a very severe cold. At the conclusion of the ceremony the W.M. appointed his officers as follows:—Bros. Christie, S.W.; Jupe, J.W.; Webb, Treas.; Staton, P.M., Sec.; West, S.D.; Robinson, J.D.; Arkell, I.G.; Scherle, D.C. The lodge having been closed in perfect harmony, the brethren adjourned to a very elegant banquet at Freemasons' Tavern. When the cloth had been removed the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed by the Worshipful Master, who, in proposing "The Health of the Prince of Wales," observed that by the journey he had undertaken to a far distant country he was doing more good than if he had remained in England, for by that visit he was bringing the two countries into closer union—that by making himself at home in India he was bringing India to the side of England and cementing it to the old country. He thought they had every reason to be proud of their M.W.G.M., and did not doubt that his visit to India would have a very beneficial effect upon Freemasonry in that distant province; what a pleasure too it must be to those brethren in the East, who otherwise in many cases would have no chance of seeing the head of the Craft. In proposing "The Health of the Deputy G.M., the Earl Skelmersdale," the W.M. coupled with the toast the name of Bro. Busbridge, 1063, who, on rising to respond, said that he did not know why the W.M. had associated his name with the toast of the Deputy G.M. of England, except that he was an underling Grand Officer. He had been Master of his lodge, and he might have had some influence in quarters where his opinions had not been unappreciated, but certainly he was not prepared that night to

answer for the Deputy Grand Master of England. As, however, he had been called upon, and as all must bow to the wishes of the W.M., he trusted to the indulgence of his audience to help him over the difficulty of his position; if he should say anything he ought not to say, that they would forgive him; if he should omit something that he ought to say, that they would bear with him and accept the will for the deed. Freemasonry had among the principles of its existence the affording relief and assistance to those who needed them, and these principles affected Masons in their work in the Craft, as well as the affording relief and assistance to the needy in another sense. Thus the Deputy Grand Master's functions were to assist and act for the M.W.G.M. when that distinguished personage was unable by reason of those public and private calls upon his time to perform his Masonic duties in person. These duties the Deputy Grand Master performed with skill and ability. He was deservedly popular in the Craft, and he (Bro. Busbridge) felt it a great honour to be called upon to respond to the toast which had been so cordially proposed by the W.M. that evening. He tendered them his best thanks on behalf of the Deputy Grand Master, and trusted that he might at the same time be allowed to add his acknowledgments for the kindness with which he personally had been received on this occasion. The W.M. next proposed "The Health of the Three Initiates, Bros. Richard Cane, John Jackson, and Charles Kempton." It was always a pleasure to see a fresh stone added to the Temple of Freemasonry, and it was the duty as well as the interest of all to collect the materials, when they found them worthy, from far and wide. He had not himself as yet had the satisfaction of employing his working tools in laying any of these three stones, but he trusted that during his year of office he should have the pleasure not only of passing and raising them to their proper places, but also of adding many similar stones to the structure of the Great Northern Lodge, of which it was his happiness now to be the head. The three candidates, in replying, expressed themselves highly gratified with what they had that day seen of Freemasonry, and trusted that they would live to become worthy members of the Craft. Bro. Forbes, I.P.M.: Brethren, I have now a very pleasant duty to perform, but it is also a very important one. It is to propose the health of our W.M., but before calling upon you to drink it I wish to say a word or two. Brethren, you may congratulate yourselves on the choice you have made in selecting Bro. Lancaster to be your W.M. In the first place he is a true Englishman, faithful and just in the discharge of duties; secondly, he is an excellent Mason, whose working is as perfect as working possibly can be; and thirdly, he has risen to his present position from being an initiate in this lodge, and I am sure that you could not have chosen any one who could better discharge the duties of his high office either in the lodge or at the banquet table. I propose his health, wishing him all the success that you wished me a year ago. Bro. Lancaster, W.M.: I return you my most heartfelt thanks for the kind and cordial manner in which this toast has been proposed and received by you. It is a source of satisfaction to me that I am the first lay brother who has become Master of this lodge, and I beg to assure you that I shall use my best endeavours to carry on the work of the lodge as my predecessors have done before me, and with the able assistance of your Immediate Past Master, I have no doubt that I shall be able to do so. I have now to propose "The Health of the P.M.'s of this Lodge." You all know the debt of gratitude we owe them, and their willingness at all times to render aid in working the lodge, and their desire to raise the Great Northern Lodge to a high pitch of excellence. I, therefore, have much pleasure in proposing their health, and while doing so I have the very pleasing duty to perform of presenting your I.P.M., Bro. Forbes, with a P.M. jewel. It affords me great pleasure to place this on his breast, as the gift of the brethren of the Great Northern Lodge, as a mark of their appreciation of his services as Master of the lodge. Bro. Forbes thanked the brethren for their beautiful gift, and assured them he should always treasure it. He should always be ready to aid the Master with counsel and assistance, as others had assisted him during his term of office. The other P.M.'s having responded, the toasts of "The Visitors and Officers" were proposed and duly honoured. In the course of the evening some very good songs were sung, which our readers will readily understand when we say that Bro. Mackney was one of the brethren present.

IVY LODGE (No. 1447).—The January meeting of this lodge was held on Tuesday, the 18th ult., at the Windsor Castle Hotel, Southwark. The lodge was opened by the W.M. (Bro. George Mattock) at 6.30 p.m., supported by the following officers:—C. Smith, I.P.M.; Cattle, S.W.; Poupard, J.W.; Cornhillson, S.D.; Ashwell, J.D.; and D. H. Ashford, I.G. (acting for Bro. Knight Smith, who as usual kindly undertook the musical arrangements); Fox, Tyler. The Secretary, Bro. Jolly, was, through severe illness, prevented from attending the lodge. After the minutes of the last meeting had been read and confirmed, the W.M. proceeded to raise Bro. Matthews to the degree of a M.M., and afterwards passed Bro. Chambers to the Degree of a F.C. Mr. Wadkinson was initiated. This being the night for the election of W.M. for the ensuing year, the choice of the brethren fell upon Bro. Cantell, the S.W., who will be regularly installed into the chair of K.S. at the next meeting in March. A Past Master's jewel was then voted to Bro. Mattock, the outgoing W.M., who was also unanimously elected to the office of Treasurer to the lodge for the ensuing year. Bro. Fox, P.M. 73, the first and much respected Tyler of the lodge, was, without a single dissent, unanimously re-elected Tyler. Bros. Goodman, Partington, and three other brethren were elected on the Audit Committee, and Bros. Ashwell, Vernon, Burgess, and Giles on the Benevolent Fund Committee. The brethren present were Bros. Noke, P.M.; Skegg, Foster, Pantlin,

Ashford, Partington, and several others. Visitor: Bro. Allcott, of the Zetland Lodge, No. 525, Hong Kong, China.

METROPOLITAN LODGE (No. 1507).—A further meeting of this lodge was held on the 20th ult., at the Metropolitan Club, 269, Pentonville-road. Bro. J. J. Michael, W.M., presided, and there were also present Bros. Williams, S.W.; Kingham, J.W.; James Willing, I.P.M.; George Tims, P.M., Secretary; J. Douglass, S.D.; Scales, J.D.; Side, I.G.; Stiles, D.C.; Colls, W.S.; and Saintsbury, Cheek, Jones, Carter, Solomon, Gilbert, Rapkin, Hatton, Fowler, Page, Clarke, Easy, Little, Rogers; and visitors Bros. Middlemas and Edwards. Bros. Cave, Van Camp, and Lovegrove were raised; Bros. Baddeley and H. Scales passed; and Messrs. Hewison, G. Clark, and T. S. Raney, of the Metropolitan Railway, initiated. Banquet followed, and in the course of the speeches which were afterwards delivered Bros. Willing and Middlemas gave very interesting and valuable advice to the younger brethren, impressing upon them the necessity of making themselves acquainted with the ceremonies and teachings of the Craft by diligent attendance at lodges of instruction. There was some very pleasant music and singing during the evening.

DUKE OF CONNAUGHT LODGE (No. 1524).—The installation meeting of this lodge was held on Thursday, the 27th ult. Among those present were Bros. W. H. Lee, W.M.; T. C. Chapman, S.W.; W.M. elect.; H. Lister, J.W.; B. Meyer, Treas.; Neville Green, Sec.; J. B. Shackleton, S.D.; James Symes, J.D.; W. H. Brand, John Varney, H. G. Moon, J. Bailey, H. Meyer, F. Brasted, Jas. Alford, C. W. Smyth, R. Dallas, C. Johnson, E. A. Harding, J. Watson, and F. A. Kelly. Visitors: W. Smeed, P.M. 946, P.P.G.J.W. Middlesex; John Bingemann, P.M. 55; W. Sheed, 1366; F. D. Rees Copestick, P.M. 869; W. T. Kipling, P.M. 946; Marx Gross, J. J. Marsh, E. W. Clarke, R. A. Steel, W.M. 1194; G. C. Young, and E. Wilden, P.M. The lodge was opened in the First Degree. The minutes of the regular and emergency meetings were read, also the report of the Audit Committee. Mr. Edward Dignam was then ballotted for which proved unanimous in his favour. Bros. Bailey and Moon were then raised to the Degree of Master Mason, and Bro. Smyth p.a.s.d. The next proceeding was that of installing Bro. Thos. Charles Chapman as Worshipful Master for the ensuing year, which ceremony was performed in a very creditable manner. Bro. Chapman then appointed and invested the following brethren as his officers:—Bros. Lister, S.W.; Shackleton, J.W.; B. Meyer, Treas.; W. H. Lee, P.M., Sec.; James Symes, S.D.; Neville Green, J.D.; H. Meyer, D. C. of C.; F. Brand, I.G.; Johnson and Alford, Stewards; Gilchrist, Tyler. The re-appointment of Bro. Gilchrist was received with loud applause by the brethren. The lodge being opened in the First Degree, Mr. E. Dignam was initiated. The lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to an elegant banquet, the serving of which reflected great credit upon the caterer, Bro. T. H. Prestage. Banquet over, the usual toasts followed, among them being "The Queen and the Craft;" "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M.;" the Earl of Carnarvon, Pro G.M.; Lord Skelmersdale, Deputy G.M.; and the rest of the Grand Officers, Present and Past," each toast being given by the W.M. with the usual complimentary observations, the brethren receiving them in the customary manner. The next toast the W.M. proposed was that of "The Installing Master, the I.P.M., Bro. W. H. Lee," and in the course of his remarks he alluded to the very satisfactory manner in which Bro. Lee had discharged the duties of W.M. during his year of office, and that if he (Bro. Chapman) could do likewise, he would, at the expiration of his term, retire from the chair, which he had the honour of filling, perfectly satisfied. He then presented Bro. Lee with a very handsome Past Master's jewel, manufactured by Bro. George Kenning, which was much admired for its design and workmanship. Bro. Lee was also presented with a gold watch subscribed for by the members of the lodge and presented to him as a token of the great esteem in which he is held. The I.P.M. replied in a very feeling manner. The W.M. then proposed "The Initiate." "The Visitors" toast was then given, the W.M. expressing in very happy terms, the great pleasure he experienced in seeing so many present. This toast was acknowledged by Bros. Smeed and Copestick. The next toast on the list was that of "The Masonic Charities," on behalf of which Bro. Lee, I.P.M., and Steward for this lodge for the forthcoming festival of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, made a most feeling reply, urging upon the brethren to support the charities to their utmost. We believe a favourable result followed Bro. Lee's appeal. The several toasts were given by Bro. Chapman with excellent point and brevity. The Tyler's Toast brought a very enjoyable evening to a close.

LIVERPOOL.—Harmonic Lodge (No. 216).—The annual installation meeting of this lodge was recently held at the Adelphi Hotel. The new W.M. is Bro. W. Dwyerhouse, and the ceremony of installation was most admirably and impressively performed by Bro. J. McKune, P.M. The following officers were also elected:—Bros. A. C. Moore, P.M.; D. S. Davies, S.W.; Edwin Evans, J.W.; W. Laidlaw, Treas.; Rev. J. R. Jenkins, Sec.; J. P. Bailey, S.D.; R. P. Gill, J.L.; W. J. Wright, S.S. The funds of the lodge, which is one of the most prosperous in town, were reported to be in a flourishing condition, notwithstanding that considerable grants for charitable purposes were made during the year. After the installation the brethren dined together under the presidency of the new W.M., and a most pleasant evening was spent. There was a very large attendance of the brethren of the lodge, and among the visitors were Bros. Dr. K. Smith, P.G.R., and E. Friend, P.P.J.D., of Cheshire.

HELSTON.—Lodge True and Faithful (No. 318), was held on Wednesday, the 19th ult., when Bro. H. Trembath, P.M., was for the second time installed W.M. of the lodge. The ceremony was very impressively performed by Bro. A. T. Grant, P.M. The W.M. then invested the following brethren as his officers for the ensuing year:—Bros. A. T. Grant, I.P.M.; J. Jeffry, S.W.; R. S. James, J.W.; W. H. Bloxsome, P.S.G.C., Chap.; T. N. Curry, P.M., P.G.S.D., Treas.; W. Wearne, S.D.; W. H. Michell, J.D.; J. Trebilcock, I.G.; R. Arthur and J. Rowe, Supt. of Wks.; Scobell and Haswell, Directors of Ceremonies; W. R. Coulson Arthur, Org.; J. M. Pascoe, C. Lory, and J. A. Hill, Stewards; R. James, Tyler; T. Davey, P.M., Steward Cornwall Masonic Annuity Fund (including several visiting brethren). The brethren then retired to Bro. W. H. Nicholls', Star Hotel, where they sat down to a most excellent spread, and a very enjoyable evening was spent.

TRURO.—Phoenix Lodge (No. 331).—The festival of St. John the Evangelist was celebrated on the 17th ult. by the members of this lodge. Bro. W. H. Christoe, jun., was installed W.M. by V.W. Bro. J. F. Penrose, P.M., P. Prov. J.G.W., in a very impressive manner, and the officers for the year were appointed as follows:—Bros. W. Sharp, S.W.; Jose, J.W.; J. Hawken, Sec.; S. Serpell, Treas.; Rev. R. Blackmore, Chap.; Jeffery, S.D.; Ferris, J.D.; S. Harvey, I.G.; S. Stephens, D.C.; Taylor and F. Christoe, Stewards; and J. Rooks, Tyler. The brethren, with visitors, afterwards attended a banquet at the Red Lion Hotel, provided in excellent style by Bro. Bray. The W.M., Bro. W. H. Christoe, jun., occupied the chair; and Bros. Sharp and Jose, the two Wardens' chairs. Amongst those present were Bros. Webber (Mayor), Harris and Carter, from the mother lodge of the province, Love and Honour, Falmouth; N. B. Bullen and Crewes, Fortitude, Truro; Jeffery and Hill, True and Faithful, Helston; J. Hocking, jun., J. Sims, and J. Thomas, Druids, Redruth; Rev. G. L. Church, J. Paull, and J. Ninnes, Chacewater; Hicks, Duke of Cornwall, St. Columb; and many others; besides a large attendance of the brethren of the Phoenix Lodge, including Bros. W. H. Jenkins, E. T. Carlyon, T. Solomon, W. Tweedy, E. D. Anderton, S. Serpell, J. Bray, Sharp, Jose, Jeffery, Ferris, Michell, and others. A delightful evening was spent, many good and interesting speeches being made, and some excellent songs sang.

LIVERPOOL.—Derby Lodge (No. 724).—The annual installation meeting of this lodge was held on Wednesday, the 26th ult., at the Masonic Hall, Liverpool. The lodge was opened by Bro. J. W. Ballard, W.M., supported by Bros. J. Davison, P.M.; W. Shortis, P.M.; J. Stedford, P.M.; W. Vaughan, S.W.; G. Beeken, J.W.; T. Chesworth, P.M., Treas.; A. Hart, Sec.; R. Crispe, S.D.; M. Hart, J.D.; H. Trevett, I.G.; W. G. Veale, Org.; R. Cain, P.M.; G. Hutchin, P. Armstrong, T. Thomson, G. H. Ward, F. Nelson, I. Jacobs, J. Miller, T. Jackson, M. Hynes, H. Dutton, H. T. Evans, J. P. Foster, J. K. Porter, A. Hood, W. Hawksworth, R. Ellison, R. Pritchard, H. Passmore, J. Blenkinsop, J. Metcalfe, E. Griffiths, S. Rey, G. Gordon, G. Beard, W. J. Naylor, J. Ellis, R. Sherrington, J. Mossop, J. Maher, E. Foxall, J. Foxall, H. Jones, J. Hanlon, J. Comins, I. Platts, J. Woodcock, T. Heaton, A. J. Henochsberg, W.M. 1502, and others. In the visitors' list, which included some fifty names, there were conspicuous Bros. J. S. Cuthbert, 823; J. W. Burgess, J.W. 1325; H. Hatch, 220; T. F. Hill, 220; J. Holland, P.M. 823; P. Thomas, 1505; J. Hall, 241; R. Ellis, 823; J. F. Hall, 673; W. C. Connell, P.M. 137 (I.C.); W. Archer, P.M. 1086; T. Shaw, W.M. 823; J. H. Parker, Sec. 1547; J. A. Forrest, S.W. 1547; A. Morrison, J.W. 1570; G. Sculthorpe, P.M. 1035; W. Cottrell, I.P.M. 823; J. Pemberton, P.G.S., P.M. 1264; T. Dilcock, W.M. 594; T. Evans, P.M. 1356; J. Dutton, J.W. 477; E. O. C. Rothwell, P.M. 1356; J. R. Bottomley, 1356; J. Peters, P.G.S.W. N. Wales and Shropshire, P.M. 597 and 1488; T. Fozzard, P.M. 1035; R. Williams, 594; H. Burrows, J.W. 673; J. W. Johnson, 1356; J. Wood, Treasurer 1094; S. E. Ibbis, P.M. 594, P.P.G.S.B.; W. Thompson, J.D. 1182; the Rev. G. H. Vernon, M.A., P.P.G.C.; J. S. Barton, 1182; H. Nelson, P.M. 673 and 1505; J. T. Callow, W.M. 1505; G. Broadbridge, P.P.G. D.C.; Captain T. Berry, S.W. 155; S. Millikin, 823; J. Lecomber, J.W. 594; and T. B. Harrison, 528 (U.S.A.). After the minutes had been read and confirmed, Mr. T. Henry was initiated by Bro. Ballard, the retiring W.M., who performed the ceremony in a manner which is rarely equalled in the Province of West Lancashire, the effectiveness of the working being greatly enhanced by the splendid style in which every officer of the lodge did his share of the ceremony. Bro. W. Vaughan, the W.M. elect, was then presented by Bros. Shortis and Davison, P.M.'s of the Derby, to Bro. Ballard as the Installing Master. The work was excellently done by Bro. Ballard, whose maiden effort did him infinite credit, the addresses to the W.M., officers, and brethren being given in a way which must have impressed every one who was present. The following were the officers invested:—Bros. J. W. Ballard, I.P.M.; G. Beeken, S.W.; Asher Hart, J.W.; M. Chesworth, P.M., Treas. (eighth time); R. Crispe, Sec.; Maurice Hart, S.D.; H. Trevett, J.D.; W. G. Veale, Org.; P. Armstrong, I.G.; Ellis, S.S.; Hawksworth, J.S.; Gordon, Asst. S.; and Bro. Williamson, Tyler. There were five propositions for initiation. The W.M., in name of the members of the lodge, presented a very valuable and exquisitely made P.M.'s jewel supplied by Bro. G. Kenning) to Bro. J. W. Ballard, I.P.M., and in the course of a pointed and forcible speech he referred to the admirable manner in which he had fulfilled the duties of the chair. Bro. Ballard responded in happy terms. There was also a presentation made to Bro. T. Chesworth, P.M.,

Treas., of a Treasurer's jewel, a suitable inscription by the members, as a token of the esteem in which he is held by all in the lodge. After this gift had been suitably acknowledged by Bro. Chesworth the brethren sat down to a sumptuous banquet, which was served by Bro. Ball in good style. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given by the W.M. with the most telling effect and well-chosen terms. Several fine glees and songs were given by Bros. Veale, M. Hart, A. J. Henochsberg, Hutchin, Ellis, and others, and the really charming performances by Bro. Gill on the "Fairy Bells" brought this memorable "Derby" day of 1876 to a close.

DEPTFORD.—Royal Oak Lodge (No. 871).—At the White Swan Tavern, 217, High-street, Deptford, on Thursday, the 27th ult., was held the regular meeting of this well-established lodge. In the unavoidable absence of the W.M., Bro. S. A. Lewin (caused through urgent private business), Bro. George Andrews, P.M., took the chair. Bro. Alfred Rolington, 1326, was passed to the Second Degree. The bye-laws were revised. The by-laws were read; the elections were proceeded with. They were unanimous in favour of Bros. Henry James Tuson, S.W., as W.M.; William Andrews, P.M., re-elected Treasurer; and J. Bavin, P.M. 147, re-elected Tyler. The Auditors were elected. Three gentlemen were proposed for initiation. The lodge was closed. There were present Bros. H. J. Tuson, S.W.; J. J. Pakes, J.W.; F. Walters, P.P.G.P. Middlesex, P.M., Sec.; J. Baxter Langley, J.D.; J. G. Vohmann, D.C.; R. Harman, W.S.; J. Hawker, P.M.; and some forty other members. Visitors: Bros. C. Hosgood, P.M. 192; C. Graham, 1540; J. A. Smith, W.M. 1178; H. Cutress, 1326; and some others.

ST. DAY.—Lodge Tregulow (No. 1006).—The Festival of St. John the Evangelist took place on Tuesday, the 18th ult. The brethren met at the lodge-room at 2 p.m., when, after passing Bro. Edwards to the Second Degree, Bro. Theophilus Michell was installed as W.M. The ceremony was very impressively performed by Bro. George Michell, P.M. The W.M. then appointed his officers as follows:—Bros. Edmund Rogers, I.P.M.; F. Bartle, S.W.; J. H. Mayne, J.W.; Rev. J. Gillan, Chap.; G. Mitchell, Treas.; G. J. Gregor, Sec.; Joseph Pryor, Assist. Sec.; T. Provis, S.D.; George Bray, J.D.; Thomas R. Mills, I.G.; Piper and Dawe, Stewards; W. Pryor, D.C. The banquet took place in the evening at Bro. Bennett's Hotel.

LIVERPOOL.—The Prince of Wales Lodge (No. 1035).—The members of this lodge met a few days ago at the Masonic Hall, Kirkdale, for the purpose of installing Bro. J. F. Newell, who had been re-elected W.M. for the ensuing year. There was a large assembly of brethren. Amongst others were Bros. M'Nab, P.M. 1035; George Morgan, P.M. 1035; J. Ellis, W.M. 1086; J. Lunt, P.M. 1086, P.E.D.C.; Ibbis, P.M. 594; M'Arthur, P.M. 1086; H. Wyatt, W.M. 1473; Hocken, P.M. 673, 1505; H. Ashmore, W.M. 1325; and Berry, S.W. 155. The I.M. was Bro. Fozzard, P.M. 1035. On the re-admission of the brethren, the W.M. was saluted with all the honours, after which he proceeded to invest his officers as follows:—Bros. Willis, S.W.; J. W. M'Wear, J.W.; Bunting, Treas.; T. M'Wear, Sec.; R. R. Forshaw, A. Sec.; Donkin, S.D.; J. Wailes, J.D.; J. P. Bryan, S.S.; W. Forrester and R. Wilson, Stewards; and Fozzard, P.M., D.C. After the ceremony the brethren adjourned to the "Liverpool" dining-rooms, where a capital entertainment was provided by Bro. Ballard. After the dinner the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed. Bro. Fozzard, in proposing "The Health of the W.M.," highly eulogised his policy during the past year, which had resulted in placing the lodge in such a prosperous condition, and expressed a hope that next year might see a still further progress under his rule. The W.M., in responding, said he had had but one aim, which he was determined to carry out in the face of all obstacles, and that was the welfare of the lodge. He referred to the former position of the lodge, some seven years ago, when it was among the foremost of the province, and hoped it would very shortly take the same position. After a most agreeable evening the brethren separated. The musical duties of the installation and banquet were efficiently performed by Bros. Bryan, C. E. Bryan, Queen, Rees, and Forrester.

HAMPTON COURT.—Burdett Lodge (No. 1293).—This lodge assembled in full strength at the celebrated Mitre Hotel, on Saturday, the 22nd January, it being the installation of the W.M. Bro. Keily, the outgoing Master, took the chair at three o'clock, and, being ably supported by the officers of the lodge, performed the ceremony of passing a brother to the Second Degree in a faultless manner. Bro. John Hervey, the G. Secretary, then assumed the chair for the purpose of installing the new Master, Bro. David W. Pearse, P.M. 657. Amongst the brethren were noticed the R.W. Bros. Col. Burdett, Prov. G.M.; Raynham W. Stewart, P. Prov. D.G.M.; R. W. Little, Prov. G.S.W., Treas.; H. G. Buss, Prov. G. Treas., Sec.; H. Phythian, Prov. G. Sec.; C. Coote, P. Prov. G.O.; Rev. David Shaboe, P. Prov. G. Chaplain; D. W. Pearse, S.W. and W.M.; E. S. Berrie, J.W.; E. J. Southwell, S.D.; D. Bindoff, J.D.; and a large number of members of the lodge. The ceremony of installation was delivered by the Grand Secretary in a way so well known to those members of the Craft who have had the pleasure of witnessing the work of that V.W. brother. The W.M., Bro. Pearse, then appointed and invested the following brethren officers for the ensuing year, viz.: Bros. J. W. Berrie, S.W.; E. J. Southwell, J.W.; R. W. Little, Prov. G.S.W., Treas.; H. G. Buss, Prov. G. Treas., Sec.; Rev. D. Shaboe, P. Prov. G.C., S.D.; R. L. Sindall, J.D.; H. M. Gordon, I.G.; C. Coote, P. Prov. G.O., Org.; T. C. Woollard, M.C.; B. Mallam, Stwd.; J. Gilbert, Tyler. The W.M. then invested Bro. Keily, I.P.M., with a very elegant Past Master's jewel, voted to him by the lodge, and for which Bro. Keily expressed his acknow-

ledgments in very graceful terms. The brethren then retired to an excellent banquet, provided by the host, Bro. Sadler, and after the cloth was cleared the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and responded to. The visitors were Bros. O. H. Pearson, P. Prov. G.D. Middlesex; H. Braham, of 876; T. H. Edmonds, P.G. Steward 8; T. Allen, 65; J. Willcox, 975; J. Green, S.W. 27; Col. Peters, Prov. S.G.D. Middlesex; Major Shadwell Clarke, P. Prov. G.W. Devon; A. C. Lewis, 231; F. Binckes, Secretary Boys' School; A. McStellard Wix, 735, Nelson, N.Z.

FOREST HILL.—West Kent Lodge (No. 1297).—The members of this lodge met on Saturday at the Railway Hotel, Forest Hill. The lodge having been opened in due form by the W.M., Bro. J. Allen, assisted by Bros. Stead, as S.W., and Crouch, as J.W., the election of W.M., Treasurer, and Tyler for the ensuing year was proceeded with. A ballot having been taken, the W.M. declared that Bro. Stead was elected as the incoming W.M. In him they would have a brother who would fill the chair with credit to the lodge and to himself. Bro. Stead, in thanking the brethren for electing him, said he did not expect to fulfil the duties of Master so well as those who had preceded him, especially the present W.M., but he could promise them to do his best to be worthy of his predecessors. Previous to the ballot for Treasurer, Bro. Warren, P.M., who had held that office since the establishment of the West Kent Lodge, requested the brethren not to re-elect him, as he was unable to attend to the duties of the office any longer. Much regret was expressed at the decision of Bro. Warren, and Bro. Leonard, the Secretary, was elected as Treasurer. Bro. Beckett was re-elected unanimously as Tyler, and after some other business had been transacted the lodge closed in perfect harmony. The banquet which followed labour being concluded, the W.M. proposed the first toast, "The Queen and the Craft," and in so doing said there was no doubt that Her Majesty had the welfare of the Craft at heart, and this was shown by the fact that most of her sons were Freemasons. The toast was drunk with Masonic honours. The W.M., in proposing the next toast, said the Prince of Wales was also the Prince of Masons. (Cheers.) That he was both no one would dispute, and in his visit to the East His Royal Highness had never neglected an opportunity to do honour to the Craft, or to promote its interests. (Cheers.) They all wished him a safe and happy return to this country, as they wished him long life and prosperity, whether as the Prince of Wales or the Prince of Masons. The toast was drunk with enthusiasm. The W.M. said that it was essential for the well-being of the Craft that the Grand Officers should be worthy of their position, and he was sure they would echo his words when he said that the Earl of Carnarvon had given immense satisfaction as Pro Grand Master. (Cheers.) Lord Skelmersdale, the Deputy Grand Master, also had always shown a great desire to promote the interest of the Craft, and there was no question that its interests would be well maintained by those who now ruled in Grand Lodge during the absence of our Grand Master. (Cheers.) He gave, in all sincerity, "The Healths of the Earl of Carnarvon, Lord Skelmersdale, and the other members of Grand Lodge." The toast was received with due honours. Bro. Kindon, P.M., proposed "The Health of the W.M." He had conducted the ceremonies of the lodge and presided over their banquets like a gentleman and a good Mason. The W.M., in reply, said he was very sensible of their kindness in looking over any shortcomings on his part, and he felt they had not been few. He had always striven to earn their approbation and to conduct the business of the lodge well. Those who had gone before him had shown excellent examples of what W. Masters ought to be, and he felt that he had been well repaid if he had fulfilled the duties of the chair to the satisfaction of his brethren. He had perhaps had fewer opportunities than most Freemasons of acquiring a thorough knowledge of the Craft. There were some positions in life which men were compelled to hold, as in his own case, in which there was very little chance of cultivating Masonry, and under these circumstances if he had succeeded in maintaining the reputation of the lodge he felt that he had been most fortunate. He returned them his heartfelt thanks for the way in which they had supported him during his term of office; he should always remember with pleasure his 12 months in the chair, and his wish was that the West Kent Lodge would always flourish. "The Health of the W.M. Elect" was then proposed by the W.M., and was replied to by Bro. Stead, S.W. The other customary toasts brought the proceedings of a very pleasant evening to a happy close.

INSTRUCTION.

METROPOLITAN LODGE OF INSTRUCTION (No. 1507).—The members of this energetic young lodge held their first anniversary banquet on Friday, the 28th ult., at the rooms of the Metropolitan Club, 269, Pentonville-road, King's Cross, Bro. J. Willing, I.P.M., presiding, supported by Bros. J. J. Michael, W.M. 1507, in the chair of the I.P.M.; T. Williams, S.W. 1507, and Sec. 177; and C. J. Scales, J.D. 1507, as the other principal officers. Among the members and visitors present were Bros. W.M. Stiles, D.C., and Assist. Sec. 1507, Hon. Sec.; H. Stiles, Odell, W. Reade, F. Sainsbury, Child, Gilbert, sen., Simonn, Swaagman, Side, J. W. Berrie, J.W. 1293 and 1185; Gomm, H. Scales, Rogers, Ormiston, Liddell, Shanklin, VanCamp, Fenner, Fisher, Davis, Verdon, Gardner, Gilbert, H. M. Levy, Lewis, and E. C. Massey ("Freemason"). The banquet was prepared at the rooms of the Metropolitan Club, and reflected great credit on the chef, being of excellent quality, and admirably served. On the removal of the cloth, Bro. Willing rose and said that the first toast he had to propose was certainly of a routine character, but when a young lodge met at its first anniversary banquet it behoved them to show that they were not behind other lodges in that quality upon which

all good Masons prided themselves, namely, loyalty; he had therefore the pleasant duty of proposing the first Masonic toast, "The Queen and the Craft," and he trusted that the brethren present would show by their reception of it what true and loyal Masons they were. In proposing "The Health of the M.W.G.M., the Prince of Wales," Bro. Willing referred to his visit to India, and the interest which all of us take in watching his progress, and he remarked that it was extremely gratifying to feel that the Prince could take that long journey with perfect confidence in the love and loyalty of the people in this country, to whose care and protection he left those nearest and dearest to him. The other Masonic toasts having been duly proposed, Bro. J. J. Michael said that the W.M. had intrusted him with the gavel for a few minutes. He stood in the position that night of acting P.M. of the Metropolitan Lodge of Instruction, and he was very sorry to say the absence of their esteemed P.M., Bro. Adams, P.G.P., was due to domestic affliction. He knew how highly they all esteemed their instructor, Bro. Adams, and he was sure that all would sympathise with him upon the cause of his absence. He had now to propose "The Health of Bro. Willing, the Founder of their Mother Lodge," and he might likewise say the founder of this lodge of instruction. They had often heard him express his admiration of Bro. Willing's work; indeed, he might say that he did not think there was one thing in Craft Masonry that Bro. Willing could not do; and he was sure that there was nothing he could do for the benefit or comfort of the Metropolitan Lodge of Instruction which he was not willing to do. In fact, he was a very willing fellow altogether, and his ability as a Mason was equal to his good qualities as a man. After thanking Bro. Michael for the kind manner in which he had proposed his health, Bro. Willing proceeded to propose the toast of the evening, "Prosperity to the Metropolitan Lodge of Instruction," in doing which he said that he was very much pleased to be able at the end of their first year to be able to look with satisfaction at the results they had achieved. This lodge of instruction was held at the rooms of the Metropolitan Club in place of being held at a tavern. To become a member of the lodge it was necessary to become a member of the club. They had an able Club Committee and they were made very comfortable. He thought that the lodge of instruction had done very good work. They were sure to learn good working from their esteemed Preceptor, Bro. Adams; when they went into other lodges of instruction, and it happened that their working differed at all from the working prevailing there they had only to defend their mode by saying that that was Bro. Adams' method to be at once acknowledged correct. Bro. Adams was sure was the very best of instructors, always eager to impart knowledge, not for the purpose of airing his own acquirements, but for the most benevolent wish to make others as good workers as himself. And when he had to correct an error it was always done in so kind and courteous a manner as to make it a pleasure to receive his corrections. He was sure that they were very fortunate in possessing such an instructor. He knew that they had been spoken of out of the lodge as having made great progress in this their first year. They were under a certain obligation to the mother lodge for the privilege of working under its charter, but he thought that the parent was still more indebted to them, in the advantage that the members of that lodge had derived from the Metropolitan Lodge of Instruction. Bro. Willing concluded by drinking "Prosperity to the Metropolitan Lodge of Instruction," coupling with the toast the name of Bro. Stiles, their Honorary Secretary, who, in replying, confirmed the remarks made by Bro. Willing as to the acknowledgment in other lodges of instruction of the superior working of their instructor, Bro. Adams. The W.M. then proposed "The Parent Lodge," coupled with the name of Bro. Michael, who, in replying, said that were he a good public speaker the subject Bro. Willing had furnished him with would last him till midnight. He could descant on the solemnity of Freemasonry, also of the cheerfulness and hilarity to be observed among its members; further, of the peculiar feeling which (speaking for himself) there was of their being something beyond us, something unattainable in Freemasonry. We were always learning but never altogether perfect. But passing by such questions as these he would confine himself to the toast that had been proposed "The Metropolitan Lodge." That lodge was undoubtedly a great success. During Bro. Willing's term of office he believed more candidates and joining members were added to them than perhaps had ever fallen to the lot of a W.M. They had had as many initiates night after night as the Book of Constitutions would allow—namely, five—and they had been obliged to call five lodges of emergency in consequence of the influx of initiates. And they had six ordinary meetings. He added that there was never before known such a thing in the annals of Freemasonry. He believed that Freemasonry was growing so fast that the world has come in upon us. He had succeeded to the W.M.'s chair, and had himself held one lodge of emergency, and they had now seven candidates waiting initiation. He thought no lodge could very well be in a more flourishing condition. There was, too, a great desire among them to carry out the tenets of Freemasonry, a marvellous desire to make themselves good, efficient working Masons, and in this direction the Metropolitan Lodge had been a valuable adjunct to the parent lodge. He was himself largely indebted to the lodge of instruction, if not for his position in the mother lodge, still for that fluency with which he was at all times able to work the ceremonies, and he felt it his duty on this its first anniversary to tender it his meed of praise. He concluded by thanking the brethren for their cordiality in receiving the toast of the mother lodge. "The Health of the Officers" was then proposed, and responded to by the Secretary and Senior and Junior Wardens. Before proposing the Tyler's toast the W.M. gave "The Health of the Lay Members of the Lodge," for the purpose of affording an opportunity to some of them

of addressing the chair, which was responded to by several of the members present. The musical efforts of various brethren, who sang in the intervals between the speeches, were very successful, and rendered the occasion of the first anniversary banquet of the Metropolitan Lodge of Instruction a very pleasant evening.

Royal Arch.

DOMATIC CHAPTER (No. 177).—A meeting of this chapter was held on the 17th ult., at Anderson's Hotel. Present: Comps. Bolton, M.E.Z.; Hayward, H. Cottebrune, acting J.; Foulger, I.P.Z.; Buss, P.Z., Treas.; Payne, P.Z.; Sutton, P.Z.; Cubitt, P.Z.; Coutts, P.Z.; Hill, P.S.; Palmer, S.E.; Treadwell, A.S.; and others. The visitors were Comps. Walls, 185; Kent 192. The minutes of the previous convocation having been read and confirmed the election of office-bearers then took place as follows:—Comps. Hayward, M.E.Z.; Scott, H.; Weaver, J.; Palmer, S.E.; Hill, S.N.; Treadwell, P.S.; Buss, P.Z., Treas. A vote of £5 was given to Comp. Foxcroft, who has kindly accepted the position of Steward to the festival of Aged Freemasons. A Past Principal's jewel having been unanimously voted to Comp. Bolton, the chapter was closed in ancient form, and the companions adjourned to an excellent banquet. Upon the removal of the cloth the usual toasts were given by the M.E. slightly prefaced by a few well-chosen remarks. "The Health of the M.E.Z." was proposed by Comp. Buss, P.Z., who spoke of his (Comp. Bolton's) long connection with the lodge, and hope that he would be many years spared to wear the P.Z. jewel which had that evening been so justly voted to him. The M.E., in reply, thanked the Treasurer and the chapter for the very kind and hearty manner in which his health had been proposed and drank, and expressed how sorry he felt that certain untoward circumstances had prevented him from paying that attention to the chapter which the duties of his position as First Principal had demanded, but he hoped in future, in the character of a P.Z. of the chapter to be regularly present at their convocations, in order to render any assistance that might be required. In proposing "The Health of the Visitors" the M.E.Z. expressed his regret that they had not had an opportunity of witnessing any working that evening, but hoped that this visit had been in every way pleasing to them. This toast having been duly honoured, Comp. Walls, on behalf of Comp. Kent and himself, stated that although they had not had on this occasion an opportunity of participating in an exaltation yet he wished to assure his co-visitor and the chapter that on his last visit to the "Domatic" he witnessed the impressive ceremonial of exaltation, most ably carried out by two distinguished P.Z.'s of the chapter, viz., Comps. Adams and Cottebrune, who were most ably supported by the rest of the officers, and he felt confident if the younger members would only follow the guidance and accept the instructions of the many excellent P.Z.'s of the chapter, that the Domatic would continue to be what it has been for years past, one of the best working chapters in the City of London. "The Health of the M.E.Z. elect, and Comp. Scott, H.," was then proposed and drank, and responded to by Comps. Hayward and Cottebrune in the absence of Comp. Scott. "The Health of the P.Z.'s of the Chapter" was then proposed and ably responded to by Comps. Buss, Cottebrune and others. Some vocal effusions by Comps. Palmer, Foxcroft, Webb, and Wall then followed, and the M.E.Z. gave "The Health of the Officers of the Chapter," enumerating them by name. Comps. Palmer, Hill, Treadwell, and Buss replied. The former stated that with the assistance and instruction by Comp. Buss, their worthy Treasurer he had been enabled to discharge the duties of S.E. for five years, and by their favour and support he would continue to do so until the time should arrive when the companions might be in a position to honour him by promoting him to higher office, should they think that his conduct and services as S.E. deserved such a recognition. Previous to the departure of the companions, P.Z.'s Little and C. Horsley came, and were warmly received. The Janitor's toast terminated the proceedings. The installation of Comp. Hayward will take place on the fourth Thursday in March.

WINDSOR CASTLE CHAPTER (No. 771).

—The usual quarterly meeting of this chapter was held at the Masonic Hall, Windsor, on the 20th ult. Present: Comps. Hodges, Z.; Tolley, H.; Grisebrook, J.; Dixon, Scribe E.; Powell, Scribe N.; Flick, P.S.; Devereux, P.Z.; James Stevens, P.Z.; Reid Collins, Roberts, L. W. Carter, Goodwin, J. O. Carter, and others. After the M.E.Z. had opened the chapter, Comp. Stevens exalted Bro. W. R. Denne, W.M. of No. 209, into R.A.M., in his well known efficient and effective manner. Comp. Bryett, J. of 834 Chapter, was admitted as a joining member. A presentation of an interesting nature here took place. It was resolved at the last regular meeting in October to present Comp. James Stevens with a suitable token of the appreciation of the members of the chapter, for the admirable manner in which he has presided over them for the three years ending in October last. The actual presentation was made by Comp. Devereux, who said it was his pleasing duty to present to Comp. Stevens on behalf of the chapter a silver salver, and expressed his admiration of the manner in which the affairs of the chapter had been conducted under Comp. Stevens' long reign. He knew sometimes it was under considerable inconveniences that he attended. He also expressed the pleasure it afforded him to find the presentation was not of the ordinary kind, but something which he knew would be appreciated by Comp. Stevens's wife and family, not only at the present time but also in years to come, he concluded by gracefully wishing not only Comp. Stevens, but also his wife and family, every possible happiness and prosperity, a sentiment he knew would be endorsed by every member of the Windsor Castle Chapter.

Comp. Stevens, in reply, said the handsome present was of greater value than he knew his services had been to the chapter. He had always been pleased and proud to attend the meetings since he first joined. He greatly admired the propriety of departing from the usual rule instead of adding another to his numerous decorations. This was a present he should value indeed, as it was something of domestic utility, and would, he was sure, be highly appreciated by his wife and family. He thanked the companions for their kind expressions towards his wife and children. The salver, which is both costly and handsome, bore the following inscription:—"Presented to Comp. James Stevens, P.Z., by the Windsor Castle Chapter, No. 771, in recognition of past and invaluable services to the chapter, and in remembrance of the three successive years he so kindly and ably filled the F.P. chair as M.E.Z."

LIVERPOOL.—Temple Chapter (No. 1094).—The annual meeting of the members of this chapter for the installation of Principals and the transaction of other business was held on Tuesday, the 23rd ult., at the Masonic Hall, Liverpool. Comp. W. Shortis, M.E.Z., opened the chapter, supported by Comps. J. Pemberton, P.Z.; Dr. J. Kellett Smith, P.Z.; J. B. Robinson, P.M.; R. R. Martin, H.; P. Macmurdow, J.; R. Collings, S.E.; R. C. Yelland, S.N.; R. Washington, P.S.; J. W. Burgess, A.S.; D. Davies, A.S.; R. Ball, Jan.; H. P. Price, H. Dutton, F. J. Jeffrey, J. K. Cave, E. Hughes, J. Hayes, and T. Gray. The visitors were Comps. H. Ashmore, 823; and S. Haynes, P.Z. 823. The minutes having been read and confirmed, and an exaltation having been made, Comp. Dr. J. K. Smith, P.Z., proceeded to instal Comp. R. R. Martin in the chair of M.E.Z., a ceremony which he performed with rare efficiency. Comp. J. B. Robinson, P.Z., also installed Comp. P. Macmurdow as H., and Comp. R. Washington as J., and the other offices were filled as follows:—Comps. J. Pemberton, P.Z., Treas.; R. Collings, S.E.; J. Hayes, S.N.; and R. C. Yelland, P.S. Comp. Pemberton, P.Z., in name of the members of the chapter, presented a very chaste and beautiful P.Z.'s jewel to Comp. W. Shortis, I.P.Z., in a highly complimentary speech, in which he referred to the excellent work he had done in connection with the Temple Chapter. The jewel was supplied by Comp. G. Kenning, and was very generally admired. Comp. Shortis, in an appropriate and eloquent speech, thanked the members for their kindness. After the transaction of some further business, including several propositions for exaltation, the chapter was closed in due form, and the companions afterwards adjourned to banquet. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given, and the companions separated at an early hour.

Mark Masonry.

LEICESTER.—Fowke Lodge (No. 19).—The regular meeting of this lodge took place at Freemasons' Hall, Leicester, on Thursday, January 27th. Amongst those present were R.W. Bros. W. Kelly, P.G.M.M.; G. Toller, jun., W.M.; J. M. M'Allister, I.P.M.; A. M. Duff, and S. S. Partridge, P.M.'s; C. Stretton, S.W.; W. Sculthorpe, J.W.; W. T. Rowlett, S.O.; G. W. Statham, Sec.; J. H. Garnar, Treas.; T. A. Wykes, Reg.; J. Young, J.D.; Robert, Biggs, Taylor, Dr. Meadows, Knight, Odell, Rushin, and others. Apologies for absence were received from most of the officers not present. After the confirmation of the minutes of the preceding meeting, the P.G.M. read the reply of the Grand Secretary to the invitation given by this province to the Grand Lodge to hold their next moveable meeting at Leicester in the autumn, from which it appeared that although the Grand Master could not definitely accept the invitation so long before hand, yet it is probable that he will ultimately do so. Bros. C. G. Woodcock, 1560, P.G. Reg., and F. L. Rolleston, J.D., 1560, being in attendance, were then advanced in due form to the Degree of Mark Mason, and ultimately to Mark Master. The ceremony was performed by the W.M., assisted by the P.G.M. and Bro. Partridge, P.M.; Bro. Duff, P.M., acting as M.O. This being the night for election of W.M., the ballot was taken, and Bro. C. Stretton, S.W., was found to be chosen to the post. In a few well-chosen words he thanked the lodge for the honour conferred on him. Bro. Garnar having resigned his office of Treasurer, Bro. Odell was unanimously elected in his stead. A joining member having been proposed the lodge was closed in due form. The Mark Degree having proved very successful in Leicester, it is not impossible that Grand Lodge at its forthcoming visit may be called on to consecrate a new lodge.

THE LIVERPOOL MASONIC HALL COMMITTEE.—The annual meeting for the election of the committee for the management of the Liverpool Masonic Hall, Hope-street, was held on Friday evening, the 28th ult., when there was an exceedingly large gathering of brethren. Bros. Dr. J. Kellett Smith, Prov. G. Reg., was elected Chairman of the Hall Committee; T. Armstrong, Prov. G. Treas., the Vice-Chairman; J. R. Goepel, P.P.G.D.C., the Treas.; and J. T. Callow, W.M. 1505, P.M. 673; the Secretary, as Bro. D.W. Winstanley, P.M. 1094, again declined to stand for re-election.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS: In bilious disorders, sick headache, indigestion and affections of the nerves, these famous Pills, long highly appreciated in all quarters of the globe, are regarded as a perfect remedy. They purify the blood, regulate the secretions, give tone to the stomach, restore the appetite, and renovate the whole system. After a course of these Pills, the once emaciated and feeble patient is so changed that his friends are both wonderstruck and delighted. These cheap preservatives of life and health are a blessing to mankind, their powers and benign influence over disease have, for nearly half a century, been proclaimed by restored and grateful patients in almost every town, village, and hamlet throughout England.—*Now,*

Scotland.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF GLASGOW.

The annual meeting of this P.G. lodge was held on Thursday evening, 27th ult., in St. Mark's Hall, 213, Buchanan-street. The R.W.P.G. Master, Bro. Walter Montgomery Neilson, of Queenhill, presided, supported on the dais by Bros. Henry Inglis, of Torsonce, P.S.G.M. Grand Lodge of Scotland, and P.G.M. of Peebles and Selkirkshire; John Baird, S.P.G.M., and various other office-bearers of the P.G. lodge; Bros. George McDonald, R.W.M. 73, acting P.G.S.W.; James Booth, R.W.M. 87, acting P.G. J.W. The P.G. Lodge having been opened, and minutes read and adopted, the Chairman said he thought they should take the opportunity of having amongst them that night one of the oldest and best Masons in Edinburgh, Bro. H. Inglis, of Torsonce, to get him to install their office-bearers. The proposal was received with much approval, and cheerfully agreed to by Bro. Inglis. The following were duly installed and invested with the badges of their respective offices by Bro. Inglis:—Bros. James Gillies, P.G. Treas.; George Thallon, P.G.S.D.; John Miller, P.G.J.D.; J. Ritchie, P.G. Architect; R. Robb, P.G. Marshal; A. Allison, P.G. Jeweller; A. Bain, P.G.B.B.; James Balfour, P.G. Dir. of Ceremonies; A. Arrick Smith, P.G. Sword Bearer; David Reid, P.G.I.G.; and George Sinclair, Treas., and Convenor of the P.G. Benevolent Fund. The Chairman proposed a vote of thanks to Bro. Inglis for his kind offices in connection with the ceremony of installation that evening, which was done with universal acclamation. Thereafter it was moved by Bro. John Baird, S.P.G.M., that a hearty vote of thanks be awarded to Bro. J. B. Walker, late P.G. Treasurer, for his services rendered to P.G. Lodge in connection with the high and responsible and elective office. Bro. Baird spoke at some length in regard to Bro. Walker's discharge of duties both onerous and delicate, and complimented him on the conciliatory spirit in which he had met all the difficulties attaching to his position. The motion was seconded by Bro. J. Gillies (Bro. Walker's successor). The P.G. Lodge unanimously, and in the heartiest manner, endorsed the motion. The following brethren were then appointed Auditors of P.G.L., viz.: Bros. William Bell, I.P.M. 34; J. Morgan, W.M. 219; and J. Monro, W.M. 360. It was agreed to, that the P.G. Lodge Committee should consist of the office-bearers, commissioned and elective, together with the W.M. of each lodge within the province; Bro. D. M. Nelson, W.M. 34, to be Convenor. The meeting was well attended by members of the P.G. Lodge and others. It may be mentioned that Bro. H. Inglis intimated that he received an invitation from Bro. John Monro, W.M. 360, to visit the Lodge Commercial, which he had accepted, and would be glad to see as many of the Glasgow brethren on that occasion as could conveniently attend. This concluded the business before the meeting. The lodge was closed in due form.

GLASGOW.—Lodge St. Mungo (No. 27).—A meeting of this old and flourishing lodge was held in the Masonic Hall, 213, Buchanan-street, on Thursday evening, 20th ult., Bro. Dugald Butler, W.M., in the chair, Bro. Dr. J. Melnes, S.W.; and Bro. George McComb, J.W. The meeting was well attended by the members, and a large number of visiting brethren were present. The W.M. was supported on the dais by Bros. A. McTaggart, D.M., P.G.S. of Glasgow Province; David Dick, S.M.; Alex. Bain, P.M. 103. There were also present Bros. E. Arthur, Mother Kilwinning; G. W. Wheeler, 73; Wm. Morrison, P.M. 215; Wm. Ferguson ("Freemason"); A. C. Todd, 149; W. B. Paterson, 360; Robert Burns Thomson, 153; and Wm. Alexander, 441; and others. The lodge having been opened and the minutes of last meeting read and confirmed, Bros. James Dickie, Wm. McIntyre, Moses McGregor, Joseph Thomson, John Goldfinch, and Robt. Hontley, were passed, and Bros. James Kidd, Robert Speirs, James Dickie, John Goldfinch, Robert Huntley, Joseph Thomson, Moses McGregor, and Thomas Bell, were raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason. Both degrees were most impressively rendered by Bro. Alexander Bain, P.M. 103. The W.M. then took occasion to propose Bro. Robert Burns Thomson, M.M. of Lodge No. 153, Royal Arch Pollockshaws, who is a grandson of Bro. Robert Burns, the immortal Scottish bard, for honorary affiliation, which was received with applause, and after being obligated by Bro. Bain, returned thanks for the high honour conferred upon him. The lodge thereafter adjourned to refreshment, when a pleasant hour was spent in harmony; the meeting being much enlivened by some excellent songs sung by Bro. Burns Thomson, the more so they bring his own composing. On the lodge being called to labour it was closed in due form.

PORT GLASGOW.—Lodge Doric Kilwinning (No. 68).—The 119th anniversary of this lodge was celebrated in the hall, Church-street, on the 25th ult., Bro. Forgie, W.M., presiding, supported by Bros. James Kelly, P.M., and Andrew Dick, P.M., and others, and surrounded by his office-bearers. The lodge having been opened, the brethren partook of an excellent repast, provided at the expense of one of the most enthusiastic Masons in our midst, Bro. J. Kelly, P.M., and which was heartily enjoyed. After disposing of the usual loyal and patriotic toasts, Bro. A. Dick gave "Success to the Doric Kilwinning," which was received with all the honours. As usual, the day being the anniversary of the birth of the immortal poet, Burns, Bro. Kelly referred in most appropriate terms to his worth as a brother Mason and as Scotland's greatest bard, concluding by giving "The Memory of Burns," which was drunk in solemn silence. The W.M., as is customary at the anniversary of the Doric, in highly eulogistic terms, presented the Past Masters and the Past Wardens with tastefully elaborated goblets, as a mark of the respect and esteem in which they are held by their brethren, and in

testimony of the highly satisfactory manner in which they had performed their duties as office-bearers during the past year. Bro. D. Brown, P.S.W., in name of himself and others, returned thanks. He said he did not require such a memento to keep him in mind of the honour they had conferred on him in electing him to the office, and the kindness and indulgence he had experienced from the brethren during the time he filled it. His memory would not be good if he at any time forgot that he was Senior Warden of the Doric. He expected on this occasion to have bid the brethren "good bye," but as fate had destined otherwise, he would still have the privilege and pleasure of going in and out and fraternising among them. Like the "chap" that got soft in the head of the old oak tree, he might say of the Doric—

"In youth it sheltered me,
And I'll protect it now."

A number of other toasts were given.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Star (No. 219).—The regular meeting of this prosperous lodge was held on Monday evening, the 24th ult., in their hall, at 12, Tron-gate, Bro. John Morgan, W.M. in the chair, Bro. James Horn, S.W., and Bro. David Mearns, J.W. Present: Bros. Jasper Martin, D.M.; W. Anderson, S.M.; Francis Dow, Sec.; Benj. Smart, Treas.; John Brown, S.D.; David Taylor, J.D.; and Robert Watson, Chap.; Alexander Bain, P.M. 103; David Reid, I.P.M. 465; William Bell, I.P.M. 34; Wm. Bilsland, S.W. 408; W. Ferguson ("Freemason"); D. McIntyre, 34; W. Dick, 34; George Dunn, 5; James Robertson, 87; M. W. Kirk, 250; James Reid, 354; Robert Fraser, 473; and Malcolm Stark, 419; and others. The lodge being opened and the minutes of last meeting read and confirmed, five candidates were initiated into the E.A. Degree by Bro. Morgan, W.M., viz.: Thomas E. Beatty, James McCoy, Charles Groel, William McDonald, and Robert W. Sherlock. Bro. John Brand was elected I.G. (Bro. Elliot, jun., having resigned), and Bro. Jamieson Coutts was elected Org., and presided at the new harmonium just purchased by the office-bearers and members of the lodge. After making further arrangements for holding the annual festival, the lodge was transferred to refreshment. The W.M. proposed the usual loyal and Masonic toasts, which were heartily responded to. Bro. William Bell, I.P.M. 34, replied on behalf of the P.G.L. of Glasgow. Bro. Bain, P.M. 103, proposed "The Health of the W.M.," and paid him a very high compliment for the efficient manner in which he performed the ceremony of the First Degree in the former part of the evening, and the able manner he conducts the business of the lodge at all times. Bro. Morgan replied. After spending a short time in harmony, the lodge was called to labour and closed in due form.

DUNOON.—Lodge Dunoon Argyll (No. 335).—The annual conversazione, musical promenade, and assembly of this lodge took place in the Burgh Hall, Dunoon, on the 28th ult. The hall was beautifully decorated with evergreens, pot plants, and flowers, flags, &c. About 50 couples were present, including many of the elite of the town and neighbourhood. Bro. J. F. Muir, W.M., presided, and conducted the opening proceedings, assisted by Bros. J. Russell, S.W., and J. D. Smith, J.W. Deputations were present from the following lodges:—Greenock Kilwinning, No. 12; Port Glasgow Doric Kilwinning, No. 68; Greenock St. John, No. 175; and Rothesay St. John's, No. 292. In proposing a vote of thanks to the W.M. for the admirable manner in which he had conducted the opening proceedings, Bro. the Rev. J. Cameron made a brief but most excellent speech, in which he pointed out the principles on which Freemasonry was conducted, and expressed his belief that next to marriage the Masonic Order was the oldest institution in the world. While other orders had grown hoary with age, and many had died out altogether, Freemasonry was still in its youth, and he believed it would remain so for ages to come. Dancing was thereafter commenced, and was kept up with unabated vigour till an early hour in the morning. The refreshment department was presided over by Bro. A. Gunn, of the Argyll Hotel, in a manner which left nothing to be desired. Everything passed off most successfully, and altogether the gathering was one of the best that was ever held under the auspices of Lodge Dunoon Argyll.

RUTHERGLEN.—Lodge St. John's Operative (No. 347).—The regular monthly meeting of this flourishing lodge was held in St. John's Masonic Hall, Cathcart-street, Rutherglen, on Friday evening, 28th ult., Bro. David Smart, W.M., in the chair; Bro. John Murdoch, S.W.; Bro. Thos. Alston, J.W. The W.M. was supported by Bros. J. Cunningham, I.P.M.; Samuel Abbott, D.M.; Alex. Warnock, Sec.; William Gardner, Treas.; Wm. Young, S.D.; A. Robertson, J.D. There were also present Bros. John Hamilton, W.M. 116; John McInnes, S.W. 408; William Ferguson ("Freemason"); Thomas Dickson, 20; John W. McBrand, 21. On the lodge being opened the Secretary read minutes of last meetings, which were approved of. Messrs. George Allan, Hugh Morton, John Aitkenhead, William Miller, and Alex. Liddell were initiated by Bro. Smart, W.M. Two brethren were passed to the Fellow Craft Degree, and Bro. Samuel S. Armstrong and James Dempster were raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason by Bro. Cunningham, I.P.M. After arranging to hold the annual festival on the 25th of February, the lodge was closed in due form.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Commercial (No. 360).—The regular meeting of this prosperous lodge was held in their hall, 30, Hope-street, Glasgow, on Friday, the 21st ult., Bros. John Monro, W.M., in the chair; J. M. Olliver, S.W.; J. Graham, J.W.; D. Lamb, D.M.; William Finlay, S.M.; G. Scott, Treasurer; J. Smith, Secretary; William Keiller, S.D.; R. Brodie, D. of M.; and others. There was a large attendance of visitors and members of the lodge. Among the visitors were Bros.

James Booth, W.M. Lodge Thistle, No. 87; A. M. Wright, I.P.M. Lodge Union and Crown, No. 103; R. Monro, D.M. Lodge 103; David Murray, W.M. Lodge 103; W. Mc. G. Mason, W.M. 541. On the lodge being opened, the minutes were read and adopted. The business of the evening was the initiating of a candidate as an E.A. Freemason for Lodge Union and Crown, No. 103, and the raising of three brethren of Lodge Commercial to the Degree of M.M., the ceremony of initiation being performed by Bro. Olliver, S.W., and that of raising by Bro. Lamb, D.M.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Athole (No. 413).—A meeting of this lodge was held on Tuesday evening, the 25th ult., in St. Mark's Hall, 213, Buchanan-street, Bro. James Louttit, W.M., presiding; Bros. Daniel Leeds, S.W.; Andrew Holms, J.W. The meeting was well attended by the members, and an unusual large number of visiting brethren present. Amongst those present we noticed Bros. W. Neilson, D.M.; J. Baikie, S.M.; R. Grahame, Sec.; G. Robertson, S.D.; Wm. Grindlay, J.W.; Wm. Bell, I.P.M. 34; J. Booth, W.M. 87; T. B. Bell, S.M. 34; Wm. Ferguson, I.P.M. 116; R. Jack, W.M. 128; J. Morgan, W.M. 219; Arch. McPhee, Sec. 87; Wm. Ferguson, I.P.M. 543 ("Freemason"); D. Hodge, 202; B. D. Scott, 335; Geo. Summers, 335; J. Colquhoun, 360; A. Graham, 360; J. Stewart, 360; G. McKenzie, 370; and others. The lodge was opened, and the minutes read and adopted. After disposing of business of minor importance, the lodge was called to harmony, and after spending a happy evening in song and sentiment, and honouring the usual loyal, Masonic, and patriotic toasts, the brethren separated after the Tyler's toast, happy to meet, sorry to part, and happy to meet again.

GOVAN.—Lodge Govandale (No. 437).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held in the Masonic Hall, Portland Buildings, on Tuesday evening, 18th ult., Bros. John Miller, W.M., in the chair; Robert Muir, S.W.; and Alex. James, J.W. This being the night of installing the Master, and other office-bearers, a very large number of members and visiting brethren were present, viz., Bros. James Gillies, P.M. 103 (P.G.T. elect); Alexander Baird, P.M. 103; John Bain, D.M. No. 117; Wm. Borland, 117; Wm. Ferguson ("Freemason"); Wm. Urquhart, 190; Wm. Millar, 219; Robert Allan, 401; L. McDonald, 408; and Wm. H. Ross, 432; and others. The lodge having been opened, the Secretary, Bro. John Sutherland read minutes of last meeting, which were adopted. Messrs. Robert Webster, John Beaton, Wm. Currie, James Anderson, and John Robertson were initiated by Bro. J. Gillies, P.M. 103. The office-bearers, who were elected on the 21st December, were then installed into their respective places by Bro. Gillies, ably assisted by Bro. Bain, P.M. 103. Thereafter a Board of Installed Masters was formed in the adjoining hall, consisting of Bros. Gillies, Bain, and Ferguson, P.M. 543, and the installation ceremony conferred on Bro. Miller by Bro. Bain. On entering the lodge the brethren saluted the Master with the usual accustomed honours, and after a vote of thanks was passed to the three Past Masters for their kindness in being present from Glasgow, the lodge was closed.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Dramatic (No. 571).—A meeting of this lodge was held in St. Mark's Hall, 213, Buchanan-street, on Wednesday, 19th ult., at 3 p.m., Bro. W. J. E. Dobson, W.M., in the chair; Bros. H. W. Jackman, S.W.; and W. Sivewright, J.W. Present: Bros. W. Phillips, W.M. 556; J. Booth, W.M. 87; J. Fraser, P.M. 87; J. F. Mitchell, P.M. 102; O. McGregor, P.M. 156; W. Ferguson, P.M. 543 ("Freemason"); J. M. Oliver, S.W. 360; A. B. Ferguson, S.W. 354; and Henry Victor David, 392; and others. The lodge having been opened, Bros. Charles Paulo, Charles Green, and Donald Noble were raised to the Sublime Degree of M.M. by Bro. Phillips, W.M. 556. The lodge was then closed.

NAIRN.—Lodge St. Ninian (No. 575).—The members of this lodge had a torchlight procession on Thursday evening, the 27th ult., which created a great deal of interest. The route of the procession through the town was illuminated with Bengal lights, which had a magnificent effect. The procession was led by the Nairn Volunteer Band. Amongst other lodges represented in deputies were Lodges Spey, 527, Kingussie; Operative, 152, Dunkeld; Trinity, 148, Elgin; St. Lawrence, 144, Forres; and St. Mary Caledonian Operative, 339, Inverness. A vast crowd assembled on the Links of Nairn to witness the march to the Marine Hotel, the bright light of the torches lighting up the street, and having a very picturesque effect. The brethren dined together in the evening in the Marine Hotel, and a presentation of jewels to the W.M., W. Bayne Pegler, on his departure for the South, took place. The lodge is only a few months in existence, it being the youngest lodge in Scotland, but it is a very strong body, and embraces many of the leading men of the town and county.

APOLLO UNIVERSITY LODGE, No. 357, OXFORD.

The attention of the Masonic world being now turned to this lodge, of which H.R.H. Prince Leopold is to be installed W.M. on the 22nd of February, it may be interesting to learn the amount of work done by the present W.M. during Michaelmas term. Two regular lodges were held, as usual, four lodges of emergency, and five lodges of instruction. Sixteen gentlemen were initiated, nineteen brethren passed to the Second Degree, and eighteen raised to the Third Degree. The Anniversary Festival will be held on the 22nd inst., and in consequence of the great demand for tickets for the dinner, it is absolutely necessary to apply as soon as possible to the Secretary, University Masonic Hall, Oxford.

WIPE YOUR FEET.—The best Cocoa-Nut Mats and Matting are made by Treloar and Sons, 69, Ludgate-hill.

Answers to Correspondents.

All Communications, Advertisements, &c., intended for insertion in the Number of the following Saturday, must reach the Office not later than 12 o'clock on Wednesday morning.

We are requested to state, that by a regrettable error, H.R.H. Prince Leopold is described in the "Masonic Magazine" for February, Provincial Grand Warden instead of P.G.M. of Oxfordshire.

BRO. BURDETT YEOMAN.—We have decided upon to print no more poetry in the "Freemason," owing to press of matter, but will send it to the "Masonic Magazine" for March.

SUBSCRIBER.—Can a Past Master legitimately and correctly wear his Past Master's jewel presented to him by his lodge, suspended by a purple ribbon, instead of a light blue ribbon, he being a Provincial Grand Officer entitled to wear the purple clothing?—[In our opinion, no.]

The following stand over:—

Reports of Kennington Lodge, No. 1381; Imperial George Lodge, No. 78; Abbey Lodge, No. 624; United Pilgrims Lodge of Instruction, No. 507; Faith Lodge, No. 141; Hemming Lodge, No. 1512; New Cross Lodge, 1559; Burdett Chapter. Letter from J. E. Iliff.

Reviews of Books recently received will appear next week.

A letter by "Fair Play."—Is the so-called Investigation Committee of West Yorkshire legally appointed?—will appear in our next.

BOOKS RECEIVED.—Whittaker's Journal for February; Masonic Music by F. C. Atkinson, P.P.G.O. W. Yorks; Keystone Centennial Masonic Almanac; Proceedings of G.L. of Ohio; Cassell's Child's Bible; Hand and Heart.

REMITTANCES RECEIVED.

	£	s.	d.
Addison, T. H., Africa (P.O.O.)	0	12	0
Anthony, J. B., Troy (B. of E.)	1	6	2
Bailey, F., Perth, (P.O.O.)	0	8	6
Dorrell, Wm., Hasskien (P.O.O.)	1	16	6
Hill, W., New Zealand (P.O.O.)	0	6	0
Hill, T. J., Port Natal, (P.O.O.)	0	10	0
J. F., St. Thomas, W.I. (Stamps)	0	13	0
Smith, R. B., Illinois (P.O.O.)	2	13	0
W.M., Lodge St. George's in the East	1	5	0

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

BIRTH.

OHREN.—On Saturday, 22nd ult., the wife of Brother Charles M. Ohren, of Lower Sydenham, of a triplet—two boys (Lewises) and one girl.

DEATHS.

WASHINGTON.—On the 30th January, at her residence, 3, Ashfield Terrace, Wavertree, Liverpool, aged 47, Ann, the beloved wife of Bro. Richard Washington, I.P.M., Temple Lodge, 1094, deeply regretted and universally respected.

THOMPSON.—At Worthing, on the 2nd inst., Bro. the Rev. Edwin Thompson, D.D., of St. John's, Wandsworth, Chaplain to the Grand Master's Lodge and the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls.

The Freemason,

SATURDAY, FEB. 5, 1876.

OUR ROYAL GRAND MASTER'S VISIT TO INDIA.

Before we pass on and forget the striking incidents and geographical course of the Royal progress of the Prince of Wales, it is well, we think, to note that he paid a flying but successful visit to Chandernagore, a small French colony, not very far from Calcutta. "Vive le Prince des Galles" seems to have been as popular a cry amongst our Gallic friends as "God save the Prince of Wales" amid the European, Eurasian, and native population of Hindostan. The Prince has been, as we said before, to Lahore, and has also paid a visit to the Rajah of Cashmere, at Jummoo, by whom he was both hospitably and royally entertained. He passed through Sealkote and Wirgarabad. He visited the Rajah of Puttiala, and halted at Umritsur, where he witnessed the illumination of the Golden Temple. He reached Agra on the 25th, and, after much of State ceremony and a genial reception, went on the 28th for a day's shooting to Burhpore—a very successful expedition. He subsequently attended a great ball in the "Hall Achbar." His visit has greatly pleased the Chiefs of Rajpootana. Our W.G. Master has been to Gujior, and passed in review Scindiah's army, 8000 strong.

PROVINCE OF OXFORDSHIRE.

We understand that H.R.H. Prince Leopold will be installed Provincial Grand Master of this important province on Wednesday, the 23rd inst. The Curators of the Sheldonian Theatre, where the Commemoration of Founders and Benefactors is usually held, have allowed the brethren to use this building, which is as admirably adapted for the purpose as the Albert Hall was for the installation of the Grand Master. The Vice-Chancellor, who was Grand Warden of the Province in 1837, has allowed the adjacent buildings to be used as Robing Rooms. It is expected that the Pro Grand Master will be present if his ministerial duties permit, and the Deputy Grand Master and several officers of Grand Lodge have already signified their wish to attend. The doors will be opened at 12 o'clock, and closed at 1.30, and the ceremony will commence at 2 o'clock. The W.M. of the Apollo University Lodge has been requested to act the part which Sir Albert Woods took on the occasion of the Installation of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales. The dinner will be held in the City Buildings, at 5 o'clock, in order to enable London brethren who must return the same evening to go back by the 9 o'clock train. All applications for tickets of admission to the ceremony should be addressed to the Secretary, Committee of Management, Masonic Hall, Alfred-street, Oxford.

THE BOYS' SCHOOL AND THE WEST YORKSHIRE COMMITTEE.

We have perused, with an astonishment and pain we can hardly describe, the published report of the West Yorkshire Committee of Enquiry, presented to the P.G. Lodge, and adopted by the same on the 26th, at Leeds. We feel bound to say at once what we believe will be also the opinion of all intelligent and impartial Freemasons, that a greater burlesque on every principle of Masonic fair play, equity, common sense, and justice, never was before exhibited in our good old Order. The Committee was practically nominated by the D.P.G.M., the vehement accuser of the School, the personal assailant of Bro. Binckes, he himself actually being a member of the Committee, and acting as censor, witness, and judge, all at the same time. We also deeply regret to have to add that this brother, who seems very fond of paper warfare, had, under the circumstances, the singular bad taste, to say nothing more, to print a private pamphlet, and term it The Report of the Committee, which contains some of the most astounding statements, incriminations, insinuations, and personal charges it has ever been our painful lot to peruse. We understand that this pamphlet has been withdrawn, but the mischief had been done, and the damning fact remains. In the report of the "Leeds Mercury" of the 17th, of the proceedings of the P.G. Lodge, and which we print in another column, the official report is based mainly on the evidence which Bro. Tew had previously presented, and which, under the circumstances, ought to have been received by the Committee with the greatest hesitation, as it is marked by a most personal and bitter feeling from first to last, and is full, as we, even in our cursory glance, can say, of childish and perverse misstatements, unfounded inferences, and unmasonic allegations. But the Committee has gravely accepted the evidence of one of their own body, without examining any brother who really could point out to them the gross fallacies involved in the arguments and assumptions of the D.P.G.M. for W. Yorkshire, especially as regards the statistics of other schools, which, originally furnished by Bro. C. Pegler, of Leeds, are, as have been already shown in the "Freemason," utterly deceptive as illustrations, and actually beside the question. We deeply deplore the fact that so distinguished a province as West Yorkshire has embarked in so mistaken a course. The Report of the Committee only shows how "facilis" still is the "descensus Avernii," and we hardly yet understand how the Committee can have made such a report on such *prima facie* unsatisfactory and untrustworthy evidence, coloured as it is by a "monomania" on the subject, and put together in utter forgetfulness of every attribute of fair play to others, whose good

name and honourable dealings, whose actual prospects in life, are jeopardized by the evil impressions thus pertinaciously circulated. Indeed, legally speaking, as there can be no confidence in the question, and there is certainly, as has been held, no privilege under any circumstances in slander, it may be a grave question whether some of the statements publicly printed are not libellous and actionable. If the West Yorkshire Committee can for one moment suppose that a report based mainly on the personal feelings and theories of its D.P.G.M. can have any practical effect, it must be composed of a very sanguine body of men. For when it is known to the Craft at large that the report is mainly based on the D.P.G.M.'s evidence, which he had previously printed in a private pamphlet and termed it "The Report," many of the passages in the "Leeds Mercury" being verbatim identical with the pamphlet, which is said to be withdrawn, the D.P.G.M. assisting to draw up the report on his own evidence, it will appear to all almost too shocking to believe, and almost too ridiculous to narrate. Here we stop to-day, but it is quite clear that after the extraordinary report of the West Yorkshire Committee the matter cannot rest where it is, though, as we have before said, the report is in itself a nullity, and the action of the Province of West Yorkshire in the matter is in our humble opinion, utterly unconstitutional, unsound, and unmasonic from beginning to end. When we wrote these words we had not seen the official report. Now we have seen it, we beg to express our hope that the Committee will also publish the evidence on which they found their questionable statements, and *ex parte* views, views based apparently on no practical knowledge of the subject.

THE MANIFESTO OF THE MASONIC CONGRESS AT LAUSANNE.

Bro. Strauss, of Bradford, has called our attention to a translation which he has kindly made for us of the Manifesto of the Congress at Lausanne, and which appeared recently in the "Augsburger Allgemeine Zeitung," a well known paper in Germany. We thank him for it, and willingly reproduced it in our pages last week. We had seen it previously in French, but as there was nothing very novel in its statements, or special in its deliverance, being much pressed just now, we had put off its appearance to a more convenient season. At the time we expressed our general sympathy with the Congress on every principle of fraternal good feeling, though it was not a Masonic Congress proper, as we understand it, but a meeting of the Rite Ecossais, the A. and A. Rite practically. Both in its general propositions and formal utterances we heartily concur, though we confess that we do not quite understand how such cosmopolitan principles can be officially proclaimed by the High Grades which are limited in their symbolical teaching, just as Craft Masonry is universal. We could perfectly realize such a manifesto coming from a Grand Orient, or Grand Lodge, or Congress of Craft Masons, but we do not profess to be able to explain how it can truly represent the teaching of the "Rose Croix," for instance, or of the High Grades generally. We doubt very much whether it would be endorsed in this country, or the United States, or Canada—we mean by the A. and A. Rite. We quite enter into the true statement of what Freemasonry is, but we do not comprehend the proclamation of such principles by the "Rite Ecossais," as we just observed. And the truth is, there is no use shutting our eyes to the fact, such sentences, and such a manifesto, have a distinct meaning for us as Craft Masons, and all Anglo-Saxon Freemasonry, which requires a little guarding and limitation. We accept, *ex ungue cordi*, all those leading principles, but we subjoin certain concurrent axioms, which are unknown or suppressed in much of foreign Freemasonry. We hold and proclaim a universal brotherhood (with two notable exceptions), inviolate liberty of conscience and worship, and free thought, and the avoidance of all religious and political discussions; but we base all our work and teaching on religion, and "notamment" on the authority of the Bible. It is this peculiar characteristic

which gives its force and colouring to all Anglo-Saxon Freemasonry. Now some of our foreign brethren, in our humble opinion, have most unwisely let go this great landmark, this holy symbol, of Freemasonry, and the consequence is, that their words often sound as empty phrases, as unreal professions of Masonic faith. So the question naturally arises, on what do they found these very professions of brotherly love and Masonic duty? If not on a religious basis, on what? Is it a "morale indépendante?" is it "Positivism?" is it a mild Epicureanism? is it a benevolent Pantheism? Is it, in fact, on the absolute negation of the supernatural, or the denial of revelation?—on the rejection of the Word of God? Is it, in fact, based simply on humanitarianism? Now we must keep all this clearly before us, if we wish rightly to "envisager" the present condition of Masonic affairs, especially in some parts abroad. While we go with our brethren everywhere, who are honestly and temporarily striving to advance legally the principles of Freemasonry, we yet must bear in mind that in some countries the proceedings and addresses of some Freemasons have been most unwise and unmasonic, according to our view. While we reject the pretensions of the Church of Rome, while we deny its infallibility, and repudiate its right of interference, we yet think that Freemasons abroad have no claim to mix up social questions, such as that of education, with Freemasonry. As individuals and citizens they have clearly a right to do so, but not in the lodge. We have said all this, not with a wish to blame, but from a sincere regard to our Masonic brethren abroad. We believe in Freemasonry, and the older we grow the more we believe in it, despite earthly frailties and mortal shortcomings. We would say to them, one and all, phrases go for nothing, "acta non verba" are what we ask for, "the proof of the pudding is in the eating." And while we heartily go with the general propositions of the Congress at Lausanne we should feel more hopeful for the future if we could think that some bodies of foreign Freemasonry would revert to an older and better teaching, and take away a great stumbling block in the path of all Anglo-Saxon brethren and well wishers. At present, in our opinion, they are carrying on the contest on false principles of action and teaching, and we, in Great Britain and the United States, and Canada, can only look on as neutrals in the struggle, as while we are most anxious to assist our brethren everywhere, we should not be true to ourselves, or to our own great Order, if we did not express honestly our loyal opinion in the matter. We thank Bro. Strauss for his kind communication.

THE PROVINCE OF EAST LANCASHIRE.

At a special meeting of this distinguished province, holden at Manchester on Tuesday, 18th January, the rules and regulations of the East Lancashire Systematic Masonic Educational and Benevolent Institution were finally approved of. The objects of the institution are the "education and advancement in life of children of indigent or deceased Freemasons of the Province of East Lancashire, and to afford relief or assistance where considered desirable in aid of Freemasons and their families in the said province, and generally to promote the cause of Masonic charity." We think the movement a very good one, and, knowing how zealous and energetic our brethren in East Lancashire are, we feel sure that it will eventually prove a success. Already £1000 have been raised, and there can be no doubt that the interests of Masonic charity will be greatly advanced if every province has a similar institution, not in opposition or rivalry to the great Metropolitan Institutions, but as preparatory to, and in addition to, their great and good work. We have long felt, that alike in our lodges and Provincial Grand Lodges, the work of charity must be more largely and systematically carried on. On one point we feel it, however, right to say a few words. We do not think that it is desirable on constitutional grounds, to mix up such movements too much with the work of Provincial Grand Lodge proper. We think it is quite right for Provincial Grand Lodge to appoint a certain

number yearly of the council or committee to receive formally from time to time, notice of the proceedings, and if it grants a sum of money from its funds to lay down its own terms. But we confess we doubt the legality, on Masonic principles and precedent, of discussing in Provincial Grand Lodge, the general concerns of another body, even though it be Masonic. A Provincial Grand Lodge might say, as Grand Lodge has said to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, "I give you a certain sum of money out of my funds, and I claim the right in the interest of my subscribing members to keep a controlling power over your rules and regulations, to see practically that the amount I have voted, and will vote are properly expended." But there is a habit at our Provincial Lodges, when in Provincial Grand Lodge assembled, to resolve themselves for the nonce into an Educational or Benevolent Masonic Society, to receive a report, or to appoint officers. Such a proceeding is in our humble opinion clearly illegal. We remember, years ago, being startled at finding a distinguished lodge we visited, had a custom once a year, in regular lodge meeting, to resolve itself into a general meeting of a benefit order attached to the lodge. We pointed out then to the proper authority the actual illegality of such a proceeding, and we believe our remonstrance had a good effect. We might just as well really and truly resolve ourselves into the Masonic Life Insurance Company, or, in fact, any other society. In the P.G. Lodge, as in private lodges, and as in Grand Lodge, nothing can properly be discussed or adjudicated on external to Freemasonry proper, and the object of the meeting itself. We, venture, therefore, to think that, subject to the limitations we have before pointed out, the P.G. Lodge of E. Lancashire will do well to be perfectly independent of this new and useful organization. We wish the new venture all success. We know some of its active promoters, we have worked with them in the cause of charity before, and hearty good fellows they are, and we feel sure that in all we say today, they will give us credit for being like themselves, only actuated by a desire to speed on the cause of Masonic benevolence, and to uphold the legal and constitutional principles of our great and valuable Order.

Original Correspondence.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for, or even as approving of the opinions expressed by our correspondents, but we wish, in a spirit of fair play to all, to permit—within certain necessary limits—free discussion.—Ed.]

LODGE OF TRUTH, BOMBAY.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

With reference to my letter in your issue of the 18th ult., regarding the irregularity which occurred in Lodge Truth, Bombay, during last year (my year of office as W.M.) of the Second and Third Degrees being conferred at one meeting on the same brother, I have to request that you will be so good as to republish in your columns the following extract from the "Masonic Record of Western India" for December, 1875, which has just come to hand.

I see, however, in the "Record" for October, 1875, at the meeting at which the irregularity in question was committed, the name of one well-known Past Master recorded as being present thereat, viz., Wor. Bro. H. W. Barrow, who had charge of Lodge Truth as W.M. and I.P.M. for the two years preceding my installation as W.M. Surely Wor. Bro. Rowe consulted Wor. Bro. Barrow before he took upon himself the responsibility he did. It should also be explained why Wor. Bro. Barrow did not preside as a P.M. of Lodge Truth in accordance with the Constitutions, instead of Wor. Bro. Rowe, who is not a P.M. of that lodge.

Yours fraternally, TUDOR TREVOR, I.P.M.

Lodge Truth, Bombay, No. 944, E.C., January 11th, 1876.

Extract from "Masonic Record" of Western India for December, 1875, page 324:—

THE RECENT IRREGULARITY IN LODGE "TRUTH."

We publish the following letter from W. Bro. W. C. Rowe, on the subject of the irregularity in Lodge Truth, in passing and raising a brother on the same evening. We admire the promptitude and candour with which Bro. Rowe has come forward to admit his mistake, and we feel sure all who peruse his letter will absolve him from blame, as he was so suddenly called upon to perform a duty for which he was so little prepared. The Senior Warden, who applied for the dispensation, should have consulted a Past Master before doing so; and as for the Deputy District Grand Master, he holds the same office under the Scotch Constitution, and did not consider it much harm, as candidates are frequently initiated, passed, and raised in one night under the Scottish Constitution.

We hope this will be a lesson for all concerned in the irregularity referred to.

"Parrell, 15th November, 1875.

"Dear Bro. Bease,—

"I noticed in the correspondence of the last number of your 'Record' the well-grounded objections to the proceedings of Lodge Truth in October last. In justice to myself as Presiding Officer, and for the information of your correspondent, I may state the circumstances below, under which the irregularities occurred:—

"The Master of the lodge being absent in England since March last, it has fallen to the lot of Past Masters of Truth to work the lodge, and on the evening in question it so happened that none of these worshipful brethren could be present, and on my arrival at the hall I received a note from the Senior Past Master requesting me to perform the work for him; it was rather late before the lodge was opened, and on hearing that a dispensation had been granted to the Senior Warden in charge for conferring the Second and Third Degrees on a brother, I confess it did not occur to me in the hurry of the moment that any irregularity had been or was to be committed, and the Second and Third Degrees were accordingly conferred.

"I may add that immediately on the error which had occurred being observed steps were taken at once to apply to the Most Worshipful the Grand Master for a special dispensation legalizing the passing and raising of the brethren who received these degrees in the one night.

"Yours faithfully and fraternally,

"W. C. ROWE,

Past Junior Warden of Lodge Truth, No. 944, and Wor. Master of Lodge Concord, No. 757."

THE LAST MEETING OF THE PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF WEST YORKSHIRE.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

What has been going on at the last Provincial Grand Lodge of West Yorkshire?

There are queer stories current in Leeds, of angry remonstrances and a Masonic scene, of a pamphlet suppressed, of a report presented, and a promise of withdrawal. In fact, as a worthy P.M. of one of the Leeds lodges said, it was all "Tew bad."

Can any one explain? Will any one speak the truth?

Yours fraternally, IGNOTUS.
Leeds, Jan. 27th, 1876.

PAST MASTERS.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Am I correct in supposing that a Past Master joining another lodge does not become a P.M. of that lodge, unless he actually pass the chair of the lodge?

Is there any difference in the case of a new lodge, when on the consecration a Past Master is appointed I.P.M. Does he become a P.M. of that lodge?

I should be much obliged if some one would answer the above, and quote an authority for his reply.

Yours fraternally, A PAST MASTER.

[1st question. Yes. He must pass through the chair, and question. No. He must pass through the chair.—Ed.]

BROS. TEW, PERROTT, AND BINCKES.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I quite agree with Bro. Binckes in his view of the question, as the claim of West Yorkshire is an utterly impossible one to accede to, by all who care for our great charities, and the committee is an unconstitutional body, and its report must be a nullity. The committee contains some good names on it, but I am utterly astonished to find that Bro. Tew is a member of it, that he had the nomination of it, and that on his evidence the report is mainly based.

It seems that this zealous censor of his brethren previously published a report privately of the evidence given by himself at Pontefract in a pamphlet, and termed it "The Report," &c.

This, as it was understood at Leeds on the 26th, was suppressed or withdrawn.

Can this proof of absurdity or partizan feeling any further go?

It grieves me deeply as an old Freemason and a lover of FAIR PLAY.

THE ABBOT'S RIPTON RAILWAY ACCIDENT.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Permit me to say, in answer to numerous and repeated enquiries, both by letter and personal, that I am not the "Mr. Yeoman" who was in the smash up at Abbot's Ripton. So numerous are the visits and enquiries, both in the Craft and outside, that I do desire to express my warmest thanks for such marks of esteem. I was travelling that way, but was not in that horrible collision, for which I thank the Great Architect.

Very sincerely yours, and truly fraternally,

T. BURDETT YEOMAN.

ROYAL ARCH.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Companion,—

I was sorry to read the report of the Special Provincial Grand Chapter, held at Newton Abbot on the 20th ult., to dedicate and consecrate the Devon Chapter. I fear that there must have been some other cause why the Second Principal did not attend besides the one stated in the report.

I wish the M.E.P.G. Superintendent would hold his chapters in the summer months instead of the winter, he would then get a much larger attendance.

Yours very fraternally,

I.T.S., M.E.Z.

SUPREME GRAND CHAPTER.

The Quarterly Convocation of Supreme Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of England was held on Wednesday evening at Freemasons' Hall, when Col. Brownrigg presided as G.Z.; Comp. S. Rawson, as H.; and Comp. Hugh D. Sandeman, as J. The other officers were Comps. John Hervey, G.S.E.; Col. Creaton, as S.N.; John A. Rucker, P.S.; Joseph C. Parkinson, as First A.S.; Robert Grey, Second A.S.; F. P. Morrell, S.B.; and Dr. Woodman, D.C. The other companions in Grand Chapter were H. G. Buss, Frederick Pattison, Thomas Fenn, P.G.S.B.; Benjamin Head, P.G.S.; Charles A. Murton, P.G.A.S.; H. Browne, P.G.S.; James Glaisher, P.A.P.S.; Edward Snell, P.G.S.B.; Frederick Derry, P.Z. 482 and 938, and P.G.N. Staffordshire; Captain W. Platt, P.G.S.; Joseph Smith, P.G.D.C.; Hyde Pullen, P.G.D.C.; E. D. Davis, P.Z. 24; H. J. P. Dumas, P.S.B.; H. S. Brownrigg, H. 6; John Coutts, P.Z. 177 and 382, Z. 1348; J. M. Case, Z. and P.Z. 259; H. Massey, P.Z. 619 ("Freemason"); John Boyd, P.Z. 145 and 534; William Stephens, H. 862, Z. 1365; William Hammond, H. 185; W. F. C. Moutrie, P.Z. and Z. 11; Joshua Nunn, P.G.D.C.; and C. B. Payne.

The prayers of all the petitions for new chapters published by the "Freemason" in the agenda paper of Grand Chapter last week were granted.

On the motion of Comp. E. Snell, P.G.S.B., it was unanimously resolved that a record be made in the books of Grand Chapter of the great loss Grand Chapter felt that it and Masonry had sustained by the lamented death of Comp. John Savage, late President of the Committee of General Purposes.

The M.E.Z. said he was sure that this feeling must be entertained by the whole body of Masons.

Grand Chapter was thereupon closed.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF WEST YORKSHIRE.

On Wednesday, 26th ult., the Provincial Grand Lodge of West Yorkshire assembled at Leeds, to the number of upwards of three hundred brethren, under the banner of Philanthropic Lodge, 304, the W.M. and officers of which lodge opened the preliminary lodge in the three degrees.

Previous to the Provincial Grand Lodge entering a pleasing incident occurred, in the acceptance by the brethren of a beautifully-framed portrait of Bro. the Rev. A. F. A. Woodford, of London, formerly of Swillington, near Leeds, and one of the old Past Masters of the lodge.

The Provincial Grand Lodge having entered, was presided over by the Rt. W. Prov. Grand Master (Sir E. Edwards, Bart.), who was assisted by his Deputy, Bro. Tew, J.P., of Pontefract, and the Provincial Grand Officers.

The brethren having saluted the Provincial Grand Master and the Deputy Provincial Grand Master with the greatest cordiality.

The Provincial Grand Master, in reply, said—Provincial Grand Officers, Worshipful Masters, and brethren of this Provincial Grand Lodge, your reception of me to-day is, I hope, a convincing proof that the loyalty and attachment the brethren of West Yorkshire have ever accorded to my distinguished predecessor have in no way, judging from the warmth of your salutation, been diminished with reference to myself. It is my great desire that on all occasions when the Provincial Grand Lodge is called together to be present amongst you. Permit me, on this, the first of our collective gatherings in the new year, to offer to brethren my sincere congratulations and hearty good wishes for the prosperity of the Craft in this important province. This new year opens, I trust, with gladness to ourselves, and as we live in sympathy with every brother throughout the world, it is thus we strive to promote on earth peace and good will towards men. Between the square and compasses our lives are pledged to charity and fellowship; and as in the year behind us, so in the year before us, I hope the brethren of West Yorkshire will strive to emulate the noble aspirations and the generous deeds which have so pre-eminently adorned the high character which Freemasonry in this province possesses. With reference to the gathering in Leeds, the Provincial Grand Master said he was glad to understand that the Leeds Lodges were promoting the system of inviting the Provincial Grand Lodge annually, under each lodge in rotation. He referred to the recent election for girls to their school, and congratulated West Yorkshire on their double success. Adverting to the recent Exhibition in Leeds, the Provincial Grand Master said he was present on the occasion of the opening of the Exhibition, and he regretted on that occasion that the then Mayor of Leeds was not a member of our ancient and honourable society. "Most deeply," he said, "do we all deplore that visitation of Providence which, on the 19th inst., unexpectedly deprived Leeds of one of her most public spirited officers in the person of the ex-Mayor." The noble Baronet then concluded by repeating the words of his predecessor, with reference to the increasing strength of the fraternity. "Brethren, remember the strength of our Order lies not in the increasing roll of our members, but in the fraternal spirit by which the members are animated, and which lives and breathes in our lodges."

Bro. Tew, Dep. Prov. G.M., having responded, Bro. Bentley Shaw entered, and was vociferously received. After he had been saluted he briefly returned thanks for their great warmth of feeling towards him. He felt that he could not, if he would, stay away from the meeting, and hoped to be able to attend many more.

After the ordinary routine business had been gone through, the attention of the brethren was called to the report of the Committee of Investigation into the management of the Royal Masonic Boys' School, which report was presented to the Prov. Grand Master by the chairman of

the committee, Bro. Gill, Mayor of Wakefield. It was gathered from the report that the committee had extended their inquiry over six years—from January, 1869, to December, 1874. During that time the sum of £38,746 10s. 2d. had been expended, showing, for an average attendance of 123 boys per year, an average cost of £52 10s. 0½d. per annum, which, when added to the value of the farm produce, shows a total of £54 10s. 3d. During that time no charge was made for rent or as interest on expended capital. This expenditure contrasts unfavourably with that of the following institutions:—

	No. of Pupils.	Cost per Head.
London Orphan Asylum	491	31 6 3
Commercial Travellers	228	30 4 0
Ackworth School	290	31 10 6
Sidworth School	97	33 19 0
Yorkshire Boys' School	55	33 0 0
Royal Masonic Girls' School	146	36 16 11½
Clergy Orphan	110	45 18 0½

The report went on to state that the expense caused by the frequent changes of Masters and Assistant Masters was great, and had acted injuriously in the education of boys, as exemplified by the unsuccessful results at the Cambridge and Oxford local examinations. The committee brought their report to a close as follows:—"The great cost of the school pervades nearly every department of its management, and the committee strongly impresses upon the Provincial Grand Lodge the necessity for adopting such measures as will secure a material reduction of such cost, so that the institution may be placed in a position by which its usefulness may be largely extended, its benefits conferred upon a much greater number of recipients, and the sympathies of the Craft continued and extended in its favour."—This report was unanimously adopted, and such resolutions were passed as would carry out the objects of the committee.

Before the close of the Provincial Grand Lodge Bro. Gill, on behalf of the Committee of Investigation, handed to the Provincial Grand Master a very handsome Past Master's jewel, with the request that he would present it to Bro. Robert Craig, P.M. 304, for his courtesy, kindness, and great hospitality in entertaining that committee at all their meetings.

The Provincial Grand Master highly eulogised the character of Bro. Craig, and in handing him the present wished him long life to wear it. Bro. Craig feelingly and sincerely thanked the brethren.

After the business of the lodge was concluded, about 100 of the brethren sat down to an excellent banquet served by Bro. J. L. Oates, in the banqueting-room, after which the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly given and honoured.

CONSECRATION OF THE ST. JAMES'S LODGE (No. 1579.)

On Friday, the 21st ult., at the Bell Hotel, Enfield Highway, a new lodge was consecrated, to be called the St. James's Lodge (No. 1579) (under the Province of Middlesex), the R.W. Prov. Grand Master, Colonel Burdett, P.S.G.W. of England, presiding. The first half hour was spent by the brethren present in looking at the new lodge furniture, jewels, and regalia, supplied by Bro. George Kenning, of Little Britain, which seemed to be much approved of by the brethren. At about 3.30 p.m. it was announced that the R.W. Prov. Grand Master had arrived, which was a signal for the brethren to be clothed and take their places to receive the Prov. Grand Officers. Amongst those present were the R.W. Prov. G.M. of Middlesex, Colonel Burdett, P.G.S.W., &c.; W. Bro. Robert Wentworth Little, P.G.S.W.; W. Bro. James Terry, P.G.D.C. Herts; Bros. J. J. Wilson, P.P.G.J.W. Essex; T. Hastings Miller, P.G. Org. Middlesex; J. Tydeman, P.G.P. Essex; Thompson, P.G.D.C. Middlesex; Tyne, P.P.G.J.D. Middlesex; James Linzell, P.P.G.D.C., and W.M. designate; Edward Letchworth, S.W. designate; John Painter, J.W. designate; E. Clarke, Driscoll, Stevens, T. Cusworth, G. Jaffa, Verry, Collyer, Gabb, J. Maller, P.M.; W. Gilbert, W.M. 1327; Capt. Wiltshire, P.M.; Malcolm, Sec. 1327; Sheldon, P.G.S. Herts; Harvey, Pepper, Bradstock, Newman, Jewison, Yorke, Oddey, Muggleston, P.M.; and others, in all about sixty brethren.

The R.W. Prov. Grand Master having appointed the following brethren to assist him as officers pro tem., viz. W. Bro. R. W. Little, P.G.S.W. Middx., as D.G.M., and to act as Chaplain; W. Bro. James Terry, Prov. G.D.C. Herts, as Director of Ceremonies; Bro. J. J. Wilson, P.P.G.J.W. Essex, as Senior Warden; Bro. J. Tydeman, Prov. G. Purst. Essex, as Junior Warden; Bro. Thompson, Prov. G.D.C., as Inner Guard; and Bro. Verry, as Tyler. The Provincial Grand Organist, Bro. T. H. Miller presiding at the harmonium.

The lodge was opened in the three degrees.

The Grand Master then addressed the brethren on the nature of the meeting. Bro. R. W. Little then gave the prayer. After which the acting Secretary addressed the Grand Master, who replied, and gave directions to the brethren of the new lodge to form themselves in order in the body of the room.

The Secretary then read the petition, also the warrant from the Grand Master of England, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, the brethren appointed in the warrant as first Master and Wardens being Bros. James Linzell, P.M., as W.M.; Edward Letchworth, as first S.W.; and John Painter, as first J.W. The Grand Master having inquired of the brethren if they approved of the officers named, the brethren signified this approval in the usual way. After which Bro. R. W. Little gave an oration on the nature and principles of the institution in an eloquent and masterly manner, the same being listened to with the greatest atten-

tion by all present. The following hymn was sung by the brethren:—

Hail, Eternal, by whose aid
All created things were made,
Heav'n and earth Thy vast design,
Hear us, Architect divine.

May our work, begun in Thee,
Ever blest with order be,
And when we from labour cease,
Part in harmony and peace.

By Thy glorious Majesty,
By the trust we place in Thee,
By the lodge and mystic sign,
Hear us, Architect Divine.

After the first part of the dedication prayer, &c., the Chaplain read II. Chron., Chap. I. to XVI. verses. The lodge board being uncovered the Deputy Master and Wardens pro tem. carried the elements of consecration three times round the lodge. The Presiding Officer then dedicated the lodge, when the hymn was sung commencing

Our souls shall magnify the Lord;
In Him our spirits shall rejoice.

The Presiding Officer having constituted the lodge, the hymn was sung commencing

Now the evening shadows closing.

The consecration ceremony over the lodge was resumed to the Second Degree, when Bro. James Linzell was presented to the Grand Master for installation, and after the usual preliminaries were gone through, those brethren below the ranks of Installed Masters withdrew, while the remainder of the ceremony of installation was proceeded with in the presence of nineteen Past Masters. The brethren having been re-admitted, were called upon to salute the Worshipful Master in the three degrees. The W.M. appointed the officers for the ensuing year as follows:—Bros. Edward Letchworth, S.W.; John Painter, J.W.; E. Clark, Treas.; Driscoll, Sec.; Stevens, S.D.; T. Cusworth, J.D.; G. Jaffa, I.G.; Verry, Tyler. Bro. James Terry, P.G.D.C. Herts, then gave the addresses to the officers and brethren of the lodge in a very clear and impressive manner, which brought forth the applause of all present.

Votes of thanks were passed to Bro. the R.W. Colonel Burdett and others who assisted in the consecration ceremony.

Colonel Burdett, Bro. R. W. Little, Bro. James Terry, and Bro. T. H. Miller were proposed and unanimously accepted honorary members of the lodge.

The lodge having been closed to the First Degree, some brethren were proposed as joining members. The lodge was then closed in due form, after which about fifty brethren adjourned to the banquet-hall, where a sumptuous banquet awaited them, composed of every delicacy of the season, the arrangements being carried out in Bro. Jewison's very best style, which, with the excellent quality of the wines, reflected great credit to his establishment and satisfaction to all present. The following loyal and Masonic toasts were given and responded to:—"The Queen and the Craft;" "The M.W. Grand Master, the Prince of Wales;" "The Pro G.M. the Earl of Carnarvon;" "The Deputy G.M., the Earl of Skelmersdale, and rest of Grand Officers;" "The Provincial Grand Master," to which Colonel Burdett replied, thanking the brethren for having made him an honorary member of their lodge, a lodge which, from what he had heard and seen, he expected would become one of the most important in the province. He congratulated them upon the choice they had made of a Master. He was one who had twice before held a similar position, and had creditably performed the duties of his high office.

The W.M. next proposed "The Deputy Grand Master and Grand Officers of the Province." Bro. Little replied in very appropriate terms.

Bros. J. J. Wilson, P.M., and P.P.G.J.W. Essex, then proposed "The Worshipful Master," and in doing so congratulated the lodge in getting one to preside over them so well up in Masonry and so popular with his brethren. Bros. Linzell, W.M., having replied, he proposed "The Health of the Visitors," which was responded to by Bros. Wilson, P.M.; Captain Wiltshire, P.M., and Dr. Muggleston, P.M., who in very pithy speeches expressed themselves highly delighted with the whole arrangements of the day. Bro. Wilson remarking that, although not one of the new lodge he wished them every success. He had a few years ago been the principal promoter of a new lodge in the same parish, and the time had now come when he did not see why another lodge should not be worked, and with the good wishes of the sister lodge. "The Officers" were next proposed, to which Bro. Letchworth, S.W., replied, thanking the brethren for the cordial manner in which his own and brother officers' healths had been drank, assuring them that he would endeavour to carry out the duties in a satisfactory way. Having so good a brother as W.M., whose kind and agreeable disposition would insure him the good feelings of those working with him, he looked for prosperity in their new undertaking.

"The Masonic Charities" was responded to by Bro. J. Terry, Secretary of the R.M.B.I. He congratulated the brethren upon the success of the day, and afterwards made a claim upon the charity of the brethren. He said that although a very large amount was annually subscribed by our fraternity for the charitable institutions (indeed, a sum to be proud of), yet they were unable to give the assistance to every case that they should like, but if every brother in the fraternity would only subscribe five shillings per year they would raise a sum by which every candidate could be relieved. He called upon the brethren very urgently to consider whether they were doing their duty in this respect, and thus carrying out the first principle of their profession. He was sorry to say there was a very large number of brethren connected with Masonry

whose name never appeared as subscribers to the charities, although their motto should be loyalty and charity. He made a very powerful appeal to those present, and we sincerely hope that Bro. Terry's energy in working for the charities will be universally crowned with success.

It was announced during the evening that the new lodge have already decided to shew themselves not wanting in this virtue, as Bro. E. Letchworth, S.W., has consented to act as Steward at the next festival for the Girls' School, and is open to receive additions to his list of subscribers.

Some excellent singing was given by Bros. Malcolm, Pepper, Yorke, and others, which added to the pleasure of the evening.

The Tyler's toast brought a most enjoyable meeting to a close, which, to use the words of Bro. Little, would be a red-letter day in the Masonic history of all present.

The whole affair proved a thorough success, and we have every reason to believe the St. James's Lodge will in time become one of the most popular in the Province of Middlesex. The members have done well in deciding to hold their meetings at the Bell Hotel, the accommodation for such meetings being excellent, as in addition to the capital lodge rooms, with comfortable retiring rooms and other accommodation adjoining, Mr. Jewison has recently had erected a spacious hall for banquets, dinners, entertainments, &c., which is near to the house, opening into the lawn and approach to the pleasure gardens of the establishment. Members of London lodges intending to hold summer banquets in the country should certainly visit here before deciding where to hold such meetings. Here are rooms for meetings, the large banquet hall, the extensive gardens and rosaries, and lawns for croquet parties, and other amusements, at a distance of only ten miles from London, good roads, and a pleasant drive.

Masonic and General Tidings.

A fire broke out in the town mansion of Bro. Sir William Watkin Wynn, Bart. (P.G.M. North Wales and Shrops.), St. James's-square, on Monday last but owing to the timely arrival of the engines the fire was subdued before any considerable amount of damage was done.

The ceremony of installation will be worked at the Constitutional Lodge of Instruction, Wheatsheaf Hotel, Hand-court, Holborn, on Tuesday next, February 8th, by Bro. John Bingemann, W.M. 55, the Preceptor. The lodge will be opened at 7 o'clock precisely.

Bro. Lord Shrewsbury, P.G.M. Staff., has consented to preside at the 138th anniversary festival of the Royal Society of Musicians of Great Britain at Willis's Rooms, on the 22nd of March.

Mr. Jolliffe, one of the victims of the recent railway accident, had but a few days previously taken out a policy in the Accident Insurance Company, by which his widow will receive £1000.

Bro. F. Burgess, of the Moore and Burgess Minstrels, announces his eleventh annual benefit for Tuesday next, February 8th.

Mr. Bruce Phillips, the Secretary of the Royal Aquarium, has issued a Shakesperian Diary and Almanack. It is culled from the researches of Mr. Alderman Nottage.

On Thursday night Bro. Sir John Bennett delivered a lecture on "The Dutch and their Doings" to the members of the City of London College, Leadenhall-street.

Bro. J. D. Allcroft presided on Monday evening at the annual meeting of the Bristol Young Men's Christian Association.

The death is announced of Dom Louis Garnier, of Grand Chartreuse, at the age of 72. He had spent 50 years in the monastery, which he enriched by the production of the well-known liqueur.

Bro. T. W. Boord (30°), the Conservative member for the Borough of Greenwich, addressed a crowded meeting of his constituents in the Lecture Hall, Nelson-street, Woolwich, on Tuesday evening.

The Conservatives have chosen as their candidate for the seat in Parliament vacant by the death of Bro. W. R. Callender, Mr. Francis Sharp Powell, who represented the Northern Division of the West Riding of Yorkshire from 1872 until the last general election.

His Grace the Duke of Abercorn, K.G., Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland, M.W.G.M., held the first levee for the season on the 1st inst., at the Castle, Dublin.

G. M. Felton, Esq., C.C., presided in the chair on Wednesday last at the Cripplegate Ball, which was most successfully conducted throughout, to the comfort and pleasure of the company, who were favoured by the presence of the Rt. Hon. the Lord Mayor, Lady Mayoress, Mr. Sidney Stone and Miss Stone, Bro. Sheriff Knight, and others.

We have reason to believe that the Queen has been graciously pleased to confer the dignity of a baronetcy on Bro. Gilbert Greenall, M.P., P.S.G.W. England.

The Pantomime at the Surrey Theatre this year surpasses all former attempts. The manner in which it has been mounted and put upon the stage reflects great credit upon its enterprising manager, Bro. William Holland. It is certainly well worthy of a visit.

The Marquis of Hartington, Provincial Grand Master for Derbyshire, left town on Tuesday on a visit to the Duke and Duchess of Manchester, at Kimbolton Castle, Hunts.

A Grand Council of the Illustrious Knights, K.H. 30°, will be held at the Masonic Hall, Golden-square, on Thursday next, the 10th inst.

The St. Dunstan's Lodge, No. 1589, will be consecrated on Friday, the 18th inst. It is to be a parish lodge, and to consist of parishioners and office-holders of the parish. Principal Officers Designate:—W.M., Bro. Dwarber, P.M. No. 55, Senior Churchwarden; S.W., Bro. Wellsman, P.M. No. 858, Junior Churchwarden; J.W., Bro. Dalwood, P.M. No. 860, Overseer; Secretary, Bro. A. Tisley, No. 1275, Assistant Vestry Clerk.

The installation meeting of the Kennington Lodge, No. 1381, took place on Tuesday last; a report of same will appear next week.

Sir George Elliot has lodged two millions sterling as caution money in connection with a financial operation. It is rumoured that the Anglo-Egyptian Bank has done the same in French interests.

REQUESTS TO LIVERPOOL CHARITIES.—A division of £300,000 left to the Liverpool charities has been made by the executors of the will of the late Mr. Roger Lyon Jones, a Liverpool merchant, who died about a year and a half ago. By the division the Liverpool Royal Infirmary receives £15,000; the Southern Hospital, £20,000; Northern Hospital, £20,000; and five other charities, £10,000 each. Forty-six other charities receive from £500 to £5000. Exercising the discretionary powers vested in them, the executors have determined that these sums shall be permanently invested for the benefit of the charities referred to.

The New Cross Lodge, No. 1559, was consecrated on Wednesday last. A full report of the proceedings will appear in our next.

The next examination of candidates for admission into the Medical Service of the Royal Navy will take place at the University of London, Burlington House, on Monday, Feb. 14th.

On Wednesday evening Bro. C. T. Mathew, C.C., one of the newly-elected members for Farringdon Without, entertained the members of his election committee and a few friends to dinner, at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street.

We understand that a marriage is arranged, and will take place, shortly before Easter, between Professor Tyn-dall, LL.D., F.R.S., M.R.I., and the elder daughter of Lord Claud Hamilton, M.P. (niece of the Duke of Abercorn, M.W. Grand Master Ireland).

The Lodge of Truth, 1458 Manchester, will, in future, hold their meetings on the first Saturday in every month at private rooms, Conservative Club, Newton Heath, Manchester.

The Leopold Lodge of Instruction now meets at the Woolpack Tavern, Bermondsey-street, S.E.

The Lodge of Truth, 521, Huddersfield, will hold their Masonic Ball on February 11th, which is expected to eclipse any previous Masonic ball held in Huddersfield.

INSTRUCTION AND CHARITY.—The brethren of various lodges who attend the Lodge of Instruction on Friday at the Portugal Hotel, Fleet-street, had a profitable evening last Friday, and the proceedings were largely attended, indeed, the spacious room was as crowded as possible for a Masonic gathering to be. Bro. Bingemann, W.M. of the Constitutional, presided, and the piece de resistance was to be the installation ceremony. Bro. Stacey was the Preceptor, and among the brethren present were Foulger, P.M.; While, W.M. 228 ("Freemason"); Griggs, W.M. elect, P.M.; Hogard, J. Hill, Abell, W.W. Snelling, and others. The third ceremony was first performed, Bro. J. Hill being the candidate, the Wardens' chairs having as occupants during this part of the proceedings Bros. While and Hogard. For the installation the Senior Warden was duly presented, and Bro. Bingemann went through the ceremony with great precision, all the work being done in full form, just as in ordinary work. The proclamations and addresses having been given, a hearty vote of thanks was passed to Bro. Bingemann, upon whom the honours of honorary membership could not be conferred, as he has already achieved that distinction, and the presiding W.M. said that there was only one other pleasure the large gathering present could have, and that was an invitation to go en masse to see their Brother work the ceremony on the occasion when he attained the honourable position of I.P.M. The suggestion, it was explained, could not be acted upon, as the meeting place would be filled, and the lodge went on to other business. It was agreed to accept the invitation of the Metropolitan Club of Instruction for next Friday, at King's Cross, and therefore the meeting will not be held at the Portugal. It was announced that the association formed for the purpose of qualifying brothers to become life subscribers of the institutions by monthly payments of a shilling a week, was flourishing—several draws had been made, and new members were enrolled. Thus meetings which are shorn of "eating and merry making" have pleasures of which enemies to the Craft do not dream in the exercise of prudent charity.

ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

The following is the list of the Stewards for the annual festival on Wednesday next, the Rt. Hon. Lord Skelmersdale, R.W. Prov. Grand Master for W. Lancashire, in the chair: PRESIDENT:—V.W. Bro. the Rev. J. E. Cox, D.D., P.G. Chap.

VICE-PRESIDENTS:—Bros. J. M. P. Montagu, D.P.G.M. Dorsetshire; T. Jowitt, D.P.G.M. Herefordshire; E. J. Morris, D.P.G.M. South Wales, Province of South Wales, E. Division; T. W. Tew, D.P.G.M. West Yorks.; A. Hay, P.D.D.G.M. Bombay; Rev. J. C. Martyn (Vice-Patron), P.G. Ch.; Rev. A. F. A. Woodford, P.G. Chap.; F. P. Morrell, J.G.D. Oxon; R. W. Stewart, P.G.D.; J. D. Moore (M.D.), P.G.S.B., P.M. 281; J. Coultas, P.G.P.; T. Cuioitt, P.G.P.; Col. J. Duff, P.G.W. Norfolk; W. H. Brittain, P.G.J.W. W.Y.; Capt. A. T. Perkins, (J.P.), P.G.J.W. Somerset; H. R. C. Smith, P.G.J.W. Oxon; Dr. Brette, P.G. Chap. Middx.; Rev. J. N. Palmer, P.P.G.W. Hants; H. Cawte, P.P.G.W. Hants; G. W. F. Loftus, P.P.G.W. Norfolk; Lieut.-Col. A. Potter, P.P.G.J.W. Northumberland; J. Lees, P.P.G.W. Surrey; J. Prescott, P.P.J.G.W. W. Lanc.; M. M. de Bartolome, P.P.G.W. W. Yorks.; Capt. J. Wordsworth (V.P.), P.P.S.G.W. Yorks.; Rev. J. A. Lloyd (M.A.), P.G. Chap. Oxon; Rev. D. Shaboe, P.P.G. Chap. Middx.; R. J. Critchley (J.P.), P.G. Treas. W. Yorks.; Dr. J. K. Smith, P.G. Reg. E. Lanc.; J. Bowes, P.P.G. Reg. Cumberland and Westmoreland; R. Pearson, P.P.G. Reg. W. Lanc.; G. Davies, D.G. Sec. Punjab; W. H. Lucia, P.G.S. Suffolk; H. Smith, P. G. Sec. W. Yorks.; H. C. Tombs, P.G. Sec. Wilts; H. S. Alpess, P.G. Sec. W. Lancashire; H. Dubow, sen., P.G.D. Devon; H. E. Frances, P.G.D. Surrey; R. Wylie, P.P.G.D. W. Lanc.; R. Wilson, P.P.S.G.D. W. Lanc.; W. Leader (V.P.), P.G.J.D. W. Lanc.; G. P. Brockbank, P.G.D. E. Lanc.; C. Lacey, P.P.G.D. Herts; G. S. Woodwork, P.P.G.D. Norfolk; H. W. Charrington, P.P.G.D. Surrey; J. C. Gillman, P.P.G.D. W. Lanc.; H. C. Levander, P.P.G.D. Wiltshire; W. Laidlaw, P.P.G. Supt. of Wks. W. Lanc.; B. W. Rowson, P.P.G. Supt. of Wks. W. Lanc.; C. M. Jones, P.P.G.D. of C. E. Lanc.; A. Lucking, P.A.G.D.C. Essex; G. Baxter, P.A.G.D.C. Norfolk; R. H. Griffin, P.A.G.D.C. Norths and Hunts; Capt. J. W. Arrowsmith, P.G.S.B. Cheshire; J. E. Curteis, P.G.S.B. Devon; J. Thompson, P.G.S.B.N. and E. Yorks.; T. H. Miller, P.G.O. Middx.; F. Fearnside, P.P.G.O. Suffolk; J. Reade, P.P.G.P. Oxon; E. H. Thielay, P.A.G.P. Middx.; E. March, P.G.S.; C. J. Morgan, G.S.; J. E. Middleton, P.G.S.; W. Smithett, P.G.S.; J. S. Banning, P.G.S.; J. Eberall, P.G.S. Sussex; H. Campkin, P.G.S. Herts.; W. Gilbert, P.G.S. Herts.; G. Haigh, P.G.S. W. Yorks.; J. Palmer, (V.P.)

TREASURER: Bro. Thomas Fenn, (V. Patron), P.G.D. F. J. Hartridge, A. R. Velas, J.W.; J. C. Havers, S.D.; L. T. Crowley, P.M.; W. R. Marsh, W.M.; C. Watson, P.M.; R. Coombs, A. I. Bristol, S.D.; J. C. Chaplin, W.M.; J. Stead, P.M.; F. Kent, P.M.; J. Last, Chap.; J. Green, W.M.; W. Lane, P.M.; J. Harling, P.M.; W. T. Sugg, J. Bingemann, W.M.; H. Preston, P.M.; E. Bowyer, S.W.; C. Rayden, W.M. elect; C. Andrews, P.M.; C. Hull, P.M.; S. D. McDougall, P.M.; H. Finch, W.M.; J. L. Thomas, P.M.; G. Allen, S.W.; G. Purkess, W.M.; J. J. Hutchings, J. M. Levick, W. T. Wells, W.M.; E. C. Mather, P.S.; E. A. Nairne, P.M.; J. B. Sorrell, W.M.; G. Everett, I.P.M.; W. M. Foxcroft, Chaplain; W. Hughes, P.M. & Sec.; W. C. Parsons, P.M.; F. E. Wilkinson, P.M.; F. Fellows, J.D.; H. C. Lambert, I.G.; J. While, W.M.; C. Birch, W.M.; A. Cooper, W. R. Morton, W.M.; W. Harrap, W.M.; T. G. Andrews, Sec.; B. Broughton, Rev. B. Sewell, (M.A.); R. Craig, W.M.; J. Mason, W.M. 1567, P.M.; S. S. Pearce, P.M.; T. J. D. Rawlins, S.W.; J. Barnes, P.M.; J. Hirst, jun., (J.P.), P.M.; S. R. Ellis, P.M.; B. Swallow, P.M.; E. C. Woodward, P.M. and Treas.; E. H. Stamwitz, W.M.; Dr. M. A. Morris, W.M.; G. Read, P.M. and Sec.; E. T. Leith, P.M.; W. H. Stevens, H. Nelson, P.M.; E. W. Young, S.W.; T. W. Allen, P.M.; E. B. Webb, W.M. elect; J. R. Gallant, S.W.; W. W. Lowles, J.D.; W. Johnson, W.M.; J. B. Langley, I.G.; Lieut.-Col. Gamble, E. Salisbury, P.M.; G. F. Lancaster, I.P.M.; S. H. P. Moore, W.M.; J. Simpson, P.M.; H. Smart, J. Thompson, Treas.; J. Morton, P.M.; H. G. Sisley, P.M.; J. C. Lunt; P.M. T. Ayling; G. Macdonald, S.W.; J. B. Graver-Brown, W.M.; J. Pearson, W.M.; W. H. Barber, D. Baker, W.M.; H. M. Baker, J.W.; C. N. Scales; J. J. Lowenthal, P.M.; T. W. Murley, I.G.; E. Jex, P.M.; B. P. Gee, W.M.; G. W. Verry, P.M. 554; J. W. Terry, P.M.; G. H. Jaffa; C. Rushworth, J.W.; W. Mitchell; J. Brooks, P.M.; T. Buston, P.M.; E. Farthing, P.M.; C. G. Hill, S.W.; G. D. Pochin, P.M.; J. Cutbush, W.M.; H. Jackson; W. H. Myers, W.M.; C. Dinham, J.D.; J. L. Mather, P.M.; J. P. McArthur; J. T. Dalby, W.M.; F. S. Knyvett, W.M.; E. B. Harding, P.M.; T. Isley, S.W.; J. Willing, jun., P.M.; W. H. Lee, W.M.; W. Brough; C. Pegler, Chap.

HONORARY SECRETARY:—Bro. J. Terry (Secretary to the Institution), 4, Freemasons' Hall, London, W.C.

LADIES' STEWARDS: Bros. T. W. Allen, J. S. Banning, E. Bowyer, J. Bingemann, G. Baxter, J. C. Chaplin, J. T. Dalby, F. Fellows, W. Johnson, J. J. Lowenthal, J. M. Levick, J. Mason, W. R. Marsh, T. W. Murley, E. C. Mather, T. H. Miller, B. Swallow, E. H. Stamwitz, J. K. Stead, J. B. Sorrell, J. W. Terry, G. W. Verry.

We are authorised to state that the Queen will hold an official and diplomatic Court on Thursday, Feb. 24th, at Buckingham Palace.

A NEW BOOK ON CHESS IN THEORY AND PRACTICE, containing the Laws and History of the Game, together with an analysis of the openings, and a treatise on end games, by the late Howard Staunton and Robert B. Wornold, price 8s. 6d., will be published in a few days by Messrs. Virtue & Co., and may be had of all booksellers.

Obituary.

BRO. THE REV. EDWIN THOMPSON, D.D.

We deeply lament having to record the decease of Bro. the Rev. Edwin Thompson, D.D., of St. John's, Wandsworth, Chaplain of the Grand Master's Lodge, No. 1, and also to the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls. Bro. Thompson expired at Worthing on the 2nd inst., after a very brief illness. Only a few days since we met him in apparent health and strength, and now he has gone to his rest. His demise will be deeply felt by his sorrowing family, and by all—especially his Masonic brethren—who had the privilege of his acquaintance and friendship.

THE LATE BRO. W. ROMAINE CALLENDER.—The following circular has been issued from Grand (Mark) Secretary's office:—"W. and Dear Sir and Brother, 'It is with extreme regret that I inform you that intelligence has this morning been received of the death of the R. W. Deputy G. Master, Bro. Wm. Romaine Callender, M.P., &c. An event so sad and unexpected demands, and will in due course receive, a more fitting notice than can be given in an official circular. It will suffice to state here, that the loss thus sustained will be felt most sincerely, not only by all the members of this degree, in which our lamented brother held so influential a position, but by other large and important interests with which he was actively and intimately associated. I have received the commands of the Most Worshipful Grand Master (of Mark Masons) that all lodges under his jurisdiction shall be suitably draped in mourning, and that all members thereof shall wear mourning for the space of six months as a token of esteem and respect for our late Deputy Grand (Mark) Master. I am, W. and dear Sir and Brother, yours faithfully and fraternally, FREDERICK BINCKES, (P.G.J.W.), G. Secretary (Mark G. Lodge)."

MASONIC CHARITABLE BALLS.

The annual Bootle Masonic ball, the proceeds of which will be given to the endowment fund of the Bootle Borough Hospital, took place on Thursday evening, the 27th ult., at the Town Hall, Bootle, near Liverpool.

These enjoyable assemblies have in previous years resulted successfully, and that given last evening was not less so than those which have preceded. The brethren of the "mystic tie" in the neighbourhood deserve much praise for thus having their chief element of existence in view, while providing a most pleasant gathering for those on pleasure bent.

The annual ball of the Duke of Edinburgh Lodge, No. 1182, also took place on Thursday night, the 27th ult., at the Philharmonic Hall, Liverpool, in aid of a Masonic charity, which was well attended. The festive gathering was an exceedingly pleasant one, great praise being due to Bros. T. B. Myers, W.M.; R. Martin, S.W.; and Bro. T. Davies, hon. sec., and other brethren for the excellent arrangements.

METROPOLITAN MASONIC MEETINGS

For the Week ending Friday, February 11, 1876.

The Editor will be glad to receive notice from Secretaries of Craft Lodges, Royal Arch Chapters, Mark Lodges, Preceptories, Conclaves, &c., of any change in place or time of meeting.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 5.

Special General Court, Boys' and Girls' School. (See advt.)
Lodge 142, St. Thomas's, Terminus Hot., Cannon-st.
" 1572, Carnarvon, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Lily, Greyhound, Richmond.
Star, Marquis of Granby, New Cross-road.
Sinai Chapter, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 7.

Lodge 12, Fortitude and Cumberland, Ship and Turtle.
" 25, Robert Burns, F.M.H.
" 69, Unity, London Tav., Bishopsgate-st.
" 72, Royal Jubilee, Anderton's Hot.
" 83, United L. of Prudence, Albion, Aldersgate-st.
" 144, St. Luke's, M.H., Mason's Avenue.
" 188, Joppa, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
" 256, Unions, F.M.H.
" 1319, Asaph, F.M.H.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Manchester, 77, London-st., Fitzroy-square.
Prince Leopold, Lord Stanley Tav., Kingsland.
Strong Man, Jerusalem Tav., St. John's Station.
Sincerity, Lyseum Tav., Fenchurch-st. Gate.
Camden, Stanhope Arms, Up. James-st., Camden To.
Eastern, Royal Hot., Mile-end-road.
St. James's Union, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Wellington, White Swan, Deptford.
West Kent, St. Saviour's College, Forest-hill.
Perfect Ashlar, Victoria Tav., Lower-rd., Rotherhithe.
Sydney, White Hart Ho., Church-rd., Upper Norwood.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 8.

Lodge 46, Old Union, Terminus Hot., Cannon-st.
" 96, Burlington, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
" 134, Caledonian, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.
" 166, Union, London Tav., Bishopsgate-st.
" 180, St. James's Union, F.M.H.
" 198, Percy, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.
" 211, St. Michael's, Albion, Aldersgate-st.
" 228, United Strength, St. John's Gate, Clerkenwell.
" 235, Nine Muses, Long's Hotel, Bond-st., W.
" 548, Wellington, White Swan Tav., Deptford.
" 824, Ranelagh, Clarendon Hot., Hammersmith.
" 917, Cosmopolitan, Terminus Hot., Cannon-st.
" 933, Doric, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
Chap. 185, Jerusalem, F.M.H.
Rose Croix, Oxford and Cambridge, 33, Golden-sq.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney.
Domestic, Surrey M. H., Camberwell New-road.
Faith, 2, Westminster Chambers, Victoria-st.
Prince Fredk. Wm., Lord's Hot., St. John's Wood.
Dalhousie, King Edward, Triangle, Hackney.
Prosperity, 1, Camomile-st., Bishopsgate.
St. Marylebone, British Stores Tav., St. John's Wood.
Constitutional, Wheatsheaf Hot., Hand-court, Holborn.
Percy, Grapes Tav., Little Windmill-st., W.
Israel, Rising Sun Tav., Globe Road.
Royal Arthur, Prince's Head, York-road, Battersea.
Beacontree, Red Lion, Leytonstone, at 8.
Metropolitan Chapter, Jamaica Coffee Ho., Cornhill.
Excelsior, Commercial Dock Tav., Rotherhithe.
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 9.
Anniversary Festival of R.M.B.I. (See advt.)
Com. R.M.B.I. at 3.
Lodge 3, Fidelity, F.M.H.
" 9, Albion, Regent M.H., Regent-st.
" 11, Enoch, F.M.H.
" 13, Union, Waterloo, M.H., Woolwich.
" 15, Kent, F.M.H.
" 87, Vitruvian, White Hart, College-st., Lambeth.
" 147, Justice, White Swan, High-st., Deptford.
" 238, Pilgrim, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.
" 749, Belgrave, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
" 781, Merchant Navy, Silver Tav., Burdett-rd., E.
" 1017, Montefiore, F.M.H.
" 1260, Hervey, F.M.H.
" 1305, St. Marylebone, Eyre Arms Tav., N.W.
" 1306, St. John of Wapping, Gun Tav., High-st., E.
" 1503, Francis Burdett, Albany Hot., Twickenham.
Rose Croix, Grand Metropolitan, 33, Golden-sq.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Mt. Lebanon, Windsor Cas. Tav., Southwark-bdg.-rd.
Pythagorean, Prince of Orange, Greenwich.
New Concord, Rosemary Branch Tav., Hoxton.
Royal Union, Horse and Groom, Winsley-st., Oxford-st.
Confidence, M.H., Basinghall-st.
Peckham, Maismore Arms, Park-road, Peckham.
Stanhope, Thicket Hot., Anerley.
Finsbury Park, Finsbury Park Tav., Seven Sisters'-rd.
Southwark, Southwark Park Tav., Southwark Park.
Duke of Connaught, Havelock Tav., Dalston, E.
United Strength, Grafton Arms, Kentish-town.
Mount Edgcombe, 19, Jermyn-street, St. James's.
Islington, Crown and Cushion, London Wall.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 10.

Lodge 19, R. Athelstan, Terminus Hot., Cannon-st.
" 21, Regularity, F.M.H.
" 206, Friendship, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.
" 263, Bank of England, Albion, Aldersgate-st.
" 534, Polish National, F.M.H.
" 657, Canonbury, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
" 860, Dalhousie, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
" 879, Southwark, Southwark Park Tav.
" 1076, Capper, Marine Hot., Victoria Dock.
" 1216, Macdonald, Head-quarters, 1st Surrey Rifles.
" 1471, Islington, Cock Tav., Highbury.
" 1558, Duke of Connaught, Surrey M.H.
Chap. 140, St. George's, Globe Tav., Greenwich.
" 554, Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney.
K.T. Precep. 45, Temple Cressing, Bridge House Hot.
" 117, New Temple, the Inner Temple, City.
" 128, Oxford and Cambridge University, 33, Golden-sq.

Grand Council of Ill. Knights, K.H. 30°, 33, Golden-sq.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Egyptian, Hercules Tav., Leadenhall-st.
Fidelity, Yorkshire Grey, London-st., W.
Finsbury, Jolly Anglers' Tav., Bath-st., City-road.
Whittington, Black Bull Tav., Holborn.
Temperance in the East, Catherine-st., Poplar.
Ebury, 12, Ponsonby-st., Millbank.
Highgate, Bull and Gate, Kentish-town.
The Great City, 111, Cheapside.
High Cross, Coach & Horses, High-road, Tottenham.
Salisbury, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Marquis of Ripon, Albion Tav., Albion-rd., Dalston.
Prince Frederick William Chapter, St. John's Wood.
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 11.

Lodge 33, Britannic, F.M.H.
" 157, Bedford, F.M.H.
" 177, Demotic, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
" 1420, Earl Spencer, Northcote Hot., S.W.
Chap. 6, Friendship, Willis's R., King-st., W.
Rose Croix, Mount Calvary, 33, Golden-sq.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Union Waterloo, Thomas-st., Woolwich.
St. George's, Globe Tav., Royal-hill, Greenwich.
Robert Burns, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Belgrave, Lyceum Tav., 354, Strand.
Unions Emulation (for M.M.'s), F.M.H.
Temperance, Victoria Tav., Victoria-road, Deptford.
Clapton, White Hart, Clapton.
Stability, Guildhall Tav., Gresham-st.
Metropolitan, Portugal Hot., Fleet-st.
Westbourne, Horse & Groom, Winsley-st., Oxford-st.
Metropolitan, Pentonville-road.
United Pilgrims, Surrey M. H., Camberwell New-road.
St. James's, New Tanners' Arms, Grange-rd., Bermondsey.
Duke of Edinburgh, Silver Lion, Penny-fields, Poplar.
Doric, Earl Grey Tav., Mile-end-road.
Burgoyne, Grafton Arms, Prince of Wales's-road, N.W.
St. Luke's, Commercial Tav., King's-road, Chelsea.
Chigwell, Bald-faced Stag Hot., Buckhurst-hill.
Burdett Courts, Approach Tav., Victoria Park.
Royal Standard, Finsbury Park Tav., Holloway.
Ranelagh, Clarendon Hot., Hammersmith.
Pythagorean Chapter, Prince of Orange, Greenwich-rd.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN WEST LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE.

For the Week ending Saturday, February 12, 1876.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 7.

Lodge 113, Unanimity, Assembly R., Bull Hot., Preston.
" 613, Unity, Palatine Buildings, Southport.
" 703, Clifton, Clifton Arms, Blackpool.
" 1045, Stamford, T.H., Altrincham.
" 1051, Rowley, M.R., Athenæum, Lancaster.
" 1264, Neptune, M.H., Liverpool.
" 1380, Skelmersdale, Queen's Hot., Waterloo.
Everton L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.
Skelmersdale R. C. Conclave, M.H., Liverpool.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 8.

Lodge 241, Merchants, M.H., Liverpool.
" 897, Loyalty, Fleece Inn, St. Helens.
" 986, Hesketh, Grapes Inn, Croston.
" 1250, Gilbert Greenall, M.R., Warrington.
" 1256, Fidelity, Bull Hot., Poulton-le-Fyle.
" 1325, Stanley, M.H., Kirkdale.

Chap. 573, Zion, M.R., Argyle-st., Birkenhead.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 9.

Lodge 86, Loyalty, M. H., Prescott.
" 281, Fortitude, the Athenæum, Lancaster.
" 484, Faith, Gerard's Arms, Ashton-le-Willows.
" 580, Harmony, Wheatsheaf, Ormskirk.
" 758, Ellesmere, M.H., Runcorn.
" 1052, Callender, Public Hall, Rusholme.
" 1094, Temple, M.H., Liverpool.
" 1356, De Grey and Ripon, 80, N. Hill-st.
" 1547, Liverpool M.H., Liverpool.
Chap. 673, St. John's, M.H., Liverpool.
" 1345, Victoria, Cross Keys Hot., Eccles.
Neptune L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 10.

Lodge 216, Harmonic, Adelphi Hot., Liverpool.
" 333, Royal Preston, Vic. Garrison Ho., Fulwood.
" 477, Mersey, 55, Argyle-st., Birkenhead.
" 786, Crosth United Service, M.H., Liverpool.
" 950, Hesketh, Royal Hot., Fleetwood.
" 1032, Townley Parker, Howard's Arms, Whittle-le-Woods.
" 1035, Prince of Wales, Kirkdale, Kiverpool.
" 1070, Starkie, Black Horse Hot., Kirkham.
" 1182, Duke of Edinburgh, M.H., Liverpool.
" 1213, Bridgewater, Cross Keys Hot., Eccles.
Mariners' L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 11.

Lodge 155, Perseverance, M.H., Liverpool.
" 1286, Rock, Bedford Ho., Bedford-rd., Rock Ferry.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN GLASGOW AND WEST OF SCOTLAND.

For the Week ending Saturday, February 12, 1876.

All the Meetings take place at Eight o'clock.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 7.

Lodge 124, Kilwinning, Union Tav., Ayr.
" 129, St. Mirren's, St. Mirren's Hall, Paisley.
" 138, Operative, Blue Bell Hot., Ayr.
" 237, St. John, Masonic Arm, Girvan.
" 332, Union, 170, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
Chap. 119, Rosslyn, 25, Robertson-st., Glasgow.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 8.

Lodge 177, St. James, Old Monkland, M.H., Coatbridge.
" 230, St. Barnabus, Black Bull Hot., Old Cumnock.
" 413, Athole, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
" 419, Neptune, 35, St. James-st., Kingston, Glsgw.
" 426, Prince of Wales, M.H., Renfrew.
" 441, Glasgow, 22, Struthers-st., Calton, Glasgow.
" 543, St. John, M.H., Dalmuir.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 9.

Lodge 178, Scotia, 170, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
" 179, St. Mungo, London Hotel, Mauchline.
" 333, St. George, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
" 510, Maryhill, M. H., Maryhill.
Chap. 113, Patrick, M.H., Partick.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 10.

Lodge 88, New Monkland, Montrose, T. H., Airdrie.
" 109, St. Marnocks, Crown Hot., Kilmarnock.
" 203, St. John Operative, Olive H., Airdrie.
" 290, Dairy Blair, White Hart Hall, Dalry.
" 570, Springburn, M. H., Springburn, Glasgow.
Chap. 50, Glasgow, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 11.

Lodge 18, Kilwinning, Mission Hall, Dumbarton.
" 170, Leven St. John's, Black Bull Inn, Leven.
" 399, Royal Blues, Commercial Hot., Kilmarnock.
" 427, St. Clair, M. H., Cambusnethan.
Chap. 144, St. Rollox, F. M. H., Garngad-rd.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 12.

Lodge 28, St. John's, Black Bull Inn, Kirkintilloch.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN EDINBURGH AND VICINITY.

For the Week ending Saturday, February 12, 1876.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 7.

Lodge 429, St. Kentigern, Royal Hot. Pemwick.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 8.

" 1, St. Mary's Chapel, Waterloo Ho., Waterloo-pl.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 9.

" 2, Canongate, St. John's Chapel, St. John-st.
Chap. 1, Edinburgh, F. M. H., George-st.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 10.

Lodge 8, Journeyman, Blackfriars-st., High-st.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 11.

Chap. 56, Canongate, M. H., St. John's-st.

DAYLIGHT reflected in dark rooms. Gas superseded in day time. Health, comfort, and economy promoted by adopting Chappuis' Patent Daylight Reflectors.—Manufacturer, 69, Fleet-street, London.

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INSTALLATION OF H.R.H. PRINCE LEOPOLD AS PROVINCIAL GRAND MASTER FOR OXFORDSHIRE.

As announced in a leader in our last issue the installation of H.R.H. Prince Leopold as Provincial Grand Master for the distinguished Province of Oxfordshire will take place on Wednesday, the 23rd inst., in the Sheldonian Theatre, Oxford. As a special and full report of the proceedings will appear in the issue for the 26th inst., all orders for that number should at once be sent to the Publisher of the "Freemason," 198, Fleet-street, London, E.C.

REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS.
Craft Masonry.

FORTITUDE AND OLD CUMBERLAND LODGE (No. 12).—On Monday afternoon last the annual meeting for installation of W.M. of this lodge was held at the Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-street. Bro. Joseph Clever, W.M., presided, and, assisted by his officers, raised Bros. Elliott, Allen, and Kidder, and passed Bro. Thos. F. Cooper. Bro. William Joseph Clever, of the Amity Lodge, 171, was unanimously elected a joining member of the lodge. The bye-laws were then read, after which Bro. J. Clever proceeded to instal Bro. George Angold as W.M. for the ensuing year. The ceremony was most impressively, yet withal quietly rendered, and obtained the hearty applause of the brethren at its conclusion. The brethren appointed to office by the W.M. were Bros. Joseph Clever, I.P.M.; L. Ruf, P.M., Treas.; Alfred Snellgrove, P.M., Sec.; W. B. Kidder, S.W.; W. H. Bateman, J.W.; H. Mower, S.D.; R. N. Coombs, J.D.; T. Kyffin, I.G.; W. Rutherford, D.C.; L. Ruf, W.S.; Gilchrist, Tyler. Afterwards the W.M. presented Bro. Joseph Clever, in the name of the lodge, with a handsome P.M.'s jewel, and in doing so said that he was sure that all the brethren would feel that it was nothing more than was his due for the heavy amount of work he had done during the year, and also for his excellent rendering of the installation. Bro. Clever, P.M., then said—I sincerely thank you for your very great kindness in having voted me this jewel. I can assure you I shall highly prize it. No jewel shall I wear on my breast that I shall prize more highly than that of Fortitude and Old Cumberland Lodge, and I sincerely thank you. If I have discharged my duties to your satisfaction during my year of office I am fully paid for any efforts I may have used. (Cheers.) Some other business was then transacted, and the brethren adjourned to one of Bro. Painter's choice banquets. Among the company present were besides the brethren named above, Past Masters A. H. Lilley, Raynham W. Stewart, Dudley Rolls, Sidney H. Rolls, and J. B. Lemaître; F. Binckes, Secretary Boys' School; R. W. Little, Secretary Girls' School; James Terry, Secretary Benevolent Institution; Chas. Atkins, 27; J. A. Barnard, 217; A. M. Thomas, 134; E. Francis, 403; A. J. Small, D. Cormack, 538; R. Peart, W. H. Dudgeon, 558; E. B. Grabham, S.W. 19; J. R. Gallant, S.W. 813; A. Perdes, 179; E. Power, 91; Mortimer Davis, P.M. 12; J. Torres, P.M. 715; J. W. South, P.M. 60; J. R. Glenn, 1491; H. Massey ("Freemason"); and R. Farquharson, 99. Altogether fifty-seven brethren sat down to banquet. When the toasts were proposed Bro. Raynham W. Stewart responded for "The Grand Officers." He, however, thought that when he sat down in the lodge as one of its Past Masters his rank in Grand Lodges should be sunk. But as he had been called upon to reply, he would say that the Grand Officers were proud to have the opportunity of coming to the Fortitude and Old Cumberland Lodge to see how the brethren did things there, and how prosperous the lodge was. The lodge was exceedingly prosperous, and there was hardly room for another member. Although the W.M. was well up in his work he would not have the opportunity of making a Freemason until a vacancy occurred. On behalf of Lord Skelmersdale and the other Grand Officers, he begged to inform the brethren that they were all delighted at the progress that was being made by

the Order. Bro. Clever proposed the toast of "The Health of the W.M.," and in doing so said that it was with very great pleasure that he did so. All the brethren were very much delighted to see that the W.M. had arrived at the proud position of presiding over the brethren of the Fortitude and Old Cumberland Lodge. Many of the brethren present remembered his being initiated, and had watched over his progress through the different degrees till he attained his present rank. None of the brethren had seen anything in him but what was pleasing, and that they would be gratified to find in any brethren following him. (Applause.) The W.M., in reply, said, after thanking the brethren for their cordiality, that he did not set himself up as a pattern Master, but he hoped that he should do the work of the lodge properly during his year of office. (Loud cheers.) The W.M. next proposed "The Health of the Visitors," whom the Fortitude and Old Cumberland Lodge were always pleased to see. After this he proposed a special toast in favour of Bro. Painter, who had spread such a splendid repast for the brethren that evening. Bro. Mortimer Davis was the first to reply, and remarked on the magnificent hospitality which the lodge had displayed that evening to the visitors. The manner in which the work had been done, and the gorgeous hospitality of the lodge, had always won for it great renown. From first to last it had been splendid. (Hear, hear.) Bro. C. Painter, in replying, expressed his gratification that the brethren were satisfied with what the Ship and Turtle had done. The W.M. then gave "The P.M.'s," from whom he expected great assistance during his year of office. Bro. Clever replied. He was very proud at being enrolled that day among the ranks of the P.M.'s. The pleasure he felt at being so enrolled was only equalled by the pleasure in being installed twelve months ago as W.M. As a Past Master he would do the best he could for the benefit of the lodge, the same as he had done while he was W.M. If he was spared, which he hoped he should be, he should use his utmost endeavours to forward the interest of the brethren; and certainly he should always be ready to render any assistance in his power. Bro. Raynham W. Stewart proposed "The Charities," to which all three Secretaries responded, and the remaining toasts having been honoured, the brethren separated. The evening was enlivened by some beautiful singing by Bro. Farquharson.

FAITH LODGE (No. 141).—A meeting of this lodge took place at Anderson's Hotel on the 25th ult. The lodge was opened by Bro. Waygood, W.M.; Kennett, I.P.M.; Carter, P.M., Treas.; Stuart, P.M., P.Z., &c., Sec.; Davis, S.W.; Mallett, J.W.; Darcy, J.D.; Bye, I.G.; Rumball, D.C. Amongst the P.M.'s were Bros. Peever, Hopwood, Taylor, Green, Themans. The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, Bro. Kennett, I.P.M., by permission of the W.M. raised Bros. Elverstone and Ormiston. The W.M. then passed Bros. Goldsmith, Tittle, Cohn, Robinson, and Ginz, and initiated Mr. George Goulden into Craft mysteries. A letter of resignation from Bro. D. Davis, W.S., having been read, in consequence of his going abroad, and several communications having been made by the Secretary, the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to banquet. The visitors were Bros. Callingham (Domestic) and Cattle, S.W. (Jvy). Upon the removal of the cloth the toast of "The Queen and Craft," "The M.W.G.M., H.R.H. the Prince of Wales," "The Earl of Carnarvon and the rest of the Grand Officers Past and Present," were given by the W.M. with a brief preface to each, and duly honoured. In proposing "The Health of the W.M." Bro. Kennett, I.P.M., spoke of the difficulties Bro. Waygood laboured under through business arrangements, which necessitated his residing for a time in the provinces, and that in order that day to be present in the chair of K.S. he had journeyed all the way from Manchester. He hoped that the brethren would join with him in drinking the W.M.'s very good health and a prosperous year of office. The W.M. having suitably acknowledged the compliment, proposed "The Health of the Initiate, Bro. Goulden," in a very cordial speech. The toast having been drunk, Bro. Goulden returned thanks. "The Health of the Visitors" followed, and Bro. Cattle made a neat reply. In the intervals of the above toasts Bros. Bird and Robinson contributed some instrumental music, and Bros. Walls and Cattle sang several ballads.

ST. THOMAS'S LODGE (No. 142).—This lodge held its installation meeting on Saturday last, at the City Terminus Hotel. Bro. G. A. Rooks, W.M., presided, supported by Past Masters Huguenin, (representative of the Grand Lodge of Switzerland), H. Lloyd Thomas, F. T. Dubois, Cockcroft, Powell, and Scarth; Bros. Burnaby, Lambert, Beattie, H. A. Dubois, Battye, Levander, Lee, Carlisle, Hannan, and visitors, Dr. Lavies, E. Horne, 92; W. Stephen, 34; W. C. A. Roettger, 251; J. Stare, Celtic; J. Stoddart, 181; and H. Massey ("Freemason"). After the confirmation of the minutes of last regular lodge meeting, and of the emergency of the 21st of December, when the lodge celebrated its centenary, the W.M., Bro. Rooks, installed Bro. W. D. Burnaby in the Master's chair. The brethren appointed to office by the new W.M. were Bros. Lambert, S.W.; W. Beattie, J.W.; Battye, P.M., Treas.; H. C. Levander, P.M., Sec.; Macaulay, S.D.; Powell, J.D.; Lee, I.G.; Carlisle, D.C.; Hannan; W.S.; and Riley, Tyler. At the conclusion of the addresses, which were well delivered by Bro. Rooks, Bro. Levander read a very interesting report made by the Centenary Committee, in which it was shown that the Centenary Festival was very successful, and that the whole of the expenses had been defrayed. The adoption of the report, which was moved by Bro. H. Lloyd Thomas, P.M., and seconded by Bro. H. A. Dubois, P.M., was carried unanimously. The Treasurer informed the brethren that the W.M., Bro. Rooks, had presented £30 to the lodge towards the expenses of the centenary, a fact which he thought they ought to be all acquainted with. (Cheers.) The accounts were then read, and on the motion of Bro. H. A. Dubois, it was ordered that they be printed with the next lodge sum-

mons. Lodge was then closed, and the brethren sat down to a choice banquet. When the toasts were proposed the W.M. called on Bro. Huguenin to respond for the Grand Officers, and Bro. Huguenin, as representative in Grand Lodge of the Grand Lodge of Switzerland, said he was glad to see St. Thomas's Lodge still following the path that had been laid out by its former Masters. The lodge had obtained for itself a high position, and on the occasion of the centenary festival this was appreciated by the large number of Grand Officers who were then present. He felt sure that the lodge would pursue its old course. He then passed a high compliment on Bro. Rooks' working during the whole of last year. (Cheers.) Bro. Rooks proposed "The Health of the W.M." He said that he was old enough to remember Bro. Burnaby coming to the lodge for initiation, and the first evening was not over before every brother was satisfied that he was animated by a truly Masonic spirit. It was his (Bro. Rooks') privilege when the brethren for the first time elected him to the chair, to place Bro. Burnaby in the first office he had filled in the lodge, and he felt determined with the assistance of the brethren to give him a higher position still. That determination had been carried out, for the brethren had now elected Bro. Burnaby as their W.M., and he had been installed that evening. That high position he would adorn, and the brethren would have the honour of being under the command of an excellent W.M. (Applause.) The W.M. in replying said (after thanking the brethren for their heartiness) that everything appertaining to Freemasonry was always present to his mind, and had a great interest or him, wherever he went. It was not, he said, by his own desire that he was elected and installed; but as it was with the concurrence and approbation of the whole lodge, he could not do otherwise than accept the office. He would then ask the brethren generously to look over any failings they might perceive in him. He could not hope to discharge his duties as well as the I.P.M.; his old age, his want of health, and his loss of memory would prevent him doing that; and it was in the full assurance that he would have the generous forbearance of the brethren that he consented to be their Master. All he could possibly do he would do; but he must remind them that he was often afflicted by a pertinacious old enemy called the gout, which might prevent his coming. If he lived his year of office throughout he would do in that time all in his power for the good of Freemasonry. (Cheers.) Bro. Horne, 92, and Bro. Dr. Lavies, replied for the visitors. Bro. Lavies wore his Scotch Masonic clothing, and in reference to it said, that although a member of the Apollo Lodge, Grand Lodge of Scotland was his Alma Mater in Freemasonry. As in his profession as a medical man he had found Scotch doctors well received in England, so had he found the same cordial reception for Scotch Masons in English lodges. Bro. Roettger, also replying for the visitors, and who wore the English apron, explained though a member of the Grand Lodge of Belgium before he was a member of our English lodge, he wore blue because the Belgium colours covered a number of degrees which had no status at all in a blue lodge. (Hear hear.) The W.M. afterwards proposed "The P.M.'s," and presented Bro. Rooks with a handsome gold jewel, in accordance with the wishes of the whole of the brethren, as a token of their acknowledgment of his services for two years as their W.M. It was with the most heartfelt pleasure he presented him with this jewel, and he wished him many years of life to enjoy the wearing of it. Bro. Rooks, after some preliminary observations, in which he adverted to his new position of P.M. requiring the same indulgence as the W.M. had asked for himself, thanked the brethren for the gift of the P.M.'s jewel. But to speak a word for the P.M.'s, he assured the brethren that during the time he held office as W.M. it would have been impossible for him to perform his duties unless he had had the support of the P.M.'s. He thanked the brethren for the unanimity with which they had received his directions in the lodge, and the readiness with which they had always supported him. He should never forget the assistance he had had from one and all during his two years of office. Bro. Cockcroft also responded, assuring the brethren that all the P.M.'s had the interest of the lodge at heart; they had all spent many, many happy hours together, and he hoped that St. Thomas's Lodge would never be wanting in that feeling. Bro. Levander, responding for the Treasurer and Secretary, read Bro. Binckes's circular asking for a Steward for the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys' festival. Bro. Lambert replied for "The Officers." They thanked the I.P.M. for having helped them on and supported them. Speaking for himself, he felt especially grateful to him for many acts of kindness. With regard to the working of the lodge he trusted that the officers would not fall short. He hoped they would not prove themselves unworthy of the high character which St. Thomas's Lodge bore, or unworthy successors of those who had gone before them. He hoped rather that they would strive to perpetuate the fame of the lodge for years to come. The endeavours of all the officers should be used to the best of their ability, supported by the W.M. and P.M.'s, to render the lodge efficient and worthy of the Grand Lodge of England. If there was no other member of the lodge who would take upon himself the duty of representing it as Steward at the Boys' School festival, this being the centenary year of the lodge, he would undertake that office himself. (Cheers.) The brethren shortly afterwards separated. During the evening Dr. Lavies, the W.M., and others, favoured the brethren with some excellent singing.

KENNINGTON LODGE (No. 1381).—The installation meeting of this prosperous young lodge, now four years old, was held on Tuesday last at the Surrey Club House, Kennington Oval, Bro. Saml. W. Gardner in the chair, when Bros. Collins and Andrews were raised, and Bro. Guinwade was passed to the Second Degree. After the conclusion of the ordinary business, Bro. Mann P.M., one of the founders of the lodge, took the chair as acting W.M., and Bro. George Everett was presented to

the benefit of installation, and having been obligated and intrusted according to ancient form, was presented to a Board of Installed Masters, and installed W.M. of the Kennington Lodge for the ensuing year. The entire ceremony was performed by Bro. Mann in a very impressive style, the several charges being rendered with much point and feeling. The following brethren were appointed officers:—Bros. Higgins, S.W.; Reeve, J.W.; Walls, S.D. Kholer, J.D.; E. J. Page, P.M.; Treas.; H. W. Stuart, Hon. Sec.; Speedy, I.G.; D. C. Marsden, D.C.; and Longstaff, Tyler. The business of the lodge over, the brethren adjourned to banquet, which was laid in the large room of the club house, and was everything that could be desired, either in the way of excellence, elegance, or the care taken to provide for the comfort of the brethren. The manner in which the tables were provided and served reflects the greatest credit on Messrs. Trotman and Sons, the purveyors. On the removal of the cloth, the usual loyal and patriotic toasts were proposed by Bro. Everett, W.M., and received by the brethren with the loyalty and good feeling usually displayed by Freemasons. In proposing the first toast, Bro. Everett said that the very sumptuous repast they had just partaken of having somewhat curtailed the time at their disposal, he should make the speeches as short as possible, and trusted the brethren would lend their assistance by giving their attention to what little he had to say. It was always a pleasure to propose the first toast of the evening, because as loyal subjects and Masons we hold in high esteem our Queen and the noble institution to which they all belonged, and it was an additional pleasure at the present time when she is about to re-appear in our midst and assume her proper place in the country from which she had so long withdrawn herself. The next toast, the W.M. said, was always a very popular one, "The Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M. of Masons." It was a great thing for Freemasonry when that very unexpected thing occurred which enabled them to elect as Grand Master the future ruler of this kingdom. And it was very satisfactory to find after having done so that His Royal Highness was a good Mason, and took a deep interest in everything connected with the Craft. His journey in the East too was all that could be desired. In every place he has visited the Freemasons had always been to the fore in giving him a true welcome. Proposing the next toast, he said they all knew that the Earl of Carnarvon was a very eminent statesman, and had done great things for his country, that Lord Skelmersdale was a very zealous young Mason, very proud of the position in which he had been placed, and that the rest of the Grand Officers were placed in very good hands. It was gratifying to know that in the absence of our M.W.G.M. the interest of the Craft did not suffer, as the officers he had mentioned were always ready to conduct the work of Grand Lodge. He would couple with "The Health of the Grand Officers" the name of Bro. Joseph Smith, of the Domatic, of which he was the father. Bro. Smith, in replying, said they all knew that the Earl of Carnarvon was a very hard-working Mason, and that the Craft under his guidance did not suffer through the absence of the Prince of Wales, because Lord Carnarvon does all that is required of him. The Grand Officers were open to the whole of the Craft, but as there were only seven Grand Officers there was a difficulty in rewarding deserving talent. As the Craft was spreading so widely he thought it would become necessary to return to the position of former times and have two Grand Lodges, so that there might be more offices to bestow. With regard to the Master they had that day installed, he believed that they would find he combined the qualities of firmness and gentleness, and that while he held his own in the lodge, and never allowed any one to trespass upon him he would, also conduct its affairs with true courtesy, and never himself trespass upon any one. Bro. Mann then said—Brethren, I rise on this occasion with two conflicting sentiments, one of great pleasure, and one of pain and difficulty. The cause of my now occupying the position of I.P.M. is that the real I.P.M. has suddenly and mysteriously disappeared. I have been looking round for him and really do not know where he has gone to. [It appeared afterwards that Bro. Gardner had been called out, expecting to return in a few minutes, but had been detained unexpectedly, and in fact did not make his appearance until a late period in the evening.] Well, then, brethren, I have great pleasure in proposing "The Health of our W.M." I do not know that I can say anything in his favour after the speech that Bro. J. Smith has made. He is a great authority; being the father of the Domatic, he may be looked upon as the grandfather of the Kennington. I think with Bro. Smith that we shall find in Bro. Everett a Master who will hold his own. We have not been progressing so favourably as could be wished, but I feel sure we shall do better in the coming year, and then Bro. Everett will have, what I am sure we all desire for him, a happy and prosperous year, many, many joining members and many initiates, and that at the end of his term of office next year we may every one of us respect him as we do at present. In reply, Bro. Everett said—Brethren, what I have to say at this particular moment will occupy but a very short time indeed. For the kind manner in which this toast has been proposed and responded to I wish to thank you. I do not know yet how I may be able to acquit myself, neither do you. I can only say I take this chair with the intention of looking to the interests of the lodge. If I succeed in doing that, and have your approval, I shall have met my reward, and while stating my intention to do my duty to the lodge, and to support the dignity of the chair, I will appeal to you all to extend to me that indulgence which will enable me as Master to do my duty properly. I am determined to go through my year of office, if Providence allows, with credit to myself and credit to the lodge. If you will support me I think I can guarantee a very happy and prosperous year. The W.M. then proposed "The Visitors," and in doing so said—Brethren the next toast I have to propose is one that is al-

ways well received in every lodge, no matter when or where. It is "The Visitors." We have got eighteen visitors to the Kennington Lodge this evening; some have already left us, for as you are aware, our Bro. Adams gives his annual ball to-night, and several brethren have departed to attend it, as they have made an annual practice of doing. I bid our visitors a very hearty welcome, on behalf of the Kennington Lodge. The practice of visiting one another's lodges is both pleasant and beneficial form the interchange of thought and friendly feeling derived from it, and also it is desirable to see how the working is performed in other lodges than those we ourselves belong to. When they come to us we do our best to make them happy, and are always ready to hold out the right hand of fellowship to them. Among the more distinguished brethren visiting us to-night I may mention Bro. Mortlock, who performed the raising in the lodge in a manner that must have made a deep impression on the brethren present. We have also Bro. Starland and Bro. J. Smith, Grand Officers. We cannot ask all to reply, and therefore I shall couple the toast with the names of Bro. Gladwood and Bro. Treadwell. This toast was duly responded to, and "The Health of the Past Masters and Officers of the Lodge" was proposed and responded to in the usual course. Bro. Everett: Brethren, I have rather an unexpected duty to perform at this late hour of the evening. It is one that I expected earlier in the evening, but in the absence of the person to whom it applied I was unable then to do it. The lost sheep has returned to the flock. Our Immediate Past Master was called away unexpectedly; he believed he would only be absent half an hour, but has been detained two or three hours. I have to propose "The Health of the I.P.M." If ever there was a man doomed to appear at the wrong time, our brother Gardner is that man. He became Master of the lodge unexpectedly, and before his time, and he was not very successful in the working of the lodge. I am not going to insult Bro. Gardner by saying that he did things which he did not do—that he sincerely desires the success of the Kennington Lodge I know—but he came into the chair before he was prepared, and he did as well as he could under the circumstances, and I am bound to say that he did not receive that assistance and support from officers and his I.P.M. that he was entitled to expect, and if ever any man deserved sympathy our Bro. Gardner did. Now having so far cleared up matters I am going to present him with the P.M.'s jewel which has been unanimously voted to him, and I daresay he will make a very good P.M. Bro. Gardner in pinning this jewel on your breast let me inform you that it is a token of the hearty good will of the brethren, and that we all sympathise with you very much for what you have had to contend with. Bro. Gardner thanked the brethren for their gift, and assured them that his forced absence in the earlier part of the evening had been a great deprivation to him. Bro. Everett's remarks had been somewhat graphic, some indulgent, some severe, but the severe ones he knew were not intended personally, and he received them as they were given. This brought the speeches to a close, and the Tyler's toast brought the proceedings to an end. Among the visitors present we noticed Bros. G. L. Everett, W. Palmer, John Kent, and Treadwell, of the Domatic Lodge; J. Ungent, P. Jubilee; P. Parsons, Belgrave; John Sharland, P.P.G. Treas.; Joseph Smith, P.G.P.; A. G. Bragg, St. Mark; R. Whitley, Strawberry Hill; F. G. Potter, Enoch; W. F. Page, Upton; Mortlock, Industry; C. F. Poupard, Mount Edgecumbe; W. Henke and Whiteway, Metropolitan; A. Wilkins, St. Paul's; J. Burford, Phoenix; and E. C. Massey ("Freemason"), who, in responding to the toast of "The Masonic Press," thanked not only the W.M. and the lodge for their kindly remembrance, but also the Craft generally for their support of the paper he represented. Fifteen P.M.'s were present at the Board of Installed Masters.

BURTON-UPON-TRENT.—Abbey Lodge (No. 624).—The twenty-second anniversary of this prosperous lodge was held in the Masonic Hall, on Tuesday, January 11th. For many years past the fame of the Abbey Lodge has been increasing, and it now ranks high for its efficient and uniform working, and for the correct rendering of those beautiful and imposing ceremonies so peculiar to Masonry. This lodge, numbering nearly 100 members, has reached the proud position of being the largest lodge in the province, and has frequently received the highest encomiums from the Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master of Staffordshire, the Right Hon. the Earl of Shrewsbury, and from his Deputy, Bro. F. James. The lodge during the past year has lost none of its prestige, but under the benign and statesmanlike behests of the retiring Worshipful Master, Bro. Auty, it has gained further laurels to its fame. Punctually at two o'clock the lodge was opened, when, after the dispatch of some formal business, the installation of Bro. C. Graham as Worshipful Master of the Abbey Lodge for the ensuing year took place. The duties of the Installing Master were most efficiently performed by Bro. R. H. Auty. The W.M. then appointed as his officers Bros. S. Briggs, S.W.; K. Macrae, J.W.; W. J. Gothard, Treas.; J. Robertson, Chaplain; W. H. Bailey, Sec.; T. Martin, S.D.; Halliday, J.D.; J. Borwell, I.G.; and Lane, Tyler. Precisely at half-past four the brethren sat down to a sumptuous dinner, Miss Whittingham being the purveyor. After grace had been said, the Worshipful Master, in eloquent terms, gave the usual loyal and Masonic toasts, which were heartily responded to in true Masonic style. The R.W.D.P.G.M., Bro. F. James, responded to the toast of "The R.W.P.G.M. for Staffordshire," and in doing so paid a high tribute of praise to the officers of the Abbey Lodge. "The Officers of the Provincial Grand Lodge" was proposed in a neat and appropriate speech by Bro. G. Allsopp, to which each of the following brethren responded, viz.: Past Masters Stareye Meredith, Gothard, Anderson, and Day. The W.M. then gave "The R.W.P.G. Masters of Derbyshire, Warwickshire, Leicestershire, and Nottinghamshire, also the officers of the several Provincial Grand Lodges," when

Bros. Hillam, Merry and Want responded. "The Health of the Worshipful Master, Bro. C. Graham," was next proposed in highly complimentary terms by the retiring W.M., Bro. Auty. This toast was enthusiastically received and drank with musical honours. Bro. P.M. Stareye gave "The Masonic Charities," which was duly honoured. Past Master Anderson in a humorous speech proposed "The Visitors," which was responded to by the brethren from neighbouring lodges. "The Health of Bro. Auty, Installing Master," was proposed by the W.M. and drank with musical honours. "The Officers of the Abbey Lodge" was next proposed by Bro. Meredith, P.M., and responded to by Bros. Briggs, Martin, Macrae, Bailey, Day, Borwell, Gothard, and Lane. During the evening, which was a very pleasant one, the vocal powers of the following brethren added considerably to the harmony and pleasure of all present: Bros. Martin, Hillam, Meredith, Howe, Ball, Bailey, Anderson and Hales. Subjoined is a list of the visiting brethren and the brethren of the Abbey Lodge present on the occasion:—Bros. Frank James, D.P.G.M.; C. Trigg, P.G.S.W. Derbyshire; M. A. Bass, P.M., P.P.G.S.W.; E. Stareye, P.M., P.P.G.J.W.; W. P. Want, P.M. 761, P.P.G.J.W. Gloucestershire; J. Bodenham, P.M., 726, 751, P.G.T.; J. H. Meredith, P.M., P.P.G.R.; W. J. Gothard, P.M., P.P.G.S. of W.; W. Jones, P.M. 460, and W.M. 1520, P.G.S. of W.; J. C. Merry, W.M. 731, P.G.D. of C., Derbyshire; J. Anderson, P.M., P.P.G.P.; J. G. McLean, P.P.G.P.; J. Bedmore, W.M. 1030; P.G.O.; L. F. Day, P.P.G.O.; H. Woodhouse, P.M. 726; T. F. Hale, W.M. 781; R. Auty, P.M.; C. F. Graham, W.M.; S. Briggs, S.W.; K. Macrae, J.W.; W. H. Bailey, Sec.; T. Martin, S.D.; T. Halliday, J.D.; J. Borwell, I.G.; E. Hodson, W. Boden, R. Howe, G. Douglas, F. Hallam, C. Adams, G. H. Allsopp, R. R. Bellamy, P.S.W. 625; W. Drewry, P.M. 353; G. A. Taverner, W.M. elect 353; W. L. Ball, 353; J. L. Spooner, 353.

HAMPTON.—Hemming Lodge (No. 1512).—The last meeting of this lodge was held at the Lion Hotel, Hampton, on Thursday, the 20th ult. There were present Bros. Hopwood, P.M. 141, W.M.; W. Hammond, I.P.M., P.J.G.D. Middlesex, &c.; Raw, P.M., Treasurer; J. Hammond, P.M., Secretary; Hill, P.M., P.Z., &c., S. W.; Hurst, J.W.; Fox, J.D.; Jessett, I.G.; Ockenden, D.C. The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the W.M., assisted by his officers, initiated Mr. W. Messenger, passed Bros. Moody and H. Tagg, and raised Bro. B. R. Aston. The whole of the three ceremonies were carefully carried out by the W.M. Upon the motion of the I.P.M., Bro. Hopwood, the W.M., was recommended by the lodge for the honour of P.G.S. of the Province; and Bro. Ockenden, D.C., was also recommended to fill the office of Steward for the Masonic Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and Widows. Bro. Walls then proposed, which was seconded by Bro. Hammond, I.P.M., that Bro. E. T. Barrett, of No. 1503, should become a joining member. Some minor business having been transacted, which included the appointment of Bro. Tagg, a founder of the lodge, to the vacant office of A.W.S., the lodge was formally closed, and the brethren adjourned to a cold collation, catered for by Bro. Hixcox. Amongst the visitors were Bros. Wilson, P.M. (Etonia); Knight, (574); Kruchler, (1303); Clarke, (1503). Upon the removal of the cloth, the W.M., in consequence of the lateness of the hour, gave the usual loyal and Masonic toasts with great brevity. In proposing "The Health of the W.M.," Bro. Hammond, I.P.M., congratulated the lodge upon having so zealous and old a worker as Bro. Hopwood in the chair of K.S., who he felt sure would at the conclusion of his year of office carry with him the good wishes of every member of the lodge. This toast having been duly honoured, the W.M. briefly acknowledged the compliment, and immediately proposed "The Health of the Initiate." Bro. Messenger, in reply, thanked the brethren, in which he stated that from the little he had seen of Freemasonry that evening he was sure he should like it when he became thoroughly acquainted with its mysteries. In proposing "The Health of the Visitors," the W.M. expressed how gratified he felt at having had a visit from two old friends and brothers of his that evening, namely, Bros. Wilson and Knight, both of whom had come some distance to see him. With regard to the other visitors, he hoped that their visit to the Hemming had been in every way satisfactory. The toast having been duly honoured, and responded to by Bros. Knight, Kruchler, and Clarke, the W.M. proposed "The Health of the I.P.M." in very cordial terms. In his speech he stated that notwithstanding the very complimentary manner in which Bro. Hammond had spoken of him and his services to the lodge that evening, he must differ with him in one important particular, and that was "that the success of the lodge was mainly owing to his (the W.M.'s) personal efforts." He could assure the brethren that although he had taken, and should continue to take, a very great interest in its welfare, yet the hard work hitherto had been cheerfully undertaken and successfully carried out by their Immediate Past Master, and, in conclusion, he hoped that Bro. Hammond would be spared many years to come to assist by his valuable advice and instruction the junior officers and any members of the lodge who might be desirous of holding the proud position of W.M. of the Hemming. This toast having been warmly drunk, Bro. Hammond replied in a short but pertinent speech, in which he modestly acknowledged the high commendation of the W.M., but at the same time stated that his individual efforts would have been unavailing had they not been assisted by the W.M. and the rest of the working founders of the lodge. The toast of "The Officers of the Lodge" followed, in giving which the W.M. spoke at length upon the great services rendered by Bros. Raw, Treasurer; J. Hammond, Secretary; and the rest of the working staff. Bros. Hill, Raw, Hurst, and Jesset severally replied. Between the toasts Bros. W.

Hammond, Raw, Hurst, and Walls vocally amused the brethren, who separated shortly after the Tyler's toast had been given. The next meeting of the lodge will take place on the third Thursday in the present month.

INSTRUCTION.

UNITED PILGRIMS LODGE (No. 507).—This lodge held its regular weekly meeting at the Surrey Masonic Hall on the 28th ult. The officers were Bros. R. N. Field, W.M.; Harvey, S.W.; Taylor, J.W.; Watts, S.D.; Thurston, J.D.; Terry, I.G.; Geiter, Tyler; Larham, Preceptor; Francis, Secretary; and others. The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. As it is optional with the W.M. what he will do on the fourth Friday in the month, Bro. Field decided on this occasion to work the Installation Ceremony, which he accordingly did to the satisfaction of all present, the addresses being delivered in a very impressive manner, at the conclusion of which the thanks of the brethren were accorded to Bro. Field for the able manner in which he had performed the beautiful ceremony. The Second Section in the First Lecture was worked by Bro. Larham, assisted by Bro. J. W. Watts. The lodge was then closed, and adjourned till the following Friday at 7.30 p.m.

MANCHESTER.—St. David's (No. 1147).—The lodge of instruction working under this warrant met again on Tuesday, 25th ult., at the Masonic Hall, Cooper-street. The attendance was good. After the confirmation of the minutes of the previous meeting Bro. Cohen, Lodge of Affability, No. 27, was elected a joining member. The ceremony of the Third Degree was then gone through in a most admirable manner by the following brethren, Bro. T. R. Peel, W.M. St. David's acting as W.M. and Preceptor;—Bros. W. Hadden, S.W.; T. Elliott, J.W.; L. H. Poulton, Friendship, 44, S.D.; J. McLean, J.D.; F. Coupe, I.G.; F. Singer, as Candidate.

Scotland.

GRAND LODGE OF SCOTLAND.

The quarterly communication of the Grand Lodge of Scotland was held in the Freemasons' Hall, George-street, Edinburgh, on Monday, the 7th inst. In the absence of the Grand Master, Sir Michael Shaw Stewart, Bart., the throne was occupied by Bro. Henry Inglis, of Torsonce, Past Substitute Grand Master. He was supported by Major Hamilton Ramsay, of Garion, Senior Grand Warden; William Hay, Acting Junior Grand Warden; William Mann, Past Grand Warden; D. Loth, representative of the Grand Orient of France; Lindsay MacKersy, representative of the Grand Lodge of Canada; John Laurie, Grand Secretary; David Kinnear, Junior Grand Deacon; William Officer, Past Grand Deacon; John Coghill, Grand Director of Ceremonies; Alexander Hay, Grand Jeweller; Daniel Robertson, Grand Bible Bearer; F. S. Melville, President of the Board of Grand Stewards.

Apologies for absence were read from the Earl of Rosslyn, Past Grand Master; the Earl of Mar and Kellie, Depute Grand Master; Lord Balfour of Burleigh, Substitute Grand Master; Colonel W. Montgomery Neilson, of Queenshill, Provincial Grand Master Glasgow; Captain George F. Russell Colt, of Gartsherrie, Grand Sword Bearer; Murdoch McKenzie, Chief Grand Marshal; J. H. Neilson, Dublin, and G. Miller, Bridge of Allan, Grand Stewards. Charters were granted to the following new lodges:—New Province, Sale, Gipp's Land; Pazezy Caridad, Molendo, Peru; St. Thomas, Gibraltar; St. Bryde, Uddington; St. Leonard, Loanhead; and Plantation, Glasgow. An application by Lodges No. 3, Dunse, and No. 261, Tweed, Kelso, for transfer to the Province of East Lothian was, along with a report regarding it by Grand Committee, considered, and delayed in the meantime. Bros. Peter McLagan, M.P., of Pumphreston, and Lord Ramsay were appointed Provincial Grand Masters for the Provinces of Linlithgowshire and Forfarshire respectively. Several motions were tabled for discussion at next meeting. Bro. Officer expressed gratification at seeing Bro. Laurie able to resume the duties of Secretary after his severe illness, a sentiment which was re-echoed by the Most Worshipful Grand Master, and suitably acknowledged by Bro. Laurie.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF RENFREWSHIRE EAST.

On Saturday evening, the 5th inst., the quarterly communication of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Renfrewshire East was held in the Masonic Hall of Lodge St. Mirren, No. 129, at No. 5, Moss-street, Paisley, for the purpose of electing office-bearers for the ensuing year. Bro. Colonel A. C. Campbell, of Blythswood, Prov. G.M., presided; Bro. ex-Bailie J. Caldwell, of Craigielea, P.G.S.W., and Bro. James Gilmour, P.G.J.W. The commissioned office-bearers appointed by the P.G. Master are Bros. Capt H. McDowall, Yr. of Garthland, P.G.D.M.; James Caldwell, P.G.S.M.; James Gilmour, P.G.S.W.; John Peters, P.G.J.W.; R. L. Henderson, P.G. Sec.; Rev. R. Stephen, Renfrew, P.G. Chap. The elective office-bearers are as follows: Bros. A. Macpherson, 129, P.G. Treas.; A. Wallace, 129, P.G.S.D.; L. McKellar, 512, P.G.J.D.; J. B. Lamb, 370, P.G. Arch.; ex-Bailie Fisher, 370, P.G.B.B.; T. Hart, 153, P.G.S.B.; W. J. Adams, 153, P.G. Dir. of M.; J. Carswell, 129, P.G. Mar.; W. T. Smilie, 307, P.G.A.M.; M. Walker, 116, P.G.S.B.; A. Morrison, 129, P.G.S.S.; S. S. Abbott, 347, P.G.J.S.; J. Forrest, 153, P.G.I.G.; and W. Alexander, P.G. Tyler.

The P.G.M., Bro. Campbell, then performed the ceremony of installing the office-bearers into their several offices in a most effective and impressive manner.

During the evening the P.G. Treasurer submitted last year's financial statement, which showed a balance in hand of over £80. Bro. J. Cunningham, I.P.M. 347, asked a question, which was answered by the P.G.M.

It was afterwards agreed on the motion of Bro. J. Gilmour, P.G.S.W., seconded by Bro. George Fisher, J.W. 129, to raise the subscription to the Benevolent Fund of the lodge from 1s. 6d. to 2s. 6d. A hearty vote of thanks was unanimously accorded to the P.G.M. for his presence that evening, having left London that morning for the purpose of presiding at the Provincial Grand Lodge, and the more so, seeing he had to return the same night at 8 p.m. The lodge was then closed.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Kilwinning (No. 4).—The regular monthly meeting of this old lodge was held in their hall, 170, Buchanan-street, on Wednesday evening, the 2nd inst., Bro. Robert Prout, R.W.M., in the chair. Bro. G. Holmes, S.W., and Bro. W. McCulloch, J.W.; with the other office-bearers and a good number of brethren present. The W.M. was supported on the dais by Bros. G. McDonald, W.M. 73; J. Bannerman, D.M. 73; J. McLane, S.M. 408; and William Ferguson, P.M. ("Freemason"). The lodge was opened, and after disposing of business of minor importance, Mr. J. Cairney was admitted and initiated on behalf of Lodge Thistle and Rose, No. 73, Bro. McDonald, W.M. 73, performing the ceremony.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Thistle and Rose (No. 73).—This lodge was held in the Kilwinning Masonic Hall, 170, Buchanan-street, on Tuesday, the 1st inst., Bro. G. McDonald, W.M., presiding; Bro. A. McLeod, S.W., and Bro. J. Hanbridge, J.W. The W.M. was supported on the dais by Bros. J. Gillies, P.M., Sec. 103; J. B. Macnair, I.P.M. 332; J. S. Ampleford, Treas.; R. Richards, Sec.; J. Bannerman and W. Ferguson ("Freemason"). There were also present Bros. Neil Cameron, Treas. 103; J. McInnes, S.M. 408; G. Innes, J.W. 292; Wm. B. Paterson, 27; W. T. Kay, S.D.; J. Balfour, P.G.D. of C.; R. Currie, 73; and a large number of others. The Secretary read minutes of last meeting, which were confirmed. It was then arranged to hold the annual festival in Bro. Wallace's Assembly Rooms, 152, Campbell-street, on Wednesday evening, the 23rd February. Mr. A. Abrahams was initiated by Bro. G. McDonald, W.M. Bro. R. Carnachan was passed to the Fellow Craft Degree by Bro. J. B. Macnair, I.P.M. 332, (on behalf of Lodge Union 332); and Bros. W. Mordue, H. W. Selby, R. Carnachan, 332, and G. D. Ferguson, 103, were raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason by Bro. J. Gillies, P.M., Sec. 103.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Thistle (No. 87).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held in the Masonic Hall, 30, Hope-street, on Tuesday evening, 1st inst., Bro. J. Booth, W.M., in the chair, supported by Bros. J. W. Burns, I.P.M.; J. Miller, P.M.; W. Stewart, S.W.; R. Barr, J.W.; W. Wilson, D.M.; J. G. Ritchie, S.M.; J. Paton, Treas.; and A. McPhee, Sec. The lodge having been opened, and minutes of last meeting read and approved of, Bro. McPhee, Sec., resigned on account of pressure of business. Bro. Wilson, D.M., was elected Sec. in his stead. Mr. Peter Knowles was initiated by the W.M. in an impressive manner. The annual festival of this lodge is to be held in the Lesser City Hall, on Tuesday, the 14th March. There was no other business of importance.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Union and Crown (No. 103).—The monthly meeting was held in the M.H., 170, Buchanan-street, on Monday evening, the 31st ult., Bro. D. Murray, W.M., in the chair; Bro. W. Thomas, S.W.; and Bro. W. Forsyth, J.W. The other office-bearers present were Bros. A. M. Wright, I.P.M.; A. Bain, P.M.; J. Gillies, P.M., Sec.; Neil Cameron, Treas.; R. Munro, D.M.; P. Cullen, Chaplain; A. Gray, S.D. The meetings of this lodge are always well attended, and on this occasion a large number of members and visiting brethren were present, amongst whom we noticed Bros. W. Bell, I.P.M. 34; J. Bannerman, D.M. 73; W. Ferguson ("Freemason"); E. Arthur, Mother Kilwinning, 0; T. Nisbet, 34; J. Anderson, 28; A. McCulloch, 117; J. Laurence, 219; D. Proven, 332; and others. On the lodge being opened it was agreed to that the annual festival of the lodge take place on Friday, 3rd March. Mr. T. Craig was initiated into the First Degree by Bro. Wright, I.P.M., and thereafter Bros. G. D. Ferguson and A. Smith were passed to the Second Degree by Bro. J. Gillies, P.M., Sec. It may be mentioned that the meetings of this lodge are to be held in the M.H., 30, Hope-street, on and after the 29th of May.

TARBOLTON.—St. James's Lodge (No. 135).—The brethren of this lodge met in the Crown Inn, on Friday evening, 28th ult., to celebrate the anniversary of Scotland's poet king. Bro. A. Stewart, W.M., presided, while Bros. McCosh and Lee acted as Croupiers. After supper, which was served up in Bro. Dodd's usual good style, and the preliminary toasts over, the W.M. in an appropriate speech gave the toast of the evening, "The Memory of Burns," which was duly honoured. "A' the airts," "Rantin Robin," "Burns' farewell to Tarbolton Lodge," and other toasts, made up a pleasant evening. The lodge room was tastefully decorated. The jewel worn by the poet and other relics had a conspicuous place assigned them. "Auld Lang Syne" and the "round," requested with a tear, brought the meeting to a close.

CALTON.—Lodge Shamrock and Thistle (No. 275).—The regular monthly meeting of this lodge was held in the Masonic Hall, 22, Struthers-street, Calton, on Friday evening, the 4th February, Bro. D. Ronald, W.M., in the chair, supported by Bro. W. Findlay, S.W., and Bro. T. Neilson, J.W.; also Bros. J. Paterson, D.M.; J. Horn, Sec.; W. B. Hutcheson, Treas.; C. Mair, S.D.; C. McLeish, J.D.; H. Cox, I.G.; and J. Guthrie, Tyler. There was a very large attendance of members and visiting brethren present. On the dais were Bros. W. Phillips, P.M., and W.M. 556; R. Jack, W.M. 128; Wm. Ferguson, P.M. 543 ("Freemason"); and J. Duthie, 219. Bro. Horn, Sec., read minutes of last regular and emergency meetings, which were adopted. A proof sheet of revised code of bye-laws were then handed to each member

for approval at next meeting, to be held on Friday, 7th April. It was unanimously agreed to that the annual festival of this lodge be held in their own hall, 22, Struthers-street, Calton, on Friday evening, the 3rd March. A sum of money was voted towards a charitable purpose, after which Bros. W. Scougall and R. Boreland were passed to the Second Degree by Bro. Paterson, D.M. Bros. T. Halbert, C. D. Gray, R. Boreland, and J. Park were raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason by Bro. J. Duthie in a very impressive manner.

GLASGOW.—Lodge St. Andrews (No. 465).—A meeting of this lodge was held on Thursday evening, 3rd inst., in F.H., Bro. D. Gilchrist, W.M., in the chair; Bros. G. B. Davidson, S.W., and W. Chalmers, J.W. On the dais were Bros. D. Reid, I.P.M.; J. Clark, D.M.; R. Donaldson, Treas.; A. B. Ferguson, W.M. 354; and W. Ferguson, P.M. ("Freemason"). Present among the visiting brethren, J. McLachlan, 87; J. Brown, 173; J. Buchan, 219; and others. On the lodge being opened, and minutes of last meeting read and confirmed, the following gentlemen were admitted, and received the First Degree at the hands of Bro. Gilchrist, W.M., viz.: Messrs. Robert Syme, John Houston, George Brown, Archibald McDonald, and John B. McKenzie. Thereafter a committee was appointed to revise the bye-laws of the lodge.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Dramatic (No. 571).—A meeting of this lodge was held in St. Mark's Hall, 213, Buchanan-street, on Wednesday, the 3rd Feb., at 3 p.m., Bro. W. J. E. Dobson, W.M., in the chair; Bros. H. W. Jackman, S.W., and Wm. Sivewright, J.W.; Wm. Barbour, Treas.; J. Houston, D.M.; R. S. Smyth, S.D.; and L. R. Mitchell, J.D. Among the visiting brethren we noticed Bros. J. Booth, W.M. 87; W. Phillips, W.M. 556; J. Law, I.P.M. 570; W. Ferguson ("Freemason"); J. M. Oliver, S.W. 360; P. Brownlie, J.W. 34; and W. McCulloch, J.W. 4. Three gentlemen were admitted, and initiated into the Entered Apprentice Degree by Bro. Dobson, the W.M., viz.: Messrs. J. Robertson, G. Burnett, and W. Woolf. Bro. G. Burnett was passed to the Fellow Craft Degree by Bro. W. Ferguson, I.P.M. 543; and the said brother, having to leave Scotland in a few days, was raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason by Bro. W. Phillips, W.M. 556.

Obituary.

THE LATE BRO. W. ROMAINE CALLENDER.

A few brief words of sincere regret for the untimely death of this most excellent of Masons may not be out of place. It is our earnest desire to express our sorrow for this melancholy event, which has removed from our midst one whom to know was to love, and whose usefulness to his fellow man was apparently only just begun. The Province of East Lancashire, with which he was more immediately connected in his Masonic career, can scarcely realize the loss it has sustained, nor can it tell where to look for one to take the place of our lamented brother, whose ear was ever ready to listen to the brother in affliction, and whose liberal and generous efforts in the cause of our Masonic charities have made his name a household word. Bro. Callender was initiated in the Social Lodge, No. 62, at Manchester, in 1850, and in due time filled the chair of W.M. He was the first Master and founder of the Callender Lodge, 1052, and of the Travellers' Lodge, 1253. In the Provincial Grand Lodge of East Lancashire he was elected, by the unanimous voice of the brethren, Provincial Grand Treasurer, and was afterwards appointed by the late Bro. Stephen Blair, P.G.M., to the office of Prov. G.S.W., and on the death of Bro. Lawrence Newall to the Deputy Provincial Grand Mastership, which he filled up to the time of his death, having been re-appointed by his present P.G.M., Bro. Col. Starkie. Bro. Callender also filled the position of Prov. G.H. in the Royal Arch Chapter of East Lancashire, and was a P.G.D. of England, and a P.G.A.S. in the Supreme Royal Arch Chapter. It is, however, in connection with the Mark Degree that our lamented brother deservedly reaped the fullest honours that could be bestowed on him. It will be in the recollection of every member of the Mark Degree that it was entirely through the personal popularity and esteem in which Bro. Callender was held by all that the union of the English and Scottish Mark Lodges was happily effected, and when therefore, Bro. Lord Limerick, the G.M.M., appointed him to the office of Deputy Grand Master of Mark Masons in England, it was acknowledged by all to be peculiarly appropriate. As the Prov. Grand Mark Master of Lancashire, Bro. Callender took a deep interest in the degree, and presided at every Provincial Grand Lodge. He was a member of the 31st, a P.E.C. of the Jerusalem Encampment of K.T., a member of the Rosicrucian College of the Northern Counties, a P.M.P.S. and Intendant General of the Red Cross of Constantine, and M.V. Grand President of the Order of High Priesthood for England. The Provincial Grand Lodge and Chapter of the Royal Order of Scotland for Lancashire and Cheshire have also to mourn the loss of their chief. His remains were interred at Heaton Mersey Church on Saturday, 29th January, and amongst all the floral tributes of affection which were placed on the coffin lid, none were offered with more genuine sympathy or more lasting regrets than the sprigs of acacia which fell from the hands of his brother Masons. Peace to his ashes. He rests from his labours, and his works do follow him.

BRO. G. B. ADAMS.

We deeply lament having to record the death of Bro. G. B. Adams, who expired at the Western Royal Infirmary, Glasgow, after a brief illness. His demise will be deeply felt by the Masonic brethren who knew him, and had the privilege of his acquaintance.

WIPE YOUR FEET.—The best Cocoa Nut Mats and Matting are made by Treloar and Sons, 69, Ludgate-hill.

THE ANCIENT AND ACCEPTED RITE.

A meeting of the Sovereign Princes of this degree was held on Monday last, for the purpose of conferring the degree on His Royal Highness Prince Leopold. There were present on the occasion:—The Earl of Carnarvon, 33°, M.P.S.G.C.; Captain N. G. Phillips, 33°, S.G.C.; Major-General Clerk, R.A., F.R.S., 33°, G.T.G.; J. M. P. Montagu, 33°, G.C.; Colonel A. W. Adair, 33°; C. J. Vigne, 33°, P.M.P.S.G.C.; Major Shadwell H. Clerke, R.B.G., 33°, G.S.G.; Hugh D. Sandeman, 33°; Andrew Hay, 33° of Scotland; Raphael Costa, 33°, D.I.G.; Samuel Rawson, 33°, D.I.G.; W. Hyde Pullen, 33°, A.S.S.G.; Major George Barlow, 32°, D.I.G.; The Earl of Limerick, 32°; C. Hutton Gregory, 32°; James Glaisher, F.R.S., 32°; Colonel Goddard, 32°; Lt.-Col. F. Burdett, 32° of Ireland; Captain Portlock Dadson, Royal Body Guard, 32°; Captain Paget Bourke, Royal Body Guard, 30°, J. C. Parkinson, 31°; George Lambert, 31° (Warden of Regalia); Major-General J. Studholme Brownrigg, C.B., 31°; John Hervey, 31°; Charles Horsley, 31°; Capt. A. Bott Cook, 31°; The Earl of Shrewsbury, Royal Body Guard, 30°; Lt.-Col. H. Somerville Burney, 30°; Lt.-Col. the Hon. W. E. Sackville-West, late Gren. Guards, 30°; Montague J. Guest, 30°; Raymond H. Thrupp, 30°; H. H. Riach, 30°; Capt. F. Courtney Trower, 30°; E. B. Webb, 30°; J. B. Monckton, 30°; Walter Spencer, 30°; C. E. Willing, 30°; C. Grillon, 30°; F. Binckes, 30°; John Read, 30°; R. W. Little, 30°; &c., &c.

The Earl of Carnarvon, assisted by Capt. Phillips, and the other officers of the Chapter, duly performed the ceremony of advancement, and at its conclusion the Earl of Carnarvon expressed to His Royal Highness the great pleasure he had in welcoming him to the 30th degree, in the absence of the patron, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales.

CONSECRATION OF THE STUDHOLME CHAPTER.

Most of those present at 30° Chapter remained for the ceremony of consecration, and to see the thirteen candidates afterwards advanced to the 18°. H.R.H. Prince Leopold staying to see Mr. Collins, his Equerry receive the degree. The musical part of the ceremony was very finely executed under the direction of Bros. C. E. Willing, 30°, and John Read, 30°, assisted by Bros. C. S. Jekyll, 18°; R. de Lacy, 18°; John Hodges, 18°; and G. T. C. Carter, 18°, all of the St. George Chapter, Rose Croix.

The original members of the chapter who were present at the consecration ceremony were Bros. H.R.H. Prince Leopold, 30°, K.G., &c., &c.; Major George Barlow, 32°; Capt. P. J. Bourke, 30°, Royal Body Guard; Dr. D. B. Brodie, 18°; Major-General J. S. Brownrigg, C.B., 31°; Capt. H. S. Brownrigg, 18°, Rifle Brigade; Colonel F. Burdett, 32° (Ireland); Lieut.-Colonel H. Somerville Burney, 30°; Captain A. B. Cook, 31°; Bonamy Dobree, 18°; Captain W. D. M. C. P. Farrier, 18°, Grenadier Guards; C. Grillon, 30°; the Earl of Limerick, 32°; J. B. Monckton, 30°; J. C. Parkinson, 31°; Colonel C. W. Randolph, 18°, Grenadier Guards; S. Rawson, 33°; Lieut.-Colonel Hon. W. E. Sackville-West, 30°, late Grenadier Guards; Capt. L. V. Swaine, 18°, Rifle Brigade; Captain F. C. Trower, 30°; Edward B. Webb, 30°; C. E. Willing, 30°.

A chapter of the 18th Degree was first opened by the Supreme Council, 33°, and the Studholme Chapter was then consecrated by the M.P.S.G.C. the Earl of Carnarvon. After this the following candidates were perfected:—Bros. Sir J. E. Hartington, Bart.; Sir Bruce Maxwell Seton, Bart.; the Rev. J. S. Brownrigg, P.G.C.; Capt. G. F. Ormby, Harry Hankey Dobree, K. R. Murchison, late 13th Lt. Inf.; E. Pattison, P.G.W.; Sir George R. Prescott, Bart.; George Claridge, Capt. J. B. Hayes, 12th Lancers; E. Henslowe Bedford, Robert Hawthorn Collins, Equerry to H.R.H. Prince Leopold; Sir William Henry Drake, K.C.B.

General Studholme Brownrigg, C.B., was then installed M.W.S. by Ill Bro. Major Shadwell H. Clerke, 33° Grand Secretary General; after which the following officers of the chapter were appointed:—1st General, Colonel Randolph, Grenadier Guards; 2nd General, Captain H. Studholme Brownrigg, Rifle Brigade; High Prelate,

the Rev. J. Studholme Brownrigg, Captain of the Guard; Captain Farrar, Grenadier Guards; Raphael, Captain Leopold S. Swaine, Rifle Brigade; Treasurer, Bro. H. Hankey Dobree; Recorder, Bro. Charles Grillon, 30°.

Some further business was afterwards transacted, and a dinner was subsequently partaken of at Willis's Room, to which about fifty sat down. The whole of the ceremonies of the day were splendidly conducted, and were very impressive.

ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

The monthly meeting of the Committee of this institution was held on Tuesday, at Freemasons' Hall, Lieut.-Col. Creaton in the chair. Among the other members present were Bros. S. Rawson, Charles Lacey, Benj. Head, L. Stean, Capt. Wordsworth, John Constable, William Hilton, A. H. Tattershall, J. Newton, James Brett, J. Ebenezer Saunders, C. F. Hogard, Thos. Cubitt, H. M. Levy, Raynham W. Stewart, A. Lemaitre, Griffiths Smith, H. Massey ("Freemason") and James Terry, (Secretary).

The Secretary announced the death of three annuitants who had long been in the receipt of the benefits of the institution; also that there were 21 male and 33 female candidates for next election. The receipts for the female fund during 1875 were £4,131 and the expenditure £3,792 3s. 1d.; leaving a balance of £338 16s. 11d. The receipts for the male fund had been £5,668 3s. 9d.; and the disbursements £5,543 17s. 8d.; leaving a balance of £124 5s. 1d.

The committee then declared vacancies for 17 males and 10 females; and on the motion of the Chairman, it was resolved to put 10 more females on the fund.

The Finance Committee having recommended that £50 a year be added to the Secretary's salary, Bro. Terry left the room after the foregoing business had been transacted; and

The Chairman rose and said that in consequence of this recommendation, and that the matter might be brought on in order, he now begged to move it. He had very great pleasure in doing so, because he thought no one round the table saw more of the working of the Secretary's office than himself. Having seen so much he could say truthfully that since Bro. Terry had been Secretary he had done the work of the institution well. Not only had he increased the work of the office, but he had greatly added to the income of the institution. The income now was one third more than it was when Bro. Terry took the office of Secretary. It was not necessary to go further into the matter; and he would therefore move "That the salary of the Secretary be increased £50 per annum." (Cheers.)

Bro. Raynham W. Stewart, P.G.D., seconded the motion. He also knew a great deal of the management of this institution, and he could say that they all owed a great deal to Bro. Terry for the proud position in which the institution now stood. A proof of this position lay in the fact of their having been that day able to put 10 additional women on the funds. That at least showed that there had been a great deal of ability on the part of Bro. Terry. (Hear, hear.) Bro. Terry, he was sure, had done the best that he could for the institution. When he (Bro. Stewart) served his first Stewardship it was thought a very poor thing if £500 was collected at a festival. Last year it was £8000 odd. He had now stood 27 Stewardships, and none knew better than he the working of the institution. He was very proud indeed to second the motion, because he felt that it was Bro. Terry who had so raised it. That brother had given his best support to the institution, and the brethren would all shew that they would support those who did good to the Masonic institutions. (Hear, hear.)

Bro. S. Rawson, Past District Grand Master, China, put the motion, which was then carried unanimously.

Bro. Terry having been called into the committee room, the Chairman, addressing him, said he had very great pleasure in informing him that the Committee had unanimously agreed to raise his salary £50 a year. The vote was quite unanimous, and he was sure Bro. Terry would appreciate it the more for being unanimous. He congratulated Bro. Terry on the event.

Bro. Terry said it was exceedingly gratifying to him that the vote had been passed unanimously. That certainly added to its value. If by any increased efforts on his part he could further the objects of the institution more than he had done already, the brethren might rely on his using increased efforts. (Cheers.)

Bro. Benjamin Head, P.G.D., said that though he did not happen to be present at the time the vote was passed, he heartily concurred in it, for he thought that Bro. Terry was well deserving of it. (Hear, hear.)

The brethren then separated.

In the Dublin Court of Exchequer, on Saturday, judgment was given in the cause "Attorney-General v. the Roman Catholic Bishop of Cork." It was decided by this judgment that bequests for masses for the repose of one's soul, to be celebrated in private, were not charitable, and that therefore legacy duty must be paid upon such bequests.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.—Common humanity suggests and public interests demand that the knowledge of the surest, safest, and quickest method of renewing soundness to the sick should be forced upon all unfortunate sufferers. For bad legs, bad breasts, and scrofulous or scrofulous sores, Holloway's medicines are specific. The grateful and earnest testimony of thousands who have experienced their unrivalled power over these complaints, and who have been raised from prostrate helplessness, and a condition loathsome to themselves and others, renders it quite unnecessary to enlarge in this place upon their extraordinary virtues. The affected part should be bathed with luke-warm water, and when the pores are opened the Ointment should be rubbed in twice a day all round the complaining parts.—ADVT.

Masonic and General Tidings.

Brighton maintains its pre-eminence as being the most healthy of the 20 English towns of which the Registrar-General now takes cognisance in his returns. Last week the rate in Brighton was 14, whilst at Manchester and Bradford it was as high as 34 per thousand.

The total receipts of revenue from April 1st, 1875, to February 5, 1876, were £62,379,697, against £61,133,635 in the corresponding period of the last financial year. The expenditure was £65,028,442, against £63,681,489 last year. The balance in the Bank of England on Saturday last was £1,672,839.

Preparations are being made at Malta on an extensive scale for the reception of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, who will pay a visit to that place on his way home in the Serapis. A grand ball will be given in the Governor's palace to His Royal Highness, and another will be given by the officers of the fleet and the garrison. There will also be a ball on a very large scale given by the officers of the 42nd Royal Highlanders (the Black Watch). As their Royal Highnesses the Duke of Edinburgh and the Duke of Connaught will be present, the island will present a scene never before witnessed in that part of the world.

VALENTINES.—The Postmaster-General desires it to be known that the public would greatly assist the operations of the Post Office if they would be good enough to post their newspapers, letters, and valentines intended for despatch from London on Saturday earlier in the day than usual, to ensure their being forwarded by the night mails.

The Scottish National Rifle Club have accepted the challenge of the National Rifle Association of America to shoot for the championship of the world in the autumn of the present year.

A sum of £84 2s. has been collected by Bro. Boord, 31°, M.P. for the Borough of Greenwich, in aid of the fund for the wives and families of the two arsenal workmen, named Young and Walstow, recently killed in the Royal Arsenal at Woolwich, by the explosion of a 9-inch Palliser shell.

The meetings of the Manchester Lodge of Instruction, No. 179, are held at the Yorkshire Grey, London-street, Fitzroy-square, every Saturday evening.

His Royal Highness Prince Leopold honoured the performance at Drury-lane Theatre with his presence on Monday evening.

A somewhat serious accident occurred on Monday last to Bro. the Rt. Hon. the Earl of Hardwicke, Master of the Queen's St. Hounds, and Prov. Grand Master for Cambridgeshire. The meet, which generally takes place on Tuesday, had been altered to Monday, as Lord Hardwicke was to have been in attendance on Her Majesty at the opening of Parliament. The hounds were at Maidenhead, and the deer on being uncared made in the direction of Winkfield. Soon after the hounds had been put on Lord Hardwicke, in jumping a fence, wrenched the muscles of his left thigh. At first he did not think that much was amiss, but the pain increased, and he had great difficulty in keeping on his horse. He managed, however, to get back to Slough Station, and returned to London by the 2.55 train.

We have been given to understand that H.M.S. Sultan, 9000 tons, one of the largest and most modern of our ironclads, is to immediately prepare for commission under the command of H.R.H. the Duke of Edinburgh, her present officers and crew being previously paid off at Portsmouth. Bro. Lord Charles Beresford, M.P., Prov. S.G.W. Devon, now with the Prince of Wales in India, who served with the Duke as lieutenant in the Galatea when she went to Australia, will be the commander. The Sultan ordinarily belongs to the Channel Squadron, but will cruise further afield under her Royal captain.

We are in a position to state, by a letter from a trustworthy source, that the story of Lord Ripon's gift of £10,000 to the Pope is without foundation. At least, neither His Holiness nor Lord Ripon would appear to have any knowledge of the affair.

The first meeting of the Board of Grand Stewards, in connection with the approaching Annual Grand Festival, was held at Freemasons' Hall on Thursday 3rd inst., when the following brethren were unanimously elected as officers, viz.:—Bros. G. N. Johnson, Lodge No. 1, President; G. R. Shervill, Lodge No. 23, Treasurer; C. J. Morgan, Lodge No. 8, Hon. Sec. At its close the meeting adjourned until Thursday, 17th inst.

The Fifteen Sections will be worked in the Wellington Lodge of Instruction, No. 548, at the White Swan, Deptford, on Monday, the 21st inst., when Bro. Govan Macdonald, S.W. 1158, will preside. Lodge will be opened at 7 o'clock precisely.

The ceremonies of consecration and installation will be rehearsed in the Confidence Lodge of Instruction, Masons' Hall Tavern, Basinghall-street, on Wednesday next, by Bros. Terry, G.D.C. Herts, and John Constable, P.M. 185.

HEALTH, comfort, and economy promoted. Gas superseded in day time, and daylight reflected in dark rooms by adopting Chappuis' Patent Daylight Reflectors. Manufactory, 60, Fleet-street, London.

SPECIAL JOINT COURT OF THE MASONIC SCHOOLS.

On Saturday last a Special Joint Court of the Governors and Subscribers of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, and of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, was held in the Board room, Freemasons' Hall. Bro. Lieut. Col. Creton, P.G.D., Vice Patron of both institutions, was voted to the chair. The other brethren who were present were Bros. J. Symonds, H. Browne, John Wordsworth, Hyde Pullen, F. H. Ebsworth, S. Rawson, H. Massey ("Freemason"), Benj. Head, Raynham W. Stewart, Jesse Turner, W. Roebuck, Robert B. Webster, H. W. Hemsworth, W. Mann, H. A. Dubois, W. F. C. Moutrie, A. A. Richards, F. Binckes (Secretary Boys' School), and R. Wentworth Little (Secretary Girls' School).

The meeting was called for the purpose of considering the following notice of motion, by Bro. C. F. Matier:—"That any brother not serving the office of Steward, who may collect for the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys the sum of fifty guineas, shall, when that sum is completed, be made a life subscriber, and have one vote for life, and should he collect a further sum of fifty guineas, shall, on the completion thereof, receive an additional vote, and so on for every fifty guineas he may collect."

Bro. Matier not being present to make the motion, it was moved formally by Bro. H. Browne, P.G.D., and seconded by Bro. S. Rawson, Past District G.M. of China.

Bro. John Symonds, P.G.D., urged several objections to the proposition, though he did not wish to move an amendment. He was afraid that brethren in the provinces collecting subscriptions though not Stewards, would be thrown into competition with those brethren who were acting as Stewards. He thought that before entering upon his duties as collector of fifty guineas, a brother should put himself into communication with the committee of either school. If he had been going to move an amendment he would have suggested that the following words be added as a clause to Law 75 of the two institutions:—"The committee may grant to any brother not serving the office of Steward who may collect and pay over the sum of fifty guineas the privilege of a life subscriber, with one vote at all elections for boys or girls, and an additional vote for any further sum of fifty guineas so collected and paid over." In the larger provinces perhaps, like Bro. Matier's province, it might not cause any inconvenience having two brethren collecting; but in the smaller provinces he thought that considerable inconvenience would arise. If the matter were placed first in the hands of the committees they would take care that justice was done to all parties.

Bro. H. Browne thought that if two brethren ran counter to each other in a province it was a matter personal to themselves, and they must set it right. It would be very much better to leave brethren wishing to collect subscriptions perfectly free and unfettered, and not to hamper them by placing them first in the hands of the committees. He could not see his way in putting Bro. Symonds's proposition in.

Bro. Raynham W. Stewart, P.G.D., was afraid that Bro. Symonds's suggestions if agreed to would fetter intending collectors, who ought to be perfectly free.

Bro. H. W. Hemsworth suggested, and at first introduced as an amendment, that instead of giving a brother collecting 50 guineas a vote at each election during his life, ten votes should be given him for the next election following his collection, and let the matter end there.

Bro. Jesse Turner seconded the amendment.

Bro. Raynham W. Stewart thought this would be a most fatal mistake. All that was proposed to be done by the original motion was to give one vote at each election, and the brother who took the trouble to collect 50 guineas well deserved one vote at each election for that trouble. The Institution would be lowering themselves very much if they offered ten votes at one election only for 50 guineas collected.

Bro. John Symonds said he preferred the original motion to Bro. Hemsworth's amendment, although he himself had suggested an amendment. A vote for life was better than ten votes for one election.

Bro. H. Browne was opposed to hampering brethren collecting by reference to committees.

Bro. Hemsworth having stated that if Bro. Symonds would move his suggestion as an amendment he would second it, Bro. Symonds did so, and after it had been seconded by Bro. Hemsworth it was put by the Chairman and lost. The original motion was then put and carried, and a vote of thanks to Colonel Creton for presiding closed the proceedings.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

The General Committee of this Institution met on Saturday last at Freemasons' Hall. Bro. Raynham W. Stewart, V.P., presided, and was supported by Bros. A. H. Diaper, W. Roebuck, Benj. Head, S. Rosenthal, H. Browne, John Symonds, Hyde Pullen, John W. Dennison, John Wordsworth, S. Rawson, W. Mann, Jesse Turner, Robert B. Webster, W. F. C. Moutrie, H. A. Dubois, W. Clifton Crick, J. W. Dosell, F. Adlard, J. G. Chancellor, A. A. Richards, F. H. Ebsworth, H. Massey ("Freemason"), and F. Binckes, Secretary.

After the formal business of reading and confirming minutes had been transacted, it was found there were no petitions from the friends of intending candidates, and no applications for outfits.

The matter of the purchase of the lease of Kent House, opposite the institution at Wood Green, for a sanitary and convalescent home for the pupils, was then mentioned for sanction, and the Chairman stated that the object of proposing to buy the lease of the house and grounds, and not the freehold, was that when the freehold came into the market the institution might purchase it at its proper

value, which would be about twenty years' purchase. In consequence of the age of the freeholder, the property would probably soon come into the market, and the institution had a written offer that if they took the lease they should have the first offer of the freehold. If they had not the lease they would not have the refusal of the freehold; and when it was known that they wanted it the market price would go up considerably. The brethren must bear in mind that the property adjoined the Boys' School, and there was no property but their own close by. The house was well adapted for the purpose for which it was proposed it should be taken, as he and Bro. Browne, who had inspected it, could testify. It was just the sort of house that was required; it would be exceedingly useful, and would be at all times worth the money proposed to be given.

Bro. Robt. B. Webster proposed, and Bro. W. F. Clifton Moutrie seconded, the adoption of the recommendation of the House Committee that Kent House should be purchased.

Bro. Jesse Turner, notwithstanding the statement that by taking the lease the institution would at the proper time be able to get the freehold at a proper market price, could not help thinking that the price would go up. It was hardly reasonable to look forward to a time when the price would be cheaper than now. He quite concurred in the opinion of the Chairman that the building was most eligible and suitable for the proposed purpose; but he thought it would be a wise thing to purchase the freehold at once.

Bro. Binckes, in answer to enquiries, said the price of the freehold was £2000. Mr. Hall, the medical officer, had reported most favourably on the property.

The motion was carried unanimously, and the brethren separated.

A Special Court of this Institution's Governor's and Subscribers was held on Saturday last at Freemasons' Hall. Bro. John Symonds, P.G.D., V.P., presiding. The brethren present were Bros. Raynham W. Stewart, A. H. Diaper, W. Roebuck, Benjamin Head, John Boyd, Herbert Dicketts, F. Adlard, S. Rosenthal, H. Browne, Hyde Pullen, S. Rawson, W. F. C. Moutrie, W. Mann, H. A. Dubois, W. Clifton Crick, Robert B. Webster, A. A. Richards, John W. Dennison, J. G. Chancellor, J. W. Dosell, John Wordsworth, F. H. Ebsworth, Jesse Turner, H. Massey ("Freemason"), and F. Binckes (Secretary).

The meeting was called in compliance with a requisition addressed to the Secretary by a Trustee of the Institution, to consider a recommendation of the House Committee under a reference made to them by the General Committee:—"That with a view to provide the requisite sanitary and convalescent accommodation, the lease of the house and premises known as Kent House, situated opposite the Institution (an unexpired term of 88 years at £100 per annum), be purchased at a cost not exceeding £500."

Bro. Raynham W. Stewart, P.G.D., moved the resolution.

Bro. H. Browne, P.G.D., seconded it, observing that obtaining Kent House as a sanitarium would be beneficial to the Institution.

The motion was carried, with the rider that the solicitors be instructed to act on behalf of the Institution.

Bro. Symonds observed that the place would now be taken as from Christmas last, the rent to commence from that term.

It was not deemed necessary to enter into any discussion with reference to the purchase of the lease, as the subject had been fully gone into at the General Committee which sat a short time previously to the Special Court.

A vote of thanks was passed to the Chairman, and the brethren separated.

PROVINCIAL GRAND CHAPTER OF HAMPSHIRE.

There was a numerous gathering of Royal Arch Freemasons at the Masonic Hall, Portsmouth, on Monday, the occasion being the annual meeting of the Provincial Grand Chapter. In the unavoidable absence of the Prov. Grand Superintendent, Bro. W. B. Beach, M.P.,—who was compelled to attend a special board meeting of the South Western Railway Company, of which he is a director—Comp. W. Hickman presided as Z., supported by Comps. J. E. Le Feuvre, E.; Lillywhite, Prin. Soj.; Frost, Treasurer; A. Cudlipp, Asst. Soj.; Cecil, D.C. The Principals present included Comps. Captain Hooper, Furber, H. Coles, Hare, and J. R. Weston, of Southampton; H. M. Emanuel, H. Cawte, T. Batchelor, E. Wells, G. Wilkins, E. G. Holbrook, Utdell, G. F. Lancaster, E. S. Main, S. R. Ellis, W. H. Ford, Craven, Tuohy, and Maltby; Loveland, Hillman (Havant). Among the other companions present were Warren and Stroud (Southampton); J. Wallingford, H. J. Guy, A. Riddell, Turney, Dr. Knott, J. S. Dyer, G. E. Lancaster, G. Norris, R. Newland, R. Barber, Gunnell, Yearworth, Willmott, Johns, Payne, Salter (Royal Sussex Chapter); James Collins and Cole (Chapter of Friendship); W. Tuck, G. Johnson, R. J. Rastwick, Gamblen, Osborne, W. Dance (Portsmouth Chapter), and others.

The Provincial Grand Treasurer's accounts for the past year were submitted, shewing—Receipts (including balance from 1874), £47 12s. 9d.; expenditure, £4 4s. 6d.; balance in hand, £43 8s. 3d. On the motion of Comp. E. G. Holbrook, seconded by Comp. W. H. Ford, the accounts were received, and Comp. Frost was subsequently unanimously re-elected Treasurer, for which he thanked the brethren. On the motion of Comp. Booth, seconded by Comp. T. Batchelor, a vote of thanks was accorded to Comp. Frost for his past services as Treasurer of the Provincial Grand Chapter.

The Acting Superintendent (Comp. Hickman) then announced that he had been requested by the Provincial Grand Superintendent to take the office of Second Principal,

which request, he need hardly say, he had much pleasure in complying with.

The other officers were appointed as follows:—Comps. H. M. Emanuel, 342, J.; J. E. Le Feuvre, 130, S. E.; H. Coles, 359, S. N.; G. Wilkins, 342, P.S.; S. R. Ellis, 342, Past Asst. S.; R. J. Rastwick, 487, S. Asst. Soj.; M. E. Frost, 487, Treas.; R. Newland, 342, Reg.; G. F. Lancaster, 342, Swd. B.; German, 487, Std. Bearer; Forbes, P.Z., Dir. of Cers.; Osborne, 487, Org.; Biggs and Exell, Janitors.

The chapter having been closed with the usual ceremonies, about fifty of the companions adjourned to the banquetting-room, where a most recherche banquet was served by Bro. Sherman, of the Hard, Portsea. Comp. Hickman presided, and proposed the following toasts:—"The Queen, and Royal Arch Masonry;" "Three Grand Principals of the Supreme Grand Chapter of England;" and "The Grand Superintendent of the Province (Comp. Beach, M.P.)."

In giving the latter toast, Comp. Hickman said that the services of Comp. Beach were always at the disposal of the Provincial Grand Chapter, and of every lodge and chapter in the province. The fact of having so worthy a Mason to preside over its deliberations was a distinguished honour for the province, and he was sure they all regretted that another important engagement prevented Comp. Beach being present that day.

Comp. Forbes proposed "Comp. Hickman, Second Grand Principal of the Province."

Comp. G. F. Lancaster proposed "Comp. Emanuel, Third Grand Principal, and the Officers of the Provincial Grand Chapter." Comp. Wilkins acknowledged the compliment.

Comp. M. E. Frost gave "The Past Officers of the Provincial Grand Chapter," and Comp. E. M. Wells responded.

"The Chapter of Friendship, 257" was acknowledged by Comp. Lillywhite; "The Chapter of Harmony, 309," by Comp. E. G. Holbrook; "The Royal Sussex Chapter, 342," by Comp. Main; and the Portsmouth Chapter, 487," by Comp. Cudlipp.

RECEPTION OF SIR W. W. WYNN, BART., M.P., PROVINCIAL GRAND MASTER FOR NORTH WALES AND SHROPSHIRE, IN MALTA.

The regular meeting of the Lodge of St. John and St. Paul, No. 349, E.C., was held in the Masonic Hall, Valletta, on Monday, the 3rd January, 1876. Present: Bros. the Hon. W. Hylton Jolliffe, W.M.; Major H. Lyon Campbell, 30°, I.P.M.; Holmes, S.W.; Buckle, J.W.; Rosenbusch, P.M., Treas.; Cromey, Sec.; Watt, S.D.; Paulson, J.D.; Read, I.G.; Beck, Tyler; and the following brethren:—Bros. W. Kingston, D.G.M.; the Rev. M. C. Odell, D.D.G.M.; Col. A. Macdonald, P.M. 255, E.C.; J. Buchanan, P.M. 515, E.C.; J. Doherty, P.M., W. Rotherham, P.M., T. Bond, D.M., W. F. Taylor, P.M., Union Lodge, 407, E.C.; J. Bowers, W.M. Leinster Lodge, 387, J.C.

The lodge was opened in due and ancient form.

The W.M., officers, and brethren then received the R.W. D.G.M. of Malta with great honours.

The R.W.D.G.M. having assumed the chair, called upon the brethren to receive the R.W.P.G.M. for North Wales and Shropshire with grand honours—having entered, and on the Rev. Bro. Kingston's offering him the gavel, he courteously declined the same, and signified his wish that the business for which the lodge met might be proceeded with. Whereon the R.W.D.G.M. of Malta called upon W. Bro. Hon. Jolliffe, the W.M., to resume his chair, when Bro. Capt. H. Hamilton Beamish, R.N., H.M.S. "Pallas," was duly passed to the Second Degree, after which ceremony the lodge was reduced and closed.

At the banquet which followed, and after the usual loyal toasts, the D.G.M. for Malta, in proposing "The Health of the P.G.M. for Wales and Shropshire," expressed the pleasure he experienced by the attendance that evening of such a distinguished member of the Craft, and after wishing him a pleasant sojourn in Malta, concluded by calling on the brethren to drink the health of the R.W.P.G.M. for N. Wales and Shropshire with grand honours.

Bro. Sir W. Wynn, in returning thanks for the handsome manner in which the toast of his health had been proposed and received, assured the D.G.M. and brethren, that it afforded him infinite pleasure in attending and witnessing the admirable manner in which the ceremony had been performed by the W.M. that evening, and concluded by again thanking the brethren for the hearty welcome he received.

Bro. Sir W. Wynn then rose, and in a most flattering manner proposed "The Health of the R.W. the D.G.M. for Malta," congratulating him on the high position which his district held in the Craft, and bearing testimony to the fact that it was amongst the foremost in disseminating the true principles of the Order, besides being noted for the excellence of the working in the several degrees, and he concluded by wishing him personally, as well as the whole of the Masonic bodies in Malta, every success and prosperity.

The R.W.D.G.M., in returning thanks to Bro. Sir W. Wynn for proposing his health in such eulogistic terms, and the brethren for responding to the toast in such a cordial manner, said it was highly gratifying to hear his district spoken of in such high terms, especially by such a distinguished member of the Craft, and further, that during his twenty years' association with the Masonic bodies in the island he was proud to say that although his district could not claim to be a very influential one, yet he considered it second to none either in working or disseminating the genuine tenets of the system.

After "The Healths of the P.M.'s of the Lodge," with which was coupled the name of Bro. Major Lyon Campbell, 30°, and "The Visitors," coupled with the names of Bros. Col. Macdonald and Major Mounsey, were drank and duly responded to, the brethren separated.

TO OUR READERS.

The *Freemason* is a sixteen-page weekly newspaper, price 2d. It is published every Friday morning, and contains the most important, interesting, and useful information relating to Freemasonry in every degree. Annual subscription in the *United Kingdom*, Post free, 10/-

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P.O.O.'s to be made payable at the chief office, London.

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are informed that acknowledgments of remittances received is published in the first number of every month.

NOTICE.—It is very necessary for our friends to advise us of all money orders they remit, more especially those from the United States of America and India; otherwise we cannot tell where to credit them.

TO ADVERTISERS.

The *Freemason* has a large circulation in all parts of the Globe, its advantages as an advertising medium can therefore scarcely be overrated.

For terms, position, &c., apply to

GEORGE KESSING, 198, Fleet-st.

Answers to Correspondents.

All Communications, Advertisements, &c., intended for insertion in the Number of the following Saturday, must reach the Office not later than 12 o'clock on Wednesday morning.

T. L. and E. J. 44 in our next.

The following stand over—Egyptian Lodge, No. 27; St. Clement Danes Lodge, 1351; Florence Nightingale Lodge, 700; Albert Edward Lodge, 1519; We Linton Lodge, Derby, 1085; Metropolitan Lodge of Instruction, and several other lodge reports.

Owing to pressure of reports, reviews stand over till next week.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

"Masonic Herald," "Canadian Masonic News," "All the World Over," Vol. II., E. Hodder.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

[The charge is 2s. 6d. for announcements, not exceeding four lines, under this heading.]

BIRTHS.

SMITHS.—On the 31st ult., at Madras, the wife of Lieut.-Col. Smithers, of a daughter.

DIXON.—Jan. 30, at Ramleh, Alexandria, Egypt, the wife of F. Dixon, Esq., of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

BAKER—PRIOR.—On the 29th ult., at St. Albans, Holborn, Frederick William Jamison, son of the late P. Baker, of Mexico, to Kate Lethbridge, only child of H. L. Prior, of Cambridge.

DE LA RUE—SPEED.—On the 1st inst., at St. Andrew's, Wells-street, Thomas Andros, son of Warren de la Rue, Esq., of Portland-place, to Emily Maria, daughter of W. Speed, Esq.

DENTON—WILLING.—On the 27th ult., at St. Stephen's Church, Hampstead, Charles Jones, son of C. J. Denton, Esq., of Spring Lodge, Richmond, to Jessie, second surviving daughter of James Willing, Esq.

ROPE—HOLLAND.—On the 1st inst., at St. George's, Hanover-square, John James Rope, son of J. W. Rope, of Hyde Park-place, to Emily Joanna, daughter of W. Holland.

DEATHS.

WETHERILL.—On the 1st inst., at Peckham-grove, Camberwell, George Bradenell Wetherill, Esq.

ADAMS.—On the 7th inst., at the Western Royal Infirmary, Glasgow, Bro. G. Adams, after a brief illness.

The Freemason,

SATURDAY, FEB. 12, 1876.

OUR GRAND MASTER IN INDIA.

Since his most successful visit to Scindiah H.R.H. the Prince of Wales has continued his progress. On the 6th he visited the Palace of Ambair, the ancient capital of Jeypore. On the 7th he left for Agra en route for Bareilly and Nynsee Tal, meaning to proceed on a shooting expedition to Kumaon and Nepal Terai.

RE-OPENING OF PARLIAMENT.

As Freemasons, though we have nothing to do with the mere passing shadows of political complication, we are alike citizens and patriots, and have a right to express our opinions temperately on all matters affecting our common coun-

try, especially from a social point of view, and in respect of the first duty of all loyal subjects; for our Queen, our "Mater Patrie" is not only the sovereign of our native land, and, as such, claims our loyal attachment and obedience, on the great and unchanging principles of Freemasonry at all times and all circumstances, but she is to us the daughter of a brother of our Order,—the only representative in herself of an old Grand Master. We therefore, as a brotherhood, always peaceful and submissive to the laws, feel the warmest interest in all that appertains to her and her children, and her Royal House. Her opening of Parliament on Tuesday last was a subject of sincere rejoicing to all classes in the this vast metropolis, and, despite occasional sleet and a cold east wind, her greeting was as warm as if it had been veritable sunny Queen's weather. H.R.H. the Princess of Wales, the wife of our august Grand Master, was associated by a happy idea in this Royal and triumphant progress through the crowded streets, and the warm welcome of her faithful people will, we feel sure, have deeply gratified and cheered the Queen. Surrounded by her Royal "kith and kin," and amid the most brilliant assemblage in the world, she has opened the new session of Parliament, and in the words of that most simple, yet effective speech, we shall hope and pray that the deliberations of our great "Wittenagemot" may result, under God's blessing, in the happiness and contentment of her people.

MASONIC MEMENTOES.

That life is chequered we are taught in our lodge symbolism, that it has many mutations and reminders who of us can venture to deny? Hardly a week leaves us but old friends drop off, and familiar faces are missing in our lodges, and we look in vain for the "pleasant presence," the "stout heart," or the unwavering friend. The "*Freemason*" in its weekly annals of our Order tells us how brethren and companions pass away from time and Masonry, from their duties and their responsibilities. Their place on earth knows them no more; even the lodge of which they were such faithful members, the high office they so ably filled, all have no more interest for them. Their race is over, their work is done! Such thoughts as these, never inappropriate, seem to us specially seasonable just now amid our lodge assemblies and our charitable gatherings. The glare of the banquet, the fascination of things material, the sounds of music, the gaiety of the festive scene, all have a tendency to make us often only say, "*carpe diem*," often lead us to forget, which we never should do, even amid the pleasant flow of life's charms and courtesies, the "*seria mista joci*." When Longfellow sang of old "*It is not always May*," he set forth poetically a truth which lies deep in the personality of human life. Indeed, it is, so to say, an undying verity of humanity. Clouds and darkness sometimes dim the scene, the blue sky disappears, and the smiling hours of prosperity and happiness are exchanged for the gloomy moments of adversity and regret. Especially is this true as regards the almost weekly loss we have to note of old friends and good brethren. Death neither spares Freemasonry nor any other institution of earth, and often have we to deplore the departure of some well-known and valuable brother, the missing from our active assemblies of the high prestige, of the honourable name of social worth, of Masonic excellence. We have to lament as an Order generally, and our Lancashire brethren specially, the demise of our very zealous and esteemed Bro. Romaine Calender. He was well known in Masonry, and has long stood high in the opinion of those who best knew him, and saw the most of him. He had taken a warm interest in our brotherhood and our charities, and filled distinguished posts in our Order, and we are bound to notice the loss of one who had so far earned in the opinion of his fellow-citizens as to represent Manchester in Parliament, and who had gained the regard and affection of all his brother Masons. His funeral, we are told, was a very striking and a very impressive one, and we feel sure we are echoing the universal feeling of our Order when we say that his premature loss to public life and

to Freemasonry is greatly to be lamented on our account, though we would hope, religiously or reverently, not on his own. But such, sooner or later, is the end of life for us all. We pass from our countinghouses and our clubs, our homes and our hospitality, our lodges and our labours, one by one, as the Grand Master of us all calls us hence. When our work is over, when our earthly lodge is closed, let us trust that there yet remains for us, and for all faithful Craftsmen, a better Grand Lodge above, where the "Great Architect who lives and reigns for ever," will admit us to its glories, and His own Divine presence.

THE POSITION AND PREROGATIVES OF PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGES.

In a very memorable pamphlet, to which reference was made in our last leader anent the Boys' School and the Province of West Yorkshire's so called "Investigation Committee," the writer takes up this peculiar position in respect of his province, that it is a "corporate body." We beg to say, in reply, that no Provincial Grand Lodge is, or can be, in any true sense of the words a "corporate body," except only as it is an aggregation, *pro hac vice*, of all provincial subscribing and duly qualified Freemasons. Constitutionally it is only an emanation, so to say, from the P.G.M. for the time being; just as the P.G.M. is only an emanation from the G.M., and the Provincial Grand Lodge only exists "*bene placito*" the P.G.M.; it lives with his life and will, it dies with his death and resignation. If the P.G.M. resigns or dies there is no provincial authority that can summon together the Provincial Grand Lodge; and as the powers of the D.P.G.M. have absolutely ceased under such circumstances, it can only be convened and ruled, if convened and ruled at all, in the interregnum, either by the Grand Registrar, or by a temporary and special appointment of a P.G.M. by the Grand Master. As we said before, the powers of the D.P.G.M. actually fall with the death or resignation of his Principal. There being no P.G.M. there can be no D.G.M. and there can be no meeting of the P.G. Lodge, which is thus rendered dormant and becomes defunct for the time, unless called into life again by a fresh appointment of a P.G.M., whether temporary or permanent, or by the Grand Registrar, who has received authority from the Grand Master to take charge of the province in the interim. That certain districts are called provinces, and known as such, is true, but that they only can meet and act *pleno jure* as Provincial Grand Lodges, under a P.G.M. or the Grand Registrar is incontestable. And though under the rule of the Grand Registrar the work of the province can go on, and the officers be annually elected, yet a province is not complete, neither is a Provincial Grand Lodge in full life, until it has a Provincial Grand Master. Thus the P.G.M. is practically the centre and the source of all provincial Masonic authority, work, and life. The theory, therefore, of the writer of the pamphlet, that a Provincial Grand Lodge is a "corporate body," is entirely an erroneous one, and destitute of any Masonic reality or constitutional foundation. Another proposition of the same writer is, that the Provincial Grand Lodge of West Yorkshire could make a representation to the Grand Secretary and the Board of General Purposes, in reference to a dispute between it and the Committee of the Boys' School. Such a theory is almost really too absurd to deal with, though, as it has been gravely put forth, it requires we think noting and refutation here. The section of the Book of Constitutions referred to in support of such a supposed possibility of procedure is evidently sec. 18, page 25, though incorrectly given in the Pamphlet, but the construction placed on this section is perfectly puerile. It refers as text and context: then to a dispute between bona fide brethren, and can in no possible way be strained so as to refer to a Provincial Grand Lodge on the one hand, or a body like the Boys' School on the other, which is not, we may observe "*en passant*," purely Masonic, Ladies and Lewises being among its subscribing members. As we have previously pointed out neither a Provincial Grand Lodge,

nor even Grand Lodge itself, on Lord Zetland dictum, possesses any rights as regards the Boys' School which subscribers have not! For all sums given, votes have been allowed, and even Grand Lodge itself we hold can only inquire into the proper appropriation of its annual vote. If the Province of West Yorkshire, which no doubt in times past has done great things for the school, and we are inclined to believe will still energetically support it, has any grievances, real or imaginary to ventilate, it must do so before the Quarterly Court, or at a General Committee meeting, or a special meeting of the institution. If West Yorkshire really believes in the wonderful report of its own committee, the appointment of which originally was unconstitutional, and we are quite sure would never have been allowed to take place in Lord Ripon's time, it must by its financial members, who are life governors, either move a direct vote of want of confidence in the executive, or for a special committee of enquiry, in the way pointed out by the rules and bye-laws of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys! We leave out of the question the actual legality of the committee itself according to the resolution of the Provincial Grand Lodge of West Yorkshire, holden at Sheffield, though we are inclined to believe its whole proceedings are practically null and void owing to its absolutely illegal formation. A letter on the subject appears in our columns elsewhere, and if it be correct in its statement it raises a most serious question as to the legality of the committee "ab initio." But this by the way. Let West Yorkshire manfully make those allegations where they can be fully answered, and in the mean time in the interest of Freemasonry, of fair play, of gentlemanly feeling, and brotherly love, let these libellous pamphlets be suppressed by the proper provincial authority.

KENNING'S MASONIC CYCLOPEDIA.

We call attention to the circular in another column relative to this forthcoming work, as well as to a quasi specimen page. By this it will appear that this work will be published July 1st this year, and that the subscription list will close June 1st. The goodly list of subscribers we publish shows that there is an increasing interest in our Order for purely archaeological Masonic works, and we feel sure, that such publications will tend more than anything else to advance Masonic studies and correct Masonic errors.

ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

We congratulate the Craft most sincerely on the result of the first great Masonic charitable gathering for 1876, under our most popular Deputy Grand Master Lord Skelmersdale. The amount reached £9174 10s. 6d., of this over £1500 came from Lord Skelmersdale's own province. We sincerely congratulate Bro. Terry. We shall recur to the subject in our next.

Original Correspondence.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for, or even as approving of the opinions expressed by our correspondents, but we wish, in a spirit of fair play to all, to permit—within certain necessary limits—free discussion.—Ed.]

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

As all Masons are, or ought to be, fond of the ladies, I suppose you will have no objection to allow me to make use of your paper as a medium to expose the very great grievance under which they suffer, and which causes many an angry word and unkind thought in homes where love only should dwell. If we attend to the duties of the institution to which we belong we are compelled to desert our firesides of an evening, and leave our wives and daughters many weary hours, especially the former, anxiously awaiting our return. Being a convivial body, we seldom meet without a social glass, and generally a supper or banquet. Now this is all very well; but surely we owe something to our better halves to requite them for their patience; we should make some return, and not keep all the good things to ourselves. We are ready enough to put our hands in our pockets for an extra feed for ourselves, or indeed to help in a case of distress, but we quite forget that our wives are as fond of the good things of the world as we are, and would doubly appreciate any pleasure we could give them, especially when shared with their husbands. Therefore I say let us drop this very selfish manner of keeping all the enjoyments to ourselves, and give them a ball, a picnic, or a garden party now and then, and I am sure we should find one and all of us with happier hearths and kinder words to greet us; and last, not least, we should find the funds of our several institutions increase

immensely, the more thought, care, and consideration we bestowed on those nearest and dearest to us. I will heartily make one to place these small matters on a right footing, and my name can be obtained from you.

Believe me, yours fraternally,

SINCERITY.

WAS THE INVESTIGATION COMMITTEE OF WEST YORKSHIRE LEGALLY APPOINTED?

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

It appears to me that the so-called Investigation Committee which has recently made its report at Leeds is altogether an illegal body, and has no proper or constitutional existence. The original resolution of the Provincial Grand Lodge of West Yorkshire, at Sheffield, was that the Provincial Grand Lodge appoint a Committee of twelve, six from Charity Committee, and six from Provincial Grand Officers, if I remember right, or from the Provincial Grand Lodge generally. It matters not which.

But this committee of 12 has been practically appointed by the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, in the name of the P.G.M.

He says in his pamphlet that it was "understood" in Provincial Grand Lodge that the Provincial Grand Master should appoint. But an understanding is not a resolution and I beg to express my opinion, that according to all Masonic usage, this nominated committee is a non-lawfully appointed body, without any constitutional authority, without even a rightful basis.

Consequently all its acts are valueless, and it has no power to meet or make a report, and its report ought never to have been adopted by Provincial Grand Lodge.

I notice another point in the printed minutes which appear in the pamphlet. The committee is represented as passing a resolution to remunerate the Secretary for his services. The committee has no such power except by way of recommendation, the Provincial Grand Lodge being the sole judge of what is for the "honour and dignity of the Provincial Grand Lodge," and any payments made without the sanction of Provincial Grand Lodge are ipso facto illegal and unwarranted.

I hope somebody will clear up all this "Embroglio," and please many others as well as yours fraternally and obediently,

FAIR PLAY.

MASTER MASONS' JEWELS.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

A short time ago a correspondence took place through the medium of your valuable paper upon a jewel called the "five-pointed star." The opinions of some brethren held that it was a "correct jewel" for a M.M. to wear in a Craft lodge, should he feel inclined to do so; others that it was "incorrect." Now which side is right in their views? The subject subsided without the point being finally settled one way or the other, thus leaving an open doubt upon the minds of hundreds of the brethren who would not like to wear an "incorrect" jewel, but who would have no hesitation to wear it if "correct."

A few days ago a catalogue from one of the Masonic depôts came into my hands, and amongst the items appears the following—

JEWELS FOR MASTER MASONS.

Crystal Square and Compasses	£	s.	d.
Silver	0	15	6
	0	18	6

Will you kindly inform me if this jewel is one which a Master Mason may correctly append to his breast, and wear in his Craft lodge, or whether there is the same doubt attached to the jewel of the "square and compasses" as the "five-pointed star," or whether "there is" or "is not" a jewel attached to or appertaining to the Sublime Degree of a M.M.

I remain, dear Sir and Brother, yours fraternally,

A MASTER MASON.

[We have already expressed our humble opinion that according to the Book of Constitutions a jewel appertaining to the Master Mason Degree can lawfully be worn in lodge.—Ed.]

THE MASONIC CHARITIES.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

We are being repeatedly reminded that although the subscriptions to our Charities amount to a total to be proud of, yet they are not sufficient to give immediate relief to every deserving case. The thought has just occurred to me that as we have several talented brethren amongst us, would not some of them volunteer to give a benefit for the Masonic Charities? If this was done I think an entertainment could be arranged which would again fill the Albert Hall. I have no doubt that if some influential brother or brethren would take the matter up that such gentlemen as Bro. F. Burgess of the Moore and Burgess minstrels, and other noted professionals, would heartily give it their support, and a further attraction might be added by getting permission for the Masonic brethren who may attend to wear their Masonic clothing. Having given the subject vent, I trust that other brethren will take the matter up, or suggest some other plan for increasing the funds of our charitable institutions.

P.M. 1437.

BYE-LAWS.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

A certain Royal Arch Chapter, in England, has amongst its bye-laws the following:—"That no companion shall be proposed to become a member of the chapter, unless he be at the time of his proposition a mem-

ber of the lodge (to which this chapter is attached), and when any brother shall be admitted a member of the lodge, he shall, if he be at the time of his admission a Royal Arch Mason, be considered a member of the chapter without further proposition or ballot."

Another bye-law provides that the resignation in the lodge shall, to all intents and purposes, carry resignation in the chapter."

Is not such a bye-law, as first quoted, a violation of the regulation of Grand Chapter, No. 22, p.p. 19 and 20 which enacts that, "candidates for admission into a chapter must be duly proposed, approved, and balloted for; and no one shall be admitted, if, on the ballot, there appear more than two negatives." Therefore, Grand Chapter says, "there shall be a ballot." A private chapter says "it is unnecessary."

This same chapter says, "That all donations, profit, or income accruing to this chapter, shall, after paying all fees and expenses, be paid to the Treasurer of the lodge, to be carried to the funds of the said lodge." How far is this with unison with Grand Chapter regulations, No. 12, (p. 18). "The cash or Treasurer's accounts of the chapter shall be kept distinct and separate from that of the lodge to which the chapter is attached."

Of course this regulation does not say what shall be done with the balance or profit of a private chapter; but would it not be more in accordance with the spirit of Grand Chapter for a private chapter to transfer its balance by a regular open vote, from time to time, as it may be so disposed. Grand Chapter clearly means a chapter to be distinct from the lodge, yet this particular chapter mixes them and binds its bye-laws with those of the lodge. Rather singular to say, the printed copy of these bye-laws does not indicate that they were ever officially "approved."

The lodge (referred to) issues its summonses per half-penny post—open at ends—for inspection. Post Office officials are in duty bound to examine (more or less) such packets. Is not this publishing with a vengeance?—notwithstanding Grand Lodge Constitutions (art. 3, p. 80), which never anticipated such a publication.

Another remark, and I am done, throughout the book by-law is rendered bye-law. Does not this suggest the whole production to belong to the fossil age? Possibly this gives a clue, I should like your opinion. Kindly give it, and oblige. "Gy." P.S. "Happy thought," try bye-law at a Spelling Bee.

FRATER.

[We agree with our "Frater." The bye-law is unconstitutional. With regard to by or bye-law, doctors differ.—Ed.]

AFFILIATION.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir, and Brother,—

In the case of a brother holding a certificate from the Grand Lodge of Scotland, (but having been initiated, passed, and raised in a single night, an irregularity still practised in some Scotch Lodges) wishing to be affiliated to an English lodge, does the article in the Constitutions referring to this irregularity debar him from being affiliated. Yours fraternally,

ENFANT D'HIRAN.

Corrections of a paragraph in the "Freemason," of December 18th, 1875, under the heading of the "Urban Club." The name of the owner of St. John's Gate is Sir Edmund Lechmere, not Sir Edmund Lechmere. He has no "Steward" there, but pending some arrangements being now made for letting the tavern, the business is managed by Mr. Gay. Sir Edmund Lechmere is not "Master of the Knights of St. John," nor is there any such office. The Duke of Manchester is the head of the Order, under the title of Lord Prior.

CONSECRATION OF THE NEW CROSS LODGE, No. 1559.

On the pleasant High-road between London and the fields which indicate the entrance of the sojourner into the "Garden of England" a new lodge, named after the locality in which it is situated, was consecrated on the 2nd inst. by our Bro. James Terry, who exercised to the utmost that precision of ritual for which he has been now for many years famous. The home of the new lodge is not at a tavern, but at a hall, and, with the advantages of a lodge meeting at a hall, those who were present at this gathering had, as might be expected, a few inconveniences arising from dining in a hostless hall—for landlords have made themselves so necessary, that many people feel like lost sheep without them. The hall is called the "New Cross Public Hall," and is on the Upper Lewisham-road, New Cross, near to the spot to which the thirsty legions of the Roman Emperor traced the raven in its morning flight, and gave the newly-found stream which now flows muddily by the name of "The Ravensbourne." The new hall itself is a fine place, but the little hall which was consecrated to the purposes of a lodge is dwarfed in comparison, and was quite unadorned, so that the handsome furniture from Bro. G. Kenning was welcomed by the eye as a necessary garniture to the apartment, filled as it was, too, by officers of many Provincial Grand Lodges, who had come to do honour to the new birth, and the rich colours of the clothing needed the solid workmanship of the lodge furniture to break the contrast between the jewelled brethren and the unfinished walls of the room.

The first new officer designate was Bro. W. B. Woodman, who was to have been S.W., but with great spirit took the first Mastership, when Bro. Thiclay, the present W.M. of the Prudent Brethren, found his election to the chair in his brother lodge would preclude his occupying the chair at New Cross. Bro. Thiclay took the position of S.W. designate, thus giving an example, showing that rulers in the Craft can become the ruled. The J.W. designate was

Bro. W. A. Simmons, a young and promising Mason. Frederick Walters, of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Middlesex, was the Treasurer designate, and H. Keeble the Secretary. The S.D. was Bro. Louis Beck, whose sleepless London Scottish band aroused the sleepers of the volunteer camp on Wimbledon Common many a July morning with the wild scream of northern "music," and soothed the nerves of the shooters in the afternoon siesta with the sweet strains, under the "bell tent," of those instruments congenial to southern ears. Bro. H. J. Green was J.D.; Bro. W. Kipps, Org.; and Bro. Wm. Hardman, I.G. The usual formalities were gone through, and the brethren of the new lodge signified their acceptance of these officers. The ceremony of consecration was performed in Bro. Terry's most eloquent and impressive manner, and Bro. Kipps presided at the organ with excellent effect. The experienced Masons who were sharing in the ceremony lent their aid—Bro. Sabine, P.G.S.B. of Middlesex, as Director of the Ceremonies; Bro. Colles, P. Prov. Grand Chaplain of Oxfordshire, as Chaplain; and Bro. Hubback and C. Hogg, P.G.S., assisting in the work. It is unnecessary to describe the ceremony, for those who have seen Bro. Terry work this ceremony do not want to be told about it; those who have not, should see it, and those who are not qualified to see it cannot be told the details through these columns. It will suffice to say that all the parts were perfectly rendered.

Bro. the Rev. G. R. P. Colles delivered the oration, and from this excellent discourse we give a few excerpts. He said,—To all whom I see around, assembled in your several Orders, and attired according to your different degrees and offices, I now rise at the command of our Installing Master, to deliver the customary oration at the solemn dedication of a new Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons. This dedication and consecration ought not to be looked upon by any of you as a mere lifeless Form, but as a living Reality. The scene in which we have been engaged is like those in which the leaders of old Israel engaged the people. We read in the volume of the Sacred Law how Joshua "made a covenant with the people . . . and set them a statute, and an ordinance in Shechem." That covenant was, as you all know, to serve the Lord. Joshua said,—"As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord," and the people answered and said, "God forbid that we should forsake the Lord." In confirmation of this covenant Joshua not only "wrote these words in the Book of the Law of God," but "took a great stone and set it up there under an oak that was by the sanctuary of the Lord." He said, moreover, "This stone shall be a witness unto us." Here, then, we have the principle of Masonic union symbolised by a Masonic sign. The first stone of a Masonic lodge is laid on a Masonic principle, and in witness of a belief in God, of a willing service to that God. The principles of Freemasonry are universal and eternal. As the Great Architect of the Universe "spreadeth out the heavens like a curtain," and "layeth the beams of his chambers in the waters," who "hath founded the earth upon the seas and prepared it upon the floods," so he hath built the soul of each man of the whole human race on principles which are everywhere accepted as far as those heavens and seas and lands do stretch. If the principles of Freemasonry were only accepted in England or France, or even in Europe generally, they could not be called universal; if they had only been discovered by sages or philosophers of certain countries at a late time of the world's history they could not be called eternal. But I say that there is no country and no time where or when these principles are not and have not been acknowledged. Ahab, King of Israel, though an evil king, yet on one most notable occasion, was moved by a truly Masonic principle to show mercy to his enemy. When Benhadad, King of Syria was in the power of Ahab, he sent messengers to Ahab, saying, "Thy servant Benhadad saith, I pray thee let me live." Ahab said "Is he yet alive? He is my brother." The men caught at the words "my brother"—they proved the meaning of them on the heart of him who uttered them, and they said "Thy Brother, Benhadad." The words were enough, and the captive monarch was sent away in safety after he had made suitable terms with Ahab. This story shows the power of the principles of Freemasonry. Brotherly love, relief, and truth, are eternal, universal principles. But it may be said—if this is so, what is the use of a system like ours? I reply to this by another question. If the earth is blessed by its Great Architect where is the use of the farmer or the gardener? The answer is easy; as in the latter case the qualities of the earth need to be shaped, and moulded, and applied, so the principles of good in the human heart need to be directed and shaped in proper form. The object of the Masonic art is to do this. As the material Mason carves the stone, and enriches the hewn stone, so the speculative Mason adorns the human race, not by making new principles, but by exhibiting that which is hidden in the breasts of all men, and needs only the tools of the Master to be brought to light. The stone exists in the mountain, but it must be quarried out for use and ornament. To remove suspicion and jealousy is another duty of the Mason. The great Lord Bacon, the father of modern philosophy, hath well said "A crowd is not company; and faces are but a gallery of pictures; and talk but a tinkling cymbal, where there is no love. The Latin adage meeteth it—Magna civitas magna solitudo—because in a great town friends are scattered, so that there is not that fellowship which, for the most part, is in less populous neighbourhoods. But we may go further and affirm most truly that it is a mere and miserable solitude to want true friends, without which the world is but a wilderness; and even in this sense also of solitude, whosoever in the frame of his nature and affection is unfit for friendship he taketh it of the beast and not from humanity." You will all admit the truth of these words. So we as Masons have to strip ourselves of all unreasonable suspicion of other men, and be ever ready

to give the right hand of fellowship to all other human beings, especially to those who, like ourselves, are, as Masons, trying to discover the principles of that architecture according to which the great human temple is built. But we must erect this temple with solid material. When we lay the foundation of the lodge we must not, like a dishonest contractor, do it with rubbish, but with good stone. True knowledge will be necessary to adorn your position as living stones of this great temple, of which we are both the workmen and materials. The reverend brother enforced his views at greater length, and sat down amid marks of warm approbation.

Bro. Terry then proceeded with the ceremony, and the lodge being opened in the higher degrees, Bro. Woodman was installed and proclaimed, the whole work being performed by the Installing Master. The brethren designated as the officers were then appointed in the order given above, and the addresses having been given, the lodge proceeded to its first business. Thanks and honorary membership were voted unanimously to Bros. Terry, Colles, Sabine, and Kipps, for their services that day, and thanks to Bros. Hubback and Hogg.

The lodge being closed the brethren dined together, in greatly diminished numbers, for the hour was late, and trains are few from this interesting suburb. Amongst those who stayed were the brothers whose names have been mentioned, and Bro. Keeble, sen., a Mason of more than half-a-century, Bro. H. Francis, P.G.S.D. of Surrey; J. T. Moss, P.G.S. Middlesex; W. Smeed, P.G.J.W. Middlesex; John While, W.M. 228 ("Freemason"); Levy, P.M. 188, and H. Hyman, J. Wright, P.M. 1158; and others. The eloquence of the evening had to be shortened very considerably, and the proceedings were enlivened with music by Bro. Kipps, and singing by Bro. Louis Beck, who possesses the grace of a Scotchman, the vivacity of a Frenchman, and the humour of an Irishman. "The Master's Health" was warmly toasted, as were the healths of the officers and visitors, and the evening closed just too late for the last train to London.

CONSECRATION OF THE DEE LODGE, PARKGATE.

The astonishing progress of Freemasonry is a well-established fact in every province in England, and Cheshire, which enjoys the Masonic rule of Bro. the R.H. Lord De Tabley, the R.W.P.G.M., has done its best to maintain its proper place in the onward march, and this with the most abundant success. The consecration of the Dee Lodge, No. 1576, on Thursday, the 3rd inst., added another stone to the already substantial Masonic structure raised by the province of Cheshire, and as it is placed in the centre of a large district, where there are many good men and true Masons, it has every prospect of maintaining the credit and standing of the ancient and honourable Order. The consecration ceremony, which took place at the Union Hotel, Parkgate, about midway between Chester and Birkenhead, where it is intended the usual meetings will be held, is always an interesting one to the Fraternity, but it was specially so on this occasion by reason of the presence of Bro. the Right Hon. Lord De Tabley, R.W.P.G.M., who is honoured by every brother in the extensive province of Cheshire. The presence of his lordship as consecrating officer naturally attracted a distinguished attendance of Prov. G.L. Officers, amongst whom were Bros. J. S. Darvell, P.G.C.; G. W. Latham, P.G. Reg., acting P.D.G.M.; J. Platt, P.P.G.J.W.; E. H. Griffiths, P.G. Sec.; C. Dutton, P.P.G.S.W.; T. Platt, P.P.G.J.D.; E. Friend, P.P.G.J.D.; J. W. Eardley, P.G.D.C.; J. Travis, P.G.O.; W. Goodacre, P.P.G.P.; S. Spratley, P.P.G.S.D.; H. A. Bennett, P.G.J.W.; M. H. Bradley, P.G.S.; G. Hesketh, P.G.S.; J. Salmon, P.P.G.S.D.; R. T. Bowden, P.G.S. of W.; J. E. Williams, P.G.S.D.; and P. Hadswoth, P.G.A.D.C. There was also a numerous attendance of W.M.'s, P.M.'s, officers, and members of lodges in Cheshire and West Lancashire, amongst whom were Bros. W. Vaughan, W.M. 724; W. Vines, P.M. 220; W. Shortis, P.M. 724; W. Cottrell, P.M. 823; T. Shaw, W.M. 823; J. S. Cuthbert, J.D. 823; J. G. Adam, W.M. 477; P. Armstrong, I.G. 724; F. L. Bolton, W.M. 1289; M. McNeerney, W.M. 605; J. Thompson, 477; W. Simmons, 477; A. Mitchell, 477; W. M. Asher, 477; N. Dumville, P.M. 152; W. Grocott, 605; J. Dutton, J.W. 477; T. Leighton, P.M., Sec. 605; J. Penin, 477; J. H. Hollaway, 477; W. J. Lewis, 193; E. Burns, 1219; J. Barrow, 1289; F. Smith, P.M. 201; G. Cook, 477; W. Lownsbrough, 823; F. Cumelle, 667; L. Ellis, P.M. 1289; E. Kerr, 191; M. Stafford, 361; R. Ellison, 721; W. Williams, 1276; the Rev. W. H. Harpur, 944; and others. The lodge room at the "Union" is exceedingly compact and chaste decorated, and the furnishing of the lodge, part of which was done by Bro. George Kenning, was in excellent keeping with the room.

The brethren assembled in the lodge room shortly after one o'clock, when the chair was taken by Bro. Thomas Chesworth, P.M., Treasurer 724, the W.M. designate, Bro. L. Ellis occupying the S.W.'s chair, and Bro. J. Adam that of the J.W. The lodge was then duly opened in the Three Degrees, and the P.G.L. was then received with solemn music, the P.G.M. (Lord De Tabley) being greeted with the usual honours. The invocation and consecration prayers were offered by the Rev. J. Sydney Darvell, and the petition and warrant having been read by the P.G. Secretary, Bro. H. E. Griffiths, the P.G.M. proceeded to consecrate the lodge according to ancient custom. The corn, wine, oil, and salt were respectively carried by Bros. W. Shortis, P.M. 724; T. Shaw, W.M. 823; W. Vines, P.M. 220; and W. Cottrell, P.M. 823. Bro. Travis presided at the harmonium, and the musical portion of the ceremony was performed by Bro. Dumville, P.M. 152, and others. Bro. Latham, P.G. Registrar, acting as D.P.G.M., also assisted in the ceremony.

After this portion of the proceedings, Bro. W. Goodacre proceeded to instal Bro. Thomas Chesworth, P.M., Treas.

724, as the first W.M. of the Dee Lodge, a ceremony which he performed in a most impressive manner. The following were the officers invested:—Bros. the Rev. W. H. Harpur, S.W.; T. Field, J.W. (by proxy); F. Needham, Treas. and S.D.; N. J. Lewis, Sec.; W. Carr, J.D.; A. Lawrence, I.G.; and M. Williamson, Tyler pro. tem.

Bro. Lord De Tabley, addressing the brethren, said it gave him great gratification to be present that day to assist at the consecration of the Dee Lodge. He trusted it would have a prosperous career, that the members would enjoy a continuance of the success which had marked the beginning of their existence, and that the lodge would be an honour to the great phalanx of Masonic lodges all over the world. From what he had seen that day he had no doubt that the lodge would have a long and prosperous existence, and, as he had done on former occasions, he counselled the brethren to be exceedingly careful as to the men they admitted to their ranks. He had every faith that this would be done, and he trusted the Supreme Architect might counsel and direct them in all their lawful undertakings.

A large number of propositions for joining and initiation were subsequently made, and hearty good wishes were expressed for the W.M. by every lodge represented. The lodge was then closed in solemn form.

An excellent banquet was subsequently served in the Assembly Rooms, Parkgate, the catering of Bro. Acton, of the Union Hotel, giving complete satisfaction. The room was chaste decorated with flags and banners, and amongst the inscriptions on the walls were—"Welcome to Lord De Tabley," "Success to the Dee Lodge," "Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth." The W.M., Bro. Chesworth, presided, and amongst those present were Bro. Lord De Tabley and nearly all the Provincial Grand Lodge Officers who assisted at the ceremony of the afternoon. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and cordially responded to.

The W.M., Bro. Chesworth, in proposing "Lord De Tabley, R.W.P.G.M. for Cheshire," said he gave that toast with the greatest pleasure, because he was sure every one must have felt that day that his lordship had conferred a great honour by personally consecrating the lodge. (Applause.) They knew he took the greatest interest in Freemasonry, and sometimes at great inconvenience attended on occasions like that to perform his Masonic duties. The toast was honoured with great enthusiasm.

Bro. Lord De Tabley, who was received with renewed enthusiasm, said that after the words he had made use of in the lodge he would not trouble them with any long address. He was happy to be in a position to renew his thanks for the kind reception he had met with, and to thank the W.M. and officers of the Dee Lodge for the munificent and hospitable way in which they had received him and the officers of the Provincial Grand Lodge. He again wished the lodge the greatest prosperity. It was an honour for him to preside over a province like Cheshire, where there were so many loyal and worthy Masons, and he therefore tried at all times to do his duty to the best of his skill and ability. (Loud cheers.)

Amongst the remaining toasts were "The Installing Master," responded to by Bro. W. Goodacre; and "The Clergy," which was acknowledged by Bro. the Rev. W. H. Harpur, S.W., formerly Chap. to the Grand Lodge of India. He spoke of the magnificent reception given to the M.W.G.M. in that vast country, and expressed his opinion that Masonry was doing quite as much for the people there as that achieved by the missionaries. When he as a clergyman, and they as Masonic brethren, could sit down at the same table with Hindoos, Parsees, and Mussulmen in a social way, thereby breaking down the divisions in a manner which the missionaries had never done, he thought he was right in the assertion which he had made. (Hear, hear.)

"Bro. Cornwall Leigh, M.P., D.P.G.M., and the Provincial Grand Officers, Past and Present," was responded to by Bro. Darvell, P.G.C., and Bro. F. Friend, P. Prov. G.J.D. "The Visitors" was acknowledged by Bros. Bolton, Vaughan, Vines, Shortis, Cottrell, and others, "The Worshipful Master," proposed by Bro. Platt, and responded to in an excellent speech by Bro. Chesworth. "The Officers," acknowledged by Bro. Needham, Treas. and S.D.; "The Masonic Charities," responded to by the J. P. Platt, Vines, Vaughan, and Needham; and the Tyler's toast completed the list.

Ireland.

OMAGH.—Lodge Concord (No. 332) met at the Masonic Hall on Thursday evening, 3rd inst. Bro. A. C. Buchanan, W.M., in the chair, and presented a valuable jewel to the late Treasurer and Secretary of the lodge, Bro. W. J. Palmer, P.M., P.G.S.D. Kent, on his removal to Armagh. Bro. T. C. Dickie, P.M., proposed, and Bro. F. J. West, P.M., P.Z., P.G.S. of Works Tyrone and Fermanagh, seconded a resolution recording on the minutes the valuable services rendered to the lodge by the late Secretary, and the regret of the brethren at his departure from the county. The brethren afterwards entertained Bro. Palmer at dinner at the White Hart Hotel, which was served in host Bro. W. Mullin's best style. The W.M. presided, and Bro. W. F. Black, P.M., P.Z., P.G. Treas. Tyrone and Fermanagh, occupied the vice-chair. After the usual loyal and Masonic toasts, "The Health of Bro. Palmer" was proposed by the W.M. in very flattering terms, and acknowledged in a most appropriate manner. That of "The Visitors" was responded to by Bro. French, of Cappagh Lodge, No. 350, who conveyed to Concord Lodge the best wishes of Bro. Commander C. Scott, R.N., P.M., P.Z. 33, also Bro. Scott's regret at being unable to attend. "The Tyler's" toast was generously responded to, and the brethren separated at an early hour, having spent a most agreeable evening.



ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION FOR AGED FREEMASONS AND WIDOWS OF FREEMASONS, CROYDON.

ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

The annual festival of this Institution was held on Wednesday evening at Freemasons' Tavern. Bro. the Right Hon. Lord Skelmersdale, D.G.M., and Prov. G.M. for West Lancashire, presided. From an early period of the evening there were indications of the festival being a great success, the gallery filling with ladies soon after it was opened. The Stewards were very numerous, and lined all the passages from Freemasons' Hall to the banqueting-room. When the visitors were admitted the dining hall was soon filled, and when his lordship took the chair, which he did, accompanied by the Stewards, shortly after six o'clock the hall was full. Excepting when the Prince of Wales took the chair for this institution there has never been so large an assemblage at this first festival of the year, and the brethren who were present predicted an unrivalled result for Bro. Terry. They did not, however, anticipate such a result as was ultimately found to be the case, and when the announcement was made, as will be seen below, the brethren were fairly astonished. To give a complete list of the brethren present would be impossible, but as nearly as we could ascertain, the following were among the brethren present:—Rev. J. Edmund Cox, D.D., P.G.C.; Rev. C. J. Martyn, J.G.C.; Benjamin Head, P.G.D.; F. P. Morrell, P.G.D.; Robert Grey, J.G.D.; Henry Grissell, P.G.D.; Thomas Fenn, P.G.D.; Thomas Jowitt, P.G.M. Hertfordshire; J. M. P. Montagu, D.P.G.M. Dorset; Andrew Hay, P.D.D.G.M. Bombay; E. J. Morris, D.P.G.M. South Wales Eastern Division; Dr. Strong, Hon. Surgeon to the Institution; John Herve, Lieut.-Col.-Creton, S. L. Tomkins, P.G.D.; Lieut.-Gen. Sir Edward Green, K.C.B.; Raynham W. Stewart, R. J. Spiers, P.G.S.B.; J. D. Moore, M.D., P.G.S.B.; Thomas Cubitt, P.G.P.; John Coutts, P.G.P.; W. H. Lucia, P.G. Secretary Suffolk; Rev. R. Evans, Lieut.-Col. T Birchall, Prescott, H. L. Alpass, Major Wilson, Deeley, Charles Fryer, Clement Stretton, P.P.G.W. Leicester; H. C. Toombs, P.G. Secretary Wilts; F. Binckes, R. W. Little, James Terry.

Most of the Stewards, whose names were given by us last week, were also present. Altogether about 400 brethren were present, and over 200 ladies.

The Chairman, in proposing "The Health of the Queen," said—"The first toast that I have to give you this evening is 'The Health of Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen,' the patroness of our Order. This is a toast that is never more loyally drunk than at an assembly of the brethren. I am sure all here present must rejoice

that Her Majesty has thought fit once more to appear among us, and I am sure you will re-echo the wish that she may continue to do so year by year. All of us who had the privilege of seeing her yesterday in health, and also surrounded as she was by her daughters and daughter-in-law, certainly had this wish.

The toast was followed by "God Save the Queen."

The Chairman said—"The next toast I have the honour to propose is 'The Health of the M.W.G.M. the Prince of Wales,' not only as G.M., but also as Patron and President of the Institution whose festival we are keeping this day; also 'The Health of the Princess of Wales and the other members of the Royal Family.' I am sure that we must all look forward to the day on which our M.W.G.M. will return to this country. After the glorious success of his visit to India anything that we can do will seem but poor in comparison with the splendour that he has seen there; but as far as a hearty welcome goes, what he will receive from the brethren especially will be far greater than any he has hitherto had. We must all admire the way in which he has gone through the heavy, the hard, the arduous task that he has set himself. Thank God, he has had good health throughout, and thank God, our future King has such a constitution as has enabled him to withstand that terrible climate. Brethren, I need not speak to you of the Prince of Wales as a Mason, for we all know how thoroughly, how deeply, he has the interests of the Craft at heart. Long may he continue to rule over us; long may that lovely Princess live to rule with him. We saw her yesterday in the ceremony, having travelled a long distance simply with the idea of appearing in company with Her Majesty the Queen, to show that though the Prince of Wales was away from us her heart was with us still, and that though he might be away she was there to represent him. (The speech, which was frequently interrupted by loud applause, was followed by "God Bless the Prince of Wales.")

The Chairman: The next toast I have the honour to propose to you is "The Health of the M.W. Pro G. Master, the Earl of Carnarvon." (Cheers.) I need say but few words to commend him to your notice. He is well known among you. We all know how he came forward last year in a time of grief to perform that duty which he so ably fulfilled in the Albert Hall. Brethren, without saying more I give you "The Health of the Pro G.M." (Applause.)

The Rev. J. Edmund Cox, D.D., P.G.C.: As the senior Past Grand Officer of the Grand Lodge present to-night, the duty devolves upon me to propose a toast for your consideration which I

feel persuaded will meet with the utmost enthusiasm by one and all of the brethren whom I see before me. I have only to name that it is "The Health of the Right Hon. the noble Lord who this night presides over the Festival of the Institution, the D.G.M. of this country," to insure a hearty response from yourselves. (Great cheering.) Firmly do I believe, and I am sure that you yourselves are as strong in that belief as I am myself, that had H.R.H. the Prince of Wales sought throughout the whole length and breadth of this country, throughout every province of the country, he could not have put his hand upon a brother more suited for that office than the nobleman who so thoroughly and Masonically fulfils its duties. His lordship possesses, as all who know him must be aware, the great essentials for the office he holds, for he has wisdom to comprehend, he has judgment to define, and he has ability to execute our Masonic laws. We know also that in every respect he is true and trusty, most thoroughly easy of address, steady and firm in principle, able and willing to undertake the management of whatever Masonic work he is called upon to undertake; and we know full well that in no respect is he behind those who have preceded him in that chair in inculcating and acting upon that inculcation of the highest principles of our Order, brotherly love, relief, and truth. It is not long that I have had the distinguished privilege of being acquainted with that worthy and esteemed brother; but the more I know of him the more reason have I to respect and love him, the more reason have I to believe he is indeed suited thoroughly to the office he fills with so much dignity, and yet with so much kindness and condescension, and the more am I persuaded that never in the annals of the Craft have we had one to whom we could look next to H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, and the Earl of Carnarvon, our Pro G.M., better able to fulfil his duties, or more desirous to win the love and esteem of us all. We thank him from "our heart of hearts" for coming here to-night to do suit and service in the cause of "melting charity." We thank him heartily for taking into consideration the wants of the aged and the infirm; and we thank him also for having in previous years remembered the young, rising into life. As he strove to promote their welfare and their interest, so now does he strive to give solace and peace to those who are in the decline of years; and he will succeed, I am sure, to-night, and when he retires from this hall he will have the satisfaction of hearing that a more successful festival for this Institution has never been held within this great city. My lord, with every feeling of fraternal regard and esteem for yourself, I now propose your health. May your possession of that

chair be long, happy, and prosperous, and may we live to see Masonry flourish more and more under your banner, so that in time to come you may be handed down as one of the greatest worthies of the Craft, a man who has followed others who have brought Masonry by their acts and conduct to its present dignified and proud position. (Great cheering.)

The Chairman: Brethren and Dr. Cox, I thank you most heartily for the extremely kind way in which you have proposed and received this toast. I only hope that I deserve, and that I may in the future deserve, all the encomiums that Bro. Cox has passed upon me. I can assure you, brethren, that it will be my endeavour to do so; and that it is a very great pleasure to me to be here this night I can also assure you. I have once before, as Bro. Cox has reminded you, presided in this hall. I then had the satisfaction of hearing that the largest sum was then collected that had ever been collected for the charity. I only hope that the same may be the case to-night. I shall then have no reason to repent having come here, and I only hope that if it is so, the sum may go on increasing from year to year, and that in some future year a long way hence I may be again called upon to double it. (Hear hear.) Before sitting down, I will propose the next toast; it is "The Health of the Present and Past Officers." I give it you with all heartiness, and I couple with it the name of Bro. Martyn, Past Grand Chaplain.

Bro. the Rev. C. J. Martyn, P.G.C.: My lords, ladies and brethren, it is at all times a most pleasing duty to be asked to return thanks for the toast of the Present and Past Grand Officers of England, but on the present occasion I must say it affords me a great deal of pleasure to be called upon to respond to this toast, inasmuch as I see so large an assembly of brethren present whom I am exceedingly glad to thank. For, brethren, I believe that this Institution which we have met to advance the cause of to-day is one deserving of our most hearty and warm support. At the same time it is most pleasing to return thanks for the Grand Officers to-day, for it is the first time since Lord Skelmersdale was appointed Deputy G.M. that he has presided at our festivals. A better appointment could not have been made by the Prince of Wales. I myself, as having watched the career of Lord Skelmersdale—for he was first initiated now more years ago than he and I care to remember—and say it really is a most pleasing thing to see him in the position he now occupies; and I know he will most ably and nobly fulfil the duties of his high office; and I can assure you on the part of all the officers, and the Craft, that he will find wherever he leads we will follow him, for he has a most devoted band of followers among the Freemasons of England. (Hear; hear.)

The Chairman: Brethren, I now have to propose to you the toast of the evening, "Success to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and the Widows of Freemasons." (Cheers.) I think I can say without any one contradicting me that during my Masonic career I have steadily upheld the Masonic charities (Hear hear), and that in advocating them I plead with the voice of one who acts up to what he preaches. I can only say that I am deeply gratified to-day to see so large an assembly of Stewards and brethren meeting here to help the excellent Institution whose festival we are celebrating this day. I thank all most heartily. This long list of Stewards is most gratifying to me, as it must be to the Secretary and Governors of the Institution. But, without being invidious, may I especially thank the brethren from West Lancashire. I thank them from my heart. They have done credit to the province; and I can do no more than thank them again and again. But, brethren, when I look back to the annals of this Institution and see that in the year 1847 the subscriptions at festivals amounted to some hundreds, and when I think—a little bird has whispered in my ear, that we may count by thousands where we counted by hundreds then—I think, brethren, it shows that our great brotherhood is increasing in the works it professes to uphold, that the work of charity is gaining ground in this country: Long may it continue to do so, long may we find at each of these annual festivals that the subscriptions increase and increase, and

that instead of, as I believe to have been the case heretofore, when about—what shall I say—one in five or one in six of the brethren throughout the country upheld them, let us see them all do it, one and all; then we shall have grand institutions, well supported, without any begging lists. And that is what I should like to see. I should like to see our three great Institutions supported voluntarily (I do not say they are not so now), but without begging lists, let them come forward at once; announce a year beforehand what they promise to bring up; and then we shall not hear anything about "the Secretaries coming begging here and begging there; they are always bothering us." (I have heard it, brethren.) Let us have the subscriptions well announced beforehand; let it be an annual thing, a well understood thing, that the sum subscribed one year shall not be diminished the next year; then I think we shall fairly say we uphold the Masonic charities. (Hear, hear.) I give you "Success to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and the Widows of Freemasons."

The toast was enthusiastically received.

Bro. S. Leith Tomkins, P.G.D., replied. He was sorry to say that the Grand Treasurer had been confined to the house for several days with a severe cold; but it was a very great trouble to him that he was not able to be present at this festival. He had long been the Treasurer of the Institution, five-and-twenty years, and all the while he had watched with pride and satisfaction the great progress the Benevolent Institution had made. He (Bro. S. L. Tomkins) remembered himself, twenty years ago, a list of Stewards and subscriptions, and the former amounted to twenty or twenty-five, and the latter, which were considered very good indeed, to £1500 or £1600. But last year the subscriptions came up to over £7000, and the stewards were about 200. The object of the officers of the Institution was to do all they could for the relief of the suffering old members of the Craft, and the brethren would be pleased to know that at a meeting of the committee held on Tuesday last it was resolved to take on ten additional widows—making 110 widows receiving annuities, 130 men also receiving annuities, and also sixteen widows receiving half the annuities of their late husbands. This, he thought, was very gratifying, and that the brethren would all agree that it was their bounden duty and warmest pleasure to do their utmost to make the Institution live and prosper.

Bro. Terry then read the following list of subscriptions:—

	£	s.	d.
Leicestershire—Clement Stretton	109	16	0
Norfolk—H. C. Barwell	26	16	6
Norths. & Hunts.—Robt. H. Griffin	121	0	0
Northumberland—Lieut.-Col. Addison Potter	112	10	0
Oxford—Fredk. P. Morrell			
" Cooper Smith			
" Rev. J. A. Lloyd	87	15	0
S. Wales (E. Div.)—Edw. J. Morris	250	0	0
Wiltshire—Hy. C. Toombs	201	6	6
G. Lodge Punjab—Geo. Davies	10	0	0
Gd. Stewards' Lodge—Edwin March	60	0	0

Lodge	£	s.	d.
1 F. J. Hartridge	10	0	0
2 Rev. A. F. A. Woodford	31	1	0
4 A. C. Veley	19	0	0
5 J. Cory Hayers	36	7	0
7 L. A. Crowley	28	0	0
8 E. M. Morgan	17	0	0
9 W. R. Marsh	61	0	0
10 Rev. J. N. Palmer	49	12	0
11 Chas. Watson	31	10	0
12 Robt. Coombs	33	10	0
14 A. J. Bristow	10	0	0
18 J. C. Chaplin	17	0	0
21 John Knight Stead	50	0	0
22 Geo. Phythian	32	5	0
23 Frederick Kent	25	5	0
25 (Chap.) Joseph Last	12	10	0
27 John Green	79	10	0
28 W. Lane	50	13	0
29 John E. Middleton	10	0	0
30 Joseph Harling	31	5	0
33 Wm. Thos. Sugg	33	12	0
54 C. M. Jones	15	0	
55 John Bingemann	79	15	0

Lodge	£	s.	d.
57 John Thompson	25	0	0
Henry Preston	21	0	0
65 Edgar Bowyer	110	8	6
65 Rob. Gallard	80	19	0
73 Charles Rayden	36	1	0
77 Chas. Andrews	172	0	0
87 Chas. Hull	61	0	0
90 J. Dan McDougall	28	12	0
101 John Flack	36	15	0
102 Col. Jas. Duff	8	15	0
107 G. S. Woodwork	25	10	0
108 Raynham W. Stewart	30	0	0
120 Thomas Jowitt	65	5	0
142 J. Lewis Thomas	160	0	0
144 Geo. Allen	57	18	0
145 Geo. Purkess	10	0	0
147 J. J. Hutchings	33	5	0
151 John M. Levick	37	0	0
156 Henry Dubosc, sen.	10	0	0
174 W. T. Wells	100	0	0
174 (Chap.) E. C. Mather	31	5	0
176 John Brocket Sorrell	36	14	0
176 (Chap.) P. A. Nairne	20	7	0
177 Geo. Everett	36	0	0
177 (Chap.) W. M. Foxcroft	43	9	6
179 W. Hughes	35	0	0
180 W. Smithett	42	9	6
W. C. Parsons	112	0	0
181 F. E. Wilkinson	15	13	0
189 J. Edward Curteis	112	10	0
192 Francis Fellowes	61	5	0
198 H. C. Lambert	25	0	0
228 John While	76	0	0
256 Chas. Birch	47	4	6
259 Alfred Cooper	115	0	0
263 W. R. Morton	19	0	0
309 H. G. Cawte	33	5	0
315 Jas. Eborall	106	0	0
319 S. S. Pearce	42	2	6
321 Capt. J. W. Arrowsmith	47	7	0
342 S. R. Ellis	58	5	0
I. L. Coulton	70	0	0
382 Benj. H. Swallow	50	0	0
E. C. Woodward	12	0	0
403 Hy. Campkin	41	3	0
416 John Lees	21	5	0
435 E. H. Staminwitz	39	0	0
446 Capt. A. T. Perkins	66	6	0
452 H. E. Frances	27	10	0
511 Geo. Read	96	12	0
549 E. Tyrrell Leith	5	0	0
657 Wm. Hy. Stevens	54	0	0
733 Thos. W. Allen	34	12	0
766 John Pringle	26	0	0
778 E. B. Webb	51	5	0
807 Geo. Baxter	26	0	0
813 John Ross Gallant	100	0	0
861 W. W. Lowles	35	0	0
865 Wm. Johnson	22	0	0
869 A. C. Wylie	20	0	0
901 Edw. Salisbury	25	0	0
903 G. F. Lancaster	35	0	0
907 Saml. H. P. Moore	36	10	0
996 H. Smart	3	3	0
1002 A. Lucking	42	10	0
1008 W. H. Lucia	57	0	0
1036 Josh. Reade	12	12	0
1056 Joseph Morton	74	11	0
1096 Thos. Ayling	32	0	0
1158 Goban Macdonald	48	15	0
1193 Geo. F. Loftus			
J. B. Graven Browne	36	10	0
1196 Jonathan Pearson	30	0	0
1201 Wm. Hy. Barber	25	0	0
1206 Dick Baker	10	0	0
1208 H. M. Baker	138	0	0
1224 Rev. C. J. Martyn	20	0	0
1232 Charles Hy. Scales	6	10	0
1257 J. J. Lowenthal	62	4	6
1259 Edwd. Jex	71	10	0
1278 Geo. Ward Verry	154	10	0
1307 Chas. Rushworth			
Own Donation	50	0	0
1327 W. Gilbert	10	5	0
1348 John Palmer, V.P.	133	12	0
1366 Chas. G. Hill	112	0	0
1383 J. M. P. Montagu, (Pro-			
vince of Dorset)	222	0	0
1385 Jas. and Wm. Cutbush	31	5	0
1395 Harry W. Charrington	16	10	0
1421 Chas. Lacy	56	5	
1423 B. H. Thiellay	25	5	

LODGE.		£	s.	d.
1445	W. H. Myers ...	72	0	0
1464	Chas. Dinham ...	58	10	0
1471	J. L. Mather ...	40	15	0
1475	J. T. Dalby ...	60	0	0
1489	T. Hastings Miller ...	28	10	0
1491	H. C. Levander ...	60	5	0
1494	F. Sumner Knyvett ...	12	12	0
1500	T. Isley ...	6	12	0
1507	Jas. Willing, jun. ...	80	5	0
1512	Thos. W. Ockenden ...	25	0	0
1524	W. H. Lee ...	49	1	6
1531	John Coutts ...	45	9	0
1538	Wm Rough ...	16	5	0
1567	John Mason ...	25	0	0
Bro. the Rev. J. E. Cox, D.D., President of the Board of Stwds.				
	10	10	0	0
Thomas Fenn, Hon. Treasurer				
	87	0	0	0
Andrew Hay...				
	5	0	0	0
Thos. Cubitt...				
	72	0	0	0
PROVINCE OF WEST YORKSHIRE.				
61	Lt. Col. Sir H. Edwards, Bart., (P.G.M.)	50	0	0
139	W. H. Brittain...	10	0	0
	G. W. Hawkesley ...	10	0	0
	G. E. Webster ...	10	0	0
149	Geo. Haigh ...	10	0	0
208	Rev. J. Critchley ...	10	0	0
290	Wm. Harrop ...	10	0	0
296	M. M. De Bartolome, M.D.	10	0	0
	Ensor Drury ...	10	0	0
	George A. Cubley ...	10	0	0
	Joseph Colver ...	10	0	0
	H. Colver ...	10	0	0
The Province of West Yorkshire, per Bro. H. Smith				
	100	0	0	0
Do., own donation				
	10	0	0	0
302	Thos. G. Andrews ...	10	0	0
	Benj. Broughton ...	10	10	0
	Rev. E. Sewell, M.A.	10	0	0
306	C. J. Malcolm ...	10	10	0
337	John Barnes ...	6	11	0
	John Hirst, jun. ...	70	0	0
380	Capt. J. Wordsworth ...	10	0	0
458	Dr. M. A. Morris ...	15	0	0
910	Thos. W. Tew, J.P.	10	0	0
	John Simpson ...	10	0	0
1019	George Newton ...	10	0	0
And various other sums.				
Total		£550	0	0

PROVINCE OF WEST LANCASHIRE.				
Chairman ...				
	50	0	0	0
Provincial Grand Lodge per Bro. R. Wylie				
	100	0	0	0
Do., own donation				
	20	10	0	0
113	Lieut.-Col. T. Birchall, W. Harrison, J.P., and Charles Fryer ...	130	0	0
203	Bradshaw W. Rowson...	20	7	0
216	W. Laidlaw ...	85	5	0
220	Charles Humphries ...	27	5	0
241	Robert Wilson ...	67	2	0
249	Dr. J. Kellett Smith ...	90	0	0
580	John Prescott ...	26	5	0
613	Thos. P. Griffiths ...	10	0	0
673	H. Nelson ...	60	0	0
1505	W. P. Witter ...	10	0	0
680	H. S. Allpass ...	27	8	0
724	John William Ballard...	27	0	0
823	J. R. Goepel ...	30	0	0
897	Lieut.-Col. Gamble ...	46	0	0
995	R. Pearson ...	33	0	0
1013	James Thompson ...	12	0	0
1021	R. T. Taylor ...	40	0	0
1086	Josh. Charles Lunt ...	24	1	0
1225	James C. Hunter ...	25	0	0
1264	P. B. Gee ...	16	0	0
1313	J. F. Roberts ...	10	0	0
1345	Joseph C. Gillman ...	5	0	0
	John Brooks ...	5	0	0
	Thomas Buxton ...	30	0	0
1355	William Leader ...	39	15	0
1375	G. D. Pochin...	74	2	0
1393	Henry Jackson ...	20	0	0
1473	J. P. McArthur ...	35	1	0
1496	E. B. Harding ...	35	0	0
1561	J. D. Moore, M.D.	33	9	0
Total for West Lancashire				
	£1508	10	0	0
Total		£9174	0	0

There are other lists to come in.

Immense cheering followed the announcement of this amount by the Chairman.

The Chairman then proposed "The Other Masonic Institutions." I think, said his lordship, I cannot do better than wish them equal, if not better, success than that which has been achieved to-day by this Institution. I thank you all again, brethren, for the hearty way in which you have come forward to support the Institution whose festival we are holding. Bro. Little, who will respond to this toast, will tell you that he hopes you will support quite as well, if not better. I heartily re-echo that, but as I have already expressed my views on the subject of the Masonic charities, I will not do more than propose the toast.

Bro. Little replied, and said: I take it the first duty I shall have to discharge this evening is one which must lead to an echo in your hearts. It is to congratulate our R.W. Presiding Officer upon the magnificent success which has been achieved this day. Most heartily, most cordially, and most ungrudgingly do I own that that deed of success has been well deserved by the Institution over which the noble lord presides this evening. Most heartily has it merited the support it has obtained. It is said of one who was condemned for his sins to roll a stone up a hill that his work should be incessant, and his work unprofitable. That is not the case with us in the Masonic charities. We know that we are training our children in the Schools of Masonry, we are doing the utmost credit to the Craft to which we belong. This evening you have done your utmost for the aged, an utmost which has not been exceeded, but which I hope will be exceeded in future. I plead with you now for the young of both sexes for those that have been under your charge in institutions which have existed for seventy, eighty, or ninety years. The Girls' School Festival will take place on the 10th May, and the Boys' on the 28th June, and I ask you to support both as liberally as you have supported this institution to-night. Allow me to congratulate Bro. Terry on the result of this evening's meeting. (Cheers.)

There were loud calls for Bro. Binckes, who, after a little delay, rose to speak, when he was received with hearty applause. He said: There is the understanding amongst us that you should not have an infliction made upon you of two speeches for this toast. I thought our Bro. Little had said all he could on behalf of the two festivals. I do not want to intrude myself upon you over and over again. I am quite prepared to admit that you appreciate the poor services made by us from time to time, and that you do honestly support us in all that we do to maintain our various institutions in a state of efficiency and prosperity. I have worn you out year after year, but I am delighted to find that I still am welcome amongst you. Do not let me wear out that welcome this evening, because I have not a word to address you more than this, how greatly I appreciate all the services you have rendered during a long past; how nobly our appeals made to you now, and how thoroughly I know you and your survivors will respond to any appeals in the future. Our institutions are growing day by day, week by week, month by month, and year by year, and we must have your kind support, we must have your kind sympathy, and we must have your substantial (here Bro. Binckes created great laughter by tapping his right hand trousers pocket). You have made to-night a glorious success; but what is that? What do I interpret that? It is an augury of still greater success in the future. I never could spell the word "finality." Of all the spelling bees I never attended one, but if ever I did I should break down over the word "finality." Go on then and do more and more, and take your highest gratification from this, that whatever you do in connection with Freemasonry your highest, holiest duty is to go on more largely and more liberally on behalf of these admirably managed institutions.

Bro. F. P. Morrell, J.G.D., proposed "The Ladies," and Dr. Cox replied for "The Stewards," after which the brethren joined the ladies in the Temple, where a concert was held, in which Madame Liebhart, Mrs. Seymour Smith,

Miss Marian Severn, Bro. A. Lester, Bro. G. T. Carter, Bro. G. W. Farmer, Bro. Seymour Smith, Bro. Chaplin Henry, Bro. Lazarus, and Mr. Michael Watson took part. The whole was under the direction of Bro. Seymour Smith. Bro. Hawkes was toastmaster.

The following brethren from Liverpool and West Lancashire came up especially to support their Provincial Grand Master, the Deputy Grand Master of England:—Bros. W. P. Witter, 667; J. K. Smith, P. G. Reg.; H. S. Allpass, P.G. Sec.; Robert Wilson, P.P.G.S.D.; Robert Wylie, P.P.G.S.D.; Wm. Laidlaw, P.P.G.S. of W.; B. W. Rowson, P.P.G.S. of W.; J. R. Goepel, P.P.G.D. of C.; H. Nelson, P.M. 673, 1505; J. W. Ballard, P.M. 724; J. Thompson, 1013; J. C. Lunt, 1086; P. B. Gee, W.M. 1264; Henry Jackson, W.M. 1393; J. Prescott, P.P.J.G.W.; J. Boures, P.M. 148; J. C. Gillman, P.P.G.J.D.; Reuben Pearson, P.P.G. Reg.; G. D. Pochin, P.M. 1375; E. B. Harding, P.M. 1499; T. Buxton, P.M. 1345; Roberts, Lieut.-Col. Gamble, 897; Major Birchall, P.P.G.J.W.; W. C. Deeley, Prov. G.J.W.; Fryer, Prov. G.S.W.

METROPOLITAN MASONIC MEETINGS For the Week ending Friday, February 18, 1876.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 12.

Lodge 108, London, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.
" 173, Phoenix, F. M. H.
" 1398, Granite, F.M.H.
" 1361, United Service, Greyhound Hot. Richmond.
" 1423, Era, King's Arms Hot., Hampton-court.
" 1426, The Great City, Terminus Hot., Cannon-st.
" 1446, Mount Edgcombe, Swan Tav., Battersea.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Lily, Greyhound, Richmond.
Manchester, 179, London-st., Fitzroy-square.
Star, Marquis of Granby, New Cross Road.
Sinai Chapter, London Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 14th.

Lodge 5, St. George's Corner Stone, F.M.H.
" 29, St. Alban's, Albion Tav., Aldersgate.
" 56, Royal Naval, F.M.H.
" 90, St. John's, Albion Tav., Aldersgate.
" 123, Confidence, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
" 222, St. Andrews, London Tav., Bishopsgate.
" 957, Leigh, F.M.H.
" 1506, White Horse of Kent, 33, Golden-sq.
Chap. 22, Mount Zion, Guildhall Tav., Gresham-st.
" 720, Panmure, Horns Tav., Kennington.
" 1319, Asaph, F.M.H.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Prince Leopold, Lord Stanley Tav., Kingsland.
Strong Man, Jerusalem Tav., St. John's Gate.
Sincerity, Railway Tav., Fenchurch-st. Station.
Camden, Stanhope Arms, Up. James-st., Camden To.
Eastern, Royal Hot., Mile-end-road.
St. James's Union, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Wellington, White Swan, Deptford.
West Kent, St. Saviour's College, Forest-hill.
Perfect Ashlar, Victoria Tav., Lower-rd., Rotherhithe.
Sydney, White Hart Ho., Church-rd., Upper Norwood.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 15.

Board of General Purposes, at 3.
Lodge 30, United Mariners', Guildhall Tav.
" 73, Mount Lebanon, Bridge House Hot.
" 95, Eastern Star, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.
" 162, Cadogan, F.M.H.
" 165, Honour and Generosity, London Tav.
" 194, St. Paul's, Terminus Hot., Cannon-st.
" 435, Salisbury, F.M.H.
Chap. 11, Enoch, F.M.H.
" 19, Mount Sinai, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
" 186, Industry, F.M.H.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney.
Domestic, Surrey M. H., Canberwell New-road.
Faith, 2, Westminster Chambers, Victoria-st.
Prince Fredk. Wm., Lord's Hot., St. John's Wood.
Dalhousie, King Edward, Triangle, Hackney.
Prosperity, 1, Camomile-st., Bishopsgate.
St. Marylebone, British Stores Tav., St. John's Wood.
Constitutional, Wheatsheaf Hot., Hand-court, Holborn.
Percy, Grapes Tav., Little Windmill-st., W.
Israel, Rising Sun Tav., Globe Road.
Royal Arthur, Prince's Head, York-road, Battersea.
Beacontree, Red Lion, Leytonstone, at 8.
Metropolitan Chapter, Jamaica Coffee Ho., Cornhill.
Excelsior, Commercial Dock Tav., Rotherhithe.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 16.

Gen. Com. Grand Lodge and Lodge of Ben., at 6.
Lodge 140, St. George's, Trafalgar Hot., Greenwich.
" 175, Sincerity, Guildhall Tav., Gresham-st.
" 190, Oak, F.M.H.
" 700, Nelson, M.H., William-st., Woolwich.
" 969, Maybury, F.M.H.
" 1044, Wandsworth, Spread Eagle, Wandsworth.
" 1150, Buckingham and Chandos, F.M.H.
" 1349, Friars, Cheshire Cheese, Crutched Friars.
" 1382, Corinthian, George Inn, Cubitt Town.
" 1540, Chaucer, Bridge House Hot.
Rose Croix Chap., Bard of Avon, 33, Golden-sq.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Mt. Lebanon, Windsor Cas. Tc., Southwark-bdg.-rd.

Pythagorean, Prince of Orange, Greenwich.
New Concord, Rosemary Branch Tav., Hoxton.
Royal Union, Horse and Groom, Winsley-st., Oxford-st.
Confidence, M.H., Basinghall-st.
Peckham, Maismore Arms, Park-road, Peckham.
Stanhope, Thicket Hot., Anerley.
Finsbury Park, Finsbury Park Tav., Seven Sisters'-rd.
Southwark, Southwark Park Tav., Southwark Park.
Duke of Connaught, Havelock Tav., Dalston, E.
United Strength, Grafton Arms, Kentish-town.
Mount Edgcombe, 19, Jermyn-street, St James's.
Islington, Crown and Cushion, London Wall.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 17.

House Com., Girls' School, at 4.
Lodge 23, F.M.H.
" 49, Gihon, Guildhall Tav., Gresham-st.
" 55, Constitutional, Terminus Hot., Cannon-st.
" 63, St. Mary's, F.M.H.
" 169, Temperance, White Swan, High-st., Deptford.
" 179, Manchester, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
" 181, Universal, F.M.H.
" 733, Westbourne, Lord's Hot., St. John's Wood.
" 813, New Concord, Rosemary Branch, Hoxton.
" 1139, South Norwood, Public Hall, South Norwood.
" 1287, Great Northern, F.M.H.
" 1339, Stockwell, Half Moon Tav., Herne Hill.
" 1435, Hyde Park, 1, Craven-rd., W.
" 1475, Peckham, Surrey Masonic Hall.
" 1507, Metropolitan, 269, Pentonville-rd.
" 1512, Hemming, Lion Hot. Hampton.
Chap. 7, Pythagorean, Ship Hot., Greenwich.
Mark Lodge, Bon Accord, 2, Red Lion-sq.

" 7, Carnarvon, Regent Masonic Hall, W.
Preceptory E., Obervance, 14, Bedford-row.
LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.
Egyptian, Hercules Tav., Leadenhall-st.
Fidelity, Yorkshire Grey, London-st., W.
Finsbury, Jolly Anglers' Tav., Bath-st., City-road.
Whittington, Black Bull Tav., Holborn.
Temperance in the East, Catherine-st., Poplar.
Ebury, 12, Ponsonby-st., Millbank.
Highgate, Bull and Gate, Kentish-town.
The Great City, 111, Cheapside.
High Cross, Coach & Horses, High-road, Tottenham.
Salisbury, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Marquis of Ripon, Albion Tav., Albion-rd., Dalston.
Prince Frederick William Chapter, St. John's Wood.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 18.

House Com., Boys' School, at 4.
Lodge 6, Friendship, Willis's Rooms, King-street.
" 143, Middlesex, Albion Tav., Aldersgate.
" 201, Jordan, F.M.H.
" 1111, University, F.M.H.
Chap. 92, Moira, London Tav., Bishopsgate-st.
Rose Croix Chap., "Invicta," 33, Golden-sq.
LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.
Union Waterloo, Thomas-st., Woolwich.
St. George's, Globe Tav., Royal-hill, Greenwich.
Robert Burns, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Belgrave, Lyceum Tav., 354, Strand.
Unions Emulation (for M.M.'s), F.M.H.
Temperance, Victoria Tav., Victoria-road, Deptford.
Clapton, White Hart, Clapton.
Stability, Guildhall Tav., Gresham-st.
Metropolitan, Portugal Hot., Fleet-st.
Westbourne, Horse & Groom, Winsley-st., Oxford-st.
Metropolitan, Pentonville-road.
United Pilgrims, Surrey M. H., Camberwell New-road.
St. James's, New Tanners' Arms, Grange-rd., Bermondsey.
Duke of Edinburgh, Silver Lion, Penny-fields, Poplar.
Doric, Earl Grey Tav., Mile-end-road.
Burgoyne, Grafton Arms, Prince of Wales's-road, N.W.
St. Luke's, Commercial Tav., King's-road, Chelsea.
Chigwell, Bald-faced Stag Hot., Buckhurst-hill.
Burdett Coutts, Approach Tav., Victoria Park.
Royal Standard, Finsbury Park Tav., Holloway.
Ranelagh, Clarendon Hot., Hammersmith.
Pythagorean Chapter, Prince of Orange, Greenwich-rd.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN WEST LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE.

For the Week ending Saturday, February 19, 1876.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 14.

Lodge 314, Peace and Unity, Militia Mess R., Preston.
" 1021, Hartington, H.M., C. H. B., B.-in-Furness.
" 1350, Fermor, Hesket, M.H., Liverpool.
" 1398, Baldwin Castle, Dalton-in-Furness.
Mark Lodge, 165, Bedford H., Bedford-rd., Rock Ferry.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 15.

Lodge 667, Alliance, M.H., Liverpool.
" 1225, Hindpool, Hartington Ho., Barrow-in-Furness.
" 1276, Warren, Seacombe Hot., Seacombe.
" 1384, Equity, Walker's Commercial Hot., Widnes.
Chap. 605, De Tabley, Seacombe Hot.
Merchants' L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 16.

Lodge 537, Zetland, 55, Argyle-st., Birkenhead.
" 823, Everton, M.H., Liverpool.
" 1061, Triumph, M. H., Lytham.
" 1086, Walton, St. Lawrence's Soho, Kirkdale.
" 1403, Lancashire, Commercial Ho., Ormskirk.
" 1345, Victoria, Cross Keys, Eccles.
" 1353, Duke of Lancaster, Atheneum, Lancaster.
De Grey and Ripon L. of I., 80, North Hill-st., Liverpool.
Downshire L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 17.

Lodge 203, Ancient Union, M.H., Liverpool.
" 343, Concord, Queen's Arms, Church-st., Preston.
" 425, Cestrian, M. Ro., Eastgate-row, Chester.
" 605, Combermere, Seacombe Hot., Seacombe.
" 1299, Pembroke, Rawlinson's Hot., West Derby.
St. John's L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 18.

Duke of Edinburgh L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN GLASGOW AND WEST OF SCOTLAND.

For the Week ending Saturday, February 19, 1876.
All the Meetings take place at Eight o'clock.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 14.

Lodge 102, St. Mark, 233, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
" 204, St. Paul, George Inn, Ayr.
" 205, Garthland St. Kinnock, Eagle, Lockwinnoch.
" 219, Star, 12, Tron-gate, Glasgow.
" 307, Union and Crown, M.H., Barrhead.
" 362, St. Clair, 25, Robertson-st., Glasgow.
" 384, Athole, Washington Hot., Kirkintilloch.
" 403, St. George, Oddfellows' H., Helensburgh.
" 541, Marie Stuart, M. H., Crosshill.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 15.

Lodge 34, St. John, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
" 73, Thistle and Rose, 170, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
" 87, Thistle, 30, Hope-st., Glasgow.
" 437, Govandale, Portland Buildings, Govan.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 16.

Lodge 117, St. Mary's Masonic Hall, Partick, G.P.
" 354, Caledonian Railway, 30, Hope-st., Glasgow.
" 571, Dramatic, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow, at 3.
Chap. 150, Shettleston St. John, M. H., Shettleston.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 17.

Lodge 22, St. John's, George Hot., Kilmarnock.
" 27, St. Mungo, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
" 465, St. Andrew, M.H., Garngad-rd., Glasgow.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 18.

Lodge 12, Greenock Kilwinning, Town Hall, Greenock.
" 31, St. Mary's Coltness, Scott's Hall, Wishaw.
" 306, St. Thomas, 90, Wellgate-street, Larkhall.
" 321, St. Andrew's, Public Hall, Alexandria.
" 360, Commercial, 30, Hope-st., Glasgow.
" 408, Clyde, 170, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
" 471, St. John's, Stane Inn, Shotts.
" 551, Clydesdale, Royal Hot., Larkhall.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 19.

Lodge 524, St. Andrew's, Masonic Hall, Kilbride.
" 544, St. Andrew's, M. H., Coatbridge.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN EDINBURGH AND VICINITY.

For the Week ending Saturday, February 19, 1876.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 14.

Lodge 145, St. Stephen's, St. James's Hall, Writers' Court.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 15.

Lodge 36, St. David, Ship Hot., E., Register-st.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 16.

Lodge 160, Roman Eagle, Iona Hot., Nicholson-st.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 17.

Lodge 48, St. Andrew, Freemasons' Hall, George-st.
" 226, Portobello, Royal Hotel, Bath-st.
Chap. 152, Perseverance, 86, Constitution-st., Leith.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 18.

Chap. 83, St. Andrew, F.M.H., George-st.

THE CHEQUE BANK (LIMITED).

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REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS.

Craft Masonry.

EGYPTIAN LODGE (No. 27).—The installation meeting of this lodge was held on Thursday evening, the 3rd inst., at Anderton's Hotel. Bro. S. Lambie, W.M., presided, and passed Bro. W. A. Patison to the Second Degree. There was no other work to be performed besides the installation, and for this ceremony the W.M. vacated his seat in favour of Bro. John Coutts, P.G.P. and P.M., who installed Bro. John Green, S.W., and W.M. elect, as W.M. for the present year. The Board of Installed Masters to whom Bro. Green was presented comprised no less than 37 brethren who had filled or were now filling the chair. Among these the following brethren were present:—Dr. Hogg, P.G.D.; H. G. Buss, Prov. G.T. Middlesex; W. T. Howe, Prov. G.P. Middlesex; Thomas Wright, G.P.; C. P. Albert, A.G.P.; W. Ough; P.G.P.; W. Watson, P.G.S. Thomas Cubitt, P.G.P.; James Terry, Prov. G.D.C. Herts; F. Binckes, P.G.S.; R. W. Little, P.G.S.W. Middlesex, and the P.M. of the lodge. The W.M. invested Bros. Hales, S.W.; Walker, J.W.; H. G. Buss, P.M., Treasurer; J. B. Poole, P.M., Secretary; Pattenden, S.D.; Richards, J.D.; T. Maidwell, I.G.; Salmonese, D.C.; David Jacobs, W.S.; and Potter, Tyler. Bro. Poole announced that it was the intention of the brethren to petition for a charter in connection with this lodge. On the motion of Bro. Lambie, seconded by Bro. Hales, S.W., £5 was voted to the widow of a deceased brother. After this the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to banquet, about sixty being present. When the toasts were proposed, Dr. Hogg, P.G.D., responded for "The Visitors," and complimented the lodge on having so admirable a worker as Bro. John Coutts, P.G.D., who had installed the W.M. that evening. He assured the brethren that the Grand Officers took great interest in all that concerned the Craft, and concluded by commending the working of Bro. Coutts to the attention and consideration of all the visitors. Bro. W. T. Howe was also called upon to respond, and in doing so he said, after thanking the lodge for its hospitality, that the W.M. was an old friend of his, and from what he knew of his Masonic abilities he was convinced the Egyptian Lodge would lose nothing of its former lustre. Bro. Lambie, I.P.M., proposed "The Health of the W.M.," and in acknowledgment the W.M. expressed his great pleasure at being placed in that proud position. It was on one of the installation days that he had himself been initiated, so that it was on the anniversary of that event that he had attained the crowning point of his ambition. He was "green" in the office, and consequently trusted that the brethren would bear with any of his defects. He hoped by next meeting to be more matured. A special toast was proposed for "The Installing Master, Bro. Coutts," to which that worthy brother responded, saying that all the brethren would join with him in regretting the loss of Bro. Savage, who was the regular Installing Master of the lodge. It could not be expected that he (Bro. Coutts) would be so well up to the ceremony as the late Bro. Savage, who had for thirty-three years performed it in the lodge, except on the occasion of Bro. Buss's installation; but he hoped that with a few repetitions he should be no less able an Installing Master than Bro. Savage. Bro. Coutts concluded by acknowledging the many kindnesses he had received at the hands of the brethren of the Egyptian Lodge. "The I.P.M." was the next toast, and Bro. Lambie was presented with a Past Master's jewel. Bro. Lambie, in thanking the brethren, remarked upon the great beauty of the jewel, as well as of the installation commemorative jewel, with both of which the lodge had presented him. Bro. Lambie, as Junior Past Master, replied for "The Past Masters," and Bro. Terry for "The Masonic Charities," in a very able speech, wherein he narrated what the Egyptian Lodge had done for the charities. He trusted that this year it would continue in its useful course, and be enabled for years and years to come to tell the rising generation what it had done, and how nobly it had always tried to do its duty. The S.W. and all the officers replied to the toast of "The Officers," and the brethren shortly afterwards separated. The following report of the permanent Committee, which was appended to the summons, is highly interesting:—"The Committee beg to report that at a meeting of the Auditors, held at the Elephant Tavern, Kingsland, on Tuesday, the 18th January, the Treasurer's accounts for the past year (1875) for the General Lodge Account and for the Egyptian Lodge Benevolent Fund were examined, compared with the several vouchers, and found correct. They have appended hereto

a summary of the receipts and disbursements, showing a balance in the hands of the Treasurer, in respect of the General Lodge Account, of £37 2s. 5d., which is liable to a grant of £10 to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, voted in December last, and to a sum of £2 2s., voted at the same meeting to the widow of a brother, but not yet claimed. The arrears due to the lodge amount to £56 7s., and the committee recommend that some steps be taken to collect in this large amount of arrears, or that the brethren who do not pay after due notice should be erased from the list of members. The committee beg to recommend that the sum of five guineas be granted to provide the usual complimentary Past Master's jewel, to be presented to Bro. Samuel R. Lambie, who has so efficiently performed the duties of W.M. during the past year, which sum is included in the present account. The committee, in presenting the annual accounts for the first year since the alteration of the bye-laws and the establishment of the Egyptian Lodge Benevolent Fund, cannot but congratulate the lodge on the great success which has attended the new system, and enabled the committee to produce balance sheets showing such satisfactory results, but more particularly in respect to the Benevolent Fund, which, in the first year of its existence, has accumulated the large sum of £179 16s. 3d. without in any way distressing the General Lodge funds. This great success is, however, in a great measure, to be attributed to the very generous and spontaneous manner in which so many members of the lodge have made themselves Vice-Presidents of this fund, by a contribution of five guineas each, thus giving the fund an impetus which could not have been anticipated in so short a space of time. It is, however, hoped that the rules and regulations, which have been carefully arranged for its maintenance and support, are such as to insure its continued increase and permanent success, and to prove its active usefulness, and still further tend to advance the high character which the lodge has already attained by various donations from the permanent fund, which for some years was attached to this lodge, of over £360, thereby constituting the Master, for the time being, a Vice-Patron of two of our most excellent Masonic institutions and a Vice-President of the third."

DOMATIC LODGE (No. 177).—Another numerously attended meeting of this lodge was held on Friday, the 11th inst., at Anderton's Hotel. Bro. A. Treadwell, W.M., presided. After the usual formalities had been observed, the W.M. resigned his emblem of power to Bro. G. Everett, I.P.M., who raised Bros. Jennings and Friend. The W.M. then resumed his authority and passed Bros. Gwynn, Cook, and Abrams. He afterwards initiated Messrs. J. P. Killingback, Moss, Jewell, and James Jennings into Freemasonry. Two motions of which notice had been given were withdrawn, but a motion of Bro. J. R. Foulger, P.M., "That the initiation fee be raised to ten guineas," was carried. The brethren then adjourned to banquet where the customary proceedings were observed. The toasts were given afterwards with considerable ability by the W.M., who paid the time-honoured compliments to the Queen and the Craft, the Grand Master, and the Grand Officers. He also replied in excellent terms to the toast of "The W.M.," and gave "The Visitors," and "Initiates," in the heartiest style possible. One of the initiates in responding said that he, who had been hitherto of the outer world had often been struck with the great hold which Masonry seemed to have in the world, and the mysterious influence it possessed. He had that evening just had a glance at it; but though it was still to him enveloped in wonder, he hoped soon to see further into it, and to bear his part in making its influence felt. The W.M. gave "The Past Masters," about whom the W.M. was always expected to make an interesting speech. If he did not say what was kind, agreeable, and sociable of them, it would be said of him when he went out of the chair how stupid a Master he had been. Now, he could not say anything unkind of them. He had seen nineteen of them since he had been a member of the lodge, and they were all such good fellows, that it was really an honour to be permitted to touch the hem of their garments. They had done their work well, and they had augmented and increased the Domatic Lodge. If it had had bad Masters and bad officers it would not have been now in its good position. The Past Masters were able to do anything in Masonry, and consequently the lodge stood high in the ranks at Grand Lodge. Among the members of the Domatic Lodge were three Past Grand Officers. Bro. Adams, through the death of his daughter was unable to attend. Bro. Brett had been present, but had been obliged to leave. But Bro. Joseph Smith, the Treasurer, was present. It was a great honour to a lodge to have so many Past Grand Officers among its members; the fact stamped the lodge as being something more than a common lodge, and the brethren ought to be very proud of this position. The lodge had become very numerous, and it had even been suggested that they should take in no more initiates. He hoped, however, that this would never be the case in the Domatic Lodge; but that the outer world who wished to join it should be allowed to do so. He would call on the I.P.M., Bro. Everett, to respond to the toast. He had known that brother 25 years and more, and he never knew a Master of the Domatic Lodge who did his duty better, who was so well received, or who gave more satisfaction. All the brethren could testify that not only had he performed the Master's duties well, but he was a distinguished linguist, and his excellent chairmanship was unsurpassed in the history of Masonry. (Cheers.) Bro. George Everett replied. The W.M. had praised him very highly, and he felt in his new position of I.P.M. rather puzzled at what he should say. Having to reply for a large number of distinguished and old Past Masters was rather an arduous task for a young member of the body, and in replying he wished to do it with becoming modesty. Before he became a P.M. he looked forward to the honour with anticipations of pleasure. In his younger days in Freemasonry

he walked with pleasure for that toast coming round, because they always then heard something that was entertaining, nice, and enjoyable. There were among the Past Master many distinguished brethren who were able speakers; but his predecessor so determinedly stuck to his privilege of calling on one brother to respond that the brethren during his year of office never had an opportunity of hearing any other voices. He hoped that this was the last time the brethren would be troubled with his voice on behalf of the Past Masters for some time to come. He had done his share of the work, and he did not care about speaking for those who had preceded him, although he was always happy to obey the W.M.'s commands. He hoped that in future the brethren would have an opportunity of hearing some of the other P.M.'s speak. Bro. Joseph Smith, P.G.P., also replied, and told the brethren that since the last time they met Bro. Everett had become the Master of the Kennington Lodge. Now, he took great credit to the Domatic Lodge for having brought Bro. Everett up to the point of perfection, and he appealed to the lodge to say whether at Bro. Everett's installation he did not fairly astonish the brethren by the way in which he performed his duties. The drilling he had had in the Domatic chair had rubbed off all little imperfections, and turned him out a perfect Master. Therefore there was an advantage in going through the Domatic. They schooled him, taught him, and brought him up to the state in which he now was. It was a great thing to have presided well over so large a lodge as the Domatic; and when he brought the knowledge he had acquired in it to the presidency over another lodge he would be able to bring that lodge, if not in a good state before, to a condition in which none of its members need be other than proud of it. (Hear, hear.) Bro. Walford also responded, and referred particularly to the working of Bro. Treadwell, who he was pleased to see in the Master's chair, and who there could be no doubt would fill it with honour. The brethren had had a very good sample of what he could do, and his efforts would undoubtedly keep the lodge in its flourishing state. As to the P.M.'s they were always at the service of the brethren, and happy to assist the Master whenever called upon. To the toast of "The Treasurer and Secretary" Bros. Joseph Smith and Willing respectively replied. "The W.M. gave a toast for 'The Masonic Press,' and in an able speech explained to the brethren what it did for Freemasonry, how it informed the brethren of everything that took place in Masonry, how much the institutions were indebted to it for the support they received, and what claims it had on the encouragement of the brethren. He advised the brethren to support it, and add to the large circulation it at present enjoyed. Bro. H. Massey ("Freemason") acknowledged the compliment briefly, and the Tyler's toast having been given, the brethren separated. The following brethren were among those present:—A. Treadwell, W.M.; J. Willing, S.W.; W. Palmer, J.W.; J. Smith, P.G.P., Treasurer; (T. Williams, Secretary, absent through illness); I. Buscall, S.D.; G. Clarke, J.D.; E. White, I.G.; H. Spink, D.C.; P.M.'s Everett, I.P.M.; Foulger, Tims, Walford, and Brett, P.G.P. Visitors: Hollis, 167, P.M.; Rowe, 167, J.W.; Mendly, 101; Radmall, 95; Atkins, 511; Cruikshank, 144; Turner, 705; Beavis, 1168; White, 1205, W.M.; Harper, 1319; Walls, 1381, S.D.; Phillips, P.G.P., I.P.M. 1488; Graham, 1540.

LODGE OF UNITED STRENGTH (No. 228).—The installation meeting of this lodge, whose jewel bears the illustration of the fable of the "Bundle of Sticks," was held on the 8th inst., at the Gate of St. John of Jerusalem, Clerkenwell. There was a full attendance of the officers and brethren, and among the visitors were Bros. A. Bagshawe, P.M. 1235, and P.G.C. of Derbyshire; Good, J.W. 1288; Rev. Darby Reade, Chaplain of the Urban; Coleman, 475; John Allen, W.M. 1297; Holt, 1260; Baldwin, W.M. 1423; Fairfax, 1540; Lewis, 87; Cole, P.M. 421; Trewton, P.M. 17; Fallett, P.M. 45; and Loverdo, 1196. The W.M., Bro. John White ("Freemason"), opened the lodge, assisted by his officers, Bros. Robert Griggs, W.M. elect, as S.W.; J. Hill, J.W.; Snare, S.D.; Halford, J.D.; Percy, as I.G. The minutes were unanimously confirmed, and the ballot having been taken for six gentlemen as initiates, and one for Bro. Hartly as a joining member—all unanimously elected—the W.M. proceeded to the last act of his year of office—installing his successor. Bro. Griggs was presented by Bro. P.M. Hillhouse, and having expressed his willingness to accept the office under the qualifications placed before him, the ceremony was proceeded with in regular form, and the Board of Installed Masters was composed of Bros. Bagshawe, Davies, Joseph Crump (Secretary), Winsland (Treasurer), Robards, and Hillhouse. The W.M. then installed his successor, Bro. Bagshawe acting as Chap. The work assigned to the different degrees was then regularly gone through; and the officers invested by the new W.M., each with an appropriate speech, were Bros. J. Hill, as S.W.; Snare, J.W.; Winsland, as Treas.; Crump (amid cheers), as Sec.; Halford, as S.D.; Percy, as J.D.; Todd, as I.G.; Flaws, as D.C.; and Hickman, as A.W.S. Bro. Hartly kindly accepted the post of Organist. It was intended to invest Bro. James Terry as W.S., but the collar had to be kept over, as that energetic brother was engaged as Secretary for the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution in preparing for the festival of the next night, and could not be present until later. The addresses over, the new W.M. proceeded with his work, and initiated five gentlemen, the first his own brother, into the Order, and the work was done in a manner which proved to the brethren that the name of the lodge for good work would be fully sustained. Before the lodge closed the brethren voted a sum of money to make up the difference between that which Bro. White, the Steward for the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, hoped to obtain as private donations from the brethren, and the sum necessary to make the lodge a Vice-President of the institution, in token of

appreciation of their Bro. Terry's noble labours in all good causes. In appreciation of the I.P.M. having filled the office of Steward on the installation of the Prince of Wales, the lodge unanimously voted that the sum paid for the installation jewel should be refunded to Bro. While. The brethren then sat down to an excellent banquet, upwards of seventy sitting down in the cramped space of the "banqueting hall." The dinner over, the W.M. gave the loyal toasts with excellent point, as he did the toasts of the Grand Officers. The I.P.M. then gave the toast of "The W.M.," and said he was sure Bro. Griggs would fully justify the choice the brethren had made, and it was to be hoped that when the W.M. had reached the eminence in his profession of architect which he was likely to attain he would not regard among all the honours of life the position of W.M. of United Strength as the least worthy of remembrance. The W.M. had won his position solely by merit, for his industry in the offices of the lodge had won him the esteem of the brethren in past years, and their suffrages this. The toast having been acknowledged in a few graceful words, the toast of "The Initiates" was given and responded to. On the toast of "The Past Masters" being given the W.M. presented Bro. While with the handsome jewel of the lodge as its P.M., remarking that that was a token that as Master and I.P.M. he had worked the Three Degrees, and installed his successor to the satisfaction of the brethren. He also presented Bro. While with a collar and silver P.M. pendant, beautifully engraved, as a mark of appreciation of the brethren. The jewel bore the inscription: "Presented by the Lodge of United Strength, No. 128, to Bro. While, P.M., in appreciation of his abilities as its W.M. during the year 1875. February 8th, 1876." The silver pendant bore the same inscription, with the exception of the word "brethren" for lodge. The I.P.M. expressed his acknowledgment in all the words he could muster, and then Bro. Terry spoke at length upon the merits of the Past Masters generally. Bro. Hartly presided at the pianoforte in the hours of ease, and at the organ during the time of work. From the organ he extracted a beautiful accompaniment to the work, though, truth to tell, the instrument has defects from use and misuse.

ST. CLEMENT'S DANES LODGE (No. 1351).—The usual monthly meeting of this lodge was held at the King's Head Hotel, Strand, on the 3rd inst., when, as usual, there was a good attendance of the brethren. In the unavoidable absence of the W.M., Bro. Steward, Bro. W. Hilton, P.M., occupied the chair of K.S., and raised Bros. Edwin Gaze and Alfred Hutton to the Sublime Degree. The working was quite up to the usual form of this lodge, and the following officers were in their positions:—Bros. E. J. Livett, S.W.; G. Wilson, J.W.; H. Porter, S.D.; J. Wigg, J.D.; J. Butler, I.G.; W. H. Perryman, D.C.; and E. Barnes, Org. After the working the brethren sat down to an excellent repast, provided by Bro. Cair, and amongst those present were Bro. Gardiner, W.M. of 780, and Bro. Sawyer, 957. Visitors: Bros. Hutton, 2; Duncan Harrison, Arthur Betts, Hepburn, Wiseman, J. Branham, William H. Hall, Gr. Little, Deighton, Thornley, Tedbury, Jeffries, Hamilton, P.M.; Hale, P.M.; Gayes, 3; John Smith, and others. After the usual lodge, patriotic, and Masonic toasts had been duly honoured, the enjoyability of the evening was much enhanced by some excellent recitations and singing, in the former of which the newly-made Masters proved themselves efficient, and in the latter Bro. Smith's genial face and excellent vocalisation gave a fillip to the whole evening's entertainment.

THE GREAT CITY LODGE (No. 1426).—A meeting of this Lodge was held on Saturday last, at the City Terminus Hotel, Bro. J. Hamilton Townend, W.M., in the chair. Bros. Shore, Lawson, and Ginders were raised; Bros. Royd, Roberts, Boote, Sampson White, and De Leliva passed, and Mr. Stephens was initiated. The brethren partook of slight refreshment in the course of the evening.

MARQUESS OF RIPON LODGE (No. 1489).—The ordinary meeting of the Marquess of Ripon Lodge No. 1489, was held on the 4th inst. at the Metropolitan Societies Asylum, Balls Pond Road, which has a most convenient hall for the purpose. Bro. W. J. Murlis, W.M., presided, and was supported by his officers, Bros. Thos. Jessett, S.W.; J. Walford, J.W.; W. Stephens, I.P.M., Treas.; W. Jones, P.M., Sec.; John High, J.D.; and H. Miller, G. Org., Middlesex, I.G. Bro. Gilchrist was Tyler. There was a capital attendance of brethren, both members of the lodge and visitors, among the latter of whom were Bros. Barfield, P.M.; Penn and Parkhouse, of the Zetland, and others from the Metropolitan and Royal Alfred Lodges. The W.M. having opened the lodge, and the preliminary business having been disposed of, four initiates were balloted for, and unanimously approved of. None of them however were present; and the brethren proceeded with the raisings. Two brethren were in attendance for this degree, and as the I.P.M., Bro. W. Stephens, had initiated them during his year of office, the W.M. requested him to perform the third ceremony. This he did, and as there was no other business before the lodge, the whole ceremony of raising was gone through. The traditional history and explanation of the degree were given in full, also the lengthened explanation of the points of fellowship, so seldom narrated but yet so necessary to be fully understood by every candidate submitted to this Sublime Degree. When the ceremony was concluded the W.M. again took the chair, and finished the business of the day. Bro. Hastings Miller was appointed Steward to the festival of the Institution for Girls in May, on which occasion the lodge will therefore again be represented. A vote of condolence with the widow of a deceased brother was passed, after which lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to one of their famous banquets. The W.M. presided with his usual ability and geniality, and

proposed the customary toasts. Speaking of "The Visitors," he hoped always to be honoured by the attendance of as large and influential a body of those brethren as were then before him. Bro. Barfield responded, and congratulated the members of the lodge, not only on its working, and the hearty welcome it had given the visitors, but also on the great attention it had paid to the Masonic Institutions, and the large amounts which its members had subscribed for the benefit of the aged and the young of both sexes.

BATH.—Royal Cumberland Lodge (No. 41).—On Thursday, Feb. 3rd, was held the 143rd anniversary of this ancient lodge, when all other business was suspended, giving way for the installation of the W.M. for the ensuing year. The lodge was opened at quarter to four by Bro. Clark, W.M., assisted by the following as officers:—Bros. Major Preston, I.P.M.; Brown, S.W.; Dr. Hopkins, P.M., acting as J.W.; Ashley, Treas.; Falkner, Sec.; C. Wilkinson, S.D.; Braham, J.D.; Denham, I.G.; Gummer and Hunt, Stewards; Bigwood, Tyler. Bro. Ashley, P.M., acted as D.C. till the arrival of the proper officer, Bro. Wilton, P.M. There were also present the following Past Masters of 41:—White, Maggs, Capt. Floyd, Cooper, Moutrie, Mann, Mitchell, R. Cook; and the following brethren:—Major Bousfield, M.P.; Cater, Radway, Jacob Smith, Hladwell, E. Wilkinson. The following W.M.'s and P.M.'s attended as visitors:—Sparrow, 906; Trevor, 944; Bombay; G. C. Cooke, 379; Genl. Doherty, 906; Keene, 906; Little, 335; Martin, 53; Dr. Tunstall, 53; Col. Ford, 53; Scott, 906; and Bros. Howes, Dill, Dudfield, Pinkett, Dingle, Freeman, all members of 906; and Salter, 53; Bush, 379. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. It having been announced that V.W. Bro. Else, D.P.G.M., was in attendance and demanded admission, a deputation was sent out with the D.C., and he was duly escorted to his seat at the right of the W.M. with the customary salute. A ballot was taken for three candidates for initiation at the next meeting, which proved unanimous in their favour. The D.P.G.M. then took the chair and opened the lodge in the Second Degree. P.M.'s Mann and Moutrie presented Bro. Brown for installation, and after the usual preliminaries and obligation of W.M. elect, the lodge was opened in the Third Degree. The brethren below the chair were dismissed, and a large board of more than twenty P.M.'s was constituted, in whose presence Bro. F. J. Brown was duly installed in the chair of K.S. Of the remainder of the ceremony after the admission of the brethren it is sufficient to say that every part was well and duly performed according to ancient custom. The lodge was resumed in the Second and afterwards in the First Degree. The following were appointed and invested as officers:—Clark, I.P.M.; F. Wilkinson, S.W.; Falkner, J.W.; Ashley, P.M., Treas.; C. Wilkinson, Sec.; Wilton, P.M., D.C.; Braham, S.D.; Denham, J.D.; Gummer, I.G.; Hunt and Radway, Stewards; Bigwood, Tyler. Votes of thanks were passed to the D.P.G.M. for his valuable aid as Installing Master; to Bro. Clark for his services as W.M. during the past year; and to the W.M.'s of the other Bath lodges, and the brethren who accompanied them, for the sanction of their presence on the occasion, a suitable response being made in each case. The lodge was closed at quarter to six, and the brethren adjourned to the Castle Hotel for the annual banquet, the arrangements of which were in every way satisfactory, including those for good vocal and instrumental performances between the toasts, which were well carried out by Bros. Falkner, Cater, Braham, and, though last, not least, Pycne, the Organist at the Abbey. It is right to add that Bro. Major Bousfield, M.P., proposed the toast of "Success to the Masonic Charities," on which he spoke at some length, and proved his earnestness in the cause by presenting £5 towards their support in the name of the lodge. He also suggested that a collection should be made round the table with the same object, which was carried out.

MIDDLETON.—Imperial George Lodge (No. 78).—This lodge held an emergency meeting on Wednesday, January 26th, at 7 p.m. Mr. Moses Mills and Mr. J. B. Howard were candidates. The ballot being favourable to Mr. Howard, he was admitted in ancient form. Bro. J. Wood, P.M., D.C., then proceeded (by request of the W.M., Bro. D. Reid) to initiate the candidate in the E.A. Degree. The charge was given by the W.M., and the lodge was closed at 9 p.m. The initiation of Mr. Mills was allowed to stand over till the regular meeting of the lodge, which took place the following evening, January 27th, and was opened at 5 p.m. by the W.M., Bro. D. Reid. The minutes of the last regular meeting were read and confirmed, together with the minutes of the emergency meeting of the previous evening. The brethren then proceeded to ballot for Messrs. J. Bradshaw, H. Wilson, and A. Swallow, each proposed by the W.M. The report of the committee of enquiry and the result of the ballot being unanimous in each case, the W.M. initiated Messrs. Bradshaw and Wilson. Bro. Wood, P.M., D.C., by command of the W.M., then received into Masonry Mr. Albert Swallow. The initiation of Mr. Moses Mills then followed, which was ably rendered by Bro. W. H. Kershaw, I.P.M. The initiations occupied a considerable portion of the evening, and were aided by the musical abilities of Bro. J. Crompton, J.W. Chorlton Lodge, 1387, who kindly occupied the position of Organist for the evening. Bro. John Wood, P.M., D.C., was proposed by Bro. W. H. Kershaw, I.P.M., and seconded by Bro. J. Garlick, P.M., to represent the Imperial George Lodge with respect to the East Lancashire Systematic Masonic Educational and Benevolent Institution. The proposition received an unanimous support. The Masonic element, charity, was then exercised, after which the lodge was closed, and the brethren retired from labour to refreshment. Owing to the excessive amount of labour, and the Middleton Lodge being one that without exception closes early, the social meal had to be somewhat hastily partaken

of; after which the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and responded to. The Great Architect of the Universe, the Author and Finisher of our course, in His wisdom, has seen fit to remove from this earthly tenement of clay one whose health had always been thought of in our Masonic toasts. Death had sent up higher our late and true Masonic brother, W. R. Callender, Esq., M.P., V.W. D.P.G.M.E.L.; it was therefore the wish of the W.M. that one and all should recall in silence "The Memory" of our deceased P.G. Officer, which request was carried out with a marked and deserving solemnity, a solemnity that brought time's avenger uppermost in each heart. "The Health of the Initiates" was then proposed by the W.M., who spoke of each in suitable terms; owing to shortness of time, their response was allowed to remain over till the next meeting. To the toast of "The Visitors," Bros. Studd, P.M., 375, and Johnson, D.C. 993, replied, expressing their admiration and delight in the way in which Bro. D. Reid had performed the duties of W.M. for the first time, it being a good earnest for the future. The Tyler's toast was then given and enthusiastically received; the city brethren returning to Manchester by the 10 p.m. train.

KENDAL.—Union Lodge (No. 129).—The annual installation meeting of this lodge took place at the Masonic Rooms, Stramougate, on the 27th ult. The lodge was opened by the W.M., Bro. J. Talbot, P.P.G.W. Immediately after Bro. Lieut.-Col. Whitwell, R.W.D.P. G.M., entered the lodge, and was saluted according to ancient custom. Bro. Whitwell proposed that a vote of condolence be sent to the relatives of the late Bro. Savage, P.G.D. of England, and that the same be entered on the minutes. The chair of K.S. was then assumed by Bro. Henry Rauthmell, P.M., P.P.G.D.C., when the retiring Master, Bro. Talbot, presented the W.M. elect, Bro. F. C. Grayson, for the benefit of installation. Bro. Grayson was installed in the chair of K.S. according to ancient custom, the ceremony of installation being most ably and impressively performed by W. Bro. Henry Rauthmell in a faultless manner, which elicited the warm approval of the brethren, the addresses to the W.M. and officers being very impressively given by the I.P.M., Bro. J. Talbot. The W.M. invested his officers as follows:—I.P. M., J. Talbot; S.W., R. J. Nelson; J.W., W. Cranston; Chap., T. Edge Wright; Treas., W. Double-day, Sec., George J. McKay; S.D., W. H. Akerigg; J.D., F. J. Thorner; I.G., R. B. Hunter. The lodge having been closed, the brethren adjourned to the Commercial Hotel, where a sumptuous banquet was served by Mr. and Mrs. Barrow, the arrangements of which were excellently carried out by the Stewards, and to which over fifty sat down. The W.M. presided, and proposed the usual loyal and Masonic toasts in particularly felicitous and graceful terms, one toast, which is worthy of the lodge and the brethren, being that of "The Masonic Charities," which was proposed by Bro. G. J. McKay, Hon. Secretary, who urged upon all the brethren to subscribe liberally to the fund which the I.P.M., Bro. Talbot, was collecting to make the lodge a Vice-President of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, one brother alone having contributed the very handsome sum of £52 10s. and another brother ten guineas. Our worthy Bro. Talbot found he had a sum considerably over one hundred guineas to be devoted to the purchase of votes in the charities. The Tyler's toast brought a very happy evening to a close, when the brethren separated at nine p.m. The musical arrangements were eminently carried out by the Organist of the lodge, Bro. Godfrey, S.W. 1074.

WINDSOR.—Etonian Lodge of St. John (No. 209).—This lodge held its usual monthly meeting at the Masonic Hall on Tuesday, the 1st inst. The W.M., Bro. W. R. Denne, presided, supported by Bros. J. Wilson, P.M., Treas., acting S.W.; Hume, J.W.; Carter, Sec.; Roberts, S.D.; W. S. Nicholes, I.G.; Strange, P.M., P.P.G.D.; D. C. Dixon, P.M., P.G.D.C.; Reid, P.M.; Cousins, Crouchurst, Legg, Ferry, &c. Visitors: Bros. Tolley, P.M. 771, P.G.D.; Chorley, S.W. 865; Targett, 170 and 1037; Whittaker, 73, I.C.; Beer, 1100, Emulation, Bombay; Green, 951, Perseverance, Bombay; Johnson, 771; Ashby, 771; Tyler, 771. The W.M. passed to the degree of F.C. Bro. Day, Waterson, and Blizard, in a most creditable manner. The W.M. in the name of the lodge presented to Bro. Strange, P.M., P.P.G.D., the complete Regalia of Provincial Grand Deacon in appreciation of the services rendered to the lodge as Sec., extending over some years, an office the worthy brother has just vacated. A candidate for joining having been proposed, the lodge was after some routine business, closed in due form.

LANCASTER.—Fortitude Lodge (No. 281).—The monthly meeting of this lodge was held on Wednesday evening at the Athenæum, Bro. T. Atkinson, the W.M., presiding. There was a good attendance of members. The lodge was opened in the First Degree, and the minutes of previous meeting read and confirmed. The lodge was afterwards raised, when Bro. Stanton was raised to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason, and Bro. Aldous passed to that of a Fellow Craftsman, the working being ably gone through by the recently installed W.M. After the transaction of some formal business, the lodge was closed in peace, love, and harmony. The Lancaster Lodges (three) subscribed twenty-five guineas in aid of the Masonic Benevolent Institution, and this amount was further enhanced by private donations from individual members. The contributions were presented at the festival on Wednesday by Bro. Dr. Moore, P.G.S.B.E., who is a Steward of the Benevolent Institution.

ANTIGUA.—St. John's Lodge (No. 402) celebrated the anniversary of their patron saint on Monday with more than ordinary eclat. Although the streets were very wet, and the condition of things overhead was such as to compel foot-passengers to have occasional recourse to umbrellas, the brethren assembled early in the forenoon at the lodge rooms in Church-street, and at eleven o'clock

marched in procession to the Cathedral, where their Chaplain, Bro. Archdeacon Read, preached to them an excellent discourse from Psalm xcvi., former clause of the 9th verse. At the close of the service a collection was taken up as usual for charitable purposes, and the brethren reforming in procession returned to lodge. Luncheon, which was served in an outer apartment, being over, the brethren re-assembled in open lodge for the purpose of installing the Master-elect. The retiring Master, Bro. David Robinson, first delivered a brief address, expressive of his gratitude to the brethren for the support which they had uniformly extended to him during the two years that he had been in office, after which the Master elect, Bro. Thomas Buckley, was presented by Bro. James A. H. Hill, and installed with all the ancient and impressive ceremonies of the Order. The new W.M. in a few earnest words bespoke the support of the brethren, and then appointed the following officers (of course with the exception of himself and the Treasurer, who were elected by the lodge, for the year 1876):—Bros. Thomas Buckley, W.M.; James Roche, S.W.; S. C. Edgchill, J.W.; Archdeacon Read, M.A., Chaplain; J. T. Thibou, Treas.; S. L. Athill, Sec.; C. M. Goodwin, Recorder; J. D. West, S.D.; W. B. Pilkington, J.D.; John C. Este, Dir. of Cer.; Robert Potter, I.G.; C. M. Madgwick and J. Hodge Hill, Stewards; Michael O'Brien, Tyler. After the appointment of the officers the lodge was closed according to ancient custom, and the brethren separated until evening. At half-past eight o'clock the brethren re-assembled to partake of a banquet. Covers were laid for sixty; but owing to the inclemency of the weather, which had been on the increase with occasional lulls since early afternoon, not more than thirty-two sat down to supper. The arrangements reflected great credit upon the Stewards, Bros. Halliday, Athill, and Nibbs, to whose zeal the banquet chiefly owed its origination, and who laboured with unflagging energy to ensure its success. The room was handsomely decorated with flags and evergreens, and overhead hung elegant chandeliers which not only cast all over the apartment a brilliant radiance like that of the noonday sun, but lighted up the streets and the faces of the passers by in the immediate vicinity of the building. Immediately over the centre table there was also suspended a large placard in letters of gold, setting forth that the banquet was given in honour of Bro. David Robinson, I.P.M. After the cloth was withdrawn the toasting commenced. The speeches, which were, for the most part, comparatively brief and epigrammatic, were well received. The utmost good feeling and cordiality prevailed throughout, and by half-past eleven o'clock the last adieu had been said, and all save the Stewards and their assistants had retired.

WOOLWICH.—Nelson Lodge (No. 700).—The popularity of the above lodge and its W.M. was fully evinced on Wednesday, 10th ultimo, the occasion being the usual monthly meeting and the half-yearly banquet. The M.H. in William-street, where the meeting was held, was densely crowded (there being above 120 brethren present), and presented a most gratifying sight, the various jewels in possession of and worn by the various brethren showing that the brethren of this locality not only muster a great number in the higher ranks of Masonic art, but work hard in charitable causes. The ceremonies of passing and initiation were worked in the usual manner, Bro. G. Mitchell receiving the benefit of the former, and Messrs. Bryson and Virgo the latter. On the termination of the regular proceedings a magnificent harmonium was presented to the W.M. for use of the lodge, this splendid instrument having been given by a number of the members. The W.M. took occasion to speak of the great kindness of Bro. Chas. W. Hotson, to whom the whole of the credit of conducting the proceedings in connection with the purchase of this instrument was due. Bro. Cook, of 913, was elected an honorary member, and appointed Organist to the lodge. This brother performed most ably during the ceremonies, which was most justly appreciated by the brethren present. The lodge was then closed in due form, and the brethren and visitors adjourned to the new Masonic hall, Plumstead, lately erected by Bro. B. Plaisted, where a splendidly served banquet awaited them. The W.M., Bro. Thomas Ward, occupied the chair, and amongst a long list of visitors were Bros. Spent, R.A., and P.G.S.B. Essex; C. Andrews, P. Prov. G.P. for Kent, and P.M. 77; J. Smith, P. Prov. G.P. Kent, and P.M. 829, 913; C. Coupland, P.G.S. Kent, and P.M. 913; C. Phillips, R.A., and P.M. 13 and 1536; E. Denton, 706, 13, 913; J. McDougall, P.M. 913; J. H. Edley, P.M. 913; R. Croisdale, 706; F. G. Pownall, W.M. 1536; A. Penfold, W.M. 913; Santi, W.M. 706; T. Hastings, S.W. 829; W. Weston, S.W. 1536; H. J. Butter, J.W. 913; G. Spinks, J.W. 1536; W. Murphy, Treas. 1536; A. Jessup, Treas. 913; H. Mason, W.S. 913; Joseph McCaffery, D.C. 1536; Cook, D.C. 913; E. J. De Salis, 1331; J. Donnelly, 706; E. Nugent, 706; F. Sales, 706 and 913; J.W. S. Reid and W. Bladen, 209; J. Scally, 413; R. Hill, 1536; H. Carlin, 1536; W. B. Lloyd, 913; G. Kennedy, 1536; E. Palmer, 913; R. Stone, 299; C. Jolly, 913. The Past Masters and officers supporting the W.M. were P.M.'s Richey, I.P.M.; Rowland, Crawford, Dawson, Goddard, Bowles, Graham, Norman, Hotson; Officers, Butt, S.W.; Waters, J.W.; Dawson, P.M. and Treas.; Henderson, P.M. and Sec.; Woodley, S.D.; Warren, J.D.; Wilkins, I.G.; E. Hotson, D.C. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts having been given and duly honoured, Bro. P.M. Richey rose to propose "The Health of the W.M." In doing so he alluded to the efficient and satisfactory manner in which he had carried out his duties and certainly fulfilled his promise of keeping up the prestige of the lodge. In reply, the W.M. thanked them for their hearty response to the toast, and would ever recollect the manner in which he had been met that evening. In proposing "The Health of the Visitors," the W.M. stated that it was gratifying to see so many distinguished members of the Craft amongst them, and a happy omen indeed for the popularity of the lodge. He

coupled with the toast the name of Bros. P.M. Coupland and W.M. Pownall, both of whom, in very able speeches, alluded to the duties of Masons, their relations to each other, and the great good that could be done by assisting in the works of charity. Both brethren were most attentively listened to, and highly applauded when they resumed their seats. Bro. Richey responded on behalf of the Past Masters, and was supplemented by Bro. P.M. Rowland, who, being rather humourously inclined, kept the brethren in constant roars of laughter. The next toast was that of "The Officers of the Lodge." It met with a most hearty reception, and was briefly but ably replied to by Bro. Thos. Butt, S.W. This meeting will long be remembered by the brethren who attended it, not only as the largest gathering ever known at Woolwich, but also as one which brought together many who had been parted throughout the world for years, and enabled them once more to relate the pleasing incidents of bygone days.

WOOLWICH.—Florence Nightingale Lodge (No. 706).—This lodge held its monthly meeting at the F.H., Woolwich, on Friday evening, Feb. 4th. Present: Bros. Santi, W.M.; Tapp, S.W.; Gamble, J.W.; Croisdale, P.M.; and other officers. Also present Bros. P.M. Clark, D.M.; Denton, Dr. Pupe, Mutch, Donnelly, Nugent, and several others. Amongst the visitors were Bros. Cook, Coulson, Ward, W.M. Nelson Lodge, Woolwich; and Young, S.W. Camden Lodge, 704, London. The minutes of previous meeting were read and confirmed. Bro. Nugent was passed to the Second Degree, the ceremony having been most ably rehearsed by the W.M. The brethren adjourned to Bro. De Gray's, the Freemasons Hotel, where an excellent supper was served, and a most agreeable evening passed, Bro. Gamble, as J.W., ably assisting his superior officers in their endeavours to please all.

PLUMSTEAD.—Pattison Lodge (No. 913).—This lodge held its monthly meeting at the Lord Raglan, on Thursday, the 3rd inst., the W.M., Bro. A. Penfold, in the chair, supported by the following officers:—Bros. J. McDougall, I.P.M.; C. Coupland, P.M., and P.G.P. for Kent; W. Tongue, P.M., and P.P.G.J.W. for Kent; T. Smith, P.M., and P.P.G.P. for Kent; T. W. Knight, P.M. of 1107; W. T. Vincent, S.W.; H. W. Butter, J.W.; A. Jessup, Treas.; E. Denton, P.M. and Sec.; J. D. Hayes, S.D.; W. B. Lloyd, J.D.; J. Chapman, I.G.; R. Lester, Tyler; and R. G. Cook, D.C. Among the visitors were J. Cowell, P.M. 147; J. Lightfoot, P.M. 147; F. Pownall, W.M. 1536, and S.W. 13; R. Croisdale, P.M. 706; J. Rowland, P.M. 700; T. W. Butt, S.W. 700; J. Waters, J.W. 700; S.W. Gibson, 341; E. Tappenden, 700 and 781; F. A. Wallis, 901; G. Smith, 1536; C. Beard, 700; E. W. Fisher, 700; W. Topp, 819; W. Harwood, 1107; and G. Tedder, 1107. The minutes and accounts having been duly read and passed, Messrs. T. J. Anderson, T. Read, and S. Long were initiated, and Bro. A. Wallis passed to the Second Degree, both ceremonies being worked by the W.M. After the proposal of one candidate and five joining members for admission, and an additional ten guineas to the regular yearly ten provided for in the bye-laws for both the Boys' and Girls' Schools had been voted for Bro. P.M. Coupland's list, he being Steward for the Boys' charity this year, the lodge was closed, and the brethren and visitors adjourned for refreshment. The W.M. proposed the usual loyal and Masonic toasts, and the brethren responded heartily. His own health, proposed by the I.P.M., was drunk most enthusiastically. On that of "The Visitors" being proposed, Bro. Pownall, W.M. of the United Military Lodge, with whose name the toast was coupled, thanked the W.M. for the kind expressions with which his name was coupled. The truly Masonic feeling displayed by the W.M. of the Pattison Lodge, and, in fact, the W. Master and brethren of all the lodges, during his late long and painful illness, he should never forget, and if he had not taken an earlier opportunity of visiting that lodge, and thanking them for it, it was because he was unable to do so, and not because he was unwilling. The hospitality of the Pattison Lodge was proverbial, and the manner in which the work was done made the visiting of it a real pleasure. He then spoke of the monument about to be erected to commemorate the Masonic labours of our late lamented brother, J. Gaden, for which upwards of £150 had been subscribed by the lodges, chapters, and brethren of the district, and said the work of the committee would soon be at an end, and he and they trusted that their efforts would give satisfaction to all. He thanked the W.M. and brethren for the honour paid him, and resumed his seat amid applause. The Initiates were, of course, toasted, and Bro. Long made a very pleasing reply. The Past Masters' toast was replied to by Bros. McDougall and Coupland. The W.M. paid a well-merited tribute to the good working of "The Officers of the Lodge," and spoke of the pleasure it gave him, and, he felt sure, the whole of the lodge, to see Bro. Hayes among them again after a long and dangerous illness. Bros. Vincent and Hayes replied, and then the Tyler's toast concluded the pleasures of the evening. We had almost forgotten to mention that an earnest appeal was made by Bro. Harwood on behalf of Bro. G. Tedder, once so well known in the musical world as composer to Sims Reeves, but who through total deafness, is incapable of following his profession, and whose grand annual concert takes place at Erith in the course of next month. A number of tickets were taken by the brethren after the appeal.

LANCASTER.—Rowley Lodge (No. 1051).—The usual monthly meeting of this lodge was held in the Masonic Room at the Athenaeum, on Monday, the 7th inst. Bro. H. Longman, the W.M., occupied the Master's chair, and there was a fair attendance of members and visiting brethren present. The lodge was opened with solemn prayer in the First Degree, when a gift of £5 5s. was unanimously voted to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution. The lodge was then raised, and Bro. Hudspeth was passed to the Second Degree, the working being efficiently performed by the W.M. Bro. Dr. Moore, P.G.

S.B. of England, in a very able manner described the Second Tracing Board, at the conclusion of which a cordial vote of thanks was passed to him. The lodge was afterwards closed in peace and harmony.

DERBY.—Hartington Lodge (No. 1085).—The tenth annual festival of this lodge, and the installation of the W.M., took place at the Masonic Hall, on Wednesday, the 2nd inst. The lodge was opened at six o'clock p.m., and the following brethren were present:—Bros. T. Bobart, W.M. and Installing Officer; S. Pipes, S.W. and W.M. elect.; W. Heathcote, J.W.; M. H. Bobart, P.M., Treas.; J. Worsnop, P.M., Sec.; T. Hills, S.D.; T. Gadsby, J.D.; G. Pipes, M. of C.; J. Heathcote, I.G.; T. Slinn, Tyler; T. Mainprize, F. Iliffe, I.P.M.; J. M. Moore, P.M.; T. Roe, jun., P.M.; G. Buttery, J. W. Shepherd, J. H. Biggs, W. B. Hextall, T. H. Hepworth, S. Steele, E. Taylor, J. O. Manton, M. Hill, J. Parkins, jun., J. Griggs, J. Smith, P.P.J.G.W., P.M. Visitors: Bros. Rev. C. E. Mayo, P.G.C. Herts, 869; W. Jones, P.M. 460, W. 1520, P.G. S. of W. Staff.; T. Hall, W.M. H. Marsden, P.M. 253; J. C. Merry, W.M. 731; W. H. Burton, S.W.; W. Cooper, Sec.; R. Bennett, W. Knight, T. Merry, Wright, all of 731; T. H. Warner, P.M. 802; T. C. Wigg, P.M. 1024. The minutes of last meeting being confirmed, Bro. S. Pipes, S.W. and W.M. elect, was presented by Bro. M. H. Bobart and J. Worsnop, P.M.'s. Bro. S. Pipes was duly installed by the W.M., Bro. Henry T. Bobart, who appointed and invested the following brethren as his officers for the ensuing year:—Bros. H. T. Robart, I.P.M.; W. Heathcote, S.W.; T. Gadsby, J.W.; M. H. Bobart, Treas.; G. Pipes, Sec.; T. Hill, S.D.; J. Heathcote, J.D.; J. H. Biggs, I.G.; F. Iliffe and J. Worsnop, Stewards; T. Slinn, Tyler. The addresses to the officers and brethren were delivered by Bro. M. H. Bobart, P.M. A candidate having been proposed for initiation, the brethren adjourned to the banquet.

BUXTON.—Phoenix Lodge of St. Ann (No. 1235).—On Thursday, the 3rd inst., the brethren of the Phoenix Lodge of St. Ann celebrated their anniversary at Court House, Buxton, when there was a large attendance of the members of the lodge, and visiting brethren from neighbouring lodges. There were present Bros. W. Smith, W.M.; E. C. Milligan, S.W.; E. J. Sykes, J.W.; W. Boughen, Treas.; J. H. Lawson, S.D.; P. Le Gros, J.D.; C. Adams, M.C.; G. Marsden, O.; J. Whalley, Sup. of Wks.; W. Goodwin, I.G.; G. Goodwin and C. Gwinell, Stewards; Augustus A. Bagshawe, P.M., P.P.S.G.W., P.P.G.C.; F. Turner, P.P.S.G.D.; R. R. Duke, P.M., P.P.D.C.; J. Taylor, P.M., P.P.G.S.B.; T. Bragg, P.M. 74, and P.Z. 74, P.P.G.S.D. Warwick; Bros. J. C. Hyde, C. Wilkinson, J. Morton, G. F. Barnard, W. C. Moore, W. Shawe, J. Heathcote. Visitors: Bros. J. Barber, Callender, 11052; C. C. W. Ferguson, S.W. 654; J. Barrowby, P.M. Peveril of the Peak, 654; P.P.G.R. Derby; J. H. Sillitoe, P.M. Affability 317; W. H. Hopkins, P.M. Yarrowburgh 633, P.G.D.C. E. Lane; G. Smedley, Yarrowburgh 663; J. Nall, Duke of Athol P.M. 210, P.P.G.S.; J. T. Wright, P.M. 654; P. Bramwell, S.W. 654; S. W. Ready, P.M. 654; P. Bramwell, P.M. 654; J. King, Anchor and Hope 37; E. Cunningham, Thistle, Glasgow 275. At eleven o'clock the R.A. Chapter was held. Present: Comps. F. Turner, Z.; Augustus A. Bagshawe, H.; J. Taylor, J.; R. R. Duke, P.Z.; P. Le Gros, Scribe E.; E. J. Sykes, Scribe N.; E. C. Milligan, P.S.; W. Smith, First A.S.; J. H. Lawson, Second A.S. The Installing Principals were J. Hall, P.G.P.S. E. Lane; W. H. Hopkins, Derby 1035, P.Z.; and J. H. Sillitoe, Affability 317, Z. The visitors were Comps. W. Milligan, Justice 253; J. Barrowby, J. 322, Hope; J. T. Wright, Hope 322; P. Bramwell, Hope 322. The interesting ceremonies were very ably and impressively performed. Comps. A. A. Bagshawe and J. Taylor, were installed as 1st and 2nd Principals; and the following officers were invested: P. Le Gros, E.; W. Smith, J.; E. C. Milligan, P.S.; E. J. Sykes N.; and J. H. Lawson, A.S. At one p.m. the Phoenix Lodge was opened, and Bros. Hopkins, Sillitoe, and W. Milligan, duly installed Bro. E. C. Milligan as W.M. for the following year, and the following appointments were afterwards made by the W.M.:—Bros. E. J. Sykes, S.W.; A. A. Bagshawe, Chap.; J. H. Lawson, J.W.; W. D. Sutton, Treas.; C. Adams, Sec.; P. Le Gros, S.D.; W. Boughen, J.D.; G. Marsden, Org.; C. Wilkinson, I.G.; A. Pyle, Tyler; W. Shawe, S.B.; G. Goodwin and C. Gwinell, Stewards; and A. Barnett, M.C. After the business was concluded the lodge was closed in due form, and the companions of the Phoenix Chapter of St. Ann, and the brethren, adjourned to the Hall Hotel, where a splendid banquet had been prepared. The tables were beautifully decorated, and were specially adorned with numerous choice flowers, ferns, &c., from the conservatories of Chatsworth—including profuse displays of acacia, arums, cyclamens, camelias, orchids, &c.—kindly given by Bro. the Marquis of Hartington, P.G.M. There were more present than were expected, so the tables were a little crowded, but this was better than a beggarly array of empty seats, and contributed much to the whole proceedings going off with spirit and éclat. The dinner was served under the supervision of Bro. J. H. Lawson. When "The Health of the Immediate Past Master, Bro. William Smith," was proposed by the Rev. A. A. Bagshawe, his important and constant services to the lodge, both before his elevation to the chair and since, and the long distances he had frequently travelled in order to fulfil his duties, were mentioned as they deserved to be; he was presented with a very elegant Past Master's jewel, in recognition of his services, from the brethren of the lodge. It may be added that it was the most numerously attended anniversary since the establishment of the lodge.

ROSS (New Zealand).—Totara Lodge (No. 1241).—Freemasons, like all other rational beings have their seasons of rejoicing, and these generally occur when a change of officers is made. Such an event took place at the Exchange Hotel, on Wednesday, November the 3rd,

1875, when the officers of Totara Lodge were installed for the ensuing twelve months. The delegates from the District Grand Lodge were the W.D.G.M., Bro. Lazar, and Bros. Hudson, Hill, and Hyams. The ceremony was performed by District Grand Master Bro. Lazar, assisted by U.G.S.W. Bro. Hudson, who installed the W.M. elect, Bro. A. Groves Duff; S.W., Bro. Louis Guerin; J.W., Bro. F. W. Morgan; S.D., Bro. John McGaffin; J.D., Bro. W. Emmerson; Secretary, Bro. Peter Johnston; Treasurer, Bro. Camille Malfroy; I.G., Bro. Frank Brady; and Tyler, Bro. J. Joseph. The impressive manner in which the proceedings were conducted it is impossible to describe. W.D.G.M. Bro. Lazar displayed a touching earnestness in the wise counsels he gave to the several officers relative to the performance of their respective duties. The lodge was closed in peace and harmony at half-past 11 o'clock, and about midnight the brethren sat down to as well appointed a banquet as ever was laid in Ross. Bro. Duff occupied the chair, with Bro. Lazar in the place of honour on his right, while Bro. Guerin occupied the vice-chair. Ample justice having been done to the supper, hilarity and mirth became the order of the night. The following toasts were proposed, and duly honoured: "The Queen and Craft," "The Grand Master of England, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales," "The Grand Masters of Scotland and Ireland," "The District Grand Master, Bro. Lazar," "The W.M. of the Totara Lodge," "The Officers and Past Masters of the Totara Lodge," "Sister Lodges," and "Poor and Distressed Masons." Songs were given by Bros. Frew, Hill, Curle, Morgan, Johnston, and last, though not least by Bro. Lazar, who convulsed the room with the Tyler's song, "The Queen's Anthem" was then sung, and the festivities terminated about 2 a.m. It would be unfair to close our remarks without paying tribute to the comely hostess of the Exchange Hotel, Mrs. Miller, for the really excellent banquet she provided, which reflected the utmost credit upon her as a caterer. W.D.G.M. Bro. Lazar and Bros. Hudson, Hill, and Hyams, left for Hokitika on Thursday forenoon, with, we hope, pleasant recollections of their visit to Ross.

WATERLOO.—Skelmersdale Lodge (No. 1380).—The brethren of this lodge, of which Bro. the Right Hon. Lord Skelmersdale, D.G.M. of England, and R.W.P.G.M. of West Lancashire, was the first W.M., and is still a member, assembled at the Queen's Hotel, Waterloo, a few miles from Liverpool, on Monday, the 7th inst., for the purpose of celebrating their annual installation festival. There was a good and influential attendance of members and visitors. The lodge was opened at four o'clock by Bro. T. Bark, W.M., supported afterwards by Bros. J. Cobham, P.M.; Dr. C. Swaby Smith, S.W.; Rev. T. W. Richardson, J.W.; R. Brown, W.M. 241, Treasurer; E. Ford, jun., Secretary; Dr. W. S. Limerick, S.D.; G. Broadbridge, P.P.G.D.C., P.M., D.C.; J. B. Roose, Org.; and W. H. Ball, Tyler. Amongst the members of the Skelmersdale present were Bros. F. W. Bennett, R. H. Exton, F. E. Smith, L. Warner, P. W. Hickson, J. Mawdsley, P.P.G. Reg.; J. A. Greenleaves, J. Brown, G. O. Marsden, T. Balshaw, H. Davis, B. W. Birney, F. A. Fry, J. Thompson, J. Evans, P.M. 220; W. Barker, and others. The visitors' list included the names of Bros. P. E. S. Smith, 474 (S.C.); Rev. D. Swinny, 859; J. W. Carey, 1289; A. Ballard, 241; W. Paton, 203; G. Hutchins, S.W. 241; F. L. Bolton, W.M. 1289; and P. Denny, 330 (N.Y.). After the minutes had been confirmed and a joining member balloted for, Bro. T. G. Bark proceeded to install his successor, Bro. Dr. C. Swaby Smith, into the chair of W.M. for the ensuing year. The ceremony of installation was performed in a highly satisfactory manner by Bro. Bark, who also gave the charges to the following officers who were appointed with the greatest impressiveness:—Bro. T. C. Bark, I.P.M.; the Rev. T. W. Richardson, S.W.; E. Ford, jun., J.W.; R. Brown, W.M. 241, Treasurer; Dr. W. S. Limerick, Secretary; R. H. Exton, S.D.; R. W. Barnes, J.D.; J. B. Roose, Organist; J. Brown, I.G.; G. Broadbridge, P.P.G.D.C., P.M., D.C.; and W. H. Ball, Tyler. The balance sheet, read by Bro. Brown, Treasurer, showed that the funds of the lodge were in a most satisfactory condition. At the conclusion of the business an excellent banquet was served under the presidency of Bro. Dr. C. Swaby Smith, W.M. The catering of Bro. G. Chapman, 823, who was assisted by Bro. Eve, 667, gave universal satisfaction. The W.M. gave "The Queen" and "H.R.H. Bro. Albert Edward Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M., the Princess of Wales, and the rest of the Royal Family," and "Bro. the Right Hon. Lord Skelmersdale, D.G.M. of England R.W.P.G.M. of West Lancashire, first W.M. of the Lodge." In giving the latter toast, the W.M. said they were all proud of the position which Lord Skelmersdale occupied in Masonry, and very proud indeed of the honour of being named after him. Bro. I. Mawdsley, P.P.G. Registrar, responded to the toast of "The Provincial Grand Officers, Past and Present," and "Bro. R. Brown, Hon. Sec. to the West Lancashire Masonic Educational Institution, acknowledged the toast of "The West Lancashire Masonic Charitable Institutions," sketching at some length the rise, progress, present position, and prospects of the charity which he represented. "The W.M." was given by Bro. T. G. Bark, I.P.M.; and in giving "The Installing Master," (Bro. T. G. Bark), the W.M. took occasion to present him with a very handsome P.M.'s jewel in recognition of his valuable services and admirable manner in which he had fulfilled the duties of the chair. "The Officers" and "The Visitors" were amongst the other toasts. Several excellent songs were given during the evening by Bros. Hutchins, Broadbridge, and others.

CLAYTON-LE-MOORS.—Albert Edward Lodge (No. 1519).—The members of this lodge met on Monday, the 7th inst., at the Albion Hotel. Present: Bros. E. Heywood, W.M.; J. Tennant, S.W.; L. Wilkinson, J.W.; W. C. Hamer, Sec.; R. H. Catterall, J.D.; J. Sharples and T. Hargraves, Stwds.; A. Heywood,

I.P.M.; T. Tyack, J. T. Horne, J. Calverley, J. T. Hall, J. T. Moore, J. Wareing. Visiting brethren: Bros. D. Tunks, P.M. 1145; D. Ormerod, S.D. 1145; R. Rushton, 1145; Gosling, 1145. The lodge having been opened in due form by Bro. E. Heywood, the minutes of the meeting held on January 3rd, the festival of St. John the Evangelist, were read and confirmed. During the evening Bros. Wareing and J. T. Moore were raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason, and Bro. J. Calverley was passed to the Fellow Craft Degree, the ceremonies being rendered by the W.M. in a commendable manner. The solemnity of the ceremony for the Third Degree was greatly enhanced by the appearance of the lodge, which had been placed in mourning as a tribute of respect to the memory of the late R.W. Deputy Provincial Grand Master, Bro. W. Romaine Callender. The accounts were presented and passed, and Bros. Sharples and Catterall were appointed Auditors for the ensuing twelve months. The brethren adjourned to refreshment. The accustomed toasts were proposed and suitably responded to. The assembled brethren drank to "The Memory of the late R.W. D. Prov. Grand Master, Bro. W. Romaine Callender, deceased," in solemn silence. Bro. L. Wilkinson, J.W., alluded in graceful terms to the irreplaceable loss which the Craft has sustained by the death of Bro. Callender, who, by his devotion to duty, whether as a politician, a citizen, or a distinguished member of the Craft, had left a pattern worthy the imitation of every Mason. "The Visiting Brethren" having been proposed by Bro. Tennant, and responded to by Bro. Tunks, the brethren separated.

PLUMSTEAD.—United Military Lodge (No. 1536).—At the last monthly meeting of this lodge held on Friday, the 11th inst., at Bro. B. Plaisted's new Masonic Hall, Plumstead, nearly a hundred of the brethren of the lodge and visitors assembled to support the W.M., Bro. F. G. Pownall, and to enjoy the excellent working for which he and his officers are distinguished. Besides the W.M., the officers present were Bros. R. Croisdale, I.P.M. and P.M. of 706; Captain Phillips, R.A. and P.M. 13; W. Weston, S.W.; G. Spinks, J.W.; Cooper, Sec.; J. Murphy, Treas.; H. G. Picken, S.D.; H. Shaw, J.D.; J. McCaffery, Steward; Lapham, I.G.; and J. Lackland, O.G. The visitors were Bros. T. R. McIlwham, P.M. 946 and P.P.G.S.B. for Middlesex; T. Ward, P.M. 700; G. B. Davies, P.M. 13; C. Hosgood, P.M. 192; T. B. Butt, S.W. 700; T. Hutton, J.D. 13; Hayes, S.D. 913; C. Cook, Org. 700; O. Hutton, 13; A. M. Pinky, 1424; D. C. Capon, 913; J. Coombes, 182; C. Morris, 1331; C. Scully, 1076; A. Clense, 13; A. Archer, 13; T. Hosgood, 13; C. Jolly, 913; and others. The lodge having been opened, with solemn prayer, the minutes and accounts were passed and Bro. A. Brooks, Quarter-Master Serjeant, A.S.C., was affiliated to the lodge. Bros. J. W. Young, and C. Webb were passed to the Second Degree, the ceremony having to be repeated on account of the late arrival of one of the candidates. Bro. C. Cook kindly acted as Organist, and by his valuable assistance the ceremony was rendered doubly impressive. Before the lodge was closed, the W.M. spoke of the claim he was about to make on their charity on behalf of a poor widow whose husband had been over two years a good hard working Mason in this district, who, although, thanks to the kindness of Bro. Ward, the W.M. of the Nelson Lodge and others she had received valuable assistance from the Grand Lodge of Benevolence, yet was thoroughly incapacitated both by age and illness from supporting herself. He had been successful in obtaining for her a candidature for the Masonic Institution, and he asked them kindly to give him their proxies on her behalf. Bro. McIlwham immediately placed his votes at the disposal of the W.M., as did Bro. Hayes, and both received the thanks of the W.M. for their sympathy and assistance. The lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to refreshment, during which the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured. In response to the toast of "The Visitors," Bro. McIlwham strongly urged upon the brethren present the advisability of forming a sort of Benevolent Fund, whereby each member who paid in but one shilling per week for four years, would be entitled to a life governorship for one of the charities. He spoke highly of the excellent work done in the lodge, and gave the brethren all a general invitation, either to the Strawberry Hill, or the Etonian, should they at any time be travelling that way. Bro. Hosgood fully endorsed every word that had fallen from the previous speaker, and recited a few stirring lines, composed by himself on the occasion of the last festival. He was greatly applauded both for the sentiment and delivery of the poem. Bro. Hayes as well returned thanks in excellent terms. Of course the Masters and officers were well and worthily toasted, and after the Tyler's toast, the whole of the brethren joined in the "National Anthem," and then separated in brotherly love and charity.

NORTH WOOLWICH.—Henley Lodge (No. 1472).—The regular monthly meeting of the above lodge took place on Tuesday, the 1st inst., at Bro. West's, the Three Crowns, there being a good attendance of both brethren and visitors. The business before the lodge was the raising of Bros. Plume and Carter. Bro. J. Ives was then unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing year, and Bro. Geller, Secretary. The former brother replied feelingly for the great trust reposed in him, and earnestly hoped to follow in the footsteps of his predecessor. It was then unanimously carried, that a Past Master's jewel of the value of ten guineas should be presented to the retiring W.M., Bro. B. Brayshaw, as a token of the esteem in which he is held by the members of the lodge and to mark their sense of his earnest endeavours for its prosperity during his term of office. Bro. Brayshaw returned thanks in a few choice sentences. The lodge was then duly closed, and the brethren adjourned for refreshment. The other officers present were Bros. W. Steele, J.W.; J. Silver, S.D.; A. Manning, I.G.; B. Turner, Assist. Sec.; Steadman, P.M., and Tyler; and last though not least H.

Sisley, P.M. and Sec., and P.M. 1372, and P.S.W. 700. The installation of the new Master takes place on the first Tuesday in March.

MANCHESTER.—Lodge of Truth (No. 1458).—This lodge held its regular meeting on Saturday, February 5th, at the new premises, Private Rooms, Conservative Club, Newton Heath. The lodge was opened in due form by Bro. C. J. Kent, W.M. The minutes of last regular and emergency meeting were read and confirmed. The ballot was then taken for Messrs. Crompton, Smith, Hebdon, Lorking, and Swain, and proved favourable in each case. Messrs. Smith, Hebdon, Lorking, and Swain were then initiated into Ancient Freemasonry. Bro. Kent, W.M., was unanimously elected to represent the lodge on the Committee of the East Lancashire Benevolent and Educational Institution. A letter having been read from Bro. Pearson tendering his resignation, it was accepted with the universal regret of the brethren. There was one proposition for initiation at next meeting.

TWICKENHAM.—Francis Burdett Lodge (No. 1503).—The last meeting of this lodge was held at the Albany Hotel, Twickenham, on Wed., the 9th inst. There were present at the opening of the lodge Bros. W. Wigginton, P.M. 902, 1298, P. Prov. G.D.C. of Worcester-shire, P.G.S. of Middlesex, &c. &c., W.M.; Saunders, S.W.; Birchill, P.M. 795, &c., acting J.W.; Taylor, J.D.; Court, sen., Sec.; Walls, acting I.G.; Rogers, W.S.; Palmer, S.; Sugg, Assist. Org.; D'Orsey, Assist. Chap. The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the W.M., with the assistance of his officers, raised Bros. W. C. Palmer and E. T. Barrett to the Third Degree. The whole of the impressive and solemn ceremony was most ably carried out by the W.M. Bro. Sugg, the A.O., also rendered certain portions of the ritual very effective by his instrumental accompaniments. Three notices of motion respecting the increasing of the initiation and the joining fees and the annual subscription having fallen to the ground in consequence of the absence of the mover, Bro. Saunders, the S.W., gave notice of motion that at the next meeting the advisability of raising the annual subscription only should be fully considered. Bros. Sugg and Palmer then proposed the names of two gentlemen for initiation next meeting. Bros. King, Dobid; and Sanders, 1293, were the only visitors.

LEICESTER.—Albert Edward Lodge (No. 1560).—The regular meeting of this lodge took place at Freemasons' Hall, Leicester, on Tuesday, the 8th inst., but unfortunately from various causes, several of the officers were unavoidably absent. The lodge was opened by Bro. G. Toller, jun., I.P.M., as W.M., and he was supported by Bros. B. Smith, P.G. Treas., as I.P.M.; W. T. Rowlett, S.W. 523, as S.W.; T. Worthington, W.M. 50, as J.W.; C. Stretton, P.M. 279, Treas.; Rev. W. Langley, P.M. 50, 1130, Secretary; R. Taylor, Sec. 523, as S.D.; J. F. Rolleston, J.D.; E. Mason, S.W. 1391, as Dir. of Cer.; J. A. Wykes, J.W. 523, as Org.; W. E. Buck, I.G.; J. T. Thorp, W.M. 523; and other visitors and members were present. Bros. A. H. Burgess and R. S. Toller were raised to the Third Degree by the acting W.M., the traditional history being given by Bro. Thorp. A grant of £5 from the charity fund was voted to Bro. Stretton's list for the Benevolent Institution. The acting W.M. expressed the thanks of the lodge to the visitors for their efficient assistance, and announced that all the absent officers had given timely notice of their inability to be present. The lodge was closed in due form and in harmony.

INSTRUCTION.

METROPOLITAN LODGE OF INSTRUCTION (No. 1507).—On Friday, the 4th inst., the Metropolitan Lodge of Instruction, No. 1507, met at the Metropolitan Club, Pentonville Road, for the purpose of working the Fifteen Sections. At the invitation of this Lodge of Instruction the members of the Metropolitan Lodge of Instruction which meets at the Portugal Hotel, Fleet-street, attended to do the work. Bros. Stacey was W.M.; Mander, S.W.; James Willing, J.W.; W. H. Lee, S.D.; Abell, J.D.; J. Lee, I.G.; Briggs, P.M.; and W. M. Siles, Secretary. Fifty other brethren were present. The following was the working:—

FIRST LECTURE.

1st Section, Bro. Webb, I.G. 1381.
2nd " " Squirrel, S.D. 206.
3rd " " Read, J.D. 1572.
4th " " Farwig, I.G. 180.
5th " " Whitaker, S.W. 1572.
6th " " Mander, P.M. 1201.
7th " " ditto

SECOND LECTURE.

1st Section, Bro. Abell, 55.
2nd " " J. Lee, I.G. 1541.
3rd " " Whitaker, S.W. 1572.
4th " " Stacey, P.M. 280.
5th " " W. H. Lee, P.M. 1524.

THIRD LECTURE.

1st Section, Bro. W. H. Lee, P.M. 1524.
2nd " " Farwig, I.G. 180.
3rd " " Briggs, P.M. 157.

The whole of the working was excellent, and a cordial vote of thanks was unanimously given to the brethren. Bros. Stacey and Mander were elected honorary members.

NORTH WOOLWICH.—Capper Lodge of Instruction (No. 1372).—The annual banquet of this lodge took place on Thursday evening, the 3rd inst., at Bro. West's, the Three Crowns, North Woolwich, the W.M. of the mother lodge, Bro. T. Day, in the chair, the W.M. elect of the Henley Lodge filling the vice-chair. In reply to the toast of the evening, Bro. C. Cook, 13, the indefatigable Secretary of the lodge, gave a glowing account of its rise, and progress, and claimed for it a position second to none in the district. Bro. J. Henderson, P.M. and Treas. 13, and P.M. 1372, Sec. 700 and of 913, the Precursor of the lodge, and whose hard work in Masonry is well-

known, and appreciated far and near, had an ovation, and in reply spoke hopefully of the good work done in the lodge among the young aspirants to its highest honours. He saw around him brethren in position in the Order, who had, he felt proud to say, learned their work in that lodge, and under his guidance; they were a credit to it, and he hoped to see many more rise from its ranks to the position that one of their number, Bro. J. Ives, had recently been so worthily exalted to. He concluded a brilliant speech by thanking them heartily for their kind reception of his name.

LIVERPOOL.—De Grey and Ripon Lodge of Instruction (No. 1356).—A meeting of this lodge was held on Wednesday evening, the 2nd inst., at North-hill-street, Tooteth Park, Liverpool, when Bro. J. Bell, W.M., was inducted Preceptor for the ensuing year. The brethren subsequently dined together, Bro. T. Horne occupying the chair of W.M., Bro. T. Nickson, that of S.W., and Bro. J. W. Williams, that of J.W. Amongst those present were Bros. J. Bell, W.M., Preceptor; E. O. C. Rothwell, P.M., P. Preceptor; T. Evans, P.M., Past Preceptor; J. Jones, Sec.; W. G. Veale, Org.; Woolrich, and others.

Royal Arch.

KENDAL.—Kendal Castle Chapter (No. 129).—The annual meeting of the members of this chapter was held at the Masonic Rooms, Kendal, on the 27th ult., Comps. T. Wilson, M.E.Z.; H. Rauthmell, H.; Rev. Canon Ware, J.; J. Bintley, S.E.; J. Talbot, S.N.; R. J. Nelson, P.S.; and others. Visitor, J. Baker, P.Z. 241. The minutes of the previous convocation having been read and confirmed, Comp. Baker, P.Z., exalted Bro. J. Banks, of Union Lodge, 129, in his well-known and impressive manner. Comp. Baker then proceeded to instal Comp. H. Rauthmell in the M.E.Z. chair, Comp. Gawith, P.Z., as H., Comp. Bintley, as J., and the other offices were filled as follows:—S.E., Comp. J. Talbot; S.N., Comp. R. J. Nelson; P.S., Comp. G. J. McKay. Comp. T. Wilson presented a handsome Bible for the use of the chapter, which was closed in due form at 3 p.m.

ESSEX.—Priory Chapter (No. 1000).—The regular convocation of the Priory Chapter was held on the 9th inst. at the Middleton Hotel, Southend, Essex. The officers present were the Rev. S. R. Wigram, M.E.Z.; E. S. Phillips, H.; H. Wood, 186, acting as J.; S. Weston, Treas.; Rev. H. J. Hatch, S.N.; J. A. Wardell, P.S.; J. Willing, jun., First Assist. S.; T. W. Gower, Second Assist. S.; and Comps. Judd, Jills, Pisse, Hemmann, and Frost. The following companions were unanimously elected to office for the ensuing year:—Comps. E. C. Phillips, Z.; Lucking, H.; Wardell, J.; J. Willing, jun., P.S.; Johnstone, S.E.; Pisse, S.N.; and Weston, Treas. Comp. Willing appointed Comps. Gower and the Rev. H. J. Hatch, First and Second Assist. S. respectively. Comp. Mountain was elected Janitor, after which Comp. Hemmann and Pisse were chosen Auditors. A sum of three guineas was voted for a P.Z.'s jewel to the retiring M.E.Z. for his efficient services during his year of office. Comp. Wigram having acknowledged the vote, another vote of thanks was passed to Comp. Wood, 186, for acting as H. that evening, the H. being absent at the annual festival of the Benevolent Institution. The annual convocation of the Priory Chapter was fixed for Wednesday, 10th May, at 2 p.m., banquet at 5, and the companions then closed the chapter, and adjourned to refreshment.

HAMPTON COURT.—Burdett Chapter (No. 1293).—This chapter was founded at the Mitre Hotel, Hampton Court, on the 11th day of November, 1873, Comp. Colonel Francis Burdett, Prov. Grand Master, and Prov. G. Superintendent of Middlesex, being the first M.E.Z.; Comp. R. Wentworth Little, then the Prov. Grand Secretary, now P.G.S.W., the first H.; and Comp. Frederick Davison, P. Prov. S.G.W., the first J.; Comp. H. C. Levander, P. Prov. S.G.D. of Wilts, and P.Z. 76 and 720, the S.E.; and Comp. H. G. Buss, Prov. G. Treasurer of Middlesex, the Treasurer. After a very prosperous year, during which many distinguished brethren were exalted, the chapter assembled at the Mitre on Saturday, the 3th of January, 1875, to celebrate the completion of its first year, when Comp. Little was installed as the Z., Comp. Davison as J., and Comp. David R. Still, P.M. of the Burdett Lodge, No. 1293, as J. Another year of great success attended the chapter. On Saturday, the 8th of January, 1876, the completion of the second year was celebrated by the companions at the Mitre Hotel, on which occasion Bro. John Musgrave Levick, of the Burdett Lodge, No. 1293, and Bro. Herbert W. Ruff, of the Eastern Star Lodge, No. 95, were exalted to the Royal Arch Degree, and the duties of Principal Sojourner were most efficiently carried out by Comp. F. Keily. The installation of the three Principals was then proceeded with, the ceremonies being most admirably performed by Comp. Little, ably assisted by Comp. John Boyd, P.Z. Comp. Davison was installed as Z., Comp. Still, as H., and Comp. Henry Phythian, P.M. of the Burdett Lodge, No. 1293, as J.; the other officers elected and invested being Comps. H. C. Levander, P.Z., S.E.; F. Keily, S.N.; D. W. Pearce, P.S.; T. Massa, 1st A.S.; W. Maple, 2nd A.S.; H. G. Buss, Treas. The meeting was honoured by several distinguished visitors, amongst whom were Comps. J. Wilkinson, 1248; C. Arkell, 192; and H. Ehnhaus, P.Z. 1056. On motions duly made, it was resolved unanimously that P.Z. jewels should be presented to Comps. Colonel Burdett, the first M.E.Z., and R. Wentworth Little, the second M.E.Z. of the chapter. After labour the companions returned to refreshment, and when the cloth was removed the usual R.A. toasts were given and responded to. The enjoyments of the evening were considerably enhanced by the musical abilities of Comps. J. Wilkinson and A. Moore.

Ancient and Accepted Rite.

TRURO.—Cornwall Rose Croix Chapter.—The annual assembly of this new and flourishing chapter was held at the Masonic Hall, New Public Rooms, Truro, on Thursday, the 3rd inst., at 2 p.m., Sir Frederick Martin Williams, Bart, M.P.S., 32, the M.W.S. in the chair. There were also present William James Hughan, 30, P.M.W.S.; Rev. George Ross, 18, High Prelate; Colonel J. W. Peard, 18, 1st General; Nicholas James West, 18, 2nd General; Charles Truscott, 30, Recorder; Edward Dixon Anderton, 18, Grand Marshal; and other members. The Ill. Bro. Richard Rodda, P.M.W.S. Huyshe Chapter, Plymouth, was present as a visitor, and Bro. George Brown, of the Shakespeare Chapter, Warwick. Sir Frederick M. Williams conferred the degree on Bro. Smith, of St. Austell, presided until resigning the chair to Ill. Bro. Rodda, who had kindly attended as Installing Sovereign, and most efficiently conducted that ceremony, to the great delight of all the members, and especially to the satisfaction of the new M.W.S. of the chapter, Colonel John Whitehead Peard. The thanks of the chapter were voted to E. and P. Bro. Rodda for his valuable services, and ordered to be entered on the minutes, and our illustrious brother was invited to attend all the meetings of the chapter hereafter, as their honoured guest. The M.W.S. appointed as his officers for the ensuing year Sir Frederick M. Williams, Bart, M.P., 32, P.M.W.S.; Rev. George Ross, M.A., H.P.; Nicholas J. West, 1st G.; Edward Dixon Anderton, 2nd G.; Frederick William Dabb, Treas.; Charles Truscott, 30, Grand Marshal and Recorder; John Farran Penrose, 30, R.; Rev. W. H. Bloxsome, M.A., H.; Edward Trewbody Carlyon, C. of G.; William Luke, D. of C.; J. T. Taylor, C.; J. T. Rowe, A.; John Hocking, jun., O.; Dr. William Mason, 2nd H.; and William Rooks, S. The banquet was provided at Bro. Bray's, Red Lion Hotel, at 5 p.m., and was a very fine entertainment. The various toasts were well honoured, and several interesting speeches were delivered respecting the origin and the character of the "Ancient and Accepted Rite," by Bros. Hughan and Rodda. Your correspondent had intended to have taken down these addresses, but quite forgot so to do, because of paying such attention to the speakers. Nothing could exceed the warm reception vouchsafed to the Installing S., Richard Rodda, P.M.W.S., and as usual the members were most enthusiastic in their admiration for Sir Frederick Martin Williams, Bart, M.P., 32, when his health was proposed by Colonel Peard. The worthy baronet has not been absent a single meeting since the chapter was founded, and in his speech took occasion to commend the beautiful ceremonies of the Ancient and Accepted Rite to the careful attention and practice of the members. A more pleasant and happy meeting has never been held in Truro, since when the chapter was honoured at its inauguration with the presence of the Secretary, General Major Shadwell H. Clerke, whose absence this time was much regretted.

DISTRICT GRAND LODGE OF CHINA.

The District Grand Lodge of China recently held its annual meeting and festival at the Masonic Hall, Zetland street, Hong Kong. The lodge met at three o'clock in the afternoon, when there was a large attendance of the brethren of the Order. Following the ancient attended Divine service at St. John's Cathedral in a body. The procession, which was under the direction of Bro. J. M. Emanuel, D.C., who acted as Dir. of Cer., assisted by Bro. Wilberforce Wilson and Bro. R. Lyall, was formed just behind the Masonic Hall shortly after three o'clock.

The brethren were all attired in evening dress with white gloves, those belonging to either service appearing in proper uniform. No regalia except that appertaining to the District Grand Lodge and its subordinate bodies was worn. Members of lodges appeared in their aprons, officers of lodges in aprons and collars, and members and officers of District Grand Lodge in D.G. Lodge regalia. The jewels worn appertained to the first three degrees of Masonry and the Order of the Royal Arch. The procession proceeded to the Cathedral by the road leading along the back of St. Paul's Cathedral and round by the Government offices, and there was a large number of spectators along the route. On arriving at the door of the Cathedral the column halted, opened ranks, and faced inward, and the Deputy District Grand Master and his staff passed up the line and entered the building. The remainder of the procession then doubled in from the rear and followed. The nave was reserved for Masons. His Excellency the Governor, Miss Kennedy, and Captain O'Callaghan occupied seats in the chancel, as also did Sir John and Lady Smale, and a number of ladies and gentlemen. The cathedral otherwise was well filled with the general public.

The Grand Chaplain offered prayer.

The Grand Chaplain preached the sermon from 1 Chronicles xxix. 9—"Then the people rejoiced for that they offered willingly, because with perfect heart they offered willingly to the Lord; and David the King also rejoiced with great joy."

The banquet took place in the Masonic Hall in the evening. The toasts of "Mystic," "The Queen and the Craft," and "H.R.H. the Grand Master, and the United Grand Lodge of England," were proposed from the chair, and duly responded to. Bro. Kingsmill proposed, "The Deputy District Grand Master and the District Grand Lodge of China," which was responded to by the Deputy District Grand Master. Bro. Blakeman gave "The Lodges of the District," which was suitably acknowledged. Bro. Denny proposed "The District Grand Chaplain," who responded. "The Wives, Sisters, and Daughters of Masons" was given by Bro. Baynes, and acknowledged by Bro. Eitel. The Tyler's toast, the last upon the list, was proposed by the D.G. Tyler. Songs and glees were interspersed with the toasts, and the company did not separate till a late hour.

MASONIC BALL IN BARROW-IN-FURNESS.

The fourth annual Masonic ball took place on Jan. 27th, 1876, in the Town Hall. It was held, as usual, under the auspices of the local Craft lodges, and the management was undertaken by a joint committee as follows:—Bros. Bagot, P.M. 1021; McKnight, S.D.; R. S. White, Wheddon, C. P. Richards, Bland, J. C. Hunter, W.M. 1225; Morgan, junior, S.S.; E. Ludlam, Kershaw, J. Bell, Stables, Haslam, W.M. 1021; Huartson, J.W. 1021; W. Gradwell, junior, Bennett, junior, Coulthurst, Pickavance, T. Roberts, Hon. Sec. 1225; Morgan, S.W.; Nalder, S.D.; Klyne, M.C. The ball was in aid of the Masonic charities, and was under the distinguished patronage of the Right Hon. Lord Skelmersdale, the R.W.D.G. Master and P.G. Master for West Lancashire; the Right Hon. the Marquis of Hartington, M.P., the R.W.P.G. Master for Derbyshire; the Hon. F. A. Stanley, M.P., D.P.G. Master for West Lancashire; Sir J. Ramsden, P.M. 1021, P.P.G.S.W.; His Worship the Mayor of Barrow, H. W. Schneider, Esq., P.M. 995, P.P.G.J.W.; W. C. Deceley, Esq., P.M., P.G.J.W.; J. T. Smith, Esq., P.M. 1021; H. Cook, Esq., P.M. 119 and 1021, P.P.G.R.; Aymer Ainslie, Esq., P.M. 995; and the officers and brethren of the neighbouring lodges, and of the Royal Arch Chapter, No. 995. The committee wisely determined this year not to expend a great sum of money in decorating the hall, as in former years this item consumed a great portion of the funds realised; but although no attempt was made to make an elaborate display of decoration the committee succeeded at a moderate outlay in producing a fine effect, and the hall when opened for dancing presented a very pretty sight. At the head of the room, surmounted with trophies of flags, was a splendid portrait of the Prince of Wales, Grand Master of England, which was recently presented to the Hindpool Lodge, 1021, by the Worshipful Master, Bro. K. T. Taylor. There were also the shields of Lord Cardigan, the Hon. F. A. Stanley, M.P., and Sir James Ramsden, while at the foot of the hall were to be seen the shields of the Mayor and ex-Mayor of Barrow. The buffet occupied the whole of a large platform, which extended to the end of the private boxes. Bros. Bagot and Roberts acted as Secretaries, and their duties were performed with credit to themselves. Bros. W. Gradwell, jun., and H. J. Klyne officiated as Masters of Ceremonies, while the Stewards were Bros. Wheddon, Richards, Ludlam, Nalder, and E. Morgan. The music was supplied by Norwood's celebrated string band from Preston, and they gave every satisfaction. Dancing commenced soon after nine o'clock, and the appearance of the gentlemen, wearing the insignia of their rank and office in Masonry, and of the ladies, who, without a single exception, were gorgeously attired, was a scene on which the eye loved to linger. The ball was a great success, and certainly it proved to be one of the best ever held in the town.

GRAND LODGE OF PENNSYLVANIA.

On December 27th the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania held its eighty-ninth annual communication in the Masonic Temple, Broad and Filbert Streets, Bro. Alfred R. Potter, Grand Master, presided. The proceedings were of a very interesting character to the Craft, and were marked by the usual harmony and fraternal courtesy.

It was stated that official notice had been received of the constitution of Grand Lodges in the territory of Wyoming and in Indian territory, and in the provinces of Manitoba and Prince Edward's Island.

Grand Master Potter, in retiring from office, delivered an appropriate address, showing that the Grand Lodge is in a most prosperous condition, and in communication with some eighty similar grand bodies, among them the new United Grand Lodge, Three Globes, of the German Empire.

The following officers, elected December 1st, were duly installed to serve for the year:—Grand Master, R. Clark; D.G.M., J. M. Porter; S.G.W., M. Nisbet; J.G.W., S. B. Dick; Grand Treasurer, F. R. Patton; Grand Secretary, J. Thomson.

G.M. Clark delivered a brief address, in which he alluded to the arrangements for the reception of the thousands of brethren from abroad who will visit the city next year.

A letter was read from William J. Hughan, the antiquary, of Truro, England, showing that Philadelphia was the "Mother city of Freemasonry on this continent," a lodge having been warranted and constituted here by Provincial Deputy Grand Master Daniel Cox, under a patent from the Grand Lodge of England, in 1730, and known and recognised in the registry of London as The Hoop, in Water-street, No. 79. Heretofore Boston has claimed the honour of having the first Masonic Lodge—that constituted by Provincial Grand Master Henry Price in 1733.

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are informed that acknowledgments of remittances received are published in the first number of every month.

NOTICE.—It is very necessary for our friends to advise us of all money orders they remit, more especially those from the United States of America and India; otherwise we cannot tell where to credit them.

TO ADVERTISERS.

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Answers to Correspondents.

All Communications, Advertisements, &c., intended for insertion in the Number of the following Saturday, must reach the Office not later than 12 o'clock on Wednesday morning.

J. L.—In answer to J. L., in England the W.M. solely appoints the officers, except Treasurer and Tyler. We do not know what the rule in Scotland is.

The following stand over:—

Letters from J. P. P., Lytleton, New Zealand; A Past Master; Oration by Bro. P. Rintoul; J. M. S. D. in our next; Lodge of Peace, Meltham, No. 149; Royal Brunswick Lodge, Sheffield, No. 296 (too late for this week—in our next); Granite Lodge, No. 1328; City of Westminster Lodge, No. 1563; Elliot Lodge, No. 1567; Lodge of Joppa, No. 188; Lodge Concord, No. 757; Lodge of Honour, No. 379; Stonehouse Chapter, Sincerity, No. 189; Temple Lodge of Mark Masters 173; Dyke's Conclave, No. 36; Masonic Ball at Huddersfield. ■

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

[The charge is 2s. 6d. for announcements, not exceeding four lines, under this heading.]

BIRTHS.

LANGLEY, wife of the Rev. William, M.A., Curate of St. Matthew's, at Leicester, Feb. 3, of a son.

PLUNKET, wife of the Hon. Arthur C. C., at Government House, Derry, Feb. 12, of a daughter.

MARRIAGE.

NELSON—COATES.—Nov. 30, at St. Paul's, Auckland, New Zealand, the Rev. G. M. Nelson, Incumbent of St. Paul's, to Georgiana Sophia, second daughter of the late James Coates, Esq., Montego Bay, Jamaica.

DEATHS.

LANGLEY.—Feb. 12, at Leicester, aged 37, Anne Catharine, dearly-loved and loving wife of the Rev. W. Langley, M.A., Curate of St. Matthew's, Leicester.

DOHERTY.—Feb. 7, at Vernon House, Weston Park, Bath, Anne Eliza, wife of Lieutenant-General H. E. Doherty, C.B., daughter of the late Sir W. Onslow, Bart.

POSTLETHWAITE.—Feb. 10, at Ulverston, Wm. Postlethwaite, Esq., banker, aged 86.

COLERIDGE.—Feb. 11, at Heaths Court, Ottery St. Mary, the Right Hon. Sir John Taylor Coleridge, aged 85.

The Freemason,

SATURDAY, FEB. 19, 1876.

OUR ROYAL GRAND MASTER IN INDIA.

In the "*Times*" of Saturday, the 12th, the telegraphic message appeared of date Feb. 11th from Calcutta—that the Serapis and Osborne has left that place for Bombay, in order to be in readiness for the embarkation of the Prince of Wales on his return to England. A hearty welcome awaits him from all classes here. The last account is as follows, from Shafia Khana, Feb. 16th, in the "*Times*" of 17th:—"The Prince of Wales, who is now on a shooting tour in Kumaon and the Nepaul Terai, camped last night at Nuggla Kumaon. The Royal party are

advancing by easy stages towards Nepaul, striking camp daily. There has been fair sport in deer and other game, but only one tiger has been seen. Yesterday his Royal Highness shot a fine bear, and Lord Aylesford another. All the party are in excellent health." We call attention to our Grand Master's kindness to his brethren in India, mentioned in another page.

THE ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

We congratulate our Order, the Managing Committee, and not the least, Bro. Terry, on the remarkable result of the anniversary and gathering for 1876 of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution. The sum total is a very large one, unprecedented in the annals of the Institution itself, and one that does all credit to the efforts of the Stewards, and the great and charitable impulses of our friendly and benevolent brotherhood. West Lancashire with its £1500 is a striking commentary in itself on the active charity of our good brethren in Liverpool especially, and on the popularity of our distinguished Deputy Grand Master! For this is the first Masonic charitable "Grand Assembly" of this year of grace and light, and if Bros. Little and Binckes are equally successful, which from Bro. Binckes' symbolical action at the festival we are inclined to augur and to hope, we shall have given to Masonic charity this year the interest at three per cent. of probably over a million of money. We therefore, trust that this first great gathering of 1876 is but the omen of and prelude to equal, nay, greater results to be obtained as the months roll on, and the Girls' and Boys' Schools each in turn appeal to a sympathetic and true-hearted brotherhood. And yet, despite a not unnatural and reasonable "pæan" of success we feel bound to "improve the occasion," and point out to our readers one or two truths and considerations alike pressing and important. Despite so much that has been done, is doing, and will be done in this year for Masonic charity, much remains to be done. Many lodges subscribe widely, many districts do grandly, many individuals make most genuine and striking efforts, but yet a large number of our lodges do nothing at all! We have before said, that in our opinion no lodge has really done its duty by the charities or to Masonic Benevolence, until it is a Vice-President if possible—at any rate a Life Governor, of the four Masonic Charities. Were we founding a new lodge to-day we should say "Make your first great rule the practice of your own Masonic principles, and make everything else subordinate to them. Curtail all unavoidable expenses, restrict your banquets, be content to work, so to say, on 'short commons,' until you are in a position to declare that your lodge, as representing your little brotherhood, was in possession of ten votes in perpetuity for each of the charities." If some think this too high a standard of Lodge Charity to inculcate or arrive at, let them remember that we are laying down first principles. We admit that it is impossible to form a rule applicable to all lodges, inasmuch as the position of the metropolitan lodges, and provincial lodges widely differs in one respect. In London the banquets are paid for out of the lodge subscriptions, in the provinces as a rule they are not. Hence the subscriptions in London represent the maximum, so to say, in the provinces the minimum, and London lodges, with some notable exceptions, deal with larger sums annually than the provincial lodges. But still we think much more may be done by the lodges on a general system than is done, and we therefore feel bound, as a "Masonic Mentor," to call the attention of our good brethren to the subject. We think that each lodge ought to have its Benevolent Fund created by special donations, and that from this grants should be made to the charities and individual brethren. And, throwing out respectfully these hints for the consideration of the Craft, we beg to close, as we commenced this article, with congratulations to all concerned for the signal success of the Festival of the 12th, and with earnest hope for an equal satisfactory return from the Girls' School and Boys' School anniversary gatherings.

THE SUEZ CANAL.

The East has always a charm for every thinking person. It lies still before us in its mystic grandeur, shrouded like Isis of old in all but impenetrable wonder and awe, silent and weird in its glamour and desolation like the stately and majestic Sphinx. It is still a land of marvels and strange contrasts, of moving memories and captivating realities. We wander in its crowded cities, or move amidst its isolated ruins, spell-bound, fascinated, awe struck! The genius of the land still seems to enthrall us and surround us at every step we take, at every sight we pause, with a magic and subduing influence. Go where we will our minds perforce recur to those oriental tales which delighted us so much in happier years. In Cairo especially, the memories of the "Arabian Nights" still cling to us, and though perhaps we do not find "cream tarts with or without pepper," we can still see a veiled lady on a shopping excursion, we still can realize the existence of those lively personages who crowd the pleasant pages of that delightful book, we still see the scar on Amine's cheek, and listen to the sagacious but somewhat voluble Zobeide, and admire the silent, and discreet, and listening Sultan. How unlike modern husbands! Smith of to-day says to Robinson of to-day, "Fine weather, old boy. My wife has lost her voice, and can't talk. Just suits me, old fellow." Painful contrast! "But revenons a nos moutons." And the East has ever, too, a lasting interest for Freemasons, for Freemasonry came from the East, remember. In saying this we do not forget the great principles of cause and effect, of origin and development, of historical accuracy, of archaeological truth. Freemasonry is no doubt lineally and directly from the Operative Guilds, but the guilds had through Roman, through Ecurian, through Hebrew, through Grecian, through Phœnician Confraternities, after all, we believe, a purely Eastern origin. And if that ancestry of ours be in the remote ages of the past, it is still our ancestry, and one of which we may all be proud. Egypt especially has historic claims for us, is perhaps for us the "missing link," inasmuch as there can be no doubt but that a portion at any rate of the Egyptian initiatory system was grafted at a very early period into the "secreta receptio" of the building sodalities. Masons' marks can still be seen on the interior walls of the Pyramids, identical with those in use elsewhere, and with those in use in much later epochs. We have, then, as Freemasons, a deep and abiding interest in all that relates to the East, and not the least to Egypt. Without entering upon political disquisitions, or discussing affairs of state, always forbidden to Freemasons, we may we think be permitted to rejoice that by a wise and enlightened decision the Government of our country has acquired national rights and vested interests in that remarkable undertaking, the Suez Canal. Independently of the absolute necessity of preserving at any cost our highway to India, and of maintaining our prestige in the Mediterranean, we think that all that tends to bring nations closer to each other under the guarantees of law, of order, of civilization, of good government, constitutes a fresh pledge for the preservation of the peace of the world, and is therefore a true blessing to humanity. In, therefore, the interests of brotherly goodwill and cosmopolitan unity, we hail this, in our humble opinion, judicious step of Her Majesty's constitutional advisers, and we trust, as we believe, that it will tend more and more to the welfare of Egypt, the extension of commerce, to the benign and elevating influences of civilizing progress and general intercourse. We think that M. Lesseps has deserved well of all who, looking beyond the somewhat narrow limits of local prejudices and even national interests, can regard with approval the onward march of that great army of the human race, on whose banners are inscribed the pleasant words, Toleration, Improvement, Goodwill; "whose victories are ever victories of peaceful enthusiasm, whose successes are ever successes of humanitarian sympathy and fraternal concord." We therefore, not as politicians but as Freemasons, rejoice in the acquisition by this country of active interests in that most important and striking enterprise, the Suez Canal.

MASONIC PUFFERY.

It has been said that we live in an age of "puffing," and that the "To Kalon" of the day is to advertise. Well in business we think that advertising is so to say the guarantee of success, inasmuch, as by the common law of the world, if you can only persuade people to take you at your own valuation, or to believe in what you have to say, to offer, or to sell, you are fully sure to succeed! Hence advertising, though no doubt in its enlarged use a specialité of our own days, is after all, but a development of the world's normal theories of progress and success. And no one can object to business advertisements, quâ business advertisements, they constitute in fact part of the capital and paraphernalia of trade! Harmless puffs of this or that commodity, prosaic or poetic recommendations of this or that "superior article," are in themselves not only allowable but useful, as many no doubt are led to discover wants of which they were not previously sensible, and to make purchases of what is so indispensable, whether for use or ornament. So that necessities become luxuries and luxuries become necessities, and all this is for the good of trade! As Mr. Weller observed of old, even the undertakers must live! But puffing and advertising degenerate into a nuisance, whenever they are used for personal pretensions, or for individual notoriety. Here it is, that as far as advertising is concerned, the legitimate, becomes illegitimate, and the reasonable ridiculous! The obtrusion of individual excellencies, however great, and the unseasonable reminder of special enterprises may be made not only a nuisance, but an impertinence! There are times and seasons for all things here, and we are all influenced every now and then perhaps more than at other times by the awakened memory of the merits of persons and things. But when without rhyme or reason such claims and reminders are thrust upon our notice, "no- lentes volentes," they are apt to miss their mark, and we are ourselves certain to resent the intrusion. They then become, as we ventured before to think, a bore, and even a discourtesy. There are moments when we wish to be free, even from the thralldom of business, the cares of the office, the tricks of trade, and the commonplace routine of the counting house, the shop, the warehouse. Puffery may, as we pointed out, be quite legitimate within certain limits, but Masonic puffery is to be seriously deprecated! If our neighbours will not believe in us, without soft and sedative puffs, we fear that we are likely not to be believed in at all! Let us therefore try to keep out of Masonic personality and individuality, the art of puffery, praise made easy, and commendation rendered ludicrous. Though there is nothing so easy as to blame, remember there is equally nothing so facile as to praise, and overpraise, puffery of any kind, Masonic puffery "surtout," are sure in the long run to leave us stranded like disconsolate whales high and dry on the great shore of Masonic ridicule and profane contempt.

INCREASE OF ANNUITANTS.

We are very happy in being permitted to announce that ten additional widows will be placed on the Fund of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution. We feel sure this will be good news to many, and will be deeply appreciated by the Craft at large. Might we venture to suggest to the committee and Bro. Terry, the zealous and hard working Secretary, (whose salary we were glad to see had been very properly augmented) that the time has come, when the men's annuities should be raised to £45, and the women's to £32 annually? This would be equally, we are sure, hailed by the Order as a step in the right direction.

KENNING'S CYCLOPÆDIA.

In the specimen page printed last week, for "Free born" read "Free men." The specimen page will shortly be reprinted for the information of the brethren, as finally corrected and revised.

WIPE YOUR FEET.—The best Cocoa Nut Mats and Matting are made by Treloir and Sons, 69, Ludgate-hill.

THE WILSON MS.

I am happy to state that this MS., whose whereabouts has long been sought for, is now proved to be extant.

It is alluded to by Hutchinson and Preston, and is said by the latter in his famous "Manifesto" to be of the reign of Henry VIII.

It was then said to be in the hands of Mr. Wilson, of Broomhead, near Sheffield, Yorkshire.

But as it appeared on due enquiry that the Wilson Charter or MS. was sold to the well-known collector of MS., Sir Thomas Phillips some years back, it became necessary to find out what was their subsequent fate.

They still exist in the possession of his son-in-law.

The MS. is described as "an old MS. on vellum, a book by itself." There is also in the same collection an Italian MS., which is in all probability the original of some books printed at Venice, on Masonry, about 1780 or 1784.

I hope before long to obtain a transcript of the MS., which will be a great addition to our archaeological evidences, and to ascertain its exact date.

A. F. A. WOODFORD.

Original Correspondence.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for, or even as approving of the opinions expressed by our correspondents, but we wish, in a spirit of fair play to all, to permit—within certain necessary limits—free discussion.—Ed.]

WELCOME OF OUR GRAND MASTER.

To the Editor of The Freemason.

Dear Sir, and Brother,—

When our Grand Master returns, could there not be a Masonic welcome of him? Why should not our Annual Grand Festival be made special, and held, say at the Alexandra Palace?

If the authorities at the Grand Lodge would take the matter up, we might have I do not hesitate to say, one of the noblest gatherings this country has ever seen, and one in which our entire Craft would gladly take part.

I am so bold as to add, that I would admit our fair sisters.

It is just possible that the charming and august wife of our Grand Master would deign to be present.

Here is an idea—is it good for anything? Can it be worked out?—Yours fraternally,

AN OLD-ENGLISH MASON.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I shall be glad to know if any project is on foot to give our Royal Grand Master a Masonic welcome on his return to this country.

I beg to suggest a grand Masonic ball, and that the proceeds over and above expenses be divided between the Masonic Charities.

Should the idea meet with the views of the Craft, I shall be glad to contribute my mite towards preliminary expenses.

I am, dear Sir and Brother, yours fraternally,

E. J. WATFORD.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

As it may gratify the brethren in England to hear that His Royal Highness our Grand Master is not forgetting the Craft in the far East on his journey up country from Calcutta, he called here at Bankipore, the civil station of Patna, the capital of Bihar, and held a Grand Durbar, where he received some of the oldest and most noted of our Indian dependencies. Lodge True Brothers, No. 1210, of Dinapore (the military station seven miles distant), headed by their Master in full regalia, were the first to receive him at the entrance to the ceremony. He was highly pleased, but before the presentations were over we had somewhat more reason to be gratified. Our Grand Master had not forgotten us, for in front of the whole assembly he called for the Freemasons, who were marshalled in double file right up the centre of the platform by the W.M., and severally presented by name as Brother A., B., &c. We were most graciously received. It was a great honour to us personally, and a credit to the Craft generally.

I am, Sir and Brother, yours fraternally,

M. V. MINN, W.M.,

Lodge True Brothers, 1210,

Dinapore.

Bankipore, Jan. 11th, 1876.

MASTER MASON'S JEWELS.

To the Editor of The Freemason.

Dear Sir, and Brother,—

I am glad that a Master Mason has again opened the question of jewels for Master Masons, as I cannot find the slightest authority for such, but (with all deference to your editorial dictum) a distinct prohibition, a prohibition so marked that I should certainly protest against their being worn in a lodge in which I presided. I trust that these repeated letters will call the attention of the Grand Lodge to the question, so that the matter may be definitely settled.—I am, yours fraternally,

ONE WHO OCCUPIES THE CHAIR
OF K.S. FOR THE FOURTH TIME.

[We should like to try the question with the W.M. before the Board of General Purposes. The "onus probandi" rests upon him to prove that the five pointed star, worn by Master Masons is "inconsistent" with any of the degrees recognised by the Grand Lodge.—Ed.]

CENTENARY FESTIVAL OF THE ST. ANDREW'S LODGE, No. 231.

This distinguished lodge met at the Freemasons' Hall Great Queen-street, on Thursday, the 3rd inst., on an occasion of more than ordinary interest, it being not only appointed for the installation of the Worshipful Master, but for the celebration of the centenary of the foundation of the lodge. Among the large number of brethren present were:—Bros. G. A. Ibbetson, W.M.; Harry Weston I.P.M.; J. H. Paul, W.M. elect; Richards, P.M.; J. Messent, P.M. and Treasurer; Curtis, P.M.; Webster, P.M.; Robbins, P.M.; Bridger, P.M.; Harding, P.M.; Potter, P.M.; Benjamin West, P.M.; Gregson, S.W.; Mitchell, J.W.; Henry Cutler, Honorary Secretary; E. R. Cutler, S.D.; C. J. Edwards, J.D.; Calkin Lewis, I.G.; Graham, W. J. Hollebone, C. D. Hoblyn, W. T. T. Hall, H. Hughes Hallett, F. Hollebone, Miller, Bailly, H. B. Mason, Stanford, Bryan, Sherwood, J. L. White, A. Blumenthal, Tussaud, F. S. Hoblyn. Visitors: Sir Wyndham Knatchbull, M.P., No. 1414; George Lambert, P.M.; J. E. Remdorp, D. Betts, P.M.; Dr. Richardson, P.M.; R. Glover, P.M.; G. Bubbs, P.M.; Hyde Pullen, J. Heaton, B. H. van Tromp, C. D. Mackenzie, Croucio, P.M.; Dr. Grotorex, P.M.; Dr. J. J. Moore, P.M.; M. G. Quihampton, Herbert Adams, P.M.; A. Henson, F. Webb, J. Crews, J. Courbeton, Dr. Ramsey, of Inveresk; E. B. Webb, J. W. Goldsboro, W. Chubb, P.M.; Thos. Quihampton, J. W. Watts, W. Dyott Burnaby, Capt. F. C. Hughes Hallett, Chas. Addicott, W. H. Gulliford, J. P. Pennecfaher, Chas. Dickens, P.M.; Sir W. W. Drake, Bart., H. W. Davis, F. Chifferiel, J. K. Stead, F. W. B. Natusch, P.M.; Hollingsworth, R. Risdon, P.M.; J. Morgan, P.M., P. Prov. G. R. Hants.; G. E. Douglas, J. M. De Vrus, R.N.; P. G. Parkhurst, A. M. Wallis, P.M.; W. G. Almond, G. McRae, Alfred Smee, F.R.S.; Col. Honeywood, C. C. Stevens, W. Jackson, F. Brewer.

The W. Bro. John Messent having taken the chair, installed Bro. J. H. Paul, P.M., as Worshipful Master, in the presence of a Board of Installed Masters, numbering twenty-four brethren.

The following brethren, all of whom are Past Masters, were invested by the W.M. as the officers for the ensuing year:—W. Bros. Ibbetson, I.P.M.; Alfred Richards, as S.W.; C. J. Curtis, J.W.; John Messent, Treas.; Henry Cutler, Hon. Sec.; W. S. Webster, S.D.; John Robbins, J.D.; Henry Bridger, I.G.; Charles Harding, D. of C.; Western, Assist. D. of C.; Longstaff, Tyler.

After the investment of officers, Bro. Messent, in a very impressive manner, delivered the customary addresses to the Master, Wardens and brethren, after which a procession, formed by the following officers of the Grand Lodge of England, preceded by Stewards, entered the lodge-room, the brethren rising to receive them, and Bro. W. Ganz, P.G.O., playing a grand march during the procession and until the brethren were again seated.

The following Grand Officers were also present:—Rt. Hon. Earl of Limerick, P.G.M. for Bristol; Lieut.-General Brownrigg, C.B., P.G.M. for Surrey; Colonel Arthur Cole, C.B., P.G.M. for Surrey; Sir Albert W. Woods, Garter, P.G.W.; Samuel Tomkins, Grand Treasurer; John B. Monckton, President of Board of General Purposes; John Hervey, Grand Secretary; H. P. Dumas, P.G.D.; F. A. Philbrick, O.C., P.G.D.; John A. Rucker, P.G.D.; J. C. Parkinson, P.G.D., and P.D.P.G.M. for Middlesex; Thos. Fenn, P.G.D.; N. Bradford, P.A.G.D.C.; Conrad Dumas, P.A.G.D.C.; Dr. W. R. Woodman, G.P.; Wilhelm Ganz, P.G.O.; Peter de Lande Long, V.P. of Board General Purposes; Clavius Hansard, P.G.S.; Major Shadwell Clerke, P.P.G.S. for North Devon; Dr. Rhys Williams, P.G.S.; F. J. Corder, P.G.S.

The W.M. having handed the gavel to Bro. the Earl of Limerick, who gracefully returned the same, called upon the Secretary to read the letters he had received from those brethren who were prevented from joining the lodge, and Bro. Cutler, Hon. Sec., read letters from several distinguished brethren.

The Director of Ceremonies, Bro. Charles Harding, P.M., by command of the W.M., read from a list the names and titles of those present, and bade the visitors hearty welcome to the lodge.

The warrant of the Grand Lodge, authorizing the members of the lodge to wear a commemorative jewel, was read by the Secretary.

The W.M. then called on Bro. John Messent, P.M., to read his paper on the history of St. Andrew's Lodge from its formation to the present time. This was listened to with great interest by the brethren, and Bro. Messent was warmly greeted at its conclusion.

From this paper (which, by the wish of the lodge, we understand will be printed) we have been kindly permitted by Bro. Messent to extract the following account of the migrations, &c., of the lodge since its foundation:—

"Founded in 1776, its first meetings were held at the Coach and Horses, Queen Anne-street (the number of the lodge at that time being 490).

"The original warrant having been lost or destroyed, a warrant of confirmation was obtained on the first of June, 1829, under which the lodge now acts. The first Master was one Bro. William Shepherd; the S.W. Bro. James Hamilton; and the J.W., Bro. James Wilson. Bro. Shepherd was re-elected Master in 1777 and 1781, was succeeded by Bro. Peter Lacon; the number of the lodge was now changed to 396. In 1788, the Master was one Bro. Charles Stewart."

"For some time prior to the year 1805 the meetings were held at the Black Dog, St. James's; after which the lodge was removed to St. James's Tavern, Great Marylebone-street. In 1806, Joseph Grimaldi was initiated in the lodge; from 1807, the lodge was held successively at the Wheatsheaf, in the Strand; The Freemasons' Tavern; the White Lion, Oxford-street; King's Head, Cumberland-street; Union Tavern, New Bridge-street; Three Tuns;

Fetter-lane; Cannon Coffee House, Cockspur-street; Betty's Coffee House, Strand; Piazza Hotel, Covent Garden; and from 1847, again at the Freemasons' Tavern."

The R.W. Bro. the Earl of Limerick expressed the happiness he felt in being present, and the pleasure with which he had listened to Bro. Messent's paper, and concluded by wishing the lodge God speed for the future.

"Hearty Good Wishes" having been expressed by the brethren, on behalf of their respective provinces and lodges, the lodge was closed, and the brethren, to the number of 112, sat down to an elegant banquet (à la Russe) prepared under the direction of Bro. Francatelli, the able chef of the Freemasons' Tavern.

On the removal of the cloth, Grace from the Laudi Spirituali was sung by Mesdames Sinclair and Belval, and Bros. George Perren and F. Penna, accompanied by Bro. Wilhelm Ganz, P.G.O., on the pianoforte. In proposing "The Health of the Queen" the W.M. said it did not require any eloquence on his part to insure a most cordial reception of the toast, one always warmly received by Masons; it was well-known that three out of her four sons were Masons, and it was only to be regretted she could not be one herself. In order therefore to receive this toast with Masonic honours, it is necessary to couple the name of Her Majesty with the Craft. Brethren, I give you "The Queen and the Craft."

After the National Anthem, in which the brethren joined, had been sung.

The W.M. said: The next toast is that of our "Most Worshipful Grand Master." I call on you to greet this toast with all cordiality and fervour, not only because the Prince of Wales is our Masonic Sovereign, but also on account of the personal regard and affection in which every Freemason holds his Royal Highness. He is, as we all know, now in India, where, whenever he has an opportunity of acting in his capacity of Grand Master, he is always present. Every one here wishes him a prosperous journey, and I ask you to drink his health, wishing him a safe return to his native land.

National song, "God save the Prince of Wales," composed by Bro. W. Ganz, P.G.O., and sung by Bro. George Perren.

The W.M. proposed "The Health of the Earl of Carnarvon, Pro. Grand Master," and said: We all know how popular he is amongst us, and how, in spite of his onerous duties as one of Her Majesty's Secretaries of State, he still makes time to fulfil thoroughly the duties of Pro. Grand Master.

Glee, "In this hour of softened splendour."

W.M.: Brethren, the last toasts have been in some respects toasts of ceremony, though I am sure we have drunk them with all our hearts, but the toast I now propose is not only one of ceremony, but one that refers to brethren with whom many of us are more or less acquainted. The toast of "The Health of the Right Worshipful Bro. Lord Skelmersdale, Deputy Grand Master, and the Present and Past Grand Officers of the Grand Lodge of England." There are here present this evening many Grand Officers, who without exception are daily doing good service to Masonry, have done much in time past, and quite ready and willing to do much more again. Time will not allow me to-night to mention the especial manner in which many of the Grand Officers here are deserving of our thanks, but I am sure you will agree with me they merit our warmest approbation and our most cordial greeting. In connection with this toast I especially mention the name of Bro. the Earl of Limerick, whom I am pleased to see at my right hand to-night, and I call on his lordship to acknowledge the toast.

The R.W. Bro. Earl of Limerick replied,

Worshipful Master and brethren—I must say I never felt myself to be on any occasion more than I do on the present one in the wrong place. When I see our Grand Secretary's smiling face, and when I see the two officers here who contributed so much to the success of the installation of His Royal Highness, I must say I am not the person who ought to return thanks on this occasion; there are many who would do it in words I am incapable of making use of, still I can say I feel deeply your kindness in proposing this toast, and I am only interpreting the feelings of the Grand Officers when I thank you for your kindness in asking us to the magnificent hospitality of St. Andrew's Lodge; it will never be forgotten by any now here, and will be regretted by those who have not been here. I express the wish that this lodge may go on and prosper "till time shall be no more."

R. W. Bro. Lieut.-General Brownrigg, C.B.: Experience has taught me that old age in Masonry has its privileges as well as its penalties; it rarely happens to the lot of a visitor to have the privilege of proposing a toast. The toast is "The Health of the Worshipful Master, and success to the Lodge of St. Andrew." It would be an impertinence in me if I ventured to speak of the Worshipful Master; unfortunately for acquaintance with him is slight, but he is well known to many of the visitors of this lodge from the fact of his being installed Master of this lodge for the second time; my toast is made much more difficult, but I think we all must have been delighted at the opportunity given us to attend this meeting; as Masons we are all charmed to see how the Craft flourishes, and after the lapse of a hundred years to find this old lodge flourishing. Here are the great grandchildren of the old members of this old lodge; nothing could be more interesting than such a celebration as this, and extremely interesting was the traditional history which the Brother Treasurer read to us this evening. After all this, what does it go to prove? It proves the excellence of our Craft, and how we hang together, and I hope, Worshipful Master and brethren, should time last so long, that in 1976 your descendants, great grandchildren and great great grandchildren, will be here to celebrate a second centenary. We drink to "The Health

of the Worshipful Master and to the prosperity of the St. Andrew's Lodge," and, as we find in the song written for this occasion,

Be bright its future history,

So let the goblet flow,

We'll drink the toast our fathers drank

One hundred years ago.

The W.M. replied: I feel embarrassed in returning thanks for the very great compliment the brethren of the St. Andrew's Lodge have paid me by placing me in this position. It is very many years since I first joined this lodge, and the brethren have always given me the greatest consideration. I have reached the culminating point of my ambition to-night in being installed for the second time its Master. This lodge is very near and dear to me, and I feel the compliments paid it by General Brownrigg are not undeserved. I trust it will for many, very many years, continue to go on and flourish, and be equal to any in the Craft. I am very proud to see so many distinguished visitors around this table, and grateful to them for joining so cordially with you in this toast. I will not now detain you longer than to say, once more, brethren, I thank you. Solo pianoforte "Fantasia," Bro. Wilhelm Ganz.

W.M.: The celebration of the centenary of our lodge has been the means of introducing to us many visitors, and I doubt if any one of my predecessors in the chair of this lodge has seen so goodly and so illustrious an array of guests as we are honoured with this evening. I am glad they are too numerous to be separately named, and I will not attempt to recite their titles and dignities, but I call upon you to drink their health most heartily. I am very pleased to see them, and I trust they will all understand that through me the St. Andrew's Lodge bids them a hearty welcome, that through me the St. Andrew's Lodge thanks them for their presence and co-operation on this great day for the lodge, and that we one and all sincerely hope they will carry away with them agreeable reminiscences of St. Andrew's Lodge. I call on Bro. Col. Lowry Cole to return thanks.

Bro. Col. Lowry Cole, C.B.: I can only say I am not the person who should return thanks for the visitors; there are those here who stand higher in your affections in every way. I have enjoyed myself as much as anybody, by the kind way in which we have been received. I speak for men of almost every profession, and almost every country, and I cannot possibly know what every man thinks, but on the common ground attached to our Craft. We have been asked here, and cannot but be grateful for it in every sense. Our creature comforts have been attended to on every side, and what is a great deal more, we have had a warm-hearted welcome, making the invitation doubly valuable. On this point I know every one will join with me. I am only sorry we are not likely to see another centenary, otherwise we should be delighted to look forward to it, but we must remember that we shall ere then be realising the great truth in our debt to the Great Architect of the Universe. I thank you, Worshipful Master, for the way in which you have spoken of the visitors.

Song, "By the Sad Sea Waves" (Benedict), Madame Belval, who, on being recalled, sang "She Wore a Wreath of Roses."

W. Bro. Philbrick, Q.C.: After the delightful strains of the vocalist it is difficult to bring you back from the young lady with the "wreaths on her brow;" at the same time, as one of the guests you have honoured to-night, I feel I should not discharge the duties which your hospitality has imposed on me if I did not ask you to drink the health of a body of brethren who might be included in two distinct toasts, for all the officers of the lodge are Past Masters also. I ask you to drink "The Health of the Past Masters." The Past Masters of all lodges constitute the strength of the lodge, it is they who hand down the traditions of the lodge, it is to them that the members look for encouragement and support in the duties of their respective lodges. Past Master Messent, in that able paper which we listened to with so much interest (I think), stated that in the year 1803 or 4, their lodge was possessed of only eight or nine members. We who are visitors here to-night know how flourishing is the state of the lodge now: the present occasion, however, is like the flowering of the aloe, which only blooms once in a hundred years, and although we cannot hope, like the sanguine youth who was tempted to wish to be present on the second centenary, we trust (whenever may be Masons at that period) the St. Andrew's Lodge will be going on prosperously. In asking you to recognise the services of the Past Masters I shall carry with me your best wishes, although they are now in subordinate offices in the lodge. I shall call upon you, Bro. Richards, the Senior Warden, to respond to this toast.

W. Bro. Richards, Brethren of the Grand Lodge, Worshipful Master, and Brethren: I assure you I experience great difficulty in responding to this toast after the eloquent speech of my old friend, Bro. Philbrick. It is not the first time that he and I have met, nor is it the first time I have had the pleasure of listening to his eloquence. I return thanks for "The Past Masters"—they have done their duty in presenting the petition to the Grand Master, and one of them read the excellent paper we heard this evening; every Past Master has stepped forward so that this day might pass off with that éclat which all were anxious it should do. The thanks of this lodge are also specially due to the late officers for the brotherly manner in which they have so kindly given up their immediate promotion by vacating their positions for the present year. From Bro. Messent's paper we find that the name of the first Master of this lodge was Shepherd. He must have been a good shepherd to have watched over it for one hundred years, and I am sure that my old friend and Worshipful Master who now presides over the lodge, and with whom I have been closely associated in many ways for a long time past, will prove to be an equally faithful guardian of the interests and welfare of the St. Andrew's Lodge. I can only say I thank you on behalf of the Past Masters, and can assure you

that, as regards the wish that has been expressed to be present at the second centenary, if it be in the power of the Past Masters, they give you the invitation.

Bro. J. C. Parkinson proposed "The Health of the Officers of the Lodge," including in the toast the names of Bros. Messent, Cutler, and Harding.

W. Bro. Messent: I have much pleasure in responding to the toast you have kindly given, and beg to assure the Grand Officers and visitors that if they have had any cause to be pleased, the officers of the lodge themselves have double cause to be so, and to highly appreciate their position. For the honour and credit of the lodge and of those who are its members, I feel exceedingly pleased they have appreciated the small part I have taken to-night. I am glad to find that two of my brother officers will also respond, and their labours will be more appreciated than mine. (No, no). I feel great pleasure in being here to-night and in witnessing the success which has attended this meeting. Bros. Cutler and Harding having also spoken in reply, the Tyler's toast was called for, and thus terminated the proceedings of the centenary festival of St. Andrew's Lodge.

Scotland.

TROON.—Navigation Lodge (No. 86) celebrated their 114th anniversary on Tuesday evening, the 8th inst., in their lodge-room. Laege deputations were present from several lodges, as well as a large turn out of the Troon brethren. Very able addresses were given by Bro. Stevenson, of the St. Andrew's, Irvine; Bro. Main, of St. Matthew's, Dregghorn; and by the W.M. Navigation, Troon. The usual loyal and patriotic toasts were given. The evening was enlivened by the singing of songs by some of the brethren, and by excellent music discoursed by Andrew's quadrille band.

PAISLEY.—Lodge St. Mirrins (No. 129).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held in their Masonic Hall, Paisley, on Monday evening, the 7th inst. Bro. A. McLeod, I.P.M., in the unavoidable absence of the W.M., Bro. H. S. Edmunds, through indisposition, occupied the chair; Bros. W. Gemmell, S.W., and G. Fisher, J.W. There were also present Bros. T. Bustard, D.M.; P. Blair, Treas.; A. Macpherson, Sec.; Rev. W. F. Mills, Chaplain; R. McLeod, S.D.; H. Hutton, J.D.; W. Ferguson ("Freemason"); and a number of visiting brethren. The Secretary read the minutes of last meeting, which were approved of. It was unanimously agreed to that the motion for raising the initiation fees be delayed until next meeting, when it was hoped the R.W.M. would be present. The lodge was then assumed on the Second Degree, when Bros. G. Smith, A. Watson, and R. Barbour were passed to the Fellow Craft Degree by Bro. W. Gemmell, S.W. Mr. J. Mitchell was afterwards admitted, and initiated into the Entered Apprentice Degree by Bro. G. Fisher, J.W. Both degrees were very ably gone through, assisted by the Rev. Bro. W. F. Mills, Chaplain. There being no other business of importance, the lodge was closed in due form.

RUTHERGLEN.—Lodge Royal Arch (No. 116).—A meeting of this lodge was held on Tuesday, the 8th inst., in the Council Hall, Rutherglen, Bro. W. Ferguson, I.P.M., in the chair; Bros. J. Cullen, S.W., and F. Price, J.W. The other office-bearers were present, and a large number of members and visiting brethren. On the lodge having been opened, Bros. Serj. D. Cornwall, 73rd Reg., and J. Bell were passed to the Fellow Craft Degree, and Bros. J. Bruce, J. Bell, and M. Paul were raised to the degree of Master Mason. The ceremony of passing and raising was performed by Bro. Ferguson in his usual able manner.

POLLOKSHAW.—Lodge Royal Arch (No. 153).—A meeting of this lodge was held in the Masonic Hall, Pollokshaw, on Friday evening, the 11th inst. Bro. J. Peters, W.M., in the chair; Bro. J. Black, S.W., and Bro. T. Hart, J.W. Amongst those present were Bros. W. Paton, D.M.; J. E. Peters, S.M.; D. H. Band, Sec.; W. McG. Adams, Dir. of Music; J. McCrae, T. Tommie, J. Forrest, J. Dalgish, A. White, D. Peebles, W. McDonald, 275; and W. Ferguson, P.M. ("Freemason"). The lodge was opened and the Secretary read minutes of last meeting, which were confirmed. The yearly statement was read, which showed the lodge to be in a very prosperous condition, and more especially considering that over £40 had been expended last year in altering the hall, and the purchasing of a harmonium which cost about £20. The committee appointed at last meeting to make arrangements for holding the annual festival reported that it was to be held in Maxwell's Arms, on Friday, the 3rd March. Mr. N. Thomas was then admitted, and initiated into the Entered Apprentice Degree by Bro. J. Peters, W.M.

PLANTATION.—A meeting of brethren favourable to the formation of a Masonic Lodge in Plantation, Glasgow, was held in the Choral Hall, Lambhill-street, on Tuesday evening, 1st inst. Bro. W. Ferguson, I.P.M. 543, in the chair. The following brethren were elected office-bearers: Bros. T. Stobo, W.M.; A. Gow, S.M.; D. Peacock, S.W.; A. Henry, J.W.; J. Taylor, Treas.; and Allan, Sec. It may be mentioned that the petition was duly forwarded to Grand Secretary, and that the charter was granted by Grand Lodge on Monday, the 7th inst. Arrangements are being made to hold the first meeting.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Scotia (No. 178).—The regular monthly meeting of this lodge was held in the M.H., 170, Buchanan-street, on Wednesday, the 9th inst. Bro. J. Singleton, W.M., in the chair; Bros. P. Hepburn, S.W.; and A. Mercer, J.W. Amongst those present were Bros. J. Matheson, P.M.; W. Higgins, D.M.; J. Logan, S.M.; H. Killin, Sec.; W. McDonald, S.D.; W. Hart, J.D.; J. Hamilton, S.S.; R. Mitchell, P.M. 332; J. Morgan, W.M. 219; Brown, S.D. 219; J. Law, I.P.M. 370; W. Ferguson ("Freemason"); and a large number of others. On the lodge being opened and the minutes of last meet

ing read and confirmed, a motion was made and unanimously agreed to, that, in consequence of the Kilwinning M.H. being taken for other purposes, we remove to the Star Lodge Room, Trongate, on and after May 1st. Four applications were then read for admission into the Order, and the same being favourably received, were admitted, and received the Entered Apprentice Degree at the hands of Bro. J. Matheson, P.M., viz.: Messrs. W. McDonald, J. May Elliott, W. Donaldson, and D. Gillies. Thereafter a brother was raised to the Sublime Degree of M.M.

GLASGOW.—Lodge St. George (No. 333).—The monthly meeting of this lodge was held on Wednesday, the 9th inst., in St. Mark's Hall, Buchanan-street, Bro. A. Thomson, W.M., presiding, ably supported by Bros. J. Forsyth, S.W.; R. Anderson, J.W.; J. McFarlane, D.M.; J. Findlay, S.M.; A. Dunn, Treas.; A. McIntyre, Sec.; J. Clark, Chap.; Adam Boyd, S.D.; T. Hill, J.D.; and A. Wright, I.G. The Secretary read minutes of last regular meeting, which were approved of. A subscription was then raised on behalf of the Fraser Testimonial. Messrs. R. A. Grandison, J. Findlay, and J. Robertson were initiated into the First Degree by Bro. J. Findlay, S.M. Bros. J. K. Adams, J. Cormack, and R. Hunter were passed to the Second Degree, which was again ably gone through by Bro. Findlay, S.M.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Caledonian Railway (No. 354).—At the regular meeting of this lodge, held in the Masonic Hall, 30, Hope-street, on Wednesday evening, and inst., Bro. A. Arrick Smith, P.M., in the chair; Bros. A. B. Ferguson, S.W., and John Harley, J.W. Present: Bros. D. Buchanan, D.M.; R. S. McLean, Secretary; Daniel Leitch, S.D.; James Harley, J.D.; Colin McKenzie, Jeweller; John Fraser, P.M. 87; David Reid, I.P.M. 465; Peter Brownlie, J.W. 34; George B. Davidson, S.W. 465; William Ferguson, P.M. ("Freemason"); A. R. Wilson, Chaplain 27; Daniel Cameron, 180 (Oban); and a large number of other visiting brethren and members of the lodge. Messrs. T. Stark, Writer, and W. McIlwraith, architect, were admitted and received the Entered Apprentice Degree at the hands of Bro. D. Reid, I.P.M. No. 465, in a very able and accurate manner. The annual festival of the lodge is to take place on the 8th March, in Bro. Thornton's Restaurant, Argyle-street. The next business before the meeting was installing into office the officers, who were elected at last meeting. On account of Bro. Shaw's resignation as W.M. the ceremony was ably gone through by Bro. A. A. Smith, P.M., assisted by Bro. John Fraser, P.M. No. 87. The following were installed:—Bros. A. B. Ferguson, S.W., as W.M.; J. Harley, J.W., as S.W.; Colin McKenzie, Jeweller, as J.W.; and J. Reid to the office of Jeweller. The lodge was then called to refreshment and put under the care of Bro. McKenzie, J.W., and after a most enjoyable evening was closed.

SPRINGBURN.—Lodge Kenmuir (No. 570).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held in their M.H., Springburn, on Thursday evening, the 10th inst. Bro. R. Aikman, W.M., presiding, supported by Bros. J. Law, I.P.M.; J. Rennie, D.M.; G. Dalgligh, S.M.; J. Mark, S.W.; W. Reid, J.W.; J. Sharp, Treas.; D. Russell, Sec.; J. Millar, J.D.; and others. Among the visiting brethren we noticed Bros. J. Morgan, W.M. 219; W. B. Stewart, 219; G. W. Wheeler, 73; Reddie Currie, 73; R. Gardner, 178; J. Allan, D.M. 28; J. Wilson, 384; W. Ferguson ("Freemason"); and a large number of others. The Secretary read minutes of last meeting, which were approved of. Bro. W. Reid, J.W., presented the lodge with a very handsome sword, and the W.M. moved a vote of thanks to Bro. Reid, which was heartily responded to. Mr. J. McCallum was initiated by Bro. Aikman, W.M., into the First Degree, and Bro. W. Buchanan was raised by Bro. W. Ferguson, I.P.M. 543. The bye-laws, as drawn up by the committee appointed for that purpose, were read for the first time, after which the lodge was closed.

[Reports of Neptune Kilwinning, and Clydesdale, 556; unavoidably stand over.]

FITZROY LODGE, No. 569, BALL.

The Fitzroy Lodge, No. 569, which is attached to the Hon. Artillery Company, gave their first ball, on Wednesday evening, at the Armoury House, Finsbury. Although the Hon. Artillery Company have for several years given a similar entertainment, the lodge has not, and when it was proposed by W. H. Hamilton to the brethren towards the close of 1875, it was first doubted whether it would be a success, and a few members raised their voices against it. They, however, soon adopted the views of the proposer and numerous other brethren, and heartily co-operated with them in arranging details and contributing to the success of all the arrangements. With such harmony it was impossible that anything but success could attend the event, and the result will no doubt encourage the brethren to repeat in future years an experiment which afforded the greatest satisfaction to over 200 ladies and gentlemen.

The brethren who formed the committee were Bros. H. J. Adams, P.M. of the lodge; Quarter-Master Brighton, J. C. Daniel, M.A., P.M. of the lodge; J. Dyer, Captain Egglese, P.M. and Sec. of the lodge; H. Hamilton, Captain R. Helsham, P.M. of the lodge; Lieutenant Holt, G. S. Potter, Griffiths Smith, P.M. of the lodge; Ensign Spicer, S.W. of the lodge; and Ensign Stohwasser.

The Stewards were Bros. W. J. Ansell, H. C. Barker, W. Birdseye, G. Blundell, Major C. J. Burgess, R. C. Cumberland, L. J. Drew, A. D. Everingham, R. B. Fastedge, Surgeon-Major P. J. Gowland, P.M.; F. Graves, W.M.; Captain J. M. Garrard, J. Glaskin, T. A. Henderson, W. H. Honey, P.M.; Captain W. C. Jay, W. Jolliffe, G. W. Lay, J. W. Long, P.M.; A. R. Louch, W. H. Main, P. Matthews, P.M. and Treas.; H. Mercer, W. Perrin, J. C. Sanderson, J. Smith, P. Watson, P.M.; K. G. Webster, Sergeant I. J. H. Wilkins, T. Wilson, P.M.; Sergeant G. F. Wilson, W. J. Worthington, J. Hutchinson. Bro. F. J. Stohwasser, was Hon. Sec.

The company began to assemble shortly after eight o'clock, when the carriages drove into the grounds up to the main entrance of the Armoury House, at which a brilliant star double fronted, was displayed, one face looking towards Finsbury, and the other towards Bunhill-row. On entering, visitors found "cannon to right of them, cannon to left of them," with trophies of arms between every two guns; and a liberal supply of beautiful evergreens. Over head were a number of flags and banners, which added a considerable appearance of gaiety to the scene. Before passing the fine old staircase which will accommodate five men abreast, every lady was presented by Sergeant-Major Andrews, who took tickets, with a programme.

The lodge-room, which is on the same floor as the ball-room, was cleared of furniture, so that all the company had a good opportunity of inspecting the old pictures and engravings which adorn the walls, and are so very interesting not only as works of art, but as historical reminders. The ball-room presented a very pleasant appearance. It had been laid with a handsome light-coloured pattern flooring, and was lighted by five handsome gaseliers. The room had been artistically arranged by the armourers from the Tower of London, who certainly had performed their task in a most masterly manner. At one end of the room stood that fine figure in full armour, which is considered the most perfect suit of armour in the kingdom, while the lance he bore, from its enormous length, was the surprise of all who viewed it. Every compartment between the windows, which look out on to the exercise ground, was filled with trophies of ancient arms and regimental flags of ancient date, many of which hung in tatters. The effect produced by these was much increased by the show of old armour belonging to the Honourable Artillery Company, which has been recently hanged on the walls. Flags and other military surroundings, including arms, were also placed on the opposite wall; and at the orchestra end of the room the orchestra was erected so as to extend right across. It was draped, and adorned with shields, the centre one having upon it the words "Fitzroy Lodge, 569," the shield on the left bearing the motto, "Loyalty and Fidelity," and that on the right, "Brotherhood and Benevolence." The band of the regiment furnished the music, and was conducted by Bro. Signor Tamplini, the master of the band.

On the northern wall, between the two paintings, one of the late Prince Consort, and the other of the Prince of Wales, Captain General of the corps, was the beautiful Milton shield, which represents passages in "Paradise Lost," and around the medallion representing those passages exhibits the names of the winners of His Royal Highness's annual prize of £20, since the year 1864. This handsome shield, which was manufactured by Messrs. Elkington, was presented to the corps by Bro. H. Hamilton, and is an object well deserving careful attention.

The usual appearance of a ball-room, with the magnificent and elegant dresses of the ladies is so well known, that if this had been an ordinary ball, it would have been unnecessary to give a full description of it; but being held in anything but an ordinary building, and the gentlemen being in full military costume, the details we give may be interesting. All the members of the lodge, and all the members of the Hon. Artillery Company, who are not members of the lodge, attended in uniform, as did also those visitors who belonged to other regiments. The scarlet uniform, and the blue uniform, therefore, one of which was to be found by the side of every lady, added, however elegantly the lady might be dressed, very much to the impressive effect created by herself, and whatever charms she possessed were heightened by the costume of her partner. The programmes before mentioned, were of themselves a testimony to the good taste of the Stewards and committee, their outside colours being that of the Artillery Company, scarlet and gold; and the inside being blue and white, the colours of Freemasonry. The programme consisted of twenty-four dances divided into two parts of twelve each: quadrille, waltz, galop, Lancers, Waltz, quadrille, galop, Caledonians, waltz, quadrille, Schottische and galop, formed the first part; while the second was composed of waltz, quadrille, galop, Caledonian, waltz, galop, quadrille, waltz, Lancers, quadrille, waltz and galop. The music to which these were danced was, Princess of Trebizonde, Alberta, Neck and Neck, Varsity, Soldaten Lieder, Girofle-Girofla, Always Jolly, New Corps Tanze, La Vie Parisienne, Fashionable Fantasia, Manolo, Fille de Madam Angot, Princes Maria, Scotch Young Gentlemen, Now Here Now There, Blue Beard, New Vienna, Original, La Reine de Saba, Blue Danube, Up and Off. Between the two parts, which was about half-past twelve o'clock, the company adjourned to supper, which was provided by Mr. W. Day, of Southampton Row, Holborn, whose experience in these matters is very great, and who for more than thirty years has supplied the refreshments of the Hon. Artillery Company's annual ball. More than 200 ladies and gentlemen sat down, but the arrangements were so excellent that there was no crowding, and no lack of refreshments. The supper was in fact splendidly supplied. A portion of the drill shed was enclosed within canvas walls elegantly decorated. Across one end was the principal table where Bro. Graves, W.M., sat, and four tables were ranged at right angles with it. Over the Master's table were the words "Honourable Artillery Company," and Peace and Prosperity to the Fitzroy Lodge." On the wall on the right were the words "All Honour to Her Majesty the Queen, Patroness of the Craft;" and on the opposite wall, "All Honour to the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M." Flowers and fruit were elegantly disposed on the tables, and the room was brilliantly lighted by candelabra and gas. After a hearty meal, in which there was great enjoyment and much fun, the W.M. gave the loyal toasts and the toasts of "The Ladies" and "Visitors," which having been replied to by Sir E. Lee and Bro. Stohwasser, the company returned to the ball room and kept the amuse-

ments going till a late hour. The greatest praise is due to all concerned in the arrangements, which attained their end of making every one happy and comfortable.

LODGE OF BENEVOLENCE.

The monthly meeting of the Lodge of Benevolence was held on Wednesday evening, in the Board-room, Freemasons' Hall, Bro. John M. Clabon, P.G.D., President of the Board, presided; Bro. Joshua Nunn, P.G.S.B., Senior Vice President; and Bro. James Brett, P.G.P., Junior Vice President. There were also present Bros. R. J. Spiers, P.G.S.B.; Raynham W. Stewart, P.G.D.; Joseph Smith, P.G.P.; John Boyd, P.G.P.; C. A. Cottebrune, P.G.P.; Thos. Cubitt, P.G.P.; E. P. Albert, A.G.P.; Thos. Wright, G.P.; W. T. Howe, S. Poynter, H. Bartlett, C. F. Hogard, W. Koch, T. J. Sabine, Peter Matthews, F. Binckes, J. Bingemann, W. M. Levy, J. Thomas, B. H. Swallow, J. M. Stedwell, M. S. Larkham, H. Marsh, R. Marsh, H. Massey, ("Freemason"), Samuel May, W. H. Lee, Geo. Bolton, Clarence Harcourt, J. Wilcocks, Dr. Moore, Geo. Everett, W. H. Myers, W. H. Stevens, W. J. Murlis, W. Mann, R. Wentworth Little, and W. Dodd.

Bro. John Hervey, G.S., also attended, and was assisted by Bros. H. G. Buss and A. A. Pendlebury. Bro. C. B. Payne was at his post as G. Tyler.

The Board of Masters was first held, when the paper of business for next meeting of Grand Lodge was settled. The grants of last Board, which required confirmation, amounting to £130, were then confirmed; and the brethren proceeded with the consideration of the new cases, of which there were no less than twenty-eight. The majority of them were of the most distressing and heartrending character, and their number, as well as the distress they exhibited, confirmed the assertion we have often given expression to, that the boasted large and rapid increase of the Order must throw on the whole Craft duties and responsibilities to which its great success has in the moment of prosperity caused them to shut their eyes.

Month by month are the grants made by the Board increased, till at last the brethren have begun to say, Where will it end, and where are the funds ultimately to come from? Fortunately these funds are now large, and at present the Board is able to be liberal. They were not less liberal than usual on Wednesday evening, when, happily for the recipients of their bounty, the amount of distress, and not the services in Masonry, was the measure of liberality. £700 were voted; and this amount was composed of three sums of £75 each, two £50, two £40, one £25, five £30, four £15, and eleven £10.

The lodge was then closed, the brethren having sat four hours.

Masonic and General Tidings.

ST. DUNSTON'S LODGE, No. 1589.—The consecration of this lodge took place on Friday. A full report will be given in our next.

Bro. Sir Cordy Burrows, (Prov. G.M.M., Sussex) presided over the annual meeting of the subscribers to the Brighton and Hove Provident Dispensary, which was held on Thursday last, at the Town Hall. A very encouraging and satisfactory report was presented, showing that the operations of the medical charity have been considerably extended during the year.

THE LONDON TAVERN.—The freehold (containing an area of 6,500 feet) has been disposed of by Messrs. Farebrother and Co. to the directors of the Royal Bank of Scotland for £80,000.

"The Canadian Masonic News" for February contains a portrait of R.W. Bro. James O'Halloran, Q.C., D.G.M. Grand Lodge of Quebec.

We understand that the Original or Premier Conclave of England and the General Grand Conclave of the Red Cross Order will meet at the Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street, on Wednesday, the 8th March, upon which occasion the Rt. Hon. Lord Skelmersdale, P.G.M., has signified his intention to be present.

The Duke of Edinburgh has kindly consented to devote the next concert of the Royal Albert Hall Orchestral Society to the benefit of the London Hospital. The concert will be on March 4th, a day fixed by His Royal Highness in order to allow of his being personally present.

We are glad to be able to state that there is no foundation for the rumour to which a Dublin newspaper has given currency that His Grace the Duke of Abercorn (M.W.G.M., Ireland), is about to resign the Lord Lieutenancy of Ireland.

An emergency meeting of the Royal Oak Lodge, No. 871, will be held at the White Swan Tavern, High-street, Deptford, on Monday next, at 7 o'clock.

The Abbey Lodge, No. 1592, will be consecrated this day (Saturday) at the Suffolk Hotel, Bury St. Edmunds.

KENNING'S CYCLOPEDIA OF FREEMASONRY.—The price of this work to original subscribers is 7s. 6d., the list remaining open until June 1st. After that date the price will be 10s. 6d. Orders may be sent addressed to the publisher of this paper.

Bro. Dr. Vincent Ambler has been elected an Honorary Secretary of the Hospital Saturday Fund.

Bro. H.R.H. Prince Leopold will be installed as Provincial Grand Master of Oxfordshire on Wednesday next. A full report of the proceedings will appear in our next.

THE ROSICRUCIAN AND MASONIC RECORD.—This quarterly magazine which has been for nearly eight years, the organ of the Rosicrucian Society, will henceforth be published with the view of enlisting the support of those brethren of the Masonic Fraternity, who are associated with the Christian and Philosophical Degrees. The field of general Masonic literature being already well occupied, the "Rosicrucian and Masonic Record," will be devoted mainly to the examination and elucidation of Freemasonry in its more æsthetic relation with symbolism, science, and thought. Facts and occurrences of an interesting character will, however, be duly noticed, and meetings of Rosicrucians and Philosophical Masons regularly recorded. Several brethren of literary attainments have promised cordial co-operation, and the magazine will continue to be edited by Bros. R. Wentworth Little, and William Robert Woodman, M.D. The publisher is prepared to enlarge the magazine to 48 pages, for the price of one shilling, the numbers to be published in January, April, July, and October.

Bro. C. Horsley presided at an "At Home" of the Urban Club last week.

On Thursday last the comedy of "Our Boys" reached its 350th representation at Bro. Thorne and James's pretty Theatre the Vandeville.

METROPOLITAN MASONIC MEETINGS For the Week ending Friday, February 25, 1876.

The Editor will be glad to receive notice from Secretaries of Craft Lodges, Royal Arch Chapters, Mark Lodges, Preceptories, Conclaves, &c., of any change in place or time of meeting.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 19.

Lodge 715, Panmure, Balham Hot., Balham.
" 1364, Earl of Zetland, Old Town Hall, Hackney.
Chap. 176, Caveac, Albion, Aldersgate-st.
Mark Lodge, 104, Macdonald, M.H., Masons' Avenue.
LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.
Lily, Greyhound, Richmond.
Manchester, 179, London-st., Fitzroy-square.
Star, Marquis of Granby, New Cross Road.
Sinai Chapter, London Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 21.

Lodge 1, Grand Masters, F.M. Tav.
" 8, British, F.M.H.
" 21, Emulation, Albion Tav., Aldersgate.
" 58, Felicity, London Tav., Bishopsgate-st.
" 185, Tranquillity, Terminus Hot., Cannon-st.
" 720, Panmure, Balham Hot., Balham.
" 862, Whittington, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
" 871, Royal Oak, High-st., Deptford (Emergency).
" 901, City of London.
" 907, Royal Alfred, F.M.H.
" 1159, Marquis of Dalhousie, F.M.H.
" 1201, Eclectic, F.M.H.
Chap. 12, Prudence, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.
LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.
Prince Leopold, Lord Stanley Tav., Kingsland.
Strong Man, Jerusalem Tav., St. John's Gate.
Sincerity, Railway Tav., Fenchurch-st. Station.
Camden, Stanhope Arms, Up. James-st., Camden To.
Eastern, Royal Hot., Mile-end-road.
St. James's Union, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Wellington, White Swan, Deptford.
West Kent, St. Saviour's College, Forest-hill.
Perfect Ashlar, Victoria Tav., Lower-rd., Rotherhithe.
Sydney, White Hart Ho., Church-rd., Upper Norwood.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 22.

Lodge 14, Tuscan, F.M.H.
" 92, Moira, London Tav., Bishopsgate-st.
" 141, Faith, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
" 145, Prudent Brethren, F.M.H.
" 186, Industry, M.H., Basinghall-st.
" 205, Israel, Terminus Hot., Cannon-st.
" 239, Prince of Wales, Willis's Rooms, St. James.
" 1158, Southern Star, Montpelier Tav., Walworth.
" 1196, Urban, Old Jerusalem Tav., Clerkenwell.
" 1348, Ebury, 12, Ponsonby-st., Millbank.
Chap. 7, Royal York of Perseverance, F.M.H.
" 29, St. Alban's, Albion, Aldersgate-st.
" 180, St. James's Union, F.M.H.
LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.
Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney.
Domestic, Surrey M. H., Camberwell New-road.
Faith, 2, Westminster Chambers, Victoria-st.
Prince Fredk. Wm., Lord's Hot., St. John's Wood.
Dalhousie, King Edward, Triangle, Hackney.
Prosperity, 1, Camomile-st., Bishopsgate.
St. Marylebone, British Stores Tav., St. John's Wood.
Constitutional, Wheatheaf Hot., Hand-court, Holborn.
Percy, Grapes Tav., Little Windmill-st., W.
Israel, Rising Sun Tav., Globe Road.
Royal Arthur, Prince's Head, York-road, Battersea.
Beacontree, Red Lion, Leytonstone, at 8.
Metropolitan Chapter, Jamaica Coffee Ho., Cornhill.
Excelsior, Commercial Dock Tav., Rotherhithe.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 23.

Lodge 2, Antiquity, F.M.H.
" 212, Euphrates, M.H., Basinghall-st.
" 507, United Pilgrims, Horns Tav., Kennington.
" 754, High Cross, Seven Sisters, Tottenham.
" 898, Temperance-in-the-East, 6, Newby-pl., Poplar.
" 1540, Chaucer, Bridge House Hot., London Bridge.

Chap. 13, Union of Waterloo, F.M.H., Woolwich.
" 820, Lily of Richmond, Greyhound, Richmond.
LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.
Mt. Lebanon, Windsor Castle Tav., Southwark-bdg.-rd.
Pythagorean, Prince of Orange, Greenwich.
New Concord, Rosemary Branch Tav., Hoxton.
Royal Union, Horse and Groom, Winsley-st., Oxford-st.
Confidence, M.H., Basinghall-st.
Peckham, Maismore Arms, Park-road, Peckham.
Stanhope, Thicket Hot., Anerley.
Finsbury Park, Finsbury Park Tav., Seven Sisters'-rd.
Southwark, Southwark Park Tav., Southwark Park.
Duke of Connaught, Havelock Tav., Dalston, E.
United Strength, Grafton Arms, Kentish-town.
Mount Edgcombe, 19, Jermyn-street, St. James's.
Islington, Crown and Cushion, London Wall.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 24.

Gen. Com. Girls' School, at 4.
Lodge 22, Neptune, Guildhall Tav., Gresham-st.
" 34, Mount Moriah, F.M.H.
" 65, Prosperity, Guildhall Tav., Gresham-st.
" 66, Grenadiers, F.M.H.
" 29, Shakespeare, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
" 858, South Middlesex, Beaufort Hot., Fulham.
" 871, Royal Oak, White Swan, High-st., Deptford.
" 1421, Langthorne, Swan Hot., Stratford.
Chap. 217, Stability, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
" 538, Vane, F.M.H.
" 657, Canonbury, M.H., Basinghall-st.
" 766, William Preston, Terminus Hot., Cannon-st.
LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Egyptian, Hercules Tav., Leadenhall-st.
Fidelity, Yorkshire Grey, London-st., W.
Finsbury, Jolly Anglers' Tav., Bath-st., City-road.
Whittington, Black Bull Tav., Holborn.
Temperance in the East, Catherine-st., Poplar.
Ebury, 12, Ponsonby-st., Millbank.
Highgate, Bull and Gate, Kentish-town.
The Great City, 111, Cheapside.
High Cross, Coach & Horses, High-road, Tottenham.
Salisbury, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Marquis of Ripon, Albion Tav., Albion-rd., Dalston.
Prince Frederick William Chapter, St. John's Wood.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 25.

Lodge 197, Jerusalem, F.M.H.
" 569, Fitz-Roy, Hd.-qtrs., Hon. Art. Co., City-rd.
" 861, Finsbury, Rosemary Branch Tav., Hoxton.
Chap. 749, Belgrave, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.
" 862, Whittington, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.
Union Waterloo, Thomas-st., Woolwich.
St. George's, Globe Tav., Royal-hill, Greenwich.
Robert Burns, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Belgrave, Lyceum Tav., 354, Strand.
Unions Emulation (for M.M.'s), F.M.H.
Temperance, Victoria Tav., Victoria-road, Deptford.
Clapton, White Hart, Clapton.
Stability, Guildhall Tav., Gresham-st.
Metropolitan, Portugal Hot., Fleet-st.
Westbourne, Horse & Groom, Winsley-st., Oxford-st.
Metropolitan, Pentonville-road.
United Pilgrims, Surrey M. H., Camberwell New-road.
St. James's, New Tanners' Arms, Grange-rd., Bermondsey.
Duke of Edinburgh, Silver Lion, Penny-fields, Poplar.
Doric, Earl Grey Tav., Mile-end-road.
Burgoyne, Grafton Arms, Prince of Wales's-road, N.W.
St. Luke's, Commercial Tav., King's-road, Chelsea.
Chigwell, Bald-faced Stag Hot., Buckhurst-hill.
Burdett Coutts, Approach Tav., Victoria Park.
Royal Standard, Finsbury Park Tav., Holloway.
Ranelagh, Clarendon Hot., Hammersmith.
Pythagorean Chapter, Prince of Orange, Greenwich-rd.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN WEST LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE.

For the Week ending Saturday, February 26, 1876.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 21.

Lodge 721, Independence, M.R., Eastgate-row, Chester.
" 1502, Israel, M.H., Liverpool.
Chap. 32, Jerusalem, M.H., Liverpool.
" 1051, Rowley, M.R., Athenæum, Lancaster.
Everton L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 22.

Lodge 1393, Hamer, 22, Everton-rd., Liverpool.
" 1570, Prince Arthur, 80, N. Hill-st., Liverpool.
Chap. 823, Everton, M.H., Liverpool.
Merchants' L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 23.

Lodge 32, St. George's, Adelphi Hot., Liverpool.
" 220, Harmony, Garston Hot., Liverpool.
" 724, Derby, M.H., Liverpool.
Chap. 1052, Callender, P.H., Rusholme.
" 1356, De Grey and Ripon, M.H., Liverpool.
Neptune L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 24.

Lodge 594, Downshire, M.H., Liverpool.
" 1313, Fermor, M.H., Southport.
Chap. 216, Sacred Delta, M.H., Liverpool.
" 1086, Walton, St. Lawrence's Schools, Kirkdale.
Mariners' L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 25.

Chap. 680, Sefton, M.H., Liverpool.
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 26.
Chap. 178, Harmony, Royal Hot., Wigan.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN GLASGOW AND WEST OF SCOTLAND.

For the Week ending Saturday, February 26, 1876.
All the Meetings take place at Eight o'clock.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 21.

Lodge 332, Union, 170, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
St. Mungo Encampment, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 22.

Lodge 413, Athole, 213, Buchanan-st.
" 543, St. John's, M. H., Dalmeir.
" 556, Clydesdale, M.H., Rose-st. S.S., Glasgow.
Chap. 67, Cathedral, 22, Struthers-st., Glasgow.
" 73, Caledonian Unity, 170, Buchanan-st., Glsqw.
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 23.
Lodge 505, Burns, St. Mary, Commercial Inn, Hurlford.
" 510, Maryhill, M. H., Maryhill.
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 24.
Lodge 187, St. John, Black Bull Inn, Carlisle.
" 290, Dalry Blair, White Hart Hall, Dalry.
" 334, St. John, Castle Inn, New Cumnock.
" 570, Springburn, M. H., Springburn.
Chap. 117, Govan, Portland Buildings, Govan.
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 25.
Lodge 51, London Kilwinning, Black Bull, Newmilns.
" 118, St. Bride, M.H., Douglas.
" 125, St. James, Masonic Arms, Newton, Ayr.
" 153, Royal Arch, M.H., Pollockshaws.
" 236, Wilsontown St. John, Forth Inn, Carnworth.
" 347, St. John, M.H., Rutherglen.
Chap. 79, Commercial, 30, Hope-st., Glasgow.
Provincial R.A. Chap., 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN EDINBURGH AND VICINITY.

For the Week ending Saturday, February 26, 1876.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 21.

Lodge 44, St. Luke, F.M.H., George-st.
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 22.
" 151, Defensive Band, Alexandria H., Cockburn-st.
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 23.
" 112, St. John, Royal Hot., Musselburgh.
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 24.
" 392, Caledonian, F. M. H., George-st.
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 25.
" 223, Trafalgar, 54, Bernard-st., Leith.

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JOHN A. LATHBURY, Secretary.

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"Execution of Guy Fawkes."	
THE GAZETTE.	Sept. 6, 1558.
"Death of Oliver Cromwell."	
THE NEWES.	July 6, 1605.
"The Plague."	
LONDON GAZETTE.	Sept. 10, 1606.
"Great Fire of London."	
THE TIMES.	Oct. 3, 1798.
"Battle of the Nile."	
THE TIMES.	April 16, 1801.
"Battle of Copenhagen."	
THE TIMES.	Nov. 7, 1805.
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REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS.

Craft Masonry.

LODGE OF TRANQUILLITY (No. 185).—Installation meeting in this lodge was held on Monday, at the City Terminus Hotel, Bro. J. H. Ross, W.M., presiding. There was a very large attendance of brethren, including a long list of Past Masters. Past Master Harris initiated his son; and Bro. John Constable, P.M., in splendid style, installed Bro. Joseph D. Barnett, S.W., as W.M. The following brethren were appointed to office: Bros. Peartree, S.W.; D. Posener, J.W.; Peartree, Treas.; Philip Levi, Sec.; Pare, S.D.; Bayley, J.D.; Croaker, I.G.; A. Posener, D.C.; Barber and Sadler, W.S.; Bilby, P.M., Org.; and Rawles, Tyler. The services of Bro. J. H. Ross, to the lodge while he was W.M., were acknowledged by the presentation of a seven guineas jewel, and a splendid time-piece and two vases in ormolu and china. The new W.M. accompanied the presentation with a highly flattering speech, and read to the brethren the following inscription on the clock:—"Presented by the brethren of the Lodge of Tranquillity, No. 185, to Bro. J. H. Ross, Worshipful Master, in recognition of his services as W.M. during the past year. Given in open lodge, 21st, February, 1876." Bro. Ross, in replying, said:—"Brethren: I have often had occasion to regret the want of power to express myself, and you may readily believe me when I say that I never felt that want greater than at the present moment—the diffidence which has hitherto characterised me is intensified by the circumstances in which I find myself placed this evening. Our W.M. has been pleased to refer to me in terms of great praise, perhaps somewhat undeserved; reference has been made to my work during the past year, and probably some may enquire why I am to be the recipient of this mark of bounty and respect. For their information I may add that I have not introduced any new blood to the lodge, simply because the majority of my friends are Masons. That I have performed the duties to the best of my ability no one will deny; but brethren, something more has been accomplished in fulfilling one of our watchwords, viz., Charity, by serving the Stewardships of our Masonic institutions, and thereby adding some amount of credit to our dignified and proud position. Having thus explained the course of my proceedings, I can only now thank you in the most profound and grateful manner for your appreciation of my efforts, made substantial in these handsome testimonials which, believe me, will be as heartily appreciated by the partner of my life as by myself. Again I thank you most sincerely. This speech was received with great applause, and the other lodge business which remained having been transacted, the brethren were called off for refreshment, where an elegant banquet awaited them. The toasts were afterwards proposed. In giving the toast of "The Queen and the Craft," the W.M. said the toast was never received anywhere with greater enthusiasm than in the Lodge of Tranquillity. She had endeared herself to all her subjects and had shown herself worthy to be our Queen. To the toast of "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M.," the W.M. said that although the Prince of Wales had not been in Grand Lodge since his installation, as H.R.H. would have wished, yet when he returned it was hoped he would be seen performing those duties which it was known he was well able to perform. H.R.H. had always taken great interest in Freemasonry since he had belonged to the Order, and in his position of G.M. Masons would rejoice to find him again presiding in Grand Lodge. This toast having been drunk, was succeeded by the toast of "The Pro Grand Master, the Earl of Carnarvon," which called forth from the W.M. the expression of great gratification at the way his lordship performed his duties and discharged all the offices of the Grand Master in H.R.H.'s absence. The W.M. afterwards gave "The D.G.M., Lord Skelmersdale, and the rest of the Grand Officers," coupling with it the name of Bro. E. P. Albert, A.G.P. Bro. E. P. Albert replied, and assured the brethren that he had been delighted at the lodge working, both as regarded the initiation and the installation. The way in which the ceremonies had been performed that evening proved to him that the lodge was a good working lodge, and the report which he had heard read as to the funds showed him how the funds were bestowed in charity. Grand Lodge of England was always ready to assist brethren who were in distress, but the course adopted by the Lodge of Tranquillity would relieve them of some portion of their responsibilities. The W.M. next gave "The Initiative," who judging from the source for which he came, they might fairly expect would follow in his father's foot-

steps. In connection with the lodge Bro. Harris, senior, had done much, and if his son did as much for the lodge he would be doing a great deal of good for Freemasonry, and also for himself and to all those with whom he was connected. Addressing the initiate, the W.M. told that brother that at present he knew very little of Freemasonry, but he trusted that when he became better acquainted with it, its objects, its working, and its tenets, he would become as great an ornament to the Order as his father was. Bro. Harris (initiate) replied, and said that he had long wanted to become a member of the Craft, and now that he had joined it he would strive to become a worthy member. The W.M. gave "The Visitors." He found among them many of his oldest, and most esteemed, and loved friends, and therefore his pleasure at receiving them was far greater than perhaps otherwise it might have been. For the rest of the visitors he could say this, that on all occasions the Lodge of Tranquillity would be happy to receive as many visitors as would come among them. We were cemented together by visiting lodges; no matter what our little differences might be in our positions outside the door of the lodge, when we got inside we met as brothers and fellows. He was happy to say with respect to the Lodge of Tranquillity that there was no lodge where visitors were more heartily received. Bros. Dodson, W.M. 188; Blum, W.M. 1017; and Cohen, W.M. 205, replied; and Bro. Ross, I.P.M., then proposed "The Worshipful Master's Health," and said that no words of his would convey to the brethren an adequate idea of the great respect in which the W.M. was held by all who knew him, and of the high opinion they had of the great determination there was on his part to perform his duty as Master of this lodge. While calling on the brethren to drink his health, he requested them to wish him life and health to perform his duties as admirably as he had begun. The W.M. said he had now to do the most difficult part of his work, to return thanks for himself. He could only say that although in his position he might not be able to add so much lustre as many of the P.M.'s had added to the lodge, yet he hoped that no circumstances would prevent his adding some. At the least he would strive to do so; he would do all in his power, the brethren having placed him in his responsible position, to perform his duties properly, and when he left it he hoped they would say he was worthy to take his place among the P.M.'s. He would not say more. If he spoke for hours he could only add words, and they could but express the feelings he had already exhibited (hear, hear) those of truthful and heartfelt thanks to the brethren for the warmth with which they had received him. When the applause which followed this speech had subsided, the W.M. proposed "The Health of Bro. J. H. Ross, I.P.M.," and in the course of his remarks said that Bro. Ross's work in the lodge had told the brethren what he was, and what had taken place in lodge that day would testify to the brethren the amount of esteem in which he was held. He had done all he could for the lodge and for the charities, the noblest and greatest effort of Freemasonry. (Cheers.) Bro. Ross said in reply that having already spoken he would not take up more time in addressing the brethren. He could but thank the brethren. As the W.M. had mentioned the charities in connection with his name, he would reply that he had felt much pleasure in representing the lodge as its Steward at the different festivals. (Hear, hear.) "The Tranquillity Lodge Benevolent Fund" was the next toast, and the W.M. in giving it said the fund was, every brother must feel, one of the great mainstays of the lodge. The fund was large, and it had been doing a great deal of good, which with the co-operation of the brethren he hoped it would continue to do. Bro. Saul Solomon, Treasurer of the fund, replied, and mentioned a few of the instances wherein the Fund had conferred great benefits on brethren who required its assistance. He also mentioned one of its great features—the name of the brother assisted at any time was not made known. The contributions to the fund were then taken, and the amount of £15 10s. 6d. was collected. The toast of "The P.M.'s" followed. "The Treasurer and Secretary," and "The Officers" were next given, and Bro. Bilby, Organist, replied at great length, shortly after which the lodge was resumed and then closed, and the brethren separated. During the evening Bros. C. S. Jekyll, Perry, Child, Moss, Hubbard, and Ross contributed some beautiful harmony to the evening's pleasures. Bro. Massey represented the "Freemason."

LODGE OF JOPPA (No. 188).—This lodge held its meeting at the Albion Tavern on the 7th inst. Present: Bros. Dodson, W.M.; L. Lazarus, S.W.; Millar, J.W.; P.M.'s L. Alexander, M. L. Alexander, H. M. Levy, J. Abraham, and E. P. Albert, A.G.P., Hon. Sec., all the officers, and several members. Bros. J. Creamer, Petchell, and Emanuel were passed to the Second Degree. Bro. Lavy was raised to the Third Degree in a very able manner by the W.M. Messrs. J. R. West, J. Clark, and Smith were initiated into the Order. Each of them contributed to the Benevolent Fund. After the conclusion of business, the brethren adjourned to the banqueting-hall, where excellent refreshment was provided. The W.M., after the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were drunk, proposed "The Prosperity of Joppa Benevolent Fund," coupling with the toast "The Health of Bro. L. Alexander, P.M. and President. The visitors were not so numerous as usual. Present: Bros. Ross, W.M. Tranquillity; Cheesewright, Royal Alfred; and Emanuel.

GRANITE LODGE (No. 1328).—The installation of Bro. W. Henry Muggeridge as W.M. of this lodge, took place on Saturday, the 12th inst., at Freemasons' Hall. All the officers of the lodge were in attendance. Amongst the visitors, who numbered about 50 brethren, were the following:—Bros. J. Boyd, P.G.P.; Colonel Peters, P.M.; W. Dyott Burnaby, W.M. 142; G. A. Rooks, P.M. 142; H. C. Levander, P.M. 142; Muggeridge, P.G.W.; Galt, P.G.J.W. Isle of Wight; J. H. Vockins, P.M. 1329; Larham, W.M. Surrey Masonic Hall Lodge; R. W. Little,

P.G.S.W. Middx.; H. G. Bass, P.G.T. Middx.; Middlemass, 1329; Ibbetson, W.M. St. Andrew's Lodge; and many other distinguished brethren. Letters of regret for unavoidable absence were read from Bro. Col. Francis Burdett, P.G.M. Middx., and Bro. John Hervey, G. Sec. Before the installation Bro. W. Holliday and Bro. Rhodes Fellow Crafts, were raised to the Sublime Degree of M.M. Bros. A. C. Shelley and J. H. Outhwaite were passed to the Second Degree; and Messrs. T. W. Rowe, C. Jenkin Jones, J. B. Lee, Edgerton James Pain, Edward Finnis Clark, and George Henry Chapman, were duly initiated, and Bro. Emmanuel Edward Gefiowski, of No. 249, was unanimously elected a joining member of the lodge. The ceremony of installation was performed by Bro. Cottebrune, P.G.P., in a very impressive and masterly manner, assisted by the Retiring W.M., and the W.M. was duly saluted by the brethren in the Three Degrees. The W.M. appointed as his officers for the ensuing year Bros. F. West, S.W.; R. C. Mount, J.W.; G. Hackford, P.M., Treas.; J. Lewis Thomas, P.M., and Sec.; R. Payne, S.D.; J. Rhodes, J.D.; B. Turner, P.G. Supt. of Wks. Middx. Afterwards the W.M., Bro. John Oliver, was duly presented with a Past Master's jewel for his eminent services in the chair during his term of office, besides his having in the earlier part of the year, been presented with the jewel commemorative of the installation of the Prince of Wales as Grand Master. The brethren then proceeded to the banquet at the Freemasons' Tavern, which was of the most successful and satisfactory character, the wine department being under the care of Bro. Septimus Baker, who proceeds to Beaumaris, Anglesey, where he has taken the Williams Bulkeley Arms Hotel. During the banquet Bro. Dan Godfrey's Band performed several popular airs, principally composed by himself. After the cloth was drawn, the W.M. gave the usual Masonic toasts. "The Health of the Queen and the Craft," was drunk enthusiastically, the National Anthem being sung. The W.M. in proposing "The Health of the Grand Master," said, every one who had had the pleasure of meeting him could bear testimony to the genial, kind, and hearty way in which he met one and all. He had undertaken a perilous voyage to a mighty empire, from which nothing but good would result to the Craft. The fact that he was Grand Master would ensure him great and additional respect. Bro. Boyd responded for the Grand Officers. Bro. Oliver, P.M. proposed "The Health of the W.M." The W.M., in responding, said it was with pride that he occupied the chair. Some years ago, when initiated into Freemasonry, he did what he could for the lodge, which had grown from a pebble to a huge rock. Other lodges ought to be proud if they could shew similar results. (Hear, hear.) During the few brief years of its existence it had contributed to the charities. (Hear, hear.) That was the duty of every lodge. For the honour they had done him he would endeavour to perform his duty well, and he thanked them all for the kindnesses shewn to him during the time he had been a brother. All the duties he had performed had been pleasing ones. He had been preceded by a Master whose term of office had been remarkable. He had initiated no less than thirty members during the year, and every initiate or any one who had visited the lodge had experienced great satisfaction and pleasure at his hands. He proposed his health, and said he had a still more pleasing duty to perform, which was to present him, on behalf of the lodge, with the Past Master's jewel. Bro. Oliver, W.M., in acknowledging the compliment paid him, thanked them with all his heart for the way they had received his health. It gave him great pleasure to fill the office. He again thanked them sincerely for having presented him with the great installation jewel of Grand Lodge, and also for the Past Master's jewel. He should wear both with a feeling of pride, for his year of office had given him a good deal of anxiety. He had done it in a way that he was sure would meet with the approval of all. The W.M., in proposing "The Health of the New Members," remarked that he was sure they would never feel sorry for the step taken, and he felt confident that they would be proud of being invested in a society which boasts so many eminent names. For the future their object ought to be not so much to enjoy themselves, but to help and aid their fellow men. The new members severally acknowledged the great pleasure they felt at being made one amongst a multitude. The W.M. next gave "The Health of the Visitors," and in doing so said that if the lodge met together without visitors he was sure they would not enjoy themselves half so much as when they had visitors to participate in the hospitality. One visit brought about another, and it tended therefore to make them know and understand each other, and to find out what peculiarities may exist, and virtues that may lie dormant. There were present the extraordinary number of forty-five visitors, and he hoped their health would be drunk, and a hearty welcome promised them, and he coupled with the toast the names of Bros. Boyd and Middlemas. Bro. Boyd, P.G.P., in responding, said it was not the first time he had visited their lodge. He congratulated the lodge on having such a worthy Master. On the last occasion of visiting the lodge the hospitality was second to none, and he was sure the visitors of the present evening had had all that they could possibly wish for. There were many visitors present who were higher up in Freemasonry than what he himself was but when they saw around them so many P.M.'s as visitors, he was sure it must be a source of high consolation to every one. Bro. Middlemas, 1329, delivered a most amusing and telling after-dinner speech on the subject of Freemasonry, and its incidental pleasures and pastimes, and received a hearty burst of applause on resuming his seat. The W.M. next proposed "The Health of the P.M.'s of the Lodge," coupling with it the name of Bro. Charles Sendy. Bro. Sendy, in acknowledging it, said the number of initiates during the past year had entailed much work upon the officers. There were few lodges that could boast such success of the Granite. The reason was that it had af-

forded every facility to those appreciating Freemasonry, and those who feel that in the Craft they have something solid to look forward to. He thanked them sincerely. The W.M. then gave "The Past Masters' Health," coupling with it the name of Bro. Cottebrune, who suitably replied. The W.M. said the lodge was in a state of unexampled affluence, having more than was wanted, and were enabled out of their funds to give to those having nothing. That spoke volumes for the Treasurer and the Secretary, both of whose healths he cordially proposed. Bro. Hackford, Treasurer, in reply, said the lodge had, under the wise care and judgment of the P.W.M., prospered, and it was a matter for congratulation, more especially as during the last year there had arrived amongst them so many very worthy men. The lodge could afford to be charitable not only to Masonic bodies, but other institutions besides; they ought to look around the world and see in what way they could alleviate distress, whether belonging to the Craft or not. Sometimes he was afraid Freemasons missed the opportunity of doing that good which was placed within their reach. They were a powerful body, well organized, and possessed great resources, and he did think, sometimes with a blush of shame, that they failed to reach that high standard of brotherly love towards each other, and towards all the world, which they ought to exhibit. Bro. J. Lewis Thomas, Secretary, thanked them for coupling his name with the toast, and as there was a "chief among them taking notes," and eager to hand down, as Bro. Middlemas had said, what he should one morning wake up and blush to find fame, he would only say that he was always prepared to discharge his duties to the satisfaction of all, and in furtherance of the views of the brethren. He would say, however, that the members numbered eighty. The lodge had only been in existence four and a half years, and for one year they actually "hung fire," having no initiates. The great addition to their ranks was due to the influence of P.M. Oliver. The W.M. proposed "The Health of his Officers." Bro. Frederick West, on behalf of the officers of the lodge, acknowledged the kind way in which the toast had been proposed. For himself, as S.W., he returned his sincere thanks. When the occupants entered the lodge there were few initiates, but by steady progress the vessel had steered over the troubled waters, and had reached the haven of prosperity at last. Bros. R. C. Mount, J.W.; R. Payne, S.D.; and B. Turner, I.G., having acknowledged the toast, the brethren separated. Bro. Geo. De Maid, founder of the lodge, was present. The evening was passed in the most pleasing manner, the interlude between the speeches being filled with the soul of music, Bros. F. Cambridge, J. Rhodes, G. T. Carter, Dawson and Lawler giving, by their vocal powers, a charming filip to the several toasts of the evening.

METROPOLITAN LODGE (No. 1507).—A meeting of this young lodge was held on the 17th inst., at the Metropolitan Club, 269, Pentonville-road. Bro. J. J. Michael, W.M., presided, and there were also present Bros. James Willing, I.P.M.; T. Williams, S.W.; R. Kingham, J.W.; G. Tims, P.M., Secretary; Scales, S.W.; Side, J.D.; Wm. Stiles, I.G.; Colls, D.C.; Read, Solomon H. Stiles, Gilbert, Easy, J. Tims, Erwood, Clarke, Cavett, Raney, Ormiston, Van Camp, Cadett, Berric, J.W. 1285; Jordan (Zetland), Pinkey, 177; and Harris, 177. Bros. G. and P. Vanderpump and H. Scales were raised, and Bros. Edwards, Owens, Morgan, Raney, G. Clark, and Greenslade were passed. Afterwards Messrs. W. Brooker, T. P. Robins, Edward Van Camp, Joseph Iriuth, and J. J. Bosshart were initiated. All the ceremonies were fluently and impressively performed. The brethren at the close of the lodge work adjourned to an excellent banquet.

CITY OF WESTMINSTER LODGE (No. 1563).—The regular February meeting of this lodge was held on the 10th inst. at the Masonic Hall, Air-street, Regent-street, when Bro. B. H. Swallow, W.M., presided, having the assistance of Bro. C. A. Cottebrune, P.M., P.G.P., and Treasurer, as S.W.; White, J.W.; Scott, P.M., Sec.; Turner, J.D.; W. C. Parsons, P.M., I.G.; Shand, D.C.; Hutchinson, W.S.; and Bros. Swaagman, Waugh, Emmanuel, Gardner, and Turner. There were also present Bros. W. W. Stiles, D.C. 1507; Sorrell, S.D. 176; Townley, 1351; Reeves, S.W. 1381; Lakin, 180; and Scott, 135. Altogether about forty brethren attended. Bros. Pratt, 1446, and Shepherd, J.W. 945, were elected joining members of the lodge. Mr. Irving was afterwards initiated in a very able manner by the W.M., who subsequently, and as efficiently, raised Bros. Turner and Gardner to the Third Degree. The lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to a sumptuous repast. After banquet the brethren honoured the usual toasts. In giving that of "The Grand Officers," he congratulated the lodge on having one of these brethren as a member, Bro. Cottebrune, who excelled in Freemasonry, and of whom they were all justly proud. Bro. Cottebrune replied, assuring the brethren in his happy style of his warm appreciation of the kind words used concerning him by the W.M. He was also proud to belong to a lodge composed of such excellent hardworking Masons as those whom he saw around him. Bro. Cottebrune then proposed "The Health of the W.M.," and referred to the length of time he had known him, and to the zealous and hard work which he had performed to bring this lodge into its present prosperous state. He was sure no Master could possibly have started and conducted a lodge in a more creditable manner than Bro. Swallow had done. (Hear hear.) The W.M., in thanking Bro. Cottebrune and the brethren for the kind and cordial manner in which the toast had been proposed and received, said that he was indeed pleased to preside over so prosperous and harmonious a lodge, and the little pains he had taken to make it so were amply repaid by the effect produced. The toast of "The Visitors," which was the next in order, was one, he said he had peculiar pleasure in proposing. He recognised among those brethren some distinguished Masons whom

he had the pleasure of knowing personally, and so knowing them he could say they were ornaments and patterns not only to their own, but any lodges visited. Bro. Sorrell, in his reply, included acknowledgments of the hospitality of the lodge, expressions of the pleasure of his visit, and admiration of the working. Bro. W. W. Stiles, in his reply, said that having met with such a cordial reception, and experienced such an intellectual treat in the perfect working of the W.M. and his officers, he should be happy if some of the members of the City of Westminster Lodge would pay a visit to his, the Metropolitan Lodge, No. 1507, when he was sure they would be desirous of doing so again. And this was the feeling he had himself as a visitor to the City of Westminster Lodge. On his right were Bros. Shand and Swaagman, both of whom were members of the two lodges, and one of whom (Bro. Shand) was D.C. of the City of Westminster Lodge. It would be impossible to find two lodges where the working was carried out more efficiently, and where the brethren were more attentive and courteous to their visitors. (Hear, hear.) Bro. Townley also responded, and added his expression of his favourable opinion of the lodge, in proof of which he would ask Bro. Shand to propose him as a joining member. The other visitors likewise replied in the same strain. The initiate ably responded to the toast of his health, and the W.M. then gave "The Officers," and after expressing his regret at Bro. the Rev. P.M. Holden's absence, said that no better officers than those of this lodge were to be found. He was quite satisfied with them, and he considered the great success of the lodge was due to the efficient officers he had chosen. The officers severally replied, and thanked the W.M. for the support and encouragement they had received. After the Tyler's toast, most of the brethren repaired to Freemasons' Tavern, where the St. James's Union Lodge (No. 180) ball was being held, under the presidency of Bro. W. C. Parsons, P.M., assisted by several energetic and worthy Stewards.

MANCHESTER.—St. David's Lodge (No. 147).—The ninth annual meeting of this lodge (the motto of which is "Y addraig goch, y ddry gychwyn") was held on Thursday, the 10th inst., at the Freemasons' Hall, Cooper-street, at 3 p.m. After the minutes of the previous regular meeting were read and confirmed, Mr. James Buckley Peel was balloted for, and afterwards duly initiated by Bro. Thomas Gibson, P.M. Bro. Thomas Nichols, and Bro. John Roberts were respectively admitted as joining members. Bro. Thomas Robert Peel, W.M. elect, was then presented by Bro. Thomas Richard Williams, P.M., and duly installed by Bro. George Frederick East, Past Provincial Grand Director of Ceremonies for East Lancashire, which ceremony was performed in an able and impressive manner. The following brethren were likewise invested with the collar and jewel of their respective offices—namely, Bros. Edward Williams, S.W.; Thomas Elliott, J.W.; Frederick Coupe, Treas.; Ishmael Davies, Sec.; James Maclean, S.D.; John Taylor, J.D.; John Oliver Evans, I.G.; Isaac Wolstone and James Pickford Howarth, Stewards; James Sly, Tyler. The business of the lodge being concluded, the brethren adjourned to the Queen's Hotel, where a most sumptuous banquet was prepared, after which the loyal toasts were proposed and received by the brethren with that loyalty which characterises Freemasons. Being founded, as the name suggests, by Welsh brethren, the toasts of "Success to the Lodges in Wales" was proposed by Thomas Richard Williams, P.M., and responded to by Bro. John Peters, Provincial Grand Senior Warden for North Wales and Shropshire, who gave a very interesting account of the progress of Freemasonry in Wales. Bro. Ellis Jones, P.M., proposed "The Health of the W.M.," reviewing his past career in the lodge, and remarked that the energy and perseverance which he had displayed in the fulfilment of the various offices, to which he had been from time to time elected was due to the fact that he had the Anglo-Saxon and Celtic blood running in his veins. He wished him health and long life to continue as a member of the lodge, and was sure that the W.M. would prove himself worthy of the high position in which he was now placed by the unanimous vote of the brethren. The toast was received by the brethren with immense enthusiasm. The W.M. replied that he was deeply impressed, and at the same time gratified, with the honour which had that day been conferred upon him; he felt that it was a great responsibility, but would endeavour to uphold the dignity and intellectual vigour of the lodge, so that its working and moral tone should be second to none in the province. The W.M. proposed "The Health of the Past Masters," and stated that out of six in number they might always count upon five being present at every meeting, ready and able to perform the duty pertaining to any office. The toast was warmly received by the brethren, and responded to by Bro. John Unsworth, P.M. "The Health of the Visiting Brethren" was proposed by Bro. Ishmael Davies, Secretary, and severally responded to. Bro. Charles Holmes Evans, P.M., proposed "The Health of the Newly-Invested Officers," which was responded to by Bro. John Oliver Evans, I.G. The remaining toasts were given and duly honoured; foremost amongst these were "The Masonic Charities," proposed by Bro. Thomas Gibson, P.M., and responded to by Bro. Thomas Wilson. The former remarked that the lodge had not only tided over its difficulties but presented 50 guineas to the Boys' School, and were now about to present thirty pounds to the Systematic Educational and Benevolent Fund for East Lancashire. Among the visiting brethren present were Bros. G. F. East, P.G.D.C.E.F.; John Peters, P.G.S.W. North Wales and Shropshire; L. Taylor, P.M. 1387; H. Elliott, 1387; R. W. Braithwaite, 1476, Blackpool; G. S. Ballard, 1345; Thomas-Fallows, 1161; Fred Cooper, 999; P. H. Holt, 654; G. P. Griffith, W.M. 597; James Spence, 163; Lieutenant Holmes Poulton. The harmony of the evening was much enhanced by the Masonic bre-

thren present, who sang Welsh and English ballads and anthems.

An emergency meeting of this prosperous lodge was held on Saturday afternoon, the 19th inst., at three o'clock, when five brethren presented themselves for raising. The W.M., Bro. Thos. Robt. Peel, raised Bros. Jas. Kilner and Robt. Ruttle; Bro. Ellis Jones, P.M., raised Bro. John Alker; and Bro. John Unsworth, P.M., raised Bros. Jas. Ireland and F. Brown. There was a good muster of the brethren for a Saturday afternoon. The lodge was duly closed at 6.30 p.m. The brethren adjourned to refreshment, and spent a pleasant evening until 8 p.m., when they returned to their own firesides.

MELTHAM.—Lodge of Peace (No. 149).—This lodge held its regular meeting on Saturday evening, February 12th, 1876, in the Masonic Rooms. Present: Bros. Rayner, W.M.; N. Earnshaw, S.W.; D. Cairns, J.W.; C. H. Redfearn, Secretary; D. Wood, Treas.; H. W. Wrigley, as S.D.; J. Ellis, as J.D.; W. Sugg, I.G.; H. Buckley, Tyler. Past Masters: Bro. G. Heywood, T. A. Haigh, P.P.G.D.; W. Haigh, W. Myers, and several other brethren. The minutes of last lodge meeting were read and confirmed, when the W.M. rose and said: Brethren, having been placed in the position which I have now the honour of occupying in this lodge, it falls to my lot this evening to have to discharge a very pleasant duty, and although I feel very conscious of my inability to do that justice to it which it so much deserves, yet I feel sure that you will all agree with me when I say that no brother could help but both experience very great pleasure and feel very proud of having the privilege of discharging such a duty. The duty to which I allude, brethren, is that of having on behalf of the lodge to present to Brother C. H. Redfearn, P.M., a Past Master's jewel as a token of esteem and regard for the long, faithful, and valuable services which he has rendered to the lodge, and as a mark of the high estimation in which he is held by the brethren. You are all aware from the minutes which have just been read and confirmed that at our last lodge meeting a resolution was passed to present him with this jewel, and I can assure you, brethren, that in the passing of that resolution a spontaneous unanimity was displayed such as is seldom to be met with anywhere; and I must also add that in making the proposition, Bro. P.M. Wood, with his usual tact, very accurately gauged the feelings of the brethren on the subject, as did also Bro. P.M. Dr. Haigh when he so promptly seconded the proposition. The jewel has now been purchased, and an inscription engraved upon it, which I will read to you: "Presented by the Lodge of Peace, 149, to Bro. C. H. Redfearn, P.M., for faithful services. February, 1876." Bro. P.M. Redfearn then advanced to the pedestal, and the W.M. in a very impressive manner addressed him as follows, viz.: Bro. P.M. Redfearn, by referring to the books I find that you have been a member of this lodge 18 years. You have been a P.M. of the lodge 15 years. You have acted as Secretary of the lodge 10 years. During the time that you have been a member of the lodge you have acted as purveyor for a great number of years in addition to performing your duties as Secretary. I believe that at a very early period of your Masonic career you embraced the opportunity of making yourself thoroughly acquainted with the ceremonies; and I also believe that for the last 10 or 12 years each succeeding new W.M. who has passed through this chair has been more or less indebted to you for the instruction which you have been enabled to give them in the ceremonies, and for your advice and guidance in the conducting of the practical business of the lodge. The officers of a lower degree have also been much indebted to you for the instruction they have received from you. Your usefulness to the lodge has not ended even here, but, as all the brethren very well know, whenever any work has had to be done for the lodge, no matter of what kind, you have always been found ready to put your shoulder to the wheel, and to work for the good of the lodge with a zeal which has been altogether unsurpassable. It is on account of these great and valuable services which you have so freely rendered to the lodge that the brethren have agreed so unanimously to present you with this jewel, and I, in their name, have now the pleasure of handing it to you. I do so with the fullest confidence that it will be highly prized by you; that it will be treasured up in your family as an heirloom, not for its intrinsic value, but for the warm and kind feelings which it will ever have the effect of calling to your remembrance. And when you are gone hence and are no more—when your spirit has ascended to that magnificent mansion above not made with hands—it will no doubt be handed down to your children and to your children's children for many generations, who, in their turn, will look upon it with feelings of satisfaction and pride at the thought of having had an ancestor in the olden time who was held in such high estimation among the Masonic brethren with whom it was his lot to associate. The W.M. (shaking hands with him) then said with great fervency: Bro. P.M. Redfearn, allow me to congratulate you, and may the Great Architect of the Universe give you a long and a happy life to wear the jewel which has now been presented to you by the brethren of this lodge. Bro. P.M. Redfearn in a very feeling manner then thanked the W.M. for the very flattering terms in which he had spoken of him and of what he had done for the lodge; he also thanked the brethren for their very handsome present, assuring them that the jewel would be highly prized by him as long as he lived. It had always been his earnest desire to do all he could for the benefit of the old Lodge of Peace, and he trusted that he should ever merit a continuance of their good wishes.

SHEFFIELD.—The Royal Brunswick Lodge (No. 296) held its regular meeting at the Freemasons' Hall, Surrey-street, Sheffield, at 6 p.m., on Monday, the 14th inst., Bro. Henry Scroby, W.M., in the chair.

He was ably supported by his Wardens (Bros. Ridal and Nicholson), and assisted by Bros. Henry William Pawson, I.P.M., and William Roddewig, Prov. Grand Director of Ceremonies West Yorks. The first business of the evening was to ballot for Bro. Edward Mills (Captain and Adjutant Hallamshire Rifles), of St. George's Lodge, Liverpool, as a joining member, and he was declared duly elected. The Worshipful Master then initiated two gentlemen into the First Degree (Messrs. William Fisher Tasker and Robert Colver), and raised two Fellow Craftsmen (Bros. Hugh Neville and Joseph Pickering, jun.) to the Sublime Degree of Master Masons. Supper was afterwards served, Bro. Ecroyd presiding. This will be the last Masonic gathering in the present building, as it will be immediately pulled down to make way for a more substantial and convenient edifice. After supper the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given, "The Health of the Visitors" being responded to by a brother from the far west of America (near to the Mexican frontier). He stated that it is no unusual thing in his mother lodge for them to have the company of visiting brethren from a dozen lodges, representing a dozen distinct nationalities. During the evening the W.M. called the attention of those of his brethren who were present in the Royal Albert Hall on the occasion of the installation of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales as Grand Master, to the interesting pictorial record of that event which is now being engraved in London, and he recommended those who have not already done so to send their cartes to Bro. Edward T. Harty, 213, Regent-street, who will see that their portraits are included in the engraving. Each portrait is intended to be a likeness, whilst its position will be easily recognisable by means of the key which will accompany each copy. As a work of art, as well as an historical souvenir, the engraving promises to become especially interesting in future years to those who were present, and whose likenesses are included in this pictorial record of what must be an ever memorable event in the annals of English Freemasonry.

BATH.—Lodge of Honour (No. 379).—The monthly meeting was held on Monday, February 14th. The lodge was opened by Bro. Cooke, W.M., supported by Bros. Dr. Hopkins, acting as I.P.M.; Gore, S.W.; H. C. Hopkins, J.W.; Dickinson, Sec.; Dill, as S.D.; Bright, as J.D.; H. G. Bush, as I.G.; Pinkett, as Tyler. As visitors there were Bros. Moutrie, P.M. 41; Williamson, S.D.; Davis, Glover, Packer, all members of 906; and Knott, of the Phoenix Lodge. The minutes having been read and confirmed, a communication from the Secretary of No. 41 was read, and after some discussion the J.W. and Secretary were deputed to meet committees of the other two Bath lodges, to discuss proposals for a new organ, and report thereon at the next meeting. The W.M. presented to the lodge a handsomely bound book containing the scripture extracts, which are read at every meeting, for which a vote of thanks was passed. At the request of the W.M., Bro. Dr. Hopkins gave a lecture on the Third Degree, for which, and his constant services to 379, a vote of thanks was passed and recorded on the minutes. The Secretary proposed a candidate for initiation.

MAZAGON.—Lodge Truth (No. 944, E.C.).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held in the Masonic Hall, Mazagon, on the 3rd of January, 1896. There were present Wor. Bros. H. W. Barrow, P.M. No. 944, E.C., and D.G. Registrar Bombay, as W.M.; Mitchell, I.P.M. and P.D.G.S.W.; W. Yeom, as S.W.; C. Parker, J.W. No. 1100, as J.W.; C. Yudball, Secretary; W. H. Hussey, D.G. Secretary Bombay, and P.M. No. 944 and 1350, E.C., Treasurer; Captain S. Babington, S.D.; G. Claridge, J.D.; G. Geary, I.G.; J. Neuberg, Steward; and J. W. Seager, Tyler. Members: Wor. Bros. A. Edginton, P.M. No. 757, E.C.; Alexander McKenzie, P.M. 944, E.C.; W. C. Rowe, W.M. No. 757, E.C.; Bros. J. L. Madden, P. Bellillie, J. O. Weeks, J. Brooksby, J. Simkins, and others. Visitors: Wor. Bros. Council, W.M. 1100, E.C.; G. R. Henderson, I.P.M. 757, E.C.; B. Robinson, P.M. No. 757, E.C.; Soraleje, W.M. No. 1189, E.C.; and C. Parker, and others. The lodge was opened at 6.30 p.m. The summons convening the meeting was read. The minutes of the last regular meeting were read and confirmed. Several letters were read from W. brothers and brethren excusing their non-attendance through unavoidable circumstances. The acting Wor. Master said that the next business was to install the Wor. Master elect, Wor. Bro. W. C. Rowe, W.M. of Lodge Concord, No. 757, E.C., and P.J.W. of Lodge Truth, No. 944, E.C., and informed the brethren that he had been requested to act as the installing officer for the evening, which he had great pleasure in doing, and requested the Secretary to read the dispensation from the D.G.M. of Bombay, sanctioning Wor. Bro. W. C. Rowe to be installed as their W.M. for the ensuing year, he having a few days to remain in his present office as W.M. of Lodge Concord, which elicited the applause of all the brethren present. The acting Wor. Master then requested Wor. Bros. Hussey and McKenzie, P.M., to present their W.M. elect, Wor. Bro. W. C. Rowe, who, after assenting to the ancient charges, was duly installed, and proclaimed and saluted Wor. Master of Lodge of Truth, No. 944, E.C., for the ensuing year, the whole of the installation ceremony having been performed in a most able manner by the installing officer, Wor. Bro. H. W. Barrow. The Wor. Master then appointed and invested the following brethren as his officers for the ensuing year:—Wor. Bro. C. E. Mitchell (the oldest P.M. of the lodge), I.P.M., the late W.M., Bro. Tudor George Trevor, being absent in England on medical certificate for 20 months' leave; Bro. C. Tudball, S.W.; J. O. Weeks, J.W.; Wor. Bro. Alex. McKenzie, Treasurer; Captain S. Babington, Secretary; J. L. Madden, S.D.; H. Stead, J.D.; P. Bellillie, D.C. and Steward; and J. W. Seager, Tyler for the time, nominated; Bro. Simkins, as I.G.; and in-

formed the brethren that he would invest him at the next meeting. Three members were elected to serve on the Permanent Committee, viz., Bros. P. Bellillie, J. L. Madden, and H. Stead. Wor. Bro. W. C. Rowe, the newly-installed Master, then rose and said: Past Masters, officers, and brethren of Lodge Truth, before I return my thanks to you I shall ask you to join with me in thanking our visitors for the kindness they have shown us this evening by attending in such large numbers to assist in the ceremony of the installation of your W.M. To you, Wor. Past Masters, officers, and brethren of this lodge, I again beg to tender you my sincere and heartfelt thanks for the great honour you have done me in appointing me to the Mastership of this my mother lodge, the badge of which I look upon as the emblem of the highest honour the Craft can give or a lodge bestow on any of its members. Feeling this, I earnestly trust that you on your parts will give me that support which is so essential for the proper performance of the duty of a Master; that to the best of your power you will be punctual in your attendance at our meetings, and afford me the advice and assistance, which, as your Master, I may hope to look for; and now brethren, allow me to say a few words with reference to the officers whom I have selected to assist me in the working of the lodge. I am sure the Worshipful and Past Masters present will hear me out in saying it is really a difficult task for a Master elect to choose his officers in a lodge like this, where there are so many members qualified to fill any position it to which they may be appointed, but, brethren, I do hope you know enough of me to give me credit for having done my best to secure the interests of "Truth" in the choice I have made. I have appointed Bro. Tudball to the office of Senior Warden because I consider a Secretary has the best claim to the post, especially when during the past year he has performed his work so admirably, and that during a time peculiarly unfavourable to the lodge, and I hope I may add that I do not think there will be two opinions on this selection. Bro. Weeks, the Junior Warden, is one of the oldest of our members, and at different times has worthily filled the posts entrusted to him, namely, those of Inner Guard, Junior and Senior Deacon, and two years as Director of Ceremonies; and I am sure by the able manner in which he carried out the duties of these offices, he will not neglect the post which I have now entrusted to him during the ensuing year. But for the strong claims of these brethren, I should have asked Bro. Captain Babington's acceptance of one of the Warden's chairs. To this worthy brother my best thanks are due for his kindness in consenting to accept the troublesome and responsible post of Secretary, but I must add that I do hope the lodge will so flourish and extend during the ensuing twelve months as to make his post rather heavier than usual even. The Director of Ceremonies, and in addition to these duties that of Steward, has been kindly accepted by another old member of our lodge, who also worthily filled the posts of Junior and Senior Deacon in former years, and carried out the duties of those offices with credit to himself and the lodge. I mean Bro. Bellillie, and I am sure that this brother will also join us heart and hand in carrying out the duties of the offices entrusted to his care during the ensuing year. The S.D., Bro. Madden, is another very old member of the lodge, he having been initiated with Wor. Bro. Walton and myself seven years ago, but up to the present time has not held office in the lodge, although he has not been so regular in his attendance as we should have wished on account of heavy pressure of business; but I trust now he will consider it a matter of duty, and endeavour to attend our meetings regularly to assist us in working his mother lodge up to that high standing it is my wish for her to attain. The J.D., Bro. Stead, is well known to many of the brethren here for his excellent working in other degrees in Masonry, and I am sure he will also join us in the zealous work which I think I may say it is our intention of carrying out in this lodge during the ensuing year, so that the brethren may find it a pleasure to attend our meetings, so that we may say old Lodge Truth is herself once again. These brethren are so well known to you one and all that I need not say anything more in their favour to you. The post of Inner Guard has been kindly undertaken by Bro. Simkins, and I really feel that my best thanks are due to him, for although the post is a very honourable and responsible one, there is often an objection to accepting it in the minds of some brethren. Brethren, again I thank you, and assure you of my earnest intention to do my best for my old mother lodge, now entrusted to my care. The resignation of Wor. Bros. Anderson and Morris and Bro. J. Adams were read and accepted. The Treasurer stated that their dues were all paid, and the Wor. Master ordered clearance certificates to be made out and sent to these brethren. The W.M. then proposed a vote of thanks to the Installing Officer, Wor. Bro. Barrow, for the able way he had performed the ceremony of the installation, which was seconded by W. Bro. McKenzie, and carried by acclamation. Wor. Bro. Barrow thanked the brethren for the vote of thanks just accorded to him, and said that it gave him very great pleasure to be able to instal Wor. Bro. Rowe into the Eastern chair of his mother lodge, which honour he had won for himself by the hard work which he had done for the lodge, and he thought that the brethren had got the right man in the right place, and one that he had no hesitation in saying that he would do credit to the lodge. There being no further work before the lodge it was closed in peace and harmony at 9 p.m., and the brethren then adjourned to a sumptuous banquet. A band was in attendance, and played some select music under the direction of Bro. J. E. Tyers. After the removing of the cloth the W.M. proposed "The Health of the Queen and Craft," which was followed by the band playing the National Anthem. The next toast that the W.M. brought before the notice of the brethren was "The Health of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, the Most Worshipful the

Grand Master of England," and remarked what a great pleasure it had given all those brethren who were able to attend the laying of the foundation stone of the Prince's Dock, and stated that he had been informed that it had met with the high approval of their Most Worshipful Grand Master, and asked them to join in drinking his health, and that he hoped the Great Architect of the Universe would spare him long to rule over us, which was enthusiastically responded to by every brother present. The band played "God bless the Prince of Wales." The W.M. then rose and said: Brethren, the next toast I ask you to join me in drinking is "The Most Worshipful the Grand Master of England, the Rt. Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon; the Most Worshipful the Grand Master of Scotland, and the Most Worshipful the Grand Master of Ireland." The band played "Britannia, the Pride of the Ocean." The W.M. then asked the brethren to join him in a toast that he was sure he had only to mention—it was "The Health of their District Grand Master, the Hon. J. Gibbs, and his Deputy," and stated that he was sorry that the District Grand Master and his Deputy were not there on the present occasion, as they were unable to attend, but he (the W.M.) was sure that the brethren had that fraternal love for them as their heads in that district, and he was convinced that they were one and all pleased to meet them at any time when it was their pleasure to favour them with their company. The band played the air, "Fine old English Gentleman." Wor. Bro. Mitchell, P.D.G.S.W., responded to this toast on behalf of the District Grand Master and his Deputy regretted their inability to be present on this occasion with the District Grand Officers, as he knew that he (the District Grand Master) was always pleased to attend at such a time as the present one with his District Grand Lodge, and thanked the W.M. and the brethren for the kind way they had received the toast which had been put to them, and had been so warmly responded to. The W.M. then said: Brethren, in proposing to you "The Health of the Most Worshipful Grand Master of Scottish Freemasonry in India," I know you all regret his inability to attend here this evening; but we will drink his health, brethren, with as much enthusiasm as if he were with us, knowing as we do he is otherwise engaged, and we will wish him long life and happiness in the degree he had lately taken, as well as a long Masonic career, which was drank with great spirit. The band played the air, "Blue Bells of Scotland." Wor. Bro. Manekjee, P.D.G.M. of Scottish Freemasonry in India, responded to the toast which had been put to them by their newly-installed Master and said that he was sure that had their Grand Master of Scottish Freemasonry in India been present he would have been pleased with the way the work of this evening had been carried out, and responded to the toast far better than he could have done; but thanked them in the name of Most Wor. Bro. Moreland, himself, and his Grand Officers. Wor. Bro. C. E. Mitchell, P.D.G.S.W. and I.P.M., No. 944 E.C., then said: Brethren, I now ask you to join me in drinking a toast that I am sure will meet with your approbation—it is the toast of the evening, and is "The Health of your Newly-Installed Master, Wor. Bro. W. C. Rowe." Brethren, many of you know him so well in the working of the different degrees in Masonry that all I can say to eulogize his Masonic career, and his many good qualities would be superfluous on my part to do so, as I have myself experienced the excellent way he always carries out the work entrusted to him, and you have appreciated his success in this lodge by electing him and installing him as your Wor. Master for the ensuing year. The band played the air, "Cheer, Boys, Cheer." Wor. Bro. Rowe, in replying to the toast of his health which had been proposed by their I.P.M., and which had been so kindly received by the brethren of the lodge and the visiting brethren present, and he would not detain them by making a long speech, and detaining the harmony of the evening, but would simply thank them for the great kindness they had shown towards him that evening by attending in such large numbers to assist in the ceremony of his installation, and hoped he would have the co-operation of the officers he had appointed that evening, also the assistance of the members, and he had not the slightest doubt of the lodge regaining her former standing in the district for the excellent working which she had been noted for two or three years ago, and said nothing else should be wanting on his part to carry out that which he had promised to fulfil during the ensuing year. The W.M. then proposed "The Health of the Past Masters of Lodge Truth," and said that they had excellent proof of what the Past Masters of the lodge were made of, as the lodge had been worked for the last two years by the brethren of this noble institution. The P.M. said he was sure that the lodge would have been at a standstill long ago had it not been for these worthy brethren, and he should look to them during the year for their support and advice. The band played the air, "For they are jolly good Fellows." Wor. Bro. Mitchell rose and said, on behalf of the Past Masters of the lodge, he wished to express his thanks for the very kind way which their healths had been put before the brethren by the newly-installed Master, and he could only say on behalf of the Past Masters, that they were always ready, as there had been sufficient proof of during the past two years; they were willing to assist the lodge and the officers at any time they needed their services, and he was sure they would all give their new Master all the support that he might require during the ensuing year. The W.M. said he had almost forgotten one very important toast during the excitement of the evening, and that was "The Health of the Installing Master, their worthy and Wor. Bro. Barrow, P.M.," who had so ably carried out the work of installation that evening, and said that he esteemed it as a great favour for the arrangement to be made, so that he (Wor. Bro. Barrow), whom he loved as a dear friend and brother, should be instrumental in placing him in the Eastern Chair of his mother lodge that evening, which he had always endeavoured to meet

and stated in what high standing he was held as a ruler in the Craft and respected; they all look up to him in this and every other lodge in the district that he might favour with his visits. The band played the air, "Let us be happy together." Wor. Bro. Barrow, in replying to the toast, remarked that this was the third occasion on which he had acted as Installing Officer in Lodge Truth. It had afforded him peculiar pleasure to place Wor. Bro. Rowe in the Master's chair, not only because he felt sure that, under the able management of that most zealous and hardworking Mason, the prosperity of the lodge, which for some time past has been declining, would return, but because Wor. Bro. Rowe was one of his (Wor. Bro. Barrow's) most valued friends, and merited the support and respect of all who desired to see Freemasonry in Bombay flourishing. Wor. Bro. Rowe was not only well-known in Craft Masonry, but as head of a preceptory, and of an Eighteenth Degree chapter, was looked upon as one of the most careful and successful Principals in the presidency. As they were aware, Wor. Bro. Rowe had lately conferred on him the high honour of the English 30th Degree, and no other Craft lodge in Bombay had at its head a man who united in his own person more administrative experience in the office of Master. The W.M. then rose and said.—Worshipful Sir and Brethren. The next toast he (the W.M.) had to ask the officers and brethren to join him in—one that was always so well received in Truth—was that of "The Visitors." He could assure them one and all that at any time they would favour the lodge with their presence he could ensure them a hearty reception both at working up stairs and at their festive board below, and hoped that he would have the pleasure of their company during the ensuing year as he had had in the past in other lodges which he had been ruling over for the past year. The band played the air, "Let us be happy together." Wor. Bro. F. Council, on rising to respond on behalf of the visitors, was loudly applauded, and said he had great pleasure at being present at the installation of their W.M. It was one of those elections that they had all looked forward to with great interest, knowing how Truth had been situated for the past two years; but he was pleased to say that he believed the brethren had selected one to rule over them for the ensuing year that would do his work in that Masterly style which he was noted for, and had seen him carrying out in the lodge he had been ruling over for the past year, and he was sure that the members of Truth had made a wise choice in securing him as their W.M. for the ensuing year, and from what he had seen of Wor. Bro. Rowe's working he would this time next year prove to the members that he had done his duty to the lodge, and thought he could speak of all the visitors present, as well as himself, that they would only be pleased to visit the lodge again on some future occasion when opportunity offers, and thanked the brethren of Truth for the kind way the toast of their health had been received and responded to. The next toast was that of "The Newly-appointed Officers of Truth." The W.M. said that he hoped that the selection he had made would prove beneficial to the lodge, as he had taken every care in the selection, and had given his reason for choosing the brethren he had done, and stated the claims he thought each one had to the post he had appointed him to, and hoped he would find them punctual in their attendance, as they were quite aware unless the Master had the hearty co-operation of his officers it was impossible for the lodge to work in that efficient way which he hoped they would do during the current year. The band played the air, "Happy are we to-night, Boys." Bro. C. Tudball, S.W., on behalf of himself and brother officers, said that he could assure the W.M. that they would give him their hearty support, and attend their duties regularly, and give him that assistance they knew he was deserving of, and that nothing should be wanting on their parts to carry out the duties of the officers which they had been appointed to that evening, and thanked the W.M. and brethren for the kind way their health had been received. The W.M. then introduced the toast of "The Past Officers," and in doing so mentioned the services of Bro. C. Tudball as the Secretary of the past year; also those of Bro. Capt. S. Babington, as S.D.; also the valuable services rendered by their I.P.M., Wor. Bro. C. E. Mitchell, and those of Wor. Bro. W. H. Hussey, D.G.S., their late Treas., who had to retire from his old post (which he had so worthily filled for the past few years) on account of his health and the heavy duties he had to perform as D.G.S., which was received with applause. The band played the air, "Life let us Cherish." Bro. Capt. Babington, on behalf of the Past Officers, said what little they had done during the past year they had done with a good will, but he hoped that those that were appointed to office during the ensuing year would endeavour to do better than they had done in the past, and thanked the brethren for the cordial way they had received the toast of their health. The remainder of the evening was spent in harmony by the brethren, many good songs being sung, the choruses of which were accompanied by the band. The W.M. called the attention of the brethren to the approaching hour, and the last toast of the evening was that of "The Poor Masons," and took leave of each other at 11.15 p.m. Thus ended the merry installation night of Lodge Truth. The band played the air, "To all Poor and Distressed Brother Masons," after which, to close the proceedings, "God Save the Queen," in which all the brethren joined.

[The above appeared in our second edition of last week].
HAMPTON COURT.—Era Lodge (No. 1423).—The installation meeting of this lodge was held on Saturday, 12th February, 1876, at the King's Arms Hotel, Hampton Court. Present: Bros. J. Baldwin, W.M.; E. H. Thiellay, S.W.; J. B. Langley, J.W.; T. J. Sabine, P.P.G.S.B., Middlesex, P.W., Treas.; F. Walters, P.P.G.P. Middlesex, P.M., Sec.; F. W. Deveraux, S.D.; S. Wolff, J.D.; A. F. Loos, I.G.; B. Wright, D.C.; J. Gilbert, P.G. Tyler Mid-

dlesex, Tyler. Past Masters: Bros. J. T. Moss, P.P.G.R. Middlesex; H. A. Dubois, P.P.G.A.D.C. Middlesex; W. Hammond, P.P.J.D. Middlesex. Visitors: Bros. J. Hawker, P.M. 871; W. A. Lochhead, 871; T. Horton, 871; A. G. Dobson, W.M. 118; T. Kingston, W.M. 862; W. Stead, I.G. 813; T. Painter, P.M. 749; H. R. Harker, 79; J. M. Kender, 1512; F. W. Clark, 1348; J. W. Hiscox, 1512; and others. After the minutes of previous meeting had been duly read and confirmed, balloting took place, and resulted unanimously in favour of the admission of Bro. G. S. Elliott, 749 and 1375, as a joining member and Mr. Wingate for initiation. Messrs. Beckwith and Wingate were then initiated by Bro. T. J. Moss, P.P.G.R. Middlesex, P.M. Bro. J. B. Langley was installed by the W.M., who received a vote of thanks for performing the ceremony, and it was directed that the vote should be recorded in the minutes. Bro. Langley appointed the following brethren to the various offices for the ensuing year:—Bros. E. H. Thiellay, P.P.A.G.P. Middlesex, W.M. 145, S.W.; T. J. Sabine, P.P.G.S.B. Middlesex, P.M. 73, W.M. 1540, J.W.; H. A. Dubois, P.P.A.G.D.C., Middlesex, P.M., Treas.; F. Walters, P.P.G.P., Middlesex, P.M., Sec.; (Bro. Walters was re-elected Secretary for the fourth time); E. W. Deveraux, S.D.; S. Wolff, J.D.; A. F. Loos, I.G.; J. Mason, W.M. Elliot. Lodge Org.; B. Wright, A.S.; J. Johnson, D.C.; M. Underwood, W.S.; H. Faiza, C.S.; J. Gilbert, P.G. Tyler Middlesex. The following motions were unanimously agreed to: To present thirty guineas to Masonic Charities, and a ten guinea testimonial to the Secretary. The usual twelve guinea Past Master's jewel was presented to Bro. J. W. Baldwin. The proceedings then terminated with the proposition of several gentlemen for initiation, and the passing of some new bye-laws, and were followed by a banquet.

FELTHAM.—Elliot Lodge (No. 1567).—The second meeting of this promising young lodge was held on Saturday, the 8th inst., Bro. J. Mason, W.M. in the chair, supported by Bros. H. G. Buss, Prov. G. Treas, acting as I.P.M.; F. Green, S.W.; W. Dunham, J.W.; J. R. Nicholls, S.D.; A. J. Ireton, J.D.; J. H. Pearson, I.G.; S. L. Green, D.C.; T. W. Clarke, W.S.; W. T. Hone, Prov. G. Purst., Treas.; and J. Elliott, Sec. The lodge was opened, and the minutes of the consecration and emergency meetings having been read and approved, the ballot was taken for five gentlemen as candidates for initiation, this being unanimous in each case. Four of them being in attendance, were introduced, and received the benefits of the First Degree. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree, when Bros. Pearce and Nicholls were duly advanced to the degree of Fellow Craft. The S.W. presented the lodge with a very handsome volume of the Sacred Law, which, for elegance of design and material, we have seldom seen surpassed. The present was duly received and acknowledged on behalf of the lodge by the W.M., who said he trusted that not only would the members look upon it as a gift to the lodge for the mere routine business thereof, but that they, by careful study and strict adherence to its precepts, may be guided to that Grand Lodge above, where he was sure it was the earnest desire of every one present they may at last meet, when this life and its meetings shall have passed away. Bro. Hone proposed, and Bro. F. Green seconded, a motion that Sir G. Elliot, having kindly given his consent for the lodge to use his crest for all lodge purposes, that this become at once a banner lodge, which, being carried unanimously, the banner of Bro. Mason, as first W.M., was at once unfurled, and was much admired by all present. Several gentlemen being proposed for initiation, and one as joining member at the next meeting, brought the lodge meeting to a close, after which about 30 of the brethren sat down to an excellent banquet supplied by Bro. Harris, who was assisted by the well-known caterer, Bro. Stone, of Halliford. After the removal of the cloth, the W.M. gave the usual Masonic toasts, which were well received; and in proposing that of "The M.W.G.M.," he referred to his visit to India, and thought that if anything was needed to prove the high estimation in which he was held, both in and outside the Craft, he was sure that need had been well supplied. He trusted that the Great Architect of the Universe would guard and shelter him from every danger, that he may be enabled to return safely to his native land, when every member of the Craft would rejoice to find him once more amongst us. The lodge was honoured by a visit from Bros. H. Buss, Prov. G. Treas.; R. W. Little, Prov. G.S.W.; J. Coutts, P.G.P.; E. M. Haigh, P.G.S.; B. Swallow, Prov. G.S. (W.M. 1563); J. Green, G. Towns- end, J. Barfield, and A. Glover. Each of the toasts were given and responded to in a truly Masonic manner, the Tyler's toast bringing to a close a most enjoyable evening. We wish the lodge that success which it deserves, and which is evidently attending its every movement, as we understand that a list is always to be found lying on the festive board for contributions to the Girls' School, which already amount to nearly £40, and we think this should stimulate other Provincial Lodges to greater exertions on behalf of the forthcoming festival.

INSTRUCTION.

LEICESTER.—Union Lodge.—The annual festival of this lodge, which is held under the joint sanction of the local lodges, took place on Thursday, the 10th inst., at Leicester, and was attended by a large number of the members of the town lodges. The Twelve Sections of the first and second lectures were worked as under:—

FIRST LECTURE.

1st Sec. by Bro. S. S. Partridge, I.P.M. 533, D. of C., 1560.
 2nd " " T. A. Wykes, J.W., 523.
 3rd " " W. Sculthorpe, P.M., 523, Std., 1560.
 4th " " J. M. McAllister, W.M. 279.
 5th " " E. Mason, S.W. 1391.
 6th " " J. T. Thorp, W.M. 523.
 7th " " C. W. Statham, S.W. 279.

SECOND LECTURE.

1st Sec. by Bro. W. C. Shout, S.D., 523.
 2nd " " J. Ewing, Sec., 1391.
 3rd " " W. T. Rowlett, S.W., 523.
 4th " " T. Worthington, W.M., 50.
 5th " " H. Meadows, 1391.

The questions were given by Bro. G. Toller, P.M. 523, I.P.M. 1560, who occupied the chair. At the conclusion of the work R.W. Bro. W. Kelly, P.P.G.M., referred in laudatory terms to the excellent manner in which all concerned had performed their tasks, there being hardly a single slip throughout, and proposed that a cordial vote of thanks be given to those concerned, which was seconded by Bro. C. Johnson, P.M., and carried unanimously. Bro. Toller responded in suitable terms on behalf of those engaged in the work, and after the transaction of some routine business the lodge was closed, and the members adjourned to refreshment.

Royal Arch.

JERUSALEM CHAPTER (No. 185).—The last convocation of this excellent and old established chapter was held at the Freemasons' Tavern, on Tuesday, the 8th inst. The chapter was opened by Comps. Smith, M.E.Z.; Holbrook, I.P.Z.; Harfield, P.Z.; Treas.; Davage, P.Z.; Scribe E.; W. Hammond, P.G.P.S. Middx., H.; Elsam, J.; Wagner, N.; Robinson, P.S.; Mander, and A.S. There were also present Comps. Whitley, Bond, Webb, Walls, Sumner and Stewart. The minutes of the previous convocation having been read and confirmed, the companions proceeded to elect the office-bearers for the year ensuing, as follows: Comps. Hammond, M.E.; Elsam, H.; Wagner, J.; Robinson, N.; Harfield, Treas.; Davage, S.E.; and Mander, P.S. In every case the ballot was unanimous, and at the conclusion of the election the companions severally returned thanks for the honour done them. A letter of resignation having been read from Comp. Honnewell, who held the office of 1st Assist., which was accepted with great regret, Comp. Harfield, P.Z. arose and proposed that some fitting tribute of respect and esteem was due to their worthy M.E., Comp. Smith, who had presided over them for two consecutive years, and who had on all occasions discharged his duties with unremitting zeal, excellent ability, and invariable urbanity. He went on to say that the last proof of the M.E.'s interest in his mother chapter that could be adduced, was the fact of his coming at all seasons so many miles to preside over them, namely, from Chester. In conclusion he hoped that the chapter would, in consideration of his great services, vote Comp. Smith a very handsome jewel, and he would suggest that it should be at least twice the money value of that usually voted to those who had discharged the onerous duties of First Principal, the Jerusalem Chapter. Comp. Holbrook, P.Z. in seconding the proposition endorsed the remarks of the last speaker most warmly. The proposition, having been neatly put by Comp. Hammond, was unanimously carried, and the M.E. in a very modest speech acknowledged his gratitude for the kind manner in which the proposition had been moved and seconded, and also for the hearty way in which the vote had been received and carried by the chapter at large. Comp. Mander having proposed a member for exaltation at the next meeting, viz., Bro. Pratt, of the Mount Edgumbe, which was seconded by Comp. Stewart, the chapter was closed, and the companions adjourned to an excellent banquet. Upon the removal of the cloth, the M.E. gave the usual loyal toasts, which were warmly received. In proposing "The Health of Comps. Lords Skelmersdale and De Tabley, G.H. and G.L. of England," the M.E. dwelt at length upon the eminent services rendered by those justly esteemed noblemen, not only to the supreme degree of the R.A., but to Freemasons generally. In speaking of the latter peer, the M.E. stated that as Lord De Tabley held the position of G.M. and G.S. of Cheshire he had frequent opportunities of observing the manner in which he discharged his Masonic duties, and he could only say that he was a most excellent working Mason in all degrees of the science, and that his lordship personally took a great interest in the doings of every chapter and lodge in his province, and in private life he was most justly and deservedly esteemed by all classes of the community. In conclusion, the M.E. expressed his opinion that while Freemasonry was supported by such noblemen as those whose health he had had the honour of proposing, and he was proud to think that there were many such, it would continue to flourish, and eventually become so powerful that its most bitter enemies would have reason to believe that the Craft and its degrees were something more than mere empty names. It is needless to say that this toast and the remarks that accompanied it was most cordially received by the companions. Comp. Walls having recited the "Charge of the Light Brigade," the I.P.Z., Comp. Holbrook, proposed "The Health of the M.E.," in which he stated that after the encomiums which had been passed upon Comp. Smith in the chapter that evening, and which were well merited, it would be perhaps in bad taste for him to further enlarge upon the good qualities and working abilities of the M.E., who for two years had occupied that exalted position, and in conclusion he would ask the companions to join with him in wishing Comp. Smith a long life and the enjoyment of every domestic blessing. The toast having been duly honoured, the M.E. responded. In the course of his speech he touched feelingly upon the kind remarks that had been passed upon him that evening by Comps. Harfield and Holbrook, which he felt he did not deserve in their entirety. It was true he had striven to do his duty, with the hope that by so doing he should merit the approval of the companions, but he considered that no one should aspire to fill the chair of a First Principal unless he was prepared to devote every en-

ergy to discharge its multifarious duties with credit to himself and to the satisfaction of the chapter. With regard to the jewel which has been unanimously voted to him that day, he hoped to be spared many years to wear it as a memorial of the respect and esteem borne him by the companions of his mother chapter, the old Jerusalem. Comps. Robinson and Mander having contributed some harmony, the M.E. proposed "The Healths of Comps. Hammond and Elsam, the First and Second Principals elect," in a very neat speech, in which he stated that he must mention that the assistance he had received from those worthy companions during his two years of office was great in the extreme. However well up a First Principal might be, his efforts would be abortive unless aided by the exertions of his chief officers, and he was pleased to say that in every way Comps. Hammond and Elsam had rendered him good suit and service, and in conclusion he looked forward to the chapter enjoying two prosperous years of office under the able away of those companions, and it was his intention to endeavour to bring several provincial brethren to be exalted during their respective years of office. Comp. Hammond, in reply, stated that he was proud to think that the chapter had voted him that day to fill the chair of the Jerusalem as First Principal during the ensuing year, and he would endeavour to merit the confidence reposed in him. He then touched at length upon the remarks of the M.E., and said that although he could not hope to equal the working of Comp. Smith, yet he would try, with his assistance, in conjunction with the other P.Z.'s of the chapter, to preserve its prestige, and in conclusion he hoped that his term of office would be as prosperous and as successful as that of the M.E. Comp. Elsam briefly returned thanks, in which he endorsed the remarks of the last speaker, and said that with the good examples of the M.E. and the M.E. elect before him, it would be very hard indeed if he could not manage to discharge his duties when the time came to the satisfaction of the chapter. The M.E., and Comps. Mander and Walls having vocally and dramatically amused the companions, Comp. Wagner, the Third Principal elect, was duly toasted, and made an excellent reply. "The Health of the P.Z.'s of the Chapter" was then given, and Comps. Harfeld, Davage and Holbrook responded. The toast of "The Subordinate Officers of the Chapter" having been given by the M.E., prefaced by a few kind remarks addressed to each officer individually, was acknowledged by Comps. Davage, Robinson, and Mander. The installation of Comp. Hammond takes place on the second Tuesday in April next.

BARNET.—Gladsmuir Chapter (No. 1385).—The installation meeting of this chapter was held at the Red Lion Hotel, on the 17th inst. Present: E. Comps. T. S. Carter, Prov. G.N., M.E.Z.; J. Lowthion, Prov. G. and A.S., H.; W. Cutbush, J.; J. Terry, Prov. G.D.C., P.Z.; J. R. Coeks, Prov. G.J., S.E.; G. W. Verry, P.Z., Prin. Soj.; and Comps. Hayward Edwards, S.N.; J. Livingston, 1st A.S.; Booth, 2nd A.S.; Cussans, M.C.; Crutch, Steward; Porrott, Marks, Fisher, Young, J. Cutbush. Visitor: E. Comp. W. B. Heath P.Z. No. 21. The business of the chapter was to instal the Principals and induct the officers for the year ensuing. E. Comp. Terry in his usual efficient manner acted as Installing Officer, and installed E. Comps. Lowthion, M.E.Z.; W. Cutbush, H.; Hayward Edwards, J. The following companions were inducted officers:—Cocks, S.E.; Verry, S.N.; Livingston, Prin. Soj.; Booth, 1st A.S.; Cussans, D.C.; Fisher Young, Steward. Comp. Goddard was re-elected Janitor. The M.E.Z. presented E. Comp. Carter, the 1st Z. of the chapter, with a very handsome Past Principal's jewel, which had been subscribed for by the members of the chapter, for which Comp. Carter thanked them.

BATH.—Royal Cumberland Chapter (No. 41).—Owing to sickness and other causes, the monthly meeting on February 15th was but thinly attended. Unfortunately the absence of the 1st and 2nd Principals was thus accounted for. By request Ex. Comp. Dr. Hopkins P.Z. 328, 587, 710 took the chair of Z; Ex. Comp. Moutrie, P.Z. and Treas., that of H.; and Ex. Comp. Carey was in his place as J. The following P.Z.'s were also present:—Ruble, Mann, Kees, Reeves; and Trevor, as a visitor from a chapter at Bombay. After the chapter had been opened the following companions were admitted:—Hill, E.; Hearn, N.; Brown, P. Soj.; Gummer, as Soj.; Faulkner, J. Soj.; Howes, Davies. Comp. Bigwood was in his place as Janitor. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. Bro. Packer was introduced, properly prepared, and exalted to the Supreme Degree by the acting 1st Principal, who also gave the historical, symbolical and mystical lectures, with the exception of the explanation of the working tools, which devolved on the acting H. The chapter room on this evening wore an unusually cheerful aspect, the officers wearing new robes and collars; there was also a new altar; the sceptres, staves, jewels, candlesticks had been regilt, &c. Ex. Comp. Moutrie reported on what had been done, and presented to the chapter a new veil for the altar, and a banner for the 1st Principal. For this a vote of thanks was passed, as also to him and Comp. Hill for their successful labours in the work of restoration. A grant of ten guineas was made to the Masonic School for Girls. Other matters not of general interest were settled, and a brother was proposed for exaltation.

STONEHOUSE.—Sincerity Chapter (No. 189).—A convocation of this chapter was held on Monday evening at St. George's Hall. There were present: Comps. J. E. Curteis, Z.; Chapman, H.; Dampney, J.; Rae, P.Z.; Bayly, P.Z.; J. Latimer, S.E.; A. Latimer, S.N.; Hon. P.S.; Rev. J. W. Lemon, S.S.; Ferguson, J.S.; Col. Fitz Gerald Horton, C.; Croydon, G.; Evans, J.E.; Moon, J.; Barrett. Comp. J. E. Curteis, M.E.Z., presided, and the minutes of the last regular meeting (which included a vote of £5 to the Royal

Masonic Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and Widows of Freemasons, placed upon the list of the M.E.Z., who represented the province at the annual festival) having been read, Comp. Curteis, assisted by Comp. Rae, P.Z., installed Comp. Chapman (who had travelled from Sheffield to be present upon the occasion) as Z.; Comp. Dampney, as H.; and Comp. J. Latimer, as J. The following companions were appointed and invested:—Comps. A. Latimer, S.E.; Rev. J. W. Lemon, S.N.; Hon. P. S. Ferguson, S.S.; D. Horton, J.S.; Rogers, Janitor. Comp. Curteis congratulated the chapter upon its financial position, and expressed a hope that whilst it continues to expect a high standard of qualification on behalf of all candidates for admission to it, the one great object of all Freemasonry would, as it ever had been, be well considered.

MANCHESTER.—Affability Chapter (No. 317).—This chapter held its monthly meeting on Thursday, the 17th inst., when more than forty members and visitors were present. The chapter was opened by Comp. J. H. Sillitoe, Z., who afterwards installed his successor, Comp. S. Henson, as Z. Comp. Fox was installed as H. by Comp. W. F. Towle, P.Z., and Comp. J. Smethurst as J. by Comp. J. Hall, P.Z., P.G.P.S. of E.L. The officers were invested by Comp. Towle, viz., Comps. J. Lees, as S.E.; J. Dawson, as S.N.; D. Donbavand, P.S.; Moore, 1st A.S.; J. Kerridge, 2nd A.S.; W. P. Norris, Treas.; and J. Sly, Janitor. The newly installed Z. presented the balance sheet, which was passed. He congratulated the chapter on the flourishing state of their finances, and in doing so stated that for years there had been a debt upon the chapter, but he was proud to say that their late Z., during his two years of office, had by his exertions raised the chapter in its number of members as well as in its financial state, and they had now a good balance in hand. He then briefly alluded to the presentation which was to be made during the evening to Comp. Sillitoe. After the chapter was closed about forty companions sat down to a substantial repast, Comp. Henson presiding. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed, and drank with enthusiasm. "Comp. Henson's Health" was proposed and received very warmly. After returning thanks he in a very eulogistic speech presented to Comp. Sillitoe a very handsome timepiece, and a beautiful eighteen-carat gold P.Z.'s jewel, as a tribute of the esteem in which he is held by the members of the chapter. The timepiece bears a gold plate with the following inscription:—"Presented to Comp. J. H. Sillitoe, P.Z., by the members of the Chapter of Affability, 317, for his valuable services, February 17th, 1876." The jewel also bears a suitable inscription. The musical talent of this chapter is well-known in the province, and the proceedings of the evening were enlivened by songs and recitations, Comp. Roberds, P.G.G., doing good service at the pianoforte.

Mark Masonry.

TEMPLE LODGE (No. 173).—At the regular meeting of this lodge for the installation of Bro. G. W. Verry there were present Bros. C. Lacey, W.M.; G. W. Verry, S.W.; E. Gotthiel, J.W.; T. S. Mortlock, Treas.; J. T. S. Hood, Sec.; W. R. Marsh, M.O.; G. Snow, S.O.; A. Mole, J. O.; G. Hollington, Registrar; B. Cundick, S.D.; W. H. Wallington, I.G. The visitors were Bros. F. Binckes, G. Sec.; Geo. Yaxley, 104, G. Steward, and P.G. Overseer; R. Berridge, W.M. 104, P.G. J.W.; P. L. Simmond, P.M., St. Mark's; J. Terry, Southwark; E. V. Henley, Thistle; John Close, 104, P.G. Steward; John Smith, 105. Bros. S. H. Rawley, J. Newton, E. J. Moore, R. C. Davis, were advanced to the degree of Mark Master Masons. The ceremony of installation was then worked, and on the brethren being admitted P.M. Mortlock gave the charge in a most impressive manner. The W.M. then appointed and invested his officers as follows:—E. Gotthiel, S.W.; J. T. S. Hood, J.W.; W. Christian, S.D.; W. H. Wallington, J.D.; G. Hollington, I.G.; B. Cundick, Registrar; B. L. Stuitesant, Sec.; N. Gluckstein, W.S.; and J. H. Ross. At the conclusion of the business the brethren sat down to a sumptuous banquet. The W.M., in giving the toast of "The Queen," stated that we had in connection with Mark Masonry Prince Leopold, and he had no doubt that he (Prince Leopold) would attain a high position in the degree. After the toasts of "The G.M., Lord Limerick, P.G.M. of the Order, Lord Leigh, the Earl of Carnarvon, Bros. Binckes, Portal, &c.," the W.M., proposed "The Deputy Grand Master, Lord Skelmersdale. He spoke very feelingly of the loss the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons had sustained by the death of Bro. R. Callender, stating how short a time since he had sat together with him, &c. "The Grand Officers" was responded to by Bro. Binckes, who said it was with mingled feelings of pleasure and regret he passed a high eulogy upon Bro. Callender, especially dwelling upon his universal kindness to Masons, and not only to them, but his love and charity extended to those outside the Craft, and to all philanthropic objects. The W.M. proposed "The Visitors," coupling with it the name of Bro. Berridge, W.M. of the Macdonald Lodge, 104, who responded in a very able speech. The W.M. then proposed "The Past Masters." Bro. Lacey proposed "The Health of the W.M. elect, Bro. Verry," who, in responding, said he would, as far as he could, promote the interests of the lodge, and do all he could for its welfare, and keep up its prestige as the two P.M.'s had done before him. The W.M. proposed "The Health of the Newly-advanced Brethren," who, he stated, were personal friends of his own. Bro. Davis sang a capital song, and the newly-advanced brethren replied to the toast. The W.M. then proposed "The Healths of Bros. Binckes and Terry." Bro. Terry replied in a most eloquent speech. Bro. Binckes also replied, and gave a most encouraging account of the Mark Benevolent Fund,

and impressed upon his listeners that they must not forget "Our Boys." There were some other toasts, and a duet, whistled by Bros. P.M. Mortlock and Henley, was received with great applause.

MACDONALD LODGE OF MARK MASTERS (No. 104).—A meeting of this lodge was held at the Masons' Hall, Coleman-street, London, E.C., on Saturday, the 19th inst. The brethren attended in regulation mourning for the late Deputy Grand Mark Master, Brother W. Romaine Callender, whose lamented decease was the subject of generally expressed regret. The W.M., Bro. R. Berridge, opened the lodge at the appointed hour, and amongst others present were the W. Bro. W. Worrell, P.G. Organist, I.P.M.; Bros. T. White, S.W.; N. Ritherdon, M.O.; the V.W. Bros. Thomas Meggy, P.G.M.O.; James Stevens, P.G.J.O.; P.M.'s, L. Hammerton, P.G. D.C., P.M. and Secretary; Bros. W. P. Collins, S.D.; F. H. Cozens, J.D. and Organist; N. J. F. Bassett, I.G.; G. Yaxley, D.C.; G. W. Verry, W.M. Temple Mark Lodge, W.S.; J. Cloce, C.S.; W. C. Hale, J. K. Pitt, H. F. Partridge, J. F. Honey, F. G. Raggatt, J. R. Williams, H. H. Cook, W. Grant, and others. There were no visitors on this occasion, and the business was not so heavy as is usual in this lodge. Bro. Edwin Frost, of No. 1347, was duly advanced with full and perfect ceremonial. The W.M. offered his services as Steward at the forthcoming festival of the Mark Benevolent Fund, an offer which was cordially accepted with promises of support. The lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned for refreshment. The customary toasts were severally proposed and responded to, the only one requiring special mention being that of "The Deputy Grand Mark Master, and the Past and Present Officers of Grand Mark Lodge," in response to which Bro. Meggy feelingly alluded to the loss the Order had sustained by the death of Bro. Callender, whose good works, both in Craft and Mark Masonry, were so generally recognised both in the metropolis and in his large and important province. In the nobleman about to be appointed in his stead Bro. Meggy hailed an influential addition to the future prospects of the Mark Degree, and having further expressed his conviction of the earnestness with which the officers of the Grand Lodge endeavoured to perform their duty to the Order, thanked the brethren in the name of his colleagues present for the compliments the W.M. had paid to them. Charity was not forgotten, and on the toast of "The Mark Benevolent Fund" being responded to, the offered Stewardship of the W.M. was gratefully acknowledged. The very enjoyable evening was enlivened by some capital songs, Bro. Cozens presiding with his usual ability and urbanity at the pianoforte, and was brought to a close at a reasonable hour by the Tyler's toast.

Red Cross of Constantine.

COCKERMOUTH.—Dyke's Conclave (No. 36).—A special assembly of this conclave was held on Wednesday, the 9th inst., at the rooms of Skiddaw Lodge, N. 1002, Market-place, Cockermouth. Em. Sir Knt. R. Robinson, Past Sovereign, was in the throne, in the absence, through continued indisposition of the M.P. Sovereign, Em. Sir Knt. E. W. Henry, M.D. The officers present were: Em. Sir Knts. Rev. W. Beeby, Eusebius; E. Tyson, Senior General; J. L. Paitson, Recorder; W. Shilton, Standard Bearer; Rev. E. M. Rice, High Prelate; W. F. Lamonby, Herald; and others. Em. Sir Knts. J. Pearson and W. Taylor, Past Sovereigns, were likewise present. The only business before the conclave was conferring the grades of Viceroy and Sovereign on Sir Knt. W. F. Lamonby, by special warrant of the Executive Committee of the Grand Imperial Council, in order to enable him to spread the Knightly Order in the Australian colonies, whence he proceeds in the month of April next. The ceremonies were most correctly and impressively performed by the presiding Sovereign, assisted by the other Em. Sir Knights present, and the conclave was duly closed by the newly-enthroned Sovereign.

Scotland.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Mother Kilwinning (No. 0).—The fifth annual re-union of the brethren in Glasgow neighbourhood belonging to the ancient "Mother" was held on Friday evening, the 18th inst., in the hall of St. John's Lodge (No. 34), at 213, Buchanan-street, Glasgow. Bro. R. Wylie, P.G.S., Ayrshire, presided, supported to right and left by J. A. Ferguson, P.S.W. 0; J. Thomson, 0; M. Nelson, W.M. 34; W. Bell, I.P.M. 34; John Baird, P.M. 34; and others. Bros. Stodart and Walker, No. 0, officiated as Croupiers, and about 50 brethren sat down to an excellent supper, elegantly purveyed by Bro. C. Galloway, of West Nile-street. Previous to commencing the subsequent proceedings of the evening, the Secretary, Bro. Stodart, read letters of apology for absence from Bros. Sir James Ferguson, Bart. of Kilkerran; W. Montgomery Neilson, W.P.G.M. of Glasgow; and Rev. Bro. Inglis of Kilmaurs, P.G. Chap. of Ayrshire. The Chairman then proposed the usual loyal toasts, which were enthusiastically honoured. In commending that of "The Prince of Wales, G.M.M. of E." he said that the Prince, as they were all aware, was not only the head of the Craft in England, but was also the patron of Freemasonry in Scotland. He had no doubt that the Prince's visit to India would have a very beneficial effect upon Freemasonry, in that distant part of her Majesty's dominions, in addition to cementing more closely the people of that great empire with the old country. The toast of "The Army, Navy, and Reserve Forces" having been given by Bro. Stodart (Croupier), and acknowledged

by Bro. Serjt. Reid, the Chairman said they had now got to that part of the programme where what was known as the "chairman's address" came in, but first of all he felt it to be his duty to thank them for honouring him with the position of chairman on that occasion—to preside over the "sons of light" who were cradled in the Mother Lodge Kilwinning. Assembled as they were that night around the social board, drawn together by the most sacred ties of brotherhood, he had chosen as text for his few remarks, "What is Freemasonry?" They were again invited to answer that question by those who had not entered within the portals of the Masonic temple; and, as they were aware, their Order had been assailed and anathematised by the Church of Rome. Well, Freemasonry, as they understood it in these days, had been defined as "a beautiful system of morality, veiled in allegory, and illustrated by symbols—faith, hope, and charity being among its brightest jewels." Its principles were incontrovertible; they were based on the broadest ethical truths; it was founded on the Bible. Freemasonry sought to infuse its members with the spirit of love, charity, and benevolence; to break down the partition wall between class and class. In a Masonic lodge peer and peasant, rich and poor, learned and illiterate, met fraternally on the same level. Freemasonry had been denounced for being a "secret" society; but he held that wherever and whenever secrecy was necessary it was also commendable. But what were those secrets? Remove from Masonry the pass-words, signs, and tokens, and the manner of conferring the degrees, and the whole secrecy of the matter disappeared. The benefits of the Order, however, remained, being reserved for the initiated, who contributed to its support; and its cosmopolitan language was used only as a sign and test of brotherhood. Having referred to the olden times, when Masonry was exclusively a guild society, when none but operative Masons were admitted to enjoy its privileges, the Chairman said it was worthy of remark that the Lodge Glasgow St. John, within whose walls they were highly privileged to meet that evening, was the last to give up this ancient character. Within that time-honoured lodge non-operatives were not admitted until so recently as the year 1842, and not till the year 1850 did they see fit to join themselves with the Grand Lodge of Scotland. In concluding his remarks the Chairman said that the Freemasons did what in them lay to aid in healing dissensions, and in bringing good and honest men into one indissoluble brotherhood. The door of a Masonic lodge was open to every man of "good report," irrespective of his religious or political creed. Notwithstanding all that had been said by the uninitiated against Freemasonry, and he admitted that, like all merely human institutions, it was not perfect—the fraternity seemed in a fair way of becoming co-extensive with terra firma. It was a somewhat rare saying that "the sun never sets on the British dominions"—an apt and forcible illustration of the wide distribution of their Order. Lodge-houses had been formed in all the great geographical divisions of the world—in Europe, Asia, China, along the coast of Africa, the two Americas, and Australia. Hence they might truly say that in almost every clime there was a lodge, and in every lodge a band of brethren—thereby doing somewhat to hasten the time of which our national poet prophesied—

When man to man, the world o'er,
Shall brethren be and a' that.

The chairman resumed his seat amid much applause. The toast of "The Province of Glasgow" was given by Bro. Thomson, and responded to by Bro. John Baird, P.G.S.M. The latter said he felt exceedingly sorry that the P.G.M., Bro. Neilson had not been able to be with them that night. He could assure them, however, that he (the P.G.M.) had been much successful in promoting and maintaining the cause of Masonry in Glasgow. That he had been successful, was shewn by the fact that there were now some 26 or 27 lodges within the province, and that, at the last visitation of them by the P.G.L., every one of them was found to be in a promising condition. The prosperous condition of the P.G.L. itself was shewn by their now being able to give away regularly a large amount in charity. Before sitting down, Bro. Baird begged to propose the toast of "Mother Kilwinning." In so doing he remarked that it certainly did seem strange that in every country in the globe the name of Mother Kilwinning should be known. Such was the case, however, and that its prosperity might yet more increase, and its borders be extended in time to come, was the wish not only of those present, but in every quarter where Masonry was known. The toast was acknowledged in brief but fitting terms by Bro. Ferguson, P.S.W. Amongst the other toasts were "Lodge St. John, No. 34," by the Chairman, coupled with the name of Bro. D. M. Nelson, W.M. of St. John, and by him ably acknowledged; "Visiting Brethren," responded to by Bro. Brownlie, Lodge St. John; "The Chairman," by Bro. Wm. Bell, I.P.M., No. 3, &c. The programme, we may just add, was abundantly interspersed with song and recitation, and the fifth re-union of the Glasgow sons of the Ancient Mother was an unquestionable success.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Thistle and Rose (No. 73).—A meeting of this lodge was held in the Masonic Hall, 170, Buchanan-street, on Tuesday evening, the 15th inst., Bro. G. McDonald, W.M., presiding; A. McLeod, S.W.; J. F. Hanbridge, J.W.; F. Stewart, P.M.; Appleford, Treas.; and Richards, Sec. On the minutes having been read and confirmed, £3 was voted out of the funds of the lodge to the widow of a late brother, and £1 to a brother in poor circumstances. A brother was then passed to the Fellow Craft Degree, and Bro. A. Abrahams raised to the Sublim: Degree of Master Mason by the W.M. in his usual able manner.

GLASGOW.—Lodge St. Clair (No. 362).—At the meeting of this lodge, held in the M.H., 25, Robertson-street, on Monday evening, 14th inst., Bro. W. Hogg was in the chair, supported by G. Thallon, I.P.M.; H. Mair,

P.M., and No. 216, Lodge Harmonic, Liverpool, E.C.; A. Rutherford, S.W.; C. Galletly, J.W.; G. Fraser, Sec.; W. Pascoe, Treas.; M. Fox, J.D.; A. Taylor, Org.; Capt. J. Gray, and Warnock, Tyler. Among the visiting brethren we noticed Bros. J. Callen, S.W. 116; J. W. Harris, S.; J. M. Walters, 17; J. Bell, 116; Jos. Callen, 116; F. Price, 116; D. Robertson, 247; G. Findlater, 458; D. Dorg, 553; and Ferguson ("Freemason"). On the lodge being opened, and the minutes of last meeting read and confirmed, a committee of seven were appointed to revise the bye-laws. Bros. A. Rutherford, jun., and J. Brown were then raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason by the W.M. The business being over, Bro. Mair, P.M., said he had much pleasure in being present that night with the members of the lodge, after an absence of about fourteen years in England, and was well pleased to see the lodge of which he was a P.M. in such a prosperous condition, and complimented the W.M. on his excellent working of the Third Degree. He would have much pleasure in being present with them at their annual festival on the 25th inst.

GLASGOW.—Lodge St. George (No. 333).—The monthly meeting of this lodge was held on Wednesday, the 9th inst., in St. Mark's Hall, Buchanan-street, Bro. A. Thomson, W.M., presiding, ably supported by Bros. J. Forsyth, S.W.; R. Anderson, J.W.; J. McFarlane, D.M.; J. Findlay, S.M.; A. Dunn, Treas.; A. McIntyre, Sec.; J. Clark, Chap.; Adam Boyd, S.D.; T. Hill, J.D.; and A. Wright, I.G. The Secretary read minutes of last regular meeting, which were approved of. A subscription was then raised on behalf of the Fraser Testimonial. Messrs. R. A. Grandison, J. Findlay, and J. Robertson were initiated into the First Degree by Bro. J. Findlay, S.M. Bros. J. K. Adams, J. Cormack, and R. Hunter were passed to the Second Degree, which was again ably gone through by Bro. Findlay, S.M.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Caledonian Railway (No. 354).—At the regular meeting of this lodge, held in the Masonic Hall, 30, Hope-street, on Wednesday evening, 2nd inst., Bro. A. Arick Smith, P.M., in the chair; Bros. A. B. Ferguson, S.W., and John Harley, J.W. Present: Bros. D. Buchanan, D.M.; R. S. McLean, Secretary; Daniel Leitch, S.D.; James Harley, J.D.; Colin McKenzie, Jeweller; John Fraser, P.M. 87; David Reid, I.P.M. 465; Peter Brownlie, J.W. 34; George B. Davidson, S.W. 465; William Ferguson, P.M. ("Freemason"); A. R. Wilson, Chaplain 27; Daniel Cameron, 180 (Oban); and a large number of other visiting brethren and members of the lodge. Messrs. T. Stark, Writer, and W. McIlwraith, architect, were admitted and received the Entered Apprentice Degree at the hands of Bro. D. Reid, I.P.M. No. 465, in a very able and accurate manner. The annual festival of the lodge is to take place on the 8th March, in Bro. Thornton's Restaurant, Argyle-street. The next business before the meeting was installing into office the officers elected at last meeting. On account of Bro. Shaw's resignation as W.M. the ceremony was ably gone through by Bro. A. A. Smith, P.M., assisted by Bro. John Fraser, P.M. No. 87. The following were installed:—Bros. A. B. Ferguson, S.W., as W.M.; J. Harley, J.W., as S.W.; Colin McKenzie, Jeweller, as J.W.; and J. Reid to the office of Jeweller. The lodge was then called to refreshment and put under the care of Bro. McKenzie, J.W., and after a most enjoyable evening was closed.

SPRINGBURN.—Lodge Kenmuir (No. 570).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held in their M.H., Springburn, on Thursday evening, the 10th inst., Bro. R. Aikman, W.M., presiding, supported by Bros. J. Law, I.P.M.; J. Rennie, D.M.; G. Dalglish, S.M.; J. Mark, S.W.; W. Reid, J.W.; J. Sharp, Treas.; D. Russell, Sec.; J. Millar, J.D.; and others. Among the visiting brethren we noticed Bros. J. Moogan, W.M. 219; W. B. Stewart, 219; G. W. Wheeler, 73; Reddie Currie, 73; R. Gardner, 178; J. Allan, D.M. 28; J. Wilson, 384; W. Ferguson ("Freemason"); and a large number of others. The Secretary read minutes of last meeting, which were approved of. Bro. W. Reid, J.W., presented the lodge with a very handsome sword, and the W.M. moved a vote of thanks to Bro. Reid, which was heartily responded to. Mr. J. McCallum was initiated by Bro. Aikman, W.M., into the First Degree, and Bro. W. Buchanan was raised by Bro. W. Ferguson, I.P.M. 543. The bye-laws, as drawn up by the committee appointed for that purpose, were read for the first time, after which the lodge was closed.

ARDROSSAN.—Lodge Neptune Kilwinning (No. 442).—On Friday evening, 4th inst., the members of this lodge held an out-door demonstration, which was followed by a supper and a ball in the Eglinton Arms Hotel, Ardrossan. About seven o'clock the procession was formed at the lodge-room, Priocra Lane (North), and headed by the band of the Ardrossan Artillery Volunteers, the brethren, dressed in their regalia, marched through the principal streets, carrying several handsome banners. The weather was very fine, and the procession, which was lighted by a number of torches, attracted considerable attention from the large number of spectators who turned out to witness it. About eight o'clock up wards of eighty ladies and gentlemen sat down to an excellent supper in the Eglinton Arms, served up in Mr. McKeazie's usual good style. The room was tastefully decorated with evergreens, choice plants being also placed upon the tables. The chair was occupied by P.M. Bro. J. Robertson, who was supported right and left by D.M. Bros. J. Robertson; H. Boyd, W. Wyllie, Chaplain. The Croupiers were Bros. W. Ross, Treas.; and Thos. McNidder, Sec. Apologies were read from the W.M., Bro. F. Goodwin, who was absent owing to ill-health; Provost Barr, and Bro. D. Goodwin. After supper, the Chairman gave "The Queen," and also "The Grand Lodges of Scotland, England, and Ireland," "Prosperity to the Ardrossan Neptune Kilwinning, No. 442," and "The Health of the W.M., Bro. Francis Goodwin." Bro. McNidder suitably proposed

"The Health of P.M. Robertson." The Chairman, in response, said it was always a pleasure to him to meet with his fellow Craftsmen, and he was willing to do anything he could for the good of the lodge. The Chairman gave "The Town and Port of Ardrossan," and regretted the absence of Provost Barr. He coupled with the toast the name of Acting P.M. Bro. Hugh Boyd. Bro. Boyd briefly replied. "The Health of the Deputy and Substitute Masters" was then given from the chair, and acknowledged by Bro. John Robertson; also "The Senior and Junior Wardens, Bros. W. Reid and A. Bell," replied to by Bro. Reid. The Chairman said he had great pleasure in proposing "The Health of the Secretary and Treasurer." Bro. W. Ross replied. The Chairman next gave "The Deacons and Stewards" Senior Steward, Bro. W. Marshall replied. The Chairman proposed "The Absent Seafaring Brethren." "The Young Brethren" was replied to by Bro. Mulholland. Bro. Captain Crawford gave "The Ladies," which was replied to by Bro. D. Fullarton. The concluding toast was "Happy to meet," &c. Some excellent songs and duets were contributed by Miss Stewart, Messrs. W. Reid, W. Wyllie, A. Bell, Scott, Hope, John Robertson, and Trodden. The room was afterwards cleared for dancing, which was kept up with great spirit till an early hour by the brethren and their fair partners, when they separated, highly pleased with the meeting. Bro. J. Robertson officiated as M.C. The music was supplied by the Messrs. Wyllie, Kilwinning.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Clydesdale (No. 556).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held in the Masonic Hall, Rose-street, S.S., on Tuesday evening, 8th inst. Bro. T. Phillips, W.M., presiding; Bro. J. McNaught, S.W., and Bro. T. Phillips, J.W. The W.M. was supported on the dais by Bros. H. McCulloch, D.M.; J. Boyle, S.M.; G. B. Yuill, Sec.; J. McKechnie, Treas.; F. Webster, Chaplain; J. Millen, P.M. 87; and W. Ferguson ("Freemason"). Present: Bros. P. Young, S.D.; J. McMillan, J.D.; W. Simpson, S.S.; and J. McMillan, J.S. The lodge was opened, and the minutes of last meeting read and confirmed. A proof sheet of new bye-laws was handed to each member for perusal, said laws to be read and adopted at next regular meeting, with alterations, if any. Members were then served with tickets for annual festival, which is to take place on Friday, the 18th inst., in the Hall, Rose-street. Bros. W. Banks, G. McVean, W. S. Grogans, and W. Squires were passed to the Fellow Craft Degree by Bro. Ferguson. The lodge was then called to refreshment, when the toasts of "The Queen and the Craft," "The Three Grand Lodges, and Provincial Grand Lodge of Glasgow," were heartily responded to. "The Press," proposed by the W.M. Bro. Ferguson ("Freemason") replied. During the evening a deputation from Royal Arch Lodge, No. 116, was received, headed by Bro. Ferguson, I.P.M.

Reports of Lodges 34, 354, 543, 556, and 571 stand over.

[A portion of the above appeared in our Second Edition last week.]

CONSECRATION OF THE ST. DUNSTAN'S LODGE, No. 1589.

The St. Dunstan's Lodge, No. 1589, was consecrated yesterday week at Anderson's Hotel. The lodge was established by brethren who are parishioners of St. Dunstan's in the West, and to parishioners alone it is intended to confine membership. There is a strong body of Freemasons in the parish, and it is believed there will be no difficulty in getting the lodge well supported. The ceremony of consecration was ably performed, and if the music had been good would have been unexceptionable. From the Consecrating Master to the Inner Guard, all the officers were perfect in their duties, and the Chaplain delivered an oration which for its practical bearing could not be surpassed. The lodge was consecrated by Bro. James Terry, Grand Director of Ceremonies Herts; the other officers being filled as follows:—J. C. Dwarber, W.M. 1589; W. Wellsman, S.W. 1519; H. W. Dalwood, J.W. 1586; W. Maxwell, I.P.M. 1589; W. M. Praed, Treas. 1589; A. Tisley, Sec. 1589; J. H. Dodson, S.D. 1589; T. A. Woodbridge, I.G. 1589; H. Green, 1589; L. H. Williams, 1589; J. Gilbert, Tyler; J. Terry, Cons. Officer; Rev. R. J. Simpson, M.A., P.G.C.; R. W. Little, Prov. G.S.W. Middlesex; R. W. Williams, Org., J.W. 1275, &c.; J. Smith, P.G.P.; E. P. Albert, A.G.P.; J. D. Blake, W.M. 8; J. T. Robertson, W.M. 55; F. W. Pampillon, W.M. 91 and 858; A. Treadwell, W.M. 1777; W. Wallington, W.M. 860; R. N. Field, W.M. 902; H. J. Green, W.M. 1538; G. Campion, P.M. 19; E. C. Mather, P.M. 23; J. Shepherd, P.M. 27, 207; C. B. Payne, P.M. 27, G. Tyler; Alderman S. C. Hadley, P.M. 55; J. W. Dosell, P.M. 55, 463, P.P.G.D.C. Surrey; E. W. Webb, P.M. 72, 192, 890; E. Dodson, P.M. 72; E. W. Mackney, P.M. 134; M. L. Alexander, P.M. 188; S. Webb, 193, 1217; A. P. Leonard, P.M. 619 1297; H. Macey, P.M. 619 ("Freemason"); Worthington, P.M. 834, 858; J. Struter, P.M. 858; W. Hurlstone, P.M. 862; W. H. Lee, P.M. 1524; Rev. G. R. Purefoy Colles, LL.D., P.P.G.C. Oxon; C. J. Singleton, J.W. 858; W. Brodie, J.W. 1254; H. W. Green, S.D. 108; H. W. Nevill, 55; A. Scard, 177; Langdon Davis, 181; L. Jeffries, 720; W. G. Dickens, 860; J. Jones, 860; Scotter, 22; E. T. Copping, 933; G. H. Mason, 64; E. D. Maddock, 71. The lodge having been opened, and the ceremony completed down to the point where the Chaplain delivered the oration.

Bro. the Rev. R. J. Simpson, P.G.C., rose and said—I believe it is the usual custom on these occasions to deliver what is called in our language an oration, and it is also very common, I believe, for the officiating Chaplain to deliver that oration from a written document and at some length. I hope I may not be considered disrespectful to this lodge if I break through the usual custom observed on these occasions, and if I merely give you a few thoughts

occurring to a brother Mason, of my heart and mind, as it may occur to me, for a very few minutes on the nature and principles of the Institution of which the present lodge is a branch, the latest in the Order. Brethren, I do this on more accounts than one. Time is, with us in London, as you all know, a valuable thing, and I am sorry to say of late mine has been taken up in such a manner as not to admit of my giving more thought to this subject, but I feel that long apologies are unnecessary in one sense, because I see myself surrounded by Masons who, I have no doubt, are more experienced by far than myself, and are quite as sensible as, or more sensible than, I am of the nature, duties, and principles of that Order to which we have the honour and happiness to belong. Though numbering now eight and twenty years as a Mason I feel that there are many Masons present in this room to whom I need say little to impress upon them and upon myself (for I always in speaking to my brethren in whatever capacity I may have occupied, feel that I am also addressing myself) the principles of Freemasonry. Brethren, in the first place, it is very natural that I should recur for a moment to that which has often been probably brought to your notice—I mean the manner in which the ceremonies and working of our lodges should be conducted. I have in the long period during which I have had the privilege of being a Mason been present at many lodges both in the north and south of England, and it has been my good fortune to be present upon many occasions on which the ceremonies of our Order have been beautifully and admirably, and solemnly conducted; and I have no hesitation in saying that the conduct of those ceremonies in such a manner has tended very materially, not only to impress upon the brethren the desirability of accuracy and well doing in whatever they take in hand—which is an excellent lesson for life in general—but that the well conducting of those ceremonies has had a very material effect in conveying to the brethren the glorious principles which those ceremonies so eloquently embody. Brethren, it has been my misfortune too, to be present in lodges where the ceremonies have been done in what I will say, not is very elegant, but in very expressive phrase, a very slipshod manner; and when done so, I need scarcely say that they have exposed our venerable Order, not merely to the ill repute of being unequal to its office, but have positively brought it into ridicule. The effect of a grand ceremony badly done is in my opinion far worse than if no ceremony was done at all; it leaves the mind of the hearers in a most unsatisfactory state, and that which was to be held up to veneration becomes a matter of ludicrous comment. It is related of a great archbishop of Milan, when passing through the galleries of one of the great painters in Florence, surrounded by a magnificent retinue, and clad in his robes of office, that the students occupying the galleries looked up with veneration and admiration to the great prelate. But unhappily he paused before one picture, and thinking he understood painting as well as ecclesiastical authority and learning, gave unhappily a comment which turned the awe and admiration of the students into a loud burst of laughter; in fact, their veneration was converted into ridicule at the ludicrous attempt to express an opinion on the subject of which the archbishop was ignorant. So it is with our ceremonies when ill done; and I hope, brethren, that this lodge may follow the example of, and may emulate, the Emulation Lodge, in endeavouring to carry out the ceremonies of our Order in that accurate and solemn manner, which befits the high principles embodied in them, and which, as I have said before, conveys such deep lessons to us all. And, brethren, let me also say that [not only in the lodge but out of it, must we endeavour to carry out the principles which we more or less pledge ourselves to, by being associated thus together. We must remember that all signs that have not something signified in them are empty signs, and that when we adopt those signs, those symbols, those high principles which they embody without carrying them out into action, we are like the form of ourselves without its life, which is simply dead to everything around. I am quite sure that in the present day, as a great statesman within a few days or a few hours has stated in regard to the great City Companies of London, I am quite satisfied that Freemasonry is on its trial at this hour, as a great body of men who profess certain principles. And of course I need scarcely say to the brethren that recent circumstances over which we all rejoice have brought out Freemasonry into the foreground more than ever in its history, and if a multitude of men seek to join our lodges let us see that those men be worthy of our choice; let us see that they be men that shall illustrate the annals of Freemasonry in modern days, and be able to band down to future generations the best heritage in the world, the value of a good example and an honest name. I feel quite sure that in proportion as we carry out the principles of our Order, so will it be raised in the eyes of mankind; so will men wish to join it, not for any mercenary object, nay, not for any animal object; but for the highest, the best, the noblest objects that can possibly exalt humanity, viz., Glory to God, the Great Architect of the Universe, and blessing to our fellow men, made by God, as well as we ourselves in the Divine image. It is in this way that we shall raise our Order, and that we shall in proportion become independent, sir, of the sneers of faction, come from what quarter they may, and of the ridicule of men however high in authority. Whatever that authority may be we shall be able to give the quiet, calm denial of a good and steady example; and when, perhaps, men attempt to quote ancient times, and refer to names of men who have flourished in history, whether in Church or State, we may be able to show on our rolls a number of men who have not said, Let there be no light; but who, following the Great Architect of the Universe when he brought into existence this planet on which we live, proclaimed aloud, Let there be light. Let there be light on our business; let there be light on our devotions;

let there be light on all the transactions of our lives; nay let there be light upon our very recreations, so that we need not fear that Allseeing Eye; and when we fear not that we need fear no scrutiny of man—poor man! so that whether our lodge be meeting in one place or another, whether we be under one name or another, ancient or modern, let us seek to carry out that glorious motto so often sung in our lodges, "Let there be light." This lodge, as you know, brethren, rejoices in the name of the ancient saint, which distinguished this ancient parish. Let us seek now in our generation to preserve the blessings that have been handed down to us, and without in the slightest degree reflecting upon those who in former and in darker times had not the same advantages as ourselves, let us by God's blessing seek to use the blessings we possess, and not only proclaim Let there be light, but live as the sons of light. (Applause.)

The ceremony was then proceeded with, and at the conclusion of the consecration Bro. John Charlton Dwarber, P.M. No. 55, was installed by Bro. Terry as Master of the lodge in the presence of 31 Past Masters. The officers invested were Bros. Walter Wellsman, S.W.; H. W. Dalwood, J.W.; Winthrop Mackworth Praed, Treasurer (unanimously elected); J. Tisley, Secretary; John Dodson, S.D. (Junior Deacon to be chosen at next meeting); Woodbridge, I.G.; John Gilbert, Tyler; and Bro. W. Maxwell, P.M. No. 8, was invested as I.P.M. Bro. Wellsman moved, and Bro. Dalwood seconded, a vote of thanks to and the election as honorary members of the lodge of Bros. Terry, R. J. Simpson, R. W. Little, Joseph Smith, and E. P. Albert, which was unanimously carried; and Bros. Terry, Simpson, Smith, and Little having acknowledged the compliment, propositions for initiation and joining were taken, and the lodge was closed. A very choice banquet was afterwards provided by Bro. Clemow, the serving of which was admirably superintended by Bro. Smith, the manager of Anderson's Hotel. When this had been partaken of the toasts were proposed in due course. After proposing the toast of "The Queen and the Craft," in which the W.M. alluded to Her Majesty as the daughter of a Mason, the mother of Masons, the mother-in-law of a Freemason, and a patroness of the Masonic Institutions, he proceeded with the toast of "The M.W.G.M.," and after regretting His Royal Highness's absence, said that so important a Craft deserved, and it was necessary that it should have, a strong head and a firm hold, and these it could never have if its members did not feel respect and love for those who ruled over it. Fortunately this was the case with respect to the Prince of Wales and the brethren of the Order, for the Prince of Wales was most popular in the Craft, who were fortunate in having such an enthusiastic Mason to rule over them. "The Pro Grand Master, the D.G.M., &c.," were represented by Bro. the Rev. R. J. Simpson, P.G.C., who responded. In the course of his observations, wherein he said that he was not returning thanks merely as a matter of form for brethren whom he was bound to reply for, but really for brethren who deserved and had obtained the respect of the Craft, he expressed much pleasure at the establishment of St. Dunstan's Lodge. He thought it was one more link in the chain of brotherhood, which at the present time was a very important thing; important on two grounds, first, constitutionally, secondly, socially—constitutionally, because he felt that Masons represented that beautiful harmony that should exist between order and freedom, which probably was scarcely possessed by any other body which he was acquainted with. It hit a happy medium which brought down from the throne to the peasant the idea that while we were perfectly free, while we had light to be thrown upon all things, there was to be respect for authority, for order, and for all those things which alone could make society hold together in times of considerable danger. Again, he regarded it as a wonderful agency socially; for, while we were divided as men by many things—by religious opinions, by political opinions, by private quarrels, by differences of tastes, by the thousand other things which acted upon us as men—Masonry seemed, in the order of God's Providence, to bring us together and link us in such bonds that we began to consider how we might best agree, and how those sharp corners which continually rubbed against us in the busy affairs of life might be toned down with the pumice stone of brotherly love till we were bound together. (Hear, hear.) Therefore, he thought it was a happy idea that parishes—those ancient divisions which God protect in this land—should have their lodges. Next to the family unit came the parochial unit in England; and whatever might be their opinions on other subjects, let them never give up that. He was glad to find Masonry backing up the idea; and as long as they had good and worthy men among them who were acting in the legal divisions of parishes might they hope that Masonry would unite them in another bond, in religions, in political and in social life, in everything which might lead to their happiness as men, and that might produce at last that best of all, happiness for which good men ever looked.

Alderman Hadley also replied. The W.M. next gave "The Consecrating Officers," and in reference to Bro. Terry, said that when that brother called on him some years ago for a subscription for the Benevolent Institution he was so struck with him that he could not help telling Bro. Dwarber after Bro. Terry had gone that the old men and women would never starve while Bro. Terry collected the money for them. Regarding the ceremonies of the day he would only say that they had been most ably rendered by all the consecrating officers.

Bro. Terry replied, thanking the W.M. for the flattering terms he had used, and stating that it had given him great pleasure to perform the ceremonies. All the consecrating officers might congratulate themselves that the St. Dunstan's Lodge had started under such favourable auspices. Bro. Terry then proposed "The Health of the W.M." The brethren had not placed in the chair a bro-

ther incapable of performing his duties, for they had themselves witnessed what he could do when he invested his officers. Under his rule might St. Dunstan's Lodge progress.

The W.M., in reply, said that since he had been a Mason he had endeavoured to do his work earnestly, properly, and well. He had not lived to the age of sixty years without knowing that it was perfectly impossible for the best man, however animated he might be by the most righteous intentions to please his brethren, to succeed in doing so. In his time he had found men go away from him, but ultimately come back to him, which was a great triumph, and this he said without any desire to be ostentatious. At times you could not act as men wished, simply from your own honest convictions, but that was no reason why they should not be friends. He quite agreed with the Chaplain's remarks about parochial connections. Before starting this lodge, it occurred to him that he was living in a neighbourhood which was the very hotbed and nucleus of Freemasonry; they were in the very centre of Freemasons, where they had been inactive for a certain number of years. The Masonry there was lying dormant, and only wanted reviving. He knew it, and those who acted with him knew it, and his desire was to resuscitate it, and to bring it into usefulness. There was no greater mischief surrounding the parochial system than that of not knowing each other; and after living near one another for a long time, we often asked the question when we became acquainted, Why did not we know each other before? Much misrepresentation was removed by such knowledge; and we blamed ourselves frequently for not being the first to speak. Now, Masonry unsealed all this reticence, and in that parish he wanted to bring Masonry into play. He wanted to make the lodge a lodge of usefulness. The parish was one in which he had spent his best years, formed his dearest affections, where he was married, where his children had been born, and where he hoped to die. His heart went with this lodge, and his best efforts would be used to make it serve the objects for which it was promoted. After giving "The Visitors," the W.M. gave "The Charities," for which Bro. Little replied; "The Treasurer and Secretary" followed, Bro. Tisley responding. Bros. Wellsman and Dalwood replied for "The Officers," and the Tyler's toast concluded the evening, which was enlivened by some beautiful singing and music by Bros. E. W. Mackney and Webb.

THE PROPOSED SCOTTISH MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION. A SECOND APPEAL.

To you my Scottish brethren of "the Mystic Tie" I must once more appeal. The year before last I issued to all lodges and chapters, &c., a scheme for a "Benevolent Institution for Scotland," embracing the three branches, viz., Schools for Boys, Schools for Girls, Asylums and Annuities for Widows and Aged, together with an advanced scheme for students, at the several Universities. I need not here further recapitulate.

The scheme is patronized by most of the Grand Office-bearers; a greater part of the Provincial Grand Masters. There are numerous representatives scattered throughout Scotland, a list of whom will again shortly be published in the "Freemason;" surely then we must suffer no more time to elapse, we must put our shoulders to the wheel and prove that we are Masons in deed, as well as in name.

Do not, my brethren, hang back for others to lead, be the leaders yourselves; and though late in the field—though other countries are now before us—let us make up for lost time, and provide for the wants of those daily, yes hourly, crying to us for aid. Picture to yourselves your aged brethren reduced by no fault of their own to dire penury, perhaps without even a crust of bread to allay their fierce hunger. Think of the widows and orphans, who having lost their bread winners have been reduced from comparative comfort to abject misery and want. Let not their cry go up in vain; come forward like honest men and Masons to the best of your ability, and soothe these aching hearts. Now is the time, while yet you are able, ere the fell season arrives when you yourselves may be in such evil plight; you know not what a day may bring forth. Soon, aye too soon, their lot may be yours.

Brethren of Scotland, I have taken this opportunity to address you, as it seems very appropriate; the year is yet young, and from the the Sister Kingdoms already bright auguries of the future are presenting themselves.

Many of you will remember that last year (while traversing Scotland in behalf of this scheme) I was enabled to lay before you the returns of the English, the Irish, and many foreign institutions of a similar character. At that time I was able to inform you of the wondrous deeds of the small country of Sweden and Norway, small in population (4,297,972 according to census of 1873). Another bright point I was able particularly to emphasize, viz., the three great English charities which that time had received over £28,000 for the year, collectively, this amount far in excess of former years. Still even this magnificent donation was considered inadequate to the demand, and all well-wishers, all true Masons, were earnestly solicited to help. One answer has been given, and a worthy one.

I have before me the account of the anniversary of the Benevolent Institution "for Widows and Aged," this year a glorious total, over £9000 and lists yet to come in, an increase of £2000 over last year. May the Great Architect grant that this steady increase in one branch alone, may be permitted to the other two yet to come in.

I would mention one other fact. Lancashire, two simple provinces, after proceeding for their own special institutions, has given over £1500 to this one fund alone; Lancashire and Scotland are much alike in population and general wealth—surely then Scotland could give at least £3000 to the combined institutions. Every facility will be given to the poorest to contribute their mite.

I have no fear that you will respond to me in behalf of the widows and aged, but I have heard the question raised, schools? Why more schools? Education is compulsory, and ratepayers have to provide for those who cannot afford this luxury; true, most true; but I would ask then, how are these poor orphans to be fed, clothed, and properly brought up; are they to live a street arab life till the Board Officer finds them and roughly takes them to the nearest school? Does the education act provide food, clothing, and decent God-fearing homes for these poor wretches? No, brethren, no? Fancy yourselves by illness, or other cause, reduced to want, (you the breadwinner may die suddenly) and your poor widow is left without a single hope of relief, left I say, to maintain her helpless children; are these children to herd with the lowest, perhaps, the criminal classes? No, brethren, no. We as Masons hope for much more, we hope to receive these poor children in a true home, free from contamination with vice, to educate, to support, to feed, to clothe, and to house them, and when they are thrown upon the wide world to earn their own living; they may bless their benefactors, and strive to show by blameless lives, that they appreciate the good that has been instilled into them, and maintain the good character and Godfearing habits in which they have been reared and brought up.

I may say that I am not unacquainted with our existing Masonic Schools, I know the good they do and for years they have done, and I feel assured that all those equally or better informed than myself will endorse my statements. Come forward then, my Scottish Brethren, or our colonies will distance us in the race, already I have letters from distant lands seeking to give a helping hand (the colonists are no niggards) what they have earned with the sweat of their brow, they are ready and willing to give; think brethren of your duties, your solemn duties as Masons! Remember the hour when you were admitted into Masonry! Consider the glorious words then uttered! Do what you then solemnly promised! Above all remember those blessed words of Scripture, "Blessed is he that gives as well as him that receives."

Geo. R. HARRIOTT,

Prov. G.M. Wigtown and Kirkcudbrightshire.

February 14, 1876.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.

The General Committee of this Institution met on Thursday, in the library, Freemasons' Hall, Bro. Raynham W. Stewart, V.P., in the chair. There were also present Bros. John Boyd, Benj. Head, H. Browne, W. Roebuck, Dudley Rolfe, R. Kenyon, Col. Creaton, Thomas Massa, De. Ramsey, Walter Wellsman, H. A. Dubois, A. H. Tattershall, H. Massey ("Freemason"), Robert B. Webster, F. G. Baker, Rev. J. M. Vaughan, H. Phythian, Richard Spencer and R. Wentworth Little, (Secretary.)

C.I. Creaton brought on his motion for increasing the Secretary's salary £50 a year. As a brother who saw a great deal of the working of the institution, he could say that Bro. Little had always given the greatest satisfaction. It was unnecessary for him to say more, as the brethren knew as well as he did what the services of the Secretary were. (Hear, hear.)

Bro. Tattershall seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Bro. Col. Creaton then moved the addition of £20 a year to the salary of Bro. Hedges, the chief clerk in the office. Bro. Little gave him a very high character, both for attention to his duties and ability in the performance of them. (Hear, hear.)

Bro. Tattershall seconded the motion, which was then put and carried unanimously.

Bro. Little having been called in, the Chairman, addressing him, said that the increase had been unanimously carried, and all the brethren considered he deserved it.

Bro. Little thanked the brethren for their kindness, and said that although his health had not been all he would have desired for a few months, yet the interests of the institution had not suffered thereby. What the brethren had done would act as a stimulus to still further exertions on his part. He also thanked the brethren on behalf of Bro. Hedges.

Two candidates were placed on the list for election in April next, and the committee then adjourned.

ST. JAMES'S UNION LODGE BALL.

The fourteenth annual ball of the above lodge was held at Freemasons' Tavern, on Thurs., the 10th, and was attended by a large number of brethren and their ladies.

Dancing commenced at half-past nine with a goodly muster. Coote and Tinney's excellent and justly famed band of sixteen performed, with their usual spirited gusto, the admirable programme prepared for the occasion, Bro. Jarvis acting with indefatigable zeal the office of M.C. Nearly 300 ladies and gentlemen answered the invitation of the Stewards, who left nothing wanting for their guests' enjoyment. A sumptuous supper was served in the Crown and Sussex Rooms, presided over respectively by Bros. Parsons and Staden, Bubb and Smith, the usual toasts on such occasions being given and responded to with admirable brevity. Dancing being resumed, was continued with great spirit, and it had turned half-past four before the last dance closed one of the most successful of these annual festivities.

Appended is the list of Stewards:—Bros. W. C. Parsons, I.P.M., President; A. W. Staden, Vice-President; G. Bubb, P.M., Treasurer; J. Gillard, W.M.; A. Amett, J.W.; S. Smith, S.D., W.S.; E. S. Harrison, J.D.; E. Farwig, I.G.; W. Stallard, W.S.; J. W. Stacey, D.C.; H. A. Stacey, P.M.; J. Miles, P.J.D.; A. Hays, R. Rickards, J. A. Hussey, J. Wood, J. Atkin, W. H. Baker, W. H. C. Sharpe, A. Pinto Leite, L. B. Pillin, J.W., Hon. Sec.

APOLLO UNIVERSITY LODGE, NO. 357.

The installation meeting of this lodge was held on Tuesday last, at the University Masonic Hall, Oxford. Bro. Cave Brown Cave, P.M., presided at the opening, and raised Bros. Barrow, Batchelor, Bingley, Childen, Kemp, Neave, Sichel and Tomlin.

Bro. Rev. David Thomas, Past Prov. Grand Chaplain of Glamorganshire, late Fellow of Trinity College, Oxford, Lord Ramsay, and Bro. J. R. Izat were elected as joining members. At three o'clock the W.M., Bro. the Rev. H. A. Pickard, presided, and raised Bros. Sankey and Swithinbank, in which he was assisted by Prince Leopold, S.W. After this the ceremony of installation was performed by Bro. Pickard.

Among the distinguished brethren present were the Earl of Shrewsbury and Talbot, Lord De Tabley, Lord Methuen, Colonel Burdett, Bros. R. J. Spiers, Reginald Bird, J. B. Monckton, Revs. C. J. Martin, Walter F. Scott, T. F. Ravenshaw, Bro. McIntyre, Q.C.; Captain Phillips, Major Shadwell Clarke, Colonel Adair, Bro. Victor Williamson, Rev. R. K. Bedford, and Past Masters of the Lodge Trywhitt, Dallin, and Bro. Cave Brown Cave. Bro. H. Massey represented the "Freemason." The Prince was attended by the Controller of his Household, Bro. Collins, C.B., and his Equerry-in-waiting, the Hon. Alex. Yorke. The Immediate Past Master of the lodge, Bro. F. P. Morrall, presented Prince Leopold to the Master, to receive at his hands the benefit of installation. The Worshipful Master then duly installed him, in the presence of a board of Installed Masters, numbering 36 brethren. The Prince showed his proficiency as a student of Freemasonry, and invested his officers for the year as follows:—Bros. Rev. R. W. M. Pope, Deputy Master; Williamson, Senior Warden; the Rev. L.K. Hilton, Senior Chaplain; the Rev. E. D. Whitmarsh, Junior Chaplain; Reginald Bird, Deputy Provincial Grand Master of Oxford, Vice-Principal of Magdalen College, Treasurer of the lodge; J. C. Bodley, of Balliol College, Senior Secretary; Paget, Christ Church, Junior Secretary; W. M. Clencross, Christ Church, Senior Deacon; Drummond, Christ Church, Junior Deacon; Bros. Gordon Campbell, F. Hedges, Gandy, Maxwell, Douglas Campbell (of Blythwood), and Janson, Master of Ceremonies; Gandell, Inner Guard; Parratt, Organist of Magdalen College, Organist of the lodge; the Rev. H. Deane, Vicar of St. John's, and Bros. Tuke, Weatherley, Knollys, Berrington, La Terrier, Gerard, Leigh, Grenfell, Symonds, W. Little, Stewards; and George Norwood, Tyler. His Royal Highness then rose to close the lodge, when five propositions were given in for initiations, and the "hearty good wishes" were expressed by Lord Methuen, from Wiltshire; by Lord Shrewsbury, from Staffordshire; by Colonel Campbell of Blythwood, from Renfrewshire; by Bro. McIntyre, Q.C., from Grand Lodge; by Lord de Tabley, from Cheshire; by Colonel Burdett, from Ireland and Middlesex; by Colonel Adair, from Worcestershire; by Bro. J. N. Palmer, from Hants and the Isle of Wight; by Bro. J. B. Monckton, from the Board of General Purposes; by the Rev. C. J. Martyn, from Suffolk; and by a long list of other brethren, among them being Bro. Reginald Bird, representing the Province of Oxfordshire. Lodge was then closed, and a banquet at the Clarendon Hotel followed, presided over by the Prince; after which the usual toasts were proposed.

The W.M., in giving the first toast, said,—Brethren, I rise to propose to you the toast dearest to all loyal subjects, and particularly to all Masons. Though it is one requiring no comment, we will drink it with no less enthusiasm. Brethren, I give you "The Queen and the Craft."

The toast was followed by "God save the Queen."

The W.M. then rose and said,—Brethren: I rise with the greatest pleasure to give you the toast next in order, but equally important with the one we have just drunk. It is that of "The Grand Master of England." (Applause.) As to all Englishmen the reception of the Prince of Wales in India has been particularly gratifying, so all Masons must feel especially gratifying the

tribute of loyalty paid to our Grand Master in India by the Craft. (Hear, hear.) While drinking our Grand Master's health, let us unite, brethren, in wishing him a safe and speedy return. (Cheers.) Brethren, I give you the toast of "Our Grand Master of England, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales."

This toast was followed by the singing of "God bless the Prince of Wales."

The W.M. again rose and said: I will now, brethren, give you the toast of "The Pro Grand Master, the Deputy Grand Master, and Officers of Grand Lodge, Past and Present." We, members of the Apollo, can recollect with just pride that the two first officers I have named were initiated in this lodge, and both are members of it. Nor need I remind you that they are not the only representatives of Grand Lodge whom the Apollo can boast of. We hope to see the Pro Grand Master and the Deputy Grand Master at the ceremony to-morrow. In the meanwhile I assure you that they regret no less than we do their inability to be here with us this evening. I couple with this toast the name of the Provincial Grand Master of Wiltshire, Lord Methuen.

Lord Methuen replied, and apologized to Grand Lodge for being so badly represented in an elocutionary point of view by him. If the whole of Grand Lodge had been present they would have hailed with delight the advent of one who promised to become a star in the hemisphere of Freemasonry. If he might be allowed in His Royal Highness's presence to say so from his earliest days down to the present he, had been a shining bright light to all those who came about him; and they felt he would remain so as long as life was spared him, and as long as he remained the head of the Order at Oxford he would set an example to Masons in the province. He (Lord Methuen) wished he could express himself as strongly as he could wish in proposing the health of one who had done, and was doing for the Craft and the Lodge so much good. He had worked most assiduously in the cause of Masonry throughout the province, and had successfully brought to an issue whatever he had attempted with regard to the welfare of Freemasonry. His Lordship concluded by proposing "The Health of the Grand Registrar in charge of the Province, the D.G.M., and Officers of Provincial Grand Lodge."

Bro. A. J. McIntyre, Q.C., G.R., replied: It was a great pleasure to be praised by one who himself deserved so much praise. It had been his earnest endeavour since the province of Oxford came into his hands to discharge the duties of his office to the utmost of his ability, and in that he had been more than supported by all the brethren who had been appointed to office in the province. If ever there were officers loyal to their head or devoted to the principles and practice of Freemasonry, it was in this province. Never in any province did brethren more deserve office, or, having obtained it, more worthily discharge the duties thrust upon them. He felt it indeed a proud thing to have been placed by fortuitous circumstances at the head of the province of Oxford; but he felt it more fortunate, having been placed in that position, to have been so well supported. It would leave an impression upon his mind which could only be effaced by time with him being no more. (Hear, hear.)

The Earl of Shrewsbury proposed "The Worshipful Master." He felt that a very important duty had devolved upon him, and if he was guilty of any failure in it, it was to be attributed, not to want of will, but to inability to discharge the duty properly. He appealed to his brethren of the Apollo Lodge to excuse any fault. He might say this of Masonry, that those who wished to push themselves forward in it never succeeded, but those who went on quietly and guilelessly, and accepted the honours thrust upon them, succeeded. He felt it an additional honour, after having been 30 years a member of this lodge, to have to propose the health of His Royal Highness. Without adulation he might say of His Royal Highness, that he congratulated him upon the facility and adaptability with which he had conducted his important duties in lodge that evening. Thank God for the adaptability, sociability, and kindness of heart which characterised not only their illustrious

brother; but all the members of the Royal Family, whether male or female, which harmonised with the affections, wishes, and desires of the people. He would refrain from saying more, for a good man did not want to be praised. In his university career, in his social life, and in his classical life, His Royal Highness had endeared himself to the whole university; while in his Masonic life he had endeared himself to the members of the Apollo Lodge. In his future career he hoped that he would follow in the same course, and as one object in Freemasonry that he would recommend to His Royal Highness, he would recommend him to patronise the Masonic Charities. Without mentioning one in preference to the other, he hoped he would give a little of his time towards helping those great societies of Masonry, and Masonry would then flourish as it ever had done under the hands of his Royal and illustrious brother. He hoped to live to see him take the same position with regard to the charities as the Prince of Wales had done. (Cheers.)

Prince Leopold said: It is with feelings of great pride and most heartfelt pleasure that I rise to thank you for the most cordial manner in which you have welcomed me, and I beg to thank Lord Shrewsbury for the kind manner in which he has proposed my health. I must feel it a great honour, after having served so short an apprenticeship to Masonry, that the members of this lodge should have unanimously chosen me to be their Master, and I also feel grateful to them, as it will give me an opportunity of returning from time to time to Oxford, where I have already spent so many happy days. When I think of the prestige that has always attached to the Apollo, and the many distinguished Masons who have preceded me in my office, I do indeed feel and appreciate the warm encouragement and kind support which I have met with this evening at your hands. I trust I may be able to come among you frequently during my term of office, and to perform its duties in a manner not altogether unworthy of my predecessors, though I am well aware that this will prove no easy task. Before sitting down I have a toast to propose to you. It is "The Health of those who have so kindly honoured us with their presence here this evening," and I couple with that toast the name of Bro. Col. Burdett, the Prov. Grand Master of Middlesex. (Cheers.)

Col. Burdett replied, and said he was glad to see that there were represented on that occasion the brethren not only of the North, South, East and West, but also Scotland and Ireland even, for he found a brother from North Munster, who he was sure would take back to North Munster a report of the proceedings of the day, a report which he was sure would be received there in the same manner as it was here. It must have given every visitor the greatest pleasure to see the work so well performed by the W.M., and all the officers, from the Inner Guard upward. It was most able and creditable, and they must all feel very proud of it. Not only in lodge had the work been well done, but at the festive board the W.M. had presided in a most able manner. (Hear.)

The W.M.: Brethren, the next toast I have to give you is that of "The Past Masters of the Lodge." The reputation which the Apollo enjoys for its working it owes to its Past Masters. Many of them are known to me only by tradition, but I feel myself very fortunate in having been initiated by so good a Mason as Past Master Morrell, and in having served under a Master so remarkable for his thorough working of the lodge, and for the unswerving manner in which he has always maintained the strictest order and discipline as Bro. Past Master Pickard. Brethren, I give you the toast of our "Past Masters," coupled with the name of our Immediate Past Master Bro. Pickard.

The Rev. H. A. Pickard, I.P.M., said: On behalf of the P.M. of the Apollo, I rise to return my hearty thanks for the honour you have done us to-night, a body much larger than we generally have here to drink our health; and as I look round the room I see that I appear in a very unusual position as both Senior Past Master of the Apollo Lodge, and also the Junior. As during the past you have heard so much of me in that capacity you will be very glad not to hear so

much of me in the future. But I may look back on my Masonic career and say that there are three epochs in my life as a Freemason in which I have been hitherto inclined to consider as the most memorable in my life. I refer first of all to the 4th June, 1856, when in the first year of my office as W.M. of this lodge in the Gardens of Worcester College we presented a testimonial to one whose name has always been received in the Apollo Lodge with the greatest enthusiasm, our Past Master, Bro. Beach, now Provincial Grand Master of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight. On that day we showed the gratitude Masons always feel to one who raises a lodge beyond the position which it has to that time occupied. I speak in the presence of the old members of the Apollo with all deference and due respect to the position which the Apollo occupied in their days, but I speak also in the presence of the members of the aforesaid lodge who used to do the work of the Apollo when I was initiated in Masonry, and I say that to Bro. Beach is due the position which I think I may say without ostentation the lodge now holds. Well, I look back to the 4th June, 1856, with great pleasure for another reason, because on that occasion we for the first time had the pleasure of inviting the wives, the children, and the friends of Masons to enjoy on that commemoration day the pleasure which they had not hitherto had at Oxford, when music such as we have just had was provided for them. (Applause.) We were able to give a treat which for 20 years has now been given, and has been a source of gratification to the visitors. And my second epoch is the 16th May, 1857, when in the second year of my Mastership of Apollo Lodge I was Prov. S.W. of Oxfordshire, and Lord Zetland, Grand Master, honoured the province by visiting it at our Provincial Festival. Coming down to modern times—passing by that dark period when up in the cold north I saw very little of the light of Masonry (through my own fault, brethren, and through my manifold occupations)—I pass on to that grand epoch, the 28th April last year when I had the honour of representing the province at the installation of our Grand Master in the Albert Hall. Up to the present time those are the three great epochs in my Masonic career; but now the proudest moment has arrived when I have had the honour of installing your Royal Highness in the chair of King Solomon, and of hearing from your lips those gracious words in which you proposed my health and that of the P.M.'s of the Apollo. I have to thank you for the cordial manner in which, brethren, you have received the toast which has been proposed. If it has been a life of toil and trouble there are occasional glimpses of worldly happiness, and with me they are generally connected in some way or other with Freemasonry. I may recall that of meeting those old friends whom I can only see on such occasions as this, and it is the very greatest delight to me to be able to give to them a hearty welcome. (Hear, hear.) And now, W.M. and brethren, so far having delivered myself of the speech which I have had to inflict upon you, the W.M. having entrusted me with his gavel, allow me to propose a toast which I must say I have so often proposed with the greatest pleasure. It is "The Masonic Charities!" and the health of those who have supported them. Every one round the table has supported them; but if not, I know he will double his subscription next time he is asked. (Laughter.) Having created some amusement by my desultory remarks, I have now to ask you to drink to the health of the Masonic Charities, and especially to that Apollo brother, who is well-known not only here but all over England, if not wider, Bro. the Rev. C. J. Martyn, Past Grand Chaplain of England, one of my oldest friends, one of my dearest best-beloved brethren, who bears on his breast a badge which will tell you how often he has served the stewardship of the different Masonic Charities. All I have to say before I sit down is to quote the words of a poet whose creed if he had now lived would have probably precluded him from being among our brethren, but whose words, I think, may justly be the motto of all Freemasons:—"In faith and hope the world may disagree. But all mankind's concern is charity;

All must be false that thwarts this one great end And all be true that makes mankind a friend."

The Rev. C. J. Martyn, P.G.C., responded, and strongly recommended the three institutions to the favourable notice of the brethren.

Bro. Bué, W.M., Alfred Lodge, responded for "The Visitors," and the proceedings were brought to a close about eleven o'clock.

There was some exquisite singing, under the direction of Bro. Farlay Simkins, by Bros. Bickley, of Birmingham; Thornton, of St. Paul's; and Robson, of Magdalen College, all of whom belong to the Alfred Lodge. Bro. T. Plowman also by special request sang his amusing song of "Cock-a-doodle-do," which contains some very clever hits at passing events. It was most favourably received, particularly the reference to the Suez canal.

MASONIC BALL AT HUDDERSFIELD.

The annual Masonic ball in connection with the Lodge of Truth, No. 521, took place on Friday, the 11th inst., at the Freemasons' Hall, Fitz William-street, and as expected was a great success, in fact, the best Masonic ball ever held in Huddersfield. From the energetic manner in which the ball committee went to work it could not fail in any particular. Bro. T. Jackson, W.M., was chairman of committee, and, as is well known, whatever duty he takes in hand he is sure to perform with credit, so it was particularly in the present instance. Upwards of 90 ladies and brethren were present, and so thoroughly enjoyed themselves that dancing was kept up far into the small hours, in fact, the hand of time pointed nearer five than four. Several brethren from Leeds and Manchester were present, as also from the other lodges in the immediate neighbourhood. The room was beautifully decorated by Bros. Allen, Jackson, P.M., P.G.S., and Platts, and reflected great credit on their artistic abilities; mirrors hung with lace curtains and imitation tapestry were placed at intervals round the room, and beautiful baskets of flowers (provided by Bro. Midgeley) were so placed as to make the scene like one in fairyland. The floor being covered with Holland enabled the dancers to move easily and gracefully, the room being lighted from the roof by a powerful limelight gave the appearance of moonlight, the effect on such a variety of colours being magnificent. The Master of Ceremonies, Bro. J. Varley, P.M., discharged his duties to the satisfaction of all present. The refreshments were provided by the purveyors of the lodge, Bros. Firth and Turner, P.M., ably assisted by Bros. Hirst and Sykes. Amongst the company were Bros. T. Jackson, W.M. 521; W. Smith, P.M., P.Z. 290, P.P.G.D.C.; A. Jackson, P.M., P.Z. 521, P.G.S.; G. Marshall, P.M., P.Z. 521; T. Tyers, P.M., P.Z. 1458; Walters, Austin, besides several others of equal note. On Saturday evening the lodge held its annual children's party, which took place the evening following the ball. About 120 children were present, and they thoroughly enjoyed themselves. The season will probably wind up with a social gathering in about a month, when no doubt many who were at the ball will again meet, and with gratification speak of the happy and pleasant evening they spent on the 11th of February.

Obituary.

BRO. S. D. FORBES.

It is our painful duty to chronicle the sudden death of Bro. S. D. Forbes, of Portsea. He was initiated into Freemasonry in the year 1839, in the Royal Sussex Lodge, No. 342. He joined the Lodge of Harmony, then held at Gosport, on December 3rd, 1840, and was Worshipful Master in 1843. He was one of the founders of the Portsmouth Lodge, No. 487 (late 717), in 1843, and was appointed Secretary. He was W.M. of the Portsmouth Lodge for the years 1844 and 1845, and was appointed Secretary again in 1847. He was elected an honorary member of that lodge, March, 1860, in recognition of his services to Masonry in general, and the Portsmouth Lodge in particular. He was also one of the founders of the United Brothers' Lodge, No. 1069, in 1865. He was a P.P.G. Warden of Essex, and was appointed Senior Grand Warden of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight at the last provincial meeting, held at Ryde in July, 1875. His funeral, which took place on Thursday, 17th inst., was attended by nearly 100 brethren of the neighbourhood, among them being Bros. Alderman H. Ford, M. E. Frost, J. L. Rastwick, and James Tayler. The funeral service was conducted by Bro. the Rev. E. Churchill, P.G.C. The loss of so old and valued a brother will be severely felt by every Mason in the province.

All the cabmen's shelters in the metropolis are now thrown open, free of charge for admission.

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Answers to Correspondents.

All Communications, Advertisements, &c., intended for insertion in the Number of the following Saturday, must reach the Office not later than 12 o'clock on Wednesday morning.

The following stand over:—

Mount Lebanon Lodge of Instruction; Consecration of a new lodge at Swansea; installation meeting of Victoria Lodge, 1345; Red Cross of Constantine, Naval and Military Conclave, 35; Mary's Chapel, 1, New York.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

"Debrett's Peerage and Baronetage for 1876;" "Debrett's House of Commons and the Judicial Bench for 1876;" "The Craftsman."

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

[The charge is 2s. 6d. for announcements, not exceeding four lines, under this heading.]

MARRIAGE.

CLAUGHTON-MILDMAY.—At Chelmsford, the Rev. T. L. Claghton, Curate of Ashbourne, to Henrietta, daughter of Mr. Edmund St. J. Mildmay, Esquerry to H.R.H. the Duke of Cambridge, Feb. 15.

DEATHS.

BRETTE.—19th, at Christ's Hospital, the beloved wife of the Rev. P. H. Ernest Brette. Friends please accept this intimation.

WITHALL.—19th, at his residence, Bell Cottage, Dulwich, Bro. Wm. Withall, S.W. Panmure Lodge, 720, much regretted by all who knew him. Aged 45.

FORBES.—12th, at Portsea, Bro. S. D. Forbes.

The Freemason,

SATURDAY, FEB. 26, 1876.

OUR ROYAL GRAND MASTER IN INDIA.

H.R.H. the Prince of Wales has paid a most successful visit to Nepal, where he was most warmly received by Sir Jung Bahadoor on the part of the young Maharajah. The R.G. Master was to take part in some time tiger hunting.

The Serapis has arrived at Bombay. The despatches from India Thursday morning state that there was splendid sport on Monday. Seven tigers were shot, six falling to the Prince's rifle. His Royal Highness was accompanied by Sir Jung Bahadoor. Upwards of 600 elephants were employed in beating the jungle, and the sight was of an imposing character.

THE INSTALLATION OF H.R.H. PRINCE LEOPOLD AS P.G.M. FOR OXFORDSHIRE.

For some time the thoughts of English Masons have been turned to that distinguished province, over which so fitly and so seasonably the exalted brother of our Royal Grand Master has been called to rule. Like many of his Royal Family, Prince Leopold seems to have sincerely attached himself to our Order. And as Freemasons, we rejoice to know and to think that our principles and practice so commend themselves in successive generations to various members of the House of Brunswick, that while we have received from them all of kindly sympathy, approval, and adhesion, we on the other hand have been able to offer to them alike our loyal homage and our fraternal attachment. So mote it be in the future as in the past and present, and long may this happy union continue between the august and genial sons of our gracious Sovereign, the daughter of an old Grand Master, and our peaceful, intelligent, law-abiding, educated Craft. When some years hence another pen records in the still flourishing columns of the "*Freemason*" the passing events and notable "sayings and doings" of Freemasonry, may he have to tell, as we do gratefully and gladly to-day, that close and affectionate union which ever has existed, and we feel sure ever will exist, between English Freemasons and our Royal Family. Prince Leopold has already gained golden opinions at Oxford, and on every ground, personal and Masonic, we feel sure that no happier choice of a ruler for the province could be made than that which has been so wisely made by our absent but mindful Grand Master. A letter from India in our last impression tells us well what his zeal and sympathy for Freemasons and Freemasonry really are! The tastes and temperament, the studies and the sentiments of His Royal Highness Prince Leopold, all seem to augur a prosperous regime, and to point to a grateful and contented brotherhood. Owing to the distinguished character of its lodges generally, and the noble and cultured brethren who swell the long roll of the Apollo Lodge in particular, the Province of Oxfordshire is always a very important one in the Masonic aggregation. We therefore congratulate it to-day on its gathering, and the interesting ceremony of the 23rd, its new ruler, and the spirit and enthusiasm of its members. Time does not permit us to go into the account of the installation in detail now; we shall recur to it in our next, offering as we do to our good brethren in the Province of Oxfordshire our sincere felicitations and our hearty good wishes.

THE ONWARD MOVEMENT OF FREEMASONRY.

Those who are conversant with the real facts of the case as regards the present proceedings and prospects of Freemasonry, especially under the Anglo-Saxon system, and we believe the same state of things is to be found more or less in other jurisdictions, must be struck with its tendency to increase and to expand. On every side of us in Great Britain, the New Dominion, and the United States, we see young lodges springing up, we hear of fresh lodges being formed. Here, there, and everywhere, the brethren of the mystic tie, like the armed but silent host in the "*Lady of the Lake*," seem to "*crop up*" before our wondering gaze to attract our attention, and to claim our notice. Indeed, we think it cannot be denied by any, that at no epoch of our existence since the Revival of 1717, has the spirit of Masonic propagandism been so active or so success-

ful as now. Indeed, it is impossible to read the hebdomadal columns of the "*Freemason*" without noting how many proofs are therein to be found of the advance and augmentation of our ancient Craft. And we are among those who, believing in Freemasonry, always gladly welcome those numerous interesting "*little strangers*" who, in the guise of new lodges, challenge our kinship and demand our sympathy. We do not believe in a stationary Freemasonry; we do not think even that that lodge or district is very much permeated either with Masonic zeal or with a desire for Masonic light in which, following the humdrum course of years, one lodge supplies either the wants of a populous town, or is the only Masonic centre in an influential and increasing district. There are sleepy Masons and sleepy lodges up and down our good land, and whenever you come across them you know at once that it means the minimum of work, and the maximum of refreshment, an indolent, half-hearted, indifferent profession of Freemasonry. We, on the contrary, desiderate Masonic energy and life, activity and service, zeal and labour, and we therefore always welcome the planting of new lodges, and the "*swarming*" from old ones. For it is in this way that Freemasonry still, poetically at any rate, spreads "*from pole to pole*." It is in this way, we repeat, that its principles are diffused, and its benefits are proclaimed. We are inclined to think sometimes, that one of the reasons of this advance and increase of Freemasonry is to be found in the fact, that wherever its true teaching is best understood it is apparently most appreciated. Many of us have become very weary of the worn out cries of sectarian bitterness, of unreasoning intolerance. The dogmatism and the defiance, the anathemas and the antagonisms, the uncharitableness and the unsavoury violence of many pseudo-hierophants, have aroused as a counter action, and even counter irritant, the "*free lances*" of thought, of enquiry, and of criticism. In such a contest the pendulum is apt to swing a little over first on one side, then on the other, and we have always to regret, being human and fallible, mournful mistakes and puerile theories. But the "*residuum*" of all this often angry and perhaps not unsterile controversy seems to be the assertion of liberty of conscience, of freedom of opinion, of the inviolable and sacred right of the human intellect, the absolute liberty of the individual, within certain safe and recognised limits of religious teaching, and of religious conviction. The principle of toleration in its truest and widest sense is the keynote to all the mystic harmonies of Freemasonry, and it is just because Freemasonry is so wide-embracing and so unsectarian that it retains its peaceful and gentle character. But when we say this we do not mean that Freemasonry in any way encourages the sceptical reveries, or the hurtful unbelief of the day. We can be tolerant without being infidels. We can be charitable without becoming latitudinarian. It is thus that Freemasonry in its present position becomes a neutral ground for contending parties and even differing creeds. Once within its portals we do not enquire what our brother's politics and religion are. We assume, as we presume, that he is a believer in God, a loyal subject of his queen, but we do not trouble ourselves whether his doxy is our doxy, or anybody else's doxy. Hence Freemasonry has many charms for the kindly and sympathetic, the courteous and the cultivated. To know that amid the din of war and the shouts of contending factions, the disputes of the so-called religious world, and the internecine strife of conflicting schools, in this great battle-field of earthly life, there is one sheltered "*oasis*" in the dreary desert, one "*Adytum Sanctum*" into which the profane shouts of outside combatants cannot penetrate, where rancour is unknown, and "*airesis*" is not, this is both a pleasant "*look out*" and a gracious memory for us all. Good for us if, amidst increasing numbers to-day, we never forget the universal character of our Order; happy will it be to us if, adhering to our ancient landmarks, we allow neither love of novelty or change, the caprice or ignorance of the hour, to loosen those moorings which have so long held in a safe anchorage the good ship Freemasonry. Amid its onward progress and its material prosperity,

amidst exalted patronage and numerical development, amid all that tends to popularise or to attract or to raise our Order in the opinion of the world, let us never forget that Freemasonry in its universal and cosmopolitan character, presents to many of us all a very great and attractive feature, and one which alike commends itself to our minds and consciences, our unchanging sentiments, and our active sympathies.

THE BOARD OF BENEVOLENCE.

We feel bound to call special attention to the last report of this most valuable and working organisation of ours, to its active labours, to its great utility. Each succeeding meeting only serves to show how important and how needful it is, how creditable to our Order, how helpful to those who stand in actual want of it. It seems to us to be Masonic charity in active exercises! For the reports all testify, and our last report especially, that there is at the present a very large demand for aid on our funds, and on the Lodge of Benevolence. Many of the cases we are assured, are very sad ones, indeed, even "heartrending," and the relief administered is alike truly required and gratefully received! It almost would appear from recent facts, and our monthly reports, that there is, so to say, a great "substratum" of poverty in Freemasonry. Whence does it come? How is it there? It may be difficult to account, perhaps, for it at first, just as it is to explain the presence of "flies in amber," as we remember hearing Mr. D'Israeli say many many years ago, but still the fact is before us, and seems to be a fact beyond any reasonable doubt. Why or whence, we repeat does it come? We make bold to say, through the fault mainly of our lodges, and of the Order! It is quite clear that for some time, the admission of new members has been far too lax; that is to say, we have admitted those who came with their fees in their hand, and have made our motto "carpe diem." We have not "thought of the morrow," nor looked on to the future? Hence we have admitted confessedly many who ought never to have been admitted at all; we have "sown to the wind," and we shall probably "reap the whirlwind." We must not shut our eyes to this distinct reality, that there is coming upon us a strain alike on our resources and our very system. This very great material prosperity of ours has its concomitant evil in a too rapid increase of brethren, since a large number are admitted to our privileges who look for the benefits and will eventually claim the charity of Freemasonry. But then, on the other hand, we must not take too gloomy a view of things. Our resources are still ample and increasing, and the prosperity of the Order seems, so to say, daily to augment. We have not a right to grudge the "Dole" of Masonic benevolence to all who really require it, and we are to find in our working out of the active principle of charity, as well our highest happiness, as our bounden duty. In nothing does our good old Order so shine, as in that incessant and liberal distribution of pecuniary succour to those who claim its fostering hand, or implore its beneficent aid. While, then, we carefully watch over the "outgoings" of our Masonic benevolence, which are just now very large indeed, while we seek to discountenance and deprecate any mistaken but somewhat popular view, that Freemasonry is to be sought for as well for what it gives, as for what it is, let us pride ourselves on the fact, that with some imperfection of details, common to all earthly institutions, Freemasonry in our own country, as in many others, is still, month by month, so to say, zealously employed in pouring into the wounds of our afflicted brethren the oil and wine of benign charity, in succouring old age, in soothing calamity, in pitying misfortune, in sympathizing with the sorrows of our mortal lot, in cheering the homes of the destitute and in causing the "widow's heart to sing for joy."

THE WILSON MSS. CONSTITUTION.

The discovery of this much desiderated MS. is a happy omen of further archaeological discovery, as it shows what patience and perseverance will do.

It occurred to me some time back that in order to trace it I had better ascertain if it still existed, and if Mr. Wilson of Broomhead, in whose possession it was said to be, was a "vera persona," as too many "tricks upon travellers" have been played on Masonic students. The first reference to the M.S. alluded to occurs in Preston and Hutchinson about 100 years ago, as far as I know, and many changes might have taken place since then.

No previous enquiry seems to have been made about it, though it has been mentioned more than once in the archaeological discussions of later years, and is also alluded to by Bro. Hugban and myself, in the collection of the Constitutions which he edited some time back.

My obliging Bro. S. B. Ellis of Sheffield, a Masonic student, at my request placed himself in communication with Bro. Nixon, who was acquainted with Mr. Wilson, the present owner of Broomhead, and descendant of the Mr. Wilson mentioned by Preston, and it was ascertained from Mr. Wilson, who wrote in the kindest manner, that the Wilson MSS. had been sold to Sir Thomas Phillips, the well-known collector of MSS., and Mr. Wilson believed that some of them had been re-sold or given to the Bodleian Library. On enquiry it moreover soon became apparent that such was not the case, and that the MS. remained still in the possession of the relative to whom they had been left by Sir Thomas Phillips. Luckily, a previous friendly acquaintance gave me, so to say, a special facility of access, and I found to my great delight that the MS. still exists "in vellum," is, its owner says, of the 17th century (the real date has to be ascertained, as a vellum MS. of the 17th century is somewhat rare). He has most kindly permitted me to have it copied, and it will appear in the "Masonic Magazine" for April. Until of course it has been seen and looked over carefully, and collated with others, no one can know or say anything as to its real date, or whether Preston's statement of its age will turn out to be correct or not. It is just possible that Preston, who was not an "expert" in MSS., if he saw it, might not write critically or correctly on the subject, and probably took his facts on the assertions of others; but every endeavour will be made in the interests of historical truth and accuracy to ascertain if possible its, at any rate, approximate date. It is, however, a fresh Constitution unearthed, and I think may lead to others being discovered.

A. F. A. WOODFORD.

Original Correspondence.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for, or even as approving of the opinions expressed by our correspondents, but we wish, in a spirit of fair play to all, to permit—within certain necessary limits—free discussion.—Ed.]

WELCOME OF OUR GRAND MASTER.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I am indeed pleased to see this question "mooted," by our worthy brother "An old English Mason." I think with him, that something on a grand scale should be done by the entire Craft of England—such as a meeting, say, at the Crystal Palace, which is far easier of access, than the Alexandra Palace. The train service to the latter is not yet perfect.

I would suggest that the tickets be half-a-guinea, a profit of 5s. on each ticket to go to our charities. We might expect 10,000 (min. no.); that would give a goodly sum of £2500.

I also would suggest that our fair sisters be admitted, as we all must admit that they are, largely endowed with charity.

I earnestly hope Grand Lodge will take up this question and bring it to a glorious issue. I also beg the brethren to state their views through the columns of the "Freemason."—I am, dear Sir, and brother, yours fraternally,

A YOUNG M.M., No. 72.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I quite endorse the sentiments expressed by "An Old-English Mason" and Bro. E. J. Walford as to giving our Grand Master a right royal welcome on his return to his native country, and hope the matter will be taken up by the proper authorities, and put in motion at once.

Yours fraternally,

S. PIGOTT,

W.M. St. John's, 328.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I see with pleasure in your impression of Feb. 19th proposals to celebrate Masonically the return home of our M.W.G.M., H.R.H. the Prince of Wales; in my opinion the idea is one of great value. We have already had one of the most imposing Masonic ceremonials of modern time, on the accession of our M.W.G.M. to the throne of the Order. We can now do something to prove to the world that we practice our great watchword charity, and this by bringing our three noble institutions to the front.

I should have been inclined to have recommended a united anniversary of our three charities as the method of welcoming home our M.W.G.M., but one of these anniversaries has already been held, and the matter might have been difficult to arrange. But might we not hold "A Grand Masonic Fete" at one of our great central

places of resort (such as the Palaces of Sydenham and Muswell Hill, the Agricultural Hall, Islington, or the Westminster Aquarium), with special attractions the proceeds, after paying all expenses, to be divided among the three several institutions; arrangements might be made to entertain the whole of the Boys' and Girls' Schools, together with the widows and aged, and to present them to their Royal Patron. An address of welcome and congratulation might be presented, and perhaps a grand banquet held, but these are matters of detail that had better be left in the hands of our excellent brethren, Sir A. Woods and T. Fenn.

By having such a fete as this, the ladies who have done so much for our charities, the wives and daughters of Masonry, could also partake in the general joy, and while so gratifying themselves, would feel that they were one and all assisting in the cause of charity, and helping to cheer the aged, the widow, and the orphan in their distress.

I am, Sir and brother, yours fraternally,

GEO. R. HARRIOTT, Prov. G.M. Wigtown and

Kirkcudbright (Scottish Constitution), late

M.M. Castle Lodge of Harmony No. 26 (E.C.)

4, Howard-place, St. Andrews, Fife,

Feb. 21st, 1876.

ELECTION OF PROV. G. OFFICERS.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I know a brother, a professional man for nearly forty years, and a Mason of the same standing, who is the oldest Mason and the oldest P.M. of his lodge, and who is at the present time the W.M. of a Mark lodge, and M.E.Z. of a chapter of Royal Arch Masons, and who was some years since mainly instrumental in keeping his Craft lodge from going to the ground, and for all this he was never offered a chair in the Grand Lodge of this province, and some seven or eight younger brethren of his lodge had been appointed over him, and when this old and esteemed brother some short time since wrote to the P.G.M. very politely, and told him what I have just written, and asked him how he selected his P.G. Officers, he was very curiously told that no one had a right to ask him, but the Grand Master; and thus the matter at present stands.

Will you, or some experienced brother, kindly tell me how P.G. Officers are appointed in other provinces, and what steps you would advise my neglected brother to adopt under the above circumstances?

I am, dear Sir and Brother, yours very fraternally,

A LOVER OF JUSTICE.

[The appointment of all Provincial Officers rests with the P.G. Master, except the P.G. Treasurer.—Ed.]

MASTER MASONS' JEWELS.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I hardly like to put up my very humble opinion in opposition to yours; nevertheless, I should like to be allowed to give my reasons for dissenting from the editorial note which is appended to a letter of "A Master Mason" in the "Freemason" of the 12th inst.

"A Master Mason" asks if a jewel consisting of the square and compasses is one which a Master Mason may correctly append to his breast; also whether there is the same doubt attached to the jewel of the "square and compasses" as to the "five-pointed star."

In a note at the end of the letter you write that, in your "humble opinion, according to the Book of Constitutions, a jewel appertaining to the Master Mason Degree can lawfully be worn in lodge."

Now it is my very "humble opinion" that although there is no authority for the wearing of a "five-pointed star" by Master Masons, and it is therefore doubtful whether it is "correct," yet, inasmuch as no competent Masonic authority that I am aware of has yet decided that it is "incorrect," Master Masons aspiring to the wearing of doubtful decorations may be "winked at" for wearing the "five-pointed star."

But with regard to the wearing of a jewel consisting of the "square and compasses," this is a matter which in my very humble opinion does not admit of a doubt. For that is the jewel which according to the Book of Constitutions (page 119, also plate 2) is appropriated to the Past Deputy Grand Master of England, and therefore I maintain that it is thoroughly "incorrect" and Masonically illegal for any one except a Past Deputy Grand Master of England to wear such a jewel.

I well remember when a young Mason visiting the Emulation Lodge of Improvement for the first time, just eighteen years ago, with a jewel consisting of "crystal square and compasses" appended to my breast, and may being ironically asked by dear old Bro. Pike (since gone to his rest) if I was Lord Pamure, "as he was the only person entitled to wear such a jewel." This dictum was confirmed by Bro. Stephen Barton Wilson (then Secretary of the lodge) and other brethren present, including, I think, the present Grand Secretary; and I was then politely requested to divest myself of the illegal jewel in the face of the assembled brethren, a proceeding which made a deep impression upon my youthful mind, as even then I prided myself upon being very correct in my "clothing" as well as in my "work." So when I got home that night I rushed to my Book of Constitutions, and there ascertained for myself that I had been rightly convicted of the (Masonic) crime of wearing an illegal jewel.

Ever since then whenever I have been in the chair of a lodge and espied a "square and compasses" jewel, I have quietly requested the brother wearing it to remove it.

I enclose my card, and beg to remain, dear Sir and brother,

Yours fraternally,

Feb. 16th, 1876.

A PAST MASTER.

INSTALLATION OF H.R.H. PRINCE LEOPOLD AS PROV. GRAND MASTER OF OXFORDSHIRE.

This long looked for event took place on Wednesday last, in the Sheldonian Theatre, Oxford, on which occasion there was a splendid gathering of Freemasons to give éclat to the proceedings. Among those present were Lord Skelmersdale, Deputy Grand Master; the Marquis of Hamilton, M.P., Senior Grand Warden; Bro. Alderman Stone, ex-Lord Mayor of London, Junior Grand Warden; Rev. R. J. Simpson, Past Grand Chaplain; Bro. McIntyre, Q.C., Grand Registrar; Bro. John Hervey, Grand Secretary; Bro. F. Morrell, Junior Grand Deacon; Sir Albert W. Woods, Garter, Grand Director of Ceremonies; and Bro. S. George Homfray, Gd. Assist. Director of Ceremonies. Among the Provincial holding high positions in the Grand Masters, Past Officers of Grand Lodge and others Craft who were present were the Earl of Hardwicke, the Earl of Shrewsbury, the Earl of Limerick, Lord de Tabley, Lord Methuen, Lord Leigh, Lord Balfour of Burleigh, the Earl of Jersey, Lord Ramsay, General Brownrigg, Colonel Burdett, Viscount Newry, Bro. W.W. B. Beach, M.P., Bro. T.F. Halsey, M.P., Bro. J. B. Monckton, President of the Board of General Purposes; Colonel Adair, Bro. V. A. Williamson, Rev. C. J. Martyn, Rev. P. Moore, Rev. D. Sedgwick, Rev. T. F. Ravenshaw, Rev. W. F. Short, Rev. K. Bedford, Rev. Dr. J. Edmund Cox, Colonel Campbell of Blythswood, Bro. R. R. Holmes, Bro. H. W. Strange, Captain Philips, Major Shadwell Clerke, Bro. R. J. Spiers, Sir E. Lechmere, Captain Ferrier, Lieut.-Colonel Somerville Burney, Bro. Staveley Hill, Q.C., M.P., Sir F. M. Williams, Rev. T. Cochrane, Bro. Heather Bigg, Bro. Frederick Binckes, Secretary of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys; Bro. Thomas Fenn, P.G.S.D.; Bro. Colonel Machen, Bro. J. C. Parkinson, P.G.D.; Bro. R. Phenes Spiers P.M. 10; J. A. Rucker, P.G.D.; E. M. Haigh, P.G.S.; W. Roebuck, Bro. Kingston, W.M. 862; Bro. Alfred Wigan, and Bro. Milsom, of Bath; and Bro. H. Massey ("Freemason").

The ceremony which gave Prince Leopold one step higher in Masonic rank was arranged with the same regard for detail and order as was the splendid ceremony of the 28th of April last, when the Prince of Wales was installed as Grand Master of English Freemasons at the Royal Albert Hall. Indeed, it was like it in almost every particular, even to the presentation of an address of congratulation from the Grand Orient of Italy. It will be remembered by Freemasons that on the 28th of April, 1875, Bro. J. C. Parkinson, Past Grand Deacon, presented such an address to the Prince of Wales from the Italian Freemasons; and the same brother on Wednesday presented a like address to Prince Leopold. As the Prince of Wales received the address sent to him, so did Prince Leopold receive the address sent to him, most graciously, and the same will be duly enrolled in the records of the province. Perfect success attended the proceedings.

The doors of the Divinity School were opened

for the admission of the brethren at twelve o'clock, and closed at half-past one, after which no brother could be admitted. The semi-circle was reserved for the officers of Grand Lodge, present Provincial Grand Officers of Oxfordshire, and all brethren up to the rank of Provincial Grand Warden. The area was reserved for all other Provincial Grand Officers; Oxfordshire being on the left of the chair, and other provinces on the right. Those who were not Provincial Grand Officers were directed by the Stewards to their places in the Ladies' Galleries. The brethren appeared in evening dress (or black frock coat), white gloves, and full Masonic Craft clothing.

At ten minutes before two the following procession was formed in the Divinity School, viz.:

- Two Tylers with drawn swords.
- Three Provincial Grand Stewards
- Past Provincial Grand Pursuivants.
- Provincial Grand Pursuivants.
- Past Provincial Grand Sword Bearer.
- Provincial Grand Directors of Ceremonies.
- Past Provincial Grand Superintendents of Works.
- Provincial Grand Superintendent of Works.
- Past Provincial Grand Deacons.
- Past Provincial Grand Secretaries.
- Past Provincial Grand Registrars.
- Provincial Grand Registrar.
- Past Provincial Grand Chaplains.
- Provincial Grand Chaplains.
- Past Provincial Grand Wardens.
- Provincial Junior Grand Warden.
- Provincial Senior Grand Warden.
- Provincial Junior Grand Deacon.
- Past and Present Officers of Grand Lodge, according to Rank.
- Deputy Provincial Grand Master.
- Provincial Grand Sword Bearer.
- The Right Worshipful the Grand Registrar in Charge of the Province.
- Provincial Senior Grand Deacon.
- Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master of England.
- Two Grand Stewards.

The procession entered the hall, the organ being played by Bro. Plumridge. Provincial Grand Lodge was opened by the Grand Registrar.

As soon as Grand Lodge had been opened the Deputy Provincial Grand Master announced to Grand Registrar the presence of the Deputy Grand Master of England, Lord Skelmersdale. Bro. McIntyre immediately requested his lordship to take the chair, which the Deputy Grand Master accordingly did, and told the brethren that this especial Provincial Grand Lodge had been called together for three purposes; first, to instal a Provincial Grand Master of Oxfordshire; secondly, to present a testimonial to Bro. Spiers; and thirdly, to appoint a Deputy Provincial Grand Master, and a brother to the vacant Stewardship of the province, in the room of Prince Leopold. The Rev. H. A. Pickard informed his lordship that Prince Leopold was without the door of the lodge, and sought admission and installation.

The procession having been formed, retired, and re-entered in the following order:—

- Three Provincial Grand Stewards.
- The Gloves and Apron of the Provincial Grand Master, on a cushion borne by the Master of a Lodge.

The Collar and Jewel of the Provincial Grand Master, on a cushion borne by the Master of a Lodge.

Provincial Grand Director of Ceremonies.

Provincial Grand Registrar.

Provincial Grand Treasurer.

Provincial Grand Chaplains.

Six Past Provincial Grand Wardens.

HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS PRINCE LEOPOLD,
Provincial Grand Master.

Two Equerries.

(Bro. Collins, C.B., & Bro. the Hon. Alex. Yorke).

Two Provincial Grand Stewards.

His Royal Highness on entering was received with several rounds of applause. Placed on the left hand side of Lord Skelmersdale, Prince Leopold was duly installed, when, to the sound of blast of trumpet, he was duly proclaimed Grand Master of Oxfordshire, and saluted according to ancient form.

Lord Skelmersdale then, addressing him, said—"I beg to congratulate your Royal Highness on being placed in the chair. I need not tell, you, sir, how important are the duties of the high office to which you have been promoted. Your steadfastness in the cause of Masonry has proved to all the brethren how thoroughly worthy you are to occupy that chair, and I congratulate the brethren of the province that the choice of the Grand Master has fallen upon your Royal Highness. Accept, I beg of you, my hearty congratulations."

The brethren endorsed these expressions, given with his lordship's customary suavity, by a burst of applause, and His Royal Highness bowed both to Lord Skelmersdale and the other brethren. Bro. Reginald Bird, Vice Principal of Magdalen, Deputy Provincial Grand Master, then yielded up to the new Grand Master his "jewel" of office, which His Royal Highness immediately handed back. The warrant of his appointment as D.P.G.M. was then read, and the usual salute followed. His Royal Highness's next business was to supply the vacancy which his own elevation had caused in the Stewardship of the province, and Bro. Walter Jas. Douglas Campbell was called up for investment. Assigning to him the office of Provincial Grand Steward, Prince Leopold shook him warmly by the hand, and that worthy recipient of the Grand Master's favour took his seat among the Grand Stewards of the province. Considerable cheering followed the appointment, which evinced that it was acceptable to the brethren.

The following Provincial Grand Officers were then re-appointed, and on presentation to His Royal Highness he shook them by the hand. Bros. John Galpin, Provincial Senior Grand Warden; H. R. Cooper Smith (Magdalen College), Provincial Junior Grand Warden; Rev. R. W. M. Pope, Provincial Grand Chaplain; Rev. W. Alexander Ayton, Provincial Grand Chaplain; Alderman Thomas Randall, Provincial Grand Treasurer; R. L. Williamson (Christ Church), Prov. Grand Registrar; William Henry Horn, Prov. Senior Grand Deacon; Jason Saunders, Prov. Junior Grand Deacon; Sinclair Frankland Hood (Magdalen College), Prov. Grand Secretary; Charles Bishop, Prov. Grand Superintendent of Works; Julius Sladden, Prov. Grand Director of Ceremonies; Carlisle J. S. Spedden (Queen's College), Prov. Grand Di-

rector of Ceremonies; Alderman William Eagleton, Prov. Grand Sword Bearer; Henry Plumridge, Prov. Grand Organist; Henry Williams, Prov. Grand Pursuivant; Gordon Campbell (Exeter College), Cecil G. Paget (Christ Church), J. E. Courtenay Bodley (Balliol College), Wm. Peppercorn and Frederick Dolley, Prov. Grand Stewards; and William Stephens and George Norwood, Prov. Grand Tylers. These appointments remain in force till next Provincial Grand Lodge.

The proceedings were now drawing somewhat towards a close, and the brethren were looking anxiously for a mark of favour which Royal hands were about to bestow on a brother whom they delighted to honour. For more than twenty years Bro. R. J. Spiers had held the office of Deputy Grand Master, and the brethren of the province had subscribed for a handsome silver inkstand, a purse of 500 guineas, and an elegant album recording the names of the subscribers. The gifts were borne on a crimson cushion and handed to the Prince, who called for Bro. Spiers, and then, addressing the brethren;

The Prov. Grand Master said: Brethren, a pleasant duty has devolved upon me, which I now rise to accomplish. It is to present a testimonial to Bro. Spiers who has now for many, many years been associated with Masonry, not only in the province, but also in the Grand Lodge. It is the great zeal and energy which he has ever shown for the Craft, which merits the slight testimony of regard from many of his friends of our brotherhood. (Applause.) I have been asked to act to-day as spokesman on their behalf, and it is with great pleasure that I fulfil the task. Bro. Spiers, in the name of a large number of Masters, most of whom you see here to-day, I present you with this inkstand, and this purse containing the sum of 500 guineas, as a token of their esteem and regard for yourself, and of their gratitude for the work you have done for Masons in general. (Applause.)

Bro. Spiers, who had been standing all this time, then advanced to the Provincial Grand Master and received the present. He said, in reply: May it please your Royal Highness, my Lords and brethren, I trust indeed that the kindness which I have ever experienced from my brethren, which you have so kindly extended to me, will cause you to grant me some indulgence on this trying moment of my life. (Hear, hear.) I stand here before you in the presence of His Royal Highness, at whose hands I have just received this magnificent gift; and in the presence of my friends, many of whom I have known now for many many years, and you may believe that a brother may well be unnerved who has to accept at the hands of royalty and in the presence of such distinguished brethren such a gift. Words would quite fail me to respond to you in adequate terms for the present you have just now made; but I trust that having been for many years among you, you will excuse any default on my part. I have now been with you many, many years—a long time, as most of you are aware, more or less for thirty-two years, and I feel somewhat overcome, when I see so many of my old friends. I entered Freemasonry 32 years ago in Oxford, and I found out what an

institution it was. Attending in London frequently I had an opportunity of seeing by the Masonry there what a rich mine of ore it was from which the Freemasons of Oxford might dig. It is recorded in Provincial Grand Lodge, the year before I became a Freemason that there were but two lodges in the province. One of those had 30 members, and the other 33—which comprised the whole of the Freemasonry of the province—and I believe until I had the honour of being a Steward, there had not been such an office in the province to represent it at the charities. Of course I was glad to make myself a Steward, and I induced my brethren to enter the list, and since that time there have been no less than 200 stewardships. For the great kindness you brethren have shown me, especially the Apollo University Lodge, in supporting me, I was encouraged to go on and on till I got office in Grand Lodge. Within a year of my initiation we got from Grand Lodge £50 for a deceased brother's widow, our province gave another £50, and we got the daughter into the Girls' School. We, while being happy ourselves have tried to obtain happiness for others. Last year Grand Lodge honoured me by granting £150 to a brother of the Apollo, and last week I got a grant of £50 from the Lodge of Benevolence for a Past Master. I now have to thank all the brethren for this testimonial, the committee, the Treasurer, Bro. Randall—whose name will always be kindly remembered by old Oxford men—Bro. Thompson, a name which for three generations has been held in high esteem by all Oxford Masons. I thank you all, and I can assure you the plate will be handed over to my children, as an heirloom, and I hope they will honour it. (Applause.)

The address, of which the following is a translation, was presented from Italy by Bro. J. C. Parkinson, P.G.D.:

"Grand Orient of Masonry in Italy and the Italian Colonies.

"To His Royal Highness Prince Leopold, Provincial Grand Master of Oxfordshire,

"Most illustrious and potent Brother,—Italian Masonry, which rejoices at seeing evermore honoured in the most noble nation of England that universal brotherhood of which too is not the least portion, hastens to send you its most respectful and affectionate congratulations on the auspicious event of your Royal Highness's exaltation to the office of Provincial Grand Master of Oxfordshire.

"Happy the people among whom the men of the loftiest social standing appreciate and practise, as you do, the grand principles of that humanitarian progress which it is the object of Masonry to vindicate and to diffuse throughout the civilised world.

"Accept, most illustrious and potent brother, our most devoted and sincere congratulations and our fraternal salutation.

"Rome, 18th February, 1876.

"In the absence of the Grand Master, the Grand Master Associate,

(Signed) GEORGE TAMIO, 33°."

All the arrangements were under the control of Bro. Reginald Bird, the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, and Bro. the Rev. H. A. Pritchard, P. Prov. S.G.W., to the latter of whom was entrusted the duty of superintending the arrangements inside the theatre; and they are both to be congratulated on the excellent manner with which everything went off.

Grand Lodge was then closed, and the brethren separated, but in the evening dined together at the Corn Exchange, under the presidency of His Royal Highness.

The toasts of the evening were then proposed.

The Provincial Grand Master, on rising to propose the first toast, "The Queen and the Craft," said: Brethren, the first toast of the evening, which I now rise to propose, needs no words of mine to preface it. It is one which all loyal subjects and Masons will drink with loyalty and fidelity. Brethren, I give you "The Queen and the Craft."

The toast having been drunk, was followed by the singing of "God save the Queen."

The Prov. Grand Master: Brethren, it is with feelings of the greatest pleasure that I rise to propose the toast which comes next upon our programme this evening, and it is one which I

am sure all of you will drink with enthusiasm. "The Health of the Grand Master of England" will always meet with a hearty reception among Masons (hear); and when we can identify with it, as we can on the present occasion, "The Health of the Prince of Wales" (applause), the toast must meet with a reception doubly warm and enthusiastic. (Cheers.) Our Grand Master has been most loyally received by our brethren in our Indian Empire, and we may hope that as the friendly ties between this nation and India have been strengthened by his visit, the cause of Freemasonry may be benefited in no less a degree. (Cheers.) Brethren, I call upon you to join with me in drinking "The Health of the Grand Master of England," and in doing so to wish him a speedy return home. (Hear, hear.) I give you, brethren, "The Health of his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, M.W. Grand Master."

"God bless the Prince of Wales" followed the drinking of this toast.

The Provincial Grand Master again rose and said: Brethren, it is with great pleasure that I rise to propose this toast; nevertheless, regret is coupled with the task, as one who I had much hoped to see here to-day is prevented by illness from coming. I am sure that you will be all as much grieved as I am to hear that the Pro Grand Master of England, Bro. Lord Carnarvon, will not be able to return thanks to-day for the toast which was to have been coupled with his name. At the same time I am sure you will be glad that he should run no risk of increasing his indisposition by travelling contrary to the advice of his physician. (Hear, hear.) And while calling on you to drink "The Health of the Officers of Grand Lodge," I am able to give you the toast of "The Deputy Grand Master of England." I must thank him at the same time for the prominent part he has had the kindness to take in to-day's proceedings, a part which he has performed, as he indeed always must, so gracefully and so well. (Hear, hear.) Brethren, I give you "The Pro Grand Master, the Deputy Grand Master, and the Officers of Grand Lodge," coupled with the name of Bro. Lord Skelmersdale. (Cheers.)

Lord Skelmersdale: Your Royal Highness, my lords, and brethren, I thank you most heartily for the most kind way in which you have received the toast of the Pro Grand Master, myself and the other Grand Officers. I can assure you it was with very deep regret that the Pro Grand Master had to give up all thoughts of attending here this day, and doing the duty which I have the honour to perform instead of him. With regard to myself I can assure you that when twenty years ago I took part in a festivity of a different kind to this—I mean the Masonic ball, when I was in reality a meek lambkin, having just entered into the happy fraternity—I little thought I should stand here as one of the highest officers in that fraternity to return thanks for this toast. But, brethren, I have never regretted for one single moment since that day my having entered the Order. The more I see of it the more I rejoice to belong to it, and the more do I wish and hope that others may belong to it, and long may it continue. And I only hope with God's grace I may be enabled to perform properly the part I have taken in it. Brethren, I thank you in the name of all the Grand Officers here present for the hospitality shown to them; and also I am sure I may say on behalf of them that they must have been well impressed with the ceremony this day, and that they were all glad to be present at it. (Cheers.) I thank you for the Pro Grand Master, myself, and all the Grand Officers. Brethren, before I sit down I have H.R.H.'s command to give the next toast—may I call it, as it is, the toast of the evening. (Applause.) Brethren, we were told not long ago that the two great watchwords of our fraternity were Charity and Loyalty. Charity, brethren, I will not dwell upon. Not long ago I had occasion to speak to many whom I have the pleasure of seeing here present to-day upon that subject, but I will not be tedious on that subject now, as I am afraid I was on that occasion. It is well understood among us brethren, and I hope it will be carried out as ardently as formerly. But loyalty is another great point in our faith and I ask you what can more conduce to loyalty among Freemasons than seeing, may I say, the

Royal brotherhood taking such an active part as they do in our proceedings. At the earliest age possible His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught, and His Royal Highness Prince Leopold, have all in turn become members of our fraternity; and not only have they become members of our fraternity, but they have become active working members. (Hear, hear, and cheers.) Brethren, I congratulate you most heartily and sincerely on having secured His Royal Highness Prince Leopold as Grand Master of the Province of Oxford, for I feel sure, brethren, he will carry out the duties of that office as fully as he has hitherto carried out the duties that have fallen to him in lodge. Brethren, I give you "The Health of His Royal Highness Prince Leopold, Provincial Grand Master of Oxfordshire."

The toast was received with great cheering, in which the ladies joined.

Rider A to Oxford Two

The Provincial Grand Master, who on rising to respond was received with renewed cheering, said: Brethren, I find it difficult to express my feelings on the present occasion, or to thank you sufficiently for the manner in which you have received the toast so very kindly proposed by the Deputy Grand Master. I can assure you I deem it no small honour to be appointed Grand Master of this province, and I will ever do my utmost to prove myself adequate to the charge which has been committed to my care. (Cheers.) I feel it also no small compliment that after having been for so short a time a Freemason you should have testified your approbation of my appointment in so kind and flattering a manner. (Cheers.) The very name of Oxford will be always associated with everything that is near and dear to me, (cheers); and it is with feelings of the truest pride and pleasure that I find myself so closely bound in a bond of brotherhood, both with the university and the province, as Master of the Apollo Lodge and as Provincial Grand Master. (Applause.) One of the greatest benefits of Freemasonry exists in the opportunities it affords to members of the Craft of meeting together from time to time, and expressing those great qualities of goodwill and friendship which are the very key notes of Freemasonry. (Cheers.) In conclusion, I trust, brethren, that I may be able to perform my duties in a manner not altogether unworthy of my illustrious predecessor, Bro. McIntyre, who has for some time past conducted the business of the province so ably, so energetically, and so well. (Hear, hear.) Brethren I ask you to join me in drinking "The Health of the Grand Registrar of England, Bro. Æneas McIntyre."

The toast having been drunk,

Bro. McIntyre said: Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master, Deputy Provincial Grand Master, brother Wardens and Officers of the province of Oxfordshire, I cannot allow a moment to elapse before rising to return thanks for the very great compliment that has been paid to me by His Royal Highness your new Provincial Grand Master. Some years ago, before I was intimately connected with the province of Oxford, it became my duty, as holding the office which I now hold in the Grand Lodge of England, to rule over a neighbouring province and to establish on the banks of this noble river which runs through your city a lodge which since that time has flourished. When I reflect that when I came to consecrate the Abbey Lodge of Abingdon the members who were strenuous in supporting me and who rallied round me in immense numbers and in honour to the consecration of that lodge attended and made it one of the most successful in the province of Oxford—I little thought then that my esteemed friend, your late Grand Master, Bro. Colonel Bowyer, would be called to his account so soon, or that I should be called upon to rule over it. When I was so called I found the province of Oxford, as it was sure to be under so good and able rule as the rule of Bro. Bowyer, supported by Bro. Spiers, in a most admirable condition. Since I have had the charge of the province, which has been for five years, it has kept in that condition, and I may say I leave the province in good working order—loyal Masons, true officers, determined to do their duty, to be loyal to their King and faithful to the Craft.

(Applause.) Of course, in one respect, I do feel deeply that that tie which has united us so closely during the last five years is now severed; but I do rejoice in this, that in taking my departure from among you as the head of this province I hand the government over to His Royal Highness, who has shown great promise of doing well, and who has shown all others how to do well, not only throughout the Province of Oxford, not only throughout England, but throughout the whole world. I am especially thankful to His Royal Highness for the extreme kindness with which he has been pleased to speak of me on this occasion, and I am also highly flattered by seeing there are such a number of brethren whom I have met on former occasions when I have presided in your Provincial Grand Lodge, and who now shew to me the same kindness that they always exhibited when I ruled over them. It has been truly said that man honours the rising, not the setting sun; and when a person has ceased to rule over them, and is departing from among them, and has nothing more to give them, gratitude is very seldom shewn. That is not the characteristic of Freemasons. I feel sure from what you have manifested towards me this evening that during my rule of five years over you, although I may frequently have erred in judgment, every Mason in Oxford will know that I have endeavoured to discharge my duty to the best of my ability; and in taking my leave of you I thank you for the numberless kindnesses you have shewn towards me. (Cheers.)

Lord Methuen proposed "The Officers of the Provincial Grand Lodge."

Bro. Reginald Bird, D. Prov. G.M.: Your Royal Highness and brethren, I rise to return thanks for my brethren, the Provincial Grand Officers, and I have to return thanks for a most distinguished number of brethren—brethren who are far more able than I am to return thanks; but I feel quite sure that on their behalf I can say this one thing, that no body of men feel the honour more than they do—the honour that has been conferred on this province to-day by the appointment His Royal Highness the Most Worshipful Grand Master has made of His Royal Highness Prince Leopold as our Provincial Grand Master. If anything was wanted to induce the brethren of this province to endeavour to increase their zeal for Freemasonry, and to try to do more good to the Craft throughout the province, I am sure this day's ceremony and this day's appointment will induce every one of them to redouble his efforts. On behalf of myself I have to thank you most heartily and sincerely for the very high honour you have conferred upon me, and I trust I shall be able to discharge those duties you have placed in my trust, as well to your satisfaction as to that of this province. I thank the brethren very much for the kind reception they gave to me on my appointment, and I trust my best endeavours will be to promote the interests in the absence of the Provincial Grand Master, of every lodge of this province. I trust the first duty you will be called upon to perform will be that of allowing the consecration of a new lodge in this province, one that I have every reason to believe in a very few weeks will be consecrated, and which I have every reason to think will be a successful one. On behalf of the Provincial Grand Officers of Oxford I thank you most sincerely for the kind way in which you have drunk our health. (Applause.)

Bro. W. Beach: Your Royal Highness, Worshipful Deputy Provincial Grand Master, and brethren, I have the honour to propose the next toast. The interchange of visits between the brethren of the respective provinces is productive of the greatest benefit to Freemasonry; it affords an opportunity for contracting new friendships, and it also gives an opportunity for welcoming those who perhaps for many a long day we have not seen. I propose the toast of "The Visitors" with peculiar gratification, because intimately associated as I have been in former days with the Province of Oxford, and never having relinquished my interest in it, I can bear willing testimony to the delight with which the brethren of that province honoured visitors from other quarters. And I am truly glad to say, as you will all bear me out, that the brethren of the present day have not deteriorated

from the character which those who went before them earned. Brethren, I will not detain you at this late hour of the evening, but I will as an old Mason of this province congratulate you upon the auspicious proceedings of this day, and trust that they augur well for the prospects of Freemasonry in this province. I beg to couple with this toast the name of Lord Limerick, who is an energetic, an able, and successful Mason. He rules over his province with ability, and I am sure you will receive his name with enthusiasm. (Cheers.)

The Earl of Limerick: May it please your Royal Highness and brethren—If under ordinary circumstances to attend as visitors at your Masonic meetings is a pleasure and an honour, how much more when we have been called upon to be present at a meeting of such importance, not only to the province of Oxfordshire but the Craft at large, as the installation of His Royal Highness as Provincial Grand Master. I venture to say, brethren, that, saving one occasion—that of the installation of His Royal Highness our Grand Master—there has been no Masonic event for a long time more fraught with advantage to our Craft. It has been a pleasure and an honour to those brethren whom you have invited to be present at the ceremony of installation and to see with what ability that ceremony was carried out, and whom you also invited to be present and partake of your magnificent hospitality. I am sure that I only speak the minds of all the visitors when I express our heartfelt wishes for His Royal Highness's prosperity, and for the prosperity of the province over which he is called upon to rule. I thank you, brethren, in the name of the visitors, for the manner in which you have received the toast.

The Prov. Grand Master: Before we leave I have one last toast to propose. It is one I am sure that you will drink with the greatest enthusiasm; it is that of "The Ladies," the ladies, who so seldom deign to visit us, but whom we are always so glad to see. I wish we could see them oftener. I give you "The Ladies;" and as Bro. Hilton is in the gallery I will call upon him to respond.

The Rev. J. Hilton: W.M. and brethren, I have received at the hands of your W.M., the first piece of unkindness that I believe he has ever done me; that is to say, not that I am not glad and rejoice to be spokesman for so much beauty as you see around me here to-night, but at the same time I feel truly unworthy to be their spokesman. And for another reason it is unkind, because a stern college and a sterner dean and chapter forbid me to be anything other-wise than a celibate. (Laughter.) But perhaps that is rather a reason why I should return thanks, because I shall be so exceedingly impartial to them: (Renewed laughter.) Let me then return on behalf of the ladies their most sincere thanks, and I have heard some say that they hope some day or other the ladies will return thanks for themselves. Unworthy though I am to be their representative, I hope that that day will be very, very far distant. As we hear so much about the claims of equality, of ladies and gentlemen being exactly alike, that ladies are to go in for all kinds of occupation, without proper training or fitness for them, I am sure none of the ladies here wish any such thing to happen. When I say they do not wish it, allow me to say when this does happen, when this equality does occur, but which I hope it never will do, then we shall find what they lose. Ladies gain so much now on all occasions by the courtesy which you shew them, that when this equality comes they will feel their loss. And what would they lose? They would lose, if we consider ourselves on an equality that graciousness, kindness, gentleness, and courteous feeling towards ladies that has long been the characteristic of an English gentleman. Brethren, I am sure you will bear me out, and the ladies will bear me out, in saying I hope the day is far distant. I return on behalf of the ladies my most sincere thanks to you for drinking their health in the way you have drunk it. I am only sorry that you have such an unworthy mouthpiece of so much that is noble, and beautiful, and kind.

The proceedings then terminated.

The musical entertainment, which was ver

beautiful, was given by the following brethren:—Bickley, of Birmingham; Thornton, of St. Paul's Cathedral; Robson, of Magdalen College; Farley Sinkins, Christ Church; Rowley, Duxbury, Crane, and Halliwell. The whole was under the direction of Bro. Farley Sinkins.

In the course of the evening His Royal Highness received a telegram from the Lodge of Antiquity, No. 2, of which he has been elected Master. His Deputy Master has just been installed, and on receipt of the telegram His Royal Highness put on the ancient chain the square and which are always worn by the Master of that lodge on the night of installation. They were delivered to him by the outgoing Master of the Lodge of Antiquity, who was present at the banquet. His Royal Highness belongs to two London lodges, the Antiquity, No. 2, and the Westminster and Keystone, No. 10. He wore the jewels of the Antiquity on this occasion.

Masonic and General Tidings.

The Lord Chief Justice of England will preside at the annual festival of the Newspaper Press Fund on May 20.

This year's Civil Service estimates were issued yesterday. The total amount required from the several classes for the twelve months ending March 31st, 1877, is £13,308,855, a net increase over the sum appropriated for the expiring year to the extent of £299,744.

The roll of the Institution of Civil Engineers on the 1st of this month contained the names of 843 members, 1530 associates, and 14 honorary members, while there were also attached 373 students, making a total of 2760 of all classes.

The Liverpool charities have been benefited by another large bequest, the total amount of which is £25,500, which sum is to be divided among twenty-four institutions, eleven of which receive each £3000 two others £1000, and the balance is apportioned in small amounts among the others. The testatrix is Miss Cort, who died at Kirkley, near Liverpool, on Jan. 3. This bequest follows closely upon the legacy of £300,000 left by Mr. Lyon Jones to Liverpool charities.

An Inaugural Ball will take place shortly at the Surrey Masonic Hall, in aid of the funds of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls.

The following is a copy of a telegram from Governor Sir W. F. D. Jervois, K.C.M.G., to the Earl of Carnarvon, dated Singapore, Feb. 17, 2.55 p.m.:—"Three of actual murderers of Birch captured. One confesses everything; says nine men perpetrated murder, and has given names."

Bro. Sir Watkin W. Wynn, P.G.M. North Wales, has recently added a domestic chapel to his principal seat, Wynnstay, near Ruabon, North Wales. It consists of a nave and north aisle, with vestry, two bold and well-moulded arches separating the nave and aisle. Mr. Edmund B. Ferrey was the architect.

Bro. Captain Mercier has been re-elected Chairman of the Hospital Saturday Fund for the present year.

Sir Knt. H. C. Levander has undertaken, with the sanction of the Executive Committee, to represent the Red Cross and Appendant Orders, as a Steward at the forthcoming festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls.

THE LONDON MASONIC CLUB.—We are glad to find that the London Masonic Club is progressing most favourably towards completion, and also in numbers. Next week we hope to place a full description of the building, and its internal arrangements before our readers. Owing to the number of applications for membership already received we hear that it will be necessary to raise the subscriptions, and impose an entrance fee; we therefore recommend brethren intending to join to send in their names without loss of time.

The Fifteen Sections will be worked in the Burgoyne Lodge of Instruction, No. 202 held at the Grafton Arms, Prince of Wales-road, Kentish Town; on Friday, 3rd of March, 1876. Chair to be taken at seven o'clock precisely, by Bro. J. F. Wuest, Preceptor, P.M. 753.

The "Graphic" of Saturday last contained an engraving of Bro. W. Romaine Callender.

The Lord Mayor of Dublin gave a banquet on Thursday week, at which there were 400 guests. The Duke of Abercorn spoke of the prosperity of Ireland as having increased during the past year. It had, he said, made most decided and positive advances, and these gave rise to well-founded hopes of seeing great progress in the future. What Ireland wanted was more capital expended in it, and without security for life and property this could not be obtained.

WIPE YOUR FACE.—The best Cocoa Nut Mats and Matting are made by Treloar and Sons, 69, Ludgate-hill.

A deputation from the Royal Hospital, Belfast, recently waited on the Lord Lieutenant, and presented an address expressive of thanks to His Grace for having obtained the charter, and pointing out the advantages which the charity derived from it. His Grace said it gave him great satisfaction to find that the charter was of such use to the hospital, from £20,000 to £30,000 having been already obtained.

His Grace the Duke of Abercorn, the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, and Lady Georgiana Hamilton, gave a ball at Dublin Castle on Tuesday, the 15th inst.

We are requested to state that owing to the death of Her Imperial Highness the Grand Duchess Marie Nicolaivna of Russia, the parties announced to be given by their Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh on the 26th inst. and the 2nd March will not be held.

On the promotion of the Prince of Leiningen, G.C.B., to flag rank, the command of the Royal yacht Victoria and Albert will, it is stated, be given to Commodore Sir William N. W. Hewett, K.C.B., senior officer on the West Coast of Africa.

The "Daily News" understands that during the three years' naval command of the Duke of Edinburgh the Duchess of Edinburgh will reside for a considerable portion of each year in Russia. Arrangements have been made by which the Duke and Duchess will spend the winter of 1876-7 in Malta.

A Norwegian expedition to the Arctic Seas will (our Copenhagen correspondent writes) start early this spring.

Bro. Sir Gilbert Greenall contradicts the report that he intends to retire from the representation of Warrington.

MARK MASONRY.—The Right Hon. the Earl of Lime- rick, M.W.G.M.M., has appointed the Rt. Hon. Lord Skelmersdale to be D.G.M.M. in the room of R.W. Bro. Romaine Callender, M.P., deceased.

NEW QUARTERLY MAGAZINE.—"The Rosicrucian and Masonic Record," which has been for nearly eighteen years the organ of the Rosicrucian Society, will henceforth be published with the view of enlisting the support of those brethren of the Masonic Fraternity, who are associated with the Christian and Philosophical Degrees. The field of general Masonic literature being already well occupied, the "Rosicrucian and Masonic Record" will be devoted mainly to the examination and elucidation of Freemasonry in its more æsthetic relation with symbolism, science, and thought. Facts and occurrences of an interesting character will, however, be duly noticed, and meetings of Rosicrucians and Philosophical Masons regularly recorded. Several brethren of literary attainments have promised cordial co-operation, and the magazine will continue to be edited by Bros. R. Wentworth Little and William Robert Woodman, M.D. The publisher is prepared to enlarge the magazine to 48 pages, for the price of one shilling, the numbers to be published in January, April, July, and October.

Bro. George Tedder's Annual Benefit Concert will take place at the Erith Public Hall, on Monday next. Bro. W. B. Henwood, Hon. Sec. (Belvedere), from whom any information may be obtained.

Her Majesty has expressed her intention of opening the new wing of the London Hospital which has lately been added to the institution by the Grocers' Company. The ceremony will take place on March 7th.

NARROW ESCAPE OF BRO. R. WENTWORTH LITTLE, Sec., Royal Masonic Institution for Girls.—Bro. Little had a narrow escape a few days back. While proceeding home in a hansom cab, the horse took fright, the driver losing all control over it. Fortunately Bro. Little escaped with but slight injuries.

METROPOLITAN LODGE OF INSTRUCTION, No. 1506.—Bro Adams is the Preceptor of this lodge, and on Friday, 11th inst., being the first meeting since the recent death of his daughter he was not present. In his absence Bro. Shand moved, and Bro. Solomons seconded, and it was unanimously approved, that a vote of condolence be entered upon the minutes, expressing sympathy with their worthy brother, the same to be transmitted by the Secretary in a letter to Bro. Adams.

On Wednesday, the 2nd inst., Emma Holmes gave a reading a la Bellew at Colchester in aid of the Literary Institution there, Shakespeare, Hood, Tennyson, Dickens and Barham being laid under contribution to furnish the evening's amusement. The "Essex Standard" says "there was a very full audience," and Bro. the Rev. C. L. Acland; himself an accomplished scholar and lecturer, took the chair. The "Standard" adds, "the programme was a very varied one, and calculated to tax the power of a reader; but Bro. Holmes accomplished his task without any difficulty, and seemed equally at home with both the grave and the gay." Amongst the former was a "Legend of St. Swithen's Eve," from the Masonic Magazine, which was listened to with great attention and a pparent interest, and the latter was best exhibited by Mr. Sprouts's courtships, which elicited roars of laughter.

DAYLIGHT reflected in dark rooms. Gas superseded in day time. Health, comfort, and economy promoted by adopting Chappin's Patent Daylight Reflectors.—Manufactory, 69, Fleet-street, London.

METROPOLITAN MASONIC MEETINGS

For the Week ending Friday, March 3, 1876.

The Editor will be glad to receive notice from Secretaries of Craft Lodges, Royal Arch Chapters, Mark Lodges, Preceptories, Conclaves, &c., of any change in place or time of meeting.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 26.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Lily, Greyhound, Richmond.
Manchester, 179, London-st., Fitzroy-square.
Star, Marquis of Granby, New Cross Road.
Sinai Chapter, London Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 28.

Lodge 4, Royal Somerset and Inverness, F.M.H.
" 26, Castle L. of Harmony, Willis's R., St. James's.
" 28, Old King's Arms, F.M.H.
" 79, Pythagorean, Ship Hot., Greenwich.
" 183, Unity, London Tav., Bishopsgate.
" 502, Burgoyne, Anderson's Hot., Fleet-st.
Red Cross Con., Premier, Regent M.H., Regent-st.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Prince Leopold, Lord Stanley Tav., Kingsland.
Strong Man, Jerusalem Tav., St. John's Gate.
Sincerity, Railway Tav., Fenchurch-st. Station.
Camden, Stanhope Arms, Up. James-st., Camden To.
Eastern, Royal Hot., Mile-end-road.
St. James's Union, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Wellington, White Swan, Deptford.
West Kent, St. Saviour's College, Forest-hill.
Perfect Ashlar, Victoria Tav., Lower-rd., Rotherhithe.
Sydney, White Hart Ho., Church-rd., Upper Norwood.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 29.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney.
Domestic, Surrey M.H., Canberwell New-road.
Faith, 2, Westminster Chambers, Victoria-st.
Prince Fredk. Wm., Lord's Hot., St. John's Wood.
Dalhousie, King Edward, Triangle, Hackney.
Prosperity, 1, Camomile-st., Bishopsgate.
St. Marylebone, British Stores Tav., St. John's Wood.
Constitutional, Wheatheaf Hot., Hand-court, Holborn.
Percy, Grapes Tav., Little Windmill-st., W.
Israel, Rising Sun Tav., Globe Road.
Royal Arthur, Prince's Head, York-road, Battersea.
Beacontree, Red Lion, Leytonstone, at 8.
Metropolitan Chapter, Jamaica Coffee Ho., Cornhill.
Excelsior, Commercial Dock Tav., Rotherhithe.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 1.

Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge, at 6 for 7.
Lodge 511, Zetland, Anderson's Hot., Fleet-st.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Mt. Lebanon, Windsor Castle Tav., Southwark-bdg.-rd.
Pythagorean, Prince of Orange, Greenwich.
New Concord, Rosemary Branch Tav., Hoxton.
Royal Union, Horse and Groom, Winsley-st., Oxford-st.
Confidence, M.H., Basinghall-st.
Peckham, Maismore Arms, Park-road, Peckham.
Stanhope, Thicket Hot., Anerley.
Finsbury Park, Finsbury Park Tav., Seven Sisters'-rd.
Southwark, Southwark Park Tav., Southwark Park.
Duke of Connaught, Haylock Tav., Dalston, E.
United Strength, Grafton Arms, Kentish-town.
Mount Edgcombe, 19, Jermyn-street, St. James's.
Islington, Crown and Cushion, London Wall.

THURSDAY, MARCH 2.

Lodge 10, Westminster and Keystone, F.M.H.
" 27, Egyptian, Anderson's Hot., Fleet-st.
" 45, Strong Man, Old Jerusalem Tav.
" 192, Lion and Lamb, Terminus Hot., Cannon-st.
" 227, Ionic, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.
" 231, St. Andrew's, F.M.H.
" 538, La Tolerance, F.M.H.
" 554, Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney.
" 822, Victoria Rides, F.M.H.
" 1351, St. Clements Lane, 265, Strand.
" 1360, Royal Arthur, Lecture Hall, Wimbledon.
" 1445, Prince Leopold, Lord Stanley Tav., E.
Chap. 2, St. James's, F.M.H.
" 174, Sincerity, Cheshire Cheese, Crutched Friars.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Egyptian, Hercules Tav., Leadenhall-st.
Fidelity, Yorkshire Grey, London-st., W.
Finsbury, Jolly Anglers' Tav., Bath-st., City-road.
Whittington, Black Bull Tav., Holborn.
Temperance in the East, Catherine-st., Poplar.
Ebury, 12, Poultry-st., Millbank.
Highgate, Bull and Gate, Kentish-town.
The Great City, 111, Cheapside.
High Cross, Coach & Horses, High-road, Tottenham.
Salisbury, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Marquis of Ripon, Albion Tav., Albion-rd., Dalston.
Prince Frederick William Chapter, St. John's Wood.

FRIDAY, MARCH 3.

Lodge 706, Florence Nightingale, M.H., Woolwich.
" 890, Hornsey, Anderson's Hot., Fleet-st.
" 1275, Star, Ship Hot., Greenwich.
Chap. 3, Fidelity, London Tav., Bishopsgate-st.
" 8, British, F.M.H.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Union Waterloo, Thomas-st., Woolwich.
St. George's, Globe Tav., Royal-hill, Greenwich.
Robert Burns, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Belgrave, Lyceum Tav., 354, Strand.
Unions Emulation (for M.M.'s), F.M.H.
Temperance, Victoria Tav., Victoria-road, Deptford.
Clapton, White Hart, Clapton.
Stability, Guildhall Tav., Gresham-st.

Metropolitan, Portugal Hot., Fleet-st.
Westbourne, Horse & Groom, Winsley-st., Oxford-st.
Metropolitan, Pentonville-road.
United Pilgrims, Surrey M. H., Camberwell New-road.
St. James's, New Tanners' Arms, Grange-rd., Bermondsey.
Duke of Edinburgh, Silver Lion, Penny-fields, Poplar.
Doric, Earl Grey Tav., Mile-end-road.
Burgoyne, Grafton Arms, Prince of Wales's-road, N.W.
St. Luke's, Commercial Tav., King's-road, Chelsea.
Chigwell, Bald-faced Stag Hot., Buckhurst-hill.
Burdett Courts, Approach Tav., Victoria Park.
Royal Standard, Finsbury Park Tav., Holloway.
Ranelagh, Clarendon Hot., Hammersmith.
Pymagorean Chapter, Prince of Orange, Greenwich-rd.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN WEST LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE.

For the Week ending Saturday March 4, 1876.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 28.

Lodge 148, Lights, M.R., Warrington.

Chap. 241, Friendship, M.H., Liverpool.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 29.

Chap. 721, Grosvenor, M.R., Eastgate-row, Chester.

Merchants L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 1.

Lodge 730, Ellesmere, Royal Oak Hot., Chorley.

" 1013, Royal Victoria, M.H., Liverpool.

" 1335, Lindsay, 20, King-st., Wigan.

" 1354, Marquis of Lorne, M.R., Leigh.

Chap. 477, Fidelity, M.C., 55, Argyle-st., Birkenhead.

De Grey and Ripon L. of I., N. Hill-street, Liverpool.

Downshire L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

Mark Lodge, 65, W. Lancashire, M.H., Liverpool.

Harmonic L. of I., Mona Hot., James-st., Liverpool.

THURSDAY, MARCH 2.

Lodge 239, Mariners, M.H., Liverpool.

" 1573, Bootle, Molyneux R., Bootle.

" 1476, Blackpool, Clifton Arms Hot., Blackpool.

Chap. 758, Bridgewater, M.H., Runcorn.

St. John's L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

FRIDAY, MARCH 3.

Lodge 680, Sefton, Adelphi Hot., Liverpool.

" 1375, Architect, Didsbury Hot., Didsbury.

" 1387, Chorlton, M.R., Chorlton-cum-Hardy.

" 1505, Emulation, M.H., Liverpool.

Duke of Edinburgh L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN GLASGOW AND WEST OF SCOTLAND.

For the Week ending Saturday, March 4, 1876.

All the Meetings take place at Eight o'clock.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 28.

Lodge 102, St. Mark, 213, Buchanan-st.

" 103, Union and Crown, 170, Buchanan-st.

" 219, Star, 12, Trongate.

" 352, St. Clair, 25, Robertson-st.

" 541, Marie Stuart, M.H., Crosshill.

Chap. 122, Thetis, 35, St. James's-st., Kingston.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 1.

Lodge 0, Mother Kilwinning, M.H., Kilwinning.

" 4, Glasgow, Kilwinning, 170, Buchanan-st.

" 21, Old St. John, M.H., Lanark.

" 86, Navigation, Commercial Hall, Troon.

" 117, St. Mary, M.H., Partick.

" 126, St. Andrew, George Hot., Kilmarnock.

" 128, St. John, M.H., Shettleston.

" 166, St. John, 29, Graham-st., Airdrie.

" 198, Royal Arch, King's Arms, Maybole.

" 354, Caledonian Railway, 30, Hope-st.

" 442, Neptune, M.H., Ardrossan.

" 571, Dramatic, 213, Buchanan-st.

Chap. 87, Shamrock and Thistle, 12, Trongate.

THURSDAY, MARCH 2.

Lodge 11, St. John, King's Arms, Maybole.

" 22, St. John, Kilwinning, George Hot., Kilmnck.

" 27, St. Mungo, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.

" 149, St. Andrew, M.H., Irvine.

" 157, St. John, Nairn-st., Beith.

" 165, Royal Arch, King's Arms, Ayr.

" 202, St. Clement's, Trades Tav., Kilmarnock.

" 320, St. John, Royal Arch, M.H., Ardrossan.

" 370, Renfrew, M.H., High-st., Paisley.

" 465, St. Andrew, M.H., Garngard-rd.

FRIDAY, MARCH 3.

Lodge 114, Royal Arch, M.H., Cambuslang.

" 116, Royal Arch, Council Rutherglen.

" 135, St. James, Crown Inn, Tarbolton.

" 175, St. John, St. John's Hall, Greenock.

" 215, St. Andrew, Avondale Inn, Strathavon.

" 217, Cumbernauld Kilwinning, T.H., Port Glsqw.

" 242, St. Houston, Cross Keys Hot., Johnstone.

" 248, Lockhart St. John, M.H., Carnworth.

" 275, Shamrock and Thistle, 22, Struthers-st.

" 360, Commercial, 30, Hope-rd.

" 408, Clyde, 170, Buchanan-st.

" 459, Kilburne, Cumberac Hot., Millport.

" 512, Thortree, M.H., Thornliebank.

" 551, Clydesdale, Royal Hot., Larkhall.

SATURDAY, MARCH 4.

Lodge 458, St. John, Wilson's Hall, Busby.

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For the Week ending Saturday, March 4, 1876.

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THURSDAY, MARCH 2.

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REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS.

Craft Masonry.

LODGE OF PRUDENT BRETHREN (No. 145), assembled for their regular meeting on the 22nd ult., at Freemasons' Hall. Officers present, Bros. E. H. Thellay, W.M.; G. Purkess, I.P.M.; Moulst, S.W.; Haslett, J.W.; John Boyd, P.M.; Treas.; G. S. States, P.M.; Sec.; J. Hughes, S.D.; Leggett, J.D.; Lewis, I.G.; Lyster, D.C. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. Mr. Albert Mears was duly and most ably initiated by the W.M., and Bros. Curtis, Rees, Hill, Sims, and Deares, were raised to the Third Degree. Two candidates for initiation were proposed in open lodge. The honorary membership was presented to Bro. Herbert Dickets, P.M. G.S. Lodge, for valuable services rendered. A vote of thanks, to be recorded on the minute-book, was voted to Bro. John Wills, F.R.H.S., for supplying the rare exotic flowers with which the banquetting tables were decorated at the late centenary festival. A charity jewel was unanimously voted to Bro. G. Purkess, for having served two Stewardships of the Masonic Institutions on behalf of the Lodge of Prudent Brethren. There were several visitors present—Bro. Baldwin, P.M. Era Lodge and others. The members present were Bros. Thomas Bull, P.M.; Mamby, A. S. Chinnery, Wood, and others.

CITY OF LONDON LODGE (No. 901).—The usual meeting of this lodge was held on Monday last, at Gurney's Hotel, Little Britain. Bro. H. D'Arcy, the W.M., occupied the chair of K.S., and there was a fair attendance of brethren. The visitors present were Bros. F. Buckland, P.M. Israel, and W. G. Kent, 1297. The lodge having been opened in due form, Bro. D. Portage, the Secretary, read the minutes of the previous meeting, which were confirmed. Mr. J. Morris and Mr. Thomas Wallis were initiated. Bros. Mosley and Roche were raised to the degree of M.M.'s. At the conclusion of the ordinary business a letter was read from Bro. Stephen Carey, resigning not only his position in the lodge but also his membership, the reason being that he had been confined to his room for a considerable time, and had been positively forbidden by his physician being out after night-fall, and he would for some time be unable to attend to lodge duties. Bro. Carey being one of the most esteemed and efficient members of the lodge, many of the brethren expressed their deep regret that he should have been compelled to send in his resignation, and as Bro. Salisbury, P.M., who kindly acted as S.W., expressed it, Bro. Carey would be a great loss to the lodge, and the brethren would be most reluctant to lose so valuable a member. The question of accepting Bro. Carey's resignation might stand over to a future meeting in the hope that the Great Architect of the Universe might restore him to health and enable him again to take part in his Masonic duties. The W.M. and brethren concurring, the question was deferred.

THE BURGEOYNE LODGE (No. 902).—The installation festival of this lodge, which is named after the venerable engineer whose Wardenship of London's fortress was the last of the many services he rendered to the state he loved so well, was held on last Monday, the 28th, under the brightest and happiest circumstances, for it is a bright and happy circumstance when the outgoing Master, completes his circle of duties by installing his successor, and it is another when that successor shows that he has a full knowledge of his work. Bro. R. N. Field, the W.M., took the chair precisely at the hour fixed for the opening, Bro. Brooks, the W.M. elect, occupying the S.W. chair and Bro. Jeffrey that of J.W. The important minutes being confirmed, a ballot was taken for Mr. George Shepherd, and the result being favourable that gentleman was in due form initiated by Bro. Field in an able manner. After this Bro. Brooks was duly presented, and the ceremony of installation was commenced according to the Emulation ritual, as taught by the late Bro. John Thomas, and the W.M. elect having pledged himself to the requirements of the Order and of the lodge, was, in a Board of Installed Masters, duly installed according to ancient form. When the lodge was again opened and the proclamations duly made in the three degrees, the new W.M. proceeded to appoint and invest his officers, making at each appointment and investiture a near little speech. Bro. Colonel Wigginton, W.M. of the Francis Birdett Lodge, acting as Director of Ceremonies and presiding each officer. Bros. Jeffrey was appointed S.W.; Byss, as J.W.; S. Poynter, who had again been unanimously elected as Treasurer, was most warmly received when invested. Bro. F. J. C. Taylor was appointed Secretary, Bro. Pcock, as S.D.; Bro. S. D. Young, as J.D.; Bro. Haig, as I.G. When this interesting part of the ceremony was over Bro.

Field gave the customary addresses with much point and with excellent elocution, adding thereby greatly to the effect. In the course of the other business which followed before the closing, on the motion of Bro. Rogers, P.M., the sum of ten guineas was placed on the list of Bro. Field, who goes up as Steward for the Boys' School Festival, and Bro. Field was also presented with a handsome address, engrossed and richly framed, expressing the kind sentiments of brethren towards the I.P.M. for his two years' work as W.M., and they added a handsome bar to his P.M.'s jewel. Bro. Field warmly thanked the brethren, not only for these testimonies of their esteem, but for the honour of electing him their Steward at the Installation of the Prince of Wales, and adding to that honour the presentation of the Stewards' jewel. The lodge then, out of its charity fund, exercised the "distinguished virtue" on behalf of a brother who had met with a great misfortune in the loss of his right arm, and notice of a motion was given that the sum of £10 should be voted for the purchase of Bro. Harty's grand steel engraving of His Royal Highness's Installation at Albert Hall. The lodge then closed, and the brethren banquetted in the Pillar Hall, no fewer than twenty-five visitors being present, with a very large muster of the brethren. The W.M. was supported by Bros. Field, Wigginton, Poynter, Rogers, Taylor, Harvey, Levander, P.G.S.D. of Wiltshire; Bridge, P.G.O. of Kent, and P.M. of the Royal Navy; Headon, I.P.M. of The Great City Lodge; Larham, W.M. of the Surrey Masonic Hall Lodge; While, I.P.M. of United Strength ("Freemason"); Dwarber, W.M. of St. Dunstan's Lodge; George Dawson, of the Belgrave Lodge; Blythe, of the New Concord; and others. After the banquet the W.M. gave the loyal toasts and of "The Grand Officers," and these having been honoured, Bro. Field gave "The Health of the W.M.," saying that he was sure that the brethren would receive it with all cordiality, for they all knew the patience and industry with which their W.M. had worked his way through the different offices until he had reached his present proud position. They were sure, too, that he would worthily fill his high station, and carry out the duties annexed thereto in a manner worthy of the traditions of the lodge for good work. The toast having been honoured in every way, the W.M. thanked the brethren warmly both for their suffrages and for the cordiality of the reception accorded to him—promising them that nothing should be wanting on his part to ensure their happiness. He then proceeded to propose the toast of "The I.P.M.," who, he said, had worthily carried out the duties as W.M. for two years, and had given the lodge the great advantages of his talents and Masonic knowledge. Bro. Field, in response, again thanked the brethren, and took occasion to refer again to the honours the lodge had bestowed upon him, saying that he should ever feel gratified for those handsome presents, which he should ever wear with the deepest feelings of pride. He reminded them of the happy and cheerful face, now missing, of the late Bro. John Thomas, by whose instruction, he said, he had profited, and whose mantle, he considered, had fallen upon the shoulders of Bro. Larham. The speaker in feeling terms referred to the absence of P.M. Henry Smith, an absence caused by a deep domestic affliction. "The Health of the Initiate," was then toasted, and the newly made brother returned thanks in suitable terms. The "Visitors" were then toasted, and the W.M. in reading out the list of visitors present, incidentally paid a "compliment" to the "flourishing style" of signatures by calling at one name "Bro. Somebody." To this toast Bros. Levander, Bridge and Dwarber responded, and all expressed the satisfaction with which they had witnessed the principles and work of the Craft so worthily carried out, as by the Burgoyne. The "Past Master's" toast was responded to by Bro. Harvey, and Bro. Poynter, whose services to the lodge were warmly acknowledged, made an excellent speech in pointing out the principles which should guide the brethren in exercising the ballot. The other officers also spoke, and the Tylers' toast closed a pleasant evening. The banquet was served in Anderson's best style.

GREAT NORTHERN LODGE (No. 1287).—The members of this lodge met for the first time under the presidency of their new W.M., Bro. Lancaster, on Thursday, 17th February. The W.M. was supported by I.P.M., Bro. Frobes; S.W., Bro. Christie; J.W., Bro. Jupe; Sec., P.M., Bro. Staton; S.D., Bro. West; J.D., Bro. Robinson; and I.G., Bro. Arkell, and numerous brethren. The minutes of the previous meeting having received assent, the W.M. raised Bros. Cleghorn, Nicholls, and Smith, and passed Bros. Cane, Jackson, and Kempton. Ballot was then taken for Mr. George Buszard, which proving satisfactory he was duly initiated in a manner that speaks well for the brethren having chosen such a representative for the chair of K.S. The W.M. having risen in the usual manner, one candidate was proposed for the next meeting, and the lodge was closed in ancient form.

PECKHAM LODGE (No. 1475).—The second installation meeting of this lodge was held at the Surrey Masonic Hall, on Thursday, the 17th ult. The minutes of the previous regular meeting of the lodge and those of a lodge of emergency were read. The S.W., Bro. Walter Charles Canton, was presented to Bro. J. T. Dalby, the retiring W.M., as the brother who had been selected to preside over the lodge during the ensuing year, and Bro. Dalby only expressed the sentiments of every member of the lodge when he expressed himself "heartily rejoiced at the selection made." The customary ceremony was then gone through by Bro. Dalby, whose rendering of the installation was perfect, both as regards ritual and elocution, and at the completion of the charges he received his just reward in the unanimous plaudits of the large assemblage of brethren. Having been duly installed Bro. Canton proceeded to invest his officers, who it may be stated were appointed in rotation, viz., Bros. Duck, S.W.; Stephens, J.W.; Harvey, S.D.; Jackson, J.D. The only

appointment vacant, that of I.G., was conferred upon Bro. Murley, [and those of Treasurer and Secretary continue to be held by Bro. Warren, P.M., and Bro. Gompertz, P.M., whose services on behalf of the lodge have not failed to obtain the recognition they have well deserved. The ceremonies of installation and investiture were presided over by Bro. D. Rose, P.M., who holds the office of D.C. in this as well as in several other lodges. The newly-installed W.M. commenced the duties of his exalted position by initiating Messrs. Dalley, Messum, and Smithers. He delivered the ritual in a manner which proved that he intends to sustain the high reputation which the Peckham Lodge has gained for the excellence of its working. The brethren proceeded to the discussion of an excellent banquet. The usual toasts were proposed and duly honoured, and Bro. Dalby, the I.P.M., was presented with a ten-guinea Past Master's jewel as a token of the brethren's recognition of the valuable services he has rendered to the lodge during his year of office. The oratory was enlivened by vocal displays on the part of several brethren, whose efforts were, however, restrained to some extent by the absence of a piano, a defect which will doubtless be remedied at future meetings of the lodge. In conclusion it may be remarked that the Peckham Lodge, which has just commenced the third year of its existence, has thus far shown remarkable prosperity. It numbers on its books sixty subscribing, and two honorary members, no less than twenty gentlemen having been initiated during the past twelve months. Amongst the numerous visitors were Bros. Allan C. Wylie, W.M. 869; S. H. Wagstaff, P.M. 1216; Henry W. Gompertz, S.D. 1364; Dann, P.M. 72; Moore, P.M. 73; Chas. F. Hogard, P.M. 265; G. Edmonds, P.M. 975; Smith, W.M. 1172; Reynolds, 169; James Garner, S.D. 975; J. Drew, J.D. 1261; and others.

MIDDLETON.—Imperial George Lodge (No. 78).—The regular monthly meeting of this lodge was held on February 24th, at the Asheton Arms, under the presidency of the W.M., Bro. D. Reid. The five candidates for F.C. honours were duly passed in the following order:—Bro. J. B. Howard, by Bro. J. Garlick, P.M.; Bros. J. Bradshaw and H. Wilson, by the W.M.; Bro. A. Swallow, by Bro. Harvey Heywood, P.M. and Treas.; and Bro. Moses Mills, by Bro. W. H. Kershaw, I.P.M. This arrangement was admirable, and from the effective way each ceremony was rendered it proved that good old 78 possessed retentive Past Masters. The portrait of H.R.H. the Grand Master, which was presented to the lodge at its annual festival in December at the banquetting board, was now formally received as lodge property. Bro. W. H. Kershaw, I.P.M., asked the brethren to accept the portrait of H.R.H., the noble Ruler of the Craft; the brethren who presented it to the lodge were indeed proud to do so; all who had subscribed to that portrait had been spectators of a grand ceremony, the like of which in all probability would never again be witnessed by any brother present. The portrait would be a memento of that memorable day when our Grand Master was installed in the Albert Hall; those brethren who were not present at that magnificent ceremony could gaze upon that portrait, and at all times think of those watchwords which resounded through the Hall, "Loyalty and Charity." He therefore asked, on behalf of the brethren who had signed their names in the margin of the portrait, that the lodge would accept this token as a souvenir of the auspicious occasion to which it related. Bro. H. Heywood, P.M. and Treas., in accepting the handsome gift on behalf of the lodge, remarked that he considered it a pleasing way of showing love to the Imperial George Lodge. A lodge of unbroken records approaching a century and a half would be able to show, in 1876, a record respecting one of the greatest events in Masonry, when the future King of England accepted the office of Grand Master. Those brethren who were present at that memorable event had signalized the same by a handsome addition to the lodge, and he suggested that the gift and the names of the donors be recorded in the minute book of the lodge. Bro. W. Percival, J.W., seconded the proposition. In addition to the above presentation Bro. Clark, S.S., on behalf of the Stewards and junior members, presented the lodge with a handsome gilt frame, set in polished oak, lined with Utrecht velvet, this to adorn the lodge's valuable charter. The S.S. begged the acceptance of the same by the lodge, as a sincere token of regard on their behalf to their mother lodge, and as a sequel to the munificent gift of the P.M.'s and officers already mentioned. He hoped that their example would be followed by other brethren in similar tokens of respect. The W.M. replied that he was much pleased to receive such a useful and yet ornamental present from the Stewards and junior members of the lodge, and begged to propose that the best thanks be accorded to them for the beautiful adornment they had added to the warrant of their lodge. Bro. John Wood, P.M., D.C., seconded the proposition, and also made reference to the inscription appearing in the margin of the Royal portrait, which is as follows:—"This portrait of H.R.H. Albert Edward Prince of Wales, K.G., M.W.G.M., was presented to the Imperial George Lodge, No. 78, by the following officers and brethren, as a memento of their being present to represent the lodge at the installation of H.R.H. in the Royal Albert Hall, London, April 28th, 1875:—W. H. Kershaw, W.M.; David Reid, S.W.; George Bradbury, J.W.; Samuel H. Chetham, I.P.M.; Jno. Wood, P.M., D.C.; Jno. Garlick, P.M.; Jno. Dyson, P.M.; Geo. Dann, M.M." Bro. Wood, P.M., D.C., said the brethren had not inscribed their names for the purpose of setting forth their deeds to the present members of the lodge; but that was done as a record for those that come after. Should the Imperial George Lodge be in existence in another century and a half that portrait would remind the members of a grand event that took place in the days of their forefathers; the signatures would also point out those privileged to be present at that event; they would also testify

that they were men that could write. The latter happy thought of our humorous brother met with great approval. Bros. W. Jones, of 993, and G. H. Darwin, of 163, were respectively proposed as joining members by Bros. Wood, P.M., D.C., and H. Wilson. The W.M. intimated that there were two candidates for Masonry, but the great increase of labour necessitated an emergency meeting, which would be held in the middle of the ensuing month, of which due notice would be given. Progress was also reported with regard to the correspondence with Grand Lodge relating to the dispensation for the "centenary jewel;" the proposed "Library and Masonic Literature" scheme was also alluded to, after which the charity box passed round and received a most handsome acknowledgment. The lodge having been closed, refreshment was at once proceeded with, the evening being far advanced. Customary and loyal toasts having been given, the toast of the evening, that of "The Newly-passed Brethren," was moved by the W.M., and most enthusiastically joined in by the brethren present. The newly-passed brethren individually responded to "The good wishes and God speeds" in happy and most suitable terms. Especial attention was then drawn by the W.M. to the honour the lodge had accorded to it by the distinguished visitors of the evening, especially the chief representatives of the Wilton, Tudor, and Friendship Lodges. He wished also to note the visit of the Rev. Bro. H. B. Jones, W.M. elect of the Charlton Lodge, 1387, and his officers designate. The P.G.L. of East Lancashire was ably represented by Bro. Parker, P.P.G.T., who acknowledged the compliment and good wishes to the P.L. in a felicitous manner. Other visitors having responded, the brethren separated in the usual Masonic manner.

MAZAGON.—Lodge Concord (No. 757).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held in the Freemasons' Hall, Mazagon, on Saturday, the 15th January, 1876. Present: Wor. Bros. W. C. Rowe, W.M.; W. G. Henderson, J.P.M.; B. Robinson, P.M.; A. Edington, P.M.; D.S.G.W.; Tyrrell Leith, P.M., Honorary member; J. N. Dady, P.M.; Bros. F. Burdett, as S.W.; A. W. Seabrook, J.W.; F. Burdett, Treas.; O. Tomlinson, Secretary; J. Spiers, S.D.; W. G. Davie, J.D.; J. Luke, D.C.; J. E. Tyers, Org.; J. F. Grew, Steward; L. Thomas, I.G.; J. W. Seager, Tyler. Members: Bros. H. Watson, A. J. Miller, W. Fearne, W. E. Craddock, J. Armstrong, T. W. Brown, J. D. Longden, F. Lean, J. Anderson, W. Hobbs, W. W. Wilson, J. A. Da Gama, J. May, J. H. Burdett, J. W. Watson, F. S. Llewellyn, J. Weddle, C. J. Hall, J. Middleton, G. F. Cardwell, and others. Visitors: Wor. Bros. W. H. Hussey, P.M. 944, E.C.; D.G.S.; H. W. Barrow, P.M. 944, E.C.; A. McKenzie, P.M. 944, E.C.; T. Counsell, W.M. 1100, E.C.; Dinsha Doralejee Maistry, P.M. 1189, E.C.; W. G. Rowell, Grand Sec., S.C.; Bros. W. Catrall, 1100 E.C.; J. S. Madden, 944 E.C.; P.M. Jeejeebhoy, 1189, E.C.; C. Tudball, 944 E.C.; T. Thompson, late 1100, E.C.; C. Parker, 1100, E.C.; S. W. Cooper, 1189, E.C.; D. M. Jeejeebhoy, 1189, E.C.; W. Helens, P. Wales, 959, E.C.; E. Greaves, 321, S.C.; Nusservanjee Burjorjee, 1189; J. P. Hoare, 90, S.C.; W. Martin, 1100, E.C.; J. Wynn, late 944, E.C.; H. Thorpe, 1000, E.C.; J. Lumsdaine, 549, E.C.; A. H. Axford, 351, S.C.; J. E. Laford, 1100, E.C.; R. Delanny, 746, E.C.; R. P. Brunton, 746, E.C.; J. Claridge, 944, E.C.; R. W. Burton, 1100, E.C.; J. O. Weeks, 944, E.C.; J. C. Laford, 1100, E.C.; W. Smith, 1100, E.C.; and others. The summons convening the meeting was read. The minutes of the last regular meeting were read and confirmed. The minutes of the emergency meeting of 4th January, 1876, were also read and confirmed. The minutes of the last meeting of the permanent committee were read and adopted. Letter from the widow of a deceased brother, acknowledging the receipt of £10, was then read. Letter enclosing money order for Rs. 10 on account of Bro. Prescott's arrears of dues, was then read. A circular from the "Masonic Record" of Western India was then read, and Wor. Bro. W. C. Rowe then rose and strongly recommended the brethren to subscribe to the same, and that he considered this Masonic journal ought to be supported by all the brethren that had the means to do so, and that it was easy for those that could not manage to take it individually to join two or three together, so that they might know what was going on in other lodges besides those they could visit, and that, although he had been called to account himself for a slight irregularity that had occurred of late in one of the lodges of which he was a member, (and which he had fully explained), he thought that it was the only way to keep us well up to our work; were it not for a journal of this kind such matters might be passed over and unnoticed. Hence he hoped they would give their support as far as they personally could, and he was sure that the Secretary would record any of their names, and forward the same to the proper quarter. The Tyler then reported the presence of the District Grand Master and his officers. The District Grand Master and his officers were duly admitted. The District Grand Master then asked if any member of the lodge had any complaints to make against the W.M. or members, and there being no response, he said it gave him great pleasure to find the lodge working so harmoniously together, after which he returned the hiram to the W.M. W. Bro. W. C. Rowe, W.M., then rose and said: Rt. Wor. Sir, Wor. Sirs, and brethren, as you are aware, we have met here this evening to install the W.M. elect of this Lodge Concord, but before I proceed with this work I think, in justice to myself and the lodge over which I have had the honour to rule for the past twelve months, I ought to give an account of my stewardship during the year. Well, brethren, I must say we have not wasted our time during the past year, for we have had twelve regular and three emer-

gency meetings, eight initiations, seven passings, seven raisings, six lectures on the different tracing boards, and one address on the solicitation and selection of candidates for Freemasonry. During the year we have given Rs. 520 in charity, and our receipts have been Rs. 418, so you may observe, brethren, that we have given Rs. 102 more from this fund than our receipts have been during the year. We had a balance in hand on the 31st December, 1875, of Rs. 706 in the General Fund, and Rs. 540 in our Charity Fund, making a total of Rs. 1240, being an increase in our funds of Rs. 180 with the corresponding month last year, so I think we may congratulate ourselves on our steady success during the past year. We have also made a few little additions to our property during the past year in the way of a wardrobe fitted to suit our kit, also a bookcase for keeping the past records of our lodge, so that they be handy for reference at any time your permanent committee may need or require any information of what has been done in past years. We have also a respectable store cupboard, and have made many other little improvements, and I think we may say we have made some progress during the year. There is also another very important thing that we have started, and that is a charity box, and it was intended to send the contents to our Masonic Benevolent Institutions at home at the end of every year—I mean the Boys' and Girls' School, also the Institution for Aged Freemasons in England—although this has only been commenced during the last three or four months. We have now got Rs. 29.120 up to the end of the year, and as a commencement of this good work I shall have great pleasure in putting the remainder required to take up a life governorship in one of these excellent institutions, which I hope may be followed up year after year, so that we may let them know at home that, although we are far away, they are not forgotten. With this short account of my stewardship, brethren, I shall now proceed to install our W.M. elect, Wor. Bro. G. R. Henderson. Wor. Bro. G. R. Henderson was duly installed as the W.M. of Lodge Concord, No. 757, E.C., for the ensuing year. The following officers were then invested:—Bros. O. Tomlinson, S.W.; J. Spiers, J.W.; F. Burdett, Treas.; W. Fearn, Sec.; W. G. Davie, S.D.; H. Watson, I.D.; S. Thomas, D.C.; J. Luke, Stwd.; J. E. Tyers, S.G.; J. W. Seager, Tyler. Wor. Bro. G. R. Henderson, W.M., then rose and said: Right Worshipful District Grand Master, Officers, and members of Grand Lodge, members of Lodge Concord, and visitors generally.—It has been the custom amongst some newly-installed Masters to offer to the members of this lodge some reasons why he has appointed such and such brethren to such an office. Now, in a small lodge this may not be a very difficult matter, but in a lodge of the dimensions of Concord it would be a very difficult matter to do so, especially as we have so many good and true Masons who are all capable of working almost any office in the lodge, and all I intend to say in the matter is that I have not used my own judgment entirely, but have taken your P.M.'s and P.W.'s into my confidence, and the list of officers placed before you this evening is the result, and I entertain no fear for the future success of Concord whilst I have such an able and willing band of pioneers with me. Now, brethren, I have on a previous occasion informed you that I was not at all desirous of being W.M. again, but do not think for a moment that I do not fully appreciate the high honour you have done me by unanimously electing me for the second time as Master of this our very popular lodge; but what I mean is this, that I am very sorry, and very much regret that one of your Past Wardens did not come forward and stand for this high and important position in Masonry. However, brethren, as this has not been done, and I am installed W.M. for this year, I can only say that I will, as I have already promised, do the best I can for the interests of the lodge, and as I am an old member amongst you, and well known to you all, I think there is no necessity for me to attempt a speech to you, and before resuming my seat I would wish that the thanks of this lodge be presented to the R.W.D.G.M., the Hon. James Gibbs, for his kindness in attending on this occasion, and as we all know that this R.W. brother's time is very fully taken up by his officers in the council of this presidency, we the more readily and heartily tender those thanks to him, for we all are very glad to see his welcome face amongst us at any time, but more especially at these annual gatherings, when we meet many old friends who attend to lend their presence to his imposing ceremony, and I would add that he thanks of this lodge be also given to the District Grand Lodge and those visitors of both Constitutions who have favoured us with their company, and in conclusion I thank the members of Lodge Concord for their unanimous approval of me as their W.M., as it affords me the pleasure of knowing that my previous efforts in the Eastern chair are not forgotten, and trusting that each brother will work with the grand object in view of lessening human misery and vice, then shall we have a year of prosperity in Lodge Concord, and I shall be able to hand this Hiram to my successor with a good conscience that we have one and all done our duty to the Craft in general and Lodge Concord in particular. Brethren, there is one thing more I wish to say, and that is, it is usual at this time of the year to think of the charitable institutions in Bombay; I therefore propose we give Rs. 50 each to the Scottish Orphanage, the Byculla Schools, and the Indo-British Institutions. Wor. Bro. W. C. Rowe, in seconding the motion, proposed that Rs. 100 should also be voted for the Bombay Masonic General Charity Fund. Wor. Bro. G. R. Henderson agreed to amend his original proposition, and it was then resolved that Rs. 100 be presented to the Bombay Masonic General Charity Fund, Rs. 50 to the Scottish Orphanage, Rs. 50 to the Byculla Schools, and Rs. 50 to the Indo-British Institution. On the motion of the W.M., seconded by Wor. Bro. W. C. Rowe, the following six brethren were elected, in accordance with Act XII., members of the Permanent Committee:

—Bros. H. Watson, J. Luke, J. May, W. E. Craddock, J. Middleton, and W. G. Davie. Wor. Bro. W. C. Rowe then delivered over to the W.M. the stock list of the lodge, and at the conclusion of this portion of the business the W.M. tendered the thanks of the lodge to the R.W. the D.G.M. and the officers of the Grand Lodge for their attendance. R.W. the Hon. Bro. J. Gibbs in acknowledging the compliment said: Wor. Sir, in thanking you for the vote which has just been passed I can only say we are always very glad to visit the lodges in Bombay once at least in every year. I have had great pleasure in attending Lodge Concord on former occasions, as I have also had this evening, and I hope that the end of the year will shew as satisfactory a state of things in the lodge as at present. I should add that I received a note from my deputy, Wor. Bro. Balfour, stating that owing to his having to attend to the installation meeting of Lodge Rising Star he was prevented from coming here, and therefore begged that I would tender his apologies to you, which I now do. The W.M. then said: Brethren, I have great pleasure in rising to propose that a Past Master's jewel and clothing be voted to Wor. Bro. Rowe, who has worked so well and so ably for the lodge during the past year. I am only sorry that our arrangements were not completed in time to allow of the presentation being made this evening, for from the estimation in which this worthy brother is held we felt sure that the present proposition would be unanimously agreed to, and that we were justified in ordering out the jewel and clothing from England in anticipation of your approval. Wor. Bro. Robinson said he had much pleasure in seconding the motion. The proposition was carried with applause. Wor. Bro. W. C. Rowe then rose and said: R.W. Sir, W.M., Wor. Sirs and brethren,—For the thanks which you have just accorded for my services and the very handsome way you have recognised the same I beg to tender you my most sincere and hearty esteem, and trust that the good feeling that has subsisted between you and myself during the past year will continue to the end. Twelve months ago I had to thank you for the high honour you had conferred on me in unanimously electing me your W.M.; and now having laid down the government of the lodge, I must be allowed to say how much I have to thank the officers, past officers, and brethren who have favoured me with their visits during the year, and for all the kindness they have shown towards me throughout. I am happy to say the year has not been an idle one for Concord, and I have always arranged to have something in the way of lectures when not working any of the degrees, and although the work has been heavy and taken up my time a great deal, yet we have laboured so pleasantly and so harmoniously together that the toil has been a pleasure to me, and I am pleased to say that the principle illustrated by the name of our Lodge Concord has been carried out to the letter. In conclusion I will only add that the regret I individually feel in giving over charge of the lodge (having been called away to the Mastership of my mother lodge, Truth) is much lessened from knowing that I am succeeded by my worthy and W. Bro. Henderson. To him, and to W. Bro. Robinson, and to my officers, who have served under me during the year, especially Bros. Burdett and Tomlinson, my very hard-working Treasurer and Secretary, I wish to give my best thanks for the valuable aid and assistance they and all my officers have given me during the year. Again, brethren, I thank you for your kindness to me from the first day I became a member of this lodge till the present time, and at any time I can be of service to Concord, I shall be most happy to serve her in any way my abilities will permit of, and I trust that the G.A.O.T.U. may grant her that prosperity which it has been my good fortune to enjoy during the past few years. The brethren then adjourned to the dining hall, where an exceedingly pleasant evening was spent. A band was in attendance, and its services added to the attractiveness of the meeting. The brethren having adjourned to the banquet, at which the proceedings will be given in our next.

ECCLIES.—Victoria Lodge (No. 1345).—The installation meeting of this lodge was celebrated on Wednesday, the 16th ult., at Bro. Pearson's, the Cross Keys Hotel, Eccles. Bro. W. Wright, W.M., presided, supported by Bros. C. Rudman, S.W., W.M. elect; G. S. Ballard, J.W.; J. Brooks, P.M.; T. Buxton, P.M., Treas.; J. Pearson, I.G.; J. C. Gillman, P.M., P.G.S.D.; J. Mountain, P.M.; W. Leader, P.M., P.G.J.D.; E. H. Downs, P.M.; J. Barker, P.M., Sec.; T. Lee, P.M.; Jos. Dulson, E. Sullivan, W. Pendlebury, W. Steele, J. Harper, A. Pendlebury, F. Wilson, J. K. Ashton, R. Foster, T. B. Howarth, T. Hill, H. Ainsworth, T. H. Calderbank, A. Goering, J. C. Mather, E. J. Collins, T. Ridyard, E. Taylor, E. Wolfgang, R. Miller, Tyler, and a large body of visitors, amongst whom were I. W. Carr, W.M., and H. T. Jones, 1496; H. Barton, 1375; R. H. Coppell, 314; W. Brown, jun., 325; H. Johnson, 935; W. Smith, 322; E. B. Harding, P.M. 1496; T. Bidolph, P.M. 1009; F. A. Winder, 37; Jas. Andrew, 1213; D. Butterworth, 1055; and James Bent, 277. The lodge was opened at four o'clock, and the reading and the confirmation of the minutes having taken place, the next principal business of the day was the installation of Bro. C. Rudman, W.M. elect, into the chair as Master of the lodge. The usual preliminaries having been gone through, and all the brethren below the chair having retired, a board of installed Masters was formed, and Bro. Rudman was installed into the chair as W.M. for the ensuing year. The brethren having been admitted, the new W.N. received the customary salutes, after which he appointed his officers as follows:—E. Lowndes, S.W.; J. Harper, J.W.; T. Buxton, P.M., Treas.; J. Barker, P.M., Hon. Sec.; W. Steele, S.D.; H. Ainsworth, J.D.; J. Pearson, I.G.; J. Mountain, P.M., D.C.; and R. Miller, Tyler. Bro. W. Wright, I.P.M., assisted by Bros. J. Mountain and Brooks, P.M., then delivered the usual addresses in a most impressive manner, and indeed the whole of the installation ceremony was rendered

in such an admirable style that he well earned the applause with which the conclusion of his labours was rewarded. The W.M. then said he had a very pleasing duty to perform, which was to present Bro. W. Wright, I.P.M., with a jewel which had been voted to him by the brethren as a small tribute of respect and esteem. Bro. Wright thanked the brethren for their kindness, and said he should always look upon it with pleasure, as a token of the esteem entertained for him by Victoria Lodge. Copies of the report of the audit committee were then handed round, which showed the financial position of the lodge to be in a very flourishing condition. The lodge was shortly afterwards closed, and the brethren, about 60 in number, sat down to a magnificent banquet, which was varied and bountiful, and gave complete satisfaction. On the withdrawal of the cloths, the W.M. gave, in succession, "The Queen," "H.R.H. Albert Edward, Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M. of Masons of England, the Princess of Wales, and the rest of the Royal Family;" "The M.W. Pro. G.M. of Masons of England, the Earl of Carnarvon;" "The R.W.D.G.M. of Masons of England, and R.W.P.G.M. of West Lancashire, Lord Skelmersdale, and the rest of the Grand Officers;" "The W.D.P.G.M. of Masons of West Lancashire, the Hon. F. Stanley, and the rest of the P.G. Officers Past and Present." Bros. J. G. Gillman, P.M., and J. Barker, P.M., responded to the last toast. Bro. W. Wright, I.P.M., next proposed "The Health of the W.M., Bro. Charles Rudman," who suitably acknowledged the compliment. Bro. T. Buxton, P.M., proposed "The Masonic Charities," to which Bro. Gillman responded. The W.M. proposed the "Immediate Past Master," which was feelingly acknowledged by Bro. Wright. P.M. proposed "The Visiting Brethren," responded to by Bros. Carr and Bowker. Bro. A. Goering, in the course of an excellent speech, proposed "The Newly-Invested Officers." Bro. Lowndes, S.W., and Bro. Pearson, I.G., responded. The W.M. next proposed "The Healths of Bros. T. Buxton, P.M., and J. Barker, P.M., the Founders of the Victoria Lodge," which compliment was graciously acknowledged. The various toasts were drunk with Masonic enthusiasm.

HAMPTON.—Hemming Lodge (No. 1512).—A meeting of this lodge was held at the Lion Hotel, on Thursday, the 17th ult. Present: Bros. C. Hopwood, P.M. 141, W.M.; W. Hammond, P.M. Jordan, Lebanon, P.J.G.D. of Middlesex, &c., I.P.M., and acting Sec.; Raw, P.M., Treas., acting S.W.; Hurst, J.W.; Walls, acting S.D.; Fox, J.D.; Jessett, I.G.; Ockenden, D.C. The minutes of the January meeting having been read and confirmed, the W.M. raised Bros. Tagg and Moody to the M.M. Degree. The ballot was then taken on behalf of Bro. Barret, 1503, and declared by the W.M. unanimous. Several propositions for initiation at the next meeting were handed in, and notice given that the R.W. Col. F. Burdett, G.M. of the Province, had signified his intention of being present at the March meeting. The acting Secretary also said that in his communication the P.G.M. had stated that a family affliction would prevent him from being present that evening (Thursday, the 17th ult.), although he should very much have liked to have visited the lodge. The lodge was then formally closed, and the brethren adjourned to an excellent supper. Upon the removal of the cloths the W.M. gave "The Queen and the Craft," in which he expressed how gratifying it must have been to every loyal Freemason to see the manner in which Her Majesty was received on her progress to and from Westminster to open Parliament. Those who had an opportunity of viewing the procession and the dense masses of people lining the route witnessed a grand sight, and he hoped that the Queen this year would be again seen in the metropolis discharging those duties which had in former and happier times been so well carried out by her as to excite the envy of foreign Courts. This toast was most warmly received. "The Health of the M.W.G.M." followed and was duly honoured. In proposing the toast of "The Deputy and Pro Grand Masters, Lords Carnarvon and Skelmersdale, and the rest of the G.O.'s Past and Present," the W.M. dealt upon the eminent services those noblemen and gentlemen constituting the G.L. executive rendered to Freemasonry. "The Health of the R.W. Bro. Colonel Burdett, G.M. of the Province," followed and was heartily drunk. In giving the toast of "The rest of the Grand Officers of Middlesex, Past and Present," the W.M. expressed how pleased he felt that he had had on his left hand during his year of office so distinguished a member of the Provincial Grand Lodge as Bro. W. Hammond, the I.P.M., and he was sure that in coupling that brother's name with the toast he was only giving honour where honour was due. In reply, Bro. Hammond said he hoped he might be pardoned by the brethren for alluding to the toast of the R.W. the G.M. of the Province before responding on behalf of the G.O.'s Past and Present, but, although at the risk of being thought presumptuous, he felt that he ought to say something of his personal knowledge of Bro. Colonel Burdett in the absence of the properly qualified brother to return thanks for the P.G.M., viz., the D.G.M. He could say that their Grand Master kept a fatherly eye upon the working and management of every lodge in his province, and he believed that he made himself acquainted with their most minute details. The I.P.M. then went on to speak of the very many valuable qualities that the P.G.M. possessed, and he hoped that the Hemming Lodge would have an opportunity at their next meeting to welcome the gallant colonel in person. The concluding part of his speech was devoted to returning thanks on behalf of the other Grand Officers of the province. "The Health of the W.M." was then warmly proposed by Bro. Hammond, in which he spoke of the good qualities, geniality of character, and energy, fire, and pluck of Bro. Hopwood. This toast having been duly honoured, the W.M. briefly replied by stating that he had endeavoured to do his best, and no one could do more than that, and if the members of the lodge were satisfied

with him that their thanks at the conclusion of his year of office would amply repay him for whatever trouble he had taken to enhance the prosperity of the lodge and to discharge the duties of Master. In proposing "The Health of the Visitors," the W.M. said he always felt pleased to see members of other lodges, both in the lodge and at the council board, as he believed that great good resulted therefrom. Bros. Tench (Zetland) and H. Jones (Lebanon) neatly replied, in which they stated that as very young Masons they could not be expected to say very much, but they wished the brethren of the Hemming Lodge to know that they were highly gratified with the "working" and with the whole proceedings that evening, which had excited in them very pleasurable feelings. The W.M. then gave "The Health of the I.P.M.," who had that particular evening, in the dual capacity of Past Master and Secretary, rendered him very valuable assistance, and although his abilities were well known to all, yet he must say that whatever duty Bro. W. Hammond undertook he discharged it well. The I.P.M., in reply, modestly touched upon the kind encomiums passed by the W.M. upon his poor services to the lodge. He then went on to state that at the request of several members of the large Lebanon Lodge he had succeeded, with the valuable assistance of others, in obtaining a warrant for the Hemming Lodge, which was established as an offshoot from the other in order to enable the members and others desirous of obtaining office in the Craft to get on sooner. They were accordingly severed from its large trunk, and although they did not wish to aspire to become as numerous as the "Lebanon," yet he was sure that in time they would bear in all other respects a very favourable comparison. In conclusion he predicted a very prosperous career for the Hemming Lodge, as he said it possessed many good working members who were desirous of obtaining that honourable goal, the chair of K.S., and who would spare no trouble, he thought, and punctual attention to the requirements of the lodge in the prosecution of their laudable ambition. "The Health of the Treasurer, Secretary, and other Officers of the Lodge" followed, and was responded to by Brothers Hurst, J.W.; Jessett, I.G., and Ockenden, D.C. The former stated that he had endeavoured, and would endeavour, to fulfil his duties satisfactorily, and although he might be possibly called upon very soon, and before he was quite prepared to discharge its responsibilities, to take the very highest position in the lodge, yet he hoped by perseverance, and with the valuable assistance of the P.M.'s and other able brethren of the lodge, to carry out the duties of the chair at least creditably. Bros. Jessett and Ockenden kindly thanked the brethren for the manner in which their names and the other officers of the lodge had been received, and the latter, who had been particularly complimented by the W.M. for the very handsome sum he as Steward of the lodge at the recent festival for the Aged Freemasons had sent in, took occasion to speak of the Masonic charities in a very able manner, and in concluding his remarks stated that when asked by non-members of the Craft, What was Freemasonry? What good did it do? and other queries equally disparaging, he simply referred them to Wood Green, Croydon, and Clapham Junction. "The Health of the Joining Member, Bro. Barret," was then given and drunk, and drew from that brother a very amusing reply. The W.M. then proposed "The Health of Bro. Watts," for the services he had rendered the lodge as an officer on that and former occasions in an acting capacity. This toast was duly honoured and briefly responded to. Between the toasts, &c., Bros. Hammond, Hurst, Jessett and Walls vocally and dramatically amused the brethren. The Tyler's toast at 11 o'clock terminated one of the most successful and enjoyable meetings of the lodge since its foundation.

INSTRUCTION.

MOUNT LEBANON LODGE OF INSTRUCTION (No. 73).—A dinner was given on Wednesday 16th ult., for the purpose of doing honour to the excellent Preceptor, Bro. J. Noke, P.M. 73. The arrangements were carried out by Bro. Plock to the entire satisfaction of the brethren. Bro. Wingham, P.M., presiding, supported by Bro. Hook. After a very excellent dinner the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were disposed of, and the important proceedings of the evening commenced. The Chairman, in rising to propose "The Health of Bro. J. Noke," said: Bro. Noke you have been well-known in the Masonic world for nearly forty years, and the lustre of your Masonic honour has never been tarnished. For many years you have spent your strength and energies in imparting that knowledge to the brethren which you have so well mastered yourself, and which has lent lustre to many a Masonic chair. Now at the age of nearly eighty years we find you, (although engaged daily earning your bread truly by the sweat of your brow) actively engaged in imparting Masonic instruction in this and other lodges. We find you working so recently as a fortnight since in this place the Fifteen Sections. Three hours' questions without flagging at your age, Bro. Noke, is a feat worth recording. The brethren have met this evening to do you honour, and they present you with this beautifully illuminated testimonial, which is worded as follows:—"Mount Lebanon Lodge of Instruction, No. 73. This testimonial, together with a purse of money, as a mark of respect and esteem, was presented to Bro. Noke, P.M. 87, Preceptor, in appreciation of his unwearied exertions in the cause of Masonic instruction." I also in the name of the brethren present you with this purse, and may God grant you yet much health and strength, and may you never want a shilling to put into it. Bro. Noke, in returning thanks, was quite overcome; he thanked the brethren from his heart for the handsome mark of their favour, and trusted he might always retain the good esteem he had gained. He could only say, God bless them all. "The Health of the Treasurer and Secretary" was

then given, and responded to by Bro. Welsford, Treas., and Bro. Phillips, Sec. "The Health of the Chairman" was then proposed by Bro. Hook, and responded to by Bro. Wingham, P.M. The Chairman then proposed "The Health of Bro. Hook," and took occasion to say that it was to Bro. Hook we are principally indebted for this very pleasant evening. It was Bro. Hook who proposed the testimonial, had been the Treasurer of the fund, and had with his own hand engrossed the testimonial which had been presented. Bro. Hook, in responding, said, from beginning to end of this matter had been a labour of love; he was but a recent member of the lodge, but he had conceived a respect and regard for Bro. Noke, which he was sure was not misplaced. As a Lodge of Instruction he believed the Mount Lebanon Lodge second to none, and as an Instructor and Preceptor Bro. John Noke stood at the top of the tree. The testimonial was an easy matter when once begun, as the respect and esteem in which our Preceptor is held made subscribers of almost every brother he communicated with. The subscribers names numbering over forty are engrossed on the testimonial. Amongst the brethren present were Bros. Hayward, P.M.; Seex, P.M.; Sawyer Allesen, Miller, Allcott, Ball, Skegg, Runbold, Foster, Cheetham, Catterson, Brook, and others. The evening proceedings were enlivened by some songs and recitations, capably rendered by Bros. Hook Ball, Miller, and Allcott. At the close Bro. Hook said he would read an acrostic, which he had during the evening sketched out, which was as follows:

Just such an evening we have passed,
O ne could wish 'twould longer last,
Hours roll on and pleasures pass away;
N or can we in its flight one moment stay.
N ow let us part, with pleasure to reflect,
O n kindly deeds, not words, but deeds of love,
K nowing that while 'tis day our task is set,
E ach deed recorded in Grand Lodge above.

Royal Arch.

GLOUCESTER.—Royal Lebanon Chapter (No. 493).—A large and important meeting of the Craft took place on Thursday in the Masonic Hall, at the Spread Eagle Hotel, Gloucester, on the occasion of the consecration of the Royal Lebanon Chapter of the Royal Arch Masons. The ceremonies of consecration and installation of the Principals were ably performed by Comp. E. W. Trinder, P.Z. (who acted for, in the unavoidable absence of Lord Sherborne, Provincial Grand Superintendent of Gloucestershire), and who was assisted by Comp. S. G. Homfray, P.Z., Standard Bearer of the Supreme Grand Chapter, and Deputy Provincial Grand Master of Monmouthshire; and Comp. F. Binckes, P.Z., Past Grand Steward. The three Principals were Comps. E. T. Inskip, M.E.Z.; W. B. Stocker, E.H.; and F. W. Fisher, E.J. The other officers appointed were Colonel Basevi, P.Z., who made an efficient Director of Ceremonies; William Waites, Scribe E.; Edmund D. Worsley, Scribe N.; James G. Wilson, P.S.; and A. V. Hatton, A.S. The following distinguished visitors were present:—Comps. S. G. Homfray, Grand Standard Bearer of England; F. Binckes, P.Z., M.E.Z. Metropolitan; W. Thompson, Royal Cumberland; F. N. Gosling, P.M., P.Z. 286; E. M. Trinder, P.Z.; G. Parfitt, P.Z. 41; H. D. Martin, Chap. 82; J. Walker, Chap. 82; B. Kay, Chap. 82; T. E. Lucy, H., Chap. 280; H. Cross, I., Chap. 280; Dr. Dunn, Chap. 141, Dublin; R. Buck, Chap. 280; C. W. Griffiths, P.Z., Chap. 280; William Wood, P.Z. 280; Henry Rowe, E. 280; B. H. Price, P.Z. 68; F. Moore, Chap. 82; Peter Pollard, 280; W. R. Maby, 68; L. Winterbotham, 82; J. B. Winterbotham, 82; H. Bruton, 82; A. Brown, P.Z. 280; J. Bruton, 82; M. B. Ricketts, 82; J. Chandler, P.Z. 355; W. Reed, P.Z. 355; John Toomer, P.Z. 355; E. Horlick, P.Z. 1098; R. S. Helps, 82; A. S. Helps, 82; F. Orders, 471; R. J. Shaddick, 36; J. Bryan, 82. At the close of the chapter the brethren adjourned to an elegant banquet, provided by Mr. W. C. Davis, the proprietor of the hotel.

LIVERPOOL.—Everton Chapter (No. 823).—The members of this chapter assembled at the Masonic Hall, Hope-street, Liverpool, on the afternoon of the 22nd ult., for the purpose of installing principals, investing officers, exalting candidates, &c. The chair at the opening was occupied by Comp. Joseph Holland, Z., and amongst the other officers and members present were Comps. Thomas Ashmore, P.Z.; Jesse Banning, I.P.Z.; W. J. Lunt, H.; W. Cottrell, J.; P. W. Oglesby, S.E.; T. Webster, S.N.; Thomas Shaw P.S.; Peter Ball, Janitor; J. S. Cuthbert, W. Boulton, T. Grant, J. G. Hassell, G. Graham, Luke Bognell, R. Warriner, R. Thompson, R. Chamberlain, J. W. Ballard, H. Trevett, J. Houlding, R. Casson, John H. Parker, John Beesley, Joseph Hunter, John Jones. The list of visitors included Comps. Wm. Williams, 241; Joseph Skeaf, P.Z. 216, P.G.O.; Peter B. Gee, J. 249; H. Pearson, Z. 249; Hugh Williams, P.Z. 580, P.P.G.S.B.W.L.; John Jones, H. Sacred Delta; John Pemberton, P.G.S.B., P.Z. 1094; H. G. Vernon, 680; John Lunt, P.Z. 241 and 1086; Charles Leachham, P.Z. 220; Rev. J. R. Jenkins, 216; P. Macmildrow, P.G.S.H. 1294; J. T. Callow, P.Z. 673; John Jones, 203; J. E. Jackson, P.S. 249. The minutes of the previous chapter were read and confirmed, and the Treasurer's balance sheet which was submitted showed a very handsome balance to the credit of the Everton, even after an open-handed charity during the year. The ceremony of installation was admirably performed by Comp. T. Ashmore, P.Z., assisted by Comp. J. Holland, I.P.Z. The following were the appointments and investments:—Comps. W. J. Lunt, Z.; W. Cottrell, H.; T. Shaw, J.; W. Boulton, S.E.; J. Webster, S.N.; P. W. Oglesby, P.S.; J. G. Hassell, A.S.; R. Warriner, A.S.; T.

Ashmore, P.Z., Treas.; and P. Ball, Janitor. A chaste and valuable P.Z.'s jewel was presented to Comp. J. Holland, I.P.Z., by the M.E.Z., Comp. Lunt. The companions banqueted after business.

SPHINX CHAPTER (No. 1329).—The consecration of this chapter took place on Saturday last, at the Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell New-road. Comp. R. Wentworth Little officiated, assisted by Comps. John Boyd, Francis, and F. Walters. After consecration Comps. P. A. Nairne, 176; Bedolfe, 1056; and J. S. Vockins, 1216, were duly installed as Principals; the first by Comp. Little, the Second and Third by Comp. Boyd. Comp. W.M. Goss presided at the organ. Comps. Dunbar, Goss, Middlemass, Temple, Bryant, and Oliver were respectively appointed E., N., P.S., A.S., and S. The companions proceeded to banquet with their visitors, Comps. E. Clarke, P.Z.; E. Clarke, E., Caledonian Chapter, 134; Wagner, Jerusalem Chapter; Dubois, and Hale, whilst other companions were prevented from attending by various causes. Twenty-two candidates are on the list for exaltation at the first meeting. Comp. Charles Day, P.Z., has kindly accepted that office in the Sphinx Chapter.

LANCASTER.—Rowley Chapter (No. 1501).—The regular meeting of the Rowley Chapter was held at the Masonic Rooms, Athenæum, Lancaster, on Monday, the 21st Feb., 1876. The chair was occupied by Comp. J. M. Moore, M.E.Z.; Comp. Hall, P.Z. as H.; Comp. Heald, J. There were also present—Comps. J. D. Moore, M.D., P.G.S.B. of England, &c., as Scribe E.; W. Wearing, Scribe N.; E. Simpson, P.Z., P.G.S., Treas.; W. Hall, P.S.; J. Taylor and J. Ellershaw, Assist. Soj.; A. D. Longman, and J. Watson, Janitor. The chapter was opened and the usual business transacted. The ballot was taken for Bro. J. J. Crokell, Lodge of Fortitude, No. 281. Bro. W. Duff, S.W. Lodge No. 1561; and Bro. Thomas Longmire, J.W. Lodge No. 1561. They were unanimously elected, and being in attendance were duly exalted to the degree of R.A. by the M.E.Z., who, also delivered the Mystical Lecture of this degree, the Symbolical being given by Comp. Dr. Moore, and the Historical by Comp. Heald, J. The ballot was taken for officers for the ensuing year, which resulted as follows: Comps. E. Airey, M.E.Z.; W. Heald, H.; F. Dean, J.; E. Simpson, Treas.; Dr. Moore, Scribe E.; W. Wearing, Scribe N.; W. Hall, P.S.; and J. Watson, Janitor. A candidate was proposed for exaltation, and the chapter closed in due form. The installation of the Principals elect, will probably take place on the 28th March, when Comp. Dr. Moore, P. Prov. G.H., will officiate as Installing Officer.

Mark Masonry.

BATH.—Royal Cumberland Lodge (Time Immemorial).—A regular meeting was held at the Masonic Hall on Thursday, Feb. 24th, and was opened at 8.15 p.m. by Bro. James Dutton, W.M., supported by Bros. Wilton as I.P.M.; Dr. Hopkins, Past J.G.W. and P.M., Chaplain; Braham, as S.W.; Carey, J.W.; John Dutton, Treas., as Sec.; Moutrie, P.M., as M.O.; C. Wilkinson, S.O.; Trevor (of the Zeredetha Lodge, S.C., Bombay), as J.O.; Murliss and Radway, as Deacons; Gazzard, as I.G.; and Salter, Tyler. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. A ballot was taken for four candidates, which proved favourable, of whom, however, only two presented themselves. Bros. Young and Dingle were introduced and duly advanced by the W.M. Bro. Dr. Hopkins gave the lecture on the degree for the first time in this lodge. The W.M., J.W., and Chaplain were appointed Auditors of the Treasurer's accounts. On a ballot Bro. Carey, J.W., was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing year, and the Chaplain was requested to perform the ceremony of installation. Bro. Bigwood was elected Tyler of the lodge. Other matters were discussed and settled, and the business of the evening terminated at a quarter to 10.

Red Cross of Constantine.

LANDPORT.—Naval and Military Conclave (No. 35).—The usual meeting of this conclave was held at Smith's Hotel, Landport, on the 17th ult. The conclave was opened in due form, and minutes of former conclave adopted. A P.S.'s jewel was presented, in the name of the members, by P.S. Josiah Clay, to the I.P.S., John Clark, of Buttery. Sir Knt. Clay congratulated the recipient upon the zeal and ability displayed by him in carrying out the duties of the various offices through which he had passed, but especially during his year of office as M.P.S. P.S. Clark thanked the officers and members for their thoughtful appreciation of his humble services, wishing the whole of the members a happy and prosperous year. A vote of condolence to the Jun. Gen., Sir Knt. Simister, upon the heavy bereavement sustained by him in the recent loss of his wife was carried, and the Rec. directed to forward a copy of the same. It was unanimously agreed to submit the name of Dr. Knott, of Landport, to the G.J. Council, with a request for his appointment as Int. Gen. for Hants. The Second and Third Grades were then conferred upon Dr. Knott and Capt. Barnes by the acting Int. Gen., Sir Knt. A. R. Robinson. After the close of the conclave the toasts were duly honoured, including that of "The Nominated Int. Gen.," and that of "Sir Knt. Capt. Barnes, Hon. P. Sov. of Weymouth."

Scotland.

GLASGOW.—Lodge St. John (No. 34).—A meeting of this lodge was held on Tuesday evening, the 15th ult., at 7 p.m., in their hall, 213, Buchanan-street, Bro. D. M. Nelson, W.M. in the chair; J. Sellars, jun., S.W., and P. Brownlie, J.W. Present: Bros. Bell, I.P.M.;

T. Fletcher, P.M.; J. B. McNair, I.P.M. 332; J. Dunn, Treas.; J. Dick, Sec.; A. Cameron, S.D.; R. Dalziel, J. Harley, S.W. 364; E. Arthur, Org.; W. Campbell, 56 Oldstone, Antrim, I.C.; R. Newman, 77, St. Patrick, Newry Co., Down, I.C.; J. Sharp, 275, D. Campbell, 496; J. Kay, S.D. 510; W. Gunn, 512; J. McNaught, 556; and Ferguson, ("Freemason"). Messrs. D. McDougall, W. Scott, and R. Hutcheson, were admitted members of the lodge, and initiated into the First Degree by Bro. T. B. Bell, S.M. Bro. Dick, Sec., then read minutes of last regular and emergency meetings which were approved of. Nine brethren were afterwards raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason by Bro. McMillan, P.M.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Caledonian Railway (No. 354).—A meeting of this lodge was held on Wednesday evening, 16th ult., in the Commercial Hall, 30, Hope-street, Bro. A. B. Ferguson, W.M., in the chair; J. Harley, S.W.; C. McKenzie, J.W.; W. H. Caldwell, S.M.; W. R. Dunn, acting Sec.; D. T. Colquhoun, Treas.; D. Leitch, S.D.; J. Harley, J.D.; J. Poole, I.G.; and Winnoch, Tyler. Among the visiting brethren were Bros. J. Gillies, P.M. 103, P.G. Treas.; J. W. Burns, I.P.M. 87; D. Deid, I.P.M. 465; J. M. Oliver, S.W. 360; J. Smith, Sec. 360; W. Ferguson, ("Freemason"); J. Tyle, O.; W. Brown, 34; T. Sinclair, 46; G. Greer, 196; J. McArthur, 175; S. Dory, 290; and G. Gay, 731, Arboretum Lodge, E.C. On the lodge being opened, Messrs. H. McCallum and H. E. Pearce were initiated into the E.A. Degree by Bro. Oliver, S.W. 360 (the latter gentleman for Lodge Commercial, 360). Bro. T. Burrett, of Lodge St. Vincent, 553, was obligated by Bro. Gillies, P.M. 103, as an honorary member of the lodge.

DALMUIR.—Lodge St. John's (No. 543).—A meeting of this lodge was held on Thursday evening, the 17th ult., in their Masonic Hall, at Dalmuir. Bro. S. Leckie, W.M., in the chair, supported on the dais by Bros. W. Ferguson, I.P.M.; W. Sim, P.M. Prince of Wales Lodge, Renfrew, 426; and T. Haggart, Sec. Bros. J. F. Wilson, S.W.; J. Stairs, acting J.W.; T. Millar, J.D.; A. Johnstone, B.B.; J. McClure, S.B.; W. Colquhoun, J. Barton, A. Smith, I.G.; and J. Adair, Tyler. There were also present Bros. J. Stewart, 34; Wilkinson, 242; T. Hall, 497; J. Malcolm, A. McHaffie, A. Jack, D. Bell, W. Irvine, and others. On the lodge being opened, two gentlemen were admitted and initiated into the mysteries of Freemasonry, by Bro. Leckie, W.M.; Bro. W. Sim, P.M. 426, then passed a brother to the Fellow Craft Degree; after which Bro. W. Barr was raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason by Bro. W. Ferguson, I.P.M., the Three Degrees were carefully gone through. The lodge was then transferred to refreshment, the W.M. giving in succession the following toasts which were most enthusiastically responded to, viz.: "The Queen and the Craft," "The Three Grand Lodges," "The Provincial Grand Lodge of Dumbarton," coupled with Bro. Ferguson, I.P.M., who replied, "The Newly-laid Stones," "The Visiting Brethren." Bros. Wilkinson and Hall replied in suitable terms. "The Past Masters," proposed by Bro. Wilson, S.W., Bro. Ferguson replied, "The W.M.," by Bro. Ferguson. Bros. Sim, Wilkinson, Smith, Malcolm and Haggart, sang some excellent songs.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Clydesdale (No. 556).—The members of this lodge held their annual festival in their own hall, 106, Rose-street (S.S.), on Friday, 18th ult., Bro. W. Phillips, W.M., presiding, supported by Bros. H. McCulloch, D.M.; J. Boyle, S.M.; J. McKeechie, Treas.; and J. Webster, Chap.; Bros. F. Phillips, J.W., and R. Middleton, P.G.S., acting Croupiers. About 60 brethren, accompanied by their wives and sweethearts, sat down to a most substantial supper, purveyed in fine style by Bro. Middleton, 179, Trongate. On the cloth being removed, the chairman gave the following toasts, which were heartily responded to:—"The Queen and the Craft," "The Prince of Wales and Members of the Royal Family," "The Three Grand Lodges," "The P. Grand Lodge of Glasgow." Bro. McKeechie gave "Freemasons over the world." Bro. T. Phillips replied in a very able manner. "Clydesdale Lodge" was proposed by Bro. W. Ferguson, I.P.M. 543, and the chairman, in reply, said: Bro. Ferguson, Croupiers, ladies, and brethren, it gives me very great pleasure indeed to thank you on behalf of the Clydesdale Lodge for the kind and hearty way in which you have proposed the prosperity of our lodge, and I can assure you on behalf of the office-bearers and members, especially those that are present, that it will stimulate us to greater exertions in the future than what we have ever done in the past. It is now one year and nine months since we received our authority from the Grand Lodge, and I now make bold to say that there never was a lodge started on the same footing as the Clydesdale (556)—that without one of its promoters being monied men—but what we gave seems to have been like the widow's mite, and although our beginnings were small, we gradually went on from one degree of strength and prosperity to another. We have at the present moment the unprecedented number on our roll of 130 members—(applause)—and not only have we been very successful in this respect, but, brethren, 12 months ago, when presiding over the first annual festival of our lodge, expressed the hope that our next would be held in our own premises, and I am sure it must be a source of gratification to all the members to know that we are now in the position of sitting under our own vine and fig tree, none daring to make us afraid. (Applause.) This consummation, brethren, of my hopes was not brought about without a great deal of time, trouble and expense, and before the lodge could be held in this place it had contracted a debt of £140, but, nothing daunted, we persevered, and at this moment we are on the eve of wiping off every penny of that debt. It is, therefore, my hope and wish that we will sail onwards in smooth waters, so that with a long pull, and a strong pull, and a pull altogether, at the end of next year we

may look back and say with pleasure, that the past year was one of continued prosperity. And now brethren, in a word, let us be true to ourselves, let us live up to and do justice to our principles. Let us embody Masonic principles in Masonic conduct, and we will successfully refute the calumnies of our enemies if any such there be; let us but exemplify our professions in our daily walk and conversation, and we fear not that we shall vindicate for our lodge and ourselves a position and a name in the estimation of all right-thinking men and Masons, and thereby our mysteries shall be handed down in all the integrity in which we have received them from those who have gone before us, to our children and our children's children, to the latest generations of those to come, and in the words of the poet.

Men, my brothers, men, the workers, ever reaping some thing new.

That while ye have done but earnest, of the things that ye shall do.

"The Ladies" was proposed in fitting terms by Bro. J. Boyle, S.M., and replied to by Bro. Howie. "The Press" proposed by Bro. Middleton, and replied to by Bro. Ferguson ("Freemason"). "The Chairman" by Bro. McCulloch; Bro. Phillips replied. "The Croupiers" by Bro. Reid, replied to by Bro. T. Phillips. Bros. Campbell, McCulloch, Malcolm, and Webster added very much to the evening's enjoyment by singing some excellent songs, assisted by two ladies of the company. After the last toast the brethren adjourned for a short time until the hall was cleared, when an assembly followed.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Dramatic (No. 571).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held in St. Mark's Hall, 213, Buchanan-street, on Wednesday, the 16th ult., at 3 p.m. In the unavoidable absence of Bro. W. E. J. Dobson, W.M., Bro. H. W. Jackman, S.W., presided; W. Sivewright, J.W., acting S.W.; L. R. Mitchell, acting J.W.; R. A. Smith, S.D.; G. R. Weir, acting Sec.; W. Barbour, Treas. Present: Bros. J. Booth, W.M. 87; J. Law, I.P.M. 570; J. Balfour, P.G.D.C.; T. Phillips, J.W. 556; J. Kinnaird, 73; A. M. Kelly, 87; W. Allen, 97; and others. On the minutes being read and confirmed, Bros. J. Robertson and W. Wood were passed to the Fellow Craft Degree by Bro. W. Ferguson, I.P.M. 543. [Reports of Scotch Lodges Nos. 67, 219, 332, 347, 360, and 543, unavoidably stand over].

DRAMATIC PERFORMANCES IN AID OF THE CHESHIRE MASONIC INSTITUTION.

On Wednesday and Thursday evenings, the 23rd and 24th ult., two grand amateur dramatic performances were given at the Theatre Royal, Birkenhead (Bro. C. H. Duval, lessee), in aid of the funds of the Cheshire Masonic Educational Institution. This entertainment has been given annually by the Masonic brethren in Birkenhead for several years, and the result on this occasion will be a substantial addition to the funds of the excellent charity. The performances were under the distinguished patronage of Bros. the Lord de Tabley, R.W.P.G.M. Cheshire; Sir Watkin W. Wynn, M.P., R.W.P.G.M. Shropshire and North Wales; the Earl of Shrewsbury, R.W.P.G.M. Staffordshire; Viscount Combermere, R.W. Deputy P.G.M., Cheshire; the Right Hon. Lord Skelmersdale, R.W.P.G.M. West Lancashire, and R.W.D.G.M. England; Lord Richard Grosvenor, M.P., P.P.J.G.W. Cheshire, and P.G.S.W. England; the Hon. Wilbraham Egerton, M.P., P.P.J.G.W. Cheshire; the Earl Beville, R.W.P.G.M. Cumberland and Westmorland; Lord Sandon; Bro. J. W. Latham, P.G.D. England; John Torr, Esq., M.P.; Lieut.-Colonel King, Major Gaskell, John Laird, Esq., David MacIver, Esq., M.P.; the Mayor of Chester, Septimus Ledward, Esq., Bro. Horatio Lloyd, Q.C., P.S.G.W. Cheshire, A. B. Walker, Esq., W. A. Clayton, Esq., Thos. H. Jackson, Esq., M. Mocatta, Esq., and W. Hind, Esq. The arrangements in connection with the performances were well carried out by Bro. J. M. Radcliffe, P.M., Hon. Treas.; and Bro. E. A. Lees, Hon. Sec. The theatre was crowded each evening by delighted audiences. By the kind permission of Bro. Duval, the performances commenced each evening with the popular farce, "The Two Polts," in which Bro. H. Jackson, W.M. 1393, West Lancashire, especially distinguished himself as Colonel Bumpus; Bro. McCarthy, S.W. 1393, as Jack Bumpus; and Bros. E. A. Lees and R. Foulkes as the two Polts. The principal feature of the programme was the performance of "Macbeth," in which Bro. W.M. Asher played the hero with great force and earnestness. Bro. H. Jackson represented Macduff with artistic intelligence and power, and Bro. McCarthy performed Banquo with remarkably good effect. A special word of praise is due to Bro. A. C. Wylie for his careful acting as Lennox. The assistant ladies were from the theatre company, and Miss Constance Young received well-earned applause by her reading of the part of Lady Macbeth. Amongst the other aspirants worthy of notice were Bros. T. Dixon (Duncan); Bro. R. Foulkes, Miss Rodgers, Bro. W. H. Roberts, and others. Incidental to the piece, Locke's celebrated music to "Macbeth" was sung by a chorus of 40 voices, carefully selected from the Birkenhead Cambrian Choral Society. The performance passed off most successfully on both occasions.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.—The diseases common to winter, and endangering man's physical condition, will always exist, though many may be mitigated, and their effects removed, by timely and appropriately applied at the beginning of spring. Holloway's Pills are acknowledged, far and wide, to be the most effective purifiers of the blood, the most certain regulators of disordered organs, and the most innocent aperient that can be prescribed. This medicine is applicable to all alike—young or old, robust or delicate. It increases the appetite and controls all derangements of the bowels. After the disorder is subdued, occasional doses of these Pills will prevent any relapse, and, moreover, secure, promote, and intensify the good results which flow from perfect purity and regularity. AD-7.

CONSECRATION OF A NEW LODGE AT SWANSEA.

The ceremony of consecration of the Caradoc Lodge, No. 1573, took place on Thursday, the 17th ult., at the Masonic Hall, Swansea. There was an unusually large gathering of brethren, every lodge in the province being represented, together with a good muster of visitors from the sister division, and from neighbouring and distant towns.

The lodge was opened at two o'clock by Bro. G. Bradford, P. Prov. G. Supt. Wks., P.M. 237, assisted by the P.M.'s and officers of the same lodge, after which the R.W. P.G. Master, Bro. T. M. Talbot, the W. the D.P.G. Master, Bro. E. J. Morris, and the officers of P.G. Lodge, entered the lodge in procession, marshalled by the Prov. G. Dir. of Cers., Bro. E. Thomas, W.M. 679, the following officers being in attendance:—Bros. W. Whittington, Prov. S. G.W.; J. G. Hall, P. Prov. S.G.W.; M. Tennant, P. Prov. S.G.W.; G. B. Brock, P. Prov. S.G.W.; R. Thomas, P. Prov. J.G.W.; G. Allen, P. Prov. J.G.W.; T. D. Daniel, P. Prov. J.G.W.; Rev. J. J. S. Moore, L.L.D., Prov. G. Chap.; J. Jones, P.G. Treas.; J. Goodall, Prov. S. Reg.; L. Tulloch, P. Prov. G. Reg.; S. B. Power, P. Prov. G. Reg.; C. Taylor, Prov. G.D.; S. Werchert, P. Prov. G.D.; J. Harman, P. Prov. G.D.; W. H. Tucker, P. Prov. G.D.; W. H. Davies, P. Prov. G.D.; E. Daniel, P. Prov. G.D.; W. A. Davies, P. Prov. G. Supt. Wks.; G. Bradford, P. Prov. G. Supt. Wks.; E. Thomas, Prov. G.D.C.; W. S. R. Jackson, Prov. G.D.C. T. Powell, P. Prov. G.D.C.; J. J. Hewson, P. Prov. G.D.C.; E. F. Daniel, Prov. G.S.B.; J. Rogers, P. Prov. G.S.B.; A. L. Struvé, P.G. Org.; H. W. Williams, P. Prov. C. Purst.; T. G. Glass, P. Prov. G. Purst.; T. Thomas, W. Little, G. H. White, T. McKinn, D. R. David, P.G. Stwds.; G. Bullerwell, Prov. G. Tyler; also Bros. W. J. Morgan, P. Prov. J.G.W., Western Division; Rev. A. H. P. Trewwan, P. Prov. G. Chap. Somerset; J. T. B. Hall, P.G.D.C. Leicester; W. Harris, P. Prov. G.D.W.D.; C. V. Harding, Prov. G. Org. W.D.; E. H. Fenton, Hereford; J. E. Price, W. P. Garrett, E. S. Hartland, W. A. Essery, J. C. Sladen, J. L. White, W. Michell, J. R. Davies, H. B. Latimer, H. Kennard Bill, G. J. Alexander, M. Wagne Morgan, and many others.

The chair having been taken by the R.W. Prov. G.M., the P.G. Reg., Bro. J. Goodall, read the petition and warrant of constitution, after which the ceremony of consecration was performed by the R.W. the Prov. G.M. in his wonted admirable style, assisted by the W. the D.P.G.M., and by Bros. M. Tennant, P. Prov. S.G.W., and P.M. 833; R. Thomas, P. Prov. J.G.W., and P.M. 364; and S. Weichart, P. Prov. S.G.D., and W.M. 36; Bro. E. Thomas, Prov. G.D.C., and W.M. 679, ably assisting in his official capacity. The oration was delivered and the customary prayers offered by the P.G. Chap., Bro. the Rev. J. J. S. Moore, L.L.D., and Bro. A. L. Struvé presided with great ability on the organ.

At the conclusion of the ceremony of consecration the W.M. designate of the Caradoc Lodge, Bro. J. Rogers, P. Prov. G.S.B., was presented to the R.W. the Prov. G.M. by the W. the Dep. Prov. G.M., who referred in terms of high commendation to the zeal, ability, and Masonic knowledge of this worthy and distinguished brother, who was accordingly installed as first W.M. in accordance with ancient custom, the ceremony throughout being conducted by the R.W. the Prov. G.M.

The following brethren were then appointed and invested as officers for the year:—Bros. J. Livingston, S.W.; Rev. J. J. S. Moore, J.W.; W. Michell, Treas.; J. L. White, Sec.; J. C. Sladen, S.D.; W. Dobbs, S.D.; W. A. Essery, D.C.; D. C. Jones, I.G.; W. Watkins and Dr. Rosser, Stwds.; and G. Bullerwell, P.G. Tyler.

Votes of thanks to the P.G.M. and D.P.G.M., having been proposed, agreed to, and acknowledged, several candidates were proposed for initiation, and the lodge was closed in peace and harmony.

The brethren dined afterwards at the Mackworth Hotel. The W.M., Bro. Rogers, presided, supported by the R.W. Prov. G.M., the W. the D. Prov. G.M., and an excellent attendance of Prov. Grand Officers and other brethren. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given from the chair with marked ability. Bro. Videon Harding, of Carmarthen, presided at the pianoforte with great skill and effect, and favoured the brethren with some of his choicest songs. The harmony of the evening was further contributed to by Bros. H. W. Williams, J. Hewson, and others, and a most agreeable evening was spent.

The Caradoc Lodge thus takes its place amongst the established lodges of the province. It starts on its career with the heartiest good wishes of the brotherhood, and that career may be predicted to be one of usefulness to the Craft, and honour to the province.

The lodge will be presided over by one who has proved himself to be one of the most qualified Masons in the district, who has won for himself "golden opinions" for his accurate working, his skill in our noble science, and for his courtesy and kindness of disposition, and, aided as he will be by a competent staff of officers, no other prediction can be made than that of success.

Nearly 1000 Liverpool ladies have signed a memorial to the drapers in that town, requesting that seats should be provided for the female assistants when not engaged.

The Grocers' Company have contributed £350 for a bell for St. Paul's, and a gentleman has promised to provide the chimes.

HEALTH, comfort, and economy promoted. Gas superseded in day time, and daylight reflected in dark rooms by adopting Chappuis' Patent Daylight Reflectors. Manufactory, 60, Fleet-street, London.

Masonic and General Tidings.

Her Majesty the Queen has been graciously pleased to approve of the appointment of Bro. Charles Hutton Gregory, C.E., as a Companion of the Order of St. Michael and St. George.

Bro. Sir Frederick Perkins, M.P., has presented to the town of Southampton a life-size statue of the late Prince Consort, by Mr. Theed.

At the annual meeting of the Newspaper Press Fund, last Saturday, Bro. Hyde Clarke was unanimously re-elected Treasurer, with a cordial vote of thanks for his past services. Bro. Middlemass, 957 and 1329, was elected to fill a vacant seat in the committee, and Bro. W. C. Hall, 1351, was appointed as the successor of Bro. Middlemass as Auditor.

The "Pictorial World" of last week contains a portrait of Bro. Sir Michael Costa.

H.R.H. Prince Leopold has appointed Mr. Arnold Royle, M.R.C.S., to be Surgeon in Ordinary to H.R.H.

Under the patronage of the Earl of Hardwicke, P.G.M. of Cambridgeshire, and Lord Lurgan, the General Meat Co-operative Supply Association (Limited) is announced. The essential features are cheap meat, and of the best quality. Considering the present high prices the Association cannot but commend itself to our readers.

One of the four monks who are the sole possessors of the secret of making the famous Chartreuse liqueur, has commenced legal proceedings against a firm in London, with a view to restrain it from selling as Chartreuse any commodity not manufactured in their monastery.

Mr. Edward Payson Weston will commence his great international 500 mile walk in six days on Monday next.

Prince Leopold visited Wellington College on Monday, and was conducted through the college by the Rev. E. C. Wickham, the head master.

Bro. His Royal Highness Prince Leopold, Prov. G.M. Oxfordshire, left Windsor Castle at 3.55 p.m. on Wednesday for London and the Continent, attended by Bro. Collins and Major A. F. Pickard, R.A. A correspondent telegraphs that His Royal Highness and suite arrived in Dover on Thursday morning by the nine o'clock train of the South Eastern Railway. He was received on the pier by the Mayor, General Parke, C.B., Commanding South Eastern District, and Staff, and left for Calais by the special steamer Samphire, commanded by Captain Goldsack. Captain Morgan, R.N., was also on board. The reception was private, and no salute was fired.

THE ORIGINAL OR PREMIER RED CROSS CONCLAVE OF ENGLAND.—A meeting of this convocation will take place on Wednesday next, at the City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street, at 4 o'clock. The Right Hon. Lord Skelmersdale, P.G.V., will be present as the guest of the convocation, and will be received under the Arch of Steel at 5 o'clock, all knights should therefore be in their places before that time. Banquet at 6.30. punctually.

At a meeting of the Webb Testimonial Fund, at Trowbridge, a letter was read from Bro. Captain Webb, expressing his desire that the sum collected might be paid over to his father for his own benefit, as no possible application of the money in question could be so acceptable to him as that would be. It has been resolved that the fund—amounting to £521—should be disposed of according to Bro. Webb's wishes.

A Home has been opened at 21, Greville-street, Holborn, for the reception of young women who are engaged in business during the day, and who from the want of a comfortable home are exposed to many temptations.

The Worshipful Company of Fishmongers have voted a donation of £25 to the National Hospital for Diseases of the Heart and Paralysis.

The Corporation of the City of London have declined to take immediate steps to give the Prince of Wales a hearty welcome to the City on his return from India.

THE LATE DR. GAUNTLETT.—A committee has now been formed with the object of raising a fund for the widow and family of this eminent musician, who died suddenly from heart disease on February 21st. The committee much regret to state that a special effort is needed to mitigate, in some degree, the circumstances of this distressing case. Bro. the Rev. Sir F. Gore Ouseley, Rev. T. S. Polehampton, Rev. W. J. Blew, Rev. Howard-Rice, Rev. E. C. Smith, Rev. G. Venables, Messrs. Novello, Ewer, and Co., Chappell and Co., Stanley, Lucas, Weber and Co., R. Mills and Sons, J. Pittman, Erard, John Thomas, George Grove, H. Littleton, J. Dobson, B. M. Moore, William Chappell, T. W. Walker, J. S. Storr, A. J. Puttick, G. Bruzard, J. Green, Roger Hawkes, and F. W. Mount have already joined the committee. C. L. Grunisen, Esq., of the Junior Carlton Club, is the Hon. Treasurer; W. C. A. Blew, Esq., of 16, Warwick-street, Pall Mall East, is the Hon. Secretary. Donations may be sent to either of these gentlemen, or the London and Westminster Bank, St. James's-square, to the account of "The Gauntlett Fund."

Bro. Captain Matthew Webb received his 3rd degree on Thursday, the 24th ult., in the Neptune, Lodge, No. 22. A full report of the proceedings will appear in our next.]

His Excellency the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland has issued invitations for a fancy dress ball at Dublin Castle on the 13th of March.

The Portsmouth Town Council yesterday resolved to present an address to the Prince of Wales on his return from India.

On Monday last His Grace the Duke of Abercorn, M.W.G.M. (Ireland), distributed the prizes to the successful students in the Royal Dublin Society School of Art. The Duke of Leinster was also present.

The Masons' Hall Tavern has been sold by Messrs. Cronin to Mr. W. R. Bell (late of Long-acre).

THE QUEEN'S VISIT TO GERMANY.—According to the latest announcement, Her Majesty is expected to leave England for the Continent on the 25th of March. The Queen will proceed direct to Baden-Baden, and after her visit to Germany will return to Windsor to meet the Prince of Wales. The forthcoming season is likely to be marked by a number of courtly festivities incidental to the return of His Royal Highness from his Indian tour, and which are expected to be held soon after the conclusion of the Queen's visit to Germany.

Bro. J. D. Allcroft presided at the Anniversary Festival of the London Orphan Asylum, on Monday last, at the Albion Tavern. During the dinner somewhat of a novelty was noticed in the introduction of instrumental music by the girls of the school. The effect was not only pleasant in itself, but had the result of directing the attention of the guests to the excellent education afforded to the pupils. The boys sang grace and part songs, which seemed to be equally well appreciated as the performance of the girls. In proposing the toast of the evening, "The Prosperity of the London Orphan Asylum," the Chairman made a strong appeal on behalf of the charity, the object of which was to clothe, maintain, and educate respectable fatherless children of either sex left without adequate means of support and wherever resident. Children were eligible between the ages of 7 and 11, and were usually retained till the completion of their 15th year. Since its commencement 3,955 orphans had been benefited, and there were at present 209 girls and 353 boys on the establishment, which, as was generally known, occupied a fine position at Watford. The cost of each child in maintenance, clothing, and education was not above £32. The subscriptions, which included a donation of £100 from the Chairman, and £20 from Mrs. Allcroft, amounted on the whole to £3,213.

Bro. Sir G. Greenall, M.P., was entertained on Tuesday night at a banquet, and presented with an address by the Corporation of Warrington, on his elevation to a baronetcy. The Mayor in proposing "The Health of Sir Gilbert," said Warrington generally rejoiced at the honour which had been shown to a fellow townsman, who, in his public capacity, had known no party and who had so well supported the local institutions of the town. Sir Gilbert Greenall, in returning thanks, said, while appreciating highly the distinction Her Most Gracious Majesty had conferred upon him, he valued above everything the good will of his fellow townsmen, which he rejoiced to know he possessed. He would ever remember with kindness the address which had been presented to him. "The Health of Lady Greenall" and other toasts followed.

The well-known medical maxim that food for children and invalids should be administered in accordance with the laconic direction, "little and often," though undoubtedly sound in itself, has the disadvantage of adding considerably to the labour of parents and nurses, and in the old days of rush-lights it is small wonder if the helpless ones often had to take their nocturnal nourishment as cold as ice, greatly to the detriment of their digestive organs. Modern ingenuity has, however, got rid of most of the difficulties formerly existing on this score, though it must be admitted that many of the new nursery arrangements have drawbacks of their own, especially in the danger of fire, arising from the use of spirit lamps, even by the most careful of persons, and by the flickering of ordinary night lights in the hands of the careless. Mr. Samuel Clarke, of 110, Albany-street, the patentee of the well-known Pyramid Night Lights, lights and food warmers, has, however, entirely overcome this danger, as the glass shades, which are an important feature, and addition to the lights, not only ensures a steady flame and good light, but renders all contact with bed-curtains or other external objects absolutely impossible, while at the same time, when the light is applied to the food warmer, the food in the porcelain panikin is kept always properly heated and ready for use. The many excellences of these inventions have been fully recognised by the jurors of the International Exhibitions of London, Paris, and Moscow, at all of which places they received first prize medals, while among those who have practically tested and approved of them may be mentioned the Queen and the Empress of Russia. These lights, like most really good things, are made in the simplest manner, having a stone base of their own, down to which they burn when in use for nine hours, and are sold all over the country at the rate of one penny each, in boxes of eight, and as so much depends upon their being used within a reasonable time after being made, the patentee invariably desires that the trade may regulate their stocks from time to time. This is certainly a very considerate feature in the manner of business adopted by Mr. Clarke, and though it may have given him additional labour, we can but think that in the long run it has materially affected and increased his business; so much so, that we bear he is unable to keep pace with the demand at the factory in Albany-street, and has, accordingly, gone to the working district of Bermondsey and established a factory there.

TO OUR READERS.

The *Freemason* is a sixteen-page weekly newspaper, price 2d. It is published every Friday morning, and contains the most important, interesting, and useful information relating to Freemasonry in every degree. Annual subscription in the *United Kingdom*, Post free, 10/-

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Owing to a reduction in the Postal Rates, the publisher is now enabled to send the "*Freemason*" to the following parts abroad for One Year for Twelve Shillings (payable in advance):—Africa, Australia, Bombay, Canada, Cape of Good Hope, Ceylon, China, Constantinople, Demerara, France, Germany, Gibraltar, Jamaica, Malta, Newfoundland, New South Wales, New Zealand, Suez, Trinidad, United States of America, &c.

P.O.O.'s to be made payable at the chief office, London.

COLONIAL AND FOREIGN SUBSCRIBERS

are informed that acknowledgments of remittances received are published in the first number of every month.

NOTICE.—It is very necessary for our friends to advise us of all money orders they remit, more especially those from the United States of America and India; otherwise we cannot tell where to credit them.

TO ADVERTISERS.

The *Freemason* has a large circulation in all parts of the Globe, its advantages as an advertising medium can therefore scarcely be overrated.

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NOW READY.

Reading Covers, to take 52 numbers of the "*Freemason*," price 2/6, may be had at the office, 198, Fleet-street.

Answers to Correspondents.

All Communications, Advertisements, &c., intended for insertion in the Number of the following Saturday, must reach the Office not later than 12 o'clock on Wednesday morning.

The following stand over:—Reports of Lodge of Friendship, Great Yarmouth; Metropolitan Lodge of Instruction, 1507; Chaucer Lodge, 1549; Langthorne Lodge, No. 1421; Neptune Lodge, 22; Percy Lodge of Instruction: Chapter of Prosperity, Huddersfield, 290; Philip's Rose Croix Chapter, Lancaster; Consecration of a Lodge at Upper Norwood; Consecration of a Chapter at Barrow.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

An address at Keokuk Town, U.S., by Bro. T. G. Parvin; "Songs of the Rock," by Bro. John Wright, Glasgow. "The Colonist," Il Precursore, "La Chaine de l'Union," "Hand and Heart."

A "Master Mason's" communication cannot be printed without his name, in confidence.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

[The charge is 2s. 6d. for announcements, not exceeding four lines, under this heading.]

BIRTH.

DOUGLAS, Mrs. Aretas A., at Queen-street, Mayfair, Feb. 17, twins—son and daughter.

DEATHS.

FARNFIELD.—Feb. 27, at No. 351, Clapham-road, Wm. Farnfield, in his 79th year.

BROOKE, Mr. George W., Secretary of the London, Chatham, and Dover Railway, at Sydenham, aged 47, Feb. 21.

The Freemason,

SATURDAY, MAR. 4, 1876.

OUR ROYAL GRAND MASTER INDIA.

H.R.H. the Prince of Wales is still, we believe, in Nepal, and will soon be moving homewards. He was re-elected, as our readers will gladly see, Grand Master for the ensuing year, amid much cheering on Wednesday night.

THE INSTALLATION OF H.R.H. PRINCE LEOPOLD AS PROV. G. MASTER OF OXFORDSHIRE.

The account of this very interesting event will have deep interest for our entire Order. Everything seems to have gone off, to use a common expression, most admirably, without a hitch, or jarring note, and to have reflected the greatest credit on those who had the arrangement of the proceedings from first to last. H.R.H. Prince Leopold was warmly welcomed by the proverbial loyalty and zeal of Oxford Freemasons, and we augur, alike from his own simple and effective

words, and the pleasant proceedings of the entire day, much of future prosperity for the Province of Oxfordshire. H.R.H. is now W.M. of two of our most distinguished lodges, the Apollo University and the Antiquity, and we congratulate both lodges warmly on the circumstance, as we feel sure of this, that anything which leads to and perpetuates a living connection with our Royal Family and Freemasonry is deeply to be desiderated, and earnestly to be encouraged. While in some lands Freemasonry is exposed just now to anathema and slander, here in peaceful loyal England, we may say Great Britain, those who would have any cause and reason, a priori, to stem a disloyal and political sodality, come forward and proclaim their brotherhood, knowing well as they do, and as our august Head has so well said, that loyalty and charity ever have been, and ever will be, watchwords for our great Masonic army. We are glad to note that the interesting proceedings of the installation under the always genial auspices of our admirable D.G. Master, and in the presence of some of the most distinguished of our Craft, were very fitly closed by a presentation to an old and worthy Freemason, Bro. R. J. Spiers, late D.G.M. of Oxfordshire. We congratulate Bro. Spiers warmly alike on the occasion, and the result, long to be remembered by him, and all who took part in it, and we think that such an act of kindly fraternal feeling reflects great credit on the donors and on Bro. Spiers. Our Royal brother performed his part in this little episode, as he did throughout with all of dignity, urbanity, and personal sympathy, and we feel sure that into no better hands could the rule of so distinguished a province as Oxfordshire have been more wisely or seasonably committed. We congratulate our brethren in Oxford and the Province on the most successful issue of those memorable proceedings to which we alluded in our last impression. We trust, as we feel assured, that no better day's work for English Freemasonry has been done for a very long time, and one equally important and promising for the future as the present. All Freemasons will rejoice at this happy tendency to bind still closer the amicable relations and friendly intercourse which ever has existed, and we pray ever may exist between the House of Brunswick and Anglo-Saxon Freemasonry.

THE "PENNY POST" AND FREEMASONRY.

Our respected contemporary, the "*Penny Post*" a very useful and valuable Church of England Juvenile Periodical, has thought well to state its objections to our Order. "Our objection to the organization lies in the fact that the Freemasons set up a bond of union independent of, and superior to that of baptism. When heathens and Christians combine the latter must lose cast by the combination." Now begging our good contemporary's pardon, the opinion here expressed is both unfounded, and not a little absurd. Freemasonry sets up no bond of union independent of, and superior to that of Baptism. Freemasonry is in no sense a Church, and imposes no terms of union on its initiates, it accepts all within its pale, except the atheist and immoral, without any question of individual belief, or of personal persuasion. No one need become a Freemason, and as it is a perfectly voluntary act on the part of the initiate, we do not see that it can fairly be alleged against Freemasonry, that in any way it imposes a test, or sets up a bond of union. That Freemasonry constitutes a bond of union by its organization, its teaching, and its normal active life, is a very different thing, but such "bond of union" is not set up against "baptism," nor is it meant to be a rallying point against any religious body whatever. In fact, the objection of the "*Penny Post*" is Mr. Kerr's objection over again, that Freemasonry "forms a spurious bond of union, differing from that of the Church." It is odd, as has been before observed, to find the high church "*Penny Post*," and good presbyterian Mr. Kerr reformed, though he be, rowing in the same boat, but such is in itself an amusing commentary on the open opposition, and the latent hostility towards Freemasonry. As has been said, the Church, (whatever you like to call the Church, for the "*Penny Post*" would

call one, Mr. Kerr the other) has not, quâ the Church, anything to do with Freemasonry, neither has Freemasonry quâ Freemasonry anything to do with the Church. Freemasonry is altogether external to the church, and a most mistaken policy it is which ever brings any religious body, much less the Church of England, so tolerant per se, into collision with a reverent, loyal, peaceful, friendly, cultured Order like ours. For Freemasonry is in no way antagonistic to, or a rival of the Church, even what the writer in the "*Penny Post*" considers the Church, and it never in any way seeks to usurp its undoubted functions, or affects to lay down either dogmata of faith, or limits of individual thought. While friendly to all religious bodies, it is hostile to none, but owing to its own broad basis, it sometimes seems to impinge on this or that ardent denominational view, though as we believe, altogether erroneously on the part of our assailants and objectors. As regards Christians losing caste by combining with heathens, we do not know what the writer means, as he clearly, as Mr. Gladstone would say, is attaching an undue force to some words, and an uncritical meaning to others. There is no caste in Christianity, and how, because we Freemasons, if we act together for works of common humanitarian necessity, and seek to do good, we lose caste, is beyond one's comprehension altogether. What the writer means to say, we fancy, is this, that if Christians and heathens combine for any purpose it becomes "infra dig" for Christians to do so. But is this true? is it really so? We do not see it, and we do not believe it, and not seeing it, and not believing it, especially in a country like India, for instance, we beg to say, that this possible combination constitutes in our humble opinion, a great element of the truth and work of Freemasonry, to say nothing of its success. Has the writer duly studied the parable of the Good Samaritan? That as we understand it, teaches a kindlier lore. But the truth is, all such objections are really based on the teaching of an ultramontane school of thought and action, and are alien from thorough English spirit and tendencies. We leave them here to day, as perfectly unfounded and innocuous to us, and we should not have noticed them at all, but for the great respectability of the source from which they emanate. The "*Penny Post*" is a capital little periodical, doing a deal of good in its own way, but it should not write upon Freemasonry.

THE RELIGIOUS TEACHING OF FREEMASONRY.

There seems to be a good deal of misconception existing as regards the religious teaching of Freemasonry. Some brethren seem to look on our wonted formularies, our exoteric symbolism and esoteric lore as a skilfully designed adaptation to a special form of deistical teaching and avowal. Nothing can be more erroneous, no view can be more thoroughly unreal. Freemasonry nowhere affects to claim the character of a religious "Didaskalos," Freemasonry nowhere assumes the status of a "Religio." It favours no theories, it asserts no dogmata, it leans to no party, it declines all conflicts of thought and of opinion. Some have called it deistical; it is not so. Some have declared it to be pantheistic; it is nothing of the kind. Some contend abroad that it is too religious, others declare openly that it is opposed to all religion. Some have even boldly asserted that Freemasonry is antagonistic to the Christian Church because it will not identify itself distinctly, with any religious denomination, though it is friendly to all, and because it ignores all theological discussions. Every one of these statements is equally mistaken and mischievous. For Freemasonry knows nothing "per se" of such controversies or such contentions, it prefers to ignore them altogether, to pass by them, believing that nothing has so much hindered the advance of true religion in the world, as many of the disputes of religionists themselves, and that nothing is so hurtful or so unworthy, so hostile to the best interests of society and of humanity, nay, religion, as that

"odium theologicum" which is ever seeing the mote in its brother's eye, but forgetting the beam in its own! The theory of some German writers that the Masonic revival in 1717 in this country was a sort of expression of deistical feeling and tendency is utterly un-historical and unfounded, and can only be laughed at by English Freemasons. For in the last century undoubtedly much of the teaching of our lodges and of our "Aporreta" was distinctly Christian. Though there was a universal teaching always no doubt, contemporaneous and synchronical, yet every honest student of Masonic archaeology must confess that the general bearing of the formal English Masonic ritualism of the last century was more or less actually Christian, alike in verbiage and in tone. Gradually, however, the utterances of English Freemasonry became more universal, and since 1813 such a colouring of all our formal enunciations and ceremonial language has all but universally prevailed. There is nothing, indeed, to prevent a Chaplain using a Christian prayer, if he so desires, and the brethren are willing, but the practical good sense of most of our excellent reverend brethren has long since overcome the apparent but meaningless so-called theological difficulty. Indeed, in Scotland, and in Ireland, Christian prayers are still in use. But such a state of things is very different from the accusation that Freemasonry skilfully adapts itself to various religions, Christian and non-Christian. It does nothing of the kind, for if it did so it would lay itself open to the charge, under the guise of unlimited toleration, of indifference and negativism. On the contrary, Freemasonry asserts with no uncertain voice, always consistently and calmly, the great belief in the Fatherhood of God, and the Brotherhood of man. It seems to say, "I am not a Church laying down dogmata of faith, or articles of peace or catechisms of doctrinal truth, but I am a religious and benevolent sodality based on the broad principles of humanitarian sympathy and toleration, but requiring that all who join my association, avoiding all other questions, shall be believers in God Most High, no atheists, and no libertines!" This is the first declaration of Freemasonry, which receives all who believe and worship the Great Creator and Father of mankind, though such a declaration goes too far for some, and not far enough for others, and, therefore, is by some foolishly termed anti-Christian, which it is not, and never can be. All that any one can fairly say, is that it is Theistic, and Freemasonry is avowedly so, though it does not interfere ever with the creed or conscience of any one. But Freemasonry does not stop here. It next points out to us, the revealed Word of God, and demands for its reverence, our belief, and our obedience! And not only this, but it also affirms, that this life is not all for man, that this world is but the passage to another and a better, and that after this perishable frame has been committed to its mother land, earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust, and has long since crumbled away, it is yet to rise again one day, from the grave and gate of death, immortal and imperishable, perfected and perpetual, victorious over the King of Terrors, and no more exposed to weakness, to decay, to death. Such is the unceasing teaching of Freemasonry, founded too on the Word of God, which is to all Freemasons the unerring standard of right and wrong, and by its divine principles, as well as by its holy hopes, Freemasons are to regulate their actions, and elevate their lives. Freemasonry commends to its alumni in addition, the practice of every moral and every social virtue, and inculcates powerfully alike toleration and charity, active benevolence, and genuine interest not only for our brethren in the world, but for all men. Who then can say that Freemasonry is not religious? That it admits non-Christians is true, and in the way most binding on their consciences, but in every Anglo-Saxon lodge, the Bible still is one of the three great lights of Masonry, and there it remains open, for all students, and endures, an unerring evidence of the religious and reverential character of Freemasonry. Don't let us, then, confound things essentially distinct. Freemasonry is a religious as well as a reasonable body, it is theistic as well as tolerant, it respects the consciences of

all men, it never lets go and never will let go its owning and invocation at every meeting of its wide-spread lodges, of the Great Architect of the Universe, of the Great Benefactor, Preserver, and Ruler of the human race, God Eternal and Most High!

THE LATE BRO. W. FARNFIELD.

The Craft will be very sorry to hear of the demise of our worthy and lamented Bro. W. Farnfield, so long known in the Grand Secretary's office, and as Secretary to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution. His kindness and urbanity, familiar face and many good qualities, will long preserve his pleasant memory fresh and green amongst the brethren of our Order.

BRO. HARTY'S PICTURE OF THE INSTALLATION.

We published in our last number a long list of subscribers to this spirited undertaking, which appears to be securing a large amount of merited support from the Craft. We understand that the engraving is proceeding most satisfactorily, and promises to be a great success. There is still room it appears for about 150 portraits of brethren, and Bro. Hartly will be obliged to all intending sitters to call at once at the Photographic Studio, 213, Regent-street, where Bro. E. M. Haigh will take their photograph. We understand that H.R.H. Prince Leopold, P.G.M. for Oxfordshire, has expressed his high approval of the proposed picture, and has become one of its patrons. We call attention in another column to a most interesting letter from our worthy P.G. Chaplain, Bro. R. P. Bent, with reference to the engraving. H.R.H. Prince Leopold, also honoured Bro. Haigh with sittings in his clothing as Provincial Grand Master of Oxfordshire, on Saturday last. The paragraph in the "Daily News" of the 28th is incorrect, H.R.H. Prince Leopold was not present at the installation, it was his brother H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught. H.R.H. Prince Leopold did not sit to Bro. Hartly for the installation picture, and the brethren mentioned were not in attendance on H.R.H. the Prince.

THE WILSON M.S. CONSTITUTIONS.

The following account of the Wilson M.S. by the owner is most interesting.

"You asked me for any 'indicia,' respecting MS. Phillips 6351, now being copied.

I have asked an antiquary friend, and he says it is decidedly not temp. Hen. 8th, but that, as it is very carefully written on vellum, not a court hand, or one used by the officers of the law court. It is, no doubt, an old copy of one then existing. He thinks the M.S. we have, is early in the 17th century, and he tells us it is written in the law hand of the period, that is the "engrossing" hand of the period. The copy will be ready for you the end of next week.

You will see then our several blanks, evidence I think of its having been copied from an older MS., which no doubt in the places left blank was illegible.

In Sir Thomas Phillips's catalogue it is called "Book of Constitutions (of Freemasonry), for Mr. Richard Ban (our) the 'our' being in italics, as if it was doubtful, perhaps could not be read, 'royal oct. fol. S. 19.'

That is all I can tell you about it."

The writer of this letter is the Rev. J. E. A. Fenwick, Tairlestane House, Cheltenham, in whose possession all the MS. collection of his father-in-law remains under trust. It is but proper to observe, that though Mr. Fenwick is full of kindness, a payment for the "privilegium" of seeing the MS. has to be required, and Mr. Fenwick has kindly made an exception in my case, and allowed me to have not only a complete copy of his MS., but to publish it in the "Masonic Magazine."

I hope to give, under "Masonic Notes and Queries," the heading and close of the MS. next week, and to publish it in extenso in the April number of the Magazine. I have always kept it in mind, and hunted for it everywhere, and a short time back it occurred to me to ascertain through Bro. S. B. Ellis if there was any foundation for the statement in Preston. Finding that there was, Bro. E. B. Ellis having applied to Bro. Nixon, who knew Mr. Rimington Wilson, now at Broomhead, and that the Wilson MSS. had been bought by Sir Thomas Phillips, I then applied to J. O. Halliwell, Esq., the editor of the "Masonic Poem," now J. O. Phillips, Esq., who told me that all Sir T. Phillips's MSS. were in the possession of my friend Mr. Fenwick.

Hence the happy result of a Masonic search after this long wanted MS. I hope that we may yet find others, such as the original of Dowland's MS., which, Stephen Jones says, was a long roll of parchment.

I have now the transcript MS. in my possession.

A. F. A. WOODFORD.

Original Correspondence.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for, or even as approving of the opinions expressed by our correspondents, but we wish, in a spirit of fair play to all, to permit—within certain necessary limits—free discussion.—Ed.]

BRO. HARTY'S PICTURE OF THE INSTALLATION.
[The following letter has been addressed to Bro. Hartly for publication.]

Dear Sir, and Brother,—

In sending you the address of a new subscriber to your picture of the installation (another Swedish brother of high standing, who is Secretary of the Craft Lodge in this city, and an office-bearer in the higher degrees) I must congratulate you on the interest taken in the picture by the Freemasons of Sweden. This interest is clearly shown by the orders given for copies of it by the King, and some of those who, under the Grand Mastership of His Majesty, hold the highest Masonic offices in this country. I hope that no delay will occur in the issue of the picture, that the anxiety with which its arrival here is expected may not suffer any disappointment.

It cannot, of course, be wondered at that the Swedish brethren were deeply interested in the installation itself, and that they will, therefore, welcome your delineation of that most successful ceremony. Their interest arises from the fact that the Prince of Wales was not only initiated in Stockholm by the late King, but was also rapidly advanced there to the higher degrees, so that after his visit to Sweden he returned to England fully qualified for the high position he now so worthily fills; and from the further fact that at the installation of H.R.H. the Grand Lodge of Sweden was represented by five of its most distinguished members, the portraits of all of whom will (I believe) be found in your picture. Pardon me if I mention one more point of interest to the Swedes in this matter. The Senior Grand Chaplain was at the time residing among them, and had to go over to England for the express purpose of officiating on the occasion; and when they see his portrait, also in your picture, they will recognise it as that of one who is now a Swedish as well as an English Mason. Perhaps I should explain that after being very cordially received by the brethren as a visitor on my first coming to Gotheburg—I have been more than once saluted as a Grand Officer of England—I was invited to become a joining member of the St. Andrew's Lodge, or the Lodge of Scotch Masters, which is their 6th Degree. Application was then made to the King for his sanction to my taking the 7th and 8th Degrees without loss of time, and by a dispensation from His Majesty I received the 8th Degree a fortnight after receiving the 7th, whereas it is in most cases a matter of years rather than weeks. I consider this to have been intended more as a compliment to the Grand Lodge of England than to myself personally. The 8th Degree corresponds to the English "Knight Templar." I am now a Priest, or Chaplain of that Order, and as such I had the privilege on Saturday last of assisting at an imposing ceremony of no less than nineteen admissions, in the presence of a large and influential body of Knights. Freemasonry, in all its branches, is indeed a flourishing and most popular institution in this country. I could expatiate largely on its admirable working, &c., but I must not forget that I began to write about your picture in particular, and not about the whole subject in general. I will, therefore, only beg you to make what use you please of this letter, and remain,

Yours very truly and fraternally,

R. P. BENT, P.G.C.

Gothenburg, Feb. 21st, 1876.

CONSECRATION OF A NEW LODGE IN NEW ZEALAND.

To the Editor of The Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Knowing how ready you are at all times to give publicity to the progress of the Craft, I hasten to lay before you an account of the consecration (and installation of officers) of the Canterbury Kilwinning Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons, being the second lodge under the Scotch constitution established in the Province of Canterbury.

The brethren living in Lyttelton having after due deliberation determined to apply to the R.W. the P.G. Lodge of New Zealand, S.C., for a dispensation, sent in their application, which, after receiving proper consideration and investigation, was granted. Bro. F. W. Thiel, Esq., of St. Andrew's Lodge, Dunedin, S.C., No. 432 (Bro. Thiel is also P.D.D.G.M. of E.C. in Canterbury), was deputed by the Provincial Grand Master to consecrate the lodge and install the officers thereof.

Bro. Thiel, being a most earnest and zealous Mason, went into the matter with all his heart, and being most ably assisted by his subordinate officers—a list of whose names I send you—the result was a grand success.

The lodge was opened at 5.20 p.m. in due form, and after the consecration of lodge and the installing of the R. W.M., Bro. Alex. Taylor, and his officers, five candidates were introduced (Messrs. Angus, Allwright, James Grubb, John Grubb, and Robt. Findlay), and were duly initiated into Freemasonry, Bro. Thiel and his officers also performing the ceremony.

Five gentlemen were then proposed as candidates, and the lodge was closed in accordance with ancient custom. The brethren adjourned to Bro. Buruip's (the lodge room being too small to properly accommodate the brethren).

He having provided a most magnificent banquet, about fifty brethren sat down, and, after discussing the goop things provided and duly honouring the usual toasts, separated at 11.30 p.m. highly pleased with the proceedings of the day, and wishing every prosperity to the Canterbury Kilwinning.

I must mention that Bro. Wm. Donald, Esq., the R.W. the District Grand Master of Canterbury, E.C., was present during the whole of the proceedings, and showed by

his truly Masonic and jovial manner that we are all brethren, no matter under what constitution we work. May he (the R.W. the D.G.M. of Canterbury, E.C.) live long to be an ornament to the Craft and a pattern to all Free and Accepted Masons.

I remain, yours fraternally,

I. P. P.,
Hon. Sec. of Canterbury Kilwinning.

AN AMERICAN INSTALLATION.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I occasionally see a "back number" of your journal from the R.W.M. of a lodge in your city, and lately observed in the issue of 27th March, 1875, an article entitled "Our Lodge Meetings." With reference to the interesting and instructive suggestions therein, I hasten to send by this post the programme of an entertainment given by Montgomery Lodge, No. 69, on the 23rd December last, and call your particular attention to the invitation at foot "Our guests are all invited to the centennial in 1925." At the installation ceremonies ladies were present, and listened with much delight to a very humorous description of the mysteries of our Craft by the R.W.M.

With you, I believe that the presence of the fair sex would not only add to the pleasure of Masonic social gathering, but strengthen the lodges in every way.

I am, yours truly and fraternally,

Mary's Chapel, No. 1.

New York, Jan. 31st, 1876.

1. Voluntary, Organ; 2. Opening ode, "America:"

Glad hearts to Thee we bring,
With joy Thy name we sing.

Father above—
Creation praises Thee,
Thy bounty's full and free,
In all around we see
Emblems of love.

Unite our souls in love,
Smile on us from above,
Till life is o'er;
Then gather us to Thee,
Thy kingdom, Lord, to see.
In Thine own fold to be,
For evermore.

When our last labour's o'er,
And scenes of life no more
Charm our frail sight,
Then in God's holy care
May each protection share,
Bliss find unending there,
In perfect light.

3, Prayer by the Chaplain ("So mote it be"); 4, Installation, R.W. William T. Woodruff, officiating, assisted by W. Geo. Dessoye, as Marshal; 5, Presentation of the Master Elect; 6, Presentation of the Senior Warden Elect; 7, Presentation of the Junior Warden Elect; Master behold your brethren! Brethren, behold your Master! "Grand honours;" Procession.

Behold! in the East our new Master appear,
Come, brothers, we'll greet him with hearts all sincere.
We'll serve him with freedom, with fervour and zeal,
And aid him his duties and trust to fulfil.

In the West see the Warden with gavel in hand,
The Master to aid and obey his command,
We'll aid him with freedom, with fervour and zeal,
And help him his duties and trust to fulfil.

In the South see the Warden by plumb stand upright,
Who watches the sun and takes note of his flight.
We'll aid him with freedom, with fervour and zeal,
And help him his duties and trust to fulfil.

8, Presentation of Treasurer and Secretary elect; 9, Presentation of Chaplain; 10, Presentation of Marshal; 11, Presentation of Deacons; 12, Presentation of Masters of Ceremonies; 13, Presentation of Stewards; 14, Presentation of Tyler. Proclamation South, West and East, by the Marshal. Doxology:

Be Thou, O God, exalted high,
And as Thy glory fills the sky,
So let it be on earth displayed
'Till Thou art here as there obeyed.

A QUERY.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

A few evenings since, in a London lodge, old and respectable, the third toast was given in due form, "The Pro Grand Master and Deputy Grand Master, and the rest of the Grand Officers, Past and Present," coupling with them the names of Bros. Pickwick, P.G.S.D. Diddlesex; Nickleby, P. Prov. G.P. Oxbridgehire; and O. Twist, P.G.J.D. Camfordshire, who each responded for the honour done to their lordships and themselves (the Provincial Grands, and Past Provincial Grand) by the proposal of the toast, and the cordial manner in which it had been received. Was this O.K.?

Yours fraternally,

"I WANT TO KNOW, YOU KNOW."

ELECTION OF PROVINCIAL GRAND OFFICERS.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I thank you for insertion in your last number of my letter to you under this heading.

I know full well that the Prov. G.M. has the election, what I want to know is how he is guided in his selection of officers.

I am, dear Sir and brother, yours very fraternally,

A LOVER OF JUSTICE.

MASONIC JURISPRUDENCE.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

In the "Freemason" of February 19th, under the heading of answers to correspondence, I find "J.M.S.D. in our next."

That, no doubt, alluded to the questions I asked. As nothing appeared in last Saturdays, "Freemason," I venture to repeat the questions.

If other business be done than that written in the summons, can the same be legally confirmed?

Can a brother who is in arrears be appointed and serve as Warden?

J.M.S.D.

1. No business can be properly entered upon, except such as is contained among the agenda, relief excepted.

2. It depends on the bye-laws of the lodge.—Ed.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

For the sake of throwing light on a matter which has arisen, and is disputed in open lodge, will you, or any of your correspondents who may be taken as reliable authority, be kind enough to reply to the following question through the columns of the "Freemason," viz.: "Does St. John's Masonry embrace, teach, and enjoin nothing more than a high standard of morality?" A reply in Saturday's issue will very much oblige.

Yours fraternally,

ENQUIRER.

[Such a question cannot be answered offhand. Some of our able correspondents may perhaps reply to it.—Ed.]

Multum in Parbo; or Masonic Notes and Queries.

AMERICAN AND GERMAN GRAND MASTERS.

I shall be glad to receive from American brethren a list of the Grand Masters to insert in the Cyclopædia.

If my good brother, J. G. Findel, would favour me with a list of German Grand Masters, I shall be happy also to insert them.

A. F. A. W.

THE WILSON MS.

I am very pleased to hear of the find of Wilson's MS., and hope it is the herald of subsequent discoveries of still more importance. Bros. the Rev. A. F. A. Woodford and S. B. Ellis are to be heartily congratulated on so happy a result from their researches, and now we shall all, as eager Masonic students, be anxious to either inspect the MS. or peruse a certified transcript.

Bro. Woodford tells us that the present owner dates the MS. of the 17th century, and that it is written on vellum (as a roll, we presume.) The first notice we meet with in reference to the MS. is in the Manifesto issued by the "Right Worshipful Lodge of Antiquity, 1778," which was agreed to in open lodge, 16th day of December of that year, and signed by J. Sealy, Secretary, accordingly (Reprinted in our "Masonic Sketches and Reprints," and in our "History of Freemasonry at York," Kingston Masonic Annual, pages 102 to 108.)

The reference is in a note at the side of the text, and is as follows:

"MS. in the hands of Mr. Wilson, of Broomhead, near Sheffield, Yorkshire, written in the reign of King Henry VIII."

It was judged at that period to be of the sixteenth century. However, the matter can now be soon approximately decided, and we await with interest the particulars so kindly promised by Bro. Woodford, who in this case, as is so many others, is ready to place the information obtained at the service of his brethren.

WILLIAM JAMES HUGHAN.

UNITED GRAND LODGE.

The quarterly communication of Grand Lodge of English Freemasons was held on Wednesday evening at Freemasons' Hall. The attendance of brethren was very large, notwithstanding there was very little business to be done. There was, however, comparatively a small attendance of Past Grand Officers, and the dais looked bare. For once Grand Lodge was not opened punctually at seven o'clock, which, considering the usual strict punctuality of the Grand Master presiding, and the rest of the Grand Officers, surprised a good many brethren. About a quarter-past seven the procession made its appearance at the doors of the Temple, and though several brethren had expected the presence of Prince Leopold, and that he would preside on this occasion, it was soon seen that the Deputy Grand Master, Lord Skelmersdale, would take the chair. Grand Lodge was opened at twenty minutes past seven, when it was thus formed:—Lord Skelmersdale, as Grand Master; the Marquis of Hamilton, S.G.W.; Bros. F. Pattison, J.G.W.; the Rev. R. J. Simpson and the Rev. J. R. Wigram, G. Chaplains; S. Tomkins, G.T.; A. J. McIntyre, G.C.; G.T.; John Hervey, G.S.; M. J. Guest and William Speed, S.G.D.'s; Robert Grey and Frederick Parker Morrell, J.G.D.'s; Sir Albert W. Woods, Garter, G.D.C.; Samuel George Homfray, Asst. G.D.C.; John B. Monckton, President Board of General Purposes; Dr. W. R. Woodman, G. Swd. B.; Wilhelm Kuhe, G. Organist; John Wright, G.P.; E. P. Albert, A.G.P.; and C. B. Payne, G. Tyler.

Bro. W. W. B. Beach, M.P., acted as D.G.M., and Bro. R. J. Bagshaw as Past G. Master.

Among the other brethren present were the Earl of Shrewsbury and Talbot, P.G.M. Staffordshire; Col. Burdett, Prov. G.M. Middlesex; Col. Brownrigg, P.G.M. Surrey; Col. Lyne, P.G.M.; the Rev. C. J. Martyn, Col.

Adair, Bro. T. F. Halsey, M.P., Prov. G.M. Herts.; Bro. Clabon, Bro. S. Rawson, P.D.G.M. China; Col. Creaton, P.G.D.; Bros. Benj. Head, P.G.D.; J. A. Rucker, P.G.D.; J. Glaisher, P.G.D.; Peter de Lande Long; W. Fenn, P.G.S.D.; Brackstone Baker, P.G.D.; S. L. Tomkins, P.G.D.; C. A. Merton, P.G.D.; Dr. Erasmus Wilson, G.S.; John Symonds, P.G.D.; Raynham W. Stewart, P.G.D.; James Mason, P.G.S.B.; R. J. Spiers, P.G.S.B.; N. Bradford, P.G.D.; Joseph C. Parkinson, P.G.D.; Joshua Nunn, P.G.S.B.; Capt. Platt, P.G.J.W.; Bros. W. Ough, J. Smith, C. A. Cottebrune, P.G.P.; Wilhelm Ganz, P.G. Org.; H. Massey, ("Freemason"); and H. G. Buss, G. Treas. Middlesex.

Grand Lodge having been formally opened, Grand Secretary read the regulations for the government of Grand Lodge during the time of public business; after which the minutes of last Quarterly Communication of the 1st of December, 1875, were read by Grand Secretary and put and confirmed.

The election of a Most Worshipful Grand Master being the next business in order.

Bro. J. M. Case, P.M. No. 1, rose, and said that at the last Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge he had the honour of nominating his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales as Grand Master for the ensuing year. He had now the distinguished privilege of proposing as a substantive resolution the election of His Royal Highness to that office, the highest the Craft could bestow and one to which His Royal Highness had given so much grace and dignity. He (Bro. Case) did not think otherwise than that the brethren would affirm this with one voice, and he would conclude by saying with reference to His Royal Highness's late magnificent procession in the East that it was a most appropriate and significant occasion for improving the Craft. He was confident that all the brethren would join with him in wishing His Royal Highness a safe and speedy return to his native country, and that he might long live to rule over the Craft, wherever dispersed over the face of land and water. (Hear, hear.)

Dr. Rhys Williams, in seconding the election of His Royal Highness, said that it was with a feeling of diffidence that he rose to second the proposition just made, because though on the one hand he could not but feel it a distinguished honour, on the other hand he could not be unmindful that there were other brethren present who could bring greater ability to the task than himself. However, nothing he could say could add to the enthusiasm with which this proposition would be received, and nothing he might leave unsaid would mar it. Every one knew the ability of His Royal Highness and the kindness of heart which had distinguished his rule over Freemasons during the past year, and they all hoped that he would be long spared to occupy his proud position in the Craft.

The motion having been put was carried unanimously, amidst great applause, and Sir Albert W. Woods, Garter, proclaimed His Royal Highness duly elected as Most Worshipful Grand Master.

Bro. John Gibson, Deputy Master, No. 259, proposed the re-election of Bro. Samuel Tomkins as Grand Treasurer. He had served the office for so many years, and with so much credit to himself, and satisfaction to Grand Lodge, that he (Bro. Gibson) trusted he would be re-elected unanimously.

Bro. Lees having seconded the motion, it was put and unanimously carried.

Bro. Samuel Tomkins thanked the brethren for the honour again conferred upon him. He had been already twenty-four years their Steward, and he viewed the brotherhood every year with increasing satisfaction, for every year had seen an increase in the prosperity of Masonry. He trusted that in the next 24 or 25 years those who came after him in the office would see a progression in Freemasonry in the same ratio as he himself had seen it. (Cheers.)

The following grants, recommended in the report of the Lodge of Benevolence for the last quarter, were moved by Bro. J. M. Clabon, seconded by Bro. Joshua Nunn, and carried:—

A brother of the Cecil Lodge, No. 449, Hitchin	£75 0 0
The widow of a brother of the Lodge of Temperance, No. 169, Deptford	50 0 0
A brother of the Alfred Lodge, No. 340, Oxford	50 0 0
A brother of the Enoch Lodge, No. 11, London	75 0 0
And a brother of the London Lodge, No. 108, London	75 0 0

The following was the report of the Board of General Purposes, next taken:—

To the United Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free, and Accepted Masons of England.

The Board of General Purposes beg to submit a statement of the Grand Lodge accounts at the meeting of the Finance Committee, held on Friday, the 11th day of February, showing a balance in the hands of the Grand Treasurer of £4375 17s. 4d.; and in the hands of the Grand Secretary for petty cash £75; and for servants' wages, £96 15s.

(Signed) JOHN B. MONCKTON,
President.

Bro. John B. Monckton, in moving that it be received and entered on the minutes, said the members of the Grand Lodge would see it was only of a financial character; but he trusted the brethren would not think that the labours of the Board had been only formal, and that no work had been done by the Board. There had been a great deal, but, happily, no case had occurred which it was necessary to report to Grand Lodge. (Cheers.)

Bro. P. de L. Long having seconded the motion, it was carried unanimously.

The report of Bro. R. P. Harding, Auditor of Grand Lodge accounts, of receipts and disbursements during the year 1875, was adopted, and Grand Lodge was closed in the usual ceremonial form.

PROVINCIAL GRAND CHAPTER OF MONMOUTHSHIRE.

On Friday, 25th Feb., this chapter, in the unavoidable absence of P.G. Superintendent Col. Lyne, through illness, was opened at Newport by Comp. S. G. Homfray, Standard Bearer of Grand Chapter, P.P.G.H., as Z.; L. A. Homfray, P.G.Z., as H.; H. Helier, P.Z. 471, as J.; when the following officers and companions were present:—J. Middleton, P.G. Soj.; Dr. Browne, P.G.A.S.; H. Gratte, P.G. A.S.; W. Pickford, P.G. Treas.; C. H. Olliver, P.G.D.C.; W. Williams, P.G. Sword Bearer; and several other companions.

Comp. S. Geo. Homfray expressed to the companions the extreme regret of the P.G. Superintendent at his inability to attend in consequence of his having been confined to the house for some weeks. He then proceeded to the appointment of officers, when Comp. J. Middleton, being the oldest P.Z. of the province, was duly installed into the chair of P.G.Z., Comp. S. G. Homfray informing the companions that it afforded him much pleasure to confer this office on one who had rendered such valuable service to the province; it was the highest honour in the power of the P.G. Superintendent to confer on any companion, and which each might aspire to in rotation. The following other appointments were made:—C. Rowe, P.G. Scribe E.; H. J. Gratte, P.G. Scribe N.; J. Lewis, P.G. Soj.; Dr. Cheese, P.G.A.S.; R. J. Parnell, W. Pickford, P.G. Treas.; Capt. Perkins, D.C.; C. Bailey, A.G.L.; R. Bond, P.G. Reg.; Capt. Haldane, Sword Bearer; W. H. W. Homfray, Standard Bearer; H. J. Groves, Org.; J. Fletcher, Janitor.

A committee was then nominated to draw up a code of bye-laws, to be presented at next chapter.

Comp. S. G. Homfray congratulated the province on the rapid strides R.A. Masonry had made in the province, which a short time back had but one chapter, and they now had four, all working well, and another granted at the last S.G.C. to be consecrated at Pontypool.

The chapter was then closed in ancient form, and a meeting of the Silurian Chapter was held, when Comps. R. J. Parnell, as M.E.Z.; C. Rowe, as H.; B. Lawrence, as J., were duly installed by Comp. H. J. Gratte in his usual efficient manner.

Comp. Parnell then invested his officers, and the chapter was closed in due form.

The companions afterwards dined together at the Westgate Hotel, where an excellent banquet was provided by Comp. H. S. Hallen, which was attended by Comp. F. Binckes, Secretary Boys' School, who also was present in the chapter. His presence in the province was hailed with much delight, and a hearty welcome accorded to him.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF MARK MASTERS FOR THE COUNTY PALATINE OF LANCASTER.

By command of the Very Worshipful Deputy Provincial Grand Mark Master, Bro. the Right Hon. Lord Skelmersdale, a special Provincial Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of the County Palatine of Lancaster was held on Tuesday, the 22nd ult., at the Masonic Hall, Cooper-street, Manchester. The business set down on the circular was to pass "a vote of sympathy and condolence with Mrs. Callender and her family in their sad bereavement by the death of Bro. W. Romaine Callender, Provincial Grand Mark Master of this province, and D.G. M.M. of England; and to take the opinion of the Provincial Grand Lodge as to a recommendation to be made to the M.W. Grand Mark Master, the Right Hon. the Earl of Limerick, of some worthy brother to fill the office vacant by the decease of the R.W.P.G.M."

The respect felt for the memory of the late P.G.M.M., Bro. W. R. Callender, and the interest experienced in the appointment of his successor, were evinced by the attendance of a very large number of brethren. At considerable inconvenience (having left London that morning and returning by the afternoon train, so as to enable him to be present at the installation of Bro. H.R.H. Prince Leopold as P.G.M. of Oxford on the following day) Bro. the Right Hon. Lord Skelmersdale, V.W.D.P.G.M.M., attended the special meeting, and there were also present Bros. T. Entwistle, P. Prov. G.M.M.; C. F. Matier, Prov. G.W.; Le Gendre N. Starkie, Prov. G.W.; G. P. Brockbank, Prov. P.G.W.; W. O. Walker, Prov. S.G.W.; J. Kellett Smith, Prov. J.G.W.; J. R. Goepel, Past G.S.O.; W. H. Hopkins, Prov. G.M.M.O.; C. R. Hyde, L.L.D.; Prov. G.C.; John Dunning, Prov. G.A.C.; John Duffield, Prov. G. Treas.; J. B. Champion, Prov. G. Reg.; John Chadwick, Prov. G. Sec.; J. Crompton Lees, Prov. G.S.D.; W. J. Sly, Prov. G.J.D.; Amos Stott, Prov. G. Director of Ceremonies; John Bell, Prov. G. Sword Bearer; H. Burrows, P.G.S.; and Joseph Wood, Prov. G. Standard Bearer. The other Mark Masters present were Bros. Silas Andrew, Geo. A. O'Neil, Jas. Shaw, Thos. Peak, Henry Heap, H. L. Hollingworth, J. Halliwell, G. Miller, D. Stansfield, Henry Maiden, George Galloway, A. Milne, Thomas Morris, Wm. Barlow, James Newton, J. F. Twedale, R. Whitaker, R. Butterworth, Thomas Bowers, Tom B. Ashworth, John Ashworth, Wm. Beswicke, John Ed. Lees, Jas. Horrocks, Henry J. Stephenson, Joseph Burton, James Kershaw, Wm. Ogden, J. W. Kenyon, Thomas Newton, John Greaves, James Sly, Wm. Roberts, James Holroyd, I. W. Petty, R. D. M'D. Smith, Thomas Clarke, R. Newhouse, John Bell, Thomas Bowers, and J. L. Hine.

Bro. Lord Skelmersdale, in proposing the first motion, spoke very highly of the ability of the late Bro. Callender as a Mason, and of his Christian qualities; and said no man in England sympathised more with their deceased brother's family than he (the noble lord) did. The motion he had to propose was, "That this Provincial Grand Lodge

desires to record upon their minutes their sense of the very great loss they have sustained by the deeply lamented death of their Provincial Grand Mark Master, the Right Worshipful Bro. W. Romaine Callender, and also to express their earnest and heartfelt sympathy with Mrs. Callender and family in their sad bereavement."

Bro. Thos. Entwistle cordially approved of the sentiments expressed by his lordship, and seconded the motion.

Bro. Le. Gendre N. Starkie, supporting the motion, said that during his career as Provincial Grand Master no one had a more intimate knowledge of the late Bro. Callender than he (Bro. Starkie) had. His true Masonic knowledge and courtesy endeared him to all the brethren, who were now mourning the great and irreparable loss they had sustained.

The motion was agreed to unanimously, and on the proposition of Bro. Starkie, seconded by Bro. Matier, it was decided that a copy of the resolution, engrossed on vellum, and signed by the D.P.G.M.M., be forwarded by the Provincial Grand Secretary to Mrs. Callender.

On the motion of Bro. Dr. Hyde, P.G. Chaplain, a vote of thanks was proposed to Bro. Lord Skelmersdale for presiding, and this was carried by acclamation.

His lordship thanked the brethren for their cordial vote of thanks, and apologised for leaving at that stage, as he had again to start for London almost immediately, in order that he might be present at Bro. Prince Leopold's installation on the following day.

Bro. Le G. N. Starkie next proposed the following motion:—"We, the Mark Master Masons in this Provincial Grand Lodge assembled, while most deeply regretting the loss we have sustained by the lamented death of our Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master, Bro. W. Romaine Callender, do most unanimously and respectfully recommend to the favourable consideration of the Most Worshipful Grand Mark Master Mason our brother the Right Hon. Lord Skelmersdale, Deputy Prov. G.M.M.M., to fill the office vacant by the death of our late P.G.M.M.M., having full assurance that such recommendation will tend to promote the best interests of Mark Masonry."

Bro. W. O. Walker seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Bro. Thomas Coxon, Prov. S.G.W., moved, and Bro. J. R. Goepel, Pro G.S.O., seconded, that a copy of the above resolution be signed by the Secretary and forwarded to the Grand Secretary for presentation to the M.W.G.M.M.M.

The motion was agreed to, and the lodge adjourned.

Obituary.

THE LATE BRO. FARNFIELD.

Bro. Farnfield was initiated in the Lodge of Unions, No. 256, on 31st August, 1825, and was a subscribing member till his death. He joined the Constitutional Lodge, No. 55, on 17th February, 1830, and was a member till 1873. Joined No. 5 Lodge on 8th February, 1869, and was a member till December, 1872, upon his retirement from the Secretaryship of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution. Exalted in St. George's Chapter, No. 5, on 1st November, 1830, and was a member till 1873. He was the first Secretary of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, and held the position till 1872, retiring upon a pension of £200 per annum. He was for upwards of 40 years in the Grand Secretary's office, retiring from there in 1869 with a pension of £250. He was a P.A.G. Secretary—in fact, the only brother who ever held that rank.

He died on the 27th February, aged 79, and was buried on the 2nd March, at Tooting Cemetery.

METROPOLITAN MASONIC MEETINGS
For the Week ending Friday, March 10, 1876.

The Editor will be glad to receive notice from Secretaries of Craft Lodges, Royal Arch Chapters, Mark Lodges, Preceptories, Conclaves, &c., of any change in place or time of meeting.

SATURDAY, MARCH 4.

Gen. Com. Boys' School, at 4.
Lodge 142, St. Thomas's, Terminus Ho., Cannon-st.
" 1572, Carnarvon, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
Chap. 975, Rose of Denmark, Star & Garter, Kew Bridge.
Preceptory 127, Bard of Avon, Hampton-et.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Lily, Greyhound, Richmond.
Manchester, 179, London-st., Fitzroy-square.
Star, Marquis of Granby, New Cross Road.
Sinai Chapter, London Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.

MONDAY, MARCH 6.

Lodge 12, Fortitude and Old Cumberland.
" 25, Robert Burns, F.M.H.
" 72, Royal Jubilee, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
" 83, United L. of Prudence, Albion Tav.
" 144, St. Luke's, M.H., Basinghall-st.
" 188, Joppa, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
" 256, Unions, F.M.H.
" 1312, Asaph, F.M.H.
Chap. 91, Regularity, F.M.H.
" 1026, Victoria, M.H., Basinghall-st.
Mark Lodge, 139, Panmure, Balham Hot., Balham.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Prince Leopold, Lord Stanley Tav., Kingsland.
Strong Man, Jerusalem Tav., St. John's Gate.
Sincerity, Railway Tav., Fenchurch-st. Station.
Camden, Stanhope Arras, Up. James-st., Camden To.
Eastern, Royal Hot., Mile-end-road.
St. James's Union, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Wellington, White Swan, Deptford.

West Kent, St. Saviour's College, Forest-hill.
Perfect Ashlar, Victoria Tav., Lower-rd., Rotherhithe.
Sydney, White Hart Ho., Church-rd., Upper Norwood.

TUESDAY, MARCH 7.

Colonial Board, at 3.
Lodge 7, Royal York of Perseverance, F.M.H.
" 18, Old Dundee, London Tav., Bishopsgate-st.
" 101, Temple, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.
" 172, Old Concord, F.M.H.
" 217, Stability, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
" 765, St. James's, Bridge House Hot.
" 1259, Duke of Edinburgh, (i. of G. Hope Tav., E.
" 1261, Golden Rule, Regent Masonic Hall, W.
" 1298, Royal Standard, Wellington Club, N.
" 1381, Kennington, Surrey Tav., Kennington Oval.
" 1383, Friends in Council, 33, Golden-sq.
" 1397, Anerley, Thicket Hot., Anerley.
" 1472, Henley, Three Crowns, North Woolwich.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney.
Domestic, Surrey M.H., Camberwell New-road
Faith, 2, Westminster Chambers, Victoria-st.
Prince Fredk. Wm., Lord's Hot., St. John's Wood
Dalhousie, King Edward, Triangle, Hackney.
Prosperity, 1, Camomile-st., Bishopsgate.
St. Marylebone, British Stores Tav., St. John's Wood.
Constitutional, Wheatheaf Hot., Hand-court, Holborn.
Percy, Grapes Tav., Little Windmill-st., W.
Israel, Rising Sun Tav., Globe Road.
Royal Arthur, Prince's Head, York-road, Battersea.
Beacontree, Red Lion, Leytonstone, at 8.
Metropolitan Chapter, Jamaica Coffee Ho., Cornhill.
Excelsior, Commercial Dock Tav., Rotherhithe.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8.

Com. R.M.B.I., at 3.
Lodge 9, Albion, Regent Masonic Hall, Regent-st.
" 11, Enoch, F.M.H.
" 13, Union Waterloo, M.H., Woolwich.
" 15, Kent, F.M.H.
" 87, Vitruvian, White Hart, College-st., Lambeth.
" 147, Justice, White Swan, High-st., Deptford.
" 238, Pilgrim, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.
" 749, Belgrave, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
" 820, Lily of Richmond, Greyhound, Richmond.
" 1017, Monmore, F.M.H.
" 1306, St. John of Wapping, Gun Tav., Wapping.
" 1503, Francis Burdett, Albany Hot., Twickenham.
Chap. 1260, Hervey, F.M.H.
" 1305, St. Marylebone, Brit. Stores.
Grand Conclave, (See Red Cross, City Terminus Hot., Cannon-street, at 5 30. (See Advt.)

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Mt. Lebanon, Windsor Castle Tav. Southwark-bdg.-rd.
Pythagorean, Prince of Orange, Greenwich.
New Concord, Rosemary Branch Tav., Hoxton.
Royal Union, Horse and Groom, Winsley-st., Oxford-st.
Confidence, M.H., Basinghall-st.
Peckham, Maismore Arms, Park-road, Peckham.
Stanhope, Thicket Hot., Anerley.
Finsbury Park, Finsbury Park Tav., Seven Sisters'-rd.
Southwark, Southwark Park Tav., Southwark Park.
Duke of Connaught, Havelock Tav., Dalston, F.
United Strength, Grafton Arms, Kentish-town.
Mount Edgumbe, 19, Jermyn-street, St. James's.
Islington, Crown and Cushion, London Wall.

THURSDAY, MARCH 9.

Lodge 19, Royal Athelstan, Terminus Hot., Cannon-st.
" 91, Regularity, F.M.H.
" 206, Friendship, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.
" 263, Bank of England, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
" 534, Polish National, F.M.H.
" 657, Canonbury, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
" 860, Dalhousie, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
" 879, Southwark, Southwark Park Tav.
" 1076, Capper, Marine Hot., Victoria Dock.
" 1288, Finsbury Park, Finsbury Park Tav., N.
" 1321, Emblematic, Tulse Hill Hot., Tulse Hill.
" 1471, Islington, Cock Tav., Highbury.
" 1558, Duke of Connaught, S.M.H., Camberwell.
Chap. 72, Royal Jubilee, Horns Tav., Kennington.
" 554, Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney.
" 619, Beadon, M.H., Mason's Ave., Basinghall-st.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Egyptian, Hercules Tav., Leadenhall-st.
Fidelity, Yorkshire Grey, London-st., W.
Finsbury, Jolly Anglers' Tav., Bath-st., City-road.
Whittington, Black Bull Tav., Holborn.
Temperance in the East, Catherine-st., Poplar.
Ebony, 12, Ponsonby-st., Millbank.
Highgate, Bull and Gate, Kentish-town.
The Great City, 111, Cheapside.
High Cross, Coach & Horses, High-road, Tottenham.
Salisbury, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Marquis of Ripon, Albion Tav., Alden-rd., Dalston.
Prince Frederick William Chapter, St. John's Wood.

FRIDAY, MARCH 10.

Lodge 33, Britannic, F.M.H.
" 134, Caledonian, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.
" 157, Bedford, F.M.H.
" 177, Domestic, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
" 1420, Earl Spencer, Northcote Hot., Wandsworth.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Union Waterloo, Thomas-st., Woolwich.
St. George's, Globe Tav., Royal-hill, Greenwich.
Robert Burns, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Belgrave, Lyceum Tav., 354, Strand.
Unions Emulation (for M.M.'s), F.M.H.

Temperance, Victoria Tav., Victoria-road, Deptford.
Clapton, White Hart, Clapton.
Stability, Guildhall Tav., Gresham-st.
Metropolitan, Portugal Hot., Fleet-st.
Westbourne, Horse & Groom, Winsley-st., Oxford-st.
Metropolitan, Pentonville-road.
United Pilgrims, Surrey M. H., Camberwell New-road.
St. James's, New Tanners' Arms, Grange-rd., Bermondsey.
Duke of Edinburgh, Silver Lion, Penny-fields, Poplar.
Doric, Earl Grey Tav., Mile-end-road.
Burgoyne, Grafton Arms, Prince of Wales's-road, N.W.
St. Luke's, Commercial Tav., King's-road, Chelsea.
Chigwell, Bald-faced Stag Hot., Buckhurst-hill.
Burdett Courts, Approach Tav., Victoria Park.
Royal Standard, Finsbury Park Tav., Holloway.
Ranelagh, Clarendon Hot., Hammersmith.
Pythagorean Chapter, Prince of Orange, Greenwich-rd.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN WEST LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE.

For the Week ending Saturday March 11, 1876.

MONDAY, MARCH 6.

Lodge 113, Unanimity, Bull Hot., Church-st., Preston.
" 613, Unity, Palatine Buildings, Southport.
" 703, Clifton, Clifton Arms, Blackpool.
" 1045, Stamford, T.H., Altrincham.
" 1051, Rowley, M.R., Athenæum, Lancaster.
" 1264, Neptune, M.H., Liverpool.
" 1380, Skelmersdale, Queen's Hot., Waterloo.
Everton L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

TUESDAY, MARCH 7.

Lodge 673, St. John's, M.H., Liverpool.
" 897, Loyalty, Fleece Inn, St. Helen's.
" 986, Hesketh, Grapes Inn, Crosby.
" 995, Furness, M.T., Ulverstone.
" 1256, Fidelity, Bull Hot., Poulton-le-Fylde.
Chap. 203, St. John of Jerusalem, M.H., Liverpool.
Merchants' L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8.

Lodge 86, Loyalty, M.H., Prescott.
" 281, Fortitude, the Athenæum, Lancaster.
" 484, Faith, Gerard's Arms, Ashton-le-Willows.
" 580, Harmony, Wheat-sheaf, Ormskirk.
" 758, Ellesmere, M.H., Runcorn.
" 1052, Callender, Public Hall, Rusholme.
" 1094, Temple, M.H., Liverpool.
" 1356, De Grey and Ripon, 80, N. Hill-st.
" 1547, Liverpool, M.H., Liverpool.
Chap. 1345, Victoria Cross Keys Hot., Eccles.
Neptune L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

THURSDAY, MARCH 9.

Lodge 216, Harmonic, Adelphi Hot., Liverpool.
" 333, Royal Preston, Vic., Garrison Ho., Fulwood.
" 477, Mersey, 54, Argyle-st., Birkenhead.
" 786, Crosteth United Service, M.H., Liverpool.
" 950, Hesketh, Royal Hot., Fleetwood.
" 1032, Townley Parker, Howard's Arms.
" 1035, Prince of Wales, Kirkdale, Liverpool.
" 1070, Starkia, Black Horse Hot., Kirkham.
" 1182, Duke of Edinburgh, M.H., Liverpool.
" 1213, Bridgewater, Cross Keys Hot., Eccles.
Mariners' L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

FRIDAY, MARCH 10.

Lodge 1289, Rock, Bedford Ho., Bedford-rd., Rock Ferry

MASONIC MEETINGS IN GLASGOW AND WEST OF SCOTLAND.

For the Week ending Saturday, March 11, 1876.

All the Meetings take place at Eight o'clock.

MONDAY, MARCH 6.

Lodge 124, Kilwinning, Union Tav., Ayr.
" 122, St. Mirren's, St. Mirren's Hall, Paisley.
" 138, Operative, Blue Bell Hot., Ayr.
" 237, St. John, Masonic Arms, Girvan.
" 332, Union, 170, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
Chap. 119, Rosslyn, 25, Robertson-st., Glasgow.

TUESDAY, MARCH 7.

Lodge 34, St. John, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
" 68, Doric, 44, Church-st., Port Glasgow.
" 73, Thistle and Rose, 170, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
" 87, Thistle, 30, Hope-st., Glasgow.
" 173, St. John, M.H., Largs.
" 233, Hamilton, Spaldings Hot., Hamilton.
" 331, St. Peter's, Portland Arms, Galston.
" 406, St. John, Dalziel, M.H., Motherwell.
" 433, St. Thomas, Eglington Hall, Dalmellington.
" 337, Govandale, Portlan Buildings, Govan.
" 497, St. John's, Brewery Hall, Catrine.
" 556, Clydesdale, M.H., Rose-st., S.S., Glasgow.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8.

Lodge 178, Scotia, 170, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
" 179, St. Mungo, London Hot., Mauchline.
" 333, St. George, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
" 510, Maryhill, 167, Main-st., Maryhill.
Chap. 113, Partick, M.H., Partick.

THURSDAY, MARCH 9.

Lodge 88, New Monkland, T.H., Airdrie.
" 109, St. Marnock, T.H., Kilmarnock.
" 203, St. John's, Olive H., Airdrie.
" 290, Dalry Blair, White Hart H., Dalry.
" 570, Kenmuir, M.H., Springburn.
Chap. 50, Glasgow, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.

FRIDAY, MARCH 10.

Lodge 18, Dumbarton, Mission Hall, Dumbarton.
" 170, St. John, Black Bull Inn, Renton.
" 399, Royal Blues, Commercial Hot., Kilbirnie.
" 427, St. Clair, M.H., Garngad-rd., Glasgow.

SATURDAY, MARCH 11.

Lodge 28, St. John, Black Bull Inn, Kirkintilloch.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN EDINBURGH AND VICINITY.

For the Week ending Saturday, March 11, 1876.

MONDAY, MARCH 6.

Lodge 429, St. Kentigern, Royal Hot., Pemwick.

TUESDAY, MARCH 7.

" 5, Canongate and Firth, 86, Constitution-st.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8.

" 2, Canongate Kilwinning, St. John's Chapel.

Chap. 1, Edinburgh, F.M.H., George-st.

THURSDAY, MARCH 9.

Lodge 8, Journeyman, M.H., High-st.

FRIDAY, MARCH 10.

Chap. 56, Canongate, M.H., John-st.

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REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS.

Craft Masonry.

NEPTUNE LODGE (No. 22).—This lodge met at Guildhall Tavern on Thursday, 24th ult., at four o'clock, Bro. Alfred Partridge, W.M., in the chair. The lodge was opened in the First, Second, and Third Degrees, and Bro. Capt. Matthew Webb was raised to the Sublime Degree by the W.M. in a very impressive manner. The W.M. having been installed in January, this was the first opportunity the brethren had of testing the calibre of their new Master, and they were highly pleased at the manner in which the ceremony was performed. The lodge having been closed down to the First Degree, a donation of twenty pounds was voted from the Benevolent Fund of the lodge to a brother in distress. (late P.M., Neptune, 22), and a committee was appointed to revise the bye-laws of the lodge and of the Benevolent Fund. Bro. Wilcox, P.M., Treas., announced that he and Bro. Harcourt, P.M. Amity, had supported the same case at the recent meeting of the Lodge of Benevolence, and had obtained a grant of forty pounds. Bro. Gray, P.M., then reported to the lodge the result of the recent subscriptions, and gave a short history. He said that about the time of the audit meeting he somehow learned that Bro. Secretary Hughes was approaching his silver wedding, and it struck him that it would be a good opportunity for those older members of the lodge, who knew and appreciated Bro. Hughes and esteemed his kindly qualities, and were aware how ready he was to assist a brother in catching up the ritual, or what not, to present him and his wife with some token of their feeling. At the audit meeting, therefore, he (Bro. Gray) spoke to Bros. Farns, I.P.M., and Wilcox, Treas., who cordially co-operated with him; and having sent out a circular, had obtained forty-three subscriptions, enabling them to present an illuminated vellum, and a silver teapot and cream ewer, to Mrs. and Bro. Edward Hughes. The presentation took place at Bro. Farns's office on Friday, 4th February, in order that Bro. Hughes might have it on the actual day, 5th, in order. As there were only present on the occasion himself and Bros. Farns and Wilcox, and the subscribers would naturally like to see to what purpose their money had been put, Bro. Hughes had kindly consented to bring them all down to the lodge, that the brethren might view them; and having read the vellum and the inscription on the teapot, Bro. Gray concluded by congratulating Bro. Hughes, and wishing him and his wife long life and happiness. The present was very much admired by the members. Bro. Hughes (who suffered from severe hoarseness), in a brief speech thanked the W.M. and subscribers, on behalf of Mrs. Hughes and himself, for his highly flattering presentation. He had been kept in utter ignorance of the matter till about Tuesday, 1st February, when he was asked if it would be convenient for him to attend on Friday at Bros. Farns's office to receive a little present for Saturday from some of the Neptune members; and he must say he was quite taken aback when he discovered the extent which the little present had assumed. He assured them that it was greatly admired by his family, and the feeling which prompted the presentation was duly appreciated. For himself he should prize it, firstly, for its intrinsic value; secondly, as a spontaneous proof of the fraternal esteem and regard in which he was proud to feel so many of the brethren held him, and among those names on the list were many he was indeed happy to number among his personal private friends; and thirdly for that it would become a heirloom in the family, and when it should please the Great Architect to call him from this sublunary scene it would pass to one of his sons, who would cherish the reminiscence of feeling exhibited toward his father. Bro. Hughes again, on behalf of Mrs. Hughes and himself, thanked the brethren, and resumed his seat amid some applause. Fifty-six brethren sat down to the subsequent banquet, among whom were Bros. Fairfax, P.G.P., and Anderson, P.G.P. Warwickshire, and sixteen other visitors.

EGYPTIAN LODGE (No. 27).—The regular March meeting of this lodge was held on Thursday, the 2nd inst. Bro. John Grem, W.M., presided, and among other brethren who were present were Bros. Hales, S.W.; Walker, J.W.; H. G. Buss, P.M., Treas.; J. B. Poole, P.M., Sec.; Pattenden, S.D.; Richards, J.D.; T. Maidwell, I.G. Past Masters: Bros. W. H. Libbis, C. B. Payne, J. Lambie, C. Atkins, Sheppard,

D. H. Jacobs, and John Coutts; and visitors: Bros. P. C. Cowser, 23; J. W. Webster, 807; T. H. Pennell, 1227; J. Lyon, 161; R. Roberts, 742 and 209; L. H. Norwich, J.W. 158 (I.C.); C. R. Wiltshire, 50 (New York); and H. Massey ("Freemason"). Bros. E. Bryer, Howell, and Pattison were raised, and Mr. Frederick C. Chick was initiated, after which the brethren partook of banquet. There was an excellent mofester brethren, both in lodge and at the banquet table, and a very pleasant evening was spent. The customary toasts succeeded the banquet, and a good flow of musical entertainment was provided in the intervals. The W.M. acquitted himself very ably in the discharge of his duties for the first time since his installation, and his officers efficiently supported him. "The Health of the W.M." was proposed by Bro. Lambie, who said that all the brethren must have been delighted with the way in which he officiated. He had performed his duties, they must all say, most admirably, and it was a great pleasure to them to have him in the chair. The W.M., in reply, said that while thanking the brethren very much for their response to the proposer of this toast, he also was much obliged to them for electing him to the high and honourable position which he then occupied. There was a certain unworthiness he felt for the position, for he had done nothing for the benefit of the lodge except Masonic working; he had never introduced a member, and only a visitor now and then. The reason he had not brought in initiates was that all his friends were already Masons. But as far as his power to do anything for the lodge went he would use it to the utmost, and he was at all times pleased to do anything he could for it. The W.M. proposed "The Initiative," who made a short but effective reply, and trusted he would follow in the steps of the other brother of the same name who had preceded him. The W.M. proposed "The P.M.'s," for whom Bro. Lambie replied. As the junior P.M. he liked the position of P.M. very well, and no doubt he would like it better as time went on. He thanked the brethren for their kindness in honouring this toast, and begged to assure them the P.M.'s would all do the best they could for the members of the Egyptian Lodge in particular and for Freemasonry generally. (Hear, hear.) The toast of "The Officers of the Lodge" followed, and was responded to by Bros. Walker, Pattenden, Richards, and Maidwell, and the brethren then drank the Tyler's toast and separated. In the list published by the "Freemason" three weeks ago of the subscriptions at the festival of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution the list carried in by Bro. Green, W.M. of the Egyptian Lodge, No. 27, was stated to amount to £78. This was an error, the total amount taken in by this brother having been £91.

LODGE OF JOPPA (No. 188).—The March meeting of the Lodge of Joppa was held on Monday evening, at the Albion, Aldersgate-street, and was very numerous, attended, no less than 117 brethren being present, among whom were 19 visitors. Bro. Alfred S. Dutton, W.M., presided. The business of the day consisted of the initiation of Messrs. Julius Rohman, Edward Stranskey, and E. J. A. Davey; passing Bros. West and Smith; and raising Bros. Emanuel, Creamer, and Petchell. The officers present were Bros. L. Lazarus, S.W.; Miller, J.W.; I. Auerham, Treas.; E. P. Albert, A.G.P.; Sec.; A. Auerham, S.D.; M. Speer, I.D.; H. Hymans, I.G.; H. P. Isaac and Baker, Stewards; H. Berkowitz, Chap.; P. Van Noorden, Org.; and P.M.'s L. Alexander, J. Phillips, M. Alexander, Obed Roberts, Israel Abrahams, and H. M. Levy. The visitors were Bros. C. Veal, P.G.S.D. Surrey, 889; A. Wallace, 140; Sonnenberg, 918; S. M. Harris, 406; S. Godfrey, 205; Constable; W. W. Morgan, 1385; J. H. Ross, P.M. 185; G. Fask, 185; Lee, P.M. 1524; Gastrell, 1076; H. E. Francis; Chas. Thompson, 55; S. Levy, 1076; Belfrage, 179; G. South, 19; Rouseby, 1313; C. J. Knight; Cherrill, W.M. 534; and H. Massey ("Freemason"). Bro. Walters undertook the Stewardship of this lodge for the Boys' School, and the lodge voted ten guineas to the list. An elegant banquet followed the working of the lodge, and the toasts were proposed. The W.M., after the toast of "The Queen and the Craft" had been proposed and drunk, and the National Anthem sung by the professional brethren and ladies, proposed "The Prince of Wales," to whom he wished a speedy and safe return to this country, an event which all Masons were now anxiously looking forward to. "The Earl of Carnarvon, Lord Skelmersdale, and the rest of the Grand Officers," which was the next toast, elicited a reply from Bro. E. P. Albert, Secretary of the lodge, which was honoured at the Prince of Wales's installation by that brother being appointed Assistant Grand Pursuivant for the year. The toast having been most cordially received, Bro. Albert replied and said, that the way in which the last Grand Lodge was presided over by Lord Skelmersdale, assisted by the other Grand Officers must have convinced the brethren that they were well served. The W.M. then gave "The Joppa Benevolent Fund," and said it must be pleasing to the brethren to know not only that the fund was in a prosperous state, but that there had been no calls on it lately. He then announced subscriptions to the fund made that evening to the amount of five guineas. He included in the toast the President, Vice-President and Committee of Management of the Fund. Bro. L. Alexander, P.M., responded, and in doing so observed that what the W.M. had said about the prosperity of the fund he was sure that every one would echo. So far as the President, Vice-President, and Committee were concerned he was sure from the very cordial manner in which the toast had been received that the brethren were satisfied that those officers did their duty to the best of their ability. With respect to the Benevolent Fund there was very little for him to say, because they had heard him and his predecessors so often on this topic that he could tell them nothing new; but for the sake of the initiates and some of the visitors he might explain that the fund was established some 25 or 26 years ago for the benefit of such brethren as might fall into decay. From his own certain

knowledge he might say that in numerous cases it had afforded considerable relief, and in no one instance had an applicant gone away dissatisfied. He was happy to say that for some time no application had been made, and he hoped that many years might pass over their heads before any application would be made. The W.M. then proposed "The Visitors," and included the Masonic Press in the toast. Bro. Lee responded for "The Visitors," and congratulated the brethren on having selected Bro. Walters to represent the lodge at the Boys' Festival, and voted ten guineas to his list. He then advised the brethren if they wished to become life governors of the different charities of the Order that there was an easy method open to them by becoming members of the Local Masonic Charitable Associations which were established now in most districts of the metropolis. Bro. H. Massey responded for "The Freemason." The initiates having responded for the toast drunk in their honour, Bro. L. Alexander, P.M., proposed "The W.M.," whom he complimented on his working, and on having made the brethren comfortable both in lodge and at the banquet table. The W.M., in reply, said he was overwhelmed with the brethren's kindness. He was delighted at being selected as their W.M., and he hoped that during his year of office he would have fortitude and strength to adhere to the Book of Constitutions, and carry out the duties of the W.M. according as that book taught. The W.M. proposed "The P.M.'s," to which toast Bro. Israel Abrahams replied. Bros. H. M. Levy, Obed Roberts, and L. Alexander also responded. Bros. Lazarus and Miller replied for "The Senior Officers," and the other toasts having been honoured, the brethren separated, after spending a delightful evening, which was enlivened by some charming singing by Madame Augusta Roche, Miss Doré, Miss Josephine Reeves (the two latter pupils of Bro. Van Noorden), and Bro. Frank Elmore, under the direction of Bro. Van Noorden, Organist.

ROYAL OAK LODGE (No. 871).—An emergency meeting of this lodge was held on Monday, 21st ult., at the White Swan Tavern, Deptford. Present: Bros. S. D. Lewin, W.M.; H. J. Tuson, W.M. elect, S.W.; J. J. Pakes, J.W.; F. Walters, P.G.P., Midx. P.M., Sec.; J. B. Langley, J.D.; R. Harman, D.C.; J. G. Vohman, W. Steward; H. J. Fisher, Org.; J. Bavin, P.M. 147, Tyler. Past Masters: Bros. G. Andrews and F. Walters. The visitors were Bros. G. Chapman, P.M. 147; G. Whittle, 1155; A. Maers, H. W. F. Fellows, G. Porter, E. Good, T. Horton, J. Ragg, T. H. Burr, J. G. Thomas, R. J. Harvey, J. Rennie, E. James, J. Woollett, G. A. Leighton, W. Simmons, and G. Eve. A ballot was held, which resulted unanimously in favour of the admission of Messrs. G. Eve, G. A. Leighton, and W. Simmons as initiates. Bro. S. O. Lewin, W.M., then initiated Mr. G. Eve, Bro. G. Andrews, I.P.M., initiating Messrs. G. A. Leighton and W. Simmons. The following resolution was passed unanimously:—"That in consequence of the sudden death of Bro. J. Hawker, P.M., which occurred on Friday, 18th ult., at the age of 51, no banquet shall be held at the installation meeting." The work of the lodge was very well done, that by Bro. Andrews, I.P.M., especially meriting commendation.

The installation meeting of this lodge was held on Thursday, the 24th ult., at the White Swan Tavern, Deptford. Present: Bros. S. O. Lewin, W.M.; H. J. Tuson, W.M. elect, S.W.; J. J. Pakes, J.W.; W. Andrews, P.M., Treas.; F. Walters, P.G.P. Midx., P.M. 871, Sec.; W. Myatt, P.M., S.D.; J. B. Langley, W.M. 1423, J.D.; J. T. Lunin, I.G.; R. Harman, D.C.; J. G. Vohman, W.S.; H. J. Fisher, Org.; J. Bavin, P.M. 147, Tyler; F. Walters, W. Andrews, W.M.; G. Andrews, and J. Truelove, Past Masters. The visitors were Bro. H. J. Green, W.M. 1538; E. Debar, W.M. 169; J. T. Tibbals, P.M. 169; J. Patte, P.M. 147; J. Lightfoot, P.M. 147; J. J. West, P.M. 548; H. Keeble, P.M. 1275, and others. The minutes of last meeting were duly read and confirmed. Bro. F. Walters then presented Bro. H. J. Tuson to Bro. G. Andrews for installation, who installed him (Bro. Tuson) W.M. The W.M. then appointed the following brethren to the various offices for the ensuing year: Bros. S. O. Lewin, I.P.M.; W. Andrews, P.M., Treas. (re-invested for the 9th time); F. Walters (father of the lodge re-invested for the 16th time), Sec.; J. J. Pakes, S.W.; J. B. Langley, J.W.; H. J. Fisher, (re-invested for the 3rd time) Org.; G. T. Lunin, S.D.; R. Harman, J.D.; J. G. Vohman, I.G.; G. Andrews, D.C.; W. Myatt, W.S.; and J. Bavin, P.M. 147, Tyler. On the motion of Bro. F. Walters it was unanimously resolved that a vote of thanks be accorded to Bro. G. Andrews for the admirable and painstaking manner in which he had performed the ceremony of installation. A Past Master's jewel of the value of eight guineas (the most valuable ever given in this lodge, the money being raised by means of voluntary subscriptions from some of the members) was presented to Bro. S. O. Lewin. It was also resolved that the sum of ten pounds be paid from the funds of the lodge to the Male Annuity Fund. That a letter of condolence be sent to the widow of Bro. J. Hawker, P.M., deceased, and that in memorial the name of Bro. J. Hawker be retained as S.W. for the time being.

MAZAGON.—Lodge Concord (No. 757).—An emergency meeting of this lodge was held in the Freemasons' Hall, Mazagon, on Tuesday, 4th January, 1876. Present: Bros. W. C. Rowe, W.M.; B. Robinson, I.P.M.; F. Burdett, as S.W.; W. Fearn, as J.W.; F. Burdett, Treas.; O. Tomlinson, Sec.; J. Spiers, S.D.; W. G. Davie, J.D.; J. Luke, D.C.; J. E. Tyers, Org.; J. Seager, Tyler. Members: Bros. W. E. Craddock, S. Needs, T. W. Brownnutt, H. Watson, J. A. Da Gama, and others. Visitors: Bros. C. Parker, 1100, E.C.; R. Delany, 746, E.C., and others. The summons convening the meeting was read. Bros. S. Needs, J. A. Da Gama, and T. W. Brownnutt were raised to the degree of Master Masons. The W.M. then gave a lecture on the Third Degree Tracing Board in his usual masterly style, after which he also explained the uses of the working tools of a M.M.

to the newly-raised brethren. The W.M., W. C. Rowe then proposed, and W. Bro. B. Robinson, P.M., seconded that the usual annual ball take place as early as convenient, in February the date to be decided at the next regular meeting, and the surplus funds, after paying expenses, to be handed over to the Masonic Charity Funds, the Secretary to issue a circular to the members in order to ascertain the number that would support the same, the fee to be fifteen rupees to admit one gentleman and two ladies, and single tickets to admit one gentleman only ten rupees each.

The regular meeting of this lodge was held on the 15th Jan., the proceedings of which up to the adjournment to the banquet were given in our last week's number. On the removal of the cloth Wor. Bro. G. R. Henderson, W.M., proposed "The Health of the Queen and the Craft," which was heartily responded to. The band played the "National Anthem." The W.M. then proposed "The Health of our Grand Master, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales," which was drunk to with the usual Masonic enthusiasm. The band played "God bless the Prince of Wales." Wor. Bro. G. R. Henderson then asked the brethren to join him in drinking to the next toast, which was that of "The Pro Grand Master of England, the Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon, and the Most Worshipful Grand Masters of Scotland and Ireland." Hearty response. The band played "Britannia, the Pride of the Ocean." The W.M. then rose and said: W. Sirs and brethren, the next toast I ask you to join me in is that of our D.G. Master, the Hon. James Gibbs, his Deputy, and his officers, who he was pleased to say have favoured the lodge with their coming this evening, and he assured the D.G.M. it gave the brethren very great pleasure to have him and his officers amongst us on an occasion like the present, the announcement of which elicited the applause of all present. The band played the air of the "Fine Old English Gentleman." The D.G.M., the Hon. James Gibbs, on rising to return thanks was greatly applauded. He said that it gave him great pleasure in being able to be present with his D.G. Officers to pay his official visit on such a night as the present one, more especially so because he found the brethren of the lodge worked so harmoniously and happily together, as he expected they would do, and it also gave him the opportunity of witnessing the able way in which the retiring Master had carried out the installation ceremony; and said he always endeavoured to pay each lodge in his district an official visit once a year, and hoped that the next time he came to Concord he should find the lodge in the same prosperous condition as it was in now. The W.M. then said: Brethren, there is another toast I must now ask you to join me in, and that is "The Health of the M.W.G.M. of Scottish Freemasonry in India, M.W. Bro. Moreland." I need hardly say that we all regret his inability to attend here to-night, also that of his deputy, and as our D.G.M. has informed you he (Rt. Wor. Bro. Balfour) had to attend with the Grand Lodge of Scotland at one of the installations under their own banner. This was received with enthusiasm, the band playing "The Blue Bells of Scotland." The D.G. Master then said: Brethren, I now ask you to join me in a toast that I know you will all respond to very heartily. It is that of your "W.M., Bro. G. R. Henderson." You all know him so well that I need not repeat to you his many good qualities, you have had experience of his excellent working in former years, or you would not have elected him to the post he now holds this evening; but I must say, that I like to see the Wardens elected to the post which I think it is the duty of every Mason to aspire to, but as there are cases where the Wardens do not care to be elected to the Mastership of a lodge, as is the case here in Concord to-night, great care ought to be taken in the selection of brethren for Wardens, that are able and willing to relieve a Master of his duties after he has served his year of office, as a Master of the lodge of which he was a member, as he (the D.G.M.) advocated promotion, and was pleased to see brethren rising to that high position in the Craft, and other degrees with which he was connected in Masonry. Band played, "Come let us be happy together." W. Bro. Henderson then rose, amid loud applause, and said: Right W. Sir, W. Sirs, and brethren, I thank you Right W. Sir for the very kind way you have put the toast of my health before the brethren, and for the hearty way in which they have responded to the same. I assure you all brethren, I shall endeavour to keep up the high standing this lodge has held in this district, and I may say wherever her name is mentioned, and I will still try to merit that good name which the R.W.D.G.M. has just given me. With reference to the advice he has given you, as regards the Wardens aspiring to the high position of Master, I must say that I quite agree with him, brethren, that Wardens ought to work themselves up so as to enable a Master, after he has done a year of hard work to retire on his laurels, and give way to younger brothers to take the place of the veterans, and I should have been pleased had one of the Past Wardens of the lodge been standing here in my place to-night, but as none of them would be persuaded to take the post of course, it fell to the lot of one of the Past Masters, and as the I.P.M., Wor. Bro. W. C. Rowe, had been appointed to the Mastership of his mother lodge, Truth, No. 944, E.C., of course he could not hold the Mastership of the two lodges for the year, and as he had no option but to be elected, he would do the best he could for the lodge which he had the honour to rule over, and all he asked was the support of the brethren, and the hearty co-operation of his officers, for with the assistance of the Past Masters he had made a very careful selection, and hoped that the choice he had made would be beneficial to the lodge. Thanking them again for the kind way they had received the toast of his health, he resumed his seat, and the band struck up "For he's a Jolly Good Fellow." The W.M. then said: The next toast I wish to bring before your notice is that of the "P.M.'s," and in so doing I shall couple with it the name of your I.P.M., Wor. Bro. W. C. Rowe,

who has also been the Installing Master this evening. You have all, I am sure, been much pleased with the admirable way he has carried out that work this evening; not only has he performed his work well to-night, but throughout the whole year of his office, and at our next meeting I hope to be able to give him a more substantial proof of our good wishes. Band played "Cheer, Boys, Cheer." Wor. Bros. Rowe and Robinson, the two Past Masters present, then rose, amid the applause of the brethren. Wor. Bro. Rowe said, on behalf of the P.M.'s he begged to thank the W.M. and brethren for the kind way they had received the toast of their health, and that they (the P.M.'s) were ever ready to do what they could for the good of the lodge, and always willing to render any assistance that lay in their power, and as regarded himself, he could assure the brethren he had always felt a pleasure in carrying out the work that had been entrusted to him during the year, and would still try to merit the high eulogies that had been passed on him that evening, and the only thing he coveted in recognition of his past services to the lodge was the good wishes of the brethren, and that he could see by the way they had responded to the propositions of their Worshipful Master he had, and he hoped Lodge Concord would still continue to flourish. Band played "Happy are we to-night, Boys." W.M. then said: Brethren, I now ask you to join me in a toast which is always well received in this lodge, it is that of "The Visitors," and in doing so I shall couple with it the name of Wor. Bro. Barrow and Wor. Bro. McKenzie. I need hardly say how pleased all the members of this lodge are to receive visitors, both at their working upstairs and at their festive board, especially on the present occasion, and he could assure them of a hearty welcome whenever it was their pleasure to favour the lodge with a visit. I have coupled the names of Wor. Bro. Barrow and Wor. Bro. McKenzie with this toast because I am sure they are very much esteemed by you all, and because they have always come forward to assist us at any time we may have required help. The band played, "Tis our duty to help one another." Wor. Bros. Barrow and McKenzie then rose, amid the applause of the brethren. Wor. Bro. Barrow said that he must thank the W.M. and brethren for their very kind response to the toast which the W.M. had just put before them, and for the cordial way they had received the same, and he could assure them one and all appreciated the kindness they always receive whenever they attend a meeting of Lodge Concord, and was sure, as their I.P.M., Wor. Bro. Rowe, had told them up in the lodge, "the principle illustrated by the name of Lodge Concord" had been carried out to the letter, and was also sure in so saying he reciprocated the feelings of all the visitors present. Wor. Bro. McKenzie then said he quite concurred with all Wor. Bro. Barrow had said, and that he always felt great pleasure in attending the meetings of Concord, as the working of the lodge was second to none, and whenever any visitor might come he could always find some instructive work going on, and he was sure this would not be his last visit if spared, and thanked all for the kind way they had received the visitors on this and many other occasions. Band played "Life let us cherish." The W.M. then said: Brethren, I now ask you to join me in drinking to the health of those that have entered into new duties to-night, also to those who have done such good service to the lodge during the past year—I mean the newly-appointed officers, and those officers that have so faithfully served the lodge in the offices they were entrusted with by your I.P.M., Wor. Bro. Rowe, during the past year. I did not think, brethren, it was requisite for me to make two separate toasts of the present and past officers, because so many of the past officers are the present ones for the ensuing year. My advice to you who have entered on your duties to-night is to attend to your special parts, and be punctual in your attendance, as I may tell you that it is impossible for a Master to carry out his work in that efficient way unless he has the assistance of his officers. Bro. O. Tomlinson, S.W., rose and said: Wor. Sir, Wor. Sir, and brethren, on behalf of myself and brother officers newly appointed to-night I beg to return sincere thanks for the honours conferred on us this evening, and also for the kind manner in which you have drunk to our health and future success. I beg especially to thank you for myself, for I must submit I have been especially honoured in being appointed to the office I now hold, and I assure you all, brethren, I shall use my best endeavours to merit your approbation, and for my brother officers I must say I feel sure they will all do their best in assisting to maintain the high standard of working that this good old lodge is noted for. Bro. J. Spiers, J.W., also said he would endeavour to merit the office the W.M. had appointed him to, and assist in keeping up the name of the lodge, and thanked them all for the kind way they had received the toast of their (the present officers') health. The band played "Auld Lang Syne." The rest of the evening was spent in singing many good songs, amongst which was Bro. F. Burdett's noted song, "Noah's Ark," which is always received with great applause, and at 11.20 p.m. the W.M. closed, after giving the usual last toast.

ROTHERHAM.—The Phoenix Lodge (No. 904).—The brethren of this prosperous lodge held their anniversary meeting at the Ship Hotel, Rotherham, on the evening of Thursday, the 24th of February. Bro. John Fawcett, W.M., opened the lodge, when the minutes of an emergency, as well as of the last regular lodge, were read and confirmed; after which Bro. Oxley, P.M., and P.P.G.R. West Yorks, very ably installed the W.M. elect, Bro. Clement Hamil Perrot (who is a Past Master of his lodge). The customary homage having been paid, Bro. Perrot appointed as his officers:—Bros. John Fawcett, I.P.M.; Benjamin Saville, S.W.; Henry J. Bingham, J.W.; Thomas W. Roome, Secretary; J. W. Wrag, S.D.; Charles Harvey, J.D.; and Wilfrid Badger, I.G. Letters of apology were read from Bros. Thomas William Tew,

Deputy P.G.M. West Yorks; Henry Smith, Prov. Grand Secretary; Rev. A. W. Hamilton, W.M. 139, Prov. Grand Chaplain; and William Short, P.M. 139, Past Prov. G.D. Apologies were also received from Bros. Henry Seeborn and John Francis Moss, Past Masters of Lodge 296, &c. Bro. Walter Charles Smith, P.M., proposed Bro. James G. Neddham, P.M., as Almoner, and he was elected. Hearty good wishes were presented by officers representing Lodges 108, 139, 241, 296, and 1239. The brethren afterwards dined together, under the presidency of Bro. Perrot, who proposed the usual loyal and Masonic toasts, which were accompanied by Masonic honours. Bro. Fawcett gave the toast of "The Health of the Worshipful Master," which was eloquently responded to by Bro. Perrot, who proposed "The Visiting Brethren," in reply to which Bro. Ecroyd, W.M. 296, thanked the Worshipful Master and his officers for the kind reception the visiting brethren had received, and for the sumptuous banquet they had partaken of. The toast of "The Officers of the Phoenix Lodge" was responded to by Bro. Wilfrid Badger, I.G., in a neat Masonic speech, which shows that, although young in years and but newly fledged as a Master Mason, he may be expected to fill the various offices of his lodge with credit to himself and satisfaction to the brethren. His appointment, together with the other appointments made that evening, augurs well for the future prosperity of the Phoenix Lodge. The Worshipful Master supplemented his address to his officers by calling attention to the historical and artistic record of the Installation of the Prince of Wales, which is now being engraved, and by recommending those brethren of his lodge who were present on that most memorable occasion to send their cartes at once to Bro. Edward James Hart, No. 213, Regent-street, London, so that their portraits may be included in the engraving. The Worshipful Master further called attention to a circular he had just received from Bro. Captain Lathbury, the Secretary of the London Masonic Club, and suggested that those of the brethren who desire to join should send in their applications prior to the 1st of March, when the next ballot will be taken. In reference to this club, Bro. Marsh (solicitor), an old and much respected member of the Rotherham Lodge, asked that further information should be given as to the liability of members joining this club before he could advise his brethren to become subscribers. Bro. Henry Ecroyd (of Sheffield) replied that the application forms issued by the Secretary distinctly stated that the club, being proprietary, "members incurred no liability whatever beyond their subscriptions." Bro. Marsh was, however, of opinion that proprietary clubs are, as a rule, unsafe adventures; and he still desires more certain information regarding the constitution of this club before he will give it his support. As the scruples of Bro. Marsh are doubtless shared by others, it would be well if the worthy Secretary would kindly satisfy these scruples (as doubtless he can), and thus insure the hearty co-operation of country Freemasons in the successful management of this much needed club. During the evening songs were given by Bros. Ridal, Mason, Badger, and others, the accompaniments being played by Bro. Harvey, J.D. Amongst the visiting brethren we noticed Bros. John Cobham, P.M. of the Merchants' Lodge, No. 241, Liverpool; Thomas Jefferson, S.W. of the London Lodge, No. 108, London; William Jervis, S.W., and John Arthur Binney, of the Britannia Lodge, No. 139, Sheffield; Henry Ecroyd, W.M., and John Ridal, S.W., of the Royal Brunswick, No. 296, Sheffield; William White, W.M., and Samuel Bramhall Ellis, S.W., of the Wentworth Lodge, No. 1239, Sheffield.

INSTRUCTION.
PERCY LODGE OF INSTRUCTION (No. 45).—The resuscitation of this lodge took place at Bro. Fysh's, Southgate-road, on Saturday last. A very large number of brethren attended for the purpose of assisting at the rehearsal of the consecration and installation ceremonies by Bro. J. Terry. The ceremonies were rendered in that faultless manner for which Bro. Terry has long been famous, and elicited the warmest marks of approbation from the assembled brethren. Bro. Whaley, 813, conducted the musical parts. Bro. Heath, P.M. and Sec. 198, having been installed, appointed his officers as follows:—Bros. Cooper, S.W.; Main, J.W.; Halford, Treas.; Killick, Sec.; Percy, S.D.; Stock, J.D.; and Saul, I.G., which important office he had filled the whole evening with his well-known zeal and ability. Sixty new members were elected. A vote of thanks unanimously accorded to Bro. Terry was duly acknowledged. Bro. Cooper was elected W.M. for the ensuing week, and the lodge closed. Nearly forty of the members sat down to supper, at which Bro. Heath presided. After the usual loyal toasts, that of "The W.M." was proposed by Bro. Terry. The W.M., in response, said that he felt the greatest gratification at being present and satisfaction at the prospects of the lodge, which he said was one of the oldest, and had in past times afforded instruction to many who had made a name in Masonry. "The Percy Lodge of Instruction," coupled with the name of Bro. Percy, the newly-appointed Preceptor, was duly acknowledged, and that of "The Officers" by the Treasurer and Secretary. The name of Bro. Terry was received with acclamations of pleasure, who said that it was a particular pleasure to him to assist at the resuscitation of the lodge, for in it he had received some of his first instruction in Masonry, and that for several years he had been a constant attendant, also that it was in this lodge he had first worked the Fifteen Sections; and amongst the members he numbered some of his dearest personal friends, and that he would attend as often as possible to aid and instruct the officers in their duties, and hoped that the mother lodge would be proud of their newly-resuscitated offspring, and would aid and encourage them in the future more than they had done in the past. Bros. Hook, Read, Milord, and several other brethren added to the harmony of the evening by singing some excellent songs.

Scotland.

GLASGOW.—Chapter Cathedral (No. 67).—The annual festival of this chapter was held in the Masonic Hall, 22, Struthers-street, on Tuesday, the 22nd ult., Comp. J. Duthie, M.E.Z., presiding; Comp. Wood, Treas., as Croupier. A most ample repast, excellently purveyed by Comp. J. Malcolm, 26, Struthers-st., was put upon the table at about 8 p.m., and most heartily enjoyed by all present. The first toast was "The Queen and the Craft," "Grand Chapters," and "The Army, Navy, and Volunteers," which was most heartily responded to, after which Comp. Wood in a most telling speech, though brief, replied to the last named toast. Then came the toast of the evening, that of "The Cathedral Royal Arch Chapter," by the Chairman. Comp. Duthie said it was very cheering, and gave him very much pleasure, to propose this toast, as the chapter was in as good a position as he could wish; and having so many noble companions present on this occasion, if there was one meeting happier than another it was the one of their annual festival. Every companion present, I think, will agree with me that we have had a bountiful supply of good things laid before us, and if we fail to enjoy ourselves I think we have only ourselves to blame, and while I am engaged in proposing this toast I trust that every companion present will charge, and prepare to do justice to it, as I wish Royal Arch chapters to succeed everywhere, and continue to succeed, as well, if not better, for the future as it has done for the past in the Cathedral—that her house may continue to be the best imitation of a Masonic Temple, as the Temple of Zerubbabel was a copy of that of Solomon, and the Temple of Herod a copy of Zerubbabel, except it was larger in size, of nobler material, and higher arc, wrought by the hands of Masons of Athens, and Antioch, and was divided, as in the days of Solomon, into a holy place, and a holy of holies, by a veil or curtain of the finest work, so may this Cathedral Royal Arch Chapter try and excel in the noble work, having at all times within her veils the three lesser and the three greater lights of Masonry, that the companions may at all times see to work well, and that many Gentiles and Jews from all nations will come and rally round our standard. This toast met with a very able reply from Comp. Campbell. The toasts of "Sister Chapters," "The Ladies" and "The Masonic Press," severally followed, and were replied to—that of "The Sister Chapters," by Comp. J. Miller, M.E.Z., Chapter 50, Glasgow; that of "The Ladies" by Comp. Campbell, and "The Masonic Press" by Comp. Bickerton ("Freemason"). The harmonium was most ably presided over by Comp. Miller.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Thistle and Rose (No. 73).—This lodge celebrated its 122nd anniversary by a supper and assembly at Bro. Wallace's Assembly Rooms, on Wednesday evening, 23rd ult. There was a large attendance of members and their friends. R.W.M. Bro. G. McDonald presided, Bros. J. F. Hanbidge and J. Ballantine acting as Croupiers. The very excellent menu of Bro. J. Carmichael gave great satisfaction. After the toasts of "The Queen" and "Prince of Wales and rest of the Royal Family" had been duly honoured, the Chairman gave "The Three Grand Lodges of England, Ireland, and Scotland." Bro. G. W. Wheeler, in replying, called attention to the large sums disbursed in charity by the Grand Lodge of England, and the three benevolent institutions, namely, those for old men and women and the Girls' and Boys' Schools, amounting together to upwards of £30,000 last year. The Croupier gave "The P.G.L." and Bro. J. Kinaird replied. Bro. G. Innis proposed the toast of the evening, "Prosperity to the Thistle and Rose, No. 73," highly eulogising its Master and other office-bearers, most of whom he had known for many years. The Chairman, in his reply, stated that in the century and a quarter they had been now in existence they had had seasons of adversity as well as of prosperity, but he was proud to say they never stood in a better position than now. This was the fifth time he had filled the chair at their festivals, and he was glad to think they still acted up to their name, blending the rose with the thistle by appointing a fair proportion of their officers from Englishmen. They found that the union of the two conduced to true prosperity. An assembly followed.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Star (No. 219).—On Friday, the 25th ult., about 90, including their wives and sweethearts and friends, met in the hall, Trongate, to celebrate the 77th anniversary of the lodge. The meeting was opened with prayer by the worthy Chaplain of the lodge, after which the company sat down to a most excellent menu, the chair being occupied by Bro. J. Morgan, R.W.M., supported by Bro. J. Martin, D.M.; A. Bain, P.M. 103; Wilson, 27; J. Wood, R.W.M. 441; Singleton, R.W.M. 178; J. Wilson, P.M. 219; and W. H. Bickerton ("Freemason"), 972, E.C., 34, 87, 27, 219, and 360, S.C. Croupiers, Bros. Horn and Mearns. After the cloth had been removed, the Chairman arose, amid applause, and said: Ladies, Croupiers, and brethren, it gives me great pleasure to occupy the chair at all times, but more especially on this particular occasion in having so many ladies present with us. We have at all times beauty adorning our lodges, but on this occasion we have beauty in nature, beauty in presence, and beauty of sex. I am glad to congratulate you on your appearance, and ourselves, brethren, in being honoured by their fair presence on this occasion, and, I trust, on many others. To you, ladies, much of Freemasonry must ever remain a secret, and our business meetings cannot admit of your presence. Therefore, on occasions such as these we are happy to be adorned with your bright and cheering presence, and I hope each and all of you may enjoy yourselves on this our annual festival. Freemasonry, with its principles, has been handed down to us

from time immemorial, and nothing is more pure and unselfish than that which springs from it in our sister country, England. About two years ago it was thought that a great blow of a destructive character was dealt against our Order by the resignation of their G.M., the Marquis of Ripon, on his joining the Church of Rome. It is true that his resignation was most keenly felt, but the principles of our noble Order were based upon too pure and bright a character to lose one step of our stronghold. H.R.H. the Prince of Wales came to the rescue, was elected, and installed as Grand Master, and since that time Freemasonry has flourished more than ever and shall flourish onward. Their R.H. the Duke of Connaught and Prince Leopold have joined our Order, and on reading the "Freemason" I am delighted to see that Prince Leopold has been elected Master of the Apollo Lodge, Oxford, and Provincial Grand Master of Oxfordshire. Surely this augurs well for the Order, surely must show the neutral world that there is something in Freemasonry more than a name if its principles are acted up to. Masonry knows no distinction; we have kings, princes, and noblemen of every rank adorning our ranks, and the king in our eyes is no more than the humblest subject. We all meet on a level. Freemasonry is founded on the purest of principles, that of faith, hope, and charity, though there are many join our ranks, I am sorry to say, who do not act up to the principles, but be assured ladies that a true Mason will make a good husband and a loving father, and you must forbear a little when we absent ourselves from our ain fire side and your bright presence. Rest assured that while in our lodges we are endeavouring to do some noble act in accordance with the landmarks of our noble Order. I was sorry to say that we, as Freemasons in Scotland, have not much to speak of in the way of benevolence; we have nothing to show for Freemasonry, not an institution of any kind; all that we can boast of is two or three pounds from our lodges, and four or five pounds from our Provincial Benevolent Fund, in all not exceeding £12. What is that to the decayed Freemason, or to the widow left with a family of five or six young children unprovided for? Think of the widows and orphans deprived of their bread winners, having been reduced from comparative comfort to misery and want. What can ten pounds do for a case of this kind? This relief that we boast of may do for immediate assistance, but nothing more—it is not equal to the demand. Look what they are doing for the widows, orphans, and decayed Freemasons in other countries. I read in the "Freemason" last Saturday of the anniversary of the Benevolent Institution for Widows and Aged Freemasons in England; what a glorious result, the sums collected on this occasion being over £9000, and lists yet to come in. This, I say, is doing and carrying out what we profess. I regret to say that we, as Scotch Masons, are not doing our duty, and that Freemasonry with us is but a name; let us put our shoulders to the wheel and show that we are doing our duty. The toast list was then proceeded with from the chair: "The Queen and Craft," "The Three Grand Lodges," coupled with their respective Grand Masters, which was most enthusiastically responded to, "The P.G.L. of Glasgow," by the Croupier, Bro. Horn, coupled with the name of Bro. Singleton, R.W.M. Lodge Scotia, No. 178. Bro. Singleton, in reply, said he had much pleasure in responding to this toast, as the P.G.L. of Glasgow was a credit to the province to which it belonged; the office-bearers were doing their duty well; they had a benevolent fund with funds to the extent of £400; and were in the position to do a good deal in the way of charity, and with such a worthy brother as W.M. Neilson, their present Grand Master, they were sure to do well. "The Army, Navy, and Volunteers," by Bro. J. Wilson, I.P.M., responded to by Bro. Wood, R.W.M. Lodge 441. Then came the toast of the evening, that of "Lodge Star, No. 219," by Bro. Bain, P.M. Union and Crown, No. 103, coupled with the name of their respected Master, Bro. Morgan. This toast met with continuous cheering, and was heartily drunk. Bro. Bain said it gave him much pleasure to propose this toast, for very few lodges in this province were in a more healthy condition than Lodge Star was at the present. They had seen their ups and downs, but he was glad to say were now prospering, and under the guidance of their present R.W.M. and office-bearers they were bound to succeed, for very few could perform the ceremonies of the Order more correctly than Bro. Morgan; in fact, it was a pleasure for any one to be present when he was working, which accounted for the very large attendance they had on the nights of their meetings. Bro. Morgan thanked Bro. Bain for the very kind manner he had proposed the toast of Lodge Star, which he had the honour to preside over. He had always done his duty to the best of his ability since he had been connected with the lodge, and should endeavour to do so, and if he gave satisfaction that is all he wished for. He could say, as Bro. Bain said, the lodge had had its ups and downs, but now was in a prosperous condition, for the hall they now sat in was their own, and they had now formed a benevolent fund in connection with the lodge, and with the present office-bearers he had to support him success was certain. The toasts of "The Sister Lodges," "The Ladies," "The Press," Strangers and the Chair" were severally given and suitably replied to—"Sister Lodges" by Bro. Wilson, Lodge 27; "The Ladies," Bro. Duthie; "The Press" by Bro. Bickerton ("Freemason"); and "The Chair" by Bro. Morgan. During the evening, between the toasts, the company was much delighted with some most excellent songs, enlivened by the harmonium. A most excellent quadrille band having been engaged, dancing commenced with unflagging spirit until about 5 a.m., which brought to a close one of the most happy meetings of this lodge.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Union (No. 332).—This lodge held its regular meeting on Monday evening, 21st ult., in Kilwinning Masonic Hall, 170, Buchanan-street.

In the absence of the W.M., Bro. D. McKirdy, the I.P.M., Bro. J. B. Macnair, occupied the chair; J. McInnes, S.W.; J. McInnes, S.M. 408, acting J.W. Present: Bros. W. Murray, S.M.; J. Laird, Treas.; J. H. Gill, Sec.; J. Findlay, S.D.; J. Mitchell, J.D.; J. Balfour, P.G. D.C.; S. Milne, 8; R. Barr, J.W. 87; A. Bain, P.M. 103; G. McKean, 117; J. Wilson, 169; J. Findlay, S.M. 333; J. Stewart, 360; M. Fox, J.D. 362; W. Barr, 543; and W. Ferguson, P.M. ("Freemason"). The minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed. Mr. G. Dickson was initiated by Bro. J. B. Macnair, I.P.M., assisted by Bro. A. Bain, P.M. 103, Acting Chaplain.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Commercial (No. 360).—A meeting of this lodge was held in their own hall, 30, Hope-street, on Tuesday evening, 22nd ult., Bro. D. Lamb, D.M., presiding; J. M. Oliver, S.W.; T. Graham, J.W.; W. Findlay, S.M.; W. Keiller, S.D.; Reid, J.D.; Jamieson, I.G.; and Minnoch, Tyler. Bro. Lamb said he was sorry that Bro. J. Monro, the respected W.M., would not be present that night, on account of being called unexpectedly from home on business of importance. Present: Bros. E. Arthur, Mother Kilwinning; D. Peacock, 85; R. Barr, J.W. 87; J. M. Duncan, 116; D. Mather, 116; P. McWilliam, 202; A. Rae, 262; J. Hamilton, 399; G. Kilgour, 419; and W. Ferguson, P.M. ("Freemason"), Messrs. G. J. Adams and G. Coutts were duly accepted and initiated into the First Degree by Bro. Oliver, S.W., and Bros. H. E. Pearce, W. B. McDougall, and R. Wylie were raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason by Bro. D. Lamb.

DALMUIR.—Lodge St. John's (No. 543).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held on Tuesday evening, 22nd ult., in the Masonic Hall, Dalmeir, Bro. S. Leckie, W.M., in the chair; A. McNaughton, jun., D.M.; J. Barrie, S.M.; J. F. Wilson, S.W.; J. Stairs, J.D., acting J.W. (in the absence of Bro. Muirhead); T. Haggart, Sec.; M. Watson, Treas.; J. McClure, S.B.; J. Morrison, S.S.; R. Hunter, J.S.; A. Smith, I.G.; and Adair, Tyler. The minutes of last meetings were read and adopted, and other business of minor importance disposed of. Mr. J. Thompson was initiated by Bro. Leckie, W.M.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF EAST LANCA-SHIRE.

By command of Col. Le Gendre N. Starkie, R.W. Provincial Grand Master, a special Grand Lodge was held in Freemasons' Hall, Cooper-street, Manchester, on Thursday, 2nd inst., for the purpose of considering and adopting a vote of sympathy and condolence with Mrs. Callender and her family on their sad bereavement by the death of the lamented Bro. W. Romaine Callender, Deputy Provincial Grand Master.

A numerous attendance of the brethren from all parts of the province testified to the feeling of respect with which the late Bro. Callender was universally regarded. The lodge was suitably draped in black, and the brethren also conformed to the regulation as to mourning recently issued to the province.

The R.W. Provincial Grand Master (Col. Le G. N. Starkie) occupied the chair, and amongst others present were Bros. J. L. Hine, P. Prov. G.W., as Dep. Prov. G. Master; C. R. N. Beswicke-Royds, P. Prov. G.W., as Prov. S.G. Warden; Charles H. Coates, Prov. J.G. Warden; Robt. Hopwood Hutchinson, P. Prov. G.W.; Geo. Mellor, P. Prov. G.W.; James A. Birch, P. Prov. G.W.; John Barker, P. Prov. G. Treas.; R. Mc D. Smith, P. Prov. G. Treas.; Thos. Chorlton, Prov. G. Reg.; Wm. Harrison, P. Prov. G. Reg.; Chas. Heywood, P. Prov. G. Reg.; John Tunnah, Prov. G. Sec.; Peter Royle, M.D., Prov. S.G. Deacon; Geo. Wood, Prov. J.G. Deacon; Jno. Chadwick, P. Prov. G. Deacon; Wm. Almond, Prov. G. Sup. of Works; Thos. Entwisle, P. Prov. G. Sup. of Wks.; W. H. Hopkins, Prov. G. Dir. of Cers.; Robt. Whittaker, P. Prov. G. Dir. of Cers.; Hy. Maiden, P. Prov. G. Swd. Bearer; Wm. Barlow, P. Prov. G. Swd. Bearer; Jas. Holroyd, P. Prov. G. Swd. Bearer; Thos. Law, P. Prov. G. Org.; John Taylor, Prov. G. Purst.; Albert Wolstenholm, Asst. Prov. G. Purst.; C. F. Matier, Past G. W. Greece, and representatives from 65 of the 82 lodges in the province.

After the Provincial Grand Lodge had been opened in due form, the R.W. Prov. Grand Master referred in earnest and impressive terms to the loss which the province and the whole of the Craft had sustained by the death of the late Bro. Callender, and intimated that a form of address of sympathy and condolence, with Mrs. Callender and her family had been drawn up, of which he approved and which the Prov. Grand Secretary would read to the brethren.

The Prov. Grand Secretary read the proposed address as follows:—

"To Mrs. Romaine Callender,—We, the Freemasons of the Eastern Division of the County Palatine of Lancaster, in Provincial Grand Lodge assembled, are affectionately moved to express our sympathy and condolence with you and your family, under the grievous bereavement you have sustained by the lamented death of your late husband, and our beloved friend and associate, William Romaine Callender, Esquire, Deputy Provincial Grand Master of our Order in the said division. We feel that in expressing our sympathy with you and your family on this melancholy occasion, we must forbear to enter the sanctuary of our late brother's private virtues, where as a husband and father the exercise of those qualities so deeply endeared him, or to dilate upon the distinguished career he pursued, and the honourable character he maintained in his native city and county, as a magistrate as well as in other positions of eminence and distinction, and as a representative of his native city in the legislative assembly

of this nation. But as a brother Freemason we can speak of him as one of the brightest ornaments of the Order, and as excelling in those gifts and attainments which so eminently qualify him to inculcate the virtuous precept, and to exemplify the beneficent principles of the Order. Considering that the present is not an appropriate opportunity for lengthened observations which might not be congenial to the minds of those with whom we seek to sympathise, we will only assure you that we fervently pray that you may be sustained in your bereavement by divine aid, and your grief alleviated by heavenly consolation, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester, 2nd March, 1876."

Bro. J. L. Hine, P. Prov. G. Warden, proposed that the address as now read be adopted, and that it be signed by the R.W. Provincial Grand Master on behalf of this province, and be forwarded by the Provincial Grand Secretary to Mrs. Callender.

Bro. James A. Bird, P. Prov. G. Warden, in seconding the motion, referred to a touching manner to the late Bro. Callender's many public and private virtues, and to the closing moments of a life sacrificed to the welfare of his fellow creatures.

The motion was submitted to the meeting and carried unanimously.

The Provincial G. Lodge was then closed in due form.

ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

The committee of this institution was held on Wednesday, in the library, Freemasons' Hall, Col. Creaton, V.P., in the chair. There were also present Bros. S. Rawson, Raynham W. Stewart, Griffiths Smith, W. Hale, Hyde Pullen, R. Wentworth Little, C. A. Cotterburn, William Stephens, A. H. Tattershall, Charles Lacey, Dr. Hogg, John Constable, W. Hilton, J. Newton, John Bellerby, C. F. Hogard, Dr. Erasmus Wilson, John Dennison (Architect of the Institution); H. Massey ("Freemason"); James Terry (Secretary); and William Lane (Collector).

Bro. Terry reported the result of the last festival of the institution. To this festival there were 214 Stewards, and the amount announced was £9174 10s. 6d., with eight lists to come in. Of these six had been sent in, and the total amount subscribed to the present time was £9274 18s. 6d. Bro. Terry also reported that he had communicated to Lord Skelmersdale, who then presided, the vote of thanks accorded to him by the committee at last meeting for presiding on the occasion of the festival. He had not however, yet received an acknowledgment.

Bro. Terry also reported the death of Bro. W. Farnfield, late Secretary of the Institution.

Bro. Raynham W. Stewart then rose and said: I rise with very deep regret to propose that we should communicate our feelings to the widow and family of Bro. Farnfield. I knew Bro. Farnfield many years ago, in fact, Bro. Farnfield was the first brother that introduced to my notice our noble Masonic Institutions. The first Stewardship I ever stood with connected with Bro. Farnfield. I had the greatest respect and regard for Bro. Farnfield, and I do not believe that there is a brother round this table who knew him who has not the same feeling. However, he is gone from us, but at a ripe old age. He has done good suit and service in his time, and I believe he and Bro. Barrett were the founders of the Aged Institution, which is, however, the youngest of the three Masonic Institutions. He did suit and service while God spared him with health and strength; and I am very glad to know that we had the means at our disposal of doing our duty to him by making the last of his years happy and comfortable. I therefore rise with very deep regret on hearing of his death to move "That this committee, having been informed of the decease of Bro. William Farnfield, late Secretary of this Institution, desires to convey to his widow and family its heartfelt sympathy and warmest condolence in the bereavement they have sustained. Profoundly sensible of the long and valuable services rendered by him to Freemasonry generally, and notably to this institution, the committee bears vividly in recollection the interest manifested by him during the many years he was so intimately associated with it, and is anxious to place on record its high sense and appreciation of the manner in which he discharged the duties of his position, and in so doing to pay a fitting and merited tribute of admiration and regard for the memory of one whose loss it so deeply deplores." Brethren, I ask you to pass that vote, and in asking you again I would still refer to the very noble services, the great kindness, and good feeling our Bro. Farnfield has always shown to us when he filled a higher position than our Secretary in Grand Secretary's office. I am sure there were none of us who ever applied to Bro. Farnfield there for information who did not receive it. (Hear, hear.)

Bro. W. Hale, P.M. St. Clement Danes, seconded the motion.

The Chairman said: I will not put the motion in the usual formal way, because I am quite sure it will be unanimously carried. Therefore, I hope you will allow me to have recorded that it is unanimous without putting it to the vote.

This was agreed to, and the motion was declared to be unanimous.

Bro. Terry reported three deaths among the annuitants, after receiving respectively £27, £49, and £4 10s.

The Warden's report for the last month recorded among other things a visit paid by the inmates of the Asylum to the Crystal Palace, with which they were much delighted. One inmate of the building desired to give up his apartments to go to live with his friends.

Bro. Raynham W. Stewart then said that on the occasion of the festival of 1875 he moved that the Stewards of that festival should be invited to pay a visit to the institution at Croydon. It was accepted, and a great many went, and he was quite certain that it did a great deal of good to the institution, because many of the brethren had never seen

and never heard of it before. The committee were deeply indebted to the exertions of Bro. Terry and to the brethren who assisted at that inspection of a building which really was a credit to the Craft. He therefore moved that the Stewards for 1876 be invited down to the institution at Croydon, and that the expenses be paid, the same as was done on the Stewards' visits to the Boys' and Girls' schools. They would be doing that which was serving the interests of the institution, and also which caused great pleasure to the inmates or those who had taken up their cause.

Bro. S. Rawson seconded the motion, which was put and carried.

An addition was made to the wages of the gardener, who devotes all his time to the grounds of the institution, and Bro. Terry reported that all the repairs to the institution had been completed. This was confirmed by Bro. Dennison, the Architect, and a cheque for the amount was signed on the spot. Permission was granted to one lady to have half her late husband's annuity, and permission was granted to one annuitant to reside in the asylum. Some small matters were afterwards disposed of, and the committee adjourned.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

The General Committee of subscribers to this institution met on Saturday last, in the Board-room, Freemasons' Hall, Bro. William Ruebeck in the chair. The other members present were Bros. Benj. H. A., John Symonds, H. Browne, J. C. Daubert, Raynham W. Stewart, Henry W. Hunt, Jesse Turner, J. M. Stedwell, Hyde Pullen, C. Rosenthal, J. G. Chancellor, F. Adlard, H. Massey ("Freemason"), and F. Binckes (Secretary).

An addition of £10 and £5 a year to the salaries of the fourth and fifth masters of the school, recommended by the House Committee, was confirmed; and the purchase of Kent House for £2000 was approved of, and remitted to the Quarterly Court in April next for final authorisation. This was moved by Bro. Jesse Turner and seconded by Bro. John Symonds; and it was the general feeling of the committee that the purchase was a most valuable one in the interests of the institution.

In the course of the reading of the minutes of the House Committee for information, the General Committee were informed of the receipt of a letter from Mr. Du Plat Taylor, secretary to the East and West India Dock Company, stating the company's willingness to take properly qualified boys from this institution into the offices of the company as junior clerks. The minutes also recorded directions given to the Secretary to write to Mr. Du Plat Taylor, thanking him and accepting the offer.

The gift of 14 volumes by Bro. Benj. H. A. to the library of the school, the third presentation of the same kind by that brother, was also recorded, as well as the thanks of the committee for the gift.

The total number of boys to be admitted at next election was fixed at 16, and a conversation ensued on the special topic of purchase cases, Bros. Browne and Symonds leading. Bro. Browne was not in favour of admission by purchase, but thought if the building was extended the admission of purchase boys might be extended also.

The committee then adjourned.

RED CROSS OF CONSTANTINE.

The annual assembly of the General Grand Conclave of Knights of the Masonic and Military Order of the Red Cross of Constantine and Appendant Orders was held at the City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street, on Wednesday evening last, after the assembling of the Premier Conclave, at which some formal business was performed. At the General Grand Conclave Sir F. M. Williams, Grand Sovereign, presided; Col. Burdett, Grand Viceroy Eusebius and Lord Skelmersdale, Past Grand Viceroy, also attending. The other Sir Knight present were John Boyd, G.H.P.; J. Percy Leith, P.G.V.; Rev. J. M. Vaughan, H. C. Levander, G.H.C.; Angelo Lewis, G.C.; Thos. W. White, G.H.; Thos. Cubitt; H. A. Dabois, G.A.T.; J. T. Moss; Fred. Kelly, G. Swd. B.; Wm. Ruebeck; E. H. Thielay, G. Stand. B.; Henry Parker, G. Org.; C. F. Hogard; J. G. Marsh, P.G.S.G. and P.G.A.; A. A. Pendlebury, Jas. Lewis Thomas, Bernard Sharp, P.S. Conclave, 7, Guernsey; John Gilbert, Sentinel; George Harrison, Deputy Sentinel; John B. Mercer, J. Clark, Gen. Moren, Whitney Wilkinson, Chas. Knott, M.L. Gen. Hants; Chas. Groom, 35; Col. Peters, W. T. Howe, Joshua Nunn, W. H. Scott, P.S. 101; H. Ramsden, John Mason, John M. Levick, S. Rosenthal, Hyde Pullen, H. H. Shirley, W. H. Hubbard, P.G. Treas.; Frank Green, Samuel Love Green, Frederick Binckes, Herbert Dicketts, Thomas Kingston, Charles Hammerton, George Kenning, Rev. P. M. Holden, C. W. Gray, Alfred Williams, F. D. Rasboytrick, Edward Veare, H. Amor, E. C. Mather, Henry Venn, J. F. Attergill, H. W. Lane, H. M. Carter, E. Letchworth, W. E. Jameson, Alf Moore, Thomas Brooke, 17; W. Winn, H. Massey ("Freemason"); and Dr. Woodman. The Province of Bristol sent up a strong contingent, there being from this province alone the Deputy Intendant General of the Province of Bristol, Sir Knt. G. F. Tuckey; the Past Sovereign of the William D'Irwin Conclave, 17, Sir Knts. W. Hodges; the Sovereign of No. 17, J. T. Hallam; the Viceroy of No. 17, Sir Knt. W. Munro; Sir Knts. Lane, Amor, Williams, Ware, Brooke, and W. A. Scott, Past Sovereign of No. 101, Bristol.

After the formal opening of the conclave Sir Knight R. Wentworth Little, Grand Treasurer, read the report for the year, which showed the Order to be in a condition of steady progress; several new conclaves having been opened and new members coming into them in considerable numbers.

At the conclusion of the reading of this report it was put to the meeting and unanimously adopted.

Lord Skelmersdale then rose to move that a vote of condolence with the family of the late Sir Knt. W. Romaine Callender on their recent bereavement be passed. He was sure that those who knew the late Sir Knight well, and many present knew him even better than he (Lord Skelmersdale) himself, would bear him out in saying that a truer Mason, or a brother more devoted to the different Orders to which he belonged, never lived. No man more acted up to the Orders to which he belonged; he was a great supporter of all charities, and he had left behind him a reputation which would prove a bright example to all who followed him.

Col. Burdett, in seconding the motion, said he could add nothing to what the noble lord had said. The late Sir Knight was an excellent Mason; he was a great supporter of all charitable institutions; and he was happy to say his efforts were thoroughly appreciated by all who knew him, and by none more than Masons, and in Lancashire, where he was so well known.

Sir F. M. Williams most thoroughly endorsed all that had been said by the Sir Knights who had preceded him with respect to the late lamented Sir Knt. W. Romaine Callender.

The motion was then put and carried unanimously.

On the motion of Sir Knt. John Mason, seconded by Sir Knt. H. A. Dabois, the sum of thirty guineas was unanimously voted from the Grand Almoner's Fund to be placed on the list of Sir Knt. H. C. Levander, as Steward for the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls. The election of Senators then took place, and resulted as follows:—Sir Knts. John Mason, with 46 votes, E. H. Thielay, 43; T. B. Yeoman, 43; W. T. Howe, 40; Kelly, 40; C. F. Hogard, 37; Macartney, 37; Rev. P. M. Holden, 36; A. A. Pendlebury, 36; and Herbert Dicketts, 34.

The conclave was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to banquet, which had been admirably provided by the City Terminus Hotel authorities under Bro. C. F. Lord, and for the excellent arrangements of which the Sir Knights were indebted to Sir Knt. George Kenning. Col. Burdett presided, having Lord Skelmersdale on his right, and Sir Knt. Percy Leith on his left. Most of the Sir Knights named above attended, and after the banquet had been disposed of, Col. Burdett proposed the toasts. After that of "The Queen" had been duly honoured,

Col. Burdett again rose, and said the next toast would be received with the greatest pleasure and enthusiasm. It was the toast of a member of the Order whom they had long delighted to see amongst them, and he hoped it would be still many years that he might be among them and reign over them. The Prince of Wales, to whom he alluded, was now in a distant land, but we were able by means of the wires to know how he was going on; and it gave us great pleasure to read of his progress and exploits. He hoped his Royal Highness would soon be back with us again. (Hear, hear.) The Princess of Wales was deservedly popular and very much liked by the people of this country. The longer she was among us the better she would be loved and liked. The rest of the Royal Family were also very popular. We had in a short time had introduced into Masonry Prince Leopold, who formed another link which united the Order with the Royal Family. In the last generation the Royal Family were members of the Order, as almost every male member of that family belonged to it. Now, many members of the reigning family were joining, and he hoped before many years were over all of them would be members of the Craft. (Hear, hear.)

Col. Burdett then proposed "The Grand Sovereign, Sir F. M. Williams," who had not been able to stop at the banquet on account of a severe domestic affliction. He also coupled with this toast the name of the Earl of Bective, whom the Sir Knights had not had an opportunity of seeing lately.

Lord Skelmersdale proposed the next toast. It was one, he said, which he was sure they would all receive with the greatest enthusiasm, "The Health of the Most Eminent the Grand Viceroy, Col. Francis Burdett." (Cheers.) He felt sure when he said it that this toast would be well received, for it had been his lot now to meet Col. Francis Burdett several times in the metropolitan district, and it had given him the greatest pleasure to witness the increasing enthusiasm with which his name was as time went on received. He did not wish to flatter Col. Burdett, but it gave him the greatest pleasure to find him presiding over the Sir Knights that evening. Col. Burdett was, he believed, the Grand Sovereign elect of Scotland, and he was glad there was a representative of Scotland present to welcome him into the bosom of that conclave. He proposed Col. Burdett's health, and wished him long life and health.

Col. Burdett said he sincerely thanked the Sir Knights for the very kind manner in which they had responded to this toast, but he must say he wished he could return thanks in as few words, comprising such a large subject, as Lord Skelmersdale had used. He feared he must fail in doing so as he would wish. It was true that he and Lord Skelmersdale had had the pleasure of meeting together frequently, and he trusted they might long have that pleasure in future. He felt very much gratified indeed to see around him so many Sir Knights whom he had been in the habit of meeting for years—he might say for some considerable number of years. Lord Skelmersdale had kindly alluded to his (Col. Burdett's) election for the Grand Conclave of Scotland, as their first Sovereign, and he assured the Sir Knights, proud as he must feel of having obtained that position, he felt not only proud now, but it gave him great pleasure to be at the head of a Grand Conclave in Scotland, where he might say he was partially naturalised, having a son-in-law and daughter-in-law there. To him it must be a matter of great pleasure to be at the head of the Red Cross Order in Scotland, as it did to be at the head of the Order in England. (Hear.) It was a great honour, and he highly appreciated it. (Applause.)

Col. Burdett, in proposing "The Health of Lord Skelmersdale," said that all the Sir Knights were pleased to have his lordship present as a guest that evening. His lordship was well known, not only by the whole of his Province of Lancashire, but by the whole of the Freemasons of London and England. His lordship was not only present that evening among the Sir Knights for the first time, but he was constantly among them, whenever he had an opportunity of going out and performing his duties, which he did so ably and so well. They had seen him lately in different phases. On Wednesday previous he presided in Grand Lodge of England; a few days before he was at Oxford, installing Prince Leopold; and he had recently been in Lancashire, as well as other places, acting in Masonry. He had always performed his duties with satisfaction to Freemasons, had been most thoroughly welcomed by all wherever he has gone, and was beloved in all circles. If his lordship were not present he would be able to say more of him. His lordship was always available whenever his services were required.

Lord Skelmersdale, in reply, said that he thanked the brethren very heartily for the most kind way in which they had received his name, and Colonel Burdett for the extremely flattering terms in which he had proposed the toast. He assured the brethren that it never gave him greater pleasure than when he had to perform his duties in his Masonic life. If he was ever found wanting it was not from not having the inclination or not wishing to do his duty, but because he had duties elsewhere, and those were falling upon him pretty thickly now. He would, however, endeavour to perform his Masonic duties in a way entirely satisfactory to the brethren. He hoped he would always be worthy of the brethren's confidence.

Col. Burdett then proposed "Earl Ferrers, Senior Grand General, and the rest of the Grand Council." All the Sir Knights were aware that the Grand Council was the moving and head part of this Order, who did the administrative work, and he must say they did it most satisfactorily. With this toast he begged to couple the name of Sir Knt. Percy Leith, who did his work so well that it was the admiration of the whole of the Order.

Sir Knt. Percy Leith replied: It was a great compliment to him as well as to the other officers to have such complimentary remarks as had just been used by Col. Burdett. The officers and past officers of the Grand Conclave were always ready to do their duty, and on their behalf he would say, if any work should be required of them after their year of office had expired they would always be ready to do it. He had devoted a great portion of his time and attention to the Order of the Red Cross of Rome and Constantine, and he was happy to say he had done signal service, as far as he was concerned, and he had been well supported by his friends. He felt deeply indebted to those who had come forward in the council to assist, and he would always do the Order the greatest good he could. On behalf of the officers of the Grand Council he returned his most hearty and sincere thanks for the kind way in which his health had been drunk, and he sincerely trusted on future occasions the Grand Officers would be ready to support and assist at any ceremony where their services might be required.

Col. Burdett afterwards proposed "The Intendants General," and said, that all the Sir Knights were very much indebted to them for the success of the Orders. They were in fact, Generals in their districts, and had different conclaves under their command. They carried out their duties in a most efficient manner. One of them was present that evening, one who had been recently inducted in the office of Intendant General. He was the youngest, but though the youngest he was not the least, and he hoped he would not be the last. He had entered most enthusiastically upon his duties, and in Cambridgeshire he had introduced a large amount of vigour into the province. He alluded to Sir Knight Amphlett, who, though a young Mason, was very well known among Masons. They were all glad to see him, and he hoped they would have many opportunities of seeing him and hearing the good reports he had to make of those conclaves under his control. (Hear, hear.)

Sir Knight Amphlett responded. He was struck from the first moment he entered the Red Cross Degree by the beauty of its ritual, especially as given in the Premier Conclave. He was a very young man to be so honoured by having such a high office as that of Intendant General conferred upon him; but he hoped he would be as energetic in promoting the interests of the Red Cross in the province over which he was called to rule as others had shown who had been appointed before him. He looked upon himself as a very insignificant individual, but he hoped to make great efforts on behalf of the Order. He hoped to start a conclave at Oxford, which would be an offshoot from Cambridge, and he also hoped that there would soon be more conclaves in Cambridgeshire itself. He would feel it incumbent on him to start one or two more. He thanked Col. Burdett and the Sir Knights very much, and he would assure them that if they paid a visit to Cambridge, to see how the work was done there, he could promise them a hearty welcome. (Cheers.)

Sir Knt. Little proposed "The Grand Senate." This body was constituted on a democratic and an aristocratic basis, it being in the hands of the general body of Sir Knights to place members on the Grand Council. They performed very great service, and under Sir Knt. J. C. Parkinson, who was the senior officer, had done excellent work. Unfortunately, he was not then present; but they must not forget that they had among them Sir Knight Baird Mercer, from Scotland. The English Order was always glad to find that the Scottish knights stood upon their own ground, although the English Grand Conclave was very sorry to lose them. English Grand Conclave, however, would not be weakened by the fact of there be-

ing a separate Grand Conclave for Scotland, and the Grand Conclave of England would do all they could to promote the interests of the Grand Conclave of Scotland.

Sir Knt. W. Roebuck was the first to reply. All the members of the Senate had done their duty during the last twelve months to the best of their ability, and he was pleased to know the Senate was elected from the general body of Sir Knights, and in rotation they formed the council and so worked up to the governing body. He believed it was the right way, and the way all Orders should be supported. (Hear, hear.)

Sir Knight J. Baird Mercer also replied. He felt the honour that had been conferred upon the Scottish Sir Knights, more especially on the rather peculiar event that the Sovereign then sitting in the chair was the Sovereign elect of Scotland. This event was one which would not only tend to strengthen the bonds between the two countries, but to keep them together and to give them greater power. He was pleased to find that Sir Knt. Col. Burdett had relations with Scotland; and he hoped they would continue, so that the relations between the two bodies might have an additional bond of union. When Col. Burdett should go down to Scotland, and the members of the Grand Council accompanied him, they would find that they would receive a cordial welcome, and one that would satisfy them. He could assure the Sir Knights that the hearts of the Scottish Knights were warm to them, and that the allegiance which they had avowed to the Grand Council of England would continue as intact as it was at the present moment. In Scotland the Order had taken a ground that the Sir Knights had not expected at first. It began in a very small and humble way, but now it was beginning to start in the north, south, east, and west. Before long he hoped they would all be satisfied with the progress which the Order had made. Four years ago it was started in Edinburgh, and there were now six conclaves there. Shortly he expected they would ask for additional constitutional powers. (Cheers.)

Col. Burdett next proposed "The Sovereigns and Past Sovereigns" who were present, selecting Sir Knts. Yeoman, Hamerton, Pullen and Dubois, all of whom were thorough good working Masons and performed their duties whenever called upon.

Sir Knts. T. B. Yeoman, Charles Hamerton, Hyde Pullen, and H. A. Dubois respectively replied.

Sir Knt. Little proposed "The Stewards," of whom there were 45.

Sir Knts. J. W. Cubitt, Col. Peters, and W. T. Howe responded.

Col. Burdett then proposed "The Masonic Press," and complimented it on the great accuracy with which Masonic proceedings were reported. He referred particularly to the "Freemason," whose pages he had read for many years, and he had always found great accuracy displayed in its records of meetings, besides very great ability in the improvement of speeches which were delivered. It was very creditable to the Order to have such an organ, and the enterprise of the proprietor deserved every encouragement which could be given. (Hear, hear.)

Sir Knight H. Massey replied, and said that seeing that the "Freemason" was the only real Masonic organ, and he had been its reporter from the beginning, he took Col. Burdett's remarks as a compliment personal to himself. He might however say that though he felt very much flattered by the compliment, he did not look for it, as he simply performed his duty without fear, favour, or affection for any one.

Dr. Woodman proposed "Sir Knight Little," to whom he thought the great success of the evening was due.

Sir Knt. Little in reply, said that Lord Skelmersdale had informed him that he would be willing to take the Grand Viceroyship next year. Both his lordship and Sir F. M. Williams would attend next meeting of the conclave. Sir Knt. Percy Leith had been appointed to the post of inspector of foreign and colonial correspondences the duties of which, he knew he would thoroughly discharge. Sir Kt. Knott had been appointed for Hampshire, and Capt. Bartlett for Dorsetshire. This must be satisfactory to all the Knights, and he hoped that if he were spared many years we should witness a very great prosperity in the Order. He had been Grand Treasurer, and if next year the confidence of the Sir Knights should again place that important office on his shoulders he would again discharge it with the same faithfulness as hitherto.

Sir Knight Binckes proposed "Dr. Woodman," who replied.

Sir Knt. Levander replied for "The Charities," and thanked Grand Conclave for having given 30 guineas to his list as Steward for the Girls' School. He impressed upon the Sir Knights the fact that he was Steward on the occasion of the next festival, and solicited their support, as he wanted to take up a large amount on his list. (Cheers.)

Some other toasts followed and the Sir Knights separated, after having spent a charming and most successful evening.

A beautiful selection of music was performed by Bro. Seymour Smith, Bro. Stedman, Miss Annie Sinclair, and Lucie Hann.

The election of Grand Senators resulted in favour of the undermentioned Sir Knights:—

John Mason, G. Inspector of Regalia; Eugene H. Thielay and T. Burdett Yeoman, G. Standard Bearers; William Thomas Howe, G. Sword Bearer; Frederick Kelly, G. Organist; Charles Frederick Hogard, G. Assist. Marshal; J. W. Ellison Macartney, M.P., G. V. Chamberlain; Rev. P. Melancthon Holden and Alfred A. Pendlebury, G. Heralds; and Herbert Dickets, G. Usher.

The Birmingham Town Council has decided to erect assize courts for the borough, at a cost of from £100,000 to £150,000.

Masonic and General Tidings.

Bro. H.R.H. Prince Arthur, travelling incognito, has arrived at Algiers in the yacht Vega, and will make a few days' stay. The English residents intend giving fêtes in his honour.

The consecration of the Musgrave Lodge, No. 1597, takes place this day (Saturday). The officers designate are Bros. John Musgrave Levick, W.M.; Frederick Kelly, S.W.; Edward Amphlett, J.W. The Consecrating Officers are R. W. Col. Francis Burdett, Prov. G. M. Middlesex, and R. Wentworth Little, Prov. S.G. Warden Middlesex. A full report will appear in our next.

The Empress of Austria is now staying at Epton Neston in Northamptonshire for the purpose of hunting, in which Her Majesty is a great proficient. Her sister, the Queen of Naples, is living in retirement close by. The two fair sisters will have a hearty reception from all in the district.

Bro. James Hamilton Townend (formerly solicitor, of 86, Queen-street) has been elected clerk to the Haberdashers' Company.

Bro. Sir John Bennett presided at Dr. Martin Duncan's science lecture at the Foresters' Hall, Earl Granville, who was to have presided, having to be in his place in the House of Lords.

His Grace the Duke of Buccleuch, K.G., has joined the St. Stephen's Club. The Dukes of Montrose, Abercorn, K.G., Rutland, K.G., and Richmond and Gordon, K.G., have been members of the same club for a considerable time.

Bro. Sir Michael Costa, 35^o, had sufficiently recovered from his recent severe indisposition to be able to conduct the rehearsal of "Samson" at the Sacred Harmonic Society on Friday, 3rd inst.

Mr. Coles, an undergraduate of Magdalene College, Cambridge, died suddenly while at breakfast with a friend in the college rooms.

Dr. Von Sybel has proposed in the Berlin Academy of Science the complete publication of the political correspondence of Frederick the Great. The Emperor is said to approve the undertaking. The work will comprise about thirty volumes.

The City of London Bonus Tea should certainly become an article of universal consumption, when it is known that it is entirely selected by an eminent firm of some forty years' standing, who for the greater part of that time have been practical tea tasters, which enables them to guarantee the purity and excellence of the article they supply. The firm referred to is that of Messrs. Murray and Dean, of 41, Ludgate-hill, who, in addition to supplying teas of the choicest growths at the lowest prices, have also successfully introduced a system by which every purchaser receives a bonus cheque representing the discount for cash, which cheques on amounting to one shilling or upwards are paid to the persons presenting them. This novel principle has none of the risks inseparable from lotteries; for there is no chance or uncertainty whatever, as every package of the City of London Bonus Tea contains a cheque in proportion to the sum expended. The largely increased sale of their teas has led the firm to adopt this system, on the principle of small profits and quick returns due to the spirit of the age, and is one which may be followed with advantage. Alderman Sidney, who was Lord Mayor some years ago, and whose eminent public services in saving the City funds to the extent of several thousands were duly acknowledged by the Corporation, may be remembered as formerly the head of this firm, which since his retirement has maintained its high reputation, and his remaining partners well deserve the support and co-operation of the public in more widely diffusing the benefits of the system they have so happily instituted.

Our Brussels correspondent telegraphs that two splendid saloon carriages have been built in that city for the Continental travels of her Majesty Queen Victoria, at a cost of eight thousand pounds.

Amongst the visitors to the new and handsome show-rooms recently opened by Mr. Goode, South Audley-street, may be mentioned their Royal Highnesses the Princess of Wales, the Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh, the Princess Mary and the Duke of Teck, the Princess Louise (Marchioness of Lorne), and the Marquis of Lorne.

Bro. E. J. Harty is very anxious for it to be generally known that the period for receiving portraits for insertion in the Official and Historical Engraving of the Installation of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales has been prolonged for a short time longer, there being still space for a limited number. It is very necessary that these few should be sent in at once, to enable the artist to proceed towards completion.

According to a report read at the annual meeting of the Royal Literary Fund, held on Wednesday, Lord Houghton in the chair, it appeared that during the past year fifty authors had been relieved by the fund at a cost of £2100.

THE ROYAL STANDARD LODGE (No. 1298).—A report of the installation meeting on Tuesday last will appear in our next.

The annual convocation of the Elias Ashmole Chapter, No. 148, Warrington, will be held at the chapter-rooms, Sankey-street, on Monday next, at four o'clock in the afternoon, when the Principals elect will be installed by E. Comp. John Bowes, P.Z., P. Prov. G.S.B., &c.

The name of our distinguished brother, J. M. P. Montagu, 33^o, Grand Chancellor A. and A., D.P.G.M. Dorset, and P. Sub Prior Dorset, was omitted in the list of subscribers to the Historical Steel Engraving of the Installation of the M.W.G.M., published in the "Freemason" of the 26th ult.

TO OUR READERS.

The *Freemason* is a sixteen-page weekly newspaper, price 2d. It is published every Friday morning, and contains the most important, interesting, and useful information relating to Freemasonry in every degree. Annual subscription in the United Kingdom, Post free, 10/-.

NEW POSTAL RATES.

Owing to a reduction in the Postal Rates, the publisher is now enabled to send the "*Freemason*" to the following parts abroad for One Year for Twelve Shillings (payable in advance):—Africa, Australia, Bombay, Canada, Cape of Good Hope, Ceylon, China, Constantinople, Demerara, France, Germany, Gibraltar, Jamaica, Malta, Newfoundland, New South Wales, New Zealand, Suez, Trinidad, United States of America, &c.

P.O.O.'s to be made payable at the chief office, London.

COLONIAL AND FOREIGN SUBSCRIBERS

are informed that acknowledgments of remittances received are published in the first number of every month.

NOTICE.—It is very necessary for our friends to advise us of all money orders they remit, more especially those from the United States of America and India; otherwise we cannot tell where to credit them.

TO ADVERTISERS.

The *Freemason* has a large circulation in all parts of the Globe, its advantages as an advertising medium can therefore scarcely be overrated.

For terms, position, &c., apply to

GEORGE KENNING, 198, Fleet-st.

NOW READY.

Reading Covers, to take 52 numbers of the "*Freemason*," price 2/6, may be had at the office, 198, Fleet-street.

Answers to Correspondents.

All Communications, Advertisements, &c., intended for insertion in the Number of the following Saturday, must reach the Office not later than 12 o'clock on Wednesday morning.

The following stand over:—A P.M. Alfred Lodge, "Master Masons' Jewels," G. R. Harriott, "Masonic Tokens"; Obituary, Bro. B. Thorpe. Reports of Lodges: Royal Cumberland, 41; Doric, 96; Friendship, 100; Affability, 317; Star, 1175; Royal Standard, 1298; Acacia, 1309; Kennington, 1381; Langthorne, 1421; Truth, 1451; Chaucer, 1540; Caveac Chapter, 176; Mark Lodge, 139; Panmure; Rose Croix Chapter, Phillips; Masonic Balls in Burnley and Liverpool.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

"Die Bauhütte," "Der Freimaurer," "Bulletin der G. Orient de France," "Calendar for the Province of Dorset."

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

[The charge is 2s. 6d. for announcements, not exceeding four lines, under this heading.]

BIRTH.

KENT.—On the 2nd inst., the wife of Frederick Hunt, Esq., Binfield Lodge, Clapham, S.W., and Cannon-street, E.C., of a daughter.

MARRIAGE.

PAINTER—AGGLETON.—At Christ Church, Brixton-road, Mr. Alfred B. Painter, to Ann, daughter of Mr. Thomas J. Aggleton, March 2.

DEATHS.

MAPLE.—On the 7th inst., at 8, Clarence-terrace, Regents-park, the wife of John Blundell Maple, of a daughter.

DUBOSC.—On the 7th inst., at Myddleton-square, H. Dubosc, on his 61st birthday. R.I.P.

MAJOR.—The Rev. John R. Major, D.D., Vicar of Arrington, Cambs., and some time Head Master of King's College School, London, at Twickenham, aged 79, Feb. 28.

BARROW.—Mr. William Barrow, at Hastings, aged 76, March 1.

ROBINSON.—Julia, daughter of Mr. John Robinson, Easingwold, Yorkshire, aged 21, Feb. 29.

GABB.—Mr. John B. Gabb, of Highbury-place, aged 64, Feb. 28.

THORPE.—On Friday, 18th ult., Bro. Benjamin Thorpe, after a few days illness.

TOMKINS.—After a lengthened illness, Bro. John Newton Tomkins, P.G.D.

HAWKER.—On the 18th ult., Bro. J. Hawker, P.M. 871, aged 51.

The Freemason,

SATURDAY, MAR. 11, 1876.

HER MAJESTY'S VISIT TO WHITE-CHAPEL.

We have gladly to chronicle another visit of the Queen to the City, and to the London Hospital. Such visits of personal interest and sympathy will always be greatly appreciated by the loyal subjects of this great country, and are episodes on which the philanthropist and Freemason will ever look with approval and gratification. The Queen's reception by all classes was most enthusiastic, and the arrangements for the occasion seem to have been very well conceived

and admirably carried out. The greatest good humour prevailed, no accidents are reported, and the loyalty of the citizens and of all classes were very warmly exhibited. We give from the "*Times*" a touching little incident which occurred at the hospital, as it will deeply affect and please all our readers. "Her Majesty now went through an accident ward (the Gloucester Ward), as had been arranged, and showed her lively interest in the unfortunate men who were lying there by many inquiries addressed to the President and to Mr. Rowsell, the Deputy Chairman, concerning the patients. Afterwards, she paid an unarranged visit to the Buxton Ward for little children, in the Alexandra Wing. A little girl of four, Kate Ambler, who was brought into the hospital on January 14th, with a burnt side and thigh, had previously said to Mr. Rowsell, 'If I could only see the Queen I should get well.' This remark was repeated to Her Majesty, who determined to gratify the child's innocent wish. 'My darling,' said the Queen to this little girl, 'I hope you will be a little better now.'"

THE JOURNEY OF OUR ROYAL GRAND MASTER.

H.R.H. the Prince of Wales was at Allahabad on March 7th, having come from Bareilly. He was received by the Viceroy, the Commander-in-Chief, the Lieut. Governor of the N.W. Provinces, the Judges, and other high officials. He received an address from the municipality. He held a chapter of the Star of India, and invested Major General Probyn and others. He was to proceed to Indore on the night of the 7th. He is perfectly well.

IS PIO NONO A FREEMASON?

We had thought that the question was settled in the negative, and that it was now pretty clear, whatever his connection with the secret societies in his Liberal days might have been, that he was not a Freemason. For thus far all the evidence adduced appears to us to be unreliable altogether, all the facts; indubitable fiction. The only importance attached to the fact itself is as a fact of history, beyond that it has no special importance, nor perhaps interest even, whether for Freemasons or profanes. But the "*Il Precursore di Palermo*" of January 31st, 1876, not only boldly states "*au contraire*," that everybody knows that the Pope is a Freemason, but publishes a certificate as a "*traduzione originale*" an "*original translation*" of a document which is "approved by the representative of Germany," and which seems at first sight to settle the question. For it certainly does appear to "*constater*" the fact, that on the 15th of August, 1831, at Palermo, in the Lodge "*Eterna Catena*," "*Eternal Chain*," Giovanni Mastai Ferretti, native of the Pontifical States, was initiated a Freemason. Indeed, the certificate professes to be a lodge certificate, and is signed by Giovanni Ferretti Mastai himself, (sic), by Matteo Chiava, the W. Master, by Paoli Duplessi, the Secretary, is countersigned by "*Sisto Calano*," Grand Master of the "*R. Loggia di Napoli*," and this remarkable document is "*visé*," so to say, by Gaglielmo de Willelsborh, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Bavaria. This document possesses to be found in the archives of the Lodge "*Fidelta Germanica*," Oriente di Noremburg, (Nuremberg), a daughter lodge of the Grand Mother Lodge, the Three Globes of Berlin. This certificate, the "*Precursore*" says, is in the archives numbered 13,715, is certified and authenticated in the usual manner, written in Italian, and sealed with the seal of the Grand Lodge "*Luci Perpetua*" of Naples, and owned by the Masonic Lodge "*Eterna Catena*" in Palermo. But the "*Freimaurer*" of Vienna for February, 1876, a new illustrated Masonic paper, to which we elsewhere allude, gives us an entirely different version of the whole affair. According to that paper the "*Neue Freie Presse*" of a few days previously had published a document, by which it seemed that in 1833 the Pope had been made a Freemason in the Lodge "*Eterna Catena*" at Palermo. This document seems to have originated with the "*Gazetta di Napoli*," January 16th, 1876, which declares that in the archives of the Lodge "*Luci Perpetua*," at Naples, a certificate, numbered 13,715, is to be found, de-

claring that on the night of August, 15th, 1839, Giovanni Mastai Ferretti was received as a Freemason in the Lodge "*Eterna Catena*," Palermo. This certificate is signed as before by the newly-initiated brother the Pope himself, the W.M., and the Secretary, whose names have already been given. This certificate is countersigned by "*Sisto Calano*," as was before said, G.M. of the Grand Lodge of Naples, and has the visé of Prince Wm. von Wittelsbach, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Bavaria. Such are the facts of the case. In the first place, we should like to know whether this certificate is to be found at Naples or at Nuremberg, whether the date is 1833 or 1839, and what Guglielmo, M. Willelsborh, or William Von Wittelsbach has to do with it? The fact is one way or the other, and let us first ascertain that, and then will come the secondary question, who is the attesting G.M. of Bavaria, and what that attestation means? We must look at the matter as an historical fact without political prepossessions or sentimental considerations. Is the statement true or untrue? And if it is true, of what value is the document, quâ an historical document? These are questions many brethren in Germany can answer critically, honestly, and well, and we await their reply before expressing our own opinion on the subject. We will, however, say this, we ought to have no sensational literature in Freemasonry; every statement should be tested and proved, and based alone on archaeological accuracy and historical truth.

WHAT NEXT, INDEED?

Such, we fancy, will be the almost involuntary outburst of wonder and alarm on the part of many a good old brother up and down the land on reading the letter from New York in our last with reference to the installation meeting of the Montgomery Lodge, No. 69, on the 23rd December, 1875. For it seems "*horribile dictu*" that "at the installation ceremony ladies were admitted." Well, our American brethren are going ahead with a vengeance! What, we hear old Past Master Dobbin say, "admit women to an installation, it's scandalous! never heard of such a thing in my life before; it will ruin Freemasonry altogether," &c., &c., &c. Now while we do not, we confess, ourselves see our way to go as far as these bold brethren in the Montgomery Lodge, we yet do not think that any good old brother need be alarmed amongst ourselves. We quite confess we cannot comprehend how the ceremonies of installation were performed if all were gone through in the presence of ladies, but so it would seem from the programme subjoined to the letter in question. We presume, however, that our able brethren in New York found some means of squaring Masonic ritual with the presence of their fair sisters which does not appear in the programme. At the same time we say this, we feel bound to admit that the general feeling in Great Britain will be that it is going a little too far, even though in a right direction. We are quite sensible of the great advantages which would accrue to our Order by a more frequent admission of ladies to our greater gatherings. We see no reason whatever why ladies should not be invited to our great educational and benevolent festivals, to special soirees, to organized banquets, and to agreeable reunions. Much more might be made of the female element, no doubt, by us than is made, but there is such a thing as overdoing it. With all deference to our good brethren in New York, we cannot say that we approve of so great a variation from established customs, perhaps our insular prejudices and old world notions may have something to do with this hesitation on our part. But so it is, and it is better frankly to say so, because we fancy that our humble opinion will be the same as that of ninety-nine out of every hundred brethren in Great Britain. We wish the "*fairy beings*," the "*dear creatures*," as Bro. Simmons enthusiastically calls them (he is young and inexperienced, and in love, and may be excused), all enjoyment on all occasions, and especially desiderate their halcyon smiles and pleasant voices in our Masonic gatherings at fitting times and seasons. We know how much they add to the happiness of life, the "*agremens*" of society, how greatly their kind, and pure, and high thoughts elevate

our often grovelling manhood, and therefore, within due limits none will welcome our well dressed and gentle, and sympathetic, and graceful sisters more heartily than ourselves. But we feel bound to say, that the movement, though good in itself, will be gravely impeded amongst us, if instead of gradually improving our habits in this respect, we hastily sweep away all barriers which Masonic prudence would suggest, or Masonic ritual would demand. We go a long way for the "rights" of our Masonic sisters, knowing well their worth, their truth, their virtues and their importance to us all; but we do not think it well to initiate even the best of movements, with a wrong both to Masonic feeling, and the ancient laws of our excellent Order. It is unwise, in our opinion, to rush from one extreme to the other, and we in Great Britain, shall prefer to make the pleasant presence of the ladies, the exception, if even a most agreeable exception, to the sterner law of Masonic ritualism, and the unchanged requirements of ceremonial secrecy!

DER FREIMAURER OF VIENNA.

We welcome a new illustrated Masonic paper, "Der Freimaurer of Vienna," as a very promising and creditable production of the Viennese Masonic Press. We wish it all success, and trust that it may have a large circle of readers, and of fraternal supporters. It has reached its second number, and appears to be carefully edited, and well got up. Bro. Carl Fischer—we presume a relation of the well-known and able Brother Robert Fischer—is the editor, and we beg to assure our latest and not least worthy confrere, that from us he will always receive all fraternal courtesy, interest, and sympathy.

THE GRAND ORIENT OF FRANCE.

We have received the last bulletin of the Grand Orient de France, and though space does not permit us to call attention to it this week, we shall do so next, as we think that our worthy Bro. St. Jean, and the Conseil de L'Ordre deserve great credit for their loyal endeavours to uphold the Constitutions coute qui coute.

P.G. LODGE OF WEST YORKSHIRE.

We have received the printed report from the D.P.G.M. of West Yorkshire, with reference to the Boys' School, but as we are clearly of opinion that the appointment of such a Committee was "ultra vires," and have grave doubts of the legality of the Committee's appointment which has made this report, we decline to take any further notice of it. The whole of these unfortunate proceedings have a personal and partizan hue, and are in our opinion subversive of every true principle of the Craft to which we profess to belong.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

At the Cambridge Local Examination, Christmas, 1875, three boys from this school passed with first-class honours—the only ones in this class of those examined at the London Main Centre. Of these one was distinguished for mathematics and one for English. In the second and third classes there was one; and nine satisfied the examiners. Total passed, 14, out of 48 candidates sent up for examination. In all London and suburbs there were two schools ahead of the Royal Masonic School.—Mill Hill School, Hendon, passed eight; and Christ's College, Finchley, four.—In all England, three, Mill Hill School, eight; Finchley, Christ's College, four; and Brighton Grammar School, four. Four schools were equal—University School, Hastings, three; Huddersfield College, three; Wolverhampton Grammar School, three; and Framlingham Middle Class School, three.

THE WILSON MS. CONSTITUTION.

I give to-day the commencement and the close of the Wilson MS. Constitution.

"PHILLIPS MSS. 6,351.

"The Book of Constitutions.

"The might of the Father of Heaven and the wisdom of the glorious Son, through the grace and goodness of the Holy Ghost, yt. bene three persons and one God, be with

us at our beginning and give us grace soe to govern us here in our livinge, that wee may come to his blisse, that never shall have endinge. Amen.

"These charges that we have now rehearsed unto you, and all other that belonge to Masons yee shall keepe, so helpe your God and your Hallidome."

I believe that the Wilson and Edinburgh Kilwinning are "replicas," so to say, from one common original, or the Edinburgh Kilwinning may be a transcript of the Wilson, MS. which, as Preston knew about so distinctly, may have had something to do originally with York.

A. F. A. WOODBORN.

ALLEGED CERTIFICATE OF THE POPE'S ADMISSION INTO FREEMASONRY.

This document has been published by "Il Precursore di Palermo," January 31, 1876.

O. J. di Nuromberg.

Loggia—Fedeltà Germanica, figlia della Gran Loggia di Baviera—con costituzioni della Gran Loggia Madre—I tre Globi di Berlino.

Consta nell'Archivio con il N. 13715 il seguente documento, certificato ed autenticato in debita e voluta forma, scritto in Italiano, munito con il gran Sigillo della Gran Loggia Luce Perpetua di Napoli.

"Loggia Mass.: Eterna Catena in Palermo.

"Noi Maestri dignitari ed Officiali dei tre gradi Massonici di San Giovanni: Certifichiamo nel nome del Supremo Maestro, che tutti dirige, che oggi in questa data, alle ore dodici della notte, abbiamo ricevuto in questa Loggia con le norme prescritte dal suo rituale e con intiera sottomissione alla sua costituzione, il Fratello Giovanni Ferretti Mastai, nativo degli Stati Pontifici, il quale dopo di avere prestato il giuramento in presenza di tutti noi, dichiarò di non appartenere a nessuna società segreta, tranne a questa Loggia, ed ha pagato i diritti che le spettano.

"Per ciò ordiniamo a tutte le Loggie Massoniche del Mondo, di riconoscerlo e ritenerlo come reale e vero Massone, ricevuto in una reale e perfetta Loggia, e così giudichiamo e testimoniamo, come uomini conosciuti e onorati, che ritengano tutti il presente documento come vero, e firmiamo in Palermo, nell'anno profano e civile 1839 nella prima quindicina del mese di agosto."

Ne varietur.

Giovanni Ferretti Mastai,

Il Venerabile della Loggia Matteo Chiavà

Il Segretario della Loggia Paolo Duplessi,

Il Gran Maestro della R. Loggia di Napoli, Sisto Calano.

Io certifico essere vero quanto si afferma più sopra, e che consta nell'archivio questo documento sotto il numero indicato firmato.

Guglielmo De Willelsborh,

Gran Maestro della Gran Loggia di Baviera (Principe di Baviera).

It would appear that this document originally appeared in the "Gazetta de Napoli," July 26th, but we do not understand the statement that it was approved by the Representative of Germany, or what he has to do with it.

Original Correspondence.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for, or even as approving of the opinions expressed by our correspondents, but we wish, in a spirit of fair play to all, to permit—within certain necessary limits—free discussion.—Ed.]

FRENCH LODGES IN LONDON.

Or de Londres le—187

An de la V. L. 000,000,000.

Monsieur le Redacteur en chef du "The Freemason."

Je viens vous prier au nom de la lodge française "les Philadelphes et la Concorde Reunis," dont je suis l'Orateur, de vouloir publier parmi les annonces des loges l'avis suivant.

"Aux Franc-maçons anglais et étrangers qui parlent ou entendent la langue française; Maçonnerie Progressiste et Scientifique—Loge française les Philadelphes et la Concorde Reunis, tenu tous les Mercredi soir, à 9 heures, 6, Charles-street, Middlesex Hospital, au Spread Eagle; Orateur le F. H. Valleron."

Je vous serais personnellement très obligé si vous voulez bien fixer cette annonce dans les renseignements Maçoniques.—Votre dévoué, H. VALLETON.

[We publish the above at the request of the writer, who is, we believe a correspondent of the "Monde Maçonique," which is edited by our esteemed Bro. Caubet, but as we do not feel sure that the Lodge "Philadelphes et la Concorde Reunis" is a regular lodge or lawfully warranted, we shall be glad of "renseignements Maçoniques" on that point. Some time back the Board of General Purposes issued a circular to lodges, with reference to the "Philadelphes," &c. We should be glad to know, therefore, what is the exact position of the "Philadelphes et la Concorde Reunis," before alluding publicly to the matter.—Ed.]

BYE-LAWS OR BY-LAWS.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I send you a cutting from a Bath newspaper of the 12th of February bearing upon the spelling of the word "Bye-law," alluded to in "Frater's" letter in the "Freemason" of same day, an extract from which may be useful. His Spelling Bee idea had been anticipated at Bath.

Yours fraternally,

WILLIAM TOFF.

THE "SPELLING BEE."

To the Editor of the Bath Herald.

Sir,—The spelling of the word "bye-law" at the Assembly Rooms has not only caused a little excitement, but has also been productive of some correspondence on the subject.

The following extract from a letter from no less an authority than the Recorder of Bath will doubtless be interesting to all readers and spellers:—

"i, Elm court, Temple, London, E.C.,

"Feb. 4th, 1876.

"Dear Sir,—When in Bath yesterday, and in conversation with a friend relative to the late "Spelling Bee" meeting, I was informed that you failed in consequence of spelling "bye-law" as I have written it, instead of by-law (without the letter e), the referees deciding that the latter is the correct way of spelling the word. I should have called upon you on the subject had I time, and I now take the first opportunity of affording my testimony to the accuracy of your spelling. The word bye-law is essentially a legal word, and we certainly find it in a prominent position in Acts of Parliament, and always spelt as you have spelt it. Not a session of Parliament has passed for the last 50 years in which the word so spelt is not to be found in a dozen different Acts. In that popular Act of Parliament, the Municipal Corporations Act of 1825, the word so spelt is to be found at least a hundred times, and in the statutes of the last session you will find the word so spelt at least a thousand times. In truth, in our Acts of Parliament it is never spelt in any other way, and the spelling of by-law is not to be found in any Act of Parliament for the last 50 years. Now, although erroneous spelling (like bad grammar) is occasionally to be met with in Acts of Parliament, it is always recognised as bad spelling, and is only exceptional; but in the case of the word bye-law, this spelling is the adopted and recognised spelling of the highest authority in the land, and which never departs from it. This, in my mind, is really a legislative declaration that this is the proper way of spelling the word.

"Believe me, yours very truly,

"To Mr. Davies.

THOS. WM. SAUNDERS.

The "Penny Cyclopædia" also states:—"The word is of Saxon origin, and derived from the word by, or bye, a town; hence, town laws." There is therefore evidently a good ground for the alternative spelling, and it is strange that the three dictionaries used as authorities should not have admitted both ways. In this case the referees could not do otherwise than rule against the competitor, although it was most evident that those assembled at the rooms and many who were not present considered that the word was correctly spelt bye-law.

Apologising for thus trespassing upon your valuable space, I remain, Sir,

THE COMPETITOR RULED OUT "BY-LAW."

MASONIC CO-OPERATIVE STORES.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

So much has been said by our Masonic brethren in trade in the leading thoroughfares of London of the evil effects upon their business by the different Co-operative Supply Associations, that I am induced to ask through the "Freemason" the reason we have not started a "Masonic Co-operative Store." Surely it would be a source of pleasure and benefit to the Craft to know that we were doing business with the brethren only.

The Masonic Club I have not the slightest doubt will be a great success, and so would the "Masonic Co-operative Stores," if started—I feel certain the shares would soon be taken up, and if conducted anything like the "Civil Service Stores" would pay a fair interest on the outlay, and the balance to be carried to the accounts of the Masonic Charities.

The brethren only to supply and belong to the affair. We are numerous enough without the outside public. A small annual payment would clear all the working expenses, and the charities could have innumerable articles from the stores, much to their benefit.

I think we ought, in justice to ourselves take the matter up at once, and meet our competitors with their own weapons on their own ground.

I remain, dear Sir and Brother, yours most sincerely,

A MASTER MASON.

[We confess we do not quite comprehend the logic of "A Master Mason."—Ed.]

THE PROPOSED SCOTTISH MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Sir,

I hope you will not doom my letter to the editorial limbo of the waste paper basket, because it is indited by a Mason's wife, who, of course is not one of the "mystic tie." My excuse for thus addressing you, is in the hope that more ladies may come forward and support the call made upon their husbands in the second appeal for the above institution.

It is a call which ought to interest them most deeply, one which ought to elicit their best and noblest feelings. If some of my sister wives would just give up the idea of that "charming new hat" or joining the ink this season, and send a subscription to their husband's lodges instead, they would not only have the satisfaction that always follows a good action, but the blessings of the aged and the orphans.

I feel sure the women of Scotland will put their shoulder to the wheel, and then Mr. Harriott need not despair about being last in the field. My friend your bard of the Scottish Grand Lodge has written truly when he says

"The last whiles are first, there's an Eye upon

"Tho' we seldom look up, never tires looking 'doon,

"That tak's a' the feckless aye under its ken,

"The wee hungry birds, and the weak Sons o' Men."

I am sure if the Masons of Scotland will only let their good dames read Mr. Harriott's letter, there is not a woman's heart but will glow with kindly feeling and

"To the weary wandering pair,

Find comfort aye to spare."

And although you may not think so good Mr. Editor, we women can really accomplish wonders when you win us over in the right way; i.e. by touching the nobler warmer feelings of our hearts. I am sir, yours truly,

BARBARINA.

Multum in Parbo; or Masonic Notes and Queries.

MISSING MS. CONSTITUTIONS OF THE FREEMASONS.

Now that another MS. has been unearthed, several of my friends are anxious to know how many are yet undiscovered.

Those familiar with the "Old Charges of British Freemasons" will be aware that the following are chronicled amongst the missing MSS. The Wilson MS., thanks to Bros. Woodford, Ellis, and Nixon, is now removed from that category:—

"York MS., No. 3, of A.D. 1630.

"Dr. Anderson's MS." (Constitutions 1723, &c.)

"Stone's MS." (Constitutions 1738, &c.)

"Dr. Plot's MS." (History of Staffordshire, 1686.)

"Dowland's MS." ("Gentleman's Magazine," 1815.)

"Dr. Rawlinson's MS." (Transcript, about 1730.)

"Wilson's MS." (lately discovered.)

"Krause's MS." (probably a compilation.)

Then there are printed transcripts of MSS. of which the originals have been traced, or believed to be so, viz.:

"Robert's MS., 1722 ("Harclean" MS., No. 1942, 17th century).

"Briscoe's MS., 1724 (uncertain).

"Cole's MS., 1726-9 (uncertain).

"Mrs. Dodd's MS., 1739 (variation slightly from Cole's).

There is also "Woodford's MS." (a transcript of "Cooke's MS.")

Bro. Woodford and myself have traced of late years several valuable MSS., including "York MS., No. 1," "Grand Lodge MS., No. 1," "Hope MS., No. 6," "Alnwick MS., No. 1," "Passworth's MS., No. 1," and "Wilson's MS., No. 1," not forgetting the valuable assistance of fellow Masonic students and friends.

I have also traced, with the valued aid of co-workers, a transcript of the "Chester MS., No. 1," which I now possess.

Bro. Jacob Norton has been the means of the valuable "Scarborough MS." being found, and Bro. Woodford of the "Gateshead MS." being published. There are still other MSS. to trace, including the "Wren MS., No. 1," "Hargrove's MS., No. 1," and "Dermott's MS., No. 1."

WILLIAM JAMES HUGHAN.

CONSECRATION OF THE ROYAL NAVAL COLLEGE LODGE, No. 1593, GREENWICH.

The magnificent pile of buildings on the river-front at Greenwich has recently undergone a fresh vicissitude. For many generations it was a favourite Royal palace, enlarged and beautified by successive sovereigns; for several more an asylum for our worn-out seamen; and three years ago the old pensioners were quartered out, and the palace converted into a great naval college, where about 250 officers are in regular residence, and studying their profession scientifically. The studies comprise mathematics, applied mechanics, physics, chemistry, fortification, nautical astronomy, navigation, naval architecture, marine engineering, steam, meteorology, maritime and international law, and modern languages—in fact, everything which can be of use to the accomplished naval officer. No other country in the world can boast of such a splendid professional university, and the consequence is that there are at present studying at the college officers from the Italian, Spanish, Prussian, Swedish, and Danish navies, who have been sent by their governments, and permitted by ours, to share in the advantages of its training.

On the 22nd of February the old palace was, very probably for the first time, the scene of a Masonic ceremonial. A number of the officers and staff of the college, being desirous of forming a lodge in connection with it, had forwarded the usual petition to the Grand Master; and in the absence of the Prince of Wales the Earl of Carnarvon had granted a warrant for a lodge, to be called the Royal Naval College Lodge, and held within the precincts of the college. The consecration took place in the east, or Queen Anne's, wing of the building. The lodge-room, under the superintendence of Bro. Captain Blakey, P.M., had been tastefully decorated with Masonic banners and naval flags, the Union Jack itself being appropriately used to cover the lodge board during the earlier part of the ceremony. The furniture of the new lodge not being ready, the St. George's Lodge, No. 140, kindly lent theirs for the occasion.

The Consecrating Officer was Bro. the Rev. Thomas Robinson, M.A., P.M. 88, 709, P.P.G.S.W. Kent, P.P.G.C. Cambs. The brethren having entered the lodge-room in procession, Bro. Robinson took the chair, and appointed the following officers pro tem:—Bros. Scard, W.M. 140, S.W.; White, W.M. 1174, J.W.; Dr. Crittenden, W.M. 548, I.G.; Captain Blakey, P.M. 184, 1174 (H.M.S. "Arrow"), D.C.; and Lieut. Symes, Organist. The lodge having been opened in the three degrees, the brethren of the new lodge were arranged in order, and the petition and warrant read by Captain Blakey. The brethren having signified their approval of the officers named, Bro. Robinson proceeded to consecrate the new lodge, and delivered an eloquent oration on the connection between Freemasonry and religion. The procession was then re-formed, the consecration elements being borne by Past Masters Trill, Warne, and Bumsted, the censor by Captain Blakey, and the salt by P. M. Bristow. The Union Jack having been withdrawn from the lodge board, the lodge was duly consecrated and dedicated, with the usual prayers and grand honours.

A Board of Installed Masters, eighteen in number, was then formed, and Bro. Robinson installed in the chair Bro. Robert Kiley Miller, M.A., F.R.A.S., Professor of Mathematics and Fellow of St. Peter's College, Cambridge, P.M. Isaac Newton University Lodge, 859, P.P.G.J.W. Cambs. The brethren having re-entered the lodge, the W.M. was saluted in due form, and invested as his Wardens the two

brethren named in the warrant, Lieut. Willcox and Lieut. Pascoe. He also appointed and invested the following officers:—Bros. Lieut. Bourke, S.D.; Lieut. Knowles, J.D.; Lieut. Stapleton, I.G.; Paymaster Skinner, Sec.; and, for the evening, Captain Blakey, P.M. Dr. Pink was elected and invested as Treasurer. On the motion of the W.M. votes of thanks were then given to the Rev. Bro. Robinson for the beautiful and impressive manner in which he had performed the ceremonies of consecration and installation, and also to the Masters and Wardens of the St. George's Lodge for signing the petition and lending their lodge furniture. The following members of the college were then proposed for initiation:—Messrs. Pole and Glead, instructors in mathematics; Lieuts. Strange and Jones, Lieut. Schmemman (Russian Imperial Navy); Sub-Lieuts. Fraser and Elwes, Armstrong, surgeon; Attwood, engineer; and Hodges, hall porter, as serving brother. Bro. Robinson, the Consecrating Officer, was proposed as a joining member. Hearty good wishes for the new lodge were offered by a large number of visitors, and the lodge was closed in due and ancient form.

After the banquet, which was held at the Trafalgar Hotel, the W.M. proposed "The Queen and the Craft," remarking that the familiar old toast might soon have to be given in a different form, as a Royal Titles Bill had been brought before the House of Commons, although its secrets had not yet been divulged. The Queen was the daughter of a Mason, and the mother or mother-in-law of four, and was a warm and liberal patroness of the Order. In proposing "The Most Worshipful Grand Master," Bro. Miller eulogized the Prince of Wales's high and gracious qualities and Masonic zeal, and said that while Masonry in some countries was suspected, perhaps with truth, of being used as a cloak for revolutionary designs in religion and politics, English Masons could point with pride to the fact that the head of their Order was one who would be in time not only head of the State, but head of the Church. "The Past and Present Grand Officers" was coupled with the name of Bro. Binckes, P.G. Steward, the W.M. saying that Bro. Lord Balfour of Burleigh, P.G.S.W., would have been present had not the festival of the Prince of Wales's Lodge fallen upon the same evening. Bro. Binckes responded in his usual hearty manner, and, it need hardly be said, improved the occasion by advocating the claims of the Masonic charities in general and of "Our Boys" in particular. The W.M. then proposed in warm terms "The Consecrating Officer," who assumed the gavel, and returned the compliment. It had given him great pleasure to consecrate the lodge, especially as his son (Lieut. Robinson, H.M.S. "Excellent," W.M. 709,) was one of the founders, and as the W.M. was a member of his own university, and wore the purple of the same province as himself. "The Visitors" was responded to first by Bro. Scard, W.M. of the St. George's, and then by a number of other brethren, among them Bro. Maund, St. Peter's College, Cambridge, J.W. of the Isaac Newton, the W.M.'s mother lodge. The W.M. then said that as the lodge had not yet any Past Masters of its own he would take the liberty of substituting for the usual toast "The Health of Past Master Blakey," to whose zeal and energy both the foundation of the lodge and the success of its first meeting were in a great measure due. Captain Blakey responded, and Lieut. Willcox, S.W., returned thanks for "The Officers." The lodge not having as yet a Tyler, the closing toast was given by Lieut. Bourke, S.D.

CONSECRATION OF THE UPPER NORWOOD LODGE, No. 1586.

Freemasonry is indeed making rapid strides in its onward progress. The number of lodges under the English Constitution, as announced at Grand Lodge on Wednesday last, is on the verge of 1600, while the agenda paper contained the names of no less than eighteen for which warrants had been issued since the last Quarterly Communication, and the quarter's return for the Lodge of Benevolence amount to £890 7s. 11d., those for general purposes to £1573 4s. 0d. These sums are independent of the particular and special charities of the fraternity, which are fast bordering on a revenue of £30,000 per annum, divided almost equally between the three.

One of the last additions of the working list of this grand result is No. 1586, consecrated at Upper Norwood, on the 16th ult., at the White Hart Hotel, the locale, the external position and internal accommodation and appliances of which could not be surpassed in the whole province. Major General Brownrigg, the R.W.P.G.M. for Surrey, could not be present to take part in the ceremony, but his place was most ably filled by the W. Bro. H. E. Francis, P.M., Prov. J.G.D. Surrey, specially appointed Deputy for the consecration.

He was assisted in the ceremony by W. Bros. W. Hammond, P.M. 201, 1326, and 1512, Prov. J.G.D. Middlesex, acting as Chaplain; James Kew, P.M. 107, acting as Installing Master; while W. Bro. James Coward, P.M., P.G. Org., presided at the organ, assisted in the musical department by Bros. G. E. J. Fox, 1339, and John Stedwell, 172.

Among the brethren present, in addition to those already named, were the founders of the lodge, Bros. W. J. Miller, P.M., W.M. designate; W. Hopekirk, P.M., S.W. designate; G. Cragg, J.W. designate; W. Drake, P.M., and John Hammond, P.M., the selected Secretary and Treasurer of the new lodge, respectively; E. Kidman, G. Paull, C. Pugsley, J. Crouch, Pringle, Bowyer Grist, and Ledger.

Among the visitors were noticed W. Bros. G. J. Kain, P.M. 284 and 766, P. Prov. G. Sec. Warwickshire; Edward Hopwood, P.M. 141, W.M. 1512; G. Benham, W.M. 1330; F. Sawyer, and others.

The brethren assembled at 5.30 p.m., formed in procession in the ante-room, and marched to the lodge-room

n Masonic order, when the Consecrating Master took the chair and appointed his Wardens pro tem., Bros. E. Hopwood and Benham respectively.

The Consecrating Master then addressed the brethren on the nature of the meeting.

The Consecrating Master now called upon the Secretary to read the petition to the Grand Lodge, and the warrant or charter thereto granted by the M.W.G.M., or, in his absence, rather by the R.W. the Pro G.M. Thereupon the founders were duly constituted into a regular lodge, under the title of the Upper Norwood Lodge, No. 1586, on the register of the Grand Lodge of England, after which Bro. Francis gave a most eloquently written oration, which was listened to with breathless attention by the whole body of the assembled brethren. It urged upon the founders of the lodge the absolute necessity of exact working in their new lodge now that there were so many pressing upon our ranks; it inculcated a strict adherence to those ancient landmarks by which the Order had been enabled to survive the wreck of mighty empires and to resist the destroying hand of time; it impressed upon the brotherhood the great duty of carrying out the professions of the Order into real practice in the three great principles of brotherly love, relief, and truth—that the best exponent of these grand, these revered principles was a hearty support of the three great institutions which had become the pride and delight of the fraternity and the wonder of the world. It further called upon the brethren to practise out of the lodge those grand humanising principles which are taught within its walls, so that when a Mason is pointed out as such it may be synonymous with saying there is a good and great man, who devotes himself to the well-being of his fellow creatures and the glory of the Great Architect of the Universe.

The music, which throughout had, under the experienced skill of Bro. Coward, been beautifully appropriate, now culminated in the exquisite rendering of the anthem—"Behold how good and joyful a thing it is, brethren, to dwell together in unity." It is like the precious ointment upon the head, that ran down unto the beard, even unto Aaron's beard, and went down to the skirts of his clothing. It is like the dew of Heaven which fell upon the hill of Sion; For there the Lord promised his blessing, and life for evermore.

The dedication prayer, a sanctus, "Glory be to Thee O Lord," and the Scripture reading from the Second Book of Chronicles, and another short anthem, followed:

"Glory be to God on high;
Peace on earth,
Goodwill towards men."

The completion of the consecrating ceremony was then proceeded with, the lodge fully constituted, and the Patriarchal Benediction, preceded by Haydn's beautiful anthem excellently sung.

"The spacious firmament on high," &c.

The ceremony of installation was next proceeded with. Bro. Miller, P.M., was presented for the benefit of installation. In so doing he dilated upon the Masonic qualities of the aspirant for the chair, and the very efficient manner in which he had already performed the duties of that important office in No. 766.

Bro. Kew at once proceeded with the introductory portions of the ceremony. The essentials of the ritual were then proceeded with, curtailed in such portions as became unnecessary in this particular case, Bro. Miller being already a Past Master. The occult mysteries concluded, the W.M. invested his immediate Past Master, Bro. Francis, and was duly saluted, and most heartily congratulated by the large number of Past Masters present.

The appointment of officers next ensued, a duty the W.M. delegated to the Consecrating Master, and which he performed in the same exemplary manner as the previous duties of the day. The following is the entire appointment:—Bros. W. Hopekirk, P.M., S.W.; George Cragg, J.W.; J. Hammond, P.M., Treas.; W. Drake, P.M., Sec.; E. Kidman, S.D.; G. Paull, J.D.; C. Pugsley, D.C.; J. Crouch, W.S.

The investiture of Bro. Pringle as I.G. was postponed, he having been called away on business. Mention must not be omitted of the very effective manner in which the three addresses were rendered by the Installing Master, and the high appreciation he manifested of those beautiful compositions.

The W.M. now rose and said: Brethren, we who have now been constituted the responsible members of this lodge should be wanting, not only in courtesy to those brethren who have added so much zest to the beautiful ceremonies of this day by the talent they have brought to bear, but we should even be regardless of our own best interests, were we to omit the expression of our heartfelt thanks for their kind assistance, and to omit at the same time to proffer to them the freedom of the lodge. A very hearty vote of thanks was then accorded to those brethren, and the following were separately elected honorary members of the Upper Norwood Lodge:—Bros. H. E. Francis, P.M., Prov. J.G.D. Surrey, for his able services as Consecrating Master; W. Hammond, P.M. 201, 1326, and 1512, Prov. J.G.D. Middlesex, acting Chaplain on the occasion; James Coward, P.M., P.G. Organist of England, in whose hands the musical arrangements of the day were placed; James Kew, P.M. 179, for his services as Installing Master; and G. Fox, of 1331, and John Stedman, of 172, for their valuable assistance in the musical department.

The brethren severally acknowledged the compliment which had been passed upon them by the members of the new lodge, and each and all, while proffering their congratulations to the lodge, and their best wishes for its prosperity assured the W.M., and those that it was hoped would gradually rise to the same honourable position, that whatever they might be able individually to do to secure the success of the lodge should be freely done by them. Some who resided at a distance could not be expected to attend frequently, but whenever the summons became special and

particular, if within the limits of the [C.T., their services should be commanded.

Upon the Master's rising some twenty propositions were made, much the greater portion being on behalf of candidates for initiation.

A very excellent banquet, provided by the brother host of the White Hart, followed, and the short time to 11 p.m. was spent in the usual loyal and Masonic manner, which the limits of our space only preclude the pleasure of complete details. The toasts were given by a veteran W.M., and were heartily responded to by the various brethren in their respective positions, "The Visitors" being very specially directed to the W. Bro. G. J. Kain, P.M. 284 and 766, P.P. G. Sec. Warwick, who not only made a most humorous response, but amused the brethren with some clever specimens of legerdemain. The pleasures of the evening were greatly enlivened by the very complete musical arrangements. In addition to the excellent selected songs, Bro. Coward illustrated how beautifully effective even the simplest combinations of musical sounds could become under the direction of a master of his art, in interchanging the notes of the common chord with the words hurrah, hurrah, hurrah!

CONSECRATION OF THE ABBEY CHAPTER (1225). BARROW-IN-FURNESS.

Wednesday, the 23rd February, was appointed as the day on which this chapter was to be consecrated. At 2.30 a large number of companions assembled in the chapter room at the Hartington Hotel. Amongst those present were E. Comps. H. S. Allpass, Prov. G.S.E. West Lancashire; Thomas Armstrong, Prov. G. Treas.; Reuben Pearson, Prov. G. Registrar; James McKeene, P.P.G.S.; Robert Wylie, P.P.G.D.C., M.E.Z. 292; Thomas Dodgson, P.P.G.D.C.; Roger Dodgson, M.E.Z. 995; John Case, P.P.J.; Richard W. Worrall, P.Z.; S. J. Wade, P.P.G.D.C. Durham; George Cornfield, H. 995; Richard A. Brooke, P.J. 274, M.E.Z. designate; Comps. Myles Haslam, J. designate; R. T. Taylor, E. J. Morgan, R. B. D. Bradshaw, J. Settle, Whiteside (Dalton), Warne (Ulverston), and others.

A R.A. Chapter having been opened by E. Comps. Allpass, Prov. G.S.E., as Z.; Armstrong, Prov. Treas., as H.; Reuben Pearson, Prov. G. Registrar, as J.; McKeene, P.P.G.S., as Director of Ceremonies, P.P.G.S.; P.P.G.D.C., as Scribe E.; and Thomas Dodgson, P.P.G.D.C., as Scribe N., the companions under the rank of J. were admitted, and the ancient and solemn ceremony of consecration was then very impressively performed.

The petitioning companions having signified their wish that Comps. R. A. Brooke, Robert Hooker, and Myles Haslam should be installed in their respective chairs of Z., H., and J. of the new chapter, E. Comp. Robert Wylie, P.P.G.D.C., as Installing Principal, then installed them accordingly, they being presented to the Installing Master by E. Comp. McKeene, P.P.G.S.

The companions afterwards elected Comps. R. T. Taylor, Scribe E.; E. J. Morgan, Scribe N.; Cornfield, Treas.; and Settle, P.S., who were thereupon duly invested by the M.E.Z. Comps. Hill was appointed Organist; Klyne and Stafford, A.S.; J. Stanley Ormandy, D.C.; and Purvey and James Bush, Stewards.

Several brethren were proposed for exaltation, and hearty good wishes were offered for the success and prosperity of the new chapter; and the chapter was then closed.

The companions afterwards sat down to a splendid repast provided by Bro. R. T. Taylor, and when the cloth had been removed the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and responded to.

The name of the new chapter has been selected in consequence of the proximity of the town of Barrow to the old Abbey of Furness, whose Abbot once exercised almost regal power over this part of Lancashire. Now in ruins, it is situated in one of England's most beautiful vales, and has long justly caused this corner of our isle to be widely renowned. There seems, therefore, to be something exceedingly graceful and appropriate in the selection of the name "Abbey."

We are glad to learn of the very flourishing condition of Masonry in Barrow.

After the business of the day was over a number of the visiting companions accompanied E. Comp. Cornfield over the works of the Barrow Hematite Steel Company, and expressed themselves greatly interested in all they saw there. As our readers are no doubt aware, these works are the largest of their kind in Great Britain, and they are the evidence of the great enterprise of those gentlemen who have linked their interests so closely with the town of Barrow. They were originally established by Comp. Henry Schneider, but have now been converted into a company under the presidency of His Grace the Duke of Devonshire.

VISIT OF HER MAJESTY TO THE LONDON HOSPITAL.

Although, at first sight, it might not be apparent that the visit of the Queen to the London Hospital should have anything to do with Masonry, nevertheless it deals, in very great measure, with a branch of the "profession," although not of "Craft Masonry," inasmuch as the object of Her Majesty's visit to the East End on Tuesday last was to open a new wing which had been presented to the hospital by the Worshipful the Grocers' Company, at a cost of over £25,000. Her Majesty, we feel sure, had never before met with a more truly hearty and loyal reception than when she passed through that densely populated district, Whitechapel. On arriving at the hospital the Queen was met by the officials, and conducted through the several wards, accompanied by the Duke of Cambridge and a numerous suite, after which the Queen took her seat

upon an elaborately decorated dais, under a very hand some canopy, situated at one end of a temporarily erected pavilion at the back of the hospital, where the ceremony of opening the new wing was conducted in the presence of upwards of 2000 visitors. The National Anthem having been sung, in which the solo was most impressively sung by Madame Patey, a prayer was afterwards offered up by the Bishop of London, upon which followed a hymn composed by the late Prince Consort, which was most effectively rendered by the following vocalists, under the direction of Bro. T. Lawler, of 84, New Bond Street, W.:—Madame Patey, Mdle. José Sherrington, Miss Annie Sinclair, Miss Marion Severn, Miss Adelaide Newton, Mr. Lewis Thomas, Mr. Beckett, Mr. E. Franks, and the following brethren:—Hodges, Montem Smith, Thornton, Lawler, sen., and C. S. Jeckyll (Organist), assisted by four choristers from the Chapel Royal; and last, though by no means least, an additional feature to the musical arrangements was the presence of Mr. Fred Godfrey with his band of the Coldstream Guards, which gave great effect in the choruses in the National Anthem and the chorales. The new wing being declared open, Her Majesty retired, whilst the vocalists sang another verse of the National Anthem. After which the Old Hundredth Hymn was sung (by desire, and specially arranged for the occasion), the last verse of which was very effective, being in unison, accompanied by Mr. Godfrey's band. Everything in connection with the ceremony appears to have passed off exceedingly well, thanks to Mr. Snelgrove, the secretary of the hospital, who deserves a word of praise for the untiring zeal displayed by him during the arrangements for this memorable occasion.

THE ROAYL TOUR IN INDIA.

The Prince's tour having now nearly come to an end, it gives us great pleasure to quote the following excerpt from the "Standard" of the 6th inst., since it speaks so frankly and justly of the well-won popularity of that genial gentleman our beloved Grand Master:—

"The gentlemen who drew out the programme of the Prince's tour acted very wisely in choosing Jeypore as its terminal point. I say terminal, because, although the Prince has yet another month to remain in India, his long round of visits and fêtes, of balls and ceremonies, has now come to a termination, and save a thirty-six hours' visit to Holkar, at Indore, he has now only to enjoy himself upon a three weeks' hunting expedition. No man ever earned his holiday more thoroughly. He has gone unflinchingly and cheerfully through an amount of work which would have at once knocked up and broken the temper of most men; he has never missed a single engagement, or shirked one item in his programme—has never looked aught but interested and pleased in all the round of public festivities or of private and even more monotonous ceremonies. For it must be remembered that the public ceremonies which we have had to chronicle—and many of them of minor importance, although of equal length and involving equal fatigue with the more interesting ceremonials, have necessarily been either mentioned in a few words, or have been altogether omitted—have been but a portion only of the Prince's work. In every town which he has visited there has been a levée, at which all the officers of the troops in garrison, all the resident civilians, have been presented. At each place there has been a private durbar, at which the lesser chiefs have been presented; while the more important chiefs have each paid private visits of state, and have been received with all the formalities of Atar and Pan which I described in my first letter from Bombay, and these visits have all been scrupulously returned. Thus the Prince's whole time has been occupied, and it is wonderful that while most of his staff look jaded and fagged, he himself looks as fresh, as pleasant, and as interested as ever. No wonder he has won the hearts of natives wherever he has gone; those who only see him as he passes in the streets are delighted with the affability and punctiliousness with which he returns every salute, while those who have had the honour of a personal interview are completely won with the charm of his manner. I have heard one or two Europeans object that he was too affable with the natives—and affability with natives is by no means a general failing in India—but some natives of importance to whom I spoke on the subject indignantly repudiated the suggestion of the possibility of such a thing. 'The Prince, as the future Emperor of India, as the source of all honour and rank, could not lower himself by unbending to the meanness of his subjects. His condescension to them might raise them up, might elevate them in their own opinion and in that of others, as a flower is raised by the warmth of the sun, but it could in no way affect his own position. A great monarch could be more or less loved by his people as he was more or less good and kind, but he must be respected and venerated as a great monarch whatever his conduct. The Prince has made himself loved over and above the respect and veneration all were prepared to pay him.' Such is, I am assured, the general verdict of native opinion wherever the Prince has gone, and a greater, and, if as an attentive looker on I may be permitted to say so, a better deserved success no man could have attained. The Prince's holiday involves a comparative holiday for us also, for he has expressed a natural desire that the privacy of his sporting expedition shall be strictly preserved, and that wish will, I need hardly say, be respected. Putting aside the unpleasantness of a gentleman intent upon shooting a tiger being watched by half a score of 'chiefs taking notes,' the difficulties of food and transport would also have proved insurmountable obstacles to our accompanying the Prince. So great, indeed, are these obstacles that a portion of the personal staff will necessarily remain behind. An exception, however, has been made in favour of the artists of the illustrated papers, and of the gentleman who acts as Reuter's agent."

Obituary.

BRO. JOHN NEWTON TOMKINS.

We regret to have to announce the death of Bro. John Newton Tomkins, P.G.D. For some years past his failing health had prevented his attendance at Grand Lodge, and even at his own lodge (Peace and Harmony), but his loss will be deeply regretted by many Masons who are old enough to remember what a brilliant ornament he was to the Craft. Enthusiastically devoted to the objects and work of the Order, he was a consummate master of the ritual, including all the lectures as well as the ceremonies, not only in Craft and Royal Arch Masonry, but also in the allied Orders of Knights Templar and the Ancient and Accepted Rite as far as the 31st Degree. He was initiated in the Lodge of Peace and Harmony, then No. 72, on October 22nd, 1846, joined the Royal Athelstan Lodge of Instruction in March, 1847, and the Lodge of Amity, No. 200, in May the same year; in 1848 he was elected a Grand Steward from No. 72, and joined the Grand Stewards' Lodge; he was then exalted in the R.A. Chapter of Fidelity, No. 3, and joined a Chapter of Instruction; a few months later he was made a Knight Templar in the Encampment of Faith and Fidelity, and in 1849 he joined the Lodge of Emulation, No. 318, and was at once made Junior Warden, after being made the 1st Grand Expert in Grand Conclave a short time previously. In 1850 he joined the Lodge of Emulation, and took the chair of W.M. in Lodge No. 318, serving the office of W.M. in Lodge No. 318 for two years, and in other lodges for three years afterwards, thus occupying the chair in four lodges for five consecutive years, probably an unprecedented case of one brother holding the chair in various lodges for so long a term without a break. He was W.M. of No. 318 during 1850 and 1851; W.M. of No. 200 in 1852; W.M. of No. 60, (formerly No. 72) in 1853; and W.M. of the Grand Stewards' Lodge in 1854. In 1851 he was elected to the Board of General Purposes at the top of the poll with 160 votes, and joined the 18° and 30° of the Ancient and Accepted Rite; in 1852 he was exalted to the 31°, in 1853 he was installed 1st Principal of R.A. Chapter, No. 3, and E.C. of the Encampment of Faith and Fidelity; in 1854 he was made Junior Grand Deacon in Grand Lodge, and Sword Bearer in Grand Chapter; and in 1855 Grand Treasurer to Grand Conclave, which last office he held for ten years. In addition to all these offices he was also Hon. Sec. to the Royal Athelstan Lodge of Instruction, and Treasurer to the Lodge of Peace and Harmony, to the Chapter of Fidelity, and to the Encampment of Faith and Fidelity for many years, greatly to the satisfaction of them all; services which were very kindly acknowledged by presentations of plate, and by most flattering expressions of their esteem and regard. The Lodge of Amity also testified their appreciation of his merits as their W.M. in a similar manner. Last of all, he was a Life Governor, and had served the Stewardships of all the charities. No one who was privileged to meet him at the many lodges of which he was a member will forget the happy hours he passed, for not only was Bro. John Newton Tomkins a great authority in Masonry, but he was the wittiest and most brilliant speaker of his day, and the most entertaining companion, while his amiable and generous disposition made him universally beloved; and rightly was he considered twenty years ago to be the most popular member of the Craft. Latterly he gradually retired from all the lodges and chapters to which he belonged, except the Lodge of Peace and Harmony, of which he continued a member to the day of his death; but though his lodges and chapter, know him no more, yet their older members and his many friends will always hold his memory in affectionate remembrance.

BRO. J. HAWKER.

Bro. J. Hawker, P.M. 871, died suddenly on Friday, 18th February, at the comparatively early age of 51. He was afflicted with heart disease, and was ill for only a very short time. He was initiated in the Royal Oak Lodge, 871, on October 2nd, 1862, and continued a full subscribing member till his death. He held the office of W.M. in 1868, doing all the work and installing his successor. He was a Life Governor of one of the charities, and took an active interest in his lodge, seldom missing a meeting. He was well and deservedly respected by all who knew him, and has left a widow and family to lament the heavy loss they have sustained.

SKATING RINKS.—It is forgotten, writes Bro. Hyde Clarke in the "Athenæum," that there was a rink in London above a generation ago. Bradwell, of Covent-garden, a very ingenious man, was the inventor of the ice, and he tried it at the theatre. His rink, to which Bro. Clarke gave the name of the Glaciarium, was near the Regent's Park. His first season's surface was hard and polished, and bore skating well; but the amateurs complained it would not take a figure like real ice, so next year Bradwell invented an ice which cut well with the skate. The affair was on too small a scale to pay in those days.

GAS superseded in day time, and daylight reflected in dark rooms. Health, comfort, and economy promoted, by adopting Chappuis' Patent Daylight Reflectors. Manufactory, 69, Fleet-street, London.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS AND OINTMENT.—It would be startling to many were it possible to state accurately the number of persons who have been restored to health, and relieved by these remedies, and if all the details connected with each individual case could be collected the enormous amount of pain and suffering which has been soothed and got rid of would be beyond belief. These remedies are so well known in the present day, east, west, south, and north, that it is strange any individual should remain in ignorance of their valuable qualities in correcting all blood impurities, whether hereditary or acquired, the ill effects of which they effectually modify and counteract, rendering the sickly and feeble physically strong.—ADVT.

METROPOLITAN MASONIC MEETINGS

For the Week ending Friday, March 17, 1876.

The Editor will be glad to receive notice from Secretaries of Craft Lodges, Royal Arch Chapters, Mark Lodges, Preceptories, Conclaves, &c., of any change in place or time of meeting.

SATURDAY, MARCH 11.

- Lodge 108, London, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.
 " 173, Phoenix, F.M.H.
 " 176, Caveac, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
 " 1328, Granite, F.M.H.
 " 1361, United Service, Greyhound Hot., Richmond.
 " 1426, The Great City, Terminus Hot., Cannon-st.
 Mark Lodge, 144, Grosvenor, Caledonian Hot., Adelphi.
 K.T. Precep., D., Mount Calvary, London Tav., Bishopsgate.
 LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.
 Lily, Greyhound, Richmond.
 Manchester, 179, London-st., Fitzroy-square.
 Star, Marquis of Granby, New Cross Road.
 Sinai Chapter, London Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.

MONDAY, MARCH 13.

- Lodge 5, St. George's and Corner Stone, F.M.H.
 " 29, St. Alban's, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
 " 59, Royal Naval, F.M.H.
 " 90, St. John's, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
 " 136, Good Report, Terminus Hot., Cannon-st.
 " 193, Confidence, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
 " 222, St. Andrew's, London Tav., Bishopsgate.
 " 1366, Highgate, Gatehouse Hot., Highgate.
 " 1506, White Horse of Kent, 33, Golden-sq.
 Chap. 22, Mount Zion, Guildhall Tav., Gresham-st.
 " 1118, University, F.M.H.
 " 1319, Asaph F.M.H.
 Rose Croix Chap. Holy Sanctuary, 33, Golden-sq.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

- Prince Leopold, Lord Stanley Tav., Kingsland.
 Strong Man, Jerusalem Tav., St. John's Gate.
 Sincerity, Railway Tav., Fenchurch-st. Station.
 Camden, Stanhope Arms, Up. James-st., Camden To.
 Eastern, Royal Hot., Mile-end-road.
 St. James's Union, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
 Wellington, White Swan, Deptford.
 West Kent, St. Saviour's College, Forest-hill.
 Perfect Ashlar, Victoria Tav., Lower-rd., Rotherhithe.
 Sydney, White Hart Ho., Church-rd., Upper Norwood.

TUESDAY, MARCH 14.

- Lodge 46, Old Union, Terminus Hot., Cannon-st.
 " 96, Burlington, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
 " 166, Union, London Tav., Bishopsgate.
 " 180, St. James Union, F.M.H.
 " 198, Percy, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.
 " 211, St. Michael, Albion Tav., Aldersgate.
 " 228, United Strength, St. John's Gate.
 " 235, Nine Muses, Long's Hot., Bond-st.
 " 548, Wellington, White Swan Tav., Deptford.
 " 917, Cosmopolitan, Terminus Hot., Cannon-st.
 " 933, Doric, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

- Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney.
 Domestic, Surrey M.H., Camberwell New-road.
 Faith, 2, Westminster Chambers, Victoria-st.
 Prince Fredk. Wm., Lord's Rot., St. John's Wood.
 Dalhousie, King Edward, Triangle, Hackney.
 Prosperity, 1, Camomile-st., Bishopsgate.
 St. Marylebone, British Stores Tav., St. John's Wood.
 Constitutional, Wheatheaf Hot., Hand-court, Holborn.
 Percy, Grapes Tav., Little Windmill-st., W.
 Israel, Rising Sun Tav., Globe Road.
 Royal Arthur, Prince's Head, York-road, Battersea.
 Beacontree, Red Lion, Leytonstone, at 8.
 Metropolitan Chapter, Jamaica Coffee Ho., Cornhill.
 Excelsior, Commercial Dock Tav., Rotherhithe.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15.

- Lodge Grand Stewards.
 " 140, St. George's, Trafalgar Hot., Greenwich.
 " 174, Sincerity, Guildhall Tav., Gresham-st.
 " 190, Oak, F.M.H.
 " 700, Nelson, M.H. William-st., Woolwich.
 " 969, Maybury, F.M.H.
 " 1044, Wandsworth, Spread Eagle, Wardsworth.
 " 1349, Friars, Cheshire Cheese, Crutched Friars.
 " 1382, Corinthian, George Inn, Cubitt Town.
 Chap. 10, Westminster and Keystone, F.M.H.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

- Mt. Lebanon, Windsor Castle Tav., Southwark-bdg.-rd.
 Pythagorean, Prince of Orange, Greenwich.
 New Concord, Rosemary Branch Tav., Hoxton.
 Royal Union, Horse and Groom, Winsley-st., Oxford-st.
 Confidence, M.H., Basinghall-st.
 Peckham, Maismore Arms, Park-road, Peckham.
 Stanhope, Thicket Hot., Anerley.
 Finsbury Park, Finsbury Park Tav., Seven Sisters'-rd.
 Southwark, Southwark Park Tav., Southwark Park.
 Duke of Connaught, Havelock Tav., Dalston E.
 United Strength, Grafton Arms, Kentish-town.
 Mount Edgcombe, 19, Jermyn-street, St. James's.
 Islington, Crown and Cushion, London Wall.

THURSDAY, MARCH 16.

- House Com. Girls' School, at 4.
 Lodge 23, Globe, F.M.H.
 " 49, Gihon, Guildhall Tav., Gresham-st.
 " 55, Constitutional, Terminus Hot., Cannon-st.
 " 63, St. Mary's, F.M.H.
 " 169, Temperance, White Swan, High-st., Deptford.
 " 179, Manchester, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
 " 181, Universal, F.M.H.
 " 733, Westbourne, Lord's Hot., St. John's Wood.
 " 813, New Concord, Rosemary Branch, Hoxton.
 " 1139, South Norwood, Public Hall, South Norwood.
 " 1278, Burdett Coutts, Approach Tav., Approach-rd.
 " 1287, Great Northern, F.M.H.
 " 1365, Clapton, White Hart Tav., Clapton.

- Lodge 1507, Metropolitan, 269, Pentonville-rd.
 " 1425, Hyde Park, 1, Craven-rd., W.
 " 1475, Peckham, Surrey Masonic Hall.
 " 1512, Hemming, Lion Hot., Hampton.
 Chap. 834, Andrew, Clarendon Hot., Hammersmith.
 Preceptory E., Observance, 14, Bedford-row.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

- Egyptian, Hercules Tav., Leadenhall-st.
 Fidelity, Yorkshire Grey, London-st., W.
 Finsbury, Jolly Anglers' Tav., Bath-st., City-road.
 Whittington, Black Bull Tav., Holborn.
 Temperance in the East, Catherine-st., Poplar.
 Ebury, 12, Ponsonby-st., Millbank.
 Highgate, Bull and Gate, Kentish-town.
 The Great City, 111, Cheapside.
 High Cross, Coach & Horses, High-road, Tottenham.
 Salisbury, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
 Marquis of Ripon, Albion Tav., Albion-rd., Dalston.
 Prince Frederick William Chapter, St. John's Wood.

FRIDAY, MARCH 17.

- House Com. Boys' School, at 4.
 Lodge 6, Friendship, Willis's Rooms, King-st., W.
 " 143, Middlesex, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
 " 201, Jordan, F.M.H.
 Preceptory 6, St. George's, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
 " 48, Kemeys Tynte, 33, Golden-sq.
 " 74, Harcourt, Greyhound Inn, Richmond.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

- Union Waterloo, Thomas-st., Woolwich.
 St. George's, Globe Tav., Royal-hill, Greenwich.
 Robert Burns, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
 Belgrave, Lyceum Tav., 354, Strand.
 Unions Emulation (for M.M.'s), F.M.M.
 Temperance, Victoria Tav., Victoria-road, Deptford.
 Clapton, White Hart, Clapton.
 Stability, Guildhall Tav., Gresham-st.
 Metropolitan, Portugal Hot., Fleet-st.
 Westbourne, Horse & Groom, Winsley-st., Oxford-st.
 Metropolitan, Pentonville-road.
 United Pilgrims, Surrey M. H., Camberwell New-road.
 St. James's, New Tanners' Arms, Grange-rd., Bermondsey.
 Duke of Edinburgh, Silver Lion, Penny-fields, Poplar.
 Doric, Earl Grey Tav., Mile-end-road.
 Burgoyne, Grafton Arms, Prince of Wales's-road, N.W.
 St. Luke's, Commercial Tav., King's-road, Chelsea.
 Chigwell, Bald-faced Stag Hot., Buckhurst-hill.
 Burdett Coutts, Approach Tav., Victoria Park.
 Royal Standard, Finsbury Park Tav., Holloway.
 Ranelagh, Clarendon Hot., Hammersmith.
 Pythagorean Chapter, Prince of Orange, Greenwich-rd.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN WEST LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE.

For the Week ending Saturday March 18, 1876.

MONDAY, MARCH 13.

- Lodge 314, Peace and Unity, Militia Mess R., Preston.
 " 1021, Hartington, H.M., C.H.B., B.-in-Furness.
 " 1350, Fermor, Hesketh, M.H., Liverpool.
 " 1398, Baldwin Castle, Dalton-in-Furness.
 Mark Lodge, 165, Bedford H., Bedford-rd., Rock Ferry.
 Chap. 148, Elias Ashmole, C. Rooms, Warrington.

TUESDAY, MARCH 14.

- Lodge 178, Antiquity, Royal Hot., Wigan.
 " 241, Merchants, M.H., Liverpool.
 " 1250, Gilbert Greenall, M.R., Warrington.
 " 1325, Stanley, M.H., Kirkdale.
 " 1384, Equity, Commercial Hot., Widnes.
 Chap. 537, Zion, M.R., Argyle-st., Birkenhead.
 " 613, Bridson, M.H., Southport.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15.

- Lodge 537, Zetland, 55, Argyle-st., Birkenhead.
 " 823, Everton, M.H., Liverpool.
 " 1061, Triumph, M.H., Lytham.
 " 1086, Walton, St. Lawrence's, Soho, Kirkdale.
 " 1345, Victoria, Cross Keys, Eccles.
 " 1353, Duke of Lancaster, Athenæum, Lancaster.
 " 1403, Lancashire, Commercial Hot., Ormskirk.
 Chap. 580, Unity, Wheat Sheaf, Ormskirk.
 Mark Lodge, 31, Fidelity, Norfolk Hot., Hyde.
 De Grey and Ripon L. of I., 80, North Hill-st., Liverpool.
 Downshire L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

THURSDAY, MARCH 16.

- Lodge 203, Ancient Union, M.H., Liverpool.
 " 343, Concord, Militia Mess Rooms, Preston.
 " 425, Cestrian, M. Ro., Eastgate-row, Chester.
 " 605, Combermere, Seacombe Hot., Seacombe.
 " 1299, Pembroke, Rawlinson's Hot., West Derby.
 Chap. 249, Mariners, M.H., Liverpool.
 St. John's L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.
 William de la More Precep., M.H., Prescott.

FRIDAY, MARCH 17.

- Duke of Edinburgh L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.
 Jacques de Molay Precep., M.H., Liverpool.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN GLASGOW AND WEST OF SCOTLAND.

For the Week ending Saturday, March 18, 1876.
 All the Meetings take place at Eight o'clock.

MONDAY, MARCH 13.

- Lodge 102, St. Mark, 233, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
 " 205, Gartland St. Winnoch, Eagle, Lochwinnoch.
 " 219, Star, 12, Trongate, Glasgow.
 " 307, Union and Crown, M.H., Barrhead.
 " 362, St. Clair, 25, Robertson-st., Glasgow.
 " 384, Athole, Kirkintilloch, Washington Hot.
 " 403, St. George, Oddfellows' Hall, Helensburgh.
 " 504, St. Paul, George-Inn, Ayr.
 " 541, Marie Stuart, M.H., Crosshill.
 " 581, Plantation, M.H., Maclean-st., Glasgow.

TUESDAY, MARCH 14.

- Lodge 177, St. James, Old Monkland, M.H., Coatbridge.
 " 230, St. Barnabas, Black Bull Hot., New Cumnock.
 " 413, Athole, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.

- Lodge 419, Neptune, 35, St. James-st., Kingston.
 " 426, Prince of Wales, M.H., Renfrew.
 " 441, Glasgow, 22, Struthers-st., Calton, Glasgow.
 " 543, St. John, M.H., Dalmuir.
 Chap. 69, St. Andrew's, 170, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15.

- Lodge 177, St. Mary, M.H., Partick.
 " 354, Caledonian Railway, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
 " 571, Dramatic, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
 Chap. 150, Shettleston St. John, M.H., Shettleston.

THURSDAY, MARCH 16.

- Lodge 22, St. John Kilwinning, George Hot., Kilmarnock.
 " 27, St. Mungo, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
 " 465, St. Andrew, M.H., Garngad-rd.

FRIDAY, MARCH 17.

- Lodge 12, Greenock Kilwinning, T.H., Greenock.
 " 31, St. Mary's Coltness, Scotts Hall, Wishan.
 " 306, St. Thomas, 90, Wellgate-st., Larkhall.
 " 321, St. Andrews, Sub. Halls, Alexandria.
 " 360, Commercial, 30, Hope-st., Glasgow.
 " 408, Clyde, 170, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
 " 471, St. John, Stane Inn, Shotts.
 " 551, Clydesdale, Royal Hot., Larkhall.

SATURDAY, MARCH 18.

- Lodge 534, St. Andrew, M. H., Kilbride.
 " 544, St. Andrew, M.H., Coatbridge.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN EDINBURGH AND VICINITY.

For the Week ending Saturday, March 18, 1876.

MONDAY, MARCH 13.

- Lodge 145, St. Stephen, Writers' Court, Edinburgh.

TUESDAY, MARCH 14.

- " 1, Mary's Chapel, Waterloo-place.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15.

- " 160, Roman Eagle, Iona Hot., Nicholson-st.

THURSDAY, MARCH 16.

- " 48, St. Andrew, F.M.H., George-st.
 " 226, Portobello, Royal Hot., Bath-st.
 Chap. 153, Perseverance, 186, Constitution-st.

FRIDAY, MARCH 17.

- " 83, St. Andrew, F.M.H., George-st.

THE LONDON MASONIC CLUB.

THE CLUB PREMISES
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101, Queen Victoria Street,
 are now being fitted up, and will

SHORTLY BE OPENED TO THE MEMBERS

The Annual Subscription, now payable, is available to 1st May, 1877, and is fixed at—£3 3s. for Town Members, i.e., Members residing within twenty miles of the Club, and £1 11s. 6d. for Country Members, without entrance fee. None but Freemasons are eligible for Membership.

An Election of Members will be held on 15th March next, after which date it is anticipated that it will be necessary to impose an Entrance Fee, and raise the annual Subscriptions, upwards of 500 Brethren having already joined.

Applications for Forms for Membership to be made personally or by letter to the Secretary, at the Offices of the London Masonic Club Company Limited, 37, Queen Victoria-street, E.C.

JOHN A. LATHBURY,
 Secretary.

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The attention of the Brethren is called to

THE CANCER HOSPITAL (founded 1851).

—The late ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY, in a sermon preached by His Grace on behalf of this Hospital, said: "There is no disease more pitiable than that to which this Institution is specially devoted. From the first symptoms an attack one long course has commonly been prognosticated—of fearful looking-for of a lingering progress towards a death of anguish. Could the greatness of the suffering be laid before you—could you be shown its severity, so as to see it in its true proportions and natural colours—no one endowed with the feelings of humanity could resist the spectacle; they would think all they possessed a trifling sacrifice if, at such a price, they could mitigate such misery; and yet they know that these sufferings exist as surely as if they were spread before their eyes. This, therefore, is a case in which I may justly ask your liberal contributions, that the relief afforded by this Hospital may more nearly approach the amount of misery it endeavours to remove."

In consequence of the severe nature of this disease it has recently been found necessary to face the whole of the wards with glazed tiles, causing a heavy expenditure and a great drain upon the funds of the Hospital. Subscriptions are, therefore, earnestly solicited.

SUBSCRIPTIONS will be most thankfully received for this Hospital, WHICH IS FREE. Diet required to be most generous, and medicines of the most expensive kind.

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REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS.

Craft Masonry.

GRAND STEWARDS' LODGE.—This lodge met on Wednesday evening at Freemasons' Hall, Bro. Edwin March, W.M., presiding. Lodge was very numerous, attended, and after two propositions for joining had been made, Bro. Bristow offered himself as Steward for the Boys' School Festival, and five guineas was voted to his list. The brethren then adjourned to an excellent banquet at Freemasons' Tavern, when the following brethren were present:—Edwin March, W.M.; Edw. Baxter, S.W.; J. F. Walsh, J.W.; John A. Rucker, Treas.; Fredk. Hockley, Sec.; Frank Richardson, J.D.; E. W. Hubbard, I.G.; John M. Stedwell, P.M.; H. J. Norman, P.M.; C. H. Waters, P.M.; J. Swainston, W.M.; W. B. Scott, William Kilabi, T. H. Edwards, Wm. Bristow, A. A. Richards, B. Risdom, F. Binckes, B. K. Minton, P.M.; John Hart, P.M. 410; Hickson Briggs, P.M. 865; Albert B. H. Day, P.M. 865; Aubrey Walsh, P.M. 8; H. Massey, P.M. 619 ("Freemason"); W. White, 181; J. W. Starkey, P.M. 1174; Hy. N. Pink, 1593; C. S. Peters, P.M. 1480; Wm. Blackmore, 14; and H. Wellington Vallance, 294. At the conclusion of the banquet, after grace had been said, the W.M., who presided, proposed the toasts. After giving that of "The Queen and the Craft," he proposed that of "The M.W.G.M.," and in doing so said that the Prince of Wales was so highly beloved among Masons that it was quite unnecessary to say more than to ask the brethren to drink his health. No doubt one and all would be delighted to see him on his return home again. He was now on the sea, and he had accomplished the purpose for which he went to India to the highest satisfaction of our brethren in that country, as well as to all our other fellow subjects in the great Empire. The toast was coupled with that of "The Earl of Carnarvon." In giving the toast of "Lord Skelmersdale and the Grand Officers," the W.M. coupled the name of Bro. Rucker with it, of whom they were all very proud, and by whose appointment as G.S.D. they felt much honoured. Bro. J. A. Rucker responded. The health of the W.M. was proposed by Bro. Stedwell, P.M., who said the brethren knew the W.M. and his good qualities so well that even a very long speech would but enhance him in their estimation. He had the interests of the Grand Stewards' Lodge at heart at all times, and the immense amount of good he had always done, and was now doing independently of being the W.M. of the lodge entitled him (Bro. Stedwell) to ask the brethren to drink the W.M.'s health most cordially. The W.M., in reply, wished he deserved all Bro. Stedwell's praise. In one thing he had said the truth, that he had always had the welfare of the Grand Stewards' Lodge at heart. He hoped he always should. When he first joined the lodge, not so many years ago, the funds were small, and the first time he dined in it they sat down seven. The state of things was different now. He was proud of the lodge, and would do all in his power to keep it up. Although he did not believe as some did that they would regain the privileges they had lost, and if the number of red apron lodges was increased (which they could not look for) they might yet do a great deal of good in Masonry; they could set examples, and the Grand Stewards' Lodge, not No. 1, but the first lodge in the Craft. If the brethren would only follow him, and the P.M.'s, and those who desired to make it a great lodge they would succeed. (Hear Hear.) The toast of "The Visitors" followed, in which the W.M. gave those brethren a most hearty welcome. This was seconded by the rest of the brethren drinking the toast warmly in bumpers. Bros. Walsh, H. W. Vallance and Briggs replied, and the W.M. next gave "The P.M.'s," and in recounting the services the brethren had rendered named Bro. Briggs as being the brother who raised the lodge when it was small in number to the proud position in which it at present stood. He also included the names of Bros Stedwell, Norman, Binckes, Swainston and Waters. Bro. Stedwell replied, and assured the W.M. and the brethren that the P.M.'s would follow the course they had always pursued. The toast of "The Treasurer and Secretary," Bros. Rucker and Hockley, drew the brethren's attention to two noble representatives of the lodge, the W.M. saying that better officers there could not be, and the lodge heartily thanked them for the able manner in which they performed their duties. Bro. Hockley, who replied, thanked the brethren sincerely for their kind recognition of his and the Treasurer's services. "The Musical Brethren and Bro.

Monckton" followed, the thanks of the brethren being given to the musical brethren, and the W.M. adding that when Bro. Baxter had gone through the chair he should propose that he become Org. of the lodge. Bro. Monckton replied, and "The Officers of the Lodge" was proposed, those brethren having ever contributed to establish the prestige of this lodge, notably Bro. E. Saunders, P.G.S.D. Bro. Baxter, S.W., replied, and looked back with pride on those old times when Grand Stewards' Lodge had public nights, which had now been superseded by the Emulation Lodge of Improvement. Bro. F. Binckes replied for "The Charities," and thanked their lodge for having supported Bro. Bristow, who had kindly undertaken the Stewardship of the lodge for the Boys' School. The brethren afterwards separated.

THE ROYAL STANDARD LODGE (No. 1298).—The standard of this lodge does not float over one of the houses of entertainment popularly supposed (and there is much more supposition than fact about the idea) to be open for the benefit of "man and beast;" but it holds its happy meetings under Bro. Brooks at the Wellington Club, in the Upper-street of that northern part of London which used to rejoice in the nomenclature of "Merrie Islington." On Tuesday night the installation meeting was held, and a goodly attendance of the brethren of the lodge and of visitors witnessed the last night's work of the most efficient Master of the last year, Bro. J. F. Wilson, who handed over the duties to the new Master amid general acknowledgments of the good work he had done during his year. Before the ceremony of installation was commenced the old Master performed the ceremony of passing for the benefit of Bro. De Metz, and then initiated a namesake, Mr. Alexander Wilson, as well as two other gentlemen, Mr. Walter Holcome and Mr. Ernest Edward Street. The W.M. then proceeded to install his successor, Bro. Wright, the first child of the lodge who has reached that position. The ceremony was performed with all the accustomed rites, and the brethren greeted the new W.M. when, the Board of Installed Masters being closed, he was proclaimed according to ancient custom. The W.M. appointed as his officers Bros. P. Dickenson, S.W.; W. H. Cohen, J.W.; J. F. Wilson, I.P.M., as Treas.; G. S. Rigley, as Sec.; Gladwell, as S.D.; D. L. Buddrus, as J.D.; A. J. P. Stevens, as I.G.; Rev. R. J. Simpson, P.G.C., as Chaplain; I. P. Watford, as Organist. After the Master had risen for the first time, the Junior Warden, in well chosen terms, spoke of the excellent manner in which the outgoing W.M. had discharged his duties to the lodge, and said Bro. Wilson had placed all the members of the lodge in his debt by his performance of the ceremony of installation, and the speaker moved that a vote of thanks be recorded on the minutes of the lodge to Bro. Wilson. Bro. the Rev. R. J. Simpson seconded the motion, and said he had never seen the ceremony worked with greater effect, and it was with pleasure that he saw the young lodge having officers so efficient; and he said that so great an example set before future Masters by a Master would be of the greatest advantage to the lodge. The motion was carried nem. con. with acclamation, and in conveying it to Brother Wilson the Worshipful Master decorated his I.P.M. with the jewel of the lodge. This bore the inscription "Presented by the Royal Standard Lodge, No. 1298, to Bro. John Figgess Wilson, P.M., to mark their appreciation of his excellent working, urbanity of manner, and great zeal evinced for the prosperity of the Lodge." The lodge, after voting £10 10s. to the Boys' School, to go on Bro. Jaffra's list, closed in due form, and at a somewhat late hour—late from the heavy work in the lodge—sat down to an excellent banquet, provided under the superintendence of Bro. Brooks, one of the proprietors of the club. Among the visitors were Bro. Linton R. Rogers, P.M. 902 (Burg-yn); Bros. Manver and Wells, both P.M.s of 1314; Bros. J. While, I.P.M. of United Strength, No. 228 ("Freemason"); H. B. D. Dunn, Finsbury Park Lodge; Wo. dward, of 476; Tabernacle, of Finsbury Park; and others. There was an absence of P.M.'s of the lodge, with the exception of Bro. Woodman, for the reasons that the lodge has not many, that one is abroad, and that another is ill. After the banquet the W.M. gave the usual loyal toasts—"The Queen and the Craft," and spoke of that day's ceremony—in her Majesty's visit to the East to open a new wing of the London Hospital—as showing that the Head of the State is animated with the same kindly feelings for which her Masonic father was celebrated. In proposing "The Health of H.R.H. the Grand Master, the W.M. made reference to the Grand Master's journey to the East, and said the Freemasons of England would give his Royal Highness a joyous welcome home. In response to the toast of "The Grand Officers," Bro. the Rev. R. J. Simpson, as P.G.C., spoke with his usual eloquence, and repeated what he had said in lodge with regard to the "work" of the lodge, declaring that Grand Lodge would be highly gratified could the members see how efficiently all the duties of the Craft were carried out. He said, too, that he was proud of being a Royal Standard officer, and though he had been a truant Chaplain for a long time he would endeavour to give them more of his attendance. The W.M. then proposed "The Initiates," and Bro. A. Wilson, and his conferees acknowledged the toast in fitting terms. The visitors were toasted, and Bro. Linton Rogers responded thanking the lodge for the opportunity it afforded the visitors of seeing the excellent work of the Royal Standard. Bro. J. F. Wilson then proposed "The Health of the W.M.," and said that it was with the utmost gratification the members saw one of the children of the lodge take the position of its Master. The lodge was now in a most flourishing position, it had a balance in hand, it had contributed to the charities liberally, and it had good members. The W.M. who now took the head of the lodge under these favourable circumstances was one who had worked steadily from the first, though the offices of the lodge, and had done his duty to the lodge and its Masters in past years in a manner which had been well

followed by his brother officers. The W.M. acknowledged the toast in fitting terms, and thanked the brethren warmly for assisting him in attaining the "summit of his profession." The brethren then, at a late hour—merging on midnight—seemed to be about entering on the enjoyment of the "evening;" but the recorder of events, with others who had to cross the valley of the Thames, departed, leaving the brethren in the north somewhat diminished in numbers, but fully inclined to enjoy themselves with the harmony from which the speeches had debarrd them.

KENNINGTON LODGE (No. 1381).—Bro. G. Everett, the Immediate Past Master of the Domestic Lodge, No. 177, and Worshipful Master of the Kennington Lodge, No. 1381, presided at the regular meeting of the latter lodge on the 7th inst., at the Surrey Club House, Kennington Oval, when there was a large attendance of brethren, members of the lodge, and a strong muster of visitors. Among these last were Bros. Greenwood, Prov. G. Sec. of Surrey; W. Palmer, J.W. 177; G. L. Everett, 177; Allcot, from China; Day, 1139; H. M. Levy, P.M. 188; and H. Massey, P.M. 619 ("Freemason"). The officers present were Bros. H. Higgins, S.W.; H. C. Reeves, J.W.; Walls, S.D.; Kohler, J.D.; Speedy, I.G.; Robinson, D.C.; Marston, W.S.; E. I. Page, P.M., P.G.S., Treas.; W. Stuart, P.M., Sec.; and Past Masters W. Mann, Koch, Gardner, and Drysdale. The work done was initiating Messrs. John King and J. Wardley, and raising Bro. Grimwade, and this occupied the brethren a considerable time, as the ceremonies were carefully gone through and impressively rendered. An excellent banquet was afterwards provided by Bro. Frederick Trotman, who personally superintended its serving. At the conclusion of the banquet, which gave general satisfaction, grace was rendered, and the W.M. proceeded rapidly to deliver the toasts, as the hour was late. After that of "The Queen and the Craft," which was followed by singing the "National Anthem," the W.M., in giving the toast of "The Grand Master," said that from the time H.R.H. first entered the Craft till that glorious day in April last when in the presence of 8000 or 9000 of the Craft he was installed as Grand Master he had never ceased to display his interest in the Craft. His progress through India had been one of great success, and in every town he had visited where Freemasons had come forward to show him their loyalty he had treated them with the greatest condescension. He was a generous-hearted man, and a thorough Freemason, and if he made as good a King as he did a member of the Craft a happy and glorious reign might be predicted for him. (Hear, hear.) "The Earl of Carnarvon, &c." was the next toast, and the W.M. said, in proposing it, with reference to Lord Skelmersdale, that since the Kennington Lodge last met his lordship had taken the chair at the festival of the Benevolent Institution, when over £9000 was announced; he had installed Prince Leopold as Grand Master of Oxfordshire; and not a week ago had presided at the Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge. He was a man made of the right stuff, and while such men were assistants of the Prince of Wales nothing would be wanting in Freemasonry with respect to its working. Bro. Page, P.M., proposed "The W.M.," and referred to the admirable way in which he had performed the duties of the chair. He congratulated the Kennington Lodge on having secured such a Master. While it had such a ruler it would be sure to be successful; it was successful now, and he trusted that the happy era which had now commenced would continue. There were in the lodge many young and aspiring members, and he had no doubt they would emulate the example of Bro. Everett, and carefully work up to the proud position to which he had attained. The W.M., in responding, after thanking the brethren for the kind way in which they had drunk his health, said it was very pleasing indeed to receive praises, especially when one felt that he had tried to deserve that praise. He felt very proud, as he had the right to do, to think that having just vacated the chair of one lodge he was placed in that of another; and he begged to assure the brethren that he should do in the future, as he had done in the past, everything he possibly could to promote the good of Freemasonry in general, and of the Kennington Lodge in particular. In order to obtain this object he had to solicit the assistance of his brother officers, and the brethren generally, and from what he had seen during the short time of his Mastership he felt assured he would not plead in vain. His year had been begun very happily and auspiciously, and if it continued as it had commenced he might predict that there was a very great future in store for the lodge. At all events nothing should be wanting on his part to bring about such a happy end, and he had no doubt of the result. The W.M. proposed "The Visitor," and said that of the many pleasing things that happened in Freemasonry one of the most pleasing was that of visiting lodges. It was a good and wholesome custom that ought to be encouraged; it served to cement the feelings that ought to exist among Masons. Bro. Greenwood, Prov. G. Secretary of Surrey, was the first to reply, but said he should much prefer to hear the brethren from the far East tell them something of the position of Freemasonry in that quarter of the globe. Returning thanks for such of the brethren as chose to place themselves under his banner, Bro. Greenwood said, the lodge ceremonies had given him great satisfaction, and their working redounded greatly to the credit of the lodge. The brethren were fortunate in having a Master who could do his work so well, and in having officers so well able to assist him. He was pleased to see on his right Bro. Drysdale, who many years ago initiated him in Freemasonry. To his left he saw the newly-initiated Bro. King, whom he had known 30 years, and who, he was sure, would bring credit to the Craft. He fully endorsed the W.M.'s remarks about visiting lodges; it was the greatest charm in Freemasonry, for thereby you made new and cemented old friendships; it also enabled brethren, though they might find diversity in working, to pick up hints which were very useful in the working of a lodge.

Bro. Allcot, from Hong Kong, also replied. He was, he might say, a stranger in the vast metropolis of London, having arrived here only a few months ago, after an absence of 18 years. He went first to Hong Kong, where there were four lodges. He was then removed to Ningpo, where he made it his business once a month to go to the Lodge Tuscan. There were four lodges there under British sway, one American, one German, and one French lodge. He had been much pleased at the way in which the Kensington Lodge was worked, and he might truly say it was sublime. He trusted that it might long continue to prosper, and might be the means of disseminating light and truth to the world, while it brought many true and good men under the banner of Freemasonry. He trusted all present would be spared to do their duty in this world, and after that be admitted as good and faithful Craftsmen to the Grand Lodge above, and be granted seats in the presence of the Great Architect. The W.M. then proposed "The Initiates." While Masonry was progressing so much it behoved the brethren to keep a watchful eye on those who were desirous of being admitted to the Order. As to those who had been initiated that evening, he knew, or at least he believed, that they would become a valuable acquisition to the Order. He did not know anything more gratifying to a Master of a lodge than to have the privilege of imparting to others those beautiful tenets with which he was himself so well acquainted. Some 18 or 19 years ago he saw the light of Masonry, and it made so deep an impression on him that he felt it now as if it had been but yesterday. From what he had seen of the initiates that day it had made the same impression on them. He congratulated them on having become members of the brotherhood, whose principles were brotherly love, relief, and truth, and whose watchwords were loyalty and charity. Bros. King and Wardley replied, and the W.M. having given the P.M.'s, Bro. Gardner made an excellent reply, in which he promised the W.M. all the assistance in his power. The toast of "The Treasurer and Secretary" was responded to by Bros. Page and Stuart. The W.M., in proposing "The Masonic Press," paid a high compliment to the "Freemason," the accuracy of whose reports, both of lodge meetings and all the Grand proceedings in Masonry, he could speak to from his own personal experience. Bro. H. Massey replied for this journal. The officers each responded for themselves, and Bro. Longstaff having given the Tyler's toast, the brethren separated after spending a very pleasant evening.

LANGTHORNE LODGE (No. 1421).—The first regular meeting of this lodge, under the presidency of the newly-installed W.M., Bro. R. G. Owen, was held at the Swan Hotel, Stratford, E., on Thursday, the 24th ult., the following officers being present, viz.: Bros. R. G. Owen, W.M.; B. Cundick, S.W.; H. Carter, J.W.; C. W. Ashdown, P.M. and Sec.; C. Lacey, P.M. and P.G.; J. D. Herts; T. S. Taylor, S.D.; H. N. Fowler, J.D.; G. F. Dix, I.G.; W. J. Rivett, D.C.; S. Morris, W.S.; M. Sherwin, Org.; and W. Steedman, Tyler; together with a number of brethren, and several visitors. The lodge having been duly opened, and the minutes of the last meeting read and confirmed, Bro. Claridge, of this lodge, and Bro. G. F. Crane, of the Lodge Rose of Denmark, No. 975, were severally passed to the degree of Fellow Craft. The lodge was closed down to the First Degree, and the ballot taken for Mr. J. Young, a candidate for initiation, which proving unanimous in his favour, and that gentleman being in attendance, he was admitted, and duly initiated into the mysteries and privileges of ancient Freemasonry. The ceremonies throughout were very creditably performed by the W.M., assisted by his newly-invested officers, most of whom being young, though energetic, Masons, will no doubt, ere long, endeavour to render the working of this lodge equal to that of any lodge presided over by older and more expert brethren. The report of the Audit Committee was, after some discussion, unanimously received and adopted, and the nomination of Bro. C. W. Ashdown, P.M. and Sec., to represent the lodge as Steward at the forthcoming annual festival of the Girls' School, brought the business of the evening to a conclusion. The lodge was then closed and the brethren adjourned for refreshment, separating in perfect peace and harmony, after spending a most pleasant and enjoyable evening; the Organist, Bro. Sherwin, and several other brethren contributing some excellent songs, &c. The visitors present were Bros. E. W. Clarke, W.M. 975; F. Y. Latticelle, P.M. 1056; A. Grimwade, 1381; J. Boulton, 1056; R. Lethwaite, 282; and J. Alcock, P.M. 1228.

THE GREAT CITY LODGE (No. 1426).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held on Saturday evening, March 11th, at the City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street, and it was very numerously attended by both members and visitors, and amongst the latter were the following brethren:—Nochmer, P.M. 186; Poynter, P.M. 903; G. Alcock, 325; Zetland, Hong Kong; Brockman, Madras; H. John, 749; G. Biset, 405; Scotch Constitution; L. Corne, 49; Partridge, 1445; Botterill, 49; Codner, 23; D. Green, 179; W. H. Green, 403; Monckwood, 192; Morgan, 1335; Herold, 1056; T. S. Carter, P.M. 493; and others. The lodge was opened at the early hour of two o'clock, when Bro. Moody, P.M. and Sec., took the chair, and the usual preliminaries having been gone through, the lodge was opened in the Second and Third Degrees, and Bros. Wyler, Royd, Roberts, Boote, Sampson, White, and De Letive were respectively raised to the Degree of M.M. This duty was kindly entrusted to Bro. Moody by the W.M. on account of one of the candidates for the Sublime Degree being a personal friend of the worthy Secretary, and he wished to be allowed to perform that ceremony. It is needless to say that in Bro. Moody's hands the work was well done, and left nothing to be desired. The W.M. then assumed the chair, and Mr. William Styles, a candidate for Freemasonry, being in attendance, he was most ably instructed into its mysteries by the W.M. The next business was the election of

W.M. for the ensuing year, and a ballot unanimously resulted in the choice of Bro. Seck, the S.W., to fill that office, who returned thanks for the honour conferred upon him, promising to do his utmost to secure their approbation, and expressing a hope that at the end of his year of office he should leave the chair with the same kind feelings as he had been elected to it that night. The next business was the election of Treasurer for the year, but before the nomination took place Bro. Freeman, who has hitherto filled that office from the commencement of the lodge, expressed his wish to retire, but hoped his place would be filled by one of the Past Masters, and Bro. Headon, the Immediate Past Master, was unanimously elected to fill the vacancy. As Bro. Headon is such a thorough favourite with every member of the lodge the announcement of the result was received with loud cheering. Bro. Headon, I.P.M., returned thanks to the brethren for this mark of their confidence, and hoped that the amount would be large that they should place in his hands, and he assured them that he would take good care of it. Bro. Headon then said he had a pleasing duty, to propose that a Past Treasurer's jewel should be presented to Bro. Freeman, as an acknowledgment on the part of the lodge of his services. Bro. H. Thompson, P.M. ("Freemason"), said if he was in order he should like to make an addition to this notice of motion, and to supplement to by the words, "And that Bro. Freeman should become an honorary member of the lodge." He was quite sure that when they remembered the courtesy, kindness, and goodwill Bro. Freeman had invariably displayed towards every brother, they would admit with him that this was a compliment that would be well deserved. Bro. Moody said that Bro. Freeman had just telegraphed to him that he should not like to accept it. (Laughter.) Bro. Thompson said if that was Bro. Freeman's desire he would not press the motion, however much he might consider he deserved that honour to be conferred upon him. Bro. Freeman thanked Bro. Thompson for his kind intentions, but said he had no wish to be tied hand and foot as an honorary member, but wished to be at liberty to take part in their proceedings. The other notice will be considered at the next meeting of the lodge. Bro. Steedman, P.M. was unanimously re-elected as Tyler, and there being no further business the lodge was closed in due form. The brethren then adjourned to the large hall, where the banquet was served, the W.M. presiding. At the conclusion grace was said by the Rev. R. J. Simpson, P.G. Chaplain, and Chaplain of the lodge, followed by "The Health of the Queen" and the National Anthem. The W.M. said the next toast he had to submit to the brethren for their consideration was that of "The Health of the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales." They all knew from the papers how he had enjoyed himself in India, and he trusted that his visit would not only have afforded enjoyment to his Royal Highness, but would cement feelings of kindness and goodwill between this country and India. He had no doubt it would be attended with beneficial results in India, and he was sure that all Masons would be prepared to give him a hearty reception on his return. He (the W.M.) had the privilege and pleasure of attending at his installation at the Albert Hall, and he was much struck with the energy and ability with which His Royal Highness conducted the proceedings, and he was sure that all would drink his health with heartiness and cordiality—a request that was enthusiastically responded to. The W.M. said the next toast he had to offer to their notice was that of "The Pro Grand Master, the Earl of Carnarvon, [the Deputy Grand Master, the Earl Skelmersdale], and the rest of the Grand Officers, Past and Present." They had two Grand Officers members of the lodge, and one of them, Bro. Simpson, Past Grand Chaplain, was then present. He was a man who was well known in Masonry, and a man, he might say, whom they all esteemed. The toast was well received. Bro. the Rev. R. J. Simpson said he thanked the W.M., the officers, and brethren for the honour they had done the officers, past and present, of the Grand Lodge. The names of Lord Carnarvon and Lord Skelmersdale were names that were sufficiently answerable for the performance of their public and private duties, and they were also names always received with every feeling of respect in a Freemason's Lodge. Freemasonry had a great mission always before it, for it had the happiness to possess in itself the elements of right, and whether engaged in business or pleasure a religious principle was inculcated, and it went far to give permanence to the welfare and happiness of mankind. It was a happy thing that Freemasonry should come to the point, for as a number of grains tended to form the lump of stone, so did the different individual members of Freemasonry help to improve the whole body of society to which they belonged. After some other observations, he said that, feeling his attachment to the lodge, as he must feel as their Chaplain, he did not wish any longer to be an honorary member, and he trusted the lodge would allow him to be its real member for the future, for he felt he should like to be attached as an active and not as an honorary member. He was responding for the Grand Lodge, but whether it was for a small lodge, The Great City Lodge, or the Small City Lodge, they were all banded together for the same object, in diffusing that that was good, and extending the happiness and welfare of their fellow creatures. (Cheers.) Bro. Headon, I.P.M., said it was now his duty to propose the next toast, which was that of "The Health of the W. Master." He had asked him as a particular favour not to propose it, and perhaps he would tell them why, but he could not consent in his position as Past Master to forego the pleasure he had in proposing his health. He could say more, that the W. Master had done his utmost to overcome the difference in their ritual, and he wished that there was but one ritual, so that they might have perfect working amongst them. The W. Master, in reply, said his reason for wishing Bro. Headon not to propose the toast of his

health was because the evening was somewhat advanced. He thought they had heard enough of him for the last twelve months; but as Bro. Headon had thought proper to propose that toast nothing remained for him but to thank the brethren for the very cordial manner in which they had responded to the toast. Bro. Headon had alluded to the difference of their ritual, but he had done his best to give them what he had done. He was much indebted to all the brethren for their kindness during his year of office, and he thanked them for this renewed mark of their courtesy to him as W.M., as that was the last time he should address them in that capacity. Bro. Headon returned thanks for the "Past Masters," and Bro. Styles, for his health as the Initiate. The next toast was that of "The Visitors," for which the greater part of them returned thanks. Bro. Brockman, from Madras, said: After a very protracted stay in the East he was very proud to be amongst them that evening, and he found them what Masons were all over the world. He had thoroughly enjoyed himself, for which he cordially thanked them, and he felt himself as much at home as if he had known them all for years. Bro. Alcock, from Hong Kong, said he had been a few months in England, and during that time he had visited several lodges, but he had never met with more able working than he had seen in that lodge, and he should take back with him to the far East many pleasant recollections of that evening. He trusted the lodge might continue to prosper, and by uniting members under their banner show to the world at large that there is something in Freemasonry, and whether they hailed from one lodge or another he trusted that they might all become members of that Grand Lodge where the Great Architect of the Universe lives and reigns for evermore. (Cheers.) The Tyler's toast was then given, and the proceedings were brought to a close at an early hour.

DUKE OF CONNAUGHT LODGE (No. 1558).—This lodge held its fifth regular meeting at the Surrey Masonic Hall, on Thursday, the 9th inst. Bro. W. Snowden, W.M., being unavoidably absent on important business, Bros. J. Dunn, P.M. and Sec., officiated as W.M.; W. S. Cackett, S.W.; T. Sleep, J.W.; W. Mitchell, S.D.; A. Runacres, J.D.; E. W. Boyton, D.C., as I.G.; W. Chalk, W.S. Also members of the lodge Bros. R. Scott, J. R. Smith, C. E. Power, J. Kemp, J. Dixon, J. E. Pentreath, W. Grayson, J. H. Swan, C. Sims. Also visitors Bros. J. Stanford, 72; E. G. Webster, 72; G. Alcock, 525; J. Sutcliffe, 1309; C. E. Towell, 1056; H. T. Ross, 87; M. S. Larham, W.M. 1539; J. Ruff, 95; J. Hernaman, 1326; J. W. Brooke, 1381; E. W. Devereux, 1423. The minutes of the last lodge meeting were read and confirmed. Messrs. W. Fish, J. W. Smith, and W. G. Bott were initiated. Bros. W. Bower, J. Dixon, and W. Grayson were duly passed to the degree of Fellow Craft, and Bros. R. Scott and J. R. Smith were raised. The W.M., Bro. W. Snowden, arrived and took the chair. Notice of motion was given by Bro. T. Sleep, J.W., that at the next regular meeting of the lodge "The propriety of altering Bye-law No. 1, so as to reduce the number of meetings from nine to six in every twelve months, and that the meetings take place every alternate month" be taken into consideration, as more conducive to the interests of the lodge. Also to consider the question of raising the visitors' fee for refreshment. The lodge was adjourned till Thursday, the 13th April. The brethren then partook of refreshments in the banquet-room of the hall. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and heartily responded to. In reply to the toast of "The Visitors" several neat speeches were made, congratulating the lodge on its harmony, good working, and prosperity. Bro. Alcock (525) said that when in China he had heard that the Masonic ceremonies were conducted in a very slovenly manner in England. Since he had been in this country he had visited many lodges, and on his return to China he should be able to acquaint his brethren there that Freemasonry in England is conducted with the utmost regularity and decorum—in short, that Freemasonry in every part of the globe he had visited is one universal science.

BATH.—Royal Cumberland Lodge (No. 41).—The first meeting under Bro. Brown, the new W.M., was held at the Masonic Hall, on Thursday, March 2nd, when he was supported by Bros. Cooper, acting as I.P.M.; Carey, P.M., as S.W.; Falkner, J.W.; Ashley, P.M. and Treas.; C. Wilkinson, Sec.; Braham, [S.D.]; Denham, J.D.; Gummer, I.G.; Wilton, P.M. and Dir. of Cer.; Hunt and Radway, Stewards; Past Masters Rubie, Mann, Mitchell, and Dr. Hopkins; several members, Bro. Styles presiding at the harmonium; 25 visitors, Bros. Collins, 379; Sparrow, P.M. 906; Pinkett, 906; and Bigwood, Tyler. The minutes having been read and confirmed, a ballot was taken for Bro. T. Trevor, W.M. 944, S.C., Bombay, as a joining member, which being unanimous in his favour, he was duly received into the lodge. Messrs. Mercer and Meatyard, previously balloted for, were admitted, and initiated by the W.M. The charge was admirably delivered by Bro. Cooper, and the J.W. was equally successful in the explanation of the working tools. In the course of the evening the brethren were carried off for refreshment, generously provided by the W.M., whose kindness was acknowledged by a vote, which was carried by acclamation. Bros. Hunt and Gummer presented the report of the committee appointed to see to the renovation of the furniture, for which an expense of £27 had been incurred, which was ordered to be paid, and after some discussion as to missing articles, a cordial vote of thanks was awarded to them for their efficient services. On the proposition of the J.W., a committee was appointed to confer with deputations from the other Masonic bodies in Bath as to the purchase of a new organ. The W.M. feelingly announced the severe domestic bereavement which had befallen Bro. General Doherty, W.M. of 906, and the Secretary was directed to forward to this highly esteemed brother a letter of condolence on behalf of the brethren of

No. 41. Bro. Cooke, formerly a member of this lodge, was proposed to rejoin it. Bro. Dr. Hopkins suggested the desirability of the purchase of an engraving of the installation of the Prince of Wales as M.W.G.M., but owing to the lateness of the hour the consideration of it was postponed. The lodge was closed at 10.45.

WOODBIDGE.—Doric Lodge (No. 96).—The usual monthly meeting of this old lodge was held at the Masonic Rooms, Woodbridge, on Wednesday, the 1st March, when there were present Bros. B. Gall, W.M., Whistock; Barnes, S.W.; B. D. Gall, J.W.; Brown, J.D.; E. Fitzgerald, P. Prov. G.S.B., Sec.; Wilmshurst, P.M., P. Prov. G.S.B., acting I.P.M.; visitor, Bro. Emma Holmes, P. Prov. G.R., and P.G.D.C. of the British Union Lodge. The lodge was opened in due form, the minutes of last lodge read and confirmed, and Bro. Dr. George Edwards Keer having been examined and entrusted, the lodge was duly opened in the Second Degree, and the candidate was passed to the degree of F.C., the ceremony being very efficiently performed by the W.M., who was ably assisted by his officers. The charge (which is too seldom given in lodges) was impressively given by Bro. Fitzgerald. The current business of the evening having been disposed of, the lodge was closed in due form, and the brethren retired from the neat and elegant little lodge-room to the Bull Hotel, where a plain and substantial repast was served, and the usual Masonic and loyal toasts were given by the W.M. in quick succession, and duly responded to by the brethren. The worthy Secretary, Bro. Fitzgerald, with the permission of the Chairman, assumed the gavel, and proposed "The W.M.," passing a hearty encomium on the way in which he had done the work that evening. The W.M. modestly responded, and said that had he known for what purpose Bro. Fitzgerald asked for the use of the gavel he should certainly have refused it. The Secretary said that whilst he was still in possession he would propose another toast. The brethren had amongst them that evening as a visitor a brother with whose name they had long been familiar, and they were very glad to see him. He had so many titles, and held so many degrees, that he was unable to give them—but he begged to propose his health. The toast was very cordially drunk, and Bro. Emma Holmes, in responding, begged to thank the W.M. and brethren for the kind way in which they had received him that evening, and Bro. Fitzgerald for the flattering way in which he was pleased to speak of him. He assured the brethren that it gave him very great pleasure to bear his testimony to the excellent working he had seen that night. He thanked them very heartily for their cordial reception. He, as they probably well knew, had made Masonry his hobby, and for the last 15 years had done his utmost, in a very humble manner it was true, to endeavour to advance its true interests in every way. He liked to visit various lodges, and was delighted often to see how ably country lodges were worked, as in the case of this, the Doric Lodge, and which would astonish their metropolitan brethren. It was often not easy for a stranger Mason to get into these lodges, as he had found from experience. Bro. Holmes then related how strictly he was examined in a certain west country lodge some time ago, and how by a courteous and experienced Past Master he was severely catechised in the three degrees, and passed his examination very well until the P.M. demanded a proof that he really was a P.M., as the W.M. was to be installed that night, which, the speaker said, regularly "floored" him, as he had so seldom seen the Installed Masters' Degree worked, and had quite forgotten it. They were then in a regular dilemma as to whether he should be admitted, and the difficulty was only solved by the entrance of another old P.M., well known in the west. This brother, on hearing his name, said: "Well, I will vouch for Bro. Emma Holmes. I have never seen him before, but I have read his lectures and papers in the 'Freemason' and 'Masonic Magazine' for years past, and will guarantee it is all right." So he was admitted, and very cordially treated when they found out who he was, and he afterwards supped with the brethren, and enjoyed a remarkably pleasant evening. On another occasion, the speaker said, he visited a certain Royal Arch Chapter, and he knew no one there. His cousin, who was a medical man in the place, and S.W. of the lodge, but not a R.A.M. himself, brought him up to the lodge-room. The F.P., who was a Major-General, by the way, accosted him, and asked if he was a R.A.M.? Bro. Holmes said he was. "Who introduces you?" said the General rather roughly. "I don't know any one! but my cousin, Bro. —, brought me here." "Your cousin is not a R.A.M." "I know that, but he is a gentleman," said Bro. Holmes, and he would not have allowed me to come had he not known I was a R.A.M." He then produced his certificate, and proved himself, and was admitted. After the meeting was over he was asked to stay and have some refreshment with the companions, but he declined, and went home, feeling that though it was well to be strict with strangers it might be carried to extremes sometimes. He merely mentioned this to the brethren so that they might be prepared when they visited strange lodges, and he ought perhaps to explain by telling them what he imagined very few of them knew, that there was a good deal of spurious Masonry practised, and many spurious Masons about, and no doubt all this excessive care was necessary in some places. Again thanking them, he resumed his seat. Bro. John Bull sang a very good song about a jilted sailor. Bro. Holmes gave H. J. Byron's clever comic song, "Betsy Knubbles, the Maid of all work," and the Tyler's toast, which, by the way, was given from the chair, brought a very pleasant and harmonious evening to a close.

GREAT YARMOUTH.—Lodge of Friendship (No. 100).—On Thursday, and inst., the members of this lodge met at the Town Hall, for the purpose of installing a W.M. for the year ensuing. Bro. E. J. Bonafellow had been unanimously elected, and he was installed by Bro. O. Diver. The W.M. appointed his officers as follows: Bros. J. Bond, I.P.M.; R. Martins, S.W.; R.

W. Hubbard, J.W.; J. W. French, S.D.; E. J. Bostwick, J.D.; L. Spence, I.G.; C. M. Kirkham and J. A. Wade, Stewards; D. R. Fowler, Sec.; and J. Holt, Tyler. Bro. the Rev. J. J. Gursey, Incumbent of St. James, was appointed Chaplain, and Bro. F. Welham, Organist. Among the visiting brethren were Bros. A. M. F. Morgan, D.P.G.M.; Rev. Dr. Maughan, J. C. Smith, P.M.; T. Lord, W.M. 1500; J. S. Offord, W.M. 213; G. Brittain, P.G.O.; and Smart, P.M. of East Derham. After the installation ceremony, which was most impressively performed, the brethren adjourned to the Crown and Anchor Hotel, where 60 brethren sat down to a sumptuous banquet, provided in first class style by Bro. Franklin.

LANCASTER.—Fortitude Lodge (No. 181).—On Wednesday, 8th inst., the members of this lodge assembled in monthly meeting at the Masonic Room, Athenaeum. Bro. T. Atkinson, the W.M., presided, Bro. J. D. Moore, P.G.S.B. England, occupying the chair of I.P.M. The minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed. Bro. Aldous was raised to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason, the working being ably performed by the W.M., and who also presented the newly-obligated brother with the working tools of a Master Mason. Heartly good wishes were given by the visiting brethren, and acknowledged by the W.M. A candidate was proposed for initiation, and the lodge was then closed with the peculiarities of the Craft.

MANCHESTER.—Lodge of Affability (No. 317).—This lodge held its monthly meeting at the Freemasons' Hall, on Thursday, the 2nd inst., at which a large number of members and visitors attended. The lodge was opened by Bro. J. H. Clark, W.M., who afterwards initiated Mr. J. Walker into the ancient mysteries of the Order, and passed Bro. E. C. Potter to the degree of F.C. The W.M. then, on behalf of the members of the lodge, presented to Bro. J. Smethurst, I.P.M., a handsome gold Past Master's jewel, and in doing so expatiated at some length on the deserving merits of the recipient, who during his term of office as W.M. had gained the good esteem of all the brethren, and successfully conducted the business of the lodge. During the speech of the W.M. the brethren frequently testified their concurrence by their applause. Bro. Smethurst, in a few well chosen remarks, feelingly expressed his gratitude for the honour which had been so conspicuously conferred upon him, and said that he should ever treasure the jewel as a token of the esteem of his brethren, and of their good will which had during his occupation of the chair been so unanimously and generously shown towards him. Bro. J. H. Sillice, P.M., gave notice of the following motion, viz.: "That the sum of £20 be granted from the funds of the lodge to the new East Lancashire Systematic Benevolent and Educational Society," and from the cordial reception given to the notice there is no doubt that the motion will at the next meeting be carried into effect, as this old-established lodge has always been in the foremost ranks in all matters connected with charity. After the close of the lodge the brethren adjourned to refreshment, under the presidency of Bro. Clark, W.M., and a most enjoyable evening was spent. The loyal, Masonic, and other customary toasts were heartily and enthusiastically received. The speeches were interspersed with songs and recitations, the musical arrangements being, as usual, under the able direction of Bro. J. R. Lever.

FOLKESTONE.—Temple Lodge (No. 558).—This lodge was held at the Town Hall on Tuesday, the 7th inst. Present: W.M. Bro. R. B. Jenner; Bros. S. S. Stalwood, S.W.; C. Woollett, J.W.; J. B. Gill, C. Dickenson, D. Jones; Past Masters J. Sherwood, S. Penfold, J. Kennett, P.G.O.; W. Earnshaw, P.P.G.S.D.; H. Poole, P.P.G.S.W.; H. Stock, Sec., P.P.G.S.W.; W. B. Tolpott, P.P.G.O. Visitors: Bros. G. Alamsun, P.M. 199, 1208, P.P.G.D.C.; Furr, P.M. 199, P.P.G.D.C.; J. Wilson, P.M. 199, P.P.G.; S. Pupkis, P.M. 1208; J. Ferson, W.M. 199; Downing, P.M. 184; G. Adamson, jun., 1208; S. R. Elms, 199; Gorton, 199; Smith, 199; Cook, 1436; C. Gosby, P.M. 1436; R. H. Pledge, J.W. 1436, and the V.W.D.P.G.M. of Kent, J. S. Eastes. The lodge was opened at 3 p.m. by Bro. P.M. J. Kennett, in consequence of the indisposition of the W.M., Bro. R. B. Jenner, assisted by Bros. S. S. Stalwood, S.W.; R. H. Pledge, 1436, acting J.W. The first business was the election of a Bro. to serve on the Charity Committee for the province of Kent. Bro. P.M. Penfold was unanimously elected to fill that office. The minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed, the Secretary then read a statement of accounts, showing a balance in hand of upwards of £15. Mr. S. Joseph was initiated, which ceremony was performed by Bro. P.M. Kennett. Bro. G. Alamsun then took the chair, and assisted by Bro. Earnshaw, and J. Kennett, as Wardens, proceeded to install the W.M. elect, Bro. S. S. Stalwood, in the chair of K., which ceremony was performed in Bro. Adamson's usual fluent style. Previous to the installation the brethren rose to salute the V.W.D.P.G.M., who kindly honoured the lodge with his presence on this occasion. The W.M. then invested his officers for the ensuing year, viz., C. Woollett, S.W.; C. Fagg, J.W.; Dr. J. B. Gill, S.D.; D. Jones, J.D.; G. Taylor, I.G.; H. Stowe, P.M., Sec.; J. Kennett, P.M., Treas. Bro. Kennett then offered to the acceptance of the lodge a very handsome Master's chair, designed by himself. The present was acknowledged by the W.M. in a few appropriate remarks. The chair was much admired by everyone present. The brethren then adjourned to the West Cliff Hotel, where a very recherché banquet was prepared by Mr. C. W. Wedderburn. The brethren expressed much satisfaction at the manner in which the repast was served. The gavel was wielded by the W.M. in such an able style that the usual Masonic toasts were quickly and effectually disposed of, until that of the V.W.D.P.G.M., Bro. S. Eastes, was given, and very enthusiastically received. Bro. Eastes, in response, spoke of the great rise and progress of Freemasonry during the past few years, and of the many influences at work to cause it. One of the great duties of a Freemason was charity, and the charities of the insti-

tion had risen in proportion. The brethren must not allow it to be used merely as an axiom, but it must become the duty of every brother to support and encourage these charitable institutions as far as lies in his power. "The P.G. Officers" was then given, and responded to by Bro. W. F. Gosling, P.P.G.P. The Installing Master, Bro. G. Adamson, P.P.G.D.C., whose health was cordially drunk, rose and said that it always afforded him the liveliest pleasure to come over and assist the Temple Lodge in any way. He must apologise for the brevity of his remarks, as he was obliged to leave on account of the early departure of the trains for Dover. "The Mayor, Bro. Past Master Sherwood," was then given by Bro. H. Poole, P.P.G.S.W., who dwelt upon the popularity and esteem in which he was held by all classes. The Mayor, in responding, made many trite and appropriate remarks upon Freemasonry, and mentioned that it was the twelfth or thirteenth time that a gentleman who was also a Freemason had occupied the civic chair. After "The Visitors," "The Secretary and Treasurer" and "The Junior Officers," the Tyler's toast brought the evening's proceedings to a close. Several songs by the brethren added to the harmony, and thus closed one of the most successful meetings of the Temple Lodge for some years.

PLUMSTEAD.—Pattison Lodge (No. 913).—The usual monthly meeting of this lodge took place on Thursday, the 9th inst., at the Lord Raglan, Plumstead, the W.M., Bro. A. Penfold, in the chair. The other officers present were Bros. C. Coupand, P.M., and P.G.S. for Kent; W. Tongue, P.M., and P.P.G.J.W. Kent; T. Smith, P.M. 829, and P.P.G.P. Kent; C. A. Ellis, P.M.; W. T. Vincent, S.W.; H. W. Butter, J.W.; A. Jessup, Treas.; E. Denton, P.M. 706, Sec.; T. D. Hayes, S.D.; W. B. Lloyd, J.D.; J. Chapman, I.G.; B. Lester, Tyler; and R. J. Cook, D.C. The work before the lodge consisted of the balloting for the following brethren as joining members:—3r.s. H. Barrett, of Lodge 1076; Hastings, S.W. of 829; and E. Long, of 1107; all of whom were duly affiliated to the lodge. Messrs. Upperton and J. C. Mitchell were then approved of by ballot, and initiated into the mysteries of the Craft. Bros. T. J. Anderson, T. Read, and S. Long were passed to the Second Degree, and Bro. A. Wallis raised to the Sublime Degree, the W.M., supported most ably by his officers, performing the ceremonies in excellent style. Among the visitors were Bros. T. Ward, W.M. 700; F. G. Pownall, W.M. 1536, and S.W. 13; C. W. Hobson, P.M. 700; H. G. Picken, S.D. 1536; C. Cooke, Org. 700, and of 13; E. Nugent, 706; J. T. Donnelly, 706; W. Tapp, 879 and 700; W. Jolly, 1107; E. Huwett, 13; C. Beard, 700; R. Blight, 147; H. S. Fisher, Org. 871; E. W. Fisher, 700; R. S. Garrett, 290; T. C. Hassell, 13; W. Wren, 687; and G. Elliott, 1076. At the conclusion of the business of the lodge the brethren supped together, and refreshed in true Masonic fashion.

NELSON (New Zealand).—Southern Star Lodge (No. 735).—The brethren of this lodge of Free and Accepted Masons celebrated the festival of St. John the Evangelist on Monday, the 17th Dec., at high noon, when the Worshipful Installing Officer, Bro. W. B. Sealy, installed Bro. J. C. Moutray into the chair of the lodge as W.M. for the ensuing year. The ritual and ceremony were very effective, and the admission, the charges, and address of the Installing Officer were very impressive. The Master then invested his officers, and the lodge adjourned until Wednesday evening, the 29th, when the Craft in general assembled to a banquet excellently provided at the Masonic Hall. The usual loyal, patriotic, and Masonic toasts were drunk; as also "The Health of the Retiring W.M.," the W.M. elect; the Sister Lodges of the district; certain highly esteemed brethren, &c., and the evening's entertainment was heightened by good music. We are assured that the position of the lodge at this time is highly favourable, and a prosperous and harmonious year is confidently looked forward to by the brethren. The Wardens for the year are Bros. Dr. L. G. Boor and W. Holmes.

SOUTHEAST.—Priory Lodge (No. 1000).—The regular March meeting of this lodge was held at the Middleton Hotel, on Thursday, the 9th inst. Bro. E. F. Phillips, P.M. 379, W.M., presided, and among other brethren who were present were Bros. A. Lucking, P.M. 160, Prov. A.G.D.C. Essex, I.P.M.; Rev. S. R. Wigram, P.M., and P.Z. 214, Grand Chaplain, S.W.; F. V. Jillings, J.W. 160, acting J.W.; J. A. Wardell, P.M. 160 and 1000, P. Prov. G.D., Sec.; J. R. Hemmann, P.M., Prov. J.G.D. Org.; W. Chaplain, S.D.; W. Chignell, I.G.; G. R. Dawson and A. F. Godward, Stewards; Rev. H. J. Hatch, S.W. 160, Prov. G. Chaplain Essex; F. Canton, W. All-n, jun., S.D. 160; G. F. Jones, W. D. Merritt, G. Berry, W. Wallis, and H. Hicks. Bro. F. Wood, P.M., P. Prov. S.G.W., the worthy Treasurer of the lodge, being absent through domestic affliction. Visitors: Bros. A. Winnill, 160; H. D. Brown, 160; and Captain De L'Andeson. After the usual lodge business, Bros. Rev. Hayes, H. Briggs, and W. H. Locket were passed to the Second Degree; Bro. B. Mackie was raised to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason, and Mr. P. Benton, jun., was initiated into the mysteries of the Order, the ceremonies being performed by the W.M. in a highly creditable manner. The brethren afterwards partook of refreshment, the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured, and the Tyler's toast brought the proceedings to a close.

LANCASTER.—Rowley Lodge (1051).—The usual monthly meeting of this lodge was held on the 6th inst., at the Masonic Room, Athenaeum, Bro. H. Longman, W.M., presiding. The business was of a routine character, and this having been transacted, the brethren moved into a Lodge of Instruction in the Third Degree, Bro. J. D. Moore, P.G.S.B. Eng., acting as Master of the Ceremonies. On its conclusion a hearty vote of thanks

was accorded to Bro. Moore for his services, and duly acknowledged.

GREENWICH.—Star Lodge (No. 1275).—On Friday, 4th inst., at the Ship Hotel, the regular meeting of this well-established lodge was held. Bro. J. J. Limebeer in an admirable manner raised Bro. C. Marr, and then initiated Messrs. J. S. Leaper, J. W. Neale, and T. Gilloch into Masonry. Bro. J. Smith, P.G.P., P.M., Treasurer, was unanimously elected as the Steward to represent the lodge at the forthcoming festival of the Girls' School. All the officers were present, and Bros. Waugh, P.G.P.; H. Keeble, C. J. Hogg, P.G.S.; F. Walters, P.G.P. Middlesex, P.M., were in attendance. Visitors: Thomas, 134; Jewell, 1559; Lover, J.W. 1178; Hubhuck, P.G.S., P.M. 58; Moss, P.P.G.R. Middlesex, P.M.; T. Reynolds, 58; Stainer, 172; and others. Banquet and dessert followed.

HAMPTON COURT.—Burdett Lodge (No. 1293).—An emergency meeting of this lodge took place at the Mire Tavern, on Saturday, the 26th February. The lodge being opened, and the summons calling the meeting having been read, Bro. Frederick Kelly, the I.P.M., Provincial Grand Steward, and S.W. designate Musgrave Lodge, by special permission of Bro. Pearce, the W.M., took the chair, and conferred the Third Degree on Bro. Brookfield, that brother having been initiated and passed by Bro. Kelly during his year of office as W.M. The ceremony was performed by Bro. Kelly in such a manner as to convince all present that the Craft has in him a thoroughly efficient working Mason. The W. Master, Bro. David W. Pearce, then resumed the chair, and the ballot having been declared unanimous in favour of the admission of the candidate for initiation, Mr. Thomas W. P. Forrester was introduced, and initiated into the Order in that perfect manner for which the W.M. (as an old P.M. of the Craft) is so eminently celebrated. The brethren then retired to a plain dinner, provided by Bro. Sadler. There were present amongst others the R.W. Provincial Grand Master, Col. Burdett; Bros. Pearce, W.M.; Berrie, S.W.; Southwell, J.W.; Bus, Prov. G. Treas., Sec.; Rev. D. Shaboe, P.G.C., S.D.; Tindall, J.D.; Gordon, I.G.; H. Phythian, P.M., Prov. G. Sec.; Sanders, and others. Visitor: Bro. H. M. Carter, S.W. 173.

SOUTHALL.—Acacia Lodge (No. 1309).—A regular meeting of this lodge was held on Tuesday, 22nd ult., at the Prince Alfred Hotel, Southall. Present: Bros. C. Horsley, P.M. and acting W.M.; Rushworth, S.W.; George, J.W.; F. Walters, P.M.; Treas.; T. W. Cave, Sec.; Staler, P.M., S.D.; Nebb, I.G.; Staler, P.M.; Walters, P.M. The visitors were Bros. Hill, Royal Brunswick Lodge, Brighton, and Wall, Prosperity, 65. Minutes of previous meeting were read and confirmed. The ballot was taken and proved favourable for the Rev. J. S. Rothergill, Clerk in Holy Orders. Mr. H. R. Brown, Barrister was initiated; Bro. Rodger was passed; Bros. Morgan and Sutcliffe were raised. Bro. Walters, Treasurer, gave notice of his intention to propose at next lodge meeting, that a Past Master's jewel be presented to Bro. Horsley on expiration of his year of office as Master of this lodge.

MANCHESTER.—Lodge of Truth (No. 1458).—This lodge met on Saturday, March 4th, at the rooms, Newton Heath. The minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed. The ballot for Mr. Samuel Cooper proving favourable, he was initiated into ancient Freemasonry by Bro. Kent, W.M. The address being given, and the working tools presented by Bro. Turner, P.M., Bro. Wm. Smith was passed to the Second Degree by Bro. Caldwell, P.M. Bros. Hebdon, Lorking, and Swain were severally passed by Bro. Kent, W.M. The lodge, now meeting on private premises, necessitated the appointment of a purveyor. At the request of the W.M., Bro. Turner, P.M., accepted the office, much to the satisfaction of the brethren. There was a large attendance of members, and after an excellent tea had been served Bro. Hiff and others enlivened the evening with some appropriate vocal music.

HALLIFORD.—Thames Valley Lodge (No. 1460).—The installation meeting of this lodge was held on the 4th inst., at the Ship, Halliford. In consequence of the recent death of Mrs. Brette, the Rev. Dr. Brette, W.M., was not present, and in his absence the chair was taken by Lieut. Col. Peters, P.W., the first Master of the lodge. Bro. W. T. Howe installed Bro. J. Llewellyn Jones as W.M., who appointed the following brethren as his officers:—Bros. W. T. Howe, S.W.; T. B. Yroman, J.W.; W. Paas, P.M., Treas.; J. G. Marsh, P.M., Sec.; W. Sweetland, S.D.; J. E. Kershaw, J.D.; J. H. R. Gowan, I.G.; W. Alcock, D.C.; and T. Woodstock, Tyler. A unanimous vote of condolence was passed to Dr. Brette, on his sad bereavement, and in the moving and recording of the vote the brethren expressed their sincere sympathy with the rev. brother on such a melancholy and unexpected event. The following were balloted for as joining members, and declared elected:—Bros. Walter D. Jones, P.G.S. Camb., (Lodge 859), Captain H. R. Heathcote, (Lodge 228); Edward Lidbury, (Lodge 656); and Geo. Harry Gillam, (Lodge 192). A banquet, in the usual admirable style of Bro. Stone, followed the lodge work, and Bro. J. Llewellyn Jones, W.M., presided. Afterwards the customary toasts were proposed and honoured. There were present, besides the brethren named above, Colonel Burdett, Prov. G.M. Middlesex; E. C. Hislop, Geo. Towns, J. S. Tyler, Major the Hon. O. G. Lambart, Punnett 1100, and visitors, Bros. W. Winn, P.M. 657; W. Maple, P.M. 657; C. Potter, 657; W. W. Morgan, and A. G. S. Cave, 47 (I.C.).

NORTH WOOLWICH.—Henley Lodge (No. 1472).—The installation of Bro. J. Ives W.M. elect of the above lodge, took place on Tuesday, the 7th inst., at Bro. West's, the Three Crowns, North Woolwich.

The lodge was opened at two o'clock by Bro. B. B. Brayshaw, W.M., supported by his officers, Bro. West acting as I.P.M. After the reading and confirmation of the minutes of the last meeting, Bro. J. Henderson, P.M. 13 was elected an honorary member, and Mr. E. W. Ives was approved of as a candidate for Masonry. Bro. Brayshaw then proceeded to install his successor, which ceremony was most impressively rendered by him. The W.M. proceeded to invest his officers as follows:—Bros. W. Steele, S.W.; J. Silver, J.W.; A. J. Manning, S.D.; W. T. Turner, J.D.; T. Geller, Treas.; J. Henderson, Sec.; W. Stansfield, I.G.; N. Steadman, Tyler; J. Plume D.C.; F. A. Elder, W.S. The new officers being seated, the W.M. then had the pleasure of initiating his son into the mysteries and privileges of the Order; and the lodge being closed, the brethren adjourned to refreshment. Among the visitors were Bros. W. Graham, P.M. 700; T. Day, W.M. 1076; J. Carnaby, W.M. 1382; H. B. Holliday, P.M. 1076; T. W. Butt, S.W. 700; J. Waters, J.W. 700; C. Burnham, S.W. 754; J. Fisher, 272 (Scotch C.); H. Knight, 700; J. White 1076. H. Taplev, 1079; J. W. Mitchell, 1076; J. Jacobs, 1327; W. Brooks, 522; J. Dalton, 1076; and C. Jolly, 913. The banquet was a superb effort of the cuisine, and reflected great credit upon Bro. West's taste and ability, and having been thoroughly appreciated by the brethren, the W.M. gave, as usual, "The Queen and the Craft," "His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales." In giving the latter toast, he, as he felt sure all Masons did, wished our Royal brother a safe and speedy return to his native land. The toast of "The Deputy and Pro Grand Masters" was most loyally responded to. Bro. Brayshaw then proposed "The Health of the W.M." in glowing terms, and bore his testimony to the zeal and efficiency of Bro. Ives, and augured a successful year for the lodge under his guidance. Bro. Ives, in reply, expressed himself unable to find words sufficient to thank them for their kindness to him through the past, and above all for their placing him in the proud position of W.M. of the Henley Lodge. He then adverted to the charities of the Order, and warmly advocated their cause. They had just established a benevolent fund in connection with the lodge, and he asked them to aid him in making it a permanent and successful power in the lodge. He thanked them again from his heart for the trust reposed in him, and would do all in his power during his term of office to strengthen the Craft in general, and above all the continued prosperity of the Henley Lodge. "The Health of the Initiate" followed, and Bro. Ives, jun., responded in a brief and modest speech. The W.M. then rose to propose the toast of "The Past Masters" of and belonging to the lodge, and in so doing coupled it with the name of Bro. Brayshaw, who, he said, had by his courteous and affable demeanour made himself universally respected and admired. He (the W.M.) had that night a very pleasing duty to perform in connection with the toast, and that was to present Bro. Brayshaw with a valuable jewel, marking his position as Past Master of the lodge. He felt sure that Bro. Brayshaw wanted no incentive beyond the love he had for it to aid the cause of Freemasonry, but he believed in recognising services such as Bro. Brayshaw had done to both the Craft in general, and to this lodge more especially. He then fastened the jewel upon Bro. Brayshaw's breast, besides that of the Capper, Royal Arch, and Royal Installation jewels, which already adorned our brother, and in conclusion, said he trusted Bro. Brayshaw's life would long be spared to be in the future, as he had been in the past, an honour and a credit to the Craft. Bro. Brayshaw, who felt deeply the warmth of his reception, briefly thanked them for their valuable presentation, but above all for their good feeling and brotherly love towards him. He assured them of the pleasure he had experienced in presiding over so excellent a lodge, and of the valuable assistance he had always received from the officers during his term of office. He felt every confidence in the prosperity of the new lodge under their new Master, and after again thanking them resumed his seat amid great cheering. "The Visitors" was responded to by Bros. Day, Butt, and others, and Bro. Steele did so for the officers; and after a warm eulogy had been paid by the W.M. to the Masonic Press, for which Bro. Jolly responded, the Tyler's toast concluded a most enjoyable day.

BOOTLE.—Bootle Lodge (No. 1473).—On Thursday, the 2nd inst., this lodge met at the Town Hall, Bootle, at 3 p.m., Bro. H. Wyatt, W.M., in the chair, supported by a large number of brethren. Three candidates were initiated by Bro. Wyatt. The chair was then taken by Bro. J. W. Baker, P.M. 241, who proceeded to install the W.M. elect, Bro. J. W. Turley, P.P.G.J.D., which ceremony Bro. Baker performed in his usual capital manner, for which he received the hearty thanks of the brethren present. The W.M. then proceeded to invest his officers, viz., Bros. H. Wyatt, I.P.M.; S. E. Ibb, P.P.G.S.B., Treas.; Cleamthur, P.M., D.C.; Robt. S.W.; Duncan, J.W.; Clemmey, Sec.; Paterson, S.D.; H. Hugh, J.D.; Mortleman, I.G.; LeComber, S.S.; and Stott, J.S. Bro. Blake was unanimously re-elected Tyler. After the installation the brethren adjourned to the Derby Arms Hotel, where a capital entertainment, provided by Bro. Dowling, was done ample justice to. A selection of music was performed very satisfactorily by Bros. T. Foulkes, W. Forrester, and C. E. Bryan, under the superintendence of Bro. J. P. Bryan. We ought not to omit to state that during the evening a handsome Past Master's jewel was presented to Bro. Wyatt, the Immediate Past Master. Many visiting brethren were present, among whom were Bros. Dr. Spratley, P.M.; Dr. C. Swaby Smith, W.M. 1380; Bolton, W.M. 1289; Newell, W.M. 1035; G. Morgan, P.M. 1035; Morris, n. 241; and others.

CHAUCER LODGE (No. 1540).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held on Wednesday, 23rd ult., at the Bridge House Hotel. Present: T. J. Sabine, P.P.G.S.B. Middlesex, P.M. 73, W.M.; J. C. Mason, S.W.; E. S. Stidolph, J.W.; Rev. H. J. Hatch, Chaplain; W. Hud-

son, P.M. 315, P.P.G.S.D. Sussex, Treas.; F. Walters, P.M. 73, P.P.G.P. Middlesex, Sec.; W. J. Kemp, S.D.; C. W. Hudson, J.D.; H. Fajja, I.G.; W. Y. Luing, P.M. 45; Tyler; P.M. Bro. J. J. H. Wilkins acted as I.P.M. The visitors were Bros. R. Griggs, W.M. 228; H. Keeble, P.M. 1275; J. B. Langley, W.M. 1423; R. Kemp, 89; and others. On the opening of the lodge the minutes were duly read and confirmed. A balloting took place resulting unanimously in favour of admission of the following gentlemen:—Messrs. E. Hooper, A. F. Duick, R. C. Harrison, H. Blackwell, and R. Levy, who underwent the ceremony of initiation, which was, as well as the remainder of the work, very creditably performed.

INSTRUCTION.

METROPOLITAN LODGE OF INSTRUCTION (No. 1507).—A meeting of this lodge was held at the Metropolitan Club, 269, Pentonville Road, King's Cross, on Friday, the 25th February. Present: Bros. Jas. Willing, W.M.; H. B. Fowler, S.W.; C. J. Scales, J.W.; Berrie, S.D.; Fenner, J.D.; Side, I.G.; T. Adams, P.G.P., Preceptor, W.M.; Stiles, Hon. Sec.; J. J. Michael, Jordan, H. Stiles, H. Scales, Carr, Morgan, Read, Child, Little, and Solomon. Visitors: Bros. W. H. Lee, P.M. 1524; Blease, and Webster. Lodge opened, and minutes confirmed. The ceremony of installation was rehearsed, Bro. Solomon acting as candidate. Bro. Michael, having assented to the usual charges and regulations, was installed to K.S. chair by Bro. James Willing, P.M., in a very able manner. The Second Section of First Lecture was then worked by the brethren under the Preceptor's superintendence. Bros. Morgan and Carr were elected members of this Lodge of Instruction.

MANCHESTER.—St. David's Lodge of Instruction (No. 117).—The members of this lodge held their usual monthly meeting on Tuesday, 17th ult., at the Masonic Hall, Cooper-street. There was a very fair attendance, and the following brethren were chosen to fill the various offices:—Bros. Ishmael Davies, acting as W.M.; Fred Cooper, acting S.W.; J. Holmes Poulton, Friendship, 44, J.W.; T. R. Peel, acting P.M.; John Taylor, acting J.D.; J. P. Howarth, acting S.D.; J. Singer, I.G. The opening and closing in the three degrees, together with the ceremony of initiation, formed the work of the evening. The admirable working bore testimony of a careful study of the different portions of the ritual by all concerned.

EAST SURREY LODGE OF CONCORD (No. 463).—At the regular weekly meeting of this Lodge of Instruction, held at the Fox and Hounds, London Road, Croydon, on Tuesday evening, the 20th ult., the ceremony of installation was very impressively rendered by Bro. C. H. Woodward, P.M. and Hon. Sec. of the mother lodge, assisted by Bros. H. W. Hunt, H.R.B. Pommere, P.M.'s of 463, A. C. Ebbutt, W.M. 463, visiting Bro.; the W.M. of the Addiscombe Lodge, Bro. Turquand; Bro. Sheard, P.M. of 272, and about twenty members of the mother lodge, who evinced their gratification by a very flattering and unanimous vote of thanks to the installing Master. This Lodge of Instruction, or rather Lodge of Improvement, meets every Tuesday evening as above, at 7.30.

LIVERPOOL.—Lodge of Emulation (No. 1505).—The usual monthly meeting of this lodge was held on Friday, the 3rd inst., at the Masonic Hall. Bro. J. T. Callow, W.M., presided, and the various officers present were Bros. H. Morris, S.W.; W. Quayle, J.W.; J. Hockan, P.M., Treas.; W. H. Corbin, Sec.; J. Capel, I.G.; I. Skeaf, P.G.O., Org.; and Williamson, Tyler. The list of visitors included Bros. H. G. Vernon, P.Prov.G.C.; W. Vaughan, W.M. 724; P. B. Gee, W.M. 1264; W. T. May, P.M. 673; J. P. Newman, P.M. 786; T. Ashmore, W.M. 1325; J. E. Jackson, W.M. 667; J. K. Digges, W.M. 673; and T. Evans, P.M. 1393. Three candidates were initiated, and five brethren passed by the W.M. in a remarkably effective manner. A very pleasant evening was subsequently passed at the social board, several songs, glees, &c., being given by Bros. Queen, Quayle, Child, Hobart, and others.

Scotland.

GLASGOW.—Lodge St. Mungo (No. 27).—The regular meeting of this the oldest lodge in the province was held in St. Mark's Hall, 213, Buchanan-street, on Thursday evening, 2nd inst. Bro. G. Sinclair, I.P.M., and P.G.I. of Benevolent Fund, occupied the chair; A. Bain, P.M. 103, acting S.W., and G. McComb, J.W. Present: Bros. A. McTaggart, D.M. and A.G. Sec.; D. Dick, S.M.; A. P. Wilson, Chaplain; W. Neilson, W. Albin, D. of Music; J. Thomson, A. Nimmo, J. C. McEwan, J. Kidd, P. Brownlie, J.W. 34; J. Montgomery, T. P. Fleming, 525; Zetland, Hong Kong, China, E.C.; W. Ferguson, P.M. ("Freemason"); and others. On the lodge being opened, Bro. G. Sinclair stated that their respected R.W.M., Bro. D. Butler, would not be present with them that night, on account of having to attend another meeting of considerable importance. There being no work before the meeting (a very unusual circumstance), the lodge was transferred from labour to refreshment. The Chairman proposed the first toast, "The Queen and the Craft," which was responded to enthusiastically; also "The Three Grand Lodges." Bro. Sinclair then proposed "The P.G.I. of Glasgow," and in doing so paid a high compliment to the energetic manner in which the office-bearers of the P.G.I. have discharged their respective duties this number of years back, and he had much pleasure in coupling the name of Bro. McTaggart, P.G. Sec., with the toast. Bro. McTaggart replied, and gave an outline of the business transacted by the P.G.I. for the last seven years in par-

ticular, and said it was now second to none in Scotland; that all the lodges in the province were in splendid working order. The Chairman then proposed "The Health of Bro. Wilson, Chaplain," and was proud to see him once again among them after his severe and dangerous illness. Bro. Wilson feelingly replied. "The Visiting Brethren" was proposed, and replied to by Bro. Montgomery and T. P. Fleming, of Lodge Zetland, Hong Kong, China, No. 525, E.C. "The Press" was replied to by Bro. Ferguson ("Freemason"). Bros. McCall, McEwan, Neilson, and Montgomery contributed to the evening's enjoyment by singing some excellent songs. The Tyler's toast was then given. Happy to meet, sorry to part, and happy to meet again.

The 147th anniversary of this lodge was celebrated by a festival held in the Crown Hall, on Tuesday, the 7th inst. About 140 in all, ladies and gentlemen, assembled, and about 8.30 p.m. dancing commenced to the strains of the excellent quadrille band of Mr. W. C. Bennie, teacher of dancing, Bro. F. Brodie being Master of Ceremonies. At 11 o'clock an adjournment was made to the large hall above, where supper was served. The chair was occupied by the respected R.W.M. of the lodge, Bro. D. Butler, who was supported by Bros. G. Sinclair, P.M.; J. Scott, P.M.; and J. Wilson. Bros. Dr. McInnes, S.W., and McComb, J.W., officiated as Croupiers. The company was also honoured by a deputation from Lodge St. John, No. 33, consisting of Bros. D. M. Nelson, W.M.; J. McMillan, P.M.; J. Fletcher, P.M.; Wm. Bell, P.M.; P. Brownlie, J.W.; D. Horn, P.J.W.; and others, Bro. D. M. Nelson being called to the dais. Supper having been partaken of, the usual toasts were given. Bro. Dr. McInnes, Croupier, then proposed "The P.G. Lodge of Glasgow," coupled with the name of Bro. G. Sinclair, Treasurer P.G. Benevolent Fund, who acknowledged the compliment, and thereafter in most eloquent terms commended the toast of the evening, that of "Lodge St. Mungo, No. 27," and in doing so reminded them that this was the 147th anniversary of the foundation of the lodge, and it gave him great pleasure to be able to say that at the present time it was in as prosperous a condition as it ever had been from its foundation. Bro. D. Butler, W.M., in reply, said: Having been honoured for the third time to preside as W.M. of the lodge, there are two things at least which it behoves me to say. 1st. That I feel greatly indebted for so gratifying a distinction. 2nd. That I shall do all in my power to further the Lodge of St. Mungo and Freemasonry in general, and to merit your approval. This lodge for several years, by the brotherly assistance of its office-bearers, has greatly flourished, and I earnestly desire that the prospects, character, and influence of the St. Mungo, 27, will be maintained, which I have no doubt, with such a body of members as the lodge is composed of, it cannot help but do so. As regards the character of Masonry, it has been subjected to the ban of the Vatican; but it has lost none of its virtues by the impotent edict. Our noble Order can face such a trial with indifference, and come off more than conqueror. In fact, when I look at the brilliant assembly by which I have the honour this evening to be surrounded, including so many friends distinguished for practical, professional, and commercial ability, as well as for their religious and moral worth, I cannot entertain any serious doubt as to the final triumph of Freemasonry. Cardinal Manning has echoed the sentiments of his Holiness, but it has passed away like a tale that has been told without foundation, and so I may surely prognosticate, not for ourselves only, but for all the lodges all over the world, a happy future. It Popes and Cardinals permit themselves to go on in this fashion, excommunicating Freemasons, they might as well end by excommunicating faith, hope, and charity, for these are the foundation and principles of our most ancient Christian brotherhood: faith in the revealed word of God; hope in a blessed resurrection and a glorious immortality; and charity above all things, not only to the brotherhood, but to all mankind. These are our principles, which, like Jacob's ladder, are a means of communication for us between earth and Heaven, on which we shall yet come and go for the benefit of mankind. With such principles to sustain and guide us we need have no fear of any excommunication from man, for our hope is in God. I conclude by congratulating you all on this, the 147th anniversary of the lodge, and I trust that it will be memorable to you chiefly for its lasting friendships, its pleasant intercourse, and its joyous recollections. On the conclusion of the toast list, which between the intervals was enlivened by some most excellent songs from Bro. J. G. Sharpe, popular Scottish tenor; J. Sawyers, Scotch comic vocalist; Bro. Gall, and others, the company broke up, and dancing was resumed for an hour or so longer, all enjoying a most pleasant evening.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Union and Crown (No. 103).—The regular monthly meeting of this lodge was held in Kilwinning Masonic Hall, 170, Buchanan-street, on Monday evening, 28th ult., Bro. D. Murray, W.M., in the chair; Bros. W. Thomas, S.W.; and W. Forsyth, J.W. Present: Bros. A. M. Wright, I.P.M.; R. Munro, D.M.; J. McFarlane, S.M.; N. Cameron, Treas.; J. Gillies, P.M., Sec.; J. S. Pollock, S.D.; A. Gray, J.D.; P. Cullen, Chap.; A. Bain, P.M.; G. Muir, J. Bannerman, D.M. 73; G. W. Wheeler, 73; and W. Ferguson, 543 ("Freemason"). The meeting was well attended over seventy brethren having signed the attendance book. The lodge being opened, and the minutes of last meeting read and approved of, eight applications were read from the following gentlemen for admission into the Order, viz.: Messrs. D. Livingstone, J. J. McKay, W. McDougall, J. Ross, T. Arthur, J. Brown, J. Logan, and T. Hinchelwood, and the same, being favourably balloted for, were initiated into the E.A. Degree by Bro. J. Gillies, P.M. The lodge was then resumed in the Second Degree, when two brethren were passed to the Fellow Craft Degree by

Bro. A. M. Wright, I.P.M., after which two brethren were raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason by Bro. J. Gillies, P.M. The lodge was then reduced to the E.A. Degree, when Bro. A. Bain, P.M., made a motion that the lodge present Bro. W. Cameron, Treas., with a M.M. jewel, and also that a committee be appointed to make arrangements to present Bro. Cameron and his good lady with something in the shape of jewellery for the long and valuable services he has rendered to the lodge for the last fifteen or sixteen years. The motion was seconded by Bro. G. Muir, and carried by acclamation.

RUTHERGLEN.—Lodge St. John's Operative (No. 347).—The annual festival of this lodge was held in their hall, Rutherglen, on Friday evening, 25th ult., Bro. Ex-Bailie Caldwell, S.P.G.M., R.E., in the chair; Bro. D. Smart, W.M.; W. Gardner, P.M., Treas.; and the Rev. Mr. Brownlie; Bros. J. Cunningham, I.P.M.; Rev. J. C. Stewart, St. Bernard's; and Wallace, banker, Rutherglen. About 270 brethren, their wives and friends, were present. The hall was beautifully decorated with flags and emblems, the most conspicuous being the banner of the lodge immediately behind the chairman. The meeting was constituted by prayer by Bro. Stewart, and after partaking of a comfortable tea, the Chairman rose, amid applause, and said: Ladies and gentlemen, it affords me much pleasure to occupy the chair on the present occasion, when so many brethren of the mystic tie have assembled with their wives and friends for an evening's social enjoyment. I am also glad to be able to congratulate you on your appearance to-night, and do not doubt but that the proceedings will be conducted in a manner worthy of the occasion, and that the recollection of them will give profit and pleasure to all. Gatherings of this description are useful in many respects. They foster friendship by bringing together those who might never otherwise have met, and, it may be, more especially among the younger portion of the audience, that a look given, or a word spoken, on such an occasion may influence their whole after life. Perhaps too, when many years have passed with their joys and sorrows, their lights and shades, some of those now around this board may be sitting in other lands, and amid other and very different scenes, and, bridging over seas and time, their memory may call up from the "land of long ago" pleasant recollections of friendships formed at such a meeting that will fringe with gold or bring radiant light to bear on the dark clouds or dim mist of declining life. Nobody knows better than the brethren around me that there is no friendship more pure or unselfish than that which springs from Freemasonry. Masonry knows no distinction in class or colour. The heir to the throne in its eyes is no greater than the humblest subject, and under its protecting wings he whose colour is, alas! too often the badge of slavery, stands erect and untrammelled, and feels that he meets on an equality with the brethren under whatever sky they may have been born. Masonry, with its principles and ceremonies, has come down to us from time to time far back in the world's history, when the East was the seat of learning, and its architectural structures were unsurpassed for beauty and grandeur, down through generation after generation, through peace and war, through ages of darkness and times of enlightenment, preserved amidst the overthrow of dynasties and fall of nations. Nor is Masonry limited by geographical lines. It stretches from the farthest east to the farthest west, and from farthest north to farthest south uniting in one grand brotherhood nations widely different in their religious, political, and social life, and whether on the "dark blue ocean," in the heart of the crowded city, in the deep solitude of the primeval forest, on the rugged mountain side, in the frozen region, or on the burning sands, is ever ready to respond to a look, a touch, or a word like that greatest of modern discoveries—the electric telegraph. Yes, even on the very battle field, amidst the shock of contending armies, it may assert its influence, and recall to life the better feelings of the human heart, which for a time had become extinct in the general carnage. Of late years Masonry has been greatly on the increase in this and other countries, and it is gratifying to find that the Rutherglen St. John's Operative Lodge is in this respect no exception to the general rule. It can be gathered from history that 700 years ago the operative Masons employed in building the grand old Cathedral of Glasgow resided in the ancient Burgh of Rutherglen, which, indeed, at that time embraced within its boundaries Glasgow itself. These operatives would doubtless have their lodge or brotherhood in Rutherglen, to which yours is not an unworthy successor. The first minute of your meetings extant is dated 27th December, 1755, but likely enough the lodge existed before that date. It then held of Mother Kilwinning, and admitted as members only operative Masons with their kindred tradesmen, wrights and smiths; but Masons alone could hold office. The minutes of meetings were regularly kept till February, 1828, when the lodge became dormant, and it continued so till the present charter was granted by the Grand Lodge of Scotland on 26th November, 1846. There were then twenty members on the roll, and each year, with the exception of 1861 and 1863, added to the number. The first seven years brought thirty additional members, but I cannot refrain from giving in detail the additions during the last seven:—In 1869 there were admitted 18 members; in 1870, 22; in 1871, 48; in 1872, 59; in 1873, 72; in 1874, 67; and in 1875, 70; and in the short period that has run of the present year 10 have been admitted. There have been 450 members added to the roll since the lodge was resuscitated, or an average of 15 a year, which shows a very satisfactory progress, but it is still more satisfactory, and indicates that there must be a great amount of vital energy in the lodge, when it is known that during the last six years there have been admitted no fewer than 336 members, being an average of 56 for each year, or more than one per week. I question if many lodges within the district

can point to such a rapid increase. The result could not have been brought about without unity of action, and the members pulling unanimously together. To crown all you have within the last two years erected these fine buildings, with the spacious hall in which we are met, and other conveniences to be used in connection with the lodge, which will stand for years to come a monument of your energy and perseverance. There is a respectable sum at credit of the benevolent fund, and altogether I feel certain I am uttering the sentiments of the brethren everywhere in now expressing the hope, that your career in the future may be as prosperous as it has been in the past. It would be presumptuous in me to offer you counsel. Your experience will guide you, but if I may be allowed I would impress on you the duty of cultivating a brotherly feeling, not only among members of your own lodge, or the brethren generally, but outside your own circles, striving not to overpower or rule by might, but to establish by persuasive means the reign of peace and goodwill, knowing that thus you will be acting in accordance with your solemn promises, and, in the words of our national bard,

May freedom, harmony, and love,
Unite you in the grand design,
Beneath the Omnipotent eye above,
The glorious Architect Divine.

I cannot close these few remarks without a word to the fair sex who this evening have favoured us with their company. To you, ladies, much of Freemasonry, with its hallowed rites and ceremonies, must ever remain a secret. It is not for me to attempt to tell why this should be. For my purpose it is sufficient to know that it is, and has always been so, but I betray no secret when I tell you, that Freemasonry is founded on the great principles of faith, hope, and charity, and that although among us as in every numerous society, there may be some who, unfortunately, do not act up to their principles, be assured that a true Mason will never turn a deaf ear to the cry of distress, or be a neglectful husband or an unkind father. In the course of the evening Bro. D. Smart, W.M., gave an excellent address, and concluded by saying: Our worthy chairman has told you how the lodge had prospered; if it continues to prosper in the future, and I trust it may, as it has done in the past, I feel confident that before many years go by this building in which we are now met, will be the exclusive property of the St. John's Operative Lodge, No. 347. The Rev. Bro. J. C. Stewart afterwards gave a very instructive address. The W.M. proposed a vote of thanks to the chairman, which was heartily responded to. The concert was well sustained by Miss Marysey Bro. G. Stobbs, Mr. J. Wilson, and a quartet party, (who rendered "Willie Brewed a Peck o' Maut" in fine style), viz., Bro. McDonald and Messrs. Gillespie, Alexander, and Lambart. The company then sang "Auld Lang Syne." An assembly followed, Bro. Graham, Master of Ceremonies, and dancing was kept up till an early hour in the morning to the strains of Bro. Lockheart's Quadrille Band.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Caledonian Railway (No. 354).—A meeting of this lodge was held on Wednesday evening, the 1st inst., in the Commercial Hall, 30, Hope-street, Bros. A. B. Ferguson, W.M., in the chair; J. Harley, S.W.; C. McKenzie, J.W.; D. T. Colquhoun, Treas.; R. A. McLean, Sec.; D. Leitch, S.D.; and J. Harley, J.D. The meeting was well attended by the members and an exceptionally large number of visiting brethren, among whom we noticed Bros. J. Munro, W.M. 160; J. W. Burns, I.P.M. 87; J. Scott, W.M. 419; D. Reid, I.P.M. 465; W. Phillips, W.M. 556; W. J. E. Du son, W.M. 571; W. Ferguson, I.P.M. 543 ("Freemason"); E. Arthur, O.; J. Fife, O.; and others. On the lodge being opened, and the minutes of the last meeting read and confirmed, Messrs. A. Cruickshanks and J. McMillan were initiated into the First Degree by Bro. A. B. Ferguson, W.M., in a manner creditable to himself, considering the short time he has occupied the chair. Two brethren were passed to the Second Degree by Bro. Ferguson, I.P.M. 543.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Dramatic (No. 571).—At the regular meeting of this lodge, which was held in St. Mark's Hall, 213, Buchanan-street, on Wednesday, the 1st inst., at three o'clock p.m., the meeting was not so well attended as on some former occasions, and it may be here stated that this lodge was constituted about twenty months ago, and was intended to meet a great want long felt by professional gentlemen coming to Glasgow. The hour of meeting being three p.m., was fixed to suit the convenience of those wishing to attend the meetings and become members of the lodge. Bro. W. J. E. Dobson, W.M., presided, H. W. Jackman, S.W.; W. Sivewright, J.W.; W. Barbour, Treas.; D. Campbell, Sec.; L. Mitchell, J.D.; F. Hay, I.G.; and J. B. Hardie, Tyler. The Secretary read minutes of last meeting, which were confirmed. The W.M. stated that no definite word was received from the P.G. Master when the lodge would be consecrated, but the members would all receive due notice when the date would be finally fixed. Bros. W. Woolf and J. Robertson were then raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason by Bro. W. Ferguson, I.P.M. 543. Amongst the visiting brethren present were Bros. W. Phillips, W.M. 556; J. Dunbar, 30; W. Allan, 97; H. Montague, 254; R. Fraser, 413; and W. Ferguson ("Freemason").

THE GENERAL RECIPE AND FAMILY PHYSIC for dilapidated constitutions, disordered Liver, Biliaryness, and Indigestion. The wonderful efficacy of Holloway's salutary medicine, and the good effects produced on patients suffering from the above complaints would appear incredible if not confirmed by daily proof of the cures effected by them, and the permanent benefit derived from their use. These invaluable Pills soothe and strengthen the nervous system, purify the blood, regulate the secretions, and invigorate the constitution. Disease flies before them. They are composed of vegetable extracts, combined with a grain of any mineral or noxious substance. They may therefore be taken with the utmost confidence, and with perfect safety, to delicate females and young children. They cannot do harm.—ADVT.

TO OUR READERS.

The *Freemason* is a sixteen-page weekly newspaper, price 2d. It is published every Friday morning, and contains the most important, interesting, and useful information relating to Freemasonry in every degree. Annual subscription in the *United Kingdom*, Post free, 10/-

NEW POSTAL RATES.

Owing to a reduction in the Postal Rates, the publisher is now enabled to send the "*Freemason*" to the following parts abroad for One Year for Twelve Shillings (payable in advance):—Africa, Australia, Bombay, Canada, Cape of Good Hope, Ceylon, China, Constantinople, Demerara, France, Germany, Gibraltar, Jamaica, Malta, New Zealand, New South Wales, New Zealand, Suez, Trinidad, United States of America, &c.

P.O.O.'s to be made payable at the chief office, London.

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are informed that acknowledgments of remittances received are published in the first number of every month.

NOTICE.—It is very necessary for our friends to advise us of all money orders they remit, more especially those from the United States of America and India; otherwise we cannot tell where to credit them.

TO ADVERTISERS.

The *Freemason* has a large circulation in all parts of the Globe, its advantages as an advertising medium can therefore scarcely be overrated.

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GEORGE KENNING, 198, Fleet-st.

Answers to Correspondents.

All Communications, Advertisements, &c., intended for insertion in the Number of the following Saturday, must reach the Office not later than 12 o'clock on Wednesday morning.

NOTICE.

A supplement of four pages will be issued with the "*Freemason*," of Saturday next, March 25th.

Will A. B. write privately to the Editor, 198, Fleet-street.

Bro. Harriott's letter about the S.B. Institution in our next.

A communication from "Masonic Student" about "Old Constitutions" in our next.

The following communications stand over:—"Proposed Scottish Masonic Benevolent Institution," by Bro. G. E. R. Harriott; "The United Orders of the Temple and Hospital," by Bro. E. Holmes; Reports of Lodges:—Francis Burdett, 1503; Faith, 141; Albion, 9; Thornliebank, Thornton, 512; Albert Edward, 1560; Union Waterloo, 13; Israel, Birmingham, 1474; Churchill, Oxford, 478; Morecambe, 1561; Chapter Elias Ashmole, 148; Conclave Aubrey, 134; Provincial Grand Lodge of Norfolk; Scotland:—Consecration of St. Bride's Lodge, 579; Caledonian Railway, 354; Mary's Lodge, Wishaw, Coltness, 31; Thistle, 81; Partick Chapter, 112; Paisley Chapter, 113; 1328, Granite.

Reviews stand over owing to pressure of matter.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

"Proceedings of a Convention of Delegates for Organizing a Supreme Grand Council of the United States of America."—A Knight of the Red Cross of Constantine, New York, 1875. "New York Dispatch." "Masonic Journal."

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

[The charge is 2s. 6d. for announcements, not exceeding four lines, under this heading.]

BIRTHS.

TAYLOR.—On the 14th inst., at Ladbroke-terrace, W., the wife of J. H. Taylor, Esq., of a daughter.

FRILDEN.—6th, at Scarborough, the wife of W. L. Feilden, Esq., of a son.

MILLER.—On Dec. 28th, 1875, at Kangaroo Point, Brisbane, Queensland, Mrs. R. Miller, of a son.

CHURCHILL.—On the 13th inst., at Castlenau, Barnes, the wife of J. B. Churchill, Esq., of a son.

MARRIAGES.

PRESTON.—HILHOUSE.—At Brixton, Harry W., son of Mr. John Preston, of Brixton Road, to Harriette K., daughter of Mr. Richard Hilhouse, jun., of Loughborough Park, Aug. 14th, 1875.

HUDDLESTON.—ATKINSON.—At Plungar, Arthur W., son of Mr. R. B. Huddleston, Aban Court, Cheltenham, to Emma, daughter of the late Mr. T. W. Atkinson, Feb. 20th.

DEATHS.

CALLENDER, Percy W.M., infant son of Mr. John M., at Victoria Park, Manchester, March 3rd.

NEWTON, Mr. William, Member of the Metropolitan Board of Works, at Stepney Green, aged 54, March 9th.

The Freemason,

SATURDAY, MAR. 18, 1876.

THE ROYAL VISIT TO INDIA.

The Prince of Wales arrived at Bombay March 11, in the morning. His Royal Highness was received at the station by the Governor of

Bombay, Sir P. E. Wodehouse, and Staff, by the Chief Justice, Sir M. R. Westropp, and by Lieut.-General C. W. Staveley and other officers of the Presidency. The Prince drove directly to the dockyard, the road being lined with troops. Having received a farewell address from the Municipality, His Royal Highness proceeded immediately on board the *Serapis*. This is the last state appearance of the Prince in India. Her Majesty the Queen, in order to commemorate the visit of the Prince of Wales to India, has appointed His Royal Highness Honorary Colonel of eight Native Regiments, four of which are in future to be designated "Queen's Own," and the other four "Prince of Wales' Own." He was to leave Bombay at once.

OUR ROYAL GRAND MASTER'S RETURN FROM INDIA.

Our Royal Grand Master was to leave India, on his return to the hospitable shores of old England, on the 10th March, and by a happy coincidence on the anniversary of his happier marriage. He left actually, we believe, on the 11th or 12th. He will soon be amongst us again, in all good health, and having gained golden opinions from all with whom he has come in contact. Indeed it is quite clear, that the effect on the native mind has been even beyond our expectations. As the "*Times*" of Friday last well put it: "He has done so much in so short a time, and has been followed so eagerly and so closely by the attention of every British subject who can understand a narrative or a picture, that it must be a surprise to most people to be reminded that the Prince left England on the 11th of October, and has consequently been away only five months altogether. Fifty years ago this was about the shortest time in which even a Governor-General could expect to reach Calcutta." But now, thanks to steam, a few days only separates us from our great Indian Empire, and the daily telegram with marvellous accuracy has given us news of him almost within every twenty-four hours during his Indian journey. And, therefore, it is now a question of not very many days before we shall again hail his welcome presence amongst us. There will be but one feeling amongst our entire Order, namely, that of thankfulness and rejoicing that he has been so shielded from accidents and malady in that sultry and often trying clime, and amid the hazards to which he has been inevitably exposed in his venturous quest after the greater game. We shall all be grateful when we remember to-day that a good Providence has been with him in his "goings out and his comings in," and has preserved for his family, and above all for our English people, for all the citizens of one great and common fatherland, a life so precious and so important. Did we say, for our own land—may we not add for the peace and progress, and good order and conservation of all we hold best and dearest, alike in social life as in the body politic, for the expanded families and the great brotherhood of the human race? And then there comes in another question—How best can we receive him and welcome him as an Order when he does return from his Indian tour, safe and sound, healthy and happy, kind, and considerate, and genial as ever? Well, we have our annual festival; but what can that do to meet the warm feelings and zealous loyalty of our great brotherhood? At the most 600 brethren can sit down in Freemasons' Hall, and what is that amount of fortunate brethren to the vast majority of the forgotten? Remembering the many disappointed brethren at his installation, and knowing the feeling that exists in our Order, we venture to suggest to-day, for the consideration of our rulers, and of those who take a leading part in our Masonic councils, that a special reception should be arranged for our G.M. either at the Crystal or the Alexandra Palaces, or at some convenient spot, in which all of our Order who wish to be present may be enabled to be present. We are aware that this is a novel step, and a previously unheard of proposal, and will encounter fifty objections immediately, but we venture to remind our hearers that we are all, so to say, moving on, and that what was sufficient even at the beginning of this century no longer satisfies the exigencies of the hour, or the feel-

ings of our brethren. Surely some form of welcome may be authoritatively arranged which will harmonize with the genuine and heartfelt sympathies of the Masonic body, and will enable us as Freemasons, maligned and excommunicated as we have been, to show to all that there never has existed, and cannot be found anywhere to-day, a more loyal Order than our good and steady old Craft. We throw out these hints, currente calamo, for the consideration of those whose opinions we all pay deference to, and whose authority we all respect. May some great gathering be a witness before the whole world that we welcome our Grand Master back from his Royal and successful progress as rejoicing patriots and devoted brethren, that we have re-elected him in his absence as our Grand Master, because we confide in him, as we know he feels for us, and that we are anxious to offer to him the unbought homage of English loyalty and fraternal affection, proud of the fact that he is at our head, that "*Teucro duce et auspice Teucro*," we are marching on, a mighty host, strong in our own principles, our own unity, and our "good cause," laughing at our puny assailants, heeding no anathema, and dreading no foe.

THE GRAND ORIENT OF FRANCE.

We said in our last number that we should recur to this subject, and we do so gladly to-day. For the last "*Bulletin du Grand Orient de France*" shows us clearly what a very difficult position is that of the rulers of the Order in France, amid the present state of effervescence in which our French brethren appear to be from various causes of one kind or another. We do not now allude to those two grave questions, the dissidents at Bordeaux and Frere Hermitte, or the separatists of the "*Freres Unis Inseparables*" under Frere Fabien, because we don't feel ourselves competent to express an opinion on the subject, though we deeply regret in the interests of French Masonry that such controversies have arisen. In the abstract, moreover, we are inclined to think, we feel bound to say, that something may be alleged reasonably and fairly for the "*gravamina*," alike of the "*Ateliers Supérieurs*" of Bordeaux and for the complaints of Frere Fabien, De Villaret, Brimont, and others. But then that is our insular view of things, and it is not, we know, the view of the Grand Orient, and therefore we pass to the "previous question." Indeed, our words are meant to be simply words of eulogy and sympathy for Bro. St. Jean and the Conseil de L'Ordre. It seems that the Lodge Orion, Orient de Gaillac, addressed Frere St. Jean, through its Secretary, Bro. "Poujade," December 8th, 1875, informing the Conseil de L'Ordre that a candidate who had been refused by a lodge at Toulouse had applied for initiation in the Lodge Orion, and that, as the lodge had heard that personal enmity and clerical influence had prevented his reception at Toulouse, they intended to admit him. The President of the Conseil, our Bro. St. Jean, replied to this letter on the 11th December, informing the lodge that such an initiation would be illegal, as by Article 120 it was clearly declared, "Every profane refused for initiation cannot be presented anew except after the delay of one year." In the reply of December 17th, 1875, the Secretary announces that despite Article 120, and the warning of the President of the "Conseil," the lodge meant to initiate the brother, principally because apparently he had "*beaucoup souffert pour la Republique et pour la libre pensee*," but without any reference whatever to the binding regulations of their own Order. On the 20th of December the President invited the lodge to pause, and to conform itself to the General Statutes, and to the particular law, Article 120, calling the attention of the lodge to the responsibility it incurred by such a "flagrant delit" in respect of the constitutional regulations of French Freemasonry. The lodge, not heeding either warning or advice, proceeded to initiate the profane, in direct disobedience of the precise terms of Masonic prescription, and the very words of the Code Maçonnique, and therefore on the 8th January, 1876, the Conseil de L'Ordre provisionally suspended the Lodge Orient de Gaillac, and fixed February 12th, 1876, for it to appear before the "Conseil" and defend its conduct. What that

result has been, if any, we shall know next month. We think that all our readers will entirely approve of the firmness and justice displayed by Frere St. Jean and the Conseil de L'Ordre, and will also agree that a more contumacious act never was carried through by any lodge. We are quite aware that just now, as we before said, the position of the Consul de L'Ordre is no bed of roses, that French Freemasonry is in a very excited and unsettled state, and all to whom the rule of the Order is confided have a very difficult course to steer in order to preserve the just authority of the Grand Orient, and to uphold the constitutional regime of the Order. That the Grand Orient in very difficult times, and through very regrettable scenes, under the able presidency of Frere St. Jean, has acted with great prudence and true Masonic principles we think none can question, and we should be very happy to see the Order in France emerge from its many troubles, and, rising above opposing schools of thought and action, take up its old and independent position. We may recur to the subject before long, as we wish sincerely well to our brethren in France, but in the meantime we beg to congratulate Frere St. Jean and the Conseil de L'Ordre for their loyal adherence, even in the face of much misplaced sentimentality, to the "Lex Scripta" of the Grand Orient of France.

Original Correspondence.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for, or even as approving of the opinions expressed by our correspondents, but we wish, in a spirit of fair play to all, to permit—within certain necessary limits—free discussion.—Ed.]

MASTER MASONS' JEWELS.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

The Masonic mind at large seems greatly exercised on the question of "Jewels, Master Masons' Jewels, &c." I am not going here to enter into technicalities as to what may be allowed and what disallowed. I wish to consider the question in its true Masonic spirit.

The badge of a Mason is his apron, which in the three degrees "distinctly marks the status" of its wearer. What more can be wanted?

Jewels are simply emblems of office, and when the wearer thereof ceases to hold office the jewel and collar descend to his successor (vide Lecture on Tracing Board, First Degree).

Thus for all practical purposes the apron is the badge of a Mason. No jewel distinctive of any degree is authorised by the Constitutions. It is true that some may argue that as certain jewels are not disallowed by the Constitutions therefore they may be worn. That is not the point I am seeking to enforce; what I do wish to say is that no jewel is necessary, that by the ancient landmarks of the Order the "badge of a Mason is his apron," and "the jewel the emblem of office." Above all let us remember "simplicity" is a characteristic of every true Mason. So far as to ordinary members of the three degrees I would even go further, and ask why there should be a P.M. jewel?—the levels on the P.M.'s apron distinctly mark his status.

Then again, when the brother has gained purple, the purple itself denotes his pre-eminence, while the distinctive marks on his apron rigidly define his actual status therein.

Why, then, any jewel at all save for actual office-bearers?

I wish to show how unworthy it is for a true Mason to think of personal "adornment;" how unworthy it is for those that aver that they are "poor and friendless" to seek their own glory at the expense of the true feeling of the Craft. There is an old adage applicable to all good Masons, "By their works ye shall know them."

Masonry is Masonry, and stands on two firm a basis to be upset by the question of "personal adornment;" Masonry requires no meretricious advantages to recommend itself; Masonry speaks to the heart not by outward show, but by inward rectitude of purpose. So far then as to these degrees, there now remains the question of centenary and charity jewels. The centenary jewels may be dismissed at once—there can be no reason for them; but as to "charity jewels" I do feel a difficulty. I hold, however, that as all jewels are contrary to the true spirit of Masonry, therefore that even these should be disallowed. Those noble brethren who have done so much for "charity" (that great characteristic of Masonry), who alone may be considered entitled to wear charity jewels, require no external marks to distinguish them; their names are well-known, their good deeds speak for themselves.

I do not write this letter for the worthy and well-informed brethren, who know more of the subject than I do, but simply for the instruction of the newly-initiated, and those that know little of the Craft.

A true Mason is essentially a modest man, who feels his own personal incapability (seeing that in this world perfection is impossible), and endeavours to the utmost of his power to fulfil what is laid down as his duty.

A true Mason seeks not his own personal aggrandisement, but in his good works to advantage the Order and his fellows.

Meretricious display is contrary to the feelings of a true Mason; therefore I maintain that all jewels save those of

actual office-bearers should be forbidden, as contrary to the landmarks of the Order.

I am, Sir and Brother, yours fraternally,

G. E. R. HARRIOTT,
P.G.M. Wigtown and Kirkcudbright.

OUR ROYAL GRAND MASTER'S INDIAN PRESENTS.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I have read with much pleasure your timely remarks on the charities of our Craft, and having personally, through the kindness and noble heartedness of our worthy and esteemed Bro. R. J. Spiers, had my unfortunate case favourably considered by our Lodge of Benevolence, I trust you will allow me to make a suggestion to the great supporters of our Craft, which if carried out would add I may say thousands to our charities.

If our Royal Prince the Grand Master of England were solicited to allow the numerous presents given to His Royal Highness on his Indian Tour to be exhibited at some convenient place in London, at a small charge for admission, thousands would go to see them, and the result for the benefit of our charities would be, I doubt not, fabulous. I would also suggest a similar exhibition at all our large towns.

I am Sir, your fraternally,

A PAST MASTER,
Alfred Lodge, Oxford.

7th March, 1876.

MASONIC TOKENS.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I have lately had placed in my hands a few of the copper tokens issued in 1794 to commemorate the election of the Prince of Wales as Grand Master in 1790. These tokens were fully described in your publication some few months ago, and are exceedingly curious and rare. It perhaps may not be out of place to give a brief description of them. Obverse, arms of the "Moderns" Grand Lodge, inscription, "Prince of Wales elected G.M., 24th Nov., 1790." Reverse, a triangle enclosing a number of Masonic emblems and a figure of Cupid holding a level and pointing to the All-seeing Eye, the triangle being encompassed by the words "Wisdom, Strength, and Beauty;" also "Sit Lux et Lux fuit." On the rim of the token the inscription "Masonic Token, T. Schechley, 1794."

Having had these tokens placed in my hands for disposal for the benefit of a Masonic charity, I shall be glad to forward one to any brother on receipt of stamps for three shillings, addressed to "J. N., Box 34, Post Office, Bolton."

Yours fraternally,

J. N.

Bolton, 7th March, 1876.

A QUERY.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Through the medium of your paper, would you kindly give the meaning of the word "Brannans," a word I saw on a tombstone in Henworth Churchyard, near Darlington, in an epitaph relating to the implements used among Masons.

I am, Sir, yours fraternally,

T. MARSHALL BENNETT.

MASONIC JURISPRUDENCE.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I am a Scotch Mason, never affiliated to an English lodge, but just settled down in a town of the Midland counties. We are thinking of establishing a new lodge here, and I wish to know if I have any right to sign a petition to Grand Lodge to obtain a warrant; would my signature stand for anything, I being a S.C.M., and not an English Mason? What is the rule on this point? Would it be better to become a joining member of the old lodge first?

Yours fraternally,

A SCOTCH MASTER MASON.

[In our opinion, the "registered Masons," at page 128, Book of Constitutions, are Masons registered in the Grand Secretary's Office, and a Scotch Master Mason should, we are of opinion, join an English Lodge first of all, and be registered in the Books of the Grand Lodge of England.—Ed.]

THE LONDON MASONIC CLUB.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Through your columns of the 11th inst., I notice that the Worshipful Master of the Phoenix Lodge (No. 904) was good enough to direct the attention of the brethren present at their last meeting to a circular and prospectus he had received from me as Secretary of the London Masonic Club.

On that occasion Bro. Marsh expressed doubt as to the pecuniary responsibility resting on those who formed the Club.

For his information and that of brethren generally, I beg to state that "members of the club incur no liability whatever beyond their subscription."

The Club is strictly proprietary, being the property of the shareholders of the "London Masonic Club Company, Limited," who are solely responsible for all receipts and expenditure.

The formation of the club by means of a "limited liability company" was, (after mature consideration), thought to be the most feasible and practicable mode of carrying it to a successful issue, and the result has proved the correctness of that idea, for already over 500 applications for membership have been received, and are daily being augmented. Great difficulty has been experienced in procuring a suitable site, the premises now taken (No. 101,

Queen Victoria-street), are both eligible and capable of extension if required. It is hoped the club will be ready for the use of members between the middle of April, and the 1st of May.

I may, in conclusion, state, the next election will take place on the 30th inst., up to which date the time for admitting members at the original rate of subscriptions, and without an entrance fee has been extended.

I am, dear Sir and Brother, yours fraternally,

JNO. A. LATHBURY, Secretary.

Temporary offices, 37, Queen Victoria Street, E.C.,
15th March, 1876.

A CORRECTION.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

In the report of the Consecration of the Upper Norwood Lodge I am made to be the deputy of the Grand Master for Surrey. Now in the first place Major-General Brownrigg would not, I think, allow another to do a duty he is so capable of himself, and always takes a pleasure in doing; and in the next place Upper Norwood is not in the Province of Surrey, but in the metropolitan district. I consequently represented the Pro Grand Master on the occasion.

Remaining very fraternally yours,

H. E. FRANCES, P.M.,

P.G.J.D. Surrey.

Mulum in Barbo; or Masonic Notes and Queries.

ANCIENT MS. MASONIC CONSTITUTIONS.

I have been asked to furnish a few particulars as to some of the missing MSS. alluded to in my last communication in the "Freemason."

Wren's MS.—The endorsement on the transcript of Browne's MS. (in my possession) is to the effect that the latter was copied from an ancient document found amongst the papers of the late Sir Christopher Wren. It is the only reference I have been able to discover, and hence my so naming the missing MS.

Chester MS.—The endorsement aforesaid states that the MS. (termed Chester MS. by me) was a copy made A.D. 1600 from Wren's MS., and was written on a "parchment roll." Browne's MS.—(Copy of the Chester MS., once the property of Bro. S. Browne, of Chester, now in my possession).

Dermott's MS.—Grand Secretary Dermott exhibited to the members of the Grand Lodge of the Ancients, on 6th December, 1752, "a very old Masonic MS. written or copied by one Bramhall, of Canterbury, in the reign of Henry VII." This is now missing.

Morgan's MS.—At the assembly of the seceders mentioned, Bro. Dermott asked if any other MS. had been discovered, additional to those produced to him on the 2nd of February, 1852. A large roll was then talked about, supposed to have been taken by the late Grand Secretary abroad. This Grand Secretary's name was Morgan, and so to preserve this reference to the document we call it Morgan's MS., and cherish the hope that it will yet be identified. B. o. Morgan was the first Grand Secretary of the Ancients, and held the office before any Grand Master was elected. He was succeeded by Bro. Dermott, who soon obtained a Grand Master, and everything else that was wanted to ensure prosperity for the seceders.

Dodd's MS.—My friend and Bro. Carson, of Cincinnati, who was the purchaser of the Ware pamphlet, published by Mrs. Dodd, A.D., 1738, at Bro. Spencer's sale, has placed it in the hands of the veteran Mason, Bro. Cornelius Moore, for publication in the "Masonic Review." The first portion appeared in that excellent Masonic magazine (the oldest periodical of the kind we believe in the world) for February, and the Craft universal will not fail to appreciate the boon thus conferred upon Masonic students.

I shall be pleased to afford any information in my power respecting the missing MSS.

WILLIAM JAMES HUGHAN.

Can any American brother send me the "Masonic Review," edited by our able Bro. Cornelius Moore, for February, containing a portion of the Dodd MS.

Address care of Editor of the "Freemason," 198, Fleet-street, London, E.C.

A MASONIC STUDENT.

ROSE CROIX BALL TO BRO. H.R.H. THE DUKE OF CONNAUGHT AT GIBRALTAR.

We take the following from the "Gibraltar Chronicle" of March 1st:—

Although the week had been only too full of amusements, yet the Masonic ball was looked forward to with great expectation, arising a great deal from the fact that it was the first ball given here exclusively by the members of the Rose Croix.

It is no less difficult to describe the steps necessary to carry into effect the preparation of the theatre than it is to carry out the preparation itself, and more so after its occupation for a series of the usual nightly Carnival balls. Thanks to the experience of former years there were not wanting brethren who were equal to the task. Bros. J. B. Imossi and N. Clavarezzo, although not members of the chapter, threw themselves into the work *con amore*, and rendered the greatest assistance to Bro. J. Henry, who had charge of the decorative department, and those who were present at the ball can testify to the successful labours of those brethren, nor was the assistance rendered by Bros. Millett, Bridgman, and Preston less valuable in other respects.

The dingy and dilapidated ceiling of the theatre wa

shut out from view by two huge canopies formed of flags of varied colours, those forming the canopy immediately over the boxes being so arranged as to provide for the necessary ventilation combined with effect. From the centre hung the huge chandelier, and under the other canopy two small chandeliers. At the far end of the ball-room was arranged a blaze of 70 lights in the form of an altar, and at the back a transparency. On each side a pedestal and tracing boards with hieroglyphics, unintelligible to the outer world, thereon. Three stalls on each side formed the boundaries, and flowers, natural and artificial, were strewn about in profusion, the whole being closed off from the uninitiated by a silken cord. The fronts of the boxes were scarcely recognizable, so great had been the transformation; festoons of ivy, pepper plant, &c., and roses in hundreds entwined were hung in graceful curves. The spaces were filled in with Masonic emblems and devices, and over all hung the various banners of the chapter and of other degrees, kindly lent for the occasion. The chandelier, a beautiful shield with the emblems of the Order, the work of Bro. Glassford, hung from the front of the Governor's box; Chinese lanterns, curtains, and mantas all helped to give the whole a finished and a pleasing effect.

The passages and stairs were neatly carpeted, and arranged with a choice collection of plants, making the scene such as to tempt many happy couples to linger there. Shortly after nine o'clock H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught, attended by his suite, arrived, and was conducted by the M.W.S., Captain G. Gilbard, and Bro. W. J. Henry, Director of Ceremonies, to prepare to take part in the procession.

Punctually at half-past nine Major-General Somerset, the acting Governor, accompanied by Mrs. Somerset and family, arrived, and were accompanied to the Governor's box by the D.C. and other brethren, the band playing the "National Anthem."

The procession having in the meantime been arranged, the inspiring strains of the Masonic March were next heard, and the brethren appeared walking two and two at the entrance to the ball-room, and entered in the following order:—Guests of the Blue Degrees, Mark, Royal Arch, Rome and Constantine, Knights Templars, and last the members of the Europa Chapter, hosts and guests all being in full regalia, the last being H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught and the M.W.S. After proceeding round the ball-room, the procession was formed into two lines, the brethren facing inwards, and Major-General Somerset, accompanied by Sir J. Hay, was conducted through the ranks, passing under the Arch of Steel, and received at the upper end by H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught and the M.W.S. After a few brief words of welcome from the M.W.S., addressed to General Somerset in the name of the chapter, the procession broke up, and dancing was begun and kept up with great spirit until half-past three a.m.

To describe the kaleidoscopic effect of the ladies' dresses, combined with the dazzling brilliancy of the jewellery and regalia worn by the brethren, would require a letter of itself, so it must be imagined and not described. At half-past twelve the supper room was thrown open, suitable arrangements being made to prevent overcrowding for the comfort of the guests.

The menu provided by Bro. Anderson was all that could be desired, and, judging from the general expression of opinion, the only fault we heard found was, that Masonic balls do not take place oftener, and the one of Friday last has certainly not tended to diminish the desire.

The members of the Europa Chapter may be congratulated on the success of the ball, which fitly wound up a long series of entertainments during the Carnival.

MASONIC BALL AT BURNLEY.

The second annual grand Masonic ball, in aid of the Masonic charities, took place on Thursday, 18th ult., in the Assembly Rooms, Mechanics' Institute, under the auspices of the Silent Temple Lodge, No. 126, Burnley. Amongst the distinguished patrons were Bros. the Earl of Carnarvon, Prov. G.M.; Lord Skelmersdale, D.G.M.; and Major Starkie, P.G.M., of Hunsford. The ball was the most imposing and successful that has been held for some time in Burnley, no expense having been spared in the provision of the accessories; and it was all the more interesting from the fact that it was in aid of a good object. The room was decorated by Messrs. Tyrer, of Manchester, in their best style. The walls were hung with crimson cloth, and the windows were beautifully draped. A very effective item in the decorations was the adornment of the room with the various emblems of the Masonic Order. At one end of the room was an excellent painting of the Prince of Wales, robed in the Masonic habiliments worn at his installation as Grand Master of the Order in the Albert Hall, which was kindly lent by Bro. W. M. Grant. The floor was laid with splendid holland. The platform space was made into a deep recess, which was filled with beautiful plants obtained from the Edge End Nursery, and on each side of the recess were card rooms. The ladies' retiring room resembled a splendid boudoir, and was fitted up with every convenience. When the ball opened the room presented a most imposing and attractive appearance.

The Masters of the Ceremonies were Bros. Ralph Landless, P.M., P.P.G.S.B., W.L.; John Rawcliffe, P.M.; Hobson Wadsworth, P.M., P.P.G.S.B. E.L.; Tom Bradshaw, P.M.; and Alexander Bell; and the Stewards Bros. J. W. Allen, W.M.; S. Alexander, P.M.; John Bollard, Sec.; William Walmsley, William Smith, William Marsden, I.G.; John Leedham, R. W. Waterson, S.W.; Richard Parker, P.M.; Edwin Griffiths, Hargreaves Bell, T. T. Bland, O.G.; Thomas Holland, E. Diggle, J.W.; John Allen, William Leigh, S.D.; G. W. Ashworth, Robt. Hartley, and Josiah Pol-

lard. The brethren appeared in full dress Masonic costume, with the jewels and insignia of their rank and office, and after eleven o'clock they assumed the clothing of the Degrees of Mark, Royal Arch, Knights Templar, and Rose Croix. An efficient quadrille band, under the direction of Mr. John Ford, played the dance music, which included the best sets. The music gave the utmost satisfaction, Mr. Ford conducting with great ability. The refreshments were provided by Bro. James Sutcliffe, Bull Hotel, and they were of the most excellent description. Great praise is due to Bros. R. W. Waterson and John Bollard, Hon. Secretaries, for the complete arrangements made and the general arrangement of the ball.

MASONIC BALL IN LIVERPOOL.

This interesting and much looked for assembly, principally got up by brethren of the Alliance Lodge, No. 667, took place on Thursday evening, the 24th ult., at the Assembly Rooms, Liverpool. Nothing could have exceeded the éclat which has at all times accompanied these balls, and success is always certain when supported in this, as in past years, by most of the influential brethren and their friends connected with the Alliance Lodge. Bro. J. E. Jackson, W.M. 667, made a most excellent chairman, and was ably assisted by Bro. A. Bucknall, 667, who made an equally efficient Secretary. We may state that this is the fourth time this brother has been voted to the arduous post of Hon. Secretary, and from the courteous and skilful manner in which he, along with the committee, carried out all arrangements was due in great measure the success of the ball this season. Bro. A. Morrison, J.W. 1570, acted as Master of the Ceremonies, and discharged his duties most efficiently, keeping up the dancing until a late hour. The following brethren comprised the committee:—Bros. J. E. Jackson, W.M. 667; W. Doyle, P.M., P.G.J.D. 667; J. H. Gregory, S.D. 667; H. Firth, Hon. Sec. 667; R. Douglas, S.S. 667; H. Eve, 667; E. Carter, 667; T. B. Myers, W.M. 1112; A. Morrison, J.W. 1570; A. Bucknall, P.O., Hon. Sec. 667. The refreshments were most ably served by Bro. Eve, 667, who from the high class nature of the viands supplied received, as he deserved, the greatest praise from all present. Several distinguished visitors patronised the ball, amongst whom were Bros. R. Brown, W.M. 241, and Hon. Sec. W.L. Institution; H. Nelson, P.M. 673 and 1505; J. Skeaf, P.G. Org.; H. Pearson, P.M. 249; R. Martin, jun., S.W. 1182, and others, all of whom were unanimous in their expressions of hearty good wishes to this influential committee of ours, who spare no pains to carry out a regularly organised system of balls, picnics, dinners, and pleasant parties, cementing in true Masonic form the bond of friendship and true brotherly love.

CONSECRATION OF THE MUSGRAVE LODGE, No. 1597.

On Saturday last this new lodge was consecrated at the Angel and Crown, Staines, thus adding another to the list of lodges in this now flourishing province. The house selected for the meetings of the new lodge is in every respect well adapted for that object, in having all conveniences for the brethren, and separate rooms for the lodge and the banquet. It is very quiet, and its appointments are of the best description. It has also a numerous staff, and an admirable management. The brethren arrived at Staines by three o'clock in the afternoon, accompanied by Col. Burdett, Prov. Grand Master of Middlesex, who was appointed by the Grand Master to consecrate the lodge. Shortly afterwards the ceremony commenced, when Col. Burdett opened lodge, having Bro. R. Wentworth Little, Prov. G.S.W. Midx., as G. Chaplain; Bros. H. G. Buss, Prov. G. Treas., S.W.; Dr. Woodman, G.S.B., as J.W.; A. A. Pendlebury, as I.G.; H. Phythian, Prov. G. Sec., as Sec.; and T. H. Edmonds, P.G.S., as D.C. Among the other brethren present were Bros. Lieut.-General Brownrigg, Prov. G.M. Surrey; Col. James Peters, P.M. 1460; Edmund Collett, 1293; D. W. Pearce, W.M. 1293; J. Wilsn, P.M. and Tras. 209; H. M. Stolberg, 209; H. Massey ("Freemason"), J. F. Knight Smith, Org. 1441; C. B. Payne, G.T.; C. Atkins, P.M. 27; John George Dunn, John Musgrave Levick, Fred Keily, Edward Amplett, H. F. Jykolm, 1309; Geo. Phythian, 22; J. Shirley Hodson, 25; Evelyn Fairlie, 214; E. Collins, 25; Thos. Woollard, and Gilbert, as Tyler.

The usual well-known ceremony was gone through, and Bro. Little delivered his admirable oration on the principles of Freemasonry. During the ceremony the musical portions were rendered by Bro. Knight Smith, who was assisted by the Masonic Musical Quartet. The dedication to Freemasonry having been made, Bro. Little pronounced the patriarchal benediction, and then, by Col. Burdett's desire, assumed the chair for the purpose of installing Bro. John Musgrave Levick as Worshipful Master. Bro. Levick was presented to Bro. Little by Bro. T. H. Edmonds, whose duties as Director of Ceremonies were most ably performed throughout. Bro. Little then installed Bro. John Musgrave Levick as W.M. in the presence of a strong Board of Installed Masters. When the usual salutes and proclamations had been given and made, the W.M. appointed Bros. F. Keily, S.W.; E. Amplett, J.W.; H. Phythian, Prov. G.S. Middlesex, P.M. Burdett Lodge, Sec.; H. Edmonds, P.G.S., P.M. 8, S.D.; T. Woollard, J.D.; J. G. Dunn, I.G.; and J. Gilbert, Tyler. Bro. Little afterwards completed the ceremony, and delivered the addresses; and propositions for initiation and joining were given in. The W.M. proposed, and Bro. Edmonds seconded, the conferring of the rank of honorary members on Col. Burdett, Lieut.-General Brownrigg, and Bro. Little, which was put and carried unanimously.

Col. Burdett, in acknowledging the compliment, which he highly esteemed, said that it would give him great pleasure whenever he could attend the lodge to do so, and

to see its prosperity. He felt confident that under the present W.M. it would prosper in every possible way, and that under other Masters it would be a prosperous and flourishing lodge for many years to come.

Lieut.-General Brownrigg said that he felt very great pleasure in signing his name as a petitioner for the warrant for this lodge. He had always thought there ought to be a lodge in Staines, and when he saw how the lodge was about to be constituted he had no hesitation whatever in being one of the signatories to the petition. He was now very glad he did sign.

Bro. Little also replied, considering it a very great honour indeed to be enrolled as a member of the lodge with such distinguished brethren as Col. Burdett and Lieut.-General Brownrigg. He wished the lodge every prosperity.

The W.M. informed the brethren that he had taken upon himself to represent this lodge at the next festival of the Girls' School, and he hoped they would support him on that occasion. He also said that with certain alterations this lodge would adopt the bye-laws of the Burdett Lodge, which had prospered so well that he thought they could do better than follow it. He then closed the lodge and the whole party adjourned to an excellent banquet, laid out with great taste in another room, and at its conclusion the toasts were rapidly proposed and responded to, owing to the long distance the brethren had to go, and the last train leaving shortly after ten o'clock. The music, however, took up a great deal of time, there being no less than eleven songs on the list, besides the grace. "The Queen and Cra't" having been honoured, and the National Anthem sang, the W.M. next proposed "The Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M." In so doing he said that we all wished H.R.H. might return from India without any ill effects from his journey, and that he might have a glorious time of it, which no doubt he had had, and that his experience would have taught him to appreciate how very important the Indian possessions were to this country. "The Pro G.M., the D.G.M., &c.," was next proposed; and Lieut.-General Brownrigg, in reply, said it was now twenty years since he had the honour of being G.S.W. of the Grand Lodge of England. The duties of the officers of Grand Lodge, excepting those who were actually in office, were not very arduous. Still it was their duty to rally round the throne, and to protect the great landmarks of the Order, and support the M.W.G.M. The rules were so well laid down that matters went on smoothly enough in Grand Lodge and the task which fell to Grand Officers was consequently rendered comparatively light. But he was old enough to remember the troublous times of Grand Lodge. They were now over, and he hoped would never return. The higher the social position of the Grand Master the less likely were those troubles ever to occur. He thought it most fortunate for Masonry, especially considering the circumstances under which their late G.M. retired from his position, that he was replaced by the future King of England. His Royal brethren, too, had taken up Masonry, and he believed there was only one member of the Royal brothers who was not now a member of the Craft. The very fact of the Royal Family of England having taken the part they had in Masonry must be a proof to the outer world that there was nothing treasonable or disloyal in Masonry. As he had been given the opportunity of speaking, he could not sit down without expressing his great satisfaction at having been among the brethren that evening. During the many Masonic meetings they had had Middlesex and Surrey had gone shoulder to shoulder in many of the formal processions, and he had found himself alongside Col. Burdett. He accepted that as a good omen, and as an augury that as they were geographically united the two provinces would always go together, that if one could give a helping hand to the other it would always be offered, and he was quite certain it would always be returned. (Hear hear.)

The W.M. next proposed "The R.W. Prov. G.M." The Middlesex brethren might feel, perhaps, that this was a toast particularly belonging to themselves; but he was sure that all the brethren from other counties who knew the Prov. G.M. of Middlesex would only be too glad to join them. In the different counties where he (the W.M.) had had the pleasure of going with him they were always glad to respond to the toast; in Middlesex they were always enthusiastic about it, and certainly there was no county where they had more reason for it than in Middlesex. It had been their good lot to meet their Prov. G.M. frequently, and it had always been with pride that they did so. For himself, he (the W.M.) had always felt it an honour to be in his company. He (the W.M.) was only a small Mason, although the brethren had elevated him very much in Masonry; but he was sure all of them, particularly those of them who were Middlesex Masons, had always felt it was their proudest day when they had their Prov. G.M. with them. (Applause.)

Col. Burdett, in reply, said he should feel very deficient in duty if he did not endeavour to return his most sincere thanks for the very kind manner in which the W.M. had proposed this toast, and for the hearty response given to his sentiments by the assembled brethren. He had always been most kindly received by the brethren of this province, and especially in the private lodges whenever he had had the opportunity and honour of visiting them. He should not feel he could hold the position he did if he was not received so warmly, and felt he did not reign in their hearts. If he was not received in the way he was, or if he were looked upon coldly, he should think it his duty to retire from his position, and he should certainly do so. He was very much gratified with the progress the province had made during the time he had been Prov. G.M. He remembered the time when the province numbered only two or three lodges; now they had twenty-three or twenty-four. Such a province he must therefore naturally feel very proud of presiding over. But it was not only on account of the

large number of lodges under his control that made him proud; it was also the quality of the brethren of whom they were composed. He did not care about the number so much; Masonry wanted for more men of high position, and in the Province of Middlesex they had brethren they were proud to boast of, and in that respect no other province could exceed them. He was glad to see this lodge started under such favourable auspices. They had in it brethren who were present then that very few other lodges could boast of, and he must again say he was proud of being there to meet them. He was gratified not only at being appointed to consecrate such a lodge, with the able assistance of Bro. Little, but also that they had with them the Prov. G.M. of a neighbouring county. This strengthened their position very much indeed to have a neighbouring Prov. G.M. like Gen. Brownrigg aiding them, joining them, and ready to support them in every way he could. He hoped they would be ready to support him in return. By this means, by joining together in friendship, they would be able to carry on the principles of Freemasonry in such a manner as they ought. (Hear, hear.)

Bro. Little, who was called on to reply for "The Prov. G. Officers, Past and Present," said he was sorry Sir George Elliot was not present. He (Bro. Little) was the first Grand Secretary of the province, and he had much pleasure in standing by Col. Burdett, whom he had felt it a great honour to serve under. Col. Burdett had brought the province to great perfection. Every officer, he was happy to say, was working in the same direction, and was striving to promote the success of the province and extend good fellowship among the brethren.

The W.M. proposed "The Consecrating Officers," and included among them Bro. Buss, who, in reply, said he had not expected that any duties would be required of him when he came that afternoon to visit the lodge. He could, however, say it gave him great satisfaction to be of any service in the province, particularly as he was the Grand Treasurer, and he hoped he would long have the opportunity of forwarding the interests of the province, in which he would always be willing to bear a part. (Cheers.)

Col. Burdett proposed "The W.M.," a duty which he said he performed with the greatest pleasure and satisfaction, especially on such an occasion as the consecration of a lodge. He did not believe there was any brother more worthy to hold the position of W.M. than Bro. Levick. He had known him for a long time, and he had always considered him a most worthy Mason, and one who had done his duty with credit to the Order. They might be quite sure that the brethren of this lodge would not have recommended him for his present high position unless they had considered him worthy of it. This added to the pleasure he felt in coming forward to consecrate the lodge. (Hear, hear.)

The W.M. said he would do his best in his position. If he failed, it would not be from want of will but from incapacity. He was unfortunately called upon to go abroad for some months, so that for a little time he should be absent from among the brethren; but he hoped by the next meeting of the lodge in July he would be back. He was going a long way off—to the Cape—but that was thought no more of nowadays than going to France was formerly.

"The Visitors" was the next toast, to which Dr. Woodman replied. The sign of the "Angel and Crown" brought back to his recollection a pleasant time when Bro. Little, and himself, with several other brethren came down there to see to what house they could remove the Bard of Avon Lodge. They then tested the capabilities of the house, which they found came up to the mark. They had an excellent dinner, and in consequence of their report the Bard of Avon Lodge was removed there. To a certain extent he was sorry it had since been taken away. It was a very nice lodge, and he was pleased to belong to it at the present time. This was recalled to him by the pleasant meeting of that day. They were planting another lodge in Middlesex which promised to be an honour to the Order and second to none in the province. He was not a Middlesex man; but belonging to more than one lodge and chapter in the province, and having the Stewardship and so forth, he was reminded that he was one of the brethren of the province, and he was very proud of the honour conferred upon him of assisting at this consecration. With regard to the hospitality of the lodge, he must say that the brethren of Middlesex had excelled themselves. They had given such a hearty welcome to the visitors as had made them forget for the moment that they were visitors, and he thought he could not pay the lodge a higher compliment than this. "The Officers" was the next toast, and the S.W., Bro. Keily, in reply, said that the officers would be very much pleased at all times to do all they could to promote the interests of this lodge. The officers would rally round the W.M., and they would consider any duty required of them a pleasure. He hoped their meetings would be pleasant, and that they would have the pleasure of receiving many initiates and joining members. The Tyler's toast concluded the proceedings, which were very successful throughout.

Royal Arch.

NEWPORT.—St. Woolos Chapter (No. 683).—This chapter was held at Newport, Monmouthshire, on Wednesday, 8th March, when the following were installed as Principals for the ensuing year:—Dr. Cheese, as M.E.Z.; W. H. W. Homfray, as H.; Wm. Watkins, as J. The ceremony was ably performed by Comp. S. Geo. Homfray, G.S.B. of Grand Chapter, and P.G.H. of Monmouthshire. The officers were duly appointed, and several brethren proposed for exaltation. Royal Arch Masonry is certainly on the increase in this province. The chapter was closed in harmony. The chapter was attended by Capt. A. T. Perkins, H. of Avalon Chapter, Wells, who is also an energetic member of this province, and other companions.

HUDDERSFIELD.—Chapter of Prosperity

(No. 290).—This chapter held its regular meeting on Wednesday, February 23rd, at South Parade. The chapter was opened punctually at seven o'clock when Bro. L. B. Brierley was balloted for and exalted. The next business was the election of officers. The following were elected to the several positions mentioned: Comp. W. Schofield re-elected Z. Comp. Hanop, H. and Comp. Turner, J., Comp. Hutchinson re-elected Treas.; E. Comp. Murphy, N.; and Comp. Wall, P.S. Afterwards the companions sat down to refreshment, and spent a couple of hours in paying honour to the toasts. Besides the companions mentioned above there were present Comps. W. Smith, P.Z.; Aston, P.Z.; Tyers, P.Z.; Haigh, N.; Ruddock, P.Z.; and several others.

Mark Masonry.

PANMURE LODGE OF MARK MASTER MASONS (No. 139).—This lodge met at the Balham Hotel, Balham, on Monday, the 6th inst., and was opened by the W.M., Bro. Charles Pulman, who was supported by Bros. W. Platt, as S.W.; Mark S. Latham, J.W.; Thos. Poore, P. Prov. G.D.C., I.P.M.; W. Bro. James Stevens, P.G.J.O., P.M.; George Lilley, P.M.; W. Poore, M.O.; T. J. Austin, as S.O.; B. Richardson, I.C., as J.O.; J. J. Joseph, R.M.; C. P. McKay, Sec.; J. T. Gibson, S.D.; W. Ackland, J.D.; W. McMurray, I.G.; J. Rogers, Tyler; W. Steedman, and other brethren. Bros. Roger Hannaford, of The Great City Lodge, 1426, and Walter Arnold, of the Burgoyne Lodge, 902, were advanced to the honourable degree with perfect ceremonial. The lodge was draped in mourning, and Masonic mourning was worn by the brethren, in token of esteem and respect for the late Deputy Grand Mark Master, Bro. W. Romaine Cillender. The approved by-laws of the lodge were ordered to be printed. Propositions for advancement at next meeting were made, and the lodge was closed in perfect harmony. Refreshment followed labour, and a brief hour or two were spent in pleasant social intercourse, the usual toasts being duly honoured, and the evening enlivened by the excellent singing of several members. This lodge appears to be making excellent progress, and is apparently much appreciated by the brethren residing in the immediate locality, as well as by others connected with metropolitan lodges.

SOUTH MOLTON.—Fortescue Lodge (No. 9).—A regular meeting of this lodge was held on Monday the 11th inst., Bro. J. T. Shapland, W.M. The lodge appeared in mourning for the late much respected P.G.M. Master. Present: Bros. Cole and Worell, in the Wardens' chair; Bros. Galliford and Widgery, M.M.M., and S. Overseers, and several other officers and brethren. Bro. Marks, of Lodge 251, was balloted for, and unanimously approved of as a fit and proper brother for advancement, other business was transacted, and the lodge was closed at 9 o'clock.

LEICESTER.—Fowke Lodge (No. 19).—A lodge of emergency was held at Freemasons' Hall, Leicester, on Tuesday, the 7th inst. The chair was occupied by the W.M., Bro. G. Toller, jun., and amongst those present were Bros. W. Kelly, Prov. Master; Rev. W. Langley, D.P.G.M.; J. McAllister, I.P.M.; S. S. Partridge and A. M. Duff, P.M.; Clement Stretton, J.W., and W.M. elect, with most of the officers and several members. The object of the meeting was to advance Bros. W. Barfoot, 1560 (Mayor of Leicester); C. E. Stretton, 1560; A. H. Burgess, solicitor (clerk to the School Board); R. S. Toller, 1560 (solicitor to the Corporation); and Dr. Buck, I.G. 1560, who, having been severally approved on the ballot, and being in attendance, were advanced to the Degree of Mark Mason, and subsequently to that of Mark Master. A candidate having been proposed for advancement, the lodge was closed until 23rd March, when the installation of the W.M. elect, Bro. C. Stretton, takes place, and the annual communication of the Prov. G. Mark Lodge will also be held.

Ancient and Accepted Rite.

LANCASTER.—Philips Chapter Rose Croix. —The installation meeting of this chapter was held on Wednesday, the 23rd Feb. The M.W.S., Bro. W. Wearing, presided, and after the usual formal business had been transacted Ill. Bro. Dr. Moore, 31°, G.J.J.C., took the chair, and duly installed the M.W.S. elect, Bro. E. Airey, as the head of the chapter, and gave the usual addresses on the occasion. The M.W.S. then appointed his officers as follows:—Bros. W. Wearing, P.S.; Dr. Moore, H.P.; W. J. First Gen. H. Longman, Second Gen. and R.; Capt. C. H. Garnett, G. Marsh.; W. Hall, Raphael; A. L. Dodson, Capt. of Lines; R. Taylor, Equerry. The alms were collected, and the chapter closed in due form.

Red Cross of Constantine.

KEYNSHAM.—William de Irwin Conclave (No. 17).—This conclave was opened in due form on February 18th by the M.P. Sov., E. and P. Sir Knight W. Hodges, at 6.5 p.m. On the muster roll being called, the following Sir Knights answered to their names:—E. and P. Sir Knts. W. Hodges, M.P. Sov.; J. F. Hallam, V.E.; W. Munro, S.G.; J. M. Hunt, J.G.; G. Tonkin, H.P.; B. Gay, Recorder; W. Benham, 1st Lieut. Sir Knts. A. G. Williams, H. Amor, H. W. Lane, E. Weare, J. M. Shorland, E. E. Henry, late 17. The minutes of the last meeting of the conclave were read and confirmed. A ballot was then taken for Bro. P. S. King, W.M. Lodge 610, as a candidate for installation, which proving favourable, and Bro. King being in attendance, he was duly installed and proclaimed a Knight of the Red Cross of Rome and Constantine. It was then announced that the Intendant-General

of Bristol, Em. and Illustrious Sir Knt. P. G. Irwin, accompanied by Sir Knt. J. F. Tuckey, was desirous of visiting the conclave, when the M.P. Sov. directed the Sir knights present to form an Arch of Steel, and to receive the illustrious visitors with the honour due to their rank. A ballot was then taken for Sir Knt. E. E. Henry as a joining member, who was declared duly elected. The Intendant-General announced that he had been asked to take a conclave to visit the Grand Conclave to be held in London on March 8th, and expressed a wish that the William de Irwin Conclave should be selected. Several of the Sir Knights expressed their readiness to attend on the occasion, accompanying the Intendant-General E. and P. Sir Knt. F. J. Irwin on his visit to the Grand Conclave, London, to be held on March 8th:—E. and P. Sir Knts. G. F. Tuckey, D.I.G. Bristol; W. Hodges, I.M.P.S.; J. T. Hallam, M.P.S.; W. Munro, V.E.; B. Gay, J.G. Sir Knts. E. G. Honey, Recorder; H. W. Lane, Prefect; A. J. Williams, Herald; H. Amor, 1st Lieut.; E. Weare, and Lieut.; T. Brook; also E. and P. Sir Knt. W. A. Scott, J.M.P.S. of the Munster Lodge, 101. The M.P. Sov. elect, E. and P. Sir Knt. J. F. Hallam, was then enthroned M.P. Sov. for the ensuing year, the ceremony being performed by E. and P. Sir Knt. Hodges in his usual impressive manner. The M.P. Sov. elect was presented by E. and P. Sir Knt. W. A. Scott, P.M.P.S. Munster Conclave, No. 101. The M.P. Sov. then proceeded to appoint and invest his officers as follows:—V.K., E. and P. Sir Knight W. Munro; S.G., J. M. Hunt; J.G., Benj. Gay; H.P., W. Benham; Treas., J. F. Tuckey, D.J.G. Bristol; Prefect, Sir Knt. H. W. Lane; Standard Bearer, E. and P. Sir Knt. M. Ansaldo; Recorder, Sir Knt. E. E. Honey; Herald, A. G. Williams; 1st Lieut., H. Amor; 2nd Lieut., E. Weare. Sir Knt. Tuckey, P.M.P.S., proposed Sir Knt. Shorland as Steward for the ensuing year; this was seconded by Sir Knt. Hodges, P.M.P.S., and carried unanimously. Sir Knt. R. S. King was proposed as 2nd Steward, which was carried unanimously. The Intendant-General proposed that the Immediate P.M.P.S., Sir Knt. Hodges, be elected to represent the Conclave in Grand Conclave for the ensuing year, seconded by the Intendant-General, and carried unanimously. There being no further business before the conclave for the consideration of the Sir Knights, it was closed in perfect harmony by the M.P. Sov. at 7.45 p.m. The Sir Knights then retired to the refectory, where the annual banquet was spread, to which about 20 Sir Knights sat down, when the usual toasts were given and responded to.

Obituary.

BRO. BENJAMIN THORPE.

The Province of Kent, and especially the Invicta Lodge, 709, at Ashford, are mourning the loss of Bro. Benjamin Thorpe, who died "like a shock of corn in his season" at the residence of his son, Bro. Benjamin Kelly Thorpe, of Charing, on Friday night, February 18th ult., after a few days' illness, at the advanced age of 82, one of the oldest members of the Craft; certainly the oldest in the province. Born in June 1793, he was initiated in 1814, 62 years ago, in the Wellington Lodge (then numbered 651, since 426, now 341), at Rye, Sussex, which lodge was founded that year, the fourth lodge after the Union. He was raised December 17th, 1814. The next year he resided at Hythe, where, July 24th, 1816, he joined the Prince Edwin Lodge (then 205, since 147, now 125), of which he became W.M. In 1831 he removed to Ashford, where he resided till the last two years; for upwards of 50 years taking a leading part in all the business of the town. In 1823, July 27th, he was exalted in the Chapter of Harmony—now extinct—attached to the Lodge of Harmony, Faversham (then 215, since 155, now 133). In 1857 he was one of the founders of the Invicta Lodge, (then 1011, now 709), at Ashford, being the first S.W. under the late distinguished Bro. Thomas Hallows, P.M. 147, 125, and Past D.P.G.M. of the Province. He became W.M. the next year. He was a most constant attendant at his lodge, being father, brother, friend to every member and visitor, who looked up to him with reverence and love; and here was presented very often the rare appearance and gratification of three generations being present at once, when he and his son, both P.M.'s of the lodge, were accompanied by his son's son, now P.M. of 1184. In 1850 he was appointed Grand Registrar by the late P.G.M., C. P. Cooper, Esq., Q.C. In 1863 he was elected Treasurer of the province, in which duties he has latterly been assisted by his son, Bro. B. K. Thorpe, P.P.G. Registrar. In 1867 he founded and was first W.M. of Abbey Lodge, 1184, at Battle, Sussex. Lord Pelham, P.G.M. of that province, was present on this occasion, and afterwards conferred him the office of P.G.S.W. of Sussex, which however he declined on account of his age. A slight accident to his leg, which was not thought much of at the time, prevented his attending lodge in February. Inflammation and erysipelas set in, and he sank rapidly. His death, like his life, was peace. Just and upright in all his dealings—meek, humble, resigned—faithful to his God, his country, and his laws—rising to eminence by merit, he lived respected, and died regretted. On Thursday, February 24th, his mortal remains were taken from Charing into the parish church at Ashford, the funeral cortege being joined by the members of the Invicta Lodge, headed by Bro. J. S. Eastes (one of the founders of the lodge, and D.P.G.M. of the province), and Bro. Lieut. C. G. Robinson, R.N., the W.M., and from thence conveyed, after service in church, to the old burial ground, and deposited in the family vault. The Vicar of Ashford performed the service very impressively, and at the close the brethren threw sprigs of myrtle and acacia into the grave no other Masonic ceremonial taking place, as the funeral was, by the request of the family, a private one.

Masonic and General Tidings.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.—We understand that the subject of extending the accommodation of the Girls' School will be again brought up for discussion at the meeting of the General Committee on Thursday, the 30th inst., at 4 p.m.

THE WEBB TESTIMONIAL FUND.—Messrs. J. G. Chambers and H. G. Chinnery, who undertook to receive subscriptions on behalf of Bro. Captain Webb, beg to state that the list is now closed. The amount acknowledged by them in the columns of "Land and Water" amounted to £2434 4s. 11d.; of this sum £1873 has, at the request of several subscribers, been invested by Messrs. Chambers and Chinnery on Bro. Webb's behalf, and brings him in an annual income of £89. The remainder and other large sums collected in Shropshire, Liverpool, &c., have been handed to Captain Webb, a large portion of which he has generously placed at the disposal of his father, who is and has been for a long time in ill-health.

Mr. George Moore and Mr. Sampson Copestake have given a handsome donation to each person connected with their various establishment in town and country who have been in their employ any length of time, the total amount thus presented being between £35,000 and £45,000.

MODEL OF THE VIADUCT.—A letter was read at the Court of Common Council from Bro. Major C. J. Burgess, Honorary Secretary of the Brussels International Exhibition and Congress, 1876, requesting the loan of the model of the Holborn Viaduct for exhibition at Brussels. On the motion of Mr. Bontems, seconded by Mr. Hanson, the request was complied with, under the direction of the Library Committee.

A meeting of the council of the Central Chamber was held at the Salisbury Hotel, on Tuesday; Bro. W. W. B. Beach, M.P., Provincial Grand Master Hants and Isle of Wight took the chair.

The health of the Duchess of Abercorn is, we are happy to learn, improving.

Bro. Adams, the energetic manager of the Royal Music Hall, took his annual benefit on Thursday, 9th inst., when an attractive programme was satisfactorily gone through.

A telegram announces the arrival of Prince Leopold at Cannes. His Royal Highness, who is staying at the Hôtel Beau Site, was present on Thursday at a garden party given by the Earl of Portarlington.

The Court of the Clothworkers' Company have voted one hundred guineas to the funds of the Royal Society for the Assistance of Discharged Prisoners.

SIR CORDY BURROWS, PROV. GRAND MASTER SUSSEX.—The "Brighton Guardian" states that the illness of Sir Cordy Burrows has assumed a serious import, and eminent London physicians have met his local medical attendants in consultation. Excessive prostration cannot be removed, and on Tuesday night Sir Cordy was, if anything, weaker than at any previous phase of his attack.

A bill has been passed by the United States Senate reducing the salary of the President.

The annual meeting of the P.G. Mark Lodge of Leicestershire takes place at Leicester on Thursday, the 23rd inst.

The Fifteen Sections will be worked at the Fidelity Lodge of Instruction, No. 3, at the Yorkshire Grey, London-street, Fitzroy-square, on Thursday, April 6th, when Bro. P. M. Adams will preside. Lodge will be opened at 7 o'clock.

NORTHUMBERLAND AVENUE.—This day (Saturday) has been fixed for the opening of the new street on the site of Northumberland House, Charing-cross. The proceedings, which will take place at one o'clock, will be of an informal character, and will consist of the chairman and members of the Board inspecting the subway and street, which will then, after a few remarks by the chairman of the Board, be declared open to the public.

Major-General J. Studholme Brownrigg, C.B., Provincial Grand Master for Surrey, has been gazetted a Lieutenant-General in Her Majesty's forces.

THE TOWER OF LONDON.—The Tower of London was opened free on Mondays and Saturdays to the public upon Easter Monday, 1875. Since that date 211,000 people have been admitted without payment. It has been found necessary to close the armouries once a year, for a fortnight, so that the valuable collection of ancient armour may be thoroughly cleansed. The Tower will, therefore, be closed from the evening of the 18th March until the morning of the 3rd April next. Though so large a number of people have visited the Tower, no single article of collection has been damaged or lost.

The ceremonies of consecration and installation will be worked by Bro. James Terry, P.G.S.B. for Middlesex, in the Burdett Lodge of Instruction, meeting at the Approach Tavern, Approach-road, Victoria Park, on Friday evening, 31st inst. Lodge will be opened at 7 p.m. punctually.

A supplement of four pages will be issued with the "Freemason" of Saturday next, March 25th.

The consecration of the Royal Commemoration Lodge, No. 1585, will take place at the Star and Garter Hotel, Putney, on Monday, the 20th inst., Bro. J. Wright, W.M. Designate.

HEALTH, comfort, and economy promoted. Gas superseded in day time, and daylight reflected in dark rooms by adopting Chappuls' Patent Daylight Reflector. Manufactory, 60, Fleet-street, London.

METROPOLITAN MASONIC MEETINGS

For the Week ending Friday, March 24, 1876.

SATURDAY, MARCH 18

- Lodge 715, Panmure, Terminus Hot., Cannon-st.
- " 1329, Sphynx, Bridge House Hot., London Bridge.
- " 1364, Earl of Zetland, Old Town Hall, Hackney.
- Red Cross Con., Villiers, Northumberland Arms, Isleworth.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

- Lily, Greyhound, Richmond.
- Percy, 113, Southgate-rd., N.
- Manchester, 179, London-st., Fitzroy-square.
- Star, Marquis of Granby, New Cross Road.
- Sinai Chapter, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.

MONDAY, MARCH 20.

- Lodge 1, Grand Master's, F.M. Tav.
- " 8, British, F.M.H.
- " 21, Emulation, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
- " 58, Felicity, London Tav., Bishopsgate-st.
- " 185, Tranquillity, Terminus Hot., Cannon-st.
- " 720, Panmure, Balham Hot., Balham.
- " 862, Whittington, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
- " 901, City of London, Guiney's Hot., Little Britain.
- " 1159, Marquis of Dalhousie, F.M.H.
- " 1301, Eclectic, F.M.H.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

- Prince Leopold, Lord Stanley Tav., Kingsland.
- Strong Man, Jerusalem Tav., St. John's Gate.
- Sincerity, Railway Tav., Fenchurch-st. Station.
- Camden, Stanhope Arms, Up. James-st., Camden To.
- Eastern, Royal Hot., Mile-end-road.
- St. James's Union, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
- Wellington, White Swan, Deptford.
- West Kent, St. Saviour's College, Forest-hill.
- Perfect Ashlar, Victoria Tav., Lower-rd., Rotherhithe.
- Sydney, White Hart Ho., Church-rd., Upper Norwood.

TUESDAY, MARCH 21.

- Board of General Purpose, at 3.
- Lodge 30, United Mariner's, Guildhall Tav.
- " 73, Mount Lebanon, Bridge House Hot.
- " 95, Eastern Star, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.
- " 162, Cadogan, F.M.H.
- " 194, St. Paul's, City Terminus Hot., Cannon-st.
- " 435, Salisbury, F.M.H.
- " 704, Camden, Bull and Gate, Kentish Town.
- " 857, St. Mark's, Surrey Masonic Hall.
- " 1441, Ivy, Windsor Castle, Southwark Bridge-rd.
- Chap. 46, Old Union, Albion, Aldersgate-st.
- " 933, Doric, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

- Varborough, Green Dragon, Stepney.
- Domestic, Surrey M.H., Camberwell New-road.
- Faith, 2, Westminster Chambers, Victoria-st.
- Prince Fredk. Wm., Lord's Hot., St. John's Wood.
- Dalhousie, King Edward, Triangle, Hackney.
- Prosperity, 1, Camomile-st., Bishopsgate.
- St. Marylebone, British Stores Tav., St. John's Wood.
- Constitutional, Wheatheaf Hot., Hand-court, Holborn.
- Israel, Rising Sun Tav., Globe Road.
- Royal Arthur, Prince's Head, York-road, Battersea.
- Beacontree, Red Lion, Leytonstone, at 8.
- Metropolitan Chapter, Jamaica Coffee Ho., Cornhill.
- Excelsior, Commercial Dock Tav., Rotherhithe.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22.

- Lodge of Benevolence, at 6.
- " 2, Antiquity, F.M.H.
- " 212, Euphrates, M.H., Basinghall-st.
- " 507, United Pilgrims, Surrey Masonic Hall.
- " 753, Prince Frederick William, Knts. of St. John Hot.
- " 754, High Cross, Seven Sisters, Tottenham.
- " 1056, Victoria, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
- Chap. 907, Royal Albert, White Hart, Abchurch-lane.
- Red Cross Con., 15, St. Andrews, M.H., 68, Regent-st., W.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

- Mt. Lebanon, Windsor Castle Tav. Southwark-bdg-rd.
- Pythagorean, Prince of Orange, Greenwich.
- New Concord, Rosemary Branch Tav., Hoxton.
- Royal Union, Horse and Groom, Winsley-st., Oxford-st.
- Confidence, M.H., Basinghall-st.
- Peckham, Maismore Arms, Park-road, Peckham.
- Stanhope, Thicket Hot., Anerley.
- Finsbury Park, Finsbury Park Tav., Seven Sisters-rd.
- Southwark, Southwark Park Tav., Southwark Park.
- Duke of Connaught, Havelock Tav., Dalston, E.
- United Strength, Grafton Arms, Kentish-town.
- Mount Edgumbe, 19, Jermy-st., St. James's.
- Islington, Crown and Cushion, London Wall.

THURSDAY, MARCH 23.

- House Com. Girls' School, at 4.
- Lodge 34, Mount Moriah, F.M.H.
- " 60, Peace & Harmony, London Tav., Bishopsgate.
- " 65, Prosperity, Guildhall Tav., Gresham-st.
- " 66, Grenadiers, F.M.H.
- " 99, Shakespeare, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
- " 766, William Preston, Terminus Hot., Cannon-st.
- " 1421, Langthorne, Swan Hot., Stratford.
- Chap. 5, St. George's, F.M.H.
- " 177, Domestic, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

- Egyptian, Hercules Tav., Leadenhall-st.
- Fidelity, Yorkshire Grey, London-st., W.
- Finsbury, Jolly Anglers' Tav., Bath-st., City-road.
- Whittington, Black Bull Tav., Holborn.
- Temperance in the East, Catherine-st., Poplar.
- Ebury, 12, Ponsonby-st., Millbank.
- Highgate, Bull and Gate, Kentish-town.
- The Great City, 111, Cheapside.
- High Cross, Coach & Horses, High-road, Tottenham.
- Salisbury, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
- Marquis of Ripon, Albion Tav., Albion-rd., Dalston.
- Prince Frederick William Chapter, St. John's Wood.

FRIDAY, MARCH 24.

- House Com. Boys' School, at 4.

- Lodge 197, Jerusalem, F.M.H.
- " 569, Fitz-Roy, Hd.-qtrs. Hon. Art. Co., City-rd.
- " 710, Royal Alfred, Star and Garter, Kew Bridge.
- " 861, Finsbury, Rosemary Branch Tav., Hoxton.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

- Union Waterloo, Thomas-st., Woolwich.
- St. George's, Globe Tav., Royal-hill, Greenwich.
- Robert Burns, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
- Belgrave, Lyceum Tav., 354, Strand.
- Unions Emulation (for M.M.'s), F.M.H.
- Temperance, Victoria Tav., Victoria-road, Deptford.
- Clapton, White Hart, Clapton.
- Stability, Guildhall Tav., Gresham-st.
- Metropolitan, Portugal Hot., Fleet-st.
- Westbourne, Horse & Groom, Winsley-st., Oxford-st.
- Metropolitan, Pentonville-road.
- United Pilgrims, Surrey M.H., Camberwell New-road.
- St. James's, New Tanners' Arms, Grange-rd., Bermondsey.
- Duke of Edinburgh, Silver Lion, Penny-fields, Poplar.
- Doric, Earl Grey Tav., Mile-end-road.
- Burgoyne, Grafton Arms, Prince of Wales's-road, N.W.
- St. Luke's, Commercial Tav., King's-road, Chelsea.
- Chigwell, Bald-faced Stag Hot., Buckhurst-hill.
- Burdett Courts, Approach Tav., Victoria Park.
- Royal Standard, Finsbury Park Tav., Holloway.
- Ranelagh, Clarendon Hot., Hammersmith.
- Pythagorean Chapter, Prince of Orange, Greenwich-rd.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN WEST LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE.

For the Week ending Saturday March 25, 1876.

MONDAY, MARCH 20.

- Lodge 721, Independence, M.R., Eastgate-row, Chester.
- " 1502, Israel, M.H., Liverpool.
- Chap. 1051, Rowley, M.R., Athenaeum, Lancaster.
- Everton L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

TUESDAY, MARCH 21.

- Lodge 667, Alliance, M.H., Liverpool.
- " 1225, Hindpool, Hartington Ho., Barrow-in-Furness.
- " 1276, Warren, Seacombe Hot., Seacombe.
- Chap. 605, De Tabley, Seacombe Hot.
- Merchants' L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22.

- Lodge 42, St. George's, Adelphi Hot., Liverpool.
- " 220, Harmony, Garston Hot., Liverpool.
- " 724, Derby, M.H., Liverpool.
- Chap. 1052, Callender, P.H., Rusholme.
- Neptune L. of I., M.H., Southport.

THURSDAY, MARCH 23.

- Lodge 594, Downshire, M.H., Liverpool.
- " 1313, Fermor, M.H., Southport.
- Chap. 292, Liverpool, M.H., Liverpool.
- " 1086, Walton, St. Lawrence's Schools, Kirkdale.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN GLASGOW AND WEST OF SCOTLAND.

For the Week ending Saturday, March 25, 1876.

All the Meetings take place at Eight o'clock.

MONDAY, MARCH 20.

- Lodge 129, St. Mirren's, St. Mirren's H., Moss-st., Paisley.
- " 332, Union, 170, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
- " 581, Plantation, Craigiehall-st., Plantation, Glasgw.
- Encampment St. Mungo, 213, Buchanan-st., Buchanan-st.

TUESDAY, MARCH 21.

- Lodge 34, St. John, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
- " 73, Thistle and Rose, 170, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
- " 87, Thistle, 30, Hope-st., Glasgow.
- " 437, Govandale, Portland Buildings, Govan.
- " 556, Clydesdale, M.H., Rose-st., S.S., Glasgow.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22.

- Lodge 505, Burns St. Mary, Commercial Inn, Hurlford.
- " 510, Maryhill, 167, Main-st., Maryhill.
- Con. Red Cross, R.C., 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.

THURSDAY, MARCH 23.

- Lodge 290, Dalry Blair, White Hart H., Dalry.
- " 570, Kenmuir, M.H., Springburn.

FRIDAY, MARCH 24.

- Lodge 153, Royal Arch, Masonic Hall, Pollokshaws.
- " 187, St. John, Black Bull Inn, Carluke.
- " 399, Royal Blues, Commercial Hot., Kilbirnie.

SATURDAY, MARCH 25.

- Lodge 28, St. John, Black Bull Inn, Kirkintilloch.
- " 305, St. John, Woodhall, M.H., Holytown.
- Chap. 143, Robert Burns, Masonic Hall, Holytown.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN EDINBURGH AND VICINITY.

For the Week ending Saturday, March 25, 1876.

MONDAY, MARCH 20.

- Lodge 44, St. Luke, Freemasons' H., George-st.
- " 36, St. David, Ship Hot., East Register-st.
- " 405, Rifle, F.M.H., George-st.
- Lodge 112, St. John, Royal Hot., Musselburgh.
- " 323, Caledonian, F.M.H., George-st.

TUESDAY, MARCH 21.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22.

THURSDAY, MARCH 23.

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REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS.

Craft Masonry.

ALBION LODGE (No. 9).—This lodge held its monthly meeting on Wednesday, the 8th inst., at the Regent Masonic Hall, Air-street, Regent-street. Bro. Kimber, W.M.; E. T. Scott, S.W.; W. R. Lake, J.W.; T. Moring, P.M., Treas.; J. A. Abbott, M. Sec.; S. McCarthy, S.D.; S. Coste, P.M., D.C.; J. Forbes, Org.; G. Roby, I.G.; P.M.'s J. S. Catr, H. S. Friend, E. Storr, S. Vallentine, E. Coste, and W. R. Marsh, I.P.M.; Visitors: Bros. P. Edmger, W.M. 95; E. N. Levey, P.M. 507; B. Mott, P.M. 185; R. Brown, 1421; S. R. Foulger, P.M. 177; and several other brethren. At the last meeting of this lodge it was proposed and unanimously carried, "That the thanks of this lodge be and are hereby accorded to the Immediate Past Master, Bro. W. R. Marsh, for the zeal, energy, courtesy, and dignity with which he conducted its affairs during his year of office as W.M., and that a copy of this resolution appropriately framed be presented to him." This resolution was beautifully illuminated on vellum and handsomely framed by Bro. Thomas Moring, of Holborn. The W.M., Bro. E. Kimber, in a very feeling and appropriate speech, then presented the testimonial to I.P.M. Bro. W. R. Marsh, who expressed his deep thanks to the brethren for the handsome testimonial they had presented to him, and that it was a source of gratification to him to know that during his year of office he had given satisfaction to the brethren of the lodge. The lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to banquet.

FAITH LODGE (No. 141).—The usual monthly meeting of this lodge was held at Anderton's Hotel on the 29th ult. There were present Bros. Waygood, W.M.; Davis, S.W.; Mallett, J.W.; Davey, acting S.D.; Walls, acting J.D.; Bye, I.G.; Rumbold, W.S.; Stuart, P.M., Sec.; Carter, P.M., Treas.; P.M.'s Bros. Peavor, Hopwood, Green, Themens. The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the W.M. raised Bros. Goldsmith, Titley, Colin, Robinson, passed Bro. Goulden, and initiated Messrs. Rolensburg, Manley, Smith, and Kendall. Several communications having been made by the Secretary, the lodge was closed and the brethren adjourned to the banquet, which was well served by Messrs. Clemow under the superintendence of Bro. Smith. Upon the removal of the cloth, the W.M. proposed the usual toasts. In proposing "The Health of the Initiates," the W.M. said he was glad to think that their ranks that evening had been recruited by four gentlemen who would, he was sure, eventually become great acquisitions to the lodge. This toast having been duly honoured, Bros. Rolensburg, Manley, Smith and Kendall briefly replied. In giving "The Health of the W.M.," Bro. Peavor, who is the oldest P.M. of the lodge, spoke very highly of the manner in which the ceremonies and general business of the lodge that day had been conducted by Bro. Waygood. The W.M. having briefly acknowledged the toast, immediately proposed "The Health of the Visitors," which was responded to in a very neat speech by Bro. Sparks, 1540, on behalf of himself and Bros. Stevens, 179; Timpon, 188; Edward, 619; Moorcroft, 780; Simmonds, 1107; Wray, 1257; Webb, New Concord; Raalte, Cosmopolitan. In the intervals of the toasts Bros. Robinson, Smith, Walls, and others instrumentally and vocally amused the brethren. The toast of "The Past Masters, the Treasurer, Secretary, and rest of the Officers of the Lodge" followed, and having been severally responded to, the Tyler's toast brought the proceedings to a close, and the brethren adjourned until the last Tuesday in the present month.

LODGE OF UNITED STRENGTH (No. 228). A full night's work greeted the new Master on the first meeting after his installation, this being held on the 14th inst. at the home of the lodge in the antique gate of St. John of Jerusalem, St. John's-lane, Smithfield. Bro. Robert Griggs, the W.M., had all his officers present (a late D.C. excepted), and opened the lodge precisely to time with Bro. James Hill, S.W.; Snare, J.W.; P. M. Winsland, Treas.; P. M. Davis, Assistant Secretary; B. Halford, S.D.; Percy, J.D.; Todd, I.G.; Patmore, A.D.C.; Hickman, A. Steward; J. White, I.P.M. ("Freemason"), and Hillhouse, P.M. The lodge minutes having been confirmed, Bros. the Rev. W. Dawson, T. Griggs, Harley Paine, W. J. Randall, Frank Arnold, and W. Trotter were candidates to be passed to the Second Degree, and the ancient ceremony was repeated in their favour, so that now they are midway in their career as Masons. There were

three brethren to be raised, Bros. Adams, Hanchett, and Coles; but as the latter was not present to time the work was proceeded with in favour of the others, and the ceremony was performed in a manner worthy the reputation of this old lodge. The lodge was then reduced to the First Degree, and Mr. Edwin C. Booth, the author of "New England," and of "Australia," was initiated in ancient form, and appeared to be highly delighted with the charges. The after business included dealing with the cause of charity, which was dealt with in a practical manner, and then the brethren discussed whether the lodge should officially sign in support of two proposed new lodges, one to be held in the old gate, and the other in the neighbourhood. As the proposals appeared to be conflicting, the consideration of them was adjourned until next meeting. The brethren then elected Bro. Hart as an honorary member, he occupying the position of Organist, and one and all thanked the brother for the excellent addition he had made to the ceremonies. The lodge then adjourned to the banquetting-hall, where supper was served in Bro. Gay's best style. The W.M. in proposing the loyal toasts, said that loyalty and patriotism were watchwords of the Order; and in giving "The Health of the M.W. the Grand Master," the Sovereign of our Order, the W.M. said that His Royal Highness was esteemed for the work he had done in the Craft, and the brethren over whom he reigned would give him a welcome home which would far exceed in splendour and magnificence, if it were possible, the ceremony last April in Albert Hall. The toasts were drunk with all honours, and Bro. P. M. Marsh (of the Lion and Lamb, &c.), chanted the National Anthem. The W.M. then proposed "The Pro Grand Master, the Deputy Grand Master, and the rest of the Grand Officers," and in doing so spoke of the great honour bestowed upon the Craft in illustrious statesmen not only holding the places of honour in the ranks, but carrying out arduous duties. The toast having been honoured, Bro. While proposed "The Health of the W.M.," who had, the speaker said, filled in a worthy manner all the offices of the lodge from its most junior position, and the manner in which he had discharged the duties could be judged of by the perfect character of the work in the three degrees that night, the rendering of them being such as to necessitate no I.P.M. in the character of prompter. The W.M., in acknowledging the toast, said he was able to fill the chair to the satisfaction of the brethren and with credit to himself through the cordial co-operation of those who held the position before him, and he then proceeded to propose the toast of "The Initiate." Bro. Booth in responding, said he came prepared to be surprised, but he was delighted as well. He thanked the brethren for accepting him as a member of the noble Order, and said in the course of his life and travels he had met with mysteries before, and he asked their leave to describe to them a mystery which had puzzled him from long bygone times. The brethren were, as may be guessed, all attention, when the newly-made brother began the relation of a most curious story, hailing from Columbia, which mystery proving of a most comical character, the recital was greeted with roars of laughter. The W.M. then proposed the toast of "The Visitors," giving those who had stayed a hearty welcome, and expressing his regret that visitors who were in the lodge had not staid to sup. Among those present were Bros. Marsh, P.G.P. of Middlesex; Wiles, W.M. 173; Whitby, 151; Blackwell, E.A., Chaucer; Staines, 51; Parsons, 250; Adams, 761; Fife, 879; and Pennefather, P.M. 879. Bro. Marsh said he had to thank his Bro. Heathcote for a Masonic treat that evening, in seeing how well the work of the Craft was carried out in that old lodge, for the W.M. was perfect in his work, and he was ably supported by officers who thoroughly knew their duty, and, all in all, there were few lodges who could excel the United Strength in good working, and in truly Masonic feeling. The other visitors spoke to the same effect, and then the W.M. proposed the toast of "The Past Masters," which was acknowledged by Bro. While, who expressed his gratification at having achieved the honour of being enrolled in the ranks which held such worthy brethren as Bros. J. Terry, Davies, Winsland, Crump (the latter the quarter of century Secretary), and he spoke of the warm sympathy which all felt for their Bro. Davies, who had lately lost the partner of his home. The toast of "The Officers," followed, and the high merits of those who filled the various positions were cordially acknowledged. The Tyler's toast ended the festivities in good time.

UNITED PILGRIMS' LODGE (No. 507).—The meeting of the brethren of this lodge for the installation of Worshipful Master was held on Wednesday evening, at the Surrey Masonic Hall. Bro. North Ritherdon, W.M., presided, and after the formal business of the lodge had been transacted, he installed Bro. J. S. Terry, W.M. elect, as Master of the lodge for the ensuing year. The brethren appointed as officers were Bros. Hicklin, S.W.; Barclay, J.W.; J. W. Watts, S.D.; Parsons, S.D.; Marr, I.G.; Lee, P.M., Treas.; Jonas Duckett, P.M., Sec.; Ritherdon, I.P.M.; and Tongue, Tyler. The W.M. immediately proceeded with the work, and initiated Mr. William Henry Beckley and Mr. William Nichols into Freemasonry. His working of the ceremony was perfect, and delivered with fluency which was highly creditable to so young a Mason, it having only been four years since the W.M. was himself initiated. The following brethren were present besides those brethren already named:—Bros. Samuel Haddock, E. N. Levy, P.M.; J. Bradley, George Reeve, S. G. Carr, J. Lenanton, Henry Levy, R. G. Cooper, 1329; E. T. Edgington, I.G. 1321; M. S. Larham, W.M. 1539; E. A. Francis, 4, U.S.A.; A. Murray, 860; B. Moss, 218; H. Massey, P.M. 619 ("Freemason"); W. R. Marsh, P.M. 9; G. Simpson, 15; T. W. Clarke, 1348; James Ashton, 1571; and H. A. Woodwell, 193. The work mentioned above was all that was before the lodge, and when it had been executed the brethren closed down

and adjourned to a choice little banquet in the dining hall, where their comforts were admirably looked after by the officers of the lodge, and more especially by Bro. Watts, who undertook for the occasion the whole of the duties of Wine Steward. The banquet having been disposed of, the W.M. proceeded to propose the toasts, and after honouring those of "The Queen and the Craft," "H.R.H. the M.W.G.M.," "The Pro Grand Master and the rest of the Grand Officers," Bro. Ritherdon proposed "The Health of the W.M.," and in doing so, said that he need not sing to his praises, because all the brethren knew what a worthy member of the lodge the W.M. had proved. Ever since he had been in office the W.M. had been a most regular attendant at lodge, and had worked himself up to the position he now held. With what success he had done so the brethren had witnessed that evening, as they had seen him go through the duties of the office he now held with ability, fluency and energy. For the first time he had occupied the chair of W.M. he had performed the ceremony of initiation, which was a feat not frequently attempted; but he had done it, and done it well, and the brethren were proud of him for it. (Cheers). The W.M. in responding said he could not help feeling the toast had been ably proposed, but he felt quite inadequate to respond to it as he ought, it being his first night in the proud position of W.M. He had certainly worked very hard for that distinction, as he wished to qualify himself to do honour to the office. When the brethren next met he hoped he would be able to acquit himself even more to the satisfaction of the lodge than he had that evening, and he trusted that the brethren would support him in his endeavours to conduct the lodge business properly. The W.M., in giving the toast of "The Initiates," said that all the brethren must agree with him that the initiates knew the least of what had taken place that evening, and as initiates usually felt in a very confused state on such an occasion, there was no reason to suspect that Bros. Beckley and Nichols were different to other brethren in the same position. The brethren would consequently make every allowance for them. Addressing the initiates, he said that if they would only look at the ceremony as symbolical they would find that it was only by leading such a life as Masons were bound to lead, that they would become such good and true men as to be fit for admission to any Masonic lodge. Bro. Beckley said he appreciated the ceremony he had gone through, and was much pleased that he had joined the Order. Any shortcomings he must ask the brethren to overlook, but he hoped to be worthy of the lodge's election. Bro. Nichols also replied, but would not venture out of his depth, for it must be remembered that in Masonry he was then only as a child, who could but just crawl or creep along. As far as he had gone the ceremony had made his heart beat; for what had he seen? At present he knew nothing. He knew one or two brethren, but they had told him nothing; and yet he had been received among them to learn by experience the friendship which he conceived made the brethren rally round the W.M. It gave him great pleasure to come among the brethren, and he should feel only too happy to do something more than he had that evening, to learn still further what Masonry was, and to see, he trusted, its beauties. He hoped as long as they were all Freemasons they would be men and act as men to one another. (Hear, hear.) The W.M., in proposing "The Health of the Visitors," said the brethren of the lodge, as well as himself, were always glad to see visitors, and when the visitors came the brethren endeavoured to make them as comfortable as they possibly could be anywhere. By entertaining visitors they exhibited one of the leading principles of Freemasonry. Bro. R. W. Marsh replied. For the last ten years he had from time to time visited the Lodge of United Pilgrims. Ten years ago it presented, as far as members were concerned, a very different appearance to what it did now. He remembered too an honoured name, that of Bro. Thomas, who had done so much in his time for the lodge, and whose name was a household word in Freemasonry. He knew of no man who had worked more in his day for Freemasonry than that brother, and it pleased him exceedingly, although the United Pilgrims had removed to the beautiful Surrey Masonic Hall to find that Bro. Thomas's portrait was hung up in the room. The lodge was not so numerous now as it was in Bro. Thomas's days, but he was happy to find that there were brethren in it who would take the mantle which had fallen from his shoulders, and make the lodge what it had long been—illustrious among the Craft. As to the W.M. saying he felt awkward in his new position, he thought this was not quite correct, for, from what they had seen, they were also to say he had conducted the lodge business not only with energy and spirit, but had brought to bear in his task a knowledge of Masonic working which was an excellent example to all brethren who witnessed it. He had seldom seen a W.M. or a body of officers perform their duties so well on the first night, and this was true of them not only in lodge, but also at the banquet table. In the lodge they were well up to their work, and at the banquet table the S.D. especially had been most energetic. Bro. Marsh then addressed himself to the subject of Freemasonry, which he said tended to make men better brothers, husbands, fathers, friends and in every relation of life better men. He exhorted the initiates to pay attention to the principles it taught, and directed their notice to the great principle of charity which it practically exemplified by having three grand institutions for the support of which he begged the United Pilgrims' Lodge to lend a hand. The W.M. next gave the toast of "The P.M.'s," without whose help the lodge would fall to the ground. They were, in fact, the Attorney-General and legal advisers of the W.M., who was always ready to avail himself of their assistance. Bro. Ritherdon, replying, said he was now among the Conscript Fathers of the lodge. During his year he had not had much to do, but he knew the cause of the brethren keeping their candidates back was that they might escape tavern influence. The Surrey Masonic

Hall, which was a beautiful building, adapted and furnished in every respect for Freemasonry, being now their home, the brethren would introduce their friends to the United Pilgrims' Lodge, and the first impressions of Freemasonry they would receive, which were always the most important, would be favourable. Properly conducted, in a proper building, the ceremonies impressed candidates with the dignity and importance of Freemasonry, and they felt their own responsibility in taking upon themselves its principles. Bros. E. N. Levy, Jonas Duckett, Lee, and Haddock also replied, as did also Bros. Hicklin, Duckett, and Watts for "The Officers," after which the brethren separated, a delightful evening having been spent.

MARQUIS OF DALHOUSIE LODGE (No. 1159).—The ordinary meeting of this lodge was held at Freemasons' Hall on Monday, when Bro. Chpenson was raised and Bro. Wintle passed. The accounts of the lodge for the past year were audited. Bro. P. L. Simmonds, P.M. 141 and 554, was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing year. Bro. H. T. Wood was elected Treasurer in the place of Bro. Besant, resigned, and a Past Master's jewel voted to Bro. Wood, the retiring Master, for his efficient services to the lodge during his year of office.

GRANITE LODGE (No. 1328).—The members of this lodge assembled at the Freemasons' Hall on Saturday, the 12th inst., at five o'clock, when, in consequence of the absence of Bro. W. H. Muggeridge, W.M., from illness, Bro. Jno. Oliver, I.P.M., assumed the responsibilities of the chair. The officers present were Bros. F. West, jun., S.W.; R. C. Mount, J.W.; Geo. Hackford, Treas.; James Lewis Thomas, Sec.; R. Payne, S.D.; Frederick Kirk, D.C.; and J. Oswald Gardner, Steward. There were also present about forty of the brethren, and six visitors only. The business consisted of raising to the Sublime Degree of M.M. Bro. A. C. Shelley, which ceremony was performed by the I.P.M. in most solemn and eloquent terms, and with an impressiveness which apparently riveted the close attention of one and all present. After performing the most solemn obligation of his office, Bro. Oliver's eloquence was again called into requisition in passing Bros. E. Jenkin Jones, J. B. Lee, Egerton J. Pain, and George Henry Chapman, and here again this ceremony was of a piece with the former in its solemnity. But it might as well be mentioned at once that Bro. Oliver performs other offices besides that of P.W.M. He is a perfect masculine Ceres, if such a term can be innocently applied to him, for he is constantly sowing the seeds of Masonic poverty, which fructify in a marvellously short time, and in return for his labours, a rich golden harvest rewards his benevolent efforts. By his exertions already the coffers of the Boys' and Girls' School have been augmented, and on Saturday it was announced, amidst applause, that Bro. Oliver would represent the lodge as Steward for the Boys' School at the festival in June; whereupon, the lodge, with true Masonic spontaneity voted the sum of twenty guineas to be placed on his list. It was likewise announced that the W.M., Bro. Muggeridge, would represent the lodge at the approaching festival of the Girls' School, and notice was given that the lodge would be asked to vote a similar amount for his list. The names of the visitors were Bros. M. S. Larham, W.M. Surrey Masonic Hall Lodge; Albert Martin, Surrey Masonic Hall Lodge; J. Middlemas, Leigh Lodge; F. Binckes, Grand Stewards' Lodge; F. J. Harvey, Royal Jubilee Lodge, and W. Mann, Industry Lodge. There being no further business, the lodge was closed in peace and harmony, and the brethren adjourned to the Freemasons' Tavern, where a quasi-banquet awaited the coming of the hungry ones, after doing justice to which a most pleasing evening, spent with usual Masonic conviviality, closed the proceedings.

METROPOLITAN LODGE (No. 1507).—This lodge met on the 16th inst., at its usual quarters, 259, Pentonville Road. As usual the lodge was very fully attended, there being altogether present eleven officers, eleven visitors, and forty-six lay members. Bro. J. J. Michael, W.M., presided, supported by Bros. J. Willing, I.P.M.; Williams, S.W.; Kingham, J.W.; Rose, Treas.; Tims, P.M. Sec.; Douglas S.D.; Scales, J.D.; Side, I.G.; and Stiles, Assist. Sec. The ceremonies, which were most impressively rendered, were raising Bros. Baddeley, Owens, Morgan, Raney, G. Clark, and Greenshade; and passing Bros. Hewison, E. Van Camp, Brooker, Iriuth, and Bosshart. For the first time in the history of the lodge there was no initiation this evening, and the brethren immediately proceeded to the election of a W.M. for the ensuing year. Bro. T. Williams, S.W., was unanimously chosen; Bro. Rose was unanimously re-elected Treasurer, and Bro. Daly, Tyler. The W.M., Officers and Bros. Saintsbury, Child and Cheek were appointed Auditors. The lodge agreed to have a summer festival, ladies to be invited. Windsor or some other equally pleasant river-side place was suggested, but left to a committee of officers, with Bros. Cheek, Clarke, Rapkin, &c., to select place and make arrangements. A jewel of the value of £10 10s. was voted to the W.M., Bro. Michael, for zeal and ability displayed during his year of office. The lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to banquet. The usual loyal toasts having been duly given and cordially received, Bro. Willing, I.P.M., said a pleasing duty devolved upon him for the last time (the next regular meeting being the installation) of proposing "The Health of the W.M." He congratulated the brethren upon the prosperity and good working of the lodge as developed by the retiring W.M., who had spared no pains to make himself thoroughly master of the working and ceremony of the lodge. He had ever been constant in attendance, refuse in liberality, kind and courteous to his officers and brethren, and second to none in endeavouring to promote the happiness of the brethren and welfare of the lodge. He was now about to pass from them as Master, but would ever be remembered by every brother with affection and esteem, and no Mason leaving the chair as Bro. Michael was now

about to do, he having endeared himself to all, could help feeling what a glorious institution Freemasonry was, how the kindly feelings of human nature were aroused, and what a proud position it was to be W.M. of such a happy lodge. The toast was enthusiastically received, and the W.M., in a short but most effective reply, said the brethren paid him more honour than he felt he deserved (no, no), but his best services were always at their disposal, as well as any information that he might possess. He certainly had had a laborious year of office, having had so many new members enter the lodge, but the knowledge that what he was doing was making them better citizens, and promulgating glorious principles, rendered his labour sweet. He could not leave the chair without expressing his gratitude to the I.P.M., Bro. Willing, for his able assistance; to his officers for the hearty support he had received from them; and to the brethren generally for their attendance, attention, and interest taken in the lodge. He left them in love and peace with every brother, and a hope to meet them many, many years to come under as happy auspices. The toasts of "The I.P.M.," Bro. Willing, "W.M. elect, Bro. Williams," "The Visitors," "Officers," and "Tyler" were respectively given before the brethren separated. The following visitors were present:—Bros. W. Carnock, 1216; J. Millis, P.M. 157; H. Lewis, 1425; W. Yeats, 907; T. Walton, S.W. 157; E. Warrington, W.M. 890; L. Vamburger, 1366; W. Snelling, 180; A. W. Fenner, 1227; J. Wharton, Sec. 1366; and H. Levy, 188.

NEW CROSS LODGE (No. 1559).—On Thursday, March 16th, this recently consecrated lodge held its first emergency meeting at the New Cross Hall, Lewisham High Road. There was a full muster of the brethren. At request of the W.M., Bro. H. Keeble, P.M. 1275, Sec., opened the lodge, and passed Bros. Solomon Jewell, Hiram Henton, William Smurthwaite, James Moss, and Samuel Husbands Beckles to the Second Degree, and it is needless to say the work was done in a most efficient manner. The W.M., Bro. W. B. Woodman, then assumed the chair, and Mr. Ernest Edward Smith, a candidate for Freemasonry (proposed by Bro. Keeble, P.M., Sec., and seconded by Bro. F. Walters, P.P.G.P. Middlesex, Treas.), being in attendance, was initiated into the mysteries of the Craft by the W.M. The lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to refreshment. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and responded to with Masonic honours, the W.M. replying at some length. The toast of "The Initiate," given by the W.M., was duly replied to by Bro. Ernest Smith; the toast of "The Officers of the Lodge" being responded to individually. The visitor, Bro. McDonald, S.W. 1158, made a capital reply, which was well received, the Tyler's toast closing the proceedings. Several songs by the brethren added considerably to the enjoyment of the meeting.

ST. DUNSTON'S LODGE (No. 1589).—This new lodge held its first regular meeting at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, on the 17th inst. Present: Bros. Dwarber, W.M.; Wellsman, S.W.; Dalwrod, J.W.; Tisley, Sec.; J. H. Dodson, S.D.; H. Turner, J.D.; Woodbridge, I.G.; Williams, and H. Green; Bros. G. H. Mason, of 65; H. Turner, of 55; and H. W. Foster, of 11, were unanimously elected joining members. Messrs. G. Manners, J. J. Bull, G. M. Low, H. J. Shurgood and W. H. Clewmore were initiated into the Order. After the conclusion of business, the brethren adjourned to the banquet hall, where an excellent repast was provided. The following brethren honoured the lodge by visiting it:—Bros. S. Poynter, P.M. 902 and 1491; G. J. Palmer, P.M., I.G. 11; A. F. Littell, P.M. 160; Johnson, 1423; F. H. Fowler, 207; Owen Low, 257; Dr. Dunn, 34; H. F. Cox, 1319; E. Swanborough, 1319; A. Swanborough, 1319; and C. H. Woolwich, 1319.

WOOLWICH.—Union Waterloo Lodge (No. 13).—The monthly meeting of this lodge was held on Wednesday, the 8th inst., at the Masonic Hall, Woolwich, the W.M., Bro. T. J. Carwelly, in the chair, supported by the following officers:—Bros. G. B. Davies, P.M.; B. Picking, P.M.; F. G. Pownall, S.W.; G. W. Reed, J.W.; J. Henderson, P.M. and Treas.; H. S. Syer, Sec.; J. P. Moore, S.D.; T. Hutton, J.D.; N. Brown, I.G.; B. Norman, Tyler. Among the visitors were Dr. J. Baxter Langley, W.M. 1423; C. Beard, 700; H. Shaw, 700; C. Sweeny, 700; T. McKnight, 700 and 1536; H. J. Weston, 1536; and T. Cavey, 1472. The minutes and accounts having been duly read and passed, Messrs. H. Wells, D. T. Morley, W. Macdaniel, and G. H. Baker were unanimously elected. All being present, were duly initiated, and Bro. H. Robus, of the Upton Lodge, No. 1227, was passed to the Second Degree; and Bro. W. W. Prophet was raised to the Third Degree, the whole of the ceremonies being most efficiently worked by the W.M. The lodge was closed, and the brethren and visitors (excepting Dr. J. Baxter Langley, W.M. 1423, who had to leave for London) adjourned for refreshment. The W.M. proposed the usual loyal and Masonic toasts, and the brethren responded most heartily. His own health, proposed by P.M. Davies, was drunk most enthusiastically. On that of "The Visitors" being proposed, Bros. McKnight, of the Nelson and United Military, and C. Beard, of the Nelson, with whose names the toast was coupled, thanked the W.M. and brethren for the kind reception the visitors received upon all occasions, and the manner the degrees had been worked by the W.M. and the officers generally made the visit a real pleasure: "The Initiates" were next toasted, and Bro. Macdaniel made a very pleasing reply. The Past Masters' toast was very suitably replied to by Bro. G. B. Davies. The next toast was that of "The Officers of the Lodge," and was very ably replied to by Bro. F. G. Pownall, S.W., and the Tyler's toast concluded the pleasures of the evening.

NORWICH.—Union Lodge (No. 52).—The Provincial Grand Lodge of Norfolk, with the Right Worshipful the Grand Master, Col. the Hon. J. Walpole, M.P.,

attended the monthly meeting of the oldest lodge in the province—the Union—on Tuesday evening, the 7th inst. There was a very numerous attendance, the lodge-room (Norfolk Hotel) being filled. The W.M., Bro. G. B. Kennett, presided, with Bros. Major Penrice, S.W. (acting for Bro. W. A. Tyssen-Amherst), and E. M. B. Lacon, J.W. The W.M. initiated C. R. Gilman, Esq., and T. Watson, Esq., and also passed Bro. F. A. R. Pemberton. Lodge having been opened in the Third Degree, Major Penrice then took the chair, and raised Bros. Kingston Stracey, Wm. Shacklady, and Dawson Paul to the Sublime Degree of Master Masons, performing this important duty in the most impressive manner. The W.M. then resumed the chair, and the lodge was closed down to the First Degree, when the Worshipful Prov. G. Master feelingly alluded to the loss the province has sustained by the death of the Prov. Grand Treasurer, Bro. J. Barwell, who for very many years had occupied that position, and throughout a long and honourable life had evinced the warmest interest in the welfare and prosperity of the Craft. He concluded by proposing, in suitable terms, the following resolution of condolence:—"That this lodge desires to express to Mrs. Barwell its heartfelt sympathy with her and her family on the death of Bro. the late Very Worshipful the Provincial Grand Treasurer, who was initiated 25th January, 1820; was Worshipful Master of this lodge in 1829 and 1834; took the degree of Royal Arch, June, 1820; Knight Templar, September, 1820; Mark Mason, 1821; was Provincial Grand Secretary for several years; and was elected Provincial Grand Treasurer in 1856, and held that office until his death; and to record its deep sense of the valuable services rendered to the Craft by that worthy brother, whose whole life was devoted to objects of benevolence and promoting the welfare of his fellow creatures." This was appropriately seconded by the D.P.G.M., Bro. A. M. F. Morgan, and duly carried. On the closing of the lodge the brethren adjourned for refreshment, and two or three most enjoyable hours were passed. There were, of course, the customary Masonic toasts. In proposing "The Prov. Grand Master," the W.M. congratulated Bro. Walpole on having received his appointment from Royal hands, and said that the choice of H.R.H. the Grand Master of All England was extremely gratifying to the Masons of Norfolk. Bro. Walpole had been a most zealous Mason, and had used his utmost exertions to promote the success of the Craft in the province, and Lodge 52 felt it to be a very great honour to be favoured with the first visit of the newly-appointed Grand Master and his officers. The visits of the Grand Master and the Grand Lodge were at all times beneficial to Freemasonry, as it kept them well up to their work. As a proof of the popularity which had attended the accession of Bro. Walpole to the Prov. Grand Chair, he need only refer to the work they had done that evening, and the cry was, "Still they come." But as the lodge was now full a line would have to be drawn. The toast having been drunk with honours, the Prov. Grand Master responded in one of his characteristic speeches. Having congratulated the W.M. on the working of the lodge, he referred to the statement that the lodge was now full, and jocosely remarked that what was wanted in Freemasonry was quality, and not quantity, and this the lodge had. He next made some suitable observations on the present condition of the Craft in the province, and assured the brethren that his efforts would always be directed to the promotion of its welfare, which he had so greatly at heart. He valued everything that tended to that end, and, therefore, congratulated the lodge on the proposed re-opening of the Royal George Chapter, at which he intended to be present. In the course of the evening the W.M. proposed "The Initiates," remarking that they were always pleased to see a new stone laid in the fabric of Freemasonry, and it was an additional pleasure to him to initiate Bro. Gilman because he would henceforth be not only a brother-in-law, but a brother in Masonry. Bro. Tom Watson was also the son of an old and worthy citizen, and it was such men particularly they were glad to see come amongst them to strengthen their ranks. Bro. Gilman briefly responded.

LIVERPOOL.—Ancient Union Lodge (No. 203).—This venerable lodge, which numbers amongst its P.M.'s many worthy names, had another brother placed in its chair for the ensuing year who is likely to add lustre to the roll. The members met on Thursday evening, the 16th inst., for the purpose of assisting at the installation of Bro. J. Winsor, the W.M. elect. The gathering was perhaps the largest seen at any private lodge for many a day, there being about 150 present, and in this large muster there was an evidence of the popularity of the lodge and of its retiring and incoming Masters. The lodge was opened by Bro. E. Johnston, W.M. The minutes having been read and confirmed, Bro. Dr. T. W. Sargeant, P.M., took the chair, and installed Bro. J. Winsor as W.M. in a masterly style. The W.M. subsequently invested the following as his officers:—Bros. E. Johnston, I.P.M.; Julius Frank, S.W.; J. Alston, J.W.; C. Bromley, P.M., Treas. (re-elected); J. Thomas, Sec.; J. Hilton, S.D.; C. Birch, J.D.; J. R. Japha, I.G.; T. W. Sargeant, D.C.; J. P. Bryan, Org.; T. Hatton, S.S.; E. Catrall, J.S.; and P. Ball, Tyler. During the pleasant after-dinner proceedings a handsome Past Master's jewel was presented to Bro. E. Johnston, I.P.M., as a mark of esteem of the brethren of the lodge. The usual toasts were given during the evening, and the manner of their proposal by the W.M. and others was of the most satisfactory kind. A beautifully executed "photo" of the W.M. adorned the menu and toast list, the portrait being the work of Bro. R. Brown, and the card itself the work of Bro. S. Jacobs, 1502. No finer specimen of the combined results of photography and lithography has been seen for a long time. The proceedings were greatly enhanced by the musical efforts of Bros. Queen, Jones, Child, Hobart, Bryan, R. Brown, and others.

WINDSOR.—Etonian Lodge of St. John (No. 209).—The usual monthly meeting was held at the Masonic Hall, Windsor, on Tuesday, the 7th inst. Present: Bros. Deane, W.M.; Canvin, S.W.; Hume, J.W.; Carter, I.P.M., Sec.; Wilson, P.M.; Roberts, S.D.; W. S. Nicholes, I.G.; Pears, S.; Strange, P.M.; P.P.G.D., D.C.; Dixon, P.M., P.G.D.C.; Reid, P.M.; Pullin, P.M.; McIlwham, P.M.; Bryett, P.M.; Stedwell, P.M.; Webster, Hiscock, Legg, Stollery, Cousins, Woods, Blizard, Day, Waterson, Bladen, Terry, Lovegrove, and others. Visitors: Bros. Berry, P.M. 865, Munday, 25; Hopwood, P.M. 141; Tolley, P.M. 771; Terry, 65; Smith, 1221; Lee, 570; Whittaker, 73 (I.C.); Hammond, P.M. 201, 1326 and 1512; Wilkins, 1181; Sharples, 348; Johnson, 771; and others. The chief business of the evening was conferring the benefit of the Third Degree upon Bros. Day, Waterson, and Blizard. The Auditors' report and balance sheet were submitted, which showed that the financial position of the lodge is in a prosperous condition. Bro. H. Briggs, P.M. 865, P.P.G. Reg. Middlesex, was unanimously elected as a joining member. Two candidates for initiation were proposed.

SHEFFIELD.—Royal Brunswick Lodge (No. 296).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held at the Freemasons' Hall, Sheffield, on the evening of Monday, the 13th inst. Bro. Henry Ecroyd, W.M., occupied the chair, and passed Bros. Howell, Tasker, and Bingham to the Fellow Craft Degree. Two propositions were on the circular, and both were duly discussed and carried. The first was in the hands of Bro. Walter Nicholson, J.W., who was ably seconded by Bro. John F. Moss, P.M. It was to the effect that the Royal Brunswick Lodge should take up twenty-five additional shares in the Sheffield Masonic Hall Company, Limited, and thus make up the number of shares held by the lodge to fifty. The second proposition was moved by Bro. P.M. Amison, and seconded by Bro. S. B. Ellis. It was, "That the Royal Brunswick Lodge do subscribe the sum of five guineas towards the formation of a Masonic library for Sheffield." After this amount had been unanimously voted, Bro. Ellis rose and thanked his brethren for their donation. He congratulated them upon the unanimity with which the Library Committee had been supported on all sides, and he read several communications received from distinguished brethren connected with the town and province, who have promised rare and valuable books, as well as pecuniary assistance. Amongst others, he read letters from the R.W. Prov. Grand Master of West Yorks., Bro. Sir Henry Edwards, Bart.; the W. Deputy Prov. Grand Master, Bro. Tew; and from the M.E. Provincial Grand Superintendent of Royal Arch Masons of West Yorks, Bro. Bentley Shaw. The Sheffield Masonic Library has for its President Bro. Past Master Henry Seebohm (30°), F.Z.S., whilst its Hon. Sec. is Bro. Samuel Bramhall Ellis, whose zeal in the cause of the Craft, and of his Sheffield brethren in particular, is well known and appreciated. The more general establishment of Masonic libraries in connection with Masonic lodges and clubs is a thing much to be desired. Sheffield in this matter is setting an example to other Masonic communities which is worthy of especial commendation. Brethren in London and in other parts of the kingdom who possess duplicates of rare editions of books suitable for a Masonic library will, we are sure, gladly forward presentation copies to the Sheffield Committee (addressed to the care of Bro. S. B. Ellis, Brocco Bank, Sheffield), who will take care that the names of the generous donors are duly inscribed in the books so presented. Nothing further offering for the good of Freemasonry in general, or of the Royal Brunswick Lodge of Sheffield in particular, it was closed in due form by Bro. Ecroyd. On this occasion the brethren separated without partaking of the usual supper, owing to the want of suitable accommodation, pending the reconstruction of the Masonic Hall on a greatly extended scale. The work of demolition is now in full progress, and it is hoped that before winter sets in the brethren of Sheffield will be in possession of commodious and well ventilated premises, suited to the wants of the rapidly increasing Masonic community who dwell in that busy hive of industry.

OXFORD.—Churchill Lodge (No. 478).—A meeting of this lodge was held on Monday, 6th inst., for the purpose of electing a Worshipful Master and Treasurer for the ensuing year, and for other business. The present Master, Bro. H. R. Cooper Smith, B.A., of Magdalen College, and Provincial Junior Grand Warden of Oxfordshire, presided, and amongst the brethren present were the Deputy Provincial Grand Master (Bro. R. Bird, M.A., Magdalen College), the P.D. Prov. G. Master (Bro. R. J. Spiers), the Junior Grand Warden of England (Bro. F. P. Morrell, M.A.), the Worshipful Master of the Alfred Lodge (Bro. Jules Buc, M.A.), and Past Masters W. Harrison, M.A., W. Thompson, and Captain Ferrier, R.E. Bro. H. Offley Wakeman, B.A., Fellow of All Souls' College, and Junior Warden of the lodge, was unanimously elected as Worshipful Master, and Bro. F. P. Morrell as Treasurer for the ensuing year. It was agreed that the installation of the new Master and annual festival should take place on the 1st of May. At the close of the proceedings in lodge the brethren supped together.

LEICESTER.—John of Gaunt (No. 523).—This lodge held its regular meeting on Thursday, the 16th inst., at Freemasons' Hall, the W.M., J. T. Thorpe, presiding, supported by S. S. Partridge, I.P.M.; W. T. Rowlett, S.W.; T. A. Wykes, J.W.; R. Taylor, Sec.; W. C. Shout, S.D.; E. Odell, J.D.; J. Young, I.G.; and a number of the lodge members. Amongst the visiting brethren were Bros. T. Worthington, W.M. 50; J. Smith, I.P.M. 279; J. M. McAllister, W.M. 279; R. B. Smith, P.M. 1007 and 1560; R. A. Barber, W.M. 1391; Luke Riley, W.M. 1130; and others. The lodge having been duly opened, and minutes of preceding meeting confirmed, Bro. Henry Eagle was examined

and subsequently passed to the Degree of Fellow Craft. Upon resuming in the 1°, Bro. Partridge, I.P.M., rose, and said it afforded him great pleasure to take this opportunity of presenting to the Hall Library, through the John of Gaunt Lodge, six volumes (bound) of the "Freemason," being the complete series of that very useful record of Masonic events, with the exception of vol. 1, which he had no doubt, some other brother would be able to supply. The W.M. moved that the hearty thanks of the lodge be accorded to Bro. Partridge, for his very generous and most useful gift, which was ably seconded by Bro. Rowlett, S.W., and carried unanimously. In acknowledging the same, Bro. Partridge intimated his intention of presenting a volume of the journal in question annually. Letters of apology for absence having been received from R.W. Bro. Kelly, P.P.G.M.; Bro. Toller, P.M.; and Bro. W. B. Smith, P.M. and Treasurer; and after hearty good wishes from the visiting brethren, the lodge was closed.

RUNCORN.—Ellesmere Lodge (No. 758).—The regular monthly meeting of this lodge was held in the Freemasons' Hall, on Wednesday, March 8th, 1876. It was opened at 6.30 by Bro. E. Aston, W.M., and the following officers and brethren were present:—Bros. J. Warburton, S.W.; W. Wass, J.W.; C. Gerrard, S.D.; J. Coxshill, J.D.; W. Lyon, Treas.; Geo. Moss, Sec.; T. Gregson, Org.; W. Mellor, I.G.; G. Purver, Tyler; R. Rigby, I.P.M.; C. C. Simson, P.M.; J. Fothergill, P.M.; R. Roberts, J. Price, J. L. Jones. Visitors: Bros. J. R. Diggs, W.M. of St. John's, 673. Bros. T. Kingston and Alex. Day having been proposed at a previous meeting as joining members, were balloted for and duly elected. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The lodge being raised to the Second Degree, Bro. James Collier was passed to the Fellow Craft Degree. Mr. John Waterworth being a candidate, was balloted for and unanimously elected. The lodge was lowered, and Mr. J. Waterworth was initiated in the First Degree. The efficient working of the two degrees reflected the highest credit upon the officers. Bro. E. Aston, W.M., proposed, and J. Warburton seconded, that Bro. Jonathan Wilson be received as a joining member. Other important business being done, the lodge closed in harmony, and adjourned to Bro. Wilson's to an excellent banquet, prepared in Bro. Wilson's usual style. A very pleasant evening was spent.

DERBY.—Hartington Lodge (No. 1085).—The monthly meeting of this lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, on Wednesday evening, March 1st. The lodge was opened at 7.30 p.m. Present: Bros. S. Pipes, W.M.; H. T. Bobart, I.P.M.; F. Iliffe, P.M.; W. Heathcote, S.W.; T. Gadsby, J.W.; M. H. Bobart, P.M., Treas.; Geo. Pipes, Sec.; T. Hills, S.D.; J. Heathcote, J.D.; E. Taylor, as I.G.; G. F. Edwards, Org.; T. Sliar, Tyler. Bros. Manton, Rippon, Mills, Whales, Parkins, Hepworth. Visitors: Bros. J. Smith, P.P.J.G.W., P.M. 731; Whittaker, 731; Strafford, 731; Burton, 731; T. Cox, P.G. Treas., P.M. 253 Butel. The minutes of the last lodge were read and confirmed. The ballot was taken for Mr. Geo. Hill, who was duly elected. Mr. J. Parkinson was initiated into the mysteries and privileges of ancient Freemasonry in solemn form by the W.M. Mr. Geo. Johnson was proposed as a candidate for initiation, which concluded the business of the evening. After the lodge was closed the brethren adjourned to the banqueting room, where a substantial supper was provided, after which the usual toasts were given. Bro. G. F. Edwards very ably presided at the pianoforte. Several songs were sung, and a very enjoyable evening was spent.

WEST DERBY.—Pembroke Lodge (No. 1299).—The annual installation meeting of this lodge was held on Thursday, the 16th inst., at Rawlinson's Hotel, West Derby, and the popularity of the W.M. elect (Bro. Richard Bennett) was clearly shown by a larger attendance of influential brethren than at any previous meeting of the "Pembroke." Not only was it the most weighty in Masonic influence, but it was also more numerously attended than we ever remember. Business commenced with the opening of the lodge about three o'clock by Bro. William Jones, W.M., who was supported by Bro. P. Macmurdrow, P.G.S., P.M.; W. Vines, P.M.; J. Sellar, P.M.; R. Bennett, S.W.; G. Aspinall, J.W.; H. Liversage, Treas.; A. E. Kirkpatrick, Sec.; J. Capell, S.D.; W. B. Bennett, J.D.; J. Holme, I.G.; W. Hiles, S.; T. B. Bramhan, S.; and Robinson, Tyler. The attendance numbered altogether between seventy and eighty, and amongst the prominent visitors were Bros. H. S. Alpass, P.G. Sec.; J. Lunt, P.G.D.C.; J. Skeaf, P.G.O.; C. Copeman, 786; G. Welsby, 786; T. Fozzard, P.M. 1035; W. G. Veale, Org. 1356, &c.; E. O. C. Rothwell, P.M. 1356; W. J. Lunt, P.M. 823; S. Milikin, 823; W. Thomason, J.D. 1182; R. Jones, P.M. 220; J. Hayes, P.M. 249; R. C. Yelland, W.M. 1094; G. Fowler, 216; J. Bushfield, 216; Parker, Sec. 1547; and others. After the transaction of some routine business, Bro. R. Bennett was installed as W.M. by Bro. W. Jones, his immediate predecessor in the chair; and the following brethren were invested as the officers for the ensuing year:—Bros. W. Jones, I.P.M. and Treas.; W. Vines, P.M., D.C.; G. Aspinall, S.W.; J. Capell, J.W.; J. H. Townley, Sec.; A. S. Howarth, S.D.; J. Holmes, J.D.; F. Bramham, I.G.; T. B. Griffin, S.S.; Fisher, J.S. (hy proxy); and J. Robinson, Tyler. At the conclusion of the ceremony, which was admirably performed by Bro. Jones, "hearty good wishes" for the new Master's success were expressed by the representatives of more than a dozen lodges. Several applications for relief were responded to by grants from the funds of the lodge, which, according to the balance sheet, are at present in a healthy condition. The brethren subsequently banqueted at the hotel, under the presidency of Bro. R. Bennett, W.M., and during the evening Bro. Wm. Jones, I.P.M., was presented with a very handsome timepiece, bearing the following inscription:—"Presented to Bro. Wm. Jones, P.M., by the Pembroke Lodge, 1299, as a token of esteem. March 16th, 1876."

ECCLES.—Victoria Lodge (No. 1345).—The first regular meeting of this lodge under the presidency of the newly-installed W.M., Bro. Rudman, was held at the Cross Keys Hotel, Eccles, W.L., on Wednesday, the 15th inst., the following officers and brethren being present:—Bros. Rudman, W.M.; Wright, I.P.M.; Lowndes, S.W.; Harper, J.W.; Buxton, P.M., Treas.; Barker, P.M., Sec.; Steel, S.D.; Ainsworth, J.D.; Pearson, I.G.; Gillmar, P.M., P.G.S.D.W.; Macher, Goering, Metcalf, Wilson, Overend, Pendlebury. Visitors: Bros. Menzies, W.M. 792; Diggle, 1134. The lodge having been duly opened, and the minutes of the last meeting read and confirmed, the lodge was opened in the Second and Third Degrees by the W.M. Bro. Ashton was raised to the degree of M.M. by Bro. Wright, I.P.M., in a manner that called forth praise from every one present. The W.M. then assumed the chair, and the lodge was closed down in regular form, and the brethren spent a pleasant and enjoyable evening.

BIRMINGHAM.—Lodge of Israel (No. 1474).—The installation meeting of this lodge was held on Monday, at the Masonic Hall, Birmingham (Old Synagogue). There was a very large attendance of brethren, including the Very W.D.P.G.M. of Warwickshire, Lieut. Colonel Machin, and most of the P.G. Officers, and a long list of P.M.'s. Bro. Pursall, P.P.G.S.W., who 16 years ago initiated Bro. Lyon, S.W., in the same lodge-room, now installed him in his usual splendid manner. The following brethren were appointed to office:—Bros. J. Silverston, S.W.; B. Lazarus (President of the Benevolent Fund), J.W.; J. Myers, Treas.; J. G. Emanuel, B.A., Chaplain; D. Lavenstein, Sec.; W. Harris, S.D.; P. Roberts, J.D.; Wood, I.G.; G. Baker, sen. P.M., D.C.; E. Marks, A.D.C.; A. Vigers, Organist; A. Silverston and D. Lawrence, Stewards. The W.M. then rose, and addressing Bro. P. M. Davis, said: "Having been placed in the position of Master of this lodge it falls to my lot to have to discharge a very pleasant duty, and I feel proud to discharge that duty in the presence of so many distinguished Masons and your fellow townsmen. The duty I allude to is that in the name of the lodge of presenting you with a P.M. jewel, in token of the regard, esteem, and admiration in which you are held by every member of the lodge. Our worthy Treasurer, who ever has a care for the funds of the lodge, has asked for a very modest sum, but many of the brethren, in order to show their gratitude to a Master who has so faithfully served this lodge for two years, have privately subscribed in order to render this jewel worthy of your acceptance. The jewel, which was set with diamonds value 50 guineas, bears the following inscription:—"A mark of esteem and regard to Bro. Davis from the brethren of the Israel Lodge, No. 1474, on retiring from the chair which was worthily occupied by him for the first two years of the lodge's existence. March 13th, 1876." In placing this jewel on your breast I have every confidence in knowing you will feel as much pride in wearing it as I have in the name of the lodge in presenting it to you, and hope it will be treasured in your family as an heirloom, not for its intrinsic value, but when you have gone to that Grand Lodge above your children will look at it with feelings of satisfaction and pride that they had a father who was held in such high estimation amongst the Masonic brethren with whom it was his lot to associate. The W.M. then shook him by the hand, placed the jewel on his breast, and said: "I congratulate you, and may the Great Architect of the Universe give you a long and happy life to wear this jewel. Bro. P. M. Davis, who was much affected, very feelingly thanked the W.M. for the flattering manner he had spoken of him for what he had felt a pleasure in doing for the lodge; he also thanked the brethren for their very handsome present, assuring them that the jewel would be highly prized by him as long as he lived. The W.M. then received the many congratulations from the Masters of the other lodges present, and closed the lodge, but not before many propositions of new members to commemorate his installation. The W.M. also presented the lodge with three handsome silver inlaid mallets, having on a former occasion given a very magnificent bible. The brethren then adjourned to the newly-decorated banquet-room, where a grand banquet was served. The W.M. gave the usual loyal and Masonic toasts in a very efficient manner. Bro. I. G. Emanuel, B.A., proposed "The Visitors," Bro. J. Silverston, S.W., proposed "The W.M.," who, in a very suitable and feeling manner, responded. Bro. B. Lazarus, in his usual humorous and witty way, proposed "The I.P.M.," who responded, and proposed "Success to the Benevolent Fund."

TWICKENHAM.—Francis Burdett Lodge (No. 1503).—This lodge held its last regular meeting on the 8th inst., at the Albany Hotel. Present: Bros. W. Wigginton, P.M., P.P.G.D.C. of Worcestershire, P.G.S. of Middlesex, W.M.; Saunders, S.W.; Tomlinson, P.M., P.P.G.S.D. of Norfolk, J. W.; C. Horsley, P.M., P.P.G.R. of Middlesex, acting I.P.M.; Knaggs, Treas., S.D.; N. Court, senior, Secretary; Taylor, J.D.; Court, jun., acting I.G.; Rogers, S.; Palmer, W.S.; Sugg, A.O. The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed the W.M. proceeded to initiate Mr. Benjamin Alfred Corber. The W.M. then gave the First Lecture on the Tracing Board with excellent effect, and at its conclusion, upon the motion of Bro. Horsley, P.M., the lodge unanimously passed a vote of thanks to the W.M., which was ordered to be entered on the minutes. The S.W. then proposed, which was seconded by the Treasurer, "That from the 10th of May, 1876, alteration be made in bye-law 14, substituting £2 2s. for £1 1s. (annual subscription)." This proposition called forth considerable discussion. The motion was carried. Two other propositions followed, viz., "That from the aforesaid date alteration be made in Bye-law 10, substituting £7 7s. for £5 5s. (initiation fee); and alteration be made in Bye-law 12, substituting £5 5s for £2 2s. (joining fee)." These resolutions were passed. It was decided that the W.M. should represent the lodge as Steward for the Girls'

School this year, and that the sum of £10 10s. from the lodge, in compliance with the bye-law 22, should head his list. The brethren adjourned to an excellent collation. Amongst the visitors were Bros. Stebbing, 26; Corben, 172; Wix, 735; Edwards, St. Mark's; Maskell 1236. Upon the removal of the cloth, the W.M. stated that as the hour was so far advanced, he was necessarily compelled to be very brief in introducing the various toasts, but he felt sure that, notwithstanding this brevity, they would be received by the brethren with none the less enthusiasm. He then gave "The Queen and Craft, and the M.W.G.M. H.R.H. the Prince of Wales." These toasts were duly honoured, and Bros. Wall and Saunders contributed verses of the "National Anthem," and "God Bless the Prince of Wales." "The Health of the Pro G.M., and the D.G.M. and the rest of the Grand Officers, Past and Present" followed, and was heartily drunk. In proposing "The Health of R.W. the P.G.M. of Middlesex" the W.M. mentioned the great interest which Bro. Colonel Burdett manifested in the welfare of every lodge within his jurisdiction, and he felt sure that there was not a more zealous, popular, and energetic Provincial Grand Master in England than their worthy and esteemed R.W. This toast was most enthusiastically drunk. "The Health of the other Officers of the Province" was proposed and acknowledged by Bro. Horsley, P.M., P.P.G.R., who immediately gave the toast of "The W.M." in well set terms, in which he paid a great compliment to the ability and attention of Bro. Wigginton, which had been manifested, he said, to a remarkable degree throughout the whole career of the Francis Burdett Lodge, and concluded by stating that the more the brethren saw of him the better they liked him. It is needless to say that this toast was most warmly received. The W.M. having briefly replied to this compliment, proposed "The Health of the Initiate, Bro. Corben," which was duly honoured, and previously to its being acknowledged by the newly made brother, P.M. Horsley contributed the E.A.'s song. In giving "The Health of the Visitors," the W.M. expressed the pleasure he experienced that evening at being in a position to entertain, amongst others, two brethren from New Zealand, namely, Bros. Vix and Maskell, and he was sorry that time prevented him from doing more justice to the toast, but he hoped that this first visit of these brethren in particular to the Francis Burdett Lodge had been in every way agreeable to them. This toast having been duly honoured, was responded to by Bros. Vix and Maskell, in which they expressed how gratified they felt at the kind manner in which they had been received, and how impressed they were with the excellent working of the W.M. and his officers, and that they should carry back with them to New Zealand a very pleasant recollection of their first visit to the Francis Burdett Lodge. The W.M. then proposed "The Health of the Officers of the Lodge," coupled with the names of Bros. Saunders, Tomlinson, and Knaggs. In his speech he particularly mentioned the names and services of the first mentioned brother, who, he said, notwithstanding he had been resident in France some time, never missed an opportunity of being present at their meetings. Bros. Saunders, Tomlinson and Knaggs briefly replied, and the former said that although crossing the Channel at this time of year was not particularly pleasant, yet as long as he occupied any position in Masonry he should consider he was only discharging his duty by making every personal sacrifice in order to be in his place. Between the toasts Bros. Saunders, Knaggs, Sugg, Wix and Walls vocally and instrumentally amused the brethren.

LEICESTER.—Albert Edward Lodge (No. 1560).—The regular monthly meeting of this lodge took place at Freemasons' Hall, Leicester, on Tuesday, the 14th inst., when there were present, amongst others, R.W. Bros. W. Kelly, P. Prov. G.M.; G. Toller, jun., I.P.M.; as W.M.; Clement Stretton, P.M., as I.P.M.; S. S. Partridge, P.M., as S.W.; Dr. Hunt, J.W.; C. Stretton, as S.D.; Capt. Goodchild, as J.D.; Dr. Buck, I.G.; J. M. M'Allister, W.M. 279; E. Mason, S.W. 1391; and several others. Bro. the Rev. C. H. Wood was passed to the Degree of F.C. by the acting W.M., and the Lecture on the Tracing Board was given by Bro. Partridge. After the discussion of some matters of business, the lodge was closed in harmony.

MORECAMBE.—Morecambe Lodge (No. 1561).—This lodge, which has hitherto met in a temporary lodge-room at the North Western Hotel, has now secured permanent accommodation in the board-room belonging to the Morecambe Board of Health, and where in future its meetings will be held. The first meeting in the new lodge-room took place on the 4th inst, the chair of K.S. being occupied by Bro. J. D. Moore, P.G.S.B. England, the W.M., Bro. H. Longman (W.M. 1051), occupying the I.P.M.'s chair. There were several of the brethren present from Lancaster, including Bros. J. L. Bradshaw (P.M. 1051), W. Warbrick, J. J. Crossbell, R. Stanton, and J. Atkinson (281), F. Dale (J.W.), R. Wolfenden (Sec.), R. Hartley and D. Greenwood (1353), and Capt. Chenoweth. The lodge was opened with solemn prayer in the First Degree, and afterwards raised to the Second and Third, when Bros. Poole and Bingham, having given proficiency as Fellow Craftsmen, were raised to the Sublime Degree of M.M., the working in the degree being efficiently performed by the W.M. and Bro. H. Longman. The lodge was then closed down to the First Degree, when Mr. William Stephenson was initiated into the mysteries of Masonry. Four candidates were proposed for initiation, and hearty good wishes having been tendered by the visitors, and acknowledged from the chair, the lodge was closed in solemn form. The brethren and visitors then adjourned to the house of Bro. T. Longmire, the West View Hotel, and sat down to an excellent supper, Bro. J. D. Moore (P.G.S.B. England) presiding, supported by Bro. N. Duff (S.W.). On the conclusion of the repast a few toasts were given and responded to, the Chairman

in the course of his remarks congratulating the brethren on the evident progress which the lodge was making in point of numbers, and urged upon the officers the desirability of attending lodges of instruction, with a view to their attaining proficiency in their duties and in the working of the lodge. A very pleasant evening was spent, the brethren separating at a reasonable hour.

Royal Arch.

NORWICH.—Royal George Chapter (No. 52).—After having been in abeyance for a quarter of a century the Royal George Chapter, connected with Union Lodge, No. 52, which was established at the beginning of this century, was re-opened on Friday 10th inst., the Grand Chapter having given its sanction to the proceeding. The chairs were filled by Comps. Col. L'Estrange, Z.; J. Dunford, H.; and A. M. F. Morgan, Dep. Prov. G.M., J.; H. Mason, was P.S.; J. Hotblack, E.; and Shepherd Smith, N. Among those present were Comps. Lieut.-Col. Daff, E. Baldwin, P.Z. 40; Dudley Stacey, Drinkwater, J. Stanley, J. Stanley, jun., J. Marshall, and others. The following candidates were exalted to the Supreme Degree of the Holy Royal Arch of Israel:—Bros. H. Barwell, Prov. G. Sec.; G. B. Kennett, W.M.; Col. Bignold, E. M. B. Lacon, Rev. Walde Cholmeley, R. Kerrison, G. Buxton, E. P. Youell, 100; J. B. Aldis, and A. H. Santy. On the close of the chapter the companions sat down to refreshment, when the toasts were given. The Dep. Prov. G.M. in the course of the evening congratulated the members of the Union Lodge present on the re-opening of the chapter. During the time that he was the Master of the lodge he made a strong effort to bring this about, and subsequently several times urged it upon the late Prov. G.M., but without success. It had, however, fallen to the lot of Comp. Kennett to see this accomplished, and he trusted that in future the chapter would periodically be held.

WARRINGTON.—Chapter of Elias Ashmole (No. 148).—The annual convocation of this chapter took place at the chapter-rooms on Monday, 13th inst., at four o'clock in the afternoon. The chapter was opened by the Principals, M.E. Comps. W. S. Hawkins, Z.; W. Sharp, H.; P. G. Edelman, J., assisted by E. Comps. J. Bowes, P.Z., &c.; D. W. Finney, P.Z., &c.; and W. Mossop, P.Z., &c.; when the rest of the companions were admitted, amongst whom were Comps. C. Crosier, E.; Auckland, N.; Brierly, P.S.; J. W. Thorp, Sec; Wilson, W. Woods, Thos. Tunstall, J. R. Young, W. Galloway, Jas. Jackson, Rose, Chas. Sutton, T. Pierpoint, and a visitor from South Australia. The minutes were read and confirmed, and the Auditor's report presented and passed. The M.E.Z. announced that the next business was the installation of the Principals elect for the ensuing year, and he had pleasure in calling upon their senior member, as well as Senior P.Z., E. Comp. John Bowes, P.Z., P. Prov. G.S.B., to perform the ceremony. The companions below the rank of Installed First Principals then withdrew, and a conclave was opened, and the newly-elected Principals duly installed and invested in their respective offices. The conclave being closed, the companions were re-admitted, and the new Principals were greeted and proclaimed. The other officers were then invested, and after a cordial vote of thanks to the Installing Principal and a proposition, the chapter was closed, and the companions adjourned to refreshment, under the presidency of the M.E.Z., Comp. W. Sharp, and a very enjoyable evening was spent.

BARNSTAPLE.—Chapter of Loyalty and Virtue (No. 251).—A quarterly meeting of this chapter was held at the Masonic Hall, Barnstaple, on Wednesday, 15th inst. The Principals were J. Hancock, Z.; W. Britton, H.; and J. T. Shapland, J. A goodly number of companions attended, and Bro. Robert Paul Morrison, of Lodge 251, was exalted. The Treasurer presented his last year's accounts, which showed that this old chapter was in a very flourishing state, and it was closed at nine o'clock.

BEDFORD.—Stuart Chapter (No. 540).—The first meeting (since the consecration) of the above chapter was held on Tuesday, the 14th inst., when there were present, (with the exception of Captain F. C. Polhill Turner, M.P., absent on his parliamentary duties) all the officers of the chapter—Comps. Col. Stuart, M.E.Z.; J. R. Bull, H.; and Cookson, J.; Rev. Wm. Tebbis, Chaplain; Captain Colburn, E.; Trapp, Treasurer; Cuthbert, P.Z.; Captain Green, and Fisher, A.S.; and many companions. Visiting companions were Barfield, P.Z., and Read, P.Z., of Mount Sinai, and Campion, of Northampton. A great deal of work was done, including the exaltation of five companions—Nash, Capt. G. P. Nash, Billson, Richardson, and Reynolds (Janitor). Sir John Montague Burgoyne, Bart., of Sutton Park, was balloted for, but not exalted, because of illness. The working elicited expressions of admiration from those companions who, having been present at the consecration, and coming from town to assist (if necessary) the officers of the young chapter, found to their astonishment that so great had been the diligence displayed during their brief term of office, that their services were well-nigh unneeded. It is, however, hardly necessary to say that their intention of helping if need had been was as gratefully accepted as gracefully tendered. After refreshment the M.E.Z., having given the usual toasts, proposed "The Health of the Newly Exalted Companions," remarking that it had never before happened in his experience, that father and son (Comps. Nash and G. P. Nash) should have been exalted at the same time. "The Health of the Visitors" was then heartily drunk, and feelingly responded to. The brethren then separated delighted with their evening's work, no less than with the promise made that the chapter will be as well worked and rapidly become as important as the Stuart Lodge, to which it is attached.

MANCHESTER.—Derby Chapter (No. 1055).—This chapter held its installation meeting at the

Knowsley Hotel, Cheetham, on Tuesday, the 14th inst., about thirty members and visitors were present. The chapter was opened by Comp. J. West, Z., who, after the minutes had been passed, exalted Bro. J. Brown to the Supreme Degree of a Royal Arch Mason. Comp. James Hall, P.Z., P.G.P.S., then proceeded to instal Comp. Ernest Link, as Z.; Comp. T. H. Glendinning was installed as H. by Comp. J. H. Sillitoe, P.Z. 317, and Comp. E. Ratcliffe, as J., by Comp. Hall. The following officers were duly invested by Comp. Sillitoe:—Comps. Caulder, S.E.; Pollitt, S.N.; E. Pike, P.S.; Romer, 1st A.S.; Steffor, and A.S.; Turner, Treas.; and J. Sly, Janitor. Comp. Hopkins, P.Z., P.G.D.C., acted as Director of Ceremonies throughout the evening. Before closing the chapter the balance sheet was read and passed, and a vote of thanks was proposed, and heartily accorded to Comps. Hall, Sillitoe and Hopkins for their services during the evening. After the chapter was closed, the companions sat down to a very substantial repast, and the evening was most agreeably spent. The loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured, and the toast of the evening, "The Newly Installed Principals" was most enthusiastically drunk, and was ably responded to by Comps. Link, Glendinning and Ratcliffe. The toast of "The Visitors" was as usual most heartily received, and was responded to by Comp. Sillitoe. The last toast was given at 10 o'clock.

Knights Templar.

BOMBAY.—Mount Zion Preceptory.—This preceptory was held on January 7th, at which there were present Em. Sir Knts. W. C. Rowe, E.P.; P. Belleli, C.; A. McKenzie, M.; T. Burdett, A.S.M.; Mitchell, Treas.; H. W. Barrow, Reg.; Barrett, C. of G.; Bro. Seager, G.; Em. Sir Knt. Irvine, hon. member. Members: Sir Knts. B. Robinson, Stead, and others. Visitors: Very Em. Sir Knt. G. S. Judge, P.P., with his P.G. Officers, were admitted under the Arch of Steel. The muster roll having been called, the summons convening the meeting was read. The minutes of the preceptory meeting held on the 5th of November, 1875, were read and confirmed. The minutes of the meeting of the Permanent Committee, held this day, were read and adopted. The Treasurer's accounts up to the 31st December, 1875, had been audited and found correct. The patent of Em. Sir Knt. Judge's appointment as a Knight Commander of the Order of the Temple was read by the Registrar. Em. Sir Knt. Rowe then addressed the preceptory as follows:—Sir Knights, before I deliver over the charge of this preceptory to my worthy and esteemed successor, Sir Knt. Alexander McKenzie, E.P. elect, I think it is nothing but my duty to give an account of my stewardship during the two years I have held the offices of E.P. of Mount Zion Preceptory Knights Templar, and E.P. of Mount Moriah Priory of the Knights of Malta. During the time I have had the honour to rule over this preceptory there have been thirteen meetings of the preceptory and eight worthy companions installed as Knights Templar, viz., Sir Knt. Edward Hewett, manager of the Land and Mortgage Bank, Bombay; Alfred King, chief storekeeper G.I.P. Railway; H. W. Barrow, secretary Town Council, and clerk to the Corporation of the City of Bombay; A. W. Seabrook, Esq., H.M. Bombay Marine; B. Robinson, officer in the Locomotive Department G.I.P. Railway; H. Stead, official liquidator London and Mediterranean Bank; Dr. De Tactiam, surgeon H.M. Indian Army; and F. Turner, government cotton inspector. We have also had five meetings of the Priory, and all these worthy Knights have been installed Knights of Malta, and I am pleased to say all have signed and received their diplomas for both degrees. I have also during my term of office made the necessary alteration to the jewels, clothing, and property of the preceptory, in accordance with new statutes, and paid off all debts and fees that were due or owing from this preceptory when I took over the charge. Although, Sir Knights, our progress has not been rapid, I must certainly congratulate the preceptory on those members who have been added to their number during my term of office, as they are all good staunch members, and will prove worthy of our good old Order. I must, before I proceed to install your E.P. elect, thank those officers who have served under me during the two years I have had the pleasure to rule over this preceptory for the very punctual way they have attended to their duties and the excellent way they have gone through their work when we have been installing members into the degrees, both in the preceptory and priory, which I have had the pleasure to rule for the last two years. With this short account of my stewardship, Sir Knights, I shall now proceed to install your E.P. elect. The Very Em. the Prov. Prior said he must be allowed to state, in justice to the very admirable way in which the preceptory had been conducted during the past two years, that he never saw any preceptory better worked than Mount Zion had been by Em. Sir Knt. Rowe. Not only had he ruled the preceptory within, but he had by his good management relieved it of a load of debt with which it had been oppressed when he took charge of its affairs. He (Very Em. Sir Knt. Judge) begged to propose a vote of thanks to Em. Sir Knt. Rowe for his valuable services to Mount Zion Preceptory. Em. Sir Knt. Mitchell seconded the motion, which was carried. E. Sir Knight Rowe, in acknowledging the compliment, said he had only endeavoured to do his duty while ruling over the preceptory. He certainly felt regret in having to give over charge, but he knew that the worthy Sir Knight who was about to succeed to the command would do at least as well as he Sir Knight Rowe had done. E. Sir Knight Mitchell then presented the E. Preceptor elect, Sir Knight A. McKenzie, for installation. The ceremony of installation was then proceeded with, the Installing Officer being (E. Sir Knight Rowe). Sir Knight A. McKenzie was then duly installed as Preceptor for the ensuing year, and in conclusion Sir Knight McKenzie proposed

that a sword be presented to E. Sir Knight Rowe for his past services, which was seconded and carried by acclamation. E. Sir Knight Rowe then expressed his thanks for the great honour which the Preceptory had resolved to confer on him, and assured the members that the sword would be valued by him more highly than anything else he possessed connected with the Order. He hoped he might be spared to wear it for many years to come, and whenever his services could be of any use he would be always found ready, and at his post, and endeavouring to do his best. E. Sir Knight McKenzie then invested his officers as follows:—Sir Knights H. W. Barrow, C.; B. Robinson, M.; P. Belleli, P.; H. Stead, S.M.; Ems. W. C. Rowe, Reg.; Frater Seager, G. The following Sir Knights were elected to serve on the committee:—Sir Knts. Belleli, R. G. Wakon, and H. Stead. The ballot was then taken for Comp. J. Luhe, residing at Byculla, engineer, G.I.P.R.C., of Chap. Keystone, No. 757, E.C., as a candidate for installation, and the ballot proved clear. A letter was read from the Vice Chancellor of the Order referring to the mode of depositing the arms; also a letter and circular regarding the new statutes. It was then resolved that the terms of the petition already sent home in support of the changes which have been made in the statutes be adhered to, which was approved. Read a letter from Sir Knight Seabrook, requesting to be placed on the absent list, which was recorded. The Registrar reported that R.T. and K.M. certificates had been delivered to the following Sir Knights:—viz., Barrow, Robinson, Turner, Stead, and Dr. De Tatham. The Registrar applied for instructions as to what should be done with nineteen unclaimed certificates, and it was ordered that the certificates in question be placed before the committee, with a request that those of which the owners cannot be found be returned to the V.C. of the Order with an explanation. Those Sir Knights who are residents are to be written to and requested to claim their certificates. The Very E. Pro Prior requested that he might be favoured with a complete list of the members of the preceptory at an early date. The Priory of the Knights of Malta was then opened, and the new E.P. was installed by the retiring E.P., Sir Knight Rowe, and the officers of the priory were invested for the ensuing year. The Sir Knights sat down to a banquet, and a very pleasant evening was spent, many good songs being sung.

Ancient and Accepted Rite.

SHEFFIELD.—Talbot Chapter of Rose Croix.—The Talbot Chapter (No. 15 on the roll of the Ancient and Accepted Rite for England, Wales and the Colonies) held its quarterly chapter in Sheffield on Friday, the 17th inst., under the presidency of the Most Wise Sovereign, Ill. Bro. Henry Seeborn (30°), who was very ably assisted by the Immediate Past M.W.S., Ill. Bro. Collinson, and supported by Ill. Bros. William Henry Brittain, (31°), William Roddewig (30°), Robert Arnison (30°), and Henry John Garnett, all Past Most Wise Sovereigns of the Talbot Chapter. There were also present Ill. Bros. Alexander Hay, First General; Samuel Kelley, 30°; G. W. Hawksley, S. B. Ellis, John Nixon, Geo. Edward Bennett, Henry Ecroyd, Francis Griffith, M.D., Simeon Hayes, William Jervis, T. B. Edwards, John Francis Moss, Walter Charles Smith, W. R. Thomas, M.D., and others. The ballot was taken for Bros. Captain Edward Mills, Adjutant of volunteers, and Hugh Nevill, of Her Majesty's Civil Service, Ceylon, who were accepted as candidates and afterwards perfected according to the peculiarly impressive rites of this most beautiful degree. Apologies for unavoidable absence were received from Ill. Bros. Rev. F. Vernon Russell, Prelate; Henri Emil Voigt (30°), John Denton, Clement Hamill Perrott, and others. A letter was read by the M.W.S. from Ill. Bro. Bentley Shaw (Past M.W.S. of the Talbot Chapter), thanking those of the brethren who went over from Sheffield on Thursday, the 9th inst., to assist at the consecration of the new Rose Croix Chapter in Huddersfield (the Prince of Wales). This being the time to elect a M.W.S. for the ensuing year, Bro. Alexander Hay, First General, was duly proposed, seconded, and balloted for—the ballot being unanimous. Bro. Hay returned thanks for the honour conferred on him, after which the chapter was duly closed. Owing to the alterations going forward at the Masonic Hall, the usual banquet was dispensed with. A cold collation was, however, provided, which was presided over by the M.W.S. It was announced that the Charity Steward, Bro. Arnison, had received a cheque from Ill. Bro. Seeborn for thirty guineas as a donation from the Most Wise Sovereign of the Talbot Chapter to the funds of the Masonic School for Girls. The toast of "The M.P.S.G.G., the Earl of Carnarvon, and the Members of the 33rd, 32nd, and 31st Degrees" was proposed from the chair, and responded to by Ill. Bro. Wm. Henry Brittain, 31°. "The Health of the Most Wise Sovereign of the Talbot Chapter" was proposed by Ill. Bro. Collinson, and responded by Ill. Bro. Seeborn in his usual original and instructive manner.

Red Cross of Constantine.

WEYMOUTH.—Aubrey Conclave (No. 134).—The inauguration of this conclave took place on Monday, the 13th inst., at the Queen's Hotel, Weymouth. The following brethren were duly installed as knights companions of the Order:—Henry Cook, Edward Harding, Charles Palmer Jee, William Butt, Charles Williams, Samuel Gerrard, William Holloway, Thomas Searle Warren, Richard Cole, Archibald Robert Millar. The ceremony was ably and impressively performed by the M.P.S. Captain Barnes, assisted by E.V.E. John Penny. Afterwards the ceremony of consecration was duly and solemnly performed by M.P.S. Captain Barnes, assisted by

E.V.E. John Penny; when the following Sir Knights were appointed to various offices:—Harding, S.G.; Gee, J.G.; Cook, R. and Treas.; Butt, H.P.; Williams, P.; Gerard, O.; Holloway, Std. Bearer; Warren, Ill.; Cole, S. The conclave having been closed in imperial form, the knights adjourned to an excellent banquet provided by Sir Kt. Cook.

Reviews.

"MASONIC MUSIC, &c." By Bro. F. C. ATKINSON, P.P. G.O. West Yorkshire. Weekes & Co., London.

We have received this volume with much pleasure. We have long been of opinion that more use may be made of music in our lodge ceremonies than has been hitherto the case. We therefore gladly welcome all such efforts on the part of our musical brethren to supply us with the "de quoi." Bro. Atkinson seems to have entirely succeeded in his laudable effort, and we heartily commend his musical contribution to the notice of the brethren and the lodges.

"DEBRETT'S PEERAGE, BARONETAGE, AND KNIGHTAGE FOR 1876." Dean & Son.

Very useful and very well arranged is this annual work of reference and information. These are subjects which, if a "fellar" can't understand, he ought to, and we are of opinion that in our body politic such easily understood facts are both needful and important. Nothing is so unfortunate in itself as ignorance of others, who they are, and what they have done, and nothing often so embarrassing us in conversation, and leads to many a regrettable contretemps, as this inexcusable ignorance of the "upper ten thousand." It is needless almost to praise this work, as it is admirably illustrated and printed, and is so indispensably necessary to all who have much correspondence, that we can most cordially commend it to the notice of all our readers.

"DEBRETT'S HOUSE OF COMMONS," and the "JUDICIAL BENCH" for 1876.

Equally important for us is the knowledge of those who form our great "Wittenamogot," or "Talking House," and of those who administer laws often peculiar in their construction and difficult to understand. All Englishmen are proud of their Judicial Bench, as we all still properly believe in the "unsullied purity of the ermine." Despite some most mistaken and unjustifiable attacks recently on a very eminent judge, and his patient conferees, both judges of high repute, attacks which every patriotic Englishman must deplore and resent, the judges of England merit, as they possess, the confidence of all classes, and we all feel equally that to the impartial administration of just laws this country owes no little of its happiness and prosperity, and all of its peace and privilege. Deo et Lege is an axiom full of meaning and power for us all still.

BRO. H.R.H. THE DUKE OF CONNAUGHT AND THE ROSE CROIX.

It may be as well to remind our readers that our Bro. H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught was installed a member of the Rose Croix Degree at a special convocation of the Europa Chapter, held at the Masonic Hall a few days ago. All the members were present on the occasion except two, who were unavoidably prevented from attending by illness. The ceremony was impressively performed by the M.W.S., Captain Gildard, 31°, ably aided by the officers of the chapter, Bros. Morgan, Haynes, Elmes, Preston, Patterson, Hepper, Trenerry, and Henry.

LODGE OF BENEVOLENCE.

The monthly meeting of the Lodge of Benevolence was held on Wednesday evening at Freemasons' Hall. Bro. James Brett, P.G.P., was in the President's chair, Bro. Joseph Smith, P.G.P., in the Senior Vice-President's, and Bro. J. Wright, G.P., in the Junior Vice-President's. The following brethren were also present:—Bros. John Hervey, G.S.; H. G. Buss and A. A. Pendlebury; also Bros. S. Rawson, P.D.G.M. China; Hyde Pullen, P.G.S.B.; James Mason, P.G.S.B.; J. Symonds, P.A.G.D.C.; John Boyd, P.G.P.; C. A. Cottebruge, P.G.P.; Thos. Cubitt, P.G.P.; W. Clifton Crick, W. H. Myers, H. Barlett, S. Poynter, Herbert Dicketts, P.G. Steward; W. Milton, W. Wigginton, W. Mann, M. Suffield, E. Harris, J. Cox, T. Cobu, J. Deboe, Wm. Stephens, J. T. Berry, J. A. Barnard, C. F. Hogard, P. Wagner, S. Mills, Griffiths Smith, E. Budden, M. Chubb, B. Clegg, C. Burmeister, E. H. Stansfield, M. Higgs, J. Carnaby, R. Griggs, E. H. Hongman, E. King, J. J. Barnes, J. Ward, J. Green, C. W. Kent, C. Martin, A. Vanderlyn, E. Palmer, G. Lambert, T. Burt, J. Watts, W. T. Howe, E. P. Albert, A.G.P., W. Levy, and H. Masey ("Freemason").

There were 34 new cases, to which a total grant of £536 was made, after grants of £235 made at former lodge had been confirmed; and after a long sitting the lodge was closed and adjourned.

Notice is given from the Lord Chamberlain's office that her Majesty's birthday will be kept on Saturday, the 27th of May.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.—Chest Preservatives.—At all seasons of the year the rate of mortality from diseases of the lungs is very great. Holloway's Ointment, well rubbed upon the chest, aided by the Pills, arrests all mischief. These cleansing medicaments exercise the most salutary and restorative influence over the entire contents of the pectoral cavity. Air tubes, nerves, blood vessels, and all other tissues feel their wholesomely potent power, more particularly in their thorough purifying both venous and arterial blood, by promoting the free circulation of air. Neither Ointment and Pills contain any noxious ingredient whatever, but their balsamic nature nourishes rather than irritates the system, and kindly subdues all untoward symptoms till all is well once more.—ADVT.

Masonic and General Tidings.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.—We understand that the subject of extending the accommodation of the Girls' School will be again brought up for discussion at the meeting of the General Committee on Thursday, the 30th inst., at 4 p.m.

Bro. Sir John Bennett presided at a Spelling Bee on Tuesday, at the South Norwood Congregational Church, and on Friday evening week at the Camden Road Athenæum.

We regret to hear that Mr. Clifford, of the firm of Messrs. Ritter and Clifford, met with a slight carriage accident a few days since, but which might, however, have been attended with serious consequences. His horse stumbled on the asphalt in King-street, and he was thrown from the carriage. Mr. Clifford has been confined to his house for several days.—"City Press."

BAPTIST TRANSLATORS AND THE PRINCE OF WALES.—During the late visit of the Prince of Wales to Calcutta a presentation of specimens of the Scriptures translated by the Baptist Missionaries, under the auspices of the Bible Translation Society, was made to His Royal Highness. The translations occupied eight volumes, handsomely bound in morocco. The rule having been laid down that the Prince could receive no addresses or deputations in person, except the addresses of municipalities of capital towns, the books were sent through Sir Bartle Frere, who, by command of the Prince, sent a reply, in which he said:—"I am commanded to tell you that they are much appreciated by His Royal Highness, who has desired me to convey to you his very best wishes for the success of the admirable work in which your society has already made so great a progress."

Since her visit to East London the Queen has heard with pleasure that no accident resulting from the crowd was carried to the hospital, that the patients had not suffered from the excitement, and that the little girl to whom Her Majesty spoke was progressing favourably. On Tuesday the boys from Christ's Hospital exhibited their drawings and charts to Her Majesty. The Queen was accompanied by the Princess of Wales, Princess Beatrice, and the young Princes and Princesses of Wales, and the drawings were laid before Her Majesty by each boy separately. The Queen leaves for Germany on the 27th inst.

Bro. Alderman Hadley will preside at the 5th annual festival of the Railway Officers' and Servants' Association, to be held at the City Terminus Hotel on Thursday, the 30th inst.

Bro. Frederick Kent, C.C., has been unanimously elected solicitor to the Municipal Bank.

The Skelmersdale Lodge, 1599, will be consecrated at Masons' Hall Tavern on April 7th. Bros. John Bingemann, W.M. designate; Wm. Henry Marston, S.W. designate; Laker, J.W. designate.

The Ivy Lodge, No. 1441, has, under the sanction of Grand Lodge, been removed to the Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell New Road. The installation meeting will, we understand, be held on Tuesday next, on which occasion Bro. Chas. Smith, P.M. and founder, will act as Installing Officer.

The fifth report of the Royal Commission on Historical Manuscripts has just been published. It is a bulky folio of 656 pages. The work of inspection during the past year has been carried on by Mr. Alfred Horwood, Mr. H. J. Riley, and Mr. J. C. Jeaffreson for England, by Dr. Stuart and Mr. Fraser for Scotland, and by Mr. Gilbert for Ireland. In addition to these, Professor Brewer has continued his examination of the Cecil documents in possession of the Marquis of Salisbury, and Canon Robertson has furnished a report on the MSS. in Canterbury Cathedral. During the year 70 additional collections have been examined, and 60 reports prepared, and since the issue of the Royal warrant in 1869 more than 420 collections of MSS. have been examined. Some of the collections are very rich in historical interest. Among the most so is the Duke of Sutherland's, which he has sent from Trentham to London in order to be examined, and which deals largely with the civil war. The Duke of Marlborough's is said to be of priceless value, but has yet to be reported on. The Marquis of Lansdowne's MSS. are made large use of by his brother, Lord Edmund Fitzmaurice, in his "Life of Lord Shelburne." Mr. Pine Cotton's, at Portledge, North Devon, contain much information about the Duke of Monmouth's rebellion and the bloody assize. The Marquis of Bute's deal with Scotch affairs, early in the 18th century. Some of the small old towns like Dartmouth, Hartland, High Wycombe, New Romney, Kye, and Sandwich possess some interesting documents, so also do some of the colleges. The report is signed by Sir George Jessel, the Marquis of Salisbury, the Earl of Airlie, Lord Edmund Fitzmaurice, the Bishop of Limerick, Lords Talbot de Malahide, Houghton, and Acton, Sir W. S. Maxwell, Sir T. D. Hardy, Lord C. Russell, and Dr. Dasent.

ISLINGTON LODGE OF INSTRUCTION.—The ceremony of consecration and installation will be worked by Bro. James Terry, P.G.D.C. Herts, Secretary to the Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons, in this lodge on Wednesday, the 12th April, at 6.30. Brethren to appear in Craft Masonic costume. This young but useful Lodge of Instruction meets every Wednesday evening, (commencing at seven, and closing at nine), at the Crown and Cushion Hotel, corner of Winchester-street, London Wall, where the ceremonies are worked only, affording an excellent opportunity to those brethren seeking offices in their lodges.

A letter from the Prince of Wales to Lord Northbrook has been officially published at Calcutta, expressing in cordial terms the sincere pleasure which His Royal Highness has derived from his visit to India.

TO OUR READERS.

The *Freemason* is a sixteen-page weekly newspaper, price 2d. It is published every Friday morning, and contains the most important, interesting, and useful information relating to Freemasonry in every degree. Annual subscription in the *United Kingdom*, Post free, 10/-

NEW POSTAL RATES.

Owing to a reduction in the Postal Rates, the publisher is now enabled to send the "*Freemason*" to the following parts abroad for One Year for Twelve Shillings (payable in advance):—Africa, Australia, Bombay, Canada, Cape of Good Hope, Ceylon, China, Constantinople, Demerara, France, Germany, Gibraltar, Jamaica, Malta, Newfoundland, New South Wales, New Zealand, Suez, Trinidad, United States of America, &c.

P.O.O.'s to be made payable at the chief office, London.

COLONIAL AND FOREIGN SUBSCRIBERS

are informed that acknowledgments of remittances received are published in the first number of every month.

NOTICE.—It is very necessary for our friends to advise us of all money orders they remit, more especially those from the United States of America and India; otherwise we cannot tell where to credit them.

TO ADVERTISERS.

The *Freemason* has a large circulation in all parts of the Globe, its advantages as an advertising medium can therefore scarcely be overrated.

For terms, position, &c., apply to

GEORGE KENNING, 198, Fleet-st.

NOW READY.

Reading Covers, to take 52 numbers of the "*Freemason*," price 2/6, may be had at the office, 198, Fleet-street.

Answers to Correspondents.

All Communications, Advertisements, &c., intended for insertion in the Number of the following Saturday, must reach the Office not later than 12 o'clock on Wednesday morning.

ERRATUM.—In the report of the Grand Conclave Red Cross on the 11th inst., for "Capt. Bartlett" read "Capt. Barnes."

NOTICE.—We do not find it necessary to issue a supplement this week.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

[The charge is 2s. 6d. for announcements, not exceeding four lines, under this heading.]

BIRTHS.

WATSON.—On the 20th inst., at Holland-road, W., the wife of Gerald T. Watson, of a son.

ANGUS, Mrs. Joseph, at Eton-villas, Haverstock-hill, March 21st, of a son.

HEATHCOTE, the wife of Lieut.-Col. C. T., Bombay Staff Corps, at Belvedere-road, Upper Norwood, March 20th, of daughter.

MARRIAGE.

VAN DER BYL—MYBURGH.—On the 17th ult., by special licence, at Stellenbosch, Cape of Good Hope, by the Rev. Dr. Faure, assisted by his son, the Rev. Philip Faure, of Claas William, P.G. Van der-Byl, Esq., of 102, Harley-street, London, to Johanna, youngest daughter of the late Ryk Myburgh, Esq., of Elsenuburgh, Cape of Good Hope.

DEATHS.

COBB.—On the 19th inst., Stanley Rhodes, son of R. Cobb, Esq., of Surbiton Lodge, Kingston-on-Thames, aged 10.

DURANT, Lucinda, relict of Mr. George, of Tong Castle, Shropshire, at St. Romans, St. Leonard's-on-Sea, aged 67, March 15th.

The Freemason,

SATURDAY, MAR. 25, 1876.

OUR ROYAL GRAND MASTER'S RETURN.

The "*Times*" informs us that the Serapis arrived at Aden, March 20th, with the Raleigh in company. All are well. Will leave after coaling. The Osborne was sent ahead on the 17th at noon to have all in readiness for her consort. From Bombay it has been very fine weather. The thermometer was 80 deg. in the shade, and the sea quite smooth. The menagerie is quite comfortable. It contains 80 animals of all sorts. The elephants walk about the deck; the deer are very tame, and the tigers are domesticated, though they exhibit tendencies to relapse. Thursday the calm continued, and the temperature was the same. The sea was as smooth as glass; no ships, nor fish, nor birds were to be seen. Friday the sea and temperature remained the same as before. The squadron has been averaging 272 miles in 24 hours. The Osborne ran under the quarter of the Serapis to exhibit her two elephants, which saluted the Prince as she passed ahead. We shall be next hearing of the Prince at Suez and at Malta.

MASONIC OLD WOMEN.

Some people do not like to be called old, and a great many persons we know do not relish being termed "old women." But yet the clearness of truth compels us to say, that old women do exist and are many, and that we meet with them and confront them in various scenes and in different walks of life. To suppose that we can be always young is alas a great fallacy; to believe that youth, with its halcyon smiles, and living hopes, and active hours, is ever to wait upon us here, is but the baseless fabric of a deceiving dream. No, youth has to give way to middle age, and middle age to old age, day-by-day, and the weakness and perversity and querulousness of old age, often seem to tinge with dulness and gloominess, the early promise and the maturer excellence. Old age is then inevitable, and old men and old women have to share with youth the pageant of the hour. But we are talking of old women. They sometimes unpolitely say, that old women, as the young Frenchman once gravely observed, are "de trop," though we protest against any attack on real good old women. But we confess, as we say this, that we have a dreadful souvenir of some Masonic old women who have been a heavy drawback on our lodges, a great stumbling block in the way of Freemasonry, and mournful obstacles to all improvement and progress. As a general rule the Masonic old woman is a brother who has not done a great deal for Freemasonry really and truly, though he thinks he has, and always tells young Masons that "things were better managed in his days." He is very fond of hearing himself talk, and what he says is generally what a reporting brother and friend of ours once ventured to term "didactic twaddle." But where he most distinguishes himself is in his opposition to any movement for improvement, for progress, for light. Is it a library?—"Books are expensive," "Masons have no time for reading," "For his part he does not approve of publication," "Money had better be spent in charity," are the stereotype objections, the stock phrases of fogginess, which fall from the lips of that respectable old woman. Is it a soiree?—"Well, he prefers a lodge meeting, and his pipe and glass of toddy afterwards." "He does not see why brethren are to come in evening dress." "All this chopping and changing don't suit him." "He never remembers such a proposal before," and so he damps the enthusiasm of the ardent, the zeal of the cultured, does this mischievous old woman. Is it the admission of ladies? He is "aghast at the idea. What would Bro. P.M. Popkins have said, or old 'Dont,' or Bro. Jenks, or Bro. somebody else? And the lodge, accustomed to dictation, and Conservative in its respect for years and authority, goes with the old woman, and floors the young man. Now, we have cited no imaginary cases, we have drawn no ideal individual, though without any personal reflection; but all lodges, we fancy, in a greater or lesser degree, are suffering from the infiction and presence of Masonic old women at the present time. Can nothing be done for remonstrant and despondent Masonic youth? Is there no possibility of inducing these worthy and otherwise amiable old women to take a kinder view of things and persons? Alas! we fear not! Such as they are, such they will be to the end of the story, and though the moralist may deprecate, and the cynic may scoff, and the young Mason may cry out, the genus Masonic old woman is very flourishing amongst us, and is not, we fear, for a very long time indeed likely to leave that lodge life of ours, which its presence enfeebles and its perversity mars.

ANTI-MASONIC IMPERTINENCES.

We have been much struck with the tendency of our opponents just now to assail our peaceful and useful Order with a plethora of mingled impertinence and falsehood. Indeed, nothing is too hard or too bad to say of Freemasons, without a shadow of justification, without even the pretence of truth. It is simply, as fast young men say to-day, "calm lying," nothing more and nothing less. These are serious words, and we

are bound to prove them. In the "*Weekly Examiner and Ulster Observer*," sent to us by a kind Hibernian brother, and which is, we may observe, a Roman Catholic paper, of date March 11th, 1876, published at Belfast, two letters are to be read, unsigned, and apparently editorial, judging by their place and type, which constitute in themselves some very impertinent and untruthful charges against Freemasonry and Freemasons in that district. We might, indeed, say to all our brethren there, "*Risum teneatis fratres*;" we might bid them laugh with Archdeacon Denison, "*asbestos geloti*," at such a mixture of balderdash and vulgarity. The weak and foolish person who penned these letters—we have grave doubts of his sanity—makes Freemasonry responsible, in his Ultramontane perspicuity, for recent commercial embarrassments in Belfast, in "flax spinning," principally, as it seems, because the "brethren monopolize one half of the alphabet in mere initial indication of the cacophonous Craft honours." Now this, we beg to observe, is meant for wit and also sarcasm—Ultramontane wit and Ultramontane sarcasm. Well, to say the truth, amid laughter-loving Paddies we never met with a "duller dog" than the writer of these childish invectives, and as for the sarcasm—"Heaven save the mark." If this is all the Ultramontanes can do, they must be in a very bad case, and the Freemasons in Belfast and the district will simply treat such an attack as we do, as another beautiful specimen of Ultramontane ignorance, impertinence, and mendacity. It is sad to have to use such words, but they are both, in our opinion, necessary and just, and, remembering that the Roman Catholic mot d'Ordre just now seems to be everywhere, at home and abroad, as regards Freemasonry without rhyme or reason, "*Delendam esse Carthaginem*," we see no use in being mealy-mouthed, the more so as we are simply upholding the interests and honour of our cruelly maligned Order. Our able contemporary, the "*Masonic Advocate*," published at Indianapolis, Indiana, United States, tells us as follows:—"We have before us the prospectus for an anti-Masonic newspaper, to be published at Cincinnati, O., by one J. H. H. Woodward, accompanied by a circular letter, which says, 'We want you for a good, permanent, cash-paying subscriber, and solicit your money, your aid, and your influence.' It is safe to presume that this was not intended for us, and as safe to wager that we will give nothing of this sort. We think a great deal of Masonry. We love it for the good it has already done, and we want to perpetuate it for the good it will do in the future. The greatest fears we have ever had for the institution were in its popularity and too rapid growth. We want no more recruiting agents in the shape of anti-Masonic papers and crusaders against Masonry, for they are sure to create a more favourable opinion of the Order, and greatly increase the number of those seeking admission. When renegades unite with rejected applicants in defaming the institution of Freemasonry, which is upheld by the reputation of more than half a million of the best citizens of this country, they soon succeed in convincing intelligent, honest people that they themselves are liars and slanderers of the worst character. The documents before us establish the fact that the author of them is no exception to the rule. We give a short extract from them, that those who know anything of Masonry may be able to judge for themselves:—'*Masonry is aggressive, and interferes with every one. The fearfully depressing times we now experience is her handywork, the result of her counsels, machinations, and plots. The confidence of man in man can never be restored so long as Masonic principles prevail. Every Mason imbued with the principles of his Order feels that every other Mason is a rascal, and that the entire race of man is an institution of perverse wickedness, and carries his idea into the daily walks of his life, and thus Masonry, from the number of her votaries, acting upon this principle, has sown the seeds of universal distrust broadcast over the whole land. Good times can never again prevail in this country until the heresies of Masonry are destroyed, and a general and neighbourly confidence is restored among the people. Masonry forbids neighbourly*'

kindness, equal rights, and just principles among men, and thus disintegrates society, destroys confidence, and paralyzes every branch of business, and reduces a nation of people to beggary and want.' These are only a few of the false statements published in this prospectus by one who says, 'We speak by the card, we have been there; but they are sufficient to show that if he has ever been there, he did not get out any too soon for the reputation of the Order. Masonry teaches that "truth is a divine attribute and the foundation of every virtue," a lesson that never made an impression upon this modern Ananias. He does not offer any evidence to prove the truth of his statements, nor can he in a single instance present any that will substantiate it. Until this is done, nothing more than a mere denial is necessary.' When people will thus libel Freemasonry and insult Freemasons, we can only allude to the fact in self defence. As for taking any further notice of such rubbish, it would be utterly beneath the dignity of our good old Order. We can, like our contemporary, and fully agreeing with his sensible remarks, afford to laugh at what he amusingly calls "Anti Masonic Thunder." Freemasonry is best known by its fruits, and if there were a scintilla of truth in any one of the allegations of this vituperative assailant, Freemasons could certainly no longer defend its utility, or believe in its mission. But until, instead of all this unseemly virulence, and this unveracious witness, we have facts tending to prove these deliberate libels and slanders—as we hold them to be without even the slightest foundation,—we shall prefer to believe that the Craft will outlive in its greatness, its truth, its beneficence, and its good, all such puny assailants, and can afford to disregard utterly all such contemptible impertinences.

Original Correspondence.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for, or even as approving of the opinions expressed by our correspondents, but we wish, in a spirit of fair play to all, to permit—within certain necessary limits—free discussion.—Ed.]

THE PROPOSED SCOTTISH MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Many thanks to you for publishing, and to the worthy lady who has so feelingly written in your columns. Let me assure her that I feel deeply grateful for her kind and general sympathy, and am certain that her letter will do much good; if the wives, sisters, and daughters of Masons in Scotland can be entered on our side we may hope for a promising future. I know "that women can really accomplish wonders," may it be granted to us that the warm and true hearted letter of your correspondent may evoke similar feelings in the hearts of other Masons wives and sisters, and cause them to urge their husbands and brothers to act as true Masons.

Even if this movement should do no other good, it will show at least to our "sisters" that Masonry has a high and noble aim—"Charity," and they will never grudge their husbands' attendance at lodge.

Appropos of this question, I would add that at all social and convivial meetings of the Craft in Scotland one "new toast" should be given from the chair, viz., "Charity," with this addition, when our institution is fully started, "Charity and our Benevolent Institution."

While again using your valuable space I would sincerely urge our Scottish lodges to appoint some one of their members as Stewards for the Benevolent Institution, names of such Stewards to be sent either direct to myself or to Bro. J. Laurie, Grand Secretary Scotland, 98, George-street, Edinburgh, Bros. W. H. Bickerton, 9, West Howard-street, Glasgow; Dr. Cowan, M.D., Victoria Building, Tay-street, Perth; Alexander Henry, 140, Murrugate Dundee; A. O. Grandtelt, 26, Marshall-street, Aberdeen; D. Murray Lyon, Ayr; or any of the accredited agents of the proposed Institution.

I would also add, for the instruction of my Scottish brethren who may feel inclined to support the institution, that they will in no way pledge themselves to carry out my scheme in toto, unless it seems good to the majority to do so, they are asked only to agree that a "Masonic Benevolent Institution for Scotland shall be established." The first meeting of promoters will take into consideration the ways and means, and no doubt many useful ideas will be forthcoming, and many valuable additions made.

I have it is true drawn up a full scheme, as I know from experience, that an abstract idea and resolution, without any further basis to go upon, would at once fall to the ground. I have simply given a foundation based upon existing institutions of a similar nature, on which I trust a superstructure may be raised honourable to its builders.

I would ask them one and all to come forward with their support and advice; if any one has anything better to propose, by all means let him do so. I do not say this now for the first time; I have all along urged this. Why then, my Scottish brethren, should you hold back? Rather come forward and endeavour to form as good a scheme as human brains can supply.

I hail with delight that "our sisters" have taken up the task, and trust that they may influence their husbands and brothers.

There is an old motto much affected by Scotchmen, "Nulli Secundus," let that be ours.

I am, Sir, yours fraternally,

G. E. R. HARRIOTT,

P.G.M. Wigtown and Kirkcudbright.
No. 4, Howard Place, St. Andrew's,
March 10th, 1876.

UNITED ORDERS OF THE TEMPLE AND HOSPITAL. To the Editor of The Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I venture to suggest to my brother Knights Templar through the medium of your valuable columns that the Order of which he is Grand Master, and to which it is well-known he is very much attached, should give the Prince of Wales a cordial welcome on his return from India. I think that a special Convent General should be held, say at the Middle Temple Hall, that the Knights should go in procession to the Temple Church to offer up thanks to Almighty God for his safe return, and that afterwards a banquet should be held, either in the Middle or Inner Temple, to celebrate the auspicious occasion. I have no doubt the authorities would gladly lend their noble halls for such an event, and we should be as Templars on historic ground. The Prince is, I believe, a Bencher of the Middle Temple.

Commending this suggestion to the notice of Lord Limerick, the Great Prior, and the powers that be,

I am, fraternally yours,

A PAST GRAND OFFICER OF GRAND CONCLAVE.

BALLOT FOR CANDIDATES.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I shall be glad to know what is the usual custom in lodges in balloting for candidates whose names have been received too late for proposition in open lodge.

In the lodge of which I am Secretary we require that the proposer and seconder shall address a letter to the W.M., asking for an emergency (to be held on the next regular lodge night) to ballot for a candidate who has not been regularly proposed in the lodge, and the name, &c., of the candidate is inserted in the next regular summons, under the heading of "emergency."

At the next lodge night the lodge is declared to be a lodge of emergency for the purpose of taking the ballot for such a candidate, and if favourable he is at once initiated.

We are, however, informed by brethren that all this is not necessary, and that names of candidates can be received up to the time of printing the summonses without inserting the emergency, or declaring it in the lodge.

This, however, does not accord with the Book of Constitutions (see article on Proposing Members), and I shall be glad if my question elicits from some well-informed brother what is the correct practice.

I am, dear Sir and Brother, yours fraternally,

A SECRETARY.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Will you allow me to call the attention of the brethren to the case of the boy, James Edgar Tanare, as advertised in your columns. Bro. Tanare (the father) is an inmate of Colney Hatch Lunatic Asylum, and certified by Dr. Shepherd to be incurable. As this is really a most deserving case, I ask the subscribers very earnestly for their votes for the ensuing election.

Yours fraternally,

JOHN EMMENS, P.G. Purst.

ACCUSATIONS AGAINST FREEMASONRY.

To the Editor of The Freemason

Dear Sir and Brother,—

A series of accusations against Masonry have recently appeared in the leading papers, the truth or falsehood of which I wish, for my own satisfaction to ascertain.

Will you, therefore, in your "answers to correspondent" give me as much information as possible as regards the following points.

1st—Where may I obtain an authoritative declaration of principles, (like our own constitutions), of the Orient of France, the Orient of Belgium, and the Supreme Italian Authority, also a list of lodges of these respective countries, with names of chief officials like our own Cosmopolitan Calendar.

2nd—Louis Blanc and Felix Pyatt are asserted to be Masons? Are they, if so, what are their characters? Are they not avowed Atheists?

3rd—Did the Grand Orient of Belgium issue a project de loi to suppress all religious education? If so, where can it be procured?

4th—Where can I obtain the Dutch Freemasons' Almanack for 1872, and the price? Is there a translation?

5th—Was an International Congress of Freemasons held at Lugano, in 1872? If so, where are the records of it to be obtained, and price? Is there a translation?

6th—Why did Prince Murat resign the Grand Mastership of France?

7th—What part did the Masons take in the affairs of the commune? Where can I obtain official account of their appearance on the walls of Paris at that time. A Bro. Thirifocq is said to have written on this matter an "Appeal to Freemasons of every Rite." Is he a Mason? If so, is any thing known of his character? Where can his book be obtained, and price?

8th—Prince Frederick of Orange is said to have resigned

the Grand Mastership of the Netherlands because he was a Christian. What was the real reason of such resignation, and where may I obtain evidence of it?

You will see how highly necessary it is that every Mason should be as fully as possible informed on these matters so that he may be enabled to meet them if false, and to exercise that great virtue "silence" if true.

If you would kindly answer these queries in Saturday's paper, especially as to the constitutions and list of lodges of foreign Masonry, and questions seven and eight, you will greatly oblige yours truly and fraternally,

A.B.

Multum in Parbo; or Masonic Notes and Queries.

THE MS. CONSTITUTIONS.

The readers of the "Freemason" who take an interest in archaeological studies and all that appertains to the evidences of the Craft will rejoice to think how much progress has been made in this latest development of Masonic research. A few years ago when, for instance, with others I began the then somewhat arduous work of collating and verifying our Masonic MS. Constitutions, very little was comparatively known of them, even of their actual number. Old discussions had in the "Freemasons' Magazine and Masonic Mirror" elicited the fact, that in the British Museum there were five copies of the Constitutions, as well as the additional MS. Constitutions edited by Bro. Matthew Cooke, as well as the Masonic poem edited by W. O. Halliwell, now W. O. Phillips, in 1840. It would not be fair here to forget that Bro. Matthew Cooke published a list of the MS. Constitutions in the British Museum about 1860 in the "Freemasons Magazine;" neither should we overlook the debt that English archaeological Masonic students owe to the Rev. J. Dallaway, a non-Mason. Bro. Mathew Cooke's publication of the additional MS., which now is generally called Cook's MS., was, no doubt, also a great step in Masonic archaeology in England. But it is not, I think, too much to say, that to the publication by another non-Mason, Mr. W. O. Halliwell, of that curious old poetic Constitution we owe the impetus happily given to a more critical study of our evidences and our constitutions, which has led, alike in Germany and England, to almost a new school of Masonic students. To Bro. W. J. Hughan must be fairly conceded in England (though we must not overlook the earlier publications of Laurie) nor forget Bro. D. M. Lyon's contributions in Scotland—to Bro. W. J. Hughan, I repeat, must be fairly conceded in England, if not the first collation, at any rate the first publication of our Masonic Constitutions. He paved the way for future students by the opportune republication in 1869 of Cole's copperplate edition of a MS. Constitution published in 1728 or 1729.

In 1871 Bro. Richard Spencer published a most interesting volume, and to whom the warm thanks of all Masonic students are due. And in 1872 Bro. W. J. Hughan issued his most valuable collection of the Constitutions, an era in English archaeology.

But since that time many new ones have turned up. Bro. Hughan has lighted upon the Chester MS. and the Aberdeen MS., and a copy of a MS. said to have been in the possession of Sir Christopher Wren. Bro. Norton has found the Scarborough MS., Bro. D. M. Lyon has carefully republished and collated the Kilwinning MS. and the Aitcheson Haven. The Wilson MS. is on the eve of publication, and I have no doubt but that many new MSS. may yet be traced out.

Bro. Hughan calls attention to Dermott's MS. and Morgan's MS., discoveries peculiarly his own, and I am not yet without hopes of tracing the MS. Constitution, which Dr. Plot saw, and Ashmole used.

We want, however, many others, such as the original of Dowland's MS., the original of Rawlinson's MS., and others alluded to by Bro. W. J. Hughan; and I feel sure that a careful search in all old lodge boxes and chests, often stowed away in garrets, would result in the discovery of other rolls and other MSS.

Sometimes the lodge papers get into the hands of a Secretary, who mixes them with his private papers, and at his death they are sold with his effects.

I would then earnestly ask all W.M.'s and Secretaries of lodges, and I am sure Bro. W. J. Hughan will join in my prayer, to have at once a correct list made of all MSS., or books belonging to the lodge. In my opinion we are only yet at the beginning of our discoveries. So apathetic and careless have we all been, so overlaid by the dust of years are our lodge archives which may exist, so little store have our forefathers set by what would be invaluable evidence to a

MASONIC STUDENT.

MASONIC TOKENS, AND BRO. J. N.

I am very pleased to see that Bro. J.N., of Box 34, Post Office, Bolton, Lanc., has a few of the Masonic Tokens of 1794, commemorative of the installation of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, in 1799, for sale. (Vide "Freemason," 18th inst.)

A few have turned up of late, consequent upon the Grand Installation of April last leading to so much discussion, &c. Prior to this event, I failed to meet with any, and doubtless in a few months we shall revert to an old experience, for there cannot be many left now, after the hunt that has been made. Full particulars of these tokens are given by several writers in the "Freemason," for June 12th, 1875, and a list of those then known in the same paper for September 25th. The number for August 7th is especially worth consulting on the subject.

Bro. J. N.'s motive is a good one, and brethren will do well to avail themselves of his fraternal offer.

WILLIAM JAMES HUGHAN.

CONSECRATION OF THE ROYAL COMMEMORATION LODGE, No. 1585.

Amid the bleakest winds of this bleak March, and during a beating snowstorm on last Tuesday, a large muster of brethren gathered at the Star and Garter Hotel, Lower Richmond-road, Putney, to witness the start in life of the lodge founded under this name in commemoration of the Royal Installation in April last. The "Lower Richmond-road" is the south bank of the Thames, and the hotel is the river-side house where boating men hold their congresses in habits as if they belonged to the Craft of those who "go down to the sea in ships." The lodge is "aloft," a distinction and a difference from "a loft," though the ascent to the apartments where the mysteries of the Craft may now be carried on is very remindful of the approach to the upper floor of stables. The apartments themselves have, we believe, hitherto been dedicated to the use of the London Rowing Club, and the house is one where the luxurious athletes of the oar take their ease in their inn. The lodge-room fronts Father Thames, and gives a good view of ancient Fulham. The brethren who assembled last Tuesday were recalled from the out-look on the snow-covered Thames, and the first appearance of the light blue, and dark blue, to form the procession to the lodge-room, which had been neatly laid out. As Bro. James Terry, the Prov. G.D.C. of Herts., headed the procession, Bro. G. Stacy, Organist of 1348, played the march on an excellent organ provided. Bro. Terry, who had been appointed Installing Master, then took the chair, and appointed Bro. Ough, P.G.P., as S.W.; Bro. W. Watson, P.G.S., as J.W.; and Bro. P.M. Meredith, as I.G.

Bro. Terry then proceeded with the work which he, if not the hero of a hundred fights, at least the worker of a hundred consecrations, knows so well, and having addressed the assemblage upon the nature of the meeting, and received the address from the Secretary pro tem., he ranged the brethren in order—Bros. Joseph Wright, as W.M. designate; J. W. Robinson, as S.W.; C. Jackson, as J.W.; and A. Watkins, P.M.; Henry Smith (Royal Arthur), W. Morphew, F. Holland, A. Boehr, Collings. Approval having been signified to the officers, Bro. Terry, in the absence of a Chaplain, gave the oration on the nature and principles of the institution, and this was followed by the psalm—

"How vast must their advantage be,
How great their pleasure prove,
Who live like brethren, and consent
For offices of love."

The lodge was then dedicated according to form amid the rapt attention of the brethren, who joined in the beautiful hymns of the ceremony, given with excellent effect by Bro. Stacy. The lodge was then constituted, and this part of the ceremony closed with the hymn—

"Glory be to God on high,
Let Heaven and earth reply,
Praise ye His name;
Masons His love adore,
Tiled in their mystic lore,
And cry evermore,
Glory to God."

Bro. Terry then became the Installing Master, and proceeded to install Bro. Joseph Smith, an old P.M., according to the rites and ceremonies as worked by the Lodge of Emulation. This was very perfectly rendered in the presence of a large assemblage of past and present holders of the chair, among them being Bros. Daurini, P.M. 1044; Meredith, P.M. 1257; Puleford, P.M. 1158; Gallant, W.M. 813; A. W. Wright, P.M. 1158; C. W. Wise, W.M. 1158; Ough, P.G.P.; Pendlebury, P.M. 1056; While, P.M. 228 ("Freemason"); Burrell, I.P.M. 1446; Howick, P.M. 1044; Payne, P.M. 27; Sorrell, W.M. 176; H. Potter, P.M. 11; Bethell, P.M. 30; Whiteman, P.M. 256; Whitney, P.M. 946, P. Prov. A.D.C. Middx. When the brethren under the degree of Installed Masters were admitted, the proclamations were made in the accustomed form, and the W.M. then appointed as his officers, amid the acclamations of the brethren, J. W. Robinson, S.W.; C. Jackson, J.W.; G. A. Watkins, Treas.; P.M. Henry Smith, Sec.; W. Morphew, S.D.; F. Holland, J.D.; A. Boehr, I.G.; Collings, D.C.; and Bro. J. Smith, as Assist. Secretary.

The closing addresses to the W.M., the Wardens, and to the lodge were given by Bro. Terry with his usual point, clearness, and completeness, and the W.M., after taking the names of joining members and the proposals for initiation, read a letter from the G. Sec., whose absence was caused by official circumstances, but he wished the lodge a prosperous career. The W.M. then spoke warmly of the services which Bro. Terry had rendered the lodge, and said he hoped that Bro. Terry would be elected the first honorary member of the lodge.

A proposal to this effect was made by P.M. H. Smith, the Secretary, and was seconded by the S.W. It was carried unanimously.

Bro. Terry, in acknowledging the honour thus paid to him, thanked the brethren, and said it gave him great pleasure to consecrate a lodge whose name was one which would ever carry the mind back to the grand ceremony at Albert Hall in April last. He trusted that the lodge which was thus consecrated would have a good growth, and would honour its name by the good quality of the members it introduced to the Craft.

Thanks were then voted to Bro. Stacy for his services as Organist, to Bro. Hill, of the Highgate Lodge, for acting during the ceremony as D.C., and to Bros. Ough and Watson for their services in the Warden's chair. The votes were acknowledged, and the lodge was then in due form closed.

The banquet was held in a room beneath the lodge-room, and the W.M., whose experience as a P.M. was of the utmost value in guiding the newly launched vessel, both in lodge and at the banquet table, gave with great

force (the greater because brief) the toasts of "The Queen and the Craft," "The M.W. Grand Master," "The Pro Grand Master," "The Deputy Grand Master, and the rest of the Grand Officers, Past and Present," coupling with the latter the name of Bro. Ough, who responded, and warmly praised the merits of those who ruled over the Craft, pointing out the essential necessity, for the good of the brotherhood, that its rulers should be chosen from those who were the rulers in the nation by training and by birth.

Bro. Terry said the duty fell upon him, in the absence of any Past Master, to propose the toast of "The First W.M. of the Royal Commemoration Lodge." The name of the lodge was a happy one, and doubtless it was the happy choice of the name which obtained for the lodge its warrant. It was a very good choice the brethren had made in Bro. Wright for the First Worshipful Master, and it was almost essential that the W.M. who occupied the chair of a new lodge should be one who had had experience in that position, as he would be the better able, by his knowledge of the work to weld the new parts of a lodge into a harmonious whole. They all knew how zealous and energetic Bro. Wright was in all things, a fact seen in the example he set as Steward to the festival of the institution, for he said he would not go unless he had three figures on his list, and three figures he had—(cheers)—and the brethren would toast him as one whose work and actions they would all attempt to emulate.

Bro. Wall, S.D. of the Kennington Lodge, gave the company the benefit of a charming song.

The W.M. then responded to the toast of his health, and said he had accepted the helm of this lodge with the intention of making it a good lodge. If had pleased the Earl of Carnarvon, the Pro Grand Master, to approve of the name of the lodge and to grant the warrant, and it behoved the members of it to take care that no action or proposal of theirs should ever sully it. Fortunately, the speaker said, he could say he had done his best to launch the lodge in a worthy manner, and he thanked the officers for the assistance they had given him in purchasing (of another lodge) the necessary furniture for its use. He felt as captain of this new ship that he was supported by good officers, and he trusted it would sail on in strength and happiness. After some singing by brethren, the W.M. went on to propose the toast of "The Consecrating Officer, Bro. Terry," of whose kindness and talents the speaker warmly spoke, adding that of all consecrations the worthy Secretary of the Masonic Institution had performed he had never performed one with greater spirit than the one that day. (Cheers.)

One of the brethren sang a parody on the "Village Blacksmith," giving a fancy sketch of the life of a London policeman—a performance which caused roars of laughter.

Bro. Terry, as the Consecrating Officer, in return, said that he was very amply repaid for his exertions by the satisfaction expressed and by the attention which the brethren had given to him. He trusted that he should see the Master install his successor, and that the lodge would show that it was prepared to maintain the high principles and tenets of the Order by having its name enrolled on behalf of the Masonic charities.

To the toast of "The Visitors" Bro. Sorrell responded, and the Treasurer's health being warmly toasted—with the hope that he would take good care of the lodge argent, when he got any—that brother responded, asking the brethren to give him the chance.

Bro. Henry Smith responded for the Secretaries.

The Senior Warden in response to the toast of the officers made a neat speech, in which he accepted the simile of the Master in likening the lodge to a ship, and said that he trusted the Captain would find the crew a good working one.

The Junior Warden thanked the Master and brethren for selecting him to be the third officer in the ship, and said he should endeavour to prove that their confidence was not misplaced.

Scotland.

CONSECRATION OF THE ST. BRYDE LODGE, No. 579, UDDINGSTON.

Thursday, the 9th inst., witnessed the inauguration of a new Masonic Lodge, bearing the name of St. Bryde, No. 579, in the rising village of Uddingston. The ceremonies of constitution and consecration were performed by Bro. Provost J. C. Forrest, of Hamilton, D.P.G. Master of Lanarkshire (Mid. Ward), assisted by the following P.G. Officers:—Bros. Rev. A. O. Brown, Chaplain 203; C. Spalding, P.G.S.W.; A. Ramsay, P.G.J.W.; A. King, P.G. Treas.; J. Nisbet, P.G. Sec.; C. Gilchrist, P.G.S.D.; W. Morrison, P.G.J.D.; W. Forrest, P.G.B.B.; C. Nelson, P.G.D.C.; W. McMurdo, P.G. Marshal; and W. Sibbald, P.G.I.G.

Amongst those present we noticed Bros. T. Duncan, D.M. Mother Kiwinning; Wylie, Bernard, Miller, Proudfoot, and Gardner, of 33 St. John's, Glasgow; R. Kelso, W.M. 31; G. McDonald, W.M., and J. Bannerman, D.M. of 73, Thistle and Rose, Glasgow; J. Glen, W.M. 114; T. Halket, P.M. 102, St. Mark's; W. Malcolm, W.M. 88; W. Fleming, P.M. 88; R. McIntyre, W.M. 203; G. Arthur, P.M. 203; Davidson, S.W. 203; Cochran, J.W. 203; J. King, W.M. 406; Forsyth, S.W. 406; W. J. Hay, 187; Gardner, W.M. 233; D. Wright, W.M. 551, Paterson, J.W. 551; Ferguson ("Freemason"), and others. In all there would be about 120 brethren present, completely filling the hall, which is fitted up to suit Masonic purposes.

On the lodge being opened by the P.G. Lodge, the P.G. Master proceeded to the work of consecration, and during

the ceremony the P.G. Chaplain, Bro. the Rev. Brown, delivered an impressive oration on the "Nature and Objects of Masonry," which was listened to with great attention, and repeatedly applauded. Subsequently Bro. W. J. Easton, W.M. elect, received the ceremony of the installation degree, and also Bros. Malcolm, W.M. 88; Fleming, P.M. 88; and McIntyre, W.M. 203, at the hands of Bro. McMurdo, P.M. 305, P.G. Marshall. The office-bearers were then installed by the P.G. Master, viz., Bros. W. J. Easton, W.M.; Scott, D.M.; W. Walker, S.M.; T. Halket, S.W.; J. Baird, junr., J.W.; T. Shott, Treas.; W. Crawford, Sec.; J. Walker, S.D.; G. Robertson, J.D.; D. Bryden, S.S.; W. Watson, J.S.; G. W. Ruddock, I.G.; and R. Rae, Tyler.

We should state that Bro. J. Annan, Organist 7, St. John's, Hamilton, presided at the harmonium.

Labour being ended, the lodge was transferred to refreshment, Bro. Easton in the chair, when the usual loyal, Masonic, and patriotic toasts were given and duly honoured. "The Provincial Grand Lodge of Lanarkshire, Middle Ward," was proposed by the W.M., and replied to by the P.G.M. "The W.M." was given by the P.G.M., and enthusiastically responded to by all present. The W.M. replied in suitable terms.

KIRKINTILLOCH.—Lodge St. John Kilwinning (No. 28).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held in the Black Bull Inn, on Saturday, 11th inst., Bro. D. Cameron, W.M., in the chair, supported by his Wardens and other office-bearers. Messrs. T. Docherty and W. McLean were initiated by Bro. J. S. Allan, D.M. Two brethren were then passed to the Fellow Craft Degree by the W.M., and afterwards three were raised to the degree of Master Mason, the W.M. again performing the ceremony.

WISHAW.—St. Mary's Lodge Coltness (No. 31).—The annual assembly of this lodge was held on Friday, the 3rd inst., in the Crown Assembly Rooms, which was tastefully and elegantly decorated for the occasion. A large and brilliant assemblage of ladies and brethren were present, and the dancing, which commenced shortly after ten o'clock by the R.W.M., Bro. Kelso, and his lady leading off the Grand March, was continued with great spirit till an early hour in the morning, everyone present appearing to have enjoyed themselves thoroughly. The appearance of the assembly rooms when thronged with the ladies in their bright and captivating costumes, and the brethren in their many coloured aprons. Sashes and emblems of office was more like a scene in fairyland, than a gathering of the members of the mystic land. The following deputations from sister lodges were present:—St. Mary's Partick, No. 117; St. John's Motherwell, No. 406; St. Clare, Cambusnethan, No. 427; and the Provincial Grand Lodge, Middle Ward, Lanarkshire. Bro. A. Brownlie, S.W., was all that could be desired as Master of Ceremonies, and the music, which was first class, was supplied by the quadrille band of Mr. McGhee, assisted by Professor Bain of Bothwell on the piano. The affair throughout was an entire success and reflects the greatest credit on Bro. W. Forrest, Convenor, and the rest of the committee for their faultless arrangements.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Thistle (No. 87).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held in the Masonic Hall, 30, Hope-street, on Tuesday evening, 7th inst. The meeting was well attended, the hall being nearly full. Bro. Booth, W.M., in the chair, J. Fraser, P.M.; J. Miller, P.M.; W. Stuart, S.W.; R. Barr, J.W.; J. G. Ritchie, S.M.; W. Wilson, Sec.; T. Paton, Treas.; J. McLachlan, S.D.; J. Cossar, J.D.; T. Best, E. Arthur, J. Annand, B. McCoo, Coultis, 36; D. Hood, 124; J. Preston, 219; J. Lawrence, 219; J. M. Oliver, S.W. 360; G. Adam, 360; W. Barr, 543; L. R. Mitchell, J.D. 574. The lodge having been opened, and the minutes of last meeting read and approved of, the Treasurer read the quarterly report, which showed about £120 to the credit of the lodge. A committee was appointed to make arrangements with the Railway Company for the lease of a tenement in Cathedral-street, to be converted into a Masonic Hall. Bro. Miller then tabled a motion to be brought up at a future meeting, which will be looked forward to with interest by the members of the lodge. Messrs. F. Butcher and A. Christie were admitted into the First Degree by Bro. J. Booth, W.M., the latter gentleman for Lodge Commercial, No. 360. The lodge was then assumed on the Third Degree, when Bros. A. E. Knowles, J. Ritchie, and A. McLachlan were raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason by the W.M., in a very solemn and creditable manner.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Union and Crown (No. 103).—About sixty members of this lodge, including their wives and friends, met in Summers Hall, 93, Candleriggs, on Friday, the 3rd inst., to celebrate their 109th anniversary. Bro. D. Murray, R.W.M. of the lodge, occupied the chair; Croupiers, W. Forsyth, J.W., and J. Gilles, Sec., P.M. and P.G.T. After partaking of the good things which were laid before them, and a blessing sang, the Chairman said:—Croupiers, ladies, brethren, and gentlemen.—We have met here on this occasion to celebrate the 109th anniversary of our lodge, for it is now 109 years since this our lodge had its birth. It gives me great pleasure as Master of this lodge to have with me on this occasion such a happy company, and so many ladies present. I sincerely hope that each and all of you will enjoy yourselves, and I can assure you nothing on my part shall be wanting to enable you to do so. Respecting the lodge and its history, my connection with it has not been many years, but I have looked over the documents that now remain, and cannot trace anything further back than fifty years for want of lost records, which, I am sorry to say, seems to be the complaint of many other lodges, even of Mother Kilwinning, but what I can trace it is clear to me that very little was done in actual work any earlier than twenty years back. The lodge has been in adversity and prosperity, and I am sure can safely say that the last

four years the lodge has continued to prosper, and at the present time stands second to none. This year the work has commenced well, and I am sure, with the present office-bearers working as they are harmoniously together, that it must end well. I will, therefore, conclude, wishing you all may enjoy yourselves, and I am delighted, ladies, to see so many of your happy faces amongst us, and hope we may live to meet on many similar occasions. The following toasts then followed:—"The Queen and the Royal Family," "Three Grand Lodges, England, Ireland, and Scotland," and "His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, Patron of Scottish Freemasonry," all of which were most enthusiastically received and drank. The toast of "The Provincial Grand Lodge of Glasgow" was proposed by Bro. McFarlane, and responded to by Bro. J. Gillies, P.G.T. Other toasts followed, enlivened with some most excellent songs. After the last toast the company adjourned for a short time, when an assembly followed, and dancing was kept up with great spirit for a few hours.

PARTICK.—St. Mary's Lodge (No. 117).—The regular monthly meeting of this lodge was held in their own hall, Partick, on Wednesday evening, 15th inst. Over 160 signed the signature book. The W.M., Bro. W. Wylie, in the chair, with the following office-bearers present:—Bros. Brunton, I.P.M.; Bain, D.M.; Donaldson, S.M.; Peacock, S.W.; Agnew, J.W.; Wylie, Treas.; Lawrence, Sec.; McSwan, S.D.; Wallace, J.D. The minutes were read and confirmed, and a motion brought forward, and unanimously carried, raising the initiation fees to a level with other lodges in the province. Messrs. G. Barker, D. Stewart, and J. Laing were initiated by Bro. Bain, D.M.; Bros. A. McDonald and A. McLean were passed by Bro. Boreland; and Bros. T. Alexander and T. Barclay were raised by Bro. Bain, D.M.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Shamrock and Thistle (No. 275).—This lodge held their 59th annual soiree and concert in the Masonic Hall, Struthers-street, on Friday evening, 3rd inst. In the unavoidable absence, through indisposition, of Bro. D. Ronald, W.M., Bro. J. Paterson, D.M., occupied the chair, supported on the platform by Bros. G. C. H. McNaught, P.M.; W. Phillips, P.M. and W.M. 556; Rev. R. Thomson, W. Findlay, S.W.; T. Neilson, J.W.; H. Matheson, S.M.; J. Horn, Sec.; Hutchison, Treas.; J. Singleton, W.M. 178; J. Campbell, I.P.M. 128; and others. The hall was tastefully decorated with banners and other emblems, the most prominent being the "Shamrock and Thistle," immediately behind the chairman. About 220 brethren with their wives, partners, and friends sat down to tea, and after partaking thereof the Chairman rose, and said: Ladies, gentlemen, and brethren—We have now arrived at that part of our programme called the Chairman's address. It is with sincere and heartfelt regret that I have to announce to you the unavoidable absence of our worthy and respected Master through severe indisposition. We fondly hoped that he would be sufficiently recovered to occupy his place of honour at this our 59th festival. From the short notice I received of having to occupy the position of chairman to night, I am encouraged to ask and expect your kind forbearance in my attempt to discharge the duties of the chair on this auspicious occasion. Since our last annual festival we, as a lodge, have made considerable accession to our numbers, and I am proud to say, of a class of gentlemen who will reflect credit, not only on the lodge in which they have been initiated, but on the Order in general. It gives me great pleasure, and it must be a source of gratification to all, that the past year has been as prosperous as any of its predecessors, and I think I am safe in saying that the Lodge Shamrock and Thistle was never in a more healthy, prosperous, and harmonious condition. As you all know, the great work of Freemasonry is benevolence, and I am proud to tell you that this work goes on amongst us, and I trust as years go on it will increase. I do not intend to make a long speech. I will therefore conclude by saying I am delighted to see the ladies amongst us to-night, and I can assure them that no class of men are more delighted to see the ladies amongst them than Freemasons. I therefore wish you may all enjoy a pleasant evening. Bro. the Rev. R. Thomson in the course of the evening gave a most instructive address, and called upon the Scottish Freemasons to establish Benevolent Institutions similar to those in England for the benefit of old Masons, their widows and orphans. During the evening a concert was well sustained by the excellent singing of Misses Stanley and McLean, Bros. Houston and Gray, and Messrs. Thomson and Campbell. After a vote of thanks to the chairman, for the able manner in which he discharged the duties of the chair, by Bro. J. Horn, Sec., and suitably acknowledged by Bro. Paterson, the company sang "Auld Lang Syne." An assembly immediately followed. The music was supplied by Bro. T. Brown, and Bro. R. Hardie was Master of Ceremonies.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Caledonian Railway (No. 354).—The members of this lodge celebrated their annual festival in Bro. Thornton's, Caledonian Cafe, 251, Argyle-street, on Wednesday, 8th inst., Bro. A. B. Ferguson, W.M., in the chair; Bros. J. Harley, S.W., and C. McKenzie, J.W., acted as Croupiers. About 60 brethren sat down to supper. Amongst those present were Bro. E. Buchanan, D.M.; R. S. McLean, Sec.; D. T. Colquhoun, Treas.; Harley, J.D.; J. Reid, Jeweller; Douglas, B.B.; Coutts, D.C.; Dunn, P.S.; Speirs, S.S.; J. Gillies, P.M. 103, P.G.T.; W. Harper, W.M. 408; Rankin, 34; Reid, 34; J. A. Mann, 27; G. S. Hendry, 27; T. Sinclair, 46; R. Manse, D.M. 103; J. Martin, D.M. 219; Howie, 275; J. Baird, P.M. 306; Stewart, 360; Adams, 360; Fyfe, 465; T. Burrett, 553; J. Waggett, 553; and Ferguson ("Freemason"). After supper the brethren adjourned to the Commercial Masonic Hall, 30, Hope-street, and the lodge opened by the W.M., and transferred to refreshment. The Chairman gave the following toasts in succession:—"The Queen and the Craft"; "The Prince of Wales, and the other Members of the Royal Family"; and "The Three

Grand Lodges." "The Provincial Grand Lodge of Glasgow" was proposed by Bro. McKenzie, J.W., in a neat Masonic speech, coupled with the name of Bro. Gillies, P.G. Treas., who, in reply, said it gave him great pleasure to occupy the position by replying to the toast of the Prov. G.L. of Glasgow, which is in a most satisfactory position. The office-bearers paid strict attention to their duties, which is no small amount, considering that no less than twenty-nine lodges are now in the province. "The Army, Navy, and Volunteers" was proposed by Bro. W. Lean, Sec., and replied to by Bro. Speirs. Bro. Gillies then rose, and said he had much pleasure in proposing the toast of the evening, "The Prosperity of Lodge Caledonian Railway, No. 354." She is the only lodge in Scotland who has a floating charter granted by the Grand Lodge, and is entitled to work in any part of Scotland where the Caledonian Railway Company has running powers. I am glad to find she is in a very healthy position, and under the able guidance of Bro. Ferguson, W.M., she is bound to prosper. Bro. Ferguson, W.M., replied. "The Visiting Brethren" was proposed by Bro. Harley, S.W., and replied to by Bro. Mann, 27; "The Press," by Bro. Speirs. Bros. Stewart and Ferguson ("Freemason") replied. Other toasts followed.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Glasgow (No. 441).—The annual soiree of this lodge was held in the Masonic Hall, Struthers-street, on Friday evening, the 17th inst., Bro. J. Wood, W.M., in the chair, supported on the platform by Bros. Tulloch, I.P.M.; Jackson, P.M.; Swan, S.M.; A. Bain, P.M. 103, P.G.B.B.; J. Morgan, W.M. 219; Martin, Treas.; and the other office-bearers. About 150 sat down to tea, and after singing the 100th Psalm the Chairman rose and said: Ladies and brethren, it is with the greatest feelings of pleasure that I now rise to welcome you to our annual festival. It is with gratitude that I am enabled to announce that during the past year Masonry has flourished more in the United Kingdom than it ever did in any one year in the recollection of the oldest Freemason. It makes me look forward to the day when the Freemasons of Scotland will unite like our brethren in England, and follow their example. Indeed, so great has been our progress lately, that I sincerely hope that the brother who will address you as Chairman at our next festival will be able to tell you that the Freemasons of Scotland have begun with a determination to make Freemasonry more than a name. Ladies and brethren, I will not inflict a long address upon you to-night, but conclude by simply saying that nothing speaks better of our progress as a lodge than to see such a large meeting here to-night, and I welcome you all, and particularly the ladies, and I trust you will enjoy a happy evening. During the evening Bros. Tulloch, I.P.M., and A. Bain, P.G.B.B., addressed the meeting. A concert was ably sustained by the excellent singing of Bros. Lawson, Waggett, Barrett, and Bain. At the close, Bro. J. Morgan, W.M. 219, proposed a vote of thanks to Bro. Wood for the able manner he filled the duties of the chair, and after singing "Auld Lang Syne" the company broke up. An assembly followed to the strains of an efficient quadrille band, led by Bro. Wilson. Bro. Goldie, M. of C.

THORNIEBANK.—Thorniebank Lodge (No. 512).—The annual dinner of the Thorniebank was held in their lodge-room, Thorniebank, on Friday evening, 10th March, Bro. R. Scobie, W.M., presiding, Bros. A. Nicholson and A. G. Horne fulfilling the duties of Croupiers. Supporting the W.M. were Bros. Rev. G. Campbell, Chaplain of the lodge; W.M. Z. H. Heys, 307; P.M. J. Millar, 87; P.M. J. Horner, 512; D.M. L. McKellan, 512. The dinner was well attended both by members of the lodge and by visiting brethren, upwards of sixty gentlemen sitting down. Amongst the brethren present from other lodges were Bros. Burns Thompson, 153; W. Patterson, 153; J. Anderson, 507; J. McGregor, 117; J. Smith, 38; J. Shand, 33; J. M. Neilson, 105; W. T. Smellie, 307; and others. The lodge having been opened by Bro. Scobie, W.M., with Bro. Fletcher, as S.W., and Bro. McEwan, as J.W., and a blessing having been asked by the Chaplain, the brethren partook of an excellent repast, provided by Bro. McKellan, D.M., which was heartily enjoyed by the brethren. After disposing of the usual loyal and Masonic toasts, Bro. R. Scobie, W.M., gave "The Prosperity of the Thorniebank," and in doing so presented P.M. John Horner, founder of the Thorniebank, with a Past Master's jewel, as a mark of the respect felt for him by the members of 512, to which Bro. Horner, in a few chosen sentences, replied. The Rev. G. Campbell, Chaplain of 512, in a short, eloquent reply to the toast of his health, spoke of the great advance Masonry has made within these last few years, and on the Christian and charitable feelings that bind the brethren one to another. A number of other toasts were given during the evening by Bro. Nicholson and Bro. Horne, altogether a very happy evening was spent under the shadow of the Thorniebank till the time came to close the lodge.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Dramatic (No. 571).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held in St. Mark's Hall, 213, Buchanan-street, Glasgow, on Wednesday, March 15th, at three o'clock p.m., the W.M., Bro. W. J. E. Dobson, in the chair of K.S., who was supported by Bros. J. Winton, P.M. 333; J. Balfour, P.M.; Campbell, P.M.; G. W. Wheeler, Chaplain 73; Wilson, P. Chaplain 27; Bro. Jackman, S.W., being unwell, the S.W. chair was ably filled by Bro. J. McInnes, S.M. of 408; Barbour, Treas.; G. Weir, acting Sec.; W. Siwewright, J.W.; R. S. Smith, S.D.; L. R. Mitchell, J.D.; and the other office-bearers in their respective places. There was a very large number of visiting brethren, amongst whom we noticed, Bros. J. M. Oliver, S.W. 360; Brownlie, J.W. 34; and B. Fraser, 27. The brethren being assembled, the W.M. proceeded to open the lodge in the E.A. Degree. Minutes of previous meeting were read and duly confirmed. Messrs. Gill and Muir were initiated.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Plantation (No. 581).—The inauguration of this lodge took place on Monday

evening, 13th inst., under very favourable circumstances, in the New Masonic Hall, Craigiehall-street. The hall is the lesser of three, just newly erected at the corner of McLean and Craigiehall streets, by Bro. Stobo, the extensive builder in that locality, who is the R.W.M. elect of the lodge. As already reported in our columns, the charter was granted by the Grand Lodge of Scotland on 7th Feb. last, and the brethren met on Monday evening, as above stated, to constitute the lodge, install the W.M. and the other office-bearers. At seven p.m., Bro. A. McTaggart, P.G. Sec., formally handed over the charter to Bro. Stobo, the Master elect, at whose request Bro. McTaggart occupied the chair, and proceeded to the business of the evening; Bro. D. M. Nelson, W.M. 34, acting S.W.; and Bro. J. Monro, W.M. 360, acting J.W. Bro. McTaggart called upon Bro. W. Ferguson to read the charter, which was accordingly done, and other business of minor importance proceeded with. The hall comfortably holds about 120, but over that number were present on this occasion. Amongst those present we noticed Bros. W. Bell, I.P.M. 34; J. S. Allen, D.M. 28; J. W. Burns, I.P.M. 87; R. Mitchell, P.M. 332; D. Smart, W.M. 347; J. Cunningham, I.P.M. 347; J. Harley, S.W. 354; J. Gray, 362; W. Galbraith, S.D. 362; W. Ferguson, P.M. 543 ("Freemason"); W. Phillips, W.M. 556; J. McKechie, Treas. 556. Deputations were also present from lodges Nos. 9, Mother Kilwinning, 34, 28, 69, 87, 103, 117, 173, 175, 347, 354, 360, 362, 413, 419, 543, and 556. The installation of office-bearers was then proceeded with, Bro. McTaggart performing the ceremony in his usual able and impressive manner. The following are the office-bearers:—Bros. T. Stobo, W.M.; W. Ferguson, D.M.; Alex. Gow, S.M.; D. Peacock, S.W.; J. Henry, J.W.; W. Taylor, Treas.; R. Allan, Sec.; A. Imrie, S.D.; J. Halley, J.D.; W. McIntosh, Chaplain; J. Campbell, S.S.; J. Dowell, J.S.; M. McLean, I.G.; and J. Cumming, Tyler. Bro. McTaggart at some length then addressed the brethren, and congratulated them upon the happy auspices under which their lodge had been inaugurated. He trusted that they would in their conduct of business show an example to other lodges in the province, and demonstrate that though they were the youngest lodge their aspirations were high, and that their resolution was to maintain unsullied the principles of the Craft. He concluded by calling for three cheers for the success of "Lodge Plantation," No. 581, which were given with a will. The W.M. then proposed a hearty vote of thanks to Bro. McTaggart, for his service on that and other occasions, which was seconded by Bro. Gow, S.W., and carried with universal acclamation. The lodge then proceeded to the business of initiation, the following being the "first laid stones" of Lodge 581:—Messrs. J. Nish, R. H. White, Neil Thomson, and E. S. Garraway, who received the first degree at the hands of Bro. W. Bell, I.P.M. 34, in that brother's well known able style. Bros. A. McTaggart, P.G.S.; D. M. Nelson, R.W.M. 34; W. Bell, I.P.M. 34; W. Bell, I.P.M. 34; R. Mitchell, P.M. 332; and J. Monro, R.W.M. 360; were obligated honorary members of the lodge by Bro. Ferguson, D.M., and Bros. J. W. Burns, I.P.M. 87, and J. Robertson, J.D. 347, as joining members. The lodge was then transferred to refreshment, Bro. Stobo in the chair, who proposed the usual loyal and Masonic toasts, and also "The P.G.L. of Glasgow." Bro. McTaggart replied. Bro. Gow, S.M., proposed "The Visiting Brethren," coupled with the name of Bro. Neilson, R.W.M. 34, who replied. "Prosperity to Lodge Plantation and the R.W.M.," was proposed by Bro. McTaggart. Bro. Stobo replied in suitable terms. "The New Laid Stones," proposed by Bro. Ferguson, D.M., and replied to by Bros. Thomson and White. During the evening Bros. Nelson and Dowell sang some excellent songs.

PAISLEY.—Paisley Chapter (No. 112).—The regular meeting of this chapter was held in St. Mirren's, M.H., Moss-street, Paisley, on Friday evening, 3rd inst., at 8 p.m. The chair was occupied by Comp. A. McLeod, M.E.Z., and supported by Comp. W. Gemmell, H., and Comp. J. Carswell, J. There were also present Comps. A. McPherson, Scribe E.; G. Fisher, acting Scribe, N.; W. Brown, acting P.S.; M. Rodger, Asst. Soj.; J. Spence, acting Asst. Soj.; and others. The chapter was opened, and the minutes of last meeting read and approved of. Two candidates, Bros. Ex. Bailie Jas. Caldwell, P.G.S.M., Renfrewshire (East), and Jas. Tannahill, both of Lodge St. Mirren's, No. 129, were duly proposed and elected, and both brethren being in attendance were received and exalted to the degree of R.A., by Comp. McLeod, M.E.Z. There being no other business before the chapter it was thereafter closed. This chapter has only just been resuscitated after having been almost dormant for nearly three years.

PARTICK.—Partick Chapter (No. 113).—The ninth anniversary of this chapter was celebrated by a festival held in the old Masonic Hall, Dumbarton Road. The chair was occupied by Comp. J. Halkett, Comp. G. Ward, acting as Croupier. There were also present Comps. Brunton, Barr, J. White, Boag, William White, W. Wylie, Commissioner Trotter, Rose, Stewart, Lyon, Duncan, J. J. Cook, J. Peden, R. Clydesdale, A. Macdonald, G. Russell, J. Graham, W. McFarlane, and others. After supper the Chairman gave the usual loyal and Masonic Toasts, which were responded to with the usual enthusiasm. Some excellent songs were sung, and the meeting was closed about twelve o'clock.

PRINTERS' ART UNION.—We are asked to state that the fifth annual drawing of this Art Union for 462 prizes will take place at the London Tavern this day (Saturday).

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METROPOLITAN MASONIC MEETINGS.

For the Week ending Friday, March 31, 1876.

The Editor will be glad to receive notice from Secretaries of Craft Lodges, Royal Arch Chapters, Mark Lodges, Preceptories, Conclaves, &c., of any change in place or time of meeting.

SATURDAY, MARCH 25.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Lily, Greyhound, Richmond.
Percy, 113, Southgate-rd., N.
Manchester, 179, London-st., Fitzroy-square.
Star, Marquis of Granby, New Cross Road.
Sinai Chapter, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.

MONDAY, MARCH 27.

Lodge 4, Royal Somerset House and Inverness.
" 26, Castle of Harmony, Willis's Rooms, W.
" 28, Old King's Arms, F.M.H.
" 79, Pythagorean, Ship Hot., Greenwich.
" 183, Unity, London Tav., Bishopsgate-st.
" 902, Burgoyne, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
Chap. 25, Robert Burns, F.M.H.
Mark Lodge 5, Mallet and Chisel, Bridge House Hot.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Prince Leopold, Lord Stanley Tav., Kingsland.
Strong Man, Jerusalem Tav., St. John's Gate.
Sincerity, Railway Tav., Fenchurch-st. Station.
Camden, Stanhope Arms, Up. James-st., Camden To.
Eastern, Royal Hot., Mile-end-road.
St. James's Union, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Wellington, White Swan, Deptford.
West Kent, St. Saviour's College, Forest-hill.
Perfect Ashlar, Victoria Tav., Lower-rd., Rotherhithe.
Sydney, White Hart Ho., Church-rd., Upper Norwood.

TUESDAY, MARCH 28.

Lodge 14, Tuscan, F.M.H.
" 92, Moira, London Tav., Bishopsgate-st.
" 141, Faith, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-street.
" 145, Prudent Brethren, F.M.H.
" 186, Industry, M.H., Basinghall-st.
" 205, Israel, Terminus Hot., Cannon-st.
" 259, Prince of Wales, Willis's Rooms, St. James.
" 1158, Southern Star, Montpelier Tav., Walworth.
" 1196, Urban, Old Jerusalem Tav., Clerkenwell.
" 1348, Ebury, 12, Ponsonby-st., Millbank.
" 1441, Ivy, Surrey Masonic Hall.
Chap. 21, Cyrus, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.
Rose Croix Chap. Palestine, 33, Golden-sq., W.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney.
Domestic, Surrey M.H., Camberwell New-road.
Faith, 2, Westminster Chambers, Victoria-st.
Prince Fredk. Wm., Lord's Hot., St. John's Wood.
Dalhousie, King Edward, Triangle, Hackney.
Prosperity, 1, Camomile-st., Bishopsgate.
St. Marylebone, British Stores Tav., St. John's Wood.
Constitutional, Wheatheaf Hot., Hand-court, Holborn.
Israel, Rising Sun Tav., Globe Road.
Royal Arthur, Prince's Head, York-road, Battersea.
Beacontree, Red Lion, Leytonstone, at 8.
Metropolitan Chapter, Jamaica Coffee Ho., Cornhill.
Excelsior, Commercial Dock Tav., Rotherhithe.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 29.

Lodge 898, Temperance-in-the-East, 6, Newby-pl., Poplar.
Chap. 435, Mount Lebanon, Ship & Turtle, Leadenhall-st.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Mt. Lebanon, Windsor Castle Tav., Southwark-bdg.-rd.
Pythagorean, Prince of Orange, Greenwich.
New Concord, Rosemary Branch Tav., Hoxton.
Royal Union, Horse and Groom, Winsley-st., Oxford-st.
Confidence, M.H., Basinghall-st.
Peckham, Maismore Arms, Park-road, Peckham.
Stanhope, Thicket Hot., Anerley.
Finsbury Park, Finsbury Park Tav., Seven Sisters'-rd.
Southwark, Southwark Park Tav., Southwark Park.
Duke of Connaught, Havelock Tav., Dalston, E.
United Strength, Grafton Arms, Kentish-town.
Moant Edgcombe, 19, Jermyn-street, St. James's.
Islington, Crown and Cushion, London Wall.

THURSDAY, MARCH 30.

Gen. Com. Girls' School, at 4.
Lodge 22, Neptune, Guildhall Tav., Gresham-st.
" 1524, Duke of Connaught, Pownall-rd., Haggerston.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Egyptian, Hercules Tav., Leadenhall-st.
Fidelity, Yorkshire Grey, London-st., W.
Finsbury, Jolly Anglers' Tav., Bath-st., City-road.
Whittington, Black Bull Tav., Holborn.
Temperance in the East, Catherine-st., Poplar.
Ebury, 12, Ponsonby-st., Millbank.
Highgate, Bull and Gate, Kentish-town.
The Great City, 111, Cheapside.
High Cross, Coach & Horses, High-road, Tottenham.
Salisbury, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Marquis of Ripon, Albion Tav., Albion-rd., Dalston.
Prince Frederick William Chapter, St. John's Wood.

FRIDAY, MARCH 31.

Chap. 134, Caledonian, Ship & Turtle, Leadenhall-st.
K.T. Prec. 26, Faith & Fidelity, Terminus Ho., Cannon-st.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Union Waterloo, Thomas-st., Woolwich.
St. George's, Globe Tav., Royal-hill, Greenwich.
Robert Burns, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Belgrave, Lyceum Tav., 354, Strand.
Unions Emulation (for M.M.'s), F.M.H.
Temperance, Victoria Tav., Victoria-road, Deptford.
Clapton, White Hart, Clapton.
Stability, Guildhall Tav., Gresham-st.
Metropolitan, Portugal Hot., Fleet-st.
Westbourne, Horse & Groom, Winsley-st., Oxford-st.
Metropolitan, Pentonville-road.
United Pilgrims, Surrey M.H., Camberwell New-road.

St. James's, New Tanners' Arms, Grange-rd., Bermondsey.
Duke of Edinburgh, Silver Lion, Penny-fields, Poplar.
Doric, Earl Grey Tav., Mile-end-road.
Burgoyne, Grafton Arms, Prince of Wales's-road, N.W.
St. Luke's, Commercial Tav., King's-road, Chelsea.
Chigwell, Bald-faced Stag Hot., Buckhurst-hill.
Burdett Coutts, Approach Tav., Victoria Park.
Royal Standard, Finsbury Park Tav., Holloway.
Ranelagh, Clarendon Hot., Hammersmith.
Pythagorean Chapter, Prince of Orange, Greenwich-rd.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN WEST LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE.

For the Week ending Saturday April 1, 1876.

MONDAY, MARCH 27.

Lodge 148, Lights, M.R., Warrington.
Chap. 241, Friendship, M.H., Liverpool.

TUESDAY, MARCH 28.

Lodge 1393, Hamer, 22, Everton-rd., Liverpool.
" 1570, Prince Arthur, 80, N. Hill-st., Liverpool.
Chap. 721, Grosvenor, M.R., Chester.
" 1094, Temple, M.H., Liverpool.
Mark Lodge, No. 11, Joppa, M.C., Birkenhead.
Merchants' L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

THURSDAY, MARCH 30.

Lodge 1313, Fermor, M.H., Southport.
Mariners' L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN GLASGOW AND WEST OF SCOTLAND.

For the Week ending Saturday, April 1, 1876.
All the Meetings take place at Eight o'clock.

MONDAY, MARCH 27.

Lodge 102, St. Mark, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
" 103, Union & Crown, 170, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
" 219, Star, 12, Trongate, Glasgow.
" 362, St. Clair, 25, Robertson-st., Glasgow.
" 541, Marie Stuart, M.H., Crosshill.
Chap. 122, Thetis, 35, St. James's-st., Kingston.

TUESDAY, MARCH 28.

Lodge 413, Athole, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
" 543, St. John, M.H., Dalmauir.
Chap. 67, Cathedral, 22, Struthers-st., Glasgow.
" 73, Caledonian of Unity, 170, Buchanan-st.

THURSDAY, MARCH 30.

Lodge 334, St. John's, Castle-inn, New Cumnock.
Chap. 117, Govandale, Portland Buildings, Govan.

FRIDAY, MARCH 31.

Lodge 51, London Kilwinning, Black Bull, Newmilns.
" 118, St. Bride's, M.H., Douglas.
" 125, St. James, Masons' Arms, Newton Ayr.
" 153, Royal Arch, M.H., Pollokshaws.
" 236, Wilsontown St. John, Forth Inn, Carnworth.
" 347, St. John, M.H., Rutherglen.
Chap. 79, Commercial, 30, Hope-st., Glasgow.

SATURDAY, APRIL 1.

Lodge 458, St. John, Wilson's Hall, Busby.
" 544, St. Andrew, M.H., Coatbridge.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN EDINBURGH AND VICINITY.

For the Week ending Saturday, April 1, 1876.

MONDAY, MARCH 27.

Lodge 349, St. Clair, F.H., George-st.

TUESDAY, MARCH 28.

" 151, Defensive Band, Alexandra H., Cockburn-st.
" 223, Trafalgar, 54, Bernard-st., Leith.

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REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS.

Craft Masonry.

PHOENIX LODGE (No. 173).—The last meeting of this lodge was held at the Freemasons' Tavern, on Saturday, the 17th ult. The lodge was opened early in the afternoon by Bro. Wiles, W.M., assisted by Bros. Vine, I.P.M.; Carter, S.W.; Massey, J.W.; Matthews, Sec.; Burford, Treas.; Phillips, S.D.; Finch, J.D.; Andrews, D.C.; Allen, I.G.; Speight, P.M.; Tyler. The P.M.'s of the lodge present were Bros. Sharrman, Wilson, Salmon, Watson, Green. The visitors were Bros. Adams, P.M. 504, &c.; F. Binckes, P.M., &c., &c., Secretary to the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys; Coombs, P.M.; Watts, W.M. 194; Palmer, P.P.G.O.; Walls, S.D. 1381; Farquharson, 259, &c. The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the W.M. raised Bros. Charles and Tatham, passed Bros. Simpson, Garnett, and Houghton, and initiated Messrs. Güterbock and Davie. The ceremonies were well performed. Upon the conclusion of the Masonic labours the lodge was closed in ancient form, and the brethren adjourned to a most elegant banquet. Upon the removal of the cloth the usual toasts of ceremony were given briefly but well by the W.M., and the National Anthem and "God bless the Prince of Wales" sung. Bro. Binckes, whose name had been mentioned in connection with the officers of Grand Lodge, made a very excellent reply upon behalf of those distinguished brethren, but declined to take any honour to himself as a member of that body, inasmuch as he explained, and very fully, that although having filled the office of G.S. he held no past rank in Grand Lodge, and consequently his name ought not to have been coupled with the toast, but, notwithstanding its impropriety he felt gratified at the manner in which his health had been received by the brethren of the Phoenix Lodge. "The W.M.'s Health" was then proposed by the I.P.M., and, having been duly honoured, was briefly acknowledged by Bro. Wiles. "The Health of the Initiates and Newly-passed Brethren" was next given, and elicited a most excellent reply from Bro. Davie. The song of the E.A. was contributed by Bro. Speight. "The Health of the Visitors" followed, and was responded to at length by Bros. Coombs and Walls. The toast of "The P.M.'s" was given by the W.M. in a very neat speech, and was reverally responded to by Bros. Vine, Wilson, Sharrman, Salmon, and Green. Between the toasts instrumental, vocal, and dramatic selections were given by Bros. Palmer, Farquharson, and Walls. "The Health of those most useful and worthy Officers, the Treasurer and Secretary," having been proposed, and duly honoured, was responded to by Bros. Burford and Matthews. The toast of "The Junior Officers" followed, and having been reverally replied to, the Tyler was called upon to discharge his duty, and the brethren adjourned until the second Saturday in April.

DOMATIC LODGE (No. 177).—An exceedingly strong muster of the members of this lodge took place at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, on the 10th ult., it being the last meeting of the season. There were present the following officers:—viz., Bros. Treadwell, W.M.; Everett, I.P.M., W.M., 1381; Smith, P.G.P., P.M., Treas.; Willing, jun., S.W.; Palmer, J.W.; Buscall, S.D.; White, I.G.; Spink, D.C.; Maclean, A.D.C.; Williams, Sec. The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, Bro. Everett, I.P.M., raised Bros. Gwynn, Cook, and Abrams to the Third Degree most impressively, and the W.M. passed as F.C.'s Bros. Killingback, Jewell, Jennings, and Stevens very effectively. There being no candidate present for initiation, a long discussion ensued upon two notices of motion upon the agenda, viz.: By the W.M., "That the summer festival take place in July;" and by the Treasurers, "That the visiting fee be raised to 10s. 6d." Both motions were unanimously carried by a large majority. A committee was then appointed to carry out the proceedings of the festival and which will be held at that abode of historical picturesque celebrity, the Rye House. The I.P.M., having in his capacity of Steward at the last Festival of the Aged Freemasons placed the sum of £10 on account of the lodge upon his list, the lodge endorsed it by unanimously voting that sum to him. The lodge was shortly afterwards closed, and the brethren partook of an excellent banquet. The usual Royal and Craft toasts were given briefly but pertinently by the W.M., and were received with excellent fire by the 112 brethren present, of whom eighteen were visitors. Bro. Smith, P.G.P., the father of the lodge, and Bro. T. Adams, P.G.P., the veteran of the Craft, responded for the members of Grand

Lodge. The I.P.M. proposed "The Health of the W.M." in a very graceful and kind manner, and who immediately responded by stating that to preside over so extensive a lodge as the Domatic was a task of no little difficulty, but if the brethren would only give him their hearty countenance and support during his year of office he would endeavour to discharge the responsibilities of the position to the best of his humble ability. "The Health of the Visitors" followed, and was responded to by Bros. Thompson, W.M. (Emulation), and Walls S.D. (Kennington). The W.M. next proposed "The P.M.'s" in a very neat speech, in which he expressed his personal obligations to those brethren. It is needless to state that this toast and the response that followed were most heartily received. During the proceedings Bros. Palmer, Wood, Walls, Budd, and others vocally entertained the brethren. "The Healths of the Treasurer, Secretary, and Junior Officers of the Lodge" were proposed and drank, and responded to on behalf of those absent and present by Bros. Williams, Palmer, Buscall, White, Spink, and Maclean. The Tyler's toast was called at half-past 10 o'clock, and the members separated until October.

STOKESLEY.—Cleveland Lodge (No. 543).—An emergency meeting of this prosperous lodge was held on Monday evening, March 27th, Bros. William Guthrie Forbes, M.B., W.M.; Wm. Scarth Dixon, S.W.; James Coulson, J.W.; J. H. Handyside, P. Prov. G.J.W., and P.M., Sec.; Richard Watson, P.M., Treas.; David Dixon, S.D.; J. W. Sharp, J.D.; George Markham Tweddell, acting as I.G.; and Wm. Harrison, Tyler. The lodge being opened in the First Degree, and Bro. Hanson having passed a satisfactory examination, &c., retired until the lodge was opened in the Second Degree, when he was again admitted and passed to the Degree of F.C. Several members of the lodge had travelled good distances to be present, which is a healthy sign of the spirit of Masonry.

LIVERPOOL.—Alliance Lodge (No. 667).—The monthly meeting of this well-conducted lodge was held on Tuesday evening, the 21st ult., at the Masonic Hall, Hope-street, Liverpool. The chair was occupied by Bro. J. E. Jackson, W.M., and he was supported by Bros. T. Ockleshaw, I.P.M.; G. S. Willings, S.W.; Ellis, J.W.; W. Doyle, P. Prov. G.J.D., P.M., Treas.; H. Frith, Sec.; W. Phillips, P.M.; and others. Messrs. Isaac Levy, Bushell, and Titterton were duly elected, and as they were in attendance they were initiated into the mysteries and privileges of the ancient Order by the W.M. in an effective manner, the ancient charge being given by the S.W., Bro. Willings, in a manner which has rarely been equalled. Two candidates were also raised to the Sublime degree of M.M. Notice of motion was given to raise the initiation fee to eight guineas. The brethren subsequently sat down to an excellent supper, under the presidency of the W.M., and during the evening a number of excellent songs were given by Bros. Willings, S.W.; S. Jacobs, 241; Wright, 667; and others.

GIBRALTAR.—Meridian Lodge (No. 743).—The installation of Bro. Lieut. W. T. Deverill, of the Meridian Lodge, took place on Wednesday evening, the 15th ult., in the presence of the Most Worshipful the D.D.G.M., Bro. Captain and Brigade Major G. J. Gilbard, who most ably performed the ceremony. The officers of the lodge present were Bros. W. Vines, W.M.; Major T. E. Swettenham, P.M.; F. Fisher, P.M.; Lieut. R. W. F. Phillips, S.W.; W. A. Barron, Sec.; J. Herbert, Treas.; Dr. T. Babington; Burton, Tyler; Rowe, S.D.; White, Hitching; Visitors: Bros. Beale, P.M. 325; Francis, P.M. 325; Myatt, 153; Collins, Quartermaster H. Wilkinson, 31st Regiment, Amor, 325; Stainfield, 325; Conway, 153; Ghio, 325; Nolan, 153; and Bro. Sir Arthur Mackworth Captain R.E., Lodge 238. The lodge having been opened, the W.M. stated the business of the evening, and Bro. Deverill having been presented, and all those not P.M.'s having been requested to withdraw, the installation was proceeded with, and the ceremony was very impressive and instructive, and the Craft are highly honoured by a very distinguished member in Bro. Gilbard. The W.M. then proceeded to invest his officers as follows:—Bros. T. Woodward, S.W.; H. Wilkinson (who was proposed and elected a joining member of the lodge), as J.W.; Barron, Sec. (for the fourth year); Herbert, Treasurer; Lieut. Newington, S.D.; Lieut. Phillips, J.D.; Rowe, Tyler; Fisher, P.M., as I.G. It was proposed by Bro. Major T. E. Swettenham that in addition to a cordial vote of thanks, Bro. Gilbard, the D.D.G.M., should be elected a permanent honorary member of the Meridian Lodge, which proposition was unanimously carried. The D.D.G.M. returned thanks for the honour conferred on him, and expressed himself always willing to come forward for the good of Masonry, and regretted that the Meridian Lodge was so soon to leave this station for England, and concluded by wishing the lodge every success and prosperity. A P.M.'s jewel was voted and will be presented to Bro. Vines so soon as it shall have been received, and a present was also voted to Bro. Burton, the retiring Tyler. The business of the evening being concluded, the brethren adjourned to an adjoining room, where an excellent repast was prepared, and having done ample justice there, the brethren retired at a very reasonable hour.

ECCLESHILL.—Eccleshill Lodge (No. 1034).—On Friday, the 10th ult. (the eleventh anniversary of this lodge), the brethren assembled to celebrate the festival of St. John the Evangelist. A large number of members and visiting brethren were present, amongst whom were Bros. Blakeley, P.M. Nelson of the Nile, 264; C. Avison, S.W. Nelson of the Nile, 264; W. H. Dick, J.D. Nelson of the Nile, 264; H. Farrar, W.M. Lodge of Hope, 302; C. Gott, S.W. Lodge of Hope, 302; F. C. Hope, Sec. Lodge of Hope, 302; J. Hamer, St. John's, Sedgfield, 325; G. Alsing, Caledonian (Scot-

land), 354; C. Crabtree, W.M. Harmony, 600; M. Mullen, J.W. Harmony, 600; S. B. Walmsley, P.M. Pentalpha, 974; W. Morgan, W.M. Shakespeare, 1018; H. Harrison, W.M. elect Shakespeare, 1018; W. Barraclough, W.M. Wharfedale, 1108; J. R. Croft, S.W. Wharfedale, 1108; C. Pratt, P.M., P. Prov. G. Supt. of Works; W. Bealand, P.M., P. Prov. G. Supt. of Works; J. G. Hutchinson, P.M., Charity Steward; and several other Past Masters. The lodge was opened by the W.M. (Bro. George Pearson) at 5.15 p.m., and Bro. Wm. B. Woodhead was raised to the Sublime Degree by the W.M., assisted by the I.P.M. (Bro. W. Pratt). The Treasurer (Bro. J. Procter, P.M.) presented the yearly balance sheet, which was received with great favour by the brethren, as it shewed the lodge to be in a most flourishing condition. The W.M. afterwards announced that the installation of the W.M. and officers for the ensuing year would be proceeded with, and called upon Bro. C. Pratt, P.M., P.P. G. Supt. of Works, to perform the ceremony. Bro. W. Bealand, P.M., P.P.G.S.W., then presented Bro. James Hartop (W.M. elect), and he was duly and properly installed W.M. in a most impressive manner by the Installing Master. The W.M. invested his officers as follows:—Bros. Pearson, I.P.M.; J. Arnold, S.W.; F. Smart, J.W.; Rev. A. L. Cooper, Chaplain; J. Procter, P.M., Treas.; F. W. Nicholson, Sec.; J. Wilson, S.D.; J. Cass, J.D.; M. Pedley, I.G.; W. T. Croft, Organist; J. Lightfoot, Tyler; J. G. Hutchinson, P.M., Charity Steward; J. Busfield, J. Southworth, R. Thomson, J. Flaxington, J. Busfield, Stewards; J. Davis, M.C. The business being completed, the usual collection for poor and distressed Masons was made, and the lodge was closed according to ancient usage at 8.20. The brethren then adjourned to a recherche banquet. After supper the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given. The chair was taken by the W.M., Bro. Jas. Hartop, and he was excellently supported by many P.M.'s and visiting Masters. The retiring W.M. (Bro. G. Pearson) spoke in most eulogistic terms of his officers, and thanked the brethren for the handsome manner in which he had been supported. He complimented the W.M. on the honourable position he had attained, and from the superior abilities he possessed and the excellent staff of officers chosen to assist him he was sure the present Masonic year would be one of great success. The W.M. in excellent terms returned thanks, and stated it was his intention to maintain the prestige of his lodge, and at the expiration of his term to leave it (if it was possible) in even better position than it stood at present. The visiting brethren all spoke in the highest praise of the splendid working they had witnessed, which they thought it would be difficult to excel by any lodge in the province. Bro. W. Bealand, P.M., P.P.G.S.W., in speaking of the charities and the efforts the Eccleshill Lodge had made to support them, stated that the lodge already stood very high in the province, having every officer endowed for the Boys' School, and he trusted ere long they would be in a similar position with respect to the Girls' School. The evening was spent in a most enjoyable manner, some capital songs, recitations, &c., being given by Bro. M. Mullen and other brethren, Bros. W. T. Croft, Organist, and J. W. Nicholson, Prov. Grand Organist, doing duty at the pianoforte. The entertainment was brought to a close by the usual toast: "To all Poor and Distressed Masons," &c.

HAMPTON.—Hamming Lodge (No. 1512).—The members of this young but flourishing lodge assembled in good strength at the Lion Hotel, on Thursday, the 16th ult. The officers of the lodge present were Bros. Hopwood, P.M. 141, W.M.; W. Hammond, P.M. Lebanon, P.J.G.D. of Middlesex, I.P.M.; Rowe, P.M., acting S.W.; Hurst, J.W.; J. Hammond, P.M., Sec.; Wheeler, S.D.; Fox, J.D.; Jessett, I.G.; Gutteridge, W.S.; Ockenden, D.C.; Tagg, A.W.S. The visitors were Bros. Colonel Wigginton, P.M., W.M. 1503, P.P.G.D.C. of Worcestershire, P.G.S. of Middlesex; Captain Birchill, P.M., P.P.G.S.B. of Herts; Dixon, P.M. 209, P.P.G.D.C. of Berks and Bucks; Wilson, P.M. 209; Martin, 201; Barton, 713; Robinson, 784; Hiscock, 865; Nuthall, 889; Sadler, 1293. The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the W.M. initiated Messrs. Gavaron, Donald, and Day into Craft mysteries. This being the night for election of W.M. for the ensuing year, Bro. Hurst, J.W., was elected to that position, as the S.W., Bro. Hill, had declined standing for the honour. Bro. Rowe having resigned the office of Treasurer, the W.M. was unanimously elected in his stead, and a vote of thanks passed to Bro. Rowe, and which was ordered to be recorded upon the minutes. Upon the motion of the I.P.M. a Past Master's jewel was unanimously voted to Bro. Hopwood. The bye-laws having been read, the lodge was shortly afterwards closed, and the brethren adjourned to a collation. Upon the removal of the cloth the W.M. gave "The Queen and the Craft," which was duly honoured. In proposing "The Health of the M.W.G.M." the W.M., in the course of his remarks, referred to the great success that had attended the Prince throughout his late Indian tour, and how gratifying it must be to the Craft that, by the blessing of the G.A.O.T.U., H.R.H.'s health had not in the least been impaired by his visit. In conclusion he hoped that the Freemasons would take an opportunity of according their M.W.G.M. a grand reception upon his safe return to his native country equal to that given him on the ever memorable 28th of April last. This toast having been enthusiastically received, and Bro. Walls having contributed the National Anthem, and "God bless the Prince of Wales," the W.M. gave "The P.G.M., D.G.M., and the rest of the Grand Officers, Past and Present." He then proposed "The Health of R.W. Colonel Burdett, G.M. of Middlesex," which was duly honoured. "The Health of the D.P.G.M. and the rest of the Grand Officers of the Province, Past and Present," followed, coupled with the names of Bros. W. Hammond, Grand Junior Deacon, and W. Wigginton,

Grand Steward. Bro. Hammond, in reply, stated that he was sorry that their R.W.P.G.M. had not been pleased to honour the lodge that evening with his presence, in order that he might have had an opportunity of witnessing the hearty manner in which his name and the officers of his province had been received. Colonel Burdett had written to say that he would be present, and he was sure some very important engagement indeed must have intervened to have prevented his attending their lodge, and he was sorry that his (Bro. Hammond's) position in Grand Lodge prevented him from replying on behalf of the R.W.P.G.M. He then went on to express his thanks on behalf of his brother officers and himself for the very kind manner in which the toast of the Grand Masonic executive of the province had been honoured, and in conclusion he stated that they (the Grand Officers) were only too proud to hold rank in the province that had as its chief so kind, genial, and affable a brother as Colonel Burdett. Bro. Colonel Wigginton, in opening his speech, said that as the J.G.D. of the Province had been diffident about replying upon behalf of the R.W.G.M., it could not be expected that he—who only held the office of G.S.—in the presence of his superior officer could say much. He then at length fully endorsed the remarks of the preceding speaker with regard to the abilities and worth of the brethren holding office in the Prov. Grand Lodge under the able sway of their ever courteous and much esteemed brother, Colonel Francis Burdett. The I.P.M. then arose, and said he was glad that the pleasing duty of proposing "The Health of the W.M." devolved upon him. He felt sure that the brethren would agree with him that Bro. Hopwood's year of office, which was now drawing to a close, had been a very prosperous and successful one, and he hoped that he would be many years spared to hold the position of second Past Master of the Hemming Lodge. In conclusion, he mentioned the W.M.'s connection with those excellent charities—the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, and the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls. This toast having been duly honoured, the W.M. briefly replied, in which he stated that he was very pleased with the kind remarks of the I.P.M., but he was compelled to say that they were too eulogistic. He had endeavoured to do his best, and he believed that the members of the lodge were satisfied with him, and with that belief he should always look back to the year of his Mastership as being a very happy and pleasant episode of his life. "The Health of the Initiates" followed, and having been heartily drunk, Bro. Wigginton kindly contributed the song of the E.A. Bros. Gavaron, Donald, and Day having acknowledged the toast, the W.M. proposed "The Health of the Visitors." Bro. Col. Wigginton, in reply, said that on behalf of the two Grand Officers of Berks, Bucks, and Herts, viz., Bros. Dixon and Birchill, and the other brethren who had had an opportunity of visiting the Hemming Lodge that evening, he was empowered to state that their visit in every way had been highly pleasing to them. As P.M. of several lodges, and as W.M. of a neighbouring lodge, he had had opportunities of visiting different lodges, and he personally could say that the W.M. that evening, by taking the initiates separately, and being fully prepared to take the brethren for passing and raising had been present, that he had had by no means an easy time of it, and in conclusion he complimented him and the lodge upon the successful manner in which everything had been conducted. Bro. Sadler fully endorsed the remarks of the last speaker, and concluded by stating that if the Hemming Lodge went on in the same excellent manner as it had progressed during the last few months it would in a very short time be second to none in the Province of Middlesex. "The Health of the I.P.M." followed, and having been duly honoured, Bro. W. Hammond replied. He said in the course of his speech that he felt very proud of holding the position of First Past Master of so good a lodge as the Hemming promised to be. When he came to consider the very short time it had been established, not eighteen months, and the paucity of its members at the commencement of their Masonic campaign, he was absolutely astonished at the rapid progress made both in strength and efficiency. The concluding part of his response was occupied in expressing his thanks to the W.M. and the brethren for the hearty and kind manner in which his health had been proposed and drunk. The W.M. then called upon the brethren to drink "The Health of Bro. Hurst, J.W., the W.M. elect," which, having been complied with, that brother replied by thanking the brethren for having elected him to the chair of K.S., and hoped that they would have no occasion to regret having done so, and that with the assistance of the P.M.'s he hoped to be able to carry out the duties of the position to the satisfaction of the lodge. "The Health of the late Treasurer, Bro. Rawe, P.M.," and that of "The Secretary, Bro. J. Hammond, P.M.," followed, prefaced by a few kind words of commendation from the W.M., and having been duly honoured, the I.P.M., in their unavoidable absence, acknowledged the toast. In consequence of the lateness of the hour, the W.M. was prevented from enlarging upon the next toast, viz., "The Health of the Junior Officers of the Lodge," and Bros. Wheeler, Jessett, Gutteridge, Ockenden and Tagg, representing that body, were prevented by the same reason from more than briefly responding. During the evening Bros. Ockenden, Jessett, Hurst, and Walls dramatically and vocally enlivened the proceedings. The Tyler's toast at eleven brought a highly successful meeting to a close.

INSTRUCTION.

VICTORIA METROPOLITAN LODGE OF INSTRUCTION.—This popular lodge of instruction, which holds its meetings at the Portugal Hotel in Fleet-street, and has it should be said no connection but that of brotherly friendship with the Metropolitan Club of Instruction at King's-cross, held its annual banquet on Friday, 24th ult. There were present many of the Past Masters and W. Masters, who have sought and gained knowledge in the work of well ruling and government of

lodges, as well as a great many of the aspiring Masons who are determined to obtain knowledge even if they have no practical need of it just at present. Bro. Stacey, the honoured Preceptor of the lodge, presided, assisted by Bros. P.M. Bingemann, the Secretary; Foulger, P.M., Treas.; R. Griggs, W.M. of 228; J. While, P.M. of 228 ("Freemason"); Hopper, of Shanghai; and others. Bros. Whittaker, Nelson Reed, and Farwig assisted by occupying the three Wardens' chairs. The banquet was exceedingly well served. After the active exertions of the brethren in dealing with the viands, Bro. Stacey proposed the usual loyal toasts, and spoke of the pride which every Mason felt in seeing statesmen filling positions which entailed great duties upon them. In speaking of the lodge, Bro. Stacey, in the course of an excellent speech, spoke of the flourishing position, and expressed the pleasure he felt at seeing those who had acquired most of their Masonic knowledge in its ranks achieving positions in different lodges. The toast was coupled with the name of Bro. Griggs, the W.M. of 228, who, in reply, bore witness to the self-sacrificing spirit displayed by Bros. Stacey and Bingemann, and those brothers had won the hearts of all with whom they had come into contact. Speaking from his own experience, he said he did not believe that there was a better lodge of instruction in London, or one in which the members generally possessed so much knowledge of lodge work. He had obtained the goal of his ambition in sitting in the chair of his mother lodge, and that he was able to discharge the duties to the satisfaction of his brethren was in some degree owing to the facility he had acquired in this lodge of instruction. Bro. Perrin, the W.M. elect of the Victoria Lodge, and Bro. Hopper, of Shanghai, responded for the visitors. Bro. Foulger proposed the toast of the W.M. of the night, and all did honour to Bro. Stacey, who responded in felicitous terms. "The Health of Bro. Bingemann" was given with warmth, and he, in responding, spoke of the pleasure it gave him to work in the lodge. The officers were toasted, and the evening ended with harmony, displaying no little talent as singers and story tellers. The lodge, it may be added, has done practical good by subscribing largely to the charities.

Royal Arch.

BATH.—Royal Cumberland Chapter (No. 41).—The monthly meeting was held on March 21st when owing to the illness of many of the members, and a heavy snowstorm, there was a very scanty attendance, and not till nearly an hour after the time fixed could the presence of three Principals be obtained. The chairs were filled by Dr. Hopkins as Z.; Rubie as H.; Moutrie as J.; Comp. Hearne was in his place as N.; and Brown as P. Soj.; also Bigwood as Janitor. The other officers were absent, and their positions occupied by substitutes. After the opening of the Board of Principals, and of the chapter, and the admission of the company, the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. A ballot was taken for Bro. Hunt as a candidate to be exalted at the next meeting, which was unanimous in his favour. A communication was read from the Royal Sussex Chapter, which had met on the previous evening, requesting co-operation in taking measures to obtain a provincial Grand Chapter in Somerset, but in the absence of most of the proper officers the consideration of it was deferred. As there was no other business on the paper of agenda, it had been arranged that the acting Z. should give instruction in the ceremony of exaltation, which was, however, prevented by the lateness of the hour, and the unfortunate circumstances of the evening.

LANCASTER.—Rowley Chapter (No. 1051).—The regular meeting of this chapter for the installation of the Principals and investiture of the officers for the ensuing year took place on Monday evening, the 20th ult. There were present the Installing Officer, Comp. Dr. Moore, P.G.S.B. of the Supreme Grand Chapter of England, &c.; Comps. E. Simpson, P.Z., Prov. G.S.B.; W. Hall, P.Z.; J. L. Whimpray, P.Z.; Edwd. Airey, H.; Wm. I'cald, J.; F. Dean, P.Z.; W. Wearing, N.; Wm. Hall, P.S.; J. Taylor and J. Ellershaw, Assist. Sojs.; H. Longman, J. J. Crookell, and others. After the chapter had been opened and companions admitted, the Principals elect were duly presented to the Installing Officer to receive the benefit of installation, and in Boards of Installed Principals in their several grades Comp. Airey was duly installed as M.E.Z.; Comp. Heald, as H.; and Comp. Dean, as J. After the Principals had been proclaimed and saluted, the following officers were presented and invested:—Comps. Dr. Moore, E.; W. Wearing, N.; W. Hall, P.S.; E. Simpson, Treas.; J. Taylor and Jas. Ellershaw, Assist. Sojs. A vote of thanks was awarded to Comp. Moore for his services as Installing Officer, and the chapter closed.

IPSWICH.—St. Luke's Chapter (No. 225).—The usual quarterly convocation of this chapter of Holy Royal Arch was held at the Coach and Horses Hotel, Ipswich, on Wednesday, the 22nd March, when there were present Comps. Emma Holmes, M.E.Z.; C. Byford, H.; J. Turner, J.; A. Barber, Scribe E.; Whitehead; George Abbot, Prin. Soj.; W. Daking, Dr. Mills, P.Z.; and others. The minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed, the ballot was taken for Comp. Daking, who was unanimously elected a joining member. This being the meeting for the election of officers for the ensuing year, the following were elected to fill those responsible positions:—C. Byford, as Z.; J. Turner, H.; Whitehead, J.; Geo. Abbot, Prin. Soj.; W. Daking, Scribe N.; H. Barber, Scribe E.; Syer, Janitor; Godball, Treas. The current business having been gone through, and another joining member proposed, the chapter was closed, and the companions assembled round the social board under the presidency of Comp. Mills, in the unavoidable absence of the M.E.Z., when the usual pleasant evening

was spent by the brethren of this old chapter, who are always "happy to meet, sorry to part, and happy to meet again."

Mark Masonry.

DEVON.—Fortitude Lodge (No. 66).—A meeting of this lodge was held in the Hayshe Temple on Tuesday, 28th ult., at which Bro. Isaac Latimer was duly installed as W.M. for the ensuing year. The large number of thirty-one Past Masters were present. The ceremony was very ably performed by the retiring Master, Bro. C. Godtschalk. After the installation the W.M. duly appointed and invested his officers:—Bros. C. Godtschalk, I.P.M.; J. J. Avery, S.W.; W. Hearder, J.W.; S. Jew, Treas.; V. Bird, Chaplain; J. B. Gover, Sec.; W. B. Hambly, Reg. of Marks; Emery, M.O.; Ferry, S.O.; Crimp, J.O.; Hearle, I.G.

Scotland.

GLASGOW.—Lodge St. John (No. 34).—A meeting of this lodge was held in their hall, 213, Buchanan-street, on Tuesday, 21st ult., at 7 p.m. The attendance of members and visitors was large. Bro. D. M. Nelson, W.M., presided, supported by Bros. W. Bell, I.P.M.; T. B. Bell, S.M.; J. Sellars, S.W.; P. Brownlie, J.W.; J. Dunn, Treas.; J. Dick, Sec.; and others. The lodge was opened, and the minutes of last meeting read and confirmed. Bros. W. Lorimer, D. McDougall, W. Scott, R. Hutcheson, and J. A. Jardine were raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason by Bro. McMillan, P.M. Messrs. H. Tennent and A. Murray were initiated by Bro. T. B. Bell, S.M. Amongst those present we noticed Bros. Johnston, O. Mother Kilwinning; R. Campbell, St. John, N.B., Canada, 22; Paterson, 27; W. Campbell, 56, I.C.; W. Crawford, 80; Cameron, 219; J. Rice, M.A. 225, Dublin; Ferguson, P.M. 543 ("Freemason"); Easton, W.M. 579; Wilson, D.M. 579; Henry, J.W. 581; Allan, Sec. 581; and others.

RENTON.—Leven St. John's Lodge (No. 170).—The annual festival of this lodge took place in the Black Bull Inn, Renton, on Friday evening, 17th ult., when about sixty sat down to supper, including a number of the fair sex, as well as deputations from Dumbarton Kilwinning (No. 18) and Alexandria (No. 321). The chair was occupied by Bro. David Paul, R.W.M., while Bro. Sinclair, S.W., ably discharged the duties of Croupier. After supper had been partaken of, the Chairman rose and said: "Twelve months have now come and gone since I had the honour and privilege of rising from the seat which I occupy tonight to address a few words to those who had assembled on that occasion. It is only, however, like yesterday since then; but how many important changes have taken place amongst us during that time? Some have spanned the blue sea, and are at this moment in a distant land; others are scattered here and there, while death has called some to go the road from whence no traveller ever returns. But, brethren, such is life; and while it is well for us to look back sometimes and take a lesson from the past, yet we must grapple with the present, and have faith and hope in the future. We are here to-night to throw away those cares and troubles which are apt to arise in our every day life, and to enjoy for a few hours those bright scenes of pleasure which good fellowship can alone inspire within us. And, brethren, I think we require a night such as this, with our lady friends to invigorate and strengthen us for further labour, because their presence is like the beaming stars shining in all their sparkling brilliancy in the midnight scene, and I hope that every brother present may say what our great national poet said on one occasion:—

"That the sweetest hour that ere he spent

Was spent among the lasses, O."

After congratulating the brethren on the continued prosperity of the lodge, he spoke on the aims and advantages of Masonry. Our institution, he said, like every other human institution, is not perfect, it has its failings, but it is characteristic of the human mind that they detect the failings, but overlook the virtues; and it may be said of our critics:

"They are to our virtues ever blind,

And to our failings ever kind."

The advantages of being connected with our Order are very great, besides the good fellowship and universal brotherhood we enjoy. It is surely a benefit to be connected with an institution whose universal language, and the great benefits it confers upon its members, gives it an influence and a power throughout the world which no institution of a similar nature can boast of. Masonry forms as it were an inner circle in society, under whose banner we can meet, away from the noise of the busy world, from business harassments, political excitement, religious contests, and the many other contentions which are going on around us at the present time; for here we can meet in peace and press the right hand of fellowship with a brother, and receive strength to pursue again the battle of life. But, brethren, we are told that the tree is known by its fruit, so the character of every institution is judged by those who are connected with it, and how they act. So, brethren, as Masons let us maintain its integrity by acting on the square of justice and keeping to the plumb line of rectitude in all our actions. Let us not imagine that Masonry is to be confined to the secret walls of a lodge, for while we maintain the secrets let us exhibit our principles in all our transactions with the world, and let our characters be adorned and cemented with its brightest jewels, namely, faith, hope, and charity; and by cultivating concord, friendship, and brotherly love we will best promote the spread and maintain the integrity of our Order. The Chairman then gave in succession "The Queen and the Craft," "The Three Grand Lodges," and "The Pro-

vincial Grand Lodge of Dumbartonshire, the latter toast being coupled with the name of Bro. Hodge, W.M. 18, who replied. The Croupier then gave "The Visiting Brethren," Bro. Paton, 18, replied. Bro. Stewart, W.M. of 321, proposed "Leven St. John's Lodge," expressing the great pleasure he had at being present, and was glad to hear that the lodge was in such a prosperous condition. He passed a high eulogium on the office-bearers the way they discharged their respective duties, coupling the toast with the name of the chairman, who replied. Bro. the Rev. D. H. Wilson then proposed "The Ladies" in a very amusing and interesting speech. Bro. D. Murray replied. The remaining toasts were:—"Mine Host," by Bro. McKay, of 321, replied by Bro. Murray; "The Chairman," by Bro. Allan, 18, and "The Croupier," by Bro. Lauder, 18. The proceedings were greatly enlivened by the excellent singing of Bros. D. Glen, Matheson, McCrimmon, Lawson, and Paton. An assembly followed. Bro. J. Matheson acted as Master of Ceremonies, Bro. Park's fine quadrille band supplying the music.

MAYBOLE.—Royal Arch Lodge (No. 198).—On Friday evening, 24th ult., within the King's Arms Hotel (Mr. Hunter's) upwards of forty couples sat down to supper on the occasion of Bro. J. Hamilton, P.M., being presented with a testimonial in recognition of his valued services as W.M. of the above lodge. Blessing being asked by Bro. Chapel, No. 11, supper was partaken of, and the following toasts followed from the Chairman, Bro. Jas. Nisbet, W.M., viz., "The Queen, Prince of Wales, and Royal Family," "Three Grand Lodges," "Provincial Grand Lodge of Ayrshire," coupled with the name of Col. Muir, Prov. G.M., to which Bro. Kennedy, of Lodge Mother Kilwinning, replied, after which Bro. J. Lambie, S.P.M., proposed the toast of the evening, "The Health of our Guest," which was cordially and enthusiastically received. Bro. J. Hamilton, P.M., was then presented with a valuable timepiece. Bro. Lambie in his remarks, alluded to the warmth every one had towards him in the lodge, for his kind manner and consistent walk as a good Mason. He had not only been appreciated by his own lodge, but by all the lodges that knew him. Amidst prolonged cheers he was wished long life and happiness. Bro. Hamilton, in a few but well-chosen sentences, replied. Songs and toasts followed. The whole proceedings were of a most pleasant nature. An assembly followed, which was kept up briskly till an early hour. The testimonial bore the following inscription:—Presented to Bro. James Hamilton, P.M., from the brethren of Royal Arch Lodge, No. 198, Maybole, as a token of esteem for his valuable services as W.M."

GLASGOW.—Lodge Commercial (No. 360).—One of the most brilliant, enjoyable, and in every way successful Masonic gatherings that have occurred in the West for some years was held in connection with this lodge on the 23rd ult., on the occasion of their being honoured with a visit from Bro. Henry Inglis, of Torsonce, Past Substitute Grand Master of Scotland, and present P.G. Master of the province of Peebles and Selkirkshire. The distinguished brother arrived at the lodge-room, No. 30, Hope-street, at nine o'clock, and was received with appropriate honours by the company of about seventy brethren assembled, and took his seat upon the dais at the chairman's right hand. Bro. John Monro, R.W.M. of the lodge, presided, supported on the dais by the following office-bearers of the P.G. Lodge of Glasgow: Bros. James Gillies, Treas.; A. Bain, B.B.; Jas. Balfour, Dir. of Ceremonies; J. Miller, Dir. of Music; David Reid, I.G.; and Geo. Sinclair, Treas. of the P.G. Benevolent Fund. In addition to the R.W.M. there were present of Lodge Commercial office-bearers, Bros. A. McKenzie and Julius Brode, Past Masters; D. Lamb, D.M.; W. Finlay, S.M.; J. M. Oliver, S.W.; Thomas Graham, J.W.; Geo. Scott, Treas.; John Smith, Sec.; Robert Reid, S.D.; and W. Keiller, J.D. Amongst the visitors were the following R.W. Masters of lodges: Bros. D. M. Nelson, St. John, 34; James Booth, Thistle, 87; D. Murray, Union and Crown, 103; R. Jack, St. John, Shettleston, 128; J. Peters, Royal Arch, Pollokshaws, 153; J. Singleton, Scotia, 178; W. M. G. Mason, Marie Stuart, 541; and W. J. Easton, St. Bryde, Uddingston, 579. Of other office-bearers among the visiting brethren were James Sellars, S.W., and P. Brownlie, J.W. 34; J. Forsyth, J.W. 103; J. Black, S.W., and T. Hart, J.W. 153; J. Harley, S.W.; and C. McKenzie, J.W. 354; J. Anderson, I.P.M., 370; J. Fraser, S.W. 541; Alex. Gow, S.M. 581; J. Henry, J.W. 581; W. Taylor, Treas. 581; W. Ferguson, P.M. ("Freemason"), and others. Bro. Inglis having taken his seat, the chairman said that, before calling the lodge from labour to refreshment, he was going to avail himself of his official prerogative in proposing him for affiliation as an honorary member of the lodge. Bro. Inglis's appearance there was to them indeed a bright one. They might not all be aware that he had claims upon their Masonic privileges which even preceded his more immediate ones. He was the son of one who held high and honourable positions in the Grand Lodge of Scotland before many of those present were born. Bro. Inglis himself had been so long connected with the Craft, and so zealous and earnest in all he had to do with it, as to make for himself a place in the annals of history, in which his name would be handed down when those present were no longer members of a lodge. To his (the chairman's) thinking, he was the foremost Mason in Scotland at the present day, and when he (the chairman) said that in bestowing the highest honour in their power upon Bro. Inglis they thereby conferred honour upon themselves, he was simply speaking the truth. Bro. Inglis then stepped in front of the altar and received honorary affiliation to the lodge at the hands of the W.M., Bro. Monro. Having returned to the dais he briefly returned thanks for the compliment. He said that what their R.W. Master had said concerning him the former doubtless believed to be true, but he (Bro. Inglis) said it was much too flattering. Their Master had said that in conferring affiliation they were

doing honour to Lodge Commercial, [but he said—and he said it from all his heart—that the honour remained with the affiliated son of the lodge. It gave him great pleasure to be there that night and grasp their hands as brethren, and also thank them for the very great distinction bestowed upon him. The lodge thereafter adjourned from labour to refreshment. After the preliminary toasts that of "The Provincial Grand Lodge of Glasgow" was proposed by Bro. D. Lamb. It was coupled with the name of Bro. Geo. Sinclair, Treasurer of the P.G. Benevolent Fund, who, in replying, stated that the fund under his care had much increased. At that time last year they had in hand £570, their total income since had been £217 5s.; and, after deducting the disbursements, their gross capital was now £680 5s. 11d. "The Province of Peebles and Selkirk," coupled with the name of its R.W. Master, was proposed by the Chairman. He said he had had opportunities of witnessing the condition of matters in that province, and it was second to none in the kingdom. He could assure them that the style in which the lodges there did their work was an example. He had also had opportunities of observing the esteem he might almost say the veneration, in which the Master was held in the province, and he could assure them that, for once, the adage about a prophet having no honour in his own country was reversed. Distinguished as Bro. Inglis's career as a Mason had been, and eminent as had been his position in Grand Lodge, he (the chairman) trusted the day was not far distant when he would be in a more distinguished position still. If there was a brother who more than any other deserved to be raised to the throne it was Bro. Inglis; and he (the chairman) thought the Grand Lodge would not lose sight of his claims on its regard. Bro. Inglis, in replying to the toast, gave a highly humorous description of some of the Masonic features of his province. They in the south, he remarked, were few, but they were a very difficult lot. The brethren there talked enough about him in his absence, but when he went amongst them they were as quiet as lambs. He was very fond of them, and he believed they were very fond of him. The most riotous lot he had was Hawick. The very last time he was there he said to them—"I'll tell you what you are. The Empress of Russia said that if you scraped a Russian you would discover a Tartar; and I find that if I scrape a Hawick man I come upon a moss-trooper." I find you are all moss-troopers together, disguised as weavers; and if it is any comfort to you, I'm another. They were quite satisfied with this, and only asked me not to scratch them. In concluding, Bro. Inglis remarked that as to what the chairman had said of him personally, he thought he had been a little too high in his estimate. Still, there were very few older Masons than himself in Scotland, and he thought that in the various positions he had occupied in connection with the Craft he had endeavoured to do his duty. He served for seven years as Substitute Grand Master, and after that he thought it was time for him to retire. Should Grand Lodge choose to put him farther up—and they in the west formed no mean portion of Grand Lodge—his grateful thanks would be due to it. If they in the west chose to hang together they could do as they liked. If his brethren in Glasgow chose to think that he ought to occupy the throne they had only to go to Edinburgh and say so. The toast of "Lodge Commercial, No. 360," was given by Bro. D. M. Nelson, who, in commending it to the company, said that amongst all the lodges in Glasgow it stood pre-eminent, and that the W.M. was one of the best, if not best, working Masters they had at the present time. The Chairman, in responding to the toast, begged, in the name of the lodge, to thank all those visiting brethren who had come to meet them on that interesting occasion—including the worthy brother on his right hand, who was now one of themselves. On all such occasions as that they would be most warmly received. "Past Masters of the Lodge 360" was replied to by Bros. Julius Brode and A. McKenzie. Bro. Inglis proposed "The Lodges in the Province of Glasgow," coupled with "Lodge Plantation, No. 581," as being the junior. In the absence of the W.M. of the lodge, Bro. Alex. Gow, S.M., acknowledged the compliment in a few words, pleading the youth of the lodge as an excuse for not having much to say, and called upon Bro. D. M. Nelson, as Master of the oldest lodge in the province (St. John, 34), to supplement his remarks. In so doing the latter referred to the want hitherto of a proper reception hall for the Provincial Grand Lodge of Glasgow, a want, however, which was now likely to be supplied, the P.G. Master, Bro. W. M. Neilson, having acquired suitable premises in the neighbourhood of the new Public Halls for adapting to the purpose in question. He also stated that he had just received a note from the Lord Provost, informing him that Lord Henry Lennox would lay the memorial stone of the new Post Office building with Masonic honours, some time in May next. This attention on the part of the Lord Provost, Bro. Nelson remarked, showed that even in his civic capacity he took an interest in Masonry within the province. "Visiting Brethren" was given by Bro. Graham, J.W., and neatly replied to by Bro. W. J. Easton, W.M. 579. After one or two more toasts, Bro. Inglis begged to be allowed a single word before the closing of the lodge. In the course of a long experience of Masonic meetings, he said he had never met a better than that of that night, and for his own reception on the occasion he had to thank them from the bottom of his heart. The lodge was then recalled to labour, and closed in due form. We should add that the presence of a glee party, and of several skilled instrumentalists, materially enhanced the pleasure of a memorably agreeable evening.

HELENSBURGH.—Lodge St. George (No. 503).—A large number of the brethren of this lodge met in Roseneath Inn, (Bro. White's), on Wednesday evening, the 22nd ult. The chair was ably occupied by Commissioner Bro. Finlay Campbell. The principal feature of the

evening's entertainment was in presenting Bro. James Marsland, I.P.M., with a handsome gold medallion, along with a purse of sovereigns, as also a beautiful gold ring for his good lady, as a mark of their appreciation of the worthy services rendered by Bro. Marsland to the lodge during the three years he occupied the chair of W.M. The brethren enjoyed a very pleasant and harmonious evening in toast, song, and sentiment.

MARYHILL.—Lodge Maryhill (No. 510).—A meeting of this lodge was held in the Masonic Hall 167, Main-street, Maryhill, on Wednesday evening, 22nd ult., Bro. J. McKay, W.M., in the chair, supported by Bros. H. Niven, P.M.; A. Neevy, D.M.; M. Carey, S.M.; D. McLachlan, S.W.; J. Kay, J.W.; W. Neil, Treas.; P. F. Craigie, Sec.; Hart, S.D.; Kirk, J.D.; Gibson, I.G.; and Brogan, Tyler. There being no work before the meeting the lodge was called to refreshment, and put under the care of Bro. Kay, J.W., when the Chairman proposed in succession the toasts of "The Queen and the Craft," "The Prince of Wales and Members of Royal Family," "The Three Grand Lodges," and "The Provincial Grand Lodge of Glasgow," which were enthusiastically responded to. The toast of "The Visiting Brethren" was replied to by Bro. Ferguson, P.M. ("Freemason"). "The Health of the W.M. and Past Masters" was duly proposed and acknowledged. Other toasts followed, and after spending a short time in song and sentiment the lodge was called to labour and closed.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Plantation (No. 581).—A meeting of this lodge was held on Monday evening, 20th ult., in the new Masonic Hall, Craigiehall-street, Plantation, Glasgow. Bro. T. Stobo, W.M., in the chair, D. Peacock, S.W.; J. Henry, J.W. Present: Bros. W. Ferguson, D.M.; A. Gow, S.M.; W. Taylor, Treas.; R. Allan, Sec.; Imrie, S.D.; Halley, J.D.; Dowell, J.S.; Henderson, B.B.; and Cumming, Tyler. The meeting was well attended there being deputations present from Nos. 0, 28, 87, 103, 114, 117, 178, 215, 309, 354, 360, 362, 408, 413, 419, 471 and 556. On the lodge being opened and the minutes of last meetings read and approved of, applications were read from Messrs. J. Lindsay, P. Stobo, A. Gow, and R. Falconer for admission into the Order, and on being favourably balloted for were admitted and initiated into the E.A. Degree by Bro. Ferguson, D.M. Bros. W. Taylor, A. Gow, J. Henry, R. Allan, and D. Peacock were awarded a vote of thanks, and the same to be inserted in the minutes, for having presented the lodge with working tools and other requisite articles. The brethren severally replied in suitable terms. Other business of minor importance was then proceeded with, when the lodge was closed.

CONSECRATION OF THE WANDERERS' LODGE No. 1604.

A lodge for the special convenience of military brethren travelling in different parts of the world, was consecrated on Tuesday last, at Freemasons' Hall by Bro. John Hervey, Grand Secretary, who was assisted on the occasion by the Rev. R. J. Simpson, P.G.C., as Chaplain; Bro. H. G. Buss, Prov. Grand Treasurer, Middlesex, as S.W.; Bro. C. P. Cobham, W.M. 957, as J.W.; Bro. C. A. Cottebrune, P.G.P., as D.C.; Bro. Hopwood I.G.; and Bro. Cook, Organist. The object of the promoters and founders of the lodge is to grant the privileges of full membership to such brethren of the service as may be travelling with their regiments in different parts of Her Majesty's Dominions. The inconvenience of not belonging to such a lodge has long been felt by military brethren who are not members of those lodges which are attached to the different regiments. That this lodge will become a favourite with the service there can be very little doubt, as propositions were given in as early as the day of consecration for no less than six joining members and seven initiates. About seventy brethren attended the consecration, and these came from long distances expressly for the purpose. Some came from Portsmouth, some from Aldershot, some from Chatham, and some from Woolwich. Among them were the following:—Bros. George D. Roe, Sergt.-Major, R.E., 1424, P.P.G.S., South Wales; W. J. Parish, Gr.-Mr. Sergt., R.E., 1089; D. Evans, Gr.-Mr.-Corp.-Major, 1st Life Guards, 209; T. H. Meredith, 1257, P.M.; A. Wade, Armr. Sergt. 1st Life Guards, 1449, P.M.; W. H. Bird, Schoolmr., Grenr. Guards, 507; F. J. Wray, Regl. Clerk, Coldst. Guards, 1257; C. Fuller, Hospl. Steward, Coldst. Guards, 1257; A. Brookson, Sergt. Major, R.A., 1424; George Boulton, Commercial Traveller, 1424; E. G. Klefberg, Master Tailor, Coldst. Guards, 700; George Cox, Staff Sergeant, R.E., 184; John Guy, Gr.-Mr. Sergt. A. S. Corps, 141; George Morrison, Sergeant R.E., 184; J. W. Duncan, S. Bk. Sergt., Comm. Dept, 156; and R. J. Scott, R.E., War Office Clerk, 1424.

Bro. Geo. D. Roe was the W.M. designate; Bro. W. J. Parish, S.W. designate; and Bro. D. Evans, J.W. designate.

After the lodge had been formally opened in the three degrees, Grand Secretary addressed the brethren, stating with how much pleasure he consecrated that new military lodge, between which and regimental lodges—lodges moveable with regiments—he drew a distinction. After passing a very high eulogium on the way in which the military brethren as a rule performed all the duties and ceremonies of Freemasonry, he proceeded to say that he believed military lodges were worked even more correctly than the general run of lodges in the Craft, and in all respects they carried out the duties of Masonry in a markedly perfect manner.

When the time arrived for the delivery of the oration, Bro. Hervey called on Bro. the Rev. R. J. Simpson, Rector of St. Clement Danes, to address the brethren.

Bro. Simpson then said,—W.M., Wardens, and bre-

thren.—Our worthy and excellent Grand Secretary, who presides here to-day, has just stated that I will make a few observations to you before we proceed with the ceremony. I am glad that he used the word "observations," because what I shall now address to you will be in no sense what is commonly called in our technical language an oration. I purpose merely making a few plain observations, such as might be addressed to the sailors or the soldiers of our native country, and who, I believe, generally speaking, when they have to address themselves, address briefly and to the point. I will try, as far as I can, to follow their generally good example. Brethren, the assembly which is present here to-day, the many uniforms of various colours—"coats of many colours"—remind us at least of this, that communities of men must in this world be classed together and form so many different corps, with different interests, differing laws, different regulations, and different duties; but it is, perhaps, an occasion upon which more than any other we may see the moral of Freemasonry, whatever may be the external garb we wear, whatever the colour may be which the garb may bear, I trust that beneath every one of our garments is a uniform—I mean a uniform love of all that is good and noble and true, in which we, as brother Masons, can unite as one corps, and feel that the esprit de corps may never be lost. It has been handed down to us from ancient times; it is with us at present in full vigour, and by the blessing of God it shall continue till time shall be no more. I feel peculiar pleasure in being able to be present here to-day at the call of our excellent presiding Master, for not only am I pleased to be privileged to address you as a Past Grand Chaplain now growing old, but also because I feel a peculiar attachment to that body to which most of you belong. My first and earliest days were spent within three miles of Sunderland, where I saw many of the military stationed at that place, many, many noble fellows, privates, non-commissioned officers, and officers, I had the pleasure and privilege of calling friends, many who used to come out, on a summer day especially, to our parish church; and many of those brethren I remember with affection who now "sleep" on the hills of the Crimea. At Windsor, where I was curate for four years, I had an opportunity, too, of making acquaintance with many of our military brethren, and there I met with some as good, and true, and noble fellows as ever I met in the world. On these accounts, brethren, I feel a peculiar personal pleasure in addressing you to-day. And now, what are we met to-day to do? To Consecrate this lodge into a Freemasons' Lodge. And what is it? We are not operative Masons. We are not disposed to work as we saw in the public papers a few days ago in that noble band of engineers, who carry on operations which, in the language of a great statesman, seem to be likely to subdue the world. We are not those who attempt to conquer matter, but we do attempt to work by mind; and I venture, with all due deference to the great statesman, to join with the highest journal in the land in feeling that the work in mind is after all higher than the work in matter. The lodge that we are about to consecrate is an emblem of the present work we have to do, and is an emblem and a foreshadowing of that great building, of which, I trust, however wandering far and wide we may be, we may at last be found to be members. Whatever be the lines upon which we are now working, the lines we have to work upon, brethren, are the lines laid down by the Great Architect of the Universe for the purpose of building up a human edifice perfect in its parts and honourable to the Great Master Builder, however much that building may be in ruins, it is our great work now to restore it to somewhat of its original shape; and the man that works best at that high work, by truth, by honour, by temperance, by straightforwardness in all his dealings, and not least, by brotherly love to his fellowmen, and charity to all the world, that man doubtless will be among the master builders that will be paid their wages one day when they come to reckon with the Great Builder above. It is that work which we are called upon to do; and the man who does it, whether civilian or soldier, truthfully, honestly, cheerfully and as in sight of the All-seeing Eye, sure am I that he will not lose his reward, ay, even now. The respect which a man receives who thus is able to hold his head up, the respect in which he feels—which is a totally different feeling from self-conceit—the self-respect which that man feels, is of itself a great reward. And, Sir, I venture to say, without being invidious, or casting any slur upon civilians merely for the purpose of flattering or attempting to flatter our brethren of the army, I will repeat what I have ever held from my earliest days, that a high and noble soldier, noble in the highest sense of that exalted term, is one of the finest fellows on God's earth, for he is a man perhaps that has not to face "the cannon's mouth" with brute courage, but a man who has perhaps to go through more temptations than any man in the world; and therefore any man that comes out of that world of trial, a noble, a true, a good, and temperate man, depend upon it, Sir, is not only bound to receive but does receive our highest admiration. And when he joins our Masonic band there do I feel that he hears the two great key notes struck by our Grand Master at the Albert Hall, "Loyalty and Charity," here he finds an additional bond and additional inducement to act upon the high principles which I have ventured to throw out. Loyalty I need not speak of in the presence of soldiers. To them we look as the guardians of our liberties, of our homes, of our country; loyalty to the Sovereign, love to their country, and above all, obedience to their God, makes them to be in our sight true guardians of our highest liberties, and in that sense I have a very great, great veneration for the military order, and I am rejoiced to find so many within our noble society. Permit me, brethren, in conclusion, to mention a single point which I think it is very well for us all, not only soldiers

but civilians, to have in mind, and it is this:—Freemasonry in beneficial, as we know, for many things; but probably Freemasonry can teach us very little that we know not already. It is an idea among many that Freemasonry, or even the highest forms of religion can teach us a great deal, and that we may wait and wait till we arrive at a perfect knowledge before we practise, or call upon ourselves to practise that which we learn. I venture to think that in this day and with the education that we have all received there is not a man of us in this room who needs to learn his duty—not one. We are not as our poor brethren in this very land 1800 years ago, we are not as the poor children of Adam scattered in many a land, ignorant of our duty—not at all. And therefore, I presume not to teach any man in this room his duty. But I do this, and Freemasonry does it a thousand times better; it reminds you and me of that which every one of us who can read his heart and has a knowledge of himself knows we need, it reminds us of the duties that we right well know we ought to perform; and it is that reminding, I look upon as a grand object of Freemasonry, we are perhaps in the presence of men who else rarely put themselves in the way of hearing these high truths; we are enabled in our beautiful and grand ceremonies to bring before them some of the highest truths of religion; and sure I am—I know it from the mouths of dying Masons, that they have received in Masonic lodges some of the most blessed reminders of their life. Hence, I look upon it that a regular attendance at our Masonic lodges, the putting ourselves in the way of being forced to hear these grand truths, the fact that we cannot avoid hearing them when we are within reach of them, is a great practical boon. I say this fact is a great blessing, and if we attend in our Masonic lodges, if we listen with attention to our beautiful ceremonies, and if we make a point of having in the chairs, as our officers men whose hearts, and whose minds are attuned to those beautiful ceremonies, and give them out in an impressive manner—I say it becomes a very great privilege to belong to a lodge of Freemasons, and all the more, not because the Master in the chair is a minister of religion, and doing a certain work which we may listen or may not listen to, as we like, and the acting up to which is more or less a restriction to us; but he is put there by ourselves, and by his mouth we interpret our duties. I trust that your lodge may long flourish under good Masters, with a succession of good Masters, as I have reason to believe the first will be on this occasion, that they will be supported by good and worthy officers, who will attend to their duties, and then as the wanderers come home they will go forth, and your voice will "go forth into all lands," and the Wanderers' Lodge will become a fold to which the sheep can ever return under good and true shepherds, and when they part to meet no more here they may meet in the Grand Lodge above, to which we are all hastening. Applause.)

The ceremony of consecration was then proceeded with, and at its conclusion Bro. Hervey installed Bro. G. D. Roe, 1424, P.P.G.S. West Division of South Wales, as W.M., and the following brethren were invested as the officers for the ensuing year:—Bros. T. H. Meredith, P.M. 1257, I.P.M.; W. J. Parish, 1089, S.W.; D. Evans, 209, J.W.; A. Wade, P.M., Treas.; R. J. Scott, Sec.; Goodson, S.D.; F. J. Wray, J.D.; George Boulton, I.G.; Geo. Cox and J. Fuller, Stewards; and Lackland, Tyler.

When the addresses had been delivered and the ceremonies of the day brought to a termination, Bro. J. Hervey was unanimously elected an honorary member of the lodge on the motion of Bro. Meredith, seconded by the S.W., and Bro. Hervey having acknowledged the compliment, the same honour was conferred on Bro. the Rev. R. J. Simpson, on the motion of Bro. Meredith, seconded by the W.M. Thereafter six propositions for joining, and seven for initiation were given in, and the thanks of the lodge, to be recorded on the minutes, were voted to Bro. Hervey for consecrating the lodge, the motion being made by Bro. Meredith, and seconded by the W.M.

The excellent oration of Bro. Simpson drew another vote of thanks from the lodge, proposed by Bro. Meredith, and seconded by the S.W.

Bro. Meredith then proposed, and the J.W. seconded a vote of thanks to the other brethren who assisted in the consecration; and this having been unanimously adopted, the W.M. proposed, and the S.D. seconded a vote of thanks to Bro. Cooke, in reply, said that if his music had added anything to the solemnity of the beautiful ritual he was happy to have been the medium through which that addition had been made. A vote of thanks was also passed to those brethren who had visited the lodge on this first night of its meeting, Bro. Guy stating that some brethren had come all the way from Portsmouth to be present. The brother from Hiram Lodge who replied, said that it had given the brethren great pleasure to be present, and as to its being considered a long journey from Portsmouth to undertake for the purpose of seeing the consecration of this lodge, so thoroughly did those brethren feel the importance of this lodge that if the distance had been ten times as far they would have come. There were, however, some, who from military and other engagements had been prevented from attending. This concluded the business of the evening, and the brethren then closed the lodge and adjourned to Freemasons' Tavern, where after banquet the toasts usual on consecration nights were proposed and honoured.

Bro. the Rev. R. J. Simpson in returning thanks for "Lord Skelmersdale, D.G.M., and the rest of the Grand Officers," said that from what he had seen of Lord Skelmersdale, although he had not long been acting in his high position would prove an admirable ruler in the Craft, and by his personal worth as well as by attention to his duties the admiration and respect of Freemasons. For the brethren on his right and left (Bros. Hervey and Cotterburne) he need say nothing, as they were well known, and their works were appreciated; but for them as well as

himself he might say that they returned thanks for the very kind way in which their health had been proposed and received, and for the hospitable way in which they had been treated. He would not for a moment attempt to trespass further on the attention of the brethren, seeing that he had already occupied a good deal of their time in lodge; but he might inform the brethren that he esteemed it a true pleasure and a great privilege to have had the happiness of being present at the consecration of this military lodge. He recognised among the brethren some old faces which had come back to his memory, and which he had been rejoiced to meet that day, even though they might be in new places. He trusted that bye-and-bye he might be received again as one of the Wanderers', but at the same time as one who would be at all times pleased to place his humble services at the disposal of the lodge. He wished all prosperity and happiness to the lodge, and he trusted that in future years it might prove the happy home for many an absent Mason to return to in his native land, and even if he found those whom he had loved in his own home gone he might be received with open arms by his brother Masons.

Bro. John Hervey in proposing "Success to the Wanderers' Lodge," said it was not a toast which he thought the brethren would say was not worthy of being mentioned on that occasion. He was satisfied the brethren would all feel that the lodge had entered on its career under very auspicious circumstances; auspicious, he might say, because it had a vast number of propositions both of candidates for initiation and candidates for joining the lodge. Under ordinary circumstances probably that might be a source of congratulation; but on that occasion he thought it was such a source because there was the outside world (the candidates for initiation being the outside world) coming forward to support them; and they would not have allowed their names to be put forward unless they had some degree of confidence in the members and sympathy with their objects; and the candidates for joining would not have wished to enter themselves as joining members unless they had felt they could enter a society which was congenial with their feelings, and which would be to them a happy and comfortable Masonic lodge. So much for the auspices of the lodge; and he thought he might congratulate the brethren still further, inasmuch as the W.M. had shown that evening first of all on his advent to the chair that he was capable of fulfilling its duties, that he knew how to govern the lodge, and by the way in which he invested his officers that he knew the ritual. All these performances of the W.M. proved that he was capable during his year of office of conducting the business of the lodge with ability, and of setting a good example to the members. If the work of a lodge was well done the candidate was well impressed with the society which he entered, and the principles of that society. If the work were badly done, then he went away dissatisfied, and he so expressed himself—that he thought Masonry a thing of real importance, but found it was nothing of the sort; that he had found a Master in the chair who stumbled in delivering the ritual, and could not perform the ceremonies he professed to perform; therefore he would not go near the lodge again or have anything to do with it. This was no imaginary state of things, but was really the feeling of candidates when they found a Master who could not perform the ceremonies. With respect to the W.M. whom they had seen in the chair that evening, he had shown that he knew his duty, and that he would perform it with credit to himself, and would conduct the lodge into a safe heaven. When it came to his turn, as come it would, to resign the chair, he would leave it with the approbation of the brethren, and yield it to his successor with an example to follow in his footsteps. He concluded by proposing "Success to the Wanderers' Lodge and the Health of the W.M."

The W.M., in reply, said he had often had occasion to regret his want of the power of speech to express his thoughts, but he did not know that he ever felt that want more than he did at that moment. He should have considered that the installation of the W.M. under ordinary circumstances was as great a distinction as any human being could be expected to attain to; but when he found himself occupying the chair of K.S. as the first W.M. of the Wanderers' Lodge he asked himself what he had done to deserve such a distinction among his fellows. He hoped, however, that he would be enabled, if the G.A.O.T.U. granted him health and strength, to discharge the duties of his high office with satisfaction to the lodge, with credit to himself, and with honour to the Craft. He hoped they would all be enabled to act up to one of their Masonic teachings by contributing their quota to the Masonic charities. He trusted that their working would be well and faithfully performed. It must be borne in mind that though they were a military lodge they were yet a metropolitan lodge, and though for a time they could not hope to compete with the Metropolitan Lodges in supporting the charities, they would do their best to do so. It was cheering to know that the noble Order had been undergoing a process of purification and reformation, and it was satisfactory to him to feel that as Master of a lodge he was connected by such close ties with institutions which provided a common platform on which politicians and others of every state of opinion might meet on the level and part on the square of friendship. Actions spoke louder than words, and he only hoped at the expiration of the present twelvemonths the brethren would give him as hearty a reception as they had that evening given him. From the well-known perseverance, and if he might be allowed to use the word, "pluck," of military men, he had no doubt they would give that attention to the duties of the lodge as would give it a gratifying measure of progress and prosperity.

The W.M. afterwards gave "The Health of the Consecrating Officers," to which Bro. John Hervey responded.

The S.W. proposed "The Visitors," to which Bro. Powell replied, and the S.W. having responded for "The Officers,

Bro. Meredith proposed "The Charities."

Bro. Cottebrune responded, and Bros. H. G. Buss and C. B. Cobham acknowledged the vote of thanks which had been passed in lodge to the brethren who assisted at the consecration.

The Tyler's toast having been given, the brethren separated, after spending a delightful evening.

The following is a list of the brethren present:—Bros. John Hervey, Grand Secretary; Rev. R. J. Simpson, M.A., Provincial Grand Chaplain; H. G. Buss, Provincial Grand Treasurer, Middlesex; C. A. Cottebrune, P.G.P.; Rev. R. J. Halpin, M.A., 167, Chahlain to the Porres, London; G. D. Roe, Prov. P.G. Steward, W.D.S. Wales, 1424; W. J. Parish, 1089; D. Evans, 209; T. H. Meredith, P.M. 1257; A. Wade, P.M. 1449; W. H. Bird, 507; F. J. Wray, 1257; C. Fuller, 1257; A. Brookson, 1424; G. Boulton, 1424; E. G. Klefberg, 700; G. Cox, 184; J. Guy, 141; G. Morrison, 184; J. W. Duncan, 156; R. J. Scott, 1424; J. Lackland, 1536; W. Symmons, W.M. 1424; W. Cottrell, J.W. 1424; F. G. Pownall, W.M. 1536; R. White, P.M. 1331; H. Massey, P.M. 619 ("Freemason"); C. Cook, 13, 700; Thomas White, 570; C. B. Cobham, W. Master 957; C. B. Payne, P.M. 27; R. J. Robinson, 1536; T. Newman, 322; J. Reith, 246; J. W. Young, 1536; A. Mc Kenzie, 1331; J. C. Phillips, 1424; W. M. Farran, P.M. 215; G. H. Heywood, 145; Capt. W. H. Coles, P.M. 20; J. H. Armstrong, 10; W. W. Turner, S.W. 1449; E. Duttan, 765; T. B. Russell, 1258; F. A. Stammers, 1436; J. Lewis, P.M. 1424; A. J. Barron, 1525; F. C. Quint, 1414; E. T. Onn, 1414; C. H. Stocks, 1424; J. Pearcey, 1424; C. W. Gates, 1424; J. Organ, 1424; H. P. Davis, 1424; W. Jordan, 1536; J. W. Martin, 141; R. Croisdale, P.M. 706; G. Mew, 523; J. M. Tully, 202; H. Carlin, 1536; T. H. Hambling, 700, 1536; J. Warren, 700, 1536; T. Cooper, 1536; C. Morton, 700; B. Plaisted, 913; H. Jones, 804; E. Hopwood, P.M. 141; H. Howding, 143; H. Smith, P.M. 1460; H. Kimble, 1360; H. Langshaw, 1424; W. Fenn, 141; H. F. Masters, 145; E. Cole, 1257; T. Watts, 1424; H. Haycock, 1348; G. Smith, 1536; H. White, 1257.

Reviews.

"BENGAL FREEMASONS' DIARY" for 1876, Calcutta. Black & Co.

We have received and been much struck with this well printed and useful publication, for which we are much obliged, and which we can most conscientiously commend. It is well got up, admirably arranged, full of most useful Masonic and secular information, and we sincerely trust will receive the support and patronage which it so well deserves. We feel bound to say, that a more useful and well compiled diary we have seldom seen. It is a great credit to its publishers.

"A GUIDE TO HOUSE FURNISHING," by Oetzmann & Co. We do not generally review "trade circulars," but this large work of over 300 pages seems to make itself an "exception" to our "rule." It is very well arranged and effectively illustrated, and certainly gives a great deal of important information for that great class of our people, for that immense section of society which is always "furnishing."

Confiding Thomas and beaming Alice are meaning to "set up shop" together, and so they want to furnish "Dove Cottage." And here, in their doubts and dilemma, Oetzmann & Co. obligingly come to the rescue, give them the minutiae of furnishing detail, the price of every article, from a baby's "crib" down to a "perambulator," from a "warning pan" down to a "tea kettle." We have, we confess, passed over the pages with astonishment, interest, and pleasure, and if it should so chance that any "angelic being" would consent "pour tou potage," live on our own great merits, and nothing a year, (we say nothing of love in cottage, or all the happiness of the connubial state), we should not at all object to give Messrs. Oetzmann an order, and have no doubt that both our better half and ourselves would be much pleased and fully satisfied with what we got for our ready money. If any unfortunate brother of ours is so rash as to be thinking of matrimony and furnishing at the same time, we can cordially advise him to study Messrs. Oetzmann's "Guide," and we feel convinced that his own adored Emily Jane will, with the artless interest of women, gladly aid his selection, not only of articles of "bigotry and virtue," but of all that is needful and becoming for a model household, or a young married couple. Can we say anything more in favour of so reasonable and so useful a book?

THE ADVERTISERS' MANUAL. 73, FLEET-STREET, LONDON. Is a very useful work, indeed, for that large "circle" of advertisers who either wish their wants made known to others, or have some little commodity or other to dispose of to a confiding and discerning public. We recommend it very cordially to the notice of our readers.

"The Monde Maçonnique," Paris, for March, has reached us, and is full of most interesting matter.

"REVISTA INTERNAZIONALE," is a new review, published at Florence, which has reached its second number, and seems very able written indeed, and contains several interesting articles.

"TEN YEARS' RETROSPECT," by R. H. Baynes; Henry King and Co., is an able and well written sermon, mainly ad hominem et ad Congregationem necessarily, it yet can be pursued by all with improvement and edification. We thank our rev. brother for sending it to us. W.F.A.

FREEMASONRY IN FRANCE.

The Grand Orient of France inaugurated on the 29th January this year, in its own halls, a course of instruction in the English language. Five hundred persons assisted at the solemnity. The re-union was presided over by Bro.

Armand, who was assisted by Bros. Caubet and Seinguerlet. Bro. Armand clearly explained the object of the Grand Orient. To a course of instruction in the German language, of which the success had surpassed all hopes French Freemasonry now added a course of instruction in the English language. The Council of the Order hoped to be able yet to augment year by year the number of these useful efforts. The success so far obtained guaranteed their prosperity. Bro. Seinguerlet, in an improvised address, pointed out ably, if shortly, the importance of the study of living languages. The courses of instruction thus created by the Grand Orient are gratuitous and open to all the world. More than 500 persons have already asked and obtained admission to the course.

NOUVELLES ETRANGERES.

(From the "Monde Maçonnique.")

ANGLETERRE.—On sait que les Maçons anglais sont des gens fort sérieux. Cependant il en est quelques-uns qui aiment la plaisanterie. En voici un, par exemple, qui a calculé que le Temple de Salomon a coûté exactement 943 millions de livres sterling! C'est le même qui possède une charte Maçonnique chinoise, qui remonte à une antiquité fabuleuse. Malheureusement, les emblèmes qui decorent ce document sont ceux des grades de Royale Arche, qui sont loin d'être préhistoriques. Un autre a decouvert que c'est en 257 que Saint Alban a formé la première Grand Lodge D'Angleterre, et qui le Roi Athelstane a accordé une charte au Francmaçon en 925.

Il ne faudrait croire d'après cela que tous les Maçons anglais traitent l'histoire Maçonnique avec le même sans gêne. Bien au contraire:—nulle part, il se trouve une phalange aussi considerable d'hommes qui se soient imposé la tâche ardue de debrouiller partiellement le chaos de notre passé. Il suffit de citer les noms des Freres Woodford, Hughan, Buchan, Murray Lyon, parmi tant d'autres pour montrer ce que la Maçonnerie doit aux Maçons anglais.

(TRANSLATION) FOREIGN NEWS.

ENGLAND.—It is well known that English Masons are very serious persons. However, amongst them there are some who are rather fond of pleasantry. Here is one, for instance, who computed that the cost of Solomon's Temple exactly amounted to 943 millions of pounds sterling; and the same has in his possession a Chinese Masonic charter emanating from a fabulous antiquity. Unfortunately the emblems decorating this document are emblems of the degree of Royal Arch, which are far from being prehistoric. Another discovered that St. Alban formed "the first Grand Lodge of England, and that King Athelstane granted a charter to Freemasons in 926."

Wherefrom we should not conclude that all English Masons treat the history of Masonry with the same recklessness; on the contrary, nowhere can be found such a considerable phalanx of men who voluntarily have undertaken the difficult task of disentangling the chaos of our past. Suffice it to mention the names of Bros. Woodford, Hughan, Buchan, Murray Lyon from amongst many others to show what Freemasonry owes to English Masons.

Masonic and General Tidings.

ARCHÆOLOGICAL.—We are very glad to announce that Bro. S. B. Ellis, Scribe E. of the Chapter of Paradise, Sheffield, 139, is about to publish in the Masonic Magazine for May, extracts from the old minute books of the chapter, beginning in 1783. We shall recur to the subject in our next.

Bro. the Right Hon. G. Ward Hunt, M.P., has signified to Bro. Professor Kelley Miller, W.M. of the Royal Naval College Lodge, 1595, that he will have much pleasure in becoming an Honorary Member of the Lodge. Bro. Ward Hunt, as First Lord of the Admiralty, is Governor of the College.

The officers of the 4th Dragoon Guards gave a grand ball on Wednesday, at the Exhibition Palace, Dublin. The Lord-Lieutenant and Lady Georgina Hamilton were present, and the list of guests—about 500—included nearly all the officers of the garrison, and a great number of the nobility. The entertainment was on a splendid scale, and fittingly closed the festivities inaugurated by the Viceroyal ball.

At a complimentary supper, strictly confined to brethren of the Craft, given at the Spread Eagle Hotel, Gloucester, on Tuesday last, which was presided over by Bro. Henry Jeffs, Past Master of Lodge No. 493, and Past Provincial Grand Junior Warden of Gloucestershire, Bro. Alderman Murrell, being in the vice chair, a handsome and elaborately worked gold jewel, of the value of eleven guineas, was presented to Bro. Councillor Roberts, Past Master of Lodge No. 1005 which bears the following inscription:—Presented by brethren of the Royal Lebanon Lodge to Past Master F. G. Roberts, in remembrance of past services as their Treasurer. Henry Jeffs, P.M., March 21st 1876.

The installation meeting of Adam's Lodge, 158, Sheerness, took place yesterday (Friday). A full report will appear in our next.

The Fifteen Sections will be worked at the Leopold Lodge of Instruction, Woolpack Tavern, Bermondsey-street, on Monday next at seven o'clock by Bro. C. W. Kent.

Sir Henry Edwards, Bart., Grand Master for West Yorkshire, will be the Chairman for the coming festival of the Girls' School.

We understand Bro. Edgar Anderson has the management of the "Surrey Masonic Hall Dramatic Company," and that he, with Bro. Clarke, invites brethren to join, it being confined to the Craft. Bro. Danvers will appear on the first evening, of which due notice will be given.

The death of Sir Cordy Burrows has evoked general expressions of sympathy, and the Mayor of Brighton has issued an advertisement relative to the public arrangements of the funeral. The local press is unanimous in declaring that Sir Cordy's death is an almost irreparable municipal loss.

His Grace the Lord Lieut. and the Duchess of Abercorn have arrived at the family mansion, Barons-court, Newtownstewart, county Tyrone, for a brief sojourn.

The foundation stone of the new building to be erected in Charterhouse-street, for the Fox and Knot Schools and Missions, was laid on Tuesday, by Bro. J. D. Allcroft, Treasurer of Christ's Hospital.

PRESENTATION.—On Saturday a few personal friends of Bro. John Corke (Corke, Abbott, and Co., Milton-street), took the opportunity afforded by his fiftieth birthday to present to him a massive silver epergne, as a mark of their high esteem. On Monday a number of the employés of the firm presented to him a handsome time-piece, the presentation being made by Mr. G. Redding, on behalf of the men. After each presentation, the persons concerned in it were entertained to dinner by Bro. Corke, at his residence, Herne Hill.

Bro. Sir John Bennett presided at a numerously attended Spelling Bee at the Tottenham Public Library and Reading Room, the profits being for the benefit of the institution.

The churchwardens of St. Dunstan's-in-the West, (Bros. Dwarber and Wellsman) give notice that several sums of money are at the disposal of the vestry to apprentice the sons of poor Freemen.

It has been assumed that Lord Derby, who is to receive Her Majesty at Baden, will be absent from London until after Easter. We believe that this statement is erroneous; that the Foreign Secretary is to return to London in ten days; and that he will be succeeded in his duties abroad by Lord Carnarvon.

We understand that the memorial stone of the New Post Office Buildings in Glasgow will be laid with Masonic honours by Lord Henry Lennox early next month.

SCOTTISH FREEMASONRY.—The "Evening Standard" of Thursday states that Lord Ramsay was installed Provincial Grand Master for Forfarshire, in the Reid Hall, Forfar, on Wednesday.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.

The General Committee of this Institution met on Thursday afternoon at Freemasons' Hall, Bro. A. H. Tattershall in the chair. There were likewise present Bros. H. A. Dubois, Geo. Kenning, Thomas W. White, Dudley Rolls, W. Stephens, H. Browne, Griffiths Smith, W. Paas, John Boyd, S. Rawson, H. Venn, H. Massey ("Freemason"), Robt. B. Webster, Dr. Ramsay, John Symonds, Col. Peters, Richard Spencer, and R. Wentworth Little (Secretary).

After reading and confirmation of the minutes, one little girl was passed for placing on the list for election.

The following notices of motion for next Quarterly Court were then read by Bro. Little.

Notice of motion by Dr. Ramsay:—That every three years the four senior members of the House Committee retire, but shall be eligible for re-election; and the four who have been least frequent in attendance shall retire annually and be ineligible for re-election for a period of 12 months.

Notice of motion by Bro. Raynham W. Stewart:—That in the event of the Special Committee appointed by the Quarterly Court of the 11th December, 1875, presenting their report recommending that a further sum shall be expended in enlarging the present school or building on the present site at Battersea, he will move as an amendment to the report that it is inexpedient that any further sum of money should be laid out in enlarging the present schools or otherwise, and that in view of its being necessary to remove the school an eligible site should be sought for and purchased so as to meet the wants of the Craft.

Notice of motion by Bro. Robt. Kenyon:—That a committee of five Governors, Lieut.-Col. Creaton, Lieut.-Col. Burdett, Dudley Rolls, Dr. Ramsay, and Robt. Kenyon, be and are hereby appointed to inspect certain freehold lands at Sunninghill, Claremont, Banstead, and elsewhere with a view to the selected site being purchased and ultimately applied for the purpose of erecting fit and commodious schools, &c., thereon, so as to provide the necessary accommodation for a larger additional number of children.

Notice of motion by Bro. John Boyd:—That ten additional children be elected at the forthcoming election in April next, thus increasing the number in the school to 162.

Notice of motion by Bro. H. A. Dubois:—That the recommendation of the Special Committee appointed by the last Special Court of 11th December, 1875, be brought up and submitted for adoption.

Bro. S. Rawson moved, and Bro. John Symonds seconded, That the report of the Special Committee be printed and circulated among the subscribers, and his motion having been carried,

Bro. Symonds said that he should on the day of election move that the consideration of the report be adjourned to a day to be fixed, and at the close of the election at the Quarterly Court that it do adjourn, the day and hour to be appointed in order that the report might then be considered. He did not give a formal notice of motion to this effect, but merely mentioned it to the committee.

The committee then adjourned.

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Answers to Correspondents.

All Communications, Advertisements, &c., intended for insertion in the Number of the following Saturday, must reach the Office not later than 12 o'clock on Wednesday morning.

YOUNG COMP.—We believe on the left.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

"Bengal Freemasons' Diary" for 1876; "Shipping Legislation;" "The Advertiser's Manual;" "A guide to Furnishing," by Oetzmann & Co.; "Ricordo della Festa dell Ordine Della R. Log. Areopago e Cap. anziani Virtuosi all Or. de Livorno," Firenze, 1876; "Le Monde Maçonique;" "Ten Years' Retrospect," by Bro. Rev. R. H. Baynes, P.P.G.C. Warwickshire, and P.M. 254; "Revista Internazionale," Firenze, 1876.

The following communications stand over:—P.G. Mark Lodge, Leicestershire; Chislehurst Lodge, 1531; Valparaiso Lodge of Harmony, 1411; St. Mark's Lodge, 857; Masonic Ball at Liverpool.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

[The charge is 2s. 6d. for announcements, not exceeding four lines, under this heading.]

BIRTH.

HARDCASTLE.—Wife of Mr. Edward, M.P., of a daughter, at Elvaston-place, Queen's-gate, March 26.

MARRIAGES.

ROBINS-BUTTERFIELD.—On the 25th ult., at St. George's, Hanover-square, Francis, son of C. T. Robins, of Buckhurst-hill, Essex, to Fanny Maria, daughter of the late F. Butterfield.

STOVEL-SAXBY.—On 21st ult., at Faversham Church, Ebenezer Stovel, of New York, to Harriet, only daughter of W. Saxby, Esq., of Faversham.

DEATHS.

BURROWS.—On the 25th ult., at Brighton, Bro. Sir John Cordy Burrows, aged 62.

SCIVIER, Mrs. (for many years matron of the Cancer Hospital), aged 64, March 23.

HALL, Mr. Thomas J., late Chief Metropolitan Magistrate, at Leamington-road-villas, Paddington, aged 87, March 20.

VIGNE.—On the 26th inst., at Pembroke-place, Bayswater, Caroline, widow of A. Vigne, Esq.

REYNOLDS.—On the 27th inst., at his residence, 81, Caversham road, N.W., Thomas (Tom) Reynolds, second son of William Reynolds, of Dartmouth House, Dartmouth Park Hill, N., and Charterhouse-street, E.C., aged 34.

FORREST.—At Killigrew-street, Falmouth, on the 18th ult., Charles, fifth son of the late Mr. Thomas Forrest, aged 16 years.

The Freemason,

SATURDAY, APRIL 1, 1876.

THE RETURN OF OUR ROYAL GRAND MASTER.

Baron Reuter announces in the "*Times*" of Monday that the Serapis, that His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, arrived at Suez on Saturday morning at 8 o'clock, and that he left Cairo at a quarter to 1 the same afternoon, accompanied by M. de Lesseps, Zaki Pasha, Casim Pasha, and Chereef Pasha. Our Royal Grand Master arrived at Cairo at 6.40 a.m. on the 26th, and was received by the Khedive, the Crown Prince, Mohamed Tewfik, the Prince Hussein Kamil Pasha. The Grand Duke Alexis of Russia was likewise present. A guard of honour was drawn up in line, and a military band played "God save the Queen" as the Royal train entered the station. The Khedive conducted the Prince to the Ghezireh Palace, which has been assigned to His Royal Highness and the members of his suite as a residence while in his capital. The "*Times*" special correspondent telegraphs from Cairo on the 26th ult. as follows:—From the departure from Aden, at 1.15 on Monday morning, the 20th, until the arrival at Suez on Saturday, at 8 a.m., the weather was favourable for the voyage of the Serapis, accompanied by the Raleigh and Osborne. The sea was quiet and smooth, the thermometer standing at 80. No incidents worth recording occurred during the voyage. The cement of the hull of the Serapis was covered by an accumulation of barnacles, which prevented a high rate of speed being attained. On anchoring in Suez Roads the Egyptian men-of-war saluted the squadron. Lord and Lady Lytton, Colonel and Mrs. Burne, Chereef Pasha, Mustafa Pasha, General Stanton, Mr. Gordon, M. de Lesseps, Captain Willoughby, Mrs. West, and others were received on board the Serapis by the Prince of Wales at breakfast. Lord Lytton had a long conversation with His Royal Highness, and accompanied the Prince to the station, where he took a cordial farewell. A special train conveyed the Prince to Cairo, where the Khedive and the Princes, the Grand Duke Alexis of Russia and suite, and many distinguished persons awaited his arrival. At 6 o'clock p.m. the Prince drove to the Ghezireh Palace with the Khedive and a grand Guard of Honour. The Khedive there took leave of the Prince, who entertained the Grand Duke Alexis at dinner, and went to the Opera in the evening. Cairo is very full. The Prince visited the Khedive, with some of the suite, privately, and had a long conversation with him. Sir Bartle Frere had interviews with the Khedive after the visit of the Prince, and also with General Stanton and Mr. Rivers Wilson. Lord Alfred Paget left for Italy this morning. The Prince dined with the Grand Duke Alexis at the Viceroy's Palace of El Noussa this evening. The Prince leaves for Malta on Saturday evening. The Grand Duke accompanies him in a Russian frigate.

THE PLANS FOR THE ENLARGEMENT OF THE GIRLS' SCHOOL.

We have abstained from alluding to the various proposals put forward because we are inclined to think, on the whole, that such matters are best left to the proper authorities, and because we have often seen the evil of outside pressure in favour of some special scheme, which enlists in its favour what the Americans term the "lobby." We have previously said that we trust in all the proposed alterations the interest of the school and the welfare of the Craft will mainly, nay, solely, be considered, and that, we venture to deem, should be the great aim of the Subcommittee's recommendation, and of the General Committee and the Quarterly Court's approval. Any questions of personal consideration or of personal interest ought at once to be suppressed, alike for the sake of our orphans and in deference to our generous Craft, whose gifts are prompted solely by a wish to befriend the forlorn children of our brethren, and to advance the great and good cause of Masonic benevolence! Two proposals seem mainly to commend themselves to our notice, those of Bros.

Col. Creaton and Monckton, while Bro. Nunn seems to be desirous still of looking on, and building the school of the future. The great objection to moving from the present site seems to be that there is no evidence so far that it is likely to be wanted, as was said originally, for railway purposes for some time to come, and therefore on every ground we are bound it appears to us, to utilize our present commodious and healthy situation. If by an extension of the present school buildings anything like fifty additional pupils can be comfortably accommodated we would say, by all means let us adopt our Bro. Col. Creaton's, as we understand, modified proposal, as we are bound to guard against a tendency, common just now, unnecessarily to increase the annual demands on the school, to cheapen too much, so to say, the great privileges of our noble Orphan Institution. Some able brethren hold that we must be on our guard against a proneness to pauperize Freemasonry, by holding out too many inducements of material advantage and benefit to be obtained by Masons, and we confess that we feel there is some force in their arguments. But to a reasonable and practical proposal like that of our gallant Bro. Col. Creaton, whose worth and zeal we all equally admire and acknowledge, there can be no possible objection, and we hope that it may receive the unanimous support, as no doubt it will, both of the Quarterly Court and the Craft. To Bro. Monckton's proposal no objection could be made, if need be found for the admission of eighty instead of fifty new pupils, except that which necessarily arises from two establishments and two sets of teachers. It is obviously better to concentrate all our efforts on one school, on one system, under one efficient head, than run the chance of having opposing systems, and even rival elements, introduced into the organization of the Girls' School. If indeed it could be shown that the present site is unhealthy, or being closed in, or likely to be wanted in a short time, then we would respectfully say, build and prepare for the future elsewhere, and sell the existing site; but if not, prudence and economy alike suggest to us the advisability of not running into large building operations needlessly, but of making the best use we can of existing materials, for a judicious and sufficient enlargement of the school. If we educate well 200 orphans we shall be doing a good work. There are now 151 girls in the school, so that if we can accommodate fifty more we shall bring up the number to 200, leaving a small margin for purchased admissions, which probably average two or three yearly. May the decision of the General Committee and Quarterly Court tend to the happy progress of that most meritorious and well managed institution—the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls. We shall recur in our next to the decision of the General Committee, which met on Thursday last.

MASONIC MORALITY.

It is very odd how persevering are the charges against our peaceful and well conducted fraternity, which uniformly represent them it, in the ecclesiastical and classic style of the Vatican as composed of the "children of Satan," or as secret conspirators, enemies to religion, to society, to order, and to law. Whence comes this hopelessness of utterance?—this plethora of abuse?—this extremity of ignorance?—this pomposity of impertinence? It is indeed very difficult to say. If in some foreign countries it be true even that some individual lodges and Masons have signalized themselves by indiscreet words and unjustifiable avowals, we are not aware of any Grand Orient or Grand Lodge which has done so, and certainly in the whole of Anglo-Saxon Freemasonry there can, in this respect at any rate, neither be room for suspicions nor cause for complaint. Indeed, we are sometimes to-day astounded at the recklessness with which the bitter writers of a Jesuit or Ultramontane school invent, yes, purely invent, libellous charges against our Order. It is true that in France and Belgium, as we venture to think, very unwise changes have been made a short time back in the "landmarks," so to say, of Freemasonry—so much so as to lend what force there be in Bishop Dupanloup's irate, if polished, criticisms. But even admitting this to be so, a fact we in common with all Anglo-Saxon Masons sincerely regret, it by no means justifies the wholesale

charges, the ridiculous allegations, of our excited and unreasoning accusers. Take Germany for instance. The great mass of the German fraternity is a most peaceful, orderly, loyal, cultivated body of men, as much opposed to anything like social anarchy or to intestine commotion, to the "International" or to Communism, as can well be imagined. That individual writers may hold strong views on the Roman question is undeniable, and, in our humble opinion, the Church of Rome has no one to thank but itself for that serious struggle as between authority and reason, dogmatism and speculation, an iron uniformity and religious toleration which is setting in everywhere just now, and even to some extent in our peaceful and tolerant land. But given all this in—and we might put it more strongly, as in a row, as we know, hard blows and unexpected bitterness are often almost unconsciously developed and become the order of the day—we can find no justification whatever in these oft-repeated and audacious incriminations of the peaceful, loyal, moral character of Freemasonry. As a rule Freemasons are good men, loyal subjects, peaceful citizens, friends to order and social progress, most inimical ever to anything like confusion, revolution, anarchy. They are most respectable members of society, the honest bread-winner for a wife and children at home; they are temperate and yet genial; steady, and yet sensible of the advantages of sociality; by no means inclined to "run riot," or favourable to intemperance, or excess of any kind! Freemasonry, whatever its defects in the eyes of the bigot, and intolerant, and unthinking may be, is ever a most moral society, inculcating from first to last, be it noted, the morality of the Bible, and pointing out ever to every member of the Order (not as a Church or a religion, for Freemasonry is neither of these) the grave and enduring moral responsibility of man! Let us then see now the close of these foolish charges which are repeated "usque ad nauseam" by the glib ignoramus, or the flippant sciolist, by the fanatic, by the illogical, and by the unjust, that Freemasonry in any way can be considered as a society in the smallest degree antagonistic to law and order, morality or religion! It surely is time that these Parthian arrows of Ultramontane skirmishers should cease; it is, we think and hope, only befitting a religious body that those violent members of it should be restrained, who seem to disregard alike veracity and common sense, in their senseless, mendacious, and even ribald accusations against our kindly and long-suffering Order. If the strife is to continue—if bishops are to forget the principles of religion, if anonymous scribblers are to manifest how little of truth or justice has fallen to their lot, if the foolish anathema is to be pronounced, and the meaningless allusion is to be published abroad,—it may be a consolation for us all to remember, that such assailants after all do us no real harm, inasmuch as, strong in our own position, consistent with our own teaching, we shall continue, regardless of opposition, or censure, or menace, to proclaim the pure and moral principles everywhere of our great and useful, of our ancient and honourable Order.

THE ADVANTAGES AND DISADVANTAGES OF ROUTINE.

We are not amongst those who seek to run a muck at everything like order and regulation, discipline, and routine. Red tape is necessary and very good to a certain extent, nay, to a considerable extent, and he would be a foolish or very perverse person, a very unwise teacher, a very unsafe leader, who in the excess of his zeal for change and improvement as he thinks, ever forgot that, after all, more or less, this world, like society and institutions, is, and must be, governed in a great measure by routine. Indeed, it is not too much to say, that nothing can go on in this world without some routine. In Church and State, in the army and in the navy, in the professions of the bar and the magistracy, in the counting house and in the bank parlour, in the factory and in the printers' "chapel," routine is absolutely necessary, and cannot possibly or safely be dispensed with. Indeed, to routine may be ascribed much of the solidity of our insular character, which looks more to the practice

than the theory, and seeks in the careful discharge of allotted duties to develop that sense and appreciation of first principles without which profession itself is apt to become hazy, and practice to degenerate into a free and easy laxity. We are, then, friends to needful and legitimate routine, alike in the interests of order and regularity, of the quiet discharge of duty, of the strict fulfilment of obligation, of those axioms of personal responsibility in positions of trust and importance without which not even the business of life could be carried on for twenty-four hours. But when we have said this, we must admit fairly, of some cautions and qualifications, as regards the application generally or individually of this leading principle. In everything of earth we have to contend with two great difficulties, excess and defect. In the nature of things, even principles and professions, above all, purposes and practices, good per se, may become warped, or weakened, or deteriorated here, so much so, that what is objectively good may though strange be the seeming paradox, become subjectively bad. First principles may be strained or extended until they actually have in them a tendency to evil, and what is abstractedly good, useful, fitting proper, becomes in the concrete hurtful, unwise, and even detrimental to the best interests of society. Thus there is a tendency to make simple routine become hyper-routine, to give it the colouring of undeniable red tape, to cause it to assume the character of obstructiveness, obstinacy, bigotry, and intolerance. When we all have gone on in a certain course a long while we are apt to think that it cannot be mended, and so we talk loudly of how much better it is "quieta non movere;" "we cannot," we say, "see the need or benefit of change," we resist proposals of amendment, we resent endeavours for alteration. But in so doing we act foolishly, as the philosopher would point out. As nothing is absolutely perfect here, either in animate or inanimate creation, and as the law of entire nature is a law of progress, and, so to say, amendment, we are not warranted in resisting wise and judicious suggestions of change and amelioration simply because we like to echo the familiar adage "let well alone." All institutions and all bodies politic require amendment and renewal, so to say, from time to time, and neither the world nor society could, humanly speaking, long endure, if all change be sacrificed to a spirit of routine, if all amendments be obstinately resisted. And here it is that routine so often act, prejudicially, for what we ought all to seek after, the "to kalon," and the "to agathon." We must give credit to others for being as conscientious as we are ourselves, and we must believe that those who advocate alterations are just as wise and capable of coming to a sound conclusion on the subject as we are. Nothing is so unreasonable and so antagonistic to the real interests of the world, and of society, of social improvement, of humanitarian progress, as that dear old sleepy routine, which sees nothing good but what is commended by long usage, which will not move out of a beaten tract, though the road be full of ruts, and clouds of dust whiten the weary traveller. And in Freemasonry the same law of existence applies, and the same condition of things to some extent exists. There are a great number of our good old brethren, who are advocates, so to say, of routine "pur et simple." "What has been, is, and ever shall be," seems to be their mot d'ordre, and their Masonic motto. Hence they are a little impatient of "novi homines," of "young Masons," of "fresh lights," of "Masonic reformers," forgetting that while they are standing still, good old souls, both the world and Masonry are moving on, and that as we all advance in life we see ever the constant appearance of a new generation, which does not care much for our "saws" and "instances," but very greatly prefers its own. Well, let us as Freemasons learn a lesson of wisdom and toleration. We cannot adhere to routine all our lives, we must relax a little from its strictness at times; we ought not to set ourselves against all change simply because it is new to us, and differs somewhat from the old way we have been accustomed happily to move in so long. Routine is a very good thing in its way, but many a lodge of ours is dwarfed and impeded in its Masonic life and youth by that adherence to routine under every circumstance, which be-

comes "red tape," and "red taps" of a Masonic kind, which always appears to us most childish and annoying. Our Grand Lodge happily sets us all a good example in this respect. Never at any time did our excellent Grand Secretary more reflect, in his zealous, and quiet, and most practical discharge of his high duties, the true spirit of Masonic activity and liberality; never at any time was hyper-routine more discountenanced, and a thoroughly sensible and painstaking course of action habitually pursued, so that all applicants are courteously treated, and all applications immediately attended to. May this truer understanding of the spirit of Masonic teaching increase in our private lodge system, so that year by year may witness, not a forgetfulness of routine, for that would be a great evil amongst us, but a wise adaptation of the teaching of common sense to the requirements of routine, and of reasonable concessions to those legitimate desires for amendment and improvement which no prudent statesman can ever safely resist, and no true Mason can ever consistently ignore. All proposals for change are not wise or legitimate, and can only be judged and decided upon alike in their opportuneness, their importance, and on their own merits.

Original Correspondence.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for, or even as approving of the opinions expressed by our correspondents, but we wish, in a spirit of fair play to all, to permit—within certain necessary limits—free discussion.—Ed.]

MASONIC PREFIXES.

To the Editor of The Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Owing to the courtesy of our much respected Grand Secretary, I am enabled to lay before the Craft the authorized designations or Masonic prefixes of Grand and Provincial Grand Officers, and which are the only legal distinctions or designations of such brethren.

So general has become the custom to style brethren "Very Worshipful" and "Right Worshipful," who are below the rank of Provincial Grand Masters or Grand Wardens of England respectively, that it is now a common thing in some lodges to hear the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, or even brethren not above the rank of a Provincial Grand Pursuivant, styled Very Worshipful, whereas not one of the officers of a Provincial Grand Lodge, from the Deputy Provincial Grand Master to the lowest in rank as such, is entitled to any such distinction, their designations being simply Worshipful.

In order not to use my own words, I quote from the circular issued by authority of the Most Worshipful Grand Master, the Earl of Zetland, which finally and conclusively disposes of the matter. "The prefix of Right Worshipful is accorded to and is to be used only by the Deputy Grand Master, the Present and Past Provincial Grand Masters and the Present and Past Grand Wardens of the United Grand Lodge of England."

"That the prefix of Very Worshipful is to be used only by the actual and Past Grand Chaplains, the actual and Past Grand Treasurers, the actual and Past Grand Registrars, the actual and Past Presidents of the Board of General Purposes, the actual and Past Grand Secretaries of the Grand Lodge of England, and by no others."

"That the title or address of Worshipful is to be used by the rest of the Present and Past Grand Officers of the Grand Lodge of England, and by the actual or Past Masters of lodges, and that all others are to be styled or designated as Brother only."

So that Provincial Grand Officers, not Present or Past Masters, are entitled to the prefix Worshipful, and none whatever to any beyond that designation, excepting the Provincial Grand Master.

Yours fraternally,

WILLIAM JAMES HUGHAN.

Truro, 25th March, 1876.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

To the Editor of The Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

May I be allowed to call the attention of the brethren to the case of Richard James Trott, No. 48 on the list, son of Bro. F. Trott, P.M. Lion and Lamb, No. 192, it is the only chance the boy has, failing this election he will be beyond the presented age. Many of the readers of the "Freemason," I am sure both knew and esteemed our late brother, and will, I feel convinced, give us in our great need a helping hand.

I am, dear Sir and Brother, yours fraternally,

GEO. NEWMAN,

P.M. 766 and 192, M.E.Z. 1050 and 192.
51, London Wall, E.C.

MASONIC JURISPRUDENCE.

To the Editor of The Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

As I happen to know a case in point, "A Scotch Master Mason" will find he will have to pay registering fee to Grand Lodge of England before his signature to any petition will have weight (Book of Constitutions, page 117, sec. 9: "Fees, &c.") He need not, however, join any English Lodge except the one he refers to as about to be started.

Yours fraternally,

VEVRY.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

In venturing in reply to the question propounded by "A Secretary" to give my reading of the title "of proposing members" Book of Constitutions, page 83, clause 2, I beg at the outset to deprecate any impression that may be formed by yourself or readers that I am "laying down the law," or as, "our friend the enemy" would say, speaking *ex cathedra*. My opinion can only be rendered *quantum valeat*, and, if I appear to write dogmatically, I beg that the tone may be imputed to the exigency of composition, and not to the inclination of the writer.

I confess, however, that I am very glad the question has been asked, and shall be much gratified if you will allow me to give publicity to my views of this controverted point in your columns, and if I venture to inform your readers that I am an old P.M. of two lodges, a member of the Board of General Purposes, of many years successive election, and belong to a profession where a strict training in textual construction is considered an indispensable qualification, I make the announcement, not at all, I hope, vaingloriously, but to convince my brethren that I am entitled to form an opinion on the matter now mooted.

The Book of Constitutions seems to me to be very explicit on the point started by your correspondent, and by a due attention to punctuation, and not disdaining the use of italics to indicate emphasis, we may, I think, accurately construe the passage which, of course, propounds the law, (p. 83).

2. "No person shall be made a Mason without a regular proposition at one lodge, and a ballot at the next regular lodge;"

In cases of emergency the following alteration is allowed:—Any two members of a lodge may transmit in writing to the Master the name, &c., of any candidate whom they may wish to propose, and the circumstances which cause the emergency; and the Master, if it be proper, shall notify the same to every member of his lodge; either in the summons for the next regular meeting, or in a summons for a lodge of emergency to meet at a period of not less than seven days from the issuing of the summons for the purpose of balloting for the candidate; and if the candidate be then approved, he may be initiated into the First Degree. The Master shall, previous to the ballot being taken, cause the proposition and emergency, to be recorded in the minute book of the lodge.

Now we start with this proposition. The rule is that a candidate shall be proposed at a lodge meeting, not, mark, as in the case of a joining member, necessarily at a regular lodge meeting—at any lodge meeting, even a lodge of emergency—for I cannot regard the words "next regular lodge," as governing the antecedent "one lodge"—and ballotted for at the next regular lodge meeting. That is the rule. The exception is, that if it is necessary or advisable, and I take the question of the necessity or the advisability to be governed by circumstances to be considered either in regard to the interests of the lodge or for the convenience or advantage of the candidate—of such necessity or advisability the Master being the absolute judge—the Master properly invoked, may (1) either call a lodge of emergency for the initiation of the proposed candidate, or (2) insert his name in the summons for the next regular lodge meeting. Thus, say a lodge holds its regular meeting on the first Monday of each of the winter months. After its regular meeting in January, Bros. A. and B. are implored by Mr. C. to procure his admission into the Craft in their lodge. Assume—no very great stretch of imagination—that the lodge adjourns from April to October. Bros. A. and B. know that their friend takes a continental, or an American tour, or a tour of some kind, every autumn, and would like to carry with him his credentials as a full-fledged M.M. In proper form this is represented by Bros. A. and B. to the W.M., who sees at once that this very natural desire of Mr. C. cannot be gratified if he is only to be proposed in February, and not ballotted for until March. If the law were inflexible, Mr. C. would either not join the Craft at all, or would have to seek some other lodge, the dates of meeting of which were more accommodating than those of his friends' lodge. So the W.M. is allowed to pronounce that the initiation is one of emergency, and he accordingly orders the candidate's name to be inserted in the ordinary summons for the next regular lodge meeting in February. Mark that in this instance the initiation is pronounced to be emergent, not the meeting so there is no need as "A Secretary" supposes, for constituting a regular meeting an emergency meeting *pro hac vice*.

On the other hand the notion entertained by some brethren, as we are informed by "A Secretary," that names of candidates can be received up to the time of printing the summons, without inserting the emergency or declaring it in the lodge, is, as he justly observes, not in accordance with that which we must all regard as an infallible guide, the Book of Constitutions.

I fear, however, that this is very much the case in practice. A learned judge once said of the numerous approved infringements of a noted legal principal, that "the exceptions had eaten out the rule." If I may, without vanity respond to the appeal made by "A Secretary" to "some well informed brother," I would fain by this attempt at legal construction, protest against a continuance of that laxity. I have, of course, only used the supposititious case of Mr. C. as an illustration. A number of circumstances may be imagined, connected with health, leaving the country, personal predilection, &c., which might justify a Master in deeming a prompt initiation desirable. In that case, to sum up, he has power, as I read the law, when the exercise of his prerogative has been properly invoked to take the necessary steps to effect his object, either at a lodge of emergency to be convened for the purpose, or at the next

regular lodge meeting if the date of its occurrence shall render it equally convenient.

I take it, however, that the Master must [notify that the initiation of any candidate not previously proposed in open lodge is on emergency, in the circular, whether for an emergency or regular meeting to every member of the lodge, and the circular should always contain full information of the circumstances rendering it so. The last clause is rather ambiguous and difficult in practice to carry out. I think, however, the law would be complied with if we read "cause the proposition and emergency to be recorded in the minute book of the lodge," *direct the proposition*, &c., which of course would be done by a public and official order to the Secretary, and by ascertaining, when the minutes are put for confirmation at the next regular meeting of the lodge, that it has been obeyed. This is, and has ever been the practice in the two lodges of which I am a P.M., and I have no doubt that they will be readily recognised by many brethren, who will at once supply the remaining letters to the initials which I have signed to this communication.

In conclusion, it is a grave subject for consideration, but which I do not feel called upon to discuss here, how far in this, as in other matters, it might not be advisable to endeavour to bring the administration of the laws promulgated by the Book of Constitutions into more perfect harmony with our present habits and usages. The rule I have been examining suited admirably a state of society where a man's place of avocation and his individual residence were usually identical. It consisted well with a time when journeys away from home were short and infrequent, and continental travel so rare as to be practically phenomenal. In those days the meeting of the lodge was—if I may use a figure—a household occurrence—compared to the usage now—a domestic episode.

The idea of suspending the wholesome gathering of brothers and fellows at the accustomed periods during the summer months had never occurred to any, even the most innovatingly ambitious, member of the fraternity, but nous avons changé cela. Understand, I do not advocate any alteration of what I consider to be per se a very wholesome enactment. It sets up a standard in abstract theory. It propounds a principle invaluable. I am only pleading for an indulgent view for the necessarily frequent resort to the privilege of exception given by the Book of Constitutions, provided always, as we lawyers say, that the Worshipful Master's prerogative of suspension is only exercised after he has been duly empowered by the requisition and in the manner provided in the text, a practice which, I am afraid, is now-a-days "more honoured in the breach than the observance."

Yours faithfully and fraternally,

S.P.

CARDINAL MANNING AND THE STAGE.

The following letter appeared in the "Times" of Monday, the 27th:—

Sir,—Will you kindly allow me a little of your most valuable space in answer to an onslaught upon my profession by Cardinal Manning, at Exeter Hall, on the 21st of March? At a meeting of the "Roman Catholic Temperance Society" his Eminence denounced all establishments for theatrical representations, "from the costly theatre of the rich to the penny gaff of the poor," as "one vast scale of corruption," and counselled and strongly urged all his hearers never on any account to set their feet in one of them. Without attempting to question the good or evil influence of the stage, it is really surprising to read that such views should be entertained by a man like Cardinal Manning, who represents a religion which not only tolerates but supports and encourages dramatic art. Nowhere has the drama a healthier and greater influence than in Catholic countries—Austria, Bavaria, Suabia, Italy, France, and Spain. I have seen rows of stalls and galleries filled with ecclesiastics in the theatres of Vienna, Stuttgart, Munich, Prague, and Paris. Hundreds of seminarists are nightly seen in the galleries of the Court theatres of Vienna, Munich, and Stuttgart. I wonder what effect this anathema would have upon them.

Without presuming for a moment to set myself up as a defender of the stage (I leave that to abler and greater men), I beg you to insert a few quotations from my glorious countryman, Friedrich Schiller, of whom, as of the immortal Bard, we might with justice say—"He was not for an age, but for all time." In his lecture read before the Royal German Society in Mannheim, 1874, and entitled "Die Schaubühne als eine moralische Anstalt betrachtet," he says the following:—

"The jurisdiction of the stage begins where the domain of all worldly law ends. When justice is blinded by gold and dissipation, enroled by crime, when the guilt of the mighty—scorning their own weakness and fear of man—girds the arm of authority, the stage takes up sword and scales and drags the criminals before a horrible tribunal of justice."

"The whole realm of romance and history, past, present, and future, is at her disposal. Even in the absence of morality, faith, religion, and worldly laws, Medea will terrify us tottering down the palace steps after her infanticide."

"Wholesome shuddering will seize us, and in quiet repose we will praise our own good conscience when we see Lady Macbeth walking in her sleep, washing her little hands which 'All the perfumes of Arabia' will not sweeten."

"As sure as what we see works deeper upon us than the dead letter or the naked narration, so sure will the stage leave a more profound and lasting impression than morality and law."

"Fools disturb society almost as much as criminals, and it is the stage which holds the mirror up to that large class of dolls. What she effects above through the instrumentality of pity and horror, she succeeds in here (much quicker and safer) through wit and satire."

"The stage alone can laugh over our weaknesses because she spares our sensibilities, and ignores the guilty. Without blushing we see ourselves unmasked in the mirror, and are secretly thankful for the gentle admonition."

"The stage is, more than any other public institution, a school for practical wisdom, a guide through the common road of life, an unfailing key to the most secret archives of the human soul."

"The stage is a co-operative channel from which, for better and more thinking men, streams the light of wisdom and then expands in milder rays over the entire universe. Better reasoning, truer principles, purer sentiments flow through the people's veins. The log of barbarism, the darkness of bigotry and intolerance disappear; the night retreats before triumphant light. I will only name one instance out of so many excellent examples. How universal within the last few years has religious toleration become! Long before Nathan the Jew and Saladin the Saracen preached the Divine truth that humility in God, and to be nearer Him, depends not upon our 'horrible imaginings;' long before Joseph II. conquered the terrible Hydra of pious hatred, the stage planted humanity and tenderness into our hearts. The fearful picture of heathen priest rage caused us to shun religious hatred; and in this terrible mirror Christianity washed off her stains."

I would most respectfully commend these somewhat "lame and impotent" translations to his Eminence Cardinal Manning.

Yours obediently,

DAVID G. BANDMANN.

Garrick Club, March 25.

Multum in Parbo; or Masonic Notes and Queries.

I follow up my "note" of last week with a few more remarks this.

It is a great encouragement to all Masonic students to think of the advance we have made since Mr. W. O. Halliwell (now Phillips) first published the *Masonic Poem*, say in round numbers a quarter of a century ago.

Then only the following MSS. were actually known to a few Masonic scholars, namely, the two Harleian, the two Sloane, the Lansdowne, and Dowland's. Bro. Matthew Cooke first called attention to the Additional MS., so that with the *Masonic Poem* we made up eight.

There were others which were also known to exist, such as the Antiquity, mentioned by Preston, Cole's MS., Mr. Dodd's MS., Rawlinson's MS., &c., but not many more.

Then came Bro. Hughan's publication of the York MSS., though their discovery had been earlier, namely, by Bros. E. W. Shaw and Woodford, and subsequently they were alluded to by Bro. Findel.

Bro. Hughan was the first to publish them. Indeed, the following MSS. owe their discovery entirely to Bro. W. J. Hughan:—York MS., No. 1; Grand Lodge MS.; York MS., No. 6; Alnwick MS.; Browne's MS., and I think, though I do not feel quite sure of the fact, the Aberdeen MS.

We also owe to him the references to Morgan's MS., Dermott's MS., Hargrove's MS., Wren's MS., Chester MS., and I think that we shall yet owe many more to his great industry and activity.

I am going to have, if possible, another search made among the muniments of the Masons' Company, by the kind aid of the authorities, to see if we can yet light upon the "book wrote on parchment," and I am not without hopes of being able to trace Ashmole's copy, perhaps the very parchment roll Dr. Plot alludes to in 1686.

I believe that by a general sifting of our lodge chests and old papers several other copies will yet turn up, as no doubt all the old lodges had a copy of the "Constitutions." This is a work we all can engage in, and I hope that all W.M.'s and Secretaries will look into the matter at once as to the papers remaining in the possession of their lodges.

A MASONIC STUDENT.

Can any brother put me in the way of obtaining a print of the Rev. James Dallaway, or of Hutchinson, Asne, Calliott, of Anderson or Payne?

¶ If any brother can I shall feel truly obliged.

A. F. A. WOODFORD.

198, Fleet-street.

AN OLD JEWEL.

A curious ancient silver jewel has been submitted to us for our inspection. It belongs to Bro. G. Broad, Blackheath Hill Railway Station.

It is oval in shape, without date. On one side are the three candlesticks, the two pillars, the square and compasses, the sun and moon, and various Masonic emblems.

On the reverse—the "Royal Arch Lodge of Jerusalem" is the motto of the base, above Stockport, — Lodge, the first word being illegible.

It has the Catenarian Arch—a soldier in armour, a cross, a cock, a gravestone, a headstone, with the cross, and the letters T.T.H.T., a triangle with the tetragrammaton. It appears to have been meant for wearing in lodge.—Ed. "FREEMASON."

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.—Stomach, Liver and Bowels.—In all painful affections of the stomach and disordered actions of the liver and bowels, one single trial of these PILLS will demonstrate that they possess regulating and renovating powers in a high degree. They speedily restore the appetite, lessen the unpleasant distention of the abdomen, and so prevent inflammation of the bowels and other serious abdominal ailments. Holloway's Pills afford the greatest comfort to the dyspeptic invalid without harassing or weakening the most sensitive constitution, or interfering materially with the ordinary studies, pleasures, or pursuits. The simplicity and efficacy of this treatment has evoked the gratitude of all classes in both hemispheres, and commanded a sale for these purifying PILLS unprecedented in medical history.—A.M.T.

CONSECRATION OF TWO ROYAL ARCH CHAPTERS.

On Thursday, 23rd ult., there was a considerable assemblage of companions for the purpose of witnessing and taking part in the Constitution and Consecration of two Royal Arch Chapters, one being that of the Dundas, 1255, the other the Devon Chapter, 1135, of Newton Abbot. The Rev. John Huyshe, the Grand Superintendent of the Province, was able, we were glad to see, to be present and take his part most ably in the business of the day, which he at all times conducts with great solemnity. Amongst the other companions present were the following:—L. P. Metham, P.H.G.; J. Elliott, P.Z., P.P.G.H.; J. B. Gover, P.Z., P.P.G.P.S.; P. B. Clemens, P.Z., P.P.G.A.S.; John Du Pre, P.Z. 70, P.P.G.T.; John Pearse, Walter G. Rogers, P.G.S.E.; H. W. Thomas, A.S. 70; Samuel Jew, P.Z., P.P.G. Treas.; T. W. Lemon, Scribe N. 189; H. Miller, P.Z., P.P.G., 1st S.B.; W. Hamblay, P.S.; J. W. Keyworth, P.J.; W. Elphinstone Stone, 106 Z., P.P.G.R.; William Haynes, 100, P.Z.; Edwin J. Knight, Z. 202, P.P.G.S.B.; R. Hamblay, 230; J. E. Curteis, P.Z. 189, P.P.G.S.B.; Wm. Joll, P.G.T. 230; R. H. Rae, P.P.G.T. 189; Jas. Page Phillips, Z., P.G.S. 223; Joseph Matthews, P.Z., P.P.C.T.; Lieut.-Col. Fitzgerald, 189; Captain Shanks, P.Z. 1205, P.P.G.J.; S. C. Cant, L. Webber, A. Bodley, H. 112, P.G. St. B.; R. Blight, W. H. Triplett, C. Godtschalk, 159, P.P.G.S.B.; H. J. Ham, T. C. Lewara, H. G. Beachey, 710, P.Z.; R. Bowden, P.Z.; C. J. Harland, Z.; W. T. Pilditch, Z. 156; J. H. Tonkin, J.; W. D. Thomas, H. 159; R. B. Twose, P.G.D.C., H. 105; W. H. Michell, P.Z. 156, P.P.G.D.C.; Isaac Latimer, J. 189; G. H. Amory, J. M. Hifley, P.Z., P.P.G.S.B.; E. T. Tarratt, E. Aitkin Davies, P.Z., P.P.G. Reg.; R. P. Culley, Z. 70; A. J. Bishop, 106; T. S. Bayly, P.P.G.R., J. Baxter, 954, W. R. Gillman, H.; John Rogers, P.Z.; John Lyon, P.Z.; G. Thorne, 70; P. L. Blanchard.

The chapter was duly formed by the following companions taking their places:—The M.E. the Rev. John Huyshe, P.G. Superintendent L. P. Metham, H.; Captain Keyworth, J.; W. G. Rogers, S.E.; Isaac Latimer, as S.N.; J. P. Phillips, P.S.; E. J. Knight, as 1st A.S.; J. Brown, as and A.S.; Wm. Joll, Grand Treasurer; J. H. Hifley, Sword Bearer; C. A. Godtschalk, 1st Grand Std. Bearer; G. B. Colston, 2nd Grand Std. Bearer; R. B. Twose, Grand Dir. of Cer.; G. H. Emery, Grand Organist; Alfred Bodley, Grand Banner Bearer; John Rogers and Peter Blanchard acting as Janitors.

The chapter having been duly opened, the P.G. Scribe E. addressed the acting Z., and then read the two warrants from the Grand Chapter, authorising the constitution and consecration of the Chapters Dundas and Devon. The officers of Dundas were present, and three Past Z.'s—Comps. Bowden, Michellmore, and Elphinstone Stone—represented Devon Chapter. All the ceremonies having been duly gone through, Comp. Metham, at the request of the Prov. Grand Superintendent, delivered the following oration:—

Most Excellent Sir and Companions,—With each recurring occasion I feel an increasing diffidence and difficulty in performing the task devolving on me of delivering the oration usual at the consecration of every Royal Arch Chapter. This difficulty does not arise from lack of interest or material, far from it, for no subject in Freemasonry is so rich in matter or so elevated in tone. The Royal Arch Degree is and must be the ne plus ultra of Freemasonry, the very climax and capstone of the Order, for it deals with a theme which is above all other themes, and which no other can approach, much less surpass; for however beautiful, however graceful, however useful other degrees may be, as spurs to zeal and incentives to imagination, the Royal Arch Degree can know no peer. Masonry would be incomplete unless it led us by gradual steps to the contemplation of the Great Jehovah, the incomprehensible Alpha and Omega, who was and is to come, the actual present, future, and all sufficient God, who alone has His being and from Himself, and gives to all others their being; who was, and is, and shall be the same from everlasting to everlasting, all creation dependent on His Almighty will. Therefore the more I reflect on the, to us, vital principles inculcated in the solemn ceremony in which we are about to engage, the more anxious I am to approach it with the reverence it claims, and to enforce on all the companions of the Order the absolute necessity of regarding this august degree with the same amount of veneration. It is very easy, and it is very pleasant, to look back and draw the parallel, as Freemasonry does, between our actual every-day life and a true Masonic career. From our dependence on others, even for the preservation of life itself, in the first portion of our existence, we have deduced the moral that it is our duty to learn and practise an abiding lesson of mutual dependence and equality. Passing onward in life we reached that period where opportunity was given us to practise these principles; the dignity, too, of labour and its usefulness were as clearly shown as its necessity. We were taught that to rightly employ the hours given to us, and to consider them as precious talents to be used not only for our own benefit and that of those who are dependent upon us, but also for the good of our fellow creatures and the glory of our Creator, is the most grateful sacrifice and return we can offer up for all the benefits conferred upon us when we ourselves most needed assistance. To the man who has cultivated his intellectual powers to the glory of God and the welfare of his fellow creatures, who, while glorying in his manhood and the meridian brightness of life, has modelled his life by the sacred dictates of morality and religion, the warm noon glides easily and swiftly into the calm afternoon and gathering shades of evening, until the night comes, when, without a shock or a fear, he lays down his mortal part in the grave as in a bed, his last

look not turned back with vain regret to the scenes of his earthly life, but forward and upward, with resignation to the Divine will, and with trusting confidence, to that bright morning star whose rising shall bring peace and salvation to the faithful and obedient of the human race. For Masonry, in this degree, points with no faltering finger to the future beyond the grave, when we shall come face to face with the great I Am, who is the Eternal Ruler of the Universe, the elemental life, the primordial source of all its principles, the very spring and fountain of all its virtues; He has, indeed, given us the earth with all its teeming plenty and beauty for our enjoyment and use during our brief existence here, but He has also told us, with no uncertain voice, that our life is but a pilgrimage and a period of probation for admission into a nobler and eternal state hereafter. And this is why, as I pass from the contemplation of the things of this world to those of the world to come, from the weak and finite actions and thoughts of time to the boundless prospects and harmonious laws of eternity; from dealing with my fellow men, who are fallible and corrupt as myself, to the study of the attributes of the Supreme Being, who is all perfect, my ease vanishes, and I pause with awe in the presence of that dread name around which centre all the mysteries of this Supreme Degree. I entreat you, therefore, brethren and companions, to ponder deeply its meaning and mystery, and never to approach it yourselves, nor suffer others to approach it, in a spirit of indifference or irreverence. Remember always that unless you adopt its solemn teaching the circle of your Masonic duties is incomplete, and all your previous professions and practice valueless, therefore.

"Let all your lamps be bright,
Gird up your loins as in His sight,
And trim the golden flame,
For awful is His name."

The Royal Arch Degree stands, then, as a beacon, a pillar of light, to guide us through the wilderness of doubt and difficulty, by which we are surrounded in our earthly pilgrimage, only leaving us when, having passed through the dark portals which divide life from death, we enter the promised land, those happy regions where the true secrets of Masonry shall be disclosed to the faithful and obedient of the human race. To gain this great end we must during our earthly existence, with untiring zeal and unswerving faith, perform the task allotted to us while it is yet day. As trusty workmen and faithful companions, we must employ our working tools; with the pickaxe we must clear away the ruins of a fallen nature, with the trowel we must build up a fairer shrine for the reception of truth and virtue, with the sword by our side we must fight for the weak against the strong, for the good against the evil, and for the true against the false; and with the shovel we must bury the rubbish of the old Adam, so that our spirits may be purified to arise, when summoned by our tremendous but merciful judge, into a better and immortal life.

We should not read this degree rightly, however, if we did not recognise the bond of union it creates between our earthly duties and heavenly prospects. No rigid adherence to the rules of morality, no mere conscientious discharge of our obligations to ourselves, our families, or to the world at large, will ever raise us, unless they are sanctified by religion. But, on the other hand, the constant and strict performance of our duties here is recognised most clearly, and enforced in the most emphatic manner throughout the whole of this degree, and this finds utterance in the charge which is, or ought to be, given in every chapter; I know no words more fitting with which to close this address.

Brethren and Companions: You are about to quit this sacred retreat of peace and friendship, and to mix again with the world. Amidst all its cares and employments forget not the duties which have been so frequently inculcated and strongly recommended in this supreme convocation. Be ye, therefore, discreet, prudent, and temperate. Remember that around this altar ye have voluntarily and solemnly vowed to befriend and relieve with unhesitating cordiality every brother who shall need your assistance, sympathy, or advice; that you have promised to remind him in the most gentle manner of his failings, and to aid in his reformation; to defend and vindicate strenuously his character whenever wrongfully traduced, and to suggest the most candid, the most palliating, and the most favourable circumstances, even when he is justly liable to blame and reprehension. Thus shall the world see how Masons love one another. But, my brethren and companions, you are to extend the noble and generous sentiments yet further, let me impress upon your minds, and let it be instilled into your hearts that every human being has an undoubted claim to your kind offices, and while we more particularly recommend to your care the household of the faithful, we strictly enjoin you to do good to all, and to carry comfort and consolation to every one of your fellow creatures in the hour of their need. Thus by diligence and fidelity in the discharge of your public and private duties, by liberal benevolence and diffusive charity, by constancy and sincerity in your friendships, by being uniformly kind, just, amiable, and virtuous in your deportment, you may prove to the world the happy and beneficent effects which flow from our ancient and honourable institution. And let it not be said that you have laboured in vain or wasted your strength for nought, for your work is before the Lord and your recompense is with your God. Finally, brethren and companions, be all of one mind and live in peace with each other, and may the God of Love and Mercy delight to dwell among you and bless you for evermore. So mote it be. At the close of this address there was considerable applause.

The officers of the new chapters were then duly presented to the acting Z., and all the necessary forms for constituting the chapters having been concluded, the consecration commenced with an ode, beginning with

"Let there be light!" the Almighty spoke:

which was followed by prayers, by pouring of corn, wine,

and oil on the chapter, and the companions then chanted psalm cxxii. The ceremonies were impressive, and the musical arrangements under Comp. Gant were admirable.

The following are the officers of Dundas:—G. Godtschalk, Z.; J. B. Gover, P.Z.; J. J. Avery, H.; H. W. Thomas, J.; T. B. Harvey, Scribe E.; W. Bell, Treas.; W. H. Triplett, P.S.; W. H. Ham, S.N.; T. Smith, Janitor.

Obituary.

BRO. SIR JOHN CORDY BURROWS.

We regret to have to announce the death of Bro. Sir John Cordy Burrows, Knight, which occurred shortly before ten o'clock on Saturday morning at his residence in the old Steyne, Brighton, after a short but painful illness. He was son of Mr. Richard Burrows, by Elizabeth, daughter of Mr. James Cordy, of London, and was born in Ipswich in 1813, and married in 1842, Jane, second daughter of Mr. Arthur Dendy, of Dorking, by whom he leaves an only son. Sir John received his medical education at Guy's and St. Thomas's Hospitals, became a member of the College of Surgeons in 1836, and was elected a fellow in 1852. The deceased gentleman had practised as a surgeon in Brighton for many years, and was so much esteemed and respected by the inhabitants that he was elected Mayor for the third time in 1871-2. Sir John took a great interest in the municipal affairs of Brighton, and was in 1871 presented by his fellow townsmen with a testimonial, consisting of a silver model of the Victoria Drinking Fountain, which he had been the means of erecting on the Steyne, accompanied by a silver tea and coffee service for Lady Burrows, and a carriage and pair of horses for use in his profession. He was knighted by Her Majesty in 1873. He was a fellow of the Geographical, the Zoological, and other learned societies, also consulting surgeon to the Brighton Hospital for Sick Children. Sir John was appointed Prov. Grand Mark Master for Sussex, June 23rd, 1874. He will be greatly missed by the poor of Brighton.

The Royal Oriental Order of Sikha (Apex) and the Sat B'Hai has just completed arrangements for holding a Grand Asayanna or assembly in the metropolis on the occasion of the return of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales from India. We know, on authority, that H.R.H. was graciously pleased to accept a blank Sasana or Mandate of the Order before his departure for the East. Several minor Asayani were held in Hampshire, Lancashire, and other provinces last year.—[London Provincial Illustrated Paper.] [We do not profess to know what this Order can be.—Ed.]

METROPOLITAN MASONIC MEETINGS.

For the Week ending Friday, April 7, 1876.

The Editor will be glad to receive notice from Secretaries of Craft Lodges, Royal Arch Chapters, Mark Lodges, Preceptories, Conclaves, &c., of any change in place or time of meeting.

SATURDAY, APRIL 1.

Gen. Com. Boys' School, at 4.
Lodge 142, St. Thomas's, Terminus Hot., Cannon-st.
" 1194, Villiers, Grotto Hot., Twickenham.
" 1459, New Cross, New Cross Hall.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Lily, Greyhound, Richmond.
Percy, 113, Southgate-rd., N.
Manchester, 179, London-st., Fitzroy-square.
Star, Marquis of Granby, New Cross Road.
Sinai Chapter, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.

MONDAY, APRIL 3.

Lodge 12, Fortitude & Old Cumberland, Ship & Turtle.
" 69, Unity, London Tav., Bishopsgate-st.
" 72, Royal Jubilee, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
" 83, United Lodge of Prudence, Albion Tav.
" 144, St. Luke's, M.H., Basinghall-st.
" 188, Joppa, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
" 256, Unions, F.M.H.
" 1319, Asaph, F.M.H.

Chap. 28, Old King's Arms, F.M.H.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Prince Leopold, Lord Stanley Tav., Kingsland.
Strong Man, Jerusalem Tav., St. John's Gate.
Sincerity, Railway Tav., Fenchurch-st. Station.
Camden, Stanhope Arms, Up. James-st., Camden To Eastern, Royal Hot., Mile-end-road.
St. James's Union, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Wellington, White Swan, Deptford.
West Kent, St. Saviour's College, Forest-hill.
Perfect Ashlar, Victoria Tav., Lower-rd., Rotherhithe.
Sydney, White Hart Ho., Church-rd., Upper Norwood.

TUESDAY, APRIL 4.

Colonial Board, at 3.
Lodge 7, Royal York of Perseverance, F.M.H.
" 18, Old Dundee, London Tav., Bishopsgate-st.
" 101, Temple, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.
" 217, Stability, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
" 765, St. James's, Bridge House Hot.
" 1259, Duke of Edinburgh, Cp. of G. Hope Tav., E.
" 1261, Golden Rule, Regent M.H., Regent-st.
" 1298, Royal Standard, Wellington Club, N.
" 1381, Kennington, Surrey Tav., Kennington Oval.
" 1472, Henley, Three Crowns, North Woolwich.
" 1549, Abercorn, Abercorn Hot., Gt. Stanmore.
Chap. 145, Prudent Brethren, F.M.H.
" 169, Temperance, White Swan, Deptford.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney.
Domestic, Samsy M.H., Camberwell New-road.
Faith, 2, Westminster Chambers, Victoria-st.
Prince Fredk. Wm., Lord's Hot., St. John's Wood.

Dalhousie, King Edward, Triangle, Hackney.
Prosperity, 1, Camomile-st., Bishopsgate.
St. Marylebone, British Stores Tav., St. John's Wood.
Constitutional, Wheatsheaf Hot., Hand-court, Holborn.
Israel, Rising Sun Tav., Globe Road.
Royal Arthur, Prince's Head, York-road, Battersea.
Beacontree, Red Lion, Leytonstone, at 8.
Metropolitan Chapter, Jamaica Coffee Ho., Cornhill.
Excelsior, Commercial Dock Tav., Rotherhithe.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 5.

Lodge 511, Zetland, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
" 1491, Athenæum, Athenæum, Camden-rd., N.
Chap. 55, Constitutional, Private Rooms, Leytonstone.
Precep. 139, Holy Palestine, Regent M.H., Regent-st.

LODGE OF INSTRUCTION.

Mt. Lebanon, Windsor Castle Tav., Southwark-bdg.-rd.
Pythagorean, Prince of Orange, Greenwich.
New Concord, Rosemary Branch Tav., Hoxton.
Royal Union, Horse and Groom, Winsley-st., Oxford-st.
Confidence, M.H., Basinghall-st.
Peckham, Maismore Arms, Park-road, Peckham.
Stanhope, Thicket Hot., Anerley.
Finsbury Park, Finsbury Park Tav., Seven Sisters'-rd.
Southwark, Southwark Park Tav., Southwark Park.
Duke of Connaught, Havelock Tav., Dalston, E.
United Strength, Grafton Arms, Kentish-town.
Mount Edgumbe, 19, Jermyn-street, St. James's.
Islington, Crown and Cushion, London Wall.

THURSDAY, APRIL 6.

Lodge 10, Westminster and Keystone, F.M.H.
" 27, Egyptian, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
" 45, Strong Man, Old Jerusalem Tav.
" 227, Ionic, Ship & Turtle, Leadenhall-st.
" 231, St. Andrew's, F.M.H.
" 554, Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney.
" 742, Crystal Palace, Star and Garter, Kew Bridge.
" 822, Victoria Rifles, F.M.H.
" 1155, Excelsior, Sydney Arms, Lewisham-rd.
" 1178, Perfect Ashlar, Gregorian Arms, Bermondsey.
" 1415, Prince Leopold, Lord Stanley Tav., E.
Chap. 2, St. James's, F.M.H.

l " 9, Moriah, Albion Tav., Aldersgate.

LODGE OF INSTRUCTION.

Egyptian, Hercules Tav., Leadenhall-st.
Fidelity, Yorkshire Grey, London-st., W.
Finsbury, Jolly Anglers' Tav., Bath-st., City-road.
Whittington, Black Bull Tav., Holborn.
Temperance in the East, Catherine-st., Poplar.
Ebury, 12, Ponsonby-st., Millbank.
Highgate, Bull and Gate, Kentish-town.
The Great City, 111, Cheapside.
High Cross, Coach & Horses, High-road, Tottenham.
Salisbury, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Marquis of Ripon, Albion Tav., Albion-rd., Dalston.
Prince Frederick William Chapter, St. John's Wood.

FRIDAY, APRIL 7.

Lodge 890, Hornsey, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
" 1489, Marquis of Ripon, M.S.A., Balls Pond-rd.
Chap. 259, Prince of Wales's, Willis's Rooms, St. James's.

LODGE OF INSTRUCTION.

Union Waterloo, Thomas-st., Woolwich.
St. George's, Globe Tav., Royal-hill, Greenwich.
Robert Burns, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Belgrave, Lyceum Tav., 354, Strand.
Unions Emulation (for M.M.'s), F.M.H.
Temperance, Victoria Tav., Victoria-road, Deptford.
Clapton, White Hart, Clapton.
Stability, Guildhall Tav., Gresham-st.
Metropolitan, Portugal Hot., Fleet-st.
Westbourne, Horse & Groom, Winsley-st., Oxford-st.
Metropolitan, Pentonville-road.
United Pilgrims, Surrey M.H., Camberwell New-road.
St. James's, New Tanners' Arms, Grange-rd., Bermondsey.
Duke of Edinburgh, Silver Lion, Penny-fields, Poplar.
Doric, Earl Grey Tav., Mile-end-road.
Burgoyne, Grafton Arms, Prince of Wales's-road, N.W.
St. Luke's, Commercial Tav., King's-road, Chelsea.
Chigwell, Bald-faced Stag Hot., Buckhurst-hill.
Burdett Coutts, Approach Tav., Victoria Park.
Royal Standard, Finsbury Park Tav., Holloway.
Ranelagh, Clarendon Hot., Hammersmith.
Pythagorean Chapter, Prince of Orange, Greenwich-rd.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN WEST LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE.

For the Week ending Saturday April 8, 1876.

MONDAY, APRIL 3.

Lodge 113, Unanimity, Bull Hot., Church-st., Preston.
" 613, Unity, Palatine Buildings, Southport.
" 703, Clifton, Clifton Arms, Blackpool.
" 1045, Stamford, T.H., Altrincham.
" 1051, Rowley, M.R., Athenæum, Lancaster.
" 1264, Neptune, M.H., Liverpool.
" 1380, Skelmersdale, Queen's Hot., Waterloo.
Everton L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.
Skelmersdale Red Cross Conclave, M.H., Liverpool.

TUESDAY, APRIL 4.

Lodge 673, St. John's, M.H., Liverpool.
" 897, Loyalty, Fleece Inn, St. Helen's.
" 986, Hesketh, Grapes Inn, Crosby.
" 995, Furness, M.T., Ulverstone.
" 1256, Fidelity, Bull Hot., Poulton-le-Fylde.
" 1476, Blackpool, Clifton Arms Hot., Blackpool.
Chap. 203, St. John of Jerusalem, M.H., Liverpool.
Walton Mark Lodge, 161, St. Lawrence's School.
Merchants' L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 5.

Lodge 86, Loyalty, M.H., Prescot.
" 484, Faith, Gerard's Arms, Ashton-in-Wakefield.
" 580, Harmony, Wheatsheaf, Ormskirk.
" 730, Ellesmere, Royal Oak Hot., Chorley.
" 758, Ellesmere, M.H., Runcorn.

" 1013, Royal Victoria, M.H., Liverpool.
" 1335, Lindsay, 20, King-st., Wigan.
" 1354, Marquis of Lorne, M.R., Leigh.
Chap. 477, Fidelity, M.C., 55, Argyle-st., Birkenhead.
De Grey and Ripon L. of I., N. Hill-st., Liverpool.
Downshire L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.
Harmonic L. of I., Mona Hot., James-st., Liverpool.

THURSDAY, APRIL 6.

Lodge 219, Mariners, M.H., Liverpool.
" 950, Hesketh, Royal Hot., Fleetwood.
" 1032, Townley Parker, Howard's A., Whitle-le-Wds.
" 1070, Starkie, Black Horse Hot., Kirkham.
" 1473, Bootle, Molyneux R., Bootle.
Chap. 758, Bridgewater, M.H., Runcorn.
St. John's L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

FRIDAY, APRIL 7.

Lodge 680, Sefton, Adelphi Hot., Liverpool.
" 1375, Architect, Didsbury Hot., Didsbury.
" 1387, Chorlton, M.R., Chorlton-cum-Hardy.
" 1505, Emulation, M.H., Liverpool.
Duke of Edinburgh L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN GLASGOW AND WEST OF SCOTLAND.

For the Week ending Saturday, April 8, 1876.
All the Meetings take place at Eight o'clock.

MONDAY, APRIL 3.

Lodge 124, Kilwinning, Union Tav., Ayr.
" 129, St. Mirren's, St. Mirren's Hall, Paisley.
" 138, Operative, Blue Bell Hot., Ayr.
" 237, St. John, Masonic Arms, Girvan.
" 332, Union, 170, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
Chap. 119, Rosslyn, 25, Robertson-st., Glasgow.

TUESDAY, APRIL 4.

Lodge 34, St. John, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
" 68, Doric, 44, Church-st., Port Glasgow.
" 73, Thistle and Rose, 170, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
" 87, Thistle, 30, Hope-st., Glasgow.
" 173, St. John, M.H., Largs.
" 233, Hamilton, Spaldings Hot., Hamilton.
" 331, St. Peter's, Portland Arms, Galston.
" 406, St. John, Dalziel, M.H., Motherwell.
" 433, St. Thomas, Eglinton Hall, Dalmellington.
" 437, Govandale, Portland Buildings, Govan.
" 497, St. John's, Brewery Hall, Catrine.
" 556, Clydesdale, M.H., Rose-st., S.S., Glasgow.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 5.

Lodge 0, Mother Kilwinning, M.H., Kilwinning.
" 4, Glasgow Kilwinning, 170, Buchanan-st.
" 21, Old St. John, M.H., Lanark.
" 86, Navigation, Commercial Hall, Troon.
" 117, St. Mary, M.H., Partick.
" 126, St. Andrew, George Hot.
" 128, St. John, M.H., Shettleston.
" 166, St. John, 29, Graham-st., Airdrie.
" 198, Royal Arch, King's Arms, Maybole.
" 354, Caledonian Railway, 30, Hope-st., Glasgow.
" 442, Neptune, M.H., Ardrossan.
Chap. 87, Shamrock and Thistle, 12, Troon.

THURSDAY, APRIL 6.

Lodge 11, St. John's, King's Arms, Maybole.
" 22, St. John Kilwinning, George Hot., Kilmarnock.
" 27, St. Mungo, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
" 149, St. Andrew, M.H., Irvine.
" 157, St. John, Main-st., Beith.
" 165, Royal Arch, King's Arms, Ayr.
" 202, St. Clement's, Trades' Tav., Kilmarnock.
" 320, St. John, Royal Arch, M.H., Ardrossan.
" 370, Renfrew, M.H., High-st., Paisley.
" 465, St. Andrew, M.H., Garnad-rd.

FRIDAY, APRIL 7.

Lodge 114, Royal Arch, M.T., Cambuslang.
" 116, Royal Arch, Council Hall, Rutherglen.
" 135, St. James, Crown Inn, Tarbolton.
" 175, St. John, M.H., Greenock.
" 215, St. Andrew, Avondale Inn, Strathavon.
" 217, Cumberland Kilwinning, T.H., Port Glasgow.
" 242, Houston, Cross Keys Hot., Johnstone.
" 248, Lockhart St. John, M.H., Carnworth.
" 275, Shamrock & Thistle, 22, Struthers-st., Glsgw.
" 360, Commercial, 30, Hope-street, Glasgow.
" 408, Clyde, 170, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
" 459, Kelburne, Cumbrac Hot., Millport.
" 512, Thorntree, M.H., Thornliebank.
" 551, Clydesdale, Royal Hot., Larkhall.

SATURDAY, APRIL 8.

Lodge 28, St. John, Black Bull Inn, Kirkintilloch.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN EDINBURGH AND VICINITY.

For the Week ending Saturday, April 8, 1876.

MONDAY, APRIL 3.

Lodge 429, St. Kentigern, Royal Hot., Penicuik.

TUESDAY, APRIL 4.

" 5, Canongate and Leith, 86, Constitution-st.

THURSDAY, APRIL 6.

" 97, St. James's Operative, Writers' Court.

FRIDAY, APRIL 7.

" 291, Celtic, Ship Hot., E. Register-st.

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JOHN A. LATHBURY,
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APRIL ELECTION, 1876.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR

BOYS.—The Votes and Interest of the Governors and Subscribers are earnestly solicited on behalf of

JAMES EDGAR TANARE,

eight years of age. His Father, Bro. John Tanare, was initiated in the New Concord Lodge, No. 813, in 1866, and continued a subscribing Member until he fell into difficulties through continued ill-health. He has been for some time an inmate of Colney Hatch Lunatic Asylum, suffering from Paralysis of the Brain, and is pronounced incurable. His wife has six children to support, of whom this is the eldest, besides having to contribute to the support of her husband.

The circumstances of the case are known to and strongly recommended by the following:—

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umberland, 25, Grosvenor-square, W.

Bro. *John Emmens, P.G. Purst, and P.M., No. 172 and 813,

254, Kingsland-road, E.

*J. J. Wilson, J.P.J.G.W. Essex, P.P.J.G.D. Middlesex,

P.M. No. 244, 813, 1337, 1437, W.M. 25.

*J. P. Sarel, P.P.S.G.D. Essex.

*James Terry, Prov. G.D. Cerms, Herts, P.M. 228, 1278,

and 1366.

*H. J. Gabb, W.M. No. 813.

*T. Bartlett, P.M. 813.

*W. H. Main, P.M. 813 and 569.

*George Sinclair, Treas., 813.

*Bro. J. R. Gallant, S.W. 813.

*T. J. Cusworth, J.W. 813.

*R. K. Harper, S.D. 813.

*H. M. Levy, P.M. 188.

*H. W. Homan, P.M. 59.

*Edward Butler, P.M. 276.

*C. E. Walker, Southern Star Lodge, No. 1158.

*W. H. Gulliford, Montefiore Lodge, No. 1017, 11, Caroline-

street, Bedford-square, W.C.

*Arthur McNamara, Fidelity Lodge, No. 3.

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REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS.

Craft Masonry.

LODGE OF ISRAEL (No. 205).—The usual meeting of this lodge was held at the City Terminus Hotel on Tuesday, 28th ult. Bro. L. Jacks, W.M., in the chair of K.S. Bro. H. L. Jones was raised to the Third Degree in a most efficient manner by the W.M. The brethren present included F. Buckland, I.P.M.; Cohen, P.M. and Sec.; Coote, P.M. and Treas.; Latour, P.M.; Hogard, P.M.; J.P. Cohen, S.W.; Bassington, S.D.; Crosthwaite, J.D.; Phillips, I.G.; Masden, and Hall. Amongst the visitors were Bros. Binckes, P.M., P.G.S., and Aaron from Canada.

ST. MARK'S LODGE (No. 857).—The installation meeting of this lodge was held on Tuesday, 21st ult., at the Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell. Present: Bros. King, W.M.; E. Crouch, S.W., W.M. elect; Adams, J.W.; Harrison, P.M., Treas.; Frances, P.G.S.D., Sec.; Goolen, S.D.; Seaton, P.M.; Bragg, P.M.; Wynn-Williams, M.D., J.D.; Green, I.G.; Atkins, Edwards, Mellick, Hamilton, Richardson, Beardmore, Rudduck, and Cocks. Visitors: Bros. Crouch, P.M. 851; Taylor, J.W. 1046; Buchill, P.M. 795; Ramsay, M.D. 165; Turquand, W.M. 1556; Wallace, P.P.G.W.; Cozens, 1216; Lavington, 862; Cox, 503; Gray, 705; Pidcock, P.M. 916. The lodge having been opened and the minutes read and confirmed, the following gentlemen were balloted for and initiated, viz., Messrs. Walter Harris, Josh. Fryer, and David Russell. The chair was then taken by Bro. Harrison, P.M., who proceeded to install Bro. Crouch into the chair of K.S. Bro. Crouch then appointed his officers as follows:—Bros. Adams, S.W.; Goolen, J.W.; Frances, P.M., P.S.G.D., Sec.; Wynn-Williams, M.D., S.D.; Green, J.D.; Newton, I.G.; Atkins, D.C.; and Richardson, W.S. Bro. Harrison, P.M., was also reinstalled with the collar of Treas. The ceremony was well performed. After the close of the lodge the brethren adjourned to the dining hall, where a very sumptuous banquet awaited them, which had been supplied by Messrs. Bromly, and the wines by Bro. King. Everything was of first class quality and gave great satisfaction to the assembled guests. After the usual loyal and Masonic toasts had been duly given and honoured, both by the orations of the brethren and the appropriate music under Bro. Cozen's direction, "The W.M.'s Health" was proposed by Bro. Harrison, P.M., and in a few earnest sentences was ably replied to by Bro. Crouch, who then rose and gave the toast of "The Initiates," remarking he had proposed them in the full conviction they were worthy of the privilege conferred upon them that evening of being admitted into the ancient and honourable Order of Freemasons. Having had the knowledge of their worthiness from a long acquaintance with them, he felt no doubt they would prove an honour to the Craft they were that day admitted members of, and he hoped to see them rise to office as he had done in the St. Mark's Lodge. The toast was done ample justice to, and at the conclusion of the E.A. song—by a few expressive words from each of the newly-initiated brethren—was responded to. In proposing "The Visitors," the W.M. said he was happy to inform the lodge that two, namely, Bros. Gray and Lavington, had signified their wish to become members of the St. Mark, and he was sure the lodge would be glad to receive them. The toast was cordially received, and was duly acknowledged by Bros. Gray, Lavington, Crouch, and Wallace. The toast of "The Past Masters" was also received, and responded to by Bros. Bragg, Seaton, King, and Frances (Bro. Harrison having been suddenly called away to attend a patient). "The Officers" was also given, and replied to by Bro. Adams, and the Tyler's toast finished one of the most pleasant evenings ever spent by the brethren of the St. Mark's Lodge, the musical attainments of Bro. Cozens contributing no small share to the enjoyment.

ST. JAMES'S LODGE (No. 765).—This lodge held its most important and interesting meeting of the year—its "installation night," on Tuesday, at the Budge House Hotel, and great was the gathering on the occasion. Unfortunately, the W.M. of the last year, Bro. Peter McCallum was unable, through illness, to be present, and Past Master Child took the position of the Wise Man. That important and anxious piece of work, the reading and confirming of the minutes regarding the re-election of the new W.M. having been gone through in the usual cordial manner where brethren act with a truly Masonic feeling, five brethren were raised, the Masonic circle being thus completed for Bros. Richard and H. B. Bower, J. C. Perkins,

W. Holcraft, and W. H. Myers. The work was done with the studious adherence to ritual which might be expected in a lodge many of whose members are most active promoters of Masonic study. It had been arranged that the Secretary, Bro. Montagu Scott, P.M. of the lodge and who is as well known as an active volunteer as he is for his Masonic knowledge, should install the new Master, and he accordingly took the chair and set about the work as freshly as he set off on a march with his regiment when the world was younger by more years than we like to think of at present. Bro. Thomas Brown, the W.M. elect, was presented in the usual manner, and the Installing Master, after the address to the brethren on the custom observed from time immemorial, recited the qualifications essential in every candidate, and Bro. Brown having agreed to accept the office under the conditions, and having submitted to the regulations, was pledged in due form before the regularly held and assembled lodge of Craftsmen. The lodge was then raised, and all under the rank of Installed Masters having retired, the new W.M. was with all the forms of the ancient rite installed into the chair. The Board of Installed Masters having been closed the ceremony in the three degrees proceeded, with an entire absence, too, of the "any how," or "that ill do" style prevalent in some places, where carelessness and want of knowledge go hand in hand to mar, and, indeed, to mull the whole ceremony, and make all spectators feel a glow of satisfaction at the adoption of a suggestion that the addresses shall be "taken as given." Far different, indeed, was Bro. Scott's work, and he had the processions given with the stateliness of the Central London's march into Gray's Inn. The new Master then selected and invested his officers, Bros. Gibbs being chosen S.W.; Cox, J.W.; Goodwin, S.D.; Ponting, J.D.; Nelson Reed, as I.G.; G. A. Brock, as D.C.; P. M. Jones, as W.S. The selections were well received, and it was felt that the W.M. had made his selections on the best grounds, those laid down in the Book of Constitutions—on merit—and seen in the fact that the junior active officer, the I.G., is now frequently to be seen in the chair of instruction lodges, where he is able to impart that knowledge he has freely received. The Installing Master then gave the three addresses, and the lodge having closed, the members and the large muster of visitors partook of a gorgeous banquet as refreshment. The usual loyal toast of "The Queen and the Craft," "The M.W. the Grand Master," "The Deputy Grand Master," &c., preceded the toasts personal to the lodge, of "The W.M.," "The Installing Master," "The Past Masters," "The Visitors," and "The Officers" were tasted and replied. A delightful musical entertainment was given by the members, Bro. G. C. Searle presiding at the pianoforte. Amongst those present were Bros. W. S. Whitaker, W. J. Marler, F. H. Wilcocks, J. Clarricoats, the W.M., G. C. Searle, A. T. Pearu, Past Master Jones, Nelson Reed and While ("Freemason") The programme ended with the quotation "Stand not upon the order of your going, but go at once."

CITY OF LONDON LODGE (No. 901).—At the last meeting of this lodge Bro. Henry D'Arcy, the W.M., presided. The visitors included Bros. Sachs (from Frankfurt) and G. Smith. The Masonic work proper, which was most ably performed by the W.M., consisted of the initiation of Mr. W. Alder and the passing of Bros. Wallis and Morris to the Second Degree. The report of the committee appointed to ascertain the best place for the lodge meetings, as it is necessary to remove as the house where the meetings have been hitherto held is to be pulled down, was received and adopted, and the meetings of the lodge will henceforth be held at the Guildhall Tavern.

IVY LODGE (No. 1441).—The last meeting of the winter session of this lodge was held on Tuesday, the 28th ult., at the Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell New Road. We desire to tender our hearty congratulations to the lodge upon having found a home in a temple dedicated to Masonic purposes. The new hall is unquestionably a great boon to lodges in the south of London, for it enables them to sever their connection from hotels and public houses. We are gratified to learn that several lodges have already located themselves in the building. The lodge was summoned for 4.30 p.m. and, shortly before 5 o'clock it was opened by Bro. Chas. Smith, the I.P.M., supported by the following officers, viz., Bros. John Noke, P.M. 87; J. J. Cantle, S.W.; C. F. Poupard, J.W.; L. Cornelissen, S.D.; W. Ashwell, J.D.; C. S. Jolly, Sec.; R. Forster, D.C.; D. H. Ashford, I.G., acting for Bro. T. F. Knight-Smith, who presided at the harmonium; and G. T. Fox, Tyler. The minutes of the last regular and emergency meetings were then read by the Secretary and confirmed, after which the W.M. proceeded to raise Bro. Warkinson to the Sublime Degree of a M.M. Bro. Smith, during the time he was W.M. of the lodge, was noted for the very excellent manner in which he worked the ceremonies, and during the twelve months that have elapsed since he vacated the chair has gained more lustre. From the perfect and earnest manner in which the ceremony was rendered, and the profound attention paid by the candidate, it was evident every word was received with telling effect. Bros. Wright and Phillips were afterwards passed to the degree of F.C. There being no initiate, and this being the night to install the W.M. for the ensuing year, Bro. Smith, as the I.O., proceeded with the service, after Bro. Noke, P.M., had formally presented Bro. Cantle, S.W. and W.M. elect. The new Master having been saluted in the three degrees, invested his officers as follows:—Bros. Poupard, S.W.; L. Cornelissen, J.W.; W. Ashwell, S.D.; T. F. Knight-Smith, J.D.; C. S. Jolly, Sec.; E. Thurlke, W.S.; G. Skegg, Assist. W.S.; R. Forster, I.G.; and G. T. Fox, Tyler. A vote of thanks to Bro. Smith for the skilful manner in which he had discharged the duties of Installing Officer was then ordered to be recorded in the minutes of the lodge. The W.M. with great regret announced that the absence from the lodge that evening of the outgoing W.M., Bro. George Mattock, was owing to

a severe bereavement he had sustained by the death of his father. We believe it was the intention of the lodge to have recorded a vote of sympathy on the minutes, and to have forwarded the same to Bro. Mattock, but by pure accident it was omitted. Doubtless this will be done at the next meeting. The visitors present were Bros. Col. Creaton; Kelly, P.G.S.; H. A. Dubois, G.D.C. Middlesex; and many others. Amongst the members of the lodge we noticed Bros. C. Pautlin, Doherty, Plock, Burgess, A. Vernon, R. Giles, D. H. Ashford, J. R. Ashford, J. Vernon, Goodman, and others. All Masonic business being ended the lodge was closed in ancient form, and the brethren proceeded to the banqueting hall, where an excellent banquet was served.

DUKE OF CONNAUGHT LODGE (No. 1524).—A meeting of this lodge was held on Thursday the 30th ult., when there were present Bros. Thomas C. Chapman, W.M.; H. Lister, S.W.; J. B. Shackleton, J.W.; B. Meyer, Treas.; W. H. Lee, P.M., Sec.; Neville Green, J.D.; H. G. Buss, Provincial Grand Treasurer, Middlesex; W. H. Brand, H. Meyer, C. Johnson, J. Watson, F. Brasted, E. A. Harding, J. Varney, H. Moon, C. W. Smyth, E. Dignam and F. A. Kelly. Visitors: Bros. C. Arkell, S.W. 192; J. Dorkin, 192; J. F. Lovelock, 212; O. Pitcher, 292, Scotland; J. Jones, 907; J. J. Marsh, 1326; W. Morgan, 1385; and G. S. Streeton, 1326. Bros. Charles W. Smith and John L. Payne, 757, were raised, and Bro. Dignam passed. After the business of the lodge the brethren sat down to supper, the usual loyal and Masonic toasts being proposed and duly responded to.

CITY OF WESTMINSTER LODGE (No. 1563).—An emergency meeting of this lodge was held at Regent Masonic Hall, Air-street, Piccadilly, on Monday, the 27th ult. Present: Bros. Swallow, W.M.; Holden, S.W.; White, J.W.; Cottebrune, Treas.; Scott, Sec.; Fisher, Org.; Phillips, S.D.; Shand, J.D.; Parsons, I.G. Visitors: Bros. Allen, P.M. 733; Parson, P.M. 749; Sowell, W.M. 176; Davis, W.M. 382; Burmeister, W.M. 538; Lancaster, W.M. 1287; Michael, W.M. 1507; Iretton, J.W. 1348; Andrews, Edell, Atkin, Evans, Bourne, Marshall, Clifford, Hiles, Gray, Hooker, and Boehr, and about twenty members. Summons calling the meeting read, and ballot unanimously in favour of the following:—Messrs. Pike, Day, Wass, Riley, and Bonham, who were afterwards initiated most impressively by the W.M. Bros. Gray, Bonham, James, and Irving passed to Second Degree This being the whole of the business for which the lodge of emergency was called, the brethren adjourned to most substantial refreshments. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured, the W.M. being praised for his good rendering of the ritual, and the officers and brethren for their attention to the visitors. Some excellent harmony contributed to the pleasure of the meeting.

GATESHEAD.—Lodge of Industry (No. 48).—Monday, March 27th, was the day of installation of this lodge. The lodge was opened by Bro. R. Gregory, W.M., and there was a goodly attendance of the Masonic Craft to witness the ceremony, Bro. J. D. Stephen having been accepted by the brethren. Bros. J. E. Robson and J. J. Clay acted as Installing Masters, and Bro. Dr. R. E. Cook, as D.C. Bro. Stephen having been inducted into the chair of K.S., subscribed to the ancient formulas of the Order. Amongst those present were Bros. W. H. Crookes, Prov. G. Sec., Durham; R. B. Lutert, P. Prov. G.S.D. Durham; W. Liddell, P. Prov. G.D. Durham; J. J. Clay, P.M. 97; Jos. Cook, Prov. G.J.D. Northumberland; J. E. Robson, P.M. 48; W. Lean, P.M. 1087; W. Laing, S.W. 659; T. Blenkinsop, P. Prov. G.D. Northumberland; A. Barker, W.M. 1342; R. Candlish, P.M. 661; G. A. Allan, P.M. 991, P. Prov. G.D. Northumberland; T. Dawson, 424; T. Patton, 48; J. T. Smith, 48; T. White, 48; J. H. Thompson, P.M. 48, P. Prov. C.S.B. Durham; R. Smaile, Prov. G.S.B. Northumberland; T. S. Miller, J.W. 424; J. G. Smith, 48; A. Riley, P.M. 139; R. F. Cook, P.M. 48, P. Prov. G.S.D. Durham; R. Humphrey, S.W. 97; W. Richardson, 41; A. Lawrie, S.W. 991; E. Wakefield, 48; G. Hewitt, 48; J. Grieves, 48; J. Atkinson, P.M. 48, P. Prov. G. Supt. Works Northumberland; M. Taylor, 659; P. Harrison, 48; J. G. Robertson, 48; J. Montgomery, J.W. 991. The W.M. invested the following as his officers for the ensuing year:—Bros. D. Sinclair, S.W.; J. G. Waddington, J.W.; R. Gregory, I.P.M. and Treas.; R. F. Cook, D.C.; M. Corbett, Sec.; J. H. Howell, S.D.; R. Whitfield, J.D.; J. Wood, I.G.; R. Tate, S.S.; T. Simm, J.S.; E. Liddell, A.S.; R. Ferry, Org.; J. Curry, Tyler. The brethren afterwards adjourned to Bro. Jas. Tait's, Grey Horse Tavern, where they partook of an excellent repast. An orchestral band discoursed sweet music during the banquet, and the evening was agreeably enlivened by the following musical brethren, viz., Bros. D. Whitehead, J. Walker and J. Nutton, from the Cathedral choir, Durham; also Bros. R. Dewar, jun., A. S. Donni-son, J. Liddle, R. Terry, and R. Dewar, sen.

MIDDLETON.—Imperial George Lodge (No. 78).—An emergency meeting of this lodge was held on Thursday, the 9th ult., at the Assheton Arms, Middleton, Bro. David Reid, W.M., presided. After the usual routine attendant upon opening the lodge, the ballot was taken for Mr. David Tatton and Mr. Edwin Dodd, and being declared favourable in each case, the W.M. received into "The Mystic Circle" both candidates for its privileges. Such concluded the business of the evening, and the lodge having been closed in ancient form the brethren retired to strengthen the inner man. The customary toasts succeeded refreshment, after which the brethren discoursed in social strain; the Tyler's toast bringing the meeting to a close.

The regular monthly meeting of the lodge was held on the 23rd ult., when the ballot was taken for two joining members, Bro. Wm. Jones, 993, Alexandr. Lodge, Levesham, and Bro. George Henry Darion, 327, Zetland.

Lodge, Birkenhead. The election in each case was unanimous. The lodge was then raised to that degree which may be justly termed, "Retrospective and Prospective." Bro. J. B. Howard was then raised to the Sublime degree of a M.M. by Bro. John Wood, P.M., D.C.; the W.M. then conferred the same dignity upon Bros. John Bradshaw and Henry Wilson. Two other raisings were also due, but want of time necessitated their postponement. Two notices of motion were given by Bro. John Wood, P.M., D.C., and one by Bro. Harvey Heywood, P.M. and Treas., and of which subject we hope to speak favourably in our next Imperial George report. Bro. J. Millhouse, J.D., and Bro. J. Hatton, I.G., each proposed a candidate for initiation, after which hearty good wishes were accorded from lodges, 287, 467, 815, 1375. Charity was next attended to, after which the lodge was duly closed, and the brethren adjourned to the social board. After refreshment the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given; then followed the toast of "Our Newly Raised Brethren," this having been responded to, the toast of "The Visitors" was next given and acknowledged. Bro. John Kent, O.G., "worthy Mason be" completed the list of toasts, with the one at all times cheerfully received—"to all poor and distressed Masons." Before closing, our report we make a slight allusion to the "social board," to which, when labour is completed, the brethren, as a rule, retire. Such a course is also beneficial, especially when every brother reasons his merry heart with moderation and decorum. Although the graver responsibilities of the Craft are not conveyed to the banquetting room in their fullest form, it behoves us ever there to keep down all vain and unbecoming thoughts, and to remember that impious feast recorded, as "The feast of Belshazzar." Our social board when surrounded with lights of steady flame, both trimmed and guarded, points out the way to closer union, does not impede but helps us on our pathway of charity and love, a well trodden path, which every Freemason should be proud to traverse. We conclude, therefore, by remarking that the true Mason can be discovered even at the banquetting board.

SHERNESS.—Adam's Lodge (No. 158).—Yesterday week the installation meeting of this old lodge was held, by dispensation from the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, Bro. J. S. Eastes, at the offices of the Local Board, Mile Town, Shererness, which had been kindly placed at the disposal of the brethren by the chairman and members of the Board. About seventy brethren attended, and the spacious room was well filled. The W.M., Bro. Ferminger, opened the lodge. On the Deputy Provincial Grand Master entering he was saluted according to ancient custom, after which the W.M. delegated the duties of Installing Master to Bro. A. Spears, Past Prov. G. Organist, Kent. Bro. Carpenter, P.M., then presented Bro. J. Woodley, S.W., for installation, and Bro. Spears duly installed him as Master in the presence of the following Board of Installed Masters:—Bros. Ferminger, W.M.; J. S. Eastes, D.P.G.M.; Alfred Spencer, Prov. G.S.; T. M. Rigg, P.P.G. Reg., P.M. 1089, De Shurland; Townsend, P.M. 158, P.P.G.S.D.; F. Binckes, P.G.S.; Clout, P.M., Mallory Abbey; Wm. Ord, P.M. 387, Leinster, (Malta); J. Parkes, P.M. 387 (Malta); Carpenter, P.M. 158; J. Bagshaw, P.M., Sec.; H. Massey, P.M. 619 ("Freemason"); E. Gorham, W.M. 184, Lodge of Benevolence; and Bro. J. Hancock, P.M. 1089, De Shurland. Bro. Spears announced that Bro. Woodley was the 98th Master who had been installed in Adam's Lodge since the date of the warrant. The following brethren were appointed to office:—Bros. Ferminger, I.P.M.; Brett, S.W.; Watts, J.W.; A. Spears, P.M., Treas.; J. Bagshaw, P.M., Sec.; Carpenter, P.M., D.C. (the first brother who has held that office, the Installing Master said, since he had known Adam's Lodge); Nunn, S.D.; Perkins, J.D.; R. Coleman, I.G.; Akhurst, Tyler. After the addresses had been delivered and the ceremony completed, the new W.M. called upon the Deputy Prov. G.M. to invest the I.P.M. with the jewel which had been voted to him by the brethren of the lodge. Bro. J. S. Eastes thereupon rose, and said he had been requested somewhat suddenly by the W.M. to present Bro. Ferminger with a token of love and regard which the brethren of the lodge had voted to him on his retiring from the chair. He complied with the request with a great deal of pleasure from what he had seen of his conduct that day. Still he had seen but little of him himself; but from what he had been told he had no doubt Bro. Ferminger had been a most active and zealous Master, and that for some time past he had been a most active and zealous member of this lodge. He might remind the I.P.M. that though he had passed from the rank of W.M. to that of P.M. his duties had not ended, but had in fact recommenced, because the duties of a P.M. were heavy; above all, he would have to give advice to the brethren of the lodge, which was a responsible office to take, not less responsible than that of the W.M. himself. He might rely upon it that if the P.M.'s of a lodge remained firm and steady to the principles of Freemasonry, and carried out their duties for the lodge through the chair of which they had passed, the working of the lodges would be performed earnestly and well. He hoped that Bro. Ferminger would still adhere to the working of the ceremonies of the lodge, and that he would consider it his bounden duty to instruct those brethren who came after him. If he did that the brethren would feel that this present which had been given to their brother for love and regard had not been given without foundation for those feelings, because he would then show that he had been a Mason throughout. He trusted that Bro. Ferminger would bear in mind what he had just said, that he would at all times support the Master in the chair and the brethren of the lodge to the utmost of his ability. He had great pleasure in conforming with the wish of the W.M. and brethren in placing this jewel on Bro. Ferminger's breast, not only as a reward for what he had already done, but also in the hope that he would con-

tinue to act for the good of the lodge. Bro. Ferminger, in acknowledging the gift, said he felt it a greater honour than many who had received the same, for this reason, he had in his possession a certificate granted to a brother of this lodge whom he had much pleasure as well as honour in recognising as his own grandfather. The certificate was some 80 or 90 years old. His (Bro. Ferminger's) father was a member of this lodge, and the brethren voted him a jewel of a somewhat similar description to the one just voted. It was an additional honour and pleasure to receive the jewel, because he was thankful to say that during the year of office, which their kindness had voted him to unanimously, he had followed in the footsteps of his father and grandfather. He hoped he should continue to act in the same spirit that he had evinced during his year of office; and he could assure the junior brethren that if they wanted instruction they had only to go to the P.M.'s to get it. If any brother, young or old, would come to him he would be happy to devote any time he had at his disposal for instruction of the brethren. As he had received much assistance from the P.M.'s during his year of office he begged now to thank them for it. On the motion of Bro. Spears, seconded by Bro. Townsend, P.M., a cordial vote of thanks was passed to Bro. Eastes, D.P.G.M., for honouring the lodge with his presence. Bro. Eastes, in reply, said he did not consider his presence was deserving of such a vote, as he considered it only a pleasurable duty to come in his official capacity. By repute he knew a great deal of Adam's Lodge. He knew intimately at one time their late Bro. Keddlil, who was a P.M. of the lodge, and in coming that day he renewed his recollection of him. He had to express his thanks to the brethren for having fixed a day for the installation, which was suitable to his own convenience, and it was with much pleasure that he availed himself of the opportunity to come among the brethren. Bro. Ferminger proposed, and Bro. Carpenter seconded, a vote of thanks to Bro. Spears for performing the ceremony of installation, and Bro. Spears having responded, a cordial vote of thanks was passed to the Chairman and members of the Local Board for granting the use of the board-room to the Adam's Lodge for the installation. The motion, which was made by Bro. Townsend, seconded by Bro. Ferminger, and carried unanimously, was ordered to be conveyed to the Local Board in a letter from Bro. J. Bagshaw, Secretary. This concluded the business of the lodge, which was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to their own room for banquet, which was admirably provided and served. When the banquet had been disposed of the toasts were proposed, the W.M. getting through them with great rapidity for the convenience of the many brethren leaving by the last (eight o'clock) train. To enable the brethren to get off at this hour he coupled the name of Bro. Binckes, Past G. Steward, with the toast of "The Grand Officers," and cleverly introduced the toast of "The Masonic Charities" to save time. Bro. Binckes, in reply, said that although he was not a Grand Officer, yet it had been held that in the absence of a Grand Officer or a Past Grand Officer a Grand Steward or Past Grand Steward might properly respond to this toast. On the present occasion there was no one present of higher rank in Grand Lodge than himself, and he would therefore discharge the duty cast upon him with much pleasure. The W.M., in his speech proposing the toast, had referred to Lord Selkirk as a zealous and hard-working Mason, and as a brother who had taken the chair of different Masonic charities, at the last of which—the Benevolent Institution—subscriptions to the amount of nearly £10,000 were obtained. Although comparatively young, his lordship was strenuous in the support of the Masonic Order, which he was sure arose from his intense love of it, and its general principles. He had at all times shown himself anxious to occupy any position he might be called upon to fill with advantage to Freemasonry. Occupying the high position he did he was constantly with Freemasons, and wherever he went he was received with the utmost enthusiasm, and had won "golden opinions from all sorts of people." With respect to the other Grand Officers, they discharged their duties with fidelity and zeal. Speaking upon the cause of charity which had been joined by the W.M. with this toast, the evening was waning very rapidly, and he would simply thank the brethren for what they had done in the cause, and the W.M. for bringing it before them. He considered charity the very main-spring of Freemasonry, the item by which Freemasons were better known and understood by the outer world than by anything else. Twenty-five years he had been associated with all the institutions, and fourteen years he had actually been the Secretary of the Boys' School. He trusted he might say—spite of some little exclusively prevailing opinions in one locality, at all events in the province of Kent—that he could challenge denial when he stated that in that position he had discharged his duty faithfully, conscientiously, and he would go so far as to say on the present occasion honestly, without being open to the charge of being egotistical. Kent had nobly supported the charities, it was always doing something for them, and he thanked the brethren heartily for what they had done. Freemasonry had received a great impetus by the advent to its supreme power of the Prince of Wales; but it must be remembered that with a great accession to the number of Freemasons greater demands would be made on the Institutions, and consequently greater would be the efforts required by all those connected with the institutions to keep pace with those demands. Larger responsibilities would be required of Freemasons than they had hitherto been called upon to bear. He hoped they would be all equal to the emergency, and that the proud boast of Freemasons that no deserving brother in distress, no widow or orphan of a brother, went away unrelieved, would always be asserted with the greatest truth. The toast of "The Prov. G.M., Lord Selkirk," was next proposed, and Bro. J. S. Eastes, D.P.G.M., in reply, thanked the brethren for the

very cordial reception he had met with that day. It was scarcely two years since he (Bro. Eastes) had the honour of receiving his appointment from Lord Selkirk, and he had not once during the time that had since elapsed had the opportunity of visiting this lodge in his official capacity. To-day, however, he had been enabled to carry out his own especial feelings with regard to lodges where there were two or more in a town in that he had been enabled to visit the more ancient first. A lodge like this, which was really 110 years old, should be looked upon in an especial way. Since he had been appointed to his office a new face had been put upon Freemasonry. One and all must individually feel this. Still fresh in their recollection was that heavy blow which was aimed at their headship, and which, after all perhaps, figuratively, was a device for bringing us to our knees. In what light, however, could it be looked upon by our enemies. They had seen the Prince of Wales accepting the position of Grand Master, a wonderful increase in the number of Masons, and the wonderful prosperity of Freemasonry throughout the world, thanks to his Royal Highness stepping in and taking the Grand Mastership. They ought to be very proud that the principles of the Order enabled him to do so without fear and without reproach. This was a very great thing, and it had made a great impression on the outer world. We could gather from this at least one lesson for ourselves, how very necessary and desirable it was that all Freemasons should conduct themselves in such a manner as to shew to the world that there was something real and earnest in the spirit of Freemasonry. It was most essential that that should be the case; we ought to be especially good; and certainly in any little differences of opinion they had they ought to be careful not to let the world know of them. This was a thing he wished to be cultivated in the Province of Kent, that brotherly love which they desired to see in the various lodges, and among the individual members themselves. They should be particular to earn a good name as Freemasons; that their action should not dim the lustre of that close relationship they had with their Royal Grand Master. There was one other subject he wished to speak upon, the subject of charity referred to by Bro. Binckes. It was a subject which the brethren of Kent had a great interest in. They might assume that the charitable institutions of the Order were never in a more prosperous condition than now. Thanks to the energy and ability of the Secretaries of those institutions the matter was brought before the Freemasons in the provinces, and the result had been very great additions to the funds. The province of Kent had not been behind hand. But this would be of no avail if they did not back up their early efforts by renewed energy. A great deal more had to be done. There were many individuals in the provinces who never thought of subscribing to the charities, and he was sorry to say there were many lodges which had not thought of this duty. This was an especial field for the Charity Committee of the province to work in; they should call them to account if they did not bring a large amount of subscriptions. There was another matter he wished to bring before the brethren, the necessity of combination and concentration of their whole voting power when they had a candidate. Let them place the candidates in the hands of the committee, and when the committee had decided which to support let them all use their efforts to carry that one in. It was utterly useless, and a mere frittering away of strength, if several brethren were using their exertions on behalf of different candidates. He hoped he had made himself explicit enough on this point. He felt it was of vital importance to the province of Kent. He did not care what they gave; although he would not wish to discourage their giving what they could, he would say it was useless giving away their votes, one here and one there; let them give them all into the hands of their representative, and pass them over for the benefit of the candidate their Charity Committee might select. He made these remarks in a friendly spirit, and as such he hoped they would be taken. Bro. Alfred Spencer, Prov. G. Sec., replied for the Prov. Grand Officers, and informed the brethren that Masonic affairs in the province were in a very satisfactory condition, better than they had been in for years. On some occasions he had had occasion to complain of the work of the different Secretaries, but he was pleased to say there was a great improvement in that respect. His observations had been received kindly, and the returns had been properly made. The number of Masons was now becoming so large that it was incumbent on Masters and the brethren of lodges to be careful whom they admitted, because, as Bro. Binckes had said, as the number increased greater demands were made on the charities. Masonic law might be put in a very few words; be careful whom you admit; being careful whom you admit you will only have good members who will conform to the laws and constitutions of the Order; you will have order and propriety in your meetings; and you may depend upon it that if we act strictly upon that principle, our Craft will be supported by our Grand Master and other eminent Masons. Bro. Spencer then called the attention of the brethren to the circular from Grand Lodge as to the jewels which ought to be worn, and called upon the brethren to see that the orders of Grand Lodge were obeyed. He also called attention to the fact that Bro. Spencer was representative for the Charity Committee, and asked the brethren to support him. Bro. Ferminger, I.P.M., proposed "The Health of the W.M." They all wished him good health during his year of office. They had had an opportunity of seeing what he could do in the various offices through which he had passed, and they believed he would perform his duties as W.M. as satisfactorily. If he did, Adam's Lodge would never regret electing him to the W.M.'s chair. He had been a member of the lodge for the last twelve or fourteen years, and during that time had been most assiduous in his duties. He had never been absent except when his Queen and country called him

away. While in the S.W. chair he had never been absent but once, when the snow prevented his getting over from Sittingbourne in time; but even then he tucked up his trousers, put his sea boots on, and attempted to wade to Sheerness in time. He, however, arrived too late for the working of the lodge. While he was S.W., he (Bro. Ferminger) never knew what it was to want a brother to whom he could go for advice and assistance, for he was well up to the W.M.'s duties. As the subject of charity had been touched upon, he hoped the W.M. would follow in the path of other W.M.'s, and that the brethren would support him. The W.M., in reply, said he should do all in his power to assist the institutions, and what he had heard that day had produced a strong effect upon him. He hoped he should carry out his duties as well as his predecessors had done, and with the assistance of the Wardens, Past Masters, and officers, he had no doubt he should succeed in doing it to the satisfaction of the brethren. (Hear, hear.) The toast of "The Masonic Press" was replied to by Bro. H. Massey, of the "Freemason." Bro. Ferminger, in reply to the toast of "The I.P.M.," said,—"I rise rather promptly, as the time is getting on. You are aware I stand before you this evening a full-blown Past Master. I must confess I am not a very big flower, but still I am as big as I can be. But, going from the ridiculous to the sublime, I hope that during my past year of office I have given you satisfaction. If I have not done so I can say honestly I have tried all I possibly could to act conscientiously in the discharge of the obligation I took when I was installed in that chair. There is one thing I hope will remember, that "to err is human, to forgive, Divine." If I have erred I hope you will forgive with all the power of which you are possessed. I am satisfied by the very handsome present you have given me, and the very handsome speech with which it was accompanied this afternoon, that my conduct must have met with your approval, or you would not have presented me with that gift. In accepting it I look upon it as a thing I may be proud of for years and years to come. I felt proud some twelve or thirteen years ago with a jewel that came from the brethren of the Adams' Lodge to my father. I felt proud of it as being his only son. Unfortunately, I had it stolen from me; but what I wish to impress upon your minds is, that if I could feel proud of a tribute that the members of Adams' Lodge in years gone by offered to his memory, I must feel equally proud in having a tribute which you have offered to my efforts to do my duty during my year of office. I can assure you I feel as much delighted in receiving it as you do in giving it. With these remarks I beg to thank you kindly and cordially for the able assistance and ready acquiescence that you have accorded to me while I occupied the chair. (Hear, hear.) The London brethren then returned to town, and the remainder of the toasts were afterwards proposed.

FOREST HILL.—West Kent Lodge (No. 1297).—The installation of this lodge was held on Saturday, at the Railway Hotel, Forest Hill, when the following brethren were present:—Bros. J. Allen, W.M.; H. D. Stead, S.W.; Crouch, J.W.; Clements, P.M.; Warren, P.M.; Kindon, P.M.; A. K. Stead, P.M.; Leonard, P.M.; Dr. Rosenthal, Massey ("Freemason"); Browden, Lawler, Corani, Gardner, Harford, Farmer, B. Cooke. Visitors: Bros. J. C. Parkinson, P.J.D.; A. L. Rosenthal, 1260; F. Toole, P.S.J.W. of Essex; J. While, I.P.M. 228; Isliffe, Crawley, Brookman, Webb, Shaw, Augustus Stead, Berry, Very, and others. The lodge having been opened in due form, the installation of the W.M. elect, Bro. H. D. Stead, was proceeded with, the work being done in a masterly way by Bro. Allen, the W.M. The new Master being duly installed, invested the following brethren as his officers:—Bros. Cronel, S.W., E. C. Massey, Treas., J.W.; Leonard Crowder, S.D.; Gates, J.D.; Lawler, I.G.; Farmer and Harford, Stwds.; Dr. Rosenthal, Chaplain; Warren, D.C.; and Kindon, Sec. The new Master presented Bro. Allen, the I.P.M., with the Past Master's jewel, and spoke in eulogistic terms of the manner in which he had filled the chair. Bro. Allen, in acknowledgment, said he should always value that jewel above all others he might get, as a memento of his year of office, and as a testimony that he had done his duty to the satisfaction of the lodge. Mr. Zuccani was then initiated in Masonic form. Before the lodge closed Bro. Warren said that the lodge had not yet acknowledged the handsome present of a harmonium given by Bro. Corani, sen. He was sure the brethren had appreciated the generosity of the donor, and he should therefore move that the thanks of the lodge be given to Bro. Corani, and that the same be written on vellum and presented to him. This was seconded and agreed to. The lodge then closed in perfect harmony. A banquet followed labour, at the conclusion of which the W.M. proposed "The Queen and the Craft." The recent public appearances of Her Majesty had given general satisfaction, especially her visit to the London Hospital, and they might well drink "The Health of the Queen, the Mother of Masons." The W.M. said the next toast was "The Grand Officers." They were much indebted to their Grand Officers, and H.R.H. the Grand Master in his recent visit to India had represented Freemasonry as much as Royalty. As to the other Grand Officers he had the happiness of being present at the late installation of the Prince of Wales as Grand Master, and he had been much struck with the neat working of Lord Skelmersdale. It impressed him with the full idea that the Grand Officers set a noble example to the officers of lodges. He proposed "The Health of the Grand Officers." The toast was drunk with Masonic honours. Bro. I.P.M. Allen said the toast he had to propose was that of "The W.M." They had all been pleased with the way in which he had acquitted himself that day, and he would no doubt carry on the business in a way worthy of himself and the lodge. The W.M., in reply, said that that was the proudest moment in his life save one. The exception was the announcement of the birth of a son, to be followed by others,

and two of whom he was happy to see present. Another was in Bombay, and had the honour to receive the Prince of Wales when H.R.H. was there. His pride was not one of position, but in their approbation, which he certainly was very proud of. In answer to the kind remarks of Bro. P.M. Allen he could only say that he should endeavour to support the known reputation of the lodge. In conclusion he could assure them that he would always try to promote the interests of the Craft in general, and of that lodge in particular. He begged to thank them for their kind response to the toast. The W.M., in proposing "The Health of their Brother Initiate," said that he was a gentleman who was inclined to penetrate deeply into the mysteries of the Craft, and he was sure that Bro. Zuccani would prove a very worthy member. Bro. Zuccani in response briefly thanked the W.M. for initiating him and those officers who had assisted him in the ceremony. He trusted before long to be well versed in the forms and ceremonies of this honourable Order. The W.M.: The next toast was always well received at the West Kent Lodge, it was that of "The Visitors," for they were always pleased to give a hearty welcome to visitors. Visitors were frequently the salt of a lodge meeting, and that night the salt was not without its savour. They had a goodly array of visitors, and he especially thanked Bros. Crawley and Webb for the able assistance they had given him in preparing him for the chair. He regretted that Bro. J. C. Parkinson had been compelled to leave the lodge in order to keep an engagement in town, and in conclusion gave "The Health of the Visitors," coupled with the names of Bros. Berry and Toole. Bro. Berry, of the Yarborough Lodge, responded, and wondered why he had been selected to reply. He could only say that of the Yarborough Lodge in three months they had given eighty guineas away in charity. He had been highly pleased with the kind reception he had met with, and he had much enjoyed the work and hospitality of the lodge. Bro. Toole also responded. The W.M. then proposed "The Health of the Past Masters of the West Kent Lodge, to which all of the body present replied. The toasts of "The Officers" and "The Tyler" were then given, and the proceedings were brought to a conclusion in good time.

CHISLEHURST.—Chislehurst Lodge (No. 1531).—The election meeting of this young and prosperous lodge was held at the Bull's Head Hotel on Saturday, March 25th. Bro. J. Coutts, P.G.P., P.M., W.M., presided, supported by Bros. F. Walters, P.G.P. Middx., P.M., Treas., as I.P.M.; J. Griffin, P.V., Sec.; G. F. Guest, S.W.; W. Kippis, J.W.; H. Gloster, S.D.; Hutchings, D.C.; J. Fox, W.S.; and many others. The only visitor was Bro. Griffiths, P.M. 901. The work, done in an admirable manner, was raising two, passing one, and initiating three gentlemen into the Order. Bro. F. Walters, P.G.P. Middlesex, having informed the members it was not his wish, if elected, to accept the office of Treasurer, because he wished and recommended the lodge to elect their father, Bro. Coutts, into that position by a unanimous vote. A ballot for W.M. for the ensuing year was unanimous in favour of Bro. George Frederick Guest, S.W., and with the same result in favour of Bro. John Coutts, W.M., being Treasurer. On the proposition of Bro. F. Walters, it was unanimously resolved that a ten-guinea testimonial be purchased from lodge funds (the amount to be supplemented by private subscriptions amongst the members), be presented to Bro. J. Coutts, as a slight recognition of his services as first W.M., founder, and father of the lodge. That whenever any vacancy occurred amongst the officers, that in consideration of the essential services rendered to the lodge by the Secretary, Bro. J. Griffin, that he have the vacant office conferred on him. That so long as the lodge has amongst its members a P.M. who can work the installation, that on no account whatever be it ever allowed for any visitor to do that ceremony. Several candidates were proposed for initiation at next lodge meeting. Three Auditors, in addition to those who were provided for in the bye-laws, not being officers of the lodge, were elected. Business being ended, the lodge was closed. After some substantial refreshment, the usual loyal toasts were given and responded to. Some good songs from Bros. J. Williams, Hunt, Samuel, and others helped to pass away a pleasant evening. Before leaving the hotel a good display of fireworks was given, which completed the amusements of the evening. Those not local returned to town, and no doubt enjoyed what they had earned,—"Tired nature's sweet repose, balmy sleep."

INSTRUCTION.

MANCHESTER.—St. David's Lodge of Instruction (No. 1147).—The brethren met on Tuesday, the 28th ult., at the Masonic Hall, Cooper-street. There was an exceptionally good muster. The ceremony of the First Degree was then worked, the following brethren filling the various offices:—F. Coupe, W.M.; T. R. Peel, P.M.; J. Holmes-Poulton, Friendship 44, S.W.; W. Hadden, J.W.; J. Singer, S.D.; J. Davies, J.D.; J. O. Davies, I.G.; T. Elliott, as candidate. A portion of the First Lecture was then taken, which formed an agreeable interlude to the regular work. Subsequently the First Degree was rehearsed again, the following brethren acting:—Bros. F. Coupe, W.M.; J. Davies, P.M.; J. O. Evans, S.W.; T. Elliott, J.W.; J. B. Seel, S.D.; E. Staveley, J.D.; J. Holmes-Poulton, Friendship 44, I.G.; J. Singer, as candidate. The work was carefully and impressively done, and the high state of proficiency the brethren have attained is in no small measure due to the untiring zeal and energy displayed by Bro. T. R. Peel, W.M. St. David's, 1147, and Preceptor to this lodge of instruction.

A portion of the presents made to the Prince of Wales in India will, it is understood, be exhibited at the New Indian Museum, South Kensington, and the remainder in the Bethnal Green Museum.

Scotland.

GLASGOW.—Cathedral Chapter (No. 67).—The regular monthly meeting of this chapter was held in the Masonic Hall, 22, Struthers-street, Calton, Comp. James Duthie, Z., in the chair; Comps. George Priddle, H.; M. Dickson, J.; James Goldie, Scribe; James Wood, Treas.; Samuel Besland, First Sojourner; J. Aytton, Second Sojourner; James Dickie, Third Sojourner. Visiting companions present from Chapters 50 and 87, and a large attendance of members. The Mark Master Lodge being opened, applications were read from the following brethren:—Bros. John Sommerville, 157, Maryland, U.S.A.; William Carstorphine Star, 219; Charles Hawthorne, 458; John McFarlane, 138, Ayr. The four brethren were advanced and had conferred upon them the Mark, Excellent, and Royal Arch Degrees by the M.E.Z., and the chapter was closed in due and ancient form. Comp. Sommerville in an able and brief speech complimented the chapter for the manner in which it was worked, and said it gave him great pleasure in having become a member of the chapter, and that, although he was not a teetotaler, Good Templar, or either, he was at all times temperate, and recommended that all the lodges and chapters should discourage anything like having refreshments in their meetings, as no such had ever been used in his own mother lodge; that Masonry ought to raise man that he would at all times be an example to every one outside of the lodge that in such a way they might be induced to come in and join in the noble work; that he had Masonry at heart, and his wife and daughter were all members of the Order of the Eastern Star, and were far more enthusiastic than what he was, and said it was a mistake that the ladies in this place could not receive the benefits of having the Order conferred upon them, the same as in America.

GLASGOW.—Lodge St. Mark (No. 102).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held in their hall, 213, Buchanan-street, on Monday, the 27th ult. In the unavoidable absence of the W.M., Bro. J. O. Smith, Bro. T. Halket, P.M., occupied the chair; A. C. Paterson, Treas., acting S.W.; Jas. Thomson, J.W.; W. Nicholson, D.M.; J. Monteith, Sec.; H. McMillan, S.D.; G. Littlejohn, I.G.; and A. C. L. Gray, P.D.M. Visitors present: Bros. A. Wallace, P.M. St. George's, Greenwich, 140, E.C.; D. Cowen, St. John's Gibraltar, 115, E.C.; T. B. Bell, S.M. 34; P. Browallie, J.W. 34; J. Bannerman, D.M. 73; J. Taylor, 93; A. McLeod, P.M. 129; G. Fisher, J.W. 129; A. Macpherson, Sec. 129; J. Livingston, P.M. 180; J. Grant, 197; M. McIntyre, 219; H. Cowan, 335; and W. Ferguson, I.P.M. 543 ("Freemason"). The lodge was opened and the minutes of last meeting read and adopted. Bro. J. Taylor, of Lodge St. Nicholas, Aberdeen, No. 93, was elected a joining member. Messrs. Adam Neil and B. Vol. Browne were initiated into the E.A. Degree by Bro. T. Halket, P.M.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Union and Crown (No. 103).—The regular monthly meeting of this lodge was held in the Masonic Hall, 170, Buchanan-street, on Monday evening, 27th ult., Bro. D. Murray, W.M., in the chair, supported by Bros. A. M. Wright, I.P.M.; R. Munro, D.M.; J. McFarlane, S.M.; W. Thomas, S.W.; W. Forsyth, J.W.; N. Cameron, Treas.; J. Gillies, P.M., P.G.T., Sec.; P. Cullen, V. Chap.; J. S. Pollock, S.D.; A. Gray, J.D.; J. Gray, I.G.; and others. The meeting was particularly well attended, and among those present were Bros. A. Bain, P.M.; A. Leckie, 34; J. J. Hurst, 4; A. Campbell, 27; T. Docherty, 28; T. Chalmers, 118; J. Dick, 122; J. Brown, 152; A. Toward, 170; J. Cameron, 219; J. Findlay, S.M. 333; T. Muir, 347; J. Callen, 419; J. Smith, 458; W. Smith, 458; and others. Bro. J. Callen, of Lodge Neptune, 419, was received as a joining member, and Messrs. J. McLeod and H. Adamson were admitted and received the E.A. Degree at the hands of Bro. Murray, W.M. The other business before the meeting was that of passing and raising, but it was agreed to have an emergency meeting on the 30th ult., at five o'clock, for that purpose.

On Thursday, the 30th ult., an emergency meeting of this lodge was held in the Masonic Hall, 170, Buchanan-street, Bro. D. Murray, W.M., in the chair, supported by Bros. R. Munro, D.M.; J. Bannerman, D.M. 73, acting S.W.; A. Peddie, 34, acting J.W.; N. Cameron, Treas.; W. Ferguson, I.P.M. 543 ("Freemason"); and a fair attendance of members and visiting brethren. The lodge being opened, two brethren were passed to the F.C. Degree. The lodge was then assumed on the Third Degree, when nine brethren were raised to the degree of Master Mason. Both ceremonies were performed by Bro. W. Ferguson, I.P.M. 543.

RUTHERGLEN.—St. John's Operative Lodge (No. 347).—The regular monthly meeting of this lodge was held in their Masonic Hall, Cathcart-street, Rutherglen, on Friday evening, the 31st ult., Bro. D. Smart, W.M., in the chair; J. Cunningham, I.P.M., acting S.W.; T. Alston, J.W. The other office-bearers present were Bros. M. Abott, D.M.; T. Muir, S.M.; W. Gardner, Treas.; A. Warnock, Sec.; W. Young, S.D.; A. Robertson, J.D.; and others. A large number of brethren were present, including Bros. J. Hamilton, W.M. 116, and Wm. Ferguson, I.P.M. 116, with a deputation of 23; W. Phillips, W.M. 556, with a deputation of ten; A. Gow, S.M. 581; J. Henry, J.W. 581; R. Allan, Sec. 581; and deputations from the following lodges:—Nos. 27, 73, 87, 114, 117, 219, 408, and 458. The lodge was opened and the minutes of last meeting read and confirmed. A letter of apology was read from Bro. Horn, Sec. 275, that a deputation from their lodge could not be present that night on account of Bro. Ronald's, the respected W.M., indisposition. Bro. J.

Clare, 408, Lodge Clyde, was affiliated a joining member, and Bros. J. Hamilton, W.M. 116, and ex-Bailie Edgar, Rutherglen, were affiliated honorary members of the lodge by the W.M. The lodge was then called to refreshment, when the W.M. proposed the usual loyal and Masonic toasts, which were heartily responded to. The toast of "The Visiting Brethren" was replied to by Bro. A. Gow, S.M. 581, in an eloquent speech. "The W.M." was proposed by Bro. Phillips, W.M. 556, and replied to in suitable terms by Bro. Smart. "The Past Masters" was proposed by Bro. ex-Bailie Edgar, and replied to by Bro. Cunningham, I.P.M. During the evening Bros. Young, Aitken, Millar, Cunningham, Montgomery, and Gardner sang some excellent songs.

MOTHERWELL.—Lodge St. John Dalziel (No. 409).—The annual festival of this lodge was held on Friday, 31st. ult., Bro. John King, W.M., in the chair, supported by Bros. W. Forrest, P.G.B.B.; C. Gilchrist, P.G.S.D.; W. Bulloch, D.M.; and J. Johnston, S.W. Bros. J. Forsyth, S.W.; and Williamson, J.W., ably discharged the duties of Croupiers, supported by Bros. Kelso, R.W.M.; Brownlie, S.W.; and Barr, J.W. of Lodge St. Mary, Coltness, No. 31. Between fifty and sixty brethren sat down to dinner, including deputations from the following lodges:—Bros. A. Gladston, St. Mark's, Glasgow, 102; J. Walker, Hamilton, 233; and McPhail, Kilwinning, Paisley. After the usual loyal, patriotic, and Masonic toasts had been proposed and responded to, Bro. Bryson, at the request of the Chairman, proposed "The Health of Bro. A. King, P.M.," in a very congratulatory manner, and in the name of the lodge presented him with a very handsome timepiece, as a mark of respect, and in consideration of the valuable services he has rendered to the lodge. Bro. King, in replying, thanked the brethren for their kindness, and said that this mark of esteem was quite unexpected, and that it gave him very much pleasure to think that the brethren had thought him worthy of such a handsome presentation. A very happy evening was spent with song, toast, and sentiment. Bros. Robertson and Gladston added greatly to the harmony of the meeting by giving some excellent selections of music on the violin and harmonium.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Athole (No. 413).—A meeting of this lodge was held in St. Mark's Hall, 213, Buchanan-street, on Tuesday evening, the 28th ult., Bro. J. Louttit, W.M., in the chair; J. Miller, P.M.; D. Leeds, S.W.; A. Holmes, J.W.; P. Agnew, Treas.; R. Graham, Sec.; G. Robertson, S.D.; W. Grindlay, J.D.; and others. Among the visiting brethren were Bros. W. Bell, I.P.M. 33; Jas. Booth, W.M. 87; W. Ferguson, I.P.M. 116; W. Ferguson, I.P.M. 543 ("Freemason"); R. Allan, Sec. 581; Fraser, 73; Kay, 73; Annand, 87; Grant, 127; Aitken, 441; and Hunter, 453. On the lodge being opened, and the minutes of previous meeting read and confirmed, Messrs. James Peace and J. McNeill were admitted and initiated into the First Degree by Bro. Louttit, W.M. Three brethren were passed to the F.C. Degree, the W.M. again performing the ceremony, and four brethren were raised to the degree of Master Mason by Bro. J. Miller, P.M.

RIFLE MATCH IN EDINBURGH.

A most interesting rifle match came off on Monday, 27th ult., in the Hunter's Bog, between the Volunteer members of the Rifle Lodge, No. 405, and the military and Volunteer members of the Roman Eagle, No. 160. The competition arose out of a challenge, given some weeks ago by the Rifle Lodge, which was at once accepted by their Masonic brethren of No. 160. The last-named lodge being strong in military members, the match was considered by outsiders as a foregone conclusion in their favour. The result, however, shows that the Rifle Lodge has among its brethren a number of very good average shots. The conditions were—ten men aside, any military weapon, ranges 200 and 500 yards, seven shots at each. Proceedings began at 2.30, by which time a very large number of gentlemen connected with the Craft had assembled to witness the match. The weather was dull, but altogether favourable to good shooting. At the conclusion it was found that the youthful lodge representatives (the Rifle) had beaten their opponents by 37 points. The top scores of the match were Colour-Sergeant Machin, 79th Regiment, 47 (Roman Eagle), and Private D. Stewart, 47 (Rifle). The arrangements for the match were carried out by Bro. J. H. Forrester for the Rifle Lodge, and Bro. Gunn for the Roman Eagle. The following are the aggregate scores:—

RIFLE LODGE.	ROMAN EAGLE.
Pt. D. Stewart, Q.E.R.A. 47	Col.-Ser. Machin, 79th... 47
Ser. Edwards, M.C.A.V. 44	Ser. Emslie, 79th..... 41
Gunner Young, M.C.A.V. 43	Piper Glen, Q.E.R.V. 40
Capt. Hills, Q.E.R.V. 40	Ser.-In. Kennedy, 79th 39
Pt. A. T. Athorpe, do. 40	Ser. M'Phail, 71st..... 38
Dn. Forrester, M.C.A.V. 39	Ser. Chassels, 79th 35
Cap. Macadam, Q.E.R.V. 38	Ser. Marshall, Q.E.R.V. 32
Pt. Marr, Q.E.R.V. 37	Ser. Mallard, A.H. Crps. 27
Bat.-Ser.-Maj. Mitchell, 30	Ser. Gunn, 79th 27
M.C.A.V. 30	Ser. Henderson, 79th ... 19
Mr. Grieve 24	

The team of the Rifle Lodge were entertained by their opponents to supper in the Iona Hotel, Nicolson-street.

NEW MASONIC HALL FOR EXETER.

For thirty-three years past the Freemasons of this city have made Tuckers' Hall their headquarters, and during their occupancy the building was specially fitted up for their accommodation. Sometimes, however, their meetings were found to clash with the meetings of the Tuckers' and Weavers' Corporation, and upon these occasions they

had, of course, to give away. This was a source of inconvenience to the brotherhood, and they have, from time to time, discussed the advisability of obtaining "a house of their own;" in fact, for many years past the funds of the Exeter Lodges have been accumulated and invested for the express purpose of purchasing an eligible site, or a building that could be made available for a Masonic Hall. During the alterations which, for the past nine months, have been in progress at Tuckers' Hall, they have had to hold their meetings at the Public Rooms, and the trouble and expense entailed has brought the old subject of discussion again to the front, so that the question of erecting a Masonic Hall for Exeter has had to be definitely considered. A piece of land at the top of Longbrook-street was offered, and a general meeting of the three Exeter Lodges was called to consider this offer; but just previous to the meeting a suggestion was made that the extensive premises in Gandy-street lately occupied by Mr. Hawkins, surgeon, and belonging to Mr. Snow, wine merchant, might be purchased, and for a comparatively small outlay adapted to serve all the purposes of the Craft. A large number of the brethren viewed the premises, and were so struck with their general suitability that they at once accepted the offer of Bro. Jerman, architect, to survey and report upon the premises to a general meeting of the Order. A joint committee, composed of three members from each lodge, with Bro. S. Jones as hon. sec., was formed to receive the report, which they subsequently brought before the united lodges, who confirmed the first impressions of the brethren, and passed a resolution authorising them to enter into arrangements for purchasing. Like most of the houses in Gandy-street, the residence selected by the Freemasons for their Masonic Hall is of ancient date and appearance. It was built, as far as can be ascertained, more than two hundred years ago, and has been occupied from that time by city magnates. It was the residence of Roger Sanders, who was three times Mayor of Exeter, and of his family for several generations afterwards; eventually it came into the possession of the Snow family, who used it as a residence until some forty years ago. From the architect's report we are glad to learn that in adapting the building to the purposes of Freemasonry every care will be taken to preserve its ancient and historical features. Several of the inner doors are of the time of Henry VIII., carved and mounted with quaintly-devised ironwork, and, being in moderately-good preservation, they will probably be allowed to remain, as will also the quaint Elizabethan fire-places. The right wing is to be allotted for the accommodation of the resident Tyler. The premises are extensive, and, in addition to the large and handsome lodge-room, will admit of the apportioning of a good-sized private room to each of the three Exeter lodges. The establishment of a Masonic Club has been suggested, and the premises are certainly well adapted for the carrying out of such a scheme. The want of such a club, where the members of the Craft of the city and the province of Devon can meet in social communion, must have been long felt, and it is, therefore, hoped that the brethren will not allow the present opportunity to pass by without giving the matter their serious consideration. We are assured that many of them have already expressed their opinions in favour of such a scheme. The first separate lodge-room, with robing-room attached, is to be on the first floor of the left wing, the other two being on the basement on each side of the staircase. This staircase is a grand, wide structure, with heavy turned balustrade. On the second floor there is a fine large room, formerly used as a banquet-room, 26ft. by 17ft., into which will be thrown a small room, &c., adjoining, making it 31ft. by 18ft. This is to be set apart as the general lodge-room, and is considered sufficiently large to accommodate the Craft in the city for many years to come. If the brethren should feel ambitious to possess a large Masonic Hall for provincial purposes for the use of the whole of the Craft in the West, they have plenty of room at their disposal, and such a hall might be erected without in any way interfering with the present arrangements. The entrance into the large room is proposed to be through wide folding doors, the walls and ceilings to be stencilled and embellished with Masonic emblems and ornaments, a beautiful enamel window to be placed inside the present large window at the East end, and the floor to be covered with a Brussels carpet, of an appropriate design. The upper rooms will probably be set apart for the Orders of Chivalry (Knight Templar, Rose Croix, &c.). These rooms are excellently adapted for this purpose, there being the necessary three rooms connecting with each other. There are several other rooms for the storage of Masonic furniture, and other conveniences. Indeed, it is the opinion of many that more convenient and commodious premises could not have been secured, even if they had gone to the necessarily heavy outlay of erecting a new building expressly for the purpose, while the present building can be adapted and fitted up at comparatively slight expense. We are informed that the preliminary agreement for purchasing has been signed by the honorary secretary to the joint committee, who are to be the trustees, and that the property will be conveyed to them with all convenient despatch.

A STERLING TESTIMONIAL.—One of those gratifying and graceful tributes of esteem and recognition of services, after a long number of years, filled with anxiety and care, transpired on Wednesday, 29th ult., by a presentation of a very handsome silver tea set to Miss Agnes Tomkins, lately holding the principal position in one of the numerous fancy departments, in the well-known house of Bro. Ex. Sheriff Hutton, 7, Newgate-street, London. The service was contained in a beautiful Russia case, lined with purple silk velvet, each piece of plate bore the monogram of Miss Tomkins. Such testimonial do credit both to the firm as well as to the lady in question.

Reviews.

"ANNUAL REPORT OF THE METROPOLITAN AND CITY POLICE ORPHANAGE, 1876."

We have read with much pleasure the Annual Report of this useful institution for 1876. It is a most satisfactory one. There are now 160 children in the orphanage, 88 boys and 72 girls, and the school report of the Rev. D. Anderson is much to the credit both of teachers and taught. The financial statement is equally good in the present and promising for the future. The whole amount received reaches to £9545 19s. 8d., the whole amount expended to £8008 3s. 7d., leaving a balance in hand of £1537 16s. 1d., as well as £1975 6s. 2d. Three-and-a-half per Cent Met. Con. Stock. But some of the items of receipts are very remarkable. Annual subscriptions amount to £1903 18s. 7d., donations to £1179 12s. 7d. The Metropolitan and City Police Sergeants and Constables subscribe £2228 8s. 7d., while the large sum of £3276 1s. 9d. is raised from popular concerts and other entertainments organized mainly by the force. Retired sergeants and constables send £31 4s. 8d., and the boxes at the police stations £72 0s. 2d. Now, as we before remarked, these items are very noteworthy, inasmuch as £5504 10s. 4d. may fairly be said to be obtained by the unflinching zeal and organized efforts of the two forces. It is an old saying, and not the less true because old, that when people are in earnest they are sure to succeed, and we have not the least doubt but that, thanks to some liberal and befitting outside aid, the great success of the orphanage is attributable to the steady and persevering efforts, and cheerful and ready support of the force itself. The French saying "Aide toi même et Dieu t'aidera," "Help thyself, and God will help thee" is often exemplified and made good in human life, and never that we remember has it been more forcibly made true than in the case of this most needed orphanage. We trust sincerely that it has before it a future of increasing usefulness and practical prosperity. It appears to be admirably managed, and economically administered, and remembering what the peace and safety of this huge and overgrown metropolis owes to so comparatively small a body of disciplined and well-behaved men, we think that many of our merchants and "upper ten thousand," may well, by an annual subscription, strengthen the hands of the executive, and develop, as needs be, the great blessings of the institution itself. The work of the police is very hard and trying, they are exposed to innumerable accidents, and worse, and sure we are, the orphanage, of which the force may well be proud, deserves the friendly sympathy of all who are interested in the orphan and friendless, and above all are glad to testify their good will to those from whom they exact so much, and for whom often they do so little.

MAY'S BRITISH AND IRISH PRESS GUIDE FOR 1876.

May's Press Guide for 1876 is a very striking publication. Some of its facts are very interesting. There are now 1754 newspapers published in the United Kingdom, in the metropolis 452, in the provinces 931, in Wales 52, in Scotland 157, in Ireland 141, and in the British Isles 20. Of these 83 are daily morning, and 43 daily evening papers, 13 are published 5 times a week, 2 four times a week, 23 3 times a week, 110 twice a week, 16 are published on Mondays, 63 on Tuesdays, 101 on Wednesdays, 136 on Thursdays, 336 on Fridays, 70 on Saturdays, and 1 on Sundays, we feel bound to say, sad exception, 1 is published three times a month, 15 twice a month, 8 fortnightly, 99 monthly, 1 quarterly, and 1 irregularly. We are interested in this "petit sujet." And of those 80 are published at a halfpenny, 880 at a penny, 93 at 1½d. 270 at 2d., 13 at 2½, 117 at 3d., 10 at 3½, 54 at 4d., 20 at 5d., 76 at 6d., 3 at 7d., 2 at 8d., 6 at 9d., 23 at 1s., 2 at 1s. 6d., 5 at 2s., and 15 gratis. Of these newspapers 5 were established before the year 1700, 75 from 1700 to 1799, 34 from 1800 to 1810, 29 from 1811 to 1820, 48 from 1821 to 1830, 100 from 1831 to 1840, 132 from 1841 to 1850, 457 from 1851 to 1860, 464 from 1861 to 1870, 249 from 1871 to 1874, and 84 in 1875. There are also, it seems 746 periodicals, or serials of which 555 are published in London, in the provinces 107, Wales 19, Scotland, 41, Ireland 22, and British Isles 2. 529 of these are published monthly, 83 quarterly, 80 weekly, 32 at irregular times, and 21 at various times from biennially to half yearly. The earliest magazine is the Gentlemen's Magazine 1732, and six others were published originally in the last century, and still continue. Of these serials 326 are religious, London issuing alone of this number 260. Surely some brother who read these figures, if any one ever does read figures, will admit that "fact is often stranger than fiction," and that there are many more wonderful things in this world, statistical or otherwise, than exist often in a "fellar's" philosophy.

REPORT OF THE SEAMEN'S HOSPITAL AT GREENWICH.

The old "Dreadnought" had a great interest for us all, for though we are a nation of shopkeepers, we have a good deal of "sentiment," and not a little patriotism, and "Jack" always appeals to the heart and memories of a Briton. Now that he is ashore, comfortably housed at Greenwich, and no longer afloat in the Thames, we still feel a considerable degree of interest in that most useful of institutions, which cares in its cosmopolitan character for the mercantile marine of all nations. We are told that the report is, on the whole a good one, though we note that the hospital is apparently in need of funds. Its ordinary and extraordinary income for 1875 amounted to £12,691 18s. 8d., and its expenditure to £14,439 18s. 7d., but as of this account £3636 9s. 6d. were debts, it would seem that if its receipts keep up to this present account, there would remain about £2000 to meet extraordinary expenditure, which, of course, varies each year. 2045 in-patients were admitted in 1875, and as many of them

came from ports which gave nothing we agree with the committee, that efforts ought to be made at once in those places to aid the society's operation. The average number of out patients mainly, through accident, is 1500. We have said enough to show the value and importance of this very useful institution, and we are glad to commend it to the notice of our readers and brethren.

W. F. A.

Mulum in Barbo; or Masonic Notes and Queries.

THE WILSON MS.

We have already given Mr. Hunter's graphic account of his researches among the Wilson manuscripts and their final dispersion by auction. The purchaser was the late Sir Thomas Phillips, and the bulk of the papers are supposed to be still in his collection. But through the inquiries of the Rev. A. F. A. Woodford, and Bro. S. B. Ellis, of Sheffield, a curious Masonic Constitution, which formed part of this collection, has been found in the possession of the Rev. J. E. A. Fenwick, son-in-law of the late Sir Thomas Phillips. It is thus described in the April number of the "Masonic Magazine":—"We publish in another page the Wilson MS Constitution. It is a manuscript written on vellum, rubricated in certain words, and said to be of 17th century. A vellum MS. in England of the 17th century is very rare. We hope, however, to obtain a facsimile of the handwriting, which may lead to distinct certainty as to the date. We are ourselves inclined to fix the date as the 16th century from the simple fact of its being on vellum and rubricated. It is mentioned by Preston in 1778, and, if we remember rightly, in Dr. Oliver's edition of Hutchinson, and is said by Preston to be tempore Henry VIII. It was purchased by Sir Thomas Phillips, the great MS. collector, from Mr. Wilson, and is now in the possession of his son-in-law, the Rev. J. E. A. Fenwick, of Thirlestane House, Cheltenham, who has kindly permitted a copy to be taken of the MS., and that it should be published 'literatim et verbatim in extenso.' It is a curious manuscript per se, for several reasons, to which we shall allude in our next number, and very interesting to Masonic students." Freemasons and others who are curious in the matter will find the "Constitution" printed in extenso in the April number of the "Masonic Magazine."

Sheffield Independent.

I beg to call attention to the announcement elsewhere as regards the Wilson M.S., and I am glad to say that I shall soon be in possession of a facsimile, or apportion of it.

A.F.A.W.

Obituary.

BRO. THE HON. F. WALPOLE, P.G.M. NORFOLK.

It is our painful duty to record the death of Bro. the Hon. Frederick Walpole, M.P., Provincial Grand Master for Norfolk, which sad event took place on Saturday last, somewhat suddenly. Bro. Walpole was installed Provincial Grand Master for the Province of Norfolk, Nov. 20th, 1875, and, owing to his great popularity, and the unanimity with which his appointment by H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M., was received in the province, served to bring together the largest assemblage of Masons ever gathered at a meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Norfolk. Upwards of 300 brethren were present, including not merely Norfolk Masons, but Suffolk, Essex, Leicestershire, and London. Previous to this appointment, he had served the office of Deputy Provincial Grand Master for many years. We are assured his death will be deeply regretted by the Craft in general.

FUNERAL OF BRO. SIR CORDY BURROWS.

On Saturday afternoon, all that was mortal of the remains of Bro. Sir Cordy Burrows, were carried to their last resting place in the Extra-mural Cemetery, Brighton, amidst all the signs of respect that could possibly be shown to the memory of an esteemed citizen. Indeed, a more impressive scene than that witnessed on the occasion—impressive as a spectacle, and doubly so as an outward sign of deep-seated veneration for the departed and of sympathy with his surviving friends—could not possibly be conceived.

All being in readiness, a movement was made almost punctually at two o'clock via Castle-square, to the residence of the deceased, from whence the body had already been removed and placed on the ecclesiastical open funeral car. A pall of purple velvet, with white satin cross and white tassels, covered the coffin, and on the pall itself were wreaths of white camellias and other rare and beautiful flowers. The bier was surmounted by devices and Masonic emblems worked in flowers. In front, immediately above the foot of the coffin, was a festoon bearing the word "Charity"—and a more appropriate motto could not well have been chosen to connect with the name of the departed. This was the gift of the Master (Bro. J. M. Kidd) and brethren of the Brunswick Lodge.

The Mark Masons of the Province of Sussex sent as a token of their love and esteem a floral keystone. It had a ground work of laurels, upon which was placed a raised design to represent the emblem of this Masonic Order, viz., a keystone composed of white flowers, chiefly camellias and azaleas. Upon the centre of the keystone were two circles, one of dark blue and one of dark red flowers. Across this was a triangle of yellow flowers, and at the top, to represent the Lewis, was a device also in yellow flowers, the whole being exceedingly effective and beautiful.

On one side of the car was placed a magnificent floral representation of the double triangle in the circle, presented by the Master (Rev. Bro. Walker) and brethren of the Yarborough Lodge. On the other side of the car was another very elaborate device in flowers of the square and compasses,

presented by the Master (Bro. W. T. Nell) and brethren of the York Lodge.

The procession had a very imposing and attractive appearance, owing to its thoroughly representative character. The Volunteer Fire Brigade were in full uniform, with hatchets and helmets; the 1st Sussex Rifles were in uniform, but without belts or side arms; the 1st Sussex Artillery wore their busbies, but were also without belts and arms; and the Royal Naval Volunteers wore blue serge trousers and shirts, white naval hats and cutlasses. The principal friendly societies were also emblematically distinguished. No regalia was worn by either order, and only the district officers wore the mourning scarves generally assumed on such occasions. The members of the Manchester Unity of Oddfellows, however, each wore a sprig of thyme in the left button-hole; the Foresters wore a small piece of pea-green ribbon in the same way; and the Druids wore on their left breast oak and ivy leaves and acorns. The crew of the Robert Raikes lifeboat wore their red Phrygian caps; and the members of the Brighton Rowing Club wore in their button-holes the red and white striped ribbon of the Club, clouded with crape. All others in the procession wore the conventional black; but the leaves of acacia, kindly furnished to the brethren by Messrs. Balchin and Nell, of Western-road, and by Mr. Hugh Saunders, of Keymer, clearly showed that, large as was the attendance of Freemasons, who had been marshalled by Bro. John Scott in the position particularly allotted for them, there were many of the Craft occupying representative positions amongst the members of other public bodies. Bro. Sir Cordy Burrows was an energetic Mason, and one universally beloved by the fraternity. He was initiated in the Southdown Lodge, 164, was W.M. of the Keystone Lodge, No. 168, and the first Provincial Grand Mark Master Mason of Sussex, having been installed in Brighton in October, 1874, by the Right Hon. the Earl of Limerick, R.W. Grand Mark Master. He was also a member of the Order of Knights Templar, De Warenne Preceptory, Priory of Malta, and of the Rose Croix Degree, Eureka Chapter. His Craft titles were P.M. 811, of which lodge he was also a founder; P.P.G.J.W. Sussex; and a Royal Arch Mason, having been exalted in that degree of Masonry in the Lennox Chapter, No. 27.

"Sir John Cordy Burrows, born 5th August, 1813, died 25th March, 1876," so it was set forth on the coffin plate—the deceased's coat of arms and crest, Sursum Corda, surmounting the name—had been laid in the resting place he had himself chosen. His son, his brothers, and the other mourners first took their last glimpse; and then slowly, but in the perfect order that had been maintained throughout, filed past all those who had followed the remains from the top of the avenue to the grave. Those who were Masons dropped on the body the sprigs of acacia which they had till now worn in their coats, in the firm hope and assurance that their departed brother had passed into the mansions of eternal bliss and glory, where the World's great Architect lives and reigns for ever. Those who were Odd Fellows performed a similar ceremony with sprigs of thyme; and those who were Druids with ivy leaves. Many, very many, of those who belonged to no special "Order" helped to strew the coffin with flowers of the early spring, and so on till every individual member of the whole procession had slowly passed by and respectfully, with uncovered head, bid farewell. Then—it was now five o'clock, the proceedings from the commencement of the cortege organization having occupied three hours—followed on hundreds of the public who had been spectators only, and there was more leave-taking—more bestrewn with flowers—more regretful feelings at the loss of a good man.

At length, it is finished—the grave has closed; but time will have to roll, we had almost written for generations, before "the last resting place of Cordy Burrows" ceases to be looked upon with respectful recollection.

Brethren present: Bros. J. M. Cunningham, P.M. 75; P.G.M. Over, and Dep. P.G.M.M.M. Sussex; T. J. Sabine, P.M. 22, P.M. 75, P.G.M.A.D. of C., P. Prov. G.M. Sec. Sussex; T. Trollope, P.M. 166, G.M.D. of C., and P.G.M. S.W. Sussex; W. Hudson, P.M. 75 and 164, P.G.M.A.D. of C., and P.G.M.J.W. Sussex; S. R. Adye, W.M. 164, P.G.M. St. B., and P.G.M. Sec. Sussex, representing Grand Mark Lodge of England, &c. In addition to the above there were also present: Bros. J. Braithwaite, S.W. 164, P.G.M. Treas. Sussex; C. J. Smith, W.M. elect 168, P.G.M.D. of C. Sussex; Rev. Cave-Brown-Cave, 166, P.G.M. Chap. Sussex; J. Pearson, P.M. 75, P.G.M. Jun. Ovr. Sussex; W. R. Wood, W.M. 168, P.G.M. S.D. Sussex; J. N. Stoner, W. 168, P.G.M. J.D. Sussex; Kemp, 164, P.P.G.M. Stwd. Sussex; Davis, 75; Tuppen, 75; Rose, 75; J. Eborall, P.M. 75, &c.; Nell, S.W. 75; Foat, J.W. 75; Buckman, 75; Hornsey, 75; Curtis, 75; S. Peters, 75; J. Jeffcoat, Sec. 75; T. Chardler, 75; C. W. Hudson, 164; F. Willard, 164; Matthews, 166; J. R. Hawkins, 68, P.P.G.M. Stwd. Sussex; Tyndal Roberts, P.P.G. Reg., Notts; J. Scott, 315; Kuhe, G. Org. of England; J. M. Kidd, W.M. 732; J. Wood, 811; W. Bennett, 315; H. Saunders, P.M. 315; J. M. Stride, P.M. 315; W. Marchant, 315; W. Smith, P.M. 732; Rev. E. Walker, 811; Rev. Dr. O'Brien, 732; Dr. Tanner, 732; C. Horsley, 732; T. Lainsan, 732; F. Holford, 732; C. Chalk, 732; Lewis, 732; Vicars, 732; Landau, 732; De Paris, 732; Capon, 732; Auscombe, 732; D. Mutton, 732; King, Bombay; Suter, B.S.W. 56; Stuckey, 315; E. Martin, 313; A. Cunningham, 315; Foat, 315; Merry, 215; Rogers, 315; E. J. Furner, P.G.D., D.P. G. Master of Sussex, owing to his recent severe accident, was unable to walk in the procession, but he followed in his private carriage, and walked from the gates of the cemetery to the grave.

The following Masons were prevented by illness or other causes from attending, but sent apologies and expressions of regret:—Bros. G. Smith, Kukland, S. Cowly, A. Cow-

ley, Fairman, Duke, J. Dorman, G. Weller, Knight, Stevens, Binckes, Meggy, Tomkinson, Davey, Pidock, Guyon, Bidgood, Buckham, Golding, Newman, Worge, Moren, and others.

Masonic and General Tidings.

A correspondent informs us that a lodge has at last been formed in Bolivia. It is called Trabajo y Houradez, No. 17, and holds its charter from the Grand Orient of Peru. On the 1st of January, 1876, two months from its consecration, it numbered 34 members. The office-bearers for the current year are as follows:—The Installing Officers Bros. Incipion Vernaza, 18°; W.M., Louis Lichtenstein, 18°; S.W., Louis F. Puelma; J.W., J. Castro Tagle; Sec., Abdon S. Ondaza; Treas., Dr. H. E. Neill; S.D., Anto. Magallanes; J.D., Manl. A. Fejada; I.G., G. Puijo.

It is announced that Her Majesty the Queen and the Princess Beatrice will embark for England on board the Victoria and Albert at Cherbourg on the 21st of April.

As the Prince of Wales will receive the corporation of Portsmouth's address on Board the Scapis, little will be done on shore beyond a ball which is to be given by the Mayor in honour of the occasion. The Freemasons are trying to get a space in the dockyard set apart for them, in which to open a lodge and greet the Prince with Masonic honours.

The anniversary festival of the London Coffee and Eating House Keepers' Benevolent Association will be held at the London Tavern, on the 12th ult. Bro. Alderman Sheriff Knight will preside, supported by an influential list of Stewards.

Bro. John Adams Acton, who is now in Bombay, has been commissioned to execute a bust of the Prince of Wales for the public library of the city of Jullundur.

GUILDHALL LIBRARY.—The committee of this library gave its annual dinner on Monday at the Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street, Mr. Reginald Hanson, M.A. (chairman), presiding. In proposing the toast of "The Queen," the chairman remarked that whatever addition her Majesty might make to her title she would still be to Englishman what she had been for nearly forty years, namely, the Queen. The chairman then presented Bro. Symonds, the late chairman of the Library Committee, with a testimonial in recognition of his efforts in furtherance of its prosperity.

At the request of the Glasgow Working Men's Investment and Building Society, Limited, and with the consent and authority of the Provincial Grand Master, Alexander Smollett, Esq., of Bonhill, the Foundation-stone of the first of a series of houses in course of erection by that Society at Clyde Bank, Dalmuir, will be laid with Masonic honours, this day, Saturday, the 8th of April.

It is announced from Florence that Prince Leopold has arrived in that city.

The annual meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of South Wales, (Western Division), will be held at Aberystwith in June. We wish its popular Provincial Grand Master, (Major J. A. Lloyd Phillips), a successful gathering. Further particulars will shortly appear in our advertising columns.

The foundation stone of the new Masonic Hall at Havant, will be laid by Bro. W. W. B. Beach, Provincial Grand Master, Hants and Isle of Wight, on Monday next the 10th inst.

Bro. Captain Sir John H. Glover, R.N., G.C. M.G. of the Grand Masters Lodge, No. 1, sailed from Liverpool on Tuesday to assume his duties as Governor Commander-in-Chief of Newfoundland and its dependencies.

Considerable improvements in the postal service between England and France will be introduced on the 1st of May. The French mail, comprising the correspondence from the Liverpool and Manchester district, will be despatched from London at 9.30 p.m., and delivered in Paris the following morning.

The Royal London Militia will assemble for training on the 19th of June.

In reply to numerous enquiries we beg to state that the "Freemason" is published on Friday mornings, and should be obtainable of any newsagent and at all the railway bookstalls on Friday afternoon. The publisher will be glad to be informed where difficulty is experienced in procuring copies.

The Consecration of the Skelmersdale Lodge, No. 1599, took place at Masons Hall, Basinghall-street yesterday. A full report will appear in our next.

It was officially announced at the Admiralty on Saturday last that Captain William Codrington had been appointed private Secretary to Bro. the Right. Hon. Ward Hunt, First Lord of the Admiralty, in the room of Captain M. C. Seymore.

Bro. Chaplin Henry's programme has been accepted for the musical arrangements at the forthcoming Festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls.

THE WESLEY MEMORIAL.—We are requested to state that the Wesley Memorial in Westminster Abbey is the work of Bro. John Adams-Acton, who is at present in India.

It is stated that the State apartments at Windsor are to remain closed till her Majesty's return from Germany; and as it is feared that this fact may keep visitors away from the Royal borough during the holidays, a meeting is to be held with the view of getting up a requisition to the Lord Chamberlain to consider the matter.

TO OUR READERS.

The *Freemason* is a sixteen-page weekly newspaper, price 2d. It is published every Friday morning, and contains the most important, interesting, and useful information relating to Freemasonry in every degree. Annual subscription in the United Kingdom, Post free, 10/-

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COLONIAL AND FOREIGN SUBSCRIBERS

are informed that acknowledgments of remittances received are published in the first number of every month.

NOTICE.—It is very necessary for our friends to advise us of all money orders they remit, more especially those from the United States of America and India; otherwise we cannot tell where to credit them.

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Answers to Correspondents.

All Communications, Advertisements, &c., intended for insertion in the Number of the following Saturday, must reach the Office not later than 12 o'clock on Wednesday morning.

The following communications stand over:—Consecration of the Hamilton Lodge, No. 1600; "A New Idea in Spelling Bees;" Obituary of Bro. J. Porter. Reports of lodges Faith, 141; Lagos, 1171, South Africa; Harmony, 438, Cawnpore; Chapter Domestic, 177.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

"Constitution General Statutes and Ordinances of the Ancient and Primitive Rite of Masonry;" "New England Freemason."

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

[The charge is 2s. 6d. for announcements, not exceeding four lines, under this heading.]

BIRTH.

ANTRIM.—The Countess of, at St. James's Palace, March 26th, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

KESTEVEN—FLINT.—At Croydon, Mr. William H. Kesteven, M.R.C.S., of Tuffnell Park-road, to Beatrice, daughter of Mr. Richard Flint, of Croydon, March 28th.

PHILK—ORGILL.—At St. Stephen's, Haverstock-hill, Mr. Clarence J. Peile, of the Inner Temple, Barrister-at-Law, to Lizzie, daughter of Mr. J. J. Orgill, of Roslyn Park, Hampstead, March 30th.

IRWIN—COX.—At St. Andrew's, Deputy Inspector-General Ahmuty Irwin, R.N., C.B., son of the late Very Rev. Arthur Irwin, Dean of Ardert, to Annie G., daughter of Colonel J. W. Cox, C.B., commanding the forces in Jamaica, Feb. 25th.

DEATHS.

WALPOLE, the Hon. Frederick, M.P., Provincial Grand Master for Norfolk, April 1st.

PORTEIS.—On the 29th ult., Bro. James Porteis, P.G. S.W. Cumberland and Westmorland, after a very short, but severe illness.

VINCENT.—On the 3rd inst., at Morpeth-terrace, Augusta, wife of Sir Francis Vincent, Bart.

GOMPERTZ, Emily Ann, wife of Major E. D., Mysore Commission, at Bangalore, aged 31, March 19th.

BOYCE, Stanley D., son of Mr. Mathias, of Warrington-crescent, Maida Vale, aged 12, March 29th.

ROTHSCHILD, Mr. Sigismund, of Munich, Knight of the Danish Order of Dannebrog, at St. Thomas, West Indies, aged 76, March 14th.

MERCER, Pauline, M., infant daughter of Mr. Frank, at Canterbury, March 29th.

The Freemason,

SATURDAY, APRIL 8, 1876.

THE RETURN OF OUR ROYAL GRAND MASTER.

The Serapis and her consorts weighed anchor on the morning of the 3rd, and left Alexandria for Malta. The Acting Governor of Gibraltar had received a telegram from Alexandria, announcing that the Prince of Wales would probably be at Gibraltar on the 12th, and stay a week. He would probably reach Malta late on the 5th, or early on the 6th.

PROFESSION AND PRACTICE.

That it is a "queer world my masters," is a statement as undeniable as it is uncontroversial, and verified by countless experiences of human life, day by day, hour by hour. And in nothing is this more plain than in that wonderful inconsistency of humanity which accompanies every step we take, so to say, from the cradle to the grave. Some have declared that this is the dark side of earthly existence, others have looked upon it as the surest proof of the littleness and frailty of man. For curiously enough, it is, as we all know, the stumbling block of our own little career, be we who we may. Many of us start in life with high aspirations, and goodly impulses. If we are weak and wavering, if we are inconsistent and ignorant, as we all are, we yet believe, as every real man does, that we have a mission to fulfil, something to do, something to achieve. It is often very sad to note how the tendencies of a sybarite luxury or easy self-indulgence, mar a life and palsy emotions, both alike once full of vigour and hope, but now, alas, cold, withered, dead, buried. It is melancholy, most melancholy, at times to reflect how the progress of life has falsified expectations and crushed energies, how it has dulled the keen sense of beauty and perfection, left us with a mutilated "to be" if we may so say, amid countless struggles and hopeless defeats. When, then, we talk of profession and practice, we mean rather the difference between the one and the other which is always before our eyes, in everything of life and the world, of men and of mortality. The preacher and the philosopher, the moralist and the mentor, the man of pompous preludes and wise axioms, the man who has a part to play before the world and plays it, the common-place being, like ourselves, in everything here—all equally afford us the same spectacle of human weakness, and human inconsistency—all alike seem to point to the great broad gulf that lies between profession and practice. And in Freemasonry it is ever the same. We profess to be brethren, and yet how unbrotherly we often are to one another. We proclaim ourselves members of a philanthropic and fraternal association, and yet to hear us talk of one another, one would suppose sometimes we had not learnt the rudiments of any morality whatever. We assert that we are lovers of truth, of fair dealing, and of open-hearted sympathy, and yet how unsincere, how treacherous, how unkind we sometimes make ourselves out to be. It is indeed only another proof, if proof were required, of the grave inconsistency of humanity ever, that even those of us who most avow our love for our good old Order, and know its formularies, and uphold its benefits and reality, can be the most uncharitable of men at times, not even sparing a brother's good fame but even wounding him in the dark with the covert slander, with the cruel innuendo. Alas let us not dwell too long on the bitterness and the "bassesse" of men, for it is a melancholy picture, it is a humiliating subject in all good truth. But as we are on the subject let us keep before us ever that not only "humanum est errare," but that we must ever expect here that mortal man will disport himself in the rays and glitter of his ever self-sufficient pride, forgetful of the fact that "the race is not to the swift nor

the battle to the strong," and that we cannot expect to be consistent while sojourners on earth for a season, even though we are the best of Masons and have taken every degree that can be taken. And knowing this, let us not feel discouraged, because profession is one thing, practice another, because every day tells us that we talk much, we do little, and that though we profess much we perform less. Amiable inconsistency, habitual weakness of us all, let us not be too severe on others, remembering that we all require the greatest of allowances ourselves.

CARDINAL MANNING ON THE STAGE.

We confess that we deeply regret to have had to read Cardinal Manning's recent onslaught on the stage, alluded to by Mr. Bandmann in a letter to the "*Times*" we published last week, because, in our humble opinion, it is alike unjustifiable in the abstract, and untrue in the concrete. This great dignitary of the Roman Catholic Church, in the fulness of his ecclesiastical fervour, "lumps," as they say, all the theatres together, whether the pleasant Haymarket, or the Penny Gaff, and pronounces all, in unsparing condemnation, to be "one vast scale of corruption" (whatever that may mean), and exhorts his hearers never on any account to set their foot inside them. Thus the principal officer in the Roman Catholic Hierarchy in England declares the stage to have an entire evil influence on the morals and manners of the age in which we live. If Cardinal Manning be correct, the stage, as an institution, is, "ipso facto," corrupt and corrupting, a moral evil, a real upas tree, and saps and destroys the virtue of all classes amongst us. Despite so great an authority, is the statement true? We beg to express our opinion to-day that it is not, and to protest against so sweeping a charge, and so exaggerated an assertion. It is not a fact, per se, that the stage is or needs be corrupt or demoralizing. We look upon the drama, on the contrary, as a great school, alike of past experience and present tastes, temper, and tendencies. And more than this, not only does it represent as in a clear and comprehensive mirror the greatness and the littleness, the strength and the weakness, of human nature, the fashions and follies of the hour, the hopes which elevate, and the feelings which adorn, the words which move us, and the thoughts which burn; but it is also, whenever it is properly directed and wisely controlled, a school of moral maxims. It sets before us the axiomatic teaching often both of duty and decorum, of right and responsibility, of sense and sympathy, of taste and truth. Who can, then, venture to lay down one inquisitorial decree as against the stage? From what immaculate and infallible cathedra can any one dare to assert that all the dramas and comedies, the speaking verse, and the living prose which mark the great and classic productions of the stage at home and abroad, are all offerings to corrupted taste, all dominated by the spirit of ill? When Cardinal Manning makes such a statement does he believe it himself? We certainly do not. We think rather, and we think strongly, that society and civilization owe a good deal to the stage after all, both in England and abroad. For the stage has corrected taste, and vindicated honour, has upheld true sentiment, and ridiculed upstart vulgarity; it has shown us how truth ever ennobles and virtue ever rewards, how falsehood lowers and vice punishes, and it has set before us this most useful of lessons, and of warnings, that human life is really much the same in all generations, and that, "mutatis mutandis," our vices and our virtues are still equally characteristic of the dead ages as of the living present. The stage has no doubt also been always inimical to intolerance, to ignorance, to the parvenu and the profligate, to the tempter, the hypocrite, and the seducer; and the stage has been quite right in stamping a mark of moral opprobrium on all that can betray, can stain, can disgrace, can degrade humanity. But is the stage to be blamed for the excesses of some, for the perversity of others, for a vitiated taste, for individual errors? "Abusus non tollit usum" is as old as the hills, and as true and lasting. No doubt much of stage literature is

objectionable, and many developments of stage manifestations are reprehensible enough. But is, therefore, the stage per se necessarily corrupt and corrupting? We contend not. Is it a moral evil for all classes, to be shunned by the virtuous and the religious? We say again, no. We deeply deplore the fact that a cultivated man like Cardin Manning can patronize the evil tendency of the time, to "run riot" in respect of correctness of expression, and the abstract importance of truth, can pander to the vicious habit of the day—of extravagance of language and unreliability of assertion. We had expected better things, we confess, of him, and could not suppose that in 1876 he would again practically raise the dead cry of stage corruption, reminding us of old times of intolerance, when poor actors and actresses were refused the rites of Christian burial, and when even Molière had to be buried by stealth, and, with all credit to the King, under Royal pressure. Does Cardinal Manning know anything of the modern drama? of that elevating taste and temperament which colour the greater part of the stage classics of the day? We fancy not, and we would recommend him to read "Masks and Faces," for instance, "Still Waters Run Deep," "King Charles," Tennyson's "Queen Mary," and for a little lighter reading we would recommend "Woodcock's Little Game," "Ici on Parle Français," "Lend Me Five Shillings," "A Quiet Rubber," "Little Toddlekins," and "The Two Bonnycastles," and we are quite certain, after a diligent perusal of this polite literature, that he will both alter his tone and amend his vocabulary. But, as Mr. Bandmann forcibly observes, such comments come not with a very good grace from Cardinal Manning, après tout. Why, it is not so long ago that Monsignori were measuring dresses, and deciding judiciously and judiciously on the propriety or impropriety of the attire of each fair "Ballerina" at Rome. Then it was that Cardinals "in petto," and Bishops in "partibus," had oracularly to declare and oracularly to be satisfied as to whether the gauze dresses of each active Coryphée were too high or too low. No doubt each good prelate said "defendit numerus," and acted like St. Dunstan. We note, then, very sadly this tendency to exaggeration and anathema, in many of the utterances of these high dignitaries of the Roman Church to-day. With them nothing is good, everything is bad, we all are "booked for something uncomfortable," we are all "going to pot." And yet we are inclined to fancy that all these loud words and tall talk are but idle breadth. No more than Freemasonry, can these "deliverances" affect the progress of the stage, and take away our English appreciation of it. If, like the Archbishop of Rheims, with his peccant jackdaw, Cardinal Manning finds it suit his dignity to curse, or any pleasure or profit in the practice, he must curse on. We doubt much the effect to-day of these intemperate ebullitions, those idle outpourings of a barbaric negativism. We have felt it to be our duty, though regretfully, to protest against these last unwise words of an able man, and we are sorry for them, alike in the interest of civilization and artistic excellence, of toleration and liberality of sentiment, and above all of religion. For such licence and violence of language react on the speakers. Such unqualified censure of the stage, being both unfounded and unfair, becomes absolutely worthless, and does more harm than good. We fear that all these outbreaks are only "indiciæ" to the thoughtful of the desire of the Roman Catholic Church to crush out alike liberty of thought and freedom of speech, and like the Vandal bands of old, to uproot even the mighty buildings which civilization has raised, to place all science and art, intellectual culture and material amusements even under the iron hand of a childish and purient ecclesiastical bigotry. We hear daily these daring claims which would sweep away apparently every vestige of artistic creation, of the "harmless gaiety of nations," of the welcome and amusing converse of the stage, and leave us melancholy and manacled under the depressing and grovelling influence of a baneful and morbid retrogression. Dreadfully "exercised" should we then all be, by the bad taste and the narrow-minded sciolism of a so-called Spiritual power, which has really nothing to do with the matter, and must be taught to mind its own business, and keep

within its own line of demarcation in such matters. We consider, therefore, Cardinal Manning's attack on the stage in the worst possible "form," and alike unfounded and unjustifiable.

THE VOTE OF CONFIDENCE IN THE COMMITTEES AND EXECUTIVE OF THE BOYS' SCHOOL.

We are glad that by a formal vote this important question will be raised at the next Quarterly Court. It is quite time, we think, in justice to the Boys' School and all concerned that this expression of feeling should be given, as we believe there is a very general feeling in the Craft as regards much undeserved censure cast on the Executive, that such a motion is alike reasonable and requisite. We hope that all our brethren who sympathize with such a view of the matter and who are qualified, will make a point of attending on Monday, the 10th.

THE PLANS FOR THE ALTERATIONS OF THE GIRLS' SCHOOL.

At the meeting of the General Committee nothing was decided, and the matter remains over practically for the Quarterly Court. Subsequent consideration has made us realize even more forcibly the soundness of the advice we ventured to offer last week to the Order, on all respect and humility. It is quite clear that the greatest caution is required in dealing with the subject, one of great importance, we beg to observe, alike to the Craft and the School. We have an admirable site, and sufficient of space to enlarge and utilize existing accommodation, and it would seem, to be prima facie, very unwise to move elsewhere until we are absolutely compelled to do so. We believe that we are correct in saying that from five to six acres of adjoining land will eventually be offered to the school in the first instance to purchase, if so disposed, and if eventually the land is really required for the railway, then will be the time for sale. In the meantime the land can't run away, and increases in value yearly. If we can educate 200 girls well we shall do a good work, and we are inclined to think that that number will suffice for the present, and that the school of the future is yet the school of the future. We feel it to be our duty to invite our brethren to pause and carefully consider all the "pros and cons" before they commit themselves to a sea of troubles, and the dubious advisability of large building undertakings.

A COMMEMORATION MEDAL.

Bro. Kenning has struck a very admirable medal in bronze in commemoration of our Royal Grand Master's installation, April 28th, 1875. It is very effectively designed and artistically executed, and reflects great credit on all concerned in its production. In England our Masonic medals are "few and far between," and we think that Bro. Kenning has done wisely in thus issuing a numismatic memento of an event long to be cherished in the recollection of all English Freemasons. So far the medal has only been struck in bronze, its low price comparatively placing it within the reach of most of us. But we understand that if sufficient support can be obtained either for a silver or gold medallion, Bro. Kenning is willing to issue a higher priced memorial even of so great an event for our Order. We call the attention of our brethren to it. The medal, as we before observed, is a highly finished piece of workmanship, and bears on it that excellent motto to which our Grand Master so happily alluded to at his installation, — Loyalty and Charity. The medal is taken from a photograph by Mr. C. Watkins.

OLD CHAPTER MINUTES.

We are glad to announce that Bro. S. B. Ellis's extracts from the minute book of the Chapter of Paradise, Sheffield, are now in the printer's hand for the May number of the "Masonic Magazine;" and as they are very interesting, and will be largely read by students, we recommend all brethren to send their orders for the Magazine for May at once to Bro. George Kenning, 198, Fleet-street, E.C.

Original Correspondence.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for, or even as approving of the opinions expressed by our correspondents, but we wish, in a spirit of fair play to all, to permit—within certain necessary limits—free discussion.—Ed.]

THE MASONIC CHARITIES.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Unfortunately Freemasonry does not generally find favour with the weaker sex, for what reason I confess I am at a loss to understand, seeing that its principles apparently embody everything that is good and noble, and that its watchword is charity, which delights in providing for the widow and children of those to whom they were bound by the ties of brotherhood.

I unhesitatingly affirm that there are not two more noble institutions in the land than their Boys' and Girls' Schools, and as in the decrees of an all-wise Providence no one knows what may be before them in the future, I think it should not only be the aim of every true-hearted Mason to extend the blessings of those schools, but that every wife, daughter, and sister of members connected with the Craft should give a helping hand, believing that "Mercy which droppeth as the gentle rain from Heaven is twice blessed. It blesses him that gives, and him that takes."

To do this it has occurred to my mind that if in every large town (one in each county) ladies would interest themselves in a bazaar for that purpose, that it would meet with a hearty response and afford an opportunity for all to do something in such a noble cause, and thereby confer a lasting benefit upon the charities by augmenting their funds to a considerable amount, and enabling the committee to extend their usefulness instead of restricting it as they are now obliged to do.

I must apologise for troubling you, but the suggestion seems to my mind both reasonable and practicable, and has arisen from looking down the list of 59 candidates for the forthcoming election of the Boys' School in which 9 only can be successful, and 12 of the number have only this chance.

I am, Sir, yours truly,

A GRATEFUL MOTHER AND LIFE GOVERNOR.

MASONIC HONOURS, &c.

To the Editor of The Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

If space permits, will you allow me to ask Bro. Hughan if he will be kind enough to correct me if I am wrong in my supposition in respect to the following. A Provincial Grand Lodge is an epitome of the Grand Lodge, therefore the brethren composing a Provincial Grand Lodge are the officers present and Past of such Grand Lodge and P.M.'s of private lodges as long as they still continue subscribing members to a subordinate lodge in that province, also the W.M.'s and Warden's for the time being of the subordinate lodges. A Provincial Grand Lodge meets at least once a year, when all the members of the subordinate lodges are allowed to assemble under their respective banners, but I believe brethren not qualified as above, that is M.M.'s, have no vote in such an assembly neither are they allowed to address the meeting except by leave from the chair, therefore, I am desirous of ascertaining, by what right, law or constitution a Mason not qualified as above can be appointed to an office in a Provincial Grand Lodge?

I remain, yours fraternally,

T. F.

April 4th, 1876.

THE EXTENSION OF THE GIRLS' SCHOOL.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I am glad to see that your powerful pen is in favour of Bro. Colonel Creaton's straightforward and disinterested scheme. Let me state some of the reasons which induce me to support it.

1. The site at St. John's Hill, upon which the present school is erected, is one of the healthiest in the kingdom, having a frontage to Wandsworth Common, and being bounded on one side by the railway, and on the other two sides by green fields.

2. The advantage of having all the children under one roof and one supervision is enormous, while the cost of maintaining two separate schools would be out of all proportion to the benefits supposed to accrue from such a system. As an example, the school for daughters of officers in the army, which has now two distinct establishments, is obliged to give up one in consequence of the duplicated expense.

3. Col. Creaton's scheme will provide what the institution really wants sadly, viz., a good schoolroom where all the children can be congregated together, with plenty of ventilation—the present room is too small for present numbers, and might with advantage be partitioned into class rooms.

Some brethren have expressed surprise that an estate agent should have appeared on the scene with a project to obtain land at some considerable distance from London.

I only wonder that several others in the same profession have not submitted their ideas, it being clearly an estate agent's business to do the best he can for his clients, and of course he is bound to push a sale, if possible.

Yours fraternally,

A LIFE GOVERNOR.

AN APPEAL.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I venture to ask your assistance in making known in your columns the sad case of the late Bro. Robt. Bryant, P. Prov. Grand Officer of Camba, formerly, a banker

and maltster at Newmarket, who, through no fault of his own, was reduced from a good position to indigence.

Just before his death he, as a patient at Guy's Hospital, underwent a severe operation. His daughter, Ida Mary Bryant, is now since his death left an orphan without either father or mother, and is now an applicant for the Masonic Girls' School, and this being the third, and unfortunately the last application, I shall be very grateful to any brother whose votes are not promised if he will forward them to me, or use his influence in procuring her election.

I am Sir, yours fraternally,

JOHN READ, P.M.M. (No. 22),

P.M., P.Z. (No. 720), 30,

Past Mark Grand Organist, &c., &c.

Indian Office, Westminster, 28th March, 1876.

To the Editor of The Freemason

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Will you allow me to call the attention of the subscribers to our Boys' School to the case of James Edgar Tanare, a candidate for election on 10th inst. I have known the boy's father in such very different circumstances, when his hand was always open to help any case of distress, and the strain upon the mother's resources is so heavy, having to support both husband and family, and the boy is such a bright intelligent lad, so likely to prove a credit to the school, that I do earnestly hope all brethren who possibly can will give him their votes.

I am, yours fraternally,

W. H. GULLIFORD.

Montefiore, 1079.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

The General Committee of this Institution met on Saturday last in the board-room, Freemasons' Hall, Bro. Sigismund Rosenthal in the chair. The other brethren who attended were Bros. the Rev. A. F. A. Woodford, P.G.C.; Raynham W. Stewart, P.G.D.; John Symonds, P.A.G.D.C.; William Paas, P.G.D.; H. Browse, P.G.D.; Benj. Head, P.G.D.; Lieut.-Col. Creaton, P.G.D.; S. Rawson, P.D.G.M. China; Hyde Pullen, P.G.S.B.; Richard Spencer, P.G.S.; Herbert Dicketts, P.G.S.; John Boyd, P.G.P.; Jesse Turner, Walter Wellsman, Robert A. Webster, Geo. J. Palmer, W. Peartree, J. Horth Ross, John Constable, Collard Moutrie, J. G. Chancellor, F. H. Ebsworth, Capt. Wordsworth, George Kenning, H. W. Hunt, Leopold Ruf, J. E. Frost, F. Adlard, E. M. Haigh, P.G.S.; H. Massey ("Freemason"), and F. Binckes (Secretary).

Two boys were placed on the list for election, and the case of one was deferred for better reading. Two outfits were granted to boys who had left the Institution and obtained situations, the reports from their employers being of the most gratifying character. The business paper for the Quarterly Court next Monday was settled, the business being to elect a Treasurer for the ensuing year; to elect 12 brethren on the General Committee; to declare two additional vacancies in the Institution caused by the withdrawal of two boys; to confirm the purchase of Kent House, and to consider the notice of motion by Dr. Ramsay that the four senior members of the House Committee retire every year, but to be re-eligible; and that the four members who have attended fewest times during the year retire, and to be ineligible for twelve months.

The West Yorkshire question with respect to the charges of Bros. Tew and Perrott was then taken into consideration, and a conversation ensued as to the best means of dealing with it at the Quarterly Court.

The Rev. A. F. A. Woodford, P.G.C., said he had meant to give notice of motion for the next court, if it had not been that Bro. Browse had mentioned before this committee his views on the undesirability of taking any notice in respect of the action of the brethren of West Yorkshire in respect to the Boys' School. He thought there was a great deal of force in what Bro. Browse had said, and he was rather inclined to be guided by the general feeling of the committee on Bro. Browse's observation, that by taking any steps upon the West Yorkshire brethren's proceedings the committee would be playing into those brethren's hands. He wished to place before the brethren what the Provincial Grand Lodge of West Yorkshire had done—according to his view, irregularly. That Provincial Grand Lodge had passed resolutions appointing a committee of investigation and authorising them to report upon the Boys' School. That committee, appointed in his humble opinion unconstitutionally, and ultra vires, and in express defiance of Lord Zeland's dictum when G.M., had issued a report which the Provincial Grand Lodge of West Yorkshire had adopted and approved of. Practically, the object of the West Yorkshire brethren was to consider the whole administration of the Boys' School. This question arose out of a pamphlet which had been issued about a year ago addressed to the Vice-Presidents of West Yorkshire, and complaining of gross abuses in the management of the Boys' School. This pamphlet was followed by another in which the writer stated that West Yorkshire would not be satisfied unless the Secretary of the institution was removed, the House Committee had resigned, the matron had been removed, and the head master re-instated. They appointed a committee at a meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of West Yorkshire at Sheffield to consider the question. That committee met, and the brethren composing it, gave in a report, in which it was stated that the expenses of the Boys' School were out of all proportion; that a great deal more ought to be done with the money which was subscribed; that there was a great waste of funds; and that the whole administration of the establishment required to be looked into. That report had been received, ordered to be put on the minutes, and was accepted unanimously by the Provincial Grand Lodge of West Yorkshire. The Provincial Grand Lodge passed reso-

lutions to this effect,—That they accepted the report, that they ordered it to be printed, as he said before, for the use of the province, that they ordered a copy to be sent to every Provincial Grand Master in England, and the W.M. of every lodge; and they called upon every life governor of the Province of West Yorkshire to come up to London to support it. They had even asked that their report should be put on the agenda paper of Grand Lodge. He might say as regarded this, that it seemed the most extraordinary proceeding, and one which, in his long apprenticeship to Freemasonry he had never heard the like of before. Previous to the final meeting of this Committee of Investigation at Leeds, one of the members printed a pamphlet, which was called untruthfully "The Report of the Investigation Committee of West Yorkshire." It was really nothing of the sort, for it was only the evidence of one brother before the committee, and some statistics based on another brother's statement. The brother stated in this pamphlet that the reason he had been induced to act as he had was his dissatisfaction with the proceedings which had taken place at the Boys' School since 1863. The circulation of that pamphlet was stopped, and the pamphlet, as far as possible, was suppressed. This was done, and it was very difficult to obtain a copy; but several of the brethren had, nevertheless, seen it. Bro. Binckes had seen it; he (Bro. Woodford) had seen it; and Bro. Wordsworth had seen it. Bro. Wordsworth could confirm what he (Bro. Woodford) said, that the writer in this pamphlet brought forth serious charges against the whole administration of the Boys' School. The question, therefore, now was, could anything be done by the brethren with respect to the action of the Province of West Yorkshire. He had long been connected with West Yorkshire, and he could give the brethren some information as to what the province had done with reference to the Masonic charities. Originally, about nineteen years ago, Bros. Symonds and Hopwood went down to Sheffield when they were beginning a movement to support the metropolitan institutions. They then moved to give 100 guineas to the Boys' School. Next year they moved to give 100 guineas to the Girls' School. That had resulted, as the brethren were aware, in the return of many thousands of pounds from West Yorkshire to the metropolitan institutions. In 1869 he was requested by the Marquis of Ripon to draw up a statement of the comparative cost of the institutions, and having done so he was in a position to bear his testimony to the absurdity of the present movement, the utter unreliability of the statistics, and the fallacy of any brother getting up and starting a theory that a maximum of education should be obtained for a minimum of cost. This was really practically among the recommendations of this committee, that if the brethren would only reduce the expenses of the Boys' School to their minimum they could educate a much larger number of boys for the present expenditure. Could any brother think that a brother putting forward a statement of that kind knew anything about educational establishments, or was a fit judge of the expenditure, when he made such a proposition as this—which he (Bro. Woodford) would leave entirely to the practical knowledge of brethren around the table. Another asserted openly, that living in London was cheaper than it was in the provinces. And another charge was that the Institution did not make contracts with wholesale houses. Now, those were the kind of arguments that had weighed apparently with the brethren of West Yorkshire. The statement was made that the administration of the establishment was radically wrong, and that things were going on which were utterly improper, that Bro. Perrott had been dismissed owing to the improper action of the House Committee, who were led by Bro. Binckes; that he was a victim and a martyr, and that nothing less than his reinstatement would satisfy the justice of the case. Such were the complaints assiduously circulated, which had led to the demand for investigation by West Yorkshire. Now the question came before the brethren, could anything be done to meet this feeling of West Yorkshire, which his brother Wordsworth would bear him out in asserting was very strong indeed just now? Could any thing be done to put an end to it? He would venture to suggest, however, that if the Life Governors of the province had come up that day to move a resolution for a committee of enquiry, they would have been too late, as they had put the cart before the horse, and they ought to have come forward twelve months ago and enquired before making these statements; but after all these statements had been made "ad invidiam," they had no right to come now and invoke the laws of the institution and ask for a committee of enquiry. The question was whether any resolution the brethren might pass at a Quarterly Court would meet the necessities of the case as regarded West Yorkshire. He should himself personally have been unwilling to take an active part in the matter, but as the matter had been placed before the brethren by West Yorkshire, he felt it his duty as the old chairman of their Charity Committee to express his regret at the course they had followed, and he was prepared to take upon himself, as a life governor, the responsibility of moving a resolution at the Quarterly Court to the effect. "That having in view recent imputations cast on the administration of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, this Court deems it to be its duty to express its unabated confidence in the House and Audit Committees and executive." He ventured to think that if they passed that resolution at the Quarterly Court it would attain the end desired. There were a great many brethren of the Province of West Yorkshire who were rather led away by the statements that had been made, and who believed that there was something remaining behind, simply because the statements he had alluded to had been repeated usque ad nauseam. No proof had been offered; statements merely made and reiterated that the things were so. He had spent a great deal of his Masonic life in West York-

shire, and he did not wish to come forward that day and do anything which might raise a spirit of controversy, but, from what he knew of West Yorkshire, he could say there was a great deal of uneasiness among the brethren there in these matters. They hardly knew what to believe, and he thought therefore that if the brethren came forward and passed his resolution at the Quarterly Court declaring their unabated confidence in the management of the Boys' School it would have now the end desired for. They were bound, as brother Masons, in his opinion, to support their House Committee and the executive, believing that they had done their duty. He for one should certainly oppose any committee of enquiry, believing that the proper time was passed and gone. (Br. Woodford concluded by again reading his notice of motion).

Bro. John Constable, P.M. 185, said that, maintaining as he did that the charges made in the pamphlets above alluded to were most unjustifiable and unwarrantable, he had great pleasure in seconding the vote of confidence, if it was necessary, and passing at the same time a few remarks on the subject. He trusted that some effort would be made at last to set aside the feelings which existed in West Yorkshire, and that the brethren present would lose no opportunity of reinstating the confidence which should exist, and which had hitherto existed in the House Committee, and also in the Secretary. (Hear, hear). Bro. Jesse Turner said he could not help thinking that there was such a thing to be observed in this matter as dignity. The House Committee and the auditors could very well afford to stand on their dignity. They had gone into the matter thoroughly, and done all they could to find out the truth. A committee of enquiry was appointed, and they went into the matter, having all the documents before them. That committee, in their report, stated that they did not find that any necessity existed for calling in the assistance of an expert, and that the charges brought forward from time to time by the Province of West Yorkshire had failed. He thought that the brethren, while desiring to do all the good they could, were in reality attaching a great deal of importance to the matter which did not belong to it. The assertions of West Yorkshire as to what they were going to do were mere brutum fulmen. Let it go for what it was worth. He did not think the brethren of West Yorkshire would take it unkindly if he said that we should not suffer very much from what they said as to getting rid of Bro. Binckes and the matron. Therefore, let that go for what it was worth. He knew what the brethren would do: they would support Bro. Binckes and the committee; but he thought they had done so much in this matter that they would go on meddling and muddling, and making a small fire into a great one at the end. The best course was to let the matter cure itself. There were some fires which burnt themselves out; but in this case it appeared to him that they were fanning the flame.

Bro. John Constable asked whether a vote of confidence would not meet the matter.

Bro. John Symonds, P.A.G.D.C., said he apprehended that at a Quarterly Court it would be perfectly competent to any subscriber to move for a committee of enquiry without previously giving notice. Whether that would be an expedient course or not he would offer no opinion. It was, however, the rule in all charities, and there was nothing in the laws of the Masonic Institutions to prevent it. Now, they must be prepared to deal with such a motion if it was brought forward. However, he was not going to express an opinion as to how that matter should be dealt with, or whether a committee should be granted or not. They did not know that any such motion would be made; he only said it would be competent to any subscriber to make it. He would pass to another matter. He found in the report which had been sent out by certain brethren who were constituted a Committee of Investigation, a letter addressed to Bro. Binckes, and signed by brethren who were described as Life Governors of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, and members of the Committee of Investigation appointed by the Provincial Grand Lodge of West Yorkshire. He had always said, whenever he had heard of the appointment of a Committee of Investigation on the part of the Provincial Grand Lodge of West Yorkshire, that we could not recognize such a committee—that if we were to do so it would be quite competent for the Province of Kent at another time, or the Province of Devon at another, and so on for the whole forty provinces throughout England, to be continually appointing committees of investigation; but he likewise said that if any brother of West Yorkshire was placed on such a committee, although that committee were not recognised, and was a subscriber to the institution, he would be entitled, as a subscriber, to have an answer to any enquiry he might make. In the present case he found there were nine brethren from West Yorkshire who signed themselves Life Governors of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, and members of the Committee of Investigation appointed by the Provincial Grand Lodge of West Yorkshire. Their tacking on those words "members of the Committee of Investigation, &c.," should not have prevented Bro. Binckes from replying to them as Life Governors.

Bro. Binckes explained that the letter was sent to him, and accompanying it was a letter from the Secretary to the committee, that he should esteem it a favour if Bro. Binckes would address his communication to his (the Secretary's) office. Consequently he considered that that was nothing more or less than an official communication, and, acting under a resolution of the General Committee, he was precluded from answering it in any way. They did not apply as Life Governors, but through their official Secretary, who was a paid officer, and not a subscriber to the School at all.

Bro. Symonds contended that though Bro. Binckes might have been right in ignoring Bro. Quartermaster, the Secretary, he was not right in ignoring the signatories who were subscribers. Bro. Quartermaster was not entitled to have the information, but the Life Governors were.

Bro. Raynham W. Stewart, P.G.D., thought that all Bro. Symonds' remarks were entirely beside the question which was before the committee as to the propriety of meeting the West Yorkshire brethren's action by notice of motion or not. His feeling was that it was a proper thing to meet it by notice of motion, because it would show the West Yorkshire brethren that what was being done was not a hole-and-corner affair, and it would give them an opportunity of rallying their forces to come up and settle it. He was sure if it was decided that they had no confidence in the House Committee, that committee would be ready to retire.

Bro. Symonds admitted that he was not dealing with Bro. Woodford's notice of motion, and repeated his former opinion that it would have been better for Bro. Binckes to reply to the Life Governors' enquiries by a courteous letter.

Bro. Raynham Stewart replied that if the Life Governors had applied individually they would have received the information required; but here was a brother making enquiries who had no interest whatever in the Institution.

Bro. Binckes said on the 1st of January, 1876, a resolution was passed by the General Committee that the letter could not be entertained, and that resolution was arrived at after considerable discussion, the views obtained being simply these, that if you in any shape or way recognised the right of the Province of West Yorkshire to appoint a Committee of Investigation, you would give encouragement to other provinces to do the same. On the 8th of January he received the letter signed by the nine brethren referred to in their double capacity. The official communication to him was the Secretary's letter. This Bro. Quartermaster was formally appointed the Secretary of the Committee of Investigation, with a remuneration for his services. He (Bro. Binckes) was not dealing with the Life Governors. Bro. Quartermaster was their Secretary, and no life governor at all. Bro. Binckes' reply was, were you as an individual a contributor to our funds I should feel myself bound in courtesy to reply to your enquiries. Any individual brother subscribing to the School had a right to information and would have it. But, carrying out the resolution of the General Committee not to recognise the Committee of Investigation at all, he could not see that he was in any way open to censure as having been uncourteous. He did not regret his conduct; he was prepared to justify it there and elsewhere. He could not see how so experienced a Mason as Bro. Symonds could think he had been uncourteous. He might add that the affair had been a personal attack on himself; that he had been hard hit; and whenever hard hit he should try to hit hard in return.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman concluded the proceedings.

ISRAELITISM AND FREEMASONRY.

The following letter appeared in the "Nation's Glory Leader" of March 29th:—

Sir,—Noticing the letter of your correspondent, R. W. D. Nickle, in a recent number of your "Glory Leader," in which he makes some reference to Freemasonry, illustrative of the belief that the sacred Ark of the Covenant was still in existence, permit me, as one well versed in the symbols and teaching of Masonry, a remark or two thereon. Some months ago, when taking part in a discussion in our local newspaper, "The Man of Kent," on the Identity question, I had occasion to point out that the existence of Freemasonry flourishing in our midst was a most strong proof of our Israelitish origin, teeming as it does with allusions without end to ancient Hebrew history, and to a search in the west "for that which is lost." I pointed out in the communication referred to, on the installation of the Prince of Wales to the seat of the Grand Master of England, that he was virtually, in the eyes of all Masons, then installed into the throne of King Solomon. It would not be proper for me, in the columns of a magazine, to shew the constantly recurring references to the past history of the Israelitish people, as one might in the body of a properly constituted lodge or encampment; references and allusions constantly made, but even to Masons not understood. I should be glad of opportunities to point out to my brother Masons, in a proper place and time, the remarkable teaching of our symbolism and ceremonies. The mystical character on the keystone of which your correspondent, R. W. D. Nickle, calls the names or initials of Hiram Abiff, and which is so generally received as such, has, in fact, a deeper meaning, being the abbreviation for the word "Thesaurus," a hidden treasure or secret hiding-place.

I don't see that there is any allusion whatever, as suggested by your correspondence, to "nine" only of the tribes of Israel, the fact being just to the contrary, that every Royal Arch Chapter is emblazoned and decorated with the banners of the twelve tribes of Israel. I might go even farther, but I have said enough to prove that Masonry is intimately identified with our Israelitish origin, and is the only institution that I am aware of that has kept up in our midst the traditions of our noble ancestry, and the Identity question is one most appropriate for inquiry and discussion amongst Masons, and is peculiarly a search for that which is lost, viz., "The Lost Tribes of the whole house of Israel." I would that my brother Masons and companions of the Royal Arch could rightly understand and see the teaching of their beautiful ritual, tracing boards, and lectures, now so seldom or so carelessly used, and there would be found, although veiled in allegory and symbols, yet in a wonderful way, the truth of our Israelitish origin, preserved so marvellously, and now so remarkably spreading amongst all classes of the Anglo-Saxon race.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

"A ROYAL ARCH" MASON and "A ROSICRUCIAN."

HEALTH, comfort, and economy promoted. Gas superseded in day time, and daylight reflected in dark rooms by adopting Chappuis' Patent Daylight Reflectors. Manufactory, 60, Fleet-street, London.

PROVINCIAL GRAND MARK LODGE OF LEICESTERSHIRE.

The annual meeting of the Provincial Grand Mark Lodge was held at the Freemasons' Hall, on Thursday, the 23rd ult., under the auspices of the Fowke Lodge, No. 19.

The lodge was opened at five o'clock, and the attendance of the brethren was both numerous and influential, most of the past and present officers being present.

The Mark Lodges of the province were fully represented, and the reports submitted evidenced a gratifying measure of success and prosperity during the past year, a result which can only be attributed to the untiring zeal and assiduity of the Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master during a period of nearly twenty years.

The following brethren were appointed Provincial Grand Officers for the ensuing year:—The V. W. Rev. William Langley, D.P.G.M.M.; George Toller, jun., P.G.S.W.; Clement Stretton, (Past Grand Steward), P.G.J.W.; Wm. Barfoot (Mayor of Leicester), P.G.M.O.; R. Boughton, Smith, P.G.S.O.; Dr. Clifton, P.G.J.O.; Robert Waite, P.G. Treas.; J. M. McAllister, P.G. Sec.; C. Sansome Preston, P.G.R.M.; Wm. T. Rowlett, P.G.S.D.; H. T. Bobart, P.G.J.D.; F. Amatt, P.G.D.C.; J. T. Thorp, P.G.A.D.C.; H. James, P.G. Ins. of Wks.; M. H. Bobart, P.G.S.B.; Dr. Hunt, P.G. Standard Bearer; T. A. Wykes, P.G. Org.; R. Taylor, P.G.I.G.; and E. Mason, Dr. Meadows, and Wm. Vial, Provincial Grand Stewards.

On the business of the Fowke Lodge being resumed Bro. Toller installed his successor in office, Bro. Stretton, Past Grand Steward, who may be aptly and briefly described as a Freemason whose hand, liberal unto its means hath relieved the wants of others, and whose Masonic career (including the chair of each degree worked in Leicester) has been distinguished by a faithful adherence to the three grand principles of our Order—"Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth."

In the name of the lodge the W.M. presented to Bro. Toller a very handsome P.M.'s jewel, as a token of fraternal consideration for his constant attention and personal kindness to the brethren, and to mark the high sense of gratitude they entertain for his dignified and zealous discharge of the duties of Master during the past year.

Bro. Toller feelingly thanked the brethren for such an unexpected proof of their esteem and regard.

The W.M., Bro. Stretton, ably presided at the banquet which followed, and was supported by the R.W. Prov. G. Master, Bro. Wm. Kelly, F.R.H.S.; V.W. Rev. W. Langley, D.P.G.M.M.; Wm. Barfoot, Mayor, P.G.M.O.; S. S. Partridge, P.P.G.S.W.; A. H. Burgess, R. B. Smith, R. S. Toller, Dr. Hunt, W. Sculthorpe, S.W.; R. A. Barber, J.W.; R. Taylor, J. T. Thorp, and others.

The loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured, and the meeting throughout afforded the greatest satisfaction.

MASONIC FEMALE ORPHAN SCHOOL, DUBLIN.

We received the following from Ireland, which was in type last week, but was crowded out:—

The annual meeting and distribution of prizes to the pupils of the Masonic Female Orphan School, Dublin, will take place in the Exhibition Palace, Earlsfort Terrace, on Friday, April 28th. His Grace the Duke of Abercorn, K.G., M.W.G.M., will preside on the occasion.

The doors of the building will be opened at half-past seven o'clock, from which time until the commencement of the proceedings, and also after the distribution of the prizes, a selection of music will be performed by military bands.

At a quarter-past eight o'clock the Grand Officers, the Provincial Grand Officers, the representatives from foreign Grand Lodges, Past Grand Officers, the Master Wardens, and Secretaries of the Dublin lodges, and those brethren expected to occupy places on the platform, will assemble in the Small Concert Room to receive the M.W. the Grand Master; and a procession having been formed, it will move to the Grand Concert Hall. The pupils of the School, together with the pupils of the Masonic Orphan Boys' School, will then enter the room, and on reaching the platform, will file off and occupy the seats provided for them. The Grand Master having been saluted according to ancient usage, the Hundredth Psalm will be sung, and the meeting will be addressed by members of the Order; after which the procession will be re-formed and proceed to the dais in the glass building, where the several prizes and certificates awarded to the pupils at the annual examinations will be presented to them by Lady Georgina Hamilton.

During the evening some of the pupils of the schools will play a selection of pianoforte music.

The brethren are expected to appear in full Masonic costume, ladies in evening dress.

Each governor of the School is entitled to one free ticket, not transferable, and seven visitors' tickets, at two shillings each, provided same be applied for at Freemasons' Hall, Molesworth-street, on the 11th, 12th, or 13th of April, between the hours of two and five o'clock, p.m. All tickets unclaimed on those days will be issued between the hours of two and five o'clock, on the 25th and 26th of April.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.—In angry or indolent sores, and all skin diseases, originating in impure or weak blood, or depraved secretions, the joint agency of Holloway's Pills and Ointment is perfectly irrefragable. It is of little consequence how long these disorders may have lasted, or how sluggish, obstinate, or malignant they may seem; the daily application of the Ointment to the parts afflicted, and a course of these matchless Pills will most certainly effect a cure; not temporary or superficial, but complete and permanent. Both the Ointment and Pills are composed of rare balsams, unmingled with mercury or any other deleterious substances. They are, accordingly, as mild and safe as they are powerful and efficacious.—ADVT.

MASONIC BALL IN LIVERPOOL.

The Lodge of Israel, No. 1502, whose consecration, recorded in October, 1874, was chiefly for the purpose of satisfying the wants of brethren of the Jewish faith, appears to be making a most extraordinary progress in the province of which Lord Skelmersdale, D.G.M., is the Provincial Grand Master. Not only has it increased largely in numbers, but it is well known for the excellent working powers of the officers. Some short time ago they established a Benevolent Fund in connection with the lodge for the assistance of widows and orphans of their members, and also for aid of the brethren in the hour of their affliction. One of the principal laws of this institution is that should any brother, widows, or orphans desire relief, the name of the recipient should be kept secret from the lodge, confining it to the executive of the fund. This is done for the purpose of hiding from the vulgar gaze the downfall of respectability, so that with the assistance of this fund they may endeavour to retrieve their worldly position without having recourse to open Masonic charity. This, in itself is a very laudable object, and one that should have the heartiest support of all charitably disposed Masons, and we know that that number is very great in Liverpool.

To increase this fund, as well as to give the members' wives and daughters a delightful Masonic re-union, the lodge held a ball on Wednesday evening, March 15th, at the Washington Hotel, Liverpool. Foremost amongst those present were Bros. A. J. Henochsberg, W.M.; Ralph Robinson, I.P.M. 241, I.P.M. 1502, Treasurer of the Ball Committee; Maurice Hart, S.W.; Alex. Jones, J.W.; B. Levy, Sec.; Schonstadt, S.D.; B. Woolf, J.D.; P. A. Crozier, I.G.; J. Wolf, S.S.; J. S. Waring, J.S.; Rev. J. Prag, Chap., and a number of private members of the lodge. There were likewise present Bros. A. Hoffnung, P.M.; Richard Brown, W.M. 241, Hon. Sec. West Lancashire Educational Institution; Parrington, 1356; Alvarez, 673, and a number of brethren of other lodges. There was also a goodly sprinkling of non-Masons present. Among them were L. S. Cohen, Esq., Zaquary, Esq., E. Davidson, Esq., and others. Dancing commenced at nine o'clock to the strains of Blamphin's band, and the ladies entered into the "light fantastic" with all the zest of sprightliness which Jewish ladies are so noted for. The large room of the hotel is especially adapted for dancing, the floor being laid with diaper, preventing the amount of dust from ascending, which is usually the annoyance of uncovered floors. The gay dresses of the ladies and the Masonic clothing of the brethren (of which the Craft and Royal Arch were the principal) together produced a very pleasing effect. An excellent supper was provided by Miss Lathom, the manageress of the hotel, to which we expect the visitors did ample justice. The whole of the arrangements were under the direction of the committee, of which the officers of the lodge were members, together with Bros. Lyons, Goldberg, S. Jacobs, Prenslan, and Aronsberg. Bro. H. M. Silver deserves an especial word of praise for the indefatigable manner in which he acted as Hon. Secretary. A band of Stewards, under the direction of their captain, Bro. Maurice Hart, S.W., added greatly to the comfort of the guests of the evening. Bros. Alex. Jones, J.W., and S. S. J. Henochsberg were efficient M.C.'s., and, acting with great spirit, did much to enhance the popularity of the ball. Financially speaking, the ball was as great a success as it was enjoyable, a handsome balance of £15 having been handed over to the Treasurer of the Lodge of Israel Benevolent Fund.

We are asked to state that Her Majesty the Queen has graciously sent an annual subscription of one hundred guineas to the Seamen's Hospital, late Dreadnought, Greenwich. The Mercer's Company have given a donation of fifty guineas, and Mr. Henry Green, of Blackwall and Brighton, has expressed his desire to help the good cause by assisting the committee to raise the £5,000 for which they have just appealed through the Lord Mayor, and has offered to contribute £100 provided nine others will give the same.

METROPOLITAN MASONIC MEETINGS.

For the Week ending Friday, April 14, 1876.

The Editor will be glad to receive notice from Secretaries of Craft Lodges, Royal Arch Chapters, Mark Lodges, Preceptories, Conclaves, &c., of any change in place or time of meeting.

SATURDAY, APRIL 8.

Quarterly Gen. Court, Girls' School, at 12.
Lodge 108, London, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.
" 173, Phoenix, F.M.H.
" 1328, Granite, F.M.H.
" 1361, United Service, Greyhound Hot., Richmond.
" 1423, Era, King's Arms Hot., Hampton-court.
" 1446, Mount Edgecumbe, Swan Tav., Battersea.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Lily, Greyhound, Richmond.
Percy, 113, Southgate-rd., N.
Manchester, 179, London-st., Fitzroy-square.
Star, Marquis of Granby, New Cross Road.
Sinai Chapter, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.

MONDAY, APRIL 10.

Quarterly Gen. Court Boys' School, at 12.—See advt.
Lodge 5, St. George's and Corner Stone, F.M.H.
" 90, St. John's Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
" 136, Good Report, Terminus Hot., Cannon-st.
" 193, Confidence, Anderson's Hot., Fleet-st.
" 222, St. Andrew's, London Tav., Bishopsgate-st.
" 957, Leigh, F.M.H.
" 1506, White Horse of Kent, 33, Golden-sq.

Chap. 22, Mount Zion, Guildhall Tav., Gresham-st.
" 1319, Asaph, F.M.H.
Red Cross Con., 2, Plantagenet, Regent M.H., W.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.
Prince Leopold, Lord Stanley Tav., Kingsland.
Strong Man, Jerusalem Tav., St. John's Gate.
Sincerity, Railway Tav., Fenchurch-st. Station.
Camden, Stanhope Arms, Up. James-st., Camden To.
Eastern, Royal Hot., Mile-end-road.
St. James's Union, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Wellington, White Swan, Deptford.
West Kent, St. Saviour's College, Forest-hill.
Perfect Ashlar, Victoria Tav., Lower-rd., Rotherhithe.
Sydney, White Hart Ho., Church-rd., Upper Norwood.

TUESDAY, APRIL 11.

Lodge 96, Burlington, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
" 198, Percy, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.
" 211, St. Michael, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
" 228, United Strength, St. John's Gate.
" 235, Nine Muses, Longs Hot., Bond-st., W.
" 548, Wellington, White Swan Tav., Deptford.
" 854, Ranelagh, Clarendon Hot., Hammersmith.
" 917, Cosmopolitan, Terminus Hot., Cannon-st.
" 1538, St. Martins-le-Grand, M.H., Masons' Avenue.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney.
Domestic, Surrey M.H., Camberwell New-road.
Faith, 2, Westminster Chambers, Victoria-st.
Prince Fredk. Wm., Lord's Hot., St. John's Wood.
Dalhousie, King Edward, Triangle, Hackney.
Prosperity, 1, Camomile-st., Bishopsgate.
St. Marylebone, British Stores Tav., St. John's Wood.
Constitutional, Wheatheaf Hot., Hand-court, Holborn.
Israel, Rising Sun Tav., Globe Road.
Royal Arthur, Prince's Head, York-road, Battersea.
Beacontree, Red Lion, Leytonstone, at 8.
Metropolitan Chapter, Jamaica Coffee Ho., Cornhill.
Excelsior, Commercial Dock Tav., Rotherhithe.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 12.

Com. R.M.B.I., at 3.
Lodge 3, Fidelity, F.M.H.
" 11, Enoch, F.M.H.
" 13, Union Waterloo, M.H., William-st., Woolwh.
" 15, Kent, F.M.H.
" 87, Vitruvian, White Hart, College-st., Lambeth.
" 338, Pilgrim, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.
" 749, Belgrave, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
" 781, Merchant Navy, Silver Tav., Limehouse.
" 820, Lily of Richmond, Greyhound, Richmond.
" 1017, Montefiore, F.M.H.
" 1260, Hervey, F.M.H.
" 1305, St. Marylebone, British Stores, New-st., N.W.
" 1306, St. John of Wapping, Gun Tav., Wapping.
" 1503, Francis Burdett, Albany Hot., Twickenham.
Rose Croix Chapter, Grand Metropolitan, 33, Golden-sq.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Mt. Lebanon, Windsor Castle Tav., Southwark-bdg.-rd.
Pythagorean, Prince of Orange, Greenwich.
New Concord, Rosemary Branch Tav., Hoxton.
Royal Union, Horse and Groom, Winsley-st., Oxford-st.
Confidence, M.H., Basinghall-st.
Peckham, Maismore Arms, Park-road, Peckham.
Stanhope, Thicket Hot., Anerley.
Finsbury Park, Finsbury Park Tav., Seven Sisters'-rd.
Southwark, Southwark Park Tav., Southwark Park.
Duke of Connaught, Havelock Tav., Dalston, E.
United Strength, Grafton Arms, Kentish-town.
Mount Edgumbe, 19, Jermyn-street, St. James's.
Islington, Crown and Cushion, London Wall.

THURSDAY, APRIL 13.

Lodge 19, Royal Athelstan, Terminus Hot. Cannon-st.
" 23, Globe, F.M.H.
" 91, Regularity, F.M.H.
" 206, Friendship, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.
" 263, Bank of England, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
" 334, Polish National, F.M.H.
" 657, Canonbury, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
" 860, Dalhousie, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
" 879, Southwark, Southwark Park Tav.
" 1076, Capper, Marine Hot., Victoria Dock.
" 1216, Macdonald, Hd.-qtrs. 1st Surrey Rifles.
" 1471, Islington, Cock Tav., Highbury.
" 1558, Duke of Connaught, Surrey M.H.
Chap. 73, Mount Lebanon, Bridge House Hot.
" 140, St. George's, Globe Tav., Greenwich.
Preceptory 117, New Temple, The Inner Temple, London.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Egyptian, Hercules' Tav., Leadenhall-st.
Fidelity, Yorkshire Grey, Leadenhall-st., W.
Finsbury, Jolly Anglers' Tav., Bath-st., City-road.
Whittington, Black Bull Tav., Holborn.
Temperance in the East, Catherine-st., Poplar.
Ebony, 12, Ponsonby-st., Millbank.
Highgate, Bull and Gate, Kentish-town.
The Great City, 111, Cheapside.
High Cross, Coach & Horses, High-road, Tottenham.
Salisbury, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Marquis of Ripon, Albion Tav., Albion-rd., Dalston.
Prince Frederick William Chapter, St. John's Wood.

FRIDAY, APRIL 14.

(Being Good-Friday, it is probable the meetings will not be held).

Lodge 134, Caledonian, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.
" 1520, Earl Spencer, Northcote Hot., New Wndswth.
Chap. 33, Britannic, F.M. Tav.
Rose Croix Chap., Mount Calvary, 33, Golden-sq.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Union Waterloo, Thomas-st., Woolwich.
St. George's, Globe Tav., Royal-hill, Greenwich.
Robert Burns, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Belgrave, Lyceum Tav., 354, Strand.
Unions Emulation (for M.M.'s), F.M.H.
Temperance, Victoria Tav., Victoria-road, Deptford.

Clapton, White Hart, Clapton.
Stability, Guildhall Tav., Gresham-st.
Metropolitan, Portugal Hot., Fleet-st.
Westbourne, Horse & Groom, Winsley-st., Oxford-st.
Metropolitan, Pentonville-road.
United Pilgrims, Surrey M.H., Camberwell New-road.
St. James's, New Tanners' Arms, Grange-rd., Bermondsey.
Duke of Edinburgh, Silver Lion, Penny-fields, Poplar.
Doric, Earl Grey Tav., Mile-end-road.
Burgoyne, Grafton Arms, Prince of Wales's-road, N.W.
St. Luke's, Commercial Tav., King's-road, Chelsea.
Chigwell, Bald-faced Stag Hot., Buckhurst-hill.
Burdett Courts, Approach Tav., Victoria Park.
Royal Standard, Finsbury Park Tav., Holloway.
Ranelagh, Clarendon Hot., Hammersmith.
Pythagorean Chapter, Prince of Orange, Greenwich-rd.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN WEST LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE.

For the Week ending Saturday April 15, 1876.

MONDAY, APRIL 10.

Lodge 314, Peace and Unity, Militia Mess R., Preston.
" 1021, Harrington, H.M., C.H.B., B.-in-Furness.
" 1350, Femor Hesketh, M.H., Liverpool.
" 1391, Baldwin Castle, Dalton-in-Furness.
" 1496, Trafford, Northumberland Hot., Old Trafford.
Mark Lodge, 165, Bedford H., Bedford-rd., Rock Ferry.
Red Cross Con. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

TUESDAY, APRIL 11.

Lodge 178, Antiquity, Royal Hot., Wigan.
" 241, Merchants, M.H., Liverpool.
" 1230, Gilbert Greenall, M.R., Warrington.
" 1326, Stanley, M.H., Kirkdale.
" 1384, Equity, Commercial Hot., Widnes.
Chap. 537, Zion, M.R., Argyle-st., Birkenhead.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 12.

Lodge 281, Fortitude, the Athenæum, Lancaster.
" 1052, Callender, P.H., Rusholme.
" 1061, Triumph, M.H., Lytham.
" 1094, Temple, M.H., Liverpool.
" 1356, De Grey and Ripon, 80, N. Hill-st.
" 1403, West Lancashire, Commercial Hot., Ormskirk.
" 1547, Liverpool, M.H., Liverpool.
Chap. 86, Lebanon, M.H., Prescott.
" 673, St. John's M.H., Liverpool.
" 1345, Victoria Cross Keys Hot., Eccles.
Neptune L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

THURSDAY, APRIL 13.

Lodge 216, Harmonic, Adelphi Hot., Liverpool.
" 333, Royal Preston, Vic., Garrison Hot., Fulwood.
" 477, Mersey, 55, Argyle-st., Birkenhead.
" 786, Crosth, United Service, M.H., Liverpool.
" 1035, Prince of Wales, Kirkdale, Liverpool.
" 1182, Duke of Edinburgh, M.H., Liverpool.
" 1213, Bridgewater, Cross Keys Hot., Eccles.
Marine's L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

FRIDAY, APRIL 14.

Lodge 1550, Perseverance, M.H., Liverpool.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN GLASGOW AND WEST OF SCOTLAND.

For the Week ending Saturday, April 15, 1876.
All the Meetings take place at Eight o'clock.

MONDAY, APRIL 10.

Lodge 102, St. Mark, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
" 204, St. Paul, George Inn, Ayr.
" 205, Gartland St. Winnoch, Eagle, Lochwinnoch.
" 219, Star, 12, Trongate, Glasgow.
" 307, Union and Crown, M.H., Barrhead.
" 362, St. Clair, 25, Robertson-st., Glasgow.
" 384, Athole, Kirkintilloch, Washington Hot.
" 403, St. George, Oddfellows' Hall, Helensburgh.
" 541, Marie Stuart, M.H., Crosshill.

TUESDAY, APRIL 11.

Lodge 177, St. James, Old Monkland, M.H., Coatbridge.
" 230, St. Barnabas, Black Bull Hot., New Cumnock.
" 413, Athole, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
" 419, Neptune, 35, St. James-st., Kingston.
" 426, Prince of Wales, M.H., Renfrew.
" 441, Glasgow, 22, Struthers-st., Calton, Glasgow.
" 543, St. John, M.H., Dalmuir.
Chap. 69, St. Andrew's, 170, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 12.

Lodge 178, Scotia, 170, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
" 333, St. George, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
Chap. 113, Partick, M.H., Partick.

THURSDAY, APRIL 13.

Lodge 88, New Monkland, T.H., Airdrie.
" 109, St. Marnock, T.H., Kilmarnock.
" 179, St. Mungo, London Hot., Mauchline.
" 203, St. John's, Olive H., Airdrie.
" 290, Dalry Blair, White Hart H., Dalry.
" 570, Kenmuir, M.H., Springburn.
Chap. 50, Glasgow, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.

FRIDAY, APRIL 14.

Lodge 18, Dumbarton, Mission Hall, Dumbarton.
" 170, St. John, Black Bull Inn, Renton.
" 399, Royal Blues, Commercial Hot., Kilbinnie.
" 427, St. Clair, M.H., Garngad-rd., Glasgow.
Chap. 144, St. Rollox, M.H., Garngad-rd., Glasgow.

SATURDAY, APRIL 15.

Lodge 524, St. Andrew, M.H., Kilbride.
" 544, St. Andrew, M.H., Coatbridge.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN EDINBURGH AND VICINITY.

For the Week ending Saturday, April 15, 1876.

MONDAY, APRIL 10.

Lodge 145, St. Stephen, Writers' Court, Edinburgh.

TUESDAY, APRIL 11.
Lodge 1, Mary's Chapel, Waterloo-place.
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 12.
Lodge 2, Canongate Kilwinning, St. John's Chapel.
Chap. 1, Edinburgh, F.M.H., George-st.
THURSDAY, APRIL 13.
Lodge 8, Journeyman, M.H., High-st.
FRIDAY, APRIL 14.
Lodge 83, St. Andrew, F.M.H., George-st.

THE ANNUAL
RED CROSS BALL

WILL BE GIVEN AT
WILLIS'S ROOMS, KING STREET, ST. JAMES'S.
UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE GRAND COUNCIL.
By the Members of the Masonic and Military Orders of the Red Cross of Constantine, K.H.S. and Knights of St. John.

On Monday, April 24, 1876.

PRESIDENT,
COLONEL FRANCIS BURDETT,
M. Em. Grand Viceroi, and Deputy Grand Commander of St. John.

The surplus will be given to the Masonic Charities and to the Almoner's Fund of the Red Cross Order.
Coote and Tinney's Band, Conductor, Bro. Coote.
Tickets, including Refreshments and Champagne Supper, Gentlemen's, 21 st.; Ladies', 15s.; Double Ticket, 31s. 6d.
Dancing to commence at Nine o'clock.
R. Wentworth Little, (Treas. Gen. and Knt. Grand Commander of St. John,) Treasurer.
Henry A. Dubois, G.A. Treas. and Knt. Commander of St. John; and J. Musgrave Levick, Commander of St. John, Hon. Secs.

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GERMANY. — HIGH CLASS EDUCATION at the Royal Colleges, Cassel (attended by the Sons of the Crown Prince of Germany), with thorough German, French, and English Private Tuition by resident Graduates, and a refined English Home. Delightful neighbourhood of Wilhelmshöhe, the Aue Park, and the valley of the Fulda. Prospectus, with highest references. Terms, 70 to 90 guineas inclusive. Sons of Masonic brethren at reduced terms.—Address Bro. Dr. Saure, M.A., Cassel) who will be in England in April).

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MAY ELECTION, 1876.
ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION. —The Votes and Interest of the Governors and Subscribers are most earnestly solicited on behalf of ELIZA BLACKBURN.

Widow of the late William Blackburn, formerly of the Robert Burns Lodge, No. 25, in which he was initiated in 1844; joined the Lodge of Confidence, No. 193, in 1848, and served the office of Master in 1850; joined the Globe Lodge, No. 23, in 1848, and served the office of Master in 1851; joined the Crystal Palace Lodge, No. 742, in 1858, and acted as Secretary thereof for eight years; joined the Double Lodge S.E.B. No. 889, in 1866, and was appointed Provincial Grand S.E.B. for Surrey in 1866. He was elected in the Robert Burns Chapter, No. 25, in 1846, was elected Treasurer of the said chapter, and served the office of First Principal in 1854; joined the Prudence Chapter, No. 12, in 1848, and served the office of Scribe E. from that time to 1873; and joined the Mount Lebanon Chapter, No. 435, in 1865, of which he was Scribe E., and retained that office till he was elected an Annuant and Donor of the Royal Masonic Institution in 1873. A Petitioner is allowed to remain in the apartments occupied by her late husband for a brief period according to the laws, her only means of support being the half of the annuity formerly enjoyed by him.

The case is strongly recommended by Bro. G. F. Newmarch, Dep. G.M. for Gloucestershire, and V.P. of the Institution, Cirencester.

" A.E. McIntyre, Q.C., Grand Registrar, 3, Middle Temple-lane.
" Henry Browne, P.G.D., Upper Tooting.
" Raynham W. Stewart, P.G.D., 11, Abchurch-lane.
" J. Brett, P.G.F., P.M. 177, Old Jewry.
" R. Spencer, P.G.S., P.M. 263, 26, Fentiman-road, Clapham-rd.
" J. T. Bennett, P.G.S., 23, No. 12, F. 1 Mail.
" W. Watson, P.G.S. Grand Stewards' Lodge, 42, Drury-lane.
" H. J. Strong, M.D., P. Prov. G.W. Surrey, P.M. 453, 463, P.Z. 463, and V.P. of the Institution, No. 64, North End, Croydon.
" R. Cartwright, P.P.G.S.W. Surrey, P.M. 889, Kingston.
" W. Pearce, P.Prov.G.Reg. Surrey, P.M. 889, No. 3, Dr. Johnson's Buildings, Temple.
" T. Long, Prov. G.D.C. Surrey, P.M. 889, Kingston.
" J. B. Lemaitre, P.M. 12, P.Z. 12, No. 30, Chiswell-street.
" L. Ruf, P.M. and Treas. 12, P.Z. and Treas. 12, Lowther Arcade.
" W. Rumsey, P.M. 206, No. 8, London-street.
" C. Smithers, No. 100, Leadenhall-street.
" H. T. Thompson, P.M. 742, Augusta Cottage, Nightingale-rd., Lower Clapton.
" C. Painter, 190, No. 130, Leadenhall-street.
By whom Proxies will be thankfully received, also by the applicant, Eliza Blackburn, 7, Royal Masonic Institution, East Croydon.

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REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS.

Craft Masonry.

FAITH LODGE (No. 141).—On the 28th ult. this lodge held its meeting at Anderson's Hotel, Fleet-street. The proceedings commenced at five o'clock precisely. The officers present were Bros. Waygood, W.M.; Kennett, I.P.M.; Carter, P.M., Treas.; Stuart, P.M., Sec.; Walls, acting S.W.; Mallett, J.W.; Darcy, acting S.D.; Bye, I.G.; Rumbold, W.S.; Whitley, D.C.; and Past Masters Taylor, Green, and Themans. The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the W.M. raised Bro. Goulden to the degree of a M.M. He then vacated the chair, and the I.P.M. passed Bros. Rothenburg, Manley, and Kendall as F.C.'s most impressively. Bro. Kennett having also left the chair, Bro. Taylor, P.M., initiated Mr. F. W. Leftly into Masonry in a very excellent manner. Upon the proposition of Bros. Carter and Green, P.M.'s, the sum of £5 5s. was voted to Bro. Hopwood, P.M. (W.M. of 1512), to head his list as Steward at the forthcoming Festival for Boys. The votes of the lodge for the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys and Girls were given to Bros. P. Taylor and Themans, P.M.'s. Some minor business having been transacted, the lodge was closed in ancient form, and the brethren adjourned to an excellent banquet. Upon the removal of the cloth, the W.M. gave the usual Royal and Craft toasts, which were heartily received, and Bro. Walls having contributed a portion of the "National Anthem," Bro. Taylor proposed "The Health of the W.M." He stated that Bro. Waygood unfortunately laboured under very severe difficulties, but he had worked very hard to obtain Masonic instruction, and he personally was surprised at the manner in which he had, to a certain extent, nearly surmounted certain physical obstacles that stood in his way, and that he was entitled to the warmest support that the members of the lodge could afford. The duties of his position were drawing rapidly to a close, and they would soon miss his happy face and affable demeanour at the banquet table, and he hoped, in conclusion, that the brethren would heartily join with him in wishing the W.M. long life and happiness. The W.M. having briefly replied, proposed "The Health of the Initiate." This toast having been duly honoured, Bro. Leftly made a very excellent reply. In proposing "The Health of the Visitors," the W.M. stated that the lodge had not been honoured with quite so many visiting brethren as usual, but he was very pleased to see those that had been present in the lodge and at the banquet table, viz., Bros. Walters, P.M., P.Prov. G.S. of Middlesex; Callerson, 548; Nice, 1178; Westgaard, a member of a distinguished Danish lodge; and Boas, late of the Faith. This toast having been warmly received, was duly acknowledged. The W.M. then proposed "The Health of the P.M.'s of the Lodge" in very warm terms, in which he expressed his thanks to those brethren for the very great assistance and instruction that they had kindly rendered him both before and since his accession to the chair of K.S. Between the toasts Bros. Robinson, Walls, Leftly, and others instrumentally and vocally amused the brethren. "The Health of the Past Masters" having been acknowledged, the W.M. gave "The Officers of the Lodge," which having been briefly acknowledged by Bros. Davis, S.W.; Mallett, J.W.; Davey, J.D., and others, the Tyler's toast was called, and the brethren shortly afterwards separated until the last Tuesday in the present month, which meeting will terminate the season.

KENNINGTON LODGE (No. 1381).—The last meeting for the season of this prosperous lodge was held at the Surrey Club House, Kennington Oval, on the 4th inst. The lodge was opened at six o'clock by Bros. Everett, I.P.M. Domestic, W.M.; Higgins, S.W.; Reeves, J.W.; Walls, S.D.; Kohler, J.D.; Speedy, I.G.; Page, P.M., &c., Treas., acting I.P.M.; Stuart, P.M., &c., Sec.; Marston, W.S.; Robinson, A.W.S. Bros. Mann and Koch, P.M.'s, were also present. The minutes of the March meeting having been read and confirmed, the W.M., assisted by his officers, passed Bro. King to the Second Degree, the ritual being rendered with Bro. Everett's well-known ability. The W.M. then brought forward a motion that the lodge should hold a summer festival this year, to which ladies and members and friends should be allowed to participate in. He stated that he had organised a very effective one in connection with the Domestic Lodge last year, which, notwithstanding the unpropitious weather, was eminently successful, and he hoped that the lodge would consider the matter fully in all its bearings before coming to any decision. The motion was seconded by the S.W. and having been fully discussed was ultimately unanimously carried, and a committee,

consisting of the officers, Past Masters and five members, viz., Bros. Cruse, Webb, Brooks, Marcus, and Hayward, were appointed to carry the matter out. Bro. Mann, P.M., proposed, and Bro. Koch, P.M., seconded, which was unanimously carried, that the fees of country members upon partaking of refreshment should be the same as those charged for visiting brethren, viz., 10s. and 15s. respectively. The lodge was then closed and the brethren partook of refreshment. Upon the removal of the cloth the W.M. stated that in consequence of there being no particular business before the lodge he had not deemed it necessary to hold a banquet, but not wishing that the last night of the season should pass without a little conviviality he had ordered a slight refreshment at a reasonable tariff for about a dozen, and he was considerably surprised and extremely gratified that he had been honoured by quite a mammoth gathering, which proved that the members of the Kennington Lodge were not entirely confined to the Fourth Degree. He then said that he should not bore them by indulging in very long speeches in introducing the various toasts, because he wished the members on that particular evening to thoroughly enjoy themselves without restraint. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were then given, and the National Anthem sung by Bro. Walls. Bro. P.M. Mann, in proposing "The Health of the W.M.," said that the best proof of Bro. Everett's popularity was the numbers assembled there that evening. Their W.M. had told them that he had anticipated only a dozen, and he had been supported, as he was proud to say—in proportion to their numbers—by quite a mammoth gathering. This proved that they had the right man in the right place, and he (Bro. Mann) looked forward to an exceedingly prosperous year of office for Bro. Everett. This toast having been heartily drunk, the W.M. made an exceedingly modest reply, and immediately afterwards proposed "The Health of their only Visitor, Bro. Palmer, J.W. Domestic," in a very humorous speech. Bro. Palmer, in reply, said that he had been so often a visitor at the Kennington Lodge, and had seen so many members of that lodge at the Domestic, that he was often in doubt as to which lodge he really belonged. He, however, must say that he always enjoyed himself at No. 1381, and he hoped that the intended summer festival would be a great success, and that he would—if they would allow him—do all he could to induce members of his lodge to take part in it, and concluded his remarks by thanking the W.M. for the manner in which he had proposed his health and the brethren for the hearty way in which it had been received. The W.M., in proposing "The Health of the Past Masters," took occasion to return his very sincere thanks to that distinguished body for the great assistance he had always received from them. He then went on to say that he believed that no lodge could prosper unless perfect unanimity prevailed between the Master and his predecessors in office. In conclusion, he said that the Kennington Lodge was highly famed in having three Past Masters so long and honourably connected with Freemasonry as Bros. Page, Mann and Koch. This toast having been well received, Bro. Koch, P.M., in the absence of the I.P.M., briefly replied. "The Health of the Treasurer and Secretary" followed, to which Bros. Page and Stuart responded. The former said that he was exceedingly proud at holding the position of Treasurer in the lodge. The W.M. had been pleased to pay him a very high compliment for the manner in which he had discharged his duties hitherto, and he hoped that as long as he held the office that his management of the funds would meet with their entire approval, and in conclusion he told them that he should never lose sight of one thing in the expenditure, and that was economy. Bro. Stuart said that the labours of the Secretary were very much reduced when they were assisted by an able Master and an energetic and careful Treasurer, and he was proud to say that the Kennington Lodge at the present time possessed both. He had endeavoured, he said, since he held the office to discharge it to the best of his ability, and he was pleased to think that his efforts hitherto had been rewarded by the kind approval of the brethren, and by the voice of the auditors at the annual investigation of the books and accounts. The W.M. then paid Bro. Trotman, the caterer of the lodge, a high compliment by proposing his health for the way in which he had attended to the comforts of the brethren since he had held that position. Bro. Trotman having replied, the W.M. proposed "The Health of the Officers of the Lodge," in which he gave those brethren hearty commendation for the manner they had discharged their duties, and for their punctual attendance. This toast having been honoured, Bros. Higgins, Reeves, Walls, Kohler, Speedy, Marston, and Robinson severally replied. During the evening contributions of harmony were given by the W.M., Bros. Sirgood, Philpott, Palmer, Walls, and others. The Tyler's toast brought the proceedings to a close, and the brethren separated until the first Tuesday in October next.

WOODBIDGE. — Doric Lodge (No. 81).—We paid another visit to this old lodge at Woodbridge on Wednesday, the 5th inst., when there were present Bros. Gall, W.M.; Barnes, S.W.; B. D. Gall, J.W.; E. Fitzgerald, Sec.; Browne, S.W.; W. Phillips, J.P., P.M.; Moore, J.P.; Whistock, Spalding, P. Prov. G.D.; W. Wilmshurst, P. Prov. G.S.B.; F. A. Kent, M.C.P., F.R.S., and others. Visiting Bro. Emra Holmes, P. Prov. G. Reg., and P.G.D.C. 114, and two other brethren, one hailing from the Star of the East Lodge, Harwich, and the other from the Framlingham Lodge, but whose names we did not learn, were also present. The lodge having been opened and minutes confirmed, Bro. George Edwards Keer was examined, and afterwards raised to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason, the lodge having been previously opened in that degree, the ceremony being made very solemn by the impressive manner in which it was conducted by the W.M., who worked it admirably. Bro. Fitzgerald afterwards gave the lecture in the Third De-

gree—a lecture, by the way, far too seldom given in our lodges. Bro. Wilmshurst dictated the answers to the necessary examination for admission to a higher degree. The other business of the lodge having been disposed of, the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to the Crown Hotel, where supper was served. The usual toasts were given from the chair, and then Bro. Phillips proposed "The Health of the W.M.," and spoke highly of his working. He also made some pertinent remarks on the care young members should take not to betray themselves too readily as Masons, alluding to some begging Masons who had been round the town lately, to whom allusion had been made in lodge. Bro. Spalding proposed "The Visitors," who all responded. Bro. Wilmshurst sang two capital Masonic songs in capital style, and a most agreeable evening was spent.

IPSWICH.—British Union Lodge (No. 114).—The usual monthly meeting of this lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, on Thursday, the 6th inst. Present: Bros. Rev. J. J. Burton, M.A., W.M.; Rev. J. B. Tweed, P.G. Chaplain, S.W.; H. Miller, P.G.P., J.W.; H. Casley, S.D.; Ridley King, J.W.; G. Elliston, I.G.; H. D. George, I.P.M.; W. Boby, P.P. S.G.W.; Emra Holmes, P.P.G. Reg., and P.G.D.C.; W. Spalding, P.M., Sec.; Harman Harris, P.M.; Rev. G. N. Godwin, W. Clarke, P.G.A.D.C.; W. Meadows, J. Walker, surgeon to the garrison, and others. The minutes of last lodge having been read and confirmed, Bro. Jones, Lieut. R.A., was examined and entrusted, and the lodge being opened in the Second Degree, he was admitted to the degree of F.C., the W.M. performing the ceremony very efficiently. The usual business having been disposed of the lodge was closed in due form, and the brethren retired to the dining hall, where Bro. G. Spalding provided the usual plain but substantial repast, to which full justice was done. The customary toasts were given from the chair, Bro. Boby responding to that of "The Past P.G. Officers" in his usual felicitous style. Bro. Holmes read the great Masonic poem, which, though too long for a post-prandial meeting, was very much appreciated, and several copies were asked. Bro. Holmes undertaking to get them from Bro. G. Markham Tweddell, the English publisher. Bro. Miller sang a very good song, and a pleasant evening came to an end far too soon for the brethren assembled, as is mostly the case in this popular lodge. It was hoped that Sir Patrick Colquhoun would have been present, as he had been in the town attending the assizes, and it was intended to give a cordial reception to so distinguished a Mason had he been able to come, but it was found afterwards that he had returned to town before the lodge met, much to the regret of those brethren who had the pleasure of his acquaintance and were desirous of showing him a little courtesy on behalf of the Craft in Suffolk.

WALSALL.—Lodge of St. Matthew (No. 539).—A meeting of this good old lodge was held at the Dragon Hotel, on the 7th inst., for the installation of Bro. T. Mount Humphries, W.M. elect. There was a brilliant gathering of the Craft, the attendance of brethren being larger than has been known for years. The officers present were Bros. T. M. Humphries, S.W.; J. Rowley, J.W.; J. Symons, P.M., Treas.; W. Bayliss, P.M., Sec.; Jos. Newman, I.G., P.M., P. Prov. G.J.W.; Thomas Nicholls, Tyler; W. Purvis, Assist. Tyler. The Past Masters present were Bros. Frank James, Dep. Prov. G.M.; Benj. Love, P. Prov. A.D.C.; F. Empson, P. Prov. S.G.W. Warwick; John J. Wickham; and Charles Humphries, P.M. 1013, Liverpool. The members present were Bros. A. P. Brewitt, E. Ouston, J. Lindop, A. H. Lindop, J. Griffin, G. Simpson, J. Simpson, J. Banks, J. H. Shekleton, J. Harper, and others. The visitors included A. Barnes, W.M. 1039; T. Bedmore, P.G.O. 1039; L. Wright, P.M. 419; C. Trigg, P.S.G.W. 1039; A. D. Parker, Org. 1039; H. Smith, P.M. Athol Lodge; H. Langman, W.M. 419; E. Bagaley, P.M. 419; E. Williams, 390; H. Humphreys, Dimbella, Ceylon; S. Smith Dorsett, J.W. 301; G. Grove, 739; James H. Walton, P.M. 696; J. Guy, W.M. 606; J. Jones, 506; R. Brewitt, 252; John Bragg, P.G.S.W. 739; J. Ketley, P.M. 739; Thomas Howkins, P.M. 468; Thomas H. Smith, P.M. 468; Frederick Derry, P. Prov. J.G.W., 482; James Brawn, 1039; H. Hobson, 1163; R. Williams, 696; J. F. Crump, 696; F. N. Syder, 419; W. Balls, P.M. 1163; and others. The lodge having been duly opened by the W.M., Bro. T. T. Fisher, and the minutes read and confirmed, the W.M. vacated the chair, which was taken by the D. Prov. G.M., and the installation was proceeded with in the very impressive and faultless style of Bro. Frank James. The newly-installed W.M. invested the following as his officers:—Bros. T. T. Fisher, I.P.M.; James Rowley, S.W.; A. P. Brewitt, J.W.; the Rev. James Downes, P.M., P.P.G.C., Chaplain; James Symons, P.M., P.P. G.S.B., Treasurer; Wm. Bayliss, P.M., P.P.J.G.D., Secretary; B. G. Cales, S.D.; E. Oerton, J.D.; B. Love, P.M., P.P.G.A.D.C., D.C.; John Griffin, I.G.; Stewards, John H. Shekleton and John Banks; Tylers, Thomas Nicholls, for the 30th time, and W. Purvis. The W.M. afterwards presented the lodge with a very handsome illuminated record of the W.M.'s (30) of St. Matthew's Lodge from its commencement, framed in a beautiful gilt frame, which was received, and the Dep. Prov. G.M. in the name of the lodge thanked the W.M. for it in a few suitable words, and it was duly entered upon the minutes. The lodge was then closed in ample form with solemn prayer by the W.M. The brethren afterwards adjourned to the Assembly Rooms, where an elegant banquet was provided, at which the W.M. presided, and who gave the usual loyal toasts in brief though suitable terms, to which the brethren heartily responded. The W.M. then proposed "The Health of the Right Worshipful the Provincial Grand Master of Staffordshire, the Right Hon. the Earl of Shrewsbury, the Very Worshipful Deputy Prov. Grand Master, Bro. Frank James; and the Officers, Past and Present, of the Provincial Grand Lodge," and in

so doing well expressed the feeling of respect and admiration entertained by every Staffordshire brother for the Earl of Shrewsbury, mentioning the many instances in which his lordship had shewn his great interest in the Craft, and the great hospitality displayed by him on several occasions, especially at the installation of the Grand Master, the Prince of Wales, when he entertained the brethren of his province. He also well expressed the affectionate feelings of every brother in this province, and especially by this lodge, for the V.W.D.G.M., Bro. Frank James, of whom they (in Walsall) had so much reason to be proud as an eminent working Mason, a child of St. Matthew's Lodge, and a townsman. He also expressed the pleasure he had in seeing so many eminent Masons around him, many that he numbered amongst his personal friends, and he was proud to know that the majority had "risen to eminence by merit." The V.W.D.P.G.M., who replied in an eloquent speech, said it was a matter of great difficulty, but he would divide the toast into three parts. The first he found little difficulty in, on account of the great interest the R.W.P.G.M. had at all times shown in Freemasonry, his anxiety for the good working of his province, and more especially the interest he felt in the Masonic charities, of which he was an enthusiastic and liberal supporter. The second part was the greater difficulty, because it related to himself. He thanked the W.M. for his eulogistic remarks in introducing the toast, and the brethren for their enthusiastic reception of it; he modestly reminded his hearers of the eminent Masons who had preceded him, and who had been his tutors in Masonic lore. The third part he would leave to the Prov. S.G.W., who thanked the W.M. and the brethren for their kind reception of the Prov. G. Officers. The V.W.D.P.G.M. again rose to propose "The Health of the W.M.," and in so doing he felt quite sure that the lodge had done a wise thing in selecting Bro. T. Mount Humphries, whose Masonic career he had watched for many years, and whom he knew to be a zealous working Mason; he called the attention of the W.M. to the fact, that he had been, metaphorically, courting the dignity to which he had attained, and now that he was espoused he hoped he would not get tired of his bride during the ensuing year, although he would find the duties arduous and a heavy tax upon his time. He further exhorted him not to be discouraged should he find that the number of initiates during his year of office did not equal that of his predecessor (which had been an unparalleled successful one in the history of the lodge). He said that in Masonry, as in other things, there were times when great numbers desired to be admitted and the brethren thought nothing would stop their success, but he could, during the many years he had been a member, recollect times of great depression, and initiates very few. When these times came it was necessary to husband their resources, set their house in order, and wait for better times. Bro. J.M. Humphries thanked Bro. Frank James for the kind way in which he had proposed this toast, and the officers and brethren for the very hearty manner in which they received it. He assured them he responded with mingled feelings of pleasure and regret; with pleasure, seeing that he had been unanimously elected to that chair, which had been previously filled by many distinguished Masons; with regret, because he was afraid that the abilities he could place at the service of the lodge were not so brilliant as many of his predecessors; but of this he could assure them, he had entered heartily upon Masonic work, and he was determined as far as he was able to make St. Matthew's Lodge conspicuous for its charities, and he would undertake the duty of Steward at the next festival of the Boys' School, and he trusted that during his period of office he might perform his duties to the satisfaction of the lodge and with credit to himself. Of one thing he was quite sure, that the brethren would look leniently upon all his short-comings and take the will for the deed. Bro. H. Humphreys, of Ceylon, and Bro. J. Bragg, P.S.G.W., replied on behalf of the visitors; Bro. Bayliss, P.P.S.G.D., replied for the Past Masters; Bro. Rowley, S.W., replied for the Officers and Wardens; Bro. Thomas Nicholls, the venerable Tyler, proposed the last toast.

MANCHESTER.—Lodge of Truth (No. 1458).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held at the private rooms, Newton Heath, on Saturday, 1st inst. Bro. Kent, W.M., opened the lodge at 3.45 p.m. Minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed. Motion was passed, without any dissentients, excluding a member, and a resolution adopted authorizing the usual steps to be taken to sustain such exclusion. Bros. Wm. Smith, Hebdon, Lorking, and Swain were raised to the Sublime Degree. The W.M. and Wardens were appointed to attend Provincial Grand Lodge at the meeting in May. Motion by Bro. Turner, P.M., that the lodge give a donation of ten guineas to the new East Lancashire Institution was carried unanimously. There were two propositions made—one for initiation and one for joining member, and after some business of minor importance the lodge was closed. Refreshments were then partaken of and the usual toasts proposed.

BRO. W. W. B. BEACH, M.P., Prov. Grand Master, Hants., presided over a council meeting of the Central Chamber of Agriculture, held on Tuesday, at the Salisbury Hotel, Fleet-street.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.—Perfect health is a condition which it is difficult to describe, but which we can all comprehend. It is the greatest natural boon that can be afforded to us, and any means which conduces to the preservation of it must ever be highly prized amongst mankind. Perfect health can be maintained only by attention to nature's laws, and by at once rectifying any deviations from that standard. Holloway's remedies are well and justly famed as being in the foremost rank as health preservers and restorers; they have earned and maintained that position by reason of their powerfully purifying and eliminating properties, and their success in that respect is so marked, that they are used almost universally.—ADVT.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

The Quarterly Court of subscribers and Governors of this Institution was held on Monday at Freemasons' Hall, and also at the Tavern. A large number of brethren being expected to be present to take part in the anticipated discussion between the West Yorkshire brethren and the brethren from the other provinces and London, the board-room of Freemasons' Hall was deemed incapable of affording the required accommodation, and for this purpose the large hall of the Tavern was engaged for the debate, the brethren afterwards to adjourn to the board-room to take part in the election. As was supposed, the brethren attended in considerable numbers, there being about 170 present at the opening of the Court, and remaining until the election commenced. Several were present from the Province of West Yorkshire, but their numbers were far inferior to those from other quarters. Bro. John Moxon Clabon, Past Grand Deacon, and President of the Lodge of Benevolence, was unanimously called upon to fill the chair, he being the senior Vice-Patron of the Institution. The other brethren present were, according to the signature book, Bros. H. Browne, John Simpson, P.M. 910 (West Yorkshire); John C. Walsh, W.M. 306 (West Yorkshire); Charles Lowry, P.M. 304 (West Yorkshire); Robert Craig, P.M. 304 (West Yorkshire); Charles Pegler, 837, 575, 304 (West Yorkshire); George S. Dunbar, 910; Alfred S. Tolson, Treasurer 910; H. Massey ("Freemason"), S. Rawson, Raynham W. Stewart, J. Wordsworth, Richard Spencer, J. Cawthorn, 458; L. Finch, 458; James Walker, 289; Thomas Crossley, W.M. 1311; John Thompson, P.M.; Henry Basevi Colonel, P.D.D.G.M.; A. F. A. Woodford, P.G.C.; Le Ruf, P.M.; F. Horsley, 304, P.M.; John Smith, 731, P.M.; Richard Holmes, 910, W.M.; J. Creaton, Thomas J. Sabine, V.P., T. Hill, P.P.G.W. (West Yorkshire); J. Wordsworth, P.P.G.D.C. (West Yorkshire); George Kenning, John Constable, W. Mann, Henry Smith, W. H. B. Tomlinson, Isaac Booth, (West Yorkshire), John Symonds, Edward T. Clark, Charles Godtschalk, W. Hughes, H. A. Dubois, Wm. King Gill, Magnus Ohren, H. M. Levy, G. Bolton, John Sutcliffe, Walter Hopekirk, John Bodenham, A. Durrant, W. H. Smith, Austin Sheppard, F. Adlard, Joseph Quarterman, J.W. 910 (West Yorkshire); O. G. D. Perrott, 657; Edward Clark, W. F. Smith, 177, P.M.; Albert Martin, 1539; Robt. B. Webster, John Dennison, 108; T. W. Tew, 910 (Dep. Provincial G.M. West Yorkshire); W. F. C. Moutrie, T. W. White, E. Fuller Clark, W. F. Tubby, 11; W. Winn, George Newman, W. Downing, T. W. Strachan, A. B. Wall, Jesse Turner, John Edward Cox, P.G.C.; Hyde Pullen, H. Somerville Burney, Thomas Smith, J. Stevens, James A. Birch, Charles Cann, Harry May, John H. McQueen, 11; Richard Tyrrell, 179; W. Buck, 670, W.M.; E. M. Haigh, 29; Fred A. Cole, P.M. 54, Colchester; James Terry, G.D.C. Herts; John Henry Leggett, P.M. 145; John Boyd, P.G.P.; Simeon Hayes, I.P.M. 139 (West Yorkshire); W. Jervis, S.W. 139 (West Yorkshire); C. W. Thompson, S.D. 969, S.W. 1601; H. Hacker, P.M. 723; G. T. Wright, 731; James Blyth, 813; W. Richardson, H. W. Binckes, C. H. Waters, George Eedes Eachus, Geo. Wilson, P.M. 173; Wm. Lane, P.M. 28; John Chadwick, P.M. 44; J. L. Hine, P.M. 65; P.P.G.S.W. East Lancashire; George P. Henley, 186; Wm. Roebuck, Wm. Stephens, Col. Alex. Bidgway, P.P.G.W. Devon; George J. Palmer, P.M. 11; W. Macdonald, John M. Stedwell, Donald M. Dewar, F. H. Ebsworth, James Robins, J. C. Dwarber, Alfred Henry Diaper, Benj. Head, Wm. Bristow, Charles Tighe, J. Marsh, T. K. Kent, 60; J. N. Frost, 704; F. W. Ramsay, James Horwood, James Lewis Thomas, Wm. Paas, W. C. Parsons, R. F. Gould, John Swainston, John T. Moss, N. C. Browne, Henry Browne, jun., H. W. Hunt, E. A. Sacré, G. R. Shervill, Donald W. King, Charles Cobb, 51; H. S. Friend, 9; J. G. Chancellor, Samuel Cole, 184 and 1424; J. Last, 145; Samuel May; J. Waldron, J. C. Chaplin, 18; W. Birch, 1170; George Sinclair, 813; E. H. Fisher, 1489; Thomas Littlecott, 169; J. M. Klenck, 1339; Alfred Braun, 766; J. Watson, P.M. 194; Edward S. Snell, P.G.D.; A. F. Aldridge, E. H. Thirkley, 145, W.M.; J. W. M. Dosell, Wm. Bulkeley Hughes, M.P.; L. B. Garrett, 11; H. Whitfield, Geo. Moxon, 209; H. Coward, 8; F. B. Davage, P.M. 167; Capt. Cope, P.G.S.B.; Richard S. Warrington, 197; C. W. Todd, 183; James Weaver, P.M. 862 and 1319; A. Rule, 263; Wm. Brighten, J. P. Sarel, S. B. Wilson, Edmund Mackney, and F. Binckes (Secretary).

After the minutes of the former Court and the Special Joint Court had been read and confirmed, and the minutes of the different committees had been read for information, Bro. George Plucknett was, on the motion of Col. Creaton, seconded by Bro. S. Rosenthal, unanimously re-elected Treasurer of the Institution. Nine brethren of the General Committee who required election were then re-elected, and Bros. Percival Sandford, E. J. Tyrrell, and Edmund C. Massey were elected to fill the places of those members of the General Committee who had qualified themselves as life governors. Two additional vacancies in the school, caused by the withdrawal of two boys since 1st July last, were afterwards declared.

Bro. Raynham W. Stewart then rose and said he should propose that five additional boys be elected into the school. The Institution could well do this, as it now possessed Kent House. The boys would not be required to be taken on till August next, and by that time Kent House would be ready for occupation. (Hear, hear.)

Bro. Henry Browne seconded the motion, which was then put, and carried unanimously, amidst loud cheers.

The Chairman next said that the brethren had just heard that the Institution had purchased Kent House, the

price whereof was £2000. The question now before the meeting would be that a cheque be signed for the amount.

The brethren unanimously adopted the question. Scrutineers were next appointed for the election of sixteen boys.

The next business on the paper was to consider the following notice of motion, by Bro. F. W. H. Ramsay:—"That every three years the four senior members of the House Committee retire, but shall be eligible for re-election, and the four who have been least frequent in attendance shall retire annually, and be ineligible for re-election for a space of twelve months."

Bro. John Symonds said that Dr. Ramsay was not present, but that he withdrew this motion at the Girls' School on Saturday, and it was quite understood that he would not move it at the Boys' School if not carried at the Girls'. Probably this was the cause of Dr. Ramsay's absence.

The Chairman then said that the next business to be proceeded with was the motion of which Bro. the Rev. A. F. A. Woodford, Past Grand Chaplain, and Past Provincial Grand Warden West Yorkshire, had given notice:—"That, having in view recent imputations cast on the administration of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, this Court deems it to be its duty to express its unabated confidence in the House and Audit Committees and Executive."

Bro. the Rev. A. F. A. Woodford, P.G.C., and Past Prov. G.W. West Yorkshire, then rose, and said it was natural that he should rise with some degree of diffidence on that occasion, as it was the first time he had had the honour of addressing so large a number of brethren in the metropolis at a Quarterly Court. As they were aware, a great part of his Masonic life had been spent in the provinces, and he must throw himself, therefore, on the kind consideration of the brethren whilst he addressed a few words to them, which were dictated solely by a sense of duty. There were many reasons why he should not be a person to come forward to appear, even by implication, to pass a censure on a province with which he had been long and happily connected; but when he found that the province had formally found fault with the Boys' School in the manner it had, he thought that every one who had an interest in that School should come forward boldly, honestly, and fearlessly on the present occasion to express his opinion on the subject. He thought, also, that it was high time to put a stop to pamphlets which had been circulated detracting from the high character which the school had attained, and which had commenced the agitation which had culminated in the resolution to which he had referred. If there were any complaints to be made against the administration of the Institution they should be made to the Quarterly Courts, where they would be thoroughly enquired into. Nothing could be more detrimental to the character of the Masonic Order, or to the principles they professed, than that pamphlets like those he had alluded to, impugning the administration of brethren who had for years rendered great services to the cause of charity, and promoted the interests of this Institution, should be industriously circulated. (Hear, hear.) In 1869 he was Chairman of the charity committee of West Yorkshire, and this was the reason he now addressed the meeting, inasmuch as no one was in a better position than himself to point out the unreality of the present agitation. A resolution had been passed by the Prov. Grand Lodge of West Yorkshire, couched in very strong terms, and a copy had been sent to the G.M. of every province in England, and also to the Grand Secretary of England, and a letter asking him to put it on the agenda paper of Grand Lodge. The resolution was as follows:—

Resolution of Provincial Grand Lodge of West Yorkshire:—"The great cost of the school seems to pervade nearly every department of its management, and your Committee strongly impresses upon Provincial Grand Lodges, the necessity for adopting such measures as will secure a material reduction of such evil, so that the institution may be largely extended its benefits conferred upon a much greater number of recipients, and the sympathies of the Craft, continued and extended in its favour."

Now, the brethren present would like to know upon what evidence such a general resolution as this had been framed, and what was the evidence which had led the Provincial Grand Lodge of West Yorkshire to pass a resolution to an effect which was practically a condemnation of the management of the Boys' School, and which had been circulated in every province of England, and asked to be placed on the agenda paper of Grand Lodge. He wished it to be understood that he spoke in the interests of peace, and he would pass over personal matters, which would only lead to mutual recrimination. They must bear in mind that the evidence on which this committee had based this resolution had been arrived at in a most singular manner. There were antecedent circumstances attending the movement in West Yorkshire which were very peculiar. He had alluded to them a week ago, and he did not wish to weary the meeting by repeating them now. Twelve months ago, just before the anniversary festival of the Boys' School, a report appeared—

The Chairman said he hoped Bro. Woodford would forgive him for interposing for only half a moment, or for interposing at all, but Bro. Woodford had already stated that he addressed the Court in the interests of peace. (Hear, hear, and cheers.) He (the Chairman) wished to express to the speaker and all the brethren present a very earnest wish that, whatever turn the discussion that day might take, it might be not only in the interest of present peace but of future peace, and the general good of the Boys' School. (Hear, hear and applause.)

Bro. the Rev. A. F. A. Woodford, P.G.C., &c., in continuation said that what he was going to lay before the brethren was simply a statement of facts upon which there was no dispute. In order to arrive at a proper understanding of this case it was necessary to know how the evidence was arrived at upon which the resolution alluded to was based.

The Chairman said all he was afraid of was that they might drift into personalities.

Bro. the Rev. A. F. A. Woodford continued. Twelve months ago a pamphlet was published by the Dep. Prov. G.M. of West Yorkshire in which he charged very grave laxity of administration to the House Committee, and blamed especially the Secretary of the school with reference to the Head Master. That original pamphlet, addressed to the six Vice-Presidents of West Yorkshire, was followed by another in which the writer stated the four points on which the Province of West Yorkshire would insist were—the removal of the Secretary, the reinstatement of the Head Master, the change of the whole of the House Committee, and the removal of the Matron. Other pamphlets had followed, and the Provincial Grand Lodge of West Yorkshire, which met at Sheffield on the 20th Oct. 1875, passed a resolution by which they appointed a committee to investigate the management and expenditure of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys. He would pass over the unconstitutional nature of such a proceeding, because that matter had been practically decided by Lord Zetland in 1854, when he ruled that even Grand Lodge itself could not pass a resolution affecting the administration of the educational establishments of the Craft any more than it could pass a resolution affecting the administration of the Infant Orphan Asylum at Wanstead. The committee to which he was calling the attention of the Court was, however, appointed, and they instituted an enquiry and took evidence. What was the nature of that evidence? It was practically the evidence of one brother. (Cries of "No, no.") He held the statement in his hand, the original report presented to Provincial Grand Lodge. He had seen the pamphlet, which had been suppressed, which was, in fact, the evidence almost entirely of one brother. The main evidence on which that report was drawn up was the evidence of the Deputy Provincial Grand Master—(no, no)—he stated it distinctly, standing up there before the meeting. (Renewed cries of "No, no.") Would any brother give the name of any one else who was examined? If there was any other person it had not been published in the report to which the signatures of the committee were attached. So that the facts of the case remained before the brethren such as had never been heard of before in the annals of Masonic jurisprudence and Masonic law: the same person who impugned the management of the Boys' School was the accuser, the witness, and the judge. (Mingled cries of "Hear, hear," and "No, no.") The brethren might colour it as they liked; but the fact remained the same. (No, no, and hear, hear.) Then, when they looked further into the matter, after that evidence was submitted there was no further witness connected with the school brought forward, at any rate, no such evidence was printed. It was entirely one-sided evidence. Why were not those examined who could have explained everything? In an enquiry such as this professed to be, as to the management of the Boys' School, why was not the evidence printed and sent to Bro. Binckes? The first he knew of it was the resolution passed by the committee, in which the expenditure of the school was characterised as being grossly extravagant, and different institutions in London were taken and their expenditure was compared with that of the Boys' School. Now, in 1866 the West Yorkshire Charity Committee went into exactly the same figures. Allegations were made openly that the expenses of the Boys' School were exorbitant and were above all other similar institutions.

A brother from West Yorkshire here asked who signed this report.

Bro. the Rev. A. F. A. Woodford replied that he signed it. He had already stated in his opening that he drew it up. He had been appointed by the Marquis of Ripon to do so. He would now read a portion of it. "The Freemasons' Boys' School is made up of very different classes of society, and requires therefore a higher standard alike in clothing, food, and education, than is given to the orphans of merely eleemosynary institutions, or boys of any one particular class." It must always also be borne in mind that the object of the Boys' School is not to make our boys charity boys, or to reduce them to the level of a pauper institution; but to give them the same education they would have had, had God spared the lives of their parents, so as to fit them for the social position they were destined, humanly speaking, to fill. And we must always keep this before us when we consider the cost of the education given in the Boys' School, or compare it with that of any other. A careful analysis of the Boys' School per head, with that of several of the London institutions of somewhat of a kindred nature, gives the following result:—The expenditure per head is in excess of such schools as the Commercial Travellers', Warehousemen and Clerks', British Orphan, City Freemen's Orphan School, St. Anne's, London Orphan—but is equal to that of the Clergy Orphan, and less than that of the Royal Medical Benevolent. The much larger numbers in almost all the schools will in every case account for the difference in expenditure. For instance, the office expenses in the Boys' are larger per head than all the other schools, simply because of the limited number of boys. Whereas in the London Orphan, with 145 girls and 290 boys, the office expenses are £3 12s. 3d. per head, or in round numbers £1,520; in the Commercial Travellers' with 125 boys and 66 girls, in all 191, £7 7s. 5d. per head, in round numbers £1,400; in the Clergy Orphan, with 83 girls and 96 boys, in all 179, £4 4s. 8d. in round numbers £751. Our Boys' School is £9 1s. 10d. per head, in all £906 9s. 9d. for 104 boys. If the number of boys could be increased to 150, and eventually to 200, this expenditure would not be increased in the aggregate, and would show a reduction per head of from four to five pounds! As regards clothing, the expenditure of the boys is larger per head than all the charities mentioned. We give the boys two suits of good clothing a year, an extra pair of trousers, and linen and underclothing in great liberality. This is unusual in other

schools, but has tended much to the health of the boys. As regards food—we give the boys of the best, and the consequence is an infirmary always empty, and a school of healthy, active, and happy lads, of whom their medical man says, they are both a pleasure and a marvel. As it may interest the Provincial Grand Lodge to know what is the amount per head spent in food by the other charities, the committee append a tabular statement, and if an average is taken of these eight schools, it will appear to be £13 14s. 6d., or £12 13s. 4d. in excess of what is paid in the Boys' School—£12 13s. 2d. per head."

	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Cost of Food per head.
London Orphan	145	290	435	£10 8 4½
Warehousemen and Clerks	76	36	112	12 0 0
Clergy Orphan	96	83	179	17 2 5½
British Orphan	106	69	175	15 12 3
R. Medical Benevolent ...	200	—	200	19 3 11
Commercial Travellers ...	125	66	191	10 10 7½
St. Anne's	332	—	322	10 11 11½
Freemen's Orphan	—	—	137	13 5 9

Such was the report of 1862. What did 1875 show? Mutualis mutandis—practically the same. The averages of 5 of the same institutions, proved that the office expenses and educational charges are very reasonable, and that as regards food, the average of these institutions demonstrated, that whereas their average was £16 1s. 4d., that of this extravagantly managed institution was £12 13s. 2d. (Cheers.) He would not weary the brethren with more figures, but the question of comparative cost, as put forth in the report alluded to, was an utter fallacy.

Many brethren would agree with him that if the statements of the Report had been confined to West Yorkshire, no notice, perhaps, need have been taken of them, for no one could deny that if brethren subscribing from time to time were dissatisfied with the expenditure as stated in the printed reports they had a right to enquire into it, to comment on it, and make fair criticisms upon all of it. But what was sought to be done, and which was thus done by the pamphlets, was not to confine it to West Yorkshire. Since he had addressed the general meeting at which he had given notice of this motion three brethren from West Yorkshire had gone into a neighbouring province, had met brethren in Hull, and put into their hands the objectionable pamphlets making charges of maladministration against the authorities of the School. The brethren in London wished to maintain the interests of the Boys' School, and they thought that by passing a vote of confidence that day in the Committees and the Executive, and by putting a stop to the Crusade that was now being carried on against the School, they would be best consulting the interests of the institution. It was his humble conviction that if brethren wished to preserve the School they must put a stop to these pamphlets which were being sent through the length and breadth of the land. Let it be known that they wished to do so in the interests of the School; let them express their approval of the labours of the committees; but above all let it be shewn that they wished to express their sympathy with a very energetic and zealous official who had been very unjustly attacked—Bro. Binckes. (Cheers.) He (Bro. the Rev. A. F. A. Woodford) had endeavoured to avoid anything which might lead to personal recrimination; but he would confidently call upon that meeting of brother Masons to give a vote of confidence in the committees, and in the hard worked official he had alluded to, and so enable them to persevere in their wise, kind and enlightened labours for the care, welfare, and protection of the orphan children of their deceased brethren. (Loud and prolonged cheers.)

Bro. Strachan said he came from Northumberland at some amount of inconvenience from his anxiety to see the result of a very serious motion. He was very glad, indeed, to see that the question was raised direct, whether or not the brethren were to have confidence in the committee who managed this institution. The whole good feeling of the brethren in the provinces towards the Institution must entirely depend on whether they had confidence in the governors; otherwise it would be easy to conceive that the result to the Institution must be very serious. The brethren in the provinces could not attend in London and take part in the management of the school; but they could give a few pounds now and again, and they would do so if they could reply on the management of the executive. If there was reason to suppose that the executive was not entitled to confidence it would at once stop the flow of the provincial charity, and so be very detrimental to the institution, and through it to the London as well as to the provincial brethren. "When he saw some days ago the inside of the pamphlet which had been spoken of, some of the remarks in which were puerile, and more of which were in bad taste—he could not help saying to himself, 'who ever has published such a thing?' When he came to look it was with considerable pain he saw the name of the Deputy Provincial Grand Master of West Yorkshire was upon it. He wondered what could be done to put a stop to the heartburnings and the feelings which must have been engendered by that pamphlet. He saw in it some charges which to his mind could only be construed to be charges of embezzlement and maladministration of moneys. Now he belonged to a profession which was accustomed to receive such charges, and to enquire into them; and he found in a long course of investigation of such matters that sometimes they turned out to be false, impossible, and without foundation, and so he reported them; and at other times that they were true. He immediately on looking into the pamphlet put himself in communication with the school authorities to see what had been done. His first enquiry was, was this a matter that had come before the courts and committee from time to time? He was surprised to find that instead of these brethren coming to these courts and committees for explanation, and after that

falling back upon appealing to the brethren of the province, they began by falling back on appeals to these brethren. It appeared to him at once upon seeing that, it was a false step, and that it took away from the value of the complaint the brethren had made. He had never yet had any difficulty with the Institution in all his connection with it; but if he had had any doubt or uncertainty with regard to its management he would have ventured to write a letter to the House Committee for information, and if he had then failed to obtain what he wanted, if the matter had been of sufficient importance he should have come to the Quarterly Court; he would not at once have rushed into publishing a pamphlet charging maladministrations against the officials of the Institution and published it far and wide without giving an opportunity to the parties accused of disproving his assertion. (Great applause.) He had from the position he occupied some knowledge how Institutions like this ought to be kept, and when he was told that the boys were kept in a ridiculously, slovenly, and absurd state it was his duty to go and see them, and when he went and saw them he was able to say of his own knowledge that this was not the case. (Hear, hear.) He was not there to say that the committee never made a mistake, or that this or that committee was immaculate; but he was there to express his strong confidence in the way the committee had passed through their duties on the whole, and to urge upon the brethren of West Yorkshire not to propagate dissensions in the Craft. (Great cheering.) Let all the brethren unite in supporting their charities as they had done nobly in the past. (Immense applause.) True, they had spent a little more money than some schools; they made it their boast hitherto; but if they wanted to alter it now if they found they were not pursuing the right course—that the committee were too extravagant, and would not alter it—let them alter the constitution of the committee; but do not let them do that until they found that it was no use asking them. (Hear, hear.) He would appeal to the brethren of West Yorkshire to concur in the vote of confidence in the committee just elected and the other committee; let them feel that these committees would look on every complaint that was made; and let them cordially unite in saying how much they were obliged to them, not only for taking upon themselves future duties, but also for what they had done already. He hoped the brethren of West Yorkshire would see their way not to oppose this vote, which he had much pleasure in seconding. (Applause, and cries of "Hear, hear," and "No, no.")

Bro. Gill, Prov. G.S.W. West Yorkshire, said he asked to be allowed to address the Court, and he felt he might venture to do so in confidence that the brethren would listen with respect to what he was about to say. Let him premise by saying that no one could possibly have been more pained and sorry than he was when he first saw the unfortunate report in print. (Hear, hear, and applause.) He had always said that if anything was wrong with respect to the institution the proper and fraternal way to complain about it was to come to the institution in the first instance, and to have found the fault that was to be found, at the Quarterly Court. (Cheers.) He would give way to no brother in affection for the charities of the Craft; and when at the Provincial Grand Lodge of West Yorkshire it was moved that there should be a committee of investigation appointed to enquire into the matter contained in the report, he was the man of all others who got up and disclaimed any action on the part of Grand Lodge being taken. It was, however, carried against him, the brethren of West Yorkshire having a strong and almost unanimous feeling on the subject. He himself was neutral, but it was decided to appoint a committee. The committee was appointed; and let him say, in answer to a statement of Bro. Woodford, that no fairer committee was ever appointed by any province. (Hear, hear, from the West Yorkshire brethren.) The committee represented the leading Masons of every town of West Yorkshire—(hear, hear)—and without any favour whatever that committee met to discharge the duties for which it was appointed. He (Bro. Gill) was invited by Sir Henry Edwards to take a seat on that committee, but he had determined to be quiet. He, however, spoke to many discreet brethren on the Charity Committee and many others, and they urged him, saying, "By all means do go there, and prevent a repetition of these very serious charges being made, which if made ought to be made with the greatest possible care, and ought not to be made at all unless substantiated." (Hear, hear, and cheers.) He hesitated a long time, and ultimately he assented to be on the committee. He was then invited to take the chair at that committee. He consulted again with his friends, and they said, "Yes, you may and you ought; and in justice to our province, and to keep our province straight, do go and take the chair." With that object in view he did take it. Let him here tell Bro. Woodford he never made a statement further from the truth (and when he said this he did not mean to say he made the statement wilfully, for they knew Bro. Woodford could not have said anything intentionally untrue) than when he said there was no evidence taken on that committee. Now he spoke in the presence of several brethren who knew that to a very large majority of the brethren that pamphlet was objectionable. Nothing was more offensive to him than that pamphlet. He said that he objected to anything of the kind; but with respect to the published reports of the committee appointed to investigate the charges made against the committee and executive of the Boys' School, he would say that in the report that the committee put forward every figure and every word was justified; they took the word neither of the Deputy Prov. G. Master nor any one else. His brethren from West Yorkshire would say that before anything was accepted they asked, Where is the evidence of it? and he declined to receive anything which was not vouched for and proved. The brethren were at this meeting now as men of business, and not to fan the flame of discord. What they

were there to do was to bring about again that feeling of Freemasonry which had existed, to cement the fraternity, and in every way to make this institution what it ought to be—a successful one. But, having said that, let him again say that he would endorse and was ready to prove to the very hilt every statement as authentic that was made in the report of the committee. Every word of it was true; every figure was true. If there was one figure there that was not correct, or one statement put forth that could not be justified by the printed reports of the institution, he would submit to any infliction and penalty the meeting might choose to put upon him. (Hear, hear.) Having investigated these reports, and having arrived, as he said, at the conclusion at which he had, it was very hard for Bro. Woodford to say that when they were justifying the Executive Committee they were casting a censure on the Province of West Yorkshire.

Bro. the Rev. A. F. A. Woodford rose to explain that he did not say this, but that he was unwilling to appear, even by implication, to cast a censure on the province.

Bro. Gill said he had taken the words down, and could not be mistaken. However, if Bro. Woodford now asserted that his statement just made was the correct one, he felt bound to accept it. He (Bro. Gill) had had the pleasure of enjoying the friendship of Bro. Binckes for a long time, and he had never entertained one unkind thought towards him. He (Bro. Gill) asked for nothing like the dismissal of the Secretary, or the replacement of the committee by a new one; but he would ask the brethren to hesitate before passing the resolution of Bro. Woodford. (Hear, hear.) With all deference and respect to the House Committee, he would say that the House Committee did not deserve the confidence of the brethren so far as this resolution would make out, and this he would show by what he was going to state. (Oh! oh! and hear, hear, and confusion.) He believed there was not a brother on that committee that was not a high principled gentleman. (Hear, hear, and general applause.) He had nothing to say against the character of those gentlemen (hear, hear), but he ventured to submit that they had been remiss where the transaction of the business of the institution was concerned, and also so far as the expenditure of the institution went. (Loud cries of "No, no," which were met by a few cries of "Hear, hear.") The matter was one entirely for the opinion of the brethren: he was not going to labour the point. The report of the institution was the basis on which they went, and should go (hear, hear), and it was intolerable that the secretarial expenses should reach to over £10 per boy. (Great uproar.) The reports did not fairly state what the cost per boy per annum was; but if the brethren would read what he believed to be a careful and truthful statement of the Investigation Committee, they would say that the expenditure of the secretarial office was an extravagant one, and ought to be revised and curtailed. (Mingled cheers and expressions of dissent.) They did not devote their time and their money in West Yorkshire to quarrel with this state of things; but perhaps when he said that West Yorkshire had provided one seventh of the whole expenditure of the Boys' School, they must allow that the brethren of that province had always been liberal. Whatever Bro. Binckes had asked for at any time he had got from West Yorkshire. True, it might be said that they had got their return. He admitted it; the brethren of West Yorkshire were men of business, and took care to get a fair return for what they paid. In this they only did what they had a right to do; they availed themselves of privileges the Craft had given them. It must therefore be admitted that they had no interest in injuring the institution. Their true object, on the contrary, was to further its best interests, and if there was a serious blot on the institution, they ought to do as they did now. The brethren of West Yorkshire now came, as they ought in the first instance to have come, to this Quarterly Court. (Hear, hear.) They believed there were certain things that ought to be remedied. It had gone forth into the province that there was extravagant expenditure in the administration of the School somewhere, and it would give confidence to the brethren in the provinces if a certain number of brethren from the provinces were appointed on the committee to enquire into it. (Hear, hear, and no, no.) He did not ask for an investigation committee; but place upon the House Committee such a fair proportion of provincial brethren as would give the provinces confidence—as would give them the assurance that all the expenditure that was incurred was fairly and properly incurred for those for whom they cared so much, the inmates of the institution. But where there was extravagant expenditure, as he asserted and re-asserted, not only in the Secretary's office but in domestic matters, then, he said, they had a right to complain. In the institution, if they would take the pains to look, they would find—and how could it be tolerated that it should be so—that during the last ten years there had been five changes of head-masters, and twenty of assistant masters. Could it be said that the executive did not know the reason why, who had done so much for the institution? How was it that all the masters that were discarded went away with some unhappy grievance, and brought discredit upon the institution. (Hear, hear, and signs of disapprobation.) Two assistant masters had left lately, and four others would leave by the 1st of May, and when he said this the brethren must admit that there was something which ought to be enquired into by this Court. He would not say where the blot was, but that it was for for the House Committee to put their finger on the blot, and to remove it. How could they ask the Provincial brethren's support unless they could shew them that great care had been taken in regulating the expenditure. He again asked for provincial brethren to be placed on the House Committee, and so give further confidence to the provinces by letting them see what was the inner machinery of the establishment in London. He had the confidence of his fellow-townsmen; he was chief magistrate of his district, and when he had suggestions of complaints made to him,

he had them enquired into. The present was a matter to be enquired into with the greatest care. He had [had placed in his hands a statement by provincial gentlemen that certainly if true would be a discredit to the management of the institution.

The Chairman reminded Bro. Gill that he should go upon strict evidence.

Bro. Gill said he would certainly bow at once to the suggestion; but he was only urging this because it would give greater force to his application that the province might be fairly represented upon the House Committee. Inasmuch as there were upon the House Committee certain brethren who had been upon it for years, they should give place to others. There was not a member of it who sat there for his own gratification, but believed that the true interests of the institution were being served by him. He again asked for new members to be put upon the House Committee, to shew that there was no foundation for the charges which had been made. If this was refused the brethren would say that there was something that was wished to be concealed. (No, no.) For himself he believed that there was nothing to conceal, that there was not one penny, with the connivance of the committee, improperly expended; but it was the reckless and thoughtless passing of the accounts that ought to be supervised. He believed this was the feeling of the brethren. They ought to be heard. Was it magnanimous on the part of the brethren to pass a censure on the brethren of West Yorkshire by this vote of confidence?

The Chairman said he would like to make a little suggestion here—that the words, "having in view recent imputations cast on the administration of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys" should be struck out, and that it should read, "that this Court deems it to be its duty," &c. This, he thought, would take away any sting that might be supposed to exist in the present motion. He said this for the sake of peace.

Bro. Gill: Let them in the interest of peace have no resolution whatever. (No, no.) If the brethren had no less confidence than he did it would be well. They cast no imputations on the executive at all. It would give the greater confidence in the management if anything in the shape of mismanagement was rectified. He called for the brethren to vote against the motion, which was a censure on the brethren of West Yorkshire who had conscientiously signed the report. (Cheers.)

Col. Ridgway said he represented a province which though not so large as Bro. Gill's was still a large and important one—the province of Devon, of which he was a Past Grand Warden; and he wished to have the opportunity of in some respects supporting, and in others of disavowing, the views which had been enunciated as the views of the provinces. Bro. Gill had just said that they should wait before they voted on this resolution for such explanations as would enable them to come to a sound decision on the case; but they must not forget that it was impossible to have explanations from a body which was accused unless they had a lawful indictment prepared against them, and unless a fair opportunity was given them for explanation. (Hear, hear.) Bro. Gill had also said that the House Committee as at present constituted did not give confidence to the provinces, and he had, whilst repudiating the idea of giving the power to vote upon the question, himself voted; he had been both judge and jury, and declared that the provinces withheld their confidence from the committee. Several points had been brought before the brethren which he would not enlarge upon. There must be many brethren from the provinces as well as in London who would wish to speak upon matters which were fit and proper for the consideration of this Court; but he wished to draw attention to one or two points which he thought had been forgotten both in the excitement which had produced the charge against the committee and the charge which had not been openly preferred, and in the excitement which had led to the proposal of this resolution. It appeared to him that the course taken before the late General Committee of the Boys' School was a wise one, not to vote on a resolution or take any notice of it if not brought before them in a legal manner; and it struck him as very questionable whether it was a proper course in defence of a body not openly attacked to propose a resolution of this character. But since it had been proposed it was very evident that the brethren representing the provinces should not allow the resolution to be withdrawn without being thoroughly ventilated, and a condemnation to be passed on the wrong doers, if wrong doers there were, without the charge being supported by strict evidence. The matter appeared to lie in a nutshell. [In the first place a false issue was before the brethren. They were asked to express confidence in a body against whom no man had had the courage to come forward in a legal way to make a charge. (Hear, hear, and No, no.) On the other hand there had been false issues raised in a manner unknown to Masonry, and they had been dealt with in a manner in which he believed the committee alone were able to deal with them, by referring the charges to a select committee to examine and report upon the specific charges. He had the honour to be nominated on that committee, and his name appeared as one of those who signed the report; and he did not hesitate to say from the circumstances that came before the committee on that occasion that the question was not one of expenses or no expenses, it was not a question of whether the House Committee was extravagant or not extravagant; but the real question was a personal question. (Cries of Hear, hear, No, no, and great uproar.) He was speaking as a man of responsibility and as having no feeling in the matter. He was not a member of the House Committee or of the General Committee except as Vice-President of the institution, and, what was more, he had been absent from London for the last seven years until recently. He therefore came to this matter with a fresh and he believed unprejudiced mind. He believed the course he took on that committee

was dictated by the same feelings as would have actuated any of the other brethren, a desire to look for the one point of truth which as an honest man he could find, and to give his vote [according to the evidence brought before him. The question was now narrowed from a question of expenses to one of personalities. (Hear, hear, and No, no, and confusion.) If they would allow him he would simply express his opinion on the subject. The issue before the brethren he said distinctly was not whether the expenses of this institution were too great, nor whether the provincial brethren had sufficient weight in the management of its affairs; but whether—and this was the light in which he viewed Bro. Woodford's proposition and the grounds on which he alone supported it—was it Masonic or consistent with their duty to allow a pamphlet to be circulated like the one to which attention had been drawn? (Continued applause, mingled with marks of disapproval.) This was the point—a pamphlet containing charges of a very fearful character against an individual and a series of individuals—whether that should be allowed to be inculcated, or whether they should take any step or no step against the maker of such charges. (Cheers, and disturbance.) He was not a man to be put down by clamour, neither was he one who would raise his voice for one moment to support anything that was not a true and righteous course. Now, he said, as a member of that special committee, they had laid before them a specific and pointed charge, with which they dealt categorically. The charge was distinctly that certain sums of money had not been properly accounted for. They had to ascertain whether certain charges loosely made in an irresponsible and unusual manner, or imputations which had been cast upon the committee and upon the Secretary, were correct, and whether the evidence they had would justify this Court in repudiating such charges. So far as the evidence of those charges was concerned the feeling of the Special Committee was in favour of the honourable conduct of the House Committee, of the Audit Committee, and of the Secretary. Further than that they had no right to bind the general body of the subscribers to the Boys' School. They had no right to come to the Quarterly Court to raise a false issue as to whether the school was well managed, or whether the expenses were too much or too little. It was not for this meeting to raise an issue whether the cost per boy was £1, or £5, or £10 too much; but whether a pamphlet such as had been issued by Bros. Tew and Perrott was to be allowed to be sent broadcast through the length and breadth of the Craft and create such an agitation as had been already raised. Bro. Gill had asked how it was that five head masters and twenty assistant Masters had been changed within a few years, and how at the present moment dissatisfaction was felt with the arrangements of the school. He (Bro. Col. Ridgway) knew nothing about this. If others were about to leave it was not to be wondered at at all when it was recollected that these pamphlets had been circulated with a view of casting a slur upon the House Committee and Secretary, and of supporting Bro. Perrott, who was formerly head master. They were not there to cast a slur upon Bro. Perrott; but it must be remembered that this school was different to such schools as Eton and Harrow, that they could not have at the Masonic Boys' School a kind of autocracy on the part of the head masters. First of all, we had to get our funds before we spent them, and for that purpose it was necessary that there should be no antagonism between the men who spent the money and those who subscribed it. It was not a question whether a mere Secretary should be pitted against a mere head master, but whether the committee, with that sense of responsibility and ability which they had always displayed, had discharged their duties properly. It was unquestionably the fact that their Secretary had been a very great supporter of this school, for the brethren in the provinces knew well—without in the least descending into the arena of petty squabbles between Masters and Secretary—that whereas the school a few years ago was a small school, it was now a large school, and that whereas a few years back, when Bro. Binckes first came, the annual subscriptions were a little over £1000, they were in the last year over £13,000, and all this was mainly owing to him. He had now stated the real point for the brethren to decide upon, and he should trust to them to vote. (Cheers.)

Bro. J. L. Hine said that, as representing the largest province under the English constitution, he had listened very attentively to what had been urged. When the pamphlet was published copies of it were sent to him as chairman of the Charity Committee of his Province of East Lancashire, with a request that he would call his committee together to go through the pamphlet to ascertain what its merits or demerits were. The committee met; the pamphlet was read to them from beginning to end, and they came to a unanimous vote that in the first place it was very un-masonic to publish such a pamphlet; and in the next place to send it to other provinces. They had not heard of it before; but he knew from the exertions he had had to make to get subscriptions that you had only got to shew a great number of men a very little reason why they should not subscribe, and they readily adopted that view. Depend upon it they would not subscribe if cause was shown why they should not, and it was for this reason, in the first place, that the pamphlet was wrong. In the second place his committee came to the conclusion that there was nothing in the pamphlet that for one moment should induce the brethren to withdraw from the House Committee and the executive that support and that confidence they had hitherto received. This report was read at the Provincial Grand Lodge, and it received a very hearty reception. They told the Provincial Grand Lodge what he had now told this Quarterly Court, and they were satisfied with the result of the Charity Committee's labours on that particular question. (Hear, hear.) He considered it was only right to make these remarks in order that it might go forth that they had enquired into this matter. The brethren of East Lancashire certainly did think that the expenses of the School might be a little bit

less; but this institution was really almost in its infancy. He remembered when it was in debt, and when it had no building worth speaking of; now it had a splendid building, and it was impossible to say what it might be in the future; and at that time they might be able to reduce the expenses very much, so that the average expenditure per boy might be more favourable than now. (Hear, hear, and cheers.)

Bro. Moss, from West Yorkshire, rose to enter his solemn protest against Bro. Woodford, no doubt in all good feeling, having brought forward the question of the pamphlet and associating the brethren of West Yorkshire with it. Now, he repudiated the pamphlet, and the brethren of West Yorkshire had nothing to do with circulating it in other provinces.

Bro. John Sutcliffe, of Great Grimsby, immediately rose and said that, so far from this being the case, the pamphlets were distributed in Hull, which was in East Yorkshire, even as late as last week, by the Deputy Provincial Grand Master of West Yorkshire, and other brethren of that province.

Bro. Moss again tried to speak, but was met with cries of "Vote," and "Divide." He then advanced to the platform, the brethren forming a semi-circle round him. In this position he was urged by some brethren from West Yorkshire to persist in speaking, and he appealed to the chairman to obtain for him a hearing. The Chairman requested the brethren to listen for a short while, and again Bro. Moss attempted to speak. The brethren, however, over and over again shouted for a division, as they had heard everything that could be urged on both sides. After much delay and great confusion, the Chairman found that it was utterly impossible to prolong the debate, and he therefore put the motion of Bro. the Rev. A. F. A. Woodford without a reply from that brother, and the result was that almost every hand was held up in its favour, amidst much cheering. When the "contrary" was put only five hands were held up. The Chairman then declared the motion carried, and the brethren adjourned to Freemasons' Hall, where they proceeded with the election of the boys. Bro. John Symonds took the chair, Bro. Clabon having another engagement. At a quarter to six o'clock the poll was declared as follows:—

VOTES.

Perrin, Gilbert Palmer S.....	2256
Dawson, George Arthur	2130
Trott, Richard James	1962
Cromwell, Charles Henry	1932
Kedell, Robert Walter	1826
Stansfield, William Ashton	1822
Jackson, Joseph	1818
Cooke, William Astle	1816
Wain, Leonard.....	1781
Lee, Vincent John	1777
Vivian, Alfred Greville	1758
Robinson, George Sampson	1698
Gardner, Richard Thomas	1601
Adams, Donald Robert	1383
England, Herbert	1318
Rees, James Herbert	1272

ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

The committee of this institution met on Wednesday, at Freemasons' Hall, Colonel Creaton, V.R., in the chair. There were also present Bros. Joseph Smith, Griffiths Smith, A. H. Tattershall, James Brett, Wm. Stephens, John Constable, W. Hale, H. M. Levy, John Gibson, J. Newton, Thos. Cubitt, F. Adlard, Capt. Wordsworth, L. Stean, C. F. Hogard, C. Lacey, J. E. Saunders, H. Massey ("Freemason") and James Terry (Secretary).

The Secretary reported that since the last meeting the death of two approved candidates had occurred, both of them West Yorkshire candidates. Bro. Cutbush had sent in a parcel of shrubs of trees for the use of the asylum at Croydon. The report of the Finance Committee was then received and ordered to be entered on the minutes. £3000 were ordered to be invested.

Bros. Farnfield, Col. Creaton, and Griffiths Smith were appointed a committee to draw up the annual reports. A female candidate was removed from the election list, she having an annuity of £80, and an invalid daughter a "compassionate" annuity of £16.

A letter was received from Bro. Farnfield acknowledging the letter of condolence with them by vote of the committee at last meeting on the death of his father.

The letter having been read by Bro. Terry, was ordered to be entered on the minutes.

Application from an annuitant for leave to reside in the Institution was granted; and a brother in the Institution having been removed by order of the committee at their last meeting, on account of his objectionable conduct, a letter was read from the other inmates, thanking the committee for the action they had taken.

Bro. Griffiths Smith proposed a vote of thanks to Bro. Cutbush for his gift. Every half year Bro. Cutbush was making as imilar gift, and he (Bro. Smith) would also propose that he should be elected an honorary life governor. (Hear, hear.)

Bro. W. Stephens seconded the motion, which was then put and carried.

The Chairman then said that he had requested the Secretary to call a special meeting for Tuesday, the 25th, for the purpose of raising the annuities of the male and female annuitants. What he proposed was that the men's annuities should be raised from £36 to £40 a year, and the women's from £28 to £32.

Bro. Joseph Smith said he should like to see them raised to £50.

The Chairman thought his proposition was sufficient for the day. The success of the last festival, he was of opinion, bound them to do something of the kind he had proposed.

Bro. James Brett was glad to hear the proposition; but they must be careful not to make the benefits too great, or they would be inundated with applicants.

The Chairman said they must bear in mind that in doing this they were not doing it for young people. The chances of the annuitants living long to enjoy their annuities were rather remote.

After a few remarks from Bro. Hale, a vote of thanks was passed to the Chairman, and the proceedings terminated.

PROVINCIAL GRAND CHAPTER EAST LANCASHIRE.

The annual meeting of the above Prov. G. Chapter was held in the Town Hall, Bury, on Thursday, 30th March. There was a numerous attendance of companions from all parts of the province, amongst others present being Comps. Col. Legendre N. Starkie, M.E. Prov. G. Supt.; J. L. Hine, 2nd Prov. G. Principal; James A. Birch, 3rd Prov. G. Principal; Jno. Tunnah, Prov. G. Scribe E.; Jao. B. Carr, Prov. G. Scribe N.; Jas. Hall, Prov. G. Principal Scj.; Thos. Hargreaves, Prov. G. 2nd Asst. Soj.; Thos. Chorlton, Prov. G. Reg.; Benj. Taylor, Prov. G. Swd. Br.; Edwin Brookes, Prov. G. Std. Br.; W. H. Hopkins, Prov. G. Dir. of Cer.; W. Holt, Prov. G. Org.; and others.

The Prov. G. Chapter having been opened, the minutes of the preceding meeting were read and confirmed. The Prov. G. Treasurer's accounts were presented and approved.

Comp. Hy. Holder was unanimously re-elected as Prov. G. Treasurer.

The Prov. G. Superintendent appointed and invested the following companions as Prov. G. Officers for the ensuing year, viz.:—J. L. Hine, Prov. G. 2nd Principal; Jas. A. Birch, Prov. G. 3rd Principal; Jno. Tunnah, Prov. G. Scribe E.; Lawrence Booth, Prov. G. Scribe N.; W. F. Towle, Prov. G. Principal Soj.; A. Bleackley, Prov. G. 1st Asst. Soj.; H. Wadsworth, Prov. G. 2nd Asst. Soj.; Thos. Charlton, Prov. G. Reg.; J. F. Salton, Prov. G. Swd. Br.; A. W. Siddall, Prov. G. Dir. of Cer.; J. R. Fletcher, Prov. G. Org.; W. S. Balmer, T. W. Probert, and Josh. Senior, Prov. G. Stewards.

A grant of £50 was made from the funds of the Prov. G. Chapter to the East Lancashire Systematic Masonic Educational and Benevolent Institution.

Comps. Ernst Linck and Jno. Smethurst were appointed Auditors of the Prov. G. Treasurer's accounts.

The Prov. G. Chapter was closed, and the banquet was celebrated at the Derby Hotel.

Masonic and General Tidings.

A Provincial Grand Chapter of the Western Division of the County of Lancashire will be held at the Masonic Hall, Hope-street, on Tuesday next, the 18th inst., when Comp. the Rt. Hon. Lord Skelmersdale, P.G. Supt., is expected to preside. A special meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of the same division will be afterwards held, to consider the steps to be taken in connection with the proposed Masonic contribution from West Lancashire to the restoration of Chester Cathedral.

The petition for a new lodge, to be called the Dramatic Lodge, has been forwarded to head-quarters in London, highly recommended by Bro. the Rt. Hon. Lord Skelmersdale, R.W.P.G.M., D.G.M. of England, and Bro. H. S. Alpess, P.G. Sec. West Lancashire. The meetings of the new lodge will be held at the Masonic Hall, Liverpool, and there is every prospect that the latest addition to Freemasonry will prove a great success should the prayer of the petitioners be granted.

The committee appointed to make the requisite arrangements for the inauguration of the Walker Art Gallery, Liverpool, have decided, among other things, to secure a loan collection of pictures for the occasion, so that an art exhibition worthy of the special object may be confidently looked for. The opening is expected to take place during the sittings of the Social Science Congress in October.

Masons' Hall Tavern, near Basinghall-street, has changed hands, Messrs. Bell and Co. being now proprietors and managers.

Through the instrumentality of Bro. Alderman Hadley, who presided at the fifth annual festival of the United Kingdom Railway Officers and Servants' Association on the 30th ult., His Royal Highness Prince Leopold Provincial Grand Master Oxfordshire, has consented to become a patron and a donor of £25.

His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales has accepted the invitation of the Lord Mayor and Corporation to attend the grand ball to be given in the Guildhall, in honour of his return. As yet the date of the ball has not been fixed.

The Marquis of Hertford, Lord Chamberlain, has issued instructions that the State apartments at Windsor Castle shall be open to the public on Easter Monday and Tuesday.

ROYAL ALBERT HALL.—The Prince of Wales has accepted the invitation of the Council of the Royal Albert Hall to a congratulatory concert, in honour of the return of His Royal Highness to England. The concert is fixed for Wednesday, the 17th May next.

THE LONDON TAVERN.—The directors of the London Tavern Company, with a party of the shareholders, dined together by private subscription at the tavern last week. The occasion was of considerable interest, as being the last dinner of the kind which will be

held in this renowned establishment. It transpired during the evening that the future business of this company is to be concentrated at the Albion, where it was fully anticipated that the prosperity of the company would be assured. The directors were thanked for their services, and the utmost confidence was expressed in the managers of both houses, Bro. H. Whitfield, at the London Tavern, and Bro. W. G. Jennings, at the Albion.

Bro. the Rt. Hon. Lord Charles Beresford, Prov. S.G. Warden Devon, arrived at Malta on Monday in Her Majesty's ship Helicon, from Messina, with despatches for H.R.H. the Prince of Wales.

A moveable Grand Mark Lodge will be held at the Freemasons' Hall, Park-street, Bristol, on Friday, the 28th inst.

The consecration of the Merlin Lodge, No. 1578, will take place on Thursday next at Pontypriid, the consecrating officer being Bro. Theodore Mansel Talbot, R. W. Provincial Grand Master, South Wales, Eastern Division.

Mr. Fuetin Brown has produced a pianoforte which is unequalled in its power to resist a foreign climate. The action itself of his pianos being of such an excellent quality, that it responds to the slightest touch of the performer, and yet does not easily get out of order. For the climate of India nothing better can be recommended. The backs are strengthened with additional iron buttresses properly muffled from exbration with felt.

A NEW IDEA IN SPELLING BEES.—On Wednesday, the 29th ult., a monster Spelling Bee was announced to come off at Woodbridge, under the patronage of Capt. Round Turner, R.N., Capt. Cobbold, Bro. Emma Holmes, and Bro. Dr. Keer. The promoters were Messrs. Ullathorne and Howell, who had previously got up a very successful Bee at Ipswich, on which occasion Alderman Grimwade took the chair, and Bro. the Rev. R. N. Sanderson, M.A., second master at the Grammar School, acted as interrogator, and the prizes, which were both handsome and costly, were procured of Bros. Schülen & Boby, the leading jewellers in the county. It was through their apparent respectability, and the way in which the Bee was conducted at Ipswich, that Messrs. Ullathorne and Howell secured their patrons at Woodbridge. From various causes, however, the entertainment was not a success, and only an audience of some eighty or ninety responded to the invitations of these gentlemen, who, we understand, hail from Bristol, and it is said came to Ipswich with Herr Dobler, and probably have learnt to turn to account their knowledge of conjuring in a manner we fancy rather beneath the notice of that eminent professor of legerdemain. However, they succeeded in getting Bro. Emma Holmes as chairman, whilst Bro. Dr. Keer acted as interrogator. They also brought a concert party over from Ipswich, who discoursed sweet music in the intervals of spelling, which was rather above the average, whilst the singing was rather below. There were only eleven competitors for the five money prizes, so the programme was quickly gone through, and everything went off smoothly and harmoniously till the time came for giving away the prizes, which were to be presented by the chairman, when it was found the promoters had disappeared. Bro. Holmes summoned Mr. Booth, the bookseller who had sold the tickets, &c., and Mr. Deaves, one of the singers on the platform, to explain to the audience what they knew of the people who had got up the entertainment, but it appeared they could say very little about them, except that they had behaved honourably at Ipswich, and, as one of them said naively, "so they no doubt would have done here if the room had been full." As it was, however, they had decamped, taking with them the proceeds of the entertainment, and leaving the concert to take care of itself. The Chairman briefly announced the names of the prize winners, and stated that the National Anthem should have concluded the proceedings, but he feared the feelings of the performers would be too many for them, and he would suggest, as was done in the case of an address, they should take it as read. The audience were fortunately very good humoured, and treated the whole matter as a great joke, laughing immoderately when the chairman gravely announced, after a long pause, that the gentlemen who had got up the entertainment had omitted to leave the money for the prizes, and had gone out—let us hope, he said, for only a few minutes. However, it was no use waiting; the prize winners, not, alas, the prize holders, looked very lugubrious at the general hilarity which prevailed, and the meeting broke up. The chairman and several of the prizemen took an information at the police station, but without any successful result. The "Ipswich Journal," "East Anglian," "Daily Times," and "Suffolk Chronicle," however, fully exposed the conduct of Messrs. Ullathorne and Howell, and it is not likely they will renew their attempts in the county of Suffolk, at all events.

Mr. Edward Payson Weston, the American pedestrian, has accomplished the great feat in walking 111 miles in 24 hours. He began his task at the Pomona Palace, Manchester, at ten minutes past nine on Monday night, and completed it at the same hour on Tuesday night. The only rest he took was for ten minutes forty seconds, after the conclusion of the 95th mile. The last mile was covered in thirteen minutes thirty-eight seconds.

The annual festival of the Wellington Lodge of Instruction, No. 548, will be held at the White Swan Hotel, High-street, Deptford, on Monday, the 24th inst., Bro. C. G. Dille will preside.

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E.W.S. (Perth).—You have not forwarded address of the firm, and there happens to be a large number of that name. On receipt of address, enquiries shall be made.

W.M. ELECT.—If appointed to both offices, yes.

Bro. Hughan's two letters will appear in our next.

Owing to the extreme pressure upon our columns this week the following unavoidably stand over:—Consecration of the Skelmersdale and Hamilton Lodges. Reports of Lodge of Truth, 521, Huddersfield; Royal Cumberland Lodge, Bath, 41; Lodge of Honour, Bath, 379; Hartington Lodge, 1085; Pattison Lodge, Plumstead, 913; Visit of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Derbyshire to the Phoenix Lodge of St. Ann, Buxton, 1235; Priory Lodge, 1000; Royal Commemoration Lodge, 1585; Welchpool Lodge 998; Domestic Chapter, 177; Laying the Foundation Stone of Workmen's House at Clydebank; and the following Scotch lodges:—34, 4, 73, 275, 571, 579, and 587.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

[The charge is 2s. 6d. for announcements, not exceeding four lines, under this heading.]

BIRTHS.

CUNNINGTON.—On the 5th inst., at Devizes, the wife of H. A. Cunnington, of a son.

EAST.—On the 7th inst., at Cornwall-road, Westbourne Park, the wife of Major C. J. East, of a daughter.

HARDWICK.—On the 10th inst., at Hereford-gardens, Park-lane, the wife of P. C. Hardwick, Esq., of a son.

HENDERSON.—On the 8th inst., at Lancaster-road, N.W., the wife of J. Henderson, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

LITTLE—M'KENZIE.—On the 6th inst., at Ridge, Herts, Charles Edward Little, M.R.C.S., Shenley, Herts, to Isabella, daughter of the late A. M'Kenzie.

NAPIER—LEITH.—On the 6th inst., at St. Peter's, Eaton-square, Lieut. the Hon. John Scott Napier, 92nd Highlanders, to Isabella, widow of Major J. Leith, V.C.

WILLOUGHBY—ROBINSON.—On the 15th ult., at Madras, Robert Frederick Willoughby, 21st Fusiliers, to Mary Douglas, daughter of Sir W. R. Robinson, K.C.S.I.

DEATHS.

ROBERTS.—On the 24th Feb., Bro. J. J. R. Roberts, ex-President of the Republic of Liberia, and Past G. Master of Liberia.

RAWLINS.—On the 1st inst., at Allertorpe Vicarage, Yorkshire, the Rev. Christopher Rawlins, B.A., aged 68.

RICHARDSON.—On the 5th inst., at Lavender-grove, Dalston, Emily, wife of W. T. W. Richardson.

ROPER.—On the 7th inst., in London, Bro. Richard Steven Roper, of Newport, Monmouthshire.

GOOCH.—On the 8th inst., at The Limes, West Brixton, Albert W. Gooch, in his 87th year.

PORTER.—On the 29th ult., Bro. Jas. Porter, of Wigton, Prov. G.S.W. Cumberland and Westmorland, aged 39.

BATH.—On the 6th inst., Bro. J. D. Bath, of Aigburth, near Liverpool.

The Freemason,

SATURDAY, APRIL 15, 1876.

OUR ROYAL GRAND MASTER'S RETURN.

According to the different reports in the "*Times*," His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, on board the *Serapis*, with the *Invincible* and *Raleigh*, preceded by the *Helicon*, which had left the Port with Admiral Drummond to meet the ships, entered Valletta Harbour at 10 a.m. on the 6th, under salutes from the forts of St. Elmo, Ricasoli, and Tigne, and from the ships of war. The latter were dressed with flags and the yards manned. At noon the Prince, under salutes from the forts of St. Angelo and Biscaris, landed at Marsa and was received by Governor Straubenze and Admirals Drummond and Rice, with the Military and Naval Staff, the members of the Council, and the heads of the Departments. The streets were lined by the troops, commencing at the Palace corner of Strada Vescova:—1. Royal Artillery, St. Elmo, Fort Manoel, Marsamuscetto, and the Royal Malta Fencible Artillery; 2. St. Elmo Regiment, 101st Royal British Fusiliers; 3. Floriani Regiment, 98th; 4. 74th Highlanders; 5th. 71st Highland Light Infantry; 6. 42nd Highlanders. The procession passed through Portes Desbombres, St. Anna, and Floriana, into Valletta, through triumphal arches. The road was studded all the way with lofty Venetian masts, with banners and devices, festooned with evergreens. The street balconies were festooned with damask. A guard of honour under a field officer was placed on the pavement of St. George's-square, facing the entrance to the Palace. The main staircase and corridor leading to the drawing-room were lined by regimental sergeant-majors, and one sergeant from each battery and company. On arrival at the Palace, the Archbishop, members of the Council, Judges, &c., received His Royal Highness. His Royal Highness was met by Lady Van Straubenze in the corridor at the head of the stairs, and the Governor conducted him to his apartments. The Palace was reached at 1.30 p.m., and the Prince appeared on the balcony and acknowledged the loyal salutations of the assembled multitude. The day of the arrival of the Prince of Wales was proclaimed a close holyday. The two banks distributed bread to the poor, and the indigent receiving outdoor government relief received 18s. each, and inmates of charitable institutions double rations, while a free pardon was granted to several well-conducted malefactors. After dinner the Prince witnessed from the centre balcony of the Palace, amid the deafening cheers of thousands, a grand illumination, with several allegorical transparencies, on the Piazza San Giorgio, where on a grand stand a hymn was chanted, in which most of the Opera artistes and many amateur vocalists and instrumentalists took part. At 11 p.m. His Royal Highness drove up the Strada Reale, preceded by native bands and banners, passing by Marich's Divan, the Casino, the Maltese Dining Hotel, the Café de la Reine, the Public Library, the Palace of Justice, and the Union Club, all of which were brilliantly illuminated, as were the Auberge de Castille and the approach to the Upper Barracca, from which the Prince witnessed a magnificent illumination of the Dockyard and the entire circuit of Valetta Harbour. Along the bastions overlooking these places troops stood closely ranged with coloured lights. Two thousand Chinese lanterns had been distributed among the boats plying in the harbour. The ships of war and several yachts were illuminated at the masts and yards, the portholes throwing up thousands of beautiful and repeatedly changing tinted lights. Nothing like it was ever before seen in Malta. At noon on the 7th a Royal salute was fired in honour of Prince Leopold's birthday, and there was a general review of the garrison at Floriana parade-ground. The Prince presented the 98th Regiment with new colours, which were blessed by the Bishop of Gibraltar and the senior military chaplains. His Royal Highness lunched with the officers of the regiment. The United

Service Ball was given the same night and the illuminations were repeated. The committee for the reception of the Prince of Wales are making every arrangement to give His Royal Highness a hearty reception on his landing. The Prince will be received by the Acting Governor and Staff, the Royal Naval officers, the Colonial officials, and with a guard of honour, and proceed to the Casemate-square. There the address of the inhabitants will be presented, and a deputation from the friendly societies and other bodies will join the procession thence to the Convent, where His Royal Highness will alight. A levée will most probably be the next event, followed by a grand banquet given by His Excellency the Acting Governor, Major-General Somerset, and a reception by Mrs. Somerset will finish the evening. The following day it is proposed His Royal Highness, as Grand Master of the English Freemasons, shall lay the foundation stone of the new market with Masonic honours, when a large attendance of the brethren is expected. In the afternoon of the same day a general parade of the troops in the garrison will be held, and in the evening there will be a grand illumination of the town and the Rock and a fête in the Almeda. His Royal Highness will drive through the town to witness the devices, when the united bands of five regiments of the Infantry Brigade will march in from the Parade, playing the German tattoo and attended by an escort bearing torches; after which a military concert and dancing will follow. On the next day a monster picnic in the Cork Woods and a meet of the Calpe hounds are arranged for, and on the 4th there will be races and athletic sports on the North Front, followed by a grand ball in the evening to be held in the armoury in the Ordnance Store Department, where a large assemblage is expected to be present. Thus far has the projected programme been carried, but should the Prince honour the Rock with a longer stay further arrangements will be made to leave nothing undone that the Prince may retain a lively recollection of his visit. On Friday morning the Lord Mayor received a telegram from Malta stating in effect that the Prince of Wales would have great pleasure in being present at a banquet, followed by a ball, in the Guildhall, to be given by the Corporation of London in celebration of his safe return from India. Our Royal Grand Master left Malta on the 11th for Gibraltar, signalling "adieu" to his many friends.

THE VOTE OF CONFIDENCE IN THE COMMITTEES AND EXECUTIVE OF THE BOYS' SCHOOL.

We rejoice to think and to know that the good sense of our excellent Order has practically, let us hope, silenced for some time to come the ebullitions of a morbid antipathy, and has properly and openly rebuked the un-Masonic practice of defamatory pamphlets. A very numerous meeting at the Quarterly Court of the Boys' School, by an overwhelming majority, has asserted its unabated confidence in the House and Audit Committees, and in Bro. Binckes, the energetic Secretary, and, indeed, it could not well be otherwise, for despite the able advocacy of our worthy brother, the Mayor of Wakefield, it was quite clear, that the West Yorkshire brethren, to use a common expression, had not really "a leg to stand upon." The whole case, from its inception to its close on Monday, was as bad as bad can be, un-Masonic in form, unsound in every element. With no little ingenuity an attempt was made at the meeting to separate the province from the pamphlets, and the pamphlets from the province, but the common practical sense of Freemasons scouted the latent Jesuitism. Two main points were before the meeting, first, the fact that a great province like West Yorkshire, whose exertions for the Boys' School had been noble, had all of a sudden passed condemnatory resolutions in open P.G. Lodge, or, rather, accepted and approved of a condemnatory report which they had forwarded to every P.G.M. in England. And, andly, that it was clear to every man of common understanding that this provincial agitation and this provincial movement were the "outcome" of a pamphleteering cru-

sade against the School Committee and Bro. Binckes. And these facts were rendered more intense by the distinct and undeniable truth, that the writer himself of the pamphlets, open or suppressed, and two brethren of West Yorkshire, had recently attended a meeting out of the province, at Hull, where the pamphlets, containing numerous unjustifiable, unworthy and personal charges against the entire administration of the School, had been placed before 23 brethren in Hull, laid, it is said, on the table by one of the three visitors. Hence it was patent to the meanest capacity that the whole proceedings of the last 12 months, whether defamatory of the official authorities or damaging to the financial prospects of the School itself, were still in full swing, in active operation, and must be checked, and must be clearly reprobated, if the real and lasting interests of a great institution were not to be sacrificed to most unwise prejudices, and most unfounded imputations. And we must be permitted here to observe, that anything more opposed to Masonic teaching and practice than the persistent circulation of these foolish and unfriendly pamphlets we have never heard of or known. We feel, and all will agree with us, that somehow a stop must be put to proceedings so opposed to every true principle of Freemasonry. It was also equally plain that the Report of the West Yorkshire committee was a partial and one-sided one, skilfully drawn up as far as the tables are concerned, but based on no reliable evidence, and certainly not on the evidence of any one who knew anything about the School. Whether we take the evidence of the D.F.G.M. as printed in the suppressed pamphlet to be a correct version of the evidence tendered, he being a member of the committee, with quasi judicial functions, or the tables which Bro. Pegler it seems originally sent to the "Freemason," and which we note are again printed in the Report, we all must feel how utterly unreliable such so called evidence is. No one brother seems to have been called before the committee, who could have given the committee any distinct information on the state of the School, nor was the evidence in any way ever submitted to any one connected with the School. For once our good brethren in West Yorkshire have forgotten "Audi alteram partem." That the meeting of Monday became at last very impatient with the obvious device to speak against time, we are not at all surprised and we think that the best thanks of all are due to Brother Clabon for his admirable chairmanship from first to last, as well as for his very properly closing, by a vote of the meeting, a very perverse and useless debate. We could have wished that the motion for confidence, brought forward in the interests of peace, could have passed without opposition and "una voce." But it was not to be; nay, it was quite clear that in the present state of feeling of many of our good brethren in West Yorkshire, such a motion had very little chance of acceptance as a soothing and a healing motion, though such was the intention of the proposer, who more than any one else, would naturally have the kindest feelings for his West Yorkshire brethren. For this unfortunate state of affairs in that good old province has been brought about by unwise statements, foolish assertions, fallacious arguments, and, we regret to add, by a good many underhand and questionable proceedings. Several brethren, ill qualified even to affect to lead their brethren, have greatly contributed, instead of throwing oil on the troubled waters, to add fuel to the flames. It will be some consolation to the administrative, therefore and to Bro. Binckes, and all sincere friends of the institution, to remember that brethren from every province in England, and we have reason to know from West Yorkshire itself, supported the motion of confidence, and we trust that when these angry feelings are past and gone which this reckless distribution of pamphlets has stirred up, that the old "Entente cordiale" between the Province and the Boys' School will be revived. We hope that able brethren like the Mayor of Wakefield, Bro. Gill, Bro. Tomlinson, the new Chairman of the Charity Committee, and others may induce our good brethren in West Yorkshire, ere long, to take a calmer view of things. We live in an age of great sciolism, and greater

presumption, when the deductions of the reasonable are often discredited, and the puerilities of the loquacious are often praised, when logic is often at a discount, and common sense left out of court. Let us be on our guard then, sternly too, as regards our great educational institutions, in respect of the quack medicines of the empiric, and the hopeless "high falutin" of the impostor. Education just now seems to be the hobby of every one who has got the gift of the gab, and is threatened with the worst of all interferences and patronage, the interference of the charlatan, and the patronage of the incompetent. In this last discussion many have come forward to pronounce resolute opinions who have given no thought to the subject, and can only be a laughing stock to those who, for the best part of their lives have thought carefully over the whole matter, and have devoted themselves to its habitual control and practical development. We congratulate Bro. Binckes and the House and Audit Committees on the result of Monday's proceedings, and we trust that our next anniversary festival of this great institution, will evidence that the provinces most heartily endorse the resolution of the Quarterly Court, and disregarding all these hateful personalities, retain every confidence in those to whom are properly committed the present arrangements and the future fortunes of the Royal Masonic Institution for our Orphan Boys.

THE ENLARGEMENT OF THE GIRLS' SCHOOL.

We feel quite sure that the Quarterly Court on Saturday last came to a wise decision in accepting Bro. Col. Creaton's motion for enlarging the Girls' School on the present site, and utilizing the present building. We feel equally persuaded that they exercised a wise discretion in rejecting Bro. Raynham Stewart's amendment, which was practically an amendment entailing building elsewhere, in fact, the School of the future. Now we ventured to point out, just as Bro. Mason observed, that, in our opinion, the time for selling the present School site had not yet arrived, and that it would be quite sufficient to consider the propriety of doing so when that good time coming did arrive. At present it was clearly the better policy on every account to turn to the best account what we had, the more so as by Bro. Col. Creaton's scheme we should be able to accommodate 200 girls, a very good number. The discussion of Saturday brought out nothing new. Bro. Dudley Rolls made an effective speech in favour of the School of the future, but the feeling of the meeting was so strong in respect of utilizing and adapting the present buildings, only twenty-five years old, that the amendment was rejected by an overwhelming majority, and the original motion eventually carried unanimously. We congratulate Bro. Col. Creaton on the success of his motion, and hope that the House Committee will at once take steps to carry out the resolution. If next April we can accommodate 200 children, it will be a very grand announcement to make to the Craft, that the committee will fill up the School to its full capability, and endeavour comfortably to maintain and fittingly to educate 200 orphan daughters of Masons. The sympathies of the entire Craft are with this admirable Institution, and we sincerely trust that the resolution of the last Quarterly Court will lead to the permanent prosperity and the increased utility of the Girls' School. We call attention to Bro. Col. Creaton's scheme elsewhere.

OLD MINUTE BOOKS.

Why is it that we know so little of the early lodge life of English Masonry? Are their no Minute Books, or were they burnt by scrupulous brethren years ago? We are of opinion that many more exist than some of us dream of in our Masonic philosophy, and that a careful search in old lodge chests will reveal to the Masonic antiquary and student many archaeological treasures. Bro. S. B. Ellis, of Sheffield, has recently been studying the old Minute Books belonging to the Chapter of Paradise, Sheffield, and the extracts he has most carefully made, we are requested to state, will appear in the

"Masonic Magazine" for May. They are very striking and interesting, and will suggest many points of discussion amongst Masonic students. Take for instance these three. At one time the chapter is called an "Encampment," at another the three Principals are termed the "three Kings," at another a Royal Arch Mason is described as a "citizen of the world." These are a few of the very many interesting little matters which crop out of our Bro. S. B. Ellis's lucid arrangement of the chapter extracts. We have said enough, we think, to make all our brethren read for themselves the facts contained in the pages of the May "Masonic Magazine," and we thank Bro. S. B. Ellis in these anticipatory remarks for his kind and interesting contribution to our current archaeological literature.

COMPARATIVE COST OF THE BOYS' SCHOOL.

We shall call attention to this most important subject again in our next issue, as certain facts came out at the Quarterly Court to which full justice could not then be done, and which are very remarkably in favour of the Boys' School administration.

Original Correspondence.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for, or even as approving of the opinions expressed by our correspondents, but we wish, in a spirit of fair play to all, to permit—within certain necessary limits—free discussion.—Ed.]

CARDINAL MANNING ON THE STAGE.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Sir,—

I read, with some regret, the article which appeared with this heading in your last issue, and I hope you will allow me to say that I am sure you have misapprehended the drift of Cardinal Manning's words in reference to the stage. It is not with the stage itself that the Cardinal quarrels, unless the representations be in themselves bad, but it is against the associations and surroundings of theatres that he feels bound to put those of whom he is the pastor on their guard. I have heard him say this in private; and in his published sermons there is a passage which perhaps you will kindly allow me to quote: "I have been often asked, during the long years of my duty of directing souls, whether it is lawful to go to a theatre. My answer has always been: If the representation is not bad in itself, I cannot forbid you." After speaking of the abomination of the French stage, his Eminence continues: "As to our own theatres, I thank God it is not often they are openly or publicly stained. Such things happen sometimes. Such scandals are imported among us. I leave the whole of this to your own consciences, saying only, that I would to God that those who can refrain from such things, as an offering to our Divine Redeemer, would refrain for ever."

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

WILFRID MENNELL.

MASONIC DESIGNATIONS.

To the Editor of The Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

The thanks of your readers are due to your able correspondent, Bro. Hughan, for his information as to the proper Masonic designations of Grand and Provincial Grand Officers, etc. Probably not one toast list in a hundred at our lodge banquets has the correct titles prefixed to the several names, and those who like to be correct in such matters will appreciate Bro. Hughan's "contribution."

Might I ask what is the correct designation of the Pro Grand Master? Sometimes he is "dubbed" Right Worshipful, and others Most Worshipful. The latter hardly seems correct, for there cannot well be two Most Worshipfuls. In a circular issued not long since from the R.M.B. Instit., the designation was M.W. in one place, and R.W. in another. I have not yet seen the Pro Grand Master's title in any document emanating from Grand Lodge—he is simply styled Pro G.M.

Yours fraternally,

A W. MASTER.

MASONIC MEDAL.

To the Editor of The Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I have just met with a bronze medal of which I give you the following description:—It is 1½ inches in diameter, and 1-16th inches thick, and evidently of modern execution. Obverse a triangle enclosing the all-seeing eye, the triangle being surrounded by radiated beams extending almost to the edge of the medal. At the head of the triangle is a ribbon with the motto, "Lumen De Lumine." Reverse the inscription, "Querite et invenietis" on the exterior part, and on the field in three lines the following initial letters:—L.D.S., C.O.T.D.L., P.H.D. S.A.D.E.

I may observe that the medal was described to me as having been struck for a French lodge. I shall be glad if any of your readers can give me any information as to this medal, and as to the meaning of the ritual letters.

Yours truly,

Bolton, 10th April, 1876.

J.N.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.

The April Quarterly Court of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls was held on Saturday last, at Freemasons' Hall. There was a large attendance of brethren, in anticipation of an important discussion on the different schemes for providing accommodation for an increased number of children in the Institution. Lieut.-Col. Creaton, Vice-Patron, presided, and the other brethren present were Bros. J. T. Strachan, H. Browne, W. F. C. Moutrie, E. Harris, H. W. Hemsworth, Raynham W. Stewart, Joseph Smith, R. H. Townend, Leopold Ruf, W. H. Absolon, Robt. Kenyon, Charles Pegler, H. C. Burt, H. Massey ("Freemason"); C. A. Cottebrune, Jesse Turner, W. S. Gover, S. Rawson, Griffiths Smith, Thomas W. White, H. A. Dubois, Richd. Spencer, Thos. Massa, George Kenning, E. H. Finney, A. H. Tattershall, George M. E. Snow, John Constable, James Mason, Benj. Head, James A. Birch, Robt. B. Webster, W. Downing, Charles Jardine, Henry Moore, George Bolton, Jno. Bodenham, Thomas J. Barnes, Jno. G. Stevens, Henry Basevi Colonel, W. Horne, Fred. Keily, H. Phythian, Thos. Smith, J. L. Hime, Thos. J. Sabine, H. Hacker, W. H. B. Tomlinson, Wm. Paas, M. S. Lariham, W. H. Radley, John Boyd, A. A. Pendlebury, John Hervey, Thomas Fenn, James Brett, Wm. Stephens, Jno. Chadwick, W. Bassett, S. Leith Tomkins, J. N. Frost, Dr. F. W. Ramsay, E. J. Barron, Hyde Pullen, H. C. Levander, John Read, George Lambert, Robert Griggs, J. Wordsworth, H. Cowland, John Oliver, H. G. Buss, Wm. Mann, F. S. Tyerman, Wm. Lane, J. Stohwasser, A. R. Rumsey, F. G. Baker, B. H. Swallow, F. B. Davage, W. Tanford, C. G. Hill, J. Terry, L. Stean, Geo. Neall, Jno. Appleby, W. Hickman, D.P.G.M. Hants; Richard James Spiers, V.P., P.D., P.G.M. Oxon; Samuel May, J. D. Woodland, E. H. Thiellay, W. Stiles, Rev. J. M. Vaughan, Rev. E. Brette, James Lewis Thomas, Lieut.-Col. James Peters, H. M. Levy, Wm. James Parish, Rev. A. F. A. Woodford, W. J. Murlis, E. Spooner, W. H. Main, H. R. Harper, J.W. 813; E. S. Snell, H. Muggeridge, I. R. Gallant, W.M. 813; John Symonds, J. E. Walford, P.M. 177.

After the minutes had been read and confirmed, the General Court was elected; after which

Bro. Robert Kenyon said he wished to make one observation. As Bro. Raynham Stewart had a notice of motion on the paper very similar to his (Bro. Kenyon's) he thought he would be best consulting the interests of the meeting if he withdrew his own motion. (Hear hear.)

The motion of Bro. Kenyon was then withdrawn.

Bro. H.A. Dubois moved—"That the recommendation of the Special Committee appointed by the last Special Court of the 11th September, 1875, be brought up and submitted for adoption."

Bro. H. Browne seconded the motion, which was thereupon put, and carried unanimously.

The Chairman said that as the report had been printed, and was in the hands of every brother present, he would move that that report be taken as read, and he would give some further explanation of it presently.

Bro. Raynham W. Stewart seconded the motion, which was then put and carried.

The Chairman said that before putting his scheme to the meeting he would read it. It was as follows:—"Modified scheme for large hall and dormitories over, to reduce cost of building from £14,000 to £9,400 to accommodate 56 children instead of 94. The elevation will remain the same as the more extensive scheme, but the bay window will be omitted. The large hall or schoolroom will remain the same in height, viz., 21 feet; the superficial area will be 250 feet less, viz., 2640 feet instead of 2890, giving 13 feet superficial each for 200 children. [Note.—The present assembly hall without dais is about 9 feet superficial each for 150 children, the present schoolroom about 10 feet superficial each for 150 children.] The large classroom at back on ground floor and lavatory over will be omitted, and the side back bedrooms fitted as lavatories. The dormitories on two pair floor and stairs thereto will be omitted; the scheme in every other respect will remain the same. This will leave sleeping, lavatory, wardrobe, and the other necessary accommodation for 56 additional children." He must also state that it was arranged at the meetings of the committee that the question of removing the lavatory was to be considered a separate thing from this scheme, because the laundry was a necessity; it was not large enough even for the present requirements of the institution. He had, therefore, not included it in this modified scheme. He would move, "That the report of the Special Committee be received." That bound the brethren to nothing. He would move something else afterwards.

Bro. Griffiths Smith seconded the motion, which was put and carried.

The Chairman said he would now move the adoption of the report.

Bro. John Constable seconded it.

Bro. Raynham W. Stewart said he had an amendment to move, which was that, looking at the wants of the Craft, the part they were about to lay out would seem to be inadequate to meet those requirements. He gave his friend Bro. Col. Creaton the greatest credit for having brought his scheme forward; but it must be remembered that they had laid out large sums on the school and they were about, if they carried Col. Creaton's scheme, to lay out a further sum, and it would be found when they had done so that by building more, the more they confined the space they had. He (Bro. Stewart) did not care where they went so long as they got an eligible site; it mattered not to him whether they went to Banstead or into Essex. But let them consider well what they were about. Let them secure a site of land and put on it a building that was adequate to the wants of the Craft. They found every time they wanted to accommodate some 10 or 15 children or 20 children they had to put their hands in

their pockets and lay out £4000 or £5000 or £10,000. At the present time they had plenty of buildings, but no land. The railway was on one side, and on the other was a row of buildings. It was said that there were 2½ acres of land of which when it was to be sold this institution was to have the first offer; but they all knew what that meant; a price was put upon it, and if you did not pay that price you would not get a second offer, and if they did they would only get 2½ acres for something like £5000. Now, they could do this. They could very well bide their time. They had already utilised the infirmary; there was no dispute about that; and if they were to carry what he hoped they would presently, Bro. Boyd's motion for taking more girls in, they must utilise the infirmary still further. The Chairman said they were in this position: they had 150 girls in the institution and they could only make up 145 beds; therefore they had to make up another 5 in the infirmary. Well, there was room for ten and even more. Then let them for the present hold up their heads, and when they did act let them do something worthy of the Craft and really for the advantage of the children; if they did this it would amply repay them. He therefore moved his amendment, "That it is inexpedient that any further sum of money should be laid out in enlarging the present schools or otherwise, and that in view of its being necessary to remove the school, an eligible site should be sought for, and purchased so as to meet the wants of the Craft."

Bro. Dudley Rolls, in seconding the amendment, said there seemed to him every reason why no further sum of money should be expended either on the present building or on erecting a further building on the present site; and any argument in favour of land being purchased elsewhere with a view to the ultimate removal of the institution from its present locality he thought had been stated—that the neighbourhood of Clapham Junction was not a healthy one, and when he looked at the infirmary and then at the school house and found that one building was nearly as large as the other, it was very difficult to see how such an impression could be created in the mind of any person. The neighbourhood might be healthy or it might not; but assuming it to be the most salubrious spot on the face of the earth no one could be blind to the fact that it was situated near the largest railway junction in the kingdom, Clapham Junction, which had a vast traffic passing over it from numerous lines, and trains were passing within a few feet of the school room; but large as that traffic was now it was constantly and rapidly increasing. It therefore seemed in the course of a few years the neighbourhood would become densely populated and that shortly it would be totally unfit for the school. The railway would have to widen their lines; the school and grounds would be taken by the railway, and compensation would be paid. The money of this institution was not subscribed with the idea of getting compensation from railway companies. If the railway companies did take the property, whether the institution had a school elsewhere or not, they would give a fair and adequate compensation for whatever property they might be required to take. Again, large sums of money had already been expended on the old building, and it had now been proposed to spend a still larger sum upon it although it was never designed for any alteration or enlargement such as had been proposed. Whatever amount might be spent on it it would never be anything out a mere makeshift building at the best. They ought not to look on the matter superficially; they should look at it with reference to the wants of a future time. If there were any difficulties in the way of removal they were not great or unsurmountable. The school must eventually be removed, and it was the reverse of economy to spend a sum of money on the present building. They had large sums of money at present invested: the subscriptions were constantly and regularly increasing, and there was no doubt that the increase would be largely augmented if it was known that the money was going to be laid out elsewhere to increase the benefits of the institution. There was no reason why they should not look this matter boldly in the face, and at once agree to purchase a site elsewhere with a view to a comprehensive scheme worthy of the Craft. He opposed the present scheme on the ground of the welfare of the institution, and because he thought it would be found to be one of the greatest blunders ever committed. It had been hinted that the proposer of a scheme had a personal interest in it, but he hoped it was not so.

Bro. Henry Browne said that the schemes had undergone great consideration at the hands of the committee, and he regretted he could not be of Bro. Rolls's opinion. Although the committee was not unanimous on the scheme, he thought it was the best scheme they could adopt for the present. He did not dispute that the time was coming when this institution would have to remove further from London than it was at present. It was the first of the institutions that moved away from London. They went from St. George's Fields to Clapham Junction, and he believed he was right when he said that Lord Alford, the lord of the manor of Wandsworth Common, gave them the land. Let them not remove till they had got the money. What did removal mean? It meant the expenditure of at least £70,000. Let them put up with the building they had now. If they removed they must be prepared to take 300 children. Let them pause a little before they attempted it. They were told that the present was an old building. It was 1852 when it was opened, and he could not conceive how that could be called an old building. He called it a young building. Then they were told that the railways must take the property. He was quite of opinion that it was probable the railway would want the property; but they could not do so for three to four years, as the act would have to be applied for and obtained, and notice would have to be given, and in the meantime they would be able to get the money together, which would go a long way towards put-

ting up the new building. If, however, they went away now, the building would only be sold at the price of old materials. Surely they would not be blind enough for that. He was not desirous of waiting five years while 40 children were knocking at their doors; he was desirous of having 50 more children in the institution. The infirmary could not accommodate more than 18 or 20 beds, and that was not half enough for them. If they adopted Col. Creaton's scheme they could take in 50 children more, which he thought was as large a number as the Craft would require of them for the next five years. In that time they would be able to see what they were about, and would be able to accumulate a large sum of money to carry them elsewhere. He asked the brethren to pass Col. Creaton's resolution.

Bro. W. Sutton Gover thought it would be a disastrous thing to have the institution in two places. Common sense pointed to having it under one management. When they moved, let them move altogether. Let them remain where they were; and if the railway wanted the land, they would have to pay full compensation. It had been urged that it was a disadvantage being so near a railway which was in connection with all the London termini. What greater advantage could there be, he would ask, for supervision and control? They should, he thought, remain there as long as possible. It had been said, "with bated breath," that somebody had said somewhere that the situation was unhealthy. Well, it was the first time they had heard it; they had always thought it one of the healthiest spots, and on that very ground it was best adapted for an institution of this sort. After all the arguments had been weighed, he thought it would be found that the best thing that could be done was to remain where they were. He was now going to tread on the most perilous ground which had been introduced by one speaker. He would be loth to suggest that any brother would place himself in such a position as to advocate a scheme in which he had a personal interest in the remotest degree. He (Bro. Gover) would not suggest it; he would scorn and repudiate such an insinuation. He could not imagine a brother would do such a thing. It would be an eternal disgrace, and he was sure no brother would incur it. The object of all of them was the benefit of the institution. (Hear, hear.)

Bro. Rolls said he did not suggest it, but said that such a statement had been made.

Bro. Robt. Kenyon said that when he opposed the adoption of the original report, which recommended an outlay of £22,000 or £23,000, he considered, as a governor of the institution, he had a right to do so. Opposition in these meetings was the means whereby the best cause was arrived at. With respect to the statement about a personal interest in a scheme, he could only say that it did not apply to him; but when a person got up in a public body to suggest a thing, unfortunately he was likely to be maligned, and his motives to be misunderstood and called in question. He believed that if his scheme had been adopted it would have led to that land being presented as a free gift to the institution. He was not, however, wedded to his scheme, but he was opposed to what he considered a lavish expenditure of money upon a site which was proved to be a small space, and totally inadequate to the purposes of the school. He wished to call attention to the fact that he had never charged any member of the committee with insincerity, for he held that their motives might be as pure and white as the driven snow. Yet the mistake remained of crowding in a small space of ground at Clapham Junction a building which of itself would be highly detrimental to the interests of the children placed in it. It was a small space of ground; it did not exceed 2½ acres; and if they were going to crowd another building on the ground, and go on adding more children they would have no space for future requirements. He thought it an error in judgement to spend thousands of pounds on it. If they were going to admit a larger number of children he thought they should begin their time on a healthy spot, somewhere where they could get a large plot of ground and plenty of air; a place which would be equal to large additions for years to come. He wished as much as Bro. Browne to see 300 children in the institution. He would go further and say, he should be glad to see 500 children in it. They had spent £15,000 already at Battersea. He had certainly succeeded in one sense in his opposition as he had reduced the proposed expenditure from £15,000 to £9000 or £10,000. This was admitted by the synopsis that had been placed before the brethren. He had merely risen for the purpose of setting himself right. His object in proposing a scheme was the benefit of the institution, and if any suggestion had been intended that he had any personal interest in it he threw it back in the teeth of him who made it. He wanted to preserve the funds from a lavish expenditure. The brethren were not only guardians of the children, but guardians of the money; they had been many years accumulating, and it was their duty to see that in providing a building for the reception of more children they were not incurring such an expense as would deprive them of the means of supporting those children when they had been admitted.

Bro. James Mason, P.G.S.B., in supporting Col. Creaton's scheme contended that there was plenty of land on the present property for an addition to the building.

Bro. Joseph Smith, P.G.P., took the same view, and was glad to find that Bro. Kenyon's opposition had resulted in a saving of expenditure of the institution.

Bro. John Symonds, P.G.A.D.C., said that the great advantage of Gothic architecture in which style the Girls' School was built, was that it admitted of additions being made to it without running the risk of deforming it.

The Chairman said his reply should be very brief as the subject had been fully ventilated; but on the subject of the healthiness of Battersea Rise he would read the following letter from the medical officer of the institution:—

"The Old Vicarage, Wandsworth, S.W.
April 7th, 1876.

"My dear Bro. Creation.—As I am not my own master, being at the call of a large practice, I may not be able, as I wish, to be present at the Quarterly Court on Saturday next, to speak the same views that I gave the House Committee when I was last present, on the healthy condition of the spot on which the Royal Freemasons' School for Girls now stands.

"I had a father in practice here for 48 years, and I have been in practice myself for 33 years; so I hope the combined knowledge will satisfy the Court of my fitness to give an opinion.

"Wandsworth Common stands on a bed of gravel from 16 to 32 feet deep. I believe that it possesses a very pure air, free from miasma. I have never heard of or seen any epidemic peculiar to the spot, nor have I seen fever, ague, or any other disease that could be considered due to a local cause. The spot was selected by the late Prince Consort as the best place for the Royal Patriotic Girls' School, and lately the committee of that School have so far approved his choice as to build a large Boys' School. The magistrates of the county prison selected the edge of the common to build some years ago a large House of Detention. I am not aware that their wisdom has ever been called in question on the score of healthiness. The health of the residents in the neighbourhood I may be supposed to know something of, and on all sides I could, if necessary, bring evidence of the healthiness of Wandsworth Common.

"On looking back at the health of the schools since they came to Battersea Rise, I will openly challenge any member of the Craft to say that the health of the children has been in any way impaired by their residence; but on the contrary, when the school first came there, two-thirds of the children had enlarged cervical glands. Now what is their state, though your numbers have more than doubled? I think I have written enough to prove that there can be no just grounds for disturbing the schools on the score of want of healthiness.

"Believe me, yours faithfully and fraternally,
(Signed) THOS. S. HOWELL.

"Col. Creation."

He would now put the amendment.

The amendment was put and lost, and the report was put and adopted.

Bro. Joseph Smith moved that the report be referred back to the committee to carry out. He thought it very satisfactory that in such a large meeting the report of the committee had been judged to be right.

Bro. H. Browne having seconded the motion, it was put and carried; and Col. Creation was appointed permanent chairman of the committee.

Scrutineers of votes for the election were appointed; Bro. Samuel Tomkins was re-elected Treasurer; 50 guineas were voted to Miss Moss; and the following motions were withdrawn:—

By H. W. Hemsworth, Esq.,

That not more than two children of same parents be admitted to this institution at the same time.

By F. W. H. Ramsay, Esq., M.D.,

That every three years the four senior members of the House Committee retire, but shall be eligible for re-election, and the four who have been least frequent in attendance shall retire annually, and be ineligible for re-election for a space of twelve months.

By John Boyd, Esq.,

That Ten additional Children be elected at the forthcoming election in April next, thus increasing the number in the School to 162.

The election was then proceeded with, and votes of thanks to the Chairman and Scrutineers closed the proceedings.

The following is the result of the election:—

Names.	Votes.
Bryant, Ida Mary	1638
Herlan, Josephine Amelia	1352
Wright, Clara Isabel	1330
Sanford, Mabel Elizabeth	1304
Bridgeman, Emma Lizzie	1214
Potts, Emma Mary	1181
Norrish, Susan Jane	1122
Walker, Mary	1107
Bellamy, Sarah Lissie	1069
Boyd, Alice	1060
Fudge, Beatrice Helena	1030

Obituary.

BRO. JAMES PORTER, OF WIGTON.

It is with very deep and sincere regret that it is our melancholy duty to record to-day the death of a brother who stood high in the Masonic world in the north, Bro. Porter, of Wigton, Past Master of Lodge Concord, Preston, and Provincial Grand Senior Warden of Cumberland and Westmorland. Bro. Porter was cut off after a very brief but severe illness, on the 29th ult. Only on the Thursday previous he had gone off on a business journey, apparently in his usual robust health, and in good spirits. Next day he unfortunately got very wet, from which a cold set in, which rapidly increased to a bad case of inflammation of the lungs and pleurisy, and Bro. Porter got worse, until death put an end to his sufferings at four o'clock on Thursday afternoon. Bro. Porter was first initiated at Preston, and went through all the offices of the lodge until he attained the rank of W.M. A few years ago he removed to Wigton, where he had some years previously married the amiable lady who survives him, and on his coming into the new province his enthusiasm for Freemasonry attracted the attention of Earl Bective (then Lord Kenlis), G. Master of the province, who soon gave him one of the minor offices in the province. In 1874 Earl Bective appointed him the Senior Warden of the Province of Cumberland and Westmorland, and in 1875 his lordship again

appointed him to the same office. Bro. Porter's Masonic lore was great, and he was more than willing to impart it to any lodge or brother who stood in need of assistance. In the various Masonic charities he wrought hard, and was at various times of much assistance in obtaining votes for candidates, or in getting candidates into the schools and other charities. Permission had been given by Earl Bective, Provincial Grand Master, for a Masonic funeral, but this, in deference to the wishes of the family, was not held. It took place on Monday afternoon, at the cemetery, Wigton. As it was, however, the melancholy news of the death of Bro. Porter had got spread to many lodges, and there was a large gathering of the brethren to pay a last sad tribute of respect to one so well known and respected in life. Amongst others we noticed Bros. the Rev. Dr. James Simpson, of Kirkby Stephen, G. Chap. of England; W. B. Gibson, P.M., P.P.G.S.W., and P.G. Sec.; F. Hayward, P.M., P.P.G.S.W.; Routledge, P.M. 1200, P.P.G. Purst; W. Court, Carlisle, P.P., P.P.G. Purst; Cooke, Carlisle, 1532, W.M., P.G. Purst; Taylor, Carlisle, P.M., P.P.G.D.C.; Quarter-Master Sergeant Noakes, Carlisle, 1532, S.D.; Jobbing, Sec.; G. Thorpe, I.G.; Mason, J.W.; Potter, S.W.; W. Hill, all of the Bective, Carlisle, 1532; R. Wharton, I.G.; Webster, Pearson, Cousens, Cockfield, Dr. Horan, W.M., Whitehaven, 119; Dr. Dinwoodie, W.M., Appleby, 812; W. Carruthers, Carlisle, P.M. 310; John Murray, Carlisle, P.M. 310; and many other brethren from a distance, besides the bulk of the Wigton brethren. In addition to these there was a large attendance of townsmen and ladies of Wigton, so that the mournful procession was unusually large. Bro. Porter was only 39 years of age, and leaves a wife and four children.

BRO. J. D. BATH.

The mortal remains of the late Bro. J. D. Bath, omnibus proprietor, of Aigburth, near Liverpool, were consigned to their final resting place in the burial ground of the old parish church of St. Michael's, Garston, on Thursday, the 6th inst.

The death of deceased, who was well known and highly respected in the neighbourhood where he had so long conducted an extensive business, created a widespread sympathy, and there was consequently a large attendance at his obsequies. All the shops in Garston were partially closed, and from the public buildings were displayed the usual symbols of mourning—namely, flags half-mast high. At the funeral service the church was crowded, and many who desired to be present failed to gain admission. The burial service in the church was read by the Rev. J. F. Hewson, B.A., vicar, and at the ordinances at the grave side the Rev. J. E. Evans, of St. Mary's, Grassendale, officiated. The funeral cortege included, besides the deceased's relatives, a large number of private friends. There were also present several members of the Masonic Craft, to which the deceased belonged, and their esteem was testified by a contribution of sprigs of acacia placed upon the coffin previously to its being lowered into the grave.

BRO. J. J. R. ROBERTS, P.G.M. LIBERIA.

On the 24th February just past another link was sundered from our mystic chain in the death of our distinguished and very worthy brother, Joseph Jenkins Roberts, the father of the country, late President of the Republic, for near twenty years president of Liberia College, and a Past Grand Master Mason of Liberia. A fully-detailed obituary will appear in another issue.

THE LATE BRO. WM. ROMAINE CALLENDER, M.P., PROVINCIAL GRAND MASTER, LANCASHIRE.—The "Manchester Courier" states that in November last the Premier wrote to Bro. Callender, asking, in most flattering terms, his acceptance of a baronetcy as a recognition of distinguished public services. Mr. Disraeli's exact words were: "It will mark Her Majesty's approbation of your increasing and successful efforts to enlist the working classes in favour of our admirable Constitution."

METROPOLITAN MASONIC MEETINGS.

For the Week ending Friday, April 21, 1876.

The Editor will be glad to receive notice from Secretaries of Craft Lodges, Royal Arch Chapters, Mark Lodges, Preceptories, Conclaves, &c., of any change in place or time of meeting.

SATURDAY, APRIL 15.

Lodge 1364, Earl of Zetland, Old Town Hall, Hackney. Chap. 1194, Royal Middlesex, Mitre Hot., Hampton-court. Mark Lodge, 104, Macdonald, M.H., Masons' Avenue.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Lily, Greyhound, Richmond.
Percy, 113, Southgate-rd., N.
Manchester, 179, London-st., Fitzroy-square.
Star, Marquis of Granby, New Cross Road.

MONDAY, APRIL 17.

Lodge 1, Grand Master's, F.M. Tav.
" 8, British, F.M.H.
" 21, Emulation, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
" 58, Felicity, London Tav., Bishopsgate-st.
" 185, Tranquillity, Terminus Hot., Cannon-st.
" 720, Panmure, Balham Hot., Balham
" 907, Royal Alfred, F.M.H.
" 1159, Marquis of Dalhousie, F.M.H.
" 1201, Eclectic, F.M.H.
Chap. 12, Prudence, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Prince Leopold, Lord Stanley Tav., Kingsland.
Strong Man, Jerusalem Tav., St. John's Gate.
Sincerity, Railway Tav., Fenchurch-st. Station.

Camden, Stanhope Arms, Up. James-st., Camden To. Eastern, Royal Hot., Mile-end-road.
St. James's Union, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st. Wellington, White Swan, Deptford.
West Kent, St. Saviour's College, Forest-hill.
Perfect Ashlar, Victoria Tav., Lower-rd., Rotherhithe.
Sydney, White Hart Ho., Church-rd., Upper Norwood.

TUESDAY, APRIL 18.

Board of Gen. Purposes, at 4.
Lodge 30, United Mariners', Guildhall Tav., Gresham-st.
" 95, Eastern Star, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.
" 162, Cadogan, F.M.H.
" 186, Industry, M.H., Basinghall-st.
" 194, St. Paul's, Terminus Hot., Cannon-st.
" 435, Salisbury, F.M.H.
Chap. 890, Hornsey, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Varborough, Green Dragon, Stepney.
Domestic, Surrey M.H., Camberwell New-road
Faith, 2, Westminster Chambers, Victoria-st.
Prince Fredk. Wm., Lord's Hot., St. John's Wood.
Dalhousie, King Edward, Triangle, Hackney.
Prosperity, 1, Camomile-st., Bishopsgate.
St. Marylebone, British Stores Tav., St. John's Wood.
Constitutional, Wheatheaf Hot., Hand-court, Holborn.
Israel, Rising Sun Tav., Globe Road.
Royal Arthur, Prince's Head, York-road, Battersea.
Beacontree, Red Lion, Leytonstone, at 8.
Metropolitan Chapter, Jamaica Coffee Ho., Corahill.
Excelsior, Commercial Dock Tav., Rotherhithe.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 19.

Gen. Com. Grand Chap., at 3.
Lodge of Benevolence, at 6.
" Grand Stewards'.
" 140, St. George's, Trafalgar Hot., Greenwich.
" 174, Sincerity, Guildhall Tav., Gresham-st.
" 190, Oak, F.M.H.
" 700, Nelson, M.H., William-st., Woolwich.
" 969, Maybury, F.M.H.
" 1044, Wandsworth, Spread Eagle, Wandsworth.
" 1150, Buckingham and Chandos, F.M.H.
" 1349, Friars, Cheshire Cheese, Crutched Friars.
" 1382, Corinthian, George Inn, Cubitt Town.
" 1540, Chaucer, Bridge House Hot., London Bridge.
Chap. 192, Lion and Lamb, Terminus Hot., Cannon-st.
" 857, St. Mark's, Half Moon Tav., Herne Hill.
Rose Croix Chap., Bard of Avon, 33, Golden-sq.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Mt. Lebanon, Windsor Castle Tav., Southwark-bdg.-rd.
Pythagorean, Prince of Orange, Greenwich.
New Concord, Rosemary Branch Tav., Hoxton.
Royal Union, Horse and Groom, Winsley-st., Oxford-st.
Confidence, M.H., Basinghall-st.
Peckham, Maismore Arms, Park-road, Peckham.
Stanhope, Thicket Hot., Anerley.
Finsbury Park, Finsbury Park Tav., Seven Sisters'-rd.
Southwark, Southwark Park Tav., Southwark Park.
Duke of Connaught, Havelock Tav., Dalston, E.
United Strength, Grafton Arms, Kentish-town.
Mount Edgcombe, 19, Jermyn-street, St. James's.
Islington, Crown and Cushion, London Wall.

THURSDAY, APRIL 20.

House Com. Girls' School, at 4.
Lodge 49, Gihon, Guildhall Tav., Gresham-st.
" 55, Constitutional, London Tav., Bishopsgate-st.
" 63, St. Mary's, F.M.H.
" 169, Temperance, White Swan, High-st., Deptford.
" 179, Manchester, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
" 181, Universal, F.M.H.
" 733, Westbourne, Lord's Hot., St. John's Wood.
" 813, New Concord, Rosemary Branch, Hoxton.
" 1227, Upton, Spotted Dog Tav., Upton.
" 1287, Great Northern, F.M.H.
" 1339, Stockwell, Half Moon Tav., Herne Hill.
" 1425, Hyde Park, 1, Craven-rd., W.
" 1475, Peckham, Surrey M.H.

Chap. 29, St. Albans, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
" 79, Pythagorean, Ship Hot., Greenwich.
Mark Lodge, Bon. Accord, 2, Red Lion-sq.
Preceptory E., Observance, 14, Bedford-row.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Egyptian, Hercules Tav., Leadenhall-st.
Fidelity, Yorkshire Grey, London-st., W.
Finsbury, Jolly Anglers' Tav., Bath-st., City-road.
Whittington, Black Bull Tav., Holborn.
Temperance in the East, Catherine-st., Poplar.
Ebony, 12, Ponsonby-st., Millbank.
Highgate, Bull and Gate, Kentish-town.
The Great City, 111, Cheapside.
High Cross, Coach & Horses, High-road, Tottenham.
Salisbury, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Marquis of Ripon, Albion Tav., Albion-rd., Dalston.
Prince Frederick William Chapter, St. John's Wood.

FRIDAY, APRIL 21.

House Com. Boys' School at 4.
Lodge 6, Friendship, Willis's Rooms, St. James's.
" 143, Middlesex, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-street.
" 201, Jordan, F.M.H.
" 975, Rose of Denmark, White Hart Hot., Barnes.
Chap. 92, Moria, London Tav., Bishopsgate-st.
Rose Croix Chapter, "Invicta," 33, Golden-square.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Union Waterloo, Thomas-st., Woolwich.
St. George's, Globe Tav., Royal-hill, Greenwich.
Robert Burns, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Belgrave, Lyceum Tav., 354, Strand.
Unions Emulation (for M.M.'s), F.M.H.
Temperance, Victoria Tav., Victoria-road, Deptford.
Clapton, White Hart, Clapton.
Stability, Guildhall Tav., Gresham-st.
Metropolitan, Portugal Hot., Fleet-st.
Westbourne, Horse & Groom, Winsley-st., Oxford-st.
Metropolitan, Pentonville-road.

United Pilgrims, Surrey M. H., Camberwell New-road.
St. James's, New Tanners' Arms, Grange-rd., Bermondsey.
Duke of Edinburgh, Silver Lion, Penny-fields, Poplar.
Doric, Earl Grey Tav., Mile-end-road.
Burgoyne, Grafton Arms, Prince of Wales's-road, N.W.
St. Luke's, Commercial Tav., King's-road, Chelsea.
Chigwell, Bald-faced Stag Hot., Buckhurst-hill.
Burdett Courts, Approach Tav., Victoria Park.
Royal Standard, Finsbury Park Tav., Holloway.
Ranelagh, Clarendon Hot., Hammersmith.
Pythagorean Chapter, Prince of Orange, Greenwich-rd.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN WEST LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE.

For the Week ending Saturday April 22, 1876.

MONDAY, APRIL 17.

Lodge 721, Independence, M.R., Eastgate Row, Chester.
" 1402, Israel, M.H., Liverpool.
Chap. 32, Jerusalem, M.H., Liverpool.
Everton L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

TUESDAY, APRIL 18.

Special P.G. Lodge, M.H., Liverpool.
" Chapter, M.H., Liverpool.
Lodge 667, Alliance, M.H., Liverpool.
" 1225, Hindpool, Hartington Hot., Brw.-in-Furness.
" 1276, Warren, Seacombe Hot., Seacombe.
Chap. 605, De Tabley, Seacombe Hot.
Merchants' L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 19.

Lodge 547, Zetland, 55, Argyle-st., Birkenhead.
" 823, Everton, M.H., Liverpool.
" 1016, Walton, St. Lawrence's, Soho, Kirkdale.
" 1345, Victoria, Cross Keys, Eccles.
" 1353, Duke of Lancaster, Athenium, Lancaster.
De Grey and Ripon L. of I., 80, North Hill-st., Liverpool.
Downshire L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

THURSDAY, APRIL 20.

Lodge 203, Ancient Union, M.H., Liverpool.
" 343, Concord, Militia Mess Rooms, Preston.
" 425, Cestrian, M.R., Eastgate-row, Chester.
" 605, Combermere, Seacombe Hot., Seacombe.
" 1299, Pembroke, Rawlinson's Hot., West Derby.
St. John's L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.
Liverpool Red Cross Conclave, 55, M.H., Liverpool.

FRIDAY, APRIL 21.

Duke of Edinburgh L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN GLASGOW AND WEST OF SCOTLAND.

For the Week ending Saturday, April 22, 1876.
All the Meetings take place at Eight o'clock.

MONDAY, APRIL 17.

Lodge 129, St. Mirren's, St. Mirren's H., Moss-st., Paisley.
" 332, Union, 170, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
" 581, Plantation, Craigiehall-st., Plantation, Glasgw.

TUESDAY, APRIL 18.

Lodge 34, St. John, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
" 73, Thistle and Rose, 170, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
" 87, Thistle, 30, Hope-st., Glasgow.
" 437, Govandale, Portland Buildings, Govan.
" 556, Clydesdale, M.H., Rose-st., S.S., Glasgow.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 19.

Lodge 117, St. Mary, M.H., Partick.
" 354, Caledonian Railway, 30, Hope-st., Glasgow.
" 571, Dramatic, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
Chap. 150, Shettleston St. John, M.H., Shettleston.

THURSDAY, APRIL 20.

Lodge 22, St. John Kilwinning, George Hot., Kilmarnock.
" 27, St. Mungo, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
" 465, St. Andrew, M.H., Garngad-rd.

FRIDAY, APRIL 21.

Lodge 12, Greenock Kilwinning, T.H., Greenock.
" 31, St. Mary's Coltness, Scotts Hall, Wishan.
" 306, St. Thomas, 90, Wellgate-st., Larkhall.
" 321, St. Andrews, Sub. Halls, Alexandria.
" 360, Commercial, 30, Hope-st., Glasgow.
" 408, Clyde, 170, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
" 471, St. John, Stane Inn, Shotts.
" 551, Clydesdale, Royal Hot., Larkhall.

SATURDAY, APRIL 22.

Lodge 524, St. Andrew, M.H., Kilbride.
" 544, St. Andrew, M.H., Coatbridge.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN EDINBURGH AND VICINITY.

For the Week ending Saturday, April 22, 1876.

MONDAY, APRIL 17.

Lodge 44, St. Luke, Freemasons' H. George-st.

TUESDAY, APRIL 18.

Lodge 36, St. David, Ship Hot., East Register-st.
" 405, Rifle, F.M.H., George-st.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 19.

Lodge 160, Roman Eagle, Iona Hot., Nicholson-st.

THURSDAY, APRIL 20.

Lodge 48, St. Andrew, F.M.H., George-st.
" 226, Portobello, Royal Hot., Bath-st.

Chap. 152, Perseverance, 186, Constitution-st.

FRIDAY, APRIL 21.

Chap. 83, St. Andrew, F.M.H., George-st.

COURIER AND TRAVELLING SERVANT.—Italian age 30; speaks English and Continental languages; good experience and trustworthy, high references; just arrived. M.M.M.—Address, A.D.M., 9, Beak-street, Regent-street, W.

A MASTER MASON, German, lately arrived in London, appeals, in great distress, to the generosity of Members of the Craft, to procure him Employment as Corresponding or General Clerk.—J.A.W., 22, Farringdon-street.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

WOOD GREEN, LONDON, N.

Office, 6, FREEMASONS' HALL, W.C.

PATRON.

HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN.

PRESIDENT.

FIELD-MARSHAL H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES, K.G., &c., M.W.G.M.

At a Quarterly General Court of the Governors and Subscribers held at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, Lincoln's-Inn-Fields, London, on Monday, the 10th day of April, 1876, for the transaction of the ordinary business of the Institution, John Moxon Clabon, Esq., P.G.D., V. Pat., Trustee, in the chair, succeeded by John Symonds, Esq., V. Pat. and Trustee. A Ballot took place for the Election of Sixteen Boys from an approved List of 59 Candidates and the following were elected:—

SUCCESSFUL.

1. Perrin, Gilbert Palmer Sheridan	2256
2. Dawson, George Arthur	2130
3. Trott, Richard James	1962
4. Cromwell, Charles Henry	1932
5. Keddell, Robt. Walter	1826
6. Stansfield, Wm. Ashton	1822
7. Jackson, Joseph	1818
8. Cooke, William Astle	1816
9. Wain, Leonard	1781
10. Lee, Vincent John	1777
11. Vivian, Alfred Greville	1758
12. Robinson, Geo. Sampson	1698
13. Gardner, Richard Thomas	1601
14. Adams, Donald Robt.	1383
15. England, Herbert	1318
16. Rees, James Herbert	1272

Lists of Candidates successful and unsuccessful with full particulars of Polling, &c., may be had on application at the Office.

10th April, 1876, FREDERICK BINCKES, Secretary.
* * The seventy-eighth Anniversary Festival will be held on Wednesday, 28th June, 1876, on which occasion the Rt. Hon. Lord Leigh, R.W. Prov. G.M. of Warwickshire, has kindly consented to preside. The names of Brethren willing to represent Provinces or Lodges as Stewards will be gratefully received.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.

ST. JOHN'S, HILL, BATTERSEA RISE, S.W.

At a Quarterly General Court of this Institution, held at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, Lincoln's-inn-fields, W.C., on Saturday, April 8th, 1876, Lieut.-Col. Creaton, Trustee and Vice Patron, in the chair; after the general business was disposed of the Governors and Subscribers proceeded to the Election by Ballot of Eleven Children into the Institution from a list of forty-three approved candidates, when the following were declared duly elected:—

No. on List.	Names.	Votes.
10.	Bryant, Ida Mary	1638
13.	Herlan, Josephine Amelia	1352
15.	Wright, Clara Isabel	1330
36.	Sanford, Mabel Elizabeth	1304
19.	Bridgeman, Emma Lizzie	1213
23.	Potts, Emma Mary	1181
2.	Norrish, Susan Jane	1122
27.	Walker, Mary	1107
4.	Bellamy, Sarah Lizzie	1069
12.	Boyd, Alice	1060
29.	Fudge, Beatrice Helena	1030

The number of votes recorded for unsuccessful candidates can be obtained on application at the Secretary's Office, and will be duly carried forward at the next election, if eligible.

R. WENTWORTH LITTLE, Secretary.

BRO. T. LAWLER, who was specially appointed to the Management of the MUSIC at the LONDON HOSPITAL on the memorable occasion of the visit there of HER MOST GRACIOUS MAJESTY THE QUEEN, begs to notify his change of residence, and requests that all letters relative to CONCERTS, BANQUETS, PRIVATE LESSONS, &c., be addressed—62, Saltoun-road, Brixton-Rise, S.W.

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WILLIAM J. VIAN, Secretary.

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The next Election of Members will be held on 27th April after which date it is anticipated that it will be necessary to impose an Entrance Fee, and raise the annual Subscriptions, upwards of 500 Brethren having already joined.

Forms of Application for Membership may be obtained from the Secretary, at the Offices of the London Masonic Club Company (Limited), 37, Queen Victoria-street, E.C. JOHN A. LATHBURY, Secretary.

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REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS.

Craft Masonry.

LODGE OF UNITED STRENGTH (No. 128).—The end of the season of this lodge was reached on Tuesday, the 11th inst., when a full assemblage of the brethren met at the Old Gate of St. John of Jerusalem, St. John's Lane, Smithfield. Bro. Robert Griggs, the W.M., ever punctual in his duties, was in his chair presiding at the time named in the summons, and like Master so the officers, for there was not a place vacant. The lodge was laid out in the Prior's Chamber, which makes a very picturesque lodge-room, and is only at a disadvantage when too many brethren attend the working, or when the lodge has to sit long at business, which it had on this occasion, for the Master had the programme of seven raisings, a passing, and five initiations. Bros. J. Hill, was S.W.; Snare, J.W.; Halford, S.D.; Pearcey, J.D.; Todd, I.G.; Flaws and Patmore, D.C.'s; and Hickman, A.W.S. The P.M.'s included Bros. J. While, I.P.M. ("Freemason"); Winsland, Treasurer; Crump, Secretary; Davies, James Terry, P.G.D.C. Heris, Secretary of the R.M. B.L., &c. (W.S.); and Hillhouse. The first work taken was to pass Bro. Booth, who was initiated on the previous night. Having very well answered the test questions the brother was further entrusted, and when admitted was in due form and with customary rites passed to the Second Degree, and was thus placed midway in the profession. Of the seven brethren who were to be raised six only attended at the time, and these were Bros. Coles, Griggs, Paine, Randall, Arnoll, and Trotter. They answered the questions and were entrusted with a test. Of course the working of the degree had to be repeated, for the custom of the lodge is to render the ceremonies with due solemnity, and this is impossible when degrees are bestowed on too many at once. The W.M. and his officers went through the work in a perfect manner, and it was evident that all were adepts in the performance of the ceremonies. The lodge was then resumed in the First Degree, and five gentlemen having been balloted for earlier in the evening, were initiated by instalments of their number. The gentlemen who were thus made brethren were Messrs. Coote, T. Sandy, Philip Woodman, John Woodman, and James Stephens Knight, all but the first being old inhabitants of the ancient and historic parish in which the old gate stands, and the last mentioned three were welcomed by Bros. While and Flaws as old comrades in the Finsbury Rifles. On the W.M. rising for the first time, the Treasurer, P.M. Winsland, proposed that the lodge should vote ten guineas to be placed on the list of the W.M., who was going up as Steward at the festival of the Girls' School. Bro. P.M. While seconded the motion, and Bro. James Terry supported it. The motion was of course carried unanimously. The lodge was then solicited to support a petition for a new lodge to be held at the Old Gate. No one appeared in support of the petition, and it was informal from there being no name of the proposed W.M. given in it. The lodge, with regret, had to pass the petition over. The lodge was then closed in due form, and the brethren adjourned to the banquetting hall, where an excellent repast was laid, and among the visiting brethren who honoured the United Strength with their presence were Bros. Henry Smith, P.M. of the Royal Arthur, 1360 (at one time a member of United Strength); Knight, S.D. 1360; Timothy, S.D. of 87; Hinson, of 1319; Saul, of 1291; Grimwood, 1311; Tongue, 534; McNevin, 1426; Loverdo, 1196; Bacea, 1196; and Lawson, of 1426. The usual loyal toasts were given, and when the Grand Officers were toasted the hope was expressed that at no distant date G.L. honours would fall in a quarter where there was great merit, for it was added, if honour should be bestowed upon merit in this case, then the lodge would be honoured in one of its children. The I.P.M. then proposed the toast of "The W.M.," saying that the many hours' arduous labours in the lodge which the W.M. had undergone had fully proved his ability, and the perfect manner in which he had rendered the ceremonies proved that he fully esteemed the honour of being Master of this old lodge by having successfully surmounted the difficulties which stood in the way of those who had to work in the duties of the Master's chair, as "men loved more ardently what they had suffered to attain, and enjoyed nothing so exquisitely as what they had pursued through calamity and danger," so would the busy W.M. come to regard the time he had given to the lodge and its

duties as a pleasant light cast athwart a period of life which in after years might otherwise have seemed to wear a dull uniformity. The toast was warmly honoured, and the W.M., in response, said it was indeed a pleasure to him to perform the duties of the high station to which he had been called, and that if he gave those ceremonies in a manner to please the brethren it was in no small measure owing to the instruction and assistance he received from his Past Masters. The initiates were then toasted, and were welcomed by the brethren as duly admitted to the Craft, and each in suitable terms thanked the lodge for cordially receiving them into the ranks of the ancient brotherhood. The visitors were toasted, and nearly all present responded, all expressing their gratification at seeing the work and principles of the Craft—those above and those below the surface—well carried out. The W.M. then gave "The Past Masters," and Bros. While, Winsland and Terry responded. Bro. Terry in one of those orations for which he is famous, "the grave, the gay, the lively and severe," the severity being in a mock criticism on the foibles of brethren, and greatly enlivened the gathering. He especially congratulated the W.M. upon having undertaken the office of Steward for the Girls' School, and said that the W.M. could see in the young ladies brought up in the schools all that young ladies should be, and when he felt disposed to quit his unhappy state of bachelorhood, he could make his choice of one who, like them could be the housewife and the lady, they being trained in all the duties of household management, and educated in all the accomplishments which made the lady. All the brethren then joined in drinking to the officers, and the Tyler's toasts closed the last meeting of spring. In the course of the evening several brethren sung, and Bro. Booth gave two laughable recitations. Bro. Hart, the Organist, was much missed, he being obliged to be absent in Paris in connection with the preparation of the great picture of last year's grand Masonic ceremony in the Royal Albert Hall.

MACDONALD LODGE (No. 1216).—This lodge met for ordinary business and election of officers for the ensuing year, on Thursday, the 13th inst., at the headquarters of the First Surrey Rifles, at Camberwell. The W.M., Bro. J. Hepburn Hastie, was supported by Bros. M. S. Larham, S.W.; J. Stevens, P.M., as J.W.; Past Masters W. J. Messenger, G. Waterall, and S. H. Wagstaff; Bros. Capt. A. Styan, Treas.; J. J. Curtis, Sec.; T. W. Carnell, S.D.; C. Fountain, J.D.; F. Cozens, Org.; W. C. Hall, I.G.; and amongst others present were Bros. J. W. Holland, C. E. Golding, T. Edmonstone, F. P. Younge, P. Clay, A. Youngman, H. P. Jarman, A. C. Bradley, &c. The visitors were Bros. C. G. Cobham, W.M. 957; E. W. Fisher, 700; J. Greenway, 874; E. Fullager, 14; W. L. Pennewar, 1329; and — Middlemass, of the Sphinx Lodge. Bro. Younge was raised to the degree of M.M., and Mr. C. T. Danford was initiated into the Order. The unanimous vote of the lodge conferred upon Bro. M. S. Larham the distinction of W.M. elect, and a like vote re-elected Bro. Capt. Hyan as Treas. Bro. Grant, for whose late indisposition much sympathy was expressed, was re-elected Tyler. On the proposition of the W.M. the sum of 20 guineas was voted to the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls to be placed on the list of Bro. G. Waterall, who represents the lodge as Steward at the ensuing festival. A like sum of 20 guineas was also voted to the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys to head the list of Bro. Wagstaff, representing the lodge as Steward for that institution. Bro. Past Master Stevens, having addressed the lodge in reference to the very admirable manner in which Bro. Hastie had conducted the business of the past year, as well in regard to perfection of ritual as to courteous and dignified management of its affairs, evidenced by increased numbers and general efficiency, proposed "That a P.M. jewel of the value of 10 guineas be presented to the W.M. in recognition of his invaluable services, which proposition was carried by acclamation. Bro. Past Master Wagstaff made reference to the satisfactory progress of the society connected with the lodge for promoting the interests of the Masonic Charitable Institutions and securing Life Governorships for its members, and announced that during the ensuing week an additional Life Governorship would be constituted. An Audit Committee having been appointed, the business terminated. The lodge was closed with musical services, and the brethren partook of a frugal supper in hearty good fellowship, and separated much pleased with the evening's proceedings.

HERVEY LODGE (No. 1260).—The installation meeting of the Hervey Lodge was held on the 12th inst. at Freemasons' Hall. Dr. Jabez Hogg, W.M., presided, and was supported by most of his officers and a very large muster of brethren of the lodge and visitors. The meeting was in every respect a most successful one, as all the work was well performed, the officers being well up to their duties, and there being an excellent musical accompaniment to the ceremonies by Bro. Seymour Smith. The brethren who were present during the sitting were Bros. Dr. Hogg, W.M.; G. Harrison, S.W.; Southwood, J.W.; G. King, jun., P.M., Sec.; H. Hollingsworth, S.D.; E. J. Goodacre, I.G.; G. King, P.M.; H. B. Condy, H. Condy, W. Mason, E. T. Foot, J. Cox, F. R. Cox, F. A. Beeton, C. W. Robins, S. Spender, A. Czarniecki, A. Rosenthal, J. T. Bigwood, W. Howell, J. Fitch, W. Ryan, B. Butler, G. T. Salmon, J. T. Spalding, P. F. Portway, G. Vine, W. Burley, W. Gibbs, H. H. Topham, and Broker. Visitors: Bros. Clever, 12 and 171; R. Sears, D.C. 299; H. T. A. Stewart, P.M. 898; W. C. Beaven, 1288; S. Smith, 742; G. T. Carter, 145; M. Richards, 733; H. Hollis, P.M. 167; H. Massey, P.M. 169 ("Freemason"); C. Atkins, P.M. 17; and Green, W.M. 27. Dr. Hogg passed Bros. Mason, Fitch and H. B. Condy, and afterwards initiated Mr. Geo. Kidd Sheward, and Mr. Charles James. These ceremonies being completed, Bro.

Geo. King, jun., then ascended the throne and installed Bro. Geo. Harrison, S.W., as W.M. of the lodge for the year. The following brethren were the officers appointed and invested:—Bros. Southwood, S.W.; H. Hollingsworth, J.W., P.M. 487 and 1069; Dr. Jabez Hogg, P.M., Treas.; Geo. King, jun., P.M., Sec.; Ward, S.D.; Goodacre, J.D.; Spalding, I.G.; Geo. King, D.C.; and C. E. T. Speight, Tyler. All these brethren were vociferously cheered on receiving their different appointments. Bro. King concluded by delivering the addresses, and for his performance was also heartily cheered. As most pleasant gatherings have in them a dash of melancholy, the installation meeting of the Hervey Lodge formed no exception to the rule, and Dr. Hogg referred in feeling terms to the decease of Bro. Kingcome, whose little girl was an unsuccessful candidate at the last election of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls. On Dr. Hogg's motion five guineas were voted from the benevolent fund of the lodge, and five guineas from the lodge fund towards assisting the case, and to be placed on Bro. Southwood's list. (Each of the initiates also placed ten guineas on the same list.) Bro. King seconded Dr. Hogg's motion, and Bro. Southwood, S.W., returned thanks. He acknowledged the exertions which the brethren of this lodge had made on behalf of his little protégée, and also thanked the W.M. of the Egyptian Lodge (Bro. Green), the Immediate Past Master (Bro. Charles Atkins), and the other brethren of that lodge, for their efforts in the same cause. He also called upon the brethren of the Hervey Lodge and the Egyptian Lodge to renew those efforts for the October election, when he was confident they would be able to land the little girl high and dry. Bro. Southwood gave notice of motion for a committee for carrying out a summer festival this year. Two years they had held summer festivals, to which ladies were invited, and these entertainments had been highly successful. (Hear hear.) Yet another drop of bitterness for the cup of enjoyment. Bro. George King, jun., announced that Bro. Darby, Dr. Hogg's Immediate Past Master, was dead; whereupon Dr. Hogg rose and said that, although the lodge had had no official announcement of the fact, although the members personally knew it, he would move a vote of condolence on the event. He regretted very much the loss the lodge had sustained. Bro. Darby was known to the brethren as a very earnest Mason; he took great interest in his work, though illness and other circumstances had kept him from the lodge during the last twelve months. At the last meeting he (Dr. Hogg) had a letter from Bro. Darby regretting his inability to be then present, but hoping to be present at the installation of Bro. Harrison. He would move a vote of condolence, and that the Secretary be instructed to write to the widow of Bro. Darby expressing the great regret of the brethren of the lodge at the death of Bro. Darby, and the deep sense they felt of the loss they had sustained thereby; hoping, however, that the Great Architect of the Universe would support Mrs. Darby in her very severe trial. (Hear hear.) Bro. Ward, S.D., seconded the motion, which was then put, and carried unanimously. Bro. Geo. King, jun., Secretary, then read several letters of regret for inability from being present, among others one from Grand Secretary. Lodge was then closed, and the brethren repaired to the Inns of Court Hotel, Lincoln's Inn Fields, to banquet, where a splendid repast awaited them. The customary toasts followed. After the toast of "The Queen and the Craft," in giving which the W.M. said that the feeling which existed on the part of Freemasons towards Her Majesty was just the very feeling which should exist, the toast of "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M.," was given, the W.M. saying that ever since His Royal Highness had accepted the Grand Mastership of the Craft he had proved himself to be a thorough Mason. He always furthered the interests of the Craft in general, and when he came again to England and to London no doubt we should see him with us in Masonry. The W.M. next proposed "The Pro Grand Master, the Deputy Grand Master, and the rest of the Grand Officers," eulogising all of them for what Masonry had benefited through them. With this toast he coupled the name of Dr. Hogg, P.G.D., who, in responding, said it was unnecessary for him to speak of the quality of the representatives of Grand Lodge, and of the way in which they performed their duties, as all the brethren were aware of it. Whenever these representatives could be of service to the Craft they were ready to fulfil the duty required of them. This was proved by the alacrity with which they agreed to take the chair at the festivals of the different institutions of the Craft. He then apologised for the absence of Bro. Hervey, one of the founders of the lodge, who at the present time was surrounded with a great deal of work. He also apologised for the absence of Bro. the Rev. R. J. Simpson, who had written to say he was sorry he could not attend. The W.M. then proposed "The Initiates," two gentlemen who he was sure would prove very active members of the Order, and who had that evening given evidence by their conduct that they would become an honour to the Order, and to the Hervey Lodge. Bros. Sheward and James responded, and stated that they had long desired to become members of the Order, and to have an opportunity of showing their interest in the Craft. Both thanked the brethren for their admission, and said that when anything was required of them they were at the command of the Craft. Dr. Hogg proposed "The W.M." It gave him much pleasure to do so, not only because it relieved him of a great amount of responsibility, which he had endeavoured to discharge conscientiously, and to the general satisfaction of the brethren, but because he knew that Bro. Harrison would follow in his steps, and show the brethren that they had elected the right man. Although the W.M. had not yet had an opportunity of showing how well and efficiently he could fulfil his duties in the performance of the ceremonies, yet he had proved that he knew one part of the ritual by duly investing his officers.

was sure that Bro. Harrison would perform the ceremonies much better than he (Bro. Hogg) had done. (No, no.) He had attended lodges of instruction, and had learned how to deliver the ritual in the best way that it could be given from the chair. In electing Bro. Harrison they had done the best thing they could for the lodge, and they had reason to be satisfied with the choice they had made. At the end of his year of office they would be able to say he had discharged his duties properly. He (Bro. Hogg) knew with what earnestness the W.M. had followed Masonry, and his interest in the Hervey Lodge was testified by the various presents he had made to it. (Hear, hear, and cheers.) The W.M., in responding, very cordially thanked the brethren and Dr. Hogg, whom he said he would follow as far as he was able in discharging his duties to the satisfaction of the brethren. It had given him great pleasure to see Dr. Hogg installed as Master, as under such enlightened rule the lodge could not fail to prosper. He then proposed "The Health of Dr. Hogg," and presented him, in the name of the lodge, with a massive Past Master's jewel. Dr. Hogg, in reply, said he could not find words to thank the brethren adequately for their kindly recognition of his poor services; but he assured the brethren that he should ever remember their kindness with the most grateful feelings. "The Visitors" was the next toast, and the W.M., after saying that the Hervey Lodge had always been celebrated for its visiting brethren, observed that that day was no exception to the general rule. Among the visitors there were some half dozen P.M.'s, who had taken part in the ceremony of installation. Among these brethren were some whom he had to thank for the efforts they had made on behalf of a candidate for the Girls' School whose late father was a member of the Hervey Lodge. He had thanked them in the lodge, but he now renewed those thanks to Bro. Green and Bro. Atkins, of the Egyptian Lodge, 27. Bro. Green, W.M. 27, in responding, said it gave him great pleasure and gratification to be present at the installation of Bro. Harrison. It was the third time he had had the honour of attending installations at the Hervey Lodge; and it was very agreeable to find that every time he came the lodge was increasing in prosperity. Bro. Richards, 733, also replied, and referred to the very impressive style in which the ceremony of initiation was performed. The W.M. next proposed "The P.M.'s," coupling with the toast the name of Bro. G. King, jun., and complimenting that brother on his fluent and impressive rendering of the grand ceremony of installation. (Hear, hear.) Bro. G. King, jun., having responded, the W.M. next gave "The Masonic Press," to whom all the brethren were much indebted for its faithful record of their proceedings, which was the result of arduous labour. Bro. H. Massey, replying for the "Freemason," refused to recognise the arduous nature of the duties of the representatives of the Masonic press when they were made so agreeable by the genial greeting with which he was always received by the Masters, Past Masters, and lay brethren of lodges among whom he was constantly thrown. The Masonic press, however, was always pleased to record any efforts faithfully and honestly made for the further extension of the Craft and the wide diffusion of its precepts. "The Musical Brethren" were then proposed by the W.M., and Bro. Seymour Smith replied. The toast of "The Officers" followed; and the W.M. said he was proud to think he had always had hard-working brethren as his officers. Referring to the S.W., he said that Bro. Southwood had done a great deal of good for the Hervey Lodge. He had expended much time in serving the family of one of their deceased officers, Bro. Kingcome. Bro. Southwood would have the approbation of every member of the Craft for the hearty way in which he had studied its interests. Bro. Hollingsworth, J.W., had been a member of the Craft for many years, and had already done much for it. He hoped he might live many years more to do yet greater things for it. Bro. Ward, S.D., was a thorough good working Mason, and would prove of great advantage to the members of the Hervey Lodge. Bro. Goodacre, J.D., also was a good working Mason, and he might say the same of Bro. Spalding, I.G. (Hear, hear.) Bro. Southwood responded. He took no credit for what he had done, which had been so kindly referred to by the W.M. Alluding to the initiates, he said they had shewn that they appreciated Freemasonry by having learned the lesson they had been taught of brotherly love, relief, and truth. Those were the grand principles on which the Order was founded, and on which the Hervey Lodge would always act. (Cheers.) The other officers also responded, and the brethren separated, having drunk the Tyler's toast, after spending a most agreeable evening. Bros. Seymour Smith and G. T. Carter added some charming melody to the other entertainments of the day.

SKELMERSDALE LODGE (No. 1599).—The first regular meeting of this lodge was held at the Masons' Hall, Basinghall-street, on Thursday, 13th inst. The brethren present were Bros. John Bingemann, W.M.; Wm. H. Marston, S.W.; Geo. Laker, J.W.; Henry Roberts, Treas.; Wm. H. Lee, Sec.; E. Abell, S.D.; Sargant, J.D.; Miroy, I.G.; Rawles, Tyler. The lodge was opened in due form. The minutes of the consecration meeting having been confirmed, the brethren proceeded to ballot for Mr. William Henry Knill-Abell, Mr. Thomas Knill-Abell, Mr. Charles Edward Hodsdon, Mr. James Causton, Mr. Louis Carl Beckmann, and Mr. George Evans, which resulted in their favour; the first five candidates being present, were initiated into the mysteries of ancient Freemasonry. Four brethren were also elected as joining members. On the W.M. rising several names were proposed as candidates for initiation and for joining at the next meeting. The lodge was then closed and adjourned to the second Thursday in May, and the brethren proceeded to an excellent banquet, provided by Bro. Bell, at which the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given by the W.M. and heartily responded to by the brethren.

BATH.—Royal Cumberland Lodge (No. 41).—At the monthly meeting held at the Masonic Hall, on Thursday, April 6th, all the officers attended punctually, namely, Bros. Brown, W.M.; F. Wilkinson, S.W.; Falkner, J.W.; Wilton, P.M., Dir. Cer.; Ashley, P.M., Treas.; C. Wilkinson, Sec.; Braham, S.D.; Denham, J.D.; Gummer, I.G.; Hunt and Radway, Stewards. Besides these there were Past Masters Cooper, Moutrie, Rubie, Mann, Dr. Hopkins, P.M. 43 and 958, and a few members; also as visitors from No. 53, Walker W.M.; Col. Ford, P.M.; Rev.—Martin, P.M.; Rolfe, Willson, and Summison; from No. 379, G. H. Cook, W.M.; Dickenson, Sec.; and Bush; from No. 906, Keene, P.M.; Howes, Dingle, Pinkett. The lodge was opened at quarter to eight, and the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The Treasurer's accounts were presented and passed, and a printed copy was given to each member. A favourable ballot was taken for the re-admission of Bro. Robert Cook as a joining member. Bro. Falkner presented the report of the committee appointed to endeavour to make arrangements for the purchase of a new organ, which did not afford much hope of success. Mr. John A. Wheeler, who had been balloted for at a previous meeting, was admitted, and initiated by the W.M., the charge being admirably given by Bro. Cooper, and the working tools explained by the S.W. Bros. Meatyard and Mercer were examined as to their proficiency, of which they gave very satisfactory proof, entrusted, and dismissed for preparation. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree, to which on their re-admission the candidates were passed by the W.M., who again called on the S.W. to explain the working tools. The lodge having been resumed in the First Degree, was finally closed soon after ten o'clock.

LANCASTER.—Lodge of Fortitude (No. 281).—The usual monthly meeting of this lodge was held on Wednesday, at the Masonic Room, Athenæum. There was a very good attendance of the Craft, including several visiting brethren, the chair of K.S. being occupied by the W.M., Bro. Thomas Atkinson. The lodge having been opened in the First Degree with solemn prayer, the minutes of the preceding meeting were read and confirmed. Mr. John Thistlethwaite having been unanimously elected, was duly initiated into the mysteries of Freemasonry by the W.M., the working tools of an Entered Apprentice being presented by the J.W. Bro. Dr. J. D. Moore, P.G.S.B. England, then gave a lecture on the First Tracing Board, which was listened to with much attention by those present. At the close a hearty vote of thanks was accorded Bro. Moore, and suitably acknowledged. The usual proclamations were made, and the lodge was closed with the formalities of the Craft.

BATH.—Lodge of Honour (No. 379).—The last meeting of the season was held at the Masonic Hall on Monday, April 10th, at 8 p.m. Several officers were unable to attend, owing to illness or absence from home. Those present were Bros. Cook, W.M.; Gore, S.W.; H. Culliford Hopkins, J.W.; Dickenson, Sec.; Gazdard, Tyler; also J. S. Bartrum, P.M. Bro. Dr. Hopkins, P.M. 43 and 958, acted as I.P.M.; C. A. Bush, P.M., and D.C.; C. Collus, as S.D.; H. G. Bush, 379, as J.D.; Howes, 906, as I.G.; Reeves, P.M. 906, as Org. There were many visitors present, among them Bros. Brown, W.M. 41; Simmons, P.M. 53; Col. Ford, P.M. 53; Cooper, P.M. 41. After the lodge had been opened the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. A ballot was taken for Mr. H. W. Baldwin as a candidate for initiation, under dispensation, which was unanimously favourable. He was in attendance, as was also Mr. T. Johnston, previously balloted for. Bro. Dr. Hopkins, P.P.G.S.W., then took the chair at the request of the W.M., and performed the ceremony of initiation, afterwards calling upon Bro. Cooper to give the charge, who discharged the duty in his usual impressive manner, and upon the J.W. to deliver the lecture on the Tracing Board, which he did for the first time, and acquitted himself admirably. A vote of thanks was passed to the visitors for their attendance, and specially to those who had rendered assistance in working the ceremony, which was duly acknowledged. No other business offering, the lodge was closed at ten o'clock, and the brethren separated, not to meet again till November.

CANPORE.—Lodge of Harmony (No. 438).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held on the 6th March in the Freemasons' Hall. Bro. C. Burbidge presided, and was supported by Bros. Bedford, P.M.; Eastaway, S.W.; Littlewood, J.W.; Ward, S.D.; Wilson, J.D.; Coles, I.G.; Tumber, Organist; and a good number of members. The visitors were Bros. T. Deek, 563; J. Macpherson, 391; A. E. Linton, 1210; G. Noble, 1210; and E. Boare, 5. The lodge was opened in the First Degree, and the minutes of previous meeting read and confirmed. The lodge was then passed to the Second Degree, when Bro. Logie was entrusted with it. The lodge was then raised to the Sublime Degree, when Bros. H. Burton and A. Burton were brought forward to receive it, which was given with great effect by the worthy R.W.M. This brought the business of the evening to a close. The lodge was then closed in due and ancient form and the brethren adjourned to a good supper, to which the visitors were, as is usual with this most hospitable lodge, especially invited. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were then duly honoured. The R.W.M. then proposed "The Health of Bro. P.M. Bedford," who is, he was sorry to say, leaving the station; he has been a member of this lodge for the last nine years. Bro. Bedford responded at some length. He said that it was true he would be absent in person, but his thoughts would often wander to Lodge Harmony and the many pleasant evenings he had spent there. The brethren then separated after spending a very agreeable evening.

RUNCORN.—Ellesmere Lodge (No. 758).—The usual monthly meeting of this now prosperous lodge was held in the Freemasons' Hall on the evening of Wednesday, April 6th, 1876. The lodge was opened in due form

by the W.M., Bro. Edward Aston, at 6.30. The following officers and others were present:—Bros. James Warburton, S.W.; W. Wass, J.W.; Charles Gerrard, S.D.; J. Cox-shill, J.D.; William Lyon, Treas.; George Moss, Sec.; Thomas Gregson, Org.; William Mellor, I.G.; George Purver, Tyler; Robert Rigby, I.P.M.; C. C. Simson, P.M.; J. Fothergill, P.M.; Thomas Kingston; J. Couth, J. W. Lightburn, John L. Jones, and others. Visiting brethren: Bros. J. K. Diggs, W.M. of St. John's, 673; John Pemberton, P.G., S.W.L., and P.M. of Lodge 1264. The minutes of the March meeting having been read and confirmed, the W.M., assisted by his officers, passed Bro. John James Waterworth to the Fellow Craft Degree, after which Bro. James Collier was examined in the former degree, and having answered satisfactory, was raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason. Bro. Jonathan Wilson having been proposed as a joining member, was balloted for, and unanimously elected. Bros. W. Wass, J.W., and W. Millor, I.G., proposed and seconded Mr. Charles Rigby as eligible to become a member. Other important business being done, the lodge closed in harmony at nine o'clock.

PLUMSTEAD.—Pattison Lodge (No. 913).—The regular monthly meeting of this lodge was held at the Lord Raglan on Thursday, the 6th inst., Bro. A. Penfold, W.M., in the chair, supported by the following officers:—J. McDougall, I.P.M.; C. Coupland, P.M., and P.G.S. Kent; T. Smith, P.M., and P. Prov. G.P. Kent; C. Ellis, P.M.; J. Henderson, P.M.; W. T. Vincent, S.W.; H. J. Butter, J.W.; A. Jessup, Treas.; E. Denton, P.M. and Sec.; J. D. Hayes, S.D.; J. Chapman, I.G.; and R. Lister, Tyler. Among the visitors were H. Carnelly, W.M. 13; J. Rowland, P.M. 700; W. Weston, S.W. 1536; G. Spinks, J.W. 1536; H. S. Syer, Sec. 13; J. Warren, J.D. 700; J. Cavit, 147; H. Bryson, 700; T. W. Virgo, 700; J. Plume, 1472; W. Topp, 879; A. Cleese, 13; B. Pilcher, 1472; and others. Lodge having been opened in due form and with prayer, the ballot was taken for Mr. F. Hayward, and after approval he and Mr. D. Davis, who was already balloted for, were regularly initiated into Freemasonry. Bros. Upperton and Mitchell were passed, and Bros. Anderson, Read, and Long were raised in their several degrees, the impressive ceremonies being beautifully rendered by Bro. Penfold. The lodge was then closed, and the brethren and visitors adjourned to supper and refreshments, the usual loyal and Masonic toasts being put by the W.M. in his own choice and pithy manner. Some excellent singing enlivened the proceedings, and altogether a most enjoyable evening was spent by the brethren.

FLEETWOOD.—Hesketh Lodge (No. 950).—The annual meeting for the installation of W.M. was held on the 18th inst. in the Masonic room. About 40 members of the Craft were present. Bro. Captain Jameson, W.M., presided, and the lodge was opened in the First Degree with solemn prayer. The usual formalities of the Craft having been gone through, Bro. Dr. Orr, P.M., took the W.M.'s chair, and the brethren below the rank of Master having retired, Bro. William Stewardson, J.W. (Lancaster) was duly installed into the chair of King Solomon, the ceremony of installation being impressively gone through by Bro. Orr. The members having been re-admitted, the newly-installed W.M. was honoured with the customary salutes, and received the congratulations of the brethren present. The W.M. then proceeded to elect his officers, who were inducted into their respective chairs by Bro. Orr, as follows:—Bros. Henry Rawes, S.W.; Capt. Leeming, J.W.; R. Robinson, S.D.; John Wilson, Lancaster, J.D.; Richard Charnley, I.G.; John Gibson, Treas.; — Hall, Sec.; and James, Gibson, O.G. In the course of the proceedings, the newly-installed Master was presented with a beautiful collar by the retiring P.M., Bro. Capt. Jameson. The lodge was then closed in the manner peculiar to the Craft, and the brethren adjourned from labour to refreshment. The installation banquet was held at the house of Bro. Foster, the Crown Hotel, where an attractive bill of fare was provided. The dinner was carefully served, and gave complete satisfaction to all who had the pleasure of partaking of it. Bro. Stewardson, the W.M., occupied the post of honour, and was supported by Bros. Captain and Adj. Whitehead, Capt. Smith, Foster, Dr. Orr, Captain Leeming, Capt. Jameson. The S.W., Bro. H. Rawes, officiated as Grouper in the west, and was ably supported by the brethren around him. On the removal of the cloth, the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and responded to. The proceedings were worked with the greatest unanimity, and the installation meeting, and its attendant banquet, were fittingly brought to a close by the time-honoured Tyler's toast.

WELCHPOOL.—Welchpool Lodge (No. 998).—On Friday, the 31st ult. (the twelfth anniversary of this lodge) the brethren assembled to celebrate the Festival of St. John the Evangelist, amongst whom were Bros. Robinson, D.P. Owen, P.M.; W. Callender, I.P.M.; W. Withy, P.M.; F. Britton, W.M., P.M. 850, P.P.G.J.W. of Derbyshire; T. McGrath, S.W.; T. R. Morris, J.W.; G. Brown, S.D.; T. Richards, I.G.; J. Dainly, H. R. Gilbank, J. H. Anderson, R. Parry, J. Owen, E. Owen, A. Ikin, W. E. Rider, J. Barnard, Tyler. The lodge was opened by Bro. Britton, W.M., at 3.30 p.m., when the customary business was disposed of. The Treasurer's balance sheet was presented and read, which was received with great favour by the brethren, there being a larger balance than the lodge had ever had before in its favour. The W.M. afterwards announced that the installation of the W.M. would be immediately proceeded with, when Bro. Callender, I.P.M., presented Bro. Thomas Rowley Morris, the W.M. elect, and Bro. F. Britton, W.M., performed the ceremony in an impressive manner, assisted by Bro. D. P. Owen, P.M. The W.M. then invested his officers for the ensuing year as follows:—Bros. F. Britton, I.P.M.; G. Brown, S.W.; J. Sides Davies, J.W.; D. P. Owen, P.M., Sec.; W. Withy, P.M., Treas. (while in.

vesting this officer the Installing Master presented No. 998 with the badge for this office); T. McGrath, D.C.; J. Daisly, S.D.; H. R. Gilbank, J.D.; J. H. Anderson, I.G.; J. Barnard, Tyler. Before closing the lodge the W.M. said that he had the pleasure to present the I.P.M. with a Past Master's jewel given by the lodge, which was duly acknowledged. The jewel presented is a work of art, both chaste and beautiful; has the words "Welchpool Lodge, No. 998," on the front, and on the reverse is engraved as follows:—"Presented by the Welchpool Lodge, No. 998, to Bro. Frederick Britton, P.M., to mark the efficient manner in which he discharged the duties of W.M. AD. 1875-6." The business being completed, the lodge was closed according to ancient custom, and the brethren adjourned to a splendid banquet. After supper the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and responded to, interspersed with songs, after which the evening was brought to a close by the time-honoured toast, "To all Poor and Distressed Masons."

SOUTHEND.—Priory Lodge (No. 1000).—The regular monthly meeting of this lodge was held at the Middleton Hotel, Southend, on Thursday, the 6th inst. The lodge was summoned for six o'clock p.m., and shortly after that time was opened by the W.M., Bro. Dr. E. E. Phillips, P.M. 379, supported by the following officers and brethren:—Bros. A. Lucking, P.M. 160, and Prov. A.G. D.C. I.P.M.; Rev. S. R. Wigram, P.M. and P.Z. 214, Grand Chaplain, S.W.; W. Frost, J.W.; F. Wood, P.M., P. Prov. S.G.W., Treas.; J. A. Wardell, P.M. 160 and 1000, P. Prov. G.D., Sec.; J. R. Hemmann, P.M., Prov. J.G.D., Org.; W. Chaplin, S.D.; W. P. Bellias, J.D.; W. Chignell, I.G.; J. Reeve, W.M. 260; Wallis, J. W. Allen, jun., S.D. 160; G. J. Glasscock; Rev. H. J. Hatch, S.W. 160, Prov. G. Chap.; W. Waterhouse, H. Hicks, B. Mackel, H. Luker, W. D. Merritt, C. Woosnam, F. Canter, F. V. Jillings, S.W. 160. Visitors: Bros. Sir Thos. Kirkpatrick, Batt., 957; E. C. Rylay, W. Pissey, P.M. 160, P. Prov. J.G.W.; Capt. D. L'Anderson; G. Soiling, 160, G. Goodman, 160; Dr. Grayson, 277. The lodge having been opened, and the minutes read and confirmed, the ballot was taken for Mr. George Frederick Wood as a candidate for initiation, which proved unanimous in his favour. Bro. P. Benton was then passed to the Second Degree, Bros. Rev. Hayes, H. Briggs, and W. H. Lockett raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason, and Mr. G. F. Wood into the mysteries of the Craft, the work being done in a masterly way by the W.M. The charge to the initiate was very impressively given by the S.W., Bro. Rev. S. R. Wigram. Bro. Rev. Hayes was then invested by the W.M. with the collar of Chaplain of the lodge. All Masonic business being ended, the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to supper. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed and duly responded to. Some excellent harmony by Captain Dr. L'Anderson, and several others contributed to the pleasures of the evening.

LANCASTER.—Rowley Lodge (No. 1051).—The monthly meeting of this lodge was held in the Masonic Rooms, Athenæum, on the 3rd inst., Bro. Longman, the W.M., presiding. The lodge having been opened in due form, the minutes of previous meeting were read and confirmed. There being no business of importance before the lodge, it merged into instruction, with Bro. Dr. J. D. Moore, P.G.S.B. Eng., as Preceptor, and a very instructive evening was spent by those present.

MANCHESTER.—Derby Lodge (No. 1055).—The installation meeting of this lodge was held at the Knowsley Hotel, Cheetham, on Thursday the 13th inst. The lodge was opened by the W.M., Bro. R. Hankinson, P.P.G. Reg., at 4 o'clock. The minutes were read and confirmed, and the balance sheet was submitted and passed. The W.M. Elect, Bro. E. Griffith Hughes, was installed in the chair of King Solomon by Bro. T. H. Glendining, P.M., assisted by Bro. Sillitoe, P.M. 317, who also invested the following officers:—viz., Bros. A. Turner, S.W.; J. Pollitt, J.W.; J. West, P.M.; Treas.; Bradshaw, Sec.; F. Thompson, P.M., D.C.; J. Boulton, S.D.; Robinson, J.D.; Morrison, I.G.; Pope and Williamson, Stewards; and Marshall, Tyler. The addresses to the W.M., Wardens, and brethren were impressively delivered by Bro. Freeman, P.M., about sixty members and visitors being present. After the lodge was closed, the brethren sat down to a sumptuous banquet, provided in the well-known style of the host, Bro. Bremnell, which was presided over by Bro. Hughes, W.M. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured. The toast of the evening, viz., "The W.M." was proposed by the I.P.M. in a very complimentary speech, and met with a very hearty and enthusiastic reception. Other toasts were also ably proposed and responded to. During the evening Bros. Lovatt and W. Dumville (of the cathedral choir), and Bro. Bednal sang some excellent songs and glees, and Bro. Jarrett amused the brethren with some choice comic songs. The meeting dispersed about 10.30 after spending a pleasant evening.

DERBY.—Hartington Lodge (No. 1085).—The monthly meeting of this lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, Gower-street, Derby, on Wednesday, April 5th. Present: Bros. S. Pipes, W.M.; J. Worsnop, I.P.M.; W. Heathcote, S.W.; J. Gadsby, J.W.; M. H. Bobart, Treas.; G. Pipes, Sec.; J. Hills, S.D.; J. Heathcote, J.D.; J. Shaw, D. of C.; J. H. Biggs, I.G.; G. F. Edwards, Org.; T. Slinn, Tyler; Steele, Parkins, Manton, Frazer, Hextall, Butterfield, Russell, and Whales. Visitors: Bros. McCoombe, W.M. 731; Dunsford, King Alfred Lodge, 306, Leeds; T. Merry, Whittaker, Knight, 731. The lodge was opened at 7.45. After the minutes had been read and confirmed the ballot was taken for Mr. George Johnson, coal proprietor, who was duly elected. Bro. Pakeman was duly passed to the Second Degree. Mr. Geo. Hill, iron founder, was duly initiated into the mysteries and privileges of ancient Freemasonry by the W.M. Mr. John Lane, engineer, Derby, was proposed as a candidate

for Freemasonry. After the W.M. had received the hearty good wishes of several of the brethren the lodge was closed, after which the brethren adjourned to supper, when a very pleasant and enjoyable evening was spent.

LAGOS (S.W. Africa).—Lagos Lodge (No. 1171).—The annual festival and installation of this lodge in Lagos, Western Africa, was held on Monday, the 27th December, at the Freemasons' Hall, Broad-street, Bro. Robert Campbell W.M., presiding. The minutes of the previous meeting being read and confirmed, Bro. Charles Dennett Torton, W.M. elect, was then presented by Bro. Frank Simpson, P.M., to the Installing Master for installation. The ceremony of installation having been impressively performed, the new W.M. invested Bros. Robert Campbell, I.P.M.; Charles Pike, S.W.; Robert Knight Bousfield, J.W.; Rev. Valentine Faulkner, Chap.; George Smith, Sec.; Americo Jacinto Rodrigues, S.D.; William Meyer, J.D.; Jose Augusto Ribeiro, D.C.; Thomas J. Whittington, I.G.; John Smith and Adolphe Bell, Stwds. The lodge was closed at the conclusion of business and the brethren adjourned to the banquet. To the pleasures of this upwards of twenty-five brethren sat down to enjoy the many delicacies which had been so carefully provided by the exertions of Bros. Carrena and Ribeiro. The W.M. gave the toasts of "The Queen," "Bro. Albert Edward, Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M.," "The Princess of Wales and the rest of the Royal Family," and "The Right Honourable the Earl of Carnarvon, M.W. Pro Grand Master," the last toast being responded to by his Excellency Bro. John D. A. Dumaresq, No. 784, who referred to the valuable services his lordship had rendered to the cause of Masonry. The W.M. then proposed "The Health of His Excellency Bro. Dumaresq," stating that it gave the members great pleasure to welcome him at their annual festival and it rejoiced all present to see him take so warm an interest in this lodge and Masonic work generally. His Excellency after thanking the brethren for their good feeling towards him, and wishing the lodge a continuance of its prosperity, proposed "The Health of the W.M.," adding he had much pleasure in congratulating the brethren of the lodge in having secured so able and popular a brother as the W.M. to preside over them, and from his official knowledge of him he felt sure the brethren could not have elected one who would show more zeal for the work committed to his care, for this lodge and Masonry generally. The W.M. thanked the brethren for the manner in which the toast had been received, and hoped his year's services in the chair would justify the confidence reposed in him. The earnest zeal of the brethren of his mother lodge, No. 823, had animated him with a desire to emulate them in this new country, and it gave him much pleasure to say that he found the brethren here willing and determined to help him. His Excellency, Bro. Dumaresq, then proposed "The Health of the Installing Master and Past Masters," stating that he had been informed how much the lodge was indebted to their untiring zeal for its success. In an unhealthy climate like Lagos, Europeans were obliged to leave the country frequently to save their lives, and this naturally must make it a work of great difficulty to secure brethren capable of performing the duties efficiently. He understood that the Past Masters who had been associated with the lodge from its commencement had by their energy successfully overcome every obstacle, and placed Masonry in such a position in the country that could not but be gratifying to all who had its welfare at heart. He hoped they might long be spared so that the lodge might have a continuance of their valuable services. Bro. Robt. Campbell, Installing Master, thanked the brethren for the hearty manner in which the toast had been received, and he could only say that he never felt happier than when Masonry was prospering, as he took a great interest in the Craft. He saw the lodge improving daily, and he hoped he would long be able to take the same active part in its management as he had always done. Bro. Frank Simpson, P.M., in acknowledging the compliment for the Past Masters could only say that his efforts of late had been principally in the financial direction, as no lodge could prosper if it was in debt. They had over £400 in hand, which would be appropriated to the erection of a new Masonic Hall when the sum was sufficiently large to cover the expenditure of such a work. He always had been proud of this lodge, which was the pioneer of Masonry in this part of Africa, and he knowing the vast amount of work to be done could but be gratified at the success which had attended it. "The Officers of the Lodge" were acknowledged by the J.W., "The Visiting Brethren" by Bro. Senhor Godinto, Lodge Irmao de Caridade, Bahai, "The Ladies" by Bro. Meyer, and the banquet was brought to a close by the Tyler's toast. Owing to the forethought of Bro. Meyer, who is noted for his musical talent, the band of the Houssa armed police, by kind permission of Bro. H. H. Graves, Assistant Inspector Gold Coast Constabulary, played suitable airs between each toast, and several brethren exhibited their musical talent, which added much enjoyment to the evening.

LIVERPOOL.—Fermor Hesketh Lodge (No. 1350).—The usual monthly meeting of this lodge was held on Monday evening, the 10th inst., at the Masonic Hall, Liverpool, the proceedings being of more than ordinary interest and novelty. Bro. Dr. J. M. Bennett, W.M., occupied his position in the E., and amongst those present were Bros. J. Higson Johnston, P.M.; Dr. A. Samuels, P.M.; T. A. Collinson, P.M., Treas.; Dr. Crawford, P.M.; R. Collinson, S.W.; W. H. Cooper, J.W.; Cooper, J.D.; Evans, I.G.; Gilrour, S.S.; Kaye, J.S.; and Titherly. The visitors included Bro. Dr. Stephens, P. Prov. J.G.D.; Bro. T. Platt, P. Prov. J.G.D. Cheshire; and Bro. Dr. Bailey, 786. After the First and Second Degrees had been given, and certain formal business had been transacted, Bro. Collinson, I.P.M., presented the W.M. with a very chaste and handsome silver cup, subscribed for by members of the lodge, as a kind of congratulatory offering in connection with a certain recent and in-

teresting event, when another child was added to his family. Bro. Collinson referred in felicitous terms to the happy event, and cordially wished Bro. Dr. Bennett, the W.M., sincere happiness along with his wife and family. Bro. J. Higson Johnston, P.M., also spoke in connection with the presentation, stating that the lodge was now in a prosperous condition, and hoped it would long continue so. Bro. Dr. Bennett, W.M., said he had been quite taken by surprise, as he had not the remotest idea such a presentation was to be made. He thanked the brethren for their kind recognition of the happy event, and he was quite sure his wife, along with himself, would be delighted at the kindly feeling thus displayed by the brethren of the lodge. Refreshments were subsequently served in an adjoining room, and a very pleasant evening was spent.

VALPARAISO.—Lodge of Harmony (No. 1411).—On Friday, 14th January, 1876, this lodge met in their hall in the Calle de Elias, for the purpose of installing the W.M. for the ensuing year. There was a good attendance of members, and a very numerous assemblage of visitors from the different sister lodges. The installation ceremony was performed in a most effective manner by Bro. W. R. Betterley, P.G.P. Staffordshire, W.M. 1551, after which the W.M., Bro. George Jenkins, was saluted by the members in each degree, and received the hearty good wishes of the visitors present. The appointment and investment of the officers next took place as follows:—Bros. J. B. Bughe, I.P.M.; J. Barnett, S.W.; G. H. Hodgkinson, J.W.; J. G. Rowe, Treas.; G. R. Gepp, Sec.; W. D. Vaughan, D.C.; C. D. Rowe, S.D.; Charles Lewis, J.D.; T. M. Mole, I.G.; G. Crisp, S.S.; G. B. Barnett, J.S.; Rev. John Rowe, Chaplain. Before the lodge was closed Bro. Trumbull, Chaplain Bethesda Lodge, made a most impressive appeal to the brethren on behalf of the Blas Cuevas Schools, which he had lately had an opportunity of visiting, and becoming convinced not only of the excellent administration of their present master, but also of the great amount of good these schools were effecting. All business being ended, the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to the banquet, where the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed and enthusiastically received.

PLUMSTEAD.—United Military Lodge (No. 1536).—The above lodge held an emergency meeting on Monday, the 10th inst., in consequence of Good Friday falling upon their usual meeting night, and the attendance of both brethren and visitors must have been most gratifying to the esteemed W.M., Bro. F. G. Pownall, Bro. Plisted's fine room being nearly double lined with Masons good and true. The visitors included Bros. C. Coupland, P.G.S. Kent, and P.M. 913; A. Penfold, W.M. 913; T. Butt, S.W. 700; C. Cooke, Org. 700 and 13; H. S. Syer, Sec. 13; T. Hutton, 13; O. Hutton, 13; B. Norman, 13; C. W. Crews, 13; T. W. Robinson, 13; T. E. Hassell, 13; T. Huntingford, 13; G. W. Mitchell, 700; F. Lyons, 913 and 700; R. Beaver, 700; G. Beaver, 700; Fisher, 700; J. W. Weill, 1331; W. Lennox, 273; Joskey, 1107; E. Humphreys, 1066; R. Fletcher, 1066; C. Morris, 1331; J. Richards, 1326; A. Upperton, 913; E. Hughes, 913; and C. Jolly, 913. The officers present beside the W.M. were W. Weston, S.W.; G. Spinks, J.W.; W. Murphy, Treas.; T. Cooper, Sec.; H. G. Picken, S.D.; R. Lapham, I.G.; J. McCaffery, Steward; and J. Lackland, O.G. Bro. Croisdale, P.M. 706, was I.P.M. The business before the lodge was the balloting for of Sergeant W. A. Watkins, R.A., who after approval was duly initiated into the Craft. Bros. W. Taylor and G. Harris were then passed to the Second Degree, the working of both degrees by Bro. Pownall was most excellent. It was then put and carried, that the election of W.M. take place in June instead of May, and that the bye-laws be amended accordingly, and after the proposal of three candidates, the lodge was duly closed. After refreshment the W.M. gave the usual loyal and Masonic toasts, that of "H. R.H. the Prince of Wales and G.M. of England," who, the W.M. said, had done good service in India, and who he hoped, as had been suggested at Grand Lodge, would receive a truly Masonic welcome back to his native land, was most warmly received. In proposing the toast of "Lord Holmesdale, P.G.M. Kent, and the rest of the P.G. Officers," the W.M. said he hoped Bro. P.M. Coupland would tell the P.G.M. something of the real position and standing of the lodge, so that they might understand the great increase in its numbers and strength since the time of its consecration nine months ago. At the consecration of a new military lodge he had had the pleasure of attending in London a short time ago, Bro. Simpson, P.G.C. of England, had spoken warningly of indiscriminate admissions to the Craft, and it might be thought in the province that they were increasing in numbers without regard to those qualifications, both social and moral, without which no one should be admitted to the Order; but Bro. Coupland could see by the members present what the lodge was composed of, and their numbers would be accounted for by the admission of joining members who were continually arriving at the garrison from Canada, India, the Mediterranean, and other parts of Her Majesty's dominions. He felt proud to say that the initiates and former members were one and all an honour to both the lodge and the Craft. He coupled with the toast the name of Bro. P.M. Coupland, of the Pattison Lodge. Bro. Coupland, in the course of an eloquent reply, bore his testimony to the excellent character of the lodge, and should be proud to see the Worshipful Master some day taking a position in the province, such as his zeal and ability in Masonry, so well qualified him for. He quite agreed with Bro. Pownall as to the too lax manner in which members were admitted to Masonry; no one, in his opinion, should be admitted unless he occupied a good position in life and was of good moral character. Just at present there was quite a rage for Masonry, and many young men, who

could by any means save a few pounds, were, he thought, too readily admitted to membership, and having no sound position in life, too often became claimants for Masonic charity; this he thought should not be, but unfortunately it was so in some lodges. The United Military Lodge it was, however, he believed, placed upon a sound foundation in that respect, for all its members were in such positions as to be a credit to the Craft, and the W.M. might be sure that the Provincial Grand Master and officers should know the excellence in the lodge, both in its working and members. Bro. P.M. Croisdale eloquently proposed "The Health of the W.M.," who he declared had won the good opinion and esteem of every brother, both of that and neighbouring lodges, and had by his energy placed the lodge upon a sure and sound basis, making it known among them all for its efficiency in working, and he trusted that his example would yet have the effect of making it the home of loyalty, charity, and efficiency for the brethren, who, for years to come might seek shelter within its ranks. He gave with great pleasure "The Health of Bro. Pownall." Bro. Pownall briefly replied, saying, his desire was to make the lodge second to none in the province. "The Initiate" was toasted, as were "The Visitors" and "Officers." Bros. Hughes and Price replying for the former, and Bro. Weston for the latter. Bro. Knight, who is about leaving England for St. Helena, was kindly toasted, "God speed" being wished him, and after a reply from him the Tyler's toast concluded the pleasures of the evening.

GREAT STANMORE.—Abercorn Lodge (No. 1549).—The second season of this thriving summer lodge was commenced very favourably on the 4th inst. in the presence of the following officers and brethren:—R. Helsdon, P.M. 133, W.M.; J. W. Garrod, S.W.; Joshua Nunn, P.M. 134, P.G.S.B.; J.W.S.; C. Veal, P.M. 889, P.P. G.S.D. Surrey, Hon. Sec.; G. Tidcombe, S.D.; J. Patterson, J.D.; H. L. Winter, Org.; J. Ebbs, acting I.G. Bros. Eversden, Best, Lloyd, Linton, Vincent, Roy, H. T. Swatton, and visitor Bro. C. Long, I.G. 753. The lodge was opened by the W.M. with solemn prayer at 4.15. The minutes of last meeting were then duly confirmed, and the ballot having been announced unanimous Mr. E. G. Swatton was impressively admitted to the First Degree. The ballot was also favourable for admission as joining members of Bro. J. Ebbs, 733, and R. Ray, 188. On the W.M. making the usual enquiries for the good of the Craft, the Hon. Secretary read a letter from Bro. J. Holden, S.D., tendering his resignation through inability to attend, which was accepted with regret, the brethren also decided to apply, through the R.W., Provincial Grand Master, for permission to wear a founder's jewel in commemoration of the consecration of the lodge in June last. Several minor matters were then disposed of. One joining member and one initiate were announced for next meeting in May, and the lodge was closed in perfect harmony at 5.45. An enjoyable evening and banquet, to which many musical brethren ably contributed very effectively closed the proceedings.

MORECAMBE.—Morecambe Lodge (No. 1561).—The monthly meeting of this lodge was held on the 7th inst., at their lodge-room in Morecambe-street, Bro. Dr. Moore, P.G.S.B. of England, the W.M., occupying the chair of King Solomon. There was a good attendance of brethren. The lodge was opened in the First Degree with solemn prayer, and the minutes of previous meeting were read and confirmed. Bro. W. Stephenson, having given proficiency as an Entered Apprentice, retired, and the lodge was raised to the Second Degree, and Bro. Stephenson, having been re-admitted, was duly passed to the degree of Fellow Craft. The lodge was then resumed in the First Degree, and Messrs. Robert Gregson (Preston), John Gatt, W. W. Wilde, and John Hutton duly initiated into the mysteries of the Craft, the ceremony of initiation being ably performed by the W.M., and Bro. Hatch (I.P.M. 281), and Bro. Bradshaw, (P.M. 1051), respectively; the working tools being presented by the Junior Warden. The Worshipful Master then submitted a code of bye-laws for the government of the lodge, which were subsequently adopted with but few minor alterations. Some other business having been transacted, the lodge was closed in due form with the peculiarities of the Craft.

PUTNEY.—Royal Commemoration Lodge (No. 1585).—The first meeting of this new lodge since its consecration—which ceremony was fully reported in our issue of the 25th ult., and in which report by a clerical error the name of Bro. Joseph Smith, P.M., was inserted as Installed Master instead of Bro. Joseph Wright—was held at the Star and Garter Hotel, on the 5th inst. The lodge was opened at five o'clock by the following officers:—Bros. Joseph Wright, P.M. 1158, W.M.; Robinson, S.W.; Collins, D.C., acting J.W. In the unavoidable absence of Bro. Watson; Morphey, S.D.; Holland, J.D.; Boehr, I.G.; Smith, P.M. Royal Arthur, Sec.; Pulsford, P.M. and Secretary 1158, acting I.P.M.; Stacey, P.M., P.P.G.R. Berks and Bucks, acting Organist. The minutes of the consecration meeting having been read and confirmed, the W.M., with the assistance of his officers, initiated Messrs. Mansell, Harrison, Cook, Russell, and Hatfield into Craft mysteries, the ceremony being most ably carried out. Bro. Holland, of 1206, was unanimously admitted a joining member, and Bros. Silcock and Franks, 862, and Bemish, 1044, proposed as joining members. Other propositions having been taken, the lodge was closed in due form, and the brethren adjourned to an excellent repast. The other visitors present besides Bros. Stacey and Pulsford were Bros. Howick, P.M. 1044; Walls, S.D. 1381, &c.; and Franks 862. Upon the removal of the cloth the W.M. gave the customary loyal and Masonic toasts, prefaced by a few well chosen and appropriate remarks, and at his request Bro. Walls contributed the National Anthem and Brinley Richards' popular ode. The W.M. in proposing "The Health of the Visitors" alluded to the vast number

that had honoured the lodge by their presence on the day of its consecration, and he was pleased to see that the majority of the visitors then present (April 5th) were also in attendance on that auspicious occasion, and in conclusion he trusted that, although that evening he had not been to entertain them so well at the banquetting table as he had endeavoured to do on the opening day, their visit had been in every way satisfactory to them. This toast having been duly honoured, Bro. Walls said that by the request of some distinguished Past Masters on his right he had been requested to return thanks for the compliment passed to the visitors, but he wished that the honour had fallen into better hands. He then went on to state that he had had opportunities of witnessing the work of the W.M. in another lodge, which he characterised as being almost faultless. It was also a very gratifying circumstance and a very good augury of future prosperity for the Royal Commemoration Lodge that on their first regular meeting they should have had six candidates present for initiation, one of whom, however, was necessarily compelled to be disappointed, and in conclusion the speaker stated that, on behalf of his co-visitors and himself, he wished to assure the members of 1585 that their visit had in every way been satisfactory and most pleasant to them, and he congratulated the lodge upon having so experienced, zealous and able a first Master as Bro. Joseph Wright. In giving "The Health of the Initiates" the W.M. expressed himself highly pleased with the five gentlemen who had offered themselves that evening as candidates for the secrets and mysteries of their ancient Order. With regard to the gentleman that had been disappointed, he hoped that he, together with several others would have an opportunity of "seeing the light" at a very early date. In conclusion, the W.M. said he felt confident from the attention that the newly-made brethren had given throughout the entire trying ceremony that they would eventually become good and worthy Masons. This toast having been drunk the initiates acknowledged the compliment that had been paid to them, and each stated the deep impression that the ceremony had made upon him. Bro. Pulsford, P.M., then rose to propose a toast, which, according to accustomed Masonic usage, ought to have been given earlier in the evening, namely, "The Health of the W.M." In the course of a few happy remarks, the speaker spoke of Bro. Wright's labours in Freemasonry, and called the brethren's attention to the fact that when acting as Steward on behalf of the Southern Star at the last festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, that his list (the W.M.'s) was one of the best, and that the sum was expressed by three figures. In conclusion, Bro. Pulsford said that if he were capable of speaking for hours he could not sum up or do justice to all the good Masonic and other qualities that their W.M. possessed. This toast having been heartily drunk, the W.M. briefly replied by stating that he felt exceedingly pleased at the manner in which his name had been mentioned that evening, but he must say that both Bros. Pulsford and Walls had given him more praise than was his due. It was true that he had given up a great deal of his time in order to perfect himself in Masonic working, and he wished on that occasion to acknowledge that his endeavours in that respect had been greatly aided by the worthy brother who had just proposed his health; yet he considered that merely a personal duty, and one that every Mason who aspired to the chair should cheerfully undertake. With respect to what had been stated about his poor services at the last Boys' Festival, he desired to state that he considered it also the duty of every Mason to increase the funds of those truly noble charities connected with the Craft, and if he had been able to produce a satisfactory list on behalf of one of those institutions, yet the brethren must remember that his exertions would have been of little avail unless assisted by the philanthropy of his friends and brethren. "The Health of the Secretary and Treasurer" followed, and was responded to by the Secretary, Bro. Smith, P.M., upon behalf of the Treasurer (Bro. Watkins, P.M.) and himself, in a witty and able speech. The toast of "The Officers" came next, and having been duly honoured elicited a very excellent response from the S.W., Bro. Robinson. The proceedings were enlivened by vocal contributions from Bros. Morphey, Walls, Cook, and others, and the Tyler having been called upon to discharge his duty, the brethren separated until October next.

Royal Arch.

DOMATIC CHAPTER (No. 177).—The last convocation of this well-known chapter was held at Anderson's Hotel, on the 23rd ult. This being the night of installation of Comp. Hayward there were a goodly number of companions present. The chapter was opened by Comps. Bolton, M.E.; Hayward, H.; Cottebrune, P.Z., acting J.; Palmer, S.E.; Hill, S.N.; Lawrence, 1st A.S.; Harrison, 2nd A.S.; Buss, P.Z., Treas. The other P.Z.'s present were Comps. T. Adams, Wilson, Cubitt, Coutts, Simmonds, Sutton, Gilbert. The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the report of the auditors, Comps. Sullivan, Foxcroft, and Clarke, was received and adopted. The installation ceremony was then most ably worked by Comp. T. Adams, P.Z. The officers were next inducted, with the exception of the following, who were unavoidably absent:—Comps. Scott, H.; Weaver, J.; and Treadwell, P.S. Comp. Hayward, M.E., who it was evident was far from being well, having requested the I.P.Z. to take the chair, Bro. Drew, P.M., was exalted to the S.D. of the R.A., in a manner that left little to be desired. Comp. Clarke having given a notice of motion that the services of Comp. Palmer, the zealous and obliging S.E. of the chapter for the last four years, should be taken into consideration at the next meeting, with a view to present him with some mark of the

chapter's esteem, the convocation was adjourned until the third Thursday in October next, and the companions repaired to the banquet, which was well served in the large hall. The visitors present were Comps. Nunn, P.Z. (Pannure); Stevens, P.Z. (Whittington); Swallow, H. 77; Scott, J. 77; Walls, (Jerusalem); Burford, (Belgrave), Kent. The cloth having been removed the M.E. gave the usual R.A. ceremonial toasts with commendable brevity. "The M.E.'s Health" having been duly proposed by Comp. Bolton, and responded to, the pleasing duty of presenting the I.P.Z. with a jewel—at the request of the M.E.—was performed by Comp. Cubitt, P.Z. He stated that he had known Comp. Bolton nearly fifty years, and he was extremely obliged to the M.E. in having allowed him to make the presentation to his dear old friend and companion. He then expatiated upon the services of the I.P.Z. to the chapter, and having pinned the very handsome jewel to the breast of Comp. Bolton, concluded his very excellent address by wishing him many years of health and happiness. Comp. Bolton having replied, "The Health of the Newly Exalted Comp. Drew" was proposed, and having been duly honoured was responded to by that companion most ably. "The Health of the Visitors" followed, and was acknowledged by Comps. Stevens, Burford, and Kent. The M.E. in proposing "The Health of the Past Principals of the Chapter" expressed his thanks to those worthy companions for the great assistance he had always received at their hands, and felt proud at occupying the chair which in the long history of the Domatic Chapter had had so many distinguished occupants. Comp. Buss, P.Z., replied in very excellent terms, in which he stated that he had been connected with the chapter for nearly twenty-five years, and was its senior member. He felt exceedingly proud that his name should have been coupled with the toast, and he hoped, by the blessings of Providence, to be spared many years yet to come to write himself Past Principal of the Domatic Chapter. "The Officers" toast having been proposed and drunk, was briefly acknowledged by Comps. Hill, Palmer, and Lawrence. During the evening contributions of harmony were given by Comps. Palmer, Lawrence, Stevens, Scott, Walls, and others. The Janitor's toast brought the proceedings to a close at a comparatively early hour.

MOUNT LEBANON CHAPTER (No. 73).—The installation meeting of this chapter was held at the Bridge House Hotel, Borough, High-street, Southwark, on Thursday, April 13th, Comps. J. H. Button, M.E.Z.; H. A. Dubois, H.; J. W. Baldwin, J.; W. Smeed, P.Z.; T. J. Sabine, P.Z.; J. T. Moss, P.Z. F. Walters, P.Z., S.E., opened the chapter. The companions were admitted. The minutes were read and unanimously confirmed. Ballots were unanimous in favour of the seven candidates for exaltation. Comp. W. Smeed, P.Z., in a correct and impressive manner exalted Bros. H. Hand, 1017; J. Parsons, 871; H. Ireland, 87; and C. J. Strome, 298, S.C. He installed Comps. H. A. Dubois, M.E.Z.; J. W. Baldwin, H.; John Mason, J. The officers invested and appointed were T. J. Sabine, P.Z., Treas. (re-invested for the fourth time); F. Walters, P.Z., S.E. (re-invested for the 13th time); B. Isaacs, S.N.; F. C. Mason, P.S.; T. W. Adams, First A.S.; S. Frankenberg, Second A.S.; W. Y. Laing, Janitor. Many propositions were received of candidates for exaltation. The chapter was closed. Banquet and dessert followed. Visitor, Comp. T. E. Scott.

Scotland.

LAYING THE FOUNDATION STONE OF WORKING-MEN'S HOUSES AT CLYDEBANK.

The foundation-stone of the first of a series of buildings being erected at Clydebank, Dalmuir, by the Glasgow Working-Men's Investment and Building Society, was laid on Saturday afternoon, the 8th inst., with full Masonic honours, by the Provincial Grand Lodge of Dumbartonshire, in the presence of a large number of spectators.

At present the society, having secured three acres of land on the estate of Barns of Clyde, are constructing sixty-eight houses for the accommodation of the workmen employed in Messrs. Thomson's shipbuilding-yard, and have nearly finished twelve of the lot. Each tenement of two storeys contains four houses, giving three apartments, with a garden plot of 20 feet in front, and a kitchen garden to the back. It is proposed to charge £165 for each house, and to allow the workmen to pay this sum at any time within 21 years. The houses are provided with water from the Old Kilpatrick Waterworks, and with gas, while a good system of drainage has been made to the Clyde, which flows near at hand. The range of buildings has been erected under the superintendence of Mr. James Smith, the architect and building manager of the society.

At three o'clock in the afternoon the members of the Provincial Grand Lodge assembled in the Masonic Hall, Dalmuir, Bro. Sheriff William Cunningham Steele, P.G. S.W., presiding; J. McLeish, P.G.S.D., acting P.G.D.M.; A. Denny, P.G.J.W., acting P.G.S.M.; D. Paul, R.W.M. 170, acting P.G.S.W.; A. McGregor, P.G.S.S., acting P.G.J.W.; Rev. D. H. Wilson, P.G. Chap.; W. Ferguson, P.G.J.S., acting P.G. Sec.; R. Thomson, acting P.G. Treas.; P. Moir, P.G.B.B.; L. Leckie, R.W.M. 543, acting P.G.S.D.; J. Allan, B. 18, acting P.G.J.D.; J. F. Wilson, S.W. 543, acting P.G.S.S.; J. Muirhead, J.W., acting P.G.J.S.; W. Cameron, R.W.M. 28; and Mair, Archt. 18, carrying working tools; Wiggins, P.G.I.G., and J. Kennedy, P.G. Tyler. Deputations were present from the following lodges, viz., St. John's, Glasgow, 33; Dumbarton Kilwinning, 18, headed by Bro. Barr, I.P.M.; St. John, Kirkintilloch, 28, headed by Bro. Cameron, R.W.M.; Thistle and Rose, Glasgow, 73, headed by Bro. Bannerman, D.M.; Leven St. John's, Renton, headed by 170, Bro. Paul, R.W.M.; St. Andrews, Bonhill and Alex-

andria, 321, headed by Bro. Stewart, R.W.M.; St. John's Dalmuir, 543, headed by Bro. Leckie, R.W.M.; Kenmuir Glasgow, 570, headed by Bro. Law, I.P.M.; Dramatic Glasgow, 571, headed by Bro. Dobson, R.W.M.; and Plantation, Glasgow, 581, headed by Bro. A. Gow, S.M. After the lodge had been opened the members walked in procession, headed by the 14th D.R.V. Band, to Clydebank.

Arrived at the platform beside the new buildings, the Freemasons took up their position round the foundation-stone, and the Rev. Bro. Wilson Renton, as Provincial Grand Chaplain, offered up prayer. Thereafter Bro. Sheriff Cunningham Steele, of Westonslee, Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Substitute Master, laid the stone with the ordinary ceremony.

Bro. Sheriff Steele then addressed the assembled company, and said it was exceedingly agreeable and pleasant to him to take part in a scheme of this kind, so pregnant with advantages to those whom they might call the working classes, but who were the stay and support of the nation, especially since the object of the society was to enable every man who had honourably, steadily, and industriously followed his vocation to find in his old age, or in his approach to old age, that he had the means of having a house. It gave one a status in the country, and he became a proprietor. No doubt the Savings Bank had done a great deal of good, but in this society there was a strong inducement held out to the working-man to deposit his money towards procuring a house. The society was founded in May, 1873, and had now no less than 760 members, with a subscribed capital of £59,750. One hundred and twenty houses had already been built, and out of these 96 had been sold at fair prices, while 65 houses were now being proceeded with.

Mr. Riddell, Secretary, read a letter of apology from the Rev. Dr. Bragg, Edinburgh, who apologised for his absence, and expressed the interest with which he had heard of the extension of the operations of the society. It was lamentable to hear, the rev. Doctor continued, of the difficulties and opposition which the working men met in their honourable and patriotic efforts to secure homes for themselves, and it was the interest of all classes to aid them in securing the removal of these difficulties. He was certain that when accurate statistics were taken it would be triumphantly proved that most of our social evils—crime, pauperism, intemperance, and disease—were directly and most favourably affected by making every man his own landlord, not to speak of higher and more important objects. Mr. Riddell further read a letter of apology for absence from Mr. James Thomson, Clydebank.

Mr. Allan S. Edmiston, the president of the society, next presented the silver trowel which had been used in the ceremony to Bro. Sheriff Steele, who briefly replied.

The members then re-formed in procession and walked back to Dalmuir, where the lodge was formally closed.

Immediately after, St. John's Lodge, Dalmuir, No. 543, was opened and called to refreshment, when a large number of the Glasgow brethren remained, Bros. Leckie, R.W.M., in the chair; J. F. Wilson, S.W.; and J. Muirhead, J.W. The Chairman proposed the usual loyal and Masonic toasts, which were heartily responded to, and the brethren enjoyed themselves until 7.30 p.m., when the Glasgow brethren returned to town by rail.

GLASGOW.—Lodge St. John's (No. 34).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held in their hall, Buchanan-street, on Tuesday evening, the 4th inst., Bro. D. M. Nelson, W.M., in the chair. Bro. T. B. Bell, S.M., acting S.W.; Bros. P. Brownlie, J.W.; W. Bell, I.P.M.; James Dunn, Treas.; J. Dick, Sec.; A. Cameron, S.D.; D. Paton, J.D.; A. Peddie, I.G.; and J. Wright, Tyler. The meeting was particularly well attended by the members, and a large number of visiting brethren, amongst whom we noticed Bros. J. Monro, W.M. 360; J. Gillies, P.M. 103, P.G. Treas.; W. Harper, W.M. 408; T. Halket, P.M. 102, W. Taylor, Treas. 581; R. Allan, Sec. 581; and W. Ferguson, P.M. 102 ("Freemason") &c. On the lodge being opened and the minutes of last meeting read and confirmed, Bros. W. Weir, G. R. Morrison and H. Tennant were passed to the Fellow Craft Degree in a most efficient manner by Bro. Monro, W.M. 360. On the lodge being reduced to the E.A. Degree, Bro. W. E. Campbell, of Lodge Magherafelt, 211, I.C., was affiliated a joining member. Bro. Nelson, the W.M., then rose and said,—"W. Wardens and brethren, I have now to perform a very pleasing duty, and that is to propose 'That Bro. Monro, the respected Master of Lodge Commercial, 360, become an honorary member of this lodge.' Bro. Monro has gained for himself a name long to be remembered for his zeal for Masonry in general, and the Province of Glasgow in particular. Bro. Monro was then obligated by the W.M.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Glasgow Kilwinning (No. 4).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held in their hall, Buchanan-st., on Wednesday evening, the 5th inst., Bro. R. Prout, W.M., in the chair, supported by Bros. A. Sage, P.M., S.M.; T. G. Jamieson, acting S.W.; G. Holmes, J.W.; R. Mitchell, P.M. 332, D.M.; J. McKeand, Treas.; J. Currie, Sec. Present: Bros. J. Morgan, W.M. Lodge Star, 219; W. Ferguson, P.M. 543 ("Freemason"); J. Law, I.P.M. 570; G. W. Wheeler, Chaplain 73; and others. On the minutes being read and approved of, the committee appointed to look out for a hall reported that they had secured the Claremont Hall, in Kent-road, where the meetings of the lodge will be held on and after Wednesday, the 7th June. Bro. J. S. Allan, Lodge Thistle and Rose, 73, was affiliated a joining member, and Mr. D. Carlisle was initiated by Bro. J. Morgan, W.M. 219, in his usual efficient style. After disposing of some charitable applications the lodge was closed.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Thistle and Rose (No. 73).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held in the

Kilwinning Hall, Buchanan-street, on Tuesday evening, the 4th inst., Bro. G. McDonald, W.M., presided, supported by Bros. J. Bannerman, D.M.; Alex. McLeod, S.W.; J. F. Handbridge, J.W.; J. S. Ampleford, Treas.; R. Richards, Sec.; Kay, S.D.; G. W. Wheeler, Chaplain; and others. On the minutes being read and approved of, Messrs. M. Reid and J. Miller were initiated into the E.A. Degree by Bro. McDonald, W.M., afterwards Bro. D. Fraser was passed to the Fellow Craft Degree by Bro. G. W. Wheeler, Chaplain.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Shamrock and Thistle (No. 275).—The monthly meeting of this lodge was held in the Masonic Hall, Struthers-street, on Friday evening, the 7th inst., Bro. D. Ronald, R.W.M., presiding; W. Findlay, S.W.; D. Rowan, acting J.W. Present: R. M. Yuill, I.P.M.; W. Phillips, P.M., R.W.M. 556; J. Paterson, D.M.; W. B. Hutcheson, Treas.; J. Horn, Sec.; C. McLeish, J.D.; H. Cox, I.G.; and J. Guthrie, Tyler. The lodge was opened and the minutes of last meeting read and approved of. Several applications were read from widows of deceased brethren for relief, most of which were favourably received. Mr. R. W. Guthrie was then initiated into the R. A. Degree by the R.W.M. A candidate was also proposed for initiation at next monthly meeting. A new code of bye-laws, drawn up by a committee appointed for that purpose, was read and passed.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Dramatic (No. 571).—A meeting of this lodge was held on Wednesday, the 5th inst., at three o'clock p.m., in St. Mark's Hall, Buchanan-street, the W.M., W. J. E. Dobson, in the chair; H. W. Jackman, S.W.; W. Sivewright, J.W.; D. Campbell, Sec.; R. S. Smyth, S.D.; L. Mitchell, J.D.; G. R. Weir, acting I.G.; and J. B. Hardie, Tyler. Present: G. R. Weir, F. Muir, J. Robertson, R. Prout, W.M. 4; D. McKirdy, W.M. 332; W. Phillips, W.M. 556; W. Ferguson, P.M. 543 ("Freemason"); J. M. Oliver, S.W. 360; G. W. Wheeler, 73; J. Allan, 73; J. H. Kelso, 116; W. Squires, 556; and W. Reynolds, 556, &c. The lodge being opened, Bro. Campbell read the minutes of last regular and one emergency meeting, which were confirmed. Mr. Gavin Connell was initiated into the First or E.A. Degree by Bro. Dobson, the W.M., in a most impressive manner. Thereafter Bro. F. Muir was passed to the Fellow Craft Degree by Bro. Ferguson, I.P.M. 543.

UDDINGTON.—Lodge of St. Bride (No. 579).—This lodge meets on the second and fourth Monday in each month, with the exception of the months of May, June, and July, when meetings will be called in cases of emergency. At the first meeting of the lodge, which was held on the 14th March, 15 candidates were initiated into the ancient rites and mysteries of Freemasonry; and at two subsequent meetings eight more were initiated, making a total of 23. Although the lodge is in its infancy, it is in a very flourishing condition, the success of which is due to Bro. W. J. Easton, R.W.M., who is a zealous and hard-working Freemason, and has won golden opinions thereby, and has made himself popular among the brethren and every way deserving of the high and exalted position in which they have placed him.

Obituary.

FUNERAL OF THE LATE HON. F. WALPOLE, M.P., PROV. G.M. OF NORFOLK.

The funeral of the late Hon. F. Walpole, M.P., Prov. G.M. of Norfolk, whose death was announced last week, and which has created a profound sense of sorrow among the brethren in that province, took place at Kingsbury on Friday. It was strictly private, among the mourners, however, was Bro. Drift, the Prov. G.S.W., and one or two other members of Grand Lodge. A special meeting of the members of the Craft had been held at Norwich under the presidency of the D.P.G.M., Bro. A. M. F. Morgan, when Bro. Lieut.-Colonel Bignold, P.M., P.G.R., said that never before had the Freemasons of Norfolk met together on so sad an occasion. No long ago their Prov. Grand Master Cabbell died, but time had dealt gently with him; he was more than in the fullness of age, and life had become a burden; but now it was different: Colonel Walpole was called away while his energies were powerful, his mind active, and his heart ever feeling in the cause of Masonry and for Masons. The shadow of the valley of death seemed to be resting on them, but beyond the shadow was the light which all true Masons sought after. Col. Bignold said that he would not dwell on his own loss in the death of the Prov. Grand Master, though friendships dating from early life were hard to fill; he would rather dwell on the irreparable loss which the Masonic body had suffered in the death of their beloved Prov. Grand Master, whose place, so ably filled, would know him no more. Colonel Bignold then moved that the following resolution of sympathy be agreed to and forwarded to Mrs. Walpole and the family of the late Prov. Grand Master:—"The brethren of the Province of Norfolk desire to express the sympathy of the whole Masonic body with Mrs. Walpole and the family of their late beloved and honoured Prov. Grand Master at the sudden bereavement which has befallen them, and the irreparable loss which they have sustained. God, the Great Architect of the Universe, has willed to call His servant from the earthly temple to that not made with hands, eternal in the heavens, so it must be well, but He alone can give the light of consolation in this great grief. The brethren trust it will be some solace to those to whom he was so dear, to know that every Freemason in Norfolk feels that by the death of their Prov. Grand Master he has lost a brother and a friend." Bro. H. G. Barwell, Prov. G. Sec., seconded the resolution, which was adopted unanimously; and it was determined to record it on the minutes of the Provincial Grand Lodge's transactions.

Masonic and General Tidings.

NEW LODGE.—Application is about to be made for a warrant for a new lodge, to be called the "Bayard," and held at 33, Golden-square. We understand that Bro. Col. Burney is to be the first W.M.; Bro. Capt. Leeson, S.W.; Bro. Watson, J.W.; and Bro. Portlock Dadson, Sec.

Bro. Henry Inglis, Provincial Grand Master of Peebles and Selkirkshire, assisted by a deputation from the Grand Lodge of Scotland, will lay the foundation-stone of the new Masonic Hall at Galashiels on Friday, the 12th prox.

The ceremony of consecration and installation will be worked in the Faith Lodge of Instruction, 2, Westminster Chambers, on Tuesday, the 9th May. The proceedings to commence at seven o'clock precisely.

A telegram has been received from Bro. Sir Wm. Knollys, announcing that H.R.H. the Prince of Wales had fixed the 19th of May as the day on which he would attend the banquet and ball to be given at the Guildhall. It is probable that the Princess of Wales will accompany his Royal Highness, who it is understood will enter the city by way of the Holborn Viaduct and pass along Newgate-street, Cheapside, and King-street to Guildhall.

The Rt. Hon. Lord Carnarvon, M.W. Pro Grand Master, arrived in Paris on Wednesday night, where he will remain for several days.

The Inaugural Masonic Ball took place at the Surrey Masonic Hall on Wednesday last. A full report will appear in our next.

Bro. the Right Hon. Lord Skelmersdale, Deputy Grand Master, laid the foundation stone of the new church of St. John the Evangelist, at Walton, near Liverpool, on Monday last. Of the total number of sittings—950—which it is intended to provide, 500 will be free and unappropriated.

An Inaugural Ode, written by Bro. Samuel Poynter, on the completion of the Surrey Masonic Hall and spoken at the opening ball on Wednesday last by Bro. Dawson, will appear in our next.

The Lodge of Israel, No. 1474, will by special dispensation meet on the third Monday instead of the second.

The annual Red Cross Ball takes place on Monday next, at Willis's Rooms, King-street, St. James's.

Bro. Hollingsworth, J.W. of the Hervey Lodge, has been presented with an elegant silver vase, suitably inscribed, as a token of appreciation of his gallant conduct in saving the life of a young lady who was nearly drowned.

The directors of the Crystal Palace are organizing a grand fête, which will partake of the character of a great national welcome to the Prince of Wales, who has graciously accepted the invitation of the directors on his own behalf and that of the Princess of Wales.

A special meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge was held in Liverpool on Tuesday last under the presidency of Lord Skelmersdale, Deputy Grand Master, to consider an application for a grant from the lodge funds towards the restoration of Chester Cathedral. A proposal was formally made and ultimately adopted to vote £100 towards the restoration fund. Several members, however, expressed themselves opposed to the grant, because within the ranks of Freemasonry there were Dissenters and even Roman Catholics. On the other hand, it was urged that Freemasonry was under deep obligations to Church of England ministers, who were almost the only clergymen that ever become Freemasons.

The Duke of Connaught is shortly expected at Manchester to do duty with his regiment, the 7th Hussars, and will remain there for some time. His Royal Highness will leave Gibraltar about the end of the month.

The Annual Festival of the Wellington Lodge of Instruction (No. 548) will be held at the White Swan Hotel, High-street, Deptford, on Monday, the 24th inst. Bro. C. G. Dillely will preside.

A full report of the Installation Meeting of the Polish National Lodge, No. 534, will appear in our next.

Bro. Sir Watkin Williams Wynn, Bart., M.P., R.W.P.G.M. of North Wales and Shropshire, and Lady Wynn, who have been cruising in the Mediterranean in the honourable baronet's yacht during the winter, were expected home during the past week. Sir Watkin's health is said to be completely re-established.

A renewed warning against furious driving has been issued by Colonel Henderson.

The total number of visitors at the Alexandra Palace on Monday last was 66,219.

Crystal Palace.—One Shilling Day.—Monday, April 17.—Admissions by season tickets, 4,324; ditto by payment, 55,692; total visitors, 60,016, being 12,000 in excess of any previous Easter Monday and 16,000 in excess of last Easter Monday.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.—As spring approaches a most favourable opportunity offers for rectifying irregularities, removing impurities, and erasing blemishes which have arisen from the presence of matters forced by winter from being transferred through the pores. This searching Ointment well rubbed upon the skin, penetrates to the deeply seated organs, upon which it exerts a most wholesome and beneficial influence. Well nigh all indigestion gives way to this simple treatment aided by purifying and aperitive doses of Holloway's Pills, round each box of which plain instructions are folded. Bilious Disorders, Loss of Appetite, Fulness of Eating, Lassitude, Gout and Rheumatism, may be effectively checked in their painful progress, and the seeds of long suffering eradicated by these remedies.—ADVT.

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The *Freemason* is a sixteen-page weekly newspaper, price 2d. It is published every Friday morning, and contains the most important, interesting, and useful information relating to Freemasonry in every degree. Annual subscription in the *United Kingdom*, Post free, 10/-

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Answers to Correspondents.

All Communications, Advertisements, &c., intended for insertion in the Number of the following Saturday, must reach the Office not later than 12 o'clock on Wednesday morning.

The following stand over:—Royal Cumberland Chapter, 41; Caledonian Lodge, 489, Constantinople; Lodge of Israel, 1474, Birmingham; Obituary of Bro. W. B. Gates.

Will Bro. G. H. Algrett, of H.M.S. Favourite, kindly send his private address to the editor of the Masonic Magazine, 198, Fleet-street, London, E.C.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

[The charge is 2s. 6d. for announcements, not exceeding four lines, under this heading.]

BIRTHS.

ANDERSON.—On the 15th inst., at Pelham House, Ventnor, the wife of T. C. Anderson, Esq., of a daughter.

AUSTIN.—On Feb. 14, at Yeo, Colac, Victoria, the wife of J. E. Austin, of a daughter.

NAPIER.—On the 13th inst., at Cannes, France, Lady Napier of Magdala, of a son.

PLAYER.—On the 15th inst., at Grays, Essex, the wife of G. N. Player, of a son.

STEVENS.—On the 11th inst., at Landor-road, Clapham, the wife of W. Stevens, Esq., of a son.

MARRIAGES.

CHAMBERLIN-BOLINGBROKE.—On the 6th inst., at Christ Church, Eton, George Moore Chamberlin, Esq., Norwich, to Emily Mary, daughter of A. F. C. Bolingbroke, Esq.

TAYLOR-RANDALL.—On the 11th inst., at St. Mary's, Stoke Newington, Arthur Norton Taylor, M.R.C.S., of Bovey, Tracey, Devon, to Emily Lloyd, daughter of A. M. Randall, M.R.C.S.

DEATHS.

BENINGFIELD.—On the 18th inst., at Ware, Bro. John Beningfield, late of Broxbourne, Herts, in his 81st year. Natal and Australian papers please copy.

BRAITHWAITE.—On the 20th ult., at Barbadoes, W.I., Charlotte Willoughby, wife of C. M. Braithwaite, Esq.

LEMAN.—On the 9th inst., James Leman, Esq., of Chester-terrace, Regent's Park, in his 32nd year.

LONG.—On the 15th inst., at Hounslow, Ann, eldest daughter of the late Bro. James Long, and niece to Mr. John Paisley, of Hounslow. Illincis papers please copy.

The Freemason,

SATURDAY, APRIL 22, 1876.

OUR ROYAL GRAND MASTER'S RETURN.

By the Baron Reuter's telegrams in the "*Times*" and "*Telegraph*" we learn that the Serapis, with his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales on board, accompanied by the Osborne and Raleigh, arrived at Gibraltar at eight o'clock on the morning of the 15th, and was received with salutes from the forts and from her Majesty's ship's Devastation and Swiftsure and the Spanish frigate Vittoria. The Prince landed at noon. The Prince on landing was welcomed by the Acting-Governor and staff, the Royal Navy officers, the Colonial officials, &c. A guard of honour was drawn up on the quay, and flowers were strewn in the path of His Royal Highness. A procession was then formed to Casemate-square. The line of route was beautifully decorated. Altogether the reception was enthusiastic, and a complete success. On arriving at Casemate-square an address was presented on behalf of the inhabitants of Gibraltar, and a deputation from the friendly societies and other bodies joined the procession. At the Convent (Government House) His Royal Highness held a levee, at which the Moorish Ambassador, specially sent by the Sultan of Morocco to congratulate His Royal Highness on his safe return to Europe, was presented to the Prince by Sir J. Drummond Hay, the British Minister at Tangiers, and afterwards the Spanish Governor of Algeiras, the foreign Consuls, the heads of departments, and other officials were introduced by the Acting-Governor. A grand banquet was given in the ball-room of the Convent (Government House), by Major-Gen. Somerset, the Acting-Governor, in honour of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales. Covers were laid for ninety-four. Among those invited to meet the Prince and the Duke of Connaught were the heads of the Departments, Sir John Drummond Hay, English Minister at Tangiers, Prince Louis of Battenburg, and the Protestant and Catholic Bishops of Gibraltar. The health of the Prince of Wales having been drunk, His Royal Highness, in returning thanks, said that it gave him great pleasure to revisit Gibraltar after an interval of seventeen years. He thanked the community for the excessively kind reception he had met with, and which he was not likely to forget. His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught, whose health was also drunk, said that it gave him great pleasure to behold the hearty and loyal reception accorded to his brother the Prince of Wales. The town and rock were splendidly illuminated, and the effect was very grand. The Prince and Duke drove round the town alone. They were enthusiastically cheered by the crowd which followed. The people were most orderly. The Prince of Wales laid the foundation-stone of the new 38-ton gun battery at the Head Mole on April 17th. There was no ceremony. His Royal Highness afterwards laid the foundation-stone of a public market amid Masonic honours, the ceremony being witnessed by a great assemblage of people. His Royal Highness said he was glad to meet so many brethren of the Craft. Great enthusiasm was displayed. There was a grand review of the troops in the afternoon, and the Prince gave a dinner afterwards on board the Serapis. The company included his Excellency the Governor, the heads of the administrative departments, the military Staff, Sir John Drummond Hay, the Bishops of Gibraltar and Antioch, &c.; altogether fifty-two guests. The Prince was to leave on Thursday in the Osborne, on his way to Seville and Madrid. He is expected to arrive at Lisbon on the 1st of May.

GRAND FESTIVAL.

A full report of the proceedings will be given in the *Freemason* next week, with which number a supplement will be given.

DISCONTINUE THE "FREEMASON."

That our world is sometimes a dirty world, and that men are sometimes marked by great littleness, paradoxical as the expression may seem, is a truth as undeniable as it is unwelcome. We note this untoward unreality of things and persons in every department of life, in the progress of troublous years, in the secrets of business, in the pursuit of wealth, in the "guinnettes" of pleasure and society. Yes! very often we have to open our eyes, and to open them widely, at the insincerity of the trusted, and the meanness and pettiness and even "bassesse" of the fawning and the foolish, of the sycophant and the social, of the "friend of our bosom," of the neighbour in "our street." Perverse paradox of humanity! strange law of earthly life! which seems to throw around all we contend with, and all we mix with here, often its own gloomy hue of unreality, of untruthfulness, of hollowiness, of worthlessness. But do not let us become too serious or too didactic. People don't care for lectures, and are apt to deem moral essays dull reading, inasmuch as they do not suit the high spiced taste of the day for a looser and for a less exacting morality. So we will take a lighter tone and make use of a more jocose strain, alike of thought and verbiage, more in harmony probably with the tone and temper, the tastes and tendencies of our excellent clientele. We will content ourselves therefore with endorsing Mr. Weller's remark "that he never know'd such a state of things afore" as that which too often constitutes the way of the world, and marks both the professions and dealings of men. Some one has said that "we all have our troubles," so we have, even publishers and editors, no less than some forlorn bachelor, some obedient married man, some complaining wife, some desponding young woman, some youthful hero of the hour contemplating matrimony and misfortune all at the same moment. And though our troubles are small, and for the matter of that hardly worth notice, yet we have such a confiding circle of subscribers and sympathizers, that we feel it to be both a pleasure and a duty, "sub sigillo confessionis" too, to impart to them our humble grievances and to claim their fraternal commiseration. There are some people and brethren, pro pudor, in this world of ours who sometimes affect to think that they confer patronage or exhibit favour to publishers, and Masonic publishers "surtout," by their liberal orders for some periodical of the day. And equally the reverse is true, that by withdrawing their support, or by the magic word "discontinue," they opine, or seem to do, that to the energetic publisher such an order is alike a "heavy blow" and a great discouragement. Now what we want to point out to-day is, that any such idea is a serious delusion. All such matters are details of business, not personal questions in any way, and our publisher for instance thinks little, and cares less, if even he were to receive twenty such missives daily, as he is utterly independent, alike of patronage or opposition, and entirely regardless of favour or disfavour. The "*Freemason*" has always been conducted on business principles, and always will be, it courts no patronage, it cares for no depreciation, it offers its wares in the open market of Masonic opinion, it supplies a good article at a very cheap price, and those who wish to buy it and support it can do so, and those who don't, can—well!—leave it alone. Never at any time has any Masonic periodical been so supported and so cheered by so numerous and increasing a circle of subscribers and correspondents, and for every fraternal friend who says or scribbles off "discontinue," our publisher receives twenty fresh subscribers week by week. Now we say all this in the best spirit, and with the kindest and most brotherly feelings. The "*Freemason*" has always taken an independent course in all things, and (D.V.) always means to do so, it belongs to no party, it affects no clique, it is open to all, friendly to all, who in the interests of our common Order, seek its advice, or communicate to its pages. But we have thought it but fair to our publisher, who has made the paper what it is, and to its editorial management, inasmuch, as publisher and editor are often

equally amused by these little acts, which for some petty cause, or at no cause at all, evidence, that in some minds a delusion exists, that by their patronage or their opposition, by the continuance or discontinuance of their subscription, they can in any measure, affect either the progress or the prosperity of the "Freemason," or manifest their approval, or exhibit their displeasure. Let all such, whoever they may be, be good enough to bear in mind that strong in the public opinion of a kindly and discerning Craft, the "Freemason" intends to go on its way, relying alike on that judicious and business like management which has given to it its solidity and its success, as well as on that free, impartial, and honest, and independent tone of thought and teaching which has characterized its past annals, marks its present material well doing, and has earned for it the good will, approval, fraternal confidence and cheerful countenance, not only of the Order in Great Britain, but of the Anglo-Saxon brotherhood, nay of Cosmopolitan Freemasonry.

THE COMPARATIVE COST OF THE BOYS' SCHOOL.

This question, which is a very important question in itself, had hardly full justice done to it at the recent discussion at Freemasons' Hall. The original accusations brought against the School in the pamphlets of unpleasant and un-Masonic memory were, that there was gross mismanagement, gross extravagance; that the accounts were kept slovenly, and that Bro. Binckes arrogated too much to himself. But when at Sheffield, the province of Yorkshire, worked upon by these utterly misleading, and we feel bound to add malevolent statements of personal animosity, however much it might be affected to be denied, endeavoured to frame the articles of impeachment, the whole venue was changed at once. The original allegations amount, alike in open and suppressed pamphlets, to deliberate charges of malappropriation and embezzlement; and the suppressed pamphlet was, in our humble opinion, libellous and actionable. Think of any brother Mason putting into print with regard to a miserable 8s. 9d., or 9s. 4d., of a savings bank account for the boys "who has got the money?" in this way implicating the honour of brethren in every way distinguished by long service and high character. But, as we said, all the charges of the previous pamphlets were abandoned at Sheffield, and the point put forward was the excessive cost of the school, and comparisons were made with other institutions. Now it is on this point clear, that those who affected to lead West Yorkshire were utterly ignorant of the subject, and did not really understand anything practically about the matter. For it had been shown in 1869 that the question of comparative cost could hardly be fairly entered into, as, owing to its peculiar "status," the Masonic Boys' School was a school "sui generis," and must have in many things an exceptional standard, alike of cost, and even education. But supposing that a comparison was made, the Boys' School came well out of it, and so far from there being any real cause of complaint, the truth of the case required that proper eulogium should be passed upon the managers of the School. And in 1876 we apprehend that the same state of things is to be found, and it is very amusing to note that the inculpaters of the School are "hoist" by their own "petard," actually silenced by their own figures. Take the Commercial Travellers' School, which we all know is a very well managed institution, economically administered. It had, according to its report, at the close of 1875, 288 boys and girls. Its office expenses were £1301 0s. 4d. against Masonic Boys £1159 10s. with 156 boys. The report of the West Yorkshire Committee made the office expenses £1274 15s. 9d. (Bro. Binckes puts them at £1159 10s. 10d.), but even by their own reckoning their statement that the average is £10 11s. 11d. is absolutely incorrect. If £1274 15s. 9d. is divided by 156, the product will be £8 3s., and a few fractions per head. We invite the attention of brethren in West Yorkshire to the subject, as it is a very serious blot on the calculations of the committee. The school salaries of the Commercial Travellers are £1317 8s. 10d., those of the Masonic Boys' School to the end of

1875, Bro. Binckes, £1286 2s. 8d. We may note here that the West Yorkshire Committee only deals with the accounts to the close of 1874, and, according to their report, the accounts for wages and education to the close of 1874, amounted to—Educational, £833 16s.; Wages, £521 1s., in all, £1354 17s. As regards food, the averages of the Royal Medical Benevolent, Clergy, Orphan, and British Orphan, amounted to £16 14s. per head, that of the Masonic Boys' to £12 11s. 9d. Is any further comparison needful? The truth is, the whole agitation is a personal one, and based on no reliable data of any kind whatever. The annual cost per school, as no one knows better than Bro. Gill, and many of the brethren who signed the Report, is no criterion as to the comparative cost. For this reason, that each school has to be judged by its own details of work, standard, and arrangement. In some schools the children, for instance, do not have meat daily. In this school or that school meat is only given three or four times a week, while the allowance of clothing is scantier than with us. It is idle for any one to say "we can educate at Sidcot for £33 19s.; or at Ackworth, £31 10s. 6d.; or Yorkshire Boys' School, £33; and, therefore, the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys is extravagantly managed, and must be reduced to their minimum." It is neither reasonable nor, in truth, Masonic so to argue! We apprehend that the question of comparative cost of the School has been often considered by the House Committee and the Quarterly Court, and that those best competent to form an opinion on the subject have long since carefully arranged the present scale of expenditure. Any life-governor can give notice of a committee to enquire into such a question, but from our experience of schools generally we do not fancy that in London much, if any, saving could be made. Bro. Gill fairly admitted that the proper course for the malcontents was to have gone originally to the Quarterly Court, and we hope that now it is admitted that there is no foundation for any of these statements or charges, this unseemly agitation and un-Masonic irritation may cease, and that our good friends in West Yorkshire will return to their normal condition of activity and zeal, of kind feeling and brotherly love, of geniality and goodwill, of constitutional progress, and of Masonic feeling. Of their earnestness and energy we are all aware, as well as of their many good qualities, and we have been much grieved to have seen them led into the "Caudine Forks" of a hopeless cause, and of unavoidable defeat. It is a most serious thing to lower West Yorkshire in the good opinion of the other provinces, and, above all, to weaken or take away the normal and well-earned character of our good West Yorkshire brethren for sobriety of mind and common sense, for Masonic fairness and fraternal good feeling, for all the graces, in fact, of the true Craftsman's character.

Original Correspondence.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for, or even as approving of the opinions expressed by our correspondents, but we wish, in a spirit of fair play to all, to permit—within certain necessary limits—free discussion.—Ed.]

REGALIA.

To the Editor of The Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I regret that while the question of "Master Masons' Jewels" was recently passing through your columns I had not an opportunity of making one or two remarks thereon, but I take this as a fitting place, though under a more general head.

I agree with "A Past Master" (Feb. 26th) that "the compasses and square only" belong absolutely to Past D.G.M.'s—vide Constitutions, page 119. The "five-pointed star" I take to be in accordance with Article 2, page 118, and because it is not otherwise specially appropriated.

There are, however, other points at issue on the Regalia question. How is it that (say) ninety-nine out of every hundred Past Masters wear a gold or gilt jewel when the Constitutions distinctly say it shall be in silver?—(vide pages 121 and 122)—"except," it goes on to say, "in the Lodge of Antiquity, No. 2, and the British Lodge, No. 8, which are golden or gilt." Why don't these two lodges look after their privileges? This is really an important point and worth following up. I would make a passing remark that although a neat, artistic, and symbolical design is provided for a Past Master's jewel—(vide plate 12)—is it not strange that so very many brethren should disport themselves in over-ornamented and tawdry specimens of "Brummagem."

Page 125 says that the "three several sets of two right angles" worn by W.M.'s and P.M.'s in place of the three rusettes on the M.M.'s apron shall be of ribbon "of same colour as the lining and edging of the apron." Then how is it so very many W.M.'s and P.M.'s wear those emblems in silver instead of blue ribbon?

Are not the answers to these questions to be found in the old tale—general ignorance of that most concise yet comprehensive Book of Constitutions; but when we find so many Past Masters violating the rules they pledged themselves to support there should be a little allowance made to young M.M.'s seeking to decorate themselves. In conclusion, I would venture to recommend both classes to read up this subject (there are only 8 pages); those who have read it may benefit by re-perusing it; there are pearls to be found for those who pride themselves on being quite "au fait," as on page 124 it says that "officers and past officers of lodges may have the emblems of their offices in silver or white in the centre of the apron;" such is, to my taste, an improvement, for it fills up what otherwise appears a meaningless blank.

Fraternally yours,

"AD REM."

MEMBERSHIP OF A PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE.

To the Editor of The Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

In answer to Brother T. F., we will find by reference to the Book of Constitutions that "the actual and Past Provincial Grand Officers, whilst they remain subscribing members to a lodge in the province, with the actual Provincial Grand Stewards, and the Masters, Past Masters, and Wardens of all lodges within the province, are members of the Provincial Grand Lodge."

Brother T. F. is anxious to know by what right, law, or constitution a Mason not qualified as before-mentioned can be appointed to an office in a Provincial Grand Lodge?

The right for the Provincial Grand Master to appoint a brother not officially a member of the Prov. G. L., owing to his being neither a Master, Past Master, nor Warden of a lodge in the province (though a contributing Master Mason therein), is conferred by the Book of Constitutions.

All officers of a Provincial Grand Lodge (as also of the Grand Lodge) below that of Provincial Grand Deacon may be filled by Master Masons who are eligible by reason of contributing to a lodge in the province, hence the Provincial Grand Master may appoint such brethren accordingly, and thus constitute those members of the Prov. G. Lodge who were not officially so before. It is plain also by the reading of the law on the subject, that Provincial Chaplains, Treasurers, Registrars and Secretaries may be selected from contributing Master Masons, and I believe are so appointed or elected in small provinces frequently, though the fewer officers elected by such means the better. In large provinces it is usual to select the provincial officers from Masters and Past Masters only, some also making it the rule for brethren to serve as Provincial Grand Stewards prior to being appointed to the "purple."

The judicious use of such a privilege by the Provincial Grand Master, by conferring honours when deserved, and only then, is often the means of stimulating worthy Masons to continue their services for the welfare of the Order, but the raising to the "purple" of the drones and Masonic shams in a province is an abuse of the office.

WILLIAM JAMES HUGHAN.

MASONIC JURISPRUDENCE.

To the Editor of The Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Am I right in assuming that officers of private lodges in visiting other lodges, as well as Grand Lodge, cannot be considered properly clothed unless wearing their collar and jewel of office?

I take my ground on the first section in the Book of Constitutions, under the head of Regalia.

I remain, yours fraternally,

SIGILLUM.

MASONIC PREFIXES.

To the Editor of The Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

The last paragraph of my communication respecting Masonic Prefixes is unfortunately spoilt in the "Freemason" by the omission of the word not between are and entitled. To complete the letter as intended I will again write it.

1. Provincial Officers, not Present or Past Masters, are not entitled to the prefix Worshipful. All Provincial Grand Officers (being actual or Past Masters), excepting the Provincial Grand Master, are to be styled Worshipful.

2. The Provincial Grand Master being designated Right Worshipful.

3. Grand Officers below the rank of Grand Secretary are to be styled Worshipful.

4. Grand Officers below the rank of Grand Warden and above the rank of Grand Deacon are entitled to the prefix Very Worshipful, and such officers only.

5. Deputy Grand Master and Pro Grand Master are to be styled Most Worshipful.

These particulars, obtained from the circular issued by the authority of the M.W.G.M. (the lamented Earl of Zetland), are more fully noted in my communication in last week's "Freemason;" and as that letter is the only official guide issued for Masonic prefixes it should be carefully studied by all concerned.

I may also state that the titles as above are those invariably used to designate the Grand Officers in all the Quarterly Communications from 1813 according to my examination of the whole series.

These prefixes are to be observed either in Provincial

Grand Lodge or elsewhere and are the only and constant designations of such officers, and in order that uniformity may be observed and every brother be styled according to the authority mentioned it is desirable when another such communication is printed that copies be sent to the Worshipful Masters of lodges as well as to the Provincial Grand Master as formerly. I confess to have formerly had a different opinion on the subject until the circular in question was kindly lent me for perusal, and doubtless others have been misled the same way, for it is unfortunate that the Book of Constitutions is not fully explicit on the matter.

Yours fraternally,

WILLIAM JAMES HUGHAN.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Our brother "W. Master" will find an answer to his query in the quarterly communications of the Grand Lodge, and especially in the official report of the Grand Festival held at the Royal Albert Hall, 28th April, 1875. The Rt Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon is therein described as M.W. Pro Grand Master, and rightly so, as the Pro Grand Master enjoys similar privileges to the Grand Master, just as the Deputy (or Pro) Master of a lodge has the same position in the Craft as the Master, when the latter is one of the Royal Family.

Reciprocating "W. Master's" kind wishes,

Yours fraternally,

WILLIAM JAMES HUGHAN.

Truro, 17th April, 1876.

PROVINCIAL GRAND CHAPTER OF EAST LANCASHIRE.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

In your report of the meeting of the above chapter at Bury there are several inaccuracies, viz. :—

The Prov. G. Sword Bearer should be "Sallon," not "Salton." The Prov. G. Director of Ceremonies should be "J. H. Sillitoe," not "Sidall." The sum granted to the East Lancashire Systematic Benevolent Society should be £50, not £59.

Yours fraternally,

P. Z.

Manchester, 15th April, 1876.

AFTER-DINNER PROMISES.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

In your report of the installation meeting of the Lion and Lamb Lodge in the "Freemason" of January, the 15th, I read as follows :—

"The W.M. then proceeded to propose 'The Masonic Charities,' and spoke of the endeavours needed to place the son of the late Past Master Trott in the School, this being the only occasion upon which the boy could stand for election."

Bro. Binckes, in his response to the toast, speaks as follows :—

"And then, with regard to the candidature of their late Past Master's son, he warned them that they would require 2000 votes to warrant them in looking for success."

Further on we read that certain brethren then promised their votes for the boy.

Meantime we were gathering our strength, and applied to one of the brethren for the promised votes, when judge our surprise at receiving a reply written on a post card as follows :—

"I can't conceive the possibility of getting a child in on a first application. I am most earnestly pressed to support the 5th application of Gardner." As you are aware, sir, we did succeed in electing our boy; in fact, he was third on the list, with 1962 votes, and that without the promised help. So much for their scepticism, as well as for the value of after-dinner promises.

I am, dear Sir and Brother, yours fraternally,

A PAST MASTER OF 192.

BY-LAWS OR BYE-LAWS.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

As you published a letter on the subject of the correct spelling of the above a few weeks ago, I would point out to you that in the Constitutions as published in 1815 under the authority of the United Grand Lodge by William Williams, Esq., Prov. Grand Master for Dorset, the words are by-laws, and the same spelling exists in the edition of the Constitutions published in 1873.

Ne Varietur should be our motto in this matter also.

Yours fraternally,

A PROV. G. SEC.

[The fact is as our correspondent states. But we think a great deal may be said for *Bye*.—Ed.]

MASONIC PROGRESS IN GALASHIELS.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

In Scotland Masonic progress is slow but sure. We are not an enthusiastic people, still, in our Masonic lodges I believe there is as much warmth of affection and brotherly love as in any other country.

The Freemasons of Galashiels, St. John's Lodge, No. 262, having long felt the want of a hall of their own have resolved to supply that want. They have formed themselves into a limited liability company, but as they are neither rich nor numerous brethren at a distance would render us a great favour by taking tickets for our Grand Prize Drawing.

The foundation-stone of our new Masonic Hall is to be laid by Bro. Henry Inglis, Esq., of Torsonce, Provincial Grand Master of Peebles and Selkirkshire, assisted by deputations from Grand Lodge of Scotland as per enclosed circular, which perhaps you will copy on Friday 12th of

May. It is expected to be the largest Masonic demonstration that ever took place in the south of Scotland, and it would be a great pleasure to the brethren of this lodge to have deputations from some of the English lodges.

I am, yours fraternally,

ADAM JOHNSON, R.W.M. Lodge 262.

CONSECRATION OF THE SKELMERSDALE LODGE, No. 1599.

This new lodge was consecrated on Friday, the 7th inst., at Mason's hall, Mason's Avenue, Basinghall-street, by Bro. James Terry, P.M., 228, 1278, 1366, Prov. G.D.C. Herts, and Secretary of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, who was assisted by Bros. John Hervey, G.S., as S.W.; H. G. Buss, Grand Treas., Middlesex, as J.W.; Hill, S.W. Highgate Lodge, as D.C.; Lucking, P.P.A.G.D.C., Essex, as I.G.; and W. H. Lee, P.M. 1524, as Sec. The musical brethren who also assisted were Bros. F. H. Cozens, Theodore Distin, and Seymour Smith, under the direction of Bro. Cozens. The lodge was attended by about forty brethren, among whom were John Bingemann, P.M. 55; F. Newcombe, 77; W. S. Killeter, 77; George Regan, 55; S. Stead, 177; W. M. Snelling, 180; W. Perrin, 1056; J. W. Skelton, 1056; F. W. Melhish, 55; A. Lucking, P.M. 166 and 1056; E. Miroy, 55; J. L. Heymans, 22; T. B. Linscott, 55; E. Driver, I.P.M. 45; Alex. Pilbeam, W.M. 45; J. J. Defriez, S.W. 45; G. Laker, 55; Alfred Sargent, 55; E. Abell, 55; C. A. Woods, 145; J. R. Foulger, P.M. 177; John H. R. Buckets, 55; W. T. Howe, G.P. Middlesex; G. Saul, 1201; W. H. Marston, 55; H. Roberts, 55; Richard Stanway, 1426; and C. B. Payne, G. Tyler.

The lodge having been opened by Bro. Terry, assisted by the other brethren, was afterwards in due form consecrated, Bro. Terry delivering the oration on the nature and principles of Freemasonry, which was heartily cheered at its conclusion. The ceremony of consecration was most beautifully and fluently performed, and it was rendered the more agreeable by a nice musical accompaniment, under the direction of Bro. Fred. H. Cozens, by Bros. J. W. Simons, Seymour Smith, and Theodore Distin. When the ceremony of consecration was completed,

Bro. Hill, acting D.C., presented Bro. John Bingemann, P.M. 55, W.M. designate, to Bro. Terry, for installation, which ceremony was afterwards ably performed by Bro. Terry.

The officers appointed and invested were Bros. W. Henry Marston, S.W., and Bro. George Laker, J.W. Bro. Henry Roberts, No. 55, was then unanimously elected Treasurer, and was invested as such by the W.M. Bro. W. H. Lee was invested as Secretary; Bros. Abell, S.D.; Sargent, J.D.; Miroy, I.G.; and Rawles, Tyler. Bro. Terry then delivered the addresses. The Secretary afterwards read letters of regret for absence from Lord Skelmersdale, Sir Albert W. Woods (Garter), and the Rev. R. J. Simpson, P.G.C. On the motion of the W.M., seconded by the S.W., a vote of thanks was passed to Lord Skelmersdale for granting the use of his coat of arms for the purposes of the lodge; also on the motion of the W.M., seconded by the S.W.; Lord Skelmersdale was elected the first honorary member of the lodge.

On the motion of the W.M., seconded by the S.W., a vote of thanks was passed to Bro. Terry for consecrating the lodge, and to Bros. Hervey, Buss, Hill, and Lucking for assisting him in the ceremony. Bros. Terry, Hervey, and Buss were then elected honorary members of the lodge, on the motion of the W.M., seconded by the S.W., and Bro. Terry responded for the compliments on behalf of himself and the other brethren. A long list of gentlemen as candidates for initiation and brethren for joining was afterwards read by the Secretary.

Lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to an excellent banquet, provided by the new management of Mason's Hall Tavern. The usual toasts followed. In proposing "The Health of Lord Skelmersdale, D.G.M., and the rest of the Grand Officers," the W.M. referred to his lordship's presidency at the last festival of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, when no less a sum than £9200 was subscribed for the aged Freemasons and widows of Freemasons. Bro. John Hervey, Grand Secretary, responded, and after referring to the able discharge of the Grand Master's duties in his absence by Lord Carnarvon and Lord Skelmersdale, said that it was well known that the other Grand Officers endeavoured to do their duty ably. He himself knew this from personal observation, and whether in the highest position or the lowest he could testify to their ability. He knew perfectly well that Bro. Payne, who was present, did his duty. He could vouch for him in the most confident manner; would that he (Bro. Hervey) could do as much for himself. At least he could say he endeavoured to do it, and if he had succeeded to some extent, as he hoped he had, and from the manner in which he had been received that evening he did not doubt he had—at any rate he passed muster, and he was satisfied. Referring to the ceremony of the evening, it had given him great pleasure to be present, and though he was not going to take the wind out of another brother's sails he could not refrain from congratulating the brethren on having the ceremony of consecration so splendidly performed as it had been by Bro. Terry. The W.M. had also discharged his duties in a style which filled the brethren with confidence that he had in him all the elements which would make him succeed. (Hear, hear.) He trusted that the lodge would have a great future. He himself had some interest in it, inasmuch as the brethren had been kind enough to elect him an honorary member. He felt therefore that he had a great interest in it, as he also had in other lodges which had passed a similar compliment on him. Without exception all the lodges where he had assisted at the consecration had succeeded, some to a marvellous extent.

There was one, the Prince Leopold, No. 1445 over which Bro. Howe, who was present, two or three years ago presided, which had proved a great success, and which had in it all the germs of a great success in the future. The Great City, No. 1426, he need scarcely allude to, because it had made itself prominent in the City, and did not require an exponent of its principles. He would not refer to its bread and cheese. (Laughter.) All he could say was, that whenever he had been there there had been splendid banquets, and a large assemblage of friends around the table, who had been most cordially and hospitably received. (Cheers.) If the Great City Lodge had refrained from giving large banquets, it had succeeded in one of its principles—charity. No doubt Masons would do well to restrict their banquets somewhat, and they would have the more means of supporting the institutions. However, he had no doubt that the Skelmersdale Lodge would be fully equal to the support of the great institutions. (Cheers.)

Bro. James Terry proposed "The Health of the W.M." Prefacing his remarks by a reference to the name of the lodge, he took the opportunity of saying how largely and how justly Lord Skelmersdale was estimated in his own Province of East Lancashire. This was the first time a lodge in the metropolis had been named after his lordship, and he (Bro. Terry) was glad to see that his friend, Bro. Bingemann, was its first W.M. Every one who knew Bro. Bingemann knew how well he had performed his duties as Master elsewhere. He was a fit Master of a lodge named after such a Freemason as Lord Skelmersdale, a nobleman who had proved himself such an able president at a festival, who was a polished gentleman, an illustrious statesman, and a thorough-going Englishman. He (Bro. Terry) was especially pleased that such a name had been given to the lodge, and that his lordship had given permission for his coat of arms to be used on the banner of the lodge. The great fame, the honour, and the reputation of the D.G.M. of England might now be considered in the keeping of the W.M., and he had no doubt it would be perfectly safe. (Cheers.)

Bro. Bingemann, in reply, said the lodge had conferred on him a high honour by entrusting him with the first Mastership of the lodge. He would endeavour to bring it to a state of great prosperity. If he could only have the assistance of the brethren he had no doubt of being able to succeed.

Bro. Pilbeam replied as the Master of the lodge who had signed the petition for the warrant, and said how cheerfully he acceded to the wish of Bro. Bingemann in that respect.

The W.M. proposed "The Health of Bro. Terry, he Consecrating Officer," and said he was sure the brethren must have been as thoroughly delighted as he was with the explicit and genial way in which Bro. Terry performed his duties. It was something beautiful to hear. (Cheers.)

Bro. Terry, who was received with great applause, in reply, said how readily he accepted the invitation to consecrate the lodge when he knew of what materials it was to be composed, and that it was to be named after a noble lord who had done him such excellent service by taking the chair at the last festival of the institution of which he had the honour to be Secretary. He then referred to the ready way in which his institution was supported, and the liberal subscriptions which were paid to it. He had no doubt, from his knowledge of the W.M., that this lodge would also support it, and for any support it might extend to it he should always feel grateful. Bro. W. T. Howe, P.M. 1445, replied for "The Visitors," and the other toasts having been honoured the brethren separated.

CONSECRATION OF THE LEY SPRING LODGE, No. 1598.

On the 15th inst. Bro. Terry, P.M. 1278 and P.G.D.C. Herts, assisted by Bro. C. G. Hill, S.W. 1366, consecrated at the Red Lion Hotel, Leytonstone, the Ley Spring Lodge, No. 1598, after which Bro. Barford, P.M. 55 and 1228, proceeded in the most able manner to instal Bro. P. A. Branchi as first W.M.

The officers appointed were Bros. G. E. Walters, S.W.; J. Buscoll, J.W.; J. W. Roberts, Sec.; R. Hogg, S.D.; W. Allen, J.D.; L. Lewis, I.G.; T. Varley, D.C.; S. Pott, Tyler.

The usual charges were then given, and the customary congratulation made.

It was proposed and seconded and unanimously carried that Bro. Terry should become an honorary member of the lodge.

Bro. Terry in reply assured the W.M. of the pleasure it had given him to consecrate the Ley Spring Lodge, and expressed his wishes for its future prosperity.

After a short interval the brethren sat down to an excellent repast provided in Bro. Barford's usual recherche style, the W.M. presided, and upon the removal of the cloth gave the toast of "H.M. the Queen," and referred to the pleasure which the whole of the Craft must feel at the early return of the M.W.G.M.

Bro. Terry then proposed "The Health of the W.M.," and passed some very high eulogiums upon the working capabilities of the officers; the toast was honoured in a most hearty manner.

The W.M. said he had to thank Bro. Terry for proposing his health and the brethren for the hearty way in which they had responded to it, and assured them of his conviction that the brethren whom he had appointed to office would give him that assistance that would enable him to carry out the duties of the chair in such a manner as would do great credit to the lodge. We would remark that great praise is due to the founders of this lodge, more especially to the indefatigable exertions of the S.W., who ever since the idea was formed of starting a new lodge has not left a stone unturned to make it a success.

"The Health of the Officers and Visitors" was given and duly responded to, and the Tyler's toast concluded a most enjoyable evening.

Bro. Lewis Warley rendered some excellent singing, Bro. Young accompanying upon the piano.

Visitors: T. Barford, P.M. 1228 and 55; W. H. Myers, P.M. 820, W.M. 1445; T. Y. Latreille, P.M. 1056; W. Mundy, P.M. 1228; W. A. Tharp, P.M. 1228; P. Edinger, W.M. 95; W. T. Christian, J.D. 1278; G. C. Young, Org. 820; G. Blackie, 1426; J. Taylor, 298; W. C. Claridge, 1420; C. Vile, 49; F. H. Varley, 33; T. Corbett, 143; W. Bailey, 49.

The musical arrangements were under the direction of Bro. G. C. Young, Org. 820 and 1445.

CONSECRATION OF THE HAMILTON LODGE, No. 1600.

This always interesting ceremony was performed at Alford on Thursday, 30th ult., by Bro. W. H. Smyth, of Elkington Hall, near Louth, W.D.P.G.M. of Lincolnshire, assisted by a few P.G. Officers.

Although Alford is one of the smallest towns in Lincolnshire (the population at the last census in 1871 being only 2881) the desirability of having a lodge there had long been felt by the brethren residing in the neighbourhood, and a small but energetic band having lately put their shoulders to the wheel, the result has been the engagement on lease of a convenient private room, advantageously situated in the very heart of the town, and the formation of the above-named lodge.

W. Bro. W. H. Smyth, D.P.G.M., having taken the chair, appointed Bros. C. M. Nesbitt, P.G. Treas., as S.W.; Jas. Fowler, P.P.G.S.W., as J.W.; W. Bro. A. Richdale, W.M. 426, as S. of W.; Bro. E. Locock, P.P.G.S.W., as Chaplain, in the absence of Bro. Rev. J. C. K. Saunders, P.G.C., who almost at the last moment telegraphed to say he could not be present.

Bro. Marsden, P.G. Sec., having read the petition and warrant from the Grand Lodge of England, the constitution and dedication of the lodge was proceeded with, concluding with a congratulatory address from W. Bro. Smyth, D.P.G.M., who mentioned among other matters that since his appointment to the office of D.P.G.M. in 1864 he had taken part in the consecration of no less than nine lodges, the number of which in the province had now just doubled, while the subscribing members had considerably more than doubled since the installation of the present P.G.M., His Grace the Duke of St. Albans.

The lodge having been reduced, the installation of Bro. Charles Smyth, P.P.G.Pt., as first W.M., was then proceeded with, the D.P.G.M. acting as Installing Master. The W.M., having been duly placed in the chair of K.S. according to ancient custom, invested the following officers for the ensuing year:—Bros. R. Garfit, S.W.; F. Higgins, J.W. and Treas.; T. C. Johnson, S.D. and Sec.; A. Veitch, J.D.; J. S. Cooke, I.G.; and Lewis, Tyler.

Hearty good wishes for the prosperity of the lodge having been given from members of the following lodges—Old Globe, 200; Shakespeare, 426; Lindsey, 712; Denison, 1248—W. Bro. W. H. Smyth, D.P.G.M., was proposed as an honorary member of the lodge, which compliment he suitably acknowledged.

Bro. Nesbitt, 712, P.G. Treas., was also proposed as a joining member.

Six gentlemen of Alford and neighbourhood having been proposed for initiation at the following lodge night, the lodge was closed and the brethren adjourned to an invitation banquet at the Windmill Hotel, served by Bro. Smith, at which the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured.

ADDRESSES TO OUR ROYAL GRAND MASTER.

The one presented by the Chamber of Commerce of Malta was as follows:—

(Translation from the Italian).

"To his Royal Highness Albert Edward, Prince of Wales on the auspicious occasion of his arrival in Malta, April 6, 1876.

"From the Chamber of Commerce.

"Your Royal Highness,—To Malta, this small and sequestered island, has fallen the singular good fortune of being the first in Europe to welcome your Royal Highness on your return from the long and arduous but triumphant journey just completed in the far East among vast populations, the willing subjects of that great Queen whom they are now joyfully hailing as their Empress.

"The Chamber of Commerce of this diminutive, but not unworthy, gem of the Crown encircling the august brow of your Highness's Royal parent has already twice had the honour of tendering its respectful homage to your royal Highness, first on the occasion of the previous visit which you deigned to make to this island, and next when offering the expression of its heartfelt joy on your marriage with the august Princess who so happily shares your life.

"And to-day the Chamber of Commerce again presents itself to assure your Royal Highness of its gladness on once more beholding you treading these shores, where the loyal population will ever be foremost in its feelings of affectionate attachment towards the great Sovereign of the vast Empire which governs the seas, towards your Royal Highness personally, and towards your gracious consort and the whole Royal Family.

"The mercantile community of Malta, proud of the English flag that protects them, desire, through their chosen representatives, to express their earnest satisfaction on the arrival of your Royal Highness from India, and their fervent hope that you will be restored in perfect health to your Royal family, and to that great nation which is so eagerly awaiting your return to the land of your birth.

"Chamber of Commerce, Malta, April, 1876."

The following address was read to the Prince of Wales by the leader of the elected members of the Legislative

Council, the Hon. Cachia Zammit, on His Royal Highness landing on the shores of Malta:—

"To His Royal Highness Albert Edward, Prince of Wales, &c.

"May it please your Royal Highness,—We, the elected members of the Council of Government, on behalf of the inhabitants of these islands, whom we have the honour to represent, deem it our bounden duty to be the first to greet your Royal Highness with a hearty welcome. We recognize in this third visit of your Royal Highness to these shores that unceasing interest which Her Gracious Majesty the Queen has always felt in the welfare of her faithful Maltese subjects; and we beg to express to your Royal Highness the earnest assurance of our deep attachment and unabated allegiance to Her Majesty our beloved Queen and her Royal house. Since the connection of these islands with Great Britain the loyalty and devotion of the Maltese to the British Throne have never for one instant wavered, and we feel confident that the advent of the heir of our Gracious Sovereign to our country will bind more closely the ties which happily unite these islands to the British Crown.

"Amid the universal rejoicings we regret the absence of Her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales, whom the people of Malta would have welcomed with hearty enthusiasm, which her presence invariably excites in the United Kingdom.

"With sincere wishes for the happiness and prosperity of Her Majesty, your Royal Highness, and the Royal Family, we beg to remain your Royal Highness's most loyal and most faithful servants."

His Royal Highness replied as follows:—

"I thank you for the address you have presented to me on behalf of the inhabitants of Malta and Gozo on my return from my long and interesting tour in India. This island has many agreeable recollections and associations for me, and I rejoice that it should be the first spot at which I touch on my arrival in Europe. I will not fail to convey to the Queen your expressions of devotion and attachment to her Throne and Government. I can assure you that the oyalty which has been displayed on various occasions to the British Crown by the inhabitants of these islands is neither forgotten nor unappreciated by Her Majesty. The Princess of Wales will be much touched by the kind terms in which you have alluded to her, and had circumstances permitted it she would, I think, have experienced a lively pleasure in being present here with me to-day."

Masonic Festivities.

The last social gathering of the season in connection with the Lodge of Truth, 521, Huddersfield, took place on Thursday, March 30th. The proceedings commenced with a short Operetta, entitled the "Sleeping Queen," written by H. B. Farnie, Esq., the music by M. W. Balfe.

The scene is at the Court of Leon in the 16th century, where the Regent is trying to promote a matrimonial alliance between the King of Arragon and the Queen of Leon; but the Queen is secretly in love with Philippe D' Aguilar, who has just arrived from France with a letter of recommendation to Donna Agnes, a lady of honour. Donna Agnes intercedes for Don Philippe with the Regent, who is in love with the lady of honour. The Regent at first refuses, as Don Philippe is the son of a former foe and rival whom he exiled, but at last consents to grant any request preferred by the bearer of a knot of ribbon from Donna Agnes. Don Philippe in an interview with Donna Agnes relates how he loves a lady whose life he saved about a year ago near Paris whilst out hunting, and how he recognised in the Queen the lady he loved, but who, on his attempting to speak with her, turned round and asked one of her attendants, "What is that person?" Crest-fallen at this seeming fickleness, he announces his determination to leave the Court, and Donna Agnes gives him the knot of ribbon, assuring him if he shews it to the Regent he will get a commission in the army. This turns out to be correct, but the Regent, jealous that he is a lover of Donna Agnes, orders him to a regiment then fighting the Moors. On taking his farewell Don Philippe discovers the Queen asleep, kisses her, and rises just as the Regent and Donna Agnes enter. He delivers his sword to the Regent and is arrested, as by the laws of Leon "any one touching the sacred person of the Queen must suffer death." The Queen to prevent this catastrophe personates Donna Agnes in an interview with the Regent, until he also kisses her, when the Regent thinking himself lost, finds that the law further say "and no one can pardon except the Queen's husband." The Queen thereupon announces her intention to marry Don Philippe, which ends the difficulty.

The several parts were excellently rendered, and gave universal satisfaction to the ladies and brethren, who availed themselves of the opportunity of witnessing the abilities of those who so kindly volunteered their services. Dancing commenced about half-past nine and was kept up until early in the morning. Refreshments were provided by the purveyors of the lodge. When the time for retiring arrived the universal exclamation was how much every one had enjoyed themselves. Bro. Varley, P.M., along with Bro. J. Jackson, W.M., are deserving of the thanks of all present for introducing the new feature of an Operetta, and we trust next season when the social gatherings are commenced that they will again favour the guests with similar entertainments. The musical arrangements were conducted by Bros. Joshua Marshall, and J. Wood, P.M.'s, and were simply perfection. In conclusion let us wish success to the next social gathering at Lodge Truth, 521.

DAYLIGHT reflected in dark rooms. Gas superseded in day time. Health, comfort, and economy promoted by adopting Chappuis' Patent Daylight Reflectors.—Manufactory, 69, Fleet-street, London.

Reviews.

WELCOME HOME POLKA, Composed by W. SMALLWOOD.—A. Williams, Paternoster Row, with a coloured portrait of the Prince of Wales.

We have received two very interesting "morceaux" of music. The one is a spirited polka, composed by W. Smallwood, and which we commend to the notice of our fair sisters. We shall hope that it may be patronized just now by that always loyal portion of our community.

The other is a "Festival Cantata," selected from Psalms cxxi. and cxxv.—"Praise to the Great Architect of the Universe," by Bro. T. Brooks, Org. 1358. Such compositions are very useful and very valuable, inasmuch as they can be seasonably introduced into many of our Masonic ceremonies. We commend Bro. Brooks's Cantata to the notice and support of the Craft.

AMERICAN NOTES.

MASONIC CENTENNIAL.—The One Hundredth Anniversary of American Union Lodge, No. 1, will be held on St. John's Day, June 24th, 1876, at Marietta, Ohio. This, the oldest Masonic lodge in the West, was originally constituted at Roxbury, in the State of Massachusetts, on the 20th day of February, 1776, the charter having been issued on the 15th, during the memorable struggle of the American Colonies for their independence, was worked in the Patriot Army, and visited by General George Washington and his Masonic brethren, who were holding offices in that army. Many other eminent men have since that time filled its various offices, among them General Rufus Putnam, the first Grand Master of Ohio, Gov. Return J. Meigs, and Gen. Lewis Cass. S. L. Hayden, in his work entitled "Washington and his Masonic Compeers," says: "American Union Lodge is the oldest daughter of the American Revolution," and undoubtedly the idea of the American Union was first developed by the organization of this lodge, as its name indicates—the colonies of America not having formed a union at that time, as the compact was declared first on July 4th, 1776, several months afterwards. An interesting sketch of the history of American Union Lodge is given in the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Ohio, for 1875.

SEVENTY-SIX YEARS A MASON.—Bro. Peter Hammond, now residing at Geneseo, Henry county, Illinois, is one of the oldest Masons, as well as one of the oldest men, now living. He was born at Newton, Massachusetts, April 9th, 1776, consequently next April will be one hundred years old. His father, Samuel Hammond, was one of the old patriots who got up a lively tea party on board an English vessel in Boston harbour at the commencement of the Revolutionary war. He emigrated with his wife from Newton to Wardsboro, Windham county, Vermont, among the early settlers there, where he died December, 1842, aged ninety-four years. At the time they emigrated to Vermont, they left their eldest son, Peter, with his grand parents, where he remained until his mother made the journey on horseback after him, and took him back to their new home, a distance of one hundred and twenty-five miles, much of the way through the wilderness, the boy walking the whole distance. Here, on the eastern slope of the Green Mountains, he grew up to man's estate and became an honoured citizen. By industry and economy he acquired considerable wealth in early life. In the fall of 1799, being then twenty-three years old, Bro. Hammond took his first degree in Masonry. He subsequently became Worshipful Master of Mount Moriah Lodge, at Wardsboro, which position he held for a number of years, until the Morgan excitement, when the lodge voted to surrender its charter, much against his wishes. He yet retains the Master's jewel, which is now a precious jewel to him, and still takes a lively interest in Masonry, even now occasionally attending lodge meetings. His present health and strength indicate that he will not only live to celebrate his centennial year, but may add several more to it. So mote it be.—"Masonic Advocate."

THE FREEMASONS AND BURNS.—Amongst the recent celebrations of the birth-day of Burns, I am glad to see that the Freemasons of the St. James's Lodge at Tarbolton have not neglected to do honour to the memory of the poet who has enriched Masonic literature with one of its really good songs; the major part of the others being arrant rubbish, whether viewed as literary productions or as expositions of the glorious principles of the Craft. Whether Tarbolton be the burial-place of "auld King Coil" or not (and it has tradition for its green mound in its favour), Burns has made his connection with its Masonic lodge world-famous by his touching "Farewell to the Brethren of the St. James's Lodge, Tarbolton," written when want and persecution were about to drive him from his native land, which eternal disgrace to Scotland was saved through Masonry alone, as to that he owed his introduction to the Edinburgh literati. Let my readers, whether brother Masons or otherwise, take down their copy of Burns' poems, and read once more the beautiful verses I have alluded to, and they will feel all the better for having done so. Not only was the "one round" asked for "with a tear" by the bard to be given annually to his memory duly accorded by his "dear brothers of the mystic tie," in the very lodge where he had so oft not only "spent the festive night," but also "presided o'er the sons of light;" but several of his best songs were sung, the famous "Farewell" being appropriately included, and, as I learn from the "Freemason," "the jewel worn by the poet and other relics had a conspicuous place assigned them." I mention that Thom, the sculptor of the statues illustrative of "Tam o'Shanter and Souter Johnny," on the Burns' Monument at Alloway, was born in the parish of Tarbolton; and his name, like that of the poet, is "to Masonry and Scotia dear."—Bro. George Markham Tweddell, in the *Archæologist*.

LODGE OF BENEVOLENCE.

The monthly meeting of the Lodge of Benevolence was held on Wednesday evening at Freemasons' Hall; Bros. John M. Clabon, President; Joshua Nunn, Senior Vice President; James Brett, Junior Vice President being in their places. The following brethren were also present:—H. Bartlett, P.M. 147; Joseph Smith, P.G.P.; C. A. Cottebrune, P.G.P.; Hyde Pullen, P.G.S.B.; Griffiths Smith, P.M. 21; William Stephens, P.M.; C. F. Hogard, P.M.; Samuel May, James Mason, P.G. S.B.; Herbert Dicketts, P.M.; John Boyd, P.G.P.; Benj. Head, P.G.S.D.; Wm. Hy. Myers, P.M.; John Hervey, G.S.; H. G. Buss, A. A. Pendlebury, B. H. Swallow, W.M. City of Westminster; Charles H. Driver, P.M.; Samuel Pardoe, P.M. 511; H. T. Thompson, P.M. 742; F. H. Ebsworth, P.M. 73; F. W. Chittenden, W.M. 548; Thos. Kingston, W.M. 862; George Bird Gates, W.M. 829; J. H. Younghusband, P.M. 221; G. Rosh, W.M. 534; J. R. Foulger, P.M. 177; H. W. Hemsworth, P.M. 1193; C. P. Cobham, W.M. 957; Alex. Pilbeam, W.M. 45; Jesse Turner, P.M. 30; J. J. Berry, W.M. 534; A. R. Wade, P.M. 1442; George Brooks, W.M. 902; Lionel Jacobs, W.M. 205; J. Pringle, W.M. 766; Joseph J. Nelson, W.M. 539; W. J. Murlis, W.M. 1489; J. H. Watts, W.M. 1201; W. Stuart, P.M. 179; W. R. Marsh, P.M. 9; Howard Williams, W.M. 905; W. W. Baxter, W.M. 742; B. H. Mallam, W.M. 1563; H. G. Goodall, W.M. 784; J. Lightfoot, P.M. 147; John Green, 27; J. R. Gallant, W.M. 813; J. Smith, P.M. 913; Karl Bergmann, W.M. 238; H. Massey, P.M. 619 ("Freemason"); G. W. F. Loftus, P.M. 1193; H. M. Levy, P.M. 188.

Grants to the extent of £320, out of the total grants made at the former sitting, were first confirmed, and the brethren then proceeded with the new cases. Of these there were 33, which were disposed of as follows:—8 deferred; 1 received £100; 2, £30 each; 7, £20 each; 5, £15 each; 6, £10 each; 3, £5 each; and 1 received £2. Many of the cases were those of widows. The lodge sat for three hours.

METROPOLITAN MASONIC MEETINGS.

For the Week ending Friday, April 28, 1876.

The Editor will be glad to receive notice from Secretaries of Craft Lodges, Royal Arch Chapters, Mark Lodges, Preceptories, Conclaves, &c., of any change in place or time of meeting.

SATURDAY, APRIL 22.

Audit Com. Boys' School, at 3.
Lodge 1293, Burdett, Mitre Hot., Hampton-court.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Lily, Greyhound, Richmond.
Percy, 113, Southgate-rd., N.
Manchester, 179, London-st., Fitzroy-square.
Star, Marquis of Granby, New Cross Road.

MONDAY, APRIL 24.

Annual Red Cross Ball.—See advt.
Lodge 4, Royal Somerset House and Inverness.
" 26, Castle of Harmony, Willis's Rooms.
" 28, Old King's Arms, F.M.H.
" 79, Pythagorean, Ship Hot., Greenwich.
Chap. 188, Joppa, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Prince Leopold, Lord Stanley Tav., Kingsland.
Strong Man, Jerusalem Tav., St. John's Gate.
Sincerity, Railway Tav., Fenchurch-st. Station.
Camden, Stanhope Arms, Up. James-st., Camden To.
Eastern, Royal Hot., Mile-end-road.
St. James's Union, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Wellington, White Swan, Deptford.
West Kent, St. Saviour's College, Forest-hill.
Perfect Ashlar, Victoria Tav., Lower-rd., Rotherhithe.
Sydney, White Hart Ho., Church-rd., Upper Norwood.

TUESDAY, APRIL 25.

Special Gen. Meeting R.M.B.I. at 3.—See advt.
Audit Com. Girls' School at 4.
Lodge 14, Tuscan, F.M.H.
" 92, Moira, London Tav., Bishopsgate-st.
" 141, Faith, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
" 145, Prudent Brethren, F.M.H.
" 205, Israel, Terminus Hot., Cannon-st.
" 259, Prince of Wales, Willis's Rooms, St. James's.
" 1158, Southern Star, Montpellier Tav., Walworth.
" 1196, Urban, Old Jerusalem Tav., Clerkenwell.
" 1348, Ebury, 12, Ponsonby-st., Millbank.
Chap. 7, Royal York of Perseverance, F.M.H.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney.
Domestic, Surrey M.H., Camberwell New-road.
Faith, 2, Westminster Chambers, Victoria-st.
Prince Fredk. Wm., Lord's Hot., St. John's Wood.
Dalhousie, King Edward, Triangle, Hackney.
Prosperity, 1, Camomile-st., Bishopsgate.
St. Marylebone, British Stores Tav., St. John's Wood.
Constitutional, Wheatshaf Hot., Hand-court, Holborn.
Israel, Rising Sun Tav., Globe Road.
Royal Arthur, Prince's Head, York-road, Battersea.
Beacontree, Red Lion, Leytonstone, at 8.
Metropolitan Chapter, Jamaica Coffee Ho., Cornhill.
Excelsior, Commercial Dock Tav., Rotherhithe.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26.

Grand Festival, F.M.H.—See advt.
Lodge 212, Euphrates, M.H., Basinghall-st.
" 507, United Pilgrims, Horns' Tav., Kennington.
" 754, High Cross, Seven Sisters' Tav., Tottenham.
" 898, Temperance-in-the East, 6, Newby-pl., Poplar.
" 1056, Victoria, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.

Lodge 1415, Campbell, Mitre Hot., Hampton-court.
" 1523, St. Mary Magdalene, Star Hot., Greenwich.
" 1540, Chaucer, Bridge House Hot., London-bridge.
Chap. 753, Prince Frederick William, St. John's Wood.
" 857, St. Marks, Surrey M.H.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Mt. Lebanon, Windsor Castle Tav., Southwark-bdg.-rd.
Pythagorean, Prince of Orange, Greenwich.
New Concord, Rosemary Branch Tav., Hoxton.
Royal Union, Horse and Groom, Winsley-st., Oxford-st.
Confidence, M.H., Basinghall-st.
Peckham, Maismore Arms, Park-road, Peckham.
Stanhope, Thicket Hot., Anerley.
Finsbury Park, Finsbury Park Tav., Seven Sisters'-rd.
Southwark, Southwark Park Tav., Southwark Park.
Duke of Connaught, Havelock Tav., Dalston, E.
United Strength, Grafton Arms, Kentish-town.
Moont Edgcombe, 19, Jermyn-street, St. James's.
Islington, Crown and Cushion, London Wall.

THURSDAY, APRIL 27.

Gen. Com. Girls' School, at 4.
Lodge 22, Neptune, Guildhall Tav., Gresham-st.
" 65, Prosperity, Guildhall Tav., Gresham-st.
" 66, Grenadiers', F.M.H.
" 99, Shakespeare, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
" 858, South Middlesex, Beaufort Ho., Fulham.
" 871, Royal Oak, White Swan, High-st., Deptford.
Chap. 217, Stability, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
" 534, Polish National, F.M.H.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Egyptian, Hercules Tav., Leadenhall-st.
Fidelity, Yorkshire Grey, London-st., W.
Finsbury, Jolly Anglers' Tav., Bath-st., City-road.
Whittington, Black Bull Tav., Holborn.
Temperance in the East, Catherine-st., Poplar.
Ebury, 12, Ponsonby-st., Millbank.
Highgate, Bull and Gate, Kentish-town.
The Great City, 111, Cheapside.
High Cross, Coach & Horses, High-road, Tottenham.
Salisbury, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Marquis of Ripon, Albion Tav., Albion-rd., Dalston.
Prince Frederick William Chapter, St. John's Wood.

FRIDAY, APRIL 28.

Anniversary Festival, Stability L. of I.—See advt.
House Com. Boys' School, at 4.
Lodge 197, Jerusalem, F.M.H.
" 569, FitzRoy, Hd.-qtrs. Hon. Art. Co., City-rd.
" 861, Finsbury, Rosemary Branch Tav., Hoxton.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Union Waterloo, Thomas-st., Woolwich.
St. George's, Globe Tav., Royal-hill, Greenwich.
Robert Burns, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Belgrave, Lyceum Tav., 354, Strand.
Unions Emulation (for M.M.'s), F.M.H.
Temperance, Victoria Tav., Victoria-road, Deptford.
Clapton, White Hart, Clapton.
Stability, Guildhall Tav., Gresham-st.
Metropolitan, Portugal Hot., Fleet-st.
Westbourne, Horse & Groom, Winsley-st., Oxford-st.
Metropolitan, Pentonville-road.
United Pilgrims, Surrey M.H., Camberwell New-road.
St. James's, New Tanners' Arms, Grange-rd., Bermondsey.
Duke of Edinburgh, Silver Lion, Penny-fields, Poplar.
Doric, Earl Grey Tav., Mile-end-road.
Burgoyne, Grafton Arms, Prince of Wales's-road, N.W.
St. Luke's, Commercial Tav., King's-road, Chelsea.
Chigwell, Bald-faced Stag Hot., Buckhurst-hill.
Burdett Courts, Approach Tav., Victoria Park.
Royal Standard, Finsbury Park Tav., Holloway.
Ranelagh, Clarendon Hot., Hammersmith.
Pythagorean Chapter, Prince of Orange, Greenwich-rd.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN WEST LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE.

For the Week ending Saturday April 29, 1876.

MONDAY, APRIL 24.

Lodge 145, Lights, M.R., Warrington.
Chap. 241, Friendship, M.H., Liverpool.

TUESDAY, APRIL 25.

Lodge 1393, Hamer, 22, Everton-rd., Liverpool.
Chap. 721, Grosvenor, M.R., Chester.
" 823, Everton, M.H., Liverpool.
Merchant's L. of I., Liverpool.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26.

Lodge 2, St. George's, Adelphi Hot., Hot., Liverpool.
" 220, Harmony, Garston Hot., Garston.
" 724, Derby, M.H., Liverpool.
" 1052, Callender, P.H., Rusholme.
" 1356, De Grey and Ripon, M.H., Liverpool.
Neptune L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

THURSDAY, APRIL 27.

Lodge 594, Downshire, M.H., Liverpool.
" 1313, Fermor, M.H., Southport.
Chap. 216, Sacred Delta, M.H., Liverpool.
" 1086, Walton, St. Lawrence's School.

FRIDAY, APRIL 28.

Chap. 680, Sefton, M.H., Liverpool.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN GLASGOW AND WEST OF SCOTLAND.

For the Week ending Saturday, April 29, 1876.
All the Meetings take place at Eight o'clock.

MONDAY, APRIL 24.

Lodge 102, St. Mark, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
" 103, Union & Crown, 170, Buchanan-st., Glasgw.
" 187, St. John, Black Bull Inn, Carlisle.
" 219, Star, 12, Trongate, Glasgow.
" 362, St. Clair, 25, Robertson-st., Glasgow.
" 541, Marie Stuart, M.H., Crosshill.
Chap. 122, Thetis, 35, St. James's-st., Kingston.

TUESDAY, APRIL 25.

Lodge 413, Athole, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
" 543, St. John, M.H., Dalmaur.
" 67, Cathedral, 22, Struthers-st., Glasgow.
" 73, Caledonian of Unity, 170, Buchanan-st.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26.

Lodge 505, Burns St. Mary, Commercial Inn, Hurlford.
" 510, Maryhill, 167, Main-st., Maryhill.

THURSDAY, APRIL 27.

Provincial Grand Lodge of Glasgow, 213, Buchanan-st.
Lodge 290, Dalry Blair, White Hart H., Dalry.
" 334, St. John's, Castle-inn, New Cumnock.
" 570, Kenmuir, M.H., Springburn.
Chap. 117, Govandale, Portland Buildings, Govan.

FRIDAY, APRIL 28.

Lodge 51, Loudon Kilwinning, Black Bull, Newmilns.
" 118, St. Bride's, M.H., Douglas.
" 125, St. James, Masons' Arms, Newton Ayr.
" 153, Royal Arch, M.H., Pollokshaws.
" 236, Wilsontown St. John, Forth Inn, Carnworth.
" 347, St. John, M.H., Rutherglen.
Chap. 79, Commercial, 30, Hope-st., Glasgow.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN EDINBURGH AND VICINITY.

For the Week ending Saturday, April 29, 1876.

MONDAY, APRIL 24.

Lodge 349, St. Clair, F.M.H., George-st.

TUESDAY, APRIL 25.

Lodge 151, Defensive Band, Alexandra H., Cockburn-st.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26.

Lodge 112, St. John, Royal Hot., Musselburgh.

THURSDAY, APRIL 27.

Lodge 392, Caledonian, F.M.H., George-st.

FRIDAY, APRIL 28.

Lodge 223, Trafalgar, 54, Bernard-st., Leith.

ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION

for Aged Freemasons
and Widows of Freemasons,

In compliance with a requisition received in accordance with Rule 8, a SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING of the Governors and Subscribers of the Institution will be held at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, London, on TUESDAY, the 25th day of April, 1876, at Three o'clock in the afternoon precisely, to consider the propriety of altering Law 4, Page 12, of the rules and regulations by substituting the figures £40 for £36, and Law 4, Page 13, by substituting the figures £32 for £28, and further to consider any proposition or motion which may then be brought forward to carry into effect the proposed alterations.

(By order) JAMES TERRY,
Secretary.
Office, 4, Freemasons Hall, London, W.C.
18th April, 1876.

THE ANNUAL

RED CROSS BALL

WILL BE GIVEN AT

WILLIS'S ROOMS, KING STREET, ST. JAMES'S.

UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE GRAND COUNCIL.

By the Members of the Masonic and Military Orders of the Red Cross of Constantine, K.H.S., and Knights of St. John,

On Monday, April 24, 1876.

PRESIDENT,

COLONEL FRANCIS BURDETT,

M. Em. Grand Viceroy, and Deputy Grand Commander of St. John.

The surplus will be given to the Masonic Charities and to the Almoner's Fund of the Red Cross Order.

Coote and Tinney's Band, Conductor, Bro. Coote.
Tickets, including Refreshments and Champagne Supper, Gentlemen, 21s.; Ladies, 15s.; Double Ticket, 31s. 6d.
Dancing to commence at Nine o'clock.

R. Wentworth Little, (Treas. Gen. and Knt. Grand Commander of St. John.) Treasurer.

Henry A. Dubois, G.A. Treas. and Knt. Commander of St. John; and J. Musgrave Levick, Commander of St. John, Hon. Secs.

17, Great James-Street, Bedford-Row, W.C.

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GRAND FESTIVAL.

The annual meeting of Grand Lodge for the installation of the Most Worshipful Grand Master, was held on Wednesday evening, at Freemasons' Hall. As His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales has not yet returned from his eastern tour, his place was occupied by the Pro Grand Master, the Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon, who had Col. Burdett, Prov. Grand Master of Middlesex, on his right, as Deputy Grand Master, while Bro. F. Pattison took the chair of Senior Grand Warden, and Bro. John Havers, that of Junior Grand Warden. The throne occupied by the Prince of Wales last year at the Albert Hall, surmounted by the Masonic banner, was placed for the Pro Grand Master, and the beautiful special carpet, woven expressly for the installation of the Prince of Wales, was again laid down the whole length of the temple for the procession of Grand Officers. The arrangements for accommodating an additional number of brethren was admirable. The Senior Warden's chair was placed nearer the porch, and the Junior Warden's chair was brought several feet forward. The extra space thus given was filled with seats, all of which were occupied. Grand Lodge was fully attended. Among the brethren present were Bros. Lord Tenterden, S. Rawson, J. M. Clabon, Rev. R. J. Simpson, McIntyre, Q.C., F. Roxburgh, Q.C., Dr. Woodman, the Rev. Sir J. Warren Hayes, Rev. S. R. Wigram, Rev. C. J. Martyn, Sir Michael Costa, Raynham, W. Stewart, A. J. D. Filer, R. J. Spiers, Major Platt, S. Tomkins Grand Treasurer; John Hervey, Grand Secretary; W. Speed, Grand Deacon; H. Browse, James Glaisher, J. A. Rucker, John B. Monckton, Peter De L. Long, Dr. Erasmus Wilson, Col. Creaton, J. C. Parkinson, Dr. Alfred Meadows, F. A. Philbrick, Q. C., Benj. Head, Thos. Fenn, C. A. Mirron, Hyde Pullen, Brackstone Baker, Ex. Sheriff Hutton, Rev. Dr. Cox, James Mason, Wilhelm Ganz, and others.

At five o'clock the organ was played by Herr Wilhelm Kuhe, and headed by Sir Albert Woods, Garter, Grand Director of Ceremonies the Grand Stewards of the year and Grand Officers entered, the Earl of Carnarvon, as Pro Grand Master, entering with the others, and taking his seat on the throne amidst the applause of the brethren.

Grand Lodge having been formally opened

The Earl of Carnarvon said,—The next duty I have to perform can be stated in a very few words; indeed, it is simply to announce to this Grand Lodge that His Royal Highness our Most Worshipful Grand Master, absent to-day, I regret, from the midst of us, has been pleased to appoint me as Pro Grand Master. (Loud applause). On this, of course, all comment on my part is necessarily superfluous, and the ordinary course of proceedings will follow.

Sir Albert Woods then proclaimed the Earl of Carnarvon as Pro Grand Master, and the customary salute followed.

The Earl of Carnarvon again rose and said—Brethren, I do not address you now to thank you for the manner in which you have received the announcement which it was my duty as

a matter of form to lay before you. I have had already too many and too long evidences of your good will towards me to say anything on that point; but it is my duty now to make a second announcement to you, and one which I am satisfied will give great gratification to all who are in Grand Lodge, that His Royal Highness, the most Worshipful Grand Master, has been pleased to name my noble friend Lord Skelmersdale as the Deputy Grand Master (Applause), and take this opportunity of explaining, on behalf of my noble friend and brother, how deeply grieved he is to be unable to-day to be present. His absence is due to a great family affliction which effectually prevents him from being in attendance here to-day. Brethren, I have to announce that Lord Skelmersdale is the Deputy Grand Master.

The following brethren were then invested with the insignia of Grand Office, the Earl of Carnarvon first announcing that the Prince of Wales had been pleased to appoint them:—The Earl of Donoughmore, Senior Grand Warden; the Hon. William Warren Vernon, Junior Grand Warden; the Revs. Spencer Robert Wigram and Charles William Arnold, Grand Chaplains; Samuel Tomkins (Willis, Percival, and Co., bankers, Lombard-street), Grand Treasurer; Æ. J. McIntyre, Q.C., Grand Registrar; John Hervey, Grand Secretary; E. E. Wendt, Grand Secretary for German Correspondence; Lieut.-Colonel Thomas Burchell and T. W. Boord, M.P., Senior Grand Deacons; Ed. Barron and John M. Case, Junior Grand Deacons; F. Pepys Cockerell, Grand Superintendent of Works; Sir Albert Woods (Garter), Grand Director of Ceremonies; Dr. W. Rhys Williams, Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies; Wm. F. Nettleship, Grand Sword Bearer; Wilhelm Kuhe, Grand Organist; E. P. Albert, Grand Pursuivant; S. G. Foxall, Assistant Grand Pursuivant; and C. B. Payne, Grand Tyler.

After these brethren had been formally saluted, the Grand Secretary read the following list of Grand Stewards for the year:—Bros. Thomas Taylor Smith, 1; John Boyd, 23; John Lewis Geiger, 8; Wm. Hope, M.D., 2; Arthur Curtis Valey, 4; John Cory Havers, 5; Winthrop Mackworth Praed, 6; Edmund Nash, M.D., 14; Robert Berridge, 21; Thos. Clarke Tatham, 26; Arthur Jas. Rickens Trundell, 29; Leonard Alfred Kew, 46; Felix Sumner Knyvett, 58; John Giles Chancellor, 60; Henry John Reynolds, 91; Geo. Marshall, 99; Wm. George Cusins, 197; Gabriel Prior Goldney, 259.

Grand Lodge was thereupon closed and the brethren adjourned to a splendid banquet at Freemasons' Tavern, at which the Earl of Carnarvon presided. This banquet, which was admirably supplied, was superintended by Mr. Dawkins, of the Freemasons' Tavern, and gave general satisfaction. The providing of it, and the general arrangements reflected the highest credit on the Grand Stewards, of whom the following is a list:—President: Bro. George N. Johnson, 1; Treasurer, Bro. George R. Thervill; Hon. Sec., Bro. Charles J. Morgan, 8; Bros. Stephen Pearce, 2; Alfred Meadows, 4; William H. Clarke, 5; William B. Colman, 6; Augustus C. Sadler, 14; Thomas Wilson, 21; W. N. C. D'Arcy, 26; F. Farnan, jun., 22; George F. Humphrey, 49; Alfred J. Hollington, 58; William L. Wheeler, 60; John T. Wimperis, 91; William R. Winch, 99; Thomas G. Bullen, 197; John Scott, 259.

After the banquet and before the cloth was uncovered the Earl of Carnarvon rose, and said:—Brethren, I sincerely regret that through unexpected circumstances I shall be obliged to retire from the chair this evening. I had hoped indeed that His Royal Highness, our Grand Master, might have returned to England in time to fill the chair on this great anniversary of the Masonic year. Unfortunately he has not been able to complete his journey and to reach this country in time. I had hoped also that my noble friend and brother, Lord Skelmersdale, might, as Deputy Grand Master, have also been present on the occasion. He has, unhappily, as I mentioned in Grand Lodge, been obliged to absent himself in consequence of a great family affliction. The task, therefore, suddenly, and without notice, fell upon me, and I regret to say that business over which I have really and literally no control, obliges me at this moment to

ask your indulgence, and to leave you. It is personally a matter of extreme regret to me—I can hardly say how great regret. At the same time I know that all of you in this room know me so well that they are aware how reluctantly I tear myself away from such an assembly, and that I would not do so were it not that the necessity is absolutely imperative. Brethren, in taking my leave of you, I will only venture to express the hope which I know exists in the minds of every Mason in this room, that before very long His Royal Highness, may once more be with us. (Hear hear). I am satisfied that whenever he does return he will receive one of those cordial and enthusiastic welcomes such as he can receive nowhere out of the craft. Brethren: His Royal Highness has during the last few months not merely pursued a journey of great personal interest, but he has also performed a great and high political duty. (Applause). He has passed through the length and breadth of our Indian Empire. He has conciliated affections; he has cemented those blocks—those colossal blocks—of empire by his happy temper by his kindly consideration, by his political tact; and he has come away from the East, having discharged, and successfully discharged, a great public duty. (Hear hear.) On the other hand, we may also feel, and feel with great satisfaction, that while discharging those great political duties, he has never been forgetful of those Masonic obligations which he undertook here. Through the length and breadth of India he has received deputations; he has attended spectacles with reference to Masonry, which have given us all the greatest delight. He has discharged Masonic duties at Gibraltar; and he is, I observe, about to do the same at Lisbon; and if, as I saw lately in the newspapers, he has deliberately omitted to perform a Masonic duty in Malta, it was due to his political tact, and his knowledge and appreciation of the political circumstances of the Island. In a single word, I am satisfied that wherever His Royal Highness had been during the last three or four months he has maintained, and he has raised to a still higher point the credit and the character of English Masonry. (Cheers.) Brethren, I have nothing further to add except to express my deep personal regret at being obliged to absent myself, and I hope that under the presidency of my Right Worshipful brother on my right (Col. Burdett) who will now take my place, everything that is good and everything that is agreeable will ensue during the course of the evening. I wish you all an extremely good night.

His lordship then left the hall, conducted by Bro. Hervey and Sir Albert Woods, all the brethren standing. Col. Burdett took the chair in his lordship's absence, and grace was afterwards sung.

In giving the toast of "Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen," the Chairman said that all Masons were pleased that Her Majesty should return to this country after her Continental trip, refreshed with the change of air and scene, and with renewed strength.

The Chairman next proposed "Her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales," and in doing so said that all the brethren would receive it with great delight. They all knew that Her Royal Highness felt considerable reluctance to the Prince going to what was felt to be an unhealthy country; but her feelings of patriotism prompted her to resist any personal objection to the step. We all know the influence a wife exercises over a husband; but she refrained from objecting to his travelling and smothered those feelings which she felt at parting with one so near and dear to her for the sake of the country to which we were happy to say she now belonged.

The Chairman next proposed "His Royal Highness the Grand Master." All Masons had the greatest wish to see him once more among them, and they hoped to do so. He did his duties as a Mason in a most enthusiastic manner, of which all classes had had experience. There never had been the slightest whisper of any deficiency of duty on his part, and Masons were all gratified that he performed his Masonic duties not only in this country but wherever he went. His journey to the East would produce most valuable fruits to Masonry. Whether in India, Spain, or Portugal, he had shown himself

anxious to assist in every way he could the cause of Masonry. When he came back he would be received with the greatest enthusiasm. (Great applause.)

The Chairman next proposed "The M.W. the Pro Grand Master," and said that his lordship was so completely overwhelmed with public business that he had been obliged to leave the brethren earlier than he wished. Although in a short time he had suffered severe domestic affliction and been burdened with political work, he had never deserted his allegiance to Freemasonry. He had stuck to the Order in the kindest and most enthusiastic way, and he would always be well remembered by the brethren.

The Chairman then gave "The R.W. the Deputy Grand Master," and expressed his regret that domestic affliction was the cause of his absence. In all parts of England Lord Skelmersdale was well known to Freemasons, and those who did not now know his lordship, when they came to know him would be pleased not only with his Masonry but his kind and genial nature.

The Chairman next said that he had hitherto had to speak of individuals; he had now to speak of large bodies, and would propose "The Grand Lodges of Scotland and Ireland." Grand Lodge of England was intimately connected with them, and was on terms of the warmest and closest friendship with them. (Cheers.)

Lord Tenterden proposed "The R.W. the Provincial Grand Masters." Every Mason knew how ably these brethren discharged their duties, and with what energy and tact they performed their functions. The chair could not be better filled than by Col. Burdett, Prov. Grand Master of Middlesex, whose health as Chairman he would propose at the same time. It was not necessary to speak of Col. Burdett's abilities in that hall, as they were known to the whole Craft. The mere mention of his name was sufficient to secure a cordial reception. (Applause.) With the toast he would couple also the name of Bro. Ramsay, the District Grand Master of the Punjab. They had heard a great deal that evening of the reception of the Prince of Wales in India by Masons; and he might inform them that the District of the Punjab had seventeen active working Grand Lodges, and five chapters. To the provinces he wished prosperity.

The Chairman, in reply, said how much gratified he felt at the complimentary remarks of Lord Tenterden; but he could assure the brethren that he had only performed his duty, and he was glad that he had done so to the satisfaction of the Craft. Some people might perhaps find fault with Provincial Grand Masters; but they were few; and as long as he was a Prov. Grand Master, he would endeavour to do his duty.

Bro. Ramsay also replied.

The Chairman next proposed "The R.W. the Grand Wardens, and other Grand Officers, Past and Present," and complimented them on the way in which they one and all discharged their responsibilities.

The Hon. W. W. Vernon, J.G.W., responded.

The Chairman then proposed "The Masonic Charities," which he strongly recommended to the attention of the brethren. He alluded to the growth of these institutions, and felt confident that every one would exert himself to the utmost to maintain them in their condition of prosperity. (Hear, hear.)

Bro. James Terry, in reply said, he was completely taken by surprise in being called upon to respond, as it was a well known rule in Grand Lodge that the Secretary of the Institution whose festival was immediately following Grand Festival, should have the opportunity and pleasure of replying to so acceptable a toast to the great body of Freemasons. In the absence of the Secretaries of the other Educational Institutions, however, it devolved on him to reply. He could only but express the hope that the success, and what he might term the only increased success which attended the festival of the Benevolent Institution in February last, might be renewed at the approaching festival of the Girls' School and the Boys' School. When he told the brethren that the three Institutions received over £30,000 last year, he ventured to hope that

when the month of June came, they would be able to announce a much larger sum. The reason he said so was that the demands on the Institutions were largely increasing, and therefore they called on the body of the Craft to give them the means of meeting them. They had 40 applicants for the Girls' School, 59 for the Boys', and 57 for the Benevolent Institution. Not more than one-third could be accommodated at the Educational Institutions, and therefore it behoved the Craft to do all they could and more than they were now doing. With respect to the Benevolent Institution whose festival had just been held, more than £9400 had been received. Permit him to say that the committee of the institution, being mindful of the obligation devolving upon them, had resolved to respond to this liberality by the addition of £4 to each annuity. At a meeting held only the day before they resolved to do this; but the brethren must remember that this involved an additional outlay of nearly £1000 a year. He appealed to the new blood, the incoming members, to lend their assistance. (Great cheering.)

The Chairman then gave "The Grand Stewards of the year," and thanked them for their kind attention to the comforts of the brethren.

Bro. Johnson replied, and said that nine-tenths of the work fell on the Secretary. This office was filled this year by Bro. C. J. Morgan, without whom the Grand Stewards would have fallen into complete confusion. His exertions certainly deserved praise, and if anything should be in the gift of Grand Lodge all the Stewards hoped it might fall on Bro. Morgan. (Cheers.)

The remainder of the evening was spent in the Temple, where a beautiful concert was given under the conductorship of Herr Wilhelm Kuhe and Herr Wilhelm Ganz. Madame Liebhart, Miss Annie Sinclair, Madame Osborne Williams, and Bros. George Perren, Large, Carter, and Theodore Distin were the vocalists engaged. Bro. Harker was toastmaster.

REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS.

Craft Masonry.

POLISH NATIONAL LODGE (No. 534).—The annual gathering of this celebrated lodge was held on Thursday, April 13th, at Freemasons' Hall, for the installation of the W.M. Bro. F. Rath, and a right noble meeting it was, some 70 brethren being present, besides numerous visitors. The lodge was summoned for 4.30 p.m. The working of this lodge was most excellent, and the installation ceremony was duly performed, much to the credit of the Installing Master, after which the newly-elected W.M. initiated five new members, and did the work admirably, as well as the officers, who were equally well up in all they had to do. Splendid order and equally splendid attention were given. The following brethren were the officers:—S.W., J. H. Cumming; J.W., G. T. Ebner; S.D., J. Aspinall; J.D., J. S. Taylor; I.G., A. N. Jagielski; M.C., G. E. C. Jackson; Treas., our right worthy Bro. John Boyd; and the ever-active and well-known Bro. W. Paa, P.M., Sec. A lodge thus constituted can only be a success and worshipful. Amongst the visitors on this occasion were many well-known brethren, Bros. Colonel Peters, F. Binckes, Adlard, Hyde Pullen, S. White, T. Burdett Yeoman, and many others. After the business of the lodge was finished, the brethren adjourned to the banquet room and sat down to a table sumptuously laden with all the delicacies of the season. Here again the W.M. had evidently done his duty, in company with the Wine Steward, Bro. Paa, who studied the taste of every brother present. Such attention does honour to the lodge. Grace was said by the W.M., and the cloth removed. After some few minutes the W.M. called the brethren to order, and gave the toast of "The Queen and the Craft;" said,—"As your W.M., nothing gives me greater pleasure, than to pay a tribute of attachment and loyalty to the sovereign lady of these realms, who adorns the throne, and lovingly and mightily sways its sceptre: we are bound to admire and love her, because of her attachment to our royal and ancient Order. Brethren—"The Queen and the Craft." After the National Anthem was sung the W.M. gave the next toast, "The Grand Master of the Craft, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales," remarked there was unfortunately a great deal of cheap praise and adulation lavished on those who often by mere chance were called upon to occupy places of trust in the Government, but in our G.M. we have one who, when our noble Order stood in jeopardy, accepted the Masonic throne, and thus made firmer than ever the strength and unity of the brotherhood, for which we pay him all honour. Brethren, a good fire for the M.W.G.M., H.R.H. the Prince of Wales. Brethren, I will now give you the toast of the Pro Grand Master, the Earl of Carnarvon, who is a gentleman and nobleman well suited and fitted to fulfil the high and responsible office which he has been called to. It is well known how thoroughly he acquits himself of the duties

imposed upon him. He is the right man in the right place; we will therefore pay him the honour which is his due. To his health, and may he long continue in the midst of us and have our confidence. To order, brethren, whilst with great pleasure I give to you "The Deputy Grand Master and the rest of the Grand Officers." I cannot say more of the D.G.M. and officers than I have of the Pro Grand Master. We know that he has the full confidence, and they also, of the Craft, otherwise they would not have been called to those high and most honourable offices. Bro. P. M. Cooke proposed "The Health of the W.M." in eulogistic terms, and the W.M. Rath responded by saying how grateful he felt by having the confidence of the brethren of the lodge, and that whilst he ruled he trusted peace and prosperity would go hand in hand together. He felt that the duties of governing so large a lodge involved much time and seriousness, especially when this lodge was composed of men of so high an order of intellect. I shall do my duty, and state, like Marshal MacMahon, "J'y suis, j'y resti." With heartfelt thanks please accept the same. The toast of "The Initiates" was given with enthusiasm and heartily responded to. The W.M. said that there was no more pleasing duty to perform than that of having to propose "The Health of the Visitors." The toast was responded to by Bros. Hyde Pullen, and Binckes in terms of acceptability. The toast of "The Tyler" brought one of the most pleasurable evenings to a close that one might ever wish to experience. "Vive la" Polish National Lodge.

GREAT NORTHERN LODGE (No. 1287).—The last meeting of the season was held on Thursday, 20th inst., at the Freemasons' Hall, Bro. E. Lancaster, W.M., presiding, supported by Bros. E. Staton, P.M. and Sec., acting S.W.; Jupe, J.W.; West, S.D.; Robinson, J.D.; Arkell, I.G.; Rawles, Tyler. There were also present I.P.M. Forbes, P.M. Webb, Treas.; and Bros. Buszard, Owen, Schmerl, Hawtin, and others. The business before the lodge was the raising of Bros. Kempton and G. Buszard and the passing of Bro. Farry, which was very carefully done by the W.M. On the completion the brethren adjourned for refreshment, and the pleasure of the evening was greatly enhanced by the singing of several of the brethren.

STOCKWELL LODGE (No. 1339).—The installation meeting of the above lodge was held on Thursday, April 22nd, at the Tulse Hill Hotel, there being present Bros. Benham, W.M.; J. Pain, W.M. elect; Bowyer, J.W.; Frances, P.G.S.D., Sec.; Coe, S.D.; P. Mirjer, J.D.; Harris, I.G.; Brighton, P.M.; Klenck, P.M.; Dubiney, F. Sawyer, Cocks, Grist, C. H. Benham, jun.; Kay, Wm. Harris, H. Hart, Turner, W. H. Boswell, Horncastle, Hineksman, H. S. Hart, Clarke, F. Knibbs, R. J. Knibbs, Mason, Footman, and others. Visitors: Bros. Simpson, P.G. Chaplain; Coward, P.G. Org.; Stork, Boddy, W.M. 1044; Alftatt, 192; Atkins, P.M. 813; Quellerton, 1329; Goldsmid, 419; Mellick, 857; Dodson, P.M. 72; Dann, S.D. 72; Hancock, 1329; and Newman, 1385. The business of the evening consisted of the initiation of Mr. Wm. Scrace, the passing of Bros. Turner and Cocks, the raising of Bros. Boswell, and Mellick, 857; and Benham, jun.; and the installation of Bro. J. Pain. The initiation and passings were performed by the W.M., and the raisings by Bro. Frances, P.M., P.G.S.D.; and the installation by the W.M., and all the ceremonies were very ably rendered. Officers appointed: Bros. Bassett, S.W.; Bowyer, J.W.; Frances, P.M., Sec.; Hammerton, P.M., Treas.; Coe, S.D.; Bowyer, J.D.; and Harris, I.G. The incoming W.M., as a final duty, presented, in the name of the lodge, with a few appropriate words, a jewel to the immediate P.M., Bro. Benham, who acknowledged the gift. This being a Banner Lodge, the W.M. presented the lodge with a banner of his arms. The brethren then adjourned to the grounds to witness a beautiful display of fireworks, which had been provided by the W.M., Bro. Pain, and were much delighted at the artistic skill which had been employed in blending in a brilliant harmony pyrotechnic colours of every hue. The brethren gave three hearty cheers at the conclusion, and returned to the lodge-room, where an excellent banquet awaited them. Afterwards the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given. The immediate P.M. proposed the toast of "The W.M.," remarking that he was one of the founders, and he had no doubt the prosperity of the lodge would continue under his care. He was sure he would be found quite equal to the work of the lodge, and that the brethren would feel quite satisfied with the choice they had made. Bro. Pain, in reply, said he was one of those who formed the lodge in 1871, and he had been S.W. of it for three years in succession, but his business avocations would not allow of his taking the chair till this time, for he did not wish to have the office of W.M. until he felt quite sure of being able to fill the post with satisfaction. He thanked them sincerely for the manner in which they had drunk his health. The toast of "The Initiate" was received and replied to. "The Visitors" was replied to by Bro. Simpson, P.G.C., who testified to the delight he had experienced in being present that evening. He was much pleased at the manner the various ceremonies had been gone through. The ceremonies in Freemasonry were very beautiful, and he was sure the most indifferent would not fail to be impressed with them, by hearing them repeatedly so well done as they had been by the brethren he had heard that evening. As the constant dropping of water on the hardest stone would in time wear its way into it, so must the constant hearing of the tenets of Freemasonry leave its impression on the minds of those who listened to them. He thanked them for the cordial manner in which they had received the toast. Bro. Coward, P.G.O., also replied in a few appropriate words. The toast of "The Immediate P.M. and the P.M.'s" were given, and replied to by Bros. Benham, Klenck, and France. The toast of "The Officers" was replied to by Bro. Brighton, P.M., S.W. pro tem., and the Tyler's toast concluded the evening.

DUKE OF CONNAUGHT LODGE (No. 1558).

—On the 13th inst. this prosperous lodge held its sixth regular meeting at the Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell New-road. Present: Bros. W. Snowden, W.M.; W. S. Cackin, S.W.; T. Sleep, J.W.; Dann, P.M., Sec.; W. Mitchell, S.D.; A. Runacres, J.D.; E. W. Boyton, D.C.; W. Chalk, W.S.; F. Geider, Tyler; and the following members of the lodge:—Bros. J. R. Smith, R. Scott, J. Dixon, J. Emms, C. Sims, J. E. Pentreath, W. Grayson, G. Harris, W. Fish, J. H. Swan, and W. J. Bott. Also as visitors:—Bros. E. G. Webster, Royal Jubilee, No. 72; L. Lawrence, P.M. Castle, No. 36 (lapsed); and J. W. Drayson, D.C. Royal Union, No. 382. The lodge was opened in due form with solemn prayer. The minutes of the last lodge meeting were read and confirmed. The Secretary read a letter from Bro. J. Kemp, tendering his resignation of I.G., whereupon the W.M. appointed and invested Bro. E. W. Boyton, D.C., as I.G., and Bro. W. Chalk, W.S., as D.C. Bro. C. E. Power was appointed as W.S. Bros. Fish and Bott, who were candidates for passing, gave proof of proficiency, were entrusted, and retired. The lodge was then opened in the Second Degree. Bros. Dixon and Emms, who were candidates for raising, were examined, entrusted, and retired. The lodge was then opened in the Third Degree. The W.M., left the chair and Bro. Dann, P.M. and Sec., officiated as W.M. Bros. Dixon and Emms were duly admitted and raised to the sublime degree of Master Masons. The lodge was then resumed to the Second Degree, and Bros. Fish and Bott were admitted on the square and duly passed to the degree of Fellow Craft. The lodge was resumed to the First Degree. The W.M. again took the chair. In rising, he said: It affords me great pleasure to state that the lodge owes no man anything and is in a most flourishing condition. The consecration and installation only took place in October last, and we are now 27 in number with proposing members and initiates ready to join. The funds are in hand for Grand Lodge dues; we have also a fund for benevolence. I would suggest that £5 5s. from the general fund be given to B. O. Mitchell for the Girls' School, and I shall be pleased to hand him a guinea on my own account for the same purpose. I think the brethren will admit that I have provided liberally after the labours of the lodge, although not extravagantly, and this too, upon every occasion of meeting. This I think, brethren, is a success that few lodges can equal in so short a period of seven months. This statement was received with applause. Bro. Mitchell, S.D., proposed a vote of thanks to the W.M., and that the same be recorded in the minutes of the lodge, for his very able and efficient management of the business and funds of the lodge. This was seconded by Bro. Cackin, S.W., and carried unanimously. The W.M. thanked the brethren for their kind expression of approbation, which he valued very much, and it would be still his constant endeavour to do all he could to promote the interests of the lodge. The W.M. rose for the second time. Brother Scott questioned the propriety or justice of charging the full amount of half-yearly subscriptions to those brethren who had recently been initiated, and contended that a reduction should be made fairly. The W.M. was quite disposed to make some reduction, but not to go into fractions. It was very difficult to draw the line. After some discussion, in which several brethren took part, Bro. Cackin, S.W., proposed that the subscriptions be paid as usual without deduction. This was seconded by Bro. Grayson, and carried by a majority of eight to four. Proposed by Bro. Power, and seconded by Bro. Dann, that Bro. C. Lawrence, P.M. of late Lodge Castle, 36, be balloted for as a joining member of this lodge. The W.M. rose for the third time, and all Masonic business being ended the lodge was closed and adjourned till the 11th May next. The brethren then retired to the banquetting hall, where the usual provision was made in the way of a good dinner, which all seemed to enjoy. The usual toasts given upon these occasions were done justice to by the W.M., and well responded to by the brethren.

ST. DUNSTON'S LODGE (No. 1589).—This new lodge held an emergency meeting at Anderson's Hotel on Friday, the 21st inst. Present: Bros. Dwarber, W.M.; Wellsman, S.W.; Dalwood, J.W.; Maxwell, P.G.S., I.P.M.; Tisley, Sec.; Turner, J.D.; Woodbridge, I.G.; and Bros. C. H. Stephenson, W.S., and H. F. Cox, D.C., of the Asaph Lodge, No. 1319, as visitors. The W.M. in his well-known impressive manner passed Bros. Manners, Bull, Low, Thurgood, and W. H. Clemow to the Second Degree, and duly initiated into the Order Mr. F. C. Platts (the son of the late Bro. Platts, of No. 188). A ballot was taken and declared to be unanimous in favour of Bros. E. D. Maddick, of No. 171, and F. Farrington, of No. 55, as joining members. After the labours of the evening were concluded the brethren adjourned to "refreshment," when the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given, and the brethren spent a most enjoyable evening, agreeably enlivened with songs and recitations.

WOOLWICH.—Union Waterloo Lodge (No. 13).—A well-attended meeting of the members of this good old lodge took place on Wednesday, the 12th inst., at the Masonic Hall, William-street, Bro. T. J. Carnelly presiding, assisted by the following officers of the lodge:—C. Young, P.M.; G. Davies, P.M.; F. G. Pownall, S.W.; G. Reed, J.W.; J. Henderson, P.M. and Treas.; H. S. Syer, Sec.; J. Moore, S.D.; T. Hutton, J.D.; N. Brown, I.G.; and B. Norman, Tyler. The visitors included A. Penfold, W.M. 913; J. Laverack, 1255; J. E. Ryder, 145; J. Gregg, 687; A. J. Collier, 220; J. Coghlan, 898; and C. Jolly, 913. The lodge having been duly opened, Messrs. James Pook, of H.M.S. Buffalo, and J. F. Bell, of Plumstead, were after approval initiated into Masonry. The brethren then adjourned for refreshment, and on resuming labour Bros. Wells, Morley, Baker, and MacDaniel were passed to the Second Degree, the W.M. performing the ceremony twice, two of the candi-

dates at a time, and it is needless to say in a most excellent and impressive manner. The lodge was then resumed to the First Degree, and Bro. Pownall took occasion to thank the W.M. for placing in his hands 10 votes belonging to the lodge for the benefit of Mrs. Brown, the widow of an old and esteemed member of the lodge, she being now a candidate for the benefits of the Aged Widows' Benevolent Institution. The lodge was then closed, and again the brethren assembled round the social board, which was spread in the hall, doing away with the necessity of their adjourning to a neighbouring tavern, and there in brotherly love and harmony passed a few pleasant hours together most happily.

WOOLWICH.—Lodge Nelson (No. 700).—The usual monthly meeting of the above lodge took place at the Masonic Hall, William-street, on Wednesday, the 19th inst., and, as is the rule with this popular and excellent lodge, there was a good muster of both brethren and visitors. Among the latter were three Indian brethren, that is to say, members of a lodge in that land of "beauty and of death" just visited by our Grand Master and future King, they having lately arrived in England with detachments of the Royal Artillery, to which important branch of the service they have the honour to belong. Their mother lodge is the Rock of Gwalior, No. 1066, and from the well-known hospitality of the Nelson it may be imagined better than described the hearty reception they met with. Bro. T. Ward, the W.M., presided, supported by the following officers:—G. Bowles, P.M.; S. C. Norman, P.M.; C. W. Hobson, P.M.; S. Goddard, P.M.; T. Butt, S.W.; S. Waters, J.W.; F. Dawson, P.M. and Treas.; J. Henderson, P.M. and Sec.; A. Woodley, S.D.; J. Warren, J.D.; C. Cooke, Org.; and B. Norman, Tyler. Among the visitors were W. T. Vincent, S.W. 913; W. Weston, S.W. 1536; T. Hastings, S.W. 829; G. Spinks, J.W. 1536; E. Humphrey, 1066; R. Fletcher, 1066; W. Towers, 1066; C. Morris, 1331; W. A. Watkins, 1536; and C. J. Ily, 913. The business before the lodge was the balloting for and initiating of Mr. J. H. Buckley, if approved, which was happily effected, and the passing of Bros. Mitchell and Challis, both ceremonies being worked by the W.M. in a style worthy of the lodge's fame; relief was then voted to two distressed brethren, and notice of motion in reference to an alteration of one of the by-laws, and then the lodge was closed in due form and the brethren adjourned to refreshment to the Red Lion, where the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed and honoured by the W.M. and brethren most heartily. Bro. Humphreys responded for "The Brethren of the Rock of Gwalior Lodge," Bro. Weston for the "United Military," and Bro. C. Jolly for "The Pattison," in reply to "The Visitors," most cordially proposed by the W.M. The initiate neatly responded to his health, and Bro. Butt to a very flattering reception of The Officers of the Lodge. The W.M. of course received, as is so well and worthily his due, an ovation, and "God Save the Queen" concluded the pleasures of the evening.

MAZAGON.—Lodge Concord (No. 757, E.C.).—The meeting of this lodge was held in the Masonic Hall, on Saturday, March 18th, 1876, at 6.15 p.m. There were present W. Bros. Henderson, W.M.; W. C. Rowe, I.P.M.; B. Robinson, P.M.; O. Tomlinson, S.W.; J. Speirs, J.W.; G. Macdonald, acting Secretary; F. Burdett, Treas.; W. G. Danie, S.D.; Watson, J.D.; F. Grew, acting I.G.; J. Luke, Steward; Members, Bros. May, Lean, Wilson. Visitors, W. Bros. Barrow, P.M. 944, E.C.; McKenzie, P.M. No. 944, E.C.; Rev. C. Gilder, 1100, E.C.; C. Parker, J.W. 1100, &c. The lodge was opened with prayer, and the minutes of the last regular meeting were read and confirmed, also those of the Permanent Committee were read and adopted. The first business before the meeting was to ballot for Mr. L. Valentine Jones as a candidate for initiation; he having been elected and present was duly initiated into the mysteries of ancient Freemasonry, the address, &c., being given by the S.W. in a very impressive manner, which called forth the applause of the brethren. The lodge was then opened in the Second Degree, and Bro. Watson examined as to his qualifications in the former degrees, and having passed a very creditable examination was entrusted and passed out. The lodge was then raised to the Third Degree, and Bro. Watson duly admitted and raised to the High and Sublime Degree of a M.M.; the lodge lowered to the First Degree, in due form, and all E.A. admitted. W. Bro. Henderson then rose and said he had now to claim their attention for a few minutes, while he performed the very pleasing task of presenting the testimonial which they had voted to their Immediate Past Master, W. Bro. W. C. Rowe, for his valuable services to the lodge during the year 1875, which had been of such a nature that it had not been thought right to let them pass by altogether unrewarded. They trusted that he would long be spared to appear among them wearing the Past Master's jewel and the clothing which they now asked him to accept, with the warm expressions of their affection for him as a brother Mason, and of his services as their Master. W. Bro. Henderson then pinned on to W. Bro. Rowe's breast the P.M.'s jewel of the lodge pattern, and handed to him the full set of a P.M.'s clothing. W. Bro. Rowe, who, on rising was warmly applauded, in acknowledging the gift, said: W. Master, Past Masters, officers, and brethren,—You have so taken me by surprise in presenting me with this very handsome gift, that I do not know how to return my thanks to you for the same; but I cannot allow the very unexpected compliment you have just paid me to pass by unacknowledged, although I am not prepared to thank you as I could wish, for the handsome present which has just been made to me by the lodge. I cannot feel that I have deserved such a gift, because I have simply done my best, which it was my duty to do as Master of this lodge, during the past year, and I should have been sufficiently rewarded by the knowledge that my ser-

vices and endeavours to do my duty have met with your approbation. Nevertheless, since you have been pleased to honour me in this way, I can only assure you that I shall always regard this beautiful jewel as among the most valued of the Masonic decorations which I am permitted to wear, and as regards the clothing, I trust I may be spared by the G.A.O.T.U. for many years to come, to appear here as one of your Past Masters, month after month, clothed in this or a similar costume. Again, brethren, I thank you for this very handsome gift. There being no further business before the lodge, it was closed in peace, love, and harmony at 8.30 p.m.

MAZAGON.—Lodge Truth (No. 944, E.C.).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held in the Freemasons' Hall on Monday, the 3rd March, 1876. Present: W. Bros. W. C. Rowe, I.P.M. 757, E.C., W.M.; Alex. Mc Kenzie, P.M. and Treas.; H. W. Barrow, P.M.; Bros. C. Tudball, S.W.; C. Parker, J.W. 1100, as J.W.; Capt. S. Babington, Sec.; Rev. G. Gilder, S.D.; G. Claridge, J.D.; R. Simkins, I.G.; J. W. Seager, Tyler. Members: Bro. Claridge, and others. Visitors: Bros. Rev. C. Gilder and C. Parker. The lodge was opened with prayer at 6 p.m. punctually. The summons convening the meeting was read. The minutes of the last regular meeting were read and confirmed. The W.M. informed the brethren that as there was no work before the lodge in the way of initiations, &c., he had arranged for the sections of the First Degree to be worked, in which Bro. C. Tudball, S.W.; J. O. Weeks, J.W.; Capt. S. Babington, Sec.; and R. S. Simkins, I.G., had promised to take part with him in the working of the same, and should therefore proceed. W. Bro. W. C. Rowe asked all the questions, which were answered by Bros. C. Tudball, Capt. S. Babington, and Simkins in a most able manner, which was a credit to any lodge, and the W.M. expressed his entire satisfaction to those brethren who had assisted him, and hoped that they would still continue with their labours, and he had no doubt of the lodge gaining its former position in a very short time, and stated that it was his intention to continue the working of the sections at the next and other meetings, until they had gone through the whole of the fifteen sections of the First, Second, and Third Lectures, and still to do without the banquets, as every brother that was present must acknowledge that a large amount of work was gone through, and they were all enabled to return to their homes again to their own dinners, which met with the approval of all present. W. Bro. Mc Kenzie, P.M., apologised for the non-attendance of W. Bro. C. E. Mitchell, I.P.M., on account of the death of his father. The W.M. said the brethren would be sure, join with him in expressing their regret to their oldest P.M., and said that he would propose that a letter of condolence be sent to W. Bro. Mitchell in the name of the lodge, which was carried. There being no further work before the lodge, it was closed in peace, love, and harmony at 7.45 p.m.

WALMER.—Lord Warden Lodge (No. 1096).—The installation meeting of this lodge was held at the Public Rooms, Deal, on the 21st inst. Bro. R. J. Emmerson, P.M., P.P.G.J.W., 1206, presided as Installing Master, and was supported by a large number of the members of the lodge and visitors. It was the most successful of such meetings ever held by this lodge, not only on account of the number present, but also by the very admirable manner in which every detail of the ceremonies was carried out. Shortly after the lodge was opened Bro. J. Eastes, D.P.G.M., was announced, and received by the members of the lodge with the customary honours, suitable music being played during the procession. The following were present:—Bros. W. E. Cavell, W.M.; T. Ayling, S.W.; A. H. des Barres, S.D.; J. B. Harrison, P.M.; H. Belling, Org.; E. Kirby, Steward; S. Holgate, Tyler; G. Wood, J. C. Cross, W. Hazell, W. Carterfield, J. E. Lawrence, T. Smith, J. Laggett, W. Pritchard, J. Miller, T. Bowling, J. Ringland, J. Nottage, J. Herson, W.M. 199; J. Bordeaux, S.W. 199; J. Goodevin, J.W. 199; G. R. Igglesden, 199; W. Gorton, 199; W. W. Watts, 734; T. Bent, 784; W. Hayman, 784; G. W. Moon, 784; A. F. S. Bird, 784; W. A. Norris, A. Gardner, 1206; L. A. Hill, F. Baker, W. W. Woodruff, T. Browning, 784; E. Terry, 1206; W. Harding, 784; H. M. Baker, 1208; W. A. Smeath, 1208; H. S. Watts, 1206; W. Watts, 784; S. Olds, 784. After the minutes had been read and confirmed, Bro. Emmerson installed Bro. T. Ayling, S.W., into the chair of King Solomon, who afterwards invested his officers, addressing to each a few appropriate words on the duties he undertook:—Bros. A. H. des Barres, S.W.; F. Kirby, J.W.; J. B. Harrison, Chap.; T. Smith, J.D.; H. Bolting, Org.; W. Hazell, I.G.; S. Holgate, Tyler; G. Wood, D.C.; and W. Carterfield and J. Laggett, Stewards. Bro. Emmerson concluded by delivering a telling address to the W.M. and his Wardens and all Masons generally, which was loudly cheered, as was also a proposition to record on the minutes a vote of thanks to him. The lodge was then closed by Bro. Ayling, and the manner in which it was done was most efficient, auguring well for the work of the ensuing year. The banquet was served up in a highly creditable manner by Bro. Hurst, who carried out every arrangement that could conduce to the comfort of those present. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and heartily responded to. Bro. Ayling, in replying to the toast of his health, gave a concise account of the charities in which he takes an active and energetic part, and concluded by asking all present to bring forward among their brethren the claims of these admirable institutions. He was also unanimously elected to represent his lodge on the Charity Committee of the province. The D.P.G.M., Bro. J. Eastes, addressed the meeting on matters relating to the province, which were very heartily received. Bro. des Barres, S.W., responded on behalf of "The Officers," saying it was their intention to make themselves worthy of their W.M.'s choice. Bro. Baker, S.W. 1208,

also brought forward the claims of the charities, urging those who had been content hitherto to act passively should now actively and heartily cooperate with the Stewards going from the different lodges. The party broke up about 11 p.m., separating with hearty good wishes and all unanimous in the opinion that they had spent a very enjoyable evening. Regret was expressed that the Secretary was unable to be present on account of illness.

BIRMINGHAM.—Lodge of Israel (No. 1602.) The first meeting of this prosperous lodge under the new Mastership was held on the 17th inst., at the Masonic Hall, Severn-street. There being a large amount of work to do the lodge was opened at 3.30, Bros. S. Lyon, W.M.; J. Silverstone, S.W.; B. Lazarus, J.W.; H. Harris, S.D.; P. Roberts, J.D.; W. Wood, I.G. The minutes of the March meeting having been read and confirmed, the W.M., assisted by his officers, raised Bro. Ball and Gordon to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason; afterwards passed Bros. Deal and Cohen to the second degree; afterwards initiated Mr. Saul Abrahams, Mr. A. B. Newman, and Mr. S. Druff (a Lewis by dispensation), the whole of the three degrees being rendered by the new W.M. in a very able manner. Afterwards the Rev. J. G. Emanuel, B.A., Chaplain, in a very feeling and eloquent manner proposed a vote of condolence to the family of the late Bro. M. Wilcox, who lost his life in the recent football match at Derby, also to Bro. A. Jacobs, on the loss of his wife. Before closing the lodge £30 was voted from the benevolent fund for Masonic charities. The brethren then adjourned to the banqueting room, where the W.M. presided, and gave the usual loyal and Masonic toasts.

LIVERPOOL.—Lodge of Israel (No. 1502.)—At a recent meeting of this lodge, held in the Masonic Hall, Hope-street, March, 1876, the following resolution was proposed by Bro. Dr. S. Lewis, seconded by Bro. Rev. J. Prag, Chaplain, and carried, "That a letter of congratulation from this lodge be sent to the Freemasons' Lodge in Jerusalem, and that the same be transcribed in English, German, and Hebrew." The following is a copy of the letter forwarded:—"To the W.M., Officers, and Brethren of the Masonic Lodge at Jerusalem: Worshipful Master and Brethren,—In the name of the Great Architect of the Universe, I, Alfred J. Henochsberg, W.M. of the Lodge of Ancient, Free, and Accepted Masons, No. 1502, of Liverpool, Great Britain (our lodge being duly opened and properly consecrated) assisted by the principal officers, and in the presence of brethren from North, South, East and West, hereby convey to you our fraternal greetings and hearty congratulations on this occasion of the formation of a Masonic lodge at Jerusalem. With satisfaction and delight we hail the tidings of such a lodge having been established within the confines of the Holy City. Masonry has achieved an illustrious reputation in the past, and rejoicing as we do in acknowledgment of its origin and fundamental principles, it becomes to us a source of sincere pleasure to recognise that this time-honoured institution is experiencing an active and manifest revival in that sacred spot which centuries ago contained its cradle. Masonry, like other channels of amelioration and mercy, has been subjected to persecution, and in the operation we are bold to affirm that a chief agent for ennobling the individual mind, and for benefitting humanity at large, has been unjustly assailed. The effect we know has been analogous to the shooting of arrows against walls of granite. Still we observe with a lively sense of pleasure that a totally different regime is extant in the country ruled by your exalted and enlightened sovereign H.H. the Sultan (under whose benign sway it is your privilege to live) for which Masons and mankind in the main accord him unequivocal thanks. In Great Britain our Craft is flourishing. H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, heir-apparent to the throne of this mighty empire, is one of us, and the nobles of the land and the worthies of the nation, are proud to enrol themselves under our banner. Our Lodge of Israel is not exclusive, as its name might indicate. Amongst its members are worthy men, representatives of various denominations, and similarly disciplined to your lodge at Jerusalem, neither creeds nor nationalities are allowed to interpose invidious distinctions. The only qualifications for admission that we demand are those which are wisely insisted on in all Masonic Lodges, and which are unquestionably essential with men who desire to live in conformity with the pure principles of piety and virtue, and who are also anxious to be united and identified with the wise and good of every clime. In conclusion, we pray that the Almighty Father and Supreme Ruler of the Universe may grant to you and to all Freemasons His gracious aid, that we may be enabled to dedicate and devote our lives to his service, and that prudence may direct us, temperance chasten us, fortitude support us, and justice guide us in all our actions. Finally, that as true Freemasons, we may always practice brotherly love, afford relief to the needy to the utmost of our power, pay due obedience to the laws of the country in which we are called to reside, and that in happy union with these beneficent duties, we desire that the Angel of truth may be the pioneer, the guiding star of all our words and actions. With fraternal greetings, Alfred J. Henochsberg, W.M.; Maurice Hart, S.W.; Alexander Jones, J.W."

Royal Arch.

BATH.—Royal Cumberland Chapter (No. 41).—At a regular meeting, held at the Masonic Hall, on Tuesday, April 18th, the Board of Installed Principals was opened by Ex. Comps. Moutrie, P.Z., acting as Z.; Dr. Hopkins, P.Z., as H.; R. Carey, J.; and Mann, P.Z. The following companions were then admitted, and the chapter was duly opened: Hill, E.; Hearne, N.; Brown, P. Soj.; Young, S. Soj.; Falkner, J. Soj.; Howes, Gummer, and Williamson. Bigwood was in his place as Janitor. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

Letters of apology for absence were read from the 1st and 2nd Principals, Comp. Davis, and the candidate for exaltation. The voting papers for the several Masonic charitable institutions were ordered to be placed in the hands of Ex. Comp. Ashley, to be used in favour of candidates from this province. On the proposition of the acting H., seconded by J., the following resolution was passed:—"That, considering the recent extension of R.A. Masonry in the Province of Somerset, which now contains 10 chapters, it appears desirable to unite them in closer bonds, with a view to the further promotion of the general interests of the Order, and to the bestowal of provincial rank on many members who have distinguished themselves by long and efficient services. That, with this object, it be a recommendation from the Royal Cumberland Chapter to the constituted authorities to consider the propriety of establishing a Provincial Grand Chapter, and if the suggestion be favourably entertained, to take the necessary measures for carrying out the project, in conformity with the Constitutions of Royal Arch Masonry. No other business offering, the chapter was closed at an early hour.

Ancient and Accepted Rite.

ST. GEORGE'S CHAPTER, ROSE CROIX.—A meeting of this chapter was held at 33, Golden-square, on Monday last, Bro. F. Davison, M.W.S. The meeting was fully attended by the members of the chapter, and there was a goodly array of visitors. Bros. C. T. Sparkes, Chaucer Lodge; F. Burgess, Asaph Lodge; G. J. Smallpiece, 777; J. T. Gibson, Earl Spencer Lodge; and W. Poore, Burgoyne Lodge, were perfected very ably by the M.W.S., after which the ceremony of installing the M.W.S. elect, Bro. James Stevens, was performed by Bro. Hyde Pullen in a most impressive manner.

BOMBAY.—Bombay Chapter, Rose Croix, 18°.—The regular convocation of this chapter was held in the Masonic Hall, Mazagon, on the 17th December. Ill. Bros. Dr. J. Anderson, M.W. Sov.; Bro. C. E. Mitchell, P.M.W. Sov.; Ill. Bro. W. C. Rowe, High Prelate; Bro. Walton, 1st General; Ill. Bro. H. Hussey, 2nd General; Bro. H. Stead, Grand Marshal; H. W. Barrow, Raphael; J. Thomas, Recorder; J. L. Madden, Captain of Guards; J. W. Seager, Guard. The chapter was opened in due form. The minutes of the last convocation were read and confirmed. The M.W. Sov. said that the business before the convocation was the installation of the M.W. Sov. elect, Ill. Bro. W. C. Rowe, 30°. The M.W. Sov., Ill. Bro. Dr. J. Anderson, after eulogizing the services of Ill. Bro. W. C. Rowe to the different degrees and orders to which he belonged, and the services which he had rendered to this chapter in particular, said he was sure that during his year of office the chapter would flourish, and proceeded to install him into that high office in ancient form. Ill. Bro. J. Anderson then proclaimed Ill. Bro. W. C. Rowe, 30°, M.W.S. of the Bombay Chapter, 18°, for the ensuing year. Ill. Bro. W. C. Rowe then rose and in suitable terms returned thanks to the Ill. brother who had just installed him, and said that he would use his utmost endeavours to maintain the dignity and high standing with which the Bombay Chapter of S.P.R.C. had hitherto been held, and he hoped he should have the hearty co-operation of the officers to assist him in working the chapter, and begged that they would attend regularly and punctually to the duties of those several offices which he was about to appoint them to, and proceeded to invest the following brethren:—Ill. Bro. W. H. Hussey, 30°, H.P.; Bros. R. G. Walton, 1st G.; H. Stead, 2nd G.; J. Thomas, R.; H. W. Barrow, G.M.; C. Yudball, R.; J. L. Madden, C. of G.; J. W. Seager, G. P.M.W.S. C. E. Mitchell, 18°, was elected Treas., and warmly applauded in taking the post again for another year. Ill. Bro. W. H. Hussey, 30°, H.P., returned thanks to the M.W.S. for the honour he had done the officers, and himself in particular, by appointing them to the posts which he had done, and said that he was sure that he (the M.W.S.) would have the united assistance of the officers to enable him to carry out the working of the degree with that efficiency which he was sure it would be worked by their newly-installed M.W.S.

Scotland.

VISITATIONS OF PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF GLASGOW.

The annual "visitations" of the different lodges throughout the province by the Provincial Grand Lodge of Glasgow for the current year (1876) have now begun. A commencement was made on Thursday, 20th inst., with Lodge St. Mungo, 27, and Lodge St. Andrew, 465; and, according to the syllabus, the work will be completed with the visitation of Lodge St. John's, Shettleston, 128, on Wednesday, 7th June. The amount of time and labour perforce expended in this periodical task by the office-bearers of the Prov. Grand Lodge is, we feel certain, but imperfectly comprehended by many of the brethren, who only see them once, at their own lodge, and do not follow them throughout. It may assist toward forming some idea of the matter when we state that, as regards this year, the number of lodges to be visited during the short period indicated is 28; that in one week (that commencing 1st proximo) no fewer than seven are to be overtaken; and that on ten occasions, two lodges—in some cases remotely apart—are to be visited on the one evening.

GLASGOW.—Lodge St. John (No. 33).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held in their hall, 213, Buchanan-street, on Tuesday evening, 18th inst. Bro. W. Bell, I.P.M., informed the brethren that the W.M., Bro. D. M. Nelson, was unavoidably in England on business, and could not be present that evening, and under these circumstances called upon Bro. J. D. Young, D.M., to open the lodge, which was accordingly proceeded with; Jas. Sellars, S.W.; P. Brownlie, J.W.; J. Dick, Sec.; A. Cameron,

S.D.; D. Paton, J.D.; A. Peddie, I.G.; and the other office-bearers in their places. The meeting was particularly well attended by the members and a large number of visiting brethren, among whom we noticed Bros. J. Miller, P.M. 413; J. S. Adam, Doric, 58, Canada; W. Harper, W.M. 408; J. McInnes, S.W. 332; W. Murray, S.M. 332; J. R. McKay, Neptune, 375, Aberdeen; W. Ferguson, I.P.M. 543 ("Freemason"); and brethren from Lodges 73, 103, 129, 197, 300, 370, 419, and 465. On the lodge being opened, Bro. Dick, Sec., read minutes of last regular and one emergency meeting, which were approved of. Bro. the Rev. Joseph Rice, M.A., of Lodge Acacia, 225, I.C., Dublin, who was proposed and seconded at last meeting for affiliation to the lodge, was then obligated by Bro. Ferguson, I.P.M. 543. The lodge was then opened in the Third Degree, when Bros. W. Weir, J. Morrison, G. R. Morrison, Alex. Murray, H. Tennant, A. M. Robertson, and R. Weatherston were raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason by Bro. Miller, P.M. 413, in a very impressive manner.

GLASGOW.—Lodge St. Mungo (No. 27).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held in St. Mark's Hall, Buchanan-street, on Thursday. In the absence, through illness, of the W.M. (Bro. Dugald Butler), the chair was occupied by his S.M., Bro. David Dick, with Bros. Dr. J. McInnes, S.W., and G. M'Comb, J.W., in their respective places. Amongst those present were Bros. D. Ronald, W.M. 275; W. J. E. Dobson, W.M. 571; W. Morrison, P.M. 125; R. Jack, W.M. 128; W. Ferguson, P.M. 543 (Freemason); W. Taylor, Treas. 581; M. Stork, 553, &c. The lodge having been opened in the First Degree, it was announced that the Provincial Grand Lodge were in waiting. The chairman at once gave orders for their admittance, and they were received by the brethren upstanding and with the customary formalities. The deputation consisted of Bros. George Sinclair, acting Prov. Grand Master; James Gillies, Treas.; Archibald M'Taggart, Sec.; A. Allison, Jeweller; A. Bain, B.B.; James Balfour, Dir. of Cir.; and David Reid, I.G. The deputation having taken their seats upon the dais, the Chairman acknowledged the supremacy of P.G.L. in the usual form, by presenting his mallet to the acting P.G. Master, and as usual had it immediately returned to him, with a request to retain command of his lodge. Bro. M'Taggart, P.G. Sec., said that before submitting to the lodge the report of the deputation he had to sympathise with them in the circumstances under which they had met that night in the absence, through indisposition, of their W.M. He was sorry also at having to state that, from a similar cause, the Prov. Grand Master, Bro. W. M. Neilson, would not be with them on the occasion. He thought, however, that they had something to congratulate themselves upon in the history of the Province of Glasgow and the progress it was making, as to which he might just mention that one-half of the Masons made in Scotland during the past year were made within it. They (the P.G.L.) were very glad to meet an old lodge like St. Mungo. They could ill afford to find a lodge with such a history and reminiscences dropping into the shade, and they were glad to find that it was not so. The number added to the membership during the past year was, as formerly, very respectable. They had made the average number of 26, and a very respectable average indeed. Moreover, he was proud to say, from personal knowledge and report, that they had had no better or more firmly-laid stones in the past than those they had laid last year. Thereafter Bro. M'Taggart stated that the deputation had gone over the books carefully, and found them, on the whole, remarkably well kept—the sederunt book, the minute book, the roll book, and the receipt book. The official report which they had to make would be to that effect, and also that the lodge generally was working in strict harmony with the Grand Lodge of Scotland. After a few remarks from the acting P.G.M., Bro. Sinclair, the Chairman said that on behalf of the W.M. he had very great pleasure in thanking the Prov. G. Lodge for their favourable report, and hoped the lodge would always continue to merit the like. The P.G. deputation then withdrew in order as they had entered.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Scotia (No. 178).—The monthly meeting of this lodge was held in Kilwinning Hall on Wednesday evening, the 12th inst., Bro. J. Singleton, W.M., presiding; P. Hepburn, S.W.; A. Mercer, J.W.; W. Higgins, D.M.; H. Killin, Sec.; W. King, Treas.; J. Matheson, P.M., Chap.; W. McDonald, S.D.; W. Hart, J.D.; R. McEwan, B.B.; and W. King, jun., I.G.; Bros. W. Bell, I.P.M. 34; D. Murray, W.M. 103; R. Munro, D.M. 103; J. Gillies, P.G. Treas., and Sec. 103; N. Cameron, Treas. 103; J. Wilson, 34; J. Wilson, 18; A. McGregor, 321; J. Reid, 354; W. Ferguson ("Freemason"); and others. On the lodge being opened, Messrs. R. Chalmers, Jos. Kelly, and W. Dalglish were initiated into the E.A. Degree by Bro. Matheson, P.M. The last-named gentlemen was initiated on behalf of the Lodge Union and Crown, 103, for which Bro. Gillies, Sec. 103, thanked the W.M. and members of Lodge Scotia. The members were engaged the remaining part of the evening in framing a new code of bye-laws.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Star (No. 219).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held in their hall, Trongate, on Monday evening, the 10th inst., Bro. J. Morgan, W.M., in the chair, J. Brown, S.D., acting S.W.; D. Mearns, J.W.; J. Martin, D.M.; W. Anderson, S.M.; F. Dow, Sec.; B. Smart, Treas.; R. Watson, Chaplain; D. Taylor, J.D.; J. Duthie, and J. Pearson, Tyler. Present: Bros. D. Sinclair, Treasurer of the Provincial Benevolent Fund; J. Gillies, P.G. Treas.; A. Bain, P.G.B.B.; D. Reid, P.M. 465 and P.P.I.G.; R. Campbell, 22, New Brunswick; R. Young, 195, I.C.; R. Prout, W.M. 4; D. Murray, W.M. 103; R. Munro, D.M. 103; W. Forsyth, J.W. 103; N. Cameron, Treas. 103; J. Singleton, W.M. 178; P. Hepburn, S.W. 103; A. B. Ferguson, W.M. 354; J. Harley, S.W. 354; C. McKenzie, J.W. 354; D.

Litch, S.D. 354; Jas. Harley, J.D. 354; W. B. Paterson, 360; W. Gardner, 360; A. Paterson, 360; D. Gilchrist, W.M. 465; G. B. Paterson, S.W. 465; W. Chalmers, J.W. 465; W. Campbell, Sec. 465; W. Ferguson, I.P.M. 543 ("Freemason"); J. Houston, D.M. 571; and others, and a number of deputations from several other lodges in the province and neighbourhood, the hall being completely filled, nearly 200 being present. On the lodge being opened, and the minutes of last meeting read and adopted, Bros. L. Cooke and C. Hathorne, of Lodges 347 and 458 respectively, were affiliated joining members, and Messrs. S. Cruden, T. Ferguson, Jas. Watson, and W. Stark were initiated into the E.A. Degree by Bro. Morgan, W.M. Bro. D. Mearns, J.W., then presented the lodge with a handsome square and compass, for which he received a hearty vote of thanks, and the same to be recorded in the minutes. There being no further business before the meeting the lodge was called to refreshment, when the W.M. gave the following toasts in succession, which were warmly received:—viz., "The Queen and the Craft," "The Prince of Wales and other members of the Royal Family," and "The Three Grand Lodges." The W.M. in proposing "The Provincial Grand Lodge of Glasgow" complimented the office-bearers on the efficient manner they had hitherto done their duty, but regretted very much that the visitations of the lodges had this year been neglected. Bro. Bain, P.G.B.B., replied on behalf of the Provincial Grand Lodge. The W.M. then proposed "The Sister Lodges." Bros. Singleton, W.M. 178; Prout, W.M. 4; and Gilchrist, W.M. 465, suitably replied. "The Health of the W.M." was ably proposed by Bro. Gillies, P.G. Treas., and enthusiastically responded to by the brethren. Bro. Morgan replied. "The Newly-Laid Stones" was proposed by the W.M., and replied to by Bro. Cruden. During the evening the musical portion was pleasantly furnished by Bros. J. Houston, W. Stewart, the well-known professionals, and others. After the Tyler's toast the brethren separated, having spent a most enjoyable evening.

GLASGOW.—Lodge St. George (No. 333).—The regular monthly meeting of this lodge was held in St. Mark's Hall, on Wednesday evening, the 12th inst., Bro. A. Thomson, W.M., in the chair, supported by Bros. J. Findlay, S.M.; J. Forsyth, S.W.; R. Anderson, J.W.; A. Dunn, Treas.; Archd. McIntyre, Sec.; A. Boyd, S.D.; T. Hill, J.D.; W. Neilson, and others. Visitors present: Bros. W. B. Stevenson, 15; J. Twoart, 28; J. Bannerman, D.M. 73; J. Geddes, 354; J. Stewart, 360; A. Shelden, 484, New York State; W. Ferguson, I.P.M. 543 ("Freemason"); and others. The Secretary read the minutes of last monthly meeting, which were adopted. Bros. J. Robertson and G. Kennedy were passed to the Fellow Craft Degree by Bro. Findlay, S.M., and in consequence of Bro. Robertson having to leave this country in a few days he was raised to the Degree of Master Mason by Bro. Findlay, S.M., who again officiated in an able manner.

At an emergency meeting of this lodge, held in St. Mark's Hall, on Friday evening, 14th inst., for the special purpose, the Mark Master Degree was conferred upon the following brethren, members of the lodge, viz., T. Stewart, P.M.; R. Fairbairn, J. K. Adams, C. P. Douglas, and John Findlay. Thereafter a proposal was submitted to, and ultimately adopted by the meeting, that the fee for receiving the Mark Master Degree should be raised from the present figure of 1s. 2d. to 2s. 6d. in the future. It was proposed by Bro. Jas. Findlay, S.M., seconded by Bro. T. Hill, and agreed to that the office-bearers of the Mark Lodge in connection with No. 333 should be as follows:—Bros. A. Thomson, M.M.; Jas. Findlay, acting M.M.; J. Forsyth, S.O. R. Anderson, J.O.; A. Dunn, Treas.; A. McIntyre, Sec.; A. Boyd, S.D.; T. Hill, J.D.; A. Wright, I.G.; and W. G. Hickson, Tyler.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Caledonian Railway (No. 354).—At the regular meeting of this lodge, which was held in the Masonic Hall, 30, Hope-street, on Wednesday evening, the 19th inst., Bro. A. B. Ferguson, W.M., presiding; D. Buchanan, D.M.; J. Harley, S.W.; C. McKenzie, J.W.; D. T. Colquhoun, Treas.; J. Reid, acting Sec.; Jas. Harley, J.D.; and the other office-bearers in their places. The meeting was very well attended by visitors and members of the lodge, and among the former were Bros. J. Morgan, W.M. 219; D. Reid, I.P.M. 465, P.G.I.G.; W. Dobbie, P.M. 362; W. Ferguson, I.P.M. 543 ("Freemason"); J. Bannerman, D.M. 73; J. Scott, D.M. 579; G. B. Davidson, S.W. 465; J. Conner, G.M.; L. L. Sicilia, Palermo; A.C. L. Gray, 102; James Balfour, P.G.D.C.; R. Campbell, 22, Canada; E. Arthur, Org. 87; J. Duthie, 219, first Z. Chap. 67; A. R. Wilson, Chap. 27; and others. The lodge was opened, and the minutes read and confirmed, after which Mr. R. Crichton was initiated into the First Degree by Bro. J. M. Oliver, S.W. 360. Five brethren were passed to the Fellow Craft Degree by Bro. Ferguson, I.P.M. 543, and six brethren were raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason by Bro. J. Morgan, W.M. 219.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Commercial (No. 360).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held in their hall, 30, Hope-street, on Friday evening, 21st inst., Bro. J. Menro, W.M., in the chair; J. M. Oliver, S.W.; T. Graham, J.W.; D. Lamb, D.M.; W. Findlay, S.M., acting Treas. The hall was well filled with the members and visiting brethren. Among the latter were Bros. J. Peters, W.M. 153; W. Mc G. Mason, W.M. 541; W. Bell, I.P.M. 34; R. Jack, W.M. 128; W. J. E. Dobson, W.M. 571; W. Gemmell, S.W. 129; W. Ferguson, P.M. 543 ("Freemason"); and others. On the minutes being read and confirmed, Bro. W. Stalker was passed to the F.C. Degree by Bro. Oliver, S.W. At this juncture it was announced that a deputation of the P.G. Lodge of Glasgow was in readiness to be admitted into the lodge, they having examined the books in the interval. The deputation consisted of Bros. J. Baird, P.G.S.M., acting P.G.M.;

A. McTaggart, P.G. Sec.; G. Thallon, P.G.S.D.; A. Allison, P.G. Jeweller; A. Bain, P.G.B.B.; G. Sinclair, Treas. and Con. of the P.G. Benevolent Fund; D. Reid, P.G.I.G.; and J. Hardie, P.G. Tyler. On their entrance into the lodge-room they were received with the usual honours. After the customary formalities, Bro. McTaggart said they had to congratulate Lodge 360 on their present highly prosperous condition. The report of the deputation had to make was simply that they (office-bearers of the P.G.L.) certified that they had that evening visited Lodge Commercial, No. 360, had examined the various books of the lodge and found them in a very excellent condition, and that the lodge generally was working in strict harmony with the constitution of the Grand Lodge of Scotland. Bro. Baird said for his part he did not think that in the Province of Glasgow it was possible to find better kept books than those they had just inspected in Lodge 360. The W.M., Bro. Menro, said that when they (Lodge 360) had the pleasure of seeing the P.G.L. last year there were a few little holes in which the deputation found it necessary to pick in their coat, owing to some little acts of omission or commission in their working hitherto. He thought they had now looked to the matter and reformed these, and he was glad they had been able to do so. On behalf of the lodge he begged to return the deputation sincere thanks and best wishes for their kindness on the present occasion. Bro. Baird having briefly acknowledged the compliment, the P.G.L. deputation retired. Bro. R. C. Bell, of Lodge Argyll, Dunoon, No. 335, was elected a joining member and duly obligated by the W.M. Bros. A. Paterson, W. Gardner, A. Stalker, and R. M. F. Watson were then raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason in a most impressive manner by the W.M. The lodge was then closed.

GLASGOW.—Lodge St. Andrew (No. 465).—The deputation of the Provincial Grand Lodge proceeded to visit this lodge on Thursday, 20th inst., immediately on their leaving No. 27. They were received in due form by the W.M., Bro. David Gilchrist, the officers and brethren, and after the usual preliminaries the P.G. Sec. stated the result of the inspection made by the deputation. It was his pleasing duty, he said, to submit to that lodge a very satisfactory report. It was simply this—"We (under-signed), office-bearers of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Glasgow, hereby testify that we visited Lodge St. Andrew, No. 465, on the evening of Thursday, 20th April, examined the various books of the lodge, and found them correctly kept, and that generally the lodge is working in strict harmony with the Grand Lodge of Scotland." It had been said, Bro. McTaggart observed, that the visitations of the P.G. Lodge were, on many occasions, a "bore," but if they admitted that, they would undermine the fabric of their noble constitution. After dwelling at some little length on the salutary influence of periodical inspections or examinations of an inferior by a superior body, he reverted to Lodge St. Andrew. Their audit, he said, had been properly attended to in December last, and the funds found carefully kept and judiciously expended. The deputation had applied many tests to various portions of the books, every one of which had been fully stood; and in fact it would be doing injustice to the office-bearers of the lodge to say that they (the deputation) had found a single flaw. The number of members added to the lodge during the year had been 41, and the amount handed over to the Treasurer of the P.G. Benevolent Fund was £10 15s., to be disbursed in the shape of benevolence during the ensuing twelve months. He (the speaker) need not assure them that it had been very kindly received, and would be very judiciously applied. Bro. Sinclair having briefly endorsed the tenor of Bro. McTaggart's remarks, the Chairman said he had to thank the deputation kindly for coming there, and also for the favourable report they had made; and he hoped that next time they came they would find everything as correct as they had done that night. On the motion of Bro. David Reid, P.M. of 465, Bro. A. Allison, P.G. Jeweller, then received the compliment of honorary affiliation to the lodge—the ceremony being performed by Bro. McTaggart. The deputation thereafter retired.

HASKKIEU.—Caledonian Lodge (No. 489).—A meeting of the members of this lodge was held on the evening of Thursday, 6th April. Wor. Bro. Rand, on proof that none but worthy brethren were present, constituted a lodge for labour in the Apprentice Degree, the business, per circular, being to initiate Messrs. Mark G. Bingley and Thos. J. Stevenson, neophytes balloted for in the earlier part of the year, but, owing to storm and distance, were prevented thereby. The initiation ceremony, notwithstanding it was Wor. Bro. Rand's first essay at the altar, satisfied the brethren that the choice they had made in electing Bro. Rand as a ruler in the East for the year 1876 would redound to the special welfare of 489, as well as to the credit of the Craft throughout the Orient. A pleasing duty, or rather a privilege, next devolved upon the W.M., viz., the presentation of a Past Master's jewel to his predecessor in the East, Bro. Wm. Dorrell. The remarks of Bro. Rand in formally giving over the gift of the lodge were well chosen, appropriate, and altogether void of empty laudation. P.M. Bro. Dorrell, in reply, feelingly thanked the brethren for their golden present, then briefly reviewed the labours in the lodge during his two years of supreme command, frankly adverting to the able and willing services of his officers, and the attention and regular attendance of the brethren generally. Alluding to the jewel—splendid as it was—its value was doubly enhanced from the fact—it came to him in the "maternal" home, where light first dawned upon him Masonically. In grateful terms, mention was made of the honours bestowed since he joined the Order. 1st. He was the first initiated member of this lodge who was elected to preside over it (former W.M.'s were affiliations). 2nd. On the expiry of the first term they were pleased to renew it. 3rd. Brethren in the district had lately placed him in the exal-

ted position of Principal of the Lodge Leinster, R.A.C. And now! this rare gem. The trusts reposed, and the value intrinsic, would ever remain internal and external memories. But cheapest and best memory of all the compliment conferred, that in the "home" where his Masonic vows were registered, he had been deemed worthy to occupy in the East. The worthy brother concluded by wishing the brethren present God-speed, the Great Architect of the Universe's protection over brothers absent, and to all, home and abroad, comfort of body and peace of mind. Bro. Frazer, enumerating the good their Bro. Dorrell had effected with and for the Caledonian, spoke of the great interest his friend had always taken for the interests of the shareholders of the Masonic Temple—work of itself more than sufficient for one man—independent of the many duties Bro. Dorrell did carefully fulfil when W.M. of 489. The Secretary here gave over to Bro. Dorrell the P.M.'s certificate. The jewel was from the establishment of Bro. Kenning, London, and is justly admired for neatness of design, artistic finish, and correct proportion. The following inscription is engraved on the reverse of the medal:—"Presented to P.M. Bro. W. Dorrell by the Lodge Caledonian, 489, in respect of his zeal, integrity, and labour, 1874-5." Nunquam non paratus. The business following was routine, and the lodge was closed by ancient rite, when the brethren adjourned to refreshment, and an hour of social enjoyment brought "an evening to be remembered" to a happy close.

DALMUIR.—St. John's Lodge (No. 543).—An emergency meeting of this lodge was held on Wednesday 5th inst., Bro. S. Leckie, W.M., in the chair; J. F. Wilson, S.W.; A. McNaughton, jun., D.M.; acting J.W.; and the other office-bearers in their respective places. Mr. D. Hillhouse was initiated into the E.A. Degree by the W.M. The regular meeting was held on the 11th inst., Bro. S. Leckie, W.M., presiding, supported by Bros. W. Ferguson, I.P.M. ("Freemason"); A. McNaughton, jun., D.M.; J. Barrie, S.M.; J. F. Wilson, S.W.; J. Muirhead, J.W.; J. Alexander, Sec.; J. Morrison, jun. S.D.; J. Stairs, J.D.; J. Morton, Chap.; A. Smith, I.G.; J. Adair, Tyler; J. Burton, W. Colquhoun, T. Miller, D. Bell, R. Hillhouse, J. Malcolm, J. Alexander, &c. On the minutes being read and confirmed, Bro. W. Goudie, 437, was affiliated a joining member, and Bro. J. Thomson was raised to the degree of Master Mason by Bro. Ferguson, I.P.M. The lodge was then assumed on the E.A. Degree, when it was arranged to hold a harmony meeting on Tuesday evening, the 25th inst.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Clydesdale (No. 556).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held in their Masonic Hall, 106, Rose-street, S.S., on Tuesday evening, 18th inst., Bro. W. Phillips, W.M., in the chair, supported by Bros. H. McCulloch, D.M.; J. McNaught, S.W.; T. Phillips, J.W.; J. McKechnie, Treas.; G. B. Yuill, Sec.; P. Young, S.D.; J. McCammon, J.D.; and others. Present: Bros. W. J. E. Dobson, W.M. 571; C. G. H. McNaught, P.M. 275; R. Allan, Sec. 581; Brodie, 360; Stewart, 360; and others. Mr. R. H. Simpson was initiated into the First Degree by Bro. Phillips, W.M., and afterwards Bros. G. McFarlane and Lappin were raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason, the W.M. again performing the ceremony in a most careful and impressive manner.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Dramatic (No. 571).—This lodge held its regular meeting on Wednesday, the 19th inst., at 3 p.m., in St. Mark's Hall, 213, Buchanan-street, Bro. W. J. E. Dobson, W.M., in the chair, supported on the dais by Bros. Ct. H. de Rochetiu, P.M. Etoile du Bosphore Lodge, Constantinople, of Grand Orient of France; A. C. Wylie, W.M. Gresham Lodge, 869, E.C., P. Prov. G.S.B. Herts; J. H. Sutcliffe, King Solomon Lodge, 422, Australia, 422, I.C.; J. S. Adam, Doric, 58, Canada. Present: Bros. Arch. Lander, S.M.; H. W. Jackman, S.W.; W. Sivewright, J.W.; W. Barbour, Treas.; D. Campbell, Sec.; L. Mitchell, J.D.; J. Robertson, acting I.G.; J. B. Hurdie, Tyler; and a large number of visiting brethren. Amongst those we noticed Bros. J. Prentice, M.C. 34; P. Brownlie, J.W. 34; G. W. Wheeler, 73; J. Annand, 87; J. McLaughlan, S.D. 87; J. M. Oliver, S.W. 360; W. Ferguson, I.P.M. 543 ("Freemason"); W. Phillips, W.M. 556; J. Law, I.P.M. 570; R. Allan, Sec. 581; and others. The lodge was formally opened, and minutes read and confirmed. Mr. W. Buchanan was initiated by the W.M., and Bro. G. Connell was passed to the Fellow Craft Degree. Both degrees were rendered in Bro. Dobson's usual able style. Previous to the F.C. Degree being performed Bros. Ct. Rochetiu and A. C. Wylie were obliged to leave. Before doing so, however, the former (who does not speak English) expressed, through the latter, acting as interpreter, the gratification he had experienced by his visit to Lodge Dramatic, and his satisfaction with the working of the E.A. Degree, so far as he could understand. Bro. Wylie, on his behalf, expressed himself similarly, and took occasion to add that, although a Scotchman, and born in the city of Glasgow, he had never before been inside a Scotch Masonic Lodge, and he was glad to have this opportunity of stating that in England reports went that Masonry in Scotland was not what it ought to be. He could now say to the contrary, and passed a high compliment on Bro. Dobson for the efficient manner the First Degree was performed. Before retiring, they requested to be permitted to give a small donation to the charitable fund of the lodge, and thanked the W.M. for his courteous reception of them. The two brethren withdrew amidst the applause of the meeting. It may be stated that this young lodge is progressing favourably under the able management of the respected W.M., Bro. Dobson. In the month of August last a charter was granted by the Grand Lodge, and was chiefly intended to supply a want greatly felt by the brethren of the dramatic, musical, and equestrian professions, whose calling or occupation made it impossible for them to attend regular meetings of any lodge. The lodge meets on the first and

third Wednesdays of every month at 3 p.m., in St. Mark's Hall, 213, Buchanan-street, and we are proud to say that the brethren of the sister lodges embrace the opportunity of meeting with the brethren of Lodge Dramatic, 571, on almost every occasion. Professional brethren intending to visit Scotland will have satisfaction in knowing that they can meet with brethren of their own profession in Glasgow at the above hour and dates.

PLANTATION.—Lodge Plantation (No. 581).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held in the new Masonic Hall, Craigiehall-street, Glasgow, on Monday, the 3rd inst., Bro. T. Stobo, W.M., in the chair; Bros. A. Bain, P.M. 103, acting S.W.; J. Henry, J.W. The other office-bearers present were Bros. W. Ferguson, D.M.; A. Gow, S.D.; W. Taylor, Treas.; R. Allan, Sec.; A. Imrie, S.D.; J. Halley, J.D.; J. Campbell, S.S.; J. Dowell, J.S.; Henderson, B.B.; and Cumming, Tyler. The lodge was opened, and the minutes read and confirmed. Messrs. W. T. Mabon, J. Wilson, and J. A. Campbell were initiated into the First Degree by Bro. Alex. Bain, P.M. 103, in that brother's usual impressive manner. Bros. E. Garraway, R. H. White, J. Nish, and Neil Thomson were passed to the Fellow Craft Degree by Bro. W. Ferguson, D.M. The meeting was well attended by visiting brethren, including Bros. W. Bell, J.P.M. 34; R. Dalziel, 34; Dempster, 34; Chalmers and Davidson, 68; Grant, 197; McGregor, 321; Gibralth, 362; Spy, 413; Gardner, 413; and M. Gray, 543; also brethren from Lodges 32, 117, 175, 419, and 437.

The regular meeting of this lodge was held on Monday, 17th inst., in the new Masonic Hall, Craigiehall-street, Glasgow, Bro. W. Ferguson, D.M., presiding; D. Peacock, S.W.; J. Henry, J.W.; W. Taylor, Treas.; R. Allan, Sec.; A. Imrie, S.D.; J. Halley, J.D.; J. Campbell, S.S.; Paterson, acting I.G.; and Cumming, Tyler. Present: Bros. D. Smart, W.M. 347; W. Phillips, W.M. 556; J. Simpson, S.W. 419; J. McNaught, S.W. 556; J. McKechnie, Treas. 556; J. Stewart, 360; and a large number of other visiting brethren. On the minutes of last meeting being read and confirmed, Bro. Brown, No. 114, was elected a joining member and obligated by Bro. Phillips, W.M. 556. Bros. Phillips, W.M. 556; Simpson, S.W. 419; and McNaught, S.W. 556, were obligated honorary members of the lodge by Bro. Ferguson. The committee appointed at last meeting reported that the code of bye-laws as drawn up by them would be read at next meeting. Bros. W. F. Mabon, J. A. Campbell, J. Wilson, and A. Gow were passed to the Fellow Craft Degree. The lodge was then assumed on the Third Degree, when Bros. N. Thomson, E. Garraway, R. H. White, and Jas. Smith were raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason by Bro. Ferguson. Afterwards Bro. Paterson was elected I.G., and installed into office by Bro. Phillips.

ERRATA.—"Uddington."—Lodge of St. Bride, No. 579," as appeared in "Freemason," 22nd inst., should read "Uddington.—Lodge St. Bryde, No. 579."

Masonic and General Tidings.

On Tuesday afternoon, at Ruabon, 5000 people welcomed home to Wynnstay Bro. Sir Watkin and Lady Williams Wynn and family, after a five months' absence in the Mediterranean for the benefit of Sir Watkin's health. Three addresses of welcome were presented and acknowledged. Over 1000 school children were present, wearing medals struck in honour of the event, and the day was kept as a general holiday.

At Bangor Steeplechases, Wrexham, an address was presented to Bro. Sir W. Wynn, M.P., Prov. Grand Master North Wales, by Viscount Combermere, on behalf of a thousand members of the Wynnstay Hunt, the occasion being the return home of Sir Watkin, after a long cruise for the benefit of his health; and the address congratulated him on his recovery, and thanked him for the princely manner in which, at his own expense, he kept up the hunt. Bro. Sir Watkin returned thanks.

Bro. Sir Michael Costa will conduct the congratulatory concert in the Royal Albert Hall to the Prince of Wales, in honour of the return of His Highness to England, on Wednesday evening, the 17th of May.

Bro. Brackstone Baker has been elected churchwarden at St. Mark's, Lewisham.

The Knights Companions of the R.S.Y.C.S. will meet in Council, at their Provincial Grand Lodge, 33, Golden-square, on Thursday, the 11th proximo, at three o'clock precisely.

The Percy Lodge of Instruction, No. 193, meets every Saturday evening, at eight o'clock, at Bro. Fysh's, Jolly Farmers, Southgate-road, corner of Church-road, Islington. On Saturday (this evening) the 15 sections will be worked by Bro. G. Ward Verry, P.M. 554. On this occasion the lodge will open at seven o'clock.

RAVENSBORNE LODGE, No. 1601.—The consecration of this lodge took place yesterday (Friday) at the offices of the Lewisham Board of Works, Catford. The Rev. Wm. Taylor Jones, M.A., P.M., 181, 708, and P.P. G.C. Middlesex, was installed W.M. Bro. Charles Wm. Thompson, S.D. 969, was appointed S.W., and Wm. Bache Roberts, P.M. 181, J.W. The banquet was held at Bro. Spencer's Bridge House Hotel.

The Sir Hugh Myddelton Lodge, No. 1602, will be consecrated this (Saturday) afternoon at the Agricultural Hall, Islington, at 4 o'clock. The ceremonies of consecration and installation will be performed by our esteemed Grand Secretary, Bro. John Hervey. The officers designate are Bros. E. Somers, W.M.; E. G. Sim, S.W.; T. J. Coombs, J.W.

Bro. H. S. Marks has painted a portrait of Alderman Sir B. S. Phillips for the forthcoming Royal Academy Exhibition.

The foundation stone of a new church proposed to be erected on the ruins of an old abbey at Nunceaton was laid on Wednesday last, with full Masonic honours by Lord Leigh, Provincial Grand Master of Warwickshire. A considerable number of the Craft from various parts of the country attended. The mallet used was the one with which King Charles the Second laid the first stone of St. Paul's Cathedral 200 years ago.

The fifty-ninth anniversary festival of the Stability Lodge of Instruction, No. 217, took place on Friday. A full report of the proceedings will appear in our next.

THE SHAKESPEARE MEMORIAL.—At the annual meeting of the Stratford-on-Avon Shakespeare Club it was announced that Mr. Chas. Flower, chairman of the Memorial Association, in addition to his previous handsome donation, has just given £100 in furtherance of the memorial project. It is understood that the erection of the structure will be commenced forthwith.

ANCIENT RELICS.—During some excavations among the ruins of an old abbey at Nunceaton the workmen have discovered a stone coffin, containing human bodies. Along side it were two stone coffin lids, one bearing a Maltese cross, the other a Latin cross. Some tessellated pavement has also been laid bare, as well as some encaustic tiles, sculptured stone, &c. The work of excavation is still proceeding, and the operations of the workmen are watched with the keenest interest, it being thought probable that many additional relics illustrative of the former grandeur of the abbey will be turned up.—"Sheffield Daily Telegraph."

Spiritualism meets with scant favour in Russia. The commission deputed by the Physical Society of the St. Petersburg University to investigate spiritualist phenomena has finished its labours, and issued a report declaring that "spiritualist phenomena are the result either of unconscious movements or wilful imposture, and Spiritualism is a mere superstition."

The Prince of Wales has consented to be present at a "soirée" to be held by the Royal Geographical Society within the Exhibition buildings on the 14th of May. His Royal Highness will be attended by the members of his suite who were with him in India.

RE-OPENING OF CHESTER CATHEDRAL.—The Prince of Wales is to be invited to attend the re-opening of Chester Cathedral, the restoration of which, at a cost of many thousands of pounds, is now complete. The date will be fixed to suit His Royal Highness, but it is hoped that the ceremony will take place the same week as the Wrexham Eisteddfod, and that the Prince will be present at both.

Messrs. Elkington and Co., of which firm our Bro. Elkington is a member, are sending, on the 29th, a selection of choice objects in art metal work which have been manufactured by the firm for the Centennial International Exhibition at Philadelphia.

THE VICTORIA CLUB.—The many advantages afforded by the Victoria Ladies' Club, 25, Regent-street, are deserving of more than a passing notice. To professional men, and those resident in the suburbs, the difficulty of arranging a meeting with wives, daughters, sisters, or mothers, subject to the many delays incidental to business and professions, is overcome by the accommodation afforded by this club, and should ladies visit the West End either for business or pleasure, light refreshment, luncheons, dining, drawing, writing, dressing rooms, and lavatories are at their command, secure from the possibility of annoyance; in a word, the privacy and comfort of home, with the convenience of a town house, is secured, within easy walking distance or shilling cab fare of the principal shops, theatres, railways, &c. The situation of the club (corner of Jermyn-street, Regent-street) is most convenient. Based on the model of gentlemen's clubs—exclusive for ladies—without the elaboration, the appointments are perfect, and our fair readers will learn with satisfaction that ladies wishing to dress for evening enjoyments, every requisite for the toilette is provided, with the assistance of a maid, without additional charge. When we mention the small annual subscription securing these many advantages, we feel assured our suburban readers especially (not forgetting Town) will gladly avail themselves of membership. Family tickets, three guineas; single, two guineas. Established under distinguished patronage, it cannot but prove a great success. In the meantime any information required will be afforded on application to the lady manager, to whose courtesy in visiting the club we are indebted for this brief outline. The difficulty attendant on ladies accompanying gentlemen to Town engagements, incidental to the Masonic programme, now is overcome, and we heartily wish the club the success it ensures.

The complimentary dinner and presentation of a testimonial to Bro. Wm. Herbage, on his retiring from the management of the City Bank, Ludgate Hill, will take place on Wednesday next at the City United Club, Ludgate Hill Circus. The chair will be taken by Bro. Alderman S. C. Hadley, at 7 o'clock punctually. A report of the proceedings will appear in our next. Further information may be obtained of Bro. F. Kent, 8, Red Lion-court, Cannon-street.

A large deputation from the West India Committee waited, on Tuesday evening, upon Lord Carnarvon, at the Colonial Office, Downing-street, with reference to the present state of the Island of Barbadoes, and to ask Her Majesty's Government to recall the Governor, Mr. Pope Hennessy.

A Grand Council of the Illustrious Knights K.H. 30° will be held on Tuesday, the 9th May.

Reports of 697, Colchester; 1391, Leicester; and 376, Ipswich, stand over.

ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

A Special General Meeting of the Governors and Subscribers of this institution was held on Tuesday, in the library, Freemasons' Hall, for the purpose of considering the propriety of altering Law 4, page 12 of the rules and regulations, by substituting the figures £40 for £36, and Law 4, page 13, by substituting the figures £32 for £28, and any motion or proposition which might be made thereon. To those subscribers and brethren who may not have a copy of the Laws of the institution we may explain that the effect of this is to increase the annuities of the male annuitants from £36 to £40, and of the females from £28 to £32. Lieut.-Col. Creaton, P.G.D., V.P., was called to the chair, and the other brethren present were Bros. S. Rawson, P.D.G.M. China; Griffiths Smith, P.G.S.; Levy, P.M.; Charles Hill, H. Massey ("Freemason"), Thos. Cutitt, P.G.P.; W. Dodd, P.M. 1194; H. G. Buss, Prov. Grand Treas. Middlesex; W. Lane, P.M. 28; H. C. Levander, P.P.G.R. Middlesex; Charles Webber, Benj. Head, P.G.D.; and James Terry, Prov. G.D.C. Herts (Secretary).

Bro. James Terry first read the requisition for the meeting and then the advertisement calling it.

The Chairman afterwards said that it was not necessary that he should take up the time of the brethren by again stating his reasons for proposing the alteration in the laws of the institution. Its object was simply that the annuities should be raised £4 a year, both to men and women. He would therefore only move "That Law 4, page 12, of the rules and regulations be altered by substituting the figures £40 for £36." This increase would not commence till the 1st of June, or be paid till September.

Bro. Levy seconded the motion, which was put and carried.

The Chairman said his next business was to move "That Law No. 4, page 13, of the rules and regulations be altered by substituting the figures £32 for £28."

Bro. S. Rawson seconded the motion, which was then carried.

Bro. Griffiths Smith moved "The best thanks of the meeting to the Chairman for presiding, and also for having raised the annuities of the old men and women."

Bro. Levander seconded the motion, which was unanimously adopted.

The Chairman, in reply, said he thanked the brethren very much for their vote. The meeting certainly had had little to do; but as they had been pleased to pay him the compliment of considering he had rendered a service he must accept it.

Bro. James Terry informed the brethren that the alterations which had just been made would involve an additional outlay of £960 a year from the funds of the institution. There were 240 annuitants. (Hear, hear.)

The meeting then separated.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.

The General Committee of this Institution met on Thursday, at Freemasons' Hall, Bro. Thomas W. White in the chair. There were also present Bros. H. Browne, John Boyd, Thos. Massa, Griffiths Smith, T. F. Peacock, Joshua Nunn, Herbert Dicketts, W. F. C. Moutrie, Henry Venn, F. C. Baker, R. B. Webster, John George Marsh, H. A. Dubois, Levy, Dr. Woodman, W. Peters, Benj. Head, John Symonds, John A. Rucker, A. H. Tattershall, H. W. Hemsworth, J. Rosenthal, Major Finney, J. K. Stead, H. Massey ("Freemason"), Edward Clark, Thomas Kingston, and R. W. Little, Secretary.

One little girl was placed on the list for the next election, after which nominations for the House and Audit Committee were made, and scrutineers were appointed for the election of these brethren at next meeting.

The brethren afterwards separated.

SUPREME GRAND CHAPTER.

The following is the agenda of business for the Quarterly Convocation of Grand Chapter on Wednesday:—

The regulations for the government of the Supreme Grand Chapter during the time of public business, to be read.

The minutes of the last Quarterly Convocation to be read for confirmation.

Installation of Principals, and appointment and investiture of Officers for the ensuing year.

The Report of the Committee of General Purposes:—The Committee of General Purposes beg to report that they have examined the Accounts from the 19th January to the 18th April, 1876, both inclusive, which they find to be as follows:—

To Balance Grand Chapter	£349	9	6
" " Unappropriated Account...	163	5	5
Subsequent Receipts	454	0	4
	£966	15	3
By Disbursements during the Quarter	£189	5	4
" Balance	627	17	0
" " in Unappropriated Account	149	12	11
	£966	15	3

which balances are in the hands of Messrs. Willis, Percival and Co., Bankers of the Grand Treasurer.

The Committee have likewise to report that they have received the following petitions:—

1st. From Comps. John Jones, as Z.; Richard Henry Evans, as H.; Henry Jackson, as J.; and six others for a chapter to be attached to the Hamer Lodge, No. 1393, Liverpool, to be called the Hamer Chapter, and to meet at the Clarence Hotel, Everton-road, Liverpool, Lancashire.

2nd. From Companions John Wallingford as Z.; Henry Sleeman as H.; George Felton Lancaster as J., and seven others, for a Chapter to be attached to the Gosport Lodge, No. 903, Gosport, to be called "The Gosport Chapter," and to meet at the India Arms Hotel, Gosport, Hampshire.

3rd. From Companions John George Richards, as Z.; John Dampney, as H.; William Foxwell, as J.; and six others for a Chapter to be attached to the Zetland Lodge, No. 1071, Saltash, to be called "The Zetland Chapter," and to meet at the Masonic Hall, Saltash, Cornwall.

4th. From Companions Thomas Joseph Sabine, as Z.; Eugene Henry Thiellay, as H.; John John Baxter Langley, as J.; and eight others, for a chapter to be attached to the Era Lodge, No. 1421, Hampton Court, to be called "The Era Chapter," and to meet at the Kin's Arms Hotel, Hampton Court, Middlesex.

5th. From Companions Arthur Leared, as Z.; George James Row, as H.; Alfred Durrant, as J.; and six others, for a Chapter to be attached to the Lewis Lodge, No. 1185, Wood Green, to be called "The Lewis Chapter," and to meet at the King's Arms Hotel, Wood Green, Middlesex.

These petitions being in all respects regular, the Committee recommend that the prayers thereof be respectively granted.

(Signed) JOHN CREATON, President.

ADDRESS TO OUR ROYAL GRAND MASTER.

On the 28th of March a deputation from the G.O. of Egypt, viz., Marquis T. de Beauregard, 1st D.G.M.; Chev. P. L. Dilberogut, G.K. of T.; and Bro. Oddi, as G. Sec., presented to the British Consulate the following address:—

"Valle del Nilo, Or. d'Alessandria,
28th March, 1876.

"To His Royal and Imperial Highness the Prince of Wales.

"May it please your Royal and Imperial Highness and Most Illustrious Brother.

"In the name of the Egyptian Masonry, the Grand Orient of Egypt, whose Grand Master I have the honour to be, avail themselves of the happy occasion of your Royal and Imperial Highness's passage through this country to greet you, and through you the British Craft, and to convey their salutations to that illustrious nation, which stands worthily at the head of modern civilization.

"We trust your Royal and Imperial Highness will please to accept this our fraternal greeting and manifestation of our admiration for the happy and great country of which your Royal and Imperial Highness is Grand Master and Prince.

"We shall pray the G.A.O.T.U. that all civilized nations may follow the track of glorious England, and that all Princes and Kings may imitate the example of your Royal and Imperial Highness.

"Please your Royal and Imperial Highness to accept the M.K., which in the name of the Grand Orient of Egypt I offer to your Royal and Imperial Highness, and through you to all British brothers.

"Meanwhile, I have the honour to be of your Royal and Imperial Highness the most humble servant and brother.

(Signed) "B. A. KOLA, G.M.
"F. F. ODDI, G. Sec."

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MASONIC INTELLIGENCE FROM FRANCE.

By the "Monde Maconnique" of April, just received, we learn that the "Conseil de l'Ordre" has suspended for six months (and very properly) the Lodge Orion, Orient de Gaillac, for the violation of Article 122 of the "Statuts et Reglemens Generaux de l'Ordre." The suspension begins from January 8th. The Council of the Order has also determined to add a course of Geography to those of German and English.

As the "Monde" informs us, "numerous and brilliant Masonic fetes" have been held by several of the French Lodges during the last month, such as that of the Lodge "Les Freres Unis Inseparables," which gave on the 19th March, at the Grand Hall of the Hotel of the Grand Orient a "Matinee Musicale" for the benefit of its adoption of orphans. Bro. Beer presided at this "seance," to which the most eminent performers lent their kindly aid.

Bro. Caubet, the able editor of the "Monde Maconnique," mentions, as "parmi ces charmantes soirées," those of the Lodges L'Union Maconnique, Les Amis Bienfaisants, L'Ecole, Les Hospitaliers Français, La Renaissance, and the united Lodges L'Amitie and L'Athenae Français, et la Fraternite des Peuples. The two lodges, Les Amis Bienfaisants and L'Ecole, celebrated their winter fete by a grand banquet, at which ladies were present, followed by a ball, both magnificent and successful. Bro. Blanchon, "Venerable," or W.M., of the Amis Bienfaisants, and Bro. Paillet, Venerable of the L'Ecole, presided jointly at this fete.

Three addresses were furnished at this fete, one by Bro. Tallandier, Deputy for the Seine, by Bro. Martin Nadaud, Deputy; and by Bro. Hubert, we presume the able editor of the Chaine de l'Union, and Venerable of the Lodge "Le Temple" des Amis de l'Honneur Français.

Bro. Caubet also mentions favourably two other fetes, one of the Lodge Renaissance on the 27th March, and of the triple union of lodges already alluded to, L'Amitie, L'Athenae Français, La Fraternite des Peuples, on the 1st of April.

We note also a list of the lectures delivered in the Lodges "de Paris et de la Banlieue," which shows that much activity still pervades French Masonry, or rather Parisian. If we in our simpler view of the end and objects of Freemasonry, its right position, and its true character, might demur to many subjects proposed as lectures in lodges by our French brethren, yet we must always bear in mind that each national system has its own manner, to use a French expression, of "envisager," alike the tenets and the development of Freemasonry.

We might wish that in France as in England all questions bordering on the domain of politics, or religion, or social controversies, were rigorously excluded from the "syllabus" of Masonic lectures, but as such a "consummation," though devoutly to be wished for in the best interests of French Freemasonry, in our humble opinion is not likely to be arrived at, we must learn as Freemasons to practise the great lesson and art of toleration! We are requested to state that in the "Masonic Magazine" for June will appear Bro. Caubet's interesting article, "Du Role de la Francmaconnerie dans l'Avenir," and, making allowance for the French "point de mire," we can commend Bro. Caubet's eloquent French and Masonic sentiments to the notice of those of our Order who fraternally patronise that interesting and useful publication.

LORD SKELMERSDALE, D.G.M., ON CHURCH EXTENSION.

The foundation stone of the new Church of St. John the Evangelist, at Walton, near Liverpool, was laid last week by Bro. the Right Hon. Lord Skelmersdale, D.G.M. England, R.W.P.G.M. West Lancashire, in presence of a large number of spectators. The distinguished company included Lady Skelmersdale, the Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of Chester, John Torr, Esq., M.P., and a large number of clergy and leading laity.

After the ceremony, an elegant luncheon was served in the Walton Institute, where there was a most fashionable assembly. After several toasts had been proposed and responded to, Mr. Councillor A. B. Forwood proposed "The Health of Lord and Lady Skelmersdale." In doing so he said it was a fortunate thing that they saw the highest representatives of the laity and the Church uniting together, as they were that day, in inaugurating a new church in the district. There was every opportunity, he was sure, for good work by the clergy and laity, and he was satisfied that the clergy only wanted leading and suggestions to follow in any work for the good of the community. (Hear, hear.) The toast he had to propose was that of a nobleman who took a very leading part in the county, and also in one of the most benevolent institutions of the day—(hear, hear)—and he believed his lordship would look upon no period of his Masonic career with greater pleasure than upon what he had done that day in laying the foundation stone of their new church. (Applause.)

Bro. Lord Skelmersdale, in acknowledging the toast, said it had given him great pleasure to be present. He took a very deep interest in church extension. There was not a county, he thought, which had made a greater stride in this respect than that of Lancashire, and the progress in this direction seemed to him perfectly marvellous. He saw the new church was to have half of its seats free and open. He took a great interest in that portion of church work, and he could not help saying that he thought the time to advocate the free and open system was when the foundation stone of a new church was being laid. (Hear, hear.) It was the beginning of a new era in a church, and why should they not begin it as a free and open church at once? Here they were in a community knowing each other, and not likely to have heart burnings

about this seat or the other, and he wished he could persuade them to think the matter over again and do what he should like so much to see in their new church. (Hear, hear.) His lordship then proposed "The Health of the Bishop and Clergy of the Diocese," and said there was no bishop in the country who spared himself less than the Bishop of Chester did in doing the work he was called upon to perform.

The Bishop briefly acknowledged the toast, and the proceedings shortly afterwards terminated.

THE RED CROSS BALL.

The annual ball given by the Knights of the Red Cross of Constantine (Grand Council of England) took place on Monday night at Willis's Room's, King-street, St. James's, when a company of 180 Sir Knights, ladies, and gentlemen assembled. It was given under the patronage of the following Grand Officers of the Order, many of whom were Stewards on the occasion:—

GRAND COUNCIL.—Sir Frederick Martin Williams, Bart., M.P.; Colonel Francis Burdett; The Right Hon. the Earl Ferrers; William Edward Gumbleton, J.P.; Rev. William Benjamin Church, M.A.; Rev. Joseph Mary church Vaughan; Henry Charles Levander, M.A.; Robert Wentworth Little; William Robert Woodman, M.D.; Raynham William Stewart; Angelo John Lewis, M.A.; John Boyd, Thomas Cubitt, George Toller, jun., Thomas W. White, the Right Hon. the Earl of Bective, the Right Hon. the Earl of Jersey, the Right Hon. the Lord Skelmersdale, James Percy Leith, Robert Jones, Rev. Thomas FitzArthur Tovin Ravenshaw, M.A.; Rev. Chas. John Martyn, M.A., Hyde Clarke, John Hervey, William Henry Hubbard, Henry Gustavus Buss, Colonel John Whitwell, M.P., John George Marsh, James L. Thomas.

GRAND SENATE.—Joseph Charles Parkinson, William Rochuck, Charles H. Rogers-Harrison, F.R.C.S.; Rev. Philip H. H. Brette, D.D.; George Powell, Henry Arthur Dubois, George Kenning, Lieut.-Col. Jas. Peters, Alfred A. Pendlebury, Herbert Dicketts, John Mason, Rev. P. M. Holden, Eugene H. Thiellay, Thos. Burdett Yeoman, Frederick Kelly, Chas. Frederick Hogard, John William Ellison Macartney, M.P.; John Robert Goepel Joshua Nunn, William Thomas Howe.

STEWARDS.—Colonel F. Burdett, President; R. Wentworth Little, Treasurer; Henry A. Dubois and Charles E. Hogard, Secretaries; E. Amphlett, W. J. Vesker Blinndon, W. H. Brittain, C. J. Burgess, F. Clark, Captain G. Cockle, B. Cook, A. H. Edwards, W. Forster, J. R. Foulger, R. G. Glover, C. W. Gray, R. G. Hall, C. Hamerton, J. Hancock, J. Harper, L. Hirsch, C. Horsley, Captain L. L. Howell, W. D. Jones, W. Kelly, F.R.G.S., T. Kingston, J. M. Levick, T. Massa, C. F. Matier, G. Moren, W. T. Murley, E. S. Norris, M. Ohren, H. Phythian, F. W. H. Ramsey, M.D., W. Richards, S. Rosenthal, H. H. Shirley, S. Spencer, J. E. Symons, F.R.G.S., W. Wilkinson, L.R.C.P., W. Winn. M.C., &c. &c. &c.

Dancing commenced at nine o'clock to the music of Coote and Tinney's band, under the conductorship of Sir Knt. Coote, B.O. Jarvis being Master of the Ceremonies. Several of the Sir Knights wore the jewels (other than those of Craft and Royal Arch), which, added to the elegant dress and jewels of the ladies, gave great brilliancy to the scene.

Although all the Sir Knights above named were not present, many of them were, and among them we observed Col. Burdett, G. Viceroy; Sir Knts. Little, G. Treas.; J. Boyd, H. E. Levander, J. L. Thomas, C. F. Hogard, T. B. Yeoman, E. Thiellay, E. Hamerton, T. Cubitt, G. Kenning, Lieut.-Col. Peters, T. Kingston, F. Kelly, H. Hand, H. A. Dubois, J. T. Moss, and Bros. J. Keen and W. H. Pannell, C.C.

Col. Burdett did not stop during the whole of the evening, and when supper, which was a very elegant one, was served shortly after midnight, Sir Knt. R. Wentworth Little took the chair. There were no speeches, and after the repast was finished dancing was resumed, and kept up with great vigour till past four in the morning. The ball was a most successful undertaking, and all the company expressed themselves highly delighted with it. The profits will be devoted to the Masonic charities.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

On Wednesday, the 26th of April, at the Masons' Hall Tavern, a room of which was kindly lent for the occasion by Messrs. Bell & Co., a meeting was held for the purpose of establishing an "Old Scholar's Re-union." Dr. Morris, the head master of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, was in the chair. A very pleasant evening was spent, to which the kindness of Messrs. Bell & Co. greatly contributed. The old scholars present subscribed to a prize to be given, with the sanction of the House Committee, to the best boy in "science." The Secretaries of the "Re-union" are Messrs. S. W. Martin and F. H. Reid (17, Offord-road, Barnsbury, N.) who will be glad to receive the names and addresses of former pupils. They will have much pleasure in having the names of such subscribers to the school as may choose to become patrons of the "Re-union."

Sea water for the tanks in the Westminster Aquarium is now being brought from Brighton to London 500,000 gallons will be required.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS AND OINTMENT are expressly adapted for a those derangements of health which arise from impure, depraved or impoverished blood. The circulation of the blood is the process by which nutriment is conveyed to every part of the body, and is the medium by which all effete and used up material is removed. So important a process and function is this, that any derangement of the circulation of the blood is invariably attended with loss of health. These twin remedies have the valuable property of acting directly on this, and cannot be too highly extolled in inflammations, fevers, &c. Females will also find them invaluable in the complaints peculiar to them, as they modify so materially the circulatory system.—ADVT.

TO OUR READERS

The *Freemason* is a sixteen-page weekly newspaper, price 2d. It is published every Friday morning, and contains the most important, interesting, and useful information relating to Freemasonry in every degree. Annual subscription in the *United Kingdom*, Post free, 10/- P.O.O.'s to be made payable at the chief office, London.

Answers to Correspondents.

All Communications, Advertisements, &c., intended for insertion in the Number of the following Saturday, must reach the Office not later than 12 o'clock on Wednesday morning.

E. H. Allgrett in our last was a misprint for G. H. Wyatt.

We have received the circular from the Supreme Conseil Rite Ecossais, France, with reference to a correspondence with Bro. Albert Pike, U.S.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

[The charge is 2s. 6d. for announcements, not exceeding four lines, under this heading.]

BIRTHS.

HORROCKS.—On the 20th inst., at Ainsworth House, near Bolton-le-Moors, the wife of Mr. J. Horrocks, of a daughter.

HUTCHESON.—On the 30th inst., at Oporto, the wife of S. S. Hutcheson, Esq., of a son.

MARRIAGES.

CREWE-ADDERLEY.—On the 20th inst., at Lea Marston Church, Vauncey Harpur, son of Sir J. H. Crewe, Bart., of Calke Abbey, Derbyshire, to Isabel, daughter of the Right Hon. Sir C. B. Adderley.

DAVIS-CRAWFORD.—On the 20th inst., at Stratford-on-Avon, Arthur Staden Davis, M.A., of Cheltenham College, to Rose Duncombe, daughter of the late Rev. J. R. Crawford, M.A.

DEATHS.

BLAND.—On the 23rd inst., at Worton Hall, Isleworth, Middlesex, James Sparling Bland, Esq., aged 56. Friends will please accept this intimation.

BLACK.—On the 26th inst., Bro. C. W. Black, of 9, Catherine-court, aged 67.

FAIRMAN.—On April 18th, at Golden Cross Hotel, Havelock-road, Hastings, Bro. Geo. Fairman, aged 39 years.

The Freemason,

SATURDAY, APRIL 29, 1876.

OUR ROYAL GRAND MASTER'S RETURN.

Since our last impression our Royal Grand Master has been to Cadiz and Seville, where he was warmly received, and assiduously visited the many scenes of local interest and attraction. The Prince of Wales and the Duke of Connaught arrived at Cordova on the 24th from Seville. Having visited the Moorish Cathedral and other objects of interest in the town, their Royal Highnesses dined, and subsequently left at 7.10 p.m., by special train, for Madrid. The two Royal brothers reached Madrid at 10.45 on the 25th, and were received at the railway station by the King, accompanied by his Ministers and Chamberlains, and also by Mr. Layard, Her Majesty's Minister, and the members of the Legation, all of whom were in full uniform. The Prince looked in perfect health. After he had taken his seat in the Royal carriage to the right of King Alfonso, the cortège proceeded to the Palace, which was reached at 11 o'clock, and where several high dignitaries were in attendance. The crowd cheered loudly when the carriages left the station, the Prince sitting on the right of King Alfonso with the Duke of Connaught and Prince Louis of Battenberg opposite. The other carriages followed with the suite. The full dress liveries were very handsome, and the whole equipage well appointed. The cortège was preceded by a Royal Guard on horseback, a very fine body of men. The Royal party drove from the station to the Palace through a mile and a half of crowded streets. The people were very respectful, but there was no cheering. It is not the habit in Spain to cheer unless under excitement of a political character or of warlike demonstration. The reception at the Palace was stately, the approaches to the staircases being lined by halberdiers in very effective dresses, cocked hats broad lapelled coats, blue and white facings, white breeches, and

long black gaiters. Upon reaching the grand apartments King Alfonso presented the ladies, the grandees, and officials to the Princes, who then presented the members of their suites to his Majesty, who gave them a most gracious reception. The King and the Prince of Wales visited the Museum in the afternoon of the 25th. The military review in honour of the Prince of Wales was very successful. His Royal Highness was on horseback on the King's right, and behind were the Duke of Connaught, Prince Louis of Battenburgh, the Spanish Minister of War, and several generals. The uniforms of the English officers in the suite of the Princes greatly attracted the attention of the crowd. The King and their Royal Highnesses drove along the front of the troops, the line extending from the Atoch Church to the Castellane fountain. They then witnessed the march past, which lasted an hour and a half. They will go to Toledo on Thursday or Friday, returning in the evening to Madrid. After the Opera on Thursday there will be a ball at the Palace of the Duque Ferran de Nunez, and on Friday and Saturday balls will be given by Mr. Layard and the Duque de Bailen. The Ministers are invited to meet His Royal Highness at a tea party at the Palace. The inhabitants of Madrid have given the Prince a very hearty reception. The Prince of Wales will probably stay at Madrid until Friday or Saturday. The Prince of Wales has telegraphed from Madrid direct to the King of Portugal, announcing that he will arrive at Lisbon on Monday, the 1st of May, at three in the afternoon. He will be present at the Italian Opera on the 2nd, and at a Royal ball on the 3rd. On the following day there will be a display of fireworks, on the 5th a military review, and on the 6th a grand banquet. His Royal Highness will sail for England on the 7th of May. The Lodge of the Grand Orient of Portugal, which contains a large number of British members, intends to make the Prince of Wales an honorary member. A Masonic deputation will wait on him with the diploma specially engrossed on vellum.

THE QUEEN'S RETURN.

By the time these lines meet the eyes of our readers Her Majesty the Queen will have been for some days back again in old England. We are among those who think that a great deal too much has been said, and unwisely said, about the Queen's visit to Germany. It was alike, we venture to think, both natural and reasonable, and in itself as an act of simple family life and detail, to be greatly commended instead of being criticized, to be praised instead of being questioned. It was a little holiday to the Queen, a domestic and seasonable arrangement, by which cherished souvenirs might be renewed, and affairs of business regulated. We never could understand why any remarks should have been, made in Parliament, or out of Parliament, upon what was alike clearly a personal act of duty and affection, contributing some few hours of relaxation and retirement, both from the ceremonies of a Court, and the unavoidable claims of public business. The late Prince Consort, with his rare prescience, saw years ago that, in England at any rate, the position of the Crown, always exceptional, was rendered easier as a fact, and the prestige of the throne was increased, by the careful development of the inner side of private and family life. The English are, happily, a home-loving people; the associations and sympathies of all classes, high and humble, are bound up with the quiet discharge of social duties and the elevating tastes and gentle virtues of family relationship. No public life is worth anything which does not rest on the home circle as its solace and strength, its charm and comfort, amid the "whirligig of time" and the strange conceits of mortal men in their mundane struggle. A Court has its attractions and its greatness, its splendour and its allurements, but it has also its dangers and its drawbacks, its snares and its sorrows. Hence the only counterpoise to the wearing toils and overweening influences of a merely public life, arising from the fact that Sovereigns are always "en evidence," and have but little spare time for self-refreshment and self-reflection, is to be

found in the safe path and restraining sympathies of family association, interest, and affection. How well and wisely the Prince Consort judged, time has already surely shown, and we regret that, misled by a little "mirage" of that perversity which often comes over society, any should ever have thought it well or befitting to criticize the Queen going to Germany, or her visit to Baden or to Cobourg. We shall all be glad to think that, amid all the greatness of the greatest of sovereignities, amid all the splendour of the English Court, the Queen, the daughter of a Freemason, retains her intense love of home and family life, and, bound deeply by those ties of personal and intimate relationship which constitute, we may say, the best guarantee for the happiness of home, the peace of nations, and the progress of mankind, leaves the great realm of England for a short "retraite," and some few simple moments of peaceful and unartificial family intercourse. Who can venture to blame her, or any one in her exalted position, who seeks, amid scenes and memories very dear, to strengthen herself for the duties of her great rank, and to live out that happy inner life of domestic sympathy and attachment, which has brightened even the enduring grandeur of her diadem with the noblest and tenderest sympathies of this earthly existence of ours?

ENGLISH FREEMASONRY.

Well! they may say what they like, Ultramontane accuser and intolerant defamer, but this good old English Craft of ours is going on its way to-day, impelled by a very prosperous "trade wind," over a tranquil sea, and under a blue sky! Time has run on since, say, Lord Lovel was installed in succession to the Duke of Norfolk, on the 19th of March, 1731, very nearly 150 years ago, and these small beginnings have led to wonderful results. A very able brother of our Order once observed that the Craft was a very remarkable institution, and that, considering all the unavoidable drawbacks and weaknesses of humanity, it was a very noble Order, and did a great amount of good. We feel strongly the truth of his forcible words as we sit pen in hand to-day. What other Order can boast such a career of usefulness, kindness, benefit to others, good to mankind? We may well remember to-day that the revived Grand Lodge of 1717 is the mother of all speculative Masonry, and that if Cosmopolitan Masonry exists at all, it is owing to those humbler brethren of ours who met at the Apple Tree Tavern, in Charles-street, Covent Garden, in February, 1717. They probably little foresaw to what a mighty tree the petty seed they planted there Masonically would grow, neither could they estimate the effect and influence that Freemasonry was to exercise over individuals and nations. For we may lay this down as a fact, that wherever Freemasonry, in its true principles, is at active work, there peace and toleration, home life, and national well-being are pretty sure to be found abounding on every side. And English Freemasonry has always kept, even amid most troubled times, the even tenour of its way, it has never turned to the right hand or the left, it has never been seduced by party cries, or passing applause, to let go its ancient landmarks, it has remained moored safely to its own unchanging principles, amid the follies, and frivolities, and perversities, and blunders of other portions of the Masonic family. Hence in the eyes of some writers English Freemasonry is alike in a sleepy and comatose state, obstructive and retrograde, insensible to the awakening theories of more ardent minds! Be it so; but we in England prefer this very state of "coma," if you like, to that fictitious life which Masonry here and there is living, to that pretentious and ever-lurid glare which seems to fall as if with menacing mien, alike on the protestations of some, and the public proceedings of others who claim to be like us, brethren of the Masonic Order. For in England certain characteristics have marked our good old Order along the dusty highway of time, and have preserved it, happily, from the quack "nostrums" of the empiric, have saved it from the "facilis descensus Avernus" of the unreasoning reformer. English Freemasonry has ever been religious and reasonable, liberal and loyal, tolerant and truth-

ful, peaceful and progressive, but sternly opposed alike to iconoclastic absurdities and to revolutionary changes. It has ever inculcated reverence of God, and love for man, fealty to the throne, and obedience to the laws. It has advocated unceasingly the obligations of citizenship, and the feelings of patriotism, while it has surrounded home life and social duties with all those attractions which lend grace and dignity to this human and gregarious existence of ours. It has never faltered in urging the claims of suffering and sorrow, of poverty and distress, in upholding the sanctity of toleration, in proclaiming the brotherhood of man! It is this combination, alike sympathetic and yet fraternal, sensible and yet emotional, which has so endeared the Craft to its children, and has so served to commend it to the minds of the educated and intellectual, the student and the statesman, the man of business and the man of the world, the most elevated in earthly rank and the toiling bread winners of the great middle class. And, as the old saying runs, "the proof of the pudding is in the eating," we in England, nay, Freemasons generally, fully recognise, with some few exceptions, the reality of the position and work of English Freemasonry. At this very moment our lodges are increasing rapidly, some say too rapidly, and our one only danger lies in our very numbers, in that large admission of members which is now taking place. But with caution and care even this difficulty and peril may be overcome, and we have, ourselves no fear, but that like others in times past, these symptoms of evil will yet be overmastered for good. It is with legitimate pride, that as English Freemasons, we may note the onward progress of our ancient and useful Craft. Its works of charity are deepening and extending, material well-being is apparently only an incentive to increased well doing, and never at any period of our history was there, we believe, a more faithful realization amongst our brethren generally, both of the excellences and claims, the duties and demands, of Freemasonry. So long as we keep firmly to the great landmarks of our Order, so long as we uphold its genuine principles, and preserve its wholesome enactments—so long as we practise what we preach, and carry out what we profess—so long will our English Craft, humanly speaking, endure, alike useful and beneficial for ourselves and for mankind. But the highest prosperity and the greatest numbers will not save us from the inevitable re-action which ever follows close upon the great tide of human affairs and institutions, if ever we forget our duties in our privileges; if ever we lose sight of the truth, that talking is one thing, doing another; if ever we look lightly at the sure and solemn fact, that Freemasonry, like everything else of earth, is on its trial, and can only be judged, and will only be judged by its "facts," not by its "verba," by the fruits it evidences, by the work it performs.

THE PROVINCE OF WEST LANCASHIRE.

A meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of this distinguished province took place at Liverpool on April 10th, 200 brethren being present, under the distinguished presidency of our amiable and popular D.G.M., Lord Skelmersdale, also Prov. G.M. Among the other business was the proposition to grant £100 towards the "Sedilia" of the cathedral of Chester, now under process of restoration. For some reasons this resolution was opposed, apparently on the ground that it was a denominational vote. So, no doubt, in one sense, it was; but yet it was a vote which appealed alike to the sympathies of the members of the Provincial Grand Lodge as Freemasons, and also as lovers of art, and promoters of æsthetic improvements. For in England we Speculative Freemasons must never forget that we are the descendants of those who built those very glorious fanes, on which time's destroying hand has fallen, and which pious care would preserve, and loving religion would seek to renovate and restore. The remarks of Bro. Alpass, I.G. Secretary, are deserving of much attention, not only from his long services to our Order, but his perfect ac-

quaintance with the teaching and temper of Freemasonry. It is a fact that, as a rule, the Clergy of the Church of England are more favourable to Freemasonry than almost any other religious body. And long may this friendly "Concordat" continue, long may this entente cordiale prevail. None are more careful than we are to uphold the non-political and non-controversial character of Freemasonry, but when a proposal comes to endeavour to assist a good work, like the restoration of Chester Cathedral, not only do we hold it is perfectly fair to act as Freemasons to do so, but we are not infringing on our avowed neutrality when we show our good will towards a great denominational body, from which we have as a rule, always received so much friendly consideration, and from which to-day out of every 100 of our Chaplain brethren 99 actually are recruited for our fraternal ranks. We are glad to see that West Lancashire makes so distinct a move, supported by so large a majority, in favour of the religious building art, and the good work of Church restoration, as though we do not deny that there is at first sight a little difficulty in the case, apparently, on the strict grounds of denominational neutrality, yet we also feel assured that it is only in the appearance and not in the reality. Bro. Alpass's argument is, we think, a very fair one, "ad Latomos," and practically unanswerable; and we are pleased to note for the information of our readers how good sense and kindly feeling and sound practical judgment dominate, fortunately for us all, for the most part, the meetings of our ancient and benevolent Craft.

THE GRAND FESTIVAL.

We publish in another column a report of the Grand Festival, but, as it is too late for our notice this week, shall recur to it in our next.

Original Correspondence.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for, or even as approving of the opinions expressed by our correspondents, but we wish, in a spirit of fair play to all, to permit—within certain necessary limits—free discussion.—Ed.]

MASONIC JURISPRUDENCE.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Can you, or any of your numerous readers who are versed in the laws and customs of our Order, give me a reply to the following queries:—

1. Has a definite decision ever been given as to whether a Warden who has not served a complete and current year as such (i.e. from one annual installation to the following one) but who has served for upwards of twelve months in two periods, is qualified for the chair? In the only English work on Masonic Jurisprudence that I am acquainted with—Dr. Oliver's—it is laid down that such a one would not be qualified, and that the twelve months' service must be continuous.

2. Are Wardens, who served as such under the sister constitutions (Irish or Scotch), eligible to be elected to the chair of an English lodge?

3. In the case of a lodge losing its W.M. by death, removal, or otherwise, and also losing one or both of its Wardens from either of the above causes, or by resignation, is the I.P.M., who is ruling the lodge, competent to appoint another brother as Warden? and if so, would the Warden so appointed count the time as qualifying, supposing broken periods do count? I am of opinion that, under these circumstances, the I.P.M. cannot appoint a fresh Warden, except pro tem. at each meeting, he not being the actual Master of the lodge.

4. When appointing a brother to the office of Warden at a meeting other than the installation meeting, is it sufficient to say, "Brother so and so, take the Warden's chair," and for the said brother to put on the collar and take his seat? or should not the W.M. formally appoint, invest, and instal the Warden, such to be entered on the minutes of the meeting?

A reply to the foregoing will oblige, Yours truly and fraternally,

23rd April, 1876.

ENQUIRER.

MEMBERSHIP OF A PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Will you kindly allow me to ask Bro. W. J. Hughan to be kind enough to point out the authority of the "P.G.M." to appoint a brother not officially a member of the P.G.L. owing to his being neither a Master, Past Master, nor Warden of a lodge in the province (though a contributing Master Mason therein) is conferred by the Book of Constitutions."

I find that "brethren of eminence and ability, who have rendered service to the Craft, may, by a vote of the Grand Lodge, duly confirmed, be constituted members of Grand Lodge, with such rank and distinction as may be thought proper."

The Craft in general ought to be thankful to Bro. Hughan for his contributions to the "Freemason."

I have a P.G.L. balance sheet, in which the Deputy G.M. is styled R.W.D.P.G.M., and the P.G. Officers from the P.G.S.W. to the P.G.S. are styled V.W. both included.

If Prov. Grand Lodge is in error, no wonder for members of private lodges to be wrong.

Yours fraternally,

R.W.O.

THE INSTALLATION PICTURE.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

In consequence of my absence from town whilst superintending the engraving I was not aware that my advertisement had been inadvertently (on my part) omitted from your issue. In re-inserting it will you kindly permit me again to call the attention of those brethren who have not yet forwarded their portraits for insertion in the engraving to at once favour me with same. I find, on close examination, that we can insert about 300 more, in addition to those now in hand (nearly 700), and I am quite sure that the excellence and fidelity of the portraits already engraved will ensure the utmost satisfaction. Surely it is not too much to ask 1000 brethren out of the 8000 present, to assist me in producing such a memento as will make the great event of double interest to our Royal Grand Master. Permit me also to add that it is of the utmost importance that no delay should take place in complying with my wish.

I am, dear Sir and Brother, fraternally yours,

EDWD. J. HARTY.

213, Regent-st., W., 25th April, 1876.

REGALIA.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

While reading the article by "Ad Rem" on the above in your last he touched a cord that I often wished some one to pull.

The 3rd paragraph. "How is it that (say) ninety-nine out of every hundred Past Masters wear a gold or gilt jewel when the Constitutions distinctly say it shall be in silver, &c.?"

Qy. Are the jewels worn by the ninety-nine, referred to above, those that the P.M.'s attach to their coat collars on the left breast? If so, are they in reality jewels, according to the Book of Constitutions, any more than those which are attached to the watch chain, &c., by many a brother.

By the reading of the Constitutions, p. 122, I presume that a Past Master's jewel is to be worn pendant to a collar of light blue ribbon four inches broad, or as in p. 124, where the emblem of their office is in silver or white in the centre of the apron.

Yours fraternally,

R.W.O.

"WHAT NEXT, INDEED?"

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Under the caption "What Next, Indeed," an article appeared in your issue of the 11th March, and I have to request permission to make a few remarks thereon. You seem to apprehend disaster to the aged frame of Past Master Dobbin, and in fancy hear him exclaim, "What! admit women to an installation—it's scandalous—never heard of such a thing in my life before—it will ruin Freemasonry altogether, &c., &c., &c."

What dreadful forebodings are concealed under the three et ceteras my imagination fails to conceive, but doubtless, despite of such, Freemasonry will still live, and I sincerely hope that the worthy Past Master may survive long enough to meet the lady friends of Montgomery Lodge at their centennial in 1925. And you, too, most worthy "Freemason," cannot understand how ladies could be present at an installation, but presume some means are found for squaring the matter so as to be in accord with Masonic ritual. Squaring Masonic ritual is either a vile pun or a very slang expression, unworthy of place in your well edited columns—excuse me.

If your Masonic library does not contain a copy of Ahiman Rezon and Freemason's Guide," by David Sickles, 33rd Sec-Gen. of the Superintending Council, Northern Jurisdiction, and which is dedicated to John W. Simons, Past Grand Master of Masons and Knights Templar of New York, Grand Treasurer of the Grand Encampment of the United States, Grand Treasurer of the Grand Lodge of New York, and Sovereign Grand Inspector-General, &c., make haste and obtain a copy. This book is our standard in all matters of ceremony.

The directions for "The Installation of the Officers of a Lodge" are accompanied by the following notes.

1. "A private examination is understood to precede the installation of the Master."

2. "If the installation is performed in a public place, this as well as other private ceremonies are omitted."

In point of fact nothing Masonic is done before "Cowans," be they male or female, with the exception of "The Grand Honours." I will endeavour very soon to write out the entire ceremony for your guidance and instruction, and possibly inform you of a similar proceeding in a lodge in Great Britain, so that you may see there is precedent for our action.

I sympathize with Bro. Simmons, who you say is in love, and am sure if such be the case he does endorse your opinion as to the extent of welcome to be given—"within due limits"—to well disposed gentle and graceful sisters, but this I know, that the admission of sweethearts, wives, daughters, and sisters to great educational and benevolent festivals, to special soirees, to organized banquets, and to agreeable reunions (balls, I presume) will never do half so much good in removing the impression, prevalent among women, that Freemasonry is but another name for conviviality, as listening to language such as the fo-

lowing, taken from the Grand Master's charge to the officers of a lodge.

"Forcibly impress upon them (the brethren) the dignity and high importance of Masonry, and seriously admonish them never to disgrace it. Charge them to practise out of the lodge those duties which they have been taught in it, and by amiable, discreet and virtuous conduct, to convince mankind of the goodness of the institution, so that when a person is said to be a member of it, the world may know that he is one to whom the burdened heart may pour out its sorrows to whom distress may prefer its suit, whose hand is guided by justice, and whose heart is expanded by benevolence."

In this country there are no "banquets" after lodge meeting, and thus the time taken from the family circle is freely given by our "dear creatures" who know that "the brethren" are engaged in rather more Masonic work than "charging glasses" at the re-union from which they are excluded. Let me assure you, dear sir and brother, that the Masonic fraternity here yield to none in devotion to the Craft, they are jealous of its honours, of its secrets, but without they know the value of female influence and support, and are proud to show to those whose lives and homes are made happier by the exercise of Masonic virtues that in lodge such virtues are inculcated. Thus, instead of the words, "I am going to the lodge" being heard with alarm, they are listened to with pleasure, because those to whom they are addressed know, "it is good to be there." The next time I visit London, I hope to make your personal acquaintance, when it will at the same time afford me pleasure to learn that Past Master Dobbins has vanished all fear, and ceases to believe in negligence of Masonic ritual, that Bro. Simmons has not only thriven in love, but the gentle, well-dressed partner of his joys and sorrows has been present at his installation, and with delight heard the words, "Brethren, behold your Master," spoken to her beloved lord and master, then will she re-echo the closing sentence of the Grand Master's address: "Within your peaceful walls may your children's children celebrate with joy and gratitude the annual recurrence of this auspicious solemnity, and may the tenets of our profession be transmitted through your lodge, pure and unimpaired from generation to generation." "So mote it be."

I am, dear Sir and Brother, yours truly and fraternally,
MARY'S CHAPEL, No. 1.

THE FREEMASONS AND BURNS.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Referring to the paragraph on this subject in your publication of to-day, it may be interesting to point out to the Craft, that in various Masonic works, published in the U.S.A., the "Farewell" has a verse added which is not to be found in any edition here of Burns's poems, nor is it believed to be his composition. The verse is as follows:—

And you, kind-hearted sisters fair,
I sing farewell to all your charms,
The impression of your pleasing air,
With rapture oft my bosom warms.
Alas! the social winter's night
No more returns while breathe I draw,
Till sisters, brothers, all unite
In that Grand Lodge that's far away.

I think the construction of the last verse in our editions alone sufficient to prove that the above is not genuine; but if spurious it is not of recent manufacture, as I have seen it in an American book, published about forty years ago.

Yours fraternally,

JOHN HOGG.

THE MARK DEGREE.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Will you kindly inform me through your columns whether it is in accordance with the Scotch Constitutions to confer the Mark Degree, a special meeting being called for this purpose and a charge being made for conferring the same.

The Scotch Grand Lodge Laws and Constitutions distinctly state (chap. 2, par. 1), that they recognise no degrees of Masonry but those of E.A., F.C., and M.M., denominated St. John's Masonry (including the Mark, which, however, G.L. does not recognise as a separate degree).

I hold that to call a special meeting for the purpose of conferring the degree and charge a fee for the same is unconstitutional and a violation of Grand Lodge laws.

The special meeting I allude to was held in St. Mark's Hall, Buchanan-street, Glasgow, on Friday evening, the 14th inst., and appeared in the columns of the "Glasgow Daily Mail," and at the same meeting a proposal was made and adopted that the fee for conferring the degree should be raised from rs. 2d. to 2s. 6d. in the future. I regret to say that in Scotland the Grand Lodge laws are too frequently violated, and should be enforced.

Yours fraternally,

A. R. A. MASON.

MASONIC PREFIXES.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Whilst thanking Bro. W. J. Hughan for his interesting letters on this subject, I would call his attention to the following.

On April 1st he said the Dep. G.M.'s prefix was *Right Worshipful*, on April 22nd, he states it to be *Most Worshipful*. Which is correct? Presuming the latter to be correct I give a complete recapitulation of prefixes.

Most Worshipful, Nos. 1. to 6 inclusive.

Right Worshipful, Nos. 7 to 10 inclusive.

Very Worshipful, Nos. 21 to 34 inclusive, and Masters, and Past Masters of lodges.

(N.B.—The above numbers refer to the collective body styled "United Grand Lodge," &c., see Constitutions, pp. 16 to 18.)

As M.M.'s (whose designation is brother only) may be appointed to certain offices in Grand, or Prov. Grand Lodges, it is clear that—

Office in Grand Lodge gives a prefix.

Office in Prov. Grand Lodge does not.

So the whole affair lies in a nut-shell.

To be beyond doubt, will Bro. Hughan kindly say if the foregoing list of prefixes is perfect? Then your readers may mark same in their copies of the Constitutions, and so set a vexed question at rest.

Fraternally yours,

"AD REM."

In Bro. Hughan's letter on this subject last week, the paragraph "(5) Deputy Grand Master and Prov. G.M. are to be styled Most Worshipful," should read as follows:—

(5) Deputy Grand Master, Provincial and District Grand Master, and Grand Wardens are to be styled Right Worshipful.

(6) The Grand Master and Pro Grand Master, Most Worshipful.

LAYING THE FOUNDATION STONE OF A MASONIC HALL AT HAVANT.

The brethren of Lodge Carnarvon, No. 804, have for some time past been anxious to secure a "local habitation" exclusively their own, and having succeeded in obtaining an eligible site in Victoria-road, opposite the Star Hotel, arrangements were made for the erection of a hall. Bro. H. R. Trigg, of Hayling, prepared the plans for a building 45 ft. by 35 ft., including a lodge-room, retiring-room for the W.M., committee-room, Tyler's room, and the usual offices. The edifice, which will be without architectural pretensions, is to be of brick, with cement ornamentation, and its erection has been entrusted to Bro. G. Barnes. Arrangements had been made for laying the foundation-stone of the building with full Masonic ceremonies, and it was anticipated that there would be a very large attendance, not only of members of the craft, but of the uninitiated outsiders. Unfortunately, however, the weather, which so frequently mars out-door spectacles, was most unpropitious, and the brethren did not attend in anything like the numbers looked for, while the heavy and almost continuous downpour effectually prevented a strong muster of the public. Mr. Arthur Locke, of the Bear Hotel, Havant, kindly placed the large room over his carriage repository at the disposal of the Masons, and herein a lodge was held and duly "tyled." The R.W. P. Grand Master of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight (Bro. W. B. Beach, M.P. for North Hants), who is ever ready to do all in his power to promote the interests of Freemasonry, came specially from London to be present, and he was supported by the V.W. the P. Dep. Grand Master (Bro. William Hickman, of Southampton), Bro. H. Ford, P.G.S.W., Bro. J. E. Le Feuvre, Prov. G. Sec.; and Bro. Mark E. Frost, Prov. G. Treas.; J. W. Fardell (Ryde), P.G.J.W. Among the brethren present in lodge were Bros. Lintott, W.M. Carnarvon Lodge; H. R. Trigg, P.M., Prov. G. Sup. of Works; J. N. Hillman, P.M., P.P.G.S.B.; H. Cawte, P.P.G. Warden; John Lillywhite, P.M., Prov. G. Registrar; J. C. Wheeler, W.M. 257; J. Whale, W.M. 309; R. Eve, P.M., P.P.G.S. Warden; G. R. Johnson, Prov. G. Swd. Bearer; T. Francis, P.M.; R. Newland, P.M., Prov. G.A.D.C.; E. Good, P.M.; R. Barber, P. Prov. G.S.B.; R. Osborne, Prov. G. Org.; J. Harrison, I.P.M. Carnarvon Lodge; J. Southwood, C. H. Liddell, H. T. Cecil, P.P.G. Steward; F. White, R. R. L. Rosoman, F. Spurgeon, F. Lemmon, C. N. Burr, W. Payne, P.G. Steward; H. F. Cox, S.W. Carnarvon Lodge; G. Barnes, O. C. Harries, H. Coles, E. Salter, G. A. Eaton, G. Woodman, W. Sims, J. Blount Thomas, P.P.G.S.D.; Major Paxton, T. Hall, C. B. Payne, Tyler of the Grand Lodge of England; G. Carter, J.D. Carnarvon Lodge; W. Bull, Eugene E. Street, G. L. Green, J. P. Paice, and others. Bro. H. R. Trigg acted as M.C. The cornucopia, or horn of plenty, and other golden vessels used on such occasions had been sent from the Grand Lodge, and oil, corn, and wine were placed in them, but in consequence of the bad weather were not used, it having been determined to shorten the ceremony as much as possible. At three o'clock the P.G.M. and his officers, with the brethren, preceded by the band of the 21st North Fusiliers, under the direction of Mr. Daniels, moved in procession from the temporary lodge to the site of the hall, where Bro. Johnson, in the absence of the Prov. G. Chaplain (Bro. the Rev. E. B. C. Churchill), impressively read a short prayer, after which the P.G.M. "proved" the stone and declared it "square, level, and well-wrought, and fit for the purpose intended." The stone was then lowered and the usual taps were given. Bro. Trigg produced the plans, which, having been examined by the P.G.M., were declared "well executed, and the limits and proportions accurately defined." The procession then re-formed and returned to the lodge-room, which having been "close tyled."

The Prov. Grand Master said the ceremony in which they had been engaged was such as was always interesting to Freemasons. Although they did not take part in operative Masonry, as their forefathers were wont to do in former days, they never shrank from showing the interest they took in the erection of buildings. They were incited to do this by the fame of those who had gone before. Many magnificent buildings remained as masterpieces of art, and modern Freemasons had not only engrafted many valuable lessons upon the work which their forefathers wrought, but they had taken an active part in the erection of buildings in the present day. But there was something specially interesting and coming home to their hearts in a practical manner when the building which was proposed to be erected was for the purposes of Freemasonry. When that building was in future time to be

a lodge, in which the purposes of Freemasonry were to be carried out, it indeed came home to the heart of every man, and led him to take a more active interest in it than he might otherwise do. It became them to think of the work in which they were engaged. When a building was being erected for the purpose of Freemasonry they had to think, "What is this which we are promoting?" and it brought home those lessons which were inculcated by their Masonic Craft. It was well-known to them all that those lessons were most valuable; they were founded upon the Sacred Volume, which lies open in every lodge. In that Sacred Volume were contained those lessons which were most valuable for the life of man. If they could but act up to the lessons therein inculcated, and which every Master of a lodge was bound to impress upon the brethren under his rule, they would have their lives improved, and they would feel that Freemasonry had brought home to them lessons which were most valuable for their future. The building which was to be erected was founded on wisdom, strength, and beauty—wisdom to devise, strength to execute, and beauty in embellishment. But the construction of the building was as nothing compared with the purposes for which it was devised. Therein he trusted in future years would be impressed on those who attended lessons in harmony with the purposes of Freemasonry. He trusted that those lessons would bear fruit, and that those brethren who attended would feel themselves called upon to act up to those valuable precepts which were instilled among them. If a Freemason was really impressed with the value and the necessity of acting up to those lessons, it could not but have a most important effect upon his future life. Supposing a Master who was impressing those lessons upon the brethren were not to act up to them himself, would he not feel that he was falling away from what he was impressing upon them? Would that not lead him to act better, to do more to promote the welfare of man, and to show his reverence for the Great Architect of the Universe, than he might otherwise do? He trusted it would. No one who made himself well acquainted with the principles of Freemasonry could fail to be aware of the importance of the precepts which were taught; and therefore if any one who was well acquainted with them failed to carry out in his own person those precepts, he must feel that he was derogating from the high position which he ought to occupy. Such was not, he trusted, the case with any one there. He trusted that all who attended within this lodge would have the lessons of Freemasonry amply and well explained to them, and that those who had them impressed upon them would act up to them. He hoped this building, the foundation stone of which had been laid that day, would be powerful for good, and that it would exercise an important influence upon Freemasonry in that town and neighbourhood. He could only say, for himself, that he wished it hearty good-speed, and that the work they had inaugurated that day might be prosperous and efficient. (Applause.)

Bro. Lintott, W.M., in proposing a vote of thanks to the R.W. Prov. Grand Master, said they would all agree with him it was a great kindness on his part to come so many miles to be present with them. They had long been looking forward to that day. They knew that the R.W. Prov. Grand Master had many important and arduous duties to perform, not only in Freemasonry, but in many other matters.

Bro. F. Cox, S.W., seconded the resolution, saying he was sure it must have been an exertion on the part of the P.G.M. to find time to visit so small a lodge as this.

The Prov. Grand Master, in acknowledging the vote, said it gave him very great pleasure indeed to be present, and he thought he should have been very deficient in his duty if he had failed to attend when the brethren of the Carnarvon Lodge were making such a noble effort to erect a building fit for the purposes of Freemasonry. It reflected such infinite credit on them that it deserved every encouragement on the part of Freemasons in other parts of the province, and being at the head of the province he should have failed in his duty if he had not come to show by his presence that he heartily approved of their good work, and that he was anxious to say a few words to encourage them, and wish them prosperity in the future. He hoped and trusted that on his next attendance there he should see the building assuming full proportions, and promising to be worthy of, and efficient for, the purposes of Freemasonry. (Applause.)

The lodge was then closed in the usual Masonic form.

At half-past four a banquet was served in the Town Hall, under the presidency of the Prov. Grand Master. The catering was entrusted to Bro. Purnell, of the Dolphin, who had prepared a choice menu, and served the repast in a manner reflecting great credit upon him. At the conclusion of the dinner,

The Prov. Grand Master said that loyalty to the Sovereign of their native land was an integral portion of their Masonic creed, and therefore they, as Freemasons, in common with other of Her Majesty's subjects, were ready on every occasion to prove their loyalty and affection. But had they not any inducement to do so it would be found in the manner in which Her Majesty, during a lengthened reign, had endeared herself to the hearts of her subjects. And, indeed, during that long time she had proved herself a true constitutional Sovereign, and that she was ready on every occasion to consult their welfare and adapt herself to their wishes. (Applause.) He was sure that as Freemasons he need not appeal to their hearts to join in the toast with every sense of affection that they were capable of showing.—The P.G.M. then gave "The Queen and the Craft." (Applause.)

The Prov. Grand Master said the next toast that he had the honour to propose to them was that of their Grand Master, the Prince of Wales. (Applause.) Those who were present on the occasion of his installation would not readily forget the magnificent spectacle presented, and they must also have realised the fact that the Prince of Wales, in assuming the office of Grand Master, was not

insensible to the duties he was taking on himself. (Hear, hear.) He had shown himself a great friend to the Craft, and during his recent journey in India he had lost no opportunity of attending a Masonic ceremony whenever it was in his power to do so. It must be a source of joy and congratulation to them to find that during his journey throughout that great empire he had not only endeared himself to the hearts of their countrymen there, but also of the natives of that country. He was sure that though he had not thrown aside pleasure, yet he had never neglected duty to pursue it. (Hear, hear.) He had, he was quite sure, worked during his tour in a wonderful manner. The enormous number of processions and ceremonies that he had attended required a very strong constitution to get through. But he had been enabled to surmount all, and he was sure that the manner in which he had conducted himself throughout the whole of that tour had redounded to the honour of England, and had shown that he who held the highest position, next to the Queen, in England, was able to conduct himself towards all those with whom he came in contact in a manner to reflect honour on the position he occupied. (Applause.) He trusted that on his return to this country he would meet with a reception that would repay him in some measure for the labour he had undergone. (Applause.)

The Prov. Grand Master said that however ready the Prince of Wales, their Grand Master, might be to attend Masonic ceremonies, yet it was quite impossible for him to discharge those duties all over the country. The consequence was that it was necessary to have a *Pro* Grand Master to represent him, and the Craft were fortunate in having a brother of such eminence and talent as the Earl of Carnarvon. (Applause.) He was very much associated with this county, although he held the office of Provincial Grand Master of Somerset. But he had shown himself ready to take a great interest in Freemasonry in this province, and extremely zealous in discharging the duties of Provincial Grand Master. He had also been a staunch supporter of their Masonic charities, and, in short, had reflected honour upon the cause of Freemasonry since he had been a member of their Order. (Applause.) He would couple with the toast "The Health of Lord Skelmersdale, the Deputy Grand Master," who in Lancashire, in particular, was held in the very highest repute. "Those who had the opportunity of meeting him, as he frequently had, on Masonic occasions, knew that the able manner in which he performed his duties commended itself to the hearts of all who came near him. He would couple with the toast 'The Health of a Past Grand Officer,' whose name ordinarily would be coupled with another toast, but whom it would be convenient on this occasion to give an opportunity of saying a few words before he left—Bro. William Hickman. (Applause.) He gave 'The Provincial Grand Master, the Deputy Grand Master, and the Officers of the Grand Lodge, Present and Past.' (Applause.)

The Deputy Provincial Grand Master, Bro. Hickman, in responding, said he could assure them that in the Earl of Carnarvon the Grand Lodge of England had a nobleman who conducted the proceedings, in the absence of the Prince of Wales and on his behalf, in a most satisfactory manner. (Hear, hear.) He need not remind them of the manner in which the installation ceremony of the Prince of Wales—that glorious meeting of Masons throughout England—was conducted by his lordship some twelve months ago. That was a day that would rest in the memory of all Masons in England for many, many years to come, and even for generations. (Hear, hear.) Lord Skelmersdale was only too pleased to second the exertions of the *Pro* Grand Master, and to do his duty as Deputy Grand Master, and all the officers, present and past, of Grand Lodge were only too pleased to do what in them lay for the furtherance of Freemasonry. He only hoped that to-day's proceedings, although they might have been to some extent marred by the weather, over which they could have no control, would be remembered in Havant, they having laid the foundation of a lodge which he trusted would last for many years, and cement the bonds of Freemasonry, particularly the support of their charitable institutions, and he hoped also that many lasting friendships and kindly relations might exist in this lodge. (Hear, hear.) He expressed the thanks of the Provincial Grand Officers who had been summoned, and who had been so pleased to accompany their Provincial Grand Master on this occasion, for the very kind manner in which they had been received. They would be only too pleased at a future time, when the building was completed, to come there and inaugurate the proceedings therein, and they trusted that this lodge might exist for many years and be held in the new building, which would be a very handsome one, according to the plans they had seen that day, and that it might be from generation to generation a rallying-point for Freemasonry in this district. (Applause.)

Bro. Lintott briefly proposed "The R.W. Prov. G.M.," who had come there that day from a long distance to be present, although, as they knew, he had many other important and arduous duties to perform. (Hear, hear.) The toast was drunk with great enthusiasm.

The Prov. Grand Master, in responding, said he certainly could have wished that circumstances had been more propitious. If the weather had been only favourable they should have had, no doubt, a large attendance, anxious to witness such an interesting ceremony. But as they were not so favoured they were obliged to put up with a comparatively small attendance. But he might congratulate their Worshipful Master that the brethren who were present were animated by a sincere desire to take part in that interesting ceremony. It must be gratifying to any one to have a Masonic lodge constituted in a locality. Those brethren who had taken part in the formation of a lodge, and in its sustentation, must have been animated by a sincere desire to promote the welfare of Freemasonry, and they then set themselves to work to get a building proper to re-

ceive them. There was something, no doubt, repugnant to the feelings of true Masons when they met in a building not adapted to them and unworthy of holding them. (Hear, hear.) Therefore it reflected the more credit on them when they set to work and put their shoulders to the wheel, to erect a building which should be worthy of them. (Hear, hear.) Such, he trusted, would be the result of the proceedings of to-day. What had they resolved to do? To make a building for the purposes of Freemasonry. Was it an Order worthy of support, or a mere ignoble Order, which would flourish for a few years and then die away? Freemasonry had existed for centuries, its votaries had been well aware that it was an Order which could not die, because its principles would ever keep it alive. Other societies had died out, but Freemasonry still flourished and increased, because those who had succeeded their forefathers had gone on, feeling that the lessons they had received were lessons which were well worthy of being acted up to and perpetuated. Amongst the lessons of Freemasonry there were some which could not but reflect credit upon those that devised them, as upon those who were determined to act up to them. They had the lessons of benevolence and charity—charity, let him say, acted upon to its fullest extent, not that charity which lavishly gave away to the first comer, but that charity which had an influence upon the inner man, which led them to act honourably and benevolently to every one with whom they came in contact. That was the true charity which should influence the human life, and could they see it acted up to throughout the outer world they would have fewer disputes and fewer disturbances, and they would have something more benevolent than had ever as yet existed in the world. But that was too much to expect. Let them, however, as Masons, resolve so to act, that however much the outer world might cavil at their principles, they would be compelled to say—"We cannot but admit that they do not neglect them in their own lives. (Hear, hear.) That was a reflection which should induce all of them to act in an honourable and proper manner, so that others might say when they looked upon a Mason—"He has acted up to the principles which have been instilled into him." (Hear, hear.) In presiding over that province, which he had had the honour to do for some years, he had taken the warmest interest in the progress of Freemasonry throughout its precincts. Impressed himself, at his first entrance into the Order, with a belief that Freemasonry would confer the greatest benefits upon the human race, he had tried, far as in him lay, to support it, and he could only hope that he might have the pleasure of seeing Freemasonry flourish, not only throughout the province, but throughout the country. (Applause.) He thanked the W.M. and brethren of the Carnarvon Lodge for the very kind and hospitable reception they had given them that day, and he trusted, as their Deputy Grand Master had said, that on a future occasion he might have the opportunity of coming there and seeing the result of the auspicious proceedings which had taken place that day. (Applause.)

Bro. Lintott, W.M., proposed "The Provincial Officers, Present and Past," coupling with the toast the name of Bro. Henry Ford, P.G.S.W. (Applause.)

Bro. H. Ford, P.G.S.W., in responding, said he was much obliged to them for having an opportunity of joining in this festive occasion. He came there, hoping that they might have a fine day and a large gathering. They had not either, but at least they had had the leaders of their Craft present among them, showing them they were still earnest in their attachment to the principles of their Order, and, although the weather was unpropitious, doing their duty to the best of their ability. He was quite sure that all present must have derived some lessons of instruction and some lessons to guide them in the future from the ceremony in which they had taken part. The ceremony was necessarily curtailed in consequence of their great enemy, the weather, but still enough had been performed to show they had laid the foundation of a building which, they believed, would take deep root, and, by the blessing of the Great Architect of the Universe, bring forth fruit a hundred fold. They did not come there to take part in an empty or idle ceremony, or merely to grace a procession or show themselves in Masonic clothing to the ignorant multitude; but they came there for the purpose of strengthening the hands of a body of men in that town, who had done so much to cultivate Freemasonry and establish its principles and precepts. (Applause.) Let them hope that the proceedings of that day would eventuate in Freemasonry being more firmly established than ever among them, and that the Carnarvon Lodge, which was about to have a habitation of its own, might continue to flourish. (Applause.) Following so closely after their excellent Right Worshipful Grand Master, it would be affectation in him to detain them with a long speech. But he could not allow the opportunity to pass without expressing his deep sense of the obligations of Freemasonry, as he had often done in that town in days gone by. The name of a Freemason was not a mere empty word; it had a meaning and significance which they ought never to forget. (Hear, hear.) It imposed upon them self-restraint, which they ought to practise whenever the necessity for it arose. He could not help feeling sad for a moment, even although they had every appliance for festivity before them. He could not help remembering that the hand of Death had been among Freemasons, as well as among other bodies, and that if it had not been for his inroads in the Order he (Bro. Ford) would not be occupying the position he now filled. They missed from among them on that occasion the face of a genial brother, who had recently been taken to, he hoped and believed, an abode of bliss; a brother who had been wont to make them as happy as it was in his power to do, even at the sacrifice of his own personal comfort. Let them for a moment pause and reflect that the time might come—nay, must shortly come—when they would have to follow him

to that bourne whence no traveller returned. He knew their excellent Brother Forbes between forty and fifty years, and he always found him to be a good friend and a sincere and trustworthy man; and, as a Mason, his heart was enshrined in the principles of their Order. Let them follow in his footsteps, although all could not gain the position he occupied, and strive to emulate his example. While on this melancholy topic he could not help remembering that they had formerly a brother among them who, on occasions like this, was the life and soul of their proceedings—he referred to their late excellent Bro. Stebbing, the Deputy Prov. Grand Master. They always missed his genial countenance whenever anything was to be done for the good of Freemasonry. Let them strive to emulate the example of those who had gone before them. They were apt to forget what the meaning of Freemasonry was. It was not merely the practice of one of the social virtues. Brotherly love, relief, and truth were its three cardinal points. He urged the brethren of the Carnarvon Lodge to continue to live together in brotherly love. If that principle had not been acted upon they could never have gained the predominance they had in this town, or have been in a position to go through that day's proceedings. (Applause.)

The Prov. Grand Master referred to the presence amongst them of an Irish Mason, and proposed "The Grand Lodge of Ireland," which was responded to by Bro. Charles H. Bamber, Sphinx Lodge, 263.

The Prov. Grand Master said he rose to propose a toast which he was sure would be received with the greatest enthusiasm—"The health of their Worshipful Master." It would have been much more pleasing to have proposed this toast could he have congratulated him upon all the proceedings of to-day having gone off in the most favourable manner, but was sure he might congratulate him that as far as he (the W.M.) was concerned everything had gone off in the most admirable manner. They must thank him for the arrangements which had been made and for the manner in which he had conducted them. The Worshipful Master had important duties to perform. He had to rely upon the support of the brethren of neighbouring lodges assisting him upon any occasion when they might be called upon to do so. He was sure the Worshipful Master of the Carnarvon Lodge might rely upon the support of the brethren of his neighbouring lodges. (Hear, hear.) They would therefore drink his health, and wish that the remaining part of his year of office might be most prosperous. (Loud applause.)

The toast was drunk with great enthusiasm, and Bro. Lintott briefly responded, and proposed "The Visitors."

Bro. Eve, P.P.G.S.W., in responding, said nothing could be a greater source of enjoyment to all true Masons than to assemble on the occasion of laying the foundation-stone of a Masonic Hall. They all felt that if Masons could possibly get funds sufficient to have a place of their own it was their duty to do so. For a small locality, as Havant was, compared with Portsmouth and other towns, they had shown a great deal of pluck in getting a building of their own, and he was sure would receive the congratulations of all the brethren of the province. The visitors could only regret that they had not been better favoured in respect to the weather, and he trusted that next time they had occasion to have a meeting of that kind they would take the opportunity of coming in still larger numbers than they had that day, for the purpose of expressing their feelings towards them, for the manner in which they had conducted Masonry in this town. When they saw what a small body had done, it brought a number of larger towns rather into disrepute. (Hear, hear.) Other towns ought to emulate the example which they had set, and he hoped it would be followed. (Hear, hear.) He proposed, "Success to the Carnarvon Lodge. (Applause.)

Bro. Good, P.M., briefly responded, and promised a donation of £10 towards the building fund. (Applause.)

INAUGURAL BALL AT THE SURREY MASONIC HALL.

Owing to the large increase of members, and of necessity, lodges, a want has long been felt in the southern part of London for a building in which the solemn rites of the Order can be performed, without having resort to establishments but poorly suited to the requirements of the Masonic fraternity. The Surrey Masonic Hall, which has been in course of erection now very nearly two years, was formally opened on Wednesday, the 19th inst., by an Inaugural Ball. The foundation-stone was laid as far back as the 29th of May, 1874, by Colonel Francis Burdett, J.P., Prov. Grand Master of Middlesex, in the presence of a large number of distinguished brethren, and many ladies. The dedication of the hall took place on the same day as the consecration of the new lodge, No. 1539, which was named after the hall. The Rt. Hon. Lord Skelmersdale, Deputy Grand Master for West Lancashire, formally dedicated the new hall to Freemasonry on Wednesday, July 13, 1875. The hall, as its name implies, was built for the special accommodation of Masonic lodges, and the portion of the premises more especially devoted to this purpose has been in use several months, a number of lodges, chapters, and instruction lodges having already taken up their quarters within the building.

In addition to this portion, however, the building also comprises a large public hall 95 feet long, 40 wide, and 35 high, and this having now approached completion, was inaugurated, as we have already stated, by the ball, and in order to identify the opening of this hall with one of the three great principles of Freemasonry, the proceeds will be given to the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls. Of the boon which this hall will prove to the neighbourhood there is little need to speak.

Bro. M. S. Larham, a director of the Surrey Masonic Hall

Company, obtained permission for the members of the Order to appear in Masonic costume, which gave great effect and zeal to the assembly. Bro. D. Goffrey's band was in attendance and performed some choice music. Bro. John Jarvis praying himself an able Master of the Ceremonies. Supper was supplied about one o'clock in the rooms adjoining the hall. The usual toasts were given and duly responded to. During the evening the following Inaugural Ode, on the completion of the Surrey Masonic Hall, written by Bro. Samuel Poynter, P.M. 902 and 1491, barrister-at-law, was delivered by Bro. Dawson in a very able manner.

ODE.

"And the house, when it was in building, was built of stone made ready before it was brought thither; so that there was neither hammer nor axe nor any tool of iron heard in the house, while it was in building."—1 Kings, VI., v. 7.

"An house not made with hands."—II. Cor., V., v. 1.

In Israel's holy city, when the word
Went forth to build a Temple to the Lord,
The pious prince, who swayed the sceptre then,—
Wise alike of monarchs and of men,—
Inspired by zeal, by light divine illumed,
To give command unparalleled presumed.

"The fane we build"—so mused his mighty mind—
"Is for no earthly potentate designed;

"For human ruler, howsoever great,
"Whate'er the pomp, the pageantry, the state,
"His throne surround, how loud so'er th' acclaim
"With which the sycophantic shout his name,—
"Let mortal hands with lusty strokes attest
"A mortal's lodging 'tis they build at best!

"The maul for luxury's use now deftly plied
"Shall ring on nails that clinch the coffin's side;
"The pick that cleaves the earth to found the throne
"Breaks up the ground beneath the cold grave stone;

"Each sound of toil that jars on royalty's ear
"Proclaims that e'en to monarchs death is near!
"E'en as at Pharaoh's feasts, o'er pomp and power,
"The grisly, grinning, skeleton would tower,*

"So, as the sumptuous palace stone by stone
"Rises in beauty, rings the dirge-like tone,—
"Whomsoever thou art for whom these toilers ply,
"Thou shalt their lot in this—thou too must die!"

"Not so that Being"—thus the king's thoughts ran,
"For whom this regal edifice we plan;
"How grand so'er, yet all too mean for One
"Whose Temple is the Universe alone,—

"Ruler of all, e'en of the gruesome king;
"Cedes grave no victory, knows in death no sting!
"Let then no harsh discordant noises break
"The solemn silence in the house we make;

"No stroke disturb, or clang of tool dispel,
"The stillness where we pray our God to dwell!"
The king decreed, and word'ring Israel viewed
The logs well shaped, the ashlar squared where hewed,

In forest and in quarry, leagues away
From that all hallow'd site, where, day by day,
Conveyed by tedious toil o'er sea and land,
All ready fashioned to the builder's hand,

The precious freight arrived; and fingers skilled
The pieces fitted—and, with reverence filled,
The Jewish people saw before them rise
The stately fabric—mounting to the skies;

The world's new wonder growing—tower by tower—
In symmetry and silence hour by hour!
So the first Temple sprang—how changed the tone
Upon that spot, when, ruined and o'erthrown,

The pious builders of the second sought
The ancient glory to restore—and wrought
With sturdy arm—the hammer swinging high,
Trowel and pick in hand, but sword on thigh!

Thus to all time they the example set
That lawless violence must by force be met,
Proclaiming in the patriot's loftiest strain
What toil produces valour must maintain!

Shall these great lessons of time passed away
Be told in dull, deaf, nay, dead, ears to-day?
Shall we, whom God has blessed with peace and means,
With sceptic sneer turn from these old-world scenes?

Or read with pride that goes before a fall
The unregarded writing on the wall?
Not so! The Temple that the wise king planned,
Too great almost for work of human hand,

So grand, so glorious, that it seemed to grow
By nature's process from the earth below,
We builders speculative, in our state
Of mortal sojourn, strive to imitate.

Ah! would our skill could from the world around
All evil banish, as metallic sound
Was stilled within the Temple's gorgeous walls!
But here sin's ringing conflict still appals;

Yet work we on, our house the human soul;
The sounds we seek to banish or control
Are vice's promptings, passion's fierce appeal;
Or a voice ham'ring tender hearts to steel;

These sounds discordant silenced, we could hear
The "still small voice" that whispers "Peace is here!"
Nor yet alone the earlier Temple's rise
Exhausts the lesson Holy Writ supplies;

The careless and indifferent may cease.
To heed the conscience, and may call that peace;
But lethargy, like this, so dense and deep,
Is, as to peace, as death is unto sleep.

Be ours, while silencing the angry din
Of raging passions jarring all within
The human temple—ever to incline
Our mental ears unto the voice Divine!

And, as the builders, when they sought to raise

*An allusion to the well-known traditional custom at Egyptian banquets.

Again the Temple to Jehovah's praise,
Toiled with their hands, but carried at their side
The sword to guard the work their skill supplied,
We, too, must learn, when right's by force withstood,
Like men to 'quit us for the common good!

The common good! Our revels here to-night
Remind us of an enemy to fight.

Grim foes we Masons face; the strife we'd win
Is waged with want, with ignorance, with sin!
Whom threaten they? Hark! where in yonder walls
The tiny foot of blooming girlhood falls.

Our Brethren's orphans! Brethren whom hard care
Their feet through life kept on the dark'ned square.
Poor girls! Ye gentle fair, whose witching eyes
To-night our festal scene's chief charm supplies,

From joyful thoughts with which your bosoms glow,
One warm pulsation of your hearts bestow
In gentle sympathy with this our aim,
In sanctioning the privilege we claim

To succour those for whom to-night we plead—
Our orphan sisters—in their hour of need!
Hold! I have said enough. You'll say there's quite
Sufficient moralising for one night.

All harsh, discordant noises from this scene
Be banished now; while tranquil and serene,
Sole interruption of the stillness round,
Shall be sweet music's joy-inspiring sound;

The only strokes upon our ears to beat,
The joyous pattering of youthful feet,
Threading the circling maze; and if, by chance,
Some cheery voices break the pleasant trance,

The heartfelt wishes on our ears will fall
Affection's welcome—warm good-will to all.
Success to this our roof, and, to have done,
As Tiny Tim says, "God bless every one!"

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W.M. 128; T. Horsley, P.P.S.G.W. 253; T. Slinn, P.G. Tyler; T. Wright, W.M. 654; and others.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF WEST LANCASHIRE.

An especial Provincial Grand Lodge of the Western Division of the county of Lancashire was held at the Masonic Hall, Hope-street, on Tuesday, the 18th inst., for the purpose of taking into consideration a letter which had been received from the Rev. E. Deacle, precentor of Chester Cathedral, with regard to the proposed contribution by the Freemasons of West Lancashire towards the restoration of Chester Cathedral. Bro. the Right Hon. Lord Skelmersdale, D.G.M. England, R.W.P.G.M. West Lancashire, was present, and accepted the place of honour at the proceedings. Amongst the others present were Bros. A. C. Dealey, P.G.J.W.; Dr. J. K. Smith, P.G. Reg.; T. Armstrong, P.G. Treas.; H. S. Alpass, P.G. Sec.; J. F. Goggin, P.P.G. Chap.; R. Wilson, P.P.G.S.D.; T. Wylie, P.P.G. Reg.; R. Wylie, P.P.G.J.D.; W. J. Turley, P.P.G.J.D.; J. R. Goepel, P.P.G.D.C.; J. Lunt, P.G.D.C.; G. Broadbridge, P.P.G.D.C.; J. Skeag, P.G.O.; S. E. Ibbis, P.P.G.S.B.; J. Bell, W.M. 1356; R. Brown, W.M. 241, Hon. Sec. West Lancashire Masonic Educational Institution; J. Wood, Treas. 1094 ("Freemason"); J. W. J. Fowler, P.P.G.A.D.C.; W. Johnson, 241; J. Houlding, J.W. 823; W. Healing, W.M. 1094; W. S. Vines, P.M. 220; J. H. McQuistan, 241; S. J. McGeorge, P.M., Treas. 241; H. Liversage, 1299; R. Bennett, W.M. 1299; A. Jones, J.W. 1502; J. T. Callow, W.M. 1505; H. Nelson, P.M. 1505; T. Clark, P.M. 673; J. Hocken, P.M., Treas. 673; Dr. F. J. Bailey, 786; H. Ashmore, W.M. 1325; G. Turner, P.M. 823; R. Young, P.M. 86; W. Tyrer, W.M. 86; H. Vaughan, J.W. 86; J. A. Edginton, P.M. 1182; P. B. Gee, W.M. 1264; J. Higson Johnson, P.M. 1350; A. Woolrich, S.D. 1356, &c.

The P.G.M. said it would be remembered that at the last P.G. Lodge meeting a letter was read from the Rev. Mr. Deacle with reference to the restoration of Chester Cathedral, but it was then thought advisable to postpone the consideration of the matter, as the brethren were then engaged in raising funds for the Benevolent Institution. He then took it upon him to say that the brethren would raise money for the purpose of helping on the restoration, and he had promised that their gift would take the form of a sedilia, which he thought would be a much more appropriate gift to come from Freemasons than either a pavement or coronna, the other gifts which had been named by Mr. Deacle in his letter. He now asked the brethren to give him their opinion on the subject, and say what they thought the P.G. Lodge should do in connection with the matter.

Bro. R. Wylie, P.P.J.G.D., now moved that the sum of £100 be given towards the restoration of Chester Cathedral.

Bro. Dealey, P.G.J.W., seconded the motion.

Bro. Broadbridge, P.P.G.D.C., said he thought they should hesitate before voting the funds of the P.G. Lodge to this purpose. They had amongst their number many brethren who were Dissenters, Roman Catholics, and members of other persuasions, and in relation to these they stood in a very peculiar position. Moreover, they ought to remember that they had the greatest difficulty in raising the sums required to get their children elected in connection with their institutions. Besides, he thought that before they parted with their funds they ought at least to furnish that help properly.

In answer to a brother, the P.G.M. said the sedilia would cost about £450.

A brother from Barrow also objected to the vote, remarking that the clergy of Carlisle, in which part of that province was situated, might as well ask for a similar vote.

After several other brethren had spoken for and against the proposal,

Bro. T. Wylie, P.P.G. Reg., called attention to the Masonic gift which had recently been made to the cathedral at Gloucester, and urged the brethren to see that the pledge or promise of their P.G.M. should be redeemed with what he might call "flying colours."

Bro. H. S. Alpass, P.G. Sec., in supporting the motion for the vote, pointed out that amongst the 4400 Freemasons in the province of West Lancashire no fewer than 3200 were resident in the diocese of Chester. With regard to the objection raised as to the different creeds to be found in the Masonic body, he stated, as the result of a long experience, that the clergymen of the Church of England were almost the only ministers who joined the Order, a fact which he considered a complete answer to the repeated charges of irreligion which had been made against Freemasonry. When so many clergymen of the Established Church became Masons and took part in the ceremonies of the Craft, the members of that Order could be neither infidels nor deists, as many had alleged. They owed a debt of gratitude to the ministers of the Church, and they could show this in some measure by their aid in this work of restoration.

After Bro. R. Young, P.M. 86, had spoken against the proposition,

Bro. R. Wylie said this was not a question of religion, but a Masonic question, in which they were called upon to contribute to the restoration of a building in which they ought to have a special interest.

The motion was carried by an overwhelming majority and it was also resolved that the P.G.M. should recommend the members of private lodges within his province to supplement the vote of the Provincial Grand Lodge.

Lord Skelmersdale intimated his intention of subscribing £25 towards the object.

After £55 had been voted for relief and assistance in the education of deceased Freemasons' children, the proceedings of the special meeting terminated.

PROVINCIAL GRAND CHAPTER OF WEST LANCASHIRE.

The annual Provincial Grand Chapter of the Province of West Lancashire was held on Tuesday afternoon, the 18th inst., in the Chapter-room at the Masonic Hall, Hope-street, Liverpool. Comp. the Right Hon. Lord Skelmersdale, Prov. G. Superintendent, was present, and presided over one of the largest gatherings of companions seen in Liverpool for a long time.

After the P.G. chapter had been opened, and some formal business transacted, the P.G. Supt. appointed and invested the following as his Provincial Grand Officers for the coming year:—Comps. J. Prescott, P.G.H.; G. D. Pochin, P.G.J.; Dr. J. Kellett Smith, P.G. Reg.; T. Armstrong, P.G.T. (re-elected); H. S. Alpess, P.G.S.E. (re-appointed); Dr. S. J. McGeorge, P.G.S.N.; W. Sharp, P.G. Soj.; R. Dodgson, P.G.A. Soj.; J. Holland, P.G. Second A. Soj.; T. Nevett, P.G.S.B.; J. T. Callow, P.G. St. B.; H. Nelson, P.G.D.C. (re-appointed); J. Skeaf, P.G.O.; J. Wainwright, P.G.S.; and P. Ball, P.G. Janitor (re-elected).

On the motion of Comp. Thomas Wylie, it was resolved to vote £25 from the funds of the Provincial Grand Chapter towards the Masonic contribution from West Lancashire in aid of the restoration of Chester Cathedral; and it was further agreed that a recommendation should be sent by Comp. Lord Skelmersdale, P.G. Supt., in name of the Provincial Grand Chapter, to all the chapters within his jurisdiction to supplement that amount by private subscriptions.

This was all the business of importance, and the Prov. Grand Chapter was closed in due form. The majority of the companions subscribing sat down to an excellent banquet, provided by Comp. W. Vines, P.Z. 220, of the Canton Hotel, whose catering gave general satisfaction.

TESTIMONIAL TO A WORTHY BROTHER.

On Saturday last a deputation of gentlemen of the county of Chester assembled at Bradwall Hall, Sandbach, the seat of Bro. G. W. Latham, P.P.G.S.W. Cheshire, whose name is a household word amongst the Masons throughout the province, to present to him a testimonial in recognition of his public services to the county during the last 20 years in connection with the Court of Quarter Sessions and the Bradwall Reformatory. The deputation was a most influential one. The testimonial consisted of a subscription of £500, out of which had been purchased a golden vase, 30 inches in height, which was an exquisite specimen of the goldsmith's art from Nuremberg, together with an illuminated scroll, bearing the signatures of the subscribers.

Bro. Lord de Tabley, R.W.P.G.M. of Cheshire, in making the presentation, said that, in the name and on behalf of the county of Chester, he had very great pleasure in presenting that testimonial as a mark of their high appreciation of Bro. Latham's philanthropic endeavours in respect to the Bradwall Reformatory, the origin of which and its gratifying results were very generally known. It would be idle to disguise the fact that in a certain degree the testimonial was more or less of a public protest against what was generally regarded as ungrateful and unworthy treatment of Bro. Latham in connection with the business of the Cheshire Quarter Sessions. But this was a matter upon which he refrained from dilating. A hundred and twenty gentlemen had offered this mark of their sympathy with Bro. Latham, and desired in that way to testify their high appreciation of his career in the county as a magistrate, a philanthropist, and a Cheshire landlord.

Bro. Latham said that the presence of the gentlemen around him that day was a very gratifying evidence to him of their sincere and generous sympathy. As to the unfair treatment at quarter sessions to which his lordship had referred, he would abstain from commenting upon it, further than to say that he perfectly recognised the rights of the magistrates concerned in the transaction in question to choose their own chairman of quarter sessions. Still perhaps he had some little right to complain that he had been hardly treated. Some reason, at any rate, might have been given for so unprecedented and abrupt a dismissal. He had, however, the satisfaction of feeling that he at least had done nothing to Americanise our institutions in the county, for he had at least disdained to canvass for votes for that office.

After the presentation the company adjourned to luncheon.

Obituary.

BRO. WILLIAM BROOKS GATES.

Many brethren will regret to learn of the death of Bro. W. Brooks Gates. His long connection with the Pomfret Lodge, 360, Northampton and the Chapter, and his provincial duties made his name familiar to all in the province. He was Provincial Treasurer (with Bro. E. E. Welchman, one of the oldest P.M.'s of the Pomfret Lodge now left) for many years, and was always careful to husband the funds so as to be able to contribute to the Masonic charities. "The Northampton Mercury" says:—"Yesterday (Friday) afternoon the funeral of this well-known and respected inhabitant took place at St. Giles's Church, the Rev. Canon Robson and the Rev. J. T. Drake officiating. Mr. Gates was registrar of the Bedford district of the Court of Probate, to which he was appointed in 1857, on the death of his father, who had previously held the office for many years. He was for a considerable period a member of the Town Council, of which he was made an alderman. As chairman of the Sanitary Committee he was known for his punctuality and business capacity, and rendered great assistance in schemes brought forward by the exercise of good judgment upon matters in which he took great in-

terest. His name was always found amongst the most charitable of the supporters of the clerical and legal institutions. We understand that he has bequeathed his most valuable library of legal works to Mr. A. J. Jeffery. Mr. Gates's memory will be long cherished by the poor, who by his death have lost a kind benefactor. The following was the order of the procession:—Pomfret Lodge of Freemasons, Rev. R. T. Drake, Rev. Canon Robson, two churchwardens, Messrs. Phipps and Son, undertakers; Mr. Utley; pall bearers, Mr. John Hanson, Mr. James Weatherell, Mr. Goodman, Mr. Cattell, Mr. Hanson, Mr. Jeffery; mourners, Miss Bull, Mr. William Reed, Rev. W. J. Gates, man-servant, Mr. E. Bull, Mr. H. Gates, Mr. C. Gates, Mr. Neville. The Freemasons who attended included members from Towcester, Wellingborough, Kettering, Peterborough, and Huntingdon. The deceased gentleman filled the office of Provincial Grand Treasurer of the Order of Freemasons for many years. A large number of the inhabitants of the town assembled to pay a mark of respect to the deceased gentleman."

Amongst the brethren who attended the funeral were:—Of the Pomfret Lodge, 360: Bros. P.M.'s M. A. Boeme, W.M.; M. W. Flewitt, W. Kingston, G. Cotton, J. T. Green, G. Robinson, J. U. Stanton, E. W. Tuffley; and Bros. T. Whitehouse, H. W. Parker, J. S. Norman, M. E. Jones, Luke Knight, Jas. Watkin, G. R. Swallow, T. E. Melsheim, A. Dorrell, T. Warren, A. Richardson, H. Brown, H. J. Atkins, G. Ellard, C. E. Ashford, Aldridge, C. Barnes, J. H. Williams, J. J. Hart. From Socrates Lodge, 373: Bro. J. Marsh, P.M., P.P.D.C., &c. From St. Peter's Lodge, 422: Bros. E. Vergetti, P.M., P.P.G.S.W.; G. F. Buckle, P.G. Sec. From Lodge of Fidelity, 455: Bros. G. Osborn, P.M., P.P.G.S.W., &c.; R. Howes, P.M., P.G. Treas.; S. Jacob, P.M.; T. Davies, P.M.; J. Tunnard, P.M.; W. To-malin. From Perseverance Lodge, 455: Bro. J. H. Hall. From Westworth Lodge, 737: Bros. T. Cook, P.M.; T. Miller, P.M.; Rev. R. T. Drake, P.P. Chaplain; Rev. T. Stimpson, Chaplain; Rev. Jas. Phillips, F. Cant, 1164. Bro. J. T. Green officiated very ably as Director of Ceremonies, being assisted by Bros. J. Marson and J. W. Stanton.

BRO. CALATRAVA, GRAND MASTER OF SPAIN.

We find in the "Monde Maconique" for April a "Necrologie" of Bro. Calatrava, 5th Grand Master of the National Grand Orient of Spain, who died a short time back, aged 93. Bro. Calatrava was the youngest brother of the former President of the Council of Ministers, and had himself been Minister of Finance. He was nominated Grand Master of Spanish Masonry December 27th, 1847. The great object of Bro. Calatrava was to withdraw Spanish Freemasonry from those political influences which had too long dominated Freemasonry in that interesting country, and have been a bar to its progress, and the great stumbling block in the way of its success and extension. That he did not fully succeed is not to be wondered at, but we will hope that better days are in store for Spanish Freemasonry. Let them adopt our Grand Master's words, "Loyalty and Charity," superadded to the determination, "point de politique," and all will yet be well with them. If Freemasonry everywhere would confine itself to its proper and happy mission, its eventual triumph is assured, despite the ravings of the intol-rant, and the persecutions of the irreligious.

METROPOLITAN MASONIC MEETINGS.

For the Week ending Friday, May 5, 1876.

The Editor will be glad to receive notice from Secretaries of Craft Lodges, Royal Arch Chapters, Mark Lodges, Preceptories, Conclaves, &c., of any change in place or time of meeting.

SATURDAY, APRIL 29.

Lodge 1602, Sir Hugh Myddelton, Agricultural Hall, N. (consecration.)

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Lily, Greyhound, Richmond.
Percy, 113, Southgate-rd., N.
Manchester, 179, London-st., Fitzroy-square.
Star, Marquis of Granby, New Cross Road.

MONDAY, MAY 1.

Lodge 16, Royal Alpha, Willis's Rooms, St. James's.
" 25, Robert Burns, F.M.H.
" 188, Joppa, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
" 256, Unions, F.M.H.
" 1319, Asaph, F.M.H.

Mark Lodge, 139, Panmure, Balham Hot., Balham.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Prince Leopold, Lord Stanley Tav., Kingsland.
Strong Man, Jerusalem Tav., St. John's Gate.
Sincerity, Railway Tav., Fenchurch-st. Station.
Camden, Stanhope Arms, Up. James-st., Camden To.
Eastern, Royal Hot., Mile-end-road.
St. James's Union, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Wellington, White Swan, Deptford.
West Kent, St. Saviour's College, Forest-Hill.
Perfect Ashlar, Victoria Tav., Lower-rd., Rotherhithe.
Sydney, White Hart Ho., Church-rd., Upper Norwood.

TUESDAY, MAY 2.

Colonial Board, at 4.
Lodge 18, Old Dundee, London Tav., Bishopsgate-st.
" 171, Amity Ship Hot., Greenwich.
" 765, St. James's, Bridge House Hot.
" 1257, Grosvenor, Caledonian Hot., Adelphi.
" 1259, Duke of Edinburgh, C. of G. Hope Tav., E.
" 1261, Golden Rule, Regent's M.H.
" 1298, Royal Standard, Wellington Club, N.
" 1472, Henley, Three Crowns, Woolwich.
Chap. 507, United Pilgrims, Horns Tav., Kennington.

Mark Lodge 1, St. Mark's, M.H., Mason's Avenue.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney.
Domestic, Surrey M.H., Camberwell New-road
Faith, 2, Westminster Chambers, Victoria-st.
Prince Fredk. Wm., Lord's Hot., St. John's Wood.
Dalhousie, King Edward, Triangle, Hackney.
Prosperity, 1, Camomile-st., Bishopsgate.
St. Marylebone, British Stores Tav., St. John's Wood.
Constitutional, Wheatshaf Hot., Hand-court, Holborn.
Israel, Rising Sun Tav., Globe Road.
Royal Arthur, Prince's Head, York-road, Battersea.
Beacontree, Red Lion, Leytonstone, at 8.
Metropolitan Chapter, Jamaica Coffee Ho., Cornhill.
Excelsior, Commercial Dock Tav., Rotherhithe.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 3.

Grand Chapter, at 7.
Lodge 1491, Athenæum, Athenæum, Camden-rd., N.
LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.
Mt. Lebanon, Windsor Castle Tav., Southwark-bdg-rd.
Pythagorean, Prince of Orange, Greenwich.
New Concord, Rosemary Branch Tav., Hoxton.
Royal Union, Horse and Groom, Winsley-st., Oxford-st.
Confidence, M.H., Basinghall-st.
Peckham, Maismore Arms, Park-road, Peckham.
Stanhope, Thicket Hot., Anerley.
Finsbury Park, Finsbury Park Tav., Seven Sisters-rd.
Southwark, Southwark Park Tav., Southwark Park.
Duke of Connaught, Haylock Tav., Dalston, E.
United Strength, Grafton Arms, Kentish-town.
Mount Edgecombe, 19, Jermyn-street, St. James's.
Islington, Crown and Cushion, London Wall.

THURSDAY, MAY 4.

Lodge 10, Westminster and Keystone, F.M.H.
" 27, Egyptian, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
" 45, Strong Man, Old Jerusalem, St. John's Gate.
" 231, St. Andrew's, F.M.H.
" 554, Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney.
" 1155, Excelsior, Sydney Arms, Lewisham-rd.
" 1360, Royal Arthur, Duke of Edinburgh Tav., S.W.
" 1445, Prince Leopold, Lord Stanley Tav., E.
Chap. 174, Sincerity, Cheshire Cheese, Crutched Friars.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Egyptian, Hercules Tav., Leadenhall-st.
Fidelity, Yorkshire Grey, London-st., W.
Finsbury, Jolly Anglers' Tav., Bath-st., City-road.
Whittington, Black Bull Tav., Holborn.
Temperance in the East, Catherine-st., Poplar.
Ebony, 12, Ponsonby-st., Millbank.
Highgate, Bull and Gate, Kentish-town.
The Great City, 111, Cheapside.
High Cross, Coach & Horses, High-road, Tottenham.
Salisbury, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Marquis of Ripon, Albion Tav., Albion-rd., Dalston.
Prince Frederick William Chapter, St. John's Wood.

FRIDAY, MAY 5.

Chap. 3, Fidelity, London Tav., Bishopsgate-st.
" 8, British, F.M.H.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Union Waterloo, Thomas-st., Woolwich.
St. George's, Globe Tav., Royal-hill, Greenwich.
Robert Burns, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Belgrave, Lyceum Tav., 354, Strand.
Unions Emulation (for M.M.'s), F.M.H.
Temperance, Victoria Tav., Victoria-road, Deptford.
Clapton, White Hart, Clapton.
Stability, Guildhall Tav., Gresham-st.
Metropolitan, Portugal Hot., Fleet-st.
Westbourne, Horse & Groom, Winsley-st., Oxford-st.
Metropolitan, Pentonville-road.
United Pilgrims, Surrey M. H., Camberwell New-road.
St. James's, New Tanners' Arms, Grange-rd., Bermondsey.
Duke of Edinburgh, Silver Lion, Penny-fields, Poplar.
Duric, Earl Grey Tav., Mile-end-road.
Burgoyne, Grafton Arms, Prince of Wales's-road, N.W.
St. Luke's, Commercial Tav., King's-road, Chelsea.
Chigwell, Bald-faced Stag Hot., Buckhurst-hill.
Burdett Coutts, Approach Tav., Victoria Park.
Royal Standard, Finsbury Park Tav., Holloway.
Ranelagh, Clarendon Hot., Hammersmith.
Pythagorean Chapter, Prince of Orange, Greenwich-rd.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN WEST LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE.

For the Week ending Saturday April 6, 1876.

MONDAY, MAY 1.

Lodge 133, Unanimity, Bull Hot., Church-st., Preston.
" 613, Unity, Palatine Buildings, Southport.
" 703, Clifton, Clifton Arms, Blackpool.
" 1045, Stamford, T.H., Altrincham.
" 1051, Kowlep, M.R., Athenæum, Lancaster.
" 1264, Neptune, M.H., Liverpool.
" 1380, Skelmersdale, Queen's Hot., Waterloo.
Everton L. of J., M.H., Liverpool.

TUESDAY, MAY 2.

Lodge 673, St. John's, M.H., Liverpool.
" 897, Loyalty, Fleece Inn, St. Helen's.
" 986, Hesketh, Grapes Inn, Crosby.
" 995, Furness, M.T., Ulverstone.
" 1256, Fidelity, Bull Hot., Poulton-le-Fylde.
" 1476, Blackpool, Clifton Arms Hot., Blackpool.
Chap. 203, St. John of Jerusalem, M.H., Liverpool.
Merchants' L. of J., M.H., Liverpool.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 3.

Lodge 86, Loyalty, M.H., Prescott.
" 484, Faith, Gerard's Arms, Ashton-in-Wakefield.
" 580, Harmony, Wheatshaf, Ormskirk.
" 730, Ellesmere, Royal Oak Hot., Chorley.
" 758, Ellesmere, M.H., Runcorn.
" 1013, Royal Victoria, M.H., Liverpool.

Lodge 1335, Lindsay, 20, King-st., Wigan.
 " 1354, Marquis of Lorne, M.R., Leigh.
 Mark Lodge, 65, West Lancashire, M.H., Liverpool.
 De Grey and Ripon L. of I., N. Hill-st., Liverpool.
 Downshire L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.
 Harmonic L. of I., Mona Hot., James-st., Liverpool.

THURSDAY, MAY 4.

Lodge 249, Mariners, M.H., Liverpool.
 " 950, Hesketh, Royal Hot., Fleetwood.
 " 1032, Townley Parker, Howard's A., Whitle-le-Wds.
 " 1070, Starkie, Black Horse Hot., Kirkham.
 " 1473, Bootle, Molyneux R., Bootle.
 Chap. 758, Bridgewater, M.H., Runcorn.
 St. John's L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

FRIDAY, MAY 5.

Lodge 1375, Architect, Didsbury Hot., Didsbury.
 " 1387, Chorlton, M.R., Chorlton-cum-Hardy.
 " 1505, Emulation, M.H., Liverpool.
 Duke of Edinburgh L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN GLASGOW AND WEST OF SCOTLAND.

For the Week ending Saturday, May 6, 1876.
 All the Meetings take place at Eight o'clock.

MONDAY, MAY 1.

Lodge 124, Kilwinning, Union Tav., Ayr.
 " 129, St. Mirren's, St. Mirren's Hall, Paisley.
 " 138, Operative, Blue Bell Hot., Ayr.
 " 237, St. John, Masonic Arms, Girvan.
 " 332, Union, 170, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
 Chap. 119, Rosslyn, 25, Robertson-st., Glasgow.

TUESDAY, MAY 2.

Lodge 34, St. John, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
 " 68, Doric, 44, Church-st., Port Glasgow.
 " 73, Thistle and Rose, 170, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
 " 87, Thistle, 30, Hope-st., Glasgow.
 " 173, St. John, M.H., Largs.
 " 233, Hamilton, Spaldings Hot., Hamilton.
 " 331, St. Peter's, Portland Arms, Galston.
 " 406, St. John, Dalziel, M.H., Motherwell.
 " 433, St. Thomas, Eglington Hall, Dalmellington.
 " 437, Govandale, Portland Buildings, Govan.
 " 497, St. John's, Brewery Hall, Catrine.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 3.

Lodge 0, Mother Kilwinning, M.H., Kilwinning.
 " 4, Glasgow Kilwinning, 170, Buchanan-st.
 " 21, Old St. John, M.H., Lanark.
 " 86, Navigation, Commercial Hall, Troon.
 " 126, St. Andrew, George Hot.
 " 128, St. John, M.H., Shettleston.
 " 166, St. John, 29, Graham-st., Airdrie.
 " 198, Royal Arch, King's Arms, Maybole.
 " 354, Caledonian Railway, 30, Hope-st., Glasgow.
 " 442, Neptune, M.H., Ardrossan.
 Chap. 87, Shamrock and Thistle, 12, Troon.

THURSDAY, MAY 4.

Lodge 11, St. John's, King's Arms, Maybole.
 " 22, St. John Kilwinning, George Hot., Kilmarnock.
 " 27, St. Mungo, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
 " 149, St. Andrew, M.H., Irvine.
 " 157, St. John, Main-st., Beith.
 " 165, Royal Arch, King's Arms, Ayr.
 " 202, St. Clement's, Trades' Tav., Kilmarnock.
 " 320, St. John, Royal Arch, M.H., Ardrossan.
 " 370, Renfrew, M.H., High-st., Paisley.
 " 465, St. Andrew, M.H., Garngad-rd.

FRIDAY, MAY 5.

Lodge 114, Royal Arch, M.T., Cambuslang.
 " 116, Royal Arch, Council Hall, Rutherglen.
 " 135, St. James, Crown Inn, Tarbolton.
 " 175, St. John, M.H., Greenock.
 " 215, St. Andrew, Avondale Inn, Strathavon.
 " 217, Cumberland Kilwinning, T.H., Port Glasgow.
 " 242, Honston, Cross Keys Hot., Johnstone.
 " 248, Lockhart St. John, M.H., Carnworth.
 " 275, Shamrock & Thistle, 22, Struthers-st., Glsgw.
 " 360, Commercial, 30, Hope-street, Glasgow.
 " 408, Clyde, 170, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
 " 459, Kelburne, Cumbrac Hot., Millport.
 " 512, Thortree, M.H., Thornliebank.
 " 551, Clydesdale, Royal Hot., Larkhall.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN EDINBURGH AND VICINITY.

For the Week ending Saturday, May 6, 1876.

MONDAY, MAY 1.

Lodge 429, St. Kentigern, Royal Hot., Penicuik.

TUESDAY, MAY 2.

" 5, Canongate and Leith, 86, Constitution-st.

THURSDAY, MAY 4.

" 97, St. James's Operative, Writers' Court.

FRIDAY, MAY 5.

" 291, Celtic, Ship Hot., E. Register-st.

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GRAND

DISTRIBUTION OF PRIZES,

ON THE ART UNION PRINCIPLE.
 The Ga'ashiel St. John's Lodge of Freemasons, No. 362, have much pleasure in intimating to the Masonic Craft and the public in general, that they will give a Grand Distribution of Prizes in the Public Hall, Ga'ashiel, on Friday, 30th June, at Seven o'clock, p.m. The proceeds to be devoted to the building of a new Masonic Hall.

TICKETS ONE SHILLING EACH.
 Drawing on Friday, June 30th. Winning Numbers will be published in the "Freemason" of July 8th, and the "Scotsman" and "Border Advertiser" of Wednesday, the 5th of July, 1876.

The following are a few of the Principal Prizes:—
 A Cottage Piano, in Walnut, 7 Octaves, value ... 35 10 0
 A Harmonium, in Walnut, 8 stops, 5 Octaves ... 18 10 0
 Both supplied by Paterson & Sons, George-st., Edinburgh.
 Gentleman's Gold English Lever Watch ... 14 0 0
 Nickel Silver Tea Set ... 7 10 0
 Singer's Sewing Machine ... 6 10 0
 Lady's Gold Watch ... 5 5 0
 Gentleman's Silver Lever Watch ... 5 5 0
 Gold Albert Chain ... 4 15 0
 Lady's Silver Watch ... 2 10 0
 Sofa, in Haircloth ... 5 0 0
 Easy Chair, in Haircloth ... 3 10 0
 Lady's Black Silk Dress ... 4 0 0
 Model Ship ... 4 0 0
 20lb. Box Fine Tea ... 3 5 0
 Lady's Work Table ... 3 0 0
 16-day Time piece, in Marble ... 2 15 0
 Length Suit of Tweed ... 1 10 0
 Gentleman's Writing Desk ... 1 10 0
 Lady's Workbox ... 1 5 0
 Set Gold Earrings ... 0 14 0
 Also a large number of other Prizes, consisting of every description of useful, ornamental, and fancy goods, will be given away.
 Bro. Thomson, R.W.M., recommends the above to the Craft and the Public as being really worth the value put upon them.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.—ESTABLISHED 1770.

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Charges for Visitors, Luncheon 2s. 6d. Dinner 5s. Supper à la Carte.

Gas in Bedrooms, Special Bath, and meals served in Bed-rooms at irregular hours extra as per tariff. There is an ascending room to the top of the house.

Complete tariff on application to the PROPRIETOR.

MAY ELECTION, 1876.

ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

—The Votes and Interest of the Governors and Subscribers are most earnestly solicited on behalf of

ELIZA BLACKBURN,
 Widow of the late William Blackburn, formerly of the Robert Burns Lodge, No. 25, in which he was initiated in 1844; joined the Lodge of Confidence, No. 193, in 1848, and served the office of Master in 1850; joined the Globe Lodge, No. 23, in 1848, and served the office of Master in 1851; joined the Crystal Palace Lodge, No. 742, in 1858, and acted as Secretary thereof for eight years; joined the Doble Lodge Surrey, No. 889, in 1863, and was appointed Provincial Grand S.B. for Surrey in 1866. He was exalted in the Robert Burns Chapter, No. 35, in 1846, was elected Treasurer of the said chapter, and served the office of First Principal in 1854; joined the Prudence Chapter, No. 12, in 1858, and served the office of Scribe E. from that time to 1873; and joined the Mount Lebanon Chapter, No. 435, in 1863, of which he was Scribe E., and retained that office till he was elected an Annuitant and inmate of the Royal Masonic Institution in 1873. Your Petitioner is allowed to remain in the apartments occupied by her late husband for a brief period according to the laws, her only means of support being the half of the annuity formerly enjoyed by him.

The case is strongly recommended by Bro. G. F. Newmarch, Dep. G.M. for Gloucestershire, and V.P. of the Institution, Cirencester.

" E. McIntyre, Q.C., Grand Registrar, 3, Middle Temple-lane.
 " Henry Browne, P.G.D., Upper Tooting.
 " Raynham W. Stewart, P.G.D., 11, Abchurch-lane.
 " J. Brett, P.G.P., P.M. 177, Old Jewry.
 " R. Spencer, P.G.S., P.M. 263, 26, Fentiman-road, Clapham-rd.
 " J. T. Bennett, P.G.S. 33, No. 13, Pall Mall.
 " W. Watson, P.G.S. Grand Stewards' Lodge, 42, Drury-lane.
 " H. J. Strong, M.D., P. Prov. G.W. Surrey, P.M. 452, 463, P.Z. 463, and V.P. of the Institution, No. 64, North End, Croydon.
 " R. Cartwright, P.P.G.S.W. Surrey, P.M. 889, Kingston.
 " W. Pearce, P.Prov.G.Reg. Surrey, P.M. 889, No. 2, Dr. Johnson's Buildings, Temple.
 " T. Long, Prov. G.D.C. Surrey, P.M. 889, Kingston.
 " J. B. Lemaitre, P.M. 13, P.Z. 13, No. 30, Chiswell-street.
 " L. Ruf, P.M. and Treas. 12, P.Z. and Treas. 12, Lowther Arcade.
 " W. Rumsey, P.M. 206, No. 8, London-street.
 " C. Smithers, No. 100, Leadenhall-street.
 " H. T. Thompson, P.M. 742, Augusta Cottage, Nightingale-rd., Lower Clapton.
 " C. Painter, 190, No. 170, Leadenhall-street.
 By whom Proxies will be thankfully received, also by the applicant, Eliza Blackburn, 7, Royal Masonic Institution, East Croydon.

MAY ELECTION, 1876.

ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

—The Votes and Interest of the Governors and Subscribers are earnestly requested on behalf of

ROBERT YORK,
 Who was for many years Manager of the Old Brewery, Southend, is now in the 66th year of his age, was initiated in the Lodge of True Friendship, No. 160, June 17th, 1856, served the offices of Junior and Senior Warden, and was twelve years a Subscribing Member thereof. He is now entirely without means, and is dependent on his friends for support.

The Case is strongly Recommended by

R.W. Bro. R. J. Bagshaw, Prov. Grand Master for Essex, V.P.
 " Matthew Clark, Dep. Prov. Grand Master for Essex, V.P.
 " Rev. S. R. Wigan, P.M. and P.Z. 214, Grand Chaplain, Vicarage, Prittlewell.
 " W. Percy Leith, P.M. and P.Z., Past Grand Deacon.
 " F. A. Philbrick, P.M. 18, Past Grand Deacon, V.P.
 " Joseph Burton, P.M. and P.Z. 276, Prov. G. Treas. Essex, High-street, Chelmsford.
 " John Wright Carr, P.M. 160, Prov. G. Sec. Essex, Roxwell, Chelmsford.
 " F. Wood, P.M. 1000, P.Prov.S.G.W. Essex, Southend.
 " A. Lucking, P.M. 160 and 1000, Prov. A.G.D.C. Essex, Cliff Town, Southend.
 " J. A. Wardell, P.M. 160 and 1000, P.Prov.G.D. Essex, Cliff Town, Southend.
 " J. R. Hemmann, P.M. 1000, Prov. G.D. Essex, Cliff Town, Southend.
 " Joseph Reeve, W.M. 160, Cliff Town, Southend.
 " E. England Phillips, W.M. 1000, P.M. 379, Southend.
 " S. P. Norris, P.M. 21, P.G.S., 17, New Broad-st., E.C.
 " P. Matthews, P.M. and P.Z., P. Prov. G.W. Essex.
 " Geo. Burgess, P.M. and Sec. 160, P.Prov.G.D. Essex, Rochford.
 " Henry Wood, P.M. and Treas. 160, P.Prov.G.O. Essex, Rochford.
 " D. B. Groat, P.M. 160, P. Prov. G.D. Essex, Rawreth.
 " Wm. Pissay, P.M. 160, P. Prov. G.W. Essex, Rayleigh.
 " Edwd. Judd, P.M. 160, P. Prov. G. R. Essex, Rayleigh.
 " John Allen, jun., P.M. 160, P. Prov. G.S.B. Essex, Rayleigh.
 " John B. Brazier, P.M. 160, Marine Parade, Southend.
 " John Bingenmann, W.M. 55, 12, Mornington-road, Bow, E.
 " George Free, P.M. and Sec. 73, 65, Drummond-road, Bermondsey.
 " Charles Raydon, W.M. 73, 14, Blue Anchor-road, Bermondsey.
 " Jas. Willing, jun., P.M. 1507, S.W. 177, 366, Gray's Inn-road, W.C.
 " John G. Bond, P.M. 87, P.Z. 749.
 " J. C. Johnstone, P.M. 30 (J.C.) D.C. 1000, Southend.
 " James Girling, 1000, Southend.
 " Rev. H. John Hatch, S.W. 160, Prov. G. Chap. Essex, Rectory, Little Stamburgh.
 " F. V. Jilings, J.W. 260, Hawkwell.
 " Wm. Frost, J.W. 1000, Cliff Town, Southend.
 *Those marked with an asterisk will receive proxies.

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REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS.

Craft Masonry.

ALEXANDRA PALACE LODGE (No. 1541).

—A meeting of this new and flourishing lodge was held on Saturday in the handsome suite of private rooms of the Palace from which the lodge takes its name. The first W.M., Bro. J. C. Parkinson, J.P., P.G.D., and Dep. Grand Master of Middlesex, was unfortunately not able to be present, and the chair was taken by Bro. Kelly King, P.M., and Past Grand Steward, who is the S.W. of the lodge, Bro. Dyte, P.M., the Treas. and Steward of the lodge, officiated as S.W.; Bro. Palmer, P.M.; the J.W. occupied the chair in the South, and in the course of the heavy work of the day, Bro. Haigh, P.M. and Past Grand Steward; Bro. J. R. Stacey, the Secretary of the lodge, and Bro. John Rowlands, Bro. Daniel and other brethren, worked duties appertaining to the I.P.M., Deacons, and assistant Past Masters, Bro. Daniels being I.G. On the lodge being opened a letter was read from the W.M., expressing his regret at his inability to attend on the installation day, owing to that important event falling upon the occasion when the Needle Makers' Company, of which he is the Master, holds its annual meeting. The ballot was taken for a joining member in the person of Bro. C. B. Jones, P.M. of 583, and he was unanimously elected, and two gentlemen, Mr. Robert Blackman and Mr. G. A. Daniel, were also elected by ballot as candidates. Bro. Kelly King then initiated the candidates in due form, and with great care on the part of all who assisted in the work. In order to give the acting W.M. the opportunity of making arrangements for the comfort of the brethren at a later period Bro. Stacey took the chair, and passed Bros. Harris, Calvert, Gush, and Delvalle to the Second Degree, the ritual being rendered with the excellent effect for which our brother is celebrated. Bro. Kelly King again took the chair, and the lodge being raised, Bros. Arnold and Todd, who had previously shown their proficiency in the former degrees, were made Masters. The ceremony was excellently worked by Bro. Kelly King, and the brethren were all highly pleased with the pains taken, and effective manner in which the beautiful language was delivered. The ability and experience of the officers, too, added greatly to the effect. The lodge was then closed, and the preparation for the dinner gave the brethren an hour's breathing time about the palace and grounds. An excellent repast was spread before the brethren, well served by the caterers of the Palace, Bros. Bertram & Roberts, to which all did ample justice. The W.M., in giving the loyal toast of "The Queen and the Craft," said, amid the plaudits of the brethren that the title "Queen of England" was the highest in the world, and by that title the Sovereign of these realms was endeared to the hearts of her subjects. In proposing the toast of "The M.W., the Grand Master," after the other had been honoured, the W.M. said His Royal Highness, when he returned from his Eastern tour would be received with enthusiasm by all classes, but by none with more fervour than by his brother Masons. There was no more loyal body in the world than the Freemasons, and it was expected that an opportunity would be given to the Craft in England to give their Grand Master a special welcome back. It had been suggested that the welcome should be given in the Alexandra Palace, and the Alexandra Palace Lodge would be ready to do a special duty on that occasion, should it arise. (Cheers.) The toast was warmly honoured, as were the toasts of the Pro. Grand Master, the Deputy Grand Master, and the Grand Officers Past and Present. Bro. Rooke, P.M., and P.G.S., who was asked to respond for Grand Lodge, said he feared that the W.M. was colour blind, for scarlet was not purple; but though of no higher rank than a Past Grand Steward he would say that the officers of Grand Lodge and all who had had the honour of holding office in Grand Lodge were always gratified by the manner in which this toast was received. Bro. P.M. Haigh, P.G.S., then proposed the toast of "The W.M. of the day," and expressed his pleasure that the acting W.M. had shown himself so ready to discharge the duties of the chair in the absence of the Master. The toast having been honoured, the W.M., in response, said it had afforded him real gratification to see the progress the lodge had made, though at the same time he deeply regretted that Bro. Parkinson had been unable to be amongst them. He thanked the brethren for the assistance they had given him on all occasions when acting as the deputy of the Master, and assured them that no efforts would be wanting on his part to place

the lodge in the high position it was entitled to occupy. After some harmony, the W.M. proposed "The Initiates," of whose attention to the ceremony he spoke very highly, and expressed the hope that they would become worthy members of the brotherhood. Bros. Blackman and Daniel made suitable response, thanking the brethren for the honour conferred by their election into the lodge, and promising to steadily persevere in the ranks into which they had been that day admitted. The W.M. then proposed "The Visitors," saying that the lodge, though a young one, was old in hospitality and gave every welcome to visiting brethren. Among those present were Bros. While, P.M. 228 ("Freemason"); Fletcher, 412; Lambert, 1138; and Skinner. Bro. While, in response, said he was no stranger; for he was, as it were, at the conception of the lodge; he was present at its happy delivery into life, and he was glad to be present on that occasion to mark the vigour of its youth. A successful future might from the first have been augured for the lodge, for it had, as one of its active members, in Bro. Stacey, a High Priest of the Craft, one, too, who unselfishly devoted himself so to teaching in lodges of instruction that his pupils went forth conquering and to conquer positions in old and young lodges wherever the English tongue was spoken. One of the initiated brethren of the lodge, Bro. W. Senior, was on his way to Tasmania to take a high official position with which he had been tempted, and so imbued had been with the true spirit of Freemasonry that there was little doubt that when he returned to visit his mother lodge he would hold a high position among the brethren in that distant province, and give additional pride to this lodge. It was a matter of congratulation to the lodge that it had so many Past Masters in its working ranks to give the lodge the benefit of their experience and knowledge, and when brethren who had achieved all the honours of the Craft were thus seen coming forward to work in all the offices it betokened that the lodge had all the elements of a successful future. Bros. Lambert, Fletcher, and Skinner also replied, and the W.M. then proposed the toast of "The Officers," and said that one and all had shewn themselves ready to sacrifice any time and money to advance the interests of the lodge—some, indeed, like Bros. Haigh, Dyte, and Stacey, being ready to fill every class of office. Bro. Palmer, in response, said that he had stuck to his office of J.W., and had a bed of roses, while his Bros. Dyte, Stacey, and Haigh had the most arduous duties thrown upon them. Bro. Dyte said his work was dictated by selfish feelings, for having associated himself with those who were determined to make the lodge a success, his endeavours were directed to the end of achieving for it the position it was justified in looking forward to hold. Bro. Stacey also replied, and then, warning having been given that the next train was in readiness, the Tyler's toast was given and the party broke up. The journey south was then commenced, and the faulty railway arrangements were seen to be as rampant as ever. The Great Northern turned out at King's Cross the passengers who had booked from the south, and at the Metropolitan Railway no train for these tickets was vouchsafed without an hour's waiting, unless the passengers re-booked. Thus these railways demand double booking and double fares by a trick for travelling on the same railway to the same stations. If punishment and shame fall to those who rob railway companies of fares, what ought to be the lot of railway companies who seem to lay traps to catch unwary travellers into paying twice? These companies ought certainly to learn to "act on the square," for acts like these not only injure the Palace, but will tend to raise sympathy for those who overlook the duty of paying fares once.

LIVERPOOL.—Mariners' Lodge of Instruction (No. 249).—What may be called the annual festival of this Lodge of Instruction, which has greatly prospered during the past year under the talented Preceptorship of Bro. Dr. J. Kellett Smith, Prov. G. Reg., was celebrated on Thursday evening, the 27th April, at the Masonic Hall, Hope-street, Liverpool, where there was a goodly gathering of members and friends. Bro. Dr. Smith, Preceptor, occupied the chair of W.M., and the other offices were filled by Bro. A. Jones, S.W. (J.W. 1502); J. C. Robinson, J.W.; W. Corbett, Sec.; J. Whalley, S.D.; J. R. Cave, J.D.; and C. Leighton, I.G. Amongst those present were Bros. J. Hayes, I.P.M. 249; J. J. Rose, P.M. 249; R. Wylie, P.P.G.S.D., P.P.G.D.C.; H. Price, W.M. 249; J. Lloyd, S.W. 249; H. P. Price, J. N. Pendleton, S. 249; W. H. Vernon, F. Mollett, J. M. Ellison, W. P. Jennings, S. 249; W. G. Veale, F. Cooper, J. B. Mackenzie, J. Whittle, M. Goldstone, R. Jones, W. Mooney, W. Smith, R. Collings, Hon. Sec. 249; and J. Quinn. An excellent dinner was served by Bro. Ball, and after ample justice had been done to the "creature comforts" the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given with great point by the Preceptor, Dr. Smith. "The Health of the Preceptor of the Mariners' Lodge of Instruction" was given by Bro. J. Hayes, I.P.M. 249, who referred to the excellent services which he had rendered in connection with his office. Bro. Dr. Smith, in acknowledging the toast, said it had given him the greatest pleasure during the last three years to preside over that Lodge of Instruction. He had had an able coadjutor in Bro. Hayes, who had given great assistance in the working of the lodge. "The Officers of Instruction" was responded to by Bro. A. Jones, and "The Visitors" by Bros. Quinn and Wylie. Various other toasts were given, and the pleasure of the social gathering was greatly promoted by excellent songs given by Bros. Veale, Wylie, Quinn, Price, Dr. Smith, Skeaf, McKune, &c. The Third Degree will be given by Bro. A. Jones, at the meeting next Thursday, and the present season will close with the installation ceremony, worked by Bro. Hayes a fortnight after.

LIVERPOOL.—Downshire Lodge (No. 594).—The usual monthly meeting of this lodge was held on Thursday evening, the 27th ult., at the Masonic Hall,

Hope-street, Liverpool. The W.M., Bro. T. Dilcock, presided, and amongst his staff of officers and "full privates" present were Bros. H. Hunt, P.M.; R. P. France, S.W.; J. Le Comber, J.W.; R. Ing, P.M.; Treas.; J. L. Houghton, Sec.; T. Boswell, J.D.; J. W. Whitfield, I.G. A. Pederson, S.; W. G. Veale, Org.; P. M. Larsen, P.M.; Tyler; Wheattham, D. Quayle, F. Duncanson, J. H. Burch, W. H. Booth, H. Collas, T. G. Leather, W. H. Veevers, I. de Frece, Treas. 1502; C. D. Blackburn, A. R. Watt, J. B. MacKenzie, C. Strickland, L. Goodman, S. Prince, J. Long, R. Maddox. The visitors included Bros. H. Williams, P.M. 241; R. Mills, 401; D. Meek, 203; J. McQuitan, 241; and R. Donnelly, 203. After the minutes had been read and confirmed the W.M. initiated two candidates in a highly effective manner into the mysteries and privileges of the Order. The ancient charge was well given by the S.W., and the working tools by the J.W. The lodge was subsequently closed in peace and harmony.

COLCHESTER.—United Lodge (No. 697).—The annual festival of this lodge was held on Friday the 21st ult., at the George Hotel. The W.M., Bro. A. R. Clench, having been unanimously re-elected to the office of W.M., the ceremony of installation was impressively performed by Bro. the Rev. J. C. Martyn, P.G. Chaplain of England, and P.M. of Sudbury Lodge. Letters of apology for unavoidable absence were read from a large number of brethren of the province, including the R.W.P. Grand Master, Bro. R. J. Bagshaw, the R.W. Deputy P.G.M., Bro. Clarke, Bro. F. Binckes, Secretary of the Boys' Masonic Institution, &c. At the close of the installation ceremony the W.M. appointed and installed his officers for the ensuing year as follows:—Bros. the Rev. E. H. Crate, I.P.M.; T. W. Taylor, S.W.; W. H. Bateman, J.W.; the Rev. T. G. Brettingham, Chaplain; B. Brailley, Treas.; T. Rix, Sec.; George Harvey, S.D.; C. E. Denton, J.D.; C. Winterbon, Org.; J. H. Boulton, D.C.; R. Emson, I.G.; H. Everitt and A. Adams, Stewards; C. Gunner, Tyler. Amongst the visitors were Bros. R. B. Barton, D.C.L., P.P.G.M. of Western India; J. W. Carr, P.G.S. of Essex; Alfred Welch, W.M. 51, Colchester; J. E. Wiseman, P.M. 433; H. York, P.M. 433, Brightlingsea; J. Hills, P.M. 1224 and P.P.G.J.W. Suffolk; George Bray, Colonel 96th Regiment, Royal Kent; W. S. Sprent, P.G.S.B. Essex; A. E. Rogers, S.D. 433; Henry Welham, 1224; W. Rickey, P.M. 701; Welch, W.M. 51; G. G. Pye, W.M. Star in the East, Harwich, S.W. 51, &c. In the evening the brethren sat down to an elegantly served banquet at the George Hotel. The W.M. was supported by Bros. Bolton Barton, Colonel S. Burney (one of the original founders of the lodge nearly twenty years ago), C. J. Martyn, J. W. Carr; and the company numbered between sixty and seventy. The day's proceedings were of a highly successful and satisfactory character, and formed a red-letter day in the annals of the lodge.

INSTRUCTION.

STABILITY LODGE OF INSTRUCTION

(No. 217).—The 59th anniversary of this excellent Lodge of Instruction, which for many years has been under the Preceptorship of Bro. Henry Muggeridge, one of the most highly respected members of the Craft, was held on the 28th ult., at the City Terminus Hotel. As usual on the annually recurring occasions of this festival there was a very large number of brethren present, for whom, however, the hotel found plenty of accommodation. About 200 brethren were present, and among them were Lord De Tabley, Prov. G.M. of Cheshire; A. J. McIntyre, Q.C., G. Reg.; S. Rawson, P.D.G.M. of China; John Hervey, G. Sec.; E. S. Snell, P.G. Deacon; John Boyd, P.G. Pursuivant; James Terry, P.G. Dir. of Cer., Herts.; John Edmund Middelton, P.G. Steward; Fred Brown, and Bros. J. Horne Payne, H. C. Levander, A. H. Tattershall, A. H. Diaper, George Kenning, W. Lane, Gurton, N. B. Headon, Edward Moody, Charles Hill, G. W. F. Loftus, H. Massey ("Freemason"), Wayner, Botall, Zwinger, W. Webb, Green, 235; Moses, Paley, Hopwood, Williams, 21; Groos, 21; Cheese, 869; Wyche, 715; W. F. Kibble, 715; W. Kibble, 715; W. White, 49; L. R. Mills, 49; Howard, 49; Hunter, 49; Dr. Smith, Fordati, 2; H. Brown, 2; Muir, 217; Westmore, 217; Kidder, 12; Cooper, 12; Coombs, 12; Emanuel, 235; Baulman, 715, and Townsend, 715. At six o'clock, the hour that this lodge always meets, Bro. H. Muggeridge ascended the chair, and opened the lodge, assisted by the following brethren as his officers: Bros. Joseph Clever, S.W.; Thomas Cargill, J.W.; J. Bagot Scriven, S.D.; F. D. R. Copestick, J.D.; Sidney Smith, I.G.; Henry Birdseye, Sec.; and J. Gilchrist, Tyler. After the usual formalities the programme for the evening was entered upon, and the lecture of the First Degree was worked in sections by the following brethren viz.:

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2nd "	" Charles Arkell, S.W.	192
3rd "	" Joseph Clever, P.M.	12
4th "	" Thomas Cargill, W.M.	49
5th "	" J. Bagot Scriven (Lodge Board), P.M.	5
7th "	" Sidney G. Smith, I.G....	715

All this work was beautifully performed, and each brother on resuming his seat was loudly applauded by the lodge. At the conclusion of the ritual, names of brethren proposed for joining were taken and read out, and among them Lord De Tabley was one of the earliest. At the conclusion of the business the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to a very nice supper provided by Bro. Lord over which Bro. A. J. McIntyre, Q.C., presided. When the banquet was finished, and the table had been cleared, grace, "Non nobis," was sung by Bros. Lester, Cozens and Distin, and the toasts were then proposed. Bro. McIntyre in giving "The Queen and the Craft" referred to Her

Majesty's late visit to the continent, and to her return to England, to the delight of all her subjects, and no doubt to her own great gratification. (Hear hear.) In giving "The M.W.G.M., and the Pro Grand Master" he said Masonry felt itself highly honoured when His Royal Highness became a Past Grand Master, and more especially when he appeared to shew such very great interest in the advancement of the principles of the Order. Under all circumstances he had been most strenuous in his support of the doctrines and principles of Freemasonry, and in carrying out those principles in every quarter of the globe. He had gone forth to a distant oriental clime, over which he would hereafter reign, and he had not forgotten the Freemasonry he had learned at home. He had shewn that he did not forget us in his absence, and now that he was about to return all good and loyal Freemasons would testify their appreciation of the great service H.R.H. had rendered to the Craft, and would welcome him with exultation to his native land. He (Bro. McIntyre) would couple with this toast the Pro Grand Master, the Earl of Carnarvon, who amid all the toils of state and the responsibility he was under to his Sovereign and countrymen found time on every occasion to discharge the duties he owed to Freemasonry. He had done so in the Prince of Wales's absence, and it was with much pleasure that Freemasons heard on Wednesday that he had been re-appointed Pro Grand Master. (Cheers.) In giving "The Health of the D.G.M., Lord Skelmersdale, and Grand Officers," Bro. McIntyre said the brethren had had some little experience of Lord Skelmersdale, and over his own province, a most important one, he presided admirably. He was popular in every other province. His keen discernment had enabled him to single out those young and promising Masons who were ready to do honour to the Craft. He had been careful in bestowing office according to merit; and whenever Masons had his assistance in Grand Lodge of England, it had been observed how well he conducted the business in the absence of the Grand Master and Pro Grand Master. He proved there his diplomatic ability by soothing over all troubles which might arise in Grand Lodge, and by his courtesy and kindness of manner made all things comfortable. They had among them in that room a brother who presided over a province adjoining that of Lord Skelmersdale, a province which he (Bro. McIntyre) was proud to be a member of, as he had been the Master of a lodge in, and was still a member of that province. He looked with the greatest pride and satisfaction on the presence of Lord De Tabley, whom he placed in the very front rank among the Provincial Grand Masters in England. Shortly after his lordship was appointed Senior Grand Warden of England, the M.W.G.M., Lord Zetland, appointed him (Bro. McIntyre) Senior Grand Deacon. He was delighted to see the way in which the Provincial brethren supported Lord De Tabley. Not only was Lord De Tabley well known as a supporter of Masonry in his province, but he helped them in Grand Lodge, in Grand Chapter, and in private lodges, and he was also one of the members of a most distinguished lodge in the metropolis, the Lodge of Friendship (No. 6). On this occasion all the members of the Stability Lodge of Instruction were delighted to welcome the Provincial Grand Master of Cheshire, and to know that he was to be enrolled as one of its members. There was also present another brother from a distant clime who had done excellent service to Masonry, Bro. S. Rawson, Past District Grand Master of China. Those who knew what the East was knew of its deteriorating qualities; but Masons were all glad to see Bro. Rawson coming back among them in no way worse for his sojourn, not perhaps in the full vigour of youth, but if at all in age, a very green old age, not green in his mental capacity, but green as to his youthfulness which remained to him. Then, there was the Grand Secretary, to whom Freemasonry in England owed so much—(Cheers)—a brother who was the most hard worked of the Grand Officers of England, and upon whose accuracy, precision, care, and attention the work of the Craft, and the prosperity of the Craft, to a considerable extent depended. It must be a delightful thing for Grand Secretary to know that year after year during the time he had held that office how greatly the number of lodges had increased, that the work in Grand Secretary's office had increased to a marvellous extent, and that it was done with an expedition and correctness that could not be excelled in any establishment. The oldest of the Past Grand Deacons, Bro. Snell, was likewise present. He never was absent from these meetings. His happy face was always to be seen among the brethren, shewing how highly he appreciated the kindness with which he was received. There was also Bro. Boyd, one of the oldest of the P.M.'s, who had been honoured with a position on the dais in Grand Lodge. There were, therefore, five Grand Officers on his (Bro. McIntyre's) right, representing the five points of fellowship which should always distinguish Freemasons. (Cheers.) Lord de Tabley, in reply, said he felt sure it was the object and the anxious desire of every member of Grand Lodge to do his best for the promotion of the good of the Craft at large, whether in the provinces or elsewhere, and to do their utmost to spread the great principles on which the Order was founded. He knew that he spoke the sentiments of all the Grand Officers on his right hand when he said that it gave the greatest gratification to them to be present at the proceedings that evening. The Chairman had been good enough to speak of himself in far too flattering terms. It had been a peculiar gratification to him to be present to see one whom he knew as one of his earliest friends in the Craft presiding, and to see Bro. Muggeridge, to whom his Province of Cheshire owed so much, performing so ably the duties of Master. What he had seen that evening had astonished him. He had been very much pleased with all he had seen, and he trusted this would not be his last visit to the Stability Lodge of Instruction. They had been pleased to place him on the

list for ballot as a member at next meeting, and he hoped by his future attendance to show that he was not ungrateful for the honour paid to him. He thanked them most heartily for the honour conferred upon him. (Cheers.) Bro. McIntyre next proposed "The Stability Lodge of Instruction and Bro. Henry Muggeridge," a toast which he requested might be drunk in bumpers. It was very difficult, he said, upon all occasions to do justice to any brother who took a prominent position, whether in the United Grand Lodge of England, in a Provincial Grand Lodge, in the ordinary lodges of the Craft, or even in so great a lodge as the Stability Lodge of Instruction. It had been his lot to propose this toast upon very many occasions, and upon each occasion that he had had to propose it he had always felt still greater pleasure, because he felt that their excellent friend and preceptor, Bro. Muggeridge, had come among them, if not in the full vigour of health, with the same accuracy of knowledge that he had always possessed. He seemed even to excel himself upon every occasion by the admirable manner in which the pupils whom he brought forward carried out the programme he placed before the lodge. Very many men of slightly more than ordinary intelligence had the gift of acquiring a considerable amount of knowledge; but they also very frequently had that defect that the knowledge when acquired was kept to themselves; they had not the means of imparting it to other people and making the other people to whom they attempted to impart it have the power of acquiring the learning which they themselves possessed. The power of imparting knowledge seemed a golden gift, and certainly if it had fallen on any one it had fallen upon their preceptor, Bro. Muggeridge, who was not only accurate himself in enunciating the ritual of the Craft and seeing that the sections were worked with accuracy and precision, but also he had the power of instilling into the minds of his pupils that determination to have not only verbal accuracy, but that emphasis which was necessary to show that it was understood. Mere words were nothing; but Bro. Muggeridge had the power of imparting the spirit which was intended to be conveyed. It did very great credit to the pupils; but it did still greater credit to the instructor who was able to instil his life and soul as well as his words into the working. They all knew Bro. Muggeridge so well that any words of his (Bro. McIntyre's) would be superfluous if he were to attempt to point out his many excellences. They had all known Bro. Muggeridge for years; they had appreciated him more and more every year that he had continued to be their instructor; and although on that occasion he (Bro. McIntyre) could not congratulate him upon being in that robust health that he had seen him in on other occasions, he could congratulate him on this, that, having been ill he was getting better, and that in a very short time they would see him "himself again." (Hear.) He had very great pleasure in proposing "Health, Long Life, and Prosperity to Bro. Muggeridge, the Preceptor of the Stability Lodge of Instruction," and to assure him that he (Bro. McIntyre), and all those who had had the benefit of his kind instruction, and his still more kind Masonic counsels, were delighted to see him amongst them, and that they hoped that this uniting together which took place once a year might continue for many years to come, that Bro. Muggeridge might be with them, and that they might meet him and each other with the same good feelings and truly Masonic spirit which they felt on the present occasion. (Cheers.) Bro. Muggeridge, who on rising was received with loud applause, said that although he was very much delighted at the very kind manner in which the last toast had been proposed and responded to, the most difficult part he had to perform that evening was to return thanks, and a great many of them would sympathise with him when he said he had returned thanks for this toast for so many years that he really could not think of anything fresh to say upon the subject. They must bear in mind that it was a most limited theme to speak on, as well as a difficult one, because it was really and essentially speaking of himself. He had had the pleasure of attending these meetings, and been a constant attendant of this lodge of instruction for 37 years. (Applause.) It had been under his management since the year 1839; and this would be an excuse for his making a very short and defective speech. He had been particularly pleased that evening at the goodly assemblage both in lodge and at the banquet table. He wished that the numbers had been even larger. He was also exceedingly pleased at the way in which his pupils had worked that evening. (Cheers.) But this was a subject he would leave to the excellent chairman. He would pass this and go to another subject, which in common gratitude he ought to mention. Ingratitude was a great sin, one that ought not to be practised by Masons, and more especially by a Mason like him. The subject was the sister lodge of instruction, which, though he was not going to propose, always shewed him the greatest kindness, and did him the greatest honour, inviting him to their annual meeting in November, and making much of him when he went. They also expressed the kindest wishes on all occasions to the Stability, which they called "the Sister Lodge of Instruction." The Treasurer of that lodge, Bro. Hervey, was present. He was delighted to see the representatives of Grand Lodge of England present in such force, Lord De Tabley, Prov. G.M. of Cheshire, Bro. Rawson (his old friend, who had been a member of the Stability Lodge of Instruction nearly as long as he had himself, when the lodge was held at the Old George and Vulture, in Cornhill), and Bro. Boyd. All the brethren had worked well that evening. The S.W., who would have an opportunity of speaking shortly, had worked well; but there was one brother who had worked the Lodge Board whom he should ask to perform a duty. The health of the President he thought should be proposed by one of themselves, and he should call upon Bro. Scriven to do so. Bro. Scriven—Major Scriven—was introduced to him (Bro. Muggeridge) by an old and esteemed friend, Bro. Algernon Perkins, who used to attend this lodge regularly at Rad-

ley's Hotel. Ever since then he had been acquainted with Bro. J. B. Scriven, and he would like him to propose the health of the W.M. Bro. Muggeridge concluded by again thanking the chairman and brethren for proposing and drinking his health. Bro. J. Bagot Scriven then rose and said: If it is a duty incumbent on every Mason to make progress in the science, it is also a very great pleasure to every Mason to find that those who have amply discharged that duty have also made such progress in their social avocations, their civil and professional employments, as add, I may say, an additional lustre to our fraternity. (Hear, hear.) But distinguished as Bro. McIntyre is, we all know, in the Craft, distinguished as he is, as all England knows, in the profession which he adorns and which adorns him, he is perhaps more distinguished to us as members of this lodge of instruction by the kindness which has prompted him so often to occupy that chair, by the courtesy, the ability, and the eloquence with which he has discharged the duties that belong to him. (Cheers.) Through the kindness of Bro. Muggeridge and the permission of Bro. McIntyre I am proposing this toast; and it is a task of unmixed pleasure and delight to me to propose it, and great pleasure to you, I know, to drink it with me, and I am not saying too much when I say that I also know the manner in which you will receive it will give great pleasure to Bro. McIntyre. I ask you to drink "The Health of Bro. McIntyre, Q.C., Grand Registrar, and Chairman of this evening." (Great applause.) Bro. McIntyre, in reply, said: Bro. Scriven, Bro. Wardens, and brethren, I cannot allow a moment to elapse before rising to return thanks for the extremely kind way in which Bro. Scriven has been pleased to propose my health and the enthusiastic way in which you have received it. It is true that I am known to most of those assembled here, because this is not the first time I have filled the chair; but on every occasion that I have come among you I have always found the very greatest kindness shown to me by the brethren here, and the very greatest readiness to look over all the imperfections of the occupant of the chair. I am especially delighted that on this occasion a brother who has so distinguished himself in working the Craft this evening has been entrusted with the duty of proposing my health. To have my health proposed by one who has done so well tonight is a great satisfaction. He is one of you proposing the health of an old member of your lodge, and to him for the kind way which he has done so, and to you for the kind way in which you have done it, I again say I return you my most sincere and heartfelt thanks. (Hear, hear.) Lord De Tabley proposed "The Working Brethren, Bros. Fellows, C. Arkell, Joseph Clever, Thomas Cargill, J. Bagot Scriven, and Sydney G. Smith," and said: Brethren, I need not say that it is with the greatest pleasure that I accept the honour of the gavel for a few moments, for believe me it is the greatest pleasure to me to have the honour of such a toast as that which now stands on the list before me entrusted to me to propose. I have said with what satisfaction and gratification I have been present here to-day, how much I admired the memory and the ability with which your excellent instructor went through his work; but I must also say that my admiration, and I am sure the admiration of the brethren who heard it, must be equal of those other brethren who worked the sections that had been worked. With the greatest confidence I therefore propose for your acceptance the good health of those brethren who have proved themselves such an ornament to the Stability Lodge of Instruction, such a credit to the Craft, and such a credit to themselves. I trust they may all go on and prosper, and do honour to the Craft in which they have made such progress. (Cheers.) Bro. Clever said, in reply, that the working brethren sincerely thanked Lord De Tabley and the brethren for the honour just done them. It had afforded them very great pleasure to be permitted to take part in the working of the sections, and if they had discharged their duties to the satisfaction of the brethren they were amply repaid for any efforts they had made to qualify themselves for discharging those duties. He had said to qualify themselves. Of course they could not have qualified themselves if it had not been for the great kindness of their esteemed friend and Bro. Muggeridge. He was ever ready, as they were all aware, to afford assistance and instruction to any brother that might require them. The very great amount of pains and attention that he had given them for some time past he (Bro. Clever) for one should ever be grateful to him for. No one knew what it was but those who had gone through it to qualify themselves for the discharge of the duty of working the sections. However small it might be they were entirely dependent upon their Bro. Muggeridge for it; and he (Bro. Clever) had been surprised to find what patience and attention he gave them in imparting instruction. He was sure none of them could express their gratitude sufficiently to him for the pains and attention that he had bestowed upon them. He wished it was in his power to do more justice to this reply than he had. (Hear, hear.) Brother Cargill proposed "The Sister Lodge of Instruction" and said that though there was some slight differences in the verbiage of the rituals of the two the great principles of the Craft emanated from the two lodges. Each lodge at its meetings proposed the health of the sister lodge, and this interchange of courtesies shewed the good feeling which united them with the Craft in general. Wherever Masons went they found the Craft in general benefited by these two great lodges of instruction, and though they worked under either they were equally members of the same Craft. Like members in the outside world whether they receive their instruction from one or other of the universities they were equally educated and equally efficient. (Hear hear.) Bro. John Hervey responded, and was received with loud and long continued applause. He said the J.W. had proposed "Success to the Emulation Lodge" so kindly and so gracefully that he (Bro. Hervey) felt somewhat at a loss to return thanks for such graciousness

of expression. He did not think if he were buried that his friends would be desirous of digging him up to-morrow (referring to the song of "Janitor John" which had just been sung by Bro. Distin); and at any rate he probably would not be so missed as the good janitor of whom their excellent Bro. Distin had just sung so admirably about. (Laughter.) However that might be he could quite assure the brethren of the cordial thanks for the compliment which they had paid the Emulation Lodge of Improvement, a lodge with which he had been associated, not 37 years, as Bro. Muggeridge had been associated with the Stability, but he believed 32 years; but then he was a juvenile as compared with their excellent Preceptor, and therefore five years would not go for nothing. He had been Treasurer of the Emulation for 29 years, and although he could not boast of having paid such strict attention to the duties of the lodge as Bro. Muggeridge had to the Lodge of Stability, yet he hoped he had done some good service to it or they would not have gone on from year to year electing him as their Treasurer, paying him the compliment which they did. He was very glad to be present that night, and he would bear his testimony, as had been so admirably borne already, to the working of the brethren that evening, and to the working of the Preceptor who so ably presided. To this working of course he need not allude, because it was so well-known that it needed no eulogy either from him or anybody else; but they all knew it was difficult to get up from year to year to come forward to work the sections to do honour to the lodge of which they were members, and to show that precision of working, and that practical working, that had been exhibited on that occasion. He was glad to see that the Craft had been so well supported by the brethren who had worked that evening, and that the Lodge of Stability was in such a state of prosperity, a prosperity which he hoped would increase from year to year, and that whether they were in the East or in the West, in the Lodge of Stability or the Lodge of Emulation, the only competition they would have would be in their good working and showing the grand desire they had of improving in the Craft, improving those who came among them, and doing honour to those who presided over them. (Cheers.) Bro. McIntyre in proposing the toast of "The Masonic Charities" said that this last toast was not the least important in an assembly of Freemasons. They were told that among the great and good gifts that sent to man the greatest gift of all was charity; and it was, at all events, a thing that was impressed upon a Freemason from the time he entered into the Craft, and was instilled into him as he went on. They could never forget to their dying day the way in which the Masonic charities were impressed upon them; they all felt and appreciated them. But let them do more than appreciate them; let them show by their actions towards them that they thought them worthy of the support Freemasons had accorded to them. They fully deserved the support they got. On that occasion they had representatives of one of them there. He was only sorry they had not the representatives of all there. But they had a very distinguished one present in the person of Bro. Terry—(hear, hear)—who, wherever he went, always preached the cause of charity from his heart. Consequently it went straight to the heart. (Hear, hear.) They were all delighted to see him, and in his presence he (Bro. McIntyre) wished prosperity to all the Masonic institutions, hoping he might be long spared to advance the cause of all the charities, and particularly that charity of which he was the Secretary and so able a supporter. (Great applause.) Bro. Terry, in reply, said: Permit me to thank you, W.M., very sincerely indeed for the very kind expressions you have thought fit to make use of in proposing, for the acceptance of this meeting, the subject of the Masonic Institutions—the institutions of which this lodge of instruction has been so very many years a most consistent supporter; and I have to thank the Preceptor and the members of the lodge this evening for those extra donations which they have thought fit on the present occasion to vote in support of those institutions. It is not the first time for very many years we have had the honour of receiving from this lodge of instruction in their friendship and kindness to the institutions; and I am proud to think that this lodge of instruction goes on in the same path of prosperity as it has done in the past. With respect to the kind manner in which the W.M. had thought fit to express himself on the way in which the duties of the Secretarial departments of the different institutions were performed permit me to thank him very heartily and sincerely; and I feel with him that were those institutions not worthy of support they would not receive that cordial co-operation of the Craft that they do at the present day. When I say that during the past four or five years the income of our institutions has nearly doubled I think it is something for our institutions to be proud of; that large as may be the demands on our members, large also has been the reception with which the calls on your charities have been met. When I tell you that the first festival held this year, in February last, the largest ever brought in in aid of the funds of that institution was then brought in, so may I augur for the future that in May and June next a largely-increased sum may be got; that an increased sum may be given in aid of the Girls' School on the 10th of May, of which Institution your worthy Preceptor is a most successful officer; that an increased sum may be subscribed to the Boys' School, which requires so much. When I tell you that out of 43 candidates for the Girls' School you could only at the late election elect eleven, and out of fifty-nine for the Boys' you could only elect ten, it must be abundantly clear that there are large demands and limited means. In the Benevolent Institution we are in an inverse position. We are able to take in 17 men, and 20 women out of 32, giving, I think you will admit, a very substantial support to our poor, old, and deserving people. Also I may tell you that on Tuesday of this week we have gone further by endeavouring to assist them as far as we can by adding to the amount of the an-

nunities hitherto afforded them an increased sum of £4 per annum to every old man and every old woman. (Hear.) That may perhaps seem an insignificant sum for me to mention; but in the aggregate it amounts to a very large sum. When I tell you it adds to our expenditure every year £1000 we have only to ask, I think, in the future, as we have received in the past, and as we are receiving at present, your very generous, your very cordial, and your very fraternal support. Believe me, brethren, when I tell you if you could only happen to be for the space of one short week in our different offices you would see so much misery and distress brought before you that you would instantly go abroad as far as you could and make known to every brother you meet the claims of our varying and different institutions. You have but to go there and see them working, as they are day by day, and to say to yourselves that we really do possess in the Craft three of the best institutions, and, I venture to say, the most ably managed of any identical institutions throughout the length and breadth of the land. And when I say that, brethren, I believe I am saying something indeed, when we know the good the various institutions which are spread over the land are doing. You know we cannot go abroad; we must confine our appeal for sympathy to a very restricted circle indeed; but I am very proud to think that that very restricted circle does answer any and every call, whenever just cause is shewn to them, in the most ample and liberal manner. Imbued with that idea, Sir, I thank you very cordially for having proposed that toast. I thank this lodge for having for so many years contributed to the funds of all, and I may also say in conclusion I wish long life and happiness to your worthy Preceptor, and may he be spared to preside over this lodge in order by his means and ability that increased funds may be added to the coffers of our various institutions, and by them to go on in the career of usefulness which I think every brother in this room will admit they are endeavouring to do at the present time. (Great applause.) The brethren then separated. The evening was enlivened by some excellent solo and part singing by Bros. F. H. Cozens, Theo. Distin, and Lester.

Royal Arch.

KENDAL.—Kendal Castle Chapter (No. 129).—A quarterly convocation of this chapter was held at the Masonic Hall, on Thursday, the 27th ult. The M.E.Z., Comp. Henry Rauthem II, was supported by Comp. Captain Gawith, P.Z., H.; John Bowes, P.Z., P.P.G.S.B., as J.; Titus Wilson, I.P.Z.; John Talbot, E.; R. J. Nelson, N.; Geo. McKay, P.S.; W. Cranston, Assist. Soj.; R. Godfrey, Assist. Soj.; T. Baron, and others. The chapter was opened by the Principals, when the rest of the companions were admitted, and the minutes confirmed. The ballot was then taken for Bro. Edmund Fearenside, which proving in his favour, and he being present was exalted, together with Bro. Robert Winder, who had been elected at a previous meeting. On the invitation of the M.E.Z. the ceremony was performed by E. Comp. Bowes, to whom a warm vote of thanks was afterwards accorded, on the motion of Captain Gawith seconded by the M.E.Z. It was decided to hold the annual festival at Rigg's Hotel, Windermere, on Thursday, June 22nd, when a very pleasant re-union is anticipated. After some routine business and a proposition the chapter was closed with the usual solemnities, and the companions separated, mentally reciting the lines so well-known to Craftsmen:—

"As happy we have met,
And happy we have been,
So happy may we part,
And happy meet again."

Mark Masonry.

BATH.—Royal Cumberland (Time Immemorial) Lodge.—The annual meeting was held at the Masonic Hall on Thursday, April 27th, at five p.m., with the following officers:—Bros. J. Dutton, W.M.; Dr. Hopkins, Chap., as I.P.M.; Brown, as S.W.; Carey, J.W.; John Dutton, Treas.; Cater, Sec.; C. Wilkinson, M.O.; Rubie, S.O.; Cater, J.O.; Braham, as S.D.; Murliss, as J.D.; Falkner, as I.G.; Reeves, as Org.; Bigwood, Tyler. The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, and the Treasurer's balance-sheet passed, Bros. E. L. Hill and Williamson were introduced and advanced to the degree of M.M.M. by the W.M. Bro. Dr. Hopkins, P.G.J.W., took the chair, and Bro. R. Carey was presented as W.M. elect. After the usual preliminary proceedings the brethren were dismissed, and Bro. Carey was duly inducted into the chair of Adoniram. On the return of the brethren, and after the proclamation and completion of the ceremony, the following were appointed and invested as officers:—J. Dutton, I.P.M.; Dr. Hopkins, Chaplain; Cater, S.W.; John Dutton, J.W. and Treas.; Rubie, Sec.; C. Wilkinson, M.O.; Braham, S.O.; Baldwin, J.O.; Falkner, Reg.; Radway, S.D.; Murliss, J.D.; Jacob Smith, I.G.; Howes, Steward; Bigwood, Tyler. The Installing Master then gave the addresses to the W.M., the Wardens, the Overseers, and the brethren, in a manner which elicited repeated applause. Votes of thanks were passed to him, to the I.P.M. for his services during the past year, the efficiency of which was most favourably commented on; to Bros. Dr. Hopkins, Birth, and Brooke for presents made to the lodge; to the visitors, among whom were Bros. Col. Ford, Sloane, and Reeves, and specially to the latter for his kind assistance as Organist. These were duly acknowledged. The W.M. addressed the brethren on his installation. The lodge was closed at eight o'clock, and an adjournment was made to the Castle Hotel for the banquet. The proceedings of the evening were in every way satisfactory, and copies of

the new bye-laws having been distributed to the members, there is every reason to hope for good future progress in this interesting branch of Masonry.

Scotland.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF GLASGOW.

The quarterly communication of the Prov. Grand Lodge of Glasgow was held in St. Mark's Hall, Glasgow, on Thursday evening, 27th ultimo. In the absence, through indisposition, of Bro. Col. Walter Montgomery Neilson, P.G.M., Bro. J. Baird, P.G.S.M., occupied the chair, supported on the dais by Bros. A. McTaggart, M.A., P.G. Sec.; J. Gillies, P.G. Treas.; G. Sinclair, Treas., and Convener of Benevolent Fund; A. Bain, P.G.B.B.; J. Miller, P.G.J.D.; J. Balfour, P.G. Dir. of Cer.; D. Reid, P.G.I.G.; and J. B. Hardie, P.G. Tyler. Bro. G. McDonald, W.M. Thistle and Rose, No. 73, occupied the P.G.S. Warden's chair, while Bro. J. Booth, W.M. Thistle, No. 87, occupied that of the P.G.J. Warden.

Bro. Baird read a telegram he received that afternoon from the P.G.M., regretting very much his absence that evening from attending P.G.L. on account of his continued illness. The Sec. then read the minutes of last meeting which were approved of. Bro. Sinclair also read minutes of Benevolent Fund, showing that large sums of money had been disbursed during the last quarter towards charity.

New codes of bye-laws were admitted for approval to P.G. Lodge from lodges 102, 275, 362, 419, and 510, and were remitted to P.G. Committee, with powers.

An abstract of last year's statement was handed to each member, and on the motion of Bro. Miller, P.G.J.D., seconded by Bro. J. Scott, W.M. 419, the same was adopted. The P.G. Sec. then intimated he had received abstracts and papers from Grand Lodge and bye-laws of Lodge St. Vincent, No. 553, with powers to P.G. Lodge to call a meeting of St. Vincent Lodge and determine the whole matter.

The Prov. Grand Lodge was then closed.

Amongst those present we noticed the following:—Bros. W. Bell, I.P.M. 34; A. McLeod, S.W. 73; J. F. Mitchell, I.P.M. 102; J. Thomson, S.W. 102; W. Thomas, S.W. 103; R. Jack, W.M. 128; G. McLeod, S.W. 128; J. Campbell, I.P.M. 128; J. Singleton, W.M. 178; J. Morgan, W.M. 219; D. Ronald, W.M. 275; W. Findlay, S.W. 275; J. B. Macnair, I.P.M. 332; J. M. Oliver, S.W. 360; T. Graham, J.W. 360; A. Rutherford, S.W. 362; J. Simpson, S.W. 419; D. Gilchrist, W.M. 465; Ferguson, P.M. 543 ("Freemason"); R. Aikman, W.M. 570; W. J. E. Dobson, W.M. 571; and others.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE RENFREWSHIRE EAST.

On Saturday evening a meeting of the Prov. G. Lodge Renfrewshire East was held in the hall of Lodge St. Mirren, No. 129, Moss-street, Paisley, Bro. Col. Campbell, of Blythswood, P.G.M., presiding; Bros. James Gilmour, P.G.S.W.; and J. Paton, P.G.J.W. The P.G.M. was supported by Bros. H. Macdowall, jun., of Garthland, P.G. D.M., and James Caldwell, Craigielea, P.G.S.M.

The P.G.J.W. drew the attention of the lodge to the loss which it had sustained in the death of Bro. J. Stevenson, R.A. Lodge, Rutherglen (116), who, he said, had occupied the offices of Depute Master and Senior Deacon in the P.G. Lodge. He believed that they had lost a brother who was a good Mason, and had spent a great deal of his time in furthering the cause of Masonry. He moved that they engrave in their minutes their deep sense of the loss which the P.G. Lodge Renfrewshire East had sustained.

The P.G. Master said that he regretted very much to learn of the death of their esteemed brother, and at the same time to hear of the death of Bro. Robertson, late W.M. of No. 153, R.A., Pollokshaws, who was an able and intelligent office-bearer of the P.G. Lodge.

It was unanimously agreed that a minute expressive of deep regret at the loss the lodge had sustained in the death of these two brethren should be engrossed.

In reply to a question by Bro. G. Glen, W.M. Prince of Wales Lodge, Renfrew, No. 426, the P.G. Master said that arrangements had been made for a visitation of the lodges in the province.

GLASGOW.—St. Mark's Lodge (No. 102).

The regular meeting of this lodge was held in their hall, 213, Buchanan-street, on Monday evening, 24th ult., Bro. J. O. Smith, W.M., in the chair; J. Thomson, S.W.; G. Littlejohn, J.W.; J. F. Mitchell, I.P.M.; A. C. Paterson, Treas.; J. Monteith, Sec.; and a large number of members and visiting brethren, including Bros. J. Booth, W.M. 87; P. Brownlie, J.W. 34; J. Dick, Sec. 34; M. Stark, D.M. 553; Ferguson, P.M. 543 ("Freemason"); and others. The annual visitation of the P.G. Lodge took place this evening. The deputation consisted of Bros. J. Baird, S.P.G.M.; G. Sinclair, Treas., and Convener of Benevolent Fund; A. McTaggart, P.G. Sec.; J. Gillies, P.G. Treas.; A. Bain, P.G.B.B.; J. Balfour, P.G. Dir. of Cer.; J. Allison, P.G.J.; and D. Reid, P.G.I.G. The deputation on being admitted were received with the accustomed honours. Bro. McTaggart, on being requested by the acting P.G.M., reported that the books had been carefully examined, and said they were in excellent order, and that the lodge was in a highly prosperous condition, and congratulated the Master, office-bearers, and members of the lodge on the state of its affairs. Bro. Baird, acting P.G.M., said it must be gratifying to hear such a favourable report, and complimented the members on the prosperous condition of their lodge, and trusted it would long continue. Bro. J. O. Smith thanked the deputation for their kindness in again visiting Lodge St. Mark, 102, and moved a vote of thanks to the members of the P.G.L. which was heartily given. Bro. Baird briefly replied, and the deputation withdrew. Mr. John F. Reid was then initiated into the First Degree, and afterwards four bre

ren were raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason by Bro. J. F. Mitchell, I.P.M., in his usual able and impressive manner.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Union and Crown (No. 103).—The regular monthly meeting of this lodge was held in the Kilwinning Hall, 170, Buchanan-street, on Monday evening, 24th ult., Bro. D. Murray, W.M., in the chair, ably supported by the following office-bearers:—Bros. A. M. Wright, I.P.M.; R. Munro, D.M.; J. McFarlane, S.M.; W. Thomas, S.W.; W. Forsyth, J.W.; N. Cameron, Treas.; P. Cullen, B.B.; A. Gray, J.D.; and J. Gray, I.G., and a large turn out of members and visiting brethren. The lodge was opened and the minutes read and confirmed. Mr. James Taylor was then admitted and received the Entered Apprentice Degree at the hands of Bro. A. M. Wright, I.P.M. The Provincial Grand Lodge deputation was then announced, they having arrived from St. Mark's Lodge, No. 102, and were admitted with the usual honours. The usual formality of handing the mallet over to the acting P.G.M. and returning the same was gone through, when Bro. McTaggart, P.G. Sec., said the books of the lodge were examined very minutely, and he was glad to say they were in every sense faultless, and that the lodge was working in strict harmony with the Constitutions of the Grand Lodge of Scotland. Bro. Baird remarked that it ought to be a matter of unbounded satisfaction to every member of the lodge to hear such a favourable report just given by the P.G. Sec., and he (Bro. Baird) was glad to mention that the cash book was the best kept they had inspected this year. Bro. Murray, the W.M., then moved a vote of thanks to the members of the P.G. Lodge, which was heartily responded to. Bro. D. Reid, P.G.I.G., was affiliated an honorary member of the lodge. The deputation then withdrew. The lodge was afterwards called to refreshment, when a short time was spent in harmony.

KILBARCHAN.—Lodge St. Barchan (No. 156).—A meeting of this lodge was held in their hall, Kilbarchan, on the 20th ult., the W.M., Bro. Wm. Lewis, M.D. presiding, and supported by Bros. Buchanan, D.M.; Craig, S.W.; Orr, J.W.; Kirkland, Treas.; Grant, Sec., &c. Among the other brethren present were Bros. Henderson, H. Buchanan, P. Buchanan, P. C. McGregor, &c., of 156; Bro. White, of 117; &c. Bro. D. McArthur was raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason, the ceremony being gone through in a most impressive manner by the W.M. Afterwards Bro. White, 117, was affiliated as an honorary member of St. Barchan's. Bro. White, in returning thanks, complimented the W.M. and the lodge upon the efficient manner in which the business of the lodge was conducted. The lodge was thereafter closed in due form.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Athole (No. 413).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held in St. Mark's Hall, 213, Buchanan-street, on Tuesday evening, 25th ultimo, Bro. J. Louttit, W.M., in the chair; Bros. D. Leeds, S.W.; A. Holmes, J.W.; P. Agnew, Treas.; R. Graham, Sec.; and a large number of members and visiting brethren were present. On the lodge being opened and the minutes of last meeting read and confirmed, Mr. R. H. Muir was initiated by Bro. W. Bell, I.P.M. 34, on behalf of Lodge Thistle, 87. Thereafter Bros. D. M. Nelson, W.M. St. John, 34; W. Bell, I.P.M. 34; J. Booth, W.M. 87; J. Grant, 197; and W. J. E. Dobson, W.M. Lodge Dramatic, 571, were obligated honorary members of the lodge by the W.M., Bro. Louttit. Bros. D. Ross and Robt. McBryde, of 413, and R. H. Muir and Hugh Clark, of 87, were passed to the Fellow Craft Degree by Bro. W. Ferguson, I.P.M. 116. The lodge was then assumed in the Third Degree, when four brethren were raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason at the hands of Bro. J. Booth, W.M. Lodge Thistle, 87.

DALMUIR.—Lodge St. John (No. 543).—The regular monthly meeting of this lodge was held in their hall at Dalmuir on Tuesday evening, 25th ult. The business before the meeting was passing, and presentation to the I.P.M. The lodge was opened at 7.30 p.m. prompt, Bro. Ferguson, I.P.M., in the chair; A. McNaughton, jun., D.M.; J. Barrie, S.M.; J. F. Wilson, S.W.; J. Muirhead, J.W.; M. Watson, Treas.; J. Alexander, Sec.; J. Morrison, jun. S.D.; J. Stairs, J.D.; J. Morton, Chap.; J. Morrison, sen., S.S.; R. Hunter, J.S.; A. Smith, I.G.; J. Adair, Tyler; T. T. Johnstone, D. Jamieson, Thomson, Bell, Barton, Malcolm, and others. Among the visiting brethren were Bros. Peters, 3, Marshall, 50; Ser.-Major Chamberlain, E.C.; Capt. Gray, 362; Alex. Gow, S.M. 581; D. Peacock, S.W. 581; J. Henry, J.W. 581; W. Taylor, Treas. 581; R. Allan, Sec. 581; Paterson, I.G. 581; Campbell, 581; and others, amounting in all to about sixty brethren. The candidate for passing was unavoidably detained, the lodge was therefore closed and called to refreshment, when Bro. S. Leckie, W.M., arrived and occupied the chair, and after doing justice to a substantial repast, the usual loyal, Masonic, and patriotic toasts were given and responded to, viz., "The Queen and the Craft," "The Three Grand Lodges," "The Army, Navy, and Volunteers." Bro. Chamberlain replied for the Army, Bro. Gray for the Navy, and Bro. Sergeant Thomson for the Volunteers. "The Prov. Grand Lodge of Dumbarton," replied to by Bro. Ferguson. "The Visiting Brethren," proposed in an excellent speech by Bro. Wilson, S.W., replied to by Bros. Peters, Marshall, and Gow. "The Health of Bro. W. Ferguson, I.P.M.," proposed by Bro. James Barrie, S.M., who said: R.W.M., Wardens, and brethren,—A very pleasant part of this evening's programme has been assigned to me, and whilst wishing that it had fallen into abler hands, it is a duty which I have great pleasure in performing. A considerable part, and by no means a disagreeable part, of the experience that falls to us as Freemasons is that we are sometimes called upon to give a practical illustration of those brotherly feelings which we profess to entertain towards each other, and one of these we are about to give

now. Two years and a half ago the Freemasons of this district, with its lately increased population, considered it advisable to endeavour to get a lodge erected in the locality, and for that purpose fourteen of us met one evening in the Ferry Road Hotel, to consider the situation, and devise means for the formation of a lodge. The brother who was called to the chair at that meeting, and who was a zealous promoter of the cause, has since been summoned above, where all good Masons hope to arrive. The result of that meeting and others that followed was that at length a lodge was formed, and has proved not the least active and promising in the province of Dumbarton. The fact that we now number about 100 members shows that we did not miscalculate the grounds for proceeding, and speaks for the progress we have made. The hall in which we are now met, and which many a more pretentious district would envy us, is another proof of our progress within this short time. Bro. Ferguson was one of our little band from the beginning, and for two years filled the chair, and discharged its duties in an efficient manner. During his period of office he was scarcely, if, indeed, he was ever, absent from a single meeting. He has now gone from amongst us, and we feel our loss. We may well and honourably congratulate those representatives of our youngest sister lodge who are here to-night on the gain that has come to them through our loss, but we must say "Tis better to have loved and lost, than never to have loved at all." Before allowing him to part company with us it is the wish of the members to give him some small token of our appreciation of his services as Master, and the honour of handing over the united gift has been awarded to me. And now allow me, Bro. Ferguson, to adorn your breast with this Past Master's jewel, as a mark of the kindly feelings of your Dalmuir brethren, and allow me, along with it, to convey to you what I am sure you will esteem far more, the assurance that their warm and good wishes will go along with you wherever you go. May you long be spared to wear this jewel, and may you have a large experience of the things of which it is emblematic. We trust that as your eye falls on this little gift, perhaps years hence, it may awake pleasant recollections of evenings spent and spent—not altogether unprofitably—in the lodge from whose members it came. Bro. Ferguson replied at some length, thanking the brethren for drinking his health (which was done with Highland honours), and to you, Bro. Barrie, for the kind sentiments you have expressed towards me for my services as Master of the lodge for two years. I shall always wear this jewel in kindly remembrance that it was presented by the brethren of the Lodge St. John, Dalmuir, 543. "St. John's Lodge, No. 543," was proposed in a telling speech by Bro. Gow. Bro. Leckie, W.M., replied in suitable terms. Other toasts followed, and the evening's entertainment was much enlivened by the excellent singing of Bros. Jamieson, Millar, Alexander, Henry Johnstone, Allan, Smith, Morton, Paterson, Ferguson, Muirhead, Barrie, and others. Bro. Allan gave some splendid selections of music on the harmonium, and after the Tyler's toast, "Happy to meet, sorry to part, and happy to meet again," the brethren separated, having spent a night long to be remembered.

CONSECRATION OF THE SIR HUGH MYDDELTON LODGE (No. 1602.)

On Saturday last this new lodge was consecrated at the Agricultural Hall, Islington, and the appropriateness of the title of the lodge to the locality must be generally recognised. For a lodge which has promise of such support the rooms are however at first sight very small; nor does there seem to the casual observer any method or resources by which they can be enlarged. The banquet-room is the better of the two, it being the well-known committee-room of the Agricultural Hall Company. The lodge-room is the Secretary's room down below, and no doubt for an ordinary lodge would afford sufficient accommodation. The names of sixteen gentlemen for initiation and five brethren for joining were read out on the day of consecration, so that after the fourth of the ensuing meetings of the lodge, if all these come up the room must necessarily be crowded, more especially if, as is likely to be the case, other names will be given in at each of those meetings.

The ceremony of consecration was performed in the presence of about 70 brethren by Bro. John Hervey, Grand Secretary, who had Bros. A. J. D. Fisher, as S.W.; Dr. Woodman, as J.W.; the Rev. R. J. Simpson, as Chaplain; C. A. Cottebrune, as D.C.; Henri De Solla, as Organist; Glover, as I.G.; and W. Steedman, as Tyler.

[We were promised a correct copy of the list of the brethren present, but it had not arrived at the time of our going to press.]

After the usual formalities had been observed,

Bro. John Hervey, from the chair, said that on these occasions it was the usual custom of the consecrating officers to make a few observations to the brethren, and those who were sitting round the room, and who probably had been present at former lodges that he had consecrated, knew how strongly he had always expressed himself in consecrating a new lodge about the necessity of being careful as to those to be admitted within the precincts of the lodge. He would not press upon them again the same theme, because he trusted that there it was not necessary; but he would again just say one word upon this point, that if they got a disagreeable member into the lodge who marred the harmony of the lodge they would probably never know the end of it until circumstances over which we had no control—over which nobody had any control—either removed the member or broke up the lodge. Now, it had been a bad custom, which he feared was growing, for

brethren to think that when they were in rotation they ought to be appointed to office, and if they were not appointed to office or probably if they proposed a candidate for initiation in the lodge who might not be congenial to the brethren, and that candidate was refused admission, the brother who proposed him immediately commenced a system of blackballing, a system which was as disgraceful as it was unmasonic. He did not know that he could sufficiently reprehend that course; it ruined a lodge; and why? because one brother thought that he had a right to control the Master in the choice of his officers; thought that he had a right to control the choice of the brethren as to whom they should select to consort with them. He hoped they would see and hear of no such thing in this lodge, and he should be glad if brethren would, as much as they possibly could, express their disapprobation of such a course, and prevent as far as possible its being carried out. If any such course was pursued it must eventually break up the lodge, and he knew large lodges which had been destroyed by a systematic course of blackballing. It was uncharitable as well as ungentlemanly; uncharitable, because it marred all the comfort of the lodge, broke the lodge up into cliques, and tended to foster that dissension which ought never to enter the doors of a Freemasons' Lodge. (Hear hear.) The brother who was the cause of all this might be a great supporter of the charities; but it was not merely the putting of the hands in the pockets and paying five or ten guineas that made charity. Charity, it was said, ought to begin at home, and the charity which began at home would begin by the party practising that virtue of making himself agreeable to those with whom he was acting, and if he be not promoted just as he thought he ought to be, the most charitable feeling was for him to say, "Well, I ought to have that office; but I have no doubt the brother who is appointed to it is more worthy of it than I am; and, therefore, the Master has exercised a discriminating conduct in the course which he has pursued." He ventured upon these few observations, because in his career of Masonry the practice of blackballing came unfortunately much under his view. Of course there were circumstances which justified the blackballing used. If a man of doubtful character had been proposed in a lodge, then, of course, the blackball was the proper course, unless his proposer withdrew him. The blackball was a proper instrument to prevent him entering a lodge; but to pursue it as a means of revenge against the Master or against the lodge was a system, as he said before, as ungentlemanly as it was un-Masonic. He trusted he should never see it in this lodge, and as he had remarked, he hoped if there were any brethren present who were aware of such a course being pursued, or likely to be pursued, that they would do their utmost to prevent its continuance. He would not detain them longer, because he knew they would have an excellent address from his good and reverend friend on his left, which would be far better than the few words he could put together at a moment's notice to put before them. He would therefore at once close what he had to say. He did not want to be either a nuisance to the brethren who were round the room, or to say anything which was unpleasant or out of place. The few words he had said he trusted were in place and that they would have their effect upon the brethren. (Hear, hear, and cheers.)

The ceremony of consecration was then proceeded with till the time came for the Chaplain's address.

The Rev. R. J. Simpson, P.G.C., then arose and said: Worshipful Master, Wardens, and brethren, I congratulate you upon the declaration just made from the chair, and I thank you, especially the two brethren who did me the honour to wait upon me, for giving me the privilege of being present to-day to take some humble part in these happy proceedings. This lodge has already "a local habitation and a name"—"a local habitation" in one of the most ancient parts of this great metropolis; a very worthy "name" as being that of connected with one of those noble benefactors who have been a great blessing to this country. But at the same time it is a new branch of the old tree; it is an offshoot of one of the most venerable and glorious societies which have hitherto existed on this side of the grave, running back into a remote antiquity and founded upon the highest principles of piety and virtue. On that account especially does the consecration of a Freemasons' Lodge become a very solemn as well as a very happy event. Brethren, as I was coming along, I remembered, in addition to the fact that I had not prepared an oration, that our worthy and excellent brother here (Bro. Hervey) on a late occasion was good enough to say that it would be better not to prepare one, but simply to trust to such remarks as it might occur to me as apposite to the occasion on which we assembled. I cannot do better than adopt his advice, and therefore shall venture on a few remarks upon a subject which may possibly interest us all, if not improve us. As I passed through the railway station I saw on the head of a placard these words, "Another Failure on the Stock Exchange;" and as I came up here I saw the sign of an old house of entertainment, "The Angel," and I could not help thinking that those two things, those two signs—one a sign of the times and the other a sign of the material world—might form a very apt subject of thought for us Masons to-day. The word "sign" is not uncommon amongst us, as we know; thrice it has been mentioned to-day; but I think it is a very excellent thing for us at times to consider well the relation which the word "sign" bears to the thing signified; for upon that lies a considerable amount of human happiness or misery. Now, it cannot be denied that those who mark the signs of the times must bear this in view, that this England of ours with all its progress, its material progress, with all its wonderful amount of commercial activity, with all the marvellous discoveries of science, seems not to have advanced in one respect, which, I ventured to say, is superior to them all. It was once, brethren, the boast of this nation

that if there was any one point on which it could boast itself, to use a common phrase, it was that it was a nation that valued reality, thoroughness, straightforwardness, and honesty, that it was not a nation of shams. I very much fear, if we look into the commercial world at the present day, with all our vaunted education, we shall not find greater honesty than was to be found a century ago, whether you take it from the Stock Exchange downwards to the smallest and pettiest tradesman that exists in the city. Thank God there are thousands of glorious exceptions; but I am speaking generally, that it is a sign of the times, and that in the commercial world there is an immense amount of unreality. When I come again to social life, I find the same thing. We live too much out of our homes, which used to be the boast of England too. And I fear that in living much out of our homes, and in moving in what is commonly called society, we do not improve those domestic virtues which I believe make the women as well as the men of England great. Nay, even in that part of our social entertainment commonly called the dinner or the banquet, even there unreality is supplied broadcast for us; and nothing can be more unreal than many of those entertainments typical of the society which gathers around it, of that unreality, that want of substantiality, that old English idea which should pervade even the dinner which we eat. When I come to religion I find the same element abound, whether it exists in the form of what is commonly and significantly called "cant" or religious—mere religious—profession, reminding one of the "sounding brass and the tinkling cymbal," which has made religion and hypocrisy almost synonymous in the mouths of business men; or, whether, on the other side I look to that adoration of mere externals which are cropping up and eating out the life and reality of Englishmen and Englishwomen; I say whether I look to one or the other—commercial, social, or religious—I find that sham is taking a very strong hold of English society. And, brethren, when we find this abroad in the world in general, shall we Masons in particular expect to remain immaculate? Certainly not. It is well for us when we have our closed doors to speak honestly to one another; and certainly he would be but a dishonest watchman who should as your Chaplain and not speak his mind off. Brethren, I am sure you will agree with me in feeling that we do not enough practise out of the lodge those noble duties and tenets which we hear within it; and in no place is that more manifest to me sometimes than in the conversation, in the song and in other things which occur after some of our lodge meetings and banquets. Let me speak plainly, I am quite sure of this, that if those noble principles which are impressed so beautifully upon us in our assemblies that we should keep within the bounds of propriety, that we should observe temperance in all things, that we should avoid anything like "indecent and excess," I am quite sure that though, thank God, again, the great majority of our brethren hold to these noble tenets, there are such exceptions as do warrant me in making these observations; I do not think in our assemblies out of the lodge we as men, if true to our obligation, if true to the tenets of our Order, should use with our lips any words, doubtful or not, which we should not be prepared to make use of in the presence of our wives and children. That is the test. It was but a little time ago I was trying to persuade a tradesman with whom I have a certain connection to take an indecent print out of his window, and after he had used all kinds of arguments to convince me that it was a work of art and others of that flimsy, but specious kind which were to be swept away by common sense, I asked him this question: "Are you a husband?" "I am." "Have you a daughter?" "Yes." "Will you take her on your arm and stand opposite that picture for three minutes?" "No, I would not;" and that brought him to think of old Burns' prayer, "Oh, wad some power the giftie gie us to see ourselves as others see us, and so frae many a blunder free us," and he took it away accordingly. I would also venture to remark upon another point within the lodge which has been partially touched upon by our excellent presiding Master. I think that any man who joins Masonry ought to join it for its own sake, and when he does join it come and attend its assemblies whenever his private avocations or public duties freely admit it; that he would not drop in merely in time for the banquet, but would come to the lodge, and then he would there hear those beautiful and instruction ceremonies which will certainly help to make him a better man and Mason. But, moreover, I venture to think also that if he has the laudable ambition to take office, which every man should have, then he certainly ought to make himself master of the working of the lodge, so that he should not when he comes into office not merely not convey the beautiful lessons which I speak of, but that he should positively hold them up to ridicule and obloquy. The not doing so is another instance of sham. A man may say, "I have joined a lodge; I am an officer," but then if he really and truly does not act up to the profession he makes, that is sham. Again, if a man proposes another as a member of his lodge, when he does so he is a trustee of that lodge; and if he proposes his own brother, if that brother does not answer to that description given in our questions, "What are fit and proper persons to be made Masons?"—You know the answer—if it is his own brother he ought not to propose him; if he does it is a sham, and a great shame too, if I may make the remark. Brethren, I am quite satisfied in the few desultory observations which I have made that you will agree with me that the best motto for this or any other lodge to have in the old three words "Esse quam videri," to be, rather than to seem. I am quite sure that you will agree with me that the great light of Masonry points out both in its older part, and in its newer part some of the plain simple honest duties which are expected in us as Englishmen and Masons. "What doth the Lord require of thee but to do justly, to love

mercy and to walk humbly with thy God?" Could there be a more beautiful and terse expression of our Masonic creed? And in the newer part of that glorious old book "pure and undefiled religion" is defined to be "to visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction and to keep ourselves unspotted from the world." If, brethren, we try to follow these glorious texts we shall then be able to follow the old book as well as adopt the sentiments of a modern poet in those glorious lines wherein he says:—

Life is real, life is earnest, and the grave is not its goal,
Dust thou art, to dust returnest, was not spoken of the soul.

Let us then be up and doing, with a heart for any fate,
Still pursuing, still achieving, learn to labour and to wait.

The rev. brother sat down amidst loud cheers. The remainder of the ceremony was then proceeded with, and at the installation of W.M. Bro. Elias Somers was installed W.M. The following brethren were afterwards invested:—Bro. E. G. Sim, S.W.; T. J. Coombs, J.W.; J. Weston, Treasurer; J. Osborn, Secretary; A. Rowley, S.D.; F. Ellen, J.D.; J. G. Glover, I.G.; J. D. Taylor, Steward; W. T. Poulton, Steward; H. De Solla, Organist; and W. Steedman, Tyler. The consecrating brethren were elected honorary members of the lodge, viz., Bros. Hervey, Filer, Woodman, Cottebrune, and Simpson. 16 initiates and 5 joining members, were afterwards proposed and the lodge was then closed. A splendid banquet was afterwards provided by Bro. F. Sawyer, of the Crystal Palace, Bro. F. Sawyer, jun., and Bro. W. Abbott, manager, superintending it. The usual list of toasts was proposed and honoured, the replies being made by the Rev. R. J. Simpson, Bro. Hervey, Bro. W. T. Howe and Bro. Gallant for the visitors. Bro. Cubitt and Dr. Woodman for the charities, Bros. Weston and Osborn for Treasurer and Secretary, and Bro. Sim for the officers. The musical arrangements, by Bro. De Solla, were excellent. Late in the evening the brethren separated.

SUPREME GRAND CHAPTER.

The Quarterly Convocation of Supreme Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of England was held on Wednesday evening at Freemasons' Hall. Grand Chapter at its opening was formed as follows:—Lord De Tabley, Z.; Major W. Ramsay, District Grand Supt. Punjab, H.; S. Rawson, J.; J. A. Rucker, P.S.; J. Percy Leith, First A.; Robert Gray, Second A.; J. Hervey, G.S.E.; Colonel Creation, S.N.; Dr. Woodman, S.B.; Joseph Smith, as G.D.C.; F. Pattison, E. G. Snel, James Glaisher, Joshua Nunn, H. J. P. Dumas, Captain Platt, Hugh D.J. Sandeman, N. Bradford, Benj. Head, and the following companions:—A. A. Bagshaw, Z. 1235; Worthington, Z. 370; G. E. Wainwright, J. 370; J. B. Scriven, H. 5; Joseph Clever, J. 13; C. Coupland, Z. 913; T. W. Boord, M.P., P.Z. 7; E. J. Barron, P.Z. 214; F. Driver, J. 742; T. J. Sabine, P.Z. 73; W. Ramsay, C. F. Hogard, Hyde Clarke, Z. 515; H. Massey, P.Z. 619 ("Freemason"); Herbert Dicketts, P.Z. 145; John Boyd, P.Z. 145; 534; William Stephens, H. 862, Z. 1365; John Constable, F. D. Copestick, F. Adlard, Thomas Fenn, H. Muggenridge, Earl of Donoughmore, and C. B. Payne.

Grand Scribe E. first read the regulations for the Government of the Supreme Grand Chapter during the time of the public business, and then the minutes of last quarterly convocation, and these latter having been put and confirmed,

Lord De Tabley said that the next business which had fallen into his hands as representing the worthy Grand Z. of the Order was to declare the names of the officers whom their most illustrious head had been pleased to appoint to the distinguished honour of holding office in the Grand Chapter. His Lordship then read them as follows:—His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, G.Z.; the Earl of Carnarvon, Prov. Grand Z.; Lord Skelmersdale, H.; Lord D. Tabley, J.; John Hervey, S.E.; the Earl of Donoughmore, S.N.; the Hon. William Warren Vernon, P.S.; the Rev. Spencer Robert Wigram, 1st A.S.; Lieut.-Col. Thomas Birchall, 2nd A.S.; Samuel Tomkins, Treas.; E. McIntyre, Q.C., Registrar; Thomas W. Boord, M.P., F.S.A., Sword Bearer; Edward J. Barron, Standard Bearer; John M. Case, Director of Ceremonies; and Chas. Bryant Payne, Janitor. The companions were then invested, and Colonel Creation, President of the Committee of General Purposes, brought up the report of that committee, and this having been taken as read, and ordered to be received and entered on the minutes, Colonel Creation proposed seriatim the granting of warrants for five new chapters, to the under mentioned lodges, Nos. 1393, 903, 1071, 1423 and 1185. These having been authorized the election of the Committee of General Purposes was taken, and on propositions being made the following companions were declared duly elected:—James Lewis Thomas, 13; Joseph Smith, 19; John Boyd, 145; H. C. Levander, W. Stephens, 1365; and F. Adlard, 214. The following companions were nominated by the Prince of Wales:—Colonel Creation, Benj. Head and Robert Gray. This concluded the business of Grand Chapter, which was thereupon closed in due form.

A charge of libel brought against Bro. Thomas Jones, the publisher of the "Sewing Machine Chronicle," has been disposed of at the May Session of the Central Criminal Court. The defendant's counsel, Serjeant Ballantine and Mr. Straight, entered the plea that the alleged libel contained matters that were true in substance and fact, and that it was for the public benefit that this should be known. The jury acquitted the defendant.

Upwards of 100 brethren were present on Thursday at the consecration of the Merlin Lodge, No. 1578. A full report of the proceedings will appear in our next.

Masonic and General Tidings.

By command of the Provincial Grand Master of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight, Bro. W. W. Beach, M.P., the Provincial Grand Secretary, Bro. J. E. Le Feuvre, telegraphed to H.R.H. the Prince of Wales at Madrid expressing the desire of the Freemasons of the province to offer their congratulations to the Grand Master on his arrival within their province from India. H.R.H. has been graciously pleased to accede to their wishes and Provincial Grand Lodge has been summoned to meet at Portsmouth on the 11th ult. for the purpose. The Masons of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight are fortunate in being the first to welcome our Royal Grand Master home.

It has been settled by arbitration that the sum of £310,000 is to be paid to the Liverpool Corporation by the Mersey Docks and Harbour Board for a piece of land which has been acquired by the Board from the Corporation. This is at the rate of £2 17s. 7d. per yard.

THE TULIPS IN THE TEMPLE GARDENS.—The warm weather of the last few days has brought the collection of tulips in the Temple Gardens to great perfection. Mr. Newton, the head gardener, has arranged the beds very tastefully. Among the best specimens we may mention the Cottage Maid, a very pretty variegated flower; the Tournesol (double), the Kaiser Kroon, and the Rex Rubrorum, the latter a very bright crimson flower. The gardens are now open daily to the public.

We are authorised to state that the Prince of Wales proposes to arrive at Portsmouth on Thursday, the 11th of May, and will be met off the Isle of Wight by the Princess of Wales and her children.

The Consecration of the Clive Lodge, No. 1575, will take place on Monday, the 15th ult., at Market Drayton. The proceedings will commence at 2 o'clock, banquet at 4.

The anniversary festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys will be held at the Alexandra Palace, on Wednesday, June 28th, under the chairmanship of Bro. the Rt. Hon. Lord Leigh, Provincial Grand Master of Warwickshire. Masonic clothing will not be worn.

Bro. His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught, K.G., who is now on his way to join his regiment, the 7th Hussars, will be appointed to the staff of the 5th Army Corps, which is to be mobilised in the southern counties next July.

Bro. Sir John Bennett will lecture on "The Dutch and their Doings," at the Greenwich Society for the Diffusion of Useful Knowledge, on Tuesday next.

Bro. His Grace the Duke of Abercorn, Most Worshipful Grand Master of Ireland, was present on Friday last in the Exhibition Palace, Dublin, at the annual distribution of prizes of the Masonic Female Orphan School. The gathering numbered over 7000 persons. A full report will appear in our next.

The turnpike at Archway-road, near Highgate, ceased to exist yesterday. The road was constructed in 1813, after a vain attempt had been made to tunnel Highgate-hill, and the cost of its construction amounted to £13,000. The toll was felt most vexatious, and its removal has been long desired.

The sale of Bro. W. Foster White's pictures on Saturday, by Messrs. Christie, Manson, and Woods, at their gallery in King-street, realized £1087. At the same sale a small collection of modern pictures and drawings, formerly belonging to the late Sir Sills John Gibbons, Bart., realized £283. The amount realized by Bro. White's engravings on Monday last was £66 9s.

Her Majesty the Queen will hold a Drawing Room at Buckingham Palace on Wednesday, May 10th, at three o'clock; and another Drawing Room, also at Buckingham Palace, at three o'clock on Friday, May 12th.

The foundation-stone of a new church at Nunceaton was laid with Masonic ceremony by Bro. the Right Hon. Lord Leigh on Wednesday, 16th ult. A report will appear in our next.

His Grace the Duke of Abercorn, M.W.G.M. Ireland, will open the Belfast Working Mens' Exhibition on the 23rd inst.

Her Imperial Majesty the Empress of Germany landed at Dover on Wednesday, shortly after noon, and at once proceeded by special train to Windsor.

CAPTAIN S. G. HOMFRAY, A.G.D.C. OF ENGLAND, AND D.P.G.M. MON.—We regret that the name of this well-known brother was again omitted in our report of the grand festival which appeared last week.

Bro. the Rt. Hon. Lord Carnarvon, M. W. Pro Grand Master, presided at the 87th annual dinner of the Royal Literary Fund, on Wednesday last, on behalf of Lord Derby, who was unable to attend in consequence of the death of the Dowager Countess.

Bro. the Right Hon. Lord Skelmersdale, Deputy Grand Master, was present at the funeral of the Dowager Countess of Derby on Tuesday.

Monday last, the twenty-sixth birthday of Bro. His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught, was celebrated at Windsor with the usual honours. In the morning, and at intervals throughout the day, the bells of St. George's Chapel and St. John's Church rang, salutes of twenty-one guns being fired from the artillery in the Long Walk and the Royal Adelaide frigate and Fort Belvedere, Virginia Water. Prince Arthur was born May 1st, 1850.

WHITTINGTON LODGE OF INSTRUCTION, No. 861.—The meetings are now held every Wednesday evening at the Black Bull, Holborn, at 8 o'clock.

Gas superseded in day time, and daylight reflected in dark rooms. Health, comfort, and economy promoted, by adopting Chappuis' Patent Daylight Reflectors.—Manufactory, 69, Fleet-street, London.

TO OUR READERS

The *Freemason* is a sixteen-page weekly newspaper, price 2d. It is published every Friday morning, and contains the most important, interesting, and useful information relating to Freemasonry in every degree. Annual subscription in the *United Kingdom*, Post free, 10/- P.O.O.'s to be made payable at the chief office, London.

NEW POSTAL RATES.

Owing to a reduction in the Postal Rates, the publisher is now enabled to send the "*Freemason*" to the following parts abroad for One Year for Twelve Shillings (payable in advance):—Africa, Australia, Bombay, Canada, Cape of Good Hope, Ceylon, China, Constantinople, Demerara, France, Germany, Gibraltar, Jamaica, Malta, Newfoundland, New South Wales, New Zealand, Suez, Trinidad, United States of America, &c.

COLONIAL AND FOREIGN SUBSCRIBERS

are informed that acknowledgments of remittances received are published in the first number of every month. Notice.—It is very necessary for our friends to advise us of all money orders they remit, more especially those from the United States of America and India; otherwise we cannot tell where to credit them.

TO ADVERTISERS.

The *Freemason* has a large circulation in all parts of the Globe, its advantages as an advertising medium can therefore scarcely be overrated.

For terms, position, &c., apply to

GEORGE KENNING, 198, Fleet-st.

Answers to Correspondents.

All Communications, Advertisements, &c., intended for insertion in the Number of the following Saturday, must reach the Office not later than 12 o'clock on Wednesday morning.

The following stand over:—Reports of Lodges: Royal Oak, No. 871; Urban, No. 1196; Chaucer, No. 1540; Lodge of Unanimity, No. 1236; Blenheim; Churchill, No. 478; of Instruction, No. 198; Star Lodge of Instruction, No. 1275; Metropolitan Lodge of Instruction, No. 1507; Jerusalem Chapter, No. 185; Lodge St. John, No. 262; Galashiels; Consecration of a Lodge at Pontypridd; Letter from Bro. Yarker, "Ancient and Primitive Masonry;" Testimonial and Dinner to Bro. W. M. Herbage; Masonic Ball Oxford; Phoenix, No. 904, Rotherham; Stuart, No. 540, Bedford; Commercial, No. 1390, Leicester; Percy Lodge at Dunbar; Obituary, Bro. Kerr; Masonic Female Orphan School, Dublin.

REMITTANCES RECEIVED.

	£	s.	d.
Alford, Jas., The Cape (Draft)	0	13	0
Batchelor, J. C., U.S.A. (P.O.O.)	1	16	0
Brown, H. D., Monrovia (P.O.O.)	1	4	0
Buchanan, J., Malta (P.O.O.)	0	16	6
Cole, P. A., Madras (P.O.O.)	2	10	0
Goetze, W., Shanghai (P.O.O.)	2	0	0
Harris, J. A., U.S.A. (P.O.O.)	0	10	11
Hayden, L., U.S.A. (Cash)	0	10	6
Howard, W. C., The Cape (Draft)	1	6	6
Joseph, H. M., N.S.W. (Cash)	1	4	0
Imloth, R.W., Demerara (P.O.O.)	1	4	0
Leworthy, R., Sydney (P.O.O.)	2	0	0
Loxton, S., The Cape (Draft)	0	19	9
Maskell, D.W., Cape Colony (P.O.O.)	2	12	6
Norton, J., U.S.A. (Cash)	0	14	0
Parker, Jno., U.S.A. (Draft)	1	2	0
Rastall, J. H., U.S.A. (P.O.O.)	0	12	0

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

[The charge is 2s. 6d. for announcements, not exceeding four lines, under this heading.]

BIRTHS.

ASHBY.—On the 27th ult., at Vine House, Grantham the wife of A. Ashby, of a son.

BAKER.—On the 29th ult., at Abingdon, the wife of S. I. Baker, of a daughter.

BARING.—On the 17th ult., at Constantinople, the wife of W. Baring, Esq., of a daughter.

CUNNINGHAM.—On March 28, at Roorkee, N.W.P., India, the wife of Capt. A. Cunningham, R.E., of a son.

INGLIS.—On the 30th ult., at Edinburgh, the wife of A. B. Inglis, Esq., of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

MACKENZIE-BIDDULPH.—On Jan. 12, at Earee, Shoalhaven, New South Wales, by the Rev. W. Grant, M.A., Hugh, youngest son of Kenneth Mackenzie, Esq., Dundonnell, Rosshire, Scotland, to Bella Mary, eldest daughter of T. T. Biddulph, Esq., and granddaughter of the late Rev. Theophilus Biddulph, of Bristol.

HARDY-GLADSTONE.—On the 29th ult., at St. Anne's, Bowden-hill, Reginald, son of Sir J. Hardy, Bart., of Dunstall Hall, Staffordshire, to Lucy Marion, daughter of the late Capt. Gladstone, R.N., M.P.

DEATHS.

AKERS.—On the 27th ult., at Tunbridge Wells, James Ramsay Akers, Esq., in his 63rd year.

DERBY.—On the 26th inst., at 15, Cromwell-road, Emma Caroline, Dowager Countess of Derby, aged 71.

KERR.—On the 30th ult., at Church-street, Galashiels, Bro. Wm. Kerr, aged 73 years.

WYATT.—On the 25th ult., at Holland-grove, Brixton, Augustus, son of the late C. Wyatt, Esq.

The Freemason,

SATURDAY, MAY 6, 1876.

OUR ROYAL GRAND MASTER'S RETURN.

Our Royal Grand Master has left Madrid, and is now at Lisbon. His reception in both countries has been most enthusiastic. That he cannot have failed to have been delighted alike with Spain and its kindly people—its great memories, and its wondrous interest, is, we apprehend, undoubted. Lisbon and the Tagus and Cintra and its associations will have for him a potent spell. We feel how enjoyable is his trip. He will soon be crossing the Bay of Biscay on his way home. May he have favouring breezes, a calm sea, and may a kindly Providence speed him safely onwards, to that warm welcome and loving family awaiting his glad return.

THE PROVINCIAL GRAND MASTERSHIP OF NORFOLK.

We understand that H.R.H. the Grand Master has been graciously pleased to offer the Grand Mastership of this province, vacant by the death of the late Hon. F. Walpole, M.P., to Lord Suffolk, and that in due time his lordship will signify his acceptance of it. A brilliant gathering may, therefore, be expected in Norfolk, as we believe the installation ceremony is to be performed by H.R.H. the Grand Master.

THE GRAND FESTIVAL.

Our last Festival was an exceptional one, and in one respect it was "Hamlet" without the Prince. Our Grand Master was still enjoying the brilliant reception of Madrid, Lord Carnarvon had to leave early on account of Mr. Hennessey and Barbadoes, Lord Skelmersdale was kept at home by a very great family affliction, and so on Bro. Col. Burdett descended alike the position and the duties of the G.M. We need hardly say that nothing was lost to the Craft in the hands of that urbane and genial brother, and that the Festival ended as it began, successfully, in peace, love, and harmony, as might well be expected. The ladies, our fair sisters, being greatly pleased with the soft sounds and the cooling liquids, which the foresight and liberality of our worthy Grand Stewards had so judiciously and bountifully provided. Of course the absence of the principal "dramatis personæ" could not fail to be a disappointment to many, though like the Irishman's, it was a disappointment that was "expected," and so the Festival of 1876 will appear to some to be somewhat shorn of its normal or especial brilliancy! But let us look on to 1877, and let us trust, we who still survive, that there will then gather around our M.W. Grand Master a loyal band of faithful brethren, in honour alike of his ever welcome presence, and in unwavering attachment to our good old Craft.

MASONIC ETIQUETTE.

Our contemporary, the "Evening Standard" of April 25th, has the following remarks, in a letter from its correspondent at Gibraltar, with reference to a Masonic ceremony in which our Royal Grand Master took part. He first gives the account of the day's proceedings on the 18th April as follows:—"While the Prince of Wales was thus engaged in the south, great preparations were being made for a similar ceremony at the other end of the town, where the first stone of the new market was to be laid, with all Masonic honours, by the Grand Master of England. A procession of nearly 200 Master Masons, with all their proper insignia, and preceded by a military band, had marched through the town and taken up their position at the angle of the old market where the foundation stone of the new was to be placed. On the Prince's arrival the District Grand Master and other Masons of high degree were first presented to him. His Excellency the Acting Governor then read an address, to which His Royal Highness responded as follows:—"Your Excellency,—I am very glad to

have this opportunity of publicly expressing how much pleased and gratified I am at the kind and cordial welcome given me by the inhabitants of Gibraltar. I am proud to have the honour of laying the first stone of a building which has been approved of and assisted by Her Majesty the Queen, which will, I am sure, prove of the greatest utility to all classes in Gibraltar. It is with feelings of great pleasure I see around me so many members of my fellow Craft. The Prince then proceeded to lay the stone in the manner above described, and then followed a short religious ceremony, conducted by Mr. Richmond, District Grand Chaplain." And then comes the commentary:—"Much surprise has been expressed that a Wesleyan minister should have been invited to officiate, while the Bishop of Gibraltar and many other clergymen of the Church of England were present, particularly as the market will be a Government building. I cannot offer any explanation, unless it may be that he was a Mason and the others not; however, it is a prevailing topic of conversation." Now it is quite clear, first of all, that "our own correspondent" is not a Mason, and, secondly, that he has made a mountain of a molehill. If the subject be a "prevailing topic of conversation" among the good folks at Gib., the old Rock must be greatly changed from what it used to be in very happy hours, alas! now a long long while ago, "Consule Planco." Indeed, our natural feeling would be, what a singular lack of matters to talk about must exist within the walls of "Calpe," if such an allegation be in any way correct. That Bro. D.G.C. Richmond, should, despite his being a Wesleyan minister, officiate at a Masonic ceremony was a simple matter of necessity from the very nature of the case. The ceremony was a Masonic ceremony, and those engaged in it were Freemasons, and as the foundation stone was laid by the D.G. Lodge it was a matter "de rigueur" that its D.G. Chaplain should officiate. Why any surprise should be felt is, we confess, inexplicable to us. Indeed, the correspondent of the "Evening Standard" suggests the reply to his own query when he says "unless it may be that he was a Mason and the others not." This really is the "dignus vindice nodus," and the one real explanation of the apparent difficulty, the happy solution of the enigma of our contemporary's ingenious correspondent. We call attention to the matter, simply because we think it well that all should understand the principles on which we act, and the Masonic etiquette, which is alike needful and becoming on all such occasions. Bro. Richmond, having been appointed D.G.C., was the only proper person to officiate, and whether he was a Roman Catholic priest, or Wesleyan minister, it made no difference, and if all the Bishops of England had been present it could have made none. On such occasions our own officers, our own Chaplains, naturally fill their proper places, and do their proper work, in all Masonic ceremonies, and we should be cowards and something worse if we allowed anything like outside pressure or the opinion of "Mrs. Grundy" to make us deviate one jot or tittle from what the customs of Freemasonry sanctioned and the rules of our own excellent Order enjoined. The question is in itself hardly worth mooted or mentioning, except that it allows us to lay down clearly and calmly the first principles of our Masonic code, alike of etiquette and of usage.

RULE BRITANNIA.

Freemasons are not politicians but they are patriots, simply because they are citizens, and they do not ignore their duties and sympathies as citizens because they become Freemasons. Certainly not. This would indeed be a "reductio ad absurdum." But while as citizens they uphold their privileges and principles, they also bear carefully in mind the teaching and temper of Freemasonry. They do not confound one with the other, they do not forget their citizenship in their Masonry, nor their Masonry in their citizenship. In all that appertains to the greatness and glory of their country they remain as devoted as ever, and they rejoice to say, with entire sincerity, and strong, warm feelings, 'Tis a glorious charter, deny it who can, That breathes in the words, I'm an Englishman.

In all matters, then, which affect the course of public events, whether for peace or war, the defence of our "Alma Mater," our common country, in the honour and freedom of the British flag, as Freemasons we ever take a deep, and an unchanging, and fervid interest. We are still proud of that fine army of ours, which is ever ready at the call of duty to go anywhere, to do anything for the Queen and old England. We warmly sympathize with our "hearts of oak," and though we do not talk so much just now as we once did of our wooden walls, but rather of our "ironclads," we often echo Campbell's words,

Britannia needs no bulwark,
No towers along the steep.
Her march is o'er the mountain wave,
Her power is on the deep.

Many of our brethren at Portsmouth will have taken part in the launching of the "Inflexible" on Thursday last, and its naming by a fair member of our Royal family, Princess Louise. And while we shall all hope and pray that peace may be long preserved, that the sword may be turned into the ploughshare practically, in all lands and in all hemispheres, yet if the "war dogs" of rapine and ruin, of suffering and sorrow, of wrong and wretchedness should yet be loosed upon mankind, we shall equally believe that quick to strike and ready for the warfare will ever be that noble profession, the navy of Great Britain. That it will do its duty we know. That Jack will always be chivalrous in the hour of strife, and humane in the moment of victory, we are well assured, and so we meet the future with calm composure and reliant hope; and feeling that it is in the highest interest of civilization and progress, and liberty and toleration, and peace and happiness for mankind, that the "revere flag of England" should float in undimmed greatness over the mighty ocean, we shall trust that in the good Providence of God, it will yet be upheld by our blue jackets as of old, in safety, and dignity, and glory, nothing being able to tarnish its honour, and no stranger being able to haul it down.

ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

We rejoice to observe that, on the motion of our gallant and estimable Bro. Lieut.-Col. Creton, like a good soldier always "to the front," our male annuitants receive £4 additional yearly, making their incomes £40, and the females £32, hitherto £28. We quite approve of the increase, which has been for some time needed, and is both appropriate and seasonable. Bro Terry, the worthy Secretary, states that the increase will impose an additional charge on the income of the Institution of £960 per annum, and that there were now 240 annuitants. Be it so; we feel sure that the change is one equally approved of and appreciated by our entire Craft, and we have no doubt that this proper and beneficial change will at once be endorsed by the still more liberal support of all classes of our brethren.

THE VALUE OF FREEMASONRY.

People may doubt or debate in respect of the history of Freemasonry, but none can question its value, or deny its benefits. Freemasonry has this peculiar characteristic, explain it as you may, that it includes within its ample fold men of very contrasted callings and conditions of life. It has its attractions, apparently, as well for the intellectual as the well-to-do, for the man of science as well as the man of business, for the followers of the learned professions as well as those who make up the great nameless middle-class of Anglo-Saxon Freemasonry. Clergymen and physicians, barristers and solicitors, the skilful surgeon and the able "litterateur," all alike are not ashamed to avow themselves brethren of the mystic tie. And to them Freemasonry often holds out a kindly and a helping hand. Prosperity is not necessarily the lot of any. It often leaves many of us, in the great forest of life, when the leaves are sere and the winds are chilling. Too often, day by day, we hear of sad cases of those who once were travelling the high road of affluence and comfort and respectability, men of gaiety and geniality, who now are

alas! too sadly and slowly limping along the cross-country lanes of gloom, and misery, and penury. Misfortunes overtake us all alike, and adversity visits us, some one has said, in turn; no life is necessarily exempt from its drawbacks; no career can be always preserved from its vicissitudes! No, there is one law for us all alike, often of "hard measures," as we think, of deep sorrow, of overwhelming misfortune, of untoward hours in this great noisy, struggling, dusty world of ours. We are led back to these reflections by a case to which our good Bro. Jabez Hogg has called our attention, and which we will allow to tell its own tale. We append his circular, which we commend to the special notice of our readers:—

Greyhound Lane,
Streatham Common, S.W.,
January, 1876.

Sir,—

Your vote and interest are earnestly requested for Dr. Robert Stewart, at the ensuing election of candidates for the benefits of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution.

Dr. Stewart is a member of the College of Physicians, and was formerly in extensive practice at Streatham and its vicinity, but is now, by great misfortune, obliged to solicit the favour and benevolence of his brother Masons. The doctor has been an Arch Mason for some years, and until 1867 was in flourishing circumstances. The first step to his misfortune was caused by a partner whom he took into his practice, and whom he trusted too confidently, and who, after having brought Dr. Stewart to a state of bankruptcy, committed suicide. The next step was the death of his beloved wife; then fever struck the doctor, and left him, shattered in health and fortune, dependent upon the kindness of a neighbour for a home, which home may now at any moment be broken up, and your applicant be cast upon the world, unless the kindness of his brother Masons shall find him an asylum in their Institution.

Proxies will be thankfully received by me,
JABEZ HOGG, P.G.D.,
P.M. 1260, &c.

Surely this is a case alike demonstrating the value of Freemasonry, and appealing to us all alike, in our different positions and professions. Medical men always appear to us to have a great claim on the sympathy and goodwill of their fellow creatures. Many are the grave difficulties, many the heavy responsibilities of their laborious lives. That great profession which has ever been foremost in all works of scientific improvement, and in all labours of intellectual advance, is, as many of us know, ever most ready to aid calamity and mitigate suffering, not only by the potent exercise of the healing art, but by the priceless and ever cheerful endeavours of a warm-hearted personal sympathy. Very few people know how much of unostentatious kindness and liberality are shewn by the great body of the medical profession to suffering patients, to the needy and the friendless, except those who have met them and seen them by the bedside of the poor, or taken counsel with them amid the panic of infection, or the throes of the dying bed. To them humanity and society alike owe a great debt of gratitude, often forgotten, not seldom unexpressed. We are glad, then, in advocating on every ground, personal and general, the claim and case of Bro. Dr. Stewart, and not the least because it is personally urged upon our attention and Masonic goodwill by our esteemed Bro. Jabez Hogg.

Original Correspondence.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for, or even as approving of the opinions expressed by our correspondents, but we wish, in a spirit of fair play to all, to permit—within certain necessary limits—free discussion.—Ed.]

KILWINNING AND FREEMASONRY.

To the Editor of The Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I do not know if the following is of much consequence, but if it is worthy of insertion you can use your discretion.

On looking over some volumes of "The Mirror," the forerunner of the penny periodicals, and dated May 8th, 1830, I discovered as under, which is the first intimation to myself, and I daresay it will be to a great many other brethren, of the reason why so many of the Scotch lodges rejoice in the name of Kilwinning:—"Freemasonry in Scotland first made its appearance at Kilwinning, in Ayrshire, where a party of enthusiasts having landed from the continent in the twelfth century spread the knowledge of their mysteries gradually over the rest of the country by colonies termed lodges."

Yours fraternally,

D. P. OWEN, P.M. AND P.Z. 998.

MASONIC JURISPRUDENCE.

In answer to "Enquirer," we beg to say, on the best authority:—

1. Yes; frequently by the Board of General Purposes. He must serve for 12 consecutive months.
2. No, he must have served in an English lodge.
3. No. The appointment of all officers, except the Treasurer and Tyler, is in the hands of the W.M., and no one else.
4. No. The brother must be formally appointed as Warden by the W.M., and if present be installed.—[Ed.]

POLITICS.

The following letter appeared in the "Daily News" of May 1st:—

SIR,—During the week I have had sent me, in my capacity of Master of a Masonic Lodge, a circular from the National Union of Conservative and Constitutional Association, at Stephen's Chambers, Bridge-street, Westminster, and an accompanying address to Her Majesty for signature. The address was a twofold object—First it congratulates Her Majesty on the reception met with by her Royal son in her Indian Empire; and secondly, it expresses the satisfaction felt in learning that Her Majesty is about to be advised to assume the style of Empress of India. For the former object I should have no hesitation in presenting the address in my lodge for the signature of my brethren. But with regard to the latter object I am astounded at the impudence of these gentlemen—for I can call it nothing else—in asking me to make my Masonic position a vehicle for promoting their political ends, by procuring signatures to this address. It has always been our boast as Masons we know no sect or party, and however skilfully this matter may be put, it will undoubtedly lead, wherever it is adopted by Masters of lodges, to a violation on one of our foundation principles. I think this attempt at so gross an innovation should be shown up as it deserves, that Masons can see what Messrs. Gorst and Neville would do in order to promote their political views.

Yours truly,

Cardiff, April 28.

A W.M.

The following is the circular referred to:—

National Union of Conservative and Constitutional Associations, St. Stephen's Chambers, Bridge-street, Westminster, S.W., April, 1876.

SIR,—We are desired by the Council of the national Union to send you a copy of an address to Her Majesty which is being extensively signed in all parts of the country, and to request that if you approve of the same you would use your influence to promote its adoption in your neighbourhood. We shall be pleased to send further copies if required, and it is desirable that the address should be returned by the end of this month, when the Council will take the necessary steps for its due presentation.

Yours truly,

J. E. GORST, } Honorary
EDWARD NEVILLE, } Secretaries.

MASONIC PREFIXES.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

The corrections that have been made in the several letters that have appeared on this subject have sadly militated against the clearness with which it is desirable it should be placed before your readers. "Ad Rem," for example, in your last issue seems to have quite misapprehended the subject. Adopting his plan (a very good one) of connecting the prefixes with the list of officers on pages 18 to 20 of the Book of Constitutions the following would appear to be the proper designations of the various officers, as gathered from Bro. Hughan's researches:—

GRAND LODGE.

MOST WORSHIPFUL Nos. 1 to 4 inclusive.

RIGHT WORSHIPFUL Nos. 5 to 10 inclusive.

VERY WORSHIPFUL Nos. 11 to 20 inclusive.

WORSHIPFUL..... The remaining officers of Grand Lodge, also the actual Masters and subscribing Past Masters of every private lodge.

PROVINCIAL (OR DISTRICT) GRAND LODGES.

RIGHT WORSHIPFUL Only the Provincial (or District) Grand Masters, Past and Present, are entitled to this designation, by virtue of their office outside Grand Lodge.

No other officer of a Provincial (or District) Grand Lodge is entitled to any prefix whatever, save and except such as he claims by virtue of his position in Grand Lodge i.e., either as actual or past officer of Grand Lodge, or as being an actual Master or subscribing Past Master of a private lodge.

Yours fraternally,

Lux.

To the Editor of The Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Mistakes having been made in both of Bro. W. J. Hughan's letters on this subject (which led to a mis-statement in mine of last week), and a portion of my letter having been omitted, I can only suppose they are printer's errors; anyway it leaves us much "as we were before we were." Under these circumstances I must ask leave to trespass on your space, in order that all the prefixes may, if possible, be correctly given at a glance, viz.:—

MOST WORSHIPFUL Nos. 1 to 4 inclusive.

RIGHT WORSHIPFUL Nos. 5 to 10 inclusive.

VERY WORSHIPFUL Nos. 11 to 20 inclusive.

WORSHIPFUL..... Nos. 21 to 34 inclusive, and the W. Masters, and Past Masters of all private lodges.

By referring to the "Constitutions," pp. 16 to 18, it will be seen that the list from which the above numbers are quoted includes both present and past Grand Officers. And as all Prov. G.M.'s are members of Grand Lodge, it is by their status therein that they acquire the prefix of "Right Worshipful"; or, in other words, with the sole exception of the Master of a private lodge, who is styled "Worshipful," the right of using a prefix is restricted to the appointments made by the M.W.G.M., for as M.M.'s (whose designation is "Brother" only) may be appointed to certain offices in Grand Lodge, or in a Prov. Grand Lodge, it is clear that

Office in Grand Lodge gives a prefix.
Office in a Prov. Grand Lodge does not give a prefix.
Now, will Bro. Hughan kindly say if all the above is correct?

Fraternally yours,

"AD REM."

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

My good friend and brother, "Ad Rem," having placed the whole matter in a nutshell, it is only needful now to look at the subject in such a small compass and conclude the correspondence.

Bro. "Ad Rem" says truly,

"Office in Grand Lodge gives a prefix (including Prov. G. Masters), office in Provincial Grand Lodge does not."
In reply to Bro. "Ad Rem's" fraternal request, and for the information of all interested, the following will be found in accordance with the circular of the late M.W. G.M., the Earl of Zetland, respecting Masonic designations. Book of Constitutions, re rank. Pages 16, &c. (edition 1873.)

Nos. 1 to 4, Most Worshipful.
Nos. 5 to 10, Right Worshipful.
Nos. 11 to 20, Very Worshipful.
Nos. 21 to end, Worshipful.

All officers appointed by Provincial Grand Masters are Worshipful brethren, if Masters or Past Masters, but not else.

Bro. R.W.O. asks a question which I have already virtually answered, but I will with pleasure accede to his wishes by referring to the subject at more length.

The authority for the Prov. G. Master to appoint a brother to office not officially a member of the Prov. G. Lodge, owing to being neither a Master, Past Master, nor Warden of a lodge in the province (though a contributing Master Mason therein), is conferred by the Book of Constitutions.

The Grand Master of England has the right by the Constitutions to appoint certain brethren to office, provided they are Master Masons (vide Constitutions, page 37, edit. 1873), and thereby the Prov. Grand Masters have a similar power.

In addition to the foregoing under the laws regulating Provincial Grand Lodges, certain officers are required to be either Masters, Past Masters, or present or past Wardens, viz., Deputy Provincial Grand Masters, Provincial Grand Wardens, and Provincial Grand Deacons respectively. The remainder have simply to be Master Masons. The rule to which Bro. R.W.O. alludes has reference to "Past Rank," which it is not in the power of any Provincial Grand Master or Lodge to confer.

Yours fraternally,

WILLIAM JAMES HUGHAN.

OFFICERS' JEWELS.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

In the lodge to which I belong (constituted 1765 under the old York regimine) several of the officers' jewels (silver) are different from those now worn.

The Past Master's is similar in design to the one now worn by the M.W.G.M., except that it has the blazing sun within the extended compasses instead of the irradiated eye. The Deacon's jewel is a winged Mercury bearing the caduceus; the Tyler's, a trowel.

Can any of your readers inform me whether these jewels were identified with the old York system, or are they, as I have reason to think, the recognized officers' jewels now worn under some other constitution.

Yours fraternally,

Lux.

THE SURREY MASONIC HALL CO., LIMITED.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Sir,—

From time to time I have noticed in your paper accounts of festivities at the Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell New-road, in which the directors of the above hall have figured prominently; but I have not noticed any attempt to make the company a commercial success. I have no doubt whatever that lodge meetings, balls, inaugural ceremonies, and other social reunions are very congenial to the tastes of the directors, and that their vanity is highly flattered by the prominent positions they occupied therein; but I should like to have answers to the following queries:—

(1.) What steps are being taken to prove the statement in the prospectus that the S.M.H. would be worthy of the attention of capitalists, as it would be a "remunerative investment?"

(2.) Is the hall completed? If so, has the directorate advertised it, or in any way informed entrepreneurs and caterers for public instruction and amusement that the hall not only existed, but was ready for public use?

(3.) Have any applications to hire the hall been received?

There are many who would be glad to be satisfied that the directors are doing their duty to the shareholders; and it would restore confidence if the above queries were satisfactorily replied to. Our money has been lying idle for the last three years, and it is high time that some return was made for our quasi-"remunerative investment."

I enclose my card, and am yours, &c.,

"A SHAREHOLDER."

SHEFFIELD MASONIC LIBRARY.

We have been requested to publish the following particulars with reference to the above:—

"Freemasons' Hall, Sheffield,
April 29th, 1876.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

We have much pleasure in handing to you, herewith, an account of the formation of a Masonic Library in connection with the three Sheffield Craft Lodges, and it is with deep feelings of satisfaction we call your attention to the distinguished patronage and liberal support which has been already accorded to the scheme. All under whose notice it has been hitherto brought, have heartily responded to the call, and promised to aid in furthering the cause. The Executive Committee, therefore, feel confident that in making this appeal to the members of the Craft in Sheffield and neighbourhood the funds will be considerably augmented—for although the full range of Masonic literature is not generally known to Masons, it is firmly believed that when a comprehensive Masonic library (such as we aim at) is placed within the reach of the brethren in Sheffield and neighbourhood, they will not be slow to avail themselves of the manifold advantages it offers. Should it, however, but serve to stimulate a few to penetrate deeper into the arcana of our mystic lore, and thus attain a knowledge of our society in its past, it cannot fail (whilst affording such members both pleasure and instruction) in leading them to make its present and future more glorious.

Any donation, or subscription, you may be pleased to give will be thankfully received and duly acknowledged by the Treasurer, or either of the Hon. Secs., who will at all times be happy to afford any further information in their power.

Commending the following pages to your careful perusal, and soliciting your hearty co-operation and support, we are, yours fraternally,

S. R. ELLIS, } Hon. Secs.
A. SCARGILL, }

The Sheffield Masonic Library is under the patronage of Lieut.-Col. Sir Henry Edwards, Bart., &c., &c., R.W. Prov. G.M. of West Yorks.; T. W. Tew, Esq., J.W., W. Dep. P.G.M. of West Yorks.; and Bentley Shaw, Esq., J.P., D.L., M.E. Prov. G. Supt. of the Royal Arch Masons of West Yorks.

PRESIDENT.—W. Bro. Henry Seebohm, P.M., F.Z.S.
VICE-PATRONS.—W. Bro. Henry Ecroyd, W.M. 296; W. Bro. Wm. J. Hughan, P.M., P.P.G. Sec. of Cornwall, Past Sen. Grand Deacon of England.

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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (Ex-officio).—President, Bro. H. Seebohm; Treasurer, Bro. Dr. W. R. Thomas; Hon. Secs. and Librarians, Bro. S. B. Ellis and A. Scargill, and Bro. Rev. E. B. Chalmers, H. J. Garnett, Dr. F. Griffiths, S. Hayes, and H. W. Loft-house.

The following is a copy, published by permission, of a letter received from Lieut.-Colonel Sir Henry Edwards, Bart., &c., &c., R.W. Prov. G.M. of West Yorks:—

"Pye Nest, near Halifax, Feb. 29th, 1876.

"My dear Sir and Brother,—

"I have great pleasure in enclosing my cheque for five guineas towards the intended Masonic Library for the use of our Sheffield brethren and their friends belonging to the Craft, and I need hardly say you have my hearty good wishes for the success of your very laudable project.

"Believe me to remain, yours faithfully and fraternally,
(Signed) "HENRY EDWARDS.

"S. B. Ellis, Esq., S.W. 1239."

The following donations have been received:—R. W. Bro. Lieut.-Col. Sir Henry Edwards, Bart., &c., &c., £5 5s.; W. Bro. T. W. Tew, J.P., £2 2s.; W. Bro. Bentley Shaw, J.P., D.L., £3 3s.; W. Bro. Henry Ecroyd, £13 13s.; W. Bro. Wm. J. Hughan, £10 10s.; Britannia Lodge, No. 139, £5 5s.; Royal Brunswick Lodge, No. 296, £5 5s.; Wentworth Lodge, No. 1239, £5 5s.; W. Bro. W. H. Brittain, £5 5s.; Bro. S. B. Ellis, £5 5s.; Bro. Dr. F. Griffiths, £5 5s.; W. Bro. G. W. Hawksley, £5 5s.; W. Bro. H. Pawson, £5 5s.; W. Bro. H. Seebohm, £5 5s.; Bro. Dr. W. R. Thomas, £5 5s.; W. Bro. Alexander Hay, £2 2s.; W. Bro. A. Scargill, £2 2s.; W. Bro. F. M. Tindall, £2 2s.; W. Bro. Wm. White, £2 2s.; W. Bro. R. Arnison, £1 1s.; Bro. Joseph Binney, £1 1s.; Bro. John Clark, £1 1s.; Bro. H. W. Loft-house, £1 1s.; W. Bro. H. Matthews, £1 1s.; W. Bro. John F. Moss, £1 1s.; Bro. John Nixon, £1 1s.; W. Bro. Wm. Roddewig, £1 1s.; Bro. George E. Webster, £1 1s.; Bro. A. J. Binney, 10s. 6d.; W. Bro. H. J. Garnett, 10s. 6d.; W. Bro. Rev. A. W. Hamilton, 10s. 6d.

RESUME OF SCHEME.

The objects of the Sheffield Masonic Library are:—Primarily—The collection of Masonic Literature. Secondly

—The Collection of General Literature. Thirdly—The organizing of a series of lectures to be delivered, and discussion papers to be read upon Freemasonry, and upon "The Hidden Mysteries of Nature and Science,"—after which lectures and papers it is desirable that discussions shall take place.

The various duties will be performed by an Executive Committee (see page 7), elected from and under the supervision of the General Committee and its officers (see pages 5 and 6). Lodges, chapters, or brethren giving 10 guineas shall become "Vice-Patrons" (for life); 5 guineas shall become "Vice-Presidents" (for life); 2 guineas shall become "Life Members;" 1 guinea shall become "Subscribers" (for the year in which given).

N.B.—Subscribers of one guinea for 2, 5, or 10 consecutive years, or contributing 2, 5, or 10 guineas within such respective periods, shall become Life Members, Vice-Presidents, or Vice-Patrons accordingly.

Donations, otherwise than in money, are taken at the valuation of the Executive Committee.

Works, &c., to be lent gratuitously to subscribing members of the three Sheffield Craft Lodges, and to members of the General Committee.

N.B.—Thus brethren in the neighbourhood, or from a distance, who qualify themselves by a donation or subscription, may participate in the advantages of the library.

LIST OF BOOKS.

Constitutions of the Grand Lodge of England, 1723, 1756, 1767, 1769, 1784, 1807, 1815-19, 1827, 1847, 1863, 1873; Constitution of the Grand Lodge of Scotland, 1848, 1873; Constitution of the Grand Lodge of Ireland, 1858; Constitution of the Grand Lodge of Kansas, 1869; Constitution of the Grand Lodge of Canada, 1861; Constitution of the United Grand Lodge of New York, 1851; Regulations of the Grand Chapter of England, 1823, 1873; Regulations of the Grand Chapter of Scotland, 1869; Regulations of the Grand Chapter of Ireland, 1873; Regulations of the Grand Chapter of Iowa, 1871; Constitutions of the Grand Mark Lodge of England and Wales, &c., 1872; Regulations of the Supreme Grand Council 33° England and Wales, &c., 1874; Regulations of the Grand Council of R. and S. Masters of Eng. & Wales, &c., 1874; Statutes of the Convent General, and of the Great Priory (K.T.) of England and Wales, &c., 1873; Statutes of Grand Conclave (K.T.) of England and Wales, 1853; Statutes of the Red Cross of Constantine Order, &c., of England and Wales, 1868; Statutes (and History) of the A. and P. Rite of Great Britain and Ireland, 1875; W. Yks. Prov. Grand Lodge Bye-Laws, W. Yks. Prov. Grand Royal Arch Chapter Bye-Laws, 1860; "Fac simile" of English Constitutions of 1722, "Old Constitutions," by the Rev. J. E. Cox, 1871; "Ahiman Rezon," (Dublin), 1817; "Fac simile" of Illuminated "Address presented to H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, K.G., M.W.G.M., from the Freemasons of Sheffield, August, 1875"; Dr. Oliver's Institutes of Masonic Jurisprudence, Discrepancies of Freemasonry, Freemasons' Treasury, Pythagorean Triangle, or the Science of Numbers, Antiquities of Freemasonry, Book of the Lodge, Star in the East, Signs and Symbols, Golden Remains of Early Masonic Writers (vol. 2), On the Origin of the Royal Arch Degree, Theocratic Philosophy of Freemasonry; Preston's Illustrations of Freemasonry, 1772, 1801, 1804, 1812, 1821, 1846; Hughan's Masonic Sketches and Reprints, Hughan's List of Lodges at 1814 (at the Union of Antients and Moderns), Hughan's Old Charges of British Freemasons, Halliwell's Early History of Freemasonry in England, Cooke's History and Articles of Freemasonry, Murray Lyon on Freemasonry in Scotland, Origin of Freemasonry in New Jersey, History of Freemasonry (Scotch), 1804; Dr. Loth's Illustrations of Emblems, 1° to 33° inclusive; Callcott's Disquisition of Freemasonry, 1769; Cole's Illustrations of Freemasonry, 1821; Hales' Social Harmony, 1763; Coustons on Freemasonry and the Inquisition, 1746; Masonic Code of Alabama, Bailey's English Dictionary, about 1726; Smith's Use and Abuse of Freemasonry, 1785; Browne's Masonic Master-key, 1802; Bulletin of Supreme Council 33°, S.J., U.S.A., vols. 1 and 2; Freemasons' Quarterly Review, 21 vols., 1834 to 1854; Principles of Freemasonry, 1777; Freemasonry—"A Word to the Wise," 1796; Historical Sketch of the "Society of the Sons of St. George," Report of the Masonic Board of Chicago, 1872; Yarker's Speculative Freemasonry, Moore's "Epicurean," Woodruff's New York Masonic Code, Life of Constantine, by Eusebius, from the Greek; Red Cross Order—Calendars of, 1868 to 1873; Dr. Mackey's Lexicon of Freemasonry, Dr. Mackey's American Quarterly (Masonic) Review, Mackenzie's Royal Masonic Cyclopaedia, Kenning's (Woodford's) Cyclopaedia of Freemasonry, Fort's Early History and Antiquities of Freemasonry, Findel's History of Freemasonry, Memorial vol. of the Masonic Temple of Philadelphia (with photographs, &c.), Hutchinson's Spirit of Freemasonry, 1775; Dallaway's "Architecture," Secret Societies of the Middle Ages, 1837; Heckethorn's "Secret Societies of All Ages and Countries," American Masonic Register, Universal Masonic Record, Cosmopolitan Masonic Calendars, 1871 to 1876; Webb's Masonic Monitor (with Dr. Oliver's autograph), 1805; "Solomon in all his Glory," Ashe's Masonic Manual, 1825; Ashe's Masonic Manual, edited by Rev. J. E. Cox, 1870; Addison's History of the Knights' Templar, 1842; Elements of Freemasonry, 1788; The "Locke" Pamphlet (on Freemasonry), 1753; "Masonic Magazine," vols. 1, 2, 3; "Rosicrucian Magazine," vols. 1 and 2; The "Freemason," from commencement; Bell's History and Bye-Laws of Prov. G. Lodge of the N. and E. Ridings of Yorks, Dendy's Philosophy of Mystery, Kingston Masonic Annual, 1871; Paton's "Origin of Freemasonry; or the 1717 Theory Exploded," Paton's "Freemasonry in relation to Civil Authority," &c.; Three Masonic Sermons by the Rev. W. J. Percy, Reflected Rays of Light upon Freemasonry, Lord Bacon on "Learning," 1640; Freemasons' Pocket

Companion (London), 1764; Freemasons' Pocket Companion (Edinburgh), 1765; History of the Washington Lodge, 1783-1876; Arnold's Philosophical History of Freemasonry and other Secret Societies, An Address to the Duke of Athol on the subject of the Union, 1804; "Life of Pythagoras, with his Symbols and Golden Verses; also the Life of Hierocles, and his Commentaries upon the Verses," 1707; Robinson's "Proofs of a Conspiracy against Religions and Governments in the Secret Meetings of Freemasons, Illuminati, and Reading Societies, Dublin, 1798; numerous Reports of Proceedings of English and Foreign Grand Lodges, Chapters, Charity Committees, &c., &c.; old numbers of English and American Masonic Magazines, Masonic Essays, Manuals, Sermons, Lectures, &c.; Histories and Bye-Laws of Lodges.

IN FRENCH.—Les Franc-Maçons, 1747; Varrentrapp's History, &c., of Freemasonry, 1744; Rebold's Histoire des Tres Grandes Loges, 1864.

IN SPANISH.—Los Comenidos de Castilla, 1842.

IN GERMAN.—Marbach—"Agenda" (on the Craft and Royal Arch Degrees); "Sarsena"—(History and Origin of Freemasonry); "Signet Star," 15 vols.; A Revelation of Freemasonry; "Freymaurerisch Versammlungsrede n der Gold und Rosenkreutzer des alten Systems"—Amsterdam, 1779; Kloss's Bibliographie der Freimaurerei und der mit ihr in Verbindung gesetzten geheimen Gesellschaften Systematisch zusammengestellt—Frankfurt-a-M. 1844.

Whilst referring, with some degree of pleasure, to the foregoing list of books already in our possession, the Executive Committee can only regard it as a nucleus, and, as such, a powerful incentive to further exertions.

S. B. ELLIS, Hon. Secs.
and
A. SCARGILL, Librarians.

PRESENTATION TO DR. W. P. MILLS, P.M., BY
LODGE 376.

A very gratifying presentation was made at the Masonic Hall, Ipswich, to Dr. W. P. Mills, who for many years has acted as Treasurer of the Perfect Friendship Lodge. The lodge was well attended, amongst those present being the officers of the lodge:—Bros. J. H. Staddon, W.M.; H. Sidney, S.W.; A. Read, J.W.; H. Luff, Sec.; J. G. Churchyard, S.D.; W. B. Jeffries, J.D.; W. T. Westgate, D.C.; W. Green, I.G.; Past Masters W. J. Jack, N. Tracy, J. A. Pettit, J. B. Fraser, A. Gamman, W. Spalding, W. A. Elliston. The British Union Lodge was represented by Bros. C. F. Long, P.M.; W. Boby, P.M.; A. D. George, P.M.; St. Luke's Lodge by Bros. W. Daking, S.W.; A. C. Barber, P.M.; and others; the Prince of Wales Lodge by Bros. F. Bennett; W. Clarke, J.W.; D. D. Steele, and others. Amongst the members of the Perfect Friendship Lodge were Bros. F. Fisher, L. Callaway, T. Hooper, T. R. Elkington, A. Cannon, W. H. Spicer, S. R. Anness, R. Anness, W. R. Davis, H. G. Bishop, H. D. Harrison; and others. The presentation consisted of an illuminated address, beautifully executed by Miss Tracy, together with a drawing-room clock and pair of ornaments, all enclosed under glass shades. The clock, an eight-day one, and the ornaments are made of ormolu and enamel, and have medallions very richly painted, representing hunting scenes. The articles, which are valued at 40 guineas, were supplied by J. B. (Messrs. R. D. and J. B. Fraser), and were much admired by the brethren.

The address was as follows:—"To W. P. Mills, M.D., P.M., P.P.S.G.W. Suffolk. Dear Sir and Brother,—We, the Worshipful Master, Wardens, Past Masters, and brethren of the Perfect Friendship Lodge of Freemasons, No 376, beg your acceptance of the accompanying time-piece, and ornaments, as a slight token of the high estimation of the many valuable services rendered our lodge, especially as Treasurer during a period of 26 years. Wishing you long life and happiness, We subscribe ourselves, Yours fraternally."

(Here follow the signatures of the W.M. and present officers and Past Masters and brethren of the lodge.)

Upon a gilt plate within the shade of the clock was the following inscription:—"Presented by the brethren of Lodge Perfect Friendship, No. 376, to W. P. Mills, M.D., P.M., P.P.S.G.W. Suffolk, as a mark of esteem and in recognition of his services as Treasurer for twenty-six years." After the passing of two brethren and the initiation of Mr. W. Roe, the presentation was made by the W.M., Bro. J. H. Staddon, who in a most felicitous speech expressed the obligations the brethren were under to their worthy Treasurer for acting in that capacity for the long period of twenty-six years, and asked his acceptance of the scroll, ornaments, and timepiece. Bro. Mills suitably responded, and stated his inability to sufficiently express his thanks to the brethren for their handsome and unexpected presentation. The lodge having been closed in due and ancient form, the brethren retired to the banqueting room, and about fifty sat down to supper.

INFANT ORPHAN ASYLUM WANSTEAD.—The anniversary meeting of this excellent charity will be held at Wanstead, on the 29th June. Bro. the Earl of Shrewsbury will preside on this occasion.

HAVE THE REMEDY WITHIN YOUR REACH.—Nothing has yet equalled the efficacy of Holloway's Balsamic Pills in checking disease and restoring vigour to the human body. They root out all impurities from the blood, and regulate and invigorate every organ. Immense care is taken to secure the genuine preparation to the public, that no disappointment may be caused to invalids seeking health by Holloway's medicines. Their composition, and careful packing, prevent the impairment of their virtues by time, sea voyage, or climate. They never gripe, or cause inconvenience. In disturbances of the system, disorders of the digestive apparatus and derangements of the bowels, these Pills exercise an almost magical power, which conquers disease safely, quickly, conveniently and cheaply.—Advr.

FREEMASONRY AND ROMAN CATHOLICISM.

The funeral of Permanent Sergeant Nagle, of the Second West York Yeomanry, took place at Stoney Road Cemetery, Halifax, in the presence of a very large concourse of people. Deceased died at the Halifax Infirmary, after a protracted illness caused by a cancer in the tongue. The funeral cortege assembled at the infirmary, and was composed of nearly all the members of the H Squadron of the Second West York Yeomanry, and a large number of artillery and rifle volunteers. Several of the militia staff and pensioners were also present, and the band of the regiment with which the deceased was connected played the Dead March in "Saul." At the cemetery the Rev. Father Geary performed the funeral ceremony, and at the close of the service in the chapel announced that deceased had been a Freemason, but in order to die in the faith of the Roman Catholic Church he had, previous to his death, renounced his connection with Freemasonry. The usual firing over the grave took place, after which the crowds dispersed.

BRO. HUBERT AND THE CHAÎNE D'UNION.

We have been requested to publish the following:—
Paris, le 17 Avril, 1876.

M. Hubert, rédacteur en chef de la "Chaîne d'Union, Journal de la Franc-maçonnerie Universelle," me prie de faire savoir à ses amis et abonnés que, par suite d'un accident qui lui est arrivé, le 13 Avril, en montant en omnibus, il s'est fracturé une jambe et se trouve provisoirement empêché de publier son journal. Il compte sur la sympathie de ses abonnés pour accepter ce retard forcé, et leur promet qu'aussitôt qu'il pourra se lever, il complètera les numéros restés en arrière et reprendra sa publicité régulière.

M. Hubert invite ses correspondants à continuer de lui adresser leurs documents et notes, rue de la Vielle-Estrapade, 9, afin, qu'ils puissent être transmis à l'imprimerie, composés de suite et coordonnés dès que la santé du rédacteur le lui permettra.

Les amis de M. Hubert, que voudraient lui rendre visite, pourront le voir à partir de 10 heures du matin jusqu'à 5 heures et demie du soir inclusivement, en s'adressant à la Maison de santé du faubourg Saint-Denis (Hospice Dubois), escalier A, au 28, côté des hommes, chambre No. 14, où il est actuellement alité.

Pour M. HUBERT, empêché,
A. PARENT, imprimeur de la "Chaîne d'Union."

METROPOLITAN MASONIC MEETINGS.

For the Week ending Friday, May 12, 1876.

The Editor will be glad to receive notice from Secretaries of Craft Lodges, Royal Arch Chapters, Mark Lodges, Preceptories, Conclaves, &c., of any change in place or time of meeting.

SATURDAY, MAY 6.

Gen. Com. Boys' School, at 4.
Lodge 1194, Villiers, Grotto Hot., Twickenham.
" 1559, New Cross, New Cross Hall, S.E.
Precep. 127, Bard of Avon, Hampton Court.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Lily, Greyhound, Richmond.
Percy, 113, Southgate-rd., N.
Manchester, 179, London-st., Fitzroy-square.
Star, Marquis of Granby, New Cross Road.

MONDAY, MAY 8.

Lodge 5, St. George's and Corner Stone, F.M.H.
" 136, Good Report, Terminus Hot., Cannon-st.
" 193, Confidence, Anneton's Hot., Fleet-st.
" 957, Leigh, F.M.H.
" 1366, Highgate, Gatehouse Hot., Highgate.
Chap. 720, Panmure, Horns Tav., Kennington.
" 1118, University, F.M.H.
" 1319, Asaph, F.M.H.
Rose Croix Chap., Holy Sanctuary, 33, Golden-sq.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Prince Leopold, Lord Stanley Tav., Kingsland.
Strong Man, Jerusalem Tav., St. John's Gate.
Sincerity, Railway Tav., Fenchurch-st. Station.
Camden, Stanhope Arms, Up. James-st., Camden To.
Eastern, Royal Hot., Mile-end-road.
St. James's Union, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Wellington, White Swan, Deptford.
West Kent, St. Saviour's College, Forest-hill.
Perfect Ashlar, Victoria Tav., Lower-rd., Rotherhithe.
Sydney, White Hart Ho., Church-rd., Upper Norwood.

TUESDAY, MAY 9.

Lodge 46, Old Union, Terminus Hot., Cannon-st.
" 167, St. John's, Holly Bush Tav., Hampstead.
" 211, St. Michael's, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
" 541, Wellington, White Swan Tav., Deptford.
" 1269, Stanhope, Thicket Hot., Anerley.
Mark Lodge 1, St. Mark's, M.H., Masons' Avenue.
Supreme Grand Council, 33, 33, Golden-sq.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney.
Domestic, Surrey M.H., Camberwell New-road.
Faith, 2, Westminster Chambers, Victoria-st.
Prince Frodo. Wm., Lord's Hot., St. John's Wood.
Dalhousie, King Edward, Triangle, Hackney.
Prosperity, 1, Camomile-st., Bishopsgate.
St. Marylebone, British Stores Tav., St. John's Wood.
Constitutional, Wheatsheaf Hot., Hand-court, Holborn.
Israel, Rising Sun Tav., Globe Road.
Royal Arthur, Prince's Head, York-road, Battersea.

Beacontree, Red Lion, Leytonstone, at 8.
Metropolitan Chapter, Jamaica Coffee Ho., Cornhill.
Excelsior, Commercial Dock Tav., Rotherhithe.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 10.

Anniversary Festival R.M.I. for Girls, F.M.Tav.—See Advt.
Com. R.M.B.I., at 3.
Lodge 3, Fidelity, F.M.H.
" 13, Union Waterloo, M.H., Woolwich.
" 15, Kent, F.M.H.
" 708, Carnarvon, Mitre Inn, Hampton Court.
" 781, Merchant Navy, Silver Tav., Burdett-rd., E.
" 820, Lily of Richmond, Greyhound, Richmond.
" 1017, Montefiore, F.M.H.
" 1228, Beacontree, Private Room, Leytonstone.
" 1306, St. John of Wapping, Gun Tav., Wapping.
" 1503, Francis Burdett, Albany Hot., Twickenham.
Supreme Grand Council, 30° and 33°, 33, Golden-sq.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Mt. Lebanon, Windsor Castle Tav., Southwark-bdg.-rd.
Pythagorean, Prince of Orange, Greenwich.
New Concord, Rosemary Branch Tav., Hoxton.
Royal Union, Horse and Groom, Winsley-st., Oxford-st.
Confidence, M.H., Basinghall-st.
Peckham, Maismore Arms, Park-road, Peckham.
Stanhope, Thicket Hot., Anerley.
Finsbury Park, Finsbury Park Tav., Seven Sisters'-rd.
Southwark, Southwark Park Tav., Southwark Park.
Duke of Connaught, Havelock Tav., Dalston, E.
United Strength, Grafton Arms, Kentish-town.
Mount Edgecumbe, 19, Jermyn-street, St. James's.
Islington, Crown and Cushion, London Wall.
Whittington, Black Bull Tav., Holborn.

THURSDAY, MAY 11.

Lodge 19, R. Athelstan, London Tav., Bishopsgate-st.
" 91, Regularity, F.M.H.
" 263, Bank of England, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
" 657, Canonbury, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
" 879, Southwark, Southwark Park Tav.
" 1076, Capper, Marine Hot., Victoria Dock.
" 1216, Macdonald Hd.-qtrs. 1st Surrey Rifles.
" 1288, Finsbury Park, Finsbury Park Tav.
" 1321, Emblematic, Tulse Hill Hot., Tulse Hill.
" 1471, Islington, Cock Tav., Highbury.
" 1558, Duke of Connaught, Surrey M.H.
" 1599, Skelmersdale, Masons' Hall, Basinghall-st.
K.T. Precep. 45, Temple Crossing, Bridge House Hot.
" 117, New Temple, The Inner Temple, London.
Prov. Grand Lodge, R.S.Y.C.S. at 3 o'clock. 33, Golden-sq.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Egyptian, Hercules Tav., Leadenhall-st.
Fidelity, Yorkshire Grey, London-st., W.
Finsbury, Jolly Anglers' Tav., Bath-st., City-road.
Temperance in the East, Catherine-st., Poplar.
Ebury, 12, Ponsonby-st., Millbank.
Highgate, Bull and Gate, Kentish-town.
The Great City, 111, Cheapside.
High Cross, Coach & Horses, High-road, Tottenham.
Salisbury, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Marquis of Ripon, Albion Tav., Albion-rd., Dalston.
Prince Frederick William Chapter, St. John's Wood.

FRIDAY, MAY 12.

Lodge 33, Britannic, F.M.H.
" 134, Caledonian, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.
" 157, Bedford, F.M.H.
" 1420, Earl Spencer, Northcote Hot., S.W.
Chap. 6, Friendship, Willis's Rooms, King-st., W.
K.T. Precep. 26, Faith and Fidelity, Terminus Hot.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Union Waterloo, Thomas-st., Woolwich.
St. George's, Globe Tav., Royal-hill, Greenwich.
Robert Burns, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Belgrave, Lyceum Tav., 354, Strand.
Unions Emulation (for M.M.'s), F.M.H.
Temperance, Victoria Tav., Victoria-road, Deptford.
Clapton, White Hart, Clapton.
Metropolitan, Portugal Hot., Fleet-st.
Westbourne, Horse & Groom, Winsley-st., Oxford-st.
Metropolitan, Pentonville-road.
United Pilgrims, Surrey M.H., Camberwell New-road.
St. James's, New Tanners' Arms, Grange-rd., Bermondsey.
Duke of Edinburgh, Silver Lion, Penny-fields, Poplar.
Doric, Earl Grey Tav., Mile-end-road.
Burgoyne, Grafton Arms, Prince of Wales's-road, N.W.
St. Luke's, Commercial Tav., King's-road, Chelsea.
Chigwell, Bald-faced Stag Hot., Buckhurst-hill.
Burdett Coutts, Approach Tav., Victoria Park.
Royal Standard, Finsbury Park Tav., Holloway.
Ranelagh, Clarendon Hot., Hammersmith.
Pythagorean Chapter, Prince of Orange, Greenwich-rd.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN WEST LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE.

For the Week ending Saturday April 13, 1876.

MONDAY, MAY 8.

Lodge 314, Peace and Unity, Militia Mess R., Preston.
" 613, Unity, Palatine Buildings, Southport.
" 703, Clifton, Clifton Hot., Blackpool.
" 1021, Hartington, H.M., C.H.B., B.-in-Furness.
" 1350, Fernor Hesketh, M.H., Liverpool.
" 1398, Baldwin Castle, Dalton-in-Furness.
" 1496, Trafford, Northumberland Hot., Old Trafford.
Chap. 148, Elias Ashmole, C.R., Warrington.
Mark Lodge, 165, Bedford H., Bedford-rd., Rock Ferry.

TUESDAY, MAY 9.

Lodge 179, Antiquity, Royal Hot., Wigan.
" 241, Merchants, M.H. Liverpool.
" 1250, Gilbert Greenall, M.R., Warrington.
" 1325, Stanley, M.H., Kirkdale.
" 1384, Equity, Commercial Hot., Widnes.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 10.

- Lodge 281, Fortitude, the Athenaeum, Lancaster.
 " 1052, Callender, P.H., Rusholme.
 " 1061, Triumph, M.H., Lytham.
 " 1094, Temple, M.H., Liverpool.
 " 1356, De Grey and Ripon, 80, N. Hill-st.
 " 1403, West Lancashire, Commercial Hot., Ormskirk.
 " 1547, Liverpool, M.H., Liverpool.
 " 1345, Victoria, Cross Keys Hot., Eccles.
 Neptune L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

THURSDAY, MAY 11.

- Lodge 216, Harmonic, Adelphi Hot., Liverpool.
 " 333, Royal Preston, Vic., Garrison Hot., Fulwood.
 " 477, Mersey, 55, Argyle-st., Birkenhead.
 " 786, Croxteth, United Service, M.H., Liverpool.
 " 1035, Prince of Wales, Kirkdale, Liverpool.
 " 1182, Duke of Edinburgh, M.H., Liverpool.
 " 1213, Bridgewater, Cross Keys Hot., Eccles.
 Chap. 220, Harmony, Garston Hot., Garston.
 Mariners' L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

FRIDAY, MAY 12.

- Lodge 1280, Rock, Bedford House, Rock Ferry.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN GLASGOW AND WEST OF SCOTLAND.

For the Week ending Saturday, May 13, 1876.
 All the Meetings take place at Eight o'clock.

MONDAY, MAY 8.

- Lodge 102, St. Mark, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
 " 204, St. Paul, George Inn, Ayr.
 " 205, Gartland St. Winnoch, Eagle, Lochwinnoch.
 " 219, Star, 12, Trongate, Glasgow.
 " 307, Union and Crown, M.H., Barrhead.
 " 362, St. Clair, 25, Robertson-st., Glasgow.
 " 384, Athole, Kirkintilloch, Washington Hot.
 " 403, St. George, Oddfellows' Hall, Helensburgh.
 " 541, Marie Stuart, M.H., Crosshill.
 " 579, St. Bryde, M.H., Uddingston.

TUESDAY, MAY 9.

- Lodge 177, St. James, Old Monkland, M.H., Coatbridge.
 " 230, St. Barnabas, Black Bull Hot., New Cumnock.
 " 413, Athole, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
 " 419, Neptune, 35, St. James-st., Kingston.
 " 426, Prince of Wales, M.H., Renfrew.
 " 441, Glasgow, 22, Struthers-st., Calton, Glasgow.
 " 543, St. John, M.H., Dalmuir.
 Chap. 69, St. Andrew's, 170, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 10.

- Lodge 178, Scotia, 170, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
 " 179, St. Mungo, London Hot., Mauchline.
 " 333, St. George, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
 " 510, Maryhill, 167, Main-st., Maryhill.
 Chap. 113, Partick, M.H., Partick.

THURSDAY, MAY 11.

- Lodge 88, New Monkland, T.H., Airdrie.
 " 109, St. Marnock, T.H., Kilmarnock.
 " 203, St. John's, Olive H., Airdrie.
 " 290, Dalry Blair, White Hart H., Dalry.
 " 570, Kenmuir, M.H., Springburn.
 Chap. 50, Glasgow, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.

FRIDAY, MAY 12.

- Lodge 18, Dumbarton, Mission Hall, Dumbarton.
 " 170, St. John, Black Bull Inn, Renton.
 " 399, Royal Blues, Commercial Hot., Kilbirnie.
 " 427, St. Clair, M.H., Garngad-rd., Glasgow.
 Chap. 144, St. Rollox, M.H., Garngad-rd., Glasgow.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN EDINBURGH AND VICINITY.

For the Week ending Saturday, May 13, 1876.

MONDAY, MAY 8.

- Lodge 145, St. Stephen, Writers' Court, Edinburgh.

TUESDAY, MAY 9.

- Lodge 1, Mary's Chapel, Waterloo-place.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 10.

- Lodge 2, Canongate Kilwinning, St. John's Chapel.

- Chap. 1, Edinburgh, F.M.H., George-st.

THURSDAY, MAY 11.

- Lodge 8, Journeyman, M.H., High-st.

FRIDAY, MAY 12.

- Chap. 56, Canongate, M.H., John-st.

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MAY ELECTION, 1876.

ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

—The Votes and Interest of the Governors and Subscribers are most earnestly solicited on behalf of

ELIZA BLACKBURN.

Widow of the late William Blackburn, formerly of the Robert Burns Lodge, No. 25, in which he was initiated in 1844; joined the Lodge of Confidence, No. 103, in 1848, and served the office of Master in 1850; joined the Globe Lodge, No. 23, in 1848, and served the office of Master in 1851; joined the Crystal Palace Lodge, No. 743, in 1858, and acted as Secretary thereof for eight years; joined the Doble Lodge Surrey, No. 889, in 1863, and was appointed Provincial Grand S.B. for Surrey in 1866. He was exalted in the Robert Burns Chapter, No. 25, in 1846, was elected Treasurer of the said chapter, and served the office of First Principal in 1844; joined the Prudence Chapter, No. 12, in 1858, and served the office of Scribe E. from that time to 1873; and joined the Mount Lebanon Chapter, No. 435, in 1863, of which he was Scribe E., and retained that office till he was elected an Annuitant and Inmate of the Royal Masonic Institution in 1873. Your Petitioner is allowed to remain in the apartments occupied by her late husband for a brief period according to the laws, her only means of support being the annuity formerly enjoyed by him.

The case is strongly recommended by Bro. G. F. Newmarch, Dep. G.M. for Gloucestershire, and V.P. of the Institution, Cirencester.

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 Henry Browne, P.G.D., Upper Tooting.
 Raynham W. Stewart, P.G.D., 11, Abchurch-lane.
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 R. Spencer, P.G.S., P.M. 263, 26, Fentiman-road, Clapham-rd.
 J. T. Bennett, P.G.S., 23, No. 12, Pall Mall.
 W. Watson, P.G.S. Grand Stewards' Lodge, 42, Drury-lane.
 H. J. Strong, M.D., P. Prov. G.W. Surrey, P.M. 452, 463, P.Z. 463, and V.P. of the Institution, No. 64, North End, Croydon.

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 W. Pearce, P. Prov. G. Reg. Surrey, P.M. 889, No. 2, Dr. Johnson's Buildings, Temple.

T. Long, Prov. G.D.C. Surrey, P.M. 889, Kingston.
 J. B. Lemaitre, P.M., 12, P.Z. 12, No. 30, Chiswell-street.
 L. Ruf, P.M. and Treas. 12, P.Z. and Treas. 12, Lowther Arcade.

W. Rumsey, P.M. 206, No. 8, London-street.
 C. Smithers, No. 100, Leadenhall-street.

H. T. Thompson, P.M. 742, Augusta Cottage, Nightingale-rd., Lower Clapton.

C. Painter, 190, No. 130, Leadenhall-street.

By whom Proxies will be thankfully received, also by the applicant, Eliza Blackburn, 7, Royal Masonic Institution, East Croydon.

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GRAND DISTRIBUTION OF PRIZES, ON THE ART UNION PRINCIPLE.

The Galashiels St. John's Lodge of Freemasons, No. 262, have much pleasure in intimating to the Masonic Craft and the public in general, that they will give a Grand Distribution of Prizes in the Public Hall, Galashiels, on Friday, 30th June, at Seven o'clock, p.m. The proceeds to be devoted to the building of a new Masonic Hall.

TICKETS ONE SHILLING EACH.

Drawing on Friday, June 30th. Winning Numbers will be published in the "Freemason" of July 8th, and the "Scotman" and "Border Advertiser" of Wednesday, the 5th of July, 1876.

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REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS.

Craft Masonry.

FAITH LODGE (No. 141).—The last meeting of the season of this popular City lodge was held at Anderson's Hotel, Fleet-street, on Tuesday, the 25th ult. The lodge was convened at half-past four in the afternoon, when there were present Bros. Waygood, W.M.; Kennett, I.P.M.; Themans, P.M.; Hopwood, P.M., W.M. 1512, acting S.W.; Walls, acting J.W.; Dairry, J.D., acting S.D.; Rumbold, W.S., acting I.G. The officers present later in the evening were Bros. Stuart, P.M., Sec.; Carter, P.M., Treas.; Taylor, P.M.; Davis, S.W.; Mallett, J.W.; Bye, I.G. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The W.M. having raised Bros. Ginz and Manley to the Third Degree, vacated the chair, and Bro. Hopwood, P.M., by his permission, raised Bro. Kendall. Bros. Smith and Leftley being candidates for the Second Degree were accordingly passed as F.C.'s by the W.M., who afterwards initiated Mr. Barrett. The question of holding a summer banquet having been discussed the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to an excellent banquet. The visitors were Bros. Simmonds, P.M. 141, 554, and W.M. 1159; Joseph Wright, P.M. 1158, and W.M. of the Royal Commemoration; Tully, 209; Stichling, Zetland; Cook, Royal Union; Heffer, Southern Star; Cousins, Yarrowborough; Barrett, Star of the East. Upon the removal of the cloth the W.M. briefly gave the usual toasts of ceremony, which were duly honoured, and Bro. Walls having sung the National Anthem, "The Health of the W.M." was warmly proposed by Bro. Taylor, P.M., in the absence of the I.P.M. In concluding his remarks he called upon the brethren on that occasion to give the toast every honour as they were about to separate for many months, and that when they again assembled the W.M.'s reign would be almost over, and he therefore desired the brethren to give Bro. Waygood such a parting "fire" as his indomitable perseverance in endeavouring to surmount many obstacles that stood in his Masonic progress so thoroughly deserved at their hands. It is, perhaps, but needless to say that after such an address the toast was most heartily drunk. The W.M., in reply, thanked Bro. Taylor for the kind manner in which he had introduced the toast, and the brethren for the warmth with which it had been received, and briefly touched upon his long connection with the lodge, and the services he had humbly endeavoured to render it. In conclusion he told them that during the long summer recess he should look back to that meeting with pleasure, and with a hope that they would all meet again in September in the full possession of good health, and of every domestic prosperity. The initiate, Bro. Barrett, having been toasted, made an excellent reply. In proposing "The Health of the Visitors" the W.M. took occasion to mention that one of the visiting brethren that evening, Bro. Simmonds, had passed the chair in that lodge nearly thirty years ago, and was W.M. of 1159, at the present time, proving that his zeal for Freemasonry had not abated. They had also, he said, another very hard working brother present on that occasion in the person of Bro. J. Wright, P.M., whose attention to the ancient Craft was pretty well known to them all. The W.M. in conclusion also mentioned the names of the other visitors present that evening, and hoped that their visit to the Faith had been in every way agreeable to them. This toast having been responded to, the remaining toasts were given very quickly by the W.M., and as briefly acknowledged. They were "The Past Masters of the Lodge," "The Treasurer and Secretary," and "The Junior Officers." In the intervals Bros. Robinson, Mallett, Leftley, Themans, Walls, and others instrumentally and vocally enlivened the proceedings. The next meeting of the lodge will be held on the last Tuesday in September. This lodge will be represented at the Boys' Festival in June by Bro. E. Hopwood, P.M.

JORDAN LODGE (No. 201).—The last regular meeting of this very old established lodge was held on the 21st ult. at the Freemasons' Tavern. There were present Bros. Wagner, W.M.; Elsam, P.M. (Dobie), P.P. G.D.C. of Surrey, S.W.; Read, J.W.; Sumner, S.D.; Smith, J.D.; Arliss, P.M., Sec.; Pain, I.G.; Robinson, P.M., acting I.P.M.; Pavage, P.M., W.S.; Whitley, P.M. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The agenda of business contained the names of several brethren for passing

and raising, and also three candidates for initiation, but from various causes they were all prevented from attending, and the W.M. in order to fill up the time rehearsed the ceremony of initiation, with Bro. Harper for a candidate, and the S.D. at its close delivered the charge. A discussion then ensued upon the propriety of holding a summer banquet in connection with the lodge, which was ultimately unanimously agreed to, and a committee appointed to carry it out. The lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to an excellent banquet. The visitors were Bros. Bofill, Royal Jubilee; Stroud, late of the Jordan; Cook, Domestic; Walls, S.D. Kennington. Upon the removal of the cloth the W.M. gave "The Queen and Craft," "The M.W.G.M., H.R.H. the Prince of Wales," "The Pro G.M.," "The D.G.M. and the rest of the Grand Officers, Past and Present." Bro. Read having contributed the National Anthem, Bro. Robinson, P.M., arose, and proposed "The Health of the W.M." in a very neat speech. In the course of his remarks he stated that although Bro. Wagner that evening had had no work to do, yet his zeal for Freemasonry was such that he had gone through the first ceremony as a rehearsal in a manner that left little to be desired, and in conclusion he hoped that the remainder of the W.M.'s year of office would be attended with every prosperity. This toast having been duly honoured, the W.M. in a few brief words acknowledged the compliment that had been passed to him, and immediately gave "The Health of the Visitors," in which he deplored the circumstances that had prevented him and his officers that evening from exhibiting the working of the lodge to their guests, but he hoped that on a future occasion, should they honour them with their company, to show them that the Jordan Lodge had not degenerated. This toast was responded to by Bros. Cook and Walls. "The Health of the Past Masters" followed, and was replied to by Bros. Robinson, Whitley, and Davage. The latter brother shortly afterwards took occasion, when "The Masonic Charities" was proposed, to regret that this toast was not given at all lodge banquets, as he was of opinion that much monetary good would arise if the cause of charity in connection with those valuable institutions was brought to the notice of the brethren at the convivial board. He stated that as one of the Governors of the charities he would be only too happy to accompany any brother at any time over the different buildings, and to explain their working and management. "The Health of the Treasurer and Secretary and the Junior Officers" followed, and was acknowledged by Bros. Robinson, Elsam, Read, and others. Contributions of harmony and poetry were given during the evening by Bros. Read, Robinson, Walls, and others. The Tyler having discharged his duty, the brethren separated until the third Friday in October.

THE ROYAL OAK LODGE (No. 871) held its regular meeting on 27th ult. at the White Swan Tavern, Deptford. There were present Bros. H. J. Tuson, W.M. (who presided, and did all the work in good style); W. Andrews, P.M., Treas.; F. Walters, P.P. G.P. Middlesex, P.M., Sec.; G. Andrews, P.M., M.C.; W. Myatt, P.M., W.S.; S. O. Lewin, I.P.M.; J. J. Pokes, S.W.; J. B. Langley, J.W.; G. T. Linn, S.D.; R. Harman, J.D.; J. G. Vohmann, I.G.; H. J. Fisher, Organist; and about 40 other members. The large number of visitors who honoured the lodge with their presence were Bros. H. J. Green, W.M. 1538; H. Keeble, P.M. 1275; J. Griffin, P.M. 933; J. Roper, P.M. 147; C. Nash, P.M. 79; H. Caston, 40; T. W. Adams, 765; W. T. Hunt, 79; and several others, whose names we were unable to ascertain. Bros. G. Eve, W. Simmonds, and G. A. Leighton were Crafted. Five guineas were voted to a deceased member's widow, and her petition to Lodge of Benevolence signed in open lodge. Several candidates were proposed for initiation. The lodge was adjourned. Good banquet and dessert followed. The usual loyal toasts were given and responded to. Songs and recitations followed.

URBAN LODGE (No. 1196).—Saint John's Gate, Clerkenwell, has long been noted for being one of the relics of the London that is passed. Garrick there made his debut in the hall which is over the gateway; it was in the coffee-room that Dr. Johnson presided over the Urban Club, and it was there also that Oliver Goldsmith spent most of his ready cash. With such reminiscences as these it would be impossible for any to enter the hostelry of St. John without some feeling of awe and respect; and this feeling would be intensified were they to attend a meeting of the Urban Lodge of Freemasons which sprung out of the Literary Club of which Johnson was president. On Tuesday, the 25th ult., a lodge was held at the ancient tavern, which was presided over by Bro. Japheth Fickle, W.M. There were of the members a very good muster. Visitors: Bros. Caravoglia, Donald King, Righton, Hamer, Watts, Hepburn, Shawson, Roberts, Pogmore, Buss, Kidder, and others. After the business (two initiations performed by the W.M. and a raising through the courtesy of the W.M. conducted by P.M. Marsh) of the lodge was completed the whole meeting adjourned to the banquet-hall (the identical room in which Garrick made his first essay at comedy), where a most elegant but at the same time substantial repast had been prepared by the host, Bro. Gay.

"Course followed course, and round the bottle flew; Laughter and mirth prevailed amongst the crew." The toast of "The Queen and Craft" was proposed by the W.M. and drunk with a great degree of loyalty, whilst that of "The Grand Master" was received with fervour such as is seldom witnessed, and as Bro. L. ehmeier at the piano played "God Bless the Prince of Wales" such a hearty chorus of voices joined in the refrain that shewed too plainly to be mistaken how sincere and heartfelt were the wishes for the Prince's welfare. The other usual toasts were all well received and responded to, and the whole evening passed off most pleasantly, with one exception, and we do not doubt that the

brother who caused the slight unpleasantness will (to use his own words) "regret in the morning the speech of the previous night." The Secretary (Dr. Carpenter) spoke of the flourishing state of the lodge's finances. Bro. Terry, in a very eloquent speech, pleaded for the Masonic charities, and we think that the Urban Lodge will not fail to take his advice and to endow their W.M. as a Vice-President of one of these excellent institutions. During the evening the brethren were favoured with some very fine songs from Bros. Caravoglia, Donald King, and Righton, and Bro. Lehmeier delighted all his hearers with the exquisite amount of pathos and expression he displayed in his rendering of Thalberg's "Home, Sweet Home." Bro. Fairchild also gave a recitation, "My Pipe," with great dramatic force, which showed he possessed histrionic powers of no mean ability. The brethren separated at 11.30, having passed an evening one of the most happy within any of their recollections.

SURREY MASONIC HALL LODGE (No. 1539).—The regular meeting of this flourishing lodge was held on Thursday evening, May 4th, at the Masonic Hall, Camberwell New Road. Bro. Mark S. Larham, W.M., presided, and the following officers were present:—Bros. E. Clark, P.M.; W. Ramsey, S.W.; T. L. Green, J.W.; J. Oliver, Sec.; N. Ritherdon, S.D.; W. Smale, J.D.; D. A. Ross, I.G.; and S. J. Harvey, D.C. The following visitors were also present:—Bros. Middlemass, 957; Murfin, 733; Reynolds, 1319; F. Wallis, I.P.M. 905; Holt, P.M. 235; Dubois, P.M. 1326 and P.M. 1423; H. Thompson ("Freemason") 1426, and P.M. 177 and 1158; J. Burgh, 2; S. T. Carter, 1328; G. J. Dawson, 749; C. Sims, 1555; and Vockins, P.M. 1329. The lodge having been opened in due form, and the minutes of last meeting read and confirmed, the lodge was opened in the Third Degree, and Bro. Collins was raised to the Sublime Degree, the whole ceremony being impressively performed by the W.M. with his usual ability. The lodge was then lowered to the Second Degree, and Bros. Clans and Moss were passed to that of F.C. The next business was to ballot for the admission of Mr. Frederick George Wells, which being unanimous in his favour, he, being in attendance, was impressively initiated into the mysteries and privileges of Ancient Freemasonry. The next item on the programme was the election of a W. Master for the ensuing year, and the choice fell upon Bro. Ramsey, S.W., who returned thanks for his election, and Bro. Larham was elected Treasurer for the coming year. Bro. E. Clark, P.M., then proposed that a jewel of the value of ten guineas be presented to Bro. Larham, as a recognition on the part of the lodge of his services, and the able manner in which he had discharged his duties as W. Master. Bro. Green, J.W., seconded the motion, which was put and carried unanimously, and for which the W. Master returned thanks. Bro. Geider, P.M., was re-elected Tyler, and the Audit Committee having been appointed the lodge was closed in due form, and the brethren adjourned for refreshment, well served by Bro. Bromley, of the Clapham Road. On the removal of the cloth the W.M. gave "The Queen," and afterwards "The Health of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, Most Worshipful Grand Master," and expressed a hope that the Masons of England would again see him amongst them at the next meeting of the Grand Lodge, when he hoped they would all give him a hearty welcome. The toast was most cordially responded to. The W. Master next gave "Bro. Wells," their newly initiated brother Bro. Wells, in responding, said he begged to thank them most sincerely for the manner in which his health had been proposed and drunk, and he trusted that he should become a respectable member of their ancient and honourable fraternity. Bro. E. Clark, P.M., said, in proposing the next toast, which was "The Health of their W. Master," he did so with a certain amount of regret, as he was sure from their associations they did not like losing his services in his present capacity of W. Master. He had always been with them, and had done his work well, to say nothing of the cordiality that had always existed between them, and he was sure that they all appreciated his services. The toast was cordially received. The W. Master thanked Bro. Clark for the kind remarks he had made, and the brethren for the very hearty manner in which they had responded to them. He hoped that he had given them satisfaction, and he trusted that the S.W., his successor, would have as successful a year of office as he had, and he concluded by proposing "The Health of the W.M. Elect." Bro. Ramsey returned thanks. He was full of hopes for the future, and he hoped with the assistance of such a hearty and thorough Mason as their present W. Master to carry out the work of the lodge to their satisfaction. The W.M. said the next toast was a very pleasing one to him, as it was to propose "The Health of the Visitors," and he must say that he felt highly gratified to see so many present on that occasion. Having read over the list he said he should call upon Bro. Thompson, who he believed was the oldest Mason present to return thanks for the visitors. Bro. H. Thompson ("Freemason") said the W.M. had cast upon him a most important duty to return thanks for such an array of visitors as was then present, and the more so as he should be but an unworthy exponent of the feelings of those who were far more able to discharge that duty. (No, no.) He took their observations as a kindly feeling towards him, and in the first place he begged to thank the lodge for the splendid hospitality with which they had been received, and in the next to express the high satisfaction they derived in witnessing the very able manner in which the whole of the three ceremonies in the lodge had been performed by the W.M. That was no more than he (Bro. Thompson) expected from him, having seen how assiduous he had been in his attendance at lodges of instruction, where he was always to be found giving instruction to young Masons who required it, and what particularly added to its value was the very unostentatious way in which that

information was conveyed. In this respect he followed closely the course taken by his own teacher, the late Bro. Thomas, and he might say that like the mantle of Elijah that fell upon Elisha, the mantle of their late revered Bro. Thomas had fallen upon Bro. Larham, and he hoped he might long live to enjoy the honours which that night had been conferred upon him. The Tyler's toast was given, and a very harmonious meeting was brought to a close.

CHAUCER LODGE (No. 1540) held its regular meeting on Wednesday, April 26th, at the Bridge House Hotel, Borough High-street, Southwark. In the unavoidable absence of the W.M., Bro. T. J. Sabine, P.P.G.S.B. Middx., P.M. 738, the lodge was opened by Bro. T. J. H. Wilkins, P.M. 73, who is doing good suit and service to this young lodge by the really efficient manner in which he performs the duties of I.P.M., and by the great assistance he is to every officer who requires any help, being ever ready, able, willing, and obliging to undertake the duties of any officer who might be absent. When we overheard the veteran Secretary, Bro. F. Walters, P.P.G.P. Middx., P.M. 73, Secretary of several lodges, state he never had his work better done (during his absence) by any one than when Bro. T. J. H. Wilkins, P.M., did it for him, that shows his able services are well appreciated by those whom experience makes good and excellent judges of what ought to be done. He was well supported by Bros. J. C. Mason, S.W.; E. S. Stidolph, J.W.; F. Walters, P.P.G.P., P.M., Sec.; W. J. Kemp, S.D.; G. H. Wright, P.M. 28, as J.D. (another zealous member, ever ready as a good old P.M. to render any assistance whenever called upon to do so); H. Faija (C.E.), I.G.; A. J. Hawkes, M.C.; and a large number of the members, there being a good full lodge. Amongst the distinguished visitors who attended this meeting were Bros. H. J. Tuson, W.M. 871; W. Lane, P.M. 28 (Royal Benevolent Institution); Rev. T. W. Cave, L.L.D., Sec. 1309, &c.; T. C. Walls, S.D. 1381; T. W. Adams, 565; J. Davies, 1309; J. S. Sweasy, 1423; and others whose names we were unable to learn. The minutes of former lodge meeting were read and unanimously confirmed. The ballots, taken separately, were unanimous in favour of the admission of all the candidates for initiation. Bros. H. Blackwell, A. F. Diack, R. C. Harrison, and E. Hooper having given proof of their proficiency, were passed to the Second Degree, Bro. T. J. H. Wilkins doing the ceremony with his customary care and in an able manner, which must have produced a lasting impression on all of the candidates. Bro. T. J. Sabine, P.P.G.P. Middx., P.M., &c., W.M., having arrived from Brighton, where he resides, he took the chair. He initiated M. H. Levy in an admirable manner into the mysteries and privileges of ancient Freemasonry. Bro. H. Faija (C.E.), I.G., made an appeal to the lodge to help with his list as their Steward for Girls' School. This was nobly responded to; for Bro. E. S. Stidolph, J.W., put his name down for ten guineas. The indefatigable Bro. T. J. H. Wilkins, P.M., whose exertions on behalf of the Masonic charities never flags, in a most telling speech urged the members to subscribe amongst themselves, and make the lodge a Life Governor of the Girls' School in the name of the W.M. for the time being. At the same time he put in practice his words by commencing with his guinea for so desirable an object. The W.M., Bro. T. J. Sabine, supplemented this good cause with his guinea, and in as many seconds the guineas required were subscribed for, and this young lodge possesses its first Life Governorship. Some good candidates were as usual proposed for initiation. The lodge was adjourned. This being Grand Festival night, the usual banquet was dispensed with.

NEW CROSS LODGE (No. 1559).—On Saturday last the first general business meeting since the consecration of the lodge in February last was held at the New Cross Public Hall, Lewisham Road, the brethren meeting at half-past two in the afternoon. The business, as set forth on the agenda, was very heavy, there being no fewer than five brethren for raising to the M.M.'s Degree, the same number for passing, and three candidates for initiation. These were, however, reduced by the non-attendance of Bros. Jewel and Moss to three for the Third Degree. Those present were Bro. W. B. Woodman, W.M.; Bros. E. Thielley, S.W.; H. Simmonds, J.W.; H. Keeble, P.M., Sec.; F. Walters, P.P.G.P. Middx., P.M., Treas.; L. Beck, S.D.; H. Green, J.D.; W. Hardman, I.G.; A. B. Church, Tyler; H. Henton, W. Smurthwaite, S. H. Beckles, E. E. Smith, D. Malpas, R. L. Steeres, R. Buck, and H. Metham. The following were visitors: Bros. T. Waite, P.M. 144; J. Lightfoot, P.M. 147; C. J. Hogg, P.M. 58; Govan Macdonald, S.W. and W.M. elect 1158, and Preceptor Star Lodge of Instruction; G. Allen, S.W. 144; and G. H. Kitson, 548. In the temporary absence (as explained above) of the W.M., Bro. F. Walters, P.P.G.P. Middx., P.M., Treas., assumed the vacant chair, and having opened lodge in the First Degree, asked the visitors to kindly retire while some private business was transacted. After their withdrawal the acting W.M. proposed, and Bro. H. Keeble, P.M., Sec., seconded, the election as honorary members of Bros. John Hervey, Grand Sec.; J. Terry, P.G.D.C.; E. M. Hubbock, P.M. 58, 132, and 140; and C. J. Hogg, P.M. 58, which was carried unanimously. Bro. P.M. Hogg, who was present, replied. The minutes of the consecration meeting in February, and three subsequent meetings of emergency, having been read by the Secretary and adopted, the ballot was then taken, and declared to be unanimous in favour of the initiation of Messrs. T. Grumman, proposed by Bro. H. Keeble, P.M. Treas., seconded by Bro. E. E. Smith, and W. Cowley, proposed by Bro. W. Simmonds, J.W., seconded by Bro. H. Keeble, P.M. Sec. Lodge was now opened in the Third Degree, and of the five brethren for raising, Bro. Hiram Henton, Samuel Husbands Beckles, and William Smithwaite answered to their names, and were duly and solemnly raised to the degree of Master Mason, Bro. Walters working the ceremony in a highly impressive and admirable manner.

Lodge having been closed in the Third, was now opened in the Second Degree by Bro. Keeble, P.M. Sec.; and firstly Bros. E. E. Smith, David Malpas, Robert John Steeres, and subsequently Donald Buck and Henry Metham, were ably instructed by our worthy Bro. Secretary in the duties of Fellow Craft Freemason. Upon the conclusion of the twice performed ceremony, lodge was resumed in the Entered Apprentice's Degree, and at this moment the W.M., Bro. W. B. Woodman, arriving, he took the chair, and Messrs. Thomas Grumman and William Cowley were introduced and initiated. The W.M. having risen for the first time, Bro. F. Walters, P.P.G.P. Middx., Treas., proposed, and Bro. W. Simmonds, J.W., seconded, that Bro. E. H. Thielley, S.W., represent the New Cross Lodge as Steward at the forthcoming Festival of the Girls' School. This, upon being put to the brethren, was unanimously carried. There being no further business to transact, lodge was closed, and declared adjourned until the second Saturday in August, emergency meetings excepted. The brethren and visitors then adjourned to light refreshment, whereof an abundance was provided, and in reply to the toast of W.M., Bro. Woodman, who was cordially received, expressed his regret that business had precluded the possibility of his attending lodge until late in the afternoon, but stated that he should always do his utmost and strain every possible point in order to attend at future meetings, and if, as on the present occasion, he failed to appear at the opening of lodge it would be on the sole account of pressing and urgent business. "The Initiates," given by Bro. Walters, P.P.G.P. Middx., P.M. Treas., was responded to by Bro. W. Cowley on behalf of himself and brother initiate; and shortly afterwards the brethren separated.

SIR HUGH MYDDELTON LODGE (No. 1602).—The following is a list of the brethren who were present at the consecration of this lodge on Saturday week, which we were unable to give in our last impression. The names of those brethren who acted as officers of the lodge during the consecration having been before given, are omitted from this list:—Bros. E. P. Albert, G.P.; J. Boyd, P.G.P.; T. Cubitt, P.G.P.; J. Emmens, P.G.P.; J. Wright, P.G.P.; H. G. Buss, Prov. G.T. Middlesex; W. T. Howe, P.G.P. Middlesex; C. B. Payne, Grand Tyler; J. M. Bedwell, 861; C. F. Benham, 1330; J. Blyth, 813; J. Bond, 813; E. W. Braine, J.W. 1471; Buchan, 1259; T. J. Cusworth, S.W. 813; C. Daniel, J.W. 65; R. V. Davies, W.M. 1288; T. Davy, P.M. 65; W. Dawson, 822; H. Durham, 177; A. Fauquez, 813; H. J. Gabb, P.M. 813; J. R. Gallant, W.M. 813; J. Gibbs, 1036; J. Green, W.M. 27; W. F. Green 861; Hallett, 871; W. Hester, P.M. 749; J. Hobbs, S.W. 749; A. Johnson, P.M. 284; H. Johns, 749; J. Kew, P.M. 179; J. Klenck, P.M. 72 and 1339; W. Finch, 1365; R. Leach, P.M. 861; W. H. Lee, P.M. 1524; L. Arrens, P.M. 1364, and W.M. 1471; J. Linzell, P.M. 754, W.M. 1579; W. W. Lowles, 861; H. Massey ("Freemason"), P.M. 619; S. G. Moss, P.M. 185; J. Perry, 354; T. E. Purdy, P.M. 861; J. Roberts, 195 and 1228; J. H. Shead, 749; M. Ullmer, 49; T. Upward, 487; J. Webster (Pannurc, Arbroath), 299; W. Miles, W.M. 173; F. Williams, 167; J. F. Wilson, P.M. 1298; J. F. Wuest, P.M. 753.

MIDDLETON.—Imperial George Lodge (No. 78).—This thriving lodge assembled as a lodge of emergency at the Asheton Arms, on Wednesday, April 5th, and was opened at 6 p.m. by the W.M., Bro. David Reid. The business of the evening was to pass to the F.C. Degree Bros. David Tatton and Edwin Dodd; also to raise to the Sublime Degree as "polished ashlers" our Bros. Albert Swallow and Moses Mills. Labour in the F.C. Degree having been completed, the brethren adjourned to the ante-room to partake of slight refreshment, which occupied but little time, after which the brethren were called upon to fulfil their task. None but expert Craftsmen, resumed labour, who having adjusted all things necessary for the completion of the edifice, Bros. Swallow and Mills were each in turn admitted to take part. Work being ended the brethren separated in the usual Masonic manner, each to his home and own fireside and then to peaceful sleep.

The regular monthly meeting of this lodge was also held at the same place on Thursday, 27th ult. Bro. David Reid, W.M., having opened the lodge at 5 p.m., Bro. Forrester Fethergill, Secretary, read the minutes of the last regular and emergency meetings, which were duly confirmed. A ballot was taken for two candidates for initiation, Messrs. Robert Berresford and George Brunt. In each case favour was reported, and accordingly the applicants were prepared and in due course beheld Masonic light. Bro. David Reid, W.M., performed the ceremony of initiation for the first-named candidate, and Bro. W. H. Kershaw, I.P.M., for the second, after which Bro. George Bradbury, S.W., was summoned to the pedestal, and there delivered the charge to the two E.A.'s in a clear and impressive manner. In accordance with notice, Bro. Wood, P.M., D.C., brought forward an idea for enhancing the charity fund, which was unanimously accepted. The discussion, however, brought up another important matter, and notice of motion relative to it for the next meeting was given by Bro. Wood, P.M., D.C. This motion if carried will also deal indirectly with the Imperial George Charity Fund. We therefore reserve particulars of business relating to charity till in its entirety, feeling persuaded that in our next Imperial George report the "sidewind" will have sprung up into a full and steady breeze, which will keep unfurled the sail of charity, and we trust, together with the benefit to be derived from the increasing of the initiation fee, in accordance with the proposition brought forward by Bro. Harvey Heywood, P.M. and Treasurer, and willingly acceded to by the lodge, that our right hand of fellowship will give a firmer grasp, and enable many who require it to pass through troubled waters

by its aid. In conclusion we must add, the lodge having been closed in due form, the brethren adjourned to the social meal, after which the usual attendant toasts were given, and at 10 p.m. the brethren separated.

OXFORD.—Churchill Lodge (No. 478).—The anniversary festival of this lodge was held on Monday last, at the Masonic Hall, Oxford, when there was a large attendance of brethren. Among those present were the Deputy Provincial Grand Master (Bro. R. Bird, M.A., Fellow and Vice-President of Magdalen College); the Hon. W. W. Vernon, Junior Grand Warden; F. P. Morrell, M.A., St. John's College, Past Grand Deacon; the Past Deputy Provincial (R. J. Spiers); Past Masters Sir John Hayes, Bart., Capt. A. Cook, Capt. Ferrier, H. Riach, T. S. Tuke, &c.; the Worshipful Master of the Alfred Lodge, Oxford, (Jules Buc, M.A.), Alfred Wigan, and others. After an initiation and passing the chief business was proceeded with, viz., the installation of Bro. H. Offley Wakeman, B.A., Fellow of All Souls' College, as Worshipful Master for the ensuing year. The installation ceremony was admirably performed by the retiring Master, (Bro. H. R. Cooper Smith, B.A., of Magdalen College), and at its conclusion the new W.M. appointed and invested his officers as follows:—S. F. Hood, B.A., Magdalen College, Senior Warden; W. Peppercorn, Junior Warden; Rev. L. K. Hilton, M.A., Christ Church, Chaplain; F. P. Morrell, M.A., St. John's; Treasurer, T. F. Plowman, Secretary; Captain Ferrier, Past Master, Senior Deacon; J. J. Harding, Magdalen College, Junior Deacon; J. E. C. Bodley, Balliol College, Director of Ceremonies; T. H. Janson, Christ Church, Inner Guard; E. Cholmeley Jones, Magdalen College, Organist. The anniversary banquet was served at half-past seven, when the new Worshipful Master presided, and introduced the usual loyal and Masonic toasts in graceful and felicitous language. Several excellent speeches were delivered in reference to the Craft in general, Bro. Alfred Wigan responding for "The Visitors" in happily chosen and amusing terms. The lodge's reputation for harmony was fully maintained, and a very festive and enjoyable evening was spent.

ROTHERHAM.—Phoenix Lodge (No. 904).—An exceedingly interesting incident took place at the last meeting of the above lodge held at their lodge room, Ship Hotel, Rotherham, on the evening of the 27th March. Bro. Clement Hamil Perrot having very ably filled the chair of this lodge six years since, was this year, by the unanimous vote of the brethren, again installed as W.M., and subsequently, at the last meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of West Yorkshire, held at Wakefield on the 8th April, under the presidency of the R.W. Provincial Grand Master, Sir Henry Edwards, Bart. D.L., he received the further distinction of the appointment of Provincial Grand Organist. The officers and brethren of 904, therefore, deemed this a fitting occasion for evincing in a practical form the high esteem in which they hold Bro. Perrot, as well as their appreciation of the various Masonic services rendered by him to their lodge, and it was, accordingly, decided by them to present him with a very handsome gold P.M.'s jewel, which presentation was made in a very feeling and able manner by Bro. J. Fawcett, P.M. and Treasurer, and supported by Bro. W. Sairth, P.M., and Bro. W. C. Smith, P.M. Bro. Perrot, though greatly affected by this quite unexpected mark of his brethren's esteem, thanked them very heartily in a brief but eloquent speech, assuring them that their handsome gift would always be exceedingly prized by him, not merely on account of its intrinsic worth, but as an evidence of the regard in which he was held by them, and he concluded by assuring his brethren that in the future as in the past, it would always be a pleasure to do anything in his power to promote the interests of the Phoenix Lodge. At the banquet which followed, presided over by the W.M., Bro. Perrot, the usual Masonic toasts, were given, and also several songs in a very pleasing manner by Bros. H. J. Bingham, J.W.; F. Mason; A. Badger, and others, the accompaniments being ably played by Bro. C. Harvey, J.D. and Org. Altogether a very pleasant and harmonious evening was spent.

LEICESTER.—Commercial Lodge (No. 1391).—The installation meeting of this flourishing lodge was held on Easter Monday, at the Masonic Hall, Halford-street, Leicester, and was attended by a numerous and distinguished company. The lodge was opened at four o'clock by the W.M., Bro. R. A. Barber, P.P.G.P., and his officers. Among the visitors we noticed Bros. Rev. J. Langley, P.M. 50 and 1130, P.P.S.G.W.; Rev. J. Henry Smith, Chaplain 279, P.G. Chaplain; J. McAllister, W.M. 279; J. T. Thorp, W.M. 523; J. J. Hooper Wilkins, P.M. 73; T. Wykes, J.W. 523, P.G.O.; J. F. Pearson, J.W. 925; S. E. Johnson, W.M. 779; Grant, W.M. 1330; C. Stretton, P.M. 279, P.P.G.W.; and there were also present the Past Masters of the lodge, Bros. Dr. Clifton, J. Halford, and J. R. Hall. The minutes of the previous lodge, and of a lodge of emergency held on the 20th March, were read and confirmed. It was then proposed in a very felicitous speech by the W.M., that Bro. S. S. Partridge, Prov. G. Sec., be elected an honorary member of the lodge. The proposition having been seconded by Bro. Edwin Mason, the S.W., and W.M. elect, was carried by acclamation. Bro. Partridge then entered the lodge, and, having been informed of what had just taken place, thanked the brethren in a very feeling manner for the honour they had conferred on him. He was at all times pleased to attend the meetings of the Commercial Lodge, and to render it any service in his power, but now that he was a member, though only an honorary one, he should feel it his duty to attend as regularly as possible. The installation of the W.M., Bro. Edwin Mason, then followed, the ceremony being ably performed by Bro. Partridge, to whom Bro. Barber resigned the chair for that purpose. Next came

the appointment and investiture of officers, as follows:—Bros. C. Wilkinson, S.W.; B. Moore, J.W.; C. McBride, Sec.; G. Mott, S.D.; H. Meadows, J.D.; J. B. Hall, P.M., Treas.; J. Hunter, I.G.; Bass and Watson, Stewards; Knight and Browne, Assistant Steward; and Bembridge and Dunn, Tylers. A handsome Past Master's jewel was then presented by the W.M. on behalf of the lodge to the retiring P.M., Bro. Barber, who returned thanks in suitable terms. The lodge having been duly closed according to ancient form the brethren adjourned to banquet, which was served in excellent style. Ample justice having been done to the various courses and the cloth removed, the W.M. gave the usual loyal and Masonic toasts, all of which met with a most enthusiastic reception. Our space will not permit us to give the various speeches in detail, but we cannot refrain from giving a brief outline of that of Bro. Hall, P.M., who in responding to the toast of the Past Masters congratulated the W.M. on his advancement to the high position he then occupied, he having been the first brother initiated in the lodge. Bro. Hall proceeded to say that the history of the Commercial Lodge was a brief but an eventful one. Its foundation had swept away that lethargy which threatened to sap the foundations of Masonry in Leicester, and its success has proved what energy and determination could effect. Yet another lodge had since been consecrated, and the (Bro. Hall) apprehended that the time was not far distant when another petition would be forwarded to Grand Lodge. Bro. Hall continued: The experience we have is but the general experience in Freemasonry, for since the foundation of this lodge upwards of 220 lodges have been added to the muster roll, and if our experience is an index of Masonry in general it is evident that the brethren are beginning to take a broader and higher view of their duties, that they are more zealous in their work, and that they take a keener interest in every detail of the ceremonies, with the endeavour to attain the highest standard of efficiency. In conclusion allow me to express the great pleasure I have in witnessing year by year the continued success of the Commercial Lodge. As the first W.M. I had a share in founding it, and be its future course what it may I shall always watch its career with the utmost interest. Bro. Hall concluded by remarking that although the tongue of good report had been heard in their favour, yet the brethren should be jealous of their good name, and prove to the world that they were not undeserving of it. The evening was enlivened by songs and recitations, rendered with good effect by the musical portion of the brethren, the most conspicuous of whom were Bros. Ellis, Bass, Watson, Read, Brown, and Matt. The recitations by the last named brother were given in his usual effective manner, and they were deservedly applauded. The Tyler's toast brought a very pleasant evening to a close, and we hope soon to have another invitation from our Leicester brethren.

VALPARAISO.—Harmony Lodge (No. 1411).—A meeting of this lodge was held in the lodge-room, on March 3rd, for the purpose of conferring the degree of Master Mason on Bro. R. Vance, P.O.S. Nav. Co.'s service. The following is a list of members, &c., present:—Geo. Jenkins, W.M.; John Barnett, S.W.; G. H. Hodgkinson, J.W.; J. B. Pugh, I.P.M.; C. D. Rowe, S.D.; C. Lewis, J.D.; G. B. Barnett, Stwd.; F. M. Mole, I.G.; W. Darley, Tyler. Members: R. Vance, W. N. Harris, Henry Stevens, J. H. Thompson. Visitor: Lionel P. Cross, 626, E.C. After the ceremony the brethren adjourned for refreshment, and eventually the meeting broke up at 10.15.

HAMPTON.—Hemming Lodge (No. 1512).—An emergency meeting of this lodge was convened by the W.M. on Thursday, the 20th ultimo, at the Lion Hotel. There were present Bros. E. Hopwood, P.M. 141; W. M. Hill, P.M. Canonbury, &c., S. W.; Hurst, J.W., W.M. elect; W. Hammond, P.M. Jordan, Lebanon, P.J.G.D. of Middlesex, I.P.M. and acting Sec.; Walls, acting S.D.; Ockenden, acting J.D.; and Jessett, I.G. Bro. Martin, 201, was the only visitor. The W.M., with the assistance of his officers, initiated Messrs. W. Knowles, J. Read, and J. Smythe into Craft mysteries most ably, and passed Bros. W. J. Day, J. Donald, and P. S. Gavaron. The W.M. proposed, and the I.P.M. seconded, the following proposition, which was supported by several brethren and unanimously passed: "That the sum of two guineas be voted to the testimonial of Bro. F. Walters, P.P.G.S.B. Middlesex, Sec. of the Lebanon Lodge, 1326, &c., &c." Several other propositions having been made, the lodge was closed in ancient form, and the brethren adjourned to a substantial collation, well served by Bro. Hiscock. This being a meeting of emergency, the toasts were, in accordance with Masonic custom, but few, and but formally given. "The Queen and Craft" and "The M.W.G.M." were heartily received. "The Health of the W.M." was proposed by the I.P.M., and briefly acknowledged by Bro. Hopwood. During the evening the W.M. paid the initiates a compliment by proposing their health, to which 'honour Bros. Knowles, Read, and Smythe, made a suitable reply. The conviviality of the proceedings was enhanced by the singing of Bros. Hammond, Hurst, Read, Martin, Jessett, Walls, and others. Previously to the Tyler's toast being given, Bro. Hill, S.W., rose and said that, although the I.P.M.'s health had not been formally proposed that evening, he felt that the members of the Hemming should not separate without paying that compliment to one of its principal supporters, and to whose exertions much of its prosperity was due. This toast was most warmly received, and Bro. W. Hammond having made an excellent response, the proceedings terminated. The cause of charity is to be supported at the Festival of the R.M.I. for Boys by the W.M., Bro. Hopwood, as Steward of the Faith, No. 141, and the I.P.M., Bro. Hammond, representing No. 1326, is also Steward for the same excellent charity.

CARLISLE.—Bective Lodge (No. 1512).—The brethren of this lodge held their annual meet-

ing, for the installation of Bro. George Potter as W.M., on Friday last, in their Masonic rooms English-street. The ceremony was performed by Bro. W. B. Gibson, P.M. 119, P.P., S.W.P., and Sec., assisted by Bro. Kenworthy, P.M. 119, P.P. and J.W., and was conducted throughout in an efficient manner. Bro. Potter invested his officers as follows:—Bros. J. C. Mason, S.W.; W. Carrick, J.W.; Rev. Joshua Tyson, Chaplain; Geo. Hetherington, Treas.; J. Cook, I.P.M., Secretary; George Noakes, S.D.; J. Glendinning, J.D.; John Thorpe, Organist; W. Gosden, I.G.; Rome and Haswell, Stewards; M. Higgings, Tyler. Afterwards the brethren adjourned to the County Hotel, where an excellent banquet was provided under the personal supervision of Bro. Gosden, the manager. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were then given, interspersed with harmony, thus terminating a successful year in a very pleasant and agreeable manner.

INSTRUCTION.

PERCY LODGE OF INSTRUCTION (No. 198).—The Fifteen Sections were worked in this lodge, which is held at Bro. Fysh's, Jolly Farmers, Southgate-road, Islington, on Saturday, 29th ult., Bro. G. W. Verry, P.M. 554, in the chair; Bros. Tolmie, S.W.; Saul, J.W.; Percy, Preceptor; Halford, Treas.; Killick, Sec. The sections of the First Lecture were worked by Bros. Frith, Allcott, Webb, Næhmer, Barnes, Saul, and Tolmie; the Second by Bros. Cambridge, Webb, Percy, Cross, and Lowe; and the Third by Bros. Percy, Sadler, and Stock. The W.M. was unanimously elected an honorary member, and Bros. Barnes, P.M. 933; Næhmer, P.M. 186; Seax, P.M. 186; Ashburner, P.M. 1278; Brooks, W.M. 902; Berry, W.M. 554; Clark, 188; Woolf, 898; Weeden, 813; Cross, 1278; Lowe, 1360; Webb, 174; Richardson, 55; and Greene, 861, joining members. There was a very large attendance of members and visitors, and the whole of the working was excellently done, a fact notified by the W.M. in thanking the brethren for their assistance. A vote of thanks to the W.M. and duly acknowledged brought the evening to a close. The ceremony of installation was rehearsed in this lodge on Saturday, the 6th inst., by Bro. Terry.

STAR LODGE OF INSTRUCTION (No. 1275).—This well-known Lodge of Instruction, which gained its renown under the Preceptorship of Bro. C. G. Dille, has lost none of its lustre under the guidance of his apt pupil, Bro. Govan Macdonald, its present Preceptor, who is ably assisted by Bros. H. Keeble and C. J. Hogg, P.M.'s of the parent lodge, as Hon. Sec. and Treas. On Saturday, the 22nd ult., the Fifteen Sections were worked, when Bro. David Rose, P.M. 73, &c., well-known in the Craft for his wealth of Masonic lore, occupied the position of questioning Master, the answers being divided between Bros. Cobley, Jenkins, Church, Macdonald, Speight, Alworth, and Hutchings, whose names alone are a sufficient guarantee for the correctness of the working. There was a large muster of the brethren, who listened with rapt attention, and manifested their approval of the working by frequent applause. At the close of the work a vote of thanks was passed to Bro. Rose for presiding, and in recognition of services rendered to the lodge he was unanimously elected an honorary member. We must not forget to mention that the beautiful charge to the brethren at the close of the lodge was most impressively given by Bro. Alworth.

METROPOLITAN LODGE OF INSTRUCTION (No. 1507) met at the Metropolitan Club, King's Cross, on Friday, 28th April, 1876, when there were present Bros. Willing, W.M.; Berrie, S.W.; Kingham, J.W.; Fowler, S.D.; Side, J.D.; H. Stiles, I.G.; Adams, P.G.P., Preceptor; W. Stiles, Sec.; and Bros. Scales, Child, Little, Cox, and others. The lodge was opened in due form, and minutes of previous meeting were read and confirmed. Lodge was then opened in the Second and Third Degrees, and Bro. Little was raised to the degree of Master Mason in a very impressive manner. The 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Sections of 3rd Lecture were worked by Bro. T. Adams, P.G.P., Preceptor, and Bro. James Willing, P.M., Treas. The lodge was then closed down, and Bro. Berry was elected W.M. for ensuing meeting. A vote of condolence was passed to Bro. Cheek on the loss of his dearly beloved wife. To show the esteem in which Bro. Adams, the renowned Preceptor, is held, one of the brethren expressed his pleasure in presenting each member with a photograph of Bro. Adams. This was hailed with great delight by the brethren, who are proud to possess a likeness of so great an ornament to the Craft. The lodge was then closed.

Royal Arch.

JERUSALEM CHAPTER (No. 185).—A meeting of this chapter was held at the Freemasons' Tavern, on Tuesday, the 11th ult., it being the last convocation of the season. There were present at the opening Comps. Smith, M.E.Z.; Hammond, H., M.E. elect; Elsam, J.; Davage, P.Z., S.E.; Wagner, N.; Robinson, P.S.; Mander, S.A.S.; Loewenstark, P.Z.; Watts, P.Z.; Holbrook, P.Z.; Whitley, and Walls. The visitors were Comps. H. Muggeridge, P.G.S., &c., &c.; E. Hopwood, Mount Sinai. The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the M.E., ably assisted by his Principals, exalted Bro. Pratt, Mount Edgcombe, to the S.D. of the R.A. with that care and attention which has always characterised Comp. Francis Smith's rendering of the ritual during the two years that he has occupied the chair as First Principal of the Jerusalem. The ceremony of installing Comp. Hammond, and the inducting of the Second and Third Principals, Comps. Elsam and Wagner, was performed most ably by that R.A. veteran, Comp. Muggeridge. The officers for the ensuing year are Comps. Hammond, M.E.; Elsam, H.; Wagner, I.; Robinson,

N.; Davage, P.Z., S.E.; Harfeld, P.Z., Treas.; Mander, P.S.; and, subject to their acceptance of the office, Comps. Watts and Bond, S. and J. A. S's. Previously to the convocation being closed the pleasing ceremony of presenting a Past Principal's jewel to Comp. Smith was performed by the M.E., graced by a few kind expressions and remarks upon the conduct of Comp. Smith during the two years that he had held the position of M.E. of No. 185. The jewel, which was an exceedingly handsome one, bore the following inscription:—"Jerusalem Chapter, 185. Presented to Companion Francis Smith, P.Z., in view of the high esteem entertained for him by the chapter and in appreciation of the valuable and laborious services rendered during the two years he has held the office of First Principal. April, 1876." Comp. Smith made a brief reply, in which he thanked the members of the chapter for their kindness and consideration towards him upon all occasions, and more especially for the gift of the P.Z.'s jewel. In conclusion, he told them that although he had had an opportunity of passing the A. chair in another chapter he had not availed himself of it because he had preferred to first achieve that position in this, his mother chapter. A vote of thanks to Comp. Muggeridge having been passed, the convocation was then closed in due form, and the companions adjourned to an elegant banquet. Upon the removal of the cloth, the M.E. stated that as the hour was late he should be compelled to give the toasts very briefly and quickly, which necessity he hoped the companions would excuse. The usual Royal Arch toasts were then given and heartily received. Comp. Smith, I.P.Z., in proposing "The Health of the M.E.," congratulated the chapter upon possessing so able and worthy a First Principal as Comp. Hammond, who was in every way qualified to discharge the onerous duties of the position satisfactorily. This toast having been duly honoured, the M.E. briefly responded, by stating that he was proud at having that day attained the honourable goal of ambition of every aspiring R.A. companion, and he hoped that at the expiration of his year of office the chapter would have no reason to regret having elected him to fulfil the duties and discharge the responsibilities of the First Principal's chair. "The Health of the Newly-exalted Companion" followed, and it was duly acknowledged by Comp. Pratt. In proposing "The Health of the Visitors," the M.E. took occasion to congratulate the chapter on being favoured by the presence of the very esteemed and talented P.Z., Comp. Muggeridge, whose abilities in working the ceremony of installation that day had been displayed with more than usual brilliancy, and he hoped that he would be many years spared to impart his great Craft and R.A. knowledge to aspirants for Masonic fame. With regard to Comp. Hopwood, their other visitor, he could say that he was a very zealous and worthy worker in the fields of Freemasonry and philanthropy. This toast having been duly drunk, was acknowledged by Comps. Muggeridge and Hopwood. The former, in the course of his reply, said that his connection with the "Jerusalem" went back to over a quarter of a century, and it was a matter of great pleasure to him to find that the chapter had greatly improved, and bids fair to become one of the most prosperous in the metropolis. He congratulated it upon possessing so many talented companions, and in conclusion he thanked the chapter for the handsome manner in which his poor services had been acknowledged that day in carrying out the installation ceremonial. Comp. Hopwood stated that after the excellent reply of his co-visitor it would be superfluous for him to say much, but he could not let the opportunity pass without briefly expressing to the companions of the Jerusalem Chapter that his maiden visit that evening had been in every way satisfactory to him, and in conclusion he took occasion to thank the M.E. for the very kind manner in which his name had been mentioned in connection with the toast. "The Health of the P.Z.'s of the Chapter" was then given by the M.E., prefaced by a few kind remarks upon their individual merits. The toast was acknowledged by Comp. Smith, I.P.Z., in a neat speech. The toast of "The Second and Third Principals" followed, and, having been duly honoured, elicited from those worthy and talented officers, Comps. Elsam and Wagner, a most able response. The toasts of "The Secretary, Treasurer, and Junior Officers" were immediately given, and acknowledged by Comps. Davage, P.Z., Sec.; Robinson, S.N.; and Mander, P.S. The Treasurer and other officers were unavoidably absent. Between the numerous toasts and replies, Comps. Smith, Walls, and others contributed several instrumental and vocal selections.

CLAPTON CHAPTER OF IMPROVEMENT.—The inaugural meeting of the above chapter of instruction was held at the White Hart Tavern, Clapton, on Wednesday evening, May 3rd, under the presidency of Comp. John Ramsey, P.Z., Preceptor, supported by Comps. C. R. Miles and J. Hobbs as H. and I. respectively, and was well attended by the Royal Arch Masons residing in the neighbourhood. The meetings will now continue to be regularly held every Wednesday evening at 7.30 o'clock, and no doubt will be numerous supported and prove a great success, there being no other chapter of improvement within some considerable distance. All Royal Arch Masons who can make it convenient to attend are cordially invited.

Knights Templar.

LIVERPOOL.—The Alpass Preceptory.—By direction of the E.P., a conclave of the Alpass Preceptory was held at the Masonic Hall, Hope-street, Liverpool, on Thursday, the 4th inst., for the transaction of important business. The priory was opened shortly after four o'clock by Sir Knight W. Doyle, E. Preceptor, when the minute-roll was called, and the following were present:—Sir Knights T. Clark, P.E.C. Prelate; J. E. Jackson, 18

Captain; Moses Mawson, and Captain; W. Bulman, Almoner; W. Shakespeare, Expert; J. Gallagher, 2nd Standard Bearer; John Kenyon, Captain of Lines; T. Evans, J. Lloyd, J. Capell, S. Hickins, J. B. Widdows, W. Fletcher, H. Firth, and H. Burrows. The visitors included Sir Knights C. R. N. Beswicke-Royds, Dep. P.G. Prior, Lancashire; E. Pierpoint, P.E.C., 2nd Grand Capt. of Lines; Captain T. Berry, P.E.C., G. St. B.; H. Nelson, Marshal, Wm. de la More Preceptor; and Joseph Wood, Treasurer Wm. de la More Preceptor ("Freemason"). The records of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the ballot was taken for Comp. Douglas, and as he was duly elected and in attendance he was duly exalted by the E. Preceptor, assisted by the D.P.G. Prior, saluted, and proclaimed a Knight of the Order. The Deputy Grand Prior then ascended the throne, when Sir Knight John Edward Jackson, the P. elect, was presented to the D.G. Prior by Sir Knights Pierpoint, P.E.C., and W. Doyle, I.P.E. Preceptor, to receive the benefits of installation with the usual ceremony. At the proper stage, all the Sir Knights below the rank of E.P. retired, and on being re-admitted the newly-installed E. Preceptor (Sir Knight Jackson) was saluted according to ancient custom. He immediately proceeded to invest the following as his officers:—Sir Knights W. Doyle, Prelate; M. Mawson, Constable; R. Brown, Marshal; W. Shakespeare, Registrar; T. Clark, Treasurer; J. Capell, Almoner; J. Kenyon, Expert; T. Evans, 1st Standard Bearer; S. Hickins, 2nd Standard Bearer; J. B. Widdows, Herald; J. Gallagher, Captain of Lines; H. Burrows, Chamberlain; and Sir Knight P. Ball was elected Equerry. After the transaction of some formal business, the preceptory was closed in due form with solemn prayer. The assembled knights then adjourned to banquet, which was provided by Sir Knight Ball in a most satisfactory manner. The wine *carle* and the banquet were of the highest order. The newly-installed E. Preceptor presided, supported by the D.P.G. Prior, Sir Knights Pierpoint, Berry, Doyle, Clark, and about 20 other knights. The usual toasts were given and responded to with great cordiality, and the genial company broke up about 10 o'clock.

Scotland.

GRAND LODGE OF SCOTLAND.

The quarterly communication of the Grand Lodge of Scotland was held on Monday evening, the 8th inst., in the Freemasons' Hall, George-street, Edinburgh. There was a very large attendance of the brethren. In the unavoidable absence of the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Sir M. R. Shaw Stewart, the throne was occupied by Bro. Henry Inglis, of Torsonce, P.S.G.M., and P.G.M. of Peebles and Selkirk, supported by Major Hamilton Ramsay, of Garion, S.G.W.; William Hay, S.G.D., acting J.G.W.; Lauderdale Maitland, of Eccles, P.G.M. of Dumfriesshire; Dr. Loth, representative of the Grand Orient of France; John Laurie, G.S.; D. Kinneir, J.G.D.; William O'Neil, P.G.D.; Alexander Hay, G.J.; John Coghill, G. Dir. of Cer.; Daniel Robertson, G.B.B.; Captain G. F. R. Colt, of Gartsherrie, G.S.B.; W. M. Bryce, G.T.; and others. The Grand Lodge having been duly opened, the acting G.M. prefaced the proceedings with an intimation of the decease of Bro. David Bryce, R.S.A., Architect to the Grand Lodge, which took place on Sunday last, and after referring to the many estimable qualities of the deceased, moved that an expression of deep regret be engraved in the minutes of the Grand Lodge of the loss sustained. The G.S. read apologies for absence from the Earl of Roslyn, P.G.M., and others. Charters for new lodges were granted for The Northern Star, Karsong, India; The Lachlan, Forbes, New South Wales; Hamilton, Surat, India; Canterbury Kilwinning, Canterbury, New Zealand; Manukau, Auckland, New Zealand; Islam, Bombay; The Calendar, Falkirk; Gordon's, Buckie; and the St. James, Harthill, Whitburn. After the acting G.M. had reported the successful inauguration of the Lodge St. Leonard, Loanhead, Midlothian, a motion of which notice had been given at last communication was brought forward, and carried by a majority, that the election of R.W. Depute G.M. be vested in Grand Lodge as formerly, and not as at present in the M.W.G.M. Also that Grand Lodge accounts be audited monthly. The question was brought up relating to lodges in arrears, and agreed to that they be struck off the Grand Lodge roll, and should they wish afterwards to be resuscitated to come in rotation at the bottom of the roll; and after other business of minor importance, Grand Lodge was duly closed.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Glasgow Kilwinning (No. 4).—The monthly meeting of this old lodge was held in their hall, 170, Buchanan-street, on Wednesday evening, 3rd inst. Bro. R. Prout, W.M., occupied the chair; G. Holmes, S.W.; J. McInnes, S.M. 408, acting J.W.; J. D. Dixon, D.M.; J. McKeand, Treasurer; J. Currie, Secretary; A. Riddle, J.D.; W. D. Gourlay, Jeweller; J. Carmichael, S.S.; and a full attendance of members and visiting brethren, among whom were Bros. J. Morgan, W.M. 219; W. Bell, I.P.M. 34; R. Mitchell, P.M. 332; William Ferguson, P.M. 543 ("Freemason"); and others. On the lodge being opened Bro. J. McNair was passed to the Fellow Craft Degree by Bro. Wheeler, 73. The lodge was then resumed in the First Degree. It was then announced that the Provincial Grand Lodge were in waiting. The W.M. gave instructions to receive them, which was accordingly done with the usual honours. The deputation consisted of Bros. J. Baird, P.G.S.M.; G. Sinclair, Treas. of Benevolent Fund; A. McTaggart, M.A., P.G. Sec.; J. Gillies, P.G. Treas.; A. Bain, P.G.B.B.; Allison, P.G.J.; Ritchie, P.G. Architect; J. Miller, P.G.J.D.; J. Miller, P.G.D. of M.; and D. Reid, P.G.I.G. The deputation having taken their places on the dais, Bro. McTaggart, P.G. Sec., read

the report, which was as follows. "We, the undersigned office-bearers of the P.G.L. of Glasgow, hereby certify that we visited the Lodge Glasgow Kilwinning, No. 4, examined the various books, and found them in a very satisfactory condition, and generally the lodge is working in strict harmony with the Constitutions of the Grand Lodge of Scotland." Bro. Baird briefly substantiated the statements made by the P.G. Sec., and was sorry they were leaving or had to leave this fine hall, but wished them every success in their new premises, and trusted they would be as prosperous in the future as they had been in the past, and even more so. Bro. Prout, W.M., thanked the deputation for their annual visit, and moved a vote of thanks to the P.G. Officers present, which was enthusiastically given. The P.G.L. deputation then withdrew. The lodge then went on to harmony, when the brethren spent a short time in a social capacity.

GLASGOW.—Lodge St. Mungo (No. 27).—The regular meeting of this old lodge was held in St. Mark's Hall, 217, Buchanan-street, on Thursday evening, 4th inst. Bro. D. Butler, W.M., presiding; J. M. Oliver, S.W. 360, acting S.W.; G. McComb, J.W.; D. Dick, S.M.; A. R. Wilson, V. Chap.; S. Dory, S.S.; W. Albin, Dir. of M.; and James, Tyler. Visitors: Bros. A. Bain, P.M. 103; T. Graham, J.W. 360; C. McKenzie, J.W. 354; W. Ferguson, P.M. 543 ("Freemason"); T. Wallace, 117; H. Hall, 117; S. Aitken, 128; A. Harper, 202; E. Master, 202; R. Rae, 49; W. McHardie, 360; J. McEwan, 362; J. Allan, 399; J. Brock, 399; W. B. Paterson, 360; J. Stewart, 360; and others. On the lodge being opened, Mr. Robert Hood was admitted and received the First Degree at the hands of Bro. Baird, P.M. 103, in his usual able manner. The lodge was then called to refreshment, when the chairman proposed the usual loyal and Masonic toasts, which were heartily responded to, and after spending a short time in harmony the lodge was called to labour, and closed in due form.

DUNBAR.—Dunbar Castle Lodge (No. 75).—A Masonic ball was held in the assembly rooms here on Wednesday, 3rd inst., under the auspices of this lodge. The company numbered about one hundred and forty. Long before the hour for dancing immense crowds had thronged about the doors, gazing with admiration upon the rich and dazzling brightness of the ladies as they alighted from the carriages, with their magnificent and fragrant bouquets, a scene so pleasing and gratifying that amply rewarded the bystanders. Dancing commenced at ten p.m., and was kept up with good spirit till an early hour in the morning. Mrs. Vallance and Bro. C. Nelson, W.M., opened the ball; Bro. J. Blake, S.W., ably officiated as M.C. Bros. H. Payne, A. Robertson, and J. Tait were members of committee, and deserve great praise for the zealous manner they filled their office. The orchestra was under the able leadership of Bro. D. Vallance, P.M., and consisted of eight musicians, who played some beautiful airs with exceedingly good taste, and elicited frequent applause during the evening.

GALASHIELS.—St. John's Lodge (No. 263).—The brethren of this lodge held their monthly meeting on the 1st inst., when Bro. Robertson, of the Abbotsford Hotel, and Bro. Owens were raised by the W.M., Bro. Thomson, to the high and sublime degree of a Master Mason. In consequence of the death of Bro. William Kerr, who has long held the honourable office of Bible Bearer, Bro. Alexander Wood was elected to the office. The arrangements for laying the foundation-stone of the new Masonic Hall on May 12th are nearly complete. It is expected to be the largest Masonic meeting ever held in the south of Scotland. Deputations from English lodges are expected.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Caledonian Railway (No. 354).—The P.G.L.D. on leaving Kilwinning, No. 4, proceeded to visit this lodge on the evening of Wednesday, 3rd inst. Meantime the lodge had been opened by Bro. J. Fraser, P.M. 87, in the unavoidable absence of Bro. A. B. Ferguson, W.M.; J. Harley, S.W.; C. McKenzie, J.W.; D. Buchanan, D.M.; D. T. Colquhoun, Treas.; R. A. McLean, Sec.; and the other office-bearers in their respective places. The hall was completely filled with members and visitors, among whom were Bros. J. Booth, W.M. 87; J. Morgan, W.M. 219; W. Ferguson, P.M. 543 ("Freemason"); and others. The deputation was received by the brethren upstanding, and with the customary formalities. Bro. McTaggart before reading the report said, he was proud to say it was a most favourable one; in fact, no better in the province, and most encouraging. It was simply this, "We, the undersigned office-bearers of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Glasgow, hereby certify that we visited Caledonian Railway, 354, on the evening of Wednesday, 3rd May, examined the various books of the lodge, and found them in a most satisfactory condition, and that generally the lodge is working in strict harmony with the laws of the Grand Lodge of Scotland." Bro. Baird, P.G.S.M., said: This report must be very satisfactory to every member of the lodge, and, indeed, it stands next highest to any lodge in the province, so far as we have visited this year, as regards charity. You have disbursed no less than close upon £20 towards the relief of the poor and distressed, and I will take the first opportunity of conveying to Bro. Neilson, the P.G.M., the flourishing condition of this his mother lodge. Bro. Fraser, the acting W.M., then thanked the P.G.L. deputation, and apologised for his presence in the chair. He was kindly waited upon, and requested, in the absence of the respected W.M., Bro. Ferguson, to preside [that evening, therefore his appearance here to night. He (the chairman) concluded by proposing a vote of thanks to the Provincial Grand Lodge officers, which was heartily responded to. On the motion of Bro. Harley, S.W., and seconded by Bro. McKenzie, J.W., Bros. J. Miller, P.M. 87, P.G.J.D., and Ritchie, P.G. Archt. were obligated honorary members of the lodge. The P.G.L. deputation then retired. The lodge was then called to refreshment, when a most enjoyable evening was

spent in harmony. Bro. Hardie, of Lodge 87, presided at the harmonium, and gave some splendid selections of music. The chair was occupied in rotation by Bros. Fraser and D. Reid, I.P.M. 465.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Dramatic (No. 571).—The regular meeting of this prosperous lodge was held in St. Mark's Hall, 213, Buchanan-street, on Wednesday, 3rd inst., at three o'clock p.m. The W.M., Bro. W. J. E. Dobson, occupied the chair, supported by Bros. H. W. Jackman, S.W.; R. S. Smyth, S.D., acting J.W.; J. Houston, D.M.; W. Barbour, Treas.; Weir, acting Sec.; L. Mitchell, J.D.; J. Robertson, I.G.; and Hardie, Tyler. Visitors: Bros. D. Lamb, D.M. 360; J. M. Oliver, S.W. 360; W. Phillips, W.M. 556; P. Brownlie, J.W. 34; W. Ferguson, P.M. 543 ("Freemason"); R. Allan, Sec. 581; Dr. Buchanan, 4; G. W. Wheeler, 73; W. Reynolds, 556; and others. On the minutes being read and confirmed, Mr. A. A. Gibb was initiated into Freemasonry by the W.M.; Bro. W. Buchanan passed to the Fellow Craft Degree by Bro. Oliver, S.W. 360; and Bros. G. Connell and F. Muir were raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason by Bro. D. Lamb, D.M. 360. The working of the three degrees was rendered in a careful and impressive manner.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Plantation (No. 581).—A meeting of this lodge was held in the Masonic Hall, Craigiehall-street, on Monday evening, 1st inst. Bro. T. Stobo, W.M. in the chair; Alex. Gow, S.M.; D. Peacock, S.W.; J. Henry, J.W.; W. Taylor, Treas.; R. Allan, Sec.; T. Paterson, I.G.; and Cumming, Tyler. Visitors, Bros. D. Smart, W.M. 347; J. McMillan, P.M. 34; W. Bell, I.P.M. 34; T. Fletcher, P.M. 34; J. Cunningham, I.P.M. 347; J. W. Burns, I.P.M. 87; J. M. Oliver, S.W. 360; R. Macpherson, 34; R. Russell, 437; and others. On the lodge being opened, and the minutes of last meeting read and confirmed, the Secretary read code of by-laws for the second time, as drawn up by the committee appointed for that purpose. Mr. T. Walker was initiated into the E.A. Degree by Bro. J. W. Burns, I.P.M. 87. The lodge was then raised to the Third Degree, when Bros. J. Wilson, W. F. Mabon, and A. Gow were raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason by Bro. McMillan, P.M. 34, in that brother's well-known, able, and most impressive manner. The lodge was then resumed in the First Degree, when the first four admitted and raised brethren of the lodge presented one of their instructors with the ancient fee (a Kilmarnock bonnet); he having agreed to walk to the nearest parish church the first Sunday convenient thereafter.

SIR HENRY EDWARDS' VISIT TO THE ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.

On Monday afternoon the annual visit of the Chairman of the festival of this institution, accompanied by the Stewards of the day, was paid to the schoolhouse, at St. John's Hill, Battersea Rise, by Sir Henry Edwards, Bart., Deputy Lieutenant of the West Riding, and Provincial Grand Master of West Yorkshire, who presided at the 83th anniversary festival of the institution held on Wednesday evening. Sir Henry was accompanied by Lady Edwards and Mr. Priestly Churchill Edwards, who were met at the doors of the institution by Bro. Thomas White, Past Grand Steward, Chairman of the day of the House Committee, Colonel Creaton, Colonel Burdett, Colonel Peters, Bros. Joshua Nunn, P.G. Sword Bearer; J. A. Rucker, P.G. Deacon; Griffiths Smith, Past Grand Steward; H. A. Dubois, Rev. J. M. Vaughan, R. W. Little (Sec.), and Miss S. L. Davis (head governess). They were then conducted to the exercise-room, where 124 of the girls were put through their calisthenic exercises, while others played march tunes on the pianoforte. The party were afterwards conducted over the building, and the general arrangements of the establishment for the comfort and health of the little inmates were fully shewn and explained. After this private view had been completed the distinguished visitors partook of slight refectation, and at four o'clock, when the Stewards of the festival and their families arrived to partake in the day's proceedings, adjourned to the hall, where the pupils were ranged to give specimens of their proficiency in the various branches of education pursued at the school. The room was densely crowded, and afforded sufficient evidence of the necessity for the additions to the building which have lately been decided upon. Sir Henry, Lady, and Mr. P. C. Edwards, supported by the above-named brethren of the House Committee, Miss Davis, and the other governesses, sat in front, while the executants of the different selections performed on the platform erected at the south end of the hall.

A selection of music and recitations was then given by the following pupils:—Florence S. Groves, Agnes Barron, Dora C. Bowles, Fanny J. Lawrence, Eliza Beveridge, Sarah Young, Caroline E. Holland, Caroline Hart, Charlotte A. Jay, Edith Patten, Laura Stransom, Agnes A. Nash, Lucinda Broadbent, Ellen A. Cates, Helena Meacock, Louisa Hole, Leila Pulman, Jane R. Upon, Lillian M. Nelson, Jane P. Pattison, Mary Young, Alice M. Tayler, Frances C. Clark, Kathleen N. Crampton, Beatrice M. Wray, Mary C. A. Sargent, Ellen Lucy Morgan, Beatrice A. Bindon, Elizabeth Owens, Mary E. Sharp, Melora F. Goodridge, Mary E. Barnes, Kate Hulme, Lily O. Hiron, Lucy Kate Clemence, Ethel Hinson, Rosalie Bowditch, Matilda M. Sherry, Katherine Emery, Louisa Christine Oates, Florence R. Sargent, Rose A. Jennings, Alice M. Newbould, Fanny S. Craig, and Colina Sharp.

These performances were very loudly applauded, the whole assembly exhibiting much pleasure at the readiness and fluency with which they were given. At the conclusion of these proceedings,

Sir Henry Edwards, before presenting the prizes, said that the display had taken so long that the time for the remainder of the day's proceedings was very much nar-

rowed. He should, therefore, excuse himself from making a long speech to the meeting, and would simply address himself to the pupils to whom the prizes had been awarded. He could not, however, resist the temptation of, in the first instance, congratulating, with his whole heart and soul, Miss Davis on the result of her labours, as evinced by what the children had just done. It must be to her one of the proudest days of her life. He had not enjoyed the pleasure of partaking of such a treat as he had had that day for a long, long time, and he hoped it might not be the last occasion, but that it might be followed by many others on which he might have an opportunity, year after year, of seeing the admirable progress made by the pupils of that institution. He had been perfectly astounded at what he had seen and heard; he had had no conception—he confessed it at once—that the education of children was conducted to such a pitch as in that school. He had just heard some of the finest playing he had ever listened to in his life; some of the best recitations from pupils who appeared 10, 11, or 12 years old, such as surprised him as much as they had his lady on his right. But one thing that astonished him perhaps as much as anything was the admirable time kept by the 20 and 30 hands on the pianos all at once. He had never heard anything like it. It must also be quite clear to all the ladies and gentlemen present that these young persons were taught foreign languages very well. They had given specimens of French and German; and the French was so good that he had enquired of Miss Davis whether they had visited on the Continent for some time, and he was more astonished when he was told they had not, but were entirely educated by herself. The fact was that Miss Davis superintended the education of every child belonging to the establishment, and whether it was English, French, or German, music, or general education, the credit was due to her. Nobody could deny, after what they had seen, that the girls understood English grammar perfectly. What he very much admired was that in their pronunciation there was nothing provincial; there was a pure, soft dialect about it which was found in the south of England, but not in the north—Yorkshire, for instance. (Laughter.) Also in general literature it appeared to him the pupils were very far advanced indeed. He likewise understood, though he had not had an opportunity of witnessing it, that great capability was shown by the girls in the dancing class. He could not help noticing how happy the children were; and when he came to look at Miss Davis's face he could not wonder at it, for he must confess she bore the appearance of a most kind and good-natured friend. As to the general arrangements of the establishment for the health, comfort, happiness, and education of the children, he never saw anything so perfect in his life. He and Lady Edwards had gone all through the place, and found there was not a single thing out of its place. There was every requisite for each girl; and the establishment was so well conducted that every Freemason in England ought to go there and see the whole thing, and satisfy himself how well the money he had subscribed was laid out.

Sir Henry Edwards then distributed the prizes in the following order to the recipients whose names appear in the list, Bro. Thomas W. White calling the little girls up seriatim:—

LIST OF PUPILS WHO RECEIVED PRIZES.

Lilian Mary Nelson, the gold medal for proficiency, given annually by Bro. William Paas, with £5 given annually by Bro. William Winn (Leila Lucy Caparn having gained them last year).

Lucy Kate Clemence, the silver medal for good conduct, given annually by the Institution, with £5 given annually by Bro. William Winn.

Jane P. Pattison, £5 for general proficiency, given annually by Bro. William Winn.

PRIZES GIVEN ANNUALLY BY THE INSTITUTION:—Leila Lucy Caparn (since left), for taking honours Cambridge Examination, with distinction in religious knowledge; Lilian Mary Nelson and Jane P. Pattison, for passing Cambridge Examination; Lily O. Hiron, for general improvement, 1st Class; Mary Emma Barnes, for French; Louisa Hole, Melora F. Goodridge, Dora C. Bowles, and Jane R. Upton, for music; Josephine B. Mackay and Fanny J. Lawrence, for vocal music; Eliza Beveridge, for music among the little girls; Kate Hulme, Henrietta J. Featherstone, and Blanche E. Morris, for drawing; Ada Gertrude Chapman and Amy Emma Mills, for general usefulness; Janet S. Davidson and Caroline E. Holland for needlework; Annie Gertrude Earle and Mary H. Davies for machine work; Henrietta J. Featherstone, for good conduct; Blanche E. Morris, for general proficiency, 2nd class; Edith A. Wilson, for general proficiency, 3rd class; Catherine J. Scurr, for general proficiency, 4th class; Frances E. Gardner, for perseverance, 2nd class; Grace A. Colvill, for perseverance 3rd class; Maud A. Jay, for perseverance, 4th class.

By Bro. Joshua Nunn, for fancy work:—Lucy Kate Clemence and Leila Pulman.

By Bro. Raynham Stewart, for dictation:—Frances Harman, 1st class; Ellen A. Cates, 2nd class; Fanny Ashby, 3rd class; Mary Emma Barsby, 4th class; Mary Louisa Bowler, 5th class.

By Bro. Rev. P. H. E. Brette, D.D., for French:—Louisa Hole.

By Mrs. Crick, for elocution:—Agnes Barron, Alice Maud Thornbury, and Colina Sharp.

By Bro. John M. Clabon, for good conduct:—Annie S. Dawson and Matilda M. Sherry.

By Bro. Joseph Starkey, for drawing:—Florence S. Groves and Leila Pulman.

By Bro. Collard Moutrie, for music:—Florence S. Groves.

By Bro. Louis Hirsch, for German:—Lilian Mary Nelson.

By Bro. H. W. Hemsworth, for amiability, as voted by their schoolfellows:—Caroline Hart and Matilda M. Sherry.

Sir Henry Edwards announced that for the first time another prize has been presented, which was as follows:—
ADDITIONAL PRIZE:—"The St. James' Yates Memorial Prize," given annually by the St. James' Lodge, No. 482, Handsworth, £2 10s., for proficiency in domestic duties:—Ada Gertrude Chapman.

He remarked that he was very much gratified that the brethren of Handsworth had selected such a subject for a prize; for no accomplishment was more valuable or more tended to the happiness and comfort of the family circle than proficiency in domestic duties. He then heartily congratulated Ada Gertrude Chapman on having won this prize.

Bro. Thomas W. White then rose and said, that there was one thing they could not separate without doing, and that was to give a cordial vote of thanks to Sir Henry and Lady Edwards for so kindly coming down to Battersea to inspect the institution and to give away the prizes. They must all be highly gratified by what Sir Henry Edwards had said of the institution, of the detail of the education, and the whole arrangements.

Bro. Griffiths Smith having seconded the motion, it was unanimously adopted.

Sir Henry Edwards, in reply, said he could not part with the meeting without saying a word or two. First, he would thank the meeting for the vote just passed on behalf of Lady Edwards and himself. He would repeat again what he had said before, because he thought it was of importance that the world should know it, that he never was in an establishment so complete in all its branches, and so satisfactory to all those interested in it, as this establishment of the Masonic Girls' School. Everything about it was so complete that he did not really see what more could be said about it. The occasion of giving these prizes was a very interesting one, and it was rendered more interesting when he saw nearly half of the entire number of the children in the establishment had won prizes. He hoped that next year very many more would do so. He was sure their conduct merited it; but all could not gain prizes; some only must win, and some must lose. There were different gradations of working talent. Some were far more talented than others, and it was frequently on account of no fault, but only from want of ability, that some did not win. Therefore, it was always a painful thing to find that those who had nearly caught the mark had failed.

Sir Henry Edwards and party then retired, and the company, which numbered between 400 and 500 ladies and gentlemen, partook of tea, and afterwards saw the children go through their exercises, and then joined them in dancing till eleven o'clock.

The brethren and ladies below were among those who took part in the proceedings:—Mr. and Mrs. Dubois, George Kenning, H. Massey ("Freemason"), H. C. Le-vander, J. N. Butcher, Thomas W. Festibree, Miss Russon, Miss McWilliam, E. H. Thielley, Miss Wheatley, Mrs. Bingham, J. Southwood, W. Hudson, Miss Cox, Mrs. Spoor, Miss Crich, A. C. Veley, Mrs. T. W. White, Mrs. and Miss Bowie, Mr. and Mrs. John Gould, Geo. Penn, Charles Jardine, Miss Allshorn, Miss Kipel, Miss Amy Kipel, George King, jun., Miss C. M. King, J. C. Adham, J. T. Berri, Charles Frederick Hogard, Mr. and Mrs. Josiah Howe, Richard Boncey, Edward Cox, Mrs. Cox, and Miss Cox, J. L. Spoor, B. Hamilton, Mrs. Hamilton, Mrs. Parker, Miss Milne, Josh. Seeley, Josh. Clever, Miss Coutts, Mrs. Ireton, Miss Maggie Coutts, Thomas Willes, R. H. Davis, Mrs. Davis, Louis Hirsch, A. G. Baines, Mrs. Baines, G. M. E. Snow, M. S. Larham, P. Larham, Mr. Newton, C. Burmeister, H. W. Hemsworth, J. A. Farnfield, H. W. Milson, W. G. and Mrs. Lockwood, Hormusjee Jamsetjee Rustomjee (from Kurrachee), C. H. Dye, J. H. Bennett, W. Mitchell, H. Pinn, E. C. Mather, Mrs. E. C. Mather, W. Langton, Mrs. Mutabini, Mrs. Withers, Mrs. Potter, Mrs. C. Potter, H. Potter, W. T. Willes, the Misses Massey (2), R. B. Webster, R. H. Williams, R. C. Mansfield (?), W. Bailey, W. Smith Miss Mugleton, W. G. Barnes, W. G. Lemon, W. Winn, J. K. Stead, D. Betts, W. W. Baxter, George Weeks, Chas. Horsley, Levy, F. Keily, T. H. Miller, Mrs. Miller, W. Ruddoch, Mrs. Ruddoch, R. V. Ruddoch, H. D. Wood, J. Webberley, Mrs. Puller, Mrs. E. Shaw, Miss E. Shaw, J. B. Sorrell, J. B. Sorrell, jun., R. W. Smith, J. D. Allcroft, H. H. Dobree, B. H. Mallam, T. Riley, A. S. Stewart, Miss F. Pratt, T. Bull and Mrs. Bull, Mrs. W. H. Moses, Mrs. F. Fenner, Miss and Master Fenner, R. S. Davies and Mrs. Davies, C. Atkins, Miss Atkins, Mrs. Hill, A. J. Thomson, L. Thomas, J. M. Cox, E. Sewell, M.A., Mrs. Sewell, J. Mason, W. T. Howe, Miss Howe, W. W. Morgan, jun., Mrs. Morgan, Miss Morgan, Wm. Klingenstein, Mrs. Schubach, John Symonds, Thos. Fairweather, E. Simpson Baitrie, G. P. Brockbank, G. A. Brockbank, John Constable, Mrs. Constable, Miss Constable, Miss Hurst, H. Moore, C. A. Leigh, Mrs. Mills, D. W. Pearce, L. Pearce, H. Browne, W. Hilton, Thos. Hamilton, Robert Griggs, Mrs. A. San-ley, C. F. Poupard, Emily Poupard, W. K. Drew, Mrs. Poupard, James Warner, W. Clouston, Mrs. Clouston, G. J. Grove, North Ritherdon, Dr. Henry J. Strong, Mrs. Strong, Thomas Massa, F. Binckes, Walter Char-teris, J. G. Marsh, Edw. Spooner, T. H. Tibbits, T. J. Berry, C. J. G. Rushworth, G. W. Verry, John Appleby, Thomas Cubitt, John Farnfield, Captain J. Wordsworth, E. B. Chalmer, M.A., W. F. C. Moutrie, W. Murlis, William Stephens, W. H. Hubbard, and W. H. Diamond.

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ARRIVAL IN ENGLAND OF THE MOST WORSHIPFUL GRAND MASTER.

His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, Most Worshipful Grand Master of English Freemasons, after an absence of exactly seven months, during which he has visited the chief places of note in India, returned to his native land on Thursday afternoon. His vessel was sighted off Portland at seven o'clock in the morning and he arrived at Portsmouth at three.

Her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales left London on Wednesday evening with the royal children to meet her husband, and reached Portsmouth about eight o'clock the same evening. Portsmouth from an early hour in the morning was gaily decorated with flags, and business was entirely suspended. The whole place put on an holiday garb; the ships were similarly adorned; and the dockyard and railway station were most profusely and tastefully enlivened with flowers and bunting. All the naval authorities turned out to welcome His Royal Highness, and to catch as early a glimpse as they could of the long absent Heir Apparent. The day was beautifully fine, the sun being unclouded the whole day. While every one was busy in seeing how he could best honour the arrival of His Royal Highness the Freemasons of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight were not behind them, and it was arranged, as noticed by us last week, that a Provincial Grand Lodge should be held for the purpose of voting and presenting him with a welcome address in the very province in which he first touched English soil. Accordingly a Provincial Grand Lodge of Emergency was called, and the brethren were directed to assemble at half-past eleven at the beautiful Masonic Hall in St. Mary-street, Portsmouth. Seldom, perhaps, has a Provincial Grand Lodge been so well attended. The day suited everybody, as it was a general holiday, and consequently about 200 of the brethren attended. A procession of Past and Present Grand Officers was formed in the clothing room, and from thence they conducted Bro. W. Beach, M.P., Prov. G.M., into the lodge. At this time many brethren were obliged to stand, all the available seats having been taken. Among the brethren present not belonging to the province we noticed Bros. F. Binckes and Captain J. Wordsworth. The formation of the lodge was as follows:—
Bro. W. B. Beach, Prov. G.M.; Bro. W. Hickman, D.P.G.M.; Bros. Revd. J. U. Palmer, 698, as P.S.G.W.; J. W. Fordell, 175, P.G.J.W.; Rev. E. B. C. Churchill, 257, P.G. Chaplain; M. E. Frost, Prov. G. Treas; F. F. Hare, Asst. G. Reg.; J. E. Le Feuvre, 130, P. G. Sec. J. S. G. Thomas, 130, P.S.G.D.; H. Strickland, 698, P.J.G.D.; T. Giles, P.G. Supt. Works; J. S. Fulcher, 1112, P.G.D.C.; R. Newland, 342, P.G.A.D.C.; J. Parker, 141, P.G.S.B.; T. White, 1331, P.G.P.; R. Osborne, 487, P.G.C.; N. E. Manby, 130, A. Hughes, 175, E. R. Lester, P.G. Stewards; G. Cross, 359; G. R. Johnson, 487; J. H. Biggs, 130, P.G. Tyler; F. J. Excell, 1069, T.
At high noon Grand Lodge was close tyled, and the Prov. Grand Master directed Grand Secretary (Bro. Le Feuvre) to call over the roll of lodges. This having been done, and the brethren having answered, the Prov. Grand

Master opened the lodge in due form, and directed the Grand Secretary to read the summons calling the Grand Lodge. After this the Prov. Grand Secretary read the following telegram which he had received.

From Knollys, Madrid, to Provincial Grand Secretary, Southampton, England.

"The Prince of Wales will be happy to receive an address at the railway station at Portsmouth; but he regrets it cannot be read, but only handed in."

The Prov. G. Master then rose and said: Brethren, we have assembled together on a peculiar but gratifying occasion, viz., to present an address to our Royal Grand Master on his return from a foreign country, and certainly the Provincial Grand Lodge of Freemasons never assembled with such an interesting purpose in view. Brethren, in former ages Princes of Wales have gained honour and distinction on the field of battle; they have extorted the admiration of surrounding nations by the prowess they have displayed; and they have been cited as ornaments to their order. But, brethren, there are other distinctions to be won, and there are other honours to be achieved besides those of the battlefield; and probably he has not done the least in his generation who has contributed in some degree to cement the blessings of peace, amity, and good-will among the various nations of the earth. (Applause.) Brethren, the relations which England holds to India are very peculiar; there is no record in history presented which affords an equivalent to it. The throne over which the mighty Akbar and Aurang-zebe the magnificent once presided has been for many a long year vacant. But it has been the valour, the talent, the splendid qualities of Clive, of Hastings, and many other eminent men whose memory is recorded wherever history presents the page, that have contributed to turn the trading settlements of a company into a mighty empire united with this. Brethren, as our relations are peculiar, and as we have assumed the rule of that great country, the permanence of that rule must depend upon the conviction which must be instilled into its inhabitants that we hold this great position for their good and for their happiness. (Applause.) And I believe though occasionally difficulties have occurred, though many wars we have had to sustain, yet I believe on the whole we have established the principle that England has so wielded her single power as to tend to produce happiness and security among the people of India. (Renewed applause.) And in what better manner could the interest which is sustained by England in that great country be displayed than when the heir of our throne takes upon himself to visit that country, and personally to enquire into the various circumstances which there exist; into the welfare of the people, into their wants and their habits, and so make himself well acquainted with everything which can tend to enable him one day to rule over that great country. (Applause.) And brethren, during that visit which he has paid, every one must have been struck with the conciliatory demeanour, and with the manner in which he has on every occasion conducted himself. The acclamations with which the feudatory princes and the people of India have greeted him have shewn that they entertain feelings of loyalty to him, which feelings of loyalty will be cemented by the personalities which his presence among them cannot have failed to inspire. Long may the feelings which he has instilled be continued. May India long be united with this country by the most intimate ties, and may the visit of the Prince of Wales be the harbinger of peace and happiness to that country, and be the means of strengthening the ties between India and England. (Renewed applause.) Brethren, there is a united feeling in favour of congratulating the Prince of Wales on his return to this country which is felt throughout the whole of our land; but by no body of men can it be more sincerely and heartily felt than by those Freemasons, over whom, we are proud to think, he is our ruler. (Applause.) Brethren, we cannot but have been aware that during the time he has been away the Prince of Wales has not neglected the principles of our order; he has taken every opportunity of joining in Masonic ceremonies,

and has shown his interest in Freemasonry in every part of the world that he has visited. Then I am sure it will be with one hearty acclaim, with a united feeling of congratulation, that we are ready to vote an address to him to express our pleasure at his return, our hearty congratulations on the success which has attended his expedition. (Applause.) I will read the address now, which is as follows:—

"To His Royal Highness Albert Edward Prince of Wales, the Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Ancient and Honourable Order of the Free and Accepted Masons of England and Wales.

May it please your Royal Highness, We, the Provincial Grand Master, the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, Wardens, Officers, and Brethren of the Ancient, Free, and Accepted Masons of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight, desire to approach your Royal Highness and to offer you our sincere and hearty congratulations upon the successful termination of your important mission to India, and upon your safe return to your native land. We deem this a fitting opportunity to acknowledge with pride and pleasure the hearty reception accorded to your Royal Highness by the Princes and people of that country; such reception was indeed worthy of your exalted position, as the representative of Her Most Gracious Majesty, and a fitting tribute to the esteem and regard in which Her Majesty is held by her subjects in those distant lands. We have watched with much interest the many useful and benevolent undertakings which your Royal Highness, in your exalted position as Grand Master of our Ancient Order, as well as the Heir to the Throne of these Realms, has so auspiciously inaugurated. We pray that those works of charity and public usefulness may result in the realisation of your most cherished anticipations. Permit us to offer to your Royal Highness a fraternal greeting on your arrival in this province, and we pray the Great Architect of the Universe may long spare your valuable life to the service of the Ancient Order over which you so worthily preside, and enable you to realise to a still greater extent the noble objects you have always had in view—the promotion of the happiness and prosperity of the people of England, and of peace and amity among the different nations of the earth.

"By order of the Provincial Grand Lodge.

"W. W. B. BEACH, P.G. Master.

"W. HICKMAN, D.P.G. Master.

"Countersigned,

"J. E. LE FEUVRE, P. G. Secretary."

I beg to move that this address be signed on the part of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight.

Bro. Hickman, D.P.G.M., in seconding the motion said: It affords me great pleasure to second the proposition of our Grand Master which he has enunciated in so eloquent a manner. I will merely add to the observations he has made, that we in this province feel peculiar interest in the arrival of the Grand Master, inasmuch as his first step on English ground is on the shore of our province after a splendid tour in India; and I am sure the gratification we ourselves feel in presenting the first address to him, will be felt generally throughout the country by the whole body of Freemasons. I beg leave most cordially to second the proposition of our Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master.

The motion having been unanimously adopted, the Prov. Grand Master said that the Grand Treasurer had a number of tickets for the brethren for the railway station. He was afraid, however, that the space was but circumscribed, but some brethren might perhaps prefer to take their chance of seeing His Royal Highness in the streets. Those brethren who chose to apply were at liberty to do so.

The tickets were then distributed, and the brethren closed the lodge, and in plain clothes proceeded to the railway station, where the address was handed in to His Royal Highness, who graciously received the same.

We may add that His Royal Highness's reception throughout his route was of the most enthusiastic and cordial description, and by the side of the railway along which the Royal special ran groups both of old and young gathered to

cheer him and his amiable partner and their family with their utmost strength of lung. The Royal party seemed much pleased with their reception.

FUNERAL OF THE COUNTESS DOWAGER OF DERBY.

The funeral of the late Dowager Countess of Derby took place on Thursday morning, the 2nd inst., at Knowsley Church, in the presence of a large congregation, consisting mainly of the Knowsley tenants and the villagers of the neighbourhood. The remains of the deceased lady, who died in London on the 26th ult., were brought by train to Huyton the previous day, and taken thence to Knowsley. By the express wish of the family, the funeral obsequies were of the most private character possible, with the exception of the assembly of the congregation in the church. The body was conveyed from the hall to the church in a hearse drawn by four horses, and was followed by four mourning coaches and one of the family carriages. The chief mourners were the Earl and Countess of Derby, Bro. Colonel the Hon. F. A. Stanley, M.P., D.G.M., W.L.; Lady Constance Stanley, Colonel the Hon. Charles J. F. Stanley, Rev. Canon Hoopwood, Bro. Lord Skelmersdale, D.G.M., Eng., P.G.M.; Mr. Arthur Wilbraham representing his father, Col. the Hon. E. B. Wilbraham, (at present in Rome), Admiral Hornby, Mr. G. C. Hale, Mr. T. H. Sanderson, private secretary to Lord Derby; and Mr. William Moulton. The body was met at the church gate by the Rev. W. L. Fielden, rector of the parish; the Rev. J. B. Boulton, curate; and the Rev. O. H. L. Penrhyn, rector of the adjoining parish of Huyton, and taken into the church, where the service of the Church of England was impressively read. The bearers of the coffin—which, upon being taken from the hearse, was covered with a black pall bordered with white—were old labourers upon the estate. The coffin was deposited in the family vault under the nave of the edifice, which previously was tenanted only by that of the late Earl of Derby. It is a fac-simile of that which contains the remains of the late earl, being covered with crimson velvet, and having brass mountings. Upon a massive brass plate in the lid was engraved the following inscription:—

EMMA CAROLINE,
COUNTESS DOWAGER OF DERBY;
Born, March 17th, 1805.

Married

Edward Geoffrey, 14th Earl of Derby.

Died April 26th, 1876.

The flag at Huyton Church was hoisted half-mast high, and the peal of bells (muffled) rang at intervals during the morning. At the close of the service, Lord and Lady Derby and the other chief mourners descended into the vault and took a last look at the coffin, and afterwards the congregation availed themselves of the privilege accorded to them to inspect the resting place of the deceased and her illustrious husband. Lord Derby left in the afternoon for London.

A movable Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons was held on Friday, the 28th ult., at the Masonic Hall, Bristol. A report of the proceeding will appear in our next.

A sermon will be preached by Bro. the Rev. A. F. A. Woodford, P.G.C., on Sunday the 21st inst., at St. Michael and All Angels, North Kensington, and a collection will be made in aid of the payment of a debt due to the estate of the late esteemed Bro. John Cowland.

The Marquis of Hartington, P. G.M. Derbyshire, the leader of the liberal party in the House Commons, had a parliamentary dinner on Wednesday evening at Devonshire House, Piccadilly.

WHEN the summer, with all its attendant pleasures, comes round, there is invariably an increased demand for sparkling wines. Under this head, however, a good many things are sold which do not resemble the juice of the grape except in name. It is a fact that since wines have been more generally consumed the consumption of spirits has decreased in proportion to the population, and so much having been gained it would be well to go a step further by drinking wines of pure quality only. This is especially essential in regard to sparkling wines, which are perhaps the more generally "doctored" of all. It is, therefore, with satisfaction that we have noticed the endeavours of such a firm as McCracken's, of Queen-street, who have earned a reputation in the City for more than forty years for supplying wines of the finest vintages at fair prices, to introduce a good sparkling wine under its own name, and thus let us know what we are drinking. The wines of Neuchatel were first brought before the readers of the Press by the "Times" some years ago, when reference was made to the Neuchatel Champagne, imported by the firm we have named, in the highest terms. Since then the demand in the upper circles for this genuine sparkling wine, instead of the inferior qualities from the districts round the Marne, has steadily increased, so much so that Bouvier Frères, whose vineyards are in proximity to the lake from whence the wine takes its name, have found it necessary to double the extent of their plant to keep pace with the demand. When it is remembered that so far back as 1862, and again in 1867, the wine received medals at both Exhibitions it is not surprising that it should have gained further in public opinion. And when we consider that the price of the wine is only 42s. per dozen, and that the quality is above reproach, we may fairly confirm the high medical opinion expressed by the "Times" to the effect that it is really invaluable in the hands of the physician.

Reviews.

THE ROSICRUCIAN, &C., A QUARTERLY MAGAZINE.

We have perused with gratification the new issue of the "Rosicrucian." It is edited by Bros. W. R. Woodman and R. W. Little, both well known in Masonry as well as in the High Grades, and is, we think, likely to find much favour as well among those for whom it is mainly intended as among the Masonic-reading public. Not being a member ourselves of these exalted grades, for which our two confreres so ably cater in the "Rosicrucian," we feel much difficulty and some diffidence in approaching the subject of Rosicrucian literature! The editors express their hope that they are to be assisted by "some of the best and brightest Masons in Great Britain" in the future numbers of the "Rosicrucian," and only humble Craft Masons, ourselves, as the Frenchman said, "Rien de moins et rien de plus," we still deem it to be right to call attention to this addition, or rather restoration, to our Masonic serial literature. We therefore are very glad to mention the subject of this fresh effort of our enterprising publisher, as many, no doubt, do not know of its existence. The articles are interesting and varied, and such as will sustain the editorial character of the magazine. We always feel how deferentially we poor Craftsmen should speak of those so-called Higher Grades, which have so much attraction for many. For us, rightly or wrongly, we will not pause to consider, Freemasonry ends with the Royal Arch, and beyond its broad basis and its wide limits we find no standing point for ourselves, we do not feel disposed to go. But others have done so, and do so daily, in their full liberty on the subject. For them a magazine is needful and rightful as is for us our "Masonic Magazine;" for them it may be, let us hope, also as helpful as for us, and sure we are that in no better hands could the editorial pens be placed of the "Rosicrucian." So we wish it all success, and we congratulate Bro. Kenning both on its neat appearance and its literary value, as a very fitting representative of the High Grades. W. F. A.

INDIAN NUMBER OF THE "GRAPHIC."

We commend this paper, full of most interesting engravings, to our numerous readers, as a pleasant souvenir of our Royal Master's visit to India. W. F. A.

TESTIMONIAL AND DINNER TO BRO. WM. HERBAGE.

On Wednesday week a number of gentlemen assembled at dinner at the City United Club, Ludgate Circus, to present a testimonial to Bro. Wm. Herbage, late the manager of the Ludgate Hill Branch of the City Bank. The testimonial consisted of an epergne and plateau, together with a silver tea and coffee service, manufactured by Messrs. Martin, Hall, & Co., (Limited), at a cost of about £140.

Bro. Herbage was for many years general manager at the City Bank, Ludgate Hill, and left there to become joint general manager of the London and South-Western Bank. The Chairman of the committee was Bro. Alderman S. C. Hadley; the Vice-Chairman, N. Salamon, Esq.; and the Hon. Secretary, Bro. F. Kent, C.C., P.M. 177.

The committee were Alderman Hadley (Hadley Brothers), Henry Jeffery, Esq. (Cassell, Petter, and Galpin), Messrs. Chant and Crawford (Messrs. Dollond's), Chas. Samuel, Esq. (Samuel Brothers), F. Kent, C.C. (Kent and Kent, parliamentary agents), Dr. Wilson, Henry Harben, Esq. (Prudential Assurance Office), N. Salamon, Esq., Alfred Pearce, Esq., Bro. Henry Mathew, J. J. Merriman, Esq., T. W. Braithwaite, Esq. (Record and Writ Clerks' Office, Chancery Lane).

The donors were over fifty in number, and their names were set out on the menu card, which was designed by the Hon. Secretary, Bro. F. Kent, C.C., and printed by Messrs. Jones and Cuthbertson, of Friday Street.

Bro. Herbage has greatly distinguished himself as a student of the "Theory and History of Banking," and some years ago, when public lectures were delivered in the City of London on the subject, and certificates of proficiency offered, Bro. Herbage was one of the competitors, and was one of the three who obtained the certificates.

The list of donors to the testimonial consisted of Bro. Alderman Hadley (Messrs. Hadley Bros.), the Municipal Permanent Building Society, Messrs. Cassell, Petter, and Galpin, Dr. Wilson, Messrs. Kent and Kent, T. W. Braithwaite, Esq., A. B. Pearce, Esq., Messrs. Dollond and Co., Messrs. Judd and Co., G. H. Judd, Esq., Charles Samuel, Esq., N. Salamon, Esq., British Mutual Investment Co., S. Whitaker, Esq., Bro. Henry Mathew, Messrs. Trice and Chapman, Thos. Ingram, Esq., J. R. Burchett, Esq., J. Jones, Esq., Prudential Assurance Co., W. J. Villars, Esq., W. J. Twigg, Esq., James Green, Esq., Rev. C. Rogers, L.L.D., W. J. Almond, Esq., John Galpin, Esq., R. Hall, Esq., A. Berkett, Esq., F. Martin, Esq., A. W. Martin, Esq., H. W. Minter, Esq., F. Hancock, Esq., Henry Watts, Esq., C. Binyon, Esq., Messrs. Keene and Rogers, G. W. Dray, Esq., John Hurren, Esq., the Royal Historical Society, W. Liebeskind, Esq., Amity Investment Co., Limited, S. E. Fox, Esq., W. Barwell, Esq., J. H. Grain, Esq., L. C. Alexander, Esq., L.L.D., John Marshall, Esq., A. Thierry, Esq., Miss Connop, F. Walton, Esq., S. B. Gwynn, Esq., and the General Mutual Investment Building Society.

Bro. Alderman Hadley took the chair, and, after a very choice banquet had been partaken of, proposed "The Queen, the Prince and Princess of Wales, and the other Members of the Royal Family." He then proposed the toast of the evening, "Mr. Herbage," and presented the testimonial, which was displayed at one end of the room. In presenting it, he said that the donee was a gentleman whom they all appreciated and admired. The City of

London for many, many generations had been renowned for producing great men, whom it had brought to the front not only in its own internal management and direction, but also those who had stepped outside, after being nurtured and cultured in it, to rule and destine the world. The gentleman whom they were then assembled to honour had in his own sphere and in the particular locality to which all the gentlemen present belonged acquired to himself an amount of friendship and esteem which few had achieved in the short space of time during which he had been located in that neighbourhood. As men of business, they knew perfectly well what it was to contend with all the various vicissitudes and turmoil and changes of a mercantile life. They also knew how great a thing it was for them to meet with friends in such circumstances who could lend a helping hand. Such a friend and such a man was Mr. Herbage, and throughout his business career he had shown great ability, energy, and talent. It was for this that they as business men, understanding what business was, wished to show their appreciation of these qualities. Mr. Herbage had been associated with the City Bank for 20 years, and there was not a single customer of that bank but would bear testimony to his unswerving fidelity, his great ability, his kindness and courtesy at all times. While faithful to his duties to his employers he was ready with his assistance as bank manager to the customers; and while bidding him farewell, as he was going into another sphere of usefulness, they all wished him every success in it, assuring him all the while that they would never forget the friendship which had sprung up between them.

Bro. Herbage, who was received with loud applause, expressed his great gratification at such a recognition of his endeavours to win the confidence and esteem of those with whom he was brought into business relations. In the neighbourhood west of St. Paul's, where he had been engaged for seven years as bank manager, there was as large an amount of important business carried on as there was east of that centre, although people living eastwards were not disposed to recognise the fact; and in confirmation of his opinion he referred to the very large establishments which had risen of late years to colossal dimensions. With reference to the testimonial, he said it would leave an indelible impression on his mind, and it would be transmitted to his children, he hoped, as an incentive to them to follow in the path which he had tried to walk in. (Cheers.)

Mr. Judd proposed "The Chairman's Health," and Mr. Braithwaite that of "The Vice-Chairman," to which two toasts Bro. Alderman Hadley and Mr. N. Salamon responded.

Dr. Rogers responded for "The Royal Historical Society."

Mr. Dimsdale proposed "The Committee and Secretary," to which Bro. F. Kent replied, stating with how much pleasure he had performed his duties, which were certainly of a somewhat onerous character.

The meeting shortly afterwards broke up.

The inscription on the salver presented to Bro. Herbage was as follows:—"This salver, with an epergne and a tea and coffee service in silver, was presented to Mr. William Herbage by customers of the City Bank, Ludgate Hill, on his retiring from the management of that bank, as a mark of their friendship and appreciation of the ability and uniform courtesy shown by him at all times in his conduct of business during the seven years of his management. Committee: Alderman S. C. Hadley, Chairman; T. W. Braithwaite, Henry Mathew, J. R. Chant, Hon. Treasurer; N. Salamon, J. J. Merriman, Tyson Crawford, Henry Harben, Henry Jeffery, Fred. Kent, Alfred Pearce, Charles Samuel, F. W. Wilson, M.D."

ANCIENT AND PRIMITIVE MASONRY.

The following has been forwarded to us for publication:—

In consequence of enquiries and suggestions emanating from Canada and various parts of this kingdom, I am instructed by the G.M. to promulgate the following order and decree.

S. P. LEATHER, 33-95°, Sec.-Genl. pro tem., Burnley, Lancashire.

"In the name of the Sovereign Sanctuary of Ancient and Primitive Masonry in and for Great Britain and Ireland. Salutation on all points of the Triangle. Respect to the Order.

"Peace. Tolerance. Truth.

"Whereas the Ancient and Primitive Rite of Masonry, of 33°, represents the Ancient and Primitive Rite of Memphis, embracing 96 degrees; and whereas the Grand Master and officers of the Sovereign Sanctuary in and for Great Britain and Ireland, duly constituted, are also certified members of the Ancient and Primitive Rite of Mizraim, embracing 90 degrees, of which there is no governing body within the limits of the jurisdiction of the said Sovereign Sanctuary, and whereas a large number of holders of the degrees of the said Rite of Mizraim have elected to work under the said Sovereign Sanctuary: Be it known, therefore, that at the request of the said members the Grand Master has decreed: That it is lawful for the Sovereign Sanctuary in and for Great Britain and Ireland, and its dependencies, or any subordinate body thereof, to grant by communication any or all corresponding degrees of the Oriental Rites of Mizraim and Memphis of 90 and 95 degrees respectively, or by request to work any of the discarded degrees of the Ancient Rite of Memphis, and that upon payment of the fees the same may be endorsed upon the certificates of the Sovereign Sanctuary of the Ancient and Primitive Rite of Masonry in and for Great Britain and Ireland.

(Signed)

"JOHN YARKER, G.M.

"April 28th, 1876."

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

The General Committee of this institution met on Saturday, the 6th ult., at Freemasons' Hall, Bro. Raynham W. Stewart in the chair. There were also present Bros. Benj. Head, H. W. Hunt, Jesse Turner, J. G. Chancellor, S. Rosenthal, A. Durrant, Capt. J. Wordsworth, Hyde Pullen, Alex. Wallace, John Symonds, Alfred H. Diaper, Robt. B. Webster, S. S. Cooper, J. Terry, W. F. C. Moutrie, Frederick Adlard, Charles Horsley, H. Norman, J. W. Dosell, H. Massey ("Freemason"); F. Binckes, Secretary.

Seven cases for election were before the committee, of these, four were accepted, two deferred and one rejected. There were two cases of purchase, which were recommended to the House Committee for report. Four outfits were granted to boys who had left the institution and obtained situations.

The following brethren were nominated for the Audit Committee whose election will be held at next meeting of the General Committee, nine to be elected:—Bros. John Boyd, J. W. Dosell, Benj. Head, W. Mann, D. W. Pearce, Hyde Pullen, James Terry, Jesse Turner, Robt. B. Webster, A. Wallace, G. P. Row, and A. H. Tattershall. The following brethren were nominated for the House Committee, whose election will be held at the same time:—Bros. H. Browne, B. Head, J. G. Chancellor, W. F. C. Moutrie, Hyde Pullen, W. Roebuck, S. Rosenthal, R. W. Stewart, Captain J. Wordsworth, H. W. Hunt, W. Paas, Dr. Charles Sanders, J. Bagot Scriven, and Alfred H. Diaper.

Bros. Adlard, Durrant and Wilson were chosen scrutineers for the election.

Cheques were ordered to be signed for outstanding accounts, after the report of the Audit Committee had been adopted. The brethren then adjourned.

ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

The Committee of this Institution met on Wednesday at Freemasons' Hall. Colonel Creaton presided, and was supported by Bros. S. Rawson, Benj. Head, Griffiths Smith, Thomas W. White, Dr. Hogg, H. M. Levy, H. G. Warren, C. A. Cottebrune, Wm. Stephens, James Brett, J. Newton, John Bellerby, G. Bolton, Raynham W. Stewart, Hyde Pullen, John Constable, L. Stan, Captain J. Wordsworth, C. F. Hogard, W. Hale, Dr. Erasmus Wilson, Dr. Strong, H. Massey ("Freemason"), and James Terry (Secretary).

Bro. Terry announced the death of one annuitant, who had received altogether the sum of £160. He also announced that there were 23 men and 32 women on the list for the election, 17 men to be elected and 10 women. Bro. Terry also read the report of the committee, containing a narrative of the year's proceedings, which have been given from time to time in our columns.

Bro. Raynham W. Stewart then gave notice of motion for the employment of Miss Norris, the daughter of Bro. Norris, the Warden of the asylum, to attend upon the old ladies there. He said that Bro. Norris was a widower and his daughter had resided with him, leaving an excellent situation to do so. It was quite necessary that a female should be employed to look after the wants of the women, and she had been very valuable in that capacity for a long time. Miss Norris's services were voluntary; but he thought the Institution ought not any longer to accept them as such. He would give notice of motion for her to be employed as an officer of the Institution at a salary of £30 per annum.

Dr. Strong bore testimony to the great service Miss Norris had been in the asylum. She was exceedingly kind to the old people, and if anything ever went wrong she was always pouring oil on the troubled waters. She frequently got up in the middle of the night when any of the female annuitants were taken ill. The brethren would allow him to say that there was nobody in the employ of the institution to do these offices. He might also add that it required a person who was in a measure in authority, and Miss Norris's father being the Warden of the institution, that requisite was supplied. Bro. Norris was a good Warden, and he exercised his office without the least show of authority.

Bro. C. F. Hogard nominated Bros. Adlard, Bellerby, and W. Hale for re-election on the committee.

Bro. Terry read a letter from Bro. Cutbush, acknowledging receipt of the vote of thanks which was passed at last meeting for his gift of shrubs to the asylum, and stating that he should always be pleased to repeat the gift when informed that it would be acceptable. The letter was couched in most kind and graceful terms, and the writer concluded by desiring Bro. Terry to convey to the committee his thanks, and to say that he felt highly honoured by their kind resolution, and should prize it as a mark of their favour as long as he lived. Bro. Terry then said he was sorry to inform the committee that two days after the date of that letter Bro. Cutbush ceased to exist.

This announcement was received with great regret, and a vote of condolence with Mrs. Cutbush was then passed, on the motion of Bro. John Constable, seconded by Bro. Bellerby.

Bro. Terry asked for and obtained the sanction of the committee for the use of the hall of the asylum for a summer entertainment for the inmates.

The committee adjourned after passing a vote of thanks to the chairman.

HAVE THE REMEDY WITHIN YOUR REACH.—Nothing has yet equalled the efficacy of Holloway's Balsamic Pills in checking disease in and restoring vigour to the human body. They root out all impurities from the blood, and regulate and invigorate every organ. Immense care is taken to secure the genuine preparation to the public, that no disappointment may be caused to invalids seeking health by Holloway's medicines. Their composition, and careful packing, prevent the impairment of their virtues by time, sea voyage, or climate. They never gripe, or cause inconvenience. In disturbances of the system, disorders of the digestive apparatus, and derangements of the bowels, these Pills exercise an almost magical power, which conquers disease safely, quickly, conveniently and cheaply.—ADVT.

TO OUR READERS

The *Freemason* is a sixteen-page weekly newspaper, price 2d. It is published every Friday morning, and contains the most important, interesting, and useful information relating to Freemasonry in every degree. Annual subscription in the United Kingdom, Post free, 10/- P.O.O.'s to be made payable at the chief office, London.

NEW POSTAL RATES.

Owing to a reduction in the Postal Rates, the publisher is now enabled to send the "Freemason" to the following parts abroad for One Year for Twelve Shillings (payable in advance):—Africa, Australia, Bombay, Canada, Cape of Good Hope, Ceylon, China, Constantinople, Demerara, France, Germany, Gibraltar, Jamaica, Malta, Newfoundland, New South Wales, New Zealand, Suez, Trinidad, United States of America, &c.

COLONIAL AND FOREIGN SUBSCRIBERS

are informed that acknowledgments of remittances received are published in the first number of every month.

NOTICE.—It is very necessary for our friends to advise us of all money orders they remit, more especially those from the United States of America and India; otherwise we cannot tell where to credit them.

TO ADVERTISERS.

The *Freemason* has a large circulation in all parts of the Globe, its advantages as an advertising medium can therefore scarcely be overrated.

For terms, position, &c., apply to
GEORGE KENNING, 198, Fleet-st.

Answers to Correspondents.

All Communications, Advertisements, &c., intended for insertion in the Number of the following Saturday, must reach the Office not later than 12 o'clock on Wednesday morning.

J.V.—Your items will be very acceptable.

The following stand over:—Consecration of Richard Giddy Lodge, Nelson, New Zealand; Egyptian Lodge, 27; Priory Lodge, 1000, Southend; St. Barnabas Lodge, 948, Leighton-Buzzard; Pomfret Lodge, 360, Northampton; Henley Lodge, 1472, North Woolwich; Thames Valley Lodge, 1460, Halliford; St. Hilda's Lodge, 240, South Shields; Albert Edward Lodge, 1560, Leicester; Hartington Lodge, 1085, Derby; Royal Cumberland Lodge, 41, Bath; Lodge of Truth, 1458, Manchester; Royal Kent Lodge of Instruction; Faith Lodge of Instruction; St. David's Lodge of Instruction, Manchester; and the following Scotch lodges: Maryhill, 510; Commercial, 360; Union, 332; St. John's, 34; Clyde, 408; Shamrock and Thistle, 275; Mark Lodge Fortescue, 9, South Molton; Red Cross Conclave, Edinburgh; "The Mark Degree Assailed."

Bro. W. Tebb's remarks in our next.

"An Eye Witness" must send his name in confidence to the Editor.

NOTICE TO OUR MANY CORRESPONDENTS AND READERS.

A supplement to the "Freemason" will be published next week, containing an account of our Royal Grand Master's reception in London, on his happy return from India. Orders should be sent at once, to ensure certainty of delivery, to Bro. George Kenning, 198, Fleet-street, E.C.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

[The charge is 2s. 6d. for announcements, not exceeding four lines, under this heading.]

BIRTHS.

BROAD.—On the 9th inst., at Lewisham, the wife of Bro. Broad, 184, of a daughter.

CLARK.—On Feb. 26 last, at Hobart Town, Tasmania, the wife of J. K. Clark, of a son.

CRANE.—On the 6th inst., at Wood-lane, Shepherd's-bush, the wife of W. Crane, Esq., of a son.

CUTHBERT.—On the 5th inst., at Guernsey, the wife of Major R. T. P. Cuthbert, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

FLOWER—WHITE.—On the 4th inst., at St. Thomas's, Orchard-street, Portman-square, Henry Vincent Flower, Esq., of Scarrington, Notts, to Christine Sophia, daughter of G. F. White.

REED—ROPER.—On the 6th inst., at Avranches, Normandy, Charles Edward Baines, son of Sir C. Reed, of Earlsmead, Tottenham, to Ailie Elizabeth, daughter of W. H. Roper, Esq.

GREEN-BRERETON.—On April 27th, at the Church of St. Mary, Bedford, by the father of the bride, Edmund Green, Esq., J.P., Captain B.V.R., and W.M. of the Stuart Lodge, 540, to Mary, daughter of the Rev. Charles Brereton, B.C.L., Rector of St. Mary's, Rural Dean, and Chaplain of the lodge.

DEATHS.

JONES.—On the 6th inst., at Liverpool, aged 14, Constance Charlton, daughter of J. C. Jones.

HOOPER.—On the 19th March, at Yokohama, Henry John Hooper, aged 47.

GOBBMAN.—On the 7th inst., at Surbiton, Kingston-on-Thames, Matthew Trollope Coleman, in his 65th year.

MAUND.—On the 6th inst., at Boulogne, John Maund, Esq., late of Ty Maur, Breconshire.

The Freemason.

SATURDAY, MAY 13, 1876.

WELCOME HOME AGAIN.

"Home, Sweet Home" are the words of an old strain much cherished among us, and midst "pleasures and palaces," after all, we will add, "there is no place like home." And so to day, the entire Craft welcomes back its Grand Master to his "ain fireside," after many eventful scenes, many great dangers, and many long travels. His Royal progress has been a triumphant one. He has seen Athens and the Pyramids, he has visited the stout fortress of Aden, and the crumbling palaces of Goa. He has made a pilgrimage to all the most memorable of Indian localities, he has sojourned at Malta, greeted old Gib, been refreshed by Cadiz, wondered at Seville, loitered amid the silence of the Escorial, was pleased with Cordova, and fêted at Madrid, and having been welcomed at Lisbon and Cintra, and charmed with the Tagus (who is not?) he has safely traversed the Bay of Biscay, and has landed on the friendly beach of Portsmouth. His wife and children have met him off the Isle of Wight, and now he is well and happy, and genial and frank as ever, surrounded by the loving hearts of a loyal people, and cheered by the friendly sympathy of rejoicing millions. He has had an "outing" as they say, and no mistake. He is now one of the greatest of travellers, as he is one of the coolest of sportsmen, the kindest of companions, and the most pleasant of guests. A correspondent of the "Journal des Debats" says, he is a "man of iron," and tires every one else out, and is never tired himself, sees everything, notes everything. So much the better we say, and we rejoice to think that this voyage of the Prince of Wales has been one of great success, and of greater happiness to all concerned, from first to last. That some anxieties may have been felt for him amid the perils of the jungle and the climate of distant Hindostan is probably true, that those nearest and dearest to him may have grudged his long absence, and eagerly counted the hours of his return, is also undoubted, but still, through all and in all, a gracious Providence has protected his goodly progress, and we hail him once again with the proud loyalty of Englishmen. We trust that some arrangements may be made by which the Craft at large may be enabled to welcome home again its Royal Grand Master, as we feel sure that nothing would conduce more to call forth in most marked measure the deep attachment of our great and united Order to its royal head than some such advisable and seasonable festivity. For that admirable lady the august consort of the Prince of Wales, the feeling of the Craft has been, during the Prince of Wales's absence, as on his happy return, one of inexpressible sympathy. For her virtues, as well as for her graces, her kindness of disposition, and her admirable discharge of every duty connected with her exalted position, as Freemasons we share with a grateful and gratified community, the one prevailing feeling of loyal appreciation and devotion. To the Queen the safe return of our Royal Grand Master will be a subject of heartfelt and affectionate gratification, for her as well for all of the Royal family. The members of our Royal House have lately been much scattered, though soon now to be gathered together happily again, and for them, one and all, as patriotic Englishmen and true Freemasons, we all have and must have the thorough English sentiments of attachment and affection! It is most gratifying to every loyal Englishman to see and to know how in their several stations and high vocations our Royal Family are seeking so zealously to do their duty and be useful as members of the great body politic in their time and generation. Feeling that in venturing to say what we have said, however feebly, we are but expressing the uppermost opinion of every English Freemason; believing that we are, as it were, but re-echoing the hearty good wishes and devoted aspirations of our goodly and rejoicing Craft, we beg most respectfully and yet most fraternally to tender to our Royal Grand Master, in the humble pages of the "Freemason," a Masonic and heartfelt "Welcome Home" again.

We shall recur to our Royal Grand Master's reception at home in our next.

NO POLITICS.

We published in our last impression a letter which appeared in our contemporary, the "Daily News," with reference to a very foolish act, as regards our Masonic confraternity. Since then we have seen letters many and articles many on the same subject, and we feel bound not altogether to pass the matter over silently, for fear of any possible misconception. It seems that a Conservative association has had the extreme bad taste, to say the least of it, to send a form of petition to some lodges in reference to a purely political measure, which is called the Royal Titles Bill. We can only suppose that the secretaries, Messrs. Gorst and Neville, acted without consideration and somewhat hastily, and must we not say most indiscreetly? That they deliberately intended to insult the Masonic brotherhood we do not for a moment suppose, and we cannot believe; and we would fain hope that this was on their part a hasty step, unadvisedly taken, and without giving much thought to the evident solecism in propriety and good taste they were committing. We must all be struck with one fact which this regrettable incident evidences, viz., the great ignorance which prevails as to the true position and real principles of Freemasonry in this country. To suppose that because the Prince of Wales is at our head we should therefore depart one jot or tittle from our avowed neutrality on all political questions is practically to exhibit a very low opinion alike of the professions and practice of Freemasons. For if there is one thing which distinguishes us as a body it is our absolute abstention from anything that savours of political feelings or political opinions. We have in our Order members of various views on political questions, some perhaps as contrasted and as antagonistic as well may be outside of the lodge; but within the lodge, inside the pale of Masonry, we know nothing, absolutely nothing, of the divergent aspirations of statesmen or parties, we close our ears to the war cries of faction, we ignore the "Shibboleths" of partizan hosts. We are patriot citizens of our great country, but nothing more, and in respect of politics, our feelings and our flags are alike colourless, and altogether of a neutral tint. Indeed, it is one of the great boasts of Freemasonry, that in the lodge the cries of party are unheard, and the din of worldly politics never intrudes. It must, then, be a matter of mingled surprise and regret to us all, not only that such ignorance should prevail as to our real and distinct position in such a matter, but that any such ill-timed and ill-advised circular should have been forwarded to any of our lodges. We do not wish to make too much of the matter, we somehow believe that the proceeding, properly complained of, has arisen from haste, inadvertence, and a culpable carelessness, as no one can doubt, knowing Freemasonry at all, what must be the response from any lodge in England, and in Great Britain, to this untoward circular. One more remark we will make. It is curious enough that such a step should have been taken in the face of our Royal Grand Master's emphatic warning to the Craft not to meddle with politics, and, therefore, we feel sure that it is just one of those mistakes which will occur in the "best regulated families," and which we had better at once forget, and relegate to the "limbo" of all those little follies which men often commit, either through ignorance, through excitement, or through want of consideration, which in their calmer moments they regret, and which it is our duty, especially as Freemasons, kindly to condone and good humouredly to forget.

THE PROPOSED MASONIC LIBRARY AT SHEFFIELD.

We set before our readers in our last impression, by the kind communication of our energetic Bro. S. B. Ellis, Sheffield, the proposal—a very promising one, by the way—of a Joint Masonic Library for the three Craft lodges at Sheffield. For the announcement of such an effort we were glad to afford room in our overcrowded pages

and we hail such a movement heartily and warmly. So far all seems to be most successful, and cheering alike for the present and with a happy augury for the future. "Sheffield blades" to use a Yorkshire term, generally succeed in what they heartily undertake, and we have no doubt, that our good brethren there, from what we remember of them, and many kind friends we had once among them—good Masons one and all—will demonstrate to others that the old Masonic fire still burns among them clear and strong. We commend, then most sincerely the scheme itself to the attention of our Order, and to the active support of those who will be so materially and Masonically benefitted by it. For of this one thing we may all be certain, Freemasonry has now assumed an intellectual position, which must be one of advance, and of active study. The days of apathy, indifference, levity, unconcern, all are gone, and in their stead we have to deal with the demands of a young, an ardent, an enquiring generation. It has been too long assumed that Freemasonry has no literature, whereas Freemasonry has a most extensive literature, and far too many of our older school, good Masons though they were, contented themselves, so to say, with the framework of Masonry, without seeking to master the spiritual teaching and the living soul within. Hence we always gladly welcome any effort which is made to emerge from the somewhat dull and monotonous level of mere lodge routine, and to incite to study, and to offer a premium to a Masonic and laudable desire for information and instruction on all that appertains to the archæology and literature of Freemasonry. It is a great reproach to us in England that we have so few lodge libraries. Let us trust that this will soon be among the shortcomings of the past, and will be atoned for by the efforts of the present generation of Freemasons. The Sheffield brethren have most wisely resolved to remedy this want, and to remove this blot in our Masonic system, by setting on foot a library open to all the lodges in that great and important town. We have looked over the provisional catalogue, and a very good one it is. Indeed to most of our brethren Masonic bibliography is an unknown country, and few are aware that Kloss's list of Masonic works, thirty years and more ago, wonderful as it is, is far from complete, and yet that it contains nearly 6000 works on Freemasonry and cognate subjects. Now, we must not expect too much at first from such a meritorious effort, nor shut our eyes to its attendant difficulties. Many prejudices have to be overcome, and many mistaken views changed, before we shall see anything like a general taste for Masonic literature amongst us. But for a first attempt, for a new scheme, the present proposal is a most successful one, and deserves the recognition and support of all who value Freemasonry for what it is, and who can find, whether in its history, or its symbolism, or its didactic expositions, much alike to improve the mind, to gratify the sympathies, to interest the intellect, and to warm the heart! We think, that Bro. S. B. Ellis and his associate Secretary and his co-workers in this judicious movement, deserve the commendation of all who wish well to the cultivation of intellectual studies and Masonic literature in our good and friendly Order.

THE TRIUMPH OF INTOLERANCE.

Just now intolerance is very vivacious, and is too often, alas! triumphant for the moment, so far, indeed, as this world deems it to be a triumph. We have read, not without emotion, in the to us ever sacred cause of true religion, an incident which has lately taken place at Halifax, in Yorkshire, and which appeared in the pages of our last impression. It seems that Permanent Sergeant Nagle, of the 2nd West Yorkshire Yeomanry Cavalry, a fine regiment, and commanded by our gallant and esteemed Bro. Sir H. Edwards, Bart., P.G.M. for West Yorkshire, has lately died at Halifax, being a Roman Catholic. He was buried, after military honours, in the cemetery by Father Geary, Roman Catholic priest, who announced in the chapel it is alleged that "deceased had been a Freemason, but in order to die in the faith of the Roman Catholic Church he had previous to his death renounced his connec-

tion with Freemasonry." We feel sure that all our brethren will read this announcement with equal surprise and pain, not to say indignation. But the first question that occurs to us all is, is the statement true? The recorded cases of death-bed renunciation are always doubtful, and, as we know, very frequently invented for the occasion! Remembering the Chatham case, we hesitate a good deal at receiving the exact accuracy of this somewhat startling announcement. But assuming it to be a fact, what a mournful commentary it is on the very religion we all of us in common profess. We say nothing here of the principle of insubordination here set up before the rest of the regiment of yeomanry, the "imperium in imperio," the oblique censure thus cast on the commanding officer and all others who are Freemasons. What has Freemasonry perpetrated, what have Freemasons done that it and they should be made the "fulcrum" of intolerance and the sport of bigotry? Have we not enough evidences in the world of the unchanged fanaticism of humanity without invoking the holy name of religion, and the solemn moments of the death-bed to sanction and consecrate as it were the dictates of a retrograde barbarism? When in 1738 Pope Clement first launched his fiery anathema against the Order, he laid the foundation for all that hopeless intolerance and inane violence in which the Church of Rome has thought proper ever since to indulge in respect of Freemasons and Freemasonry. Just now Roman Catholics, that is, the Ultramontane party, are in a state of "monomania" as regards Freemasonry. And though many Roman Catholics are in our ranks it has become for them a matter, no doubt, of much conscientious difficulty, in face of the Bulls of their Popes now reproduced and revived by their chief authorities, and the course taken by Roman Catholic priests nearly everywhere. But it appears to us that it is idle to protest against such proceedings, deeply as we sympathize with our Roman Catholic brother Freemasons, and we have, as it also appears to us, but one course to pursue—to express our honest indignation at such irregular proceedings, and at such unwarrantable bigotry. We have this one consolation, that in so acting Rome is so outraging the feelings of our common humanity that sooner or later there must be a reaction, even in the minds of her most devoted children. During the last few years, animated by the spirit of Dominic, and rivaling the "animus" of Torquemada, the Roman Catholic Church has insulted the living and outraged the dead, as our own columns have clearly shown on incontestable authority; and at this very moment the clergy of her Church spare no efforts to ridicule, to denounce, and to insult Freemasons and Freemasonry. Be it so. We are not afraid of the issue, and we do not shrink from the struggle. On one side are the great principles of toleration, charity, justice, and goodwill to our brethren, moral right, and liberty of conscience; on the other hand, that unbridled fanaticism and that unhesitating animosity which encouraged the massacre of St. Bartholomew, which lighted the fires of Smithfield, which has violated decency and disgraced humanity, and has made the name of religion a stumbling block and a scorn to the sceptic and unbeliever. It may perhaps be not generally known, but under the Bull of Clement, 1738, on which Rome is still professedly acting, Freemasons are to be treated as stubborn heretics, to be summoned before the Inquisition, and handed over to the secular arm to be burnt. Such being the actual and official position of the Roman Curia in this deliberate persecution of Freemasons, we will next week consider what is the moral right by which the Church of Rome professes to issue such edicts, to follow such a degrading course, both of teaching and action.

GIRLS' SCHOOL.

The anniversary festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls took place on Wednesday, the 10th inst., at Freemasons' Hall, under the presidency of Bro. Sir Henry Edwards, Bart., P.G.M. for West Yorkshire, when the goodly amount of £8214 11s. was announced, with twelve lists to come. We shall recur to the subject in our next.

Original Correspondence.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for, or even as approving of the opinions expressed by our correspondents, but we wish, in a spirit of fair play to all, to permit—within certain necessary limits—free discussion.—Ed.]

BRO. "LUX," AND OFFICERS' JEWELS OF THE "YORK SYSTEM."

To the Editor of The Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I have been much interested in reading the letter by "Lux" respecting officers' jewels belonging to a lodge "constituted 1765 under the old York regime."

Will he kindly inform me where the lodge was held A.D. 1765, its present number, and the title of the proper Grand Lodge which constituted the lodge in question?

I shall esteem it a favour by his so doing, especially if by "the old York system" he means the "Grand Lodge of all England," formerly held in the city of York, but long ago extinct.

Unless such is meant of course the title of "York system" is wrongly used, and so I await an explanation from our Bro. "Lux," at his convenience.

WILLIAM JAMES HUGHAN.

WHAT NEXT, INDEED?

To the Editor of the Freemason.

New York, April 10, 1876.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I wrote you a few days since respecting an article in your issue of the 11th March, entitled, "What Next, Indeed?" and having just received the enclosed verbatim copy of a letter which is so peculiarly applicable to the subject under discussion I venture again to trespass on your attention. Its history is as follows:—The R.W.M. of a lodge in your city lately sent me three comical photographs, representing the "Admission," "Initiation," and "Ordeal" of a candidate. These I sent to the fair daughter of one of the office-bearers of Montgomery Lodge, No. 69, New York, with a note expressive of my desire to enlighten her as to the mysteries of our Craft and of admiration of her earnest zeal in the acquirement of such knowledge.

What was my astonishment on reading her reply I must ask you to imagine. Suffice it to say that the worst fears of Past Master Dobbin are now fully realised, and Freemasonry may now be considered as a thing of the past. In the midst of such utter demoralization it will be gratifying to Bro. Simmonds to know that my fair correspondent declares his namesake here able to "work the Third" better than any man in the United States. This eminent brother is also an office bearer in Montgomery Lodge, now for ever famous or infamous as having been the means of destroying our ancient Craft. I am told that, having a peculiar knack of twisting his thumb in and out of joint, he has not only betrayed this well-known sign, but divulged our most secret words, "Tit," "Tat," "Toe."

The game is now up; let us invite our fair friends to reunions where such signs and such words may frankly be stated; their curiosity will thus be fully satisfied, and their aid in the support of Freemasonry be gratefully given.

I am, &c.,

ST. MARY'S CHAPEL, No. 1.

[COPY.]

New York.

My dear Mr.—

Allow me to thank you very sincerely for the pictures you sent me. But do you imagine that I did not know all about it before? When I visited Montgomery Lodge I looked in every corner for the gridiron and the red-hot poker with which the Masons are branded, although I suppose the poker is only heated when you work the First. (You seem highly interested in my "thirst for knowledge," and I can appreciate your feelings.)

You say one word begins with an "L" and ends with an "E." Is it Love? There is no secret in Masonry but the peculiar mode of saying "Tit-Tat-Toe." I shall put the pictures in my album, and would consider it a great favour if you would send me your photograph. I kept my eyes open at the installation, and saw the peculiar turn of the thumb, the nail pointing outwards and the fingers extended, and now I can do it as well as yourself. I know all about the "Inner Temple of Truth," the "attentive ear," "instructive tongue," and the three pillars "Beauty," "Wisdom," and "Strength," and the G.A.O.T.U., and the "Grand Honours." I hear that Mr. G. Simons can "work the Third" better than any other man in the United States.

With kind regards for all, believe me,

Yours very truly,

"LILLIE."

DISCONTINUANCE OF THE FREEMASON.

To the Editor of The Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I have perused with interest a forcible leading article in your issue of 22nd April, headed, "Discontinuance of the 'Freemason.'" At the close mention is made of the "Anglo-Saxon brotherhood." I perceive, Sir, at the present day, a tendency in journalism to ignore plain Saxon English, and to introduce words of Greek and Latin origin. Indeed, we seem travelling out of English altogether. Moreover, actual Latin and Greek words are thrust in continually. No doubt the majority of readers of the "Freemason" are good classical scholars. But in some cases it may not be so. I notice in your leading article as above "tendencies of our excellent clientele." What, is this last word? Is it French? and what does it mean? Further on, I find "sub sigillo confessionis." Again "proh pudor," which is a Latin phrase denoting exclamation and astonishment with scorn; it is found in several Latin authors; for instance, Martial X. 68-6. The word "opine," too, is used in the article—o

Latin origin and scarcely suitable in popular journalism for ordinary people.

Your obedient servant fraternally,
A STICKLER FOR PLAIN ENGLISH.

4th May, 1876.

[We are sorry that our correspondent dislikes Latin? But it is not our fault. We will allude to the subject next week or week after.—Ed.]

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS. To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

So many exaggerated statements with reference to "extravagance" and "recklessness" in connection with the expenditure of this Institution have been circulated during the past year that I think it only due to the Committee and Executive to publish for the information of all who continue to take a kindly interest in our welfare, the details of cost for the year 1875:—

	TOTAL.	PER BOY.
Establishment Charges...	£5817 5 4	£34 8 5
Office Expenditure.....	1024 16 5	6 1 3½
	£6842 1 9	£40 9 8½

The average number of boys in the establishment in 1875 was 169, as compared with 156 in 1874, in which year—

	TOTAL.	PER BOY.
Establishment Charges...	£5880 18 10	£37 13 1½
Office Expenditure.....	959 10 10	6 3 0
	£6840 9 8	£43 16 1½

The result proves the maintenance, &c., of 13 additional boys, at an additional cost of £1 12s. 1d. only, and a reduction in the cost per boy per annum of £3 7s. 3d. The same basis of calculation has been adopted as in former years, it being open to any one to make such additions as in his opinion ought to be included.

Trusting that the Governors and subscribers may consider this statement as re-assuring and satisfactory,

I am, dear Sir and Brother, yours faithfully and fraternally,
FREDERICK BINCKES,
Secretary.

REGALIA.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

"R.W.O." asks, "How is it that (say) ninety-nine out of every hundred Past Masters wear a gold or gilt jewel, when the Constitutions distinctly say it shall be in silver, &c.?"

Allow me to say that he and "Ad Rem" are confounding presentation jewels with the regulation jewels. If he should become eligible to attend Grand Lodge, he will find that he will be required to wear his silver regulation jewel. With respect to the gold jewels (in most cases presented to the P.M. by the members of the lodge), he will find they are sanctioned by the Book of Constitutions, viz.:—"No jewel shall be worn in lodge other than those specified for the officers, except such honorary or other jewels as shall be consistent with those degrees recognised by the Grand Lodge as part of ancient Freemasonry."

Yours fraternally,

MAGNUS OHREN,
Past Grand Jun. Warden for Surrey.

Mulum in Parbo; or Masonic Notes and Queries.

Can any brother put me in the way of obtaining a copy of Bro. Hughan's "Memorials of the Masonic Union of 1813?" Also a copy of Bro. Hughan's "Constitutions of the Freemasons of 1869?"

If so, I shall feel very much obliged, as they are wanted for the Sheffield Masonic Library, and I am prepared to pay a fair price for them, or reciprocate in any way desired the favour of receiving copies to complete our set of that well-known brother's Masonic works.

S. B. ELLIS, Hon. Sec.

Brocco Bank, Sheffield.

CONSECRATION OF THE MERLIN LODGE (No. 1578) AT PONTYPRIDD.

On Thursday, 27th ult., there was a large gathering of Masonic brethren at the New Inn Hotel, Pontypridd, on the occasion of the consecration of the Merlin Lodge of the Ancient, Free, and Accepted Masons (No. 1578). Upwards of 100 of the brethren from all parts of the eastern district assembled and took part in the proceedings. Some disappointment was created by the fact that the Provincial Grand Master, Bro. Theodore Mansel Talbot, was unable to be present through a severe attack of illness with which he was seized on his last day in the hunting field. In his absence, the ceremony of consecration was performed by Bro. E. J. Morris, the Deputy Provincial Grand Master.

Among those present were:—Bros. E. J. Morris, D.P.G.M.; J. C. Parkinson, J.P., P.G.D. England, P.D.G.M. Middlesex; the Rev. A. H. Truman, P.M., P.P.G.C. Somerset, No. 671; W. Hall, P.P.S.G.W.; Evan Thomas, 679, P.G.D.C.; William Morris, 679, P.P.G.S.D.; William Hodges, 679, P.P.G.S.; E. J. Thomas, 36, P.P.G.D.C.; S. Weichert, 36, P.M., W.M.; W. G. Davies, 364, P.P.G.S.W.; and D. Hopkins, 960, W.M. 960; Past Masters:—Brothers W. Whittington, 364, S.G.W.; W. J. Morgan, 476, P.P.J.G.W.; E. Roberts, 192; Rowland Thomas, 364, P.M.; J. Robertson, 679; W. H. Davies, 960, P.P.J.G.D.; W. J. Thomas, 679; Henry Green, 364, P.G.D.; Charles Taylor, 110, P.G.J.D.; Evan Jones, 679; S. Cooper, 36, P.P.S.G.O.;

J. Hurman, 960, P.P.S.G.O.; W. Parton Garrett, W.M. 364; T. G. Glass, 36, P.P.G.P.; G. H. White, 679; Charles Wilkins, 110; Samuel Hem, 960; D. Rees Lewis, 110; Evan Jones, 679; Wm. Taylor, 36; W. Little, 679; H. Stair, 364; J. Williams, 36; T. Goodfellow, 110; and brethren representing nearly every lodge in the province.

The brethren assembled in the ante-room, and then walked in procession to the lodge-room. The lodge-room was opened in the usual Masonic form by Bro. S. Weichert, the W.M. of the Glamorgan Lodge, No. 36, assisted by the W.M. of the Bute Lodge, No. 960, and their officers. The Worshipful the Dep. Prov. G.M. and the officers of the Provincial Grand Lodge entered the lodge in procession, marshalled by the Prov. and P. Prov. Directors of Ceremonies.

The chair of the lodge having been taken by the W. the Dep. Prov. G.M., the ceremony of consecration proceeded. Bro. Morris, in a few preliminary remarks, spoke of the solemn nature of the ceremony they were met to celebrate, and expressed the great regret with which they would hear of the illness of the Provincial Grand Master, which had entirely incapacitated him from being present on that occasion.

The hymn was then sung.—

"Hail! Eternal, by whose aid."

The petition to the Grand Master for the formation of the Merlin Lodge was then read, together with the warrant authorising its creation. The officers appointed under the warrant were as follows:—Bros. John Edwards Price, W.M.; Matthew Wayne Morgan, S.W.; and George John Alexander, J.W.

The Deputy Provincial Grand Master then called upon the Provincial Grand Chaplain, Bro. the Rev. A. H. Truman, to deliver an address on the advantages of Freemasonry.

Bro. Truman spoke of the high and holy duties of Freemasonry, and said they were founded upon the three great principles which would be found in the Bible, namely, to fear God, to honour the Queen, and to love the brotherhood. The brotherhood included members of every religious denomination, and of every shade of political party, but these considerations were never allowed to weigh in the conduct of Masonic lodges. He said that Masonry must have something ennobling in it, or it would not increase as it had done and was doing concurrently with the growth of religious feeling in the country.

At the conclusion of the rev. brother's remarks, the brethren sang the hymn:—

"To heaven's high Architect all praise."

The ceremony of consecration was then proceeded with, the corn, wine, oil, and salt being carried round the lodge in the usual Masonic form. The Deputy Prov. Grand Master having declared the lodge duly consecrated, the brethren then sang

"Now the evening's shadows closing."

The Deputy Prov. Grand Master then called upon Bro. Parkinson to present the Worshipful Master designate for installation, which Bro. Parkinson then did in graceful and felicitous terms.

A Board of Installation was then formed, at which there were present thirty Worshipful and Past Masters, and Bro. Price was inducted in the Master's chair according to ancient custom, the ceremony being most ably conducted by the Worshipful the Deputy Provincial G.M.

On the re-assembling of the brethren Bro. Parkinson delivered the customary address in a most impressive manner, after which the lodge was reduced to the usual form, and the Worshipful Master proceeded to invest his officers, paying to each an appropriate and graceful compliment on accession to office. The following are the officers:—Bros. Matthew Wayne Morgan, S.W.; George John Alexander, J.W.; William Williams, Treasurer; Harry Cousins, Secretary; Robert William Tolfree, Senior Deacon; Israel Williams, Junior Deacon; A. A. McLucas, Director of Ceremonies; John Walter Morgan, Organist; John Jones, Inner Guard; George Frederick Down and James Jenson, Stewards.

On the motion of the W.M., seconded by the J.W., a hearty vote of thanks was awarded to the Dep. Prov. G.M., a vote of sympathy to the Prov. G.M. on his illness and votes of thanks to the distinguished brethren who had assisted in the ceremony. Motions were also made by the Master and S.W. for the election of the R.W. Prov. G.M., Bro. Talbot, and the W. Dep. Prov. G.M., Bro. Morris, as honorary members of the lodge. Eighteen of the leading gentlemen in the neighbourhood were then proposed for initiation at the first lodge meeting in May, and two brethren for joining. The lodge was afterwards closed in due form. The musical arrangements were ably conducted by Bro. Atkins, Mus. Doc. Oxon, P.G.O., and the lodge-room was elaborately decorated with flags and flowers, lent by Bro. Hurman, P.M. 960, and Bro. Meredith, 110.

THE BANQUET.

In the evening a grand banquet took place at the New Inn, Pontypridd, to which nearly 100 brethren sat down. The banquet was served in a manner to reflect the greatest credit upon Mrs. Cousins, especially as a much larger number of brethren attended than was originally expected.

After the cloth had been cleared, the W.M., who occupied the chair, gave the toasts of "The Queen," "The Craft," and "The Most Worshipful Grand Master the Prince of Wales," in eloquent terms.

In giving the toast of "The Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master," the W.M. dealt in feeling terms upon the illness which had prevented Bro. Talbot from being present that day. He hoped that he would soon be restored to health. The toast was drunk with the greatest enthusiasm.

The Worshipful Master then proposed "The Health of the Deputy Provincial Grand Master (Bro. E. J. Morris),"

and in doing so spoke of his long connection with, and services to, the province. He dwelt upon the assistance which Bro. Morris had given towards the formation of a lodge in Pontypridd, which had resulted in the Merlin Lodge, which had been consecrated that day. (Hear, hear.) He also dwelt upon the encouragement which Bro. Morris had given towards the formation of the new lodge. (Hear, hear.)

Bro. Morris, in replying, said that nearly all the consecration ceremonies in the province had been hitherto performed by the P. Grand Master in a manner which led every one to admire his knowledge of Masonic ceremonies. He said that although the brethren might have sanctioned his working of the consecration ceremony, they would have had a greater treat had Bro. Talbot been present. He had striven joyfully to perform his duty, and when it came to his retirement he hoped that he would be followed by the good wishes of all the members of the several lodges. He had several times lately thought of giving way after a long period of service—(cries of "No, no")—and of retiring into private life. If he ultimately took this step he hoped they would think only of what he had done, and take little notice of his shortcomings. (Hear, hear.) He had been able to place upon undying record that South Wales had become a large charity-giving province. Twelve years ago they were giving some £40 or £50 a year, and during the last year their subscriptions had amounted to between £400 and £500. (Hear, hear.)

The W.M. then gave the toast of "The Visitors," coupling with it the name of Bro. J. C. Parkinson, of whose reputation as a gentleman and a distinguished Mason he spoke most eulogistically.

Bro. J. C. Parkinson, in replying, said the manner in which the D.P.G.M. had treated his Masonic career might well make him bashful in the task before him. He wished them to welcome him, not as a stranger, but as the P.M. of an adjoining lodge, and as a friend, and as a neighbour. (Hear, hear.) He had assisted at many consecrations, but he had seldom, if ever, been at any where greater promise was shown than in the beginning of the Merlin Lodge. (Hear, hear.) They were not only strong in themselves, but the proposed recruits were among the best class of intellectual bread-winners. In conclusion, he wished the members of the Merlin Lodge God speed upon their voyage, and hoped he would be present on many occasions to see their progress.

Bro. the Rev. Mr. Truman also returned thanks for the visitors in a humorous speech, which was greatly relished.

Bro. E. J. Morris then proposed the toast of "The W.M. of the Merlin Lodge," which was given with full Masonic honours.

The W.M. returned thanks in fitting and feeling terms. The other toasts were—"The Provincial Grand Officers," "The Lodges of the Province," and "The Masonic Charities and the Officers."

The speeches were interspersed with some excellent songs by Bros. Cousins, Soper, Jones, Hurman, Titus, Lewis, and Elliott; and the brethren separated soon after ten, after having spent a most pleasant day, and one worthy to be marked by the whitest of white stones in the annals of Freemasonry in South Wales.

Bro. E. J. Morris had been at great trouble to make up a very elaborate and unique Shakespearean programme or dinner carte, which was put before the brethren at the banquet.

MASONIC FEMALE ORPHAN SCHOOL, DUBLIN.

The Exhibition Palace has recently been the scene of many very brilliant reunions, but we doubt very much whether it has ever presented a more festive appearance than it did on the 28th ult., on the occasion of the presentation of the prizes to the pupils of the Masonic Female Orphan School. The brethren have from year to year shown their deep interest in the welfare of the institution by attending the ceremony in very large numbers; yet on no previous similar occasion has there been so vast an assemblage present, for not only was the great concert hall filled to overflowing, but even a larger number than were accommodated within it were unable to obtain seats. At the conclusion of the formal business in the concert room, the prizes were distributed to the successful pupils by Lady G. Hamilton. The arrangements in the grand concert hall were excellent, and reflected much credit on the following brethren who acted as Stewards:—George Bell, Dr. G. Beatty, Isaac Cc'e, John D. Elliott, Thomas Fitzgerald, Henry E. Flavell, Charles Foot, Robert Furlong, John F. Goodman, George Grice, Walter Gyles, George Harvey, George Henderson, John V. Legge, Isaac Molloy, Fletcher Moore, Wm. Peebles, John P. Ryan, J. H. Woodworth, J. J. L. Robinson, Wm. Roper, Robert W. Symmes, W. T. Welland, George Westby, James H. North, and Dr. Bennett.

Prior to the opening of the proceedings the occupants of the hall had the pleasure of listening to the performance of the following selections on the great organ by Bro. Charles O. Grandison, Grand Organist:—Introduction to sacred cantata "God is Love," Mrs. J. Robinson; andante in G, Batiste; prelude and fugue, C minor, Mendelssohn; "Beauty's praise," Weber; "Ave Maria," Schubert; Cornelius's March, Mendelssohn.

His Grace the Duke of Abercorn arrived at about half-past eight o'clock, and was received by Bro. Shekleton, Deputy Grand Master, and other office-bearers. His Grace was accompanied by Lady Georgiana Hamilton, Lord Ernest Hamilton, Lord Frederick Hamilton, Mr. Gustavus, Lady Fanny and the Misses Lambert, and Colonel and Mrs. Bernard. At nine o'clock the procession was formed, and the M.W. Grand Master, His Grace the Duke of Abercorn, was conducted from the Leinster Hall to the Grand Concert Hall.

The Grand Master having taken his seat on the throne, the pupils of the school, followed by the pupils of the boys' school, entered the room, and occupied the seats provided for them in front of the platform.

The M.W. Grand Master having been saluted according to ancient custom, two verses of the 100th psalm were sung.

Dr. Elrington, Q.C., hon. sec., having read the report, His Grace the Duke of Abercorn, Grand Master, who, on rising, was received with loud and prolonged applause, said:—Ladies and Brethren,—From the report which we have just heard we may congratulate ourselves upon the success which has attended the Female Masonic Orphan School. From the report we hear that at no time has the institution been in a more prosperous state than it is at the present moment, and that the number of pupils that it is enabled to support has of late years been increased by a very great amount. Among the cheering results which we may look to with satisfaction it is most gratifying to know that in no one case has any pupil brought disgrace upon the institution (cheers), also that the situations in which they are placed on leaving school are such as are suitable for persons in the better and more educated classes. Of all the enormous and important benefits which the brotherhood of Freemasonry has conferred upon mankind there is none more useful or more interesting than that by which it is enabled to support the orphans of its members, and to give them an education and a teaching which shall show them those high social and moral duties of which Freemasonry is the earnest and incessant exponent. Ladies and brethren, on behalf of those children who have already benefited by this institution, and on behalf of those who, we hope, in future will also have the advantage of benefiting by it, I thank you for your presence here to-night, and for the interest you have shown in the objects of the institution. (Applause.)

The Right Hon. the Lord Mayor then moved the following resolution:—"That the report now read be adopted, printed, and circulated, and that the thanks of this meeting are due to the members of the several committees of the institution, and also to the medical officers of the school, for the zealous and efficient manner in which they have discharged the duties devolving upon them, and for the lively interest they take in everything conducive to the prosperity and progress of the pupils of the Masonic Female Orphan School." He said—It affords me no ordinary pleasure to propose the resolution which has just been handed to me. The marked care bestowed on these little orphans is the strongest proof of the efficient manner the committee and medical officers have discharged their duties and looked after their welfare. What greater evidence could be produced of the reality of our motto, "Love and good will" to all men, than the brotherly succour to these little ones left alone in the world. The gratification I feel, is enhanced to a great extent by the opportunity afforded me of addressing your Grace as Grand Master of our Order in Ireland, who, from your elevated position, have ever laboured to promote peace, love, and harmony in this country. I firmly hope your Grace may be long spared to represent her Gracious Majesty, and to continue your unceasing efforts to further the prosperity of Ireland. (Applause.)

The Right Hon. the Vice-Chancellor seconded the resolution, which was adopted.

The female pupils performed the following pianoforte music:—Duet, A. M. Copeland, P. Shegog, "Grand Caprice Hongrois," Ketterer; solo, G. Harte, "Les Couriers," Ritter; solo, G. Gill, "Pasquinade," Gottschale; duet, K. Baker and M. Burdge, "Chanson Napolitane," Forbes; solo, Miss Williams (pupil teacher), "Fantasia, Irish Airs," Thalberg.

The National Anthem was then sung, the solo parts being rendered by the female pupils.

The procession having been reformed, the Grand Master was conducted to the dais in the Glass Building, where the distribution of prizes by Lady Georgiana Hamilton took place.

At the conclusion of the distribution of prizes, an address to Bro. Samuel B. Oldham from the Committee of the Boys' School, was read by Bro. George Hill Major, and a similar address to Bro. Oldham from the Committee of the Girls' School was read by Dr. J. F. Elrington. An address from the pupils of the Girls' School was also presented to Bro. Oldham.

Deputy Grand Master R. W. Shekleton, on behalf of the governors of the school, tendered their thanks to his Grace the Duke of Abercorn for attending on that occasion.

His Grace the Duke of Abercorn briefly acknowledged the compliment.

The greater number of the visitors remained for a considerable time to enjoy the promenade and the fine music of the band of the Lancers.

THE MASONIC BALL IN LIVERPOOL.—The success attending the recent Annual Masonic Ball in Liverpool, in aid of the funds of West Lancashire Masonic Educational Institution, has only once been exceeded, and then under very exceptional circumstances, when the attractions of Royal decorations and increased dancing space were added to the claims of the charity. For the unprecedented success which has crowned the annual festive gathering of the fraternity in 1876 the "lion's share" of the credit is due to Bro. Henry Nelson, P.M. 673 and 1505, the Honorary Secretary for the ball, who spared neither pains nor expense in making the result so creditable to the Masons of Liverpool, and so helpful to the noble institution which is the boast and pride of the Province of West Lancashire. At the final meeting of the committee, Bro. Nelson handed over the handsome sum of £251 18s., as the contribution resulting for the ball in aid of the "West Lancashire," and he well-deserved the hearty recognition which his labours received at the hands of the committee, as it well merits the applause of the brethren outside the role of the committee.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.

The 88th anniversary festival of this Institution was held on Wednesday evening at Freemasons' Tavern. The festival was a decided success, for the brethren mustered in large numbers, and the subscription list was enormous. About 300 brethren sat down to a banquet, headed by Sir Henry Edwards, Bart., Deputy Lieutenant, and provincial Grand Master of West Yorkshire. He was supported by the following brethren:—Rev. C. J. Martyn, S. Tomkins, J. A. Rucker, Percy Leith, Dr. Jabez Hogg, Robert Grey, Joshua Nunn, E. P. Albert, T. Cubitt, S. Foxall, Colonel Burdett, Colonel Adair, John Hervey, Colonel Creaton, Benjamin Head, W. E. Gumbleton, Hyde Pullen, A. J. Duff Filer, John Johnasson, W. Wain, J. G. Chancellor, T. W. Tew, Isaac Booth, W. Paas, W. Peters, A. H. Tattershall, R. J. Boyall, C. F. Hogard, H. C. Levander, Griffiths Smith, Priestley Churchill Edwards, Peter Matthews, Dr. Barringer, C. A. Cottebune, H. C. Tombs, A. Schmitt, George Kenning, Hormusjee Jamssetjee Rustomjee, T. W. White, James Terry, Herbert Dicketts, E. Haigh, John Boyd, W. Hilton, W. T. Howe, Charles Horsley, J. T. Moss, Joseph Smith, and Charles Atkins. About 200 ladies were also present.

After the banquet had been partaken of, grace was sung by the musical brethren and a choir of boys, and the toasts were then proposed.

In giving the toast of "The Queen," the Chairman said Her Majesty was the daughter of an illustrious Mason. Three of her Royal sons were members of the Craft, and had already distinguished themselves in the country to which they belonged. The Queen had an additional claim on the affections of her subjects, especially Freemasons, as she was the patroness of one of the most charitable institutions of the Order. Her bright example in her public life as well as in her social and domestic position had been the best examples to her subjects.

The Chairman next gave "The M.W.G.M. the Prince of Wales, the Princess of Wales, and the other members of the Royal Family." He said the Prince of Wales was patron and President of the Institution, the Princess of Wales was patroness, and the other members of the Royal Family supported it. It had been the good fortune of English Freemasonry for nearly a century to be in the closest alliance with the Royal House of Brunswick, and the fact that so illustrious and beloved a Prince as the Heir Apparent to these realms was their Head Master strengthened that alliance he hoped into a bond that would never be broken. They were then on the very eve of the Prince's return from the East to his native land. To-morrow he would be greeted by millions of his countrymen with enthusiasm. As Masons, let them hail his return with joy, with loyalty, and affection.

The Chairman then gave "The Pro Grand Master, the Earl of Carnarvon," and spoke in high terms of his distinction as a University man, as a Freemason, and a statesman. He occupied a distinguished position now, and was ever to the front either in politics or Masonry.

The Chairman next gave "Lord Skelmersdale, D.G.M., and the rest of the Grand Officers." Lord Skelmersdale, he said, was well known, not only in his own province and in the north, but also in the south of England, with the Masons of which localities he had become acquainted by his working and readiness to preside on all occasions when his services were required. He coupled the name of Bro. Colonel Burdett with the toast.

Colonel Burdett, Prov. G.M. for Middlesex, responded. He said he had so often had to respond to this toast that he believed he had nothing more to say. But, although he had little to say, it gave him great pleasure again to stand up and respond for the Grand Officers. With respect to those brethren, he was sure every brother would appreciate the services of every officer that had been appointed. No one had ever been able to find fault with them. He did not wish to take up more time than was necessary, but he thought he should be very remiss indeed if he did not take this opportunity of expressing his high appreciation and approba-

tion of the way in which the chair had been filled that evening. (Great cheering.) He was sure when he mentioned that subject it would be received in the most enthusiastic manner. There was no brother more ready to support the charities in every possible way than Sir Henry Edwards, their present chairman. (Hear, hear.) He (Bro. Col. Burdett) was fortunate in being able to be present at the Girls' School to support Sir Henry Edwards on the previous Monday when he distributed the prizes; and he hoped he should have many more opportunities of supporting him. He was very much pleased on that occasion with every thing he saw there; indeed, he might say he was as much pleased as ever he had been in his life. There had hardly been any institution which had gained so much appreciation, and he was very glad of it, for it was deserving of everything good that could be thought of or done for it. In now mentioning the subject of the Girls' School, he had the greatest pleasure in introducing to the notice of the brethren the "Chairman of the evening," Sir Henry Edwards, and he trusted the brethren would honour the toast most enthusiastically.

The toast having been duly honoured.

The Chairman said that until he rose to propose the last toast he had not had the least idea that his friend and Bro. Col. Burdett was about to follow him, and he could only tell him this—that what he had said of him had been very kind, and to him he felt greatly obliged. He then said—Brethren, it is now my pleasing duty to ask you to drink "Prosperity to the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls." Masonic education means the moral, social, and intellectual development of our orphan girls, and is well worthy of the Craft's deepest interest and most anxious consideration. For a considerable time the executive of this festival was in hopes to have been enabled to announce that H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught would kindly preside, but in consequence of a strong doubt being expressed that H.R.H. would not be in England on this day, other arrangements had to be made. We greatly regret his unavoidable absence, for we know with what tact and ability he would have fulfilled the duties of this chair. This is the first occasion upon which I have occupied the chair at Freemasons' Hall at a gathering of the Craft, and the province of West Yorkshire cannot but feel highly gratified by the circumstance that I should have been solicited to accept the presidency for this day. The history of this Institution has in past years been so often and forcibly placed before the Craft by my distinguished predecessors in this chair, that it is unnecessary for me to dilate at any great length, or to say much, on the wisdom of Freemasons in founding this school at St. John's Hill, Battersea Rise. The benevolence of the brethren on previous occasions has always met the requirements of their day. But the progress which the Craft has since made, and the condition of the brethren as regards numbers and wealth has so completely changed, even within the last fifty years, that the capabilities of the original school house have long ago been outstripped by the increasing demands of applicants for admission to the benefits of this charity. At the last quarterly general court, out of a list of forty three candidates, eleven girls were elected. I understand that it will now require at least £8,479 to provide for the yearly maintenance of the buildings and for the education of over 200 girls. I doubt not, whatever, this sum will be forthcoming, and that even in these difficult and expensive times you will feel that you have not done your duty as benevolent Craftsmen if your efforts fall below the requirements of the institution. The funded property is represented by £36,500 invested in consols, and, in my opinion, this is a most gratifying financial feature, and, in addition, between £29 and £30,000 has been expended upon the grounds and buildings at St. John's Hill. Brethren, you may well be proud of the results hitherto achieved by former liberality and pecuniary efforts, and may point to the fact that this is the 88th anniversary festival, that since the foundation of the charity 1,062 girls have been maintained, clothed, and educated within the school walls, and that at the present

as the present alterations are completed this number will be increased to over 200. The liberal education provided in this school could not but brighten and increase the future prospects of the inmates. They thereby hold the key in their own hands which will open the door to any employment, and tend to produce in them habits of industry, and the practice of every social, moral, and religious duty conducive, not merely to their temporal welfare, but to their eternal happiness in the Grand Lodge above. To our hands then is entrusted the noble and sacred charge of the maintenance and future welfare of our Girls' School. The brethren will not, I feel sure, be slow in coming forward on this occasion with liberal hands in support of this charity. This institution is deservedly popular amongst you. I desire that it should prosper on the basis upon which it was originally established. I, for my part, knowing generally the thriving condition of the Craft, and its increasing numbers, as also their advance in social position, in industry, and in wealth—think that the annual lists should shew a greater number of contributors from the general ranks of the Craft instead of from a few of its prominent members. Though this school is 88 years old, yet I trust its usefulness is only in its infancy, and that it will be extended beyond its present capabilities and may eventually be able to receive every candidate that may be presented at the biennial elections. It depends upon your voluntary exertions whether all the applicants shall be successful candidates or not. It requires no unusual effort, no great pecuniary sacrifices. The numerous advantages which this charity confers upon our orphan girls should give it a strong claim upon your sympathies. Its future success depends upon your response to this appeal, and I confidently hope for the honour of the Craft, and for the sake of the orphan girls that the announcement you will enable the Secretary, Bro. Little, to make to-night will be more generous and complete than has been recorded at any other previous anniversary festival. He (the chairman) had been much pleased with a visit he paid to the Girls' School on Monday last. He had the honour on that occasion, in company with Lady Edwards, to present the prizes to those pupils who had gained them up to last Christmas. It was the first time he had ever visited the Institution, and he found there everything satisfactory and complete. As regarded all the arrangements for the comfort and welfare of the pupils there could be no doubt whatever that the advantages to be derived from such an institution were unparalleled. They were taught the construction of English grammar and English literature; and the last examination proved how many had attained to excellence in various languages, music, drawing and needlework. He was astonished at the pronounciation of these young girls in French and German; so much so that he enquired of the head governess, Miss Davis, on the spot whether they had dwelt for any time on the continent. When he found that they had not he was the more astonished. Their musical performances were marvellous. There were thirty hands on the pianofortes at one time; they had no leader; and he would defy the most accomplished musician to detect any fault. Lady Edwards concurred with him in saying that it was marvellous. The calisthenic exercises also surprised him; and their precision could not be objected to by the most accomplished military men. In support of this statement he would refer to Col. Burdett. Above all there was a gentleness of manner in the whole behaviour of the pupils that was the greatest treat of all. He would advise every brother to go to the school and spend a day there. There was no place in England he would sooner go to for a day's enjoyment. He most heartily commended the institution to the support of the brethren, and in proposing "Success to the Institution" he would call on Bro. S. L. Tomkins, to reply. (Cheers.)

When the toast had been received,

Bro. S. L. Tomkins said it was with mingled feelings of regret and pleasure that he responded; of regret because the Grand Treasurer, who was the Treasurer of the institution was unable to be present; and of pleasure that he should be called

upon to answer for him. He was proud to be associated with this noble institution, which all Masons thought was the greatest honour to the Craft. It had been most successful, and most favoured. All Masons would allow that they had the greatest affection for this institution from the natural feeling that they had to help the helpless and assist the fatherless. There the Girls' School commended itself to the sympathy and affection of the brethren in a way that the other institutions did not. In his own person he had seen how successful this institution had been in its management, and also what great affection the inmates had for the matron and those who were set over them. He thought the school was a model for all similar institutions, and that many, many other institutions, where the money was wasted, and where the children were not properly looked after and brought up might, well take a lesson from the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls. He hoped that the efforts of the brethren would be even more successful and powerful than they had ever been before.

Bro. Thomas W. White, as Bro. Little, the Secretary, was suffering from ill health, then announced the following subscriptions:—

	£	s.	d.
Grand Stewards' Lodge, Bros. Edwin March	30	9	0
2 W. Hope, M.D. ...	45	13	6
4 A. C. Veley ...	16	16	0
5 John Hampton Hale ...	50	8	0
7 R. C. Mansfield ...	17	6	6
8 W. H. Price Cooke ...	13	13	0
10 D. H. Pearson ...	80	15	0
11 Henry Potter ...	50	0	0
12 Alfred H. Lilley ...	97	13	0
12 (Chapter) Joseph Clever ...	54	12	0
12 (Chapter) D. Nicols ...	27	6	0
18 Herbert J. Huggins ...	39	18	0
19 E. B. Grabham ...	70	7	0
21 Griffiths Smith ...	81	18	0
22 T. Fairweather ...	49	7	0
23 E. C. Mather ...	15	15	0
28 J. G. Shearman ...	42	0	0
29 J. E. Middleton ...	14	14	0
33 W. Clouston ...	43	1	0
34 John Butler ...	45	3	0
46 Alfred Richards ...	66	3	0
49 W. Bailey ...	36	15	0
49 John S. Mercer ...	86	2	0
55 G. M. E. Snow ...	175	0	0
58 Thos. Reynolds, jun. ...	64	1	0
60 Capt. J. Wordsworth ...	10	10	0
73 Wm. Klingenstein ...	38	17	0
79 Richard Bonney ...	21	0	0
91 Watson Surr ...	30	18	0
92 Josiah Houle ...	23	2	0
99 Wm. Leask ...	73	10	0
134 H. G. A. Milford ...	16	5	6
140 Chas. Jardine ...	70	7	0
143 J. H. Matthews ...	68	15	6
162 N. J. Fenner ...	30	9	0
165 W. G. Lemon (not closed) ...	56	12	0
172 S. Hockley ...	48	16	6
174 John Appleby ...	89	14	0
176 (Chapter) J. B. Sorrell and W. S. Wyman ...	54	19	0
179 Z. D. Berry ...	18	18	0
180 W. C. Parsons ...	10	10	0
181 Henry D. Wood ...	31	10	0
205 Charles F. Hogard ...	36	15	0
206 Samuel Gamman ...	57	15	0
227 A. J. Thomas ...	30	0	0
228 Robert Griggs ...	70	7	0
235 E. H. Hewett ...	50	0	0
238 Edwin Simpson Baikie ...	40	19	6
256 R. R. Davis ...	39	7	6
259 Herbert A. Rigg ...	39	7	0
435 Wm. C. Phillips ...	25	4	0
511 A. Barfield ...	42	0	0
534 Wm. G. Moore ...	24	3	0
538 James Kench ...	63	0	0
554 John J. Berry ...	100	16	0
657 John Johnsson ...	154	2	0
733 Robert Helsdon ...	126	0	0
742 Wm. W. Baxter ...	25	14	6
749 J. Painter ...	35	7	0
820 Wm. H. Myers ...	73	10	0
822 H. Northcott ...	32	0	0
862 Thomas Kingston ...	29	8	0
902 R. N. Field ...	47	5	0
905 Alexander Peebles ...	12	12	0
1056 (Chapter) Charles Atkins ...	63	15	6
1118 George B. Brodie ...	26	15	0
1150 T. G. Bullen ...	60	6	0
1155 Henry Moore ...	79	16	0
1178 George F. Grace ...	45	3	0
1216 George Waterall ...	51	9	0
1257 John C. Cox ...	31	10	0
1260 J. H. Southwood ...	87	3	0
1261 Walter Emden ...	21	10	6
1288 Robt. V. Davies ...	26	5	0
1305 H. G. Ashwell ...	26	5	0
1329 J. H. Vockins ...	10	10	0
1348 A. J. Iretton ...	100	0	0
1351 W. Hilton ...	61	19	0
1366 Charles G. Hill ...	26	5	0
1383 Col. Alex. W. Adair ...	100	0	0

	£	s.	d.
1420 Joseph W. Hiscox ...	74	11	0
1421 C. W. Ashdown ...	33	11	0
1446 Chas. F. Poupard ...	64	1	0
1489 T. Hastings Miller ...	31	10	0
1537 R. G. Clutton ...	102	7	6
1538 Alfred Tisley ...	18	18	0
1539 Mark S. Larham ...	115	10	0
1540 Henry Faija ...	33	12	0
1558 Walter Mitchell ...	14	1	6
1563 B. H. Swallow ...	65	0	0
BERKS AND BUCKS.			
1501 John Palmer ...	141	15	0
CHESHIRE.			
425 Horatio Lloyd ...	26	5	0
Capt. H. A. Bennett ...	10	10	0
287 John Hanson ...	10	10	0
537 Wm. S. Sutton ...	10	10	0
W. Marwood ...	15	15	0
DEVONSHIRE.			
164 W. H. Haycock ...	5	15	6
HANTS AND ISLE OF WIGHT.			
319 T. J. D. Rawlins ...	21	0	0
KENT.			
829 W. Hamilton ...	29	8	0
1206 H. J. Emmerson ...	10	10	0
1208 H. M. Baker ...	26	5	0
1464 J. A. Farnfield ...	44	2	0
1531 Geo. J. Guest ...	24	17	6
EAST LANCASHIRE.			
221 Egerton C. Gilbert ...	6	6	0
221 J. W. Greenhalgh ...	5	5	0
WEST LANCASHIRE.			
1086 J. C. Sims ...	6	11	0
LINCOLNSHIRE.			
1294 John Sutcliffe, Jack Sutcliffe ...			
R. J. Boyall (Province) ...			
1232 Rev. D. Ace, D.D. ...			
792 Jas. Robinson, Wm. Marshall ...			
838 Jas. Ferguson ...			
1294 Joseph Chapman ...			
F. Long ...			
Total			£543 14 0
MIDDLESEX.			
R. Wentworth Little ...	171	10	0
1460 Rev. P. H. E. Brette ...	97	13	0
1326 W. Prattent ...			
1293 (Chapter) T. Massa ...	31	10	0
1194 (Chapter) C. Horsley ...	26	5	0
778 Major Harding ...	13	13	0
1194 Robert A. Steel ...	36	15	0
1237 Chas. S. Browne ...	70	7	0
1238 Alfred G. Weeks ...	36	3	0
1293 David W. Pearse ...	73	10	0
1309 C. G. Rushworth ...	11	11	0
1423 John Faulkner ...	21	10	6
1567 John Mason ...	43	0	0
1579 Edward Letchworth ...	16	4	6
1597 J. M. Levick ...	10	10	0
T. J. Sabine ...	52	10	0
NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.			
1434 John Hack ...	42	0	0
N. WALES AND SHROPSHIRE.			
1124 E. Wood ...	11	11	0
OXFORDSHIRE.			
478 R. H. C. Smith ...			
357 Rev. R. W. Pope and Fentham Hodges ...	50	0	0
SOMERSETSHIRE.			
1199 C. L. F. Edwards ...	31	10	0
SOUTH WALES (East Division)			
J. B. Phillips (Province) ...	115	10	0
STAFFORDSHIRE.			
546 J. Webberley ...	115	10	0
SUFFOLK.			
1124 Rev. C. J. Martyn, P.G.C., ...	26	5	0
SURREY.			
1046 J. L. Lorimer ...	10	10	0
452 H. J. Strong ...	10	10	0
WARWICKSHIRE.			
938 Thomas Howkins ...	262	10	0
WILTSHIRE.			
Henry C. Tombs (Province) ...	115	12	0
WEST YORKSHIRE.			
Sir Henry Edwards, Bart., Chairman ...	51	10	0
Prov. G. Lodge, Bro. H. Smith ...	105	0	0
Bentley Shaw, P.G.D. ...	10	10	0
T. W. Tew, J.P., D.P.G.M. ...			
J. Batley ...			
Henry Day, J.P. ...			
Thomas Hill ...			
Rev. E. B. Chalmer ...			
W. H. B. Tomlinson ...			
Henry Smith ...			
T. Collinson ...			
J. Wordsworth ...			
Rev. E. Sewell ...			
139 J. A. A. Andrews ...			
139 Charles Dixon, jun. ...			
139 Dr. F. Griffiths ...			
139 Wm. Jervis ...			
139 J. C. Shaw ...			
154 J. C. Cadman ...			
275 G. F. C. Hoerle ...			
275 J. Lowerthal ...			
275 Wright Mellor ...			
275 Thos. Ruddock ...			
290 Wm. Harrop ...			
296 John Ridal ...			
302 Hanson Farrar ...			
304 Robert Craig ...			
337 John Hirst, jun. ...			
837 Charles Pegler ...			

974 Wm. Firth	...	...	...	...
1102 John Barker	...	...	...	...
1221 Wm. Glover	...	...	...	...
1221 T. H. Good	...	...	...	...
1542 Thos. J. Kassell	...	...	...	...
1542 W. W. Macvay	...	...	...	...
1542 John Simpson	...	...	...	...
Total	...	...	707	16 0
CHANNEL ISLANDS.—JERSEY.				
The Province, A. Schmitt	...	...	105	0 0
FOREIGN STATIONS.—PUNJAB.				
The Province, G. Davies	...	...	10	10 0
RED CROSS ORDER.				
Grand Council, H. C. Levander	...	...	119	13 0
128 A. J. Brogden	...	...	52	10 0
W. Williams	...	...	42	0 0
ROYAL ORDER OF SCOTLAND.				
G. P. Brockbank	...	...	21	0 0
KNIGHTS TEMPLAR.				
Holy Palestine Preceptory, Rev. P. M. Holden	...	...	10	10 0
Girls' School General Committee Club, H. W. Hemsworth	...	...	15	15 0
Total	...	...	£8214	11 0

With 12 lists to come in.

The announcement of this total was received with loud applause.

Col. Adair then proposed "The other Masonic Institutions." Having been 25 years a Mason, and more than half that time a Life Governor of all the charities, he had been able to watch the very great progress in their organisation and administration. Those who were old Masons would agree with him as to the excellent manner in which the work of those institutions had been done, and the organisation and administration had been carried out in the last quarter of a century. Those who were young Masons, if they chose to study the records of the Craft, would also agree with him in what he had stated. Not only was the state of those charities such as must conduce to the happiness of Masonic hearts, but when the outside world asked what Masonry meant, they might be directed to the Masonic Institutions for an answer. (Hear, hear.)

Bro. James Terry responded, and congratulated Bro. Little on the magnificent achievement of that evening. He apologised for the absence of Bro. Binckes, and reminded the brethren that the two festivals already held—that of the Benevolent Institution and that of the Girls' School—had resulted in a total list of subscriptions of nearly £15,000. He appealed strongly for support for his own institution, but said he would leave it entirely in the hands of the brethren. At the same time, the brethren should remember that the aged Masons who had in days gone by done service to the Craft were entitled to the brethren's sympathy as much as the rising and younger generation. (Cheers.)

The Rev. C. J. Martyn proposed "The Stewards of the Day," to which Bro. Joseph Smith, P.G.P., responded; and the brethren then adjourned to the Temple, where they joined the ladies in listening to a concert.

During the evening a selection of vocal music was performed, under the direction of Bro. Chaplin Henry, by Madame Thaddeus Wells, Miss Bessie Stroud, Miss Marion Severn, Master Pitt, Master Pounds, Bro. Lester, Bro. G. T. Carter, Bro. Phillips, Bro. Farmer, Bro. Chaplin Henry, Mr. Arthur Matthison, and the bijou choir of boys' voices. At the pianoforte Bros. F. H. Cozens and Fountain Meen presided. Mr. Arthur Matthison also told one of his celebrated sea stories.

Bro. James Hayho was toastmaster.

PRESENTATION TO BRO. ALDERMAN J. P. BULL, P.M. AND STEWARD, 540.

No brother who has been so fortunate as to be invited to an anniversary banquet of the Stuart Lodge, Bedford, No. 540, can have failed to be struck with the admirable manner in which every detail has been carried out and the hospitable gatherings have been made the very perfection of Masonic festivities. The agency by which this has been brought about may perhaps have remained unseen, but if so, it has not been unknown, nor has it been thought proper that it should longer remain unrecognized. Accordingly, on Wednesday, April 26, the last lodge before the summer recess, there was a large gathering of brethren and visitors assembled for the purpose of making some suitable recognition of the great zeal and assiduity displayed by Bro. Alderman J. P. Bull, P.M. and Steward 540, &c. The W.M. (Capt. Green) was unfortunately prevented from being in his accustomed place by that other "mystic tie," the claims of which are sometimes held to be superior to even the urgent call to the

duties of the Craft; the W.M.'s absence being explained by the fact of his marriage on the succeeding day to the daughter of the worthy Chaplain of the lodge (the Rev. Chas. Brereton, B.C.L., Rector of St. Mary's, and Rural Dean). The chair was assumed by the I.P.M., Bro. Lester, when the votes for the Masonic Charities were relegated to the hands of Bro. Secretary, after which Bro. Kilpin was passed to the Second Degree. At the conclusion of the ceremony the lodge was resumed in the First Degree, when Bro. William Joseph Nash, J.P., the senior Past Master (by request of the W.M.), presented Bro. Bull with a Past Master's jewel, in recognition of his valuable and willing services as W.M., P.M., and Steward of the Stuart Lodge. In the course of a most excellent speech Bro. Nash spoke in the warmest terms of Bro. Bull's twenty-eight years' connection with the lodge; of the able manner in which he had filled every office to which he had been appointed in regular ascent, from Steward to W.M., (retaining the former office from sheer love of work for work's sake for very many years); of his willingness at all times to render aid, and impart instruction to all who were desirous of receiving it; of the excellent lectures he had given; of his hospitality to the lodge (referring doubtless to the fact of Bro. Bull, when mayor of the borough, having given a banquet to the brethren of the lodge, as he also did on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of his initiation); in conclusion, Bro. Nash referred to the self-denying manner in which, year by year, at their anniversary, Bro. Bull, still retaining his Stewardship, gave up in the most self-denying manner his own comfort to promote the enjoyment of his brethren and their visitors. Bro. Bull having returned thanks to Bro. Nash and the brethren in most feeling terms for this mark of their appreciation and esteem, and the lodge having been closed in due form and perfect harmony, the brethren partook of one of those excellent suppers for which Bro. Wicks is justly famed. The jewel, which is an excellent specimen of workmanship, is of 18 carat gold. On the ribbon from which it is suspended is a golden scroll with the name and number of the lodge, whilst the date of Mastership is on the bar at the top. On the back of the square is engraved the inscription:—"Presented by the Stuart Lodge, 540, to Bro. John Richard Bull, in fraternal acknowledgment of his services as W.M., P.M., and Steward. April 26th, 1876." May every lodge possess as deserving a brother, and may his deserts be as properly recognized.

Obituary.

BRO. T. COOMBS, PROV. G. SEC. DORSET.

With deep regret we announce the death of Bro. T. Coombs, one of the oldest solicitors of Dorset, which took place at his residence, South-street, on Sunday, 30th ult., after a protracted and somewhat painful illness, in his 58th year. Deceased had been in a failing state of health for more than a twelvemonth, and at times he was unable to leave his home for months together. He was well-known throughout the county, having held various public appointments. For many years in succession he held the post of Under-Sheriff, and was also Hon. Secretary of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Freemasons of Dorset, which he recently resigned. He was likewise clerk to the magistrates of the Dorsetshire division and also the highway clerk. Deceased always warmly identified himself with the Volunteer movement, having officiated for many years as hon. secretary of the Dorset Volunteer Association, in addition to which, up to a very recent date, he held the command of the Dorsetshire Rifle Corps, succeeding Captain Kindersley, on his resignation. He was likewise much interested in all local matters, and, in addition to having been twice chosen as mayor, was an alderman of the borough at the time of his death. He was steward for several large properties, and was always kind and courteous to the tenantry, by whom, in common with many others, his loss will be deeply felt. He has left a widow, two daughters, and a son (Mr. T. Coombs, jun.), by whom he will be succeeded in business, the latter having only recently concluded his studies in London, where he passed a most successful examination. The remains of the lamented gentleman were interred in the cemetery on Wednesday afternoon, in the presence of a large number of spectators. The funeral was of a private character, though several Freemasons, members of the Town Council, and professional friends attended at the cemetery to testify their respect for the deceased. The service was conducted by the Rev. E. W. Pears, rector of St. Peter's, and during the interment many of the principal places of business in the town were closed.

BRO. WILLIAM KERR.

Death for some time has been laying his hand heavily on the old men in Galashiels, and again another link is broken that bound together the past and the present in the death of William Kerr, Church-street, well known in the town and neighbourhood as "the doctor's man." His death was very sudden, he having taken ill on Saturday night and died on Sunday morning. He was 73 years of age. Long before the days of railways, or even many stage coaches, William Kerr rode the post between Jedburgh and St. Boswell's Green, while Alexander Cumming rode the post between St. Boswell's Green and Galashiels. In these days the mail bags were nearly all carried on horseback. After that he was an hostler at the present Commercial Hotel, which is known all over Scotland, and was there when the present proprietor, Mr. Maxwell, was born. After that he tried business upon his own account at Clovenfords, where he displayed on his sign board the fox and the hounds. He next opened a public house near by the Corn Mill, in the house occupied by Mr. Melrose. But he was too honest and too good-hearted; he possessed too much of the dove and too little of the serpent to be a successful man of business; and as a matter of course he

did not succeed. After that he entered the service of the late lamented Dr. John Weir, who was then full of life and hope, and had attained to the very height of his profession and an extensive practice, when he was carried off in the prime of life. Bro. Kerr then went to Dr. G. Macdougall, Old Town, then a comparatively young man, but who afterwards, by his study and indomitable perseverance, rose to the highest pinnacle of his profession, and had a practice extending over both town and country. It was while in the service of Dr. Macdougall that Bro. Kerr was known in town and country as "the doctor's man," and it may truly be said that two more genial-hearted men never sat in the same vehicle. The doctor's face was always radiant with smiles, which were clearly reflected in the face of his man Willie. In all but professional matters Willie was the doctor's right hand man, and whatever orders were committed by the doctor to Willie were carried out to the letter. He was a man of truth, honesty, and integrity, and was in the service of the doctor and his family for over twenty years, and when no longer able to work they bestowed on him an annual income to help to lighten the burden of his declining years. Willie Kerr was made a Freemason on the 14th of April, 1829, so that he has been for nearly fifty years a member of the Craft, and during that time has taken a lively interest in all its concerns. He was made a brother of the Craft, we believe, in the house now occupied by Mr. Stalker, which was then a hotel, so that his death occurred only a few yards from the spot where he first saw Masonic light. He had taken a great interest in the work of excavation for the new Masonic Hall, and was looking forward with pleasure to the laying of the foundation stone with Masonic honours on the 12th of May; but death has closed his earthly pilgrimage, and he has now passed the river of death, and it is to be hoped that he has joined the Grand Lodge above, where he will reap the joys of a well-spent life. Since the death of Bro. William Wood, he has held the honourable office of Bible-bearer in the lodge, to which office he was annually elected. On all important occasions Bro. Kerr was never absent from a lodge meeting, and the excellent songs which he sung on convivial occasions always brought forth rounds of applause. He was the oldest member of the lodge. From his sudden and unexpected death, there was no time to make arrangements for a Masonic funeral, but a few of the brethren met in the house of the deceased, and from there accompanied his remains to the grave, in full Masonic costume, but without jewels. Peace to his ashes, is the sincere prayer of the large circle of friends who knew him.

Masonic and General Tidings.

WORKING MEN'S COLLEGE.—A series of readings were recently given by Bro. Emra Holmes, in the Lecture Hall, Tower-street, Ipswich, in connection with the Working Men's College. Dr. Christian, the Principal, presided. Bro. Holmes's popularity does not appear to wane, as evidenced by the crowded and appreciative audience who listened to his readings during the evening, but from the character of the programme we should imagine it has increased 50 per cent. Bro. Holmes commenced by reading Milton's "Satan's Address to his Peers." This imaginary address by Satan to his followers in heaven was well rendered. "The Private of the Buffs" came next, which enumerated some Chinese experiences. "Out of the hurly burly," by Max Adler, was the next on the programme. The perils of a satirical editor were humorously hit off. The rowdism of American journalism was in this reading very cleverly satirised, and in Bro. Holmes's hands found an able executant. "Hohenlinden" (Campbell) was given in graphic style. "The Marionette Man," by Tom Hood, was a piece in which Bro. Holmes's powers of mimicry were fully brought into play. This terminating the first part, Miss Butcher gave a selection on a pianoforte kindly lent by Messrs. Wright and Mann. Returning the programme, Bro. Holmes gave "Only a Christmas Rose," from the "Masonic Magazine." An extract from Pickwick next convulsed the audience with laughter, the part selected being "Bob Sawyer's evening party." "A Night in Parliament," a piece abounding in satire, humour, irony, which was well relished by the audience, brought the programme to an end. A unanimous vote of thanks was accorded to Bro. Holmes.

An engraving of the first church built in England will appear in the "Masonic Magazine" for June.

On Wednesday evening there was a demonstration in honour of Bro. H. E. Adair, who for twenty-seven years has represented Ipswich in Parliament. The hon. gentleman was presented with a magnificent candelabra. There was a large meeting, which was addressed by Lord Waverley, R.W.P.G.M. Suffolk, Mr. Colman, M.P., Mr. H. W. West, and other gentlemen. Mr. R. C. Ransome presided.

The plans of Sir Gilbert Scott for the restoration of the exterior of the octagon and lantern of Ely Cathedral have been provisionally approved. The work will involve an outlay of about £3000.

We believe that it has been arranged that the summer half-yearly communication of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Leicestershire and Rutland should be held at Melton Mowbray, under the banner of the Rutland Lodge, No. 1130, on Monday, 29th May.

A new establishment in connection with the People's Café Company has been opened in Ludgate-circus-buildings.

Bro. Alderman and Sheriff Knight will preside at the 12th annual meeting of the Alexandra Orphanage to be held at the London Tavern on the 18th inst.

Bro. the Rev. J. E. Cox, D.D., F.S.A., Past Grand Chaplain, has just published the annals of St. Helen's Church, Bishopsgate.

Bro. Sir John Bennett has become honorary member of the West Kent Bicycle Club.

Bro. J. C. Parkinson, J.P., will distribute the prizes to be given by the Needlemakers' Company at Redditch on the 4th August.

A meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Norths and Hunts will be held on the 1st of June, at St. Peter's College, Peterborough, his Grace the Duke of Manchester, R.W.P.G.M., presiding.

METROPOLITAN MASONIC MEETINGS.

For the Week ending Friday, May 19, 1876.

The Editor will be glad to receive notice from Secretaries of Craft Lodges, Royal Arch Chapters, Mark Lodges, Preceptories, Conclaves, &c., of any change in place or time of meeting.

SATURDAY, MAY 13.

- Lodge 173, Phoenix, F.M.H.
 " 176, Caveac, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
 " 1328, Granite, F.M.H.
 " 1361, United Service, Greyhound Hot., Richmond.
 " 1423, Era, King's Arms Hot., Hampton-court.
 Chap. 1293, Burdett, Mitre Hot., Hampton-court.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

- Lily, Greyhound, Richmond.
 Percy, 113, Southgate-rd., N.
 Manchester, 179, London-st., Fitzroy-square.
 Star, Marquis of Granby, New Cross Road.

MONDAY, MAY 15.

- Lodge 1, Grand Master's, F.M. Tav.
 " 8, British, F.M.H.
 " 21, Emulation, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
 " 58, Felicity, London Tav., Bishopsgate-st.
 " 720, Panmure, Balham Hot., Balham.
 " 1159, Marquis of Dalhousie, F.M.H.
 " 1201, Eclectic, F.M.H.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

- Prince Leopold, Lord Stanley Tav., Kingsland.
 Strong Man, Jerusalem Tav., St. John's Gate.
 Sincerity, Railway Tav., Fenchurch-st. Station.
 Camden, Stanhope Arms, V. James-st., Camden To.
 Eastern, Royal Hot., Mile-end-road.
 St. James's Union, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
 Wellington, White Swan, Deptford.
 Perfect Ashlar, Victoria Tav., Lower-rd., Rotherhithe.
 Sydney, White Hart Ho., Church-rd., Upper Norwood.

TUESDAY, MAY 16.

- Board of Gen. Purposes, at 3.
 Lodge 165, Honour and Generosity, London Tav.
 " 104, St. Paul's, Terminus Hot., Cannon-st.
 " 704, Camden, Bull and Gate, Kentish Town.
 " 857, St. Mark's, Surrey M.H.
 Chap. 19, Mount Sinai, Arderton's Hot., Fleet-st.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

- Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney.
 Domestic, Surrey M.H., Camberwell New-road.
 Faith, 2, Westminster Chambers, Victoria-st.
 Prince Fredk. Wm., Lord's Hot., St. John's Wood
 Dalhousie, King Edward, Triangle, Hackney.
 Prosperity, 1, Camomile-st., Bishopsgate.
 St. Marylebone, British Stores Tav., St. John's Wood.
 Constitutional, Wheatheaf Hot., Hand-court, Holborn.
 Israel, Rising Sun Tav., Globe Road.
 Royal Arthur, Prince's Head, York-road, Battersea.
 Beacontree, Red Lion, Leytonstone, at 8.
 Metropolitan Chapter, Jamaica Coffee Ho., Cornhill.
 Excelsior, Commercial Dock Tav., Rotherhithe.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 17.

- Lodge 190, Oak, F.M.H.
 " 619, Beadon, Greyhound Tav., Dulwich.
 " 700, Nelson, M.H., William-st., Woolwich.
 " 1044, Wandsworth, Spread Eagle, Wandsworth.
 " 1382, Corinthian, George Inn, Cubitt Town.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

- Mt. Lebanon, Windsor Castle Tav., Southwark-bdg.-rd.
 Pythagorean, Prince of Orange, Greenwich.
 New Concord, Rosemary Branch Tav., Hoxton.
 Royal Union, Horse and Groom, Winsley-st., Oxford-st.
 Confidence, M.H., Basinghall-st.
 Peckham, Maismore Arms, Park-road, Peckham.
 Stanhope, Thicket Hot., Anerley.
 Finsbury Park, Finsbury Park Tav., Seven Sisters'-rd.
 Southwark, Southwark Park Tav., Southwark Park.
 Duke of Connaught, Havelock Tav., Dalston, E.
 United Strength, Grafton Arms, Kentish-town.
 Mount Edgumbe, 19, Jermyn-street, St. James's.
 Islington, Crown and Cushion, London Wall.
 Whittington, Black Bull Tav., Holborn.

THURSDAY, MAY 18.

- House Com. Girls' School, at 4.
 Lodge 55, Constitutional, London Tav., Bishopsgate-st.
 " 169, Temperance, White Swan, High-st., Deptford.
 " 813, New Concord, Rosemary Branch, Hoxton.
 " 1227, Upton, Spotted Dog Tav., Upton.
 " 1278, Burdett Coutts, Approach Tav., Victoria Park.
 " 1365, Clapton, White Hart Tav., Clapton.
 Chap. 733, Westbourne, Lord's Hot., St. John's Wood.
 " 742, Crystal Palace, Clarendon Hot., Anerley.
 " 834, Andrew, Clarendon Hot., Hammersmith.
 Mark Lodge, 7, Carnarvon, Mitre Hot., Hampton-court.
 Preceptory E., Observance, 14, Bedford-row.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

- Egyptian, Hercules Tav., Leadenhall-st.
 Fidelity, Yorkshire Grey, London-st., W.

Finsbury, Jolly Anglers' Tav., Bath-st., City-road.
 Temperance in the East, Catherine-st., Poplar.
 Ebury, 12, Ponsonby-st., Millbank.
 Highgate, Bull and Gate, Kentish-town.
 The Great City, 111, Cheapside.
 High Cross, Coach & Horses, High-road, Tottenham.
 Salisbury, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
 Marquis of Ripon, Albion Tav., Albion-rd., Dalston.
 Prince Frederick William Chapter, St. John's Wood.

FRIDAY, MAY 19.

- Annual Meeting and Election, R.M.B.I., at 12.
 House Com. Boys' School, at 4.
 Lodge 6, Friendship, Willis's Rooms, St. James's.
 " 143, Middlesex, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
 Preceptory, 48, Kemeys Tynte, 33, Golden-square.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

- Union Waterloo, Thomas-st., Woolwich.
 St. George's, Globe Tav., Royal-hill, Greenwich.
 Robert Burns, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
 Belgrave, Lyceum Tav., 354, Strand.
 Unions Emulation (for M.M.'s), F.M.H.
 Temperance, Victoria Tav., Victoria-road, Deptford.
 Clapton, White Hart, Clapton.
 Metropolitan, Portugal Hot., Fleet-st.
 Westbourne, Horse & Groom, Winsley-st., Oxford-st.
 Metropolitan, Pentonville-road.
 United Pilgrims, Surrey M.H., Camberwell New-road.
 St. James's, New Tanners' Arms, Grange-rd., Bermondsey.
 Duke of Edinburgh, Silver Lion, Penny-fields, Poplar.
 Durie, Earl Grey Tav., Mile-end-road.
 Burgoyne, Grafton Arms, Prince of Wales's-road, N.W.
 St. Luke's, Commercial Tav., King's-road, Chelsea.
 Chigwell, Bald-faced Stag Hot., Buckhurst-hill.
 Burdett Coutts, Approach Tav., Victoria Park.
 Royal Standard, Finsbury Park Tav., Holloway.
 Ranelagh, Clarendon Hot., Hammersmith.
 Pythagorean Chapter, Prince of Orange, Greenwich-rd.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN WEST LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE.

For the Week ending Saturday May 20, 1876.

MONDAY, MAY 15.

- Lodge 721, Independence, M.R., Eastgate Row, Chester.
 " 1502, Israel, M.H., Liverpool.
 Chap. 995, Furness, M.T., Ulverston.
 " 1051, Rowley, M.R., Lancaster.
 Everton L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

TUESDAY, MAY 16.

- Lodge 677, Alliance, M.H., Liverpool.
 " 1225, Hindpool, Hartington Hot., Brw.-in-Furness.
 " 1276, Warren, Seacombe Hot., Seacombe.
 " 1570, Prince Arthur, N. Hill-st., Liverpool.
 Chap. 605, De Tabley, Seacombe Hot.
 Merchants' L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 17.

- Lodge 823, Everton, M.H., Liverpool.
 " 1086, Walton, St. Lawrence's, Soho, Kirkdale.
 " 1345, Victoria, Cross Keys, Eccles.
 " 1353, Duke of Lancaster, Athenæum, Lancaster.
 Chap. 580, Unity, Wheatheaf, Ormskirk.
 De Grey and Ripon L. of I., 80, North Hill-st., Liverpool.
 Downshire L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

THURSDAY, MAY 18.

- Lodge 203, Ancient Union, M.H., Liverpool.
 " 343, Concord, Militia Mess Rooms, Preston.
 " 425, Cestrian, M.R., Eastgate-row, Chester.
 " 605, Combermere, Seacombe Hot., Seacombe.
 " 1299, Pembroke, Rawlinson's Hot., West Derby.
 Chap. 249, Mariners, M.H., Liverpool.
 St. John's L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

FRIDAY, MAY 19.

- Duke of Edinburgh L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN GLASGOW AND WEST OF SCOTLAND.

For the Week ending Saturday, May 20, 1876.

All the Meetings take place at Eight o'clock.

MONDAY, MAY 15.

- Lodge 332, Union, 170, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
 " 581, Plantation, Craigiehall-st., Glasgow.

TUESDAY, MAY 16.

- Lodge 73, Thistle and Rose, 170, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
 " 87, Thistle, 30, Hope-st., Glasgow.
 " 556, Clydesdale, Rose-st., Glasgow.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 17.

- Lodge 117, St. Mary, M.H., Partick.
 " 571, Dramatic, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
 Chap. 150, Shettleston, M.H., Shettleston.

THURSDAY, MAY 18.

- Lodge 22, St. John Kilwinning, George Hot., Kilmarnock.
 " 27, St. Mungo, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
 " 465, St. Andrew, M.H., Garnagard-rd.

FRIDAY, MAY 19.

- Lodge 31, St. Mary's Coltness, Scott's Hall, Wishaw.
 " 306, St. Thomas, 90, Wellgate-st., Larkhall.
 " 321, St. Andrews, Public Hall, Alexandria.
 " 360, Commercial, 30, Hope-st., Glasgow.
 " 471, St. John, Stane Inn, Shotts.
 " 551, Clydesdale, Royal Hot., Larkhall.

SATURDAY, MAY 20.

- Lodge 524, St. Andrew, M.H., Kilbride.
 " 544, St. Andrew, M.H., Coatbridge.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN EDINBURGH AND VICINITY.

For the Week ending Saturday, May 20, 1876.

MONDAY, MAY 15.

- Lodge 44, St. Luke, F.M.H., George-st.

TUESDAY, MAY 16.

- Lodge 36, St. David, Ship Hot., East Register-st.
 " 405, Rifle, F.M.H., George-st.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 17.

- Lodge 160, Roman Eagle, Iona Hot., Nicholson-st.

THURSDAY, MAY 18.

- Lodge 48, St. Andrew, F.M.H., George-st.
 " 226, Portobello, Royal Hot., Bath-st.
 Chap. 152, Perseverance, 186, Constitution-st.

FRIDAY, MAY 19.

- Chap. 83, St. Andrew, F.M.H., George-st.

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The next election of members will be held on the 17th Upwards of 500 Brethren having already joined, an entrance fee will be imposed as soon as the Club is opened.

Forms of Application for Membership may be obtained from the Secretary, at the Offices of the London Masonic Club Company (Limited), 37, Queen Victoria-street, E.C.

JOHN A. LATHBURY,
 Secretary.

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REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS.

Craft Masonry.

EGYPTIAN LODGE (No. 27).—The last regular meeting of the season of this lodge took place at Anderson's Hotel, on Thursday, the 4th inst. Present: Bros. John Green, W.M.; Hales, S.W.; J. Walker, J.W.; Lambie, I.P.M.; H. G. Buss, P.M.; Treas.; J. P. Poole, P.M.; Sec.; P. M. Atkins, acting S.D.; Salmonese, acting J.D.; Grammer, acting I.G.; Jacobs, Payne, and Harrison, P.M.'s. Visitors: G. T. Townsend, J.W. 1086; J. B. Sorrell, W.M. 176; T. E. Purdy, P.M. 861; E. B. Grabham, W.M. 19; M. G. Ruddersforth, W.M. 12; G. E. Turner, 1266, 902. The lodge having been opened, the minutes of the former meeting were read and confirmed, Bros. G. L. B. Walker and F. Lake were passed, and Bro. Chick was raised. The lodge was then resumed to the First Degree, and the ballot proving unanimous in favour of Mr. Samuel Rogers he was duly initiated. The ballot was also unanimous in favour of Bro. Alfred Ellis, of Lodge No. 933, as a joining member. Bro. Buss then rose, and in an affecting speech informed the lodge of the sad calamity that had befallen the wife of Bro. Maidwell, I.G., she having met with a carriage accident, causing her death from concussion of the brain while staying for a few days in Wales. The whole of the brethren felt the greatest commiseration for Bro. Maidwell under his deep affliction, as his wife was well known to most of them, she being the daughter of the late Bro. Benjamin Payne Todd, P.M., and for many years Treasurer of the lodge. Bro. Buss concluded by moving that a vote of condolence be entered on the minutes, and a copy engraved on vellum and forwarded to Bro. Maidwell. Bro. P.M. David Jacobs with a few feeling remarks seconded the proposal, which was unanimously carried. No other business offering the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned for refreshment. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given: "The Visitors," responded to by each of them; "The Past Masters of the Lodge," responded to by Bro. I.P.M. Lambie; "The Initiate," who briefly responded; and "The Officers," responded to by Bros. Walker, Atkins, Salmonese and Grammer. It was announced that Bro. Atkins was going up as a Steward to the festival of the Girls' School to represent the Victoria Chapter, and would be pleased to add the names of any of the brethren to his list of subscriptions. Bro. Buss also announced that he would be glad to receive votes on behalf of widow Johnson for the Benevolent Institution. Bro. Johnson was formerly Treasurer and P.M. of this lodge. "The Tyler's" toast was then given, and the brethren adjourned till October.

ST. THOMAS'S LODGE (No. 142).—The last regular meeting of this lodge for the season was held at the City Terminus Hotel, on the 6th inst., when Bro. William Dyott Burnaby, W.M., presided, assisted by his officers, Bros. Lambert, S.W.; Beattie, J.W.; Batty, Treas.; Levander, Sec.; Macaulay, S.D.; Powell, J.D.; and Lee, I.G. There were also present Bros. Rooks, I.P.M.; James Lewis Thomas, P.M.; Thomas Dubois, P.M.; J. Scarth, P.M.; and E. Cockcraft, P.M., besides several lay members of the lodge, and the following visitors:—Bros. J. W. E. Macartney, M.P. for Tyrone county; John Boyd, Grand Steward; George Smallpiece, P.M.; and Edwards. Bro. F. S. Hobson, No. 60, was elected a joining member. Mr. David Calvert was initiated, and Bros. West and Moezley were raised by the I.P.M. The sum of ten guineas was voted to the Boys' School, to be placed on the S.W.'s list. The brethren afterwards adjourned to dinner, and after the usual loyal and Masonic toasts had been proposed and responded to, the W.M. proposed "The Initiate," who, in returning thanks, stated that he had only lately become a British subject. He was born in Fiji, but had now become a resident here. He said he was deeply impressed with the solemnity of the ceremony he had just gone through in lodge, and he hoped to become a worthy member of the fraternity. Bro. Cockcraft gave a comic version of the Entered Apprentice's song. Bro. Macartney, M.P., responded to the toast of "The Visitors," and in the course of a very able and eloquent speech stated that he was glad to inform his English brethren that since the promulgation of the Roman Catholic edict against Masonry the number of its members in Ireland had nearly doubled, and that at

the festival in behalf of the Girls' School in Dublin last year there were present above ten thousand ladies and gentlemen. The toast of "The P.M.'s" was responded to by Bro. James Lewis Thomas, and that of "The Officers" by Bro. Lambert, S.W. A delightful evening was spent, and the brethren separated at a reasonable hour.

BATH.—Royal Cumberland Lodge (No. 41).—The last regular meeting of this session was held at the Masonic Hall on Thursday, May 4th. The lodge was opened at a quarter to eight by Bro. Brown, W.M., assisted by Bros. Clark, I.P.M.; F. Wilkinson, S.W.; Falkner, J.W.; Ashley, P.M.; Treas.; C. Wilkinson, Sec.; Wilton, P.M.; Dir of Cer.; Braham, S.D.; Bladwell, as J.D.; Gunner, I.G.; Radway, Steward; Bigwood, Tyler. Among those present were Bros. Cooper, P.M.; Moutrie, P.M.; Dr. Hopkins, P.M., and P.P.S.G.W. for Warwickshire; Captain Robinson, Cater, Davis, Mercer, and Wheeler; also as visitors, Bros. Hughes, 53; Evan Jones, 679; and though last, not least, Bro. Schmitt, P.M., and P.P.S.G.W. for Jersey. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree, and Brother Wheeler was passed to the rank of F.C. by the W.M., the working tools being explained by the S.W., and the charge delivered by Dr. Hopkins. The lodge was then closed in the Second Degree, and on the re-admission of the candidate Dr. Hopkins gave the lecture on the first Tracing Board to him and Bro. Mercer in such a manner as to receive the acclamations of all the brethren. Bro. Falkner was called upon to report on what had been done with respect to the provision of a new organ, from which it appeared that, owing to an unwillingness on the part of other lodges to co-operate, the project must be abandoned. Some discussion ensued, from which it may be gathered that the general opinion was in favour of hiring a harmonium at each meeting, but that no decision should be made till after the recess. Bro. Radway brought up a report from a committee which had been appointed to examine into the condition of the property of the lodge, when much discussion took place as to the guardianship of valuable books of early date, and of the minutes and other records of proceedings, which are complete from 1733, and some of them in the possession of private members. After considerable discussion and some suggestions, in which Bros. Clarke, Rubie, Ashley, and Dr. Hopkins took part, the matter was referred back to the committee. Before the lodge was closed Bro. Dr. Hopkins mentioned the pleasure he felt in bringing to the meeting as his guest, the distinguished Bro. Schmitt, and expatiated on his claims to the honour and respect of all members of the Craft, on account of his unwearied efforts, extending over a long series of years, for the promotion of its highest interests, not only in Jersey, but in England and France. A suitable acknowledgment was made by this eminent brother. The proceedings of the evening were brought to a termination, and the lodge was closed at ten o'clock.

SOUTH SHIELDS.—St. Hilda's Lodge (No. 240).—The regular monthly meeting of this lodge was held on Monday, the 8th ult., at the Freemasons' Hall, Fowler-street. After the minutes of the last meeting had been read and confirmed, a ballot was taken for a candidate, which proved favourable, and being in attendance, was initiated into the mysteries of the E.A. Degree by the W.M. (Bro. Henry Claughton) in his usual careful style. The lodge having been raised, four candidates presented themselves for the Third Degree, and having passed a satisfactory examination, were in due time raised to the degree of M.M. by Bro. Ditchburn, P.M., and Bro. Roddam, P.M., D. of C. The lodge having been closed in the usual manner to the First Degree, Bro. Ditchburn, P.M., pursuant to notice of motion, moved "That the lodge do subscribe the sum of 10 guineas each to the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys and Girls; and five pounds each to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and Widows of Freemasons." The motion was seconded by the W.M. Bro. R. Candlish, P.M., of Fawcett Lodge, No. 661, Seaham Harbour, Steward for the province of Durham, on behalf of the Royal Institution for Boys, was present, and enforced the claims of the institution to the favourable consideration of the brethren, and the motion was passed unanimously. A motion in favour of the usual annual pleasure excursion was agreed to. A number of visitors were present, and there was a large attendance of the brethren, who spent a most harmonious evening.

LIVERPOOL.—Merchants' Lodge (No. 241).—The monthly meeting of this lodge was held on Tuesday evening, the 9th inst., at the Masonic Hall, Liverpool. Bro. R. Brown, W.M., Hon. Sec. to the West Lancashire Masonic Educational Institution, was in the place of honour. He was worthily supported by Bros. R. Wilson, P.M., P.P.J.G.D.; G. Broadbridge, P.M., P.P.G.D.C.; G. Hutchin, S.W.; Councillor G. Peet, J.W.; Dr. McGeorge, P.M., Treas.; J. Winsor, Sec.; Williams, J.D.; and Bro. T. Salter, I.G. After business, the brethren retired for refreshment, and a very pleasant evening was spent under the genial presidency of the W.M.

DONCASTER.—St. George's Lodge (No. 242).—The installation of the Worshipful Master elect of this ancient and prosperous lodge took place at the Guildhall, on Friday, the 12th inst. For the first time for many years the ceremony of installation was performed by a Doncaster brother, the whole ritual being very ably and impressively gone through by Bro. F. D. Walker, the retiring Master. His successor, whom he thus so creditably placed in the chair, was Bro. John Heaton, the Past S.W. of the lodge, and who had been unanimously elected by the lodge as Master for the ensuing year. The W.M. afterwards proceeded to invest his officers, namely, Bros. F. D. Walker, I.P.M.; Alfred Parkin, S.W.; John Shires, J.W.; C. Mandall Hartley, Sec. and Treas.; F. Rand S.D.; Henry Fox, J.D.; and W. Delaney, I.G. On the motion of Bro. Hartley, P.M., seconded by Bro. Shires, the

sum of £10 10s. was voted from the funds of the lodge to the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys. The annual banquet was subsequently held at the Royal Hotel, when a very handsome and beautifully appointed dinner was placed on the tables. The W.M. occupied the chair, supported on his right by the Installing Master, Bro. Walker, and on the left by Bro. Bentley, P.M., Mayor of Doncaster; Bro. Parkin officiated as Vice-Chairman. The toasts were those usual upon such occasions, including "The Healths of the M.W. the Grand Master of England, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales," "The Pro G.M., the Earl of Carnarvon," "The Deputy G.M., Lord Skelmersdale," "The R.W. the Prov. G.M. of West Yorkshire, Lieut.-Col. Sir Henry Edwards, Bart.," and "The Deputy Prov. Master, Bro. T. W. Tew," and others. "The Health of the W.M. of St. George's Lodge, 242," was drunk with great cordiality, as also that of "The Immediate Past Master, Bro. Walker," who had held the Mastership of the lodge for two consecutive years, and during that time initiated an unusually large number of candidates into the mysteries of Freemasonry.

LANCASTER.—Lodge of Fortitude (No. 281).—The monthly meeting of this lodge was held in the Masonic Rooms, Lancaster, on the 10th inst. Bro. Thomas Atkinson, the W.M., presided, and there was a good attendance of the brethren of the Craft. The lodge was opened in the First Degree with solemn prayer, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. Bro. John Thistlethwaite, having given proficiency of his ability as an Entered Apprentice, retired, and on being re-admitted was subsequently passed to the degree of Fellow Craft. Bro. Dr. J. D. Moore, P.G. S.B., who ably filled the I.P.M.'s chair then gave a lecture on the second Tracing Board, and at its conclusion a hearty vote of thanks was passed him on the motion of Bro. John Hatch, seconded by Bro. Dr. Moore. The sum of £3 3s. was unanimously voted to the fund which is being raised for restoring the sidilla of Chester Cathedral, the cost of which has been undertaken by the Freemasons of West Lancashire. The lodge then closed with the peculiarities of the Craft.

NORTHAMPTON.—Pomfret Lodge (No. 360).—This lodge held its usual monthly meeting at the George Hotel, on Thursday, the 4th inst. Present: Bros. M. A. Boémé, P.M., W.M.; B. Wilkins, D.P.G.M., Norths and Hunts; R. Winter, S.W.; T. Whitehouse, J.W.; Geo. Robinson, P.M., Sec.; F. Gadsby, S.D.; H. W. Parker, J.D.; J. T. Green, P.M., D.C.; J. U. Stanton, P.M., Steward; J. S. Norman, I.G.; Dean and Kirby, Tylers; G. Cotton, J. Bingley, T. Green, A. Richardson, Brown, Barnes, Atkins, Ellard, Aldridge, Ashford, A. Dorell, Hill, S. L. Seckham, Gordon, Wykes and Ewins, 279; and others. Bro. W. Kirby, Tyler, was raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason, the D.P.G.M. performing the ceremony in his usual impressive manner. Bros. Rev. R. H. Cox, S. J. W. Sanders, R. Allen and J. J. Hart, were examined as to their proficiency, and duly passed to the Second Degree, the W.M. performing the ceremony. Mr. Henry Spoor (the son of an old member of the Pomfret Lodge, and whose brother was also initiated in this lodge) was then balloted for and duly initiated, the W.M. performing the ceremony. On the brethren adjourning from labour the W.M. took the opportunity of thanking those present, not only for their punctual attendance, which had enabled them to get through a long evening's work, but also for the "very commendable attention" given to the business of the evening, deservedly thanking the officers especially for the very efficient manner in which they had performed their duties throughout. This lodge is now in a very flourishing state, with the prospect of even still further improving.

CROYDON.—Frederick Lodge of Unity (No. 452).—On Tuesday afternoon the brethren of this lodge assembled at the Greyhound, Croydon, in regular meeting. Bro. W. S. Masterman, W.M., presided. There were also present the following brethren:—J. W. Sugg, S.W.; George Wright, J.W.; A. T. Jeffery, S.D.; Charles Edmands, J.D.; Charles Pawley, I.G.; A. J. Dickinson, P.M.; Magnus Ohren, P.M., Sec.; James Robins, P.M., Treasurer; John W. Gray; Henry Child, Fred. Cassell; G. Edward Ohren, and Charles M. Ohren. Visitors:—John Constable, P.M., 185; W. W. Morgan, 1385; Charles Horsley, W.M. Acacia; J. W. Wright, 33; J. H. Bolton, 890; and H. Massey ("Freemason"). The first business on the paper after the confirmation of minutes of former meetings was the raising of Bro. Frederick Cassell, and after the W.M. had duly entrusted him, he resigned his seat to Bro. Constable, who performed the ceremony of conferring the M.M. degree on Bro. Cassell. Mr. George Robins, the son and assistant of Bro. James Robins, 5, Chancery-lane, the secretary of the Drury Lane Theatre Renters, and the respected Treasurer of the lodge, having been balloted for as an initiated, and passed through that ordeal with the voice of the brethren unanimously in his favour, Bro. James Robins was offered the privilege by the W.M. of initiating Mr. Robins himself. He, however, would not take the office out of the W.M.'s hands, and the W.M. therefore disclosed to the candidate the earliest mysteries of the Order. After the ceremony had been completed, Bro. George Robins was congratulated on having been admitted a Mason, and Bro. James Robins was also congratulated on his son having begun to follow in his footsteps, and the best wishes were expressed for the initiate's advancement in the science. This being the night for the annual election of W.M. and Treasurer, the choice of the brethren for the former officer was first taken, and when declared was found to have fallen unanimously on Bro. J. W. Sugg, S.W. Bro. Sugg, S.W., in thanking the brethren for their conferring that honour on him, said he should endeavour to discharge all the duties of the chair with credit to himself and honour to the lodge, and he hoped that when his

term of office expired it would be found that the performance of his duties had justified the brethren in the confidence they reposed in him. When the election of Treasurer was taken, Bro. James Robins, P.M., was unanimously re-elected to that distinguished position of trust; and when Bro. Robins thanked the brethren, he informed them that the lodge had no liabilities, but a respectable balance in hand. A proposition for a new candidate for initiation was given in, several letters of regret for absence were read, notices of motion were given, and the lodge was then closed. The excellent banquet provided by Bro. Budden was partaken of, and after the repast had been done ample justice to, grace was said, and the W.M. proposed the toasts. "The Queen and the Craft" having been proposed and drunk, the toast of "The Prince of Wales, the Grand Master," and "The Pro Grand Master, the Earl of Carnarvon, the Deputy Grand Master, Lord Skelmersdale, and the rest of the Grand Officers" followed, and Bro. Charles Horsley, Past Prov. G. Registrar of Middlesex, having replied, the W.M. then gave "The Prov. G.M. of Surrey, General Brownrigg." Bro. Ohren, P.P.S.G.W., replied, and said that the W.M. had attended several of the meetings at which the Prov. G.M. had presided, and had witnessed the way in which he had conducted the business of the Prov. G. Lodge. He (Bro. Ohren) also in his position of Warden had done the same, and he could say that throughout every duty that had been cast upon the Prov. G.M. he had carried out in a most judicious and excellent manner. He did not think the brethren of Surrey could have a better Prov. G.M. (Hear.) The Prov. G.M. had always looked on this lodge with such an eye as the members would wish, and had selected several of his officers from it. Although the members were a small number a considerable proportion of them were Prov. G. Officers, and this proved that the lodge had arrived at a position which commanded the attention of the Prov. G.M. That was a very proud position for a lodge. For the last three or four years there had always been a member of this lodge selected for Prov. Grand rank. He regretted that there were not more P.M.'s of the lodge present, because as old representatives of such a lodge they could have said more on this subject than he could. Speaking for the Prov. G. Master he could confidently say that if all the provinces were ruled by such able men as the Province of Surrey was they were very well governed indeed. The Prov. G. Master would have attended that evening had it not been for an important engagement. (Cheers.) Bro. Dickinson, I.P.M., proposed "The W.M." Unfortunately the W.M. had just suffered a great domestic affliction, and he had not quite felt up to his work. Consequently he had called in the assistance of Bro. Constable to confer the Third Degree. In the First Degree, however, the W.M. had acted for himself. During his year of office he had conducted the affairs of the lodge to the satisfaction of the brethren, and the brethren would always look back with satisfaction to that happy period. (Hear.) The W.M. thanked the brethren for the compliment just passed. He was not insensible to a full compliment; empty ones he abominated. Bro. Dickinson's was paid in such a way and responded to so heartily that he saw in it the former. He had lived long enough to know the real from the spurious. As Bro. Dickinson had told the brethren what he had told Bro. Dickinson privately he might say that he had had a great deal lately to try him: he had lost his only surviving brother, which had unnerved him somewhat; but still he had thought it his duty to attend to his office of Master. He had filled that position on two previous occasions, and therefore when he accepted the election of the brethren it had not been from any feeling of vanity, but simply from his desire to do his duty. He had belonged to the lodge for some years. He once left it; but he rejoined it, and he was delighted when he came back to meet his old friend Bro. James Robins, an old and tried friend of a great many years. He was pleased to know that he had done what he could for the benefit of the lodge. (Cheers.) The W.M. then said that he would propose "The Health of the Initiate." It had been a great privilege for him to initiate a son of their esteemed and worthy brother, James Robins. He was now their brother, George Robins. He once knew their distinguished relative, George Robins, who was, without exception, one of the most distinguished auctioneers in the metropolis, which was saying a very great deal. He (the W.M.) was very much pleased that the name of "George" had been given in baptism to the initiate, and he hoped that he would perpetuate not only the name but the eminence of that distinguished auctioneer. He then reminded Bro. George Robins that he had at present seen very little of Masonry, that he had a great deal yet to learn; but he was a keen observer, and he must use that faculty to obtain a thorough insight into Masonry, and get step by step to a position of eminence. (Hear.) Bro. Geo. Robins said that the brethren must excuse him if he was somewhat taken aback by the mysteries which he had witnessed that evening. But he felt very much delighted and quite happy by the remarks that the W.M. had made concerning him. It had been his great desire at all times to become a Mason; and it would now be his aim to endeavour to please his brother Masons in every way whatever. He was very much gratified that he had become one of the Order, and he should now endeavour to go on and become eminent in the Craft. The W.M. then proposed "The Visitors," and thanked Bro. Constable for having assisted him in the ceremony of raising. Bro. Constable replied. Bro. Dickinson responded for "The P.M.'s," who, he said, were always glad to assist in every way they could in the working of the lodge. Bros. H. Massey and W. W. Morgan responded for "The Press," which was specially proposed by the W.M., who expressed his gratification at the caution with which all

Masonic proceedings were recorded by the representatives of the Masonic journals. Bro. J. Robins returned thanks for the Treasurer and Secretary, both of whom he was happy to say had performed their duty. "The Better Health of Bro. Little, Secretary to the Girls' School," was drunk, on the proposition of Bro. Charles Horsley. Bro. J. W. Sugg, S.W., made a clever speech in reply to the toast of "The Officers and W.M. elect," in which he contrasted his own position, now first elected, with that of the W.M., who had been a W.M. three times. The W.M. he compared to a widow who was being led to the altar by her third husband, assuming a maiden blush on her cheeks, which was manifestly under control, and putting on the appearance of not knowing what was coming next; whereas it was manifest she was not to be taken by surprise. With him (Bro. Sugg) however, it was different; he had the roseate hue of virgin modesty on his cheeks, and his breast was filled with the throbbings of anxiety. He concluded by saying, that whatever his future might be he should use his earnest endeavours not to impair the usefulness of the Masters whom it had been the good fortune of this lodge to possess. The brethren shortly afterwards separated, and returned to town.

PORT ELIZABETH (South Africa).—Lodge of Good Hope (No. 863).—At the regular monthly meeting of this lodge held on March 16th, 1876, W.M., E. R. Smythe, and a full attendance of the brethren. After the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed and the ordinary business of the evening concluded, the W.M. informed the brethren present that the business of the evening was to elect a W.M., Treasurer, and Tyler for the ensuing Masonic year. The ballot was then taken, and the result was for W.M., Bro. Samuel Alabaster, formerly of the Lodge of Finsbury, 861, London; Treasurer, Bro. William Phillips; Tyler, Bro. William Morley.

LINSLADE, LEIGHTON-BUZZARD.—St. Barnabas Lodge (No. 948).—The annual meeting of this flourishing lodge was held at the Masonic Rooms, Elephant and Castle Hotel, Linslade, on Tuesday, the 2nd inst, at 3.30 in the afternoon. Owing to the well-deserved popularity of the W.M. elect, Bro. Henry Poynter, P.M., P.P.G.P. Berks and Bucks, there was an unusually large attendance, and neighbouring lodges for miles around manifested their respect and good wishes by sending some of their more distinguished members to represent them at the meeting. The chair was taken punctually by the W.M., Bro. William King, who was supported by Bros. Cook, S.W.; Mark Rest, J.W.; J. McCubbin, P.M.; E. Procter, Joseph Rafferty, Bernard J. Fountain, P.M., P.P.G. Treas.; H. Poynter, Hon. Sec.; Robt. S. Collet, C. W. Scriven, P.M., P.P.G.J.W.; Henry Green, M. T. Welam, J. Nelson, G. M. Maskell, Joseph Holland, Fred. D. Latham, E. Lawson, George Holdom, W. Randall, George Whitman, James Bishop, Charles J. Morgan, J. Sloane, Tyler. Among the visitors were Bros. J. Reere, W.M. 480; Rev. F. H. Crate, P.P.G. Chaplain Essex, W.M. 697; Thomas W. Hazelgrove, W.M. 475; Joseph Payne, W.M. 591; Fred. Gatto, P. Prov. G.S. of W. Berks and Bucks, W.M. 1287; Walter Fitch, W.M. 1410; John Borres, P.M., &c., 148; John Dennis, P.M. 907; H. Lewis, P.M. 907; H. W. Darvell, 697; Fred. Edgington, 1321; Manwaring W. Bolton, 127; Margate; and E. Bate, 95. The lodge was opened in due form, when the minutes were read and confirmed. The ballot was then taken for Mr. John Stewart, which proving unanimously in his favour, and he being present, was initiated by Bro. P.M. McCubbin. On the invitation of the W.M., P.M.'s, and the lodge generally, Bro. John Bowes, P.M., P.Z., P. Prov. G. Reg. Cumberland and Westmorland, assumed the chair of K.S., as Installing Master. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree, when Bro. Henry Poynter, P.M., P. Prov. G.P., Berks and Bucks, was duly presented for the benefit of installation. The presentation receiving attention, the ceremony proceeded. The lodge was opened in the Third Degree, when all brethren below the degree of Installed Master retired, and a Board of Installed Masters duly opened in ample form. Bro. McCubbin presiding in the South. The W.M. was then placed in the chair of K.S. with the usual ceremonies, and after the Board had been closed the M.M.'s, F.C.'s, and E.A.'s were severally admitted, and the W.M. greeted, saluted, and proclaimed in the several degrees according to ancient custom. The W.M. then nominated and invested the officers for the ensuing year, and the Installing Master completed his labours by delivering the charges to the W.M., Wardens, and brethren. After some routine business and a proposition the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to a splendid banquet, provided by Bro. C. J. Morgan, of the Elephant and Castle Hotel, in his very best style, and which gave unqualified satisfaction to all present. The W.M. presided, and was supported on the right and left respectively by the Installing Master and the I.P.M.; the other brethren being placed according to rank. After the cloth was withdrawn the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were honoured in the well-known St. Barnabas style. "The W.M.'s Health" was received with the utmost enthusiasm, and his manifold services to the lodge for a long period of years gratefully referred to. In proposing "The Health of the Installing Master," the thanks of the lodge were conveyed to him for the complete and expressive manner in which he had worked the degree. The visitors, one and all referred in complimentary terms to the ceremony of the day. Bro. Bowes, the Installing Master, in reply, gave expression to the extreme pleasure it afforded him to instal his brother-in-law, and further said that if his rendering of their beautiful ritual met with the approbation of the brethren he was amply repaid for any trouble he had taken to be present on the occasion. An interesting feature of the postprandial proceedings was the presentation of a costly P.M.'s jewel to

Bro. King, I.P.M. Several songs were excellently sung during the evening by Bros. Poynter, Bolton, McCubbin and E. Procter.

SOUTHEAD.—Priory Lodge (No. 1000).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held at the Middleton Hotel, Southend, on Thursday, the 4th inst. There were present Bros. Dr. E. E. Phillips, P.M. 379, W.M.; A. Lucking, P.M. 160 and Prov. A.G.D.C., I.P.M.; F. Wood, P.M., acting S.W.; W. Frost, J.W.; J. A. Wardell, P.M. 160 and 1000, P. Prov. G.D., Sec.; J. R. Hemmann, P.M., Prov. J.G.D., Org.; J. C. Johnstone, P.M. 20, I.C., D.C.; W. Chaplin, S.D.; W. P. Belliss, J.D.; A. F. Godward, acting I.G.; Rev. H. Hayes, Chaplain; S. Cox, P.M.; H. Rowley, P.M., P. Prov. G.D.; G. F. Jones, F. V. Jilings, S.W. 160; F. Canter, H. Hicks, W. H. Lockey, H. Luken, W. D. Merritt, H. Briggs, W. Allen, jun., S.D. 160. Visitors: Bros. F. D. Grayson, 276; Sir Thos. Kirkpatrick, Bart., 957. The lodge having been duly opened and the minutes of the last meeting read and confirmed, the business of the evening was proceeded with, which consisted of passing Bro. G. F. Wood and raising Bro. F. Benton, jun., which was ably done by the W.M. Bro. F. D. Grayson, 276, was balloted for and unanimously elected a joining member. Bro. F. Wood, P.M., P. Prov. S.G.W., the worthy Treas., and also the father of the lodge, having been asked a short time since by the brethren to sit for his portrait, with his usual kindness consented. He now presented it to the lodge, for which he received the hearty thanks of the brethren, it being a very faithful likeness and mounted in a handsome gilt frame. The lodge was then closed in due form.

LANCASTER.—Rowley Lodge (No. 1051).—The members of this lodge held their monthly meeting in the Masonic Rooms, Athenæum, on the 1st inst. There was an average attendance of members and visiting brethren, the chair of K.S. being occupied by the W.M., Bro. H. Longman. The lodge having been opened with solemn prayer, and the usual formalities peculiar to the Craft gone through, two candidates were proposed for initiation. The routine business having been transacted, the lodge subsequently closed in peace and harmony.

DERBY.—Hartington Lodge (No. 1085).—The monthly meeting of this lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, Gower-street, on Wednesday evening, May 3rd. The brethren present were Bros. S. Pipes, W.M.; H. T. Bobart, I.P.M.; W. Heathcote, S.W.; T. Gadsby, J.W.; M. H. Bobart, Treas.; Geo. Pipes, Sec.; T. Hills, S.D.; J. O. Manton, as J.D.; J. H. Biggs, I.G.; T. Slinn, Tyler; J. Worsnop, P.M., as Org.; F. Iliffs, P.M.; F. Campion, P.M.; Bros. Josh. Heathcote, Hart, W. Butterfield, Steele, Hepworth, Hextall, Parkenson, Rich. Daniel, Geo. Hill, Visitors: Bros. H. Burns, 731; R. Bennett, W.M. 731; Burton, Wright, Warner, T. Warner, T. Merry, Whitaker (all of 731). The lodge was opened at 7.45 p.m. in the First Degree by the W.M. The ballot was taken for Mr. John Lane, who was duly elected. Mr. Geo. Johnson was initiated into the mysteries and privileges of ancient Freemasonry by the W.M. Bro. John Parkenson was raised to the sublime Degree of a Master Mason in ancient and solemn form by the W.M. Bro. James Worsnop, P.M., was presented with a jewel in recognition of his services, as Secretary to this lodge for the past five years. After the lodge was closed the brethren adjourned to supper, which was of a very substantial character. After supper the usual toasts were given and heartily received. Several songs were sung by the brethren, which added much to evening's enjoyment. The Tyler's toast being given the proceedings were brought to a close.

BLENHHEIM.—Marlborough Lodge of Unanimity (No. 1236).—The annual installation meeting of this lodge was held in the lodge-room on Monday evening, December 27th, 1875, being the festival of St. John the Evangelist, the W.M. presiding. Bro. W. Douslin, W.M. elect, having been duly presented, the ceremony of installation was most ably performed by Bro. John T. Robinson, the retiring W.M., assisted by Bro. C. J. Griffiths, P.M. The musical portion of the ceremony was most admirably conducted by Bro. Carcy. The following officers for the ensuing year were appointed and invested:—Bros. John T. Robinson, I.P.M.; B. O. Waddy, S.W.; J. F. Hathaway, J.W.; F. T. Farmer, Treas.; W. Nosworthy, Sec.; F. J. Carcy, Org.; C. A. Deacon, S.D.; W. Falconer, J.D.; J. W. Campbell, I.G.; W. Compton, Tylr. During the course of the evening a very neat jewel was presented to Bro. W. Nosworthy, as a testimony of the efficient manner in which his duties as Secretary during the past two years have been performed; also a handsome and massive P.M.'s jewel to Bro. John T. Robinson, which had been subscribed for by the members of the lodge as a memento of their regard and esteem, and in acknowledgment of the able and zealous manner in which he had governed the lodge during the preceding two years. The brethren then adjourned to a capital repast at the Masonic Hotel, and after the removal of the cloth the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given, and the evening was spent in a very enjoyable manner, harmony being contributed by several brethren.

LIVERPOOL.—De Grey and Ripon Lodge (No. 1356).—Prosperity still waits upon this highly-popular lodge, which this year enjoys the Mastership of Bro. J. Bell, whose social tact and Masonic talent eminently fit him for a position already filled by worthy brethren. The usual monthly meeting was held on Wednesday, the 10th inst., and Bro. Bell, W.M., was well supported by his officers, amongst those present being Bros. B. B. Marson, P.M.; T. Evans, P.M.; T. Horne, S.W.; T. Nickson, J.W.; J. Ireland, Treas.; Jos. Jones, Sec.; C. Costigan, S.D.; J. Williams, J.D.; A. Woolrich, I.G.; C. Arden and J. Keet, Stewards; and P. Larsen, P.M., Tyler. There were 36 private members present, and the list of visitors included Bro. F. H. Rahn, P.M. 97 and 1230, P.P.G.J.D., Durham. The business of the evening was initiation and

raising, there being three for the First and six for the Third Degree. At the close of the business, Bro. Bell made the gratifying announcement that £109 had been collected in aid of a widow, the particulars of which will be found under the heading "Masonic and General Tidings," in another column.

MANCHESTER.—Lodge of Truth (No. 1458).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held on Saturday, May 6th, at the Private Rooms, Newton Heath. The minutes of last regular meeting being read, they were confirmed unanimously. A letter was read from Bro. Branton, J.W., tendering his resignation. Resolution was then passed, formally excluding several brethren in arrears with their subscriptions. Bro. Cooper was passed to the Second Degree by Bro. Tyers, P.M., and after some other business of a routine character the lodge was closed in peace and harmony about 6.30 p.m.

HALLIFORD.—Thames Valley Lodge (No. 1460).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held on Saturday, the 6th inst., at the Ship Hotel, Halliford. Bro. J. Llewellyn Jones, W.M., presided, and was supported by the following brethren:—W. T. Howe, S.W.; George Townsend, as J.W.; J. G. Marsh, Sec.; W. Sweetland, S.D.; J. E. Kershaw, J.D.; J. H. R. Gowan, I.G.; H. Massey ("Freemason"); W. Clifton Crick, P. Dunn, and Adam Leigh, 657. After the reading and confirmation of the minutes, and before the ceremonies, of which all three were on the summons, were performed, the Secretary read letters from the Rev. Dr. Brette, P.M., acknowledging the vote of condolence which was passed at the former lodge meeting on the great domestic affliction which he had suffered; also from Mrs. Magee, widow of the late Bro. Magee, to the same effect, and another from Bro. Col. Burdett, Prov. G.M. of Middlesex, regretting his inability to be present at this meeting. The W.M. then proceeded with the lodge work, and raised Bro. Dunn to the Third Degree. Lodge met before two o'clock, and hence the small attendance at the opening of the lodge. No other candidates than the above had then arrived, and at the end of the ceremony of raising the W.M. called off his lodge for the arrival of the next train from London. In the course of about half an hour that train brought several brethren, and on the coming in of the brethren the following was the list:—Bros. Rev. Dr. Brette, I.P.M., J. L. Jones, W.M.; W. T. Howe, S.W.; T. B. Yeoman, J.W.; W. Paas, Treas.; J. G. Marsh, Sec.; W. Sweetland, S.D.; J. Evans Kershaw, J.D.; W. Alcock, Steward; J. H. R. Gowan, I.G.; Woodstock, Tyler; George Townsend, Penniston Dunn, Edmund G. Hislop, Mark N. Davis, J. S. Tyler, Robert Stone. Visitors:—H. Massey ("Freemason"); A. Leigh, 657; W. Clifton Crick, 657; D. S. Robertson, 7 (Scotland); William Dance, 754; J. J. Caney, P.M. 198; E. J. Burgess, Indefatigable. Work was immediately proceeded with, and Bro. Mark Davis was passed to the Second Degree. Lieut. Andrew George Wood, 1st Somerset Militia, and Mr. Edmund Frederick Thomas, surgeon, were afterwards initiated. Although the hour was now late, as Bro. J. S. Tyler, who had kindly consented at last meeting (the installation) to defer his raising to relieve the pressure of work, the W.M. again went through the ceremony of raising, and gave Bro. Tyler that degree. Lieut.-Col. Peters, P.M., gave notice of motion for next meeting that the lodge dues be payable once a year instead of half-yearly. An initiate was proposed by Bro. Alcock, and seconded by Col. Peters; after which the W.M. said he had great pleasure in presenting Bro. the Rev. Dr. Brette with a P.M.'s jewel, which had been deferred to this lodge on account of the melancholy domestic affliction which had fallen on the I.P.M. previous to last meeting. He had shewn such interest in the Craft in general and this lodge in particular that the brethren had unanimously accorded it to him, as they were all glad to have had an opportunity of shewing futurity that they were proud to have been connected with so worthy a Master. Dr. Brette said it was from the bottom of his heart he thanked the brethren, and as long as that heart should beat it would beat with gratitude to the brethren. Lodge was then closed, and a choice and delicate banquet was placed on the table by Bro. R. Stone, who personally superintended the serving of it. It was partaken of with great zest by the brethren, and when the cloth was removed the W.M. proposed the usual toasts with great facility and fluency. After that of "The Queen and the Craft" had been honoured, his Worship in giving that of "The M.W.G.M." said the Craft might congratulate themselves upon having such a head. The toast acquired a peculiar interest that night in the face of his approaching return, when they could but feel grateful to the Great Architect of the Universe for having preserved H.R.H. in all his journeyings by land and water. It was a journey, he believed, undertaken from the very purest English motives, for the sole object of doing good to England, by cementing, if possible, our Indian dependencies more to the British throne. We could only hope that the Power which had preserved him so far might still preserve him until he landed on English shores once more. When they had an opportunity the Masons of England would give him a very hearty reception, and tell him by their cheers far more than he (the W.M.) could say in volumes that they were very glad to see him back. (Cheers.) "The Pro Grand Master, D.G.M., and the rest of the Grand Officers," was the next toast, and this was followed by "Col. Burdett, Prov. G.M., Sir George Elliot, D.P.G.M., and the rest of the Prov. Grand Officers." The W.M. said he regretted Col. Burdett's absence. He was generally among them, and on those occasions he expressed his approval of the manner in which the duties of the lodge were conducted, and his wishes for the future prosperity of the lodge. But there were two or three officers of the province present, and he should therefore couple with the toast the name of the Rev. Dr. Brette, P. Prov. G. Chaplain. Bro. Dr. Brette, in his reply, said that he regretted Colonel Burdett's absence as much as any one could. From what he had seen that evening the work of the lodge

was never done so perfectly well as it had been that day. Col. Peters also responded. As the first W.M. of the lodge he had done everything he could for it, and he was delighted to see it so prosperous. The Prov. G.M. of Middlesex offered him the Mastership of the lodge, and he was very proud indeed of that compliment. He had himself as well as the other brethren greatly admired the working of the lodge that day; the efficiency was certainly wonderful; it certainly could not have been better; and the brethren were all proud of having such a W.M. as Bro. Jones. (Hear.) The Rev. Bro. Dr. Brette, in proposing "The Health of the W.M.," said that as a P.M. he (Bro. Brette) enjoyed the otium cum dignitate which P.M.'s looked forward to, but they always rose with pleasure to propose this toast. No words of his could enhance the value in the brethren's hearts of the W.M. or increase their appreciation of him. The lodge was founded in 1874, when Bro. Jones took office as S.D. Since then he had never missed a single meeting of the lodge, and he always worked most conscientiously and hard. He had proved to them that day what he knew, and that he was one of the most devoted sons of the Thames Valley Lodge. Certainly his work had been well supported by that of his officers; but irrespective of that there were plain evidences that he must have taken great pains out of lodge with his ceremonies. Bros. Sweetland, Kershaw, and Gowan had ably assisted, and great praise was due to them. (Cheers.) The W.M., replying, said it had just occurred to him that there was a line to the effect that "In their own praises modest men were dumb," and if he had not thought of that he might have been carried away by the flood of eulogy which poured from the I.P.M. He had said what he did, no doubt, in all good faith and sincerity; and through his coloured glasses he saw a little more rosily perhaps than the other lookers on. He (the W.M.) would simply say that he thanked the brethren very much indeed, not only for their kind reception of the toast, but for other marks of their kindness—and they had been many—on all occasions. He would promise them one thing; if they were satisfied with him now, and had been satisfied with him in the past, he would endeavour to make them satisfied with him in the future. If he had been of assistance to any of his officers that was simply an earnest of the assistance he should be pleased to afford any members of the lodge who required it to make themselves proficient in the offices to which they had been advanced; and he hoped they would believe him when he said that what had occurred in the past would be an earnest of what he hoped would occur in the future. (Cheers.) Bro. Wood and Thomas responded to the toast of "The Initiates," and all the visitors responded to the toast proposed in their honour; after which the W.M. gave "The P.M.'s," remarking that Dr. Brette had consented to stand as Steward for the Girls' School the following Wednesday, and that he had already £9; 11s. on his list. The lodge was greatly indebted to Colonel Peters, he might say "simply for the lodge." Had it not been for Col. Peters there would have been no Thames Valley Lodge, and no John Llewellyn Jones, Master. Therefore they were deeply indebted to Bro. P.M. Col. Peters for having given them an opportunity of meeting together and being so happy. But a foundation was nothing unless you built a pleasant building upon it. Their I.P.M. put on the next storey equally well and equally pleasant, and still further cemented and adorned the foundation laid by their brother, Col. Peters, and it was in a great measure owing to his urbanity and kindness that the Thames Valley Lodge mustered so strong as it did. (Hear.) The Rev. Dr. Brette, in reply, said: Brethren, I feel more than I can express for the kindness you have always shewn me, but especially during the last few months. You know, all of you, what a severe trial I have had to pass through the dispensation of our God; but I can assure you that after the consolation which religion can give and does give us, the hand of friendship and of sympathy which was offered to me by you has been most consolatory. Here I beg you to accept my most heartfelt thanks for the letter of condolence you were kind enough to vote in open lodge, and which I received in due time. Perhaps you will allow me, who was brought up among classics and have spent my life at school, to say that one of my old masters, Ovid, whom I was taught to love and revere, was at fault when he said,

"Donec eris felix, multos muneralis amicos;
Tempora si fuerint nubila, solus eris."

I am sure Ovid was not a Mason. Though this may be true for the cold world, it is not so in Masonry; for when one of us is struck down by adversity the hand of fellowship is offered to him and the grasp of a friendly hand raises him and gives him strength to bear his affliction. Brethren, from the bottom of my heart I thank you. When I heard of your vote of condolence, and especially when I received the letter conveying your sympathy, I confess tears came in my eyes, but these tears fell as a soothing balm on my burning heart. Brethren, accept my most sincere thanks, and be assured that as long as I live I shall make it a matter of duty, in order to prove to you my deep gratitude, to attend regularly to the duties of this lodge and to keep its name on the honourable roll of our Masonic Charities. The W.M. then gave "The Officers" of the lodge, and said he considered himself very fortunate in having such excellent brethren to assist him. He complimented all these brethren on the ability they had displayed that day, and added that he was very proud of his family. Bro. W. T. Howe, S.W., responded for all the officers, and said that when they accepted office they made up their minds to do their duty not only from love to the W.M. but from love to the Craft. They were delighted that their services won the good opinion of the W.M. The Tyler's toast was then given, and the brethren returned to town by the last train, after having spent a delightful day.

NORTH WOOLWICH.—Henley Lodge (No. 1472).—The above lodge held its usual monthly

meeting on Tuesday, the 2nd inst., at Bro. West's, the Three Crowns, Bro. J. Ives, W.M., in the chair, supported by the following officers:—Bros. W. Steele, S.W.; B. B. Brayshaw, P.M., filling, in the absence of Bro. Silver, the office of J.W.; J. Henderson, P.M. and Sec.; T. Geller, Treas.; A. J. Manning, S.D.; N. Stanford, I.G.; J. A. Elder, W.S.; J. Plume, D.C.; and W. Steadman, P.M. 754, O.G. Among the visitors were Bros. T. G. Day, W.M. 1076; J. Austin, P.M. 933; H. Taylor, D.C. 1076; W. Wagner, 1076; G. Green, 1076; J. W. Job, 1076; J. Wood, 1421; J. Jennings, 534; and C. Jolly, 913. The lodge having been opened in due form and with solemn prayer, Dr. W. J. Vance and Mr. F. Day were ballotted for, and on approval initiated into the Craft. The W.M. then raised his own son, Bro. E. W. Ives, in a most solemn and impressive manner, this being the first time the worthy W.M. has had an opportunity of performing that magnificent ceremony, and we say with much pleasure that his working was well and worthily done. The lodge was then closed, and the brethren partook of Bro. West's excellent menu, served in an adjoining room. Upon reassembling the W.M. proposed the usual loyal and Masonic toasts, to which the brethren did full honour. Bro. Brayshaw, in proposing "The Health of the W.M.," spoke eulogistically of his earnest endeavours to render himself worthy of the important position he now held, and augured under his rule a great success for the lodge. Bro. Ives briefly replied, and in response to "The Initiates" Bro. Vance replied, thanking the brethren for the honour conferred upon him. Bros. Day, Austin, and Jolly replied for "The Visitors," and Bro. Steele for "The Officers of the Lodge," in suitable terms.

BIRMINGHAM.—Lodge of Israel (No. 1474).—The brethren of this lodge held their usual monthly meeting on Monday evening, the 8th inst., at the Masonic Hall, Severn-street. Bro. S. Lyon, the W.M., ever punctual to his duties, was in the chair. Not so with the other officers, for unfortunately circumstances prevented six of them from being present; but it was noteworthy to observe the excellent feeling that exists towards the W.M., for no sooner had he made known that his officers were in different parts of Great Britain and not able to be present (for this lodge is composed of brethren of many nationalities—Englishmen, Frenchmen, Germans, Dutchmen, Russians, and Poles—many of whom are travellers) than many eminent members of other lodges in Birmingham came forward and volunteered their services. The W.M. of the Lodge of Emulation, and Treasurer of this lodge, occupied the S.W. chair; the S.W. of the Lodge of Emulation, the J.W.; Bro. Roberts, the J.D., doing the duties of S.D. as well as J.D.; Bro. Davis Lavenstein, Sec., was supported by Bro. J. Pursall, P.P.G.S.W., as I.P.M.; Bro. Fenn, P.M. 74, as Dir. of Cer.; and Bro. P. M. Muggleton and many other visitors, and it was a source of great delight to see the many visitors who came to render their services. The business comprised the raising of Bros. Deal and Cohen, which was performed by the W.M. in a very beautiful manner; passing of Bros. Saul Abrahams and Newman, and initiating Mr. Davis Abrahams, all the degrees being rendered in a very efficient manner. After six candidates had been proposed, the brethren adjourned to the banqueting room, the W.M. presiding giving the usual loyal and Masonic toasts. Bros. Glydon, Pursall, Silverstone, and other members and visitors gave some excellent songs, their services being very much appreciated in hearty good fellowship, and the brethren separated, much pleased with the evening's proceedings. It is believed that this will be one of the largest lodges in the country, as it has only been established two years and has over 66 members already, with six more to come up for initiation.

LEICESTER.—Albert Edward Lodge (No. 1560).—The regular monthly meeting took place at Freemasons' Hall, on Tuesday, 9th inst. Amongst those present were the R.W. Bro. W. Kelly, P. Prov. G.M.; Bros. G. Toller, jun., I.P.M., as W.M.; Rev. Canon Burfield, S.W.; Dr. Hunt, J.W.; F. C. Stretton, P.M., Treas.; Rev. J. Woodcock, Chaplain; Rev. W. Langley, Sec.; Rev. F. Richardson, S.D.; S. S. Partridge, P.M., D.C.; Dr. Buck, I.G.; Rev. Sculthorpe, P.M. and Captain Goodchild, Stewards; Rev. H. Wood, Gee, J. Deane, P.M.; R. S. Toller, Burgess, and others. Visitors: Bros. W. Millican, P.M.; W. T. Rowlett, S.W.; T. A. Wykes, J.W.; and G. L. Vaughan, all of 523; Dr. Grant, W.M.; and T. Macaulay, P.M. 1330; Rev. J. Baker, Vicar of St. John's. The principal business was the initiation of Mr. F. H. Hodges, late house surgeon to the infirmary, who having been unanimously elected was received into Masonry in due form by the acting W.M., assisted by Bro. W. Kelly. Three joining members having been proposed and other business transacted, the lodge was closed, and the members adjourned to dinner, this being a banquet night. The remainder of the evening was pleasantly enlivened by the singing of Bros. the Rev. F. Richardson, Hodges, and others; while the performances of Bros. Wykes, Vaughan, and Rowlett respectively on the piano, flute, and oboe elicited considerable applause. The only toasts given were: "The Queen," "The Grand Master," "The Visitors," and "The Initiates," which were severally proposed by the acting W.M., Bros. W. Kelly, Canon Burfield, and Rev. W. Langley, that of "The Visitors" being responded to by the Rev. J. Baker. This lodge bids fair to be useful, not only in receiving strangers into the ranks of Masonry, but by winning back again some of the older Masons who had retired from the active duties of the Craft. The meeting above recorded was one of the most successful yet held, and it may be mentioned as a singular fact that the professions of divinity, law, and medicine had each half a dozen representatives amongst those present.

MORECAMBE.—Morecambe Lodge (No. 1561).—The members of this lodge assembled in their lodge-room at the Local Board of Health office, on the

9th inst., for the purpose of holding their monthly meeting. In the unavoidable absence of the W.M., Bro. Dr. J. D. Moore, P.G.S.B., the lodge was opened with solemn prayer by Bro. Henry Longman, W.M. 1051. There was a good attendance. Bro. W. Stephenson, having given proficiency as a Fellow Craftsman, retired, when the lodge was raised to the Third Degree. Bro. Stephenson was then re-admitted and raised to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason, the working being efficiently gone through by Bro. Longman. The lodge was then closed down to the Second Degree, when Bros. W. W. Wilde, John Hutton, and John Gott, having severally given proficiency as Entered Apprentices, were passed to the degree of Fellow Craftsmen the workings being gone through by Bros. John Hatch, P.M. 281; John L. Bradshaw, P.M. 1051; and Bro. Thos. Atkinson, W.M. 281, respectively. Bro. Capt. Garnett was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing year, the installation ceremony being fixed for the 1st June. The usual proclamations were made, and elicited hearty good wishes from the visiting brethren, after which the lodge was closed in peace, love, and harmony.

INSTRUCTION.

FAITH LODGE (No. 141).—On Tuesday evening, the 9th inst., the ceremonies of consecration and installation were rehearsed at this lodge by Bro. James Terry, Prov. Grand Director of Ceremonies Herts, and Secretary of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution. The lodge met at its usual trysting place, the Restaurant, Westminster Chambers, Victoria-Street, and about eighty brethren were present. Bro. Terry opened the lodge at seven o'clock, having Bro. Reed as S.W., Bro. Cameron, as J.W., Bro. Charles Hill, as D.C.; Bro. Swallow, as S.D.; Bro. Smith, as J.D.; Bro. Cottebrune, as P.M.; Bro. Scott, as Treas.; and Bro. Bassington, as Hon. Secretary. The other brethren present were Bros. Richard Baker, James Stevens, J. W. Leggett, G. M., Cole, W. H. Power, D. M. Belfrage, S. Jones, J. E. Flatterby, G. Boer, John Wyllie, D. Haslett, John Rhodes, J. Dreyberg, E. H. Boddy, A. T. Rapkin, W. M. Stiles, H. L. Seager, Alex. South, J. J. Rennel, R. Bower, J. Barney, Thos. Lamb, W. Grellies, J. Gardner, A. Carlsbron, John Ryder, John Smith, Charles Hunt, John Harper, J. Austin, W. Mann, John T. Woodstock, C. A. Woods, L. T. Carter, Robt. Calfull, Henry Lewis, James Lewis, Thomas, C. J. C. Mountenoy, A. Desperes, W. L. Lister, Andrew Middlemass, Edward Jacobs, Thos. Petre, J. Hughes, Thos. Henden, L. Samuel, A. J. Hunt, J. L. Coulton, John Oliver, W. J. Collens, H. Brock, J. J. Canle, G. J. Henty, C. Hayward, Thos. Bull, J. E. Shand, J. Lindner, J. M. Young, H. Stiles, T. F. K. Smith, W. H. Kempster, C. G. Hill, Robt. Secker, W. Walker, C. J. Scales, S. J. Weston, Ernest H. Steinmetz, W. L. Gardner, G. F. Lewins, John Hurdell, John E. Hunt, Thos. B. Lancaster, John Jacobs, Edward Jacobs, B. Solomon, W. Side, H. M. Levy, W. Walker, James Curtis, Docker, Riley, Gardiner, Kempster, G. H. Webb, Fred. Brown, H. Massey ("Freemason"); W. Milroy, C. Keepe, Wm. Read, R. Allison, S. J. Locker, Saml. Webb, C. Fitzentre, John Verity, and Thomas F. Harman. Bro. Terry having opened the lodge in the different degrees proceeded to give the ceremony of consecration, assisted by the officers, and Bro. Rhodes at the harmonium, with Bro. Knight Smith leading the singing. The whole ceremony was given beautifully, including Bro. Terry's well known oration, describing what Freemasonry is, what lodges are, and the duties of all who join the Order. The ceremony of consecration being completed Bro. Terry proceeded with the installation, for which purpose Bro. C. A. Cottebrune was presented to him by Bro. C. G. Hill, D.C. for the occasion. On the completion of the formal installation, Bro. Cottebrune appointed the following brethren as his officers:—Bros. Boddy, S.W.; Seager, J.W.; Scott, Treas.; Bassington, Hon. Sec.; Hunt, S.D.; Haslett, J.D.; and Carter, I.G. Bro. Terry afterwards gave the charges, and the undermentioned joining members were proposed:—Bros. Walker, 145; James Curtis, 145; Gardiner, 1297; Kempster, 1420; Docker, 1563; Riley, 1563. It was then proposed by Bro. Cottebrune, and seconded by Bro. Scott and carried unanimously, that a vote of thanks be recorded on the minutes to Bro. Terry for his kindness in working the ceremonies of consecration and installation, also that he be elected an honorary member of the lodge. Votes of thanks were also recorded to Bros. Rhodes, Knight Smith, Cantle, Hill, H. Reed, Cameron, and Smith for assisting Bro. Terry in the ceremonies. A vote of thanks was passed to Bro. H. T. Lamb for lending the consecrating vessels, also to Bro. H. Reed for presenting the printed programmes, and to the members of the committee. Lodge was thereafter closed, and in a few minutes the brethren sat down to an excellent repast. The usual toasts were proposed. After those of "The Queen and the Craft," "The M.W.G.M.," "The Pro Grand Master," "The Dep. G.M., &c.," Bro. Cottebrune, who presided, proposed "The Health of Bro. J. Terry, the Consecrating Officer." He said he should come to the point at once, for he knew very well that if he were to speak for weeks, or months, or years, if nature had given him the power of eloquence, he could but say a few words, and they would be to the effect that all the brethren were grateful to Bro. Terry for coming to perform the ceremony of consecration that evening. When some few years ago,—18 or 20 (not that he and Bro. Terry were old; they were still young men), they used to meet in lodges of instruction like boys learning the A B C of Freemasonry—the one that could say A B before the other was the best man; and when they could go on to spell syllables the one that could do it was a very good fellow, and they thought to themselves that they were getting on; but they little dreamed that they would come to be as learned in Masonry as Bro. Terry was now, or as elevated in position. He was happy to say that Bro. Terry was now Secretary to one of the institutions, an institution

which spoke to their hearts perhaps as much as the other two, for children very often, especially among Masons, had friends; but men or widows, when they came to old age, found that their friends were either dead or far away from them. The Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and the Widows of Freemasons was, he thought, and the Craft thought so, too, "the" institution; for at last festival they had the largest subscription to it ever known—nearly £9000. It proved that Freemasons thought that old age must be cared for, as well as youth. (Cheers.) Bro. Terry, in reply, said he appreciated the compliment just paid him, the more particularly so, that in proposing the toast Bro. Cottebrune had been good enough to allude to days gone by, when both of them had the honour of wearing only blue Craft aprons and aspired to no distinction beyond that of becoming P.M. Fortune, however, had favoured them, and the Grand Master had honoured Bro. Cottebrune by authorising him to take his seat on the dais. No doubt all the brethren would at some time or other have that honour, if they lived long enough. (Laughter.) But there were at the present day so much rivalry and so many endeavours made by members of the Craft to bring themselves under the notice of the G.M. prominently that His Royal Highness was now obliged to look for modest merit, and it was on that account Bro. Cottebrune obtained a distinction which others missed who sought it for themselves. With respect to his own (Bro. Terry's) distinctive rank, which Bro. Cottebrune had kindly alluded to, he remembered the evenings 17 years ago, when he and Bro. Cottebrune used to attend on Wednesday evenings the Lodge of United Strength. Ten or eleven of the brethren used to come together, and they spent their evenings very harmoniously and pleasantly indeed, with the laudable feeling that they were worthy to go on and do something for Freemasonry which would do honour to themselves and good to the Craft. Bro. Cottebrune had obtained a position which very few Masons could hope to attain, and the brethren could only hope and trust that years would be spared him to wear the colours and the distinction which had been conferred upon him. For himself (Bro. Terry), he could only say that it had afforded him infinite pleasure to be present that evening to give to the members of the Faith Lodge of Instruction the opportunity—it might be to some of them the first time—of hearing the ceremony of consecration rehearsed. If he had afforded them any gratification he was amply repaid, not alone by the large attendance of brethren he had the honour of addressing, or by their great attention to the ceremony, but from the fact stated in lodge, that he was doing it in the presence of the Preceptor who had taught him the first rudiments of Freemasonry. Therefore it was he found a double pleasure in being there to repay some of those debts of gratitude which he owed to their worthy brother and chairman. As far as regarded his (Bro. Terry's) connection with one of the institutions of the Craft, he could only say that since he had filled that high position (and he could appeal to those around the room who knew him to bear him out in what he was saying) he had endeavoured to do his duty. Let him recall a few facts. Four years ago the amount that used to be announced at the festivals never exceeded £3500, but in February of this year they announced £9174. That amount was subsequently increased by lists which had not come in at the festival to £9380. Four years ago he found the institution with something like 80 men upon its funds, and something like 65 widows; at the present time they had 130 men and 110 widows. Four years ago the men had annuities of £26 a year, and the widows, £15. After June next the men would have £40 a year, and the widows, £32. The income actually required to pay annuities alone, without anything for working expenses, instead of the sum of £5400 per annum, four years back amounted to within £75 of £9000 per annum. This showed that the Craft had been indulgent to them, and had extended to them, as their presiding officers had told them that evening, the right hand of charity to the aged. The Boys' and the Girls', in days gone by, had the advantage of being considered the pet institutions; the Girls were receiving £5000 or £6000 a year, and the Boys greatly exceeded that sum. At that time the Benevolent was scarcely reaching the sum of £2000. He was happy to say the aspect of affairs was now entirely changed, and the Benevolent Institution had £9380. The Girls' School Festival would be held to-morrow, and he trusted a still larger sum would come in. He did not like to be beaten himself, but still he liked to see his brother Secretaries, each in his own individual sphere, doing the best they could, as he knew they did, for their institutions, as he endeavoured to do for his. To-morrow he hoped and trusted that Bro. Little—whose health he was sorry to say was not such as they could wish it to be—would have a bumping list to cheer him in his illness. On the last Wednesday in June Bro. Binckes would have another great festival for the Boys' School. Last year he collected over £12,700, and he hoped that this year it would be still more, if it was only for the important fact that he might prove to the whole of the Craft that (he did not wish to use a harsh term, but nothing short of it would convey the true state of the case) the libellous charge made against him was not believed by the bulk of the Craft of English Freemasons, and that they felt that the honour, integrity, and reputation of the institution's committees were unimpeachable, and that they would not pass the least item of expenditure unless it was vouched for and unless it was necessary for the institution. He could not help thinking that it seemed a remarkable thing, indeed it assumed the appearance of cruel irony, that the President of the Stewards for the next Festival of the Boys' School was no other than the Provincial Grand Master of West Yorkshire, which province had been endeavouring to crush the Boys' School during the past twelve months. He only mentioned these facts to shew that though brethren might differ in their opinions at out

the institutions, yet when their claims were brought before the Craft they obtained the support of the bulk of the Craft. (Hear hear.) Bro. Terry concluded by again thanking the brethren, and again assuring them of the pleasure it had afforded him to be present. Bros. C. G. Hill, Reid, Cameron, Cantle, Knight Smith, responded to the toast of "The Brethren who assisted at the Consecration." Bro. Terry proposed "Bro. Cottebrune's Health," and that brother in reply gave an account of the rise, vicissitudes, and progress of the Faith Lodge of Instruction. Established now on a firm basis, he had great pleasure in reflecting what good it did and must do; and he exhorted the brethren to support it as well as they had hitherto, and so make the work of the mother lodges perfect. After the other toasts the brethren separated. Some excellent singing was given by Bros. Cantle, Webb, and Knight Smith.

CHATHAM.—Royal Kent Lodge of Antiquity (No. 20).—A meeting of this lodge was held at the Mitre Hotel, on Wednesday, 3rd inst. The lodge was opened at 6.30 p.m. This being the night for the election of officers, Bro. Thos. Mason was duly elected W.M. for the present month, and afterwards appointed his officers. The lodge was then closed, when the brethren proceeded to partake of a banquet given in honour of Bro. William Gamon, S.W. of Lodge 20, which was most ably supplied by Bro. J. T. Lewis, of that hotel; Bro. R. C. Burfield, P.M. of Lodge 20, presiding in the East; the W.M. of Lodge of Instruction being in the West. The banquet being finished, the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were gone through. Bro. R. C. Burfield then proposed in flattering terms "The Health of Bro. Gamon," at the same time presenting him with a handsome gold jewel, given by the brethren of the Lodge of Instruction as a token of their esteem and regard, and as an acknowledgment for the long and valuable services rendered by him on all occasions as Instructor. Bro. Gamon, in feeling terms, thanked the brethren heartily for the very handsome present he had received from their hands, and Bro. Burfield for the very kind remarks he had been pleased to make of him, and hoped that he might be spared for many years to wear and appreciate it as a Mason ought, and when he should be called away from this sublunary abode one of his sons might be in a position to wear and prize it as much as he should do. There were many brethren from neighbouring lodges present, amongst them Bro. T. Watson, W.M.; Bro. G. Currell, I.P.M.; and Bros. Nicol and Newton, P.M.'s of 1050; Bro. Cottrell, J.W. 1424; and Bro. Benenue, P.M. 503, Maidstone. Bro. John Thornton, W.M. of Lodge 20, supported Bro. Burfield on his left. The evening was enlivened by some capital singing by the brethren. The Tyler's toast closed the evening at 11 o'clock.

MANCHESTER.—St. David's Lodge (No. 1147).—The regular meeting of this lodge of instruction was held on Tuesday evening, April 25th, at the Masonic Hall, Cooper-street. Bro. J. Holmes-Poulton, 44 and 1565, occupied the chair as W.M. There was a very fair attendance of brethren. The lodge was opened in the First Degree with solemn prayer, and the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The lodge was raised to the Second Degree, and the ceremony of this degree was then worked in a very able and impressive manner. Afterwards the acting W.M. delivered the lecture on the Tracing Board, which he did for the first time, and acquitted himself admirably. The lodge was brought down to the First Degree, and a portion of the First Lecture was then rehearsed by the brethren present. Bro. T. R. Peel, W.M. 1447, proposed Bro. J. B. Seel as a joining member. Hearty good wishes were expressed by the brethren from various lodges.

Royal Arch.

SOUTHEND.—Priory Chapter (No. 1000).—The installation meeting of this flourishing chapter, and first anniversary of its consecration, was held at the Middleton Hotel, Southend, on Wednesday, the 10th inst. There were present Comps. Rev. S. R. Wigram, P.Z. 214, Grand 1st Asst. Soj., M.E.Z.; E. E. Phillips, H.; A. Lucking, J.; J. C. Johnstone, Scribe E.; S. P. Weston, Treas.; J. A. Wardell Prin. Soj.; Jas. Willing, jun., and S. W. Gower, Asst. Sojs.; J. R. Hemmann, F. V. Jillings, E. Judd, W. Pissey, F. Canton, T. Williams, H. H. Child, J. Wiseman. Visitors: Comp. Rev. Skilton, P.Z. 214. The chapter having been opened and the companions admitted, the minutes of the last convocation were read and confirmed. Four candidates for exaltation were balloted for and unanimously elected. Bros. F. Wood, P.M. 1000, and F. Calron, 197, being present were duly exalted to this supreme degree, the ceremony being impressively performed by the M.E.Z., the H. and J. giving the Symbolic and Historical Lectures. The Principals were then installed for the ensuing year, viz., Comps. E. E. Phillips, M.E.Z.; A. Lucking, H.; J. A. Wardell, J. The following officers were invested: Comps. J. C. Johnstone, Scribe E.; W. Pissey, Scribe N.; S. R. Weston, Treas.; Jas. Willing, jun., Prin. Soj.; T. W. Gower, 1st Asst. Soj.; Rev. H. J. Hatch, and Asst. Soj.; J. R. Hemmann, D.C.; E. Judd and F. V. Jillings, Stewards; Mountain, Janitor. The report of the Audit Committee, which was very favourable, was received and adopted. The M.E.Z. in the name of the chapter then presented the I.P.Z. Comp. Rev. S. R. Wigram, with a handsome P.Z. jewel, in recognition of his invaluable services as the first M.E.Z. of the Priory Chapter, and also congratulated him on the high office to which he had been appointed in the Supreme Grand Chapter. The chapter was duly closed and the companions adjourned to banquet. The usual loyal and R.A. toasts were given and duly honoured. Comp. Rev. S. R. Wigram returned thanks for the

officers of Grand Chapter, and Comp. Rev. Skilton for the visitors. The Janitor's toast brought the proceedings to a close.

MELTON MOWBRAY.—De Mowbray Chapter (No. 1130).—A convocation of this chapter (postponed from March) was held on the 4th ult., at the George Hotel. Among the members were Comps. J. C. Duncombe, M.E.Z.; W. Adcock, H.; Rev. Wm. Langley, P.Z.; J. J. Fast, P.Z.; R. Boughton Smith, J.S.E.; J. M. Kew, Assist. S.; J. E. Bright, R. Dalglish, and others. The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the following companions were unanimously elected to office for the ensuing year:—Comps. the Rev. Wm. Langland, M.E.Z.; W. Adcock, H.; R. Boughton Smith, J.; J. M. Kew, S.E.; Bugg, N.; Oxford, P.Z.; Treas.; Dalglish, P.S.; J. J. Fast, P.Z.; M.C.; Hill and Dale, Stewards; and Turville, Janitor. Comp. Dalglish appointed Comps. Leader and Norton, First and Second Assist. Sojs., respectively. A candidate having been proposed for exaltation at the next meeting, the chapter was closed, and the companions repaired to the banquet, which was well served.

Mark Masonry.

SOUTH MOLTON.—Fortescue Lodge (No. 9).—A meeting of this old lodge took place at the Masonic Hall on Monday, 8th inst. Present: Bro. J. T. Shapland, W.M.; Bro. W. Brewer, S.W.; Bro. John Brewer, J.W.; Bro. J. Galliford, M.O.; Bro. Wood, S.O.; Bro. J. T. Widgery, J.O.; Bro. J. E. Galliford, secretary; Bro. Cole, S.D.; Bro. Britton, J.D.; Bro. Oliver, I.G.; and several other brethren. Bro. J. List, P.M. of Lodge 251, was advanced, and other business transacted. The ceremony was very creditably performed by the W.M. and his officers, which gave great satisfaction to all present.

MELTON MOWBRAY.—Howe Lodge (No. 21).—The annual meeting of this lodge was held on Thursday, 4th inst., for the purpose of installing the W.M. for the ensuing year. There was a good attendance of members. The installing ceremony was performed in a most effective manner by V.W. Bro. Langley, D.P.G.M.M.M., after which the W.M., Bro. Robert Boughton-Smith, P.G.S.O., was saluted by the members. The appointment and investment of the officers next took place as follows:—Bros. J. C. Duncombe, I.P.M.; J. B. Leadbeater, S.W.; J. Selby, J.W.; W. Adcock, M.O.; A. Childs, S.O.; F. Amatt, J.O.; Rev. Wm. Langley, Chaplain; Wm. Vial, Sec.; J. J. Fast, P.M., Reg. Mks.; H. James, S.D.; C. L. Ferneley, J.D.; W. Vial, Org.; C. P. Newcome, I.G.; and Turville, Tyler. Votes of thanks were passed to the Installing Master, and to the I.P.M. for his very efficient and able services during the past year. These were duly acknowledged. On the W.M. rising several names were proposed as candidates for advancement at the next meeting. The lodge was then closed, and the brethren proceeded to an excellent banquet, provided by Bro. Childs, at which the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and heartily responded to by the brethren.

Red Cross of Constantine.

EDINBURGH.—The Edinburgh Conclave, No. 4, and St. Giles, No. 103, held their annual meetings for the installation of officers on Tuesday, the 25th ultimo, in the Conclave-rooms, St. James's Hall. There was a large attendance at both conclaves. The Conclave No. 4 was opened by the retiring M.P.S., Em. Sir Knt. W. Milne, who has presided for the last two years with great acceptance to the companions. The minutes of election having been read and approved, the M.P.S. elect, V. Em. Sir Knt. R. S. Brown, P.V., K.G.C., was enthroned amid general expression of approval, and he thereupon installed the following officers, viz.:—Arthur M. Bruce, E. V. Eusebius; Lieut. M. Tracy, P.S. No. 8, Senior General; Capt. W. H. Brown, Junior General; James Walker, High Prelate; Alex. Brown, Treasurer; Jas. B. Mercer, P.S., Recorder; Thos. Willmott, Prefect; E. G. M. Sellentin, Standard Bearer; Henry B. Ferrier, Orator; James W. MacGill, Organist; James Inglis, Herald; Claude Gaillard, Senior Steward; Albert Thiem, Junior Steward; and Alex. Robertson, Sentinel. The conclave was then closed, and the St. Giles, No. 103, was opened by the M.P.S., Em. Sir Knt. J. McPherson, who has been re-elected for the ensuing year. The following officers were then installed, viz.:—Andrew Dalglish, E. V. Eusebius; S. M'K. Munro, Senior General; James Forbes, Junior General; J. A. Brownlee, High Prelate; A. W. Rennie, Treasurer; John Jeffrey, Recorder; Dan. Shearer, Prefect; Matthew Hart, Standard Bearer; Wm. Howden, Herald; James Wilson, Senior Steward; Robt. Mackenzie, Junior Steward; James Bryce, Sentinel. The conclave was then closed, and the Sir Knights of both conclaves adjourned to the Prince of Wales Hotel, when they joined together in enjoying a sumptuous repast, provided by Sir Knight Gaillard. The chair was filled by the M.P.S. of No. 4, supported by the P.I.G. for Midlothian, Ill. Sir Knt. Christie; Em. Sir Knts. W. Milne, P.S. No. 4; G. W. Wheeler, M.P.S. No. 114, Glasgow; A. Dalglish, E.V.E. No. 103; J. Fleming, P.V. No. 4; Lieut. M. Tracy, R.A. (P.S. No. 8); Sen. Gen. Capt. Brown, A.H.C., Jun. Gen.; Col. J. T. Robeson, American Consul; J. Walker, H.P., &c.; while the Croupier's chair was filled by Em. Sir Knt. M.P.S. No. 103, supported by V. Em. Sir Knt. J. B. Mercer, P.S. No. 4, K.G.C.; A. M. Bruce, E.O.E. No. 4; D. Shearer, P.V. No. 103; S. Munro, Sen. Gen.; J. Forber, Jun. Gen.; A. W. Rennie, Treas.; J. Jeffrey, Rec., and others. After the cloth was removed, Gen. Sir Knt. Milne, P.S. No. 4, in the name of that conclave, presented to Ill. Sir Knt. Christie, P.S. No. 4, and Past. Int. Gen., the handsome insignia of a Prov. Grand Commander of St. John, as a token of their

esteem, and appreciation of his services to the conclave. Sir Knt. Christie acknowledged the gift in very feeling terms; the more so as it was entirely unexpected on his part. The usual loyal toasts were then given and duly responded to. The toast of "The M. Ill. G. Sovereign" was proposed by the M.P.S. of No. 103, and was received with due honour. The Chairman then gave that of "The M. Em. Grand Viceroy, Col. Francis Burdett (Grand Sovereign elect for Scotland), which was received and responded to with great applause. The other toasts were given in due form, and cordially responded to, and after spending a very happy evening together the Sir Knights of both conclaves separated, all delighted with the success which had attended this their first conjoint assembly.

Scotland.

GLASGOW.—Lodge St. John (No. 34).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held in their hall, at 213, Buchanan-street, on Tuesday evening, 2nd inst., Bro. D. M. Nelson, W.M., presiding; T. Fletcher, P.M., acting S.W.; P. Brownlie, J.W.; W. Bell, I.P.M.; J. Dunn, Treas.; J. Dick, Sec.; and the other office-bearers in their proper places. The P.G. Lodge made their annual visitation to this lodge this evening. On its being announced they were in waiting, they were received by the brethren upstanding and in usual form. Bro. Nelson, W.M., then handed the mallet over to the acting P.G.M., Bro. J. Baird, P.G.S.M., who in courteous terms returned the same, and called upon the P.G. Sec. to read the report drawn up by the P.G. Lodge deputation. Bro. McTaggart, P.G. Sec., read the following report: "On the 2nd May, 1876, at 213, Buchanan-street, Glasgow, we, the undersigned office-bearers of the P.G. Lodge of Glasgow, hereby certify that we have examined the various books of the Lodge St. John, No. 34, and found them in a satisfactory condition and correctly kept, and that generally the lodge is working in strict harmony with the Constitutions of the Grand Lodge of Scotland." The P.G. Sec., in the course of a few remarks, pointed out that no books of any lodge could be kept in better order or in a more satisfactory condition, and the only fault the deputation could find was in giving two degrees in the same night to the same candidate without showing a satisfactory reason in the minutes for so doing, but trusted that such a practice would in the future be discontinued. Bro. Baird, P.G.S.M., briefly called attention to giving more than one degree to the same candidate in one night, and hoped there would be no need of calling attention to this matter again, but congratulated the office-bearers in every other respect. Bro. Nelson, W.M., replied at some length, and in the course of his remarks said he was indebted to the P.G. Sec. and the P.G.S.M. for what they had said. "We have holes in all our coats, and none of us are faultless." We must own we have been in error, and I have simply to say we will be better boys in the future. The W.M. also called attention to the fact that the P.G.M. was not doing justice to the province in not having the vacancies of P.G.D.M., P.G.S.W., and P.G.J.W. filled up before this time. After a few remarks from Bro. Baird, the deputation withdrew, receiving the accustomed honours. Mr. Alex. Malcolm was then initiated into the E.A. degree by Bro. Bell, I.P.M. The P.G. Lodge deputation consisted of Bros. Baird, P.G.S.M.; A. McTaggart, P.G. Sec.; J. Gillies, P.G. Treas.; G. Sinclair, Treas. of Benevolent Fund; J. Ritchie, P.G. Archt.; A. Bain, P.G.B.B.; G. Thallon, P.G.S.D.; J. Miller, P.G.J.D.; D. Reid, P.G.I.G.; and Hardie, P.G. Tyler.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Shamrock and Thistle (No. 275).—The deputation of the P.G. Lodge proceeded to visit this lodge immediately after their leaving Lodge Clyde, 401, on Friday evening, the 5th inst., in their hall, 22, Struthers-street. They were received very cordially by Bro. D. Ronald, the W.M., and all his office-bearers, and after the usual formalities of handing the mallet to the acting P.G.M., and returning the same, Bro. McTaggart, P.G. Sec., read the report as drawn up by the P.G.L. officers, to the effect that the books were all examined and kept in excellent order, and that the lodge generally was working in strict harmony with the laws and Constitutions of the Grand Lodge of Scotland. The P.G. Sec. then addressed the brethren, and said the deputation had applied many tests to the different books, every one of which had been fully stood, and in fact it would be doing injustice to the office-bearers of the lodge to say that they, the deputation, had found a single flaw. Bro. Sinclair, acting P.G. Master, also addressed the brethren, and congratulated them on the satisfactory condition their lodge was in. Bro. Ronald, the W.M., moved a vote of thanks to the P.G. Lodge officers, which was responded to with a will. The deputation then withdrew, receiving the usual honours. The lodge was then called to refreshment, when a short time was spent in toast and sentiment, and on the lodge being called back to labour, was closed in due form.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Union (No. 332).—A meeting of this lodge was held on Monday evening, 1st inst., Bro. D. McKirdy, W.M., in the chair; J. McInnes, S.W.; H. Apperson, J.W.; J. Laird, Treas.; J. H. Gill, Sec.; J. B. Macnair, I.P.M.; and the other office-bearers present, with a large turn-out of members and visiting brethren. On the lodge being opened and minutes of last meeting read and confirmed, it was announced that the P.G. Lodge were in waiting. They were admitted and received the usual honours. The deputation consisted of Bros. J. Baird, P.G.S.M.; A. McTaggart, P.G. Sec.; J. Gillies, P.G.T.; G. Sinclair, Treasurer of Benevolent Fund; A. Baird, P.G.B.B.; J. Miller, P.G.J.D.; J. Balfour, P.G. Dir. of Cer.; and D. Reid, P.G.I.G. Bro. McTaggart, P.G. Sec., then read the report, which was very satisfactory in every respect, and that the lodge was working in strict harmony with the laws of the Grand Lodge of Scotland. Bro. Baird said it must be matter of great satis-

faction to the members of the lodge to hear such a favourable report, and to know that the books are kept in splendid order, that great credit is due to the Secretary and Treasurer, and in fact no lodge in the province could receive a better certificate. Bro. McKirdy, W.M., briefly returned thanks to the deputation for their kindness, and said he would be happy at all times to see a deputation from the P.G. Lodge. The members of the P.G. Lodge then withdrew. The lodge was afterwards called from labour to refreshment, when a short time was spent in harmony by the brethren.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Commercial (No. 360).—The regular meeting of this flourishing lodge was held in their hall, 30, Hope-street, on Friday, the 5th inst., Bro. John Monro, W.M., in the chair, Bro. J. M. Olliver, S.W.; T. Graham, J.W.; and among the other office-bearers were Bro. J. Smith, Sec.; G. Scott, Treas.; W. Finlay, S.M.; W. Keiller, S.D.; and James Minnock, Tyler. On the lodge being opened, the minutes were read and approved of. Mr. Wm. Campbell, a candidate for admission into Freemasonry, was then balloted for, which proved favourable. He was then admitted and received the E.A. Degree, Bro. John Monro, R.W.M., performing the ceremony in his usual careful manner. Bro. Walter Buchanan, on the lodge being raised to the F.C. Degree, was admitted and passed to that degree by Bro. J. M. Olliver, S.W., in a very creditable manner. There being no further business before the meeting, the lodge was closed.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Clyde (No. 408).—This lodge was visited by the Provincial Grand Lodge on Friday evening, the 5th inst., in the Kilwinning Hall, 170, Buchanan-street, Bro. W. Harper, W.M., in the chair; W. Bilsland, S.W.; J. McKinnon, J.W.; and a full attendance of members and visiting brethren. The Provincial Grand Lodge deputation consisted of Bros. G. Sinclair, Treasurer of Benevolent Fund, acting P.G.M.; A. McTaggart, M.A., P.G. Sec.; J. Gillies, P.G. Treas.; A. Bain, P.G.B.B.; J. Miller, P.G. Dir. of Music; J. Ritchie, P.G. Archt.; D. Reid, P.G.I.G.; and Hardie, Tyler. The members of the P.G. Lodge being admitted in due form, Bro. McTaggart, P.G. Sec., said he had a pleasing duty to perform in submitting a very satisfactory report, to this effect—"That we, the undersigned office-bearers of the Provincial Grand Lodge, hereby certify that we visited the Lodge Clyde, No. 408, on Friday evening, 5th May, 1876, that we examined the various books and found them in a very satisfactory condition, and that the lodge is working generally in strict harmony with the Grand Lodge of Scotland." After a few complimentary remarks from the acting P.G.M., and a vote of thanks to the Provincial Grand Lodge officers by Bro. Harper, W.M., the deputation withdrew. The brethren thereafter enjoyed themselves for a short time in harmony.

MARYHILL.—Lodge Maryhill (No. 510).—The Provincial Grand Lodge paid their annual visitation to this lodge on Wednesday evening, 26th ult., Bro. J. McKay, W.M., in the chair; H. Niven, P.M.; A. Nevey, D.M.; M. Carey, S.M.; D. McLachlan, S.W.; J. Kay, J.W.; P. F. Craigie, Sec.; and the other officers in their places. The lodge having been opened and the minutes of last meeting read and approved of, the deputation of the P.G. Lodge were then admitted and received in usual form. The deputation consisted of Bros. J. Baird, P.G.S.M., acting P.G. Master; G. Sinclair, Treas., and Con. of P.G. Benevolent Fund; A. McTaggart, M.A., P.G. Sec.; J. Gillies, P.G.T.; A. Bain, P.G.B.B.; J. Balfour, P.G.D.C.; J. Ritchie, P.G. Archt.; J. Miller, P.G.J.D.; A. Allison, P.G.J.; and D. Reid, P.G.I.G. Bro. McTaggart read the report drawn up by the P.G.L. deputation to this effect:—"We, the undersigned office-bearers of the P.G.L. Lodge of Glasgow, hereby certify that we visited the Lodge Maryhill (510), examined the various books and found them in a very satisfactory condition, and generally the lodge is working in harmony with the laws and Constitutions of the Grand Lodge of Scotland. Bro. Baird, acting P.G.M., complimented the Master and office-bearers on the prosperous condition of the lodge." Bro. McKay, W.M., briefly thanked the deputation, and then they withdrew, receiving the usual honours.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Star (No. 219).—At the regular meeting of this lodge, which was held in the Masonic Hall, on Monday evening, the 8th inst., the Provincial Grand Lodge deputation, immediately on leaving the Lodge St. Clair, proceeded and paid them their annual visitation. They were cordially received by Bro. J. Morgan, W.M., and his office-bearers, viz., J. Martin, D.M.; W. Anderson, S.M.; J. Horn, S.W.; D. Mearns, J.W.; B. Smart, Treas.; F. Dow, Sec.; J. Brown, S.D.; D. Taylor, J.D.; R. Watson, Chaplain; J. Park, S.S.; C. Stirling, J.S.; W. Jamieson, D. of M.; W. J. Elliot, I.G.; and J. Pearson, Tyler. Among the visitors were Bros. J. Booth, W.M. 87; J. Bain, D.M. 117; A. R. Wilson, V.C., 27; P. Brownlie, J.W. 34; W. Ferguson, P.M. 543 ("Freemason"); and others. The lodge was opened and the minutes of last meeting read and adopted. Mr. J. Barclay was initiated by the W.M. On the P.G. Officers being admitted they took their places on the dais when Bro. Morgan handed the mallet to Bro. Sinclair, acting P.G. Master, who, in reply, said: W.M., I have much pleasure in coming to visit the Lodge Star, but knowing how well you fill that chair, I return you the emblem of power, while the P.G. Secretary will read the report. Bro. McTaggart before reading the report said: W.M., Wardens and Brethren, I am well pleased to see such a large and respectable meeting here to night. I find you have initiated forty-eight last year, which has only been exceeded by two lodges in the province, but I am safe in saying, that no lodge in the province during our visitation, have been able to notice abiding by the constitutions of the Grand Lodge more closely than the Lodge Star, in respect to giving more than one degree to

the same candidate in one night. In am therefore glad to find that you have set an example to the other lodges in the province. We have thoroughly examined your books and find them in excellent condition, and the lodge generally working in strict harmony with the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of Scotland. Bro. Sinclair congratulated the Master and members of the lodge on the position they occupy in the province, and observe you have already made good signs for next year. I have to thank you, R.W.M., for the hearty reception you have given the deputation this evening. Bro. Morgan said it must be gratifying to you, acting P.G.M., as well as to us, to hear such a favourable report just read by the P.G. Secretary, and allow me to state, that I have made up my mind not to give more than one degree to the same candidate the same night. Bro. Morgan concluded by thanking the P.G. Lodge, and moved a vote of thanks to the deputation for the services they are rendering to the lodges in the province. Bro. Sinclair briefly replied. Bros. Thallon, Balfour and Ritchie were obligated honorary members of the lodge. The deputation then withdrew.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Scotia (No. 178).—This lodge held their monthly meeting on Wednesday evening, the 10th inst., in the Kilwinning Hall, 170, Buchanan Street, Bro. Singleton, R.W.M., in the chair. W. Higgins, D.M.; J. Logan, S.M.; P. Hepburn, S.W.; A. Mercer, J.W.; J. Matheson, P.M., Chap.; W. King, sen., Treas.; H. Killin, Sec.; W. McDonald, S.D.; W. Hart, J.D.; W. Dowds, S.B.; J. Hamilton, S.S.; W. King, jun., I.G.; and Irvine, Tyler. The meeting was exceedingly well attended by the members and visiting brethren; among the latter were Bros. W. J. E. Dobson, R.W.M. 571; J. Law, I.P.M., 570; R. Stewart, 257 (I.C.); J. H. Cumming, S.W., 534, Polish National (E.C.); J. Robertson, I.G., 571; J. Watt, jun., 219; W. Ferguson, P.M., 543 (Freemason), and others. On the lodge being opened and minutes of last meeting read and approved of, Messrs. R. Swan, C. E. Fillans, and J. D. Fillans were admitted and received the first degree at the hands of Bro. Matheson, P.M. The deputation of the P.G. Lodge having arrived at this time from St. George's, No. 333, they were received in the usual form, when Bro. Baird, acting P.G.M., occupied the chair and called upon Bro. McTaggart, P.G. Sec., to read the report, which showed the lodge to be in a very healthy and prosperous condition. The books are kept in excellent order, with the exception of the roll book; but, he trusted next year the difficulty attending the roll book would be overcome, and concluded by complimenting the lodge on having such an able Secretary in Bro. Killin. Bro. Baird, in following up the remarks of the P.G. Sec., was glad that so few faults had been found with the books, but seeing they had such an able Secretary he hoped they would be in proper working order next year. The deputation then withdrew. Bros. R. Chalmers and J. Kelly were then passed to the Fellow Craft Degree by the W.M. The lodge was then closed.

GLASGOW.—Lodge St. George (No. 333).—The regular monthly meeting of this lodge was held in St. Mark's Hall, on Wednesday evening, 10th inst., Bro. A. Thomson, W.M., in the chair. Present: J. Winton, I.P.M.; J. Forsyth, S.W.; R. Anderson, J.W.; A. Dunn, Treas.; A. McIntyre, Sec.; A. Boyd, S.D.; T. Hill, J.D.; A. Wright, I.G.; and W. G. Hickson, Tyler. Among the visitors we noticed Bros. J. Young, 32; J. S. Adams, 58, Doric, Canada; A. Shedd, 448, New York; J. Henderson Cumming, S.W. 534; Polish National, London (E.C.); A. Day, 205; Daly, 219; J. Duthie, 219; W. Currie, 458; W. Ferguson, P.M. 543 ("Freemason"); and others. The business before the meeting was visitation from P.G. Lodge. The deputation were admitted shortly after eight o'clock p.m., and took their places on the dais. The following were present. Bros. J. Baird, P.G.S.M.; A. Mc. Taggart, P.G. Sec.; Gillies, P.G. Treas.; Bain, P.G.B.B.; Balfour, P.G.D. of C.; Reid, P.G.I.G.; Hardie, P.G. Tyler. The W.M. handed the mallet to the acting P.G.M. and requested him to occupy the chair, which he did, and then called upon the P.G. Sec. to read the report. Bro. Mc. Taggart said, the report I have to read is, as has been the case in Lodge No. 333, always a very favourable one, and equally pleasant to night as on previous occasions in every respect. You have the handsome sum of £87 in your funds, which speaks for itself. We examined the books and find them in a most satisfactory condition, and generally the lodge is working in strict harmony with the Laws of the Grand Lodge of Scotland. Bro. Baird then complimented the Master and members on the prosperous condition of the lodge, and after handing the mallet to the W.M. the deputation withdrew. The brethren afterwards enjoyed themselves in harmony.

GLASGOW.—Lodge St. Clair (No. 362).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held in their hall, Robertson-street, on Monday, the 8th inst., Bro. W. J. Hogg, W.M., presiding, C. Galletly, J.W., acting S.W.; M. Fox, J.D., acting J.W.; W. Pascoe, Treas.; G. Fraser, Sec.; R. McBrown, S.S.; E. S. May, I.G.; and T. Warnock, Tyler. Present: Bros. Capt. Gray, P. Brownlie, J.W. 34; G. Wheeler, 73; J. Stewart, 360; W. Ferguson, P.M. 543 ("Freemason"); and a very good attendance of members and other visiting brethren. The minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed. The W.M. then informed the brethren that they were to be favoured this evening by the Provincial Grand Lodge paying them their annual visitation, and at 8.30 p.m. they were received by the brethren with the usual formalities. The deputation consisted of Bros. G. Sinclair, Treas. of Benevolent Fund, acting P.G.M.; A. McTaggart, P.G. Sec.; J. Gillies, P.G. Treas.; J. Balfour, P.G.M. of C.; G. Thallon, P.G.S.D.; J. Ritchie, P.G. Arch.; R. Robb, P.G. Marshall; A. Bain, P.G.B.B.; J. Mills, P.G.D. of Mus.; and Hardie, P.G. Tyler. The brethren being seated on the dais, the P.G. Secretary read the report, which was a most satisfactory one, and said, in conclusion, W.M., Wardens and Brethren—It affords me much pleasure to be with you

another year, your lodge stands very high among the other lodges in the province. I see by your books you have £193 12s. to your credit, and I am safe in saying no other lodge in Glasgow can boast of the same balance, on the whole your books are kept in excellent order, and reflect credit on your Secretary and Treasurer. Bro. Sinclair, acting P.G.M., briefly complimented the W.M. and members on the prosperous condition of the lodge, and that they were working generally in accordance with the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of Scotland, and trusted they would be in as prosperous a condition next year. The W.M. then thanked the deputation for their kindness, and was glad they were able to give such a favourable report of Lodge St. Clair. The deputation then retired. Bro. A. Warsaw was afterwards passed by the W.M.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Neptune (No. 419).—On leaving the Lodge Glasgow, 441, the Provincial Grand Lodge deputation immediately proceeded and visited this lodge on Tuesday evening, the 9th inst., in their hall, 35, St. James-street, S.S., Bro. J. S. Scott, W.M., in the chair, T. Wightman, P.M.; J. Brooks, S.M.; J. Simpson, S.W.; A. McLean, J.W.; L. Brown, Treas.; W. McAllister, Sec.; A. Watson, S.D.; R. Dear, I.G.; and D. Gillies, Tyler. The attendance of members and visitors were very large, the hall being completely filled. The Provincial Grand Lodge deputation arrived about 9.30, and were engaged till ten examining the books, &c., in the adjacent room. On being admitted into the lodge, Bro. Scott, W.M., handed the mallet over to, and requested Bro. Baird to occupy the chair, which was complied with. Bro. McTaggart, P.G. Sec., said: I have now to submit a very short report, and on the whole a very satisfactory one. You have £147 to your credit, and you have given towards charity last year £17, and hand over to-night to the Benevolent Fund £9. You have raised your fees to £3 3s, which is a step in the right direction. During the last year you held 30 emergency meetings, which is accounted for, as the majority of your candidates are seafaring men. Our report is to this effect: "We, the undersigned office-bearers of the P.G. Lodge of Glasgow, hereby certify that we visited the Lodge Neptune, No. 419, on Tuesday evening, 9th Mny, examined the various books of the lodge, and find them very satisfactory, but otherwise suspend opinion in the meantime in consequence of a complaint being lodged with the P.G. Lodge." Bro. Baird addressed the members at some length, and said that the complaint lodged would be considered at next meeting by the committee, and trusted the result would be satisfactory to the lodge. After a vote of thanks to the P.G. Lodge Officers, Bro. Baird, at the request of Bro. Scott, W.M., closed the lodge in due form.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Glasgow (No. 441).—The regular monthly meeting of this lodge was held in the Masonic Hall, Struthers-street, on Tuesday, the 9th inst., Bro. J. Wood, W.M., in the chair; P. McInaney, S.W.; J. Neagle, J.W.; J. Martin, jun., Treas.; J. A. Goldie, Sec.; and others. The minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed. The annual visitation by the Provincial Grand Lodge was the principal business inserted in the circular calling the meeting, and shortly after 8.30 p.m. the deputation arrived, consisting of Bros. J. Baird, P.G.S.M.; A. McTaggart, M.A., P.G. Sec.; J. Gillies, P.G. Treas.; J. Ritchie, P.G. Arch.; A. Bain, P.G.B.B.; D. Reid, P.G.I.G.; and J. B. Hardie, P.G. Tyler. On being admitted they were received very cordially and with the accustomed honours. Bro. McTaggart, P.G. Sec., by request of the acting P.G.M., then read the report drawn up by the P.G.L. deputation to the effect that the various books were closely examined and found to be in excellent condition and very satisfactory, and that the lodge generally is working in strict harmony with the laws of the Grand Lodge of Scotland. In the course of a very able address Bro. McTaggart complimented the office-bearers and members of the lodge on the favourable report they (the deputation) were able to give the Lodge Glasgow, and more particularly that a debt of considerable amount had been cleared off since the beginning of last year, and wished every success to the lodge in the future. Bro. Wood, W.M., moved a vote of thanks to the members of the P.G. Lodge, which was heartily responded to. Bro. Baird replied at some length, and then the deputation withdrew.

ADDRESS TO THE M.W. GRAND MASTER BY THE ST. JOHN'S LODGE, TORQUAY NO. 328.

The following address was unanimously passed in this lodge on Monday, 15th inst., and as soon as it is signed by the brethren of the lodge, will be forwarded to the proper quarter for presentation:—
To H.R.H. The Prince of Wales, Most Worshipful Grand Master.

May it please your Royal Highness, we the Worshipful Master, Officers, and brethren of St. John's Lodge 328. Torquay, gratefully embrace the present opportunity of offering to your Royal Highness our warmest and heartfelt congratulations on your safe and happy return to your native land. We have watched with interest and solicitude the accounts of your Royal Highness's progress through eastern lands, and we thank the Great Architect of the Universe that he has shielded you from sickness and danger, and blessed you with health and strength to perform the arduous and exalted duties that have devolved upon you. As citizens of a great nation, and members of an ancient and loyal craft of which you are the distinguished head, we are justly proud of you, but especially have you earned our gratitude in the manner in which whenever the occasion has been favourable, you have upheld our excellent tenets, and shed an additional lustre upon our order.

May the Great Architect have you in his keeping, and long preserve you to the country and the Craft.

JOSEPH PIOTT, W.M.
SAM. BURTON, S.W.
H. DAY, J.W.

Masonic and General Tidings.

Her Majesty the Queen, accompanied by her Royal Highness Princess Beatrice, and attended by the suite, left Windsor Castle shortly before eight o'clock on Friday evening for Scotland.

Her Majesty, acting on the advice of the Prime Minister, has been graciously pleased to grant a pension of £100 per annum from the Civil List to the widow of the late Shirley Brooks, the novelist, for some time editor of "Punch," in consideration of the literary services of her deceased husband.

His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales on Wednesday night attended a State concert, given at the Albert Hall in honour of his return from India. The vast auditorium was completely filled, and the utmost enthusiasm was manifested throughout the entertainment.

Bro. H.R.H. Prince Leopold arrived at Milan on May 15. His Royal Highness intends visiting Pavia and the Lake of Como.

King Alfonso has conferred the Grand Cross of the Order of Charles III. upon their Royal Highnesses the Prince of Wales and the Duke of Connaught.

According to present arrangements His Grace the Duke of Abercorn, M.W.G.M. for Ireland, the Lord Lieutenant, accompanied by Lady Georgiana Hamilton, will arrive in Belfast on the 22nd inst., and be the guest of Sir Charles Lanyon, High Sheriff of Antrim, on which day his Grace will receive an address from the Mayor and Corporation of Belfast. On the 23rd he will open the Industrial Exhibition, and receive an address from the Working Men's Institute, after which he will lunch with the Mayor, and subsequently on the same day will receive an address from the brethren in Belfast.

The Prince of Wales has presented to all the officers of H.M.S. Serapis, and to other officers, naval and military, attached to his suite for service, a special medal or locket commemorative of his Indian tour.

ANOTHER NOBLE DEED BY LIVERPOOL LODGES.—The brethren of West Lancashire, especially those in Liverpool, have again come to the front in their deeds of charity, and this latest evidence of liberality is not the least notable in the list of instances in which they so acted. Some time since the case of Widow J. (whose husband formerly belonged to a lodge holding under the Scottish Constitution, but who was never connected with any English lodge) came under the notice of several brethren in Liverpool, and they resolved to do what they could to raise sufficient money to enable the widow and her four children to go to Aden, where she has friends. The matter was warmly taken up by Bros. Alpass, P.G. Sec.; B. B. Marson, P.M. 1356; J. R. Goepel, P.P.G.D.C.; J. T. Callow, W.M. 1505; Andrews, 1356; A. Johnston, and a number of other brethren, and the result was the realisation of the handsome sum of £109 in aid of the widow and her four children. The sum of £80 was spent for her passage and that of her children to Bombay, and the balance was handed over to her for outfit, &c. With scarcely an exception every lodge in Liverpool subscribed in aid of the widow of our Scottish brother; but it is rather singular that though the pressing case was brought under the notice of one of the chief officers of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Scotland on more than one occasion, no notice whatever was taken of the appeal. Liverpool Masons deserve credit for thus providing for the widow and the fatherless, and saving them from becoming paupers, as they would doubtless have done if they had been left without this timely and brotherly help.

An influential public meeting was held at the Town Hall, under the presidency of the Mayor (Alderman Abbey) to consider the propriety of erecting a memorial as a tribute of affection for the late esteemed brother Sir Cordy Burrows, Kt., P.G.M.M.M., Sussex. An affirmatory resolution was unanimously passed, and a strong representative committee was appointed to carry out the object of the meeting. The form of the memorial is a matter for subsequent decision.

The Company of Fishmongers has voted a donation of 100 guineas in aid of the funds of the British and Foreign School Society.

The brickwork surrounding the memorial stone of the new parish church at Slough, recently laid by Princess Christian, was broken through on Sunday night and the bottle which had been placed within the stone taken away, doubtless with the expectation of finding in it the current coins of the realm; the bottle, however, contained only papers and documents.

It is understood that Commemoration will be held this year on June 21st, in the Sheldonian Theatre, Oxford, and that the honorary degree of D.C.L. will be conferred on Prince Leopold, who has recently finished his studies at Christ Church. It is hoped that the Prince and Princess of Wales and other members of the Royal family will be present on the occasion.

The result of the cricket match in Trinity College, Dublin, on Wednesday, was a draw. The English eleven made 238 when the stumps were drawn. To this score W. G. Grace contributed 88, and G. F. Grace 72. The Duke of Abercorn, M.W.G.M. Ireland, was present for a great part of the day.

Nineteen young sturgeons (*Acipenser sturio*) have just been added to the Brighton Aquarium.

The opening of the London and South Western Railway to Devonport was celebrated on Wednesday evening by a banquet to the directors, which was attended by upwards of 700 persons, including many naval and military officers and most of the mayors of Devon and Cornwall.

HEALTH, comfort, and economy promoted. Gas superseded in day time, and daylight reflected in dark rooms by adopting Chappuis' Patent Daylight Reflectors. Manufactory, 69, Fleet-street, London.

FREEMASONRY AND ROMAN CATHOLICISM.

(By Bro. Wm. Bernard.)

One of the many strange inconsistencies of the Romish Church is its opposition to secret societies, while at the same time no institution, either of modern or ancient times, relies more upon them than the Church itself. In fact, the Church of Rome is principally composed of secret societies, and has its secret organizations attached to every order within its circle, and its secret commissaries connected with every person of eminence maintaining its dogmas. And to what end is this secret power employed. Alas that it should have to be said, to extend at any sacrifice the power of the Church, to annihilate mental freedom, and to strangle the consciousness of the dignity of human nature, and to eradicate family and national affections. It professes to be infallible in knowledge and to have truth as its foundation, yet does not disdain to make wilful ignorance one of its most potent auxiliaries. I say wilful ignorance because in its opposition to Freemasonry I cannot find a more suitable expression. The Roman Catholic priest, who is generally an intelligent and well educated man, knows very well that his denunciations of Freemasonry, supported at times by falsehoods of the most ridiculous character, are in accordance with the cherished maxim of the Church that "the end justifies the means." Supposing him to know some of the principles upon which Freemasonry is founded, and this knowledge is easily obtainable, he dare not truthfully and impartially expound them. On the other hand if, as his utterances lead some of us to believe, he knows nothing of us, how absurd his own reflection must tell him it is to denounce that of which he is entirely ignorant. In reality, I believe the Catholic priest knows more about us than we give him credit for. Has the confessional no power to extract at least some knowledge as to our mysteries, especially when an instrument in the hands of a cunning, unscrupulous, and highly educated man, and brought to bear upon a mind shattered by sickness and in doubt of receiving the sacred consolations of the church. Can we for a moment think that the confessional, which prys into the motives and actions of life and duty in its most important and delicate aspects, which deems no human ties, interests, or sympathies beyond the critical eye of its selfish inspection, and which succeeds in probing the heart's most guarded feelings. Can we think that this instrument will not be used to unlock what we call the safe and secret repositories of our treasures, and shall we think when we hear of a poor dying and priest ridden Roman Catholic brother renouncing the fraternity that it has not? Again, what respect does the confessional attach to a solemn oath when the revelation against which that oath was taken tends, even in the belief of the priest, to the good and prosperity of the Church. To refuse to unbosom that which is antagonistic to the Church is to be against her; to reveal it, even though pledged not to do so, is to serve her; and even to take an oath for the express purpose of breaking it in the service of the Church is a meritorious action, the guilt of which is entirely removed by "absolution," and the perjury afterwards rewarded by a benediction. The Romish Church farther draws these conclusions: That God does not, as Supreme Judge, estimate the outward act so much as the secret motive of the actor; and hence no action however immoral and criminal in human judgment is really so unless the secret intention be evil. If, therefore, an evil doer can only assign a good motive for his deed, or substitute an alleged for the real one, he is justified. Now, what follows from this? Not merely that every crime admits of an after justification, but that it may be committed without even a scruple of conscience! A man, too, may sin when he can cite any approving opinion of an author as his authority for the act; and why? Because in that case the evil intention does not rest with him, but with his authority; and this species of sin is termed probable, and the system by which it is defended they call probabilism. Again, a man may sin, they say, when he conceives a lawful object may be attained thereby, and this

they denominate the "leadings of intention." Once more, a man may sin with "mental reservation" (*reservatio mentalis*), as when in uttering one assertion he thinks of another, and that because, say they, a man in that case thinks to himself a limitation of his intention, by which the expression becomes quite different to his consciousness to what it seems to others. A man may also sin by equivocation, by using, for example, a phrase which possesses various significations, and giving in his own mind a meaning to the words employed different from that which the hearer understands and believes. In this manner they justify fraud, perjury, murder, and unchastity, and in this manner possibly some of them may justify their false and absurd attacks upon Freemasonry. "What," asks the writer of an article in last week's "Freemason," "has Freemasonry perpetrated, what have Freemasons done, that it and they should be made the fulcrum of intolerance and the sport of bigotry?" It may be answered that in Freemasonry Roman Catholicism finds a powerful and daily increasing foe, a foe winning for its many beauties, its wise and liberal inculcations, its grand humanitarianism and its reverence towards the G.A.O.T.U. and his works, the sympathy and encouragement of all liberal, intelligent and Masonically enlightened men. Freemasonry lets the light shine upon the darkness. Catholicism excludes it. Freemasonry is the herald of man's progress to which catholicism presents a cruel and dogmatic obstruction. Catholicism however is not blind, it knows well enough that the more Freemasonry spreads the less men will look with veneration upon the arrogance and superstition of a domineering church. Freemasonry hinders or interferes with no man's creed, wounds no man's feelings, tramples upon no man's politics, but endeavours to connect all by the sweet ties of brotherly love, relief and truth. It inculcates the purest morality regardless of social distinctions, advocates loyalty and social Order, and uncompromisingly adheres to the glorious proclamation of "peace and goodwill towards men." It is possible for a Roman Catholic to be as good a Freemason as the most advanced Protestant as many of our Roman Catholic brethren indisputably prove. The Unitarian and Trinitarian may Masonically join hands as brothers and participate in the blessings of a system of morality acceptable, I believe, to God, and beneficial, I am sure, to man. The teachings of the Romish Church are continually affording proofs to what a depth of stupidity the human mind can sink under the degrading influence of spiritual bondage, and such degradation becomes in the end the heaviest curse of the worst form of tyranny. The Papacy knows that one of the greatest stumbling blocks to its ascendancy here is Freemasonry, that the loyalty of a true Mason to the Throne and Constitution is too deep to allow him to declare a temporal allegiance to a Pope, or to think that "Kings and Princes being in fact only their (the Popes) deputies, to whom consequently subjects owed obedience so long and no longer as they remained faithfully submissive to the directions of their spiritual superiors, in default of which they might lawfully be deprived both of crown and life." They were grand and memorable words of Peter the Great when, in speaking of the Jesuits, he said, "I know that a large proportion of them are highly educated, and in that respect capable of doing great service to the State, but I likewise know that they use their religion as the instrument of promoting their private ends, that their pious exterior hides an immeasurable ambition and a complicated web of intrigue, the sole object of which is the extension or the fortifying of Papal, or, rather, of Jesuit rule, in every state in Europe, that their seminaries are but the engines of their tyranny, that they are too restlessly unquiet to leave the smallest hope that they will refrain from intermeddling in the affairs of my empire, and, therefore, I decline receiving them into it, and cannot but wonder that any Court in Europe should be able to shut its eyes to their deceitful behaviour." Bravo, Peter, say I. It may be said that theological discussions are at all times objectionable when connected with our Order,

but in this case it is unavoidable. We must defend ourselves, and fearlessly speak the truth, and we dare any Romish priest, be he the proudest bishop or the most insignificant pastor, to prove anything which can lower and degrade Freemasonry in the estimation of those who know anything about it. We regret having to take this position, but are we to be constantly silent when the ignorant and designing tongue of false report is spreading the most detestable stories abroad concerning us, and the society to which we belong, are we to let the vile calumnies go uncontradicted, and thus allow ourselves to be misunderstood, even by a few? To us our Order is dear, and it is our duty to maintain its character. We should never let even the suspicion of reproach rest upon it. We have not yet come to the necessity of attaching much importance to the fanatical denunciations of an uninformed priest, and as a rule we are not in the habit of looking upon molehills as mountains, but, when we do meet any gentleman of this stamp who honestly thinks he has a grievance against us, who shows by his opposition that he is not altogether unfamiliar with our duties and actions, and that he has a good case to bring before the Bar of Faith, Hope, and Charity, we shall look upon him as a greater genius than either Xavier or Loyola. In the meantime, let us calmly dismiss the impotent attacks of feeble and untruthful adversaries, for as the old woman says, "Bless 'em, it amuses them, and does us no harm." That Freemasonry is flourishing in England more than it ever has done, that in America it is all powerful, that throughout the Continent it is taking a strong hold upon the affections of all classes, and that in Rome itself there is actually a Masonic Lodge, is our concluding reply to a contemptible slander.

EDINBURGH ROYAL BLIND ASYLUM AND SCHOOL.

The arrangements for the laying of the memorial-stone by Bro. Sir Michael Robert Shaw Stewart, Bart., Grand Master Mason of Scotland, have now been completed, and from a programme which has been issued by Bro. John Laurie, Grand Secretary, it appears that the members of Grand Lodge will assemble in the Freemasons' Hall, George-street, at half-past one o'clock p.m. on Monday, the 22nd inst., when the lodge will be opened by the M.W. the Grand Master. The other brethren will assemble in Charlotte-square at one o'clock. The Grand Lodge being adjourned, a procession will be formed, and will, upon a given signal, move off in the following order:—Detachment of cavalry, band of music, guard of honour, the members of the subordinate lodges, three abreast, junior lodge in front, band of music, members of the Grand Lodge in like order, the office-bearers of the Grand Lodge, accompanied by their proper officers, the carriage of the M.W. the Grand Master, rear guard of cavalry. The route of the procession will be as follows:—From Charlotte-square, along George-street, Frederick-street, Prince's-street, Mound, Bank-street, Parliament-square, where it will join the civil procession and proceed thence to the site of the stone at West Craigmillar. The ceremony being over, Grand Lodge will be closed in the hall of the Blind Asylum, and the brethren will then disperse. It is expected that there will be a large turn out of brethren from all parts of the country, and extensive railway arrangements have been made for the conveyance to and from Edinburgh.

A full report of the proceedings will be given in our next.

INVESTITURE OF THE ORDER OF THE BATH.

Her Majesty the Queen held a private investiture of the Order of the Bath on Wednesday.

The Right Hon. Sir Bartle Frere, preceded by Bro. Sir Albert Woods, Secretary of the Order, bearing the insignia of a Knight Grand Cross of the Order (Civil Division), was introduced to her Majesty's presence by the Lord Chamberlain, and was invested with the badge of the Order, and received the honour of Knighthood.

Bro. Lord Suffield was in like manner introduced, and was invested with the insignia of a Knight Commander of the Bath (Civil Division), and received the honour of Knighthood.

Bro. Francis Knollys was then introduced, and received from the Queen the insignia of a Companion of the Order (Civil Division).

DEATHS OF TWO LEADERS IN LIVERPOOL.—Within little more than a week the residents of Liverpool have been called to mourn the death of two of the principal citizens. Mr. William Langton, chairman of the Mersey Docks and Harbour Board (probably the most important estate in the world), succumbed to a severe bronchial attack about a fortnight ago; and on Saturday last his Worship the Mayor, Lieut.-Col. Thomson, after a very short illness, died from the same cause. No Mayor of Liverpool has died during his year of office since 1785.

TO OUR READERS

The *Freemason* is a sixteen-page weekly newspaper, price 2d. It is published every Friday morning, and contains the most important, interesting, and useful information relating to Freemasonry in every degree. Annual subscription in the *United Kingdom*, Post free, 10/- P.O.O.'s to be made payable at the chief office, London.

NEW POSTAL RATES.

Owing to a reduction in the Postal Rates, the publisher is now enabled to send the "*Freemason*" to the following parts abroad for One Year for Twelve Shillings (payable in advance):—Africa, Australia, Bombay, Canada, Cape of Good Hope, Ceylon, China, Constantinople, Demerara, France, Germany, Gibraltar, Jamaica, Malta, Newfoundland, New South Wales, New Zealand, Suez, Trinidad, United States of America, &c.

COLONIAL AND FOREIGN SUBSCRIBERS are informed that acknowledgments of remittances received are published in the first number of every month.

NOTICE.—It is very necessary for our friends to advise us of all money orders they remit, more especially those from the United States of America and India; otherwise we cannot tell where to credit them.

TO ADVERTISERS.

The *Freemason* has a large circulation in all parts of the Globe, its advantages as an advertising medium can therefore scarcely be overrated.

For terms, position, &c., apply to

GEORGE KENNING, 198, Fleet-st.

Answers to Correspondents.

All Communications, Advertisements, &c., intended for insertion in the Number of the following Saturday, must reach the Office not later than 12 o'clock on Wednesday morning.

BRO. AUTOLYCHUS, New Zealand.—Copy unfortunately illegible.

In answer to 442, we do not remember to have received the letter. We are obliged to be careful in publishing names.

"An Eye Witness" forgets that we simply require his name for the purpose of verification. It seems a pity that the account, which is well written, should not appear.

The following communications stand over:—Address to the Prince of Wales, Torquay; New Masonic Hall at Galashells; Reports of Panmure Lodge, 70; Beadon, 619; Arboretum, 731; Sir Hugh Myddelton, 1602; Mount Gambier, 1207; William Preston, 766; Wellington Lodge of Instruction; Royal Cumberland Chapter, 41.

ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

A full report of the proceedings at the Annual Meeting of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution will appear in the Second Edition of the "*Freemason*," which will be published early Saturday morning. A list of the successful and unsuccessful candidates will be given.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

[The charge is 2s. 6d. for announcements, not exceeding four lines, under this heading.]

BIRTHS.

BOWRING.—May 12, at Torquay, the wife of L. B. Bowring, Esq., C.S.I., of a daughter.

BUYERS.—On the 13th ult., at Orchid Lea, Darjiling, India, the wife of W. L. Buyers, of a son.

DUFF.—May 12, at Knebworth-park, Stevenage, Hertfordshire, the wife of Mr. E. Grant Duff, M.P., of a daughter.

PAGET.—On the 13th inst., at Queen Anne-street, W., the wife of R. H. Paget, Esq., M.P., of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

BURGESS—LYNCH.—On the 16th inst., at St. John's, The Triangle, Hackney, Dr. Burgess, of Bethnal-green-road, to Kate, daughter of the late C. Lynch, Esq. of Dover.

CHICHESTER—HOLLOWAY.—On the 13th inst., at Melcombe Regis, Weymouth, Henry, son of Sir Arthur Chichester, Bart., of Youlston Park, Barnstable, to Adah Georgiana, daughter of the late H. F. K. Holloway, Esq.

DAVIS—BAUGH.—On April 20, at St. Anne's, Indore, Central India, the Rev. Edward Gabriel Davis, chaplain of Mhow, to Lillias May, daughter of Major-General C. R. Baugh.

PHILPOT—TAYLOR.—On April 17, by the Rev. John Monahan, Bro. Michael P. Philpot, of Philadelphia, to Miss Phoebe W. Taylor, of Penn-square, Montgomery County, Pennsylvania.

DEATHS.

DICK.—On the 16th ult., at his residence, Edith Lodge, St. Lawrence, Ramsgate, Isle of Thanet, George Stuart Dick, Esq., late of Mizapore, eldest and only surviving son of the late General George Dick, of the Bengal Army, in his 83rd year.

ELGIE.—On the 14th ult., at 36, Larkhall-lane, Clapham, Ellen Elgie, widow of the late George Thomas Elgie, solicitor, aged 76, deeply regretted. Friends please accept this intimation. Argentine papers please copy.

LEIPER.—On April 28, Bro. Armstrong Leiper, M.D., of Industry Lodge, No. 131, Columbia, aged 52 years.

MAY.—On April 28, Bro. Lewis May, of Columbia Lodge, No. 91, aged 26 years.

The Freemason,

SATURDAY, MAY 20, 1876.

OUR GRAND MASTER AT HOME AGAIN.

The accounts of last Thursday's reception of the Prince of Wales, alike at Portsmouth and in London, are very pleasant to read. It does us a deal of good to realize the depth and the sincerity of the unbought loyalty of the English people. All honour to them. There are few of us who have not read with some little emotion the meeting of the Prince and Princess and the children off Yarmouth, of the enthusiasm of Portsmouth, of the cheers of school girls and school boys, of the patient crowds of enduring Englishwomen and Englishmen of all ranks and conditions alike, of the enthusiastic greeting in the thronged streets of London, of the joyous and hearty reception at the opera. We have thought it well to preserve in our columns a memento of a very proud and happy day for us English folk and Freemasons, based mainly on the animated account of our contemporary, the "*Times*," which we admire greatly, alike for its lucidity and perspicacity, and thoroughly good English. A hundred years hence some worthy brother of our Order poring over these then old pages of the "*Freemason*," will read with pleasure and astonishment this goodly history of our Grand Master's happy return home, and of the glad loyalty and unfeigned rejoicing, alike of our kindly brotherhood and of a great people.

The *Serapis* left the *Tagus* on Sunday evening about 5.30, and at about 6.30 the bar was left behind, and the *Serapis* was ploughing its way in a heavy sea. The *Tagus* looked as the *Tagus* always looked, charming, and Lisbon had a most bright appearance. Few people ever enter or leave the *Tagus* unmoved, and our Royal Grand Master would carry away with him, amid the loyal cheers of our blue jackets, a pleasant memory of agreeable hospitality and a friendly people! When the *Serapis* got out of the river she met with an ugly swell, and the ports were battened down. The wind was strong E.N.E., and the speed of the squadron was reduced to under nine knots an hour. But, notwithstanding, the *Serapis* made good way, and at 1.15 p.m., on Tuesday, being abreast of Ushant, the *Raleigh* was sent on to signal the news, and then the course was shaped across the Channel direct for England.

On Monday evening the Prince dined with Captain Glyn and the officers, and accepted an album with his photograph, a pleasant souvenir of a very prosperous voyage. A little after midnight on the Monday the welcome light of the Start was seen, and at 2.15 it was on the beam. Shanklin Light was seen at 7.35 a.m. on Thursday morning, and at 10 the *Enchantress* was seen.

The account of the meeting of the Prince of Wales and the Princess is very touching:—

The *Enchantress*, in obedience to signal, now stood on ahead towards Yarmouth in quest of smoother water. Crowds of people could be seen on shore at Hurst Castle and Yarmouth. At 10.45 a.m. Fort Victoria saluted, but somehow the other saluting was rather late in the day. The Prince was on the bridge, glass in hand, with his eyes fixed on the *Enchantress*, which had the Princess's standard flying. By degrees the Princess of Wales and her children were distinguished amid the crowd on her deck. Close to Yarmouth the *Serapis* slowed, and the *Enchantress*, altering her course, came down towards her, passing close on her port side. Then the crew from the rigging, the officers on the decks, and all the gentlemen and others on board the *Serapis*, led by Captain Glyn, gave three cheers and a few cheers more, which proved that their constitutions were not affected by the climate of India. The band played "*Home, Sweet Home*," the marines presented arms, and as the Royal yacht rounded the stern of the *Serapis*, and came up on her starboard quarter, and every one could see the Princess and her children, men confessed that they felt a little inclination to gulp down something in their throats. The *Serapis* anchored at 11 a.m., the barge was

lowered, and immediately the Prince, attended by a few of his suite, embarked, and was rowed off to the *Enchantress*. It may be imagined with what joy he was welcomed there by those he loved. In a quarter of an hour or so the Princess of Wales and the Royal children left the yacht, and came on board the *Serapis*. The band was drawn up on the maindeck, the officers in full uniform, the marines under Major Snow, as well as the gentlemen of the Prince's suite, in a line extending along the deck up to the entrance to the saloon. The Princess had a gracious smile or a pleasant word for those who were presented to her by the Prince and to the Royal children. The great ship seemed a treasure-house of wonder and delight, for there were tigers and tailless dogs, elephants, deer, horses, ostriches, leopards, birds, diminutive ponies and cattle, monkeys, to be visited and admired. The Duke of Sutherland, Lord Colville, Colonel Kingscote, the Marquis of Hamilton, Lady Suffolk, and her daughters, Lady Carington, Lord Aylesford, Mr. Sumner, Sir Bartle Frere, Mr. Grey, and several other gentlemen came on board, some from the *Fire Queen*, others from the *Enchantress*. General Ponsonby also came on behalf of her Majesty to welcome the Prince. At twelve the *Serapis* weighed and steamed towards Portsmouth, followed by many steamers, and wakening up the forts and shipping as she passed. At 1.30 p.m. she was off Cowes; the battery at the Club House fired a salute, and many people could be seen on shore. In half-an-hour afterwards, or less, the Royal party went down to luncheon in the saloon, in the midst of which his Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh came on board to welcome his brother.

As the "*Times*" truly remarks, it has been the good fortune of but few men in any age of the world's history to receive such a "*Welcome home*" as that with which the Prince of Wales was greeted that day, after his six months' absence from among us. The desire to give the Prince a hearty reception, in the highest sense of the term, was something more than any of us could have anticipated. It developed itself day by day as the time of his landing became nearer, and at last so outran official intention and preparation that naval, military, municipal, and railway authorities felt themselves swept onwards by a tide of popular feeling, the like of which for spontaneity and intensity has rarely been experienced in England. It is no disrespect to any of these authorities to say so much. They themselves have been the first to confess it; and they may be congratulated on their success in giving such complete effect to the national will that no English Prince has ever had such a landing on his native shores as that which the Heir to the Crown experienced to-day.

Portsmouth has been the scene of many grand sights, and of not a few rejoicings. Most of them, and certainly the grandest of them, have occurred within our own time; but it was loudly declared down there on Thursday that anything approaching to this reception of the Prince of Wales was not on the records of that town. "*Portsmouth has never seen anything like this*" was the remark which one heard there from a thousand lips. The truth is that Portsmouth had the honour of being the representative of all England for this most auspicious occasion. The early demands for excursion trains to the scene of the landing were so unprecedentedly numerous that day after day, for the last week, railway managers were driven to invoke the aid of the news columns of the public press to enable them to reply to those requisitions, and before evening on Wednesday the streets of Portsmouth swarmed with visitors from distant parts. The inhabitants of the town itself had requisitioned the Mayor to proclaim a holiday, and the whole of the previous night and throughout the morning the fitting up of stands, the bedecking of windows, and the hoisting of flags were still going on. Civilians, soldiers, marines, and seamen of the Royal Navy were all united in this work. It is gratifying to be able to add that their efforts were crowned with signal success. From Southsea all the way round to Portsmouth, and thence up through Portsmouth town and on to the railway station at Landport was one vast triumphal arena.

Most stately is the appearance of the *Serapis* as she slowly comes up towards the jetty, and

cheers, such as only British seamen can raise, are given successively by the crews of the ships of war as she passes them. The spectacle is magnificent. The sun shines brilliantly on the harbour and the Serapis; the enthusiasm of the spectators is boundless; the cheering of the blue-jackets is re-echoed by the cheers of the spectators on shore and on the numerous and dangerously laden pleasure steamers which have come up the Solent in advance of the great ship bearing the Prince and Princess of Wales. It is amid all this and the music of many bands that the Serapis is brought to at just 3 o'clock. The Prince and Princess of Wales and their children, with the Duke of Edinburgh, who wears his uniform of captain in the Royal Navy, stand on the quarter-deck. His Royal Highness uncovers, and bows graciously over and over again to the spectators on shore, while there are such cries of "Welcome Home," and such waving of hats and handkerchiefs, and such bursts of cheering as have scarcely ever been witnessed and heard.

A gangway was soon adjusted to connect the Serapis with the jetty, and as soon as it was placed the Duke of Connaught, the Duke of Cambridge, Sir Hastings Doyle, Admiral Elliot, the Lords of the Admiralty, Lord Alfred Paget, and several other distinguished personages went on board. There was a long delay before the Prince landed, owing to a quantity of his lighter baggage having to be got out and sent to the railway station. At a quarter to 4 o'clock he came down the gangway, leading the Princess of Wales. His two sons followed; then came the Duke of Cambridge, leading the eldest of the young Princesses; the Duke of Connaught, with the next, followed, and Princess Maude came on shore with her governess. The Prince of Wales was received by the Board of Admiralty, the Lieutenant-General Commanding the District, and the Admiral Superintendent of the Dockyard, with their personal Staffs, and proceeded direct to the pavilion, the bands playing "God save the Queen," and the Marine Artillery firing a Royal salute. In the pavilion the Mayor was introduced, and the Town Clerk read an address.

The Prince of Wales delivered the following reply:—

"Gentlemen,—I thank you for your cordial welcome on my return to England. I am much gratified at this expression of your belief that my long journey has not been without its effect in knitting still closer the bonds of peace and unity with our great Indian Empire, and should it prove that my visit has helped to bring about so desirable and important a result I may indeed feel that my labour has not been in vain. Since I was last at Portsmouth I have travelled to some of those more distant possessions of the British Crown with which our fleets and soldiers have been in such constant communication, and it was a great satisfaction to me to find that the same order and security which exist in the mother country are maintained wherever the power of Great Britain is established. I will not fail to communicate to the Queen your expressions of loyalty, and let me thank you, gentlemen, in the name of the Princess of Wales and of my children, as well as in my own, for your kind congratulations on my safe return, assuring you that, however interesting my travels have been, it affords me a very sincere pleasure to find myself once more at home with the Princess and my family."

The address was beautifully engrossed and illuminated by Messrs. Howell and James, of London.

Immediately His Royal Highness had concluded Sir Jules Benedict raised his bâton, and a welcome, the words of which are by Mr. Frederic Enoch and the music by Sir Jules Benedict himself, was sung; the solos being taken by Mr. C. E. McCheane and the chorus by 200 voices. The solo singer has an excellent voice, and the performance was singularly effective. At its conclusion the ladies of the choir showered their bouquets over the Prince and Princess. Their Royal Highnesses seemed much touched at this spontaneous and graceful compliment. Before the Prince and Princess entered their carriage a grand march, "Hail to our Prince," written for the occasion by Mr. J.

Winterbottom, the conductor of the Royal Marine Artillery Band, was performed, under the direction of the composer, by a full orchestra. The procession from the jetty was headed by Sir Hastings Doyle and his Staff, a very large escort being subsequently furnished by the Scots Greys when the Dockyard gates were reached.

The Prince of Wales and his wife and family and attendants drove from the jetty to the railway station, amid an enthusiasm, and decorated streets, which we should like more fully to describe in detail in our columns. Sufficient to say, that the reception was the most enthusiastic, and that Portsmouth had indeed done honour to herself by her most artistic and admirable dressing up. We must allude to one scene in the triumphant progress. On the Commercial Road were stands, accommodating many thousands of spectators, and a triumphal arch of considerable pretensions—one of several erected in the borough. No fewer than 7000 school children were stationed on this road, and sang anthems in honour of the Prince. At the end of this road is the railway station. It was magnificent both inside and out. Amid a parterre of flowers the Royal party entered the station. The ringing and continuous cheers and the waving of hats and handkerchiefs, which commenced before the Prince put his foot on shore, and which were suspended only during the presentation of the address on the jetty, were kept up by the immense lines of men, women, and children outside, even after he had reached the railway platform. The platform for the entire length of the Royal train was carpeted with scarlet cloth, and the metal pillars supporting the roof were richly draped.

At the station the Masonic address of the Province of Hampshire was presented by the Prov. G M., Bro. Beach, P.M.

The special train left the station in charge of Mr. J. P. Knight at twenty minutes before 5 o'clock, Mr. J. Lang, M.P., chairman, and several of the directors of the London, Brighton, and South Coast Railway occupying a compartment in front of the splendid saloon in which the Prince and Princess of Wales and their children were seated. The Duke of Edinburgh, the Duke of Connaught, and the Duke of Cambridge were also in the Royal saloon, and the suite of the Prince and Princess of Wales occupied other carriages in the special train. Rapidly as the train travelled, the journey of the Prince was one triumphal progress from Portsmouth to the metropolis. There was scarcely a field, not to say a village, by which the Royal party passed, without men, women, and children being in readiness to greet the Prince. The only stopping place was Horsham. At this station several thousand people were assembled; and a guard of honour composed of a local corps of Volunteers was drawn up to present arms, their band playing the National Anthem and "God bless the Prince of Wales" while the locomotive was taking in a fresh supply of water and the wheels of the carriages were being greased. Every station along the line was decorated, but Horsham elaborately so. At Dorking, Leatherhead, and Clapham Junction, every inch of vantage ground had its occupant. Hundreds of boarding schools along the line turned out to cheer the Prince, and from every window overlooking the line, scarves, handkerchiefs, and hats were raised.

The train drew up in the Victoria Station at 44 minutes past 6 o'clock. This station affords facilities for ornamentation such as few stations present. Last evening it was radiant in brilliant colouring. The iron girders were completely concealed by scarlet and white draperies, on which were innumerable tasteful rosettes. Flags depended from a hundred different points of the roof, and banners floated from all the pillars, which were covered with twisted ribands and artificial flowers. The platform at which the Royal train arrived was carpeted in crimson, and green shrubs and hothouse exotics lined it on the outer side. Along the carriage-way were beds of azaleas, ferns, lilies, and the walls were covered with white and green cloth, the arches being edged with evergreens and flowers. The monograms "A." and "E." were displayed at various points, as were also the Prince of Wales's

feathers. Stands covered with crimson cloth were occupied by nearly a thousand ladies and gentlemen. The guard of honour drawn up within the station was composed of a hundred rank and file of the Grenadier Guards, with the band and colours of the regiment. On the platform, awaiting the arrival of the Prince of Wales, were very many illustrious and distinguished personages, including the Princess Louise and the Marquis of Lorne, the Duke and Duchess of Teck, the Hereditary Grand Duke of Mecklenburg-Strelitz, the Duchess of Manchester, the Duchess of Sutherland, Lady Ailesbury, the Hon. Captain Carington, M.P., Mr. C. Sykes, M.P.

Tremendous were the cheers raised both within and outside the Victoria Station as the Prince and Princess set out for Buckingham Palace. Accompanied by the Princes Albert Victor and George of Wales, they were seated in an open carriage and four, preceded by outriders. The young Princesses and the Royal Dukes followed in other Court equipages, and after them came the suite who had returned with the Prince. The escort was furnished by a detachment of the 1st Life Guards, under the command of Colonel Bateson. The band of this regiment was drawn up outside the station. The entire route from the station to Buckingham Palace and thence to Marlborough House was lined with troops, composed of the 2nd Battalion Grenadier Guards, Colonel W. A. Higginson, C.B.; 3rd Battalion Grenadier Guards, Colonel Burnaby; the 2nd Battalion Coldstream Guards, Colonel L. Fremantle; and the 1st Battalion Scots Fusilier Guards, Colonel Gipps. The Royal Horse Guards, under the command of Colonel Owen Williams, were stationed, in the first instance, at Hyde Park Corner; there they fell in behind the Royal cortège, and subsequently formed a guard of honour when the Prince was entering Marlborough House. The route taken from Victoria Station was by Grosvenor-place, Grosvenor-gardens, Piccadilly, St. James's-street, Cleveland-gate, and the Mall to Buckingham Palace. In Grosvenor-gardens the decorations were of a uniform but novel character. Shield-shaped draperies in red, white, and amber depended from windows and balconies. The other streets along the line had also been decorated, but in a less effective style. The crowds were enormous. When the Prince and Princess were leaving Buckingham Palace the Queen and the German Empress appeared on the balcony above the grand entrance. Having proceeded by the Mall from Buckingham Palace, their Royal Highnesses reached Marlborough House about eight o'clock.

The Prince and Princess, after dining at Marlborough House, went to the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, where they arrived at the end of the second act of the "Ballo in Maschera."

The house, which was very full, had waited for some time with mingled excitement, and perhaps a little impatience, "more *Geant* Angli-cane," but when they did make their appearance—the Prince of Wales, with the Princess to his left, the Dukes of Edinburgh and Connaught to his right, and the young Princess in front—the shouts, the cheers, the "bravos!" were as vociferous and long-continued as they were hearty and spontaneous. The whole assembly rose; and it seemed as if the demonstrations of welcome would never cease. The Prince bowed and bowed repeatedly, till he must have been fatigued with bowing; but the cheering went on. At last the curtain was lifted, the chorus filling the stage, with Madlle. Albani, as solo singer, in their midst; and Signor Vianesi raising his bâton, "God bless the Prince of Wales," to the stirring tune of Brinley Richards, was sung and played with a vigour and unanimity that led to a renewal of the manifestations in the form of reiterated cheering. The National Anthem followed, as a matter of course, Madlle. Albani giving the first solo with admirably marked emphasis. While all this went on the coup d'œil was really magnificent, such, perhaps, as could not be surpassed in any European theatre.

The third act of the "Ballo in Maschera," the finest, dramatically considered, in the work, yet still the most gloomy, then proceeded, and the performance was listened to with evident satis-

faction. The last act, the scene of the masked ball, so lively until the unhappy climax, also passed off quietly and uninterrupted, excitement having fairly worn itself out. The Prince and Princess remained until the end of the performance, and on leaving the theatre were loudly cheered by the crowd outside as the carriage drove away.

Thus ended a day to be long remembered as an "Alba Dies" in the warm hearts of the English people, and we earnestly wish for our Royal Grand Master, after his long and eventful travels, all that happiness and comfort, which his return to his own country, and to his happy and rejoicing family, is calculated to have for him.

ARE WE GOING TO HAVE A MASONIC RECEPTION FOR THE PRINCE OF WALES?

They say sometimes that we Freemasons in England are a little behind the times, but we repel the insinuation with indignation! We are nothing of the kind. We are certainly very sedate and very cautious in our proceedings; that is all. Perish the thought! that either we are in any way retrogressive, or "slow coaches," or not wide awake! We deny the soft impeachment on each count of the indictment. The reception the Prince of Wales has received from the country seems to call upon our Order for an equally warm manifestation of loyal devotion towards its Grand Master. We do not know what the Executive intend doing, but we cannot help thinking that some notice ought to be taken in the way of a special gala or festival of our Royal Grand Master's happy return home to his family and to his country, to his high duties, to his active rule of our Craft. We again venture to suggest that there should be a grand gathering at the Alexandra Palace, or some similar "locale," to welcome the Prince and Princess of Wales. Three members of the Royal Family now belong to our Order, and we cannot conceive a scene more striking, or a gathering more delightful than that which would be presented by an overwhelming number of our ever loyal and intelligent Order, with wives and daughters and sisters, to greet the august ruler of English Freemasonry! We shall never have such another opportunity, and it will be a lasting reproach on us not to "profit by the occasion." What the response of the Craft would be there can be no possible doubt, and we feel sure that we are expressing the sentiments of our entire Fraternity when we urge upon those in authority, or those out of authority, the propriety of considering at once the feasibility of such a proceeding and taking measures to carry it out, and make it worthy of the cause, the Prince, and the Craft. We would call the attention of our readers to the suggestion of our esteemed Bro. the Rev. R. J. Simpson, P.G.C., in another column.

THE GIRLS' SCHOOL FESTIVAL.

The second of our great annual charitable gatherings is over, and with remarkable results, compared with that of a few years back, were the annual amount of these recurring festivals. £8214 11s. with twelve lists to come in, is a very goodly return to announce, and we congratulate the committee, and Bro. R. W. Little, the zealous Secretary, whose absence through illness all would equally and sincerely deplore. The returns of the donations are somewhat interesting. Of the provinces, Middlesex heads the lists with £711 13s., West Yorkshire follows suite with £707 16s., Lincolnshire comes up with £543 14s., Warwickshire with £262 10s., Berks and Bucks with £141 15s., Kent with £135 2s. 6d., Wiltshire with £115 12s., Staffordshire £115 10s., South Wales £115 10s., the Channel Islands with £100, Chester with £73, and Oxfordshire with £50., the Red Cross Order through Bro. Levander and others, £214 3s., and several other special returns. The London lodges return £4532 6s. 6d., making the whole amount, as we said before, £8214 11s., and which may be yet slightly increased. Our two great anniversaries have realized close on to £21,000, and what the Boys' School gathering will produce who can tell? we understand that there are already 240

Stewards on the lists, and we have no doubt but that Bro. Binckes will give a good account of everything when the festival comes round. In the meantime we congratulate the Girls' School on its high efficiency and its goodly return.

HAS THE CHURCH OF ROME A MORAL RIGHT TO EXCOMMUNICATE FREEMASONS?

Though this question no doubt may be answered by us all on purely sentimental grounds, so to say, and according to our individual prepossessions, yet there is, as it appears to us, also an answer to be given to it on the principles of right reason and common sense, not to say matter of fact and justice. About a hundred years ago, in 1782, an anonymous German brother published at Kosmopolis "die Beruhigung einer Katholiken über die Papstlichen Bullen wider die Freimaurerey," the tranquilization of a Roman Catholic in respect of the Papal Bulls against Freemasonry. And a very interesting little work it is. He points out then that Clement XII. condemned the Freemasons on six main grounds—which for the purposes of our argument it may be well to lay before our readers. 1st. The union with other religionists. 2nd. The secrecy, which implied something bad. 3rd. The secret binding of the conscience by a secret oath or obligation. 4th. The defiance of ecclesiastical and civil laws against secret societies. 5th. The expulsion of Freemasons by the State in different countries in consequence. 6th. And lastly the evil opinion entertained of Freemasons by the faithful of the Roman Catholic Communion. On these six grounds, which as the writer of the little book above mentioned points out, are put forward in entire ignorance of the real position of affairs, and historical accuracy, and exact fact, Clement the XII., on the 4th May, 1738, condemned the Freemasons, took from them all religious rights and privileges, forbade all Christian ministrations to them, and desired the ecclesiastical authorities and Inquisitors, "hereticæ pravitatis," everywhere to punish and restrain all such "de heresi vehementer Suspectos," and to coerce and punish them, the aid of the secular arm being invoked. This is simply a direct exhortation to inquisitorial persecution, imprisonment, torture, and the Auto da fé. Benedict the XIV., on the 15th April, 1751, issued a confirmatory bull of all that Clement XII. had previously uttered, and especially desired those to whom the execution was confided of his Bull not to omit the invocation of the aid of the secular arm! Hence we have this wonderful fact before us, in all its "naked simplicity," that without enquiry, without knowledge, without trial, without any hesitation, the supreme pontiff proclaims all Freemasons, however good or virtuous, useful citizens, true patriots, loyal subjects, faithful Roman Catholics, to be heretics, ipso facto, and desires the Inquisitors at once to punish and coerce them as such, calling in the aid of the secular arm! There never was in the history of the Church or the world, such an illegal, such an immoral, such an unjust, and, we will add, such a ridiculous Encyclical! By the provisions of the Roman Catholic Canon Law itself, all complaints are to be heard before a competent judge, and sentence duly pronounced on evidence, and on the answers of the accused. Even the Inquisition professed to hear evidence before pronouncing sentence, and the tortures of recalcitrant prisoners were enforced, in order, in the name of religion and of Christianity, to compel them to speak the truth! But here two Popes, having no evidence, without any special knowledge of the facts, pronounce sentence ex cathedra against all Freemasons, quâ Freemasons, simply assume blasphemously the prerogative of Divinity in Judicial Infallibility, and "mero motu and proprio jure" brand all Freemasons as heretics, condemn them to punishment, torture, death, and invoke the supplementary assistance of the civil power. Surely, then, we have a warrant for saying that on every ground of right, reason, equity, fairness, morality, of justice, as expressed in every code of known legal sanction and solemn enactment in the world, that such an excommunication is alike immoral and

unchristian. And probably we should be ourselves willing to treat such Bulls as many Romanist canonists have treated similar excommunicatory ebullitions, as obsolete and without any binding power, did not we note that the Roman Catholic prelates and clergy constantly appeal to these very Bulls as the justification for their absurd proceedings. We should ourselves gladly consider them as fossil curiosities did we not remember that even the present benevolent old Pontiff has formally repeated and commended them! We should be quite willing to allow such evidences of an unreasoning bigotry, of an ignorant intolerance, to be forgotten in the dust and dirt of the centuries as they pass by us, with that charitable spirit in which the present often regards the past, did we not alas know too well that the animus of Bigotry survives the fleeting ages of time, and that the love of persecution is still a active and as dominant as ever. We conclude our article to-day on this unsavoury subject in the full calm strength as we deem it of logical consistency by asserting that all such excommunications of the Church of Rome are immoral and iniquitous, contrary to every known principle of ecclesiastical or secular jurisprudence, and in themselves utterly childish and powerless. In our humble opinion the Church of Rome has shown itself little wise in its generation, in the renewal of such barbarous edicts, and in the retention of such ignorant bigotry. That the reproduction of the Bulls of Clement and Benedict can either intimidate Freemasons or aid the cause of the Roman Catholic Church itself is indeed a chimera of chimeras. And though with the sad spectacle before our eyes daily of the lengths to which this inculcation of an utterly unsanctified despotism, of unjustifiable authority, can lead even the benevolent and the humane, we rejoice to think that despite censure and anathema, our good old Craft is "marching on," and that under the leadership of our own Royal Grand Master calumniated and excommunicated Freemasons are advocating earnestly and religiously the blessed and peaceful principles of toleration, brotherly love, goodwill to man. We will make one more remark. Even supposing we allow that every religious body has ex necessitate rei a right to make terms of communion, wider or stricter as the case may be, we cannot concede to any denominational organization through its spiritual head, the authority before men, to set at defiance every principle of divine teaching and human law, and to brand with the iniquity and menace with the punishment of heresy by an autocratic exercise of illegal power, all those everywhere who do not accept implicitly its dogmata or obey its decrees. The Church of Rome may say "the days of temporal punishment are over, I am only invoking spiritual censures which I have a right to inflict." Granted! But then as Roman teachers assert that the Pope is infallible and supreme and God's Viceroy on earth, they still practically condemn all who differ from the Roman Church, inasmuch as he has never abjured his claim of universal sovereignty. If it was only a matter for the Roman Catholics themselves, much as we should deplore the narrowness of spirit and the prevalence of bigotry displayed in such allocutions, it would yet perhaps be a matter for them to settle for themselves. But the issues are greater and the contest wider than lie often on the surface of things, and we therefore think it well to point out to-day, for fear of any mistake or misconstruction as far as we are ourselves concerned, the utterly immoral and unjustifiable position as between man and man, and even on its own alleged principles of ecclesiastical law which the Church of Rome has assumed, and still assumes, in thus excommunicating ipso facto all Freemasons because they are Freemasons, branding them as heretics, and invoking for them persecution, punishment, torture, death.

HYPERCRITICISM.

Criticism we hold to be a very good thing in mundane matters, when conducted and animated with the true spirit of criticism, and the same rule applies, in our opinion, also to matters Masonic. We do not, and never shall object, to all fair and proper criticism. On the contrary,

we think that it is a very wholesome exercise of a restraining power alike as regards men and things. A little criticism, sound sensible criticism, often does a deal of good, and without the due exercise of an intellectual criticism we should be at the mercy—humanly speaking, of every charlatan, of every empiric. In the great world of art, of politics, of literature, nay, of religion itself, we are always in need of a wholesome criticism, and we who have to deal with the hebdomadal press, should, remembering the outspoken freedom of our own remarks often, never complain of the fair and candid criticism of others. Of course a great question comes in here—What is fair and what is candid criticism? All criticism, of course, is not either fair or candid, and much that passes for criticism is no criticism at all, but simply the assertion of the personal Ego, or the morbidity of injured vanity, or subjective sensibility! Still, we repeat, we do not object to, as we do not fear, all proper criticism, and, indeed, we think that the liberty of speech enjoyed in the tolerant columns of the "Freemason," is alike creditable to the publisher, and one of the causes of the success of the "Freemason" itself. We have been led into these remarks by a letter which appeared in our pages last week, complaining of Latin words, and French words, and hard words in our leading articles. But the letter of "A Stickler for plain English" we venture, in all deference to our brother, to think a little hypercritical. The illustrations of his complaint which he suggests are peculiar. "Sub sigillo confessionis" is an expression not unknown to modern writers, "proh pudor" is no unlawful use of a classical exclamation, "Clientèle" is a French word of very common use just now, and "opine" is no doubt a word of Latin derivation, but still not uncommon or, in any way a hard word to understand. But the writer seems to be indulging in a little of that unreal sentimentality about "Anglo-Saxon" to which we always greatly object. Does he forget that the English speech, so to say, is a compound of more than one language? We have the brilliancy of the Norman French superadded to the solidity of the Anglo-Saxon, we have in it words of clear Roman use, and lingering relics of the Danes. Is our correspondent prepared to banish all words of Latin derivation? If not, what then? Let him take any page he likes of Johnson's dictionary, and endeavour to ascertain the derivation of all the words in it, and he will find the large proportion of Latin originals. We say all this in good part, and with no wish or intention of finding fault, but the fallacy of the often repeated modern adage, "write Anglo Saxon" is really too much for us. Why such a rule would rob our great and noble English tongue of half its richness, and almost all of its significant force. We are quite sensible of the value of simple writing, of plain words, and of forcible expression. But all who write much know that the insertion here and there, though not too often, of an appropriate equivalent or illustrative sentence in another tongue often gives point to the verbosity of a leader, and attracts attention and enforces an argument. If we thought that our good correspondent had any real cause for complaint we would gladly cry "peccavi" (in saying this we are sinning against his sterner canon), but we confess, as the saying is, we "do not see it," and not seeing it, we can neither promise to "amend our vocabulary" nor to alter our style, which, bad as it may be, is our own, for good or evil.

Original Correspondence.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for, or even as approving of the opinions expressed by our correspondents, but we wish, in a spirit of fair play to all, to permit—within certain necessary limits—free discussion.—Ed.]

MASONIC RECEPTION OF OUR GRAND MASTER.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—
In your pleasant "Welcome Home Again" of last week you say "Still through all, and in all, a gracious Providence has protected his (the Prince's) goodly progress."

It has occurred to me that there would be a very profitable, appropriate, and significant manner of giving practical effect to this most faithful and forcible expression of feeling. I mean by the Masons of England holding a grand service or thanksgiving in St. Paul's, the National Temple built by a Freemason, at which our Bro. the

Bishop of Peterborough might be induced to preach, and to which I am in good hope the Dean and Canons with their usual courtesy would not object.

Such a service could not fail to do us all good. It would moreover throw our sympathies, our wishes, and our thankfulness into the brightest and most beautiful form which human action can take, and it would be an eloquent protest against the ignorant suspicions as well as the fierce denunciations that have assailed our Order, especially during the last few years.

I have reason to know that many of our Jewish brethren would attend, as they did a few weeks ago in the cathedral of Manchester. Such an act of united worship and on such an occasion would tend to remove many foolish but firmly-rooted prejudices to Freemasonry and would go far to elevate it into that position which it ought to hold as one of the great moral and religious agencies of the age we live in.

The details of such a plan as I have ventured to suggest I will not touch upon, but leave them to other and wiser heads than mine; but it is obvious that every lodge in England should be represented, together with the Grand Lodges of Scotland and Ireland.

Commending this subject to the consideration of our brethren, I am, dear Sir, fraternally yours,

R. J. SIMPSON.

14A, Clement's-inn, 15th May, 1876.

SURREY MASONIC HALL.

To the Editor of The Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

In your issue of May 6th I notice a letter respecting the Surrey Masonic Hall. I fully expected to have seen a reply to the queries in your next number. I quite agree with the remarks, that something should be done to carry out the promise of the prospectus issued some time ago. There seems to be a want of something to push the undertaking forward. I am informed a number of the lodges are now meeting in the building, that they are experiencing considerable benefit by being separate from the tavern interest. I would suggest that these lodges should take up all the unallotted shares, also that the directors should adopt the usual means of making the hall known, so that the shareholders may not have occasion to complain of the want of energy and ability on the part of those who have assumed the management of the company. I notice in the same paper an account of the formation of a Masonic Library at the Freemasons' Hall, Sheffield, would it not be an additional attraction to carry out the same idea at the Surrey Masonic Hall?

I am, dear Sir and Brother, yours frat. rally,

ANOTHER WAITING SHAREHOLDER.

THE MARK DEGREE IN SCOTLAND.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

In your paper of 29th April, page 194 a Royal Arch Mason seems to be in great perplexity about our Scotch brethren in St. John's Lodge giving the degrees of Mark Master for 1s. 2d., and it having been now raised to 2s. 6d. each, which cannot be thought of otherwise, but being nominal value. He likewise asks to be informed whether such work be in accordance with the Scotch Constitutions, or Grand Lodge Laws, but no one has as yet made any effort to answer the questions, and I, as another Royal Arch Mason, am desirously looking forward to see some one boldly come to the front to enlighten both him and myself. The Grand Lodge and the Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter bye-laws are to my mind only a hotchpotch, as the Grand Lodge laws at the outset for subordinate lodges prohibit them from holding any other meeting than those of the three Orders, viz., E.A., F.C., and M.M., denominated St. John's Masonry (the Mark forming part of the Second Degree), though only to be conferred on Master Masons. The bye-laws of the Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter says, By an arrangement with the Grand Lodge of Scotland its subordinate lodges in Scotland may now legally confer the Mark Master Degree. But the Charter given by the Grand Lodge of Scotland, embodying the three first legrees, has no such thing as any mention being made in it of working the Mark Degree. But the laws of the Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Scotland, with the charter given out to subordinate chapters, are, as I would say, in harmony together, the working of the Mark Degrees being embodied in the charter, as well as the Excellent and R.A. Degrees. In my opinion the Grand Lodge and the Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Scotland would give a much better and higher standing to Scotch Masonry, if the Mark Degree, were by the powers that be, set aside from either the lodges or chapters, and hold it fast to one constitution, rather than have such an honourable degree made only fourteen pence worth of. I should even be glad to see from any one outside of Scotland, the real value thought worthy for the Mark Master Degree, which appears to me to be falling, when Masonry just now is said to be rising in fame, amongst outsiders that are at this time coming to rally round our banners.

THE MARK DEGREE ASSAILED.

OFFICERS' JEWELS.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Feeling interested in the question raised by your correspondent "Lux" in your impression of the 6th of May on officers' jewels, I beg to give you a description of the jewels possessed by the lodge to which I have the honour of being a member. The Past Master's, Treasurer's, and Deacons' jewels are very different from those worn now. The Past Master's jewel is an oval of 4 inches by 3½ inches; the centre is a gilt blazing sun irradiated into sixteen points; on the centre of the sun is a level; on the upright limbs of the level are the square and

compasses in the F.C. Degree; below the level is the plumb; on one side of the plumb is the volume of the sacred law, closed; on the other is a square block with the triangle and circle engraved upon it; these are surrounded by a frame formed by a branch of bay and palm, bound at the bottom by a serpent and united at the top by a pelican feeding her young from her breast; the neck of the pelican forming the eye for the ring to support the jewel; the branches of bay and palm are also bound throughout their length by a ribbon. The Treasurer's jewel is the same, only the cross-keys is on the face of the sun instead of the level, &c. The Senior Deacon's jewel is a Mercury 4½ inches high poised on the right foot, the left knee resting on the wing of the right heel; in his left hand is the caduceus with the serpents, and in his right hand a roll, as in the attitude of speaking. The Junior Deacon's jewel is a Mercury flying on a cloud with the caduceus in his left hand entwined with two serpents and winged, his right hand extended as if beckoning to some one; this figure is 3½ inches high and represents a youth (these jewels are all silver and weigh 9 ozs.). This lodge was constituted in 1778, and our warrant is what the old Masons here called a York or Athol warrant, the Duke of Athol having granted it. For the information of Bro. W. J. Hughan or any brother that can enlighten us on the subject, I add the name and number of my lodge.

I am, dear Sir and brother, yours faithfully and fraternally,
ALEX. SPEARS, P.M. and Treas.
of Adams Lodge, No. 158.

Sheerness-on-Sea.

THE FREEMASONS AND BURNS.

To the Editor of The Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I have in my possession a Masonic relic, in which is published the "Farewell to Tarbolton Lodge" by Burns, and at the time he (Burns) was leaving, and no such verse as the one mentioned by Bro. John Hogg in the "Freemason" of April 29th is given, only the usual four verses, and I have every reason to think that that was the first copy of Burns's farewell ever published. I am of the same opinion as Bro. Hogg that the verse referred to is none of Burns.

Yours fraternally,

M.M. 1089.

THE INSTALLATION OF M.W.G.M.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Will you kindly give me a reply through the "Freemason" to the following question?

Were Past Wardens of private lodges entitled to be present at the installation of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales as Grand Master of England at the Royal Albert Hall April 28th, 1875?

Yours fraternally,

JIM SHEARD,
W.M. Trafalgar, 971, Batley.

May 10th, 1876.

[Not as such, but as M.M.'s.—Ed.]

MASONIC REPRINTS.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Cincinnati, April 29th, 1876.

Sir,—

In reply to your query in the "Freemason" of March 18, I would say I have sent a copy of the entire reprint to which you refer, "The Beginning and First Foundation of the Most Worthy Craft of Masonry," to the library of the Supreme Council of Sov. Grand Ins. Gen. for England and Wales, 33, Golden-square, London, and you can see it there. As it originally appeared in the "Masonic Review" it had but little value, owing to the great number of typographical errors with which it was filled. I had it carefully revised and corrected, and the reprint is almost free from such errors. I believe there are only three errors of punctuation in it.

I am glad to see that so much interest is being awakened among literary gentlemen in regard to the early history and antiquities of Masonry, thanks to such zealous labourers as Hughan and Lyon.

Fraternally yours,

E. T. CARSON.

"A Masonic Student," London.

ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Since the actual state of the poll cannot be known in time for your next issue, I should scarcely like another week to pass without offering my very sincere thanks to you—first, for your fraternal and generous appeal to the brethren on behalf of our poor distressed brother, Dr. Stewart; and secondly, to those brethren who have kindly favoured me with their votes.

From the number of votes received I fully believe I am right in saying that the election of our brother is secure. I may, therefore, by anticipation, return his heartfelt thanks, and to which I beg to add my own, for the timely and prompt aid we have received. I have no doubt whatever that in the course of a few days Bro. Dr. Stewart will find a "haven of rest" in our noble Institution for Aged Freemasons, at Croydon.

Believe me, I remain, dear Sir and Brother, yours fraternally,
JAMES HOGG,
1, Bedford-square.

REGALIA.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Bro. Magnus Ohren's letter in the last "Freemason" on the above.

"R.W.O." asks, "How is it, &c." This was a quotation by "R.W.O." from "Ad Rem."

Bro. M.O. says, "Allow me to say that he and 'Ad Rem' are confounding presentation jewels with the regulation jewels." Will Bro. M.O. allow me to say that I am not

My query was, Are those (which M. O. now calls presentation jewels) according to the Book of Constitutions any more jewels than those which you find attached to many a brother's watch chain?

"If he should become eligible to attend Grand Lodge, &c." If Bro. M. O. refers to R.W.O. he can put the "if he should become" in the waste basket as things of the past.

Will Bro. M. O. be good enough to explain the latter part of the Art. 22, p. 69, Edition 1871, of the Book of Constitutions from "Except such honorary or other jewels as shall be consistent with those degrees recognised by the Grand Lodge as part of ancient Freemasonry?"

There has been a great deal written of late about Grand Lodges—Grand Lodge of York, Grand Lodge of All England, &c.; but I have not had the pleasure of seeing anything about the Grand Lodge for Surrey. Unless the printer's d—l had a finger in the pie an explanation of the last line of M. O. will clear up the matter. "Past Grand Jun. Warden for Surrey."

Yours fraternally,

R.W.O.

Mulum in Parbo; or Masonic Notes and Queries.

SOME REMARKS ON THE EXTRACTS FROM THE SHEFFIELD CHAPTER OF PARADISE MINUTE BOOKS.
BY BRO., REV. WILLIAM TEBBS.

At our first introduction to it this chapter seems to have been in much the same position as that of Royal Arch chapters in America prior to the year 1797 (when, as Mackey tells us, they were by a convention of delegates from the several chapters in Pennsylvania, placed under the control of a Grand Chapter, then first organized and severed from that of the symbolic degrees), for we find a "Companion Wilcockson, who had not served the office of King, on July, 16th, 1788, gave his authority to assemble when and where they pleased," and it is not until 1800, 1801, that we find the general business of the chapter conducted according to the present received models. We also find the American precedence of officers in vogue, for in the first mention of their election in 1784 we find the first "Kingly" chair occupied by the "High Priest," there being also but one Scribe.

This title "King," of the occupants of the Principals' chairs seems to point either to the recognition of the American degrees of Select and Super-excellent Masters; or else would favour the idea that those three chairs were filled by representatives of the Magi; upon their probable connexion with Masonry some remarks, may, at some future time, be submitted to the attention of the Craft.

In the year 1788 the entire working seems to have been altered and remoulded upon the Irish system by two visiting companions, Boyle and Macelroy (Bro. Ellis suggests Mac Elroy, perhaps a better suggestion, by a modern analogy of pronunciation, would be McLeroy) for we find that the titles of "Kings" were immediately dropped and the substitution made of "High Priest,"—afterwards "Rev'd. High Priest," 2, [J.], Royal Arch Captain; 3, M.E. Grand Masters [of Val's]; J.A. and E.B. [? Captain of Host and Principal Sojourner]; and E. and N; also "Ninetor" [? Janitor.] "Super-excellent" is also used openly for the first time—one companion being said to have been "further initiated in this Sublime Degree."

After the year 1800 (as before remarked) the procedure of the chapter was gradually changed into that now received, until in 1807 the minutes of the S.G. and R.C. of R.A.C. of England were read, and the new constitution seems to have been fully adopted, the names of those companions under the old constitution being given on page 76; this and the preceding pages being copies of lists forwarded to Grand Chapter, London, whilst succeeding ones contain copies of the certificate forwarded to the Clerk of the Peace. After this date too the proper titles of officers seem to have been adopted.

One fact worthy of remark seems that even after this date Mark Degrees were conferred by the chapter, but that the Select and Super-excellent features seem to have entirely disappeared.

Did space permit there are one or two other features well worthy of remark, such as Sunday being the day of meeting; the jumble of terms, "raised," "passed," "exalted," the use of the term "encampment" (sometimes lodge, although never council); "Sublime" Degree, the giving a First Degree Craft Lecture on certain Master Masons joining the companions.

The monogram can hardly be entered into here further than to suggest that the "T" on the "H" might either refer to H.A.B. of Tyre or to the badge of the R.A. Degree.

One point more is worthy of notice. Bro. Boyle is called "a Mason of the world, he having certificates from the Four Grand Lodges of the world." What were these Four Grand Lodges; as at this date there were some four-and-twenty in existence?

Respecting the omitted meeting in April, 1784, by the room being otherwise occupied, "Boaz" could not surely be the correct reading of the name of the interloper. In the paragraph referred to the legible portion is given in a different manner at each repetition—once "Boa"—once "Bro. and A." Now what so feasible as that the so-called "Freemasons' Hall" formed part of some house of entertainment, bearing its name simply from its being rented by the brethren and companions; (such is the case with a chapter-room in the West of England now), and that at certain times the room was used for ordinary purposes. The contraction might then stand for either "Boarders" or "Brokers," as dealers, in household stuffs, &c. (probably travellers), were then called.

LAYING THE FOUNDATION STONE OF A NEW CHURCH AT NUNEATON.

On Wednesday, 26th ult., the old town of Nuneaton, which generally lies so still and quiet on the banks of the little river Anker, a river which has been the theme of poets, who have sung its praises in epic and in sonnet, threw off its apparent lethargy, and spread its beams of varied hue and somewhat fanciful designs to the gentle breeze and genial sun of a fine April day. The occasion was a memorable one, for after the lapse of some six or seven centuries the inhabitants were about to commence the re-erection of the ancient nunnery which gave the town its distinctive name.

The old Abbey Church of Nuneaton owed its foundation to the piety and generosity of Robert Bossu, one of the Norman Earls of Leicester, in the 12th century. He gave the plot of land on which the few crumbling ruins, which mark the site of this old religious foundation, now stands, in gaunt array, on the north-western side of Nuneaton, to the Benedictine nuns, of the order of Fontefrault, an order that was remarkable for associating monks and nuns under the same foundation. The Abbey thus begun received, like many other similar communities, considerable possessions in benefactions and gifts. Whether the piers of the central tower of the cruciform church, which yet remain, were part of the original church, cannot be positively stated; but if it were so, it is obvious that the conventual buildings were not completed for many years after the original foundation in 1150. Now, however, it is proposed to rebuild the nave of the church in the transitional style which prevailed in the early part of the 13th century. This work has been entrusted to Mr. Clapton Rolfe, of Reading, who has combined some of the marked features of the late Norman period of architecture with the first and simple forms of the first pointed period of Gothic architecture, and the plans are so arranged that they can be carried out in detail until the entire plan of the original church is reproduced. He has been assisted in some of the details by the excellent view of the ruins published by Buck in 1729. The occasion of this restoration we gather from an appeal issued by the Building Committee.

It appears that in the month of June, 1869, Mr. Thomas Bottrell died, having made a large fortune in the trade of Nuneaton, and, desiring to benefit his native town, bequeathed by his will the sum of £400 towards the building, and the sum of £2500 for the endowment of a new district church in Nuneaton, provided such church should be built and consecrated within the period of ten years after his decease. Mr. Bottrell also bequeathed the sum of £25 per annum for ten years after his death to be paid to the minister officiating at the Abbey-street School room. The town of Nuneaton contains 4547 inhabitants, and the parish church affords accommodation for 1,500 only. A considerable portion of the inhabitants reside at a distance from the parish church, and since the bequest of Mr. Bottrell services have been held every Sunday in the National Schools, in Abbey Street, licensed by the bishop for public worship. These services have been largely attended, and the accommodation is quite insufficient for the numbers attending. In order to carry out the intentions of Mr. Bottrell, and to secure to the inhabitants of Nuneaton his munificent bequests, the committee (formed of subscribers to the intended church) put themselves in communication with Mr. James Tomkinson, the principal owner of land at the Abbey Street end of the town, and he has with great generosity presented an acre and a half of land, upon which formerly stood the church belonging to Nuneaton Abbey, the foundations and some of the pillars of which are still in existence. He has also given sufficient land to allow of the construction of a carriage road from Abbey Street and a footpath from the Meadow to the church.

Of the sum (£2500 required) £1,800 and upwards has been promised, and this received substantial additions yesterday by the gifts of the Freemasons and assembled visitors. This sum does not, however, include the value of the land and roadway, estimated at £600. Only three years of the time stipulated by Mr. Bottrell remains unexpired, and a number of ladies are busily engaged aiding the building committee in raising the remainder of the sum required. It is proposed to assign a district to the church when finished, and thus supply a want which George Eliot pointed out in those powerful "Scenes of Clerical Life," which embody some of the annals of Nuneaton and its neighbourhood.

The brethren from the province assembled at the Town Hall at one o'clock, when the Abbey Lodge, and afterwards the Provincial Grand Lodge, were opened. The business of the Grand Lodge having been concluded, a procession was formed in the usual Masonic order, and the brethren proceeded to the site of the new church. The Provincial Grand Officers present included Lord Leigh, P.G.M.; Lieutenant-Colonel Machen, D.P.G.M.; Bros. J. Bragg, P.G.S.W.; Captain Salt, P.G.J.W.; Revs. W. Randall and F.M. Beaumont, P.G. Chaplains; G. Beech, P.G.S.; R.C. Sinclair, P.G.S.D.; J. R. Chirm, P. G. Supt. W.; H. Sanderson, P.G.A.D.C.; W. H. Webb, P.G.S.B.; C. F. Rowe, P.G.O.; G. Baker, P.G.P.; J. Coates, P.G.T. There was also a large attendance of Worshipful Masters Past Masters, Wardens, and Brethren of the various lodges in the province.

Arriving at the site of the new church, the Provincial Grand Master, Lord Leigh, took his seat near the stone, with the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, and other Provincial Grand Officers near.

The Rev. W. Randall, P.G.C., having offered prayer, The Rev. H. W. Bellairs, vicar, and chairman of the Church Building Committee, presented to the Grand Master the inscription on the stone and copies of the proceedings, and, in the name of the town, gratefully thanked Lord Leigh for the honour done them in laying the foundation-stone.

Bro. G. Beech, P.G.S., then read the inscription, which

was as follows:—"Provincial Grand Lodge of Ancient Free, and Accepted Masons of Warwickshire.—At a special meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge, held at the Abbey Lodge, Nuneaton, on Wednesday, the 26th April, 1876, in the 40th year of the reign of her gracious Majesty Queen Victoria, this, the foundation-stone of St. Mary's Abbey Church, Nuneaton, was laid, in solemn form and according to ancient usage, by the Right Honourable William Henry Lord Leigh, Lord-Lieutenant, and Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master of Warwickshire, assisted by the Worshipful Brother Colonel Machen, Deputy Provincial Grand Master of Warwickshire, the Worshipful Brother John Bragg, Prov. Senior Grand Warden; the Worshipful Brother Captain Salt, Prov. Junior Grand Warden; Brother the Rev. W. Randall, Brother the Rev. F. M. Beaumont, P. Grand Chaplains; George Beech, Provincial Grand Secretary; and in the presence of a numerous body of P. Grand Officers, Past P. Grand Officers, and Brethren of the Province of Warwickshire."

Copies of several newspapers, the inscription, a prayer book, and various coins of the realm, enclosed in a tin box, having been placed in a cavity in the stone, the mortar was spread and the stone lowered. The trowel and the usual working tools of a mason were then handed to the Provincial Grand Master by the architect, the Deputy-Provincial Grand Master and Wardens, and Lord Leigh strewed corn and poured wine and oil on the stone, emblematic of plenty, joy, and peace. Upon the mallet being handed to him,

Lord Leigh said that before using it, it might be interesting to those present to know that the mallet which he had the honour of holding in his hand, was the identical mallet with which King Charles laid the first stone of St. Paul's Cathedral, in 1675. (Hear, hear.) His Majesty then presented it to their illustrious and eminent brother, the great architect, Sir Christopher Wren. At his death Sir Christopher Wren left it to Lodge Antiquity, No. 2, in London, and that Lodge was presided over at this moment by their illustrious brother, Prince Leopold (Applause.) Owing to the kindness of Brother Dr. Erasmus Wilson, and the brethren of the Lodge Antiquity, an officer from the lodge had been sent down with the mallet for him (Lord Leigh) to have the honour of using on that occasion. His lordship then declared the stone well and truly fixed.

Brother Beech, P.G.S., according to custom, deposited a sum of money on the stone for the workmen, and "God save the Queen" having been sung by the choir,

Lord Leigh, addressed the assembly, having further announced that the Freemasons present that day had contributed £50, which would be paid over by the Provincial Grand Secretary in aid of the work.

The Rev. M. Beaumont, P.G.C., delivered an address, after which a collection was made in aid of the building fund. The procession re-formed, and the brethren returned to the Town Hall, where the Provincial Grand Lodge was resumed and closed.

A banquet, which was well attended, afterwards took place.

During the excavations between the piers of the central tower and the eastern part of the nave, many remains of the original structure have been found. These consist of a small cross, within a circle, inscribed on soft red sandstone, similar to the consecration crosses of the late Norman period. The carved heads from cave mouldings, the fragments of carved stone of no special distinguishing character appears to be the cap of a pillar, and a number of tiles; one of the tiles bears the arms of the Beauchamps Earls of Warwick, another a lion passant gardant, and the others bear some geometric patterns, but they do not equal in number, variety, and beauty, those found on the same spot many years ago, drawings of which are in the possession of Mr. J. T. Burgess, of Leamington.

PRESENTATION TO SIR FREDERICK M. WILLIAMS, BART., M.P.

On the 4th inst. the members of the Cornwall Rose Croix Chapter, Truro, through their M.W.S., Colonel John Whitehead Peard, 30° (in open chapter), presented to the Ill. Bro. Sir F. M. Williams, Bart., M.P., 32°, a handsome P.M.S. jewel, in appreciation of his valuable services as the first M.W.S. of the Chapter. Notwithstanding his many duties Sir F. M. Williams had never been absent from any assembly of the Chapter since its constitution, and not only had he presented the furniture of the chapter, but in every way possible, as M.W.S., he had endeavoured to promote the true interests of the Ancient and Accepted Rite, now firmly planted in Cornwall.

On the 9th inst. the members of the Centenary Lodge of Fortitude assembled in large numbers to witness the presentation to the R.W. Bro. Sir F. M. Williams, Bart., P.G.W., and Representative of the Grand Orient of Portugal, of a Deputy Prov. Grand Master's jewel of Cornwall, by the Senior Past Master, on behalf of the members of the lodge, who thus desire to exhibit their appreciation of Sir F. M. Williams' devotion to Freemasonry in general, and his important and substantial aid to the Great Masonic Charities, the Local Masonic Annuity Fund, and indeed, for any good Masonic work.

The worthy Baronet in reply said, that what little he had done had been not only gladly rendered on behalf of the beloved Craft, but the duty had proved a great pleasure. The gift would be highly valued by him, and that evening was to him the most memorable in his Masonic career.

W. Bro. William James Hughan was called upon by the brethren to speak, and in response to the demand presented brief sketches of what Sir Frederick M. Williams had achieved for Freemasonry, and his short, telling speeches were enthusiastically received.

The jewels gave great satisfaction.

CONSECRATION OF THE " RICHARD GIDDY " LODGE, AT KIMBERLEY, SOUTH AFRICA.

Thursday, the 23rd March, will long be remembered by the brethren of the " Richard Giddy " Lodge, 1574, and, indeed, by most Masons whose privilege it was to be present at the combined ceremonies of the consecration of the above named Lodge and the dedication of the new Freemasons' Hall, Kimberley, to the purposes of Freemasonry. As we give below the programme of the day's proceedings, as published, together with the able and eloquent address of the consecrating Officer, Bro. the Hon. R. W. H. Giddy, P. M., P. Z., etc., etc., it will be unnecessary to say more than that the proceedings were characterized throughout by that unanimity which always animates the brethren of the Craft on similar occasions, and that the arrangements were excellently made to prevent confusion, the procession, the largest yet seen in Kimberley, being moved off without trouble or delay, a duty in which the D. C. for the day was most ably assisted by Bro. Susman, of the Peace and Harmony Lodge.

An interesting feature in the proceedings was the admission of a limited number of ladies to the Hall, to witness the ceremony of consecration and dedication, though we fear the presence of such rare visitors to any lodge must have sadly distracted the attention of the brethren from their labour.

The D.G. Chaplain read the first clause of the prayer of benediction:—

" May the Almighty Architect of the Universe, who has disposed all things in order according to the Excellency of His will, who made the heavens for His Majesty, the sun and the stars for His glory and our comfort, and the earth as a place for our obedience to His laws, look down upon us Masons, now endeavouring to build a house according to the rules of charity by the bond of love. May this house, when duly consecrated and dedicated, be a habitation for worthy men meeting together for good; may their secret assemblies be convened legally, proceed honourably, and end in charity. May all Masons that enter under the shadow of its roof remember that the secret of the Lord is with them that fear Him. May the work done here prosper; may the heart of all the workmen be comforted; may no strife, brawling, or unseemly words be heard within its walls; may the Master love the brethren, and the brethren honour and obey the Master; may our going out and our coming in be blessed for evermore; may our baskets be filled with plenteousness, and the voice of joy and thanksgiving abound; may there be no mourning nor sorrow of heart; and may the wayfaring Mason find a comfort in his journey to his home, when passeth by the gates of this house."

The Consecrating Officer then sprinkled perfume, saying, " May our deeds be sweet and savoury; may we be a refreshing odour to all our poor brethren, for charity is as sweet as roses."

The prayer of Benediction concluded thus:—

" Grant, O Thou Most High! that the chief corner-stone of this, our building may be, Holiness to the Lord, and whenever we assemble here for the purposes of Freemasonry, may we be guided by the rules and precepts contained in Thy Holy Tracing Board, and may they lead us through all the devious scenes of this chequered state of existence, to a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. ' Thus will Freemasonry be made subservient to the practice of our religious duties, and help us forward towards that Grand Lodge above, where we hope to meet our Christian and Masonic brethren in perfect happiness, when the scenes of this world shall be closed, and the Pass Word of Fidelity, Fidelity! shall for the last time be pronounced over our graves."

The W. M. of the lodge addressed the Consecrating Officer as follows:—

" W. Sir, the brethren of this Lodge, in order to promote the interest and prosperity of the Craft, have at great expense assisted in erecting a Masonic Hall for their convenience and accommodation. They are now desirous that the same should meet the approval of the district authorities, and be solemnly consecrated according to ancient form."

DEDICATION ANTHEM.

The Consecrating Officer.—" The Hall in which we are now assembled having been approved, I will now proceed to dedicate and consecrate it according to ancient rites."

" In the elevated character of Consecrating Officer, I invoke the name of the Most High, to whom be glory and honour. May He be with you at your beginning, strengthen you in the principles of our Royal Art, prosper you with success in all your undertakings, and direct your zealous efforts for the good of Masonry in general, and of this lodge in particular. By the Divine aid I implore the G. A. O. T. U. to pour down His blessings on this building, and to dedicate it to the sacred interests of morality and religion; trusting that its members will always act in conformity with the rites of our venerable Order and the charges of our ancient Fraternity. And may God be with you all."

W. Bro. Giddy's introductory address was as follows:—

W. Brethren,—It is with no slight feeling of gratification and pride that I to-day find myself chosen to perform the ceremony of consecrating this lodge and dedicating this Hall. Ever since my initiation I have always taken the greatest interest in the promotion and welfare of our Ancient Craft. It has been with no thirst for self-aggrandizement that I have seized on every opportunity to obtain all the Masonic degrees within my reach, but with a desire to advance the interests, and obtain the means of increasing the influence of an Order whose utility and whose grandeur of design has been year after year more and more impressed upon my mind, as I became better acquainted with its history, its construction, and its aims. That I should have attained some distinction is merely an accident consequent upon my convictions having led me to devote some time and trouble to the promotion of our Order, but the high honour

which has been done me by the founders of this lodge in naming it after me is something more than the distinction inseparable from Masonic rank or Masonic office, as it conveys to me a proof that my brethren in Griqualand who know me personally have approved of my poor endeavours. And my gratification is enhanced by the conviction that the brethren who have been chosen as office-bearers are especially qualified for the duties they have undertaken, and that they and their successors will take pains to render the Richard Giddy Lodge no ephemeral institution, but a lodge which years hence will be held in honour for its creditable working and its Masonic zeal. You may well be proud, my brethren, of the noble hall you have assisted in erecting in this place, where but four years since no Masonic lodge existed, and which but six years ago was a howling wilderness. Masonry has within the last four years progressed throughout the world with almost giant strides, as the number of your lodge alone will testify, being 165 beyond that of the first Griqualand lodge, the Cosmopolitan, No. 1409. Yet amid all this rapid progress I feel convinced that for the spread of Masonry no place can compare with Griqualand. May your zeal for the Craft long continue with undiminished fervour, and may you receive the full reward of that zeal. We have met to-day to consecrate this lodge and dedicate this hall to God, to Masonry, and to universal benevolence and charity. To the cowans of the profane world it may seem strange that we who have been stigmatized as irreligious unbelievers and atheists should consecrate ourselves or our buildings to the G. A. O. T. U., but to you, my brethren, it will seem but natural that our first thoughts should be given to Him, the knowledge of whose name our Order helped to preserve during the long ages when the whole world of the uninitiated was wrapped in heathen or polytheistic darkness, and to whose honour and glory all our ceremonies are intended to redound. To a nobler use than Masonry no building can be dedicated, always reverently accepting the purposes of exclusive worship of the Most High, and this fact will not be gainsaid by any save those who know not what Masonry is, or the civilizing part it has played, and it is yet destined to play, in the world. No well-informed brother can share in the common belief that Masonry is a merely unmeaning association for the purposes of good-fellowship, amid childish or unmeaning ceremonies. We know that our ancient and noble institution is at least coeval with the birth of the human intellect, although, of course, our records reach not to such archaic times. We have proof, however, that amongst the most ancient nations whose records or traditions have descended to us, our brethren were those who in Egypt and in India were the conservators of true religion and of heavenly science. The secrets taught by the hierophants of the ancient mysteries were identical with those so jealously guarded by us at the present day. Long before Moses became skilled " in all the learning of the Egyptians " our ancient brethren repudiated all polytheistic creeds, and set their faces against immorality and idolatry, while their zealous cultivation of the arts and sciences is proved by the everlasting testimony of the pyramids; those stupendous works which have never yet been equalled or surpassed, and which even now afford reason for wonder and admiration to the princes of modern science. And we claim through our unbroken chain of great and good men, Moses, Zoroaster, Solomon, Hiram, Pythagoras, and the Grand Master of the Jewish Essenes, followed by the Templars and the other chivalric orders, who carried their teachings westward, to be the legitimate descendants of the most noble, and best of those, who even in the days of the patriarchs were looked up to as the leaders of the human race. In fact, in the words of our erudite brother How, Masonry has witnessed the rise of revolutions, and wane of empires, withstood the inroads of war, and the still more desolating ravages of barbarous ignorance and the gloomy superstition of ancient and modern times. Through the dark ages, from the sixth to the sixteenth century, Masonry was the chief lamp of knowledge that illumined the gloom of the then degraded human mind; it was the nurse that fostered, the guardian that watched over, and the ark that preserved, amidst the deluge of Gothic gloom that overspread the earth, all the science that had survived the wrecks of the Grecian and Roman empires.

" Hence, ' midst the ruin of three thousand years,
Unhurt, unchanged, Freemasonry appears;
Her towers and monuments may fade away;
Her truth and social love shall ne'er decay."

And to universal benevolence and charity we have long been taught to dedicate ourselves and all our actions, and to seek the solace of our own distress by relieving the wants, and ministering to the necessities of our fellow creatures. The Masonic elements of consecration are corn, wine, and oil, which are called the corn of nourishment, the wine of refreshment, and the oil of joy. They are emblematic of health, plenty, and peace. " Wherefore, my brethren," says the venerable Harris, " wherefore do you carry corn, wine, and oil, in your processions, but to remind you, that in the pilgrimage of human life you are to impart a portion of your bread to feed the hungry, to send a cup of your wine to cheer the sorrowful, and to pour the healing oil of your consolation into the wounds which sickness hath made in the bodies, or affliction rent in the hearts of your fellow travellers." Thus, the elements I have mentioned as well as the salt and perfume which we use on this solemn occasion have each and all their symbolic reference to the principles of our Order, and their moral lesson for our instruction. Let it never be said that we, who in many respects have for ages been the salt of the earth, have so acted as not to fulfil our high calling, and let our good deeds ever ascend as a sweet savour to the throne of the Most High, who we trust looks down with approbation upon our undertaking. In congratulating you, my brethren, upon this auspicious occasion allow me to express my heartfelt satis-

faction in seeing that in Griqualand the jealousies which have at times existed between various Orders of Masonry have found no place, and that all, whether belonging to the Craft Masonry, or to what are called the " higher degrees," have together with one heart and one aim united in erecting the commodious building in which I have now the pleasure to address you. It is also most gratifying to me to find you all returning, in true brotherly kindness and grateful remembrance, to that recognition of the ancient Orders of chivalry enunciated in the beginning of this century by the then newly united Grand Lodges (in the last paragraph of their articles of union), who, like ourselves, could not be brought to forget that we owe our very existence and the preservation of our ancient Order to those whose zeal for all that they considered right and good had led them to leave all and follow the banner of the Cross to those lands where they became initiated in those mysteries which we now so scrupulously guard. However much these undaunted men may have been mistaken or misled, let us remember that their one endeavour was to obey the dictates of their conscience in questions of religion, and to relieve, succour, and protect the unfortunate and oppressed, and let our object be to emulate their fidelity, and like them to leave a name behind us " sans peur et sans reproche."

The following address was then given by the Consecrating Officer: Before closing, brethren, I must now congratulate you on the consecration of the Richard Giddy Lodge and the dedication of your hall. " May your lodge long flourish and be an ornament to the Craft, and may your hall long remain the house of brotherly love, relief, and truth, and extend the benefits of benevolence and charity far and wide, so as to remain a structure perfect in all its parts, and honourable to its builders. May the G. A. O. T. U. continue to bless you with the bread of life and the oil of gladness."

The lodge was then formally closed.

In the evening a number of brethren sat down to a banquet at Mrs. Jardine's Hotel. The chair was taken by the W. M. of Lodge No. 1574, supported by the Consecrating Officer and several visiting P. M.'s; we also noticed W. Bro. Stuttaford, an officer of the District Grand Lodge of South Africa, on the left of the chairman. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and responded to. The banquet formed a fitting close to the harmony of the day's proceedings, and we must congratulate all the brethren concerned in the arrangements on the success which has attended their efforts.

CONSECRATION OF THE " BAYARD " LODGE, NO. 1615.

The latest addition to London lodges is that of the " Bayard," which was consecrated on Wednesday last, by Bro. the Right Hon. the Earl of Limerick, Prov. Grand Master Bristol. Among those present were the Earl of Donoughmore, G. S. W.; the Hon. W. Warren-Vernon, J. G. W.; the Rev. C. W. Arnold, G. Chaplain; Sir E. Borough, P. G. M. of Ireland; Lieut. Gen. J. Studholme Brownrigg, C. B., Prov. G. Master Surrey; Col. Francis Burdett, P. G. M. Middlesex; Rev. R. J. Simpson, P. G. C.; John Hervey, G. Sec. Lieut. Col. H. S. Burney was installed W. M. A full report of the proceedings will appear in our next.

BRO. SIR WATKIN W. WYNN, BART., M. P., AND THE FREEMASONS OF SHROPSHIRE.—A few days ago lodge meetings were held at Shrewsbury for the purpose of welcoming the Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master of North Wales and Shropshire, Sir Watkin W. Wynn, M. P., after his recent tour for the benefit of his health. The ceremony took the form of a presentation, followed by a banquet. Addresses were presented by the Worshipful Masters of the lodges.

REUNION OF KNIGHTS TEMPLAR CRUSADERS.—A meeting of a portion of the returned " Pilgrims " of Allegheny Commandery, No. 35, Knights Templar, who made the memorable tour of Great Britain and the Continent, during the summer of 1871, was recently held in Philadelphia, for the purpose of permanent organization. Wm. Hamilton was called to the chair, and the following officers were unanimously elected:—William Hamilton, President; John C. Hutchins, Vice-President; Michael Riley, Treas.; Andrew M. Rambo, Secretary. It was resolved to hold a reunion of the party, to take place in Philadelphia, on the evening of the 31st day of May, 1876, to commemorate the occasion of the Pilgrimage, and to keep alive the interests of the trip, and to promote a kinder feeling amongst all the surviving members.

BRIGHTON AQUARIUM.—While cleaning out the large porpoise tank the other day, the tank superintendent came upon several specimens of oyster spat of last season. The spat were of the usual size, and about the size of a sixpence. This is the first time that oysters have been known to breed in an aquarium, and the spat to affix and mature.

Bro. Sir Michael Costa has been presented with a magnificent ivory and gold Conductor's baton by the Glasgow Choral Union.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.—Colds, Coughs, Shortness of Breath.—These corrective remedies are infallible for these pectoral complaints, which neglected often end in Asthma, Bronchitis or Consumption. The Ointment, well rubbed upon the back and chest, penetrating the skin, is carried direct to the lungs, whence it expels all impurities. All the blood in the body constantly passes through the lungs and there all noxious particles tending to produce disease can be quickly, thoroughly and permanently neutralized, rendered harmless, or ejected from the system. In influenza and all chest complaints, early curative measures are imperiously demanded; one day's delay may cause a protracted illness one week's neglect may consign the disease to destruction.—ADV

PROVINCIAL GRAND MARK LODGE OF BRISTOL.

A movable Grand Lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, Park-street, Bristol, on Friday, 28th April, 1876, for the purpose of constituting the Province of Bristol, and installing Bro. William Augustus Frederick Powell as the first Provincial Grand Master.

Grand Lodge was opened at half-past three o'clock, and was presided over by M.W. Bro. the Rev. G. R. Portal, M.A., P.G.M., assisted by V.W. Bros. Dr. Henry Hopkins, P.G.W., as G.S.W.; Frederick Davison, G. Treas., as G.J.W.; Rev. C. R. Davy, P.G. Chaplain, as G. Chaplain; J. W. Woodall, P.G.W., as G.M.O.; John Chadwick, G.S.O.; R. de M. Lawson, P.G.S.O., as G.J.O.; Frederick Binckes, P.G.J.W., G. Sec.; W. Bros. S. Jones, G.S.D.; E. T. Payne, as G.J.D.; Thomas Trollope, M.D., G.D.C.; and Bro. W. A. Scott, as G.I.G.; and a large number of Past Grand Officers, Provincial Grand Officers, and W. Masters, Wardens and Overseers, and brethren of many private lodges.

Past Grand rank was conferred upon W. Bros. William Harris, Gilbert Cobb Harris, and William Hagley Bowden. On propositions duly made and seconded it was resolved that letters of condolence be addressed to the families of the late Bros. William Romaine Callender, M.P., and Sir John Cordy Burrows, Knight, expressing deep regret at the untimely decease of these brethren, who held such high positions in the Order.

Letters of apology were read by the Grand Secretary from several brethren, expressing regret at their inability to attend.

Grand Lodge was then closed.

The meeting was then declared an assembly of Mark Master Masons of Bristol.

It having been announced to the presiding Grand Master that the Provincial Grand Master designate, Bro. W. A. F. Powell, awaited admittance, he duly entered the lodge, attended by several Grand Officers, and was conducted to the throne, where he was duly installed in ancient form as the Provincial Grand Master for Bristol. He subsequently invested his officers for the ensuing year. Motions relating to the business of the day, or of importance to the province, were then proposed and considered.

The Provincial Grand Lodge was then closed in due and ancient form.

The brethren afterwards adjourned to the Montagu Tavern, where they partook of a most recherche banquet, admirably served, under the presidency of the new Provincial Grand Master, who was ably supported by a large number of Present and Past Grand Officers.

METROPOLITAN MASONIC MEETINGS.
For the Week ending Friday, May 26, 1876.

The Editor will be glad to receive notice from Secretaries of Craft Lodges, Royal Arch Chapters, Mark Lodges, Preceptories, Conclaves, &c., of any change in place or time of meeting.

SATURDAY, MAY 20.

- Lodge 1185, Lewis, King's Arms, Wood Green.
" 1326, Lebanon, Lion Hot., Hampton.
" 1329, Sphinx, Bridge House Hot., London-Bridge.
" 1364, Earl of Zetland, Old Town Hall, Hackney.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

- Lily, Greyhound, Richmond.
Manchester, 77, London-st., Fitzroy-square.
Star, Marquis of Granby, New Cross Road.

MONDAY, MAY 22.

- Lodge 4, Royal Somerset House and Inverness.
" 26, Castle of Harmony, Willis's Rooms, W.
" 183, Unity, London Tav., Bishopsgate-st.
" 902, Burgoyne, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

- Prince Leopold, Lord Stanley Tav., Kingsland.
Strong Man, Jerusalem Tav., St. John's Gate.
Sincerity, Railway Tav., Fenchurch-st. Station.
Camden, Stanhope Arms, Up. James-st., Camden To.
Eastern, Royal Hot., Mile-end-road.
St. James's Union, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Wellington, White Swan, Deptford.
Perfect Ashlar, Victoria Tav., Lower-rd., Rotherhithe.
Sydney, White Hart Ho., Church-rd., Upper Norwood.

TUESDAY, MAY 23.

- Lodge 14, Turcan, F.M.H.
" 259, Prince of Wales's, Willis's R., St. James's.
" 1158, Southern Star, Montpellier Tav., Walworth.
Chap. 21, Cyrus, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.
" 180, St. James's Union, F.M.H.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

- Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney.
Domestic, Surrey M.H., Camberwell New-road.
Faith, 2, Westminster Chambers, Victoria-st.
Prince Fredk. Wm., Lord's Hot., St. John's Wood.
Dalhousie, King Edward, Triangle, Hackney.
Prosperity, 1, Camomile-st., Bishopsgate.
St. Marylebone, British Stores Tav., St. John's Wood.
Constitutional, Wheatshaf Hot., Hand-court, Holborn.
Israel, Rising Sun Tav., Globe Road.
Royal Arthur, Prince's Head, York-road, Battersea.
Beacontree, Red Lion, Leytonstone, at 8.
Metropolitan Chapter, Jamaica Coffee Ho., Cornhill.
Eccelsior, Commercial Dock Tav., Rotherhithe.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 24.

- Lodge 2, Antiquity, F.M.H.
" 507, United Pilgrims, Horns Tav., Kennington.
" 753, Prince Fredk. Wm., St. John's Wood.
" 754, High Cross, Seven Sisters, Tottenham.

Chap. 13, Union of Waterloo, F.M.H., Woolwich.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

- Mt. Lebanon, Windsor Castle Tav., Southwark-bdg.-rd.
Pythagorean, Prince of Orange, Greenwich.
New Concord, Rosemary Branch Tav., Hoxton.
Royal Union, Horse and Groom, Winsley-st., Oxford-st.
Confidence, M.H., Basinghall-st.
Peckham, Maismore Arms, Park-road, Peckham.
Stanhope, Thicket Hot., Anerley.
Finsbury Park, Finsbury Park Tav., Seven Sisters'-rd.
Southwark, Southwark Park Tav., Southwark Park.
Duke of Connaught, Havelock Tav., Dalston, E.
United Strength, Grafton Arms, Kentish-town.
Mount Edgcombe, 19, Jermyn-street, St. James's.
Islington, Crown and Cushion, London Wall.
Whittington, Black Bull Tav., Holborn.

THURSDAY, MAY 25.

- Gen. Com. Girls' School, at 4.
Lodge 34, Mount Moriah, F.M.H.
" 1524, Duke of Connaught, Pownall-rd., Haggerston.
Chap. 5, St. George's, F.M.H.
" 538, Vane, F.M.H.
" 657, Canonbury, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
" 766, Wm. Preston, Terminus Hot., Cannon-st.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

- Egyptian, Hercules Tav., Leadenhall-st.
Fidelity, Yorkshire Grey, London-st., W.
Finsbury, Jolly Anglers' Tav., Bath-st., City-road.
Temperance in the East, Catherine-st., Poplar.
Ebury, 12, Ponsonby-st., Millbank.
Highgate, Bull and Gate, Kentish-town.
The Great City, 111, Cheapside.
High Cross, Coach & Horses, High-road, Tottenham.
Salisbury, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Marquis of Ripon, Albion Tav., Albion-rd., Dalston.
Prince Frederick William Chapter, St. John's Wood.

FRIDAY, MAY 26.

- Lodge 197, Jerusalem, F.M.H.
" 569, Fitzroy, Hd.-qtrs. Hon. Artillery, City-rd.
" 780, Royal Alfred, Star and Garter, Kew Bridge.
" 861, Finsbury, Rosemary Branch, Hoxton.
Chap. 862, Whittington, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
Preceptory 74, Harcourt, Greyhound Hot., Richmond.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

- Union Waterloo, Thomas-st., Woolwich.
St. George's, Globe Tav., Royal-hill, Greenwich.
Robert Burns, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Belgrave, Lyceum Tav., 354, Strand.
Unions Emulation (for M.M.'s), F.M.H.
Temperance, Victoria Tav., Victoria-road, Deptford.
Clapton, White Hart, Clapton.
Metropolitan, Portugal Hot., Fleet-st.
Westbourne, Horse & Groom, Winsley-st., Oxford-st.
Metropolitan, Pentonville-road.
United Pilgrims, Surrey M.H., Camberwell New-road.
St. James's, New Tanners' Arms, Grange-rd., Bermondsey.
Duke of Edinburgh, Silver Lion, Penny-fields, Poplar.
Doric, Earl Grey Tav., Mile-end-road.
Burgoyne, Grafton Arms, Prince of Wales's-road, N.W.
St. Luke's, Commercial Tav., King's-road, Chelsea.
Chigwell, Bald-faced Stag Hot., Buckhurst-hill.
Burdett Courts, Approach Tav., Victoria Park.
Royal Standard, Finsbury Park Tav., Holloway.
Ranelagh, Clarendon Hot., Hammersmith.
Pythagorean Chapter, Prince of Orange, Greenwich-rd.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN WEST LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE.

For the Week ending Saturday May 27, 1876.

MONDAY, MAY 22.

- Chap. 241, Friendship, M.H., Liverpool.

TUESDAY, MAY 23.

- Lodge 1393, Hamer, 22, Everton-rd., Liverpool.
Chap. 1094, Temple, M.H., Liverpool.
Merchant's L. of I., Liverpool.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 24.

- Lodge 220, Harmony, Garston Hot., Garston.
" 724, Derby, M.H., Liverpool.
Chap. 1052, Callender, P.H., Rusholme.
Neptune L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

THURSDAY, MAY 25.

- Lodge 594, Downshire, M.H., Liverpool.
" 1313, Fermor, M.H., Southport.
Chap. 292, Liverpool, M.H., Liverpool.
" 1086, Walton, St. Lawrence's School.

SATURDAY, MAY 27.

- Chap. 178, Harmony, Royal Hot., Wigan.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN GLASGOW AND WEST OF SCOTLAND.

For the Week ending Saturday, May 27, 1876.

All the Meetings take place at Eight o'clock.

MONDAY, MAY 22.

- Lodge 219, Star, 12, Tron-gate, Glasgow.
" 362, St. Clair, 25, Robertson-st., Glasgow.
" 541, Marie Stuart, M.H., Crosshill.
Chap. 122, Thetis, 35, St. James's-st., Glasgow.

TUESDAY, MAY 23.

- Lodge 67, Cathedral, 22, Struthers-st., Glasgow.
" 73, Caledonian of Unity, 170, Buchanan-st.
" 579, St. Bryde, M.H., Uddingston.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 24.

- Lodge 187, St. John, Black Bull Inn, Carlisle.
" 505, Burns St. Mary, Commercial Inn, Hurlford.
" 510, Maryhill, M.H., Maryhill.

THURSDAY, MAY 25.

- Lodge 334, St. John's, Castle Inn, New Cumnock.
" 570, Kenmuir, Balgray Hall, Springburn.
Chap. 117, Govan, Portland Buildings, Govan.

FRIDAY, MAY 26.

- Lodge 125, St. James, Masons' Arms, Newton Ayr.
" 153, Royal Arch, M.H., Pollokshields.
" 347, St. John, M.H., Rutherglen.
Chap. 79, Commercial, 30, Hope-st., Glasgow.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN EDINBURGH AND VICINITY.

For the Week ending Saturday, May 27, 1876.

MONDAY, MAY 22.

- Lodge 349, St. Clair, F.M.H., George-st.

TUESDAY, MAY 23.

- Lodge 151, Defensive Band, Alexandra H., Cockburn-st.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 24.

- Lodge 112, St. John, Royal Hot., Musselburgh.

THURSDAY, MAY 25.

- Lodge 392, Caledonian, F.M.H., George-st.

FRIDAY, MAY 26.

- Lodge 223, Trafalgar, 54, Bernard-st., Leith.

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The next election of members will be held on the 1st June. An entrance fee will be imposed as soon as the Club is opened.

Forms of Application for Membership may be obtained from the Secretary, at the Offices of the London Masonic Club Company (Limited), 37, Queen Victoria-street, E.C.

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BRO. T. LAWLER, who was specially appointed to the Management of the Music at the LONDON HOSPITAL on the memorable occasion of the visit there of HER MOST GRACIOUS MAJESTY THE QUEEN, begs to notify his change of residence, and requests that all letters relative to CONCERTS, BANQUETS, PRIVATE LESSONS, &c., be addressed—62, Saltoun-road, Brixton-Rise, S.W.

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REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS.

Craft Masonry.

PHENIX LODGE (No. 173).—A great gathering of the members of this old-established and deservedly popular lodge took place at the Freemasons' Hall on Saturday, the 13th inst. There were present the following officers:—Bros. Wilks, W.M.; Carter, S.W.; Massey ("Freemason"), J.W., W.M. elect; Burford, Treas.; Matthews, Sec.; Phillips, S.D.; Finch, J.D.; Allen, I.G.; Andrews, D.C.; Jekyll, acting Org.; Speight, P.M.; Tyler. The P.M.'s present were Bros. Vine, Wilson, Green, W. Watson, Sharman, Salmon, Witt. Amongst the numerous visitors we noticed Bros. Ough, P.M., P.G.P. of Eng.; Terry, P.M. 228, &c.; Mather, P.M., &c., 65; Levy, P.M., &c., 188; Bracebridge, P.M. 781; Morton, P.M. 1056; Bowyer, P.M. 1471; Jekyll, W.M. 1319; Perkins, J.W. 34; Goucher, J.W. 1017; R. J. Smith, S.D. 34; Goucher, J.W. 1017; R. J. Smith, S.D. 34; T. C. Walls, S.D. 1381, &c.; Percy, J.D. 228. The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, and Bros. Güterbock and Davis raised to the Third Degree, a board of Installed Masters was formed, Bro. Vine being in the chair of K.S., with Bros. Green and W. Watson as S. and J. Wardens. Bro. J. D. Massey, W.M. elect, was then formally inducted as W.M., the entire and beautiful ceremony being most ably and impressively worked by Bro. Vine, P.M., who received, at its conclusion, the hearty congratulations of the assembled brethren for the manner in which he had conducted the arduous ceremonial. The officers appointed for the ensuing year are: Bros. Phillips, S.W.; Finch, J.W.; Burford, Treasurer; Matthews, Secretary; Allen, S.D.; Blyth, J.D. and W.S.; Andrews, I.G.; Davidson, D.C.; Vine, jun., A.W.S.; Speight, P.M.; Tyler. Bro. Jekyll, 1319, was then unanimously elected an honorary member, and appointed Organist. The lodge having been closed, the brethren, to the number of 58, sat down to an excellent banquet, which was served in the "Tavern's" best style. Bro. the Rev. J. W. Goucher, 1017, said grace. Upon the removal of the cloth, the W.M. gave "The Queen and Craft," which toast having been duly honoured, Bros. Jekyll, Pritchard, Henson, Witt, and Sharman contributed the "National Anthem." In proposing "The Health of the M.W.G.M.," the W.M. said it was most gratifying to think that at the moment H.R.H. landed at Portsmouth, until his arrival home in London, he had been received with the greatest enthusiasm, which reception must not only have been a source of pleasure to the Prince, but of genuine gratification to all parties. (Loud Cheers.) In conclusion, he hoped that H.R.H. would be soon seen at his place in G.L., discharging those Masonic duties which he was so well qualified to do. The toast having been loyally received, the W.M. immediately gave "The Earl of Carnarvon, P.G.M., Lord Skelmersdale, D.G.M., and the rest of the G.O.'s, Past and Present," coupled with the name of Bro. Ough, P.G.P., who made a brief but excellent reply. Bro. Wiles, I.P.M., then rose and said that it was exceedingly gratifying to him to have the privilege of proposing "The Health of the W.M.," who was in every respect qualified for the position to which the lodge had elected him, whose members were thus fortunate in possessing so good a Master, whilst he (Bro. Massey) was also to be congratulated upon having so warm-hearted a lodge to support him successfully throughout his year of office. The W.M., in reply, stated that as long as he was in the chair, it was his intention to give the duties of the position every attention, and to discharge them as well as it was possible to do, notwithstanding that he had been somewhat unexpectedly called upon to take the chair under certain circumstances which he personally much deplored. In proposing "The Health of the Visitors," the W.M. remarked that he was exceedingly pleased at the number of visiting brethren present, and then proceeded to read their names and rank, &c., from the signature book. In concluding his remarks he said that, as it would be invidious to mention any brother's name in particular, he should leave the response to the toast entirely in their (the visitors) own hands. Bros. Mather, Bracebridge, Goucher, and Levy fully replied, the latter in particular making a very humorous speech, which "set the table in a roar." In giving "The Masonic Charities," the W.M. took occasion to allude to the great benefits conferred by those excellent institutions, and in concluding his speech he begged the brethren to remember that whilst they were enjoying festivities month after month, they should not forget the necessities of the numerous brethren in reduced circumstances, and the calls of the widow and the orphan of many a good Freemason which the three Craft charities were established to relieve, but which insti-

tutions, as they knew, were dependent upon the charity of Masons only. The toast was coupled with the name of Bro. Terry, Sec. to the R.M.B.I. Bro. Terry, in reply, said that, as Secretary of one of those noble institutions, he was exceedingly pleased at having to reply on behalf of the Masonic Charities. He then, in the course of an interesting speech, stated, amongst other statistics, that at the election for the benefits of the R.M.B.I. on the 19th inst. there would be 57 candidates all over 60 years of age. The male recipients, of which there were then 130, receiving £40 annually, and the 110 widows £32, in addition to coals given by G.L., and that next year the sum of £8695 would be required to support the charity which he had the honour of representing. The speaker also gave the amounts of the working expenses of the Girls' and Boys' Schools, and stated that Bro. Binckes, the worthy Secretary of the latter institution, had for the forthcoming festival the largest body of Stewards ever known in connection with any Masonic charity. In conclusion, Bro. Terry mentioned that, in round figures, the sum of £30,000 annually would be required to support the three charities, and he therefore conjured the brethren to remember that, notwithstanding the great financial success of the present year, the necessities of the charities were increasing, and that Freemasonry had nothing beyond its own narrow sphere to look to, to maintain those excellent institutions. The W.M. then proposed "The Health of Bro. Wiles, I.P.M.," in a good speech, and at its conclusion he presented him with a valuable P.M.'s jewel. This toast having been musically received, Bro. Wiles made an able response. As the hour was advanced, the W.M. then gave in quick succession the remaining toasts—viz., "The P.M.'s," "The Treasurer and Secretary," and "The Officers," which were briefly but suitably acknowledged. Bro. Wilson, P.M., replied for the first-named. During the evening vocal, instrumental, and dramatic selections were given by Bros. Henson, Wilson, Levy, Cusworth, Jekyll, Pritchard, and others. The Tyler's toast brought the proceedings to a conclusion, and the brethren of the "Phoenix" adjourned for the summer recess.

BEADON LODGE (No. 619).—On Wednesday, 17th inst., this famous lodge held its opening meeting of the season 1876 at its old quarters the Greyhound, Dulwich, when there was a full attendance of the brethren, and a good display of visitors. Bro. W. Kindon, W.M., presided, and all his officers were in their places:—Bros. Hume, S.W.; W. Angus, J.W.; Capt. G. A. Smith, P.M., Treas.; A. P. Leonard, P.M., Sec.; Wrangham, S.D.; Sharratt, J.D.; James Gordon, I.G.; and James W. Avery, W.S. Five candidates were on the paper for initiation, and they all presented themselves. They were Messrs. Sidney Roberts Smith, Charles Norrington, John William Owen, J. F. R. Morris, W. H. Allen. All these gentlemen were initiated by the W.M. Bro. Coulfield, the new proprietor of the Greyhound, was elected a joining member, who, when the work of the lodge was over, supplied the dinner, to which fifty brethren sat down. The P.M.'s of the lodge who were present throughout the meeting were Bros. Jas. W. Avery, E. S. Parker, A. P. Leonard, H. Massey ("Freemason"), W. H. Green, Leuw, G. A. Smith, and W. Seaman. After the brethren had partaken of the banquet, grace was said and the toasts were proposed. The W.M. in proposing "The Queen and the Craft," rejoiced with her Majesty on the return of the Prince of Wales. In giving the toast of "The M.W.G.M." the W.M. said Masons were all pleased that H.R.H. had returned safe to England after seven months' travel in lands which were always hitherto looked upon as dangerous. His Royal Highness had no doubt enjoyed himself very much, but he had nevertheless run great risks in his journey. He was now safe in England, and he would no doubt receive a hearty welcome wherever he went. "The Pro Grand Master, the Deputy Grand Master, and the rest of the Grand Officers" was the next toast, and the W.M. said that while the Grand Master was away they had admirably discharged the duties of the M.W.G.M., so that the office had not been vacant during his absence. The W.M. then proposed "The Initiates." All of them, he believed, would rise in the Craft. They seemed to be deeply impressed with the ceremony, although he had not been very fluent in it. He hoped also to have the pleasure of performing the other two ceremonies for all these brethren before he retired from the chair, and he also trusted that these brethren would rise in the Craft after they had received those degrees. Bro. Sidney R. Smith was the first to respond. He said he wished to thank the brethren most heartily for the honour they had conferred upon him by electing him to be a member of this honourable Craft. It was an honour he had long coveted, and it had been a matter of deep regret to him that he had caused the brethren so many disappointments by not coming for his initiation before when his name had been on the paper. He could assure them that it was nothing but business over which he had no control that prevented him attending before. He was deeply sensible of the honour conferred upon him, and it would be his study at all times to prove himself a worthy member of this ancient and honourable Craft. He was sorry now to have to leave the brethren, but he could not help himself. (Hear.) Bros. Norrington, Allen, Morris, and Owen, also responded. Bro. Leuw, I.P.M., proposed "The W.M." and in doing so said that the W.M. had that day performed the ceremony of initiation five times over, which was a very arduous duty and occupied a considerable time. It was an excellent opening meeting, but it entailed some heavy work; the W.M. had, however, got through it, although as the lodge had not met since January he had been a little rusty. The W.M. in reply said: it was a great pleasure to him to see such a large assemblage of the brethren at the opening meeting, and also to see five initiates brought into the lodge. He had had the pleasure of initiating them all. He would say

nothing about his own performance, but he hoped the next time he would be much better prepared to perform the ceremony; he wished to do the best he could, but as Bro. Leuw had said the lodge had been five months without meeting, and he consequently had got rusty. He was sorry he had required so much prompting; but next time he would use every effort to be perfect. (Hear.) He next gave "The Health of the I.P.M." and Bro. Leuw replied, and said he was very glad they had had so much to do. He hoped there would be five initiates next time, and next another five. All the Past Masters (who were always ready to assist) would then be required, and he for one would be happy to give assistance, which was always a pleasure to him. (Hear.) Several brethren, among whom were Bros. Harris and Johns (No. 1489), replied for "The Visitors," and Bros. G. A. Smith and E. S. Parker replied for "The P.M.'s." The latter brother in doing so said he could not allow the opportunity to pass without making one remark. They had sitting down at the table with them that evening a brother whom they were all very glad to see. Bro. W. Middlecott, who formerly was proprietor of the hotel in which they met, had, notwithstanding his having left the house, still continued a member of the lodge. While he was at the Greyhound his business prevented his sitting down with the brethren, as he was looking after their comforts. He begged to express to Bro. Middlecott now the unqualified approbation of the brethren of the admirable way in which he always catered for their enjoyment. All the years the lodge had been under his roof they had received the greatest kindness and attention from him, and the best of everything that could be supplied. (Hear, hear.) With the permission of the W.M. he would propose a toast in honour of Bro. Middlecott. (Cheers.) The toast was most cordially drunk, and Bro. Middlecott, replying to it, said he had not anticipated such a compliment, but it was very gratifying to him. Hitherto he had been generally engaged about the brethren's wants instead of sitting down with the lodge; but now that the cares of the house were off his hands he was pleased to come among the brethren, and he hoped he should do so in the future. (Hear, hear.) Bros. Hume, S.W.; Angus, J.W.; and the rest of the officers replied to the toast of "The Officers," and the evening, which had been enlivened by some capital singing by various brethren, was brought to a termination with the Tyler's toast.

PANMURE LODGE (No. 720).—The installation meeting of this lodge was held on Monday evening, 15th inst., at the Balham Hotel, Balham. Bro. C. Pulman, W.M., presided, supported by the following officers:—Bros. D. Trusler, S.W.; C. Burgess, J.W.; T. Poore, P.M. and Treas.; B. Richardson, S.D. and Sec.; C. P. McKay, J.D.; B. J. Woolfe, I.G.; W. Steedman, P.M., Tyler. Also Bros. H. Payne, I.P.M.; G. Lilley, W. Smith, M. Spigal, W. McMurray, W. Sanders, A. W. Clarke, Max Brenner, F. J. Burton, and the following visitors:—Bros. H. Thompson ("Freemason"), 1426, and P.M. 177 and 1158; J. Wright, W.M. 1585, and P.M. 1158; F. Wisdom, 463; W. Gardner, 463; J. Coe, 1339; T. Baker, 429; J. Best, 723; T. Lane, 720; E. Bye, 141; S. Harcastle, 374. The lodge was opened soon after three o'clock, and the minutes of the last lodge were read and confirmed. The report of the Audit Committee was read, received, and ordered to be entered on the minutes. A ballot was taken for the admission of Bro. W. Kerr, of the Scotch Lodge No. 156, which was unanimous in his favour. Bro. Poore, P.M., took the chair, and Bro. Pulman presented Bro. D. Trusler, the W.M. elect, to receive at his hands the benefit of installation. This part of the business was gone through by Bro. Poore in a most careful and correct manner, after which all the brethren below the degree of an Installed Master were required to withdraw. A Board of Installed Masters was then formed, and Bro. Trusler was duly installed into the chair of K.S. as W.M. of the Panmure Lodge for the ensuing year. The brethren below the chair were then admitted, and the new W.M. was saluted and proclaimed in the usual manner. The W.M. then appointed his officers as follows:—Bros. C. Pulman, I.P.M.; C. Burgess, S.W.; H. Payne, P.M., J.W.; C. P. McKay, S.D.; B. J. Woolfe, J.D.; W. Smith, I.G.; W. McMurray, D.C.; M. Spigal, W.S.; T. Poore, P.M., Sec.; W. Steedman, Tyler. Bro. Poore then gave the addresses to the W.M., Wardens, and brethren with a strict adherence to the ritual, but with an impressiveness that elicited the highest encomiums from all present, for it is but seldom that correctness and elocutionary rendering are conjointly displayed on such occasions. At the conclusion Bro. Poore was rewarded with loud and hearty applause. The new W.M. then immediately commenced upon his duties, and with all the ease, confidence, and ability of a veteran Mason proceeded to initiate Mr. Walter Thomas Mills and Mr. Henry Courtney Wiltshire into the mysteries and privileges of ancient Freemasonry, and for which he received the hearty congratulations of the brethren. After some other business had been disposed of the lodge was closed in due form and the brethren adjourned for refreshment. The repast was a bountiful one and was excellently served by mine host, Bro. Lilley. On the withdrawal of the cloth the usual formal toasts were given, and that of "The Health of the Prince of Wales, M.W. Grand Master" was enthusiastically responded to. Bro. Charles Pulman, I.P.M., in proposing "The Health of their W. Master" said he had known him ever since he had been a Mason, and he would safely say that no better man ever sat in the Master's chair. He hoped and trusted that the officers would all pull with him, so that his year of office might be a prosperous one. The toast was cordially responded to. The W.M. said he returned his heartfelt thanks for that kind expression of their feelings, and for placing him in the honourable position of Master. He was so overpowered by their kindness

that he knew not what to say to them, but heartily thanked them all for it. The W. Master said the next toast he had to propose was one that always gave great pleasure to the Master of a lodge, as it was "The Health of their Newly-Initiated Brethren." They were always glad to receive an infusion of new blood, not only in Freemasonry but in every other society, and he was sure their newly-initiated brethren would never regret the steps they had taken in becoming Freemasons. Bro. Mills and Bro. Wiltshire severally returned thanks. The W. Master gave "The Past Masters of the Lodge," and remarked that although some of them were abroad he hoped that they would all be present at the next anniversary. He coupled with the toast "The Health of Bro. Poore, their Installing Master." Bro. Poore, P.M., said he begged to thank the W. Master most sincerely for the kind manner in which his name had been put in connection with the Past Masters of the Panmure Lodge. He believed all the Past Masters were indebted very much for their knowledge to one person who was not present, but one who was respected by all—he alluded to their dear departed Bro. Thomas. He should never be tired of speaking of him, for it was by him that all was instilled into his mind that was for the benefit of Freemasonry. For the information of their younger brethren he might say that he had walked with Bro. Thomas from that house to the Clapham Station to gain that information that he was always so willing to impart, and, feeling sure that all had been indebted to him for their instruction, he believed that his name would live in their hearts, and would be handed down by them to their children. Bro. Payne, P.M., also returned thanks. The W. Master then said that he had a most agreeable duty to perform, which was to invest their Immediate Past Master, Bro. Pulman, with a jewel which had been voted to him by the brethren of the lodge as a small recognition of his services during the time he occupied the position of W. Master, and in placing it on his breast he hoped he might be blessed with long life to wear it. Bro. Pulman, I.P.M., said he sincerely thanked the brethren for the very handsome jewel they had presented to him, which he should cherish all the days of his life, and then it would be handed down to his children as an incentive to them to do their duty. The W. Master next proposed "The Visitors," for which Bro. H. Thompson ("Freemason"), P.M. 177 and 1158; J. Wright, P.M. 1158, and other brethren returned thanks. "The Officers" was the next toast, for which they severally responded. The Tyler's toast brought a very happy and harmonious meeting to a close, and the brethren adjourned soon after ten o'clock.

WILLIAM PRESTON LODGE. (No. 766).—An emergency meeting of this lodge was held at the City Terminus Hotel, Cannon Street, on Tuesday, the 16th May, when the following brethren were present: Bros. John Pringle, W.M.; W. Mansfield Newton, S.W.; W. E. Newton, J.W.; S. D. Ewins, S.D.; E. Kidman, I.G.; W. Drake, D.C.; William Worrell, P.M., Secretary; Captain G. I. Kain, P.M., Treasurer; George Newman, P.M. and W.S.; Aug. Braun, I.P.M.; Dr. R. Harland Whiteman, P.M.; B. Abbott, P.M., also Bros. Dr. Atwood, J. R. Williams, B. G. Austin, H. Smithers, E. Archer, W. Johnston, R. Leaman, A. Le Grand, A. Reissmann, R. Gunner, W. S. Collins, H. F. Partridge, P. Steinmann, W. J. Roberts, Robert Lyon, A. Ransby, G. Smithers, jun., L. G. Reinhardt, and two visitors. viz., Bros. Marcellus Higgs, W.M. of St. Mary's Lodge, No. 63 and Bro. Lindsay B. Harvey, late of the Albion Lodge. The business of the evening consisted of the passing of Bro. Dr. Atwood, the raising of Bros. R. J. Leaman, H. Smithies, and B. G. Austin, and the initiation of Mr. George Castle. It was decided to hold a summer festival in connection with this lodge, and a committee of seven brethren was appointed to carry out the necessary arrangements. All Masonic business having concluded, the brethren adjourned to an excellent dinner presided over by the W.M., when the usual Masonic toasts were given and responded to, and the brethren parted with fraternal greetings until the summer festival in July.

SIR HUGH MYDDELTON LODGE (No. 1602).—An emergency meeting of this new lodge was held at the Agricultural Hall, Islington, on Friday, 12th inst., when the whole of the officers were present, the W.M., Bro. E. Somers, initiating Messrs. J. H. Oppenheim, W. Payne, R. G. Thomas, H. Bevis, and S. Rowley into the mysteries of the Craft. Bros. J. Crocker, 1489; H. Field, 1489; T. Upward, 427; and W. A. Dawson, 820, were elected joining members. A cold collation was afterwards provided, and the musical abilities of the Organist, Bro. H. De Solla, assisted by Bros. Upward and Sim, contributed to render that portion of the evening's enjoyment a pleasurable one to the brethren as well as the visitors:—Bros. Dyer, P.M. 45; W. H. Lee, P.M. 1524; Gardiner and Middleton. The customary toasts were proposed and responded to, terminating with that of the Tyler. The first regular lodge meeting will be held on the 26th inst., when five other gentlemen are expected to present themselves for initiation.

DARTFORD.—Emulation Lodge (No. 299).—The installation meeting of this old Kentish lodge was held at the Bull Hotel, Dartford, on the 16th inst. The lodge was opened at 2.30 p.m. by the W.M. (Bro. H. G. Thompson) and his officers. Among the numerous visitors were Bros. King, W.M. 77; Knight, P.G.D.C.; Busbridge, P.P.G.A.S.; Abbott, P.M. 192; Giles, W.M. 829; Jardine, P.M. 140; Tattershall, 140; Reuter, W.M. 1107; Relph, P.P.S.G.D.; Wells, W.M. 503; Warner, P.P.G.A.S.; Spink, 177; Brown, 140; Dennant. After the W.M. elect (Bro. Davidson) had been presented and duly installed in the chair by the retiring Master, Bro. Thompson, the W.M., appointed and invested his officers for the ensuing year as follows:—Bros. T. Wills, S.W.; C. Wingrave, J.W.; Martin, Treas.; P. Harvey, Sec.; Churchley, S.D.; Sears, J.D.; Heeley, I.G.; Pike,

D.C.; Egerton, Steward. At 5.30 the banquet was served in the Assembly Rooms, about fifty brethren sitting down to discuss the delicacies prepared by Bro. Bray. The W.M. proposed the usual loyal and Masonic toasts, in a brief although, none the less effective manner; all of which were received and responded to most enthusiastically. Bro. Busbridge, in replying to the toast of the P.G.M. and other P.G. Officers, spoke in such warm terms of the interest taken in the Craft by the P.G.M. (Lord Holmesdale) and the Deputy P.G.M. (Bro. Eastes), and gave such a resumé of the work done and to be done in the interest of the institution, as to be heartily cheered upon resuming his seat. The I.P.M., Bro. Thompson, then proposed in felicitous terms "The Health of the W.M.," and referred to the zeal and assiduity with which Bro. Davidson had always attended to his duties in the lodge, and he (Bro. Thompson) was sure every member would only be too happy and proud in supporting the W.M. during the Masonic year then commencing. The toast was received most heartily. Bro. Davidson desired to thank the brethren for the cordial manner in which they had received the toast, and promised that nothing should be wanting on his part to fulfil in the most efficient manner the trust reposed in him by placing him in the proud position of W.M. of the Lodge of Emulation. The W.M. then proposed "The Health of the I.P.M. and Installing Master, Bro. Thompson," and presented him with a very handsome P.M.'s jewel on behalf of the lodge, as a slight token of the regard and esteem in which Bro. Thompson was held by all the brethren. Bro. Thompson accepted the gift with feelings of great pleasure, and hoped the kind feelings which had been manifested towards him ever since he had been a member of the lodge would long continue. "The Visitors;" "The Treasurer, Bro. Martin," who was then presented with a silver tea service as a mark of the esteem in which he was held by the brethren, and in appreciation of his valuable services as Treasurer during a period of twenty years; "The Masonic Charities." "The Officers" were then honoured in true Kentish form. During the evening some very excellent music, recitations, songs, &c., were contributed by Bros. Cotterill, Wright, Dennant, Brown, Pike, Wells, Andrews, and Churchley, and the Tyler's toast brought to a close one of the most successful meetings of the Lodge of Emulation.

DERBY.—Arboretum Lodge (No. 731).—This lodge held its monthly meeting at the Masonic Hall, Gower-street, on Wednesday evening, 10th inst., Bro. R. Bennett, W.M.; Bros. Burton, as S.W.; T. Merry, J.W.; Cooper, Sec.; G. H. Sheffield, S.D.; Whittaker, J.D.; Holbrook, Org.; and Frazer, I.G.; P.M.'s J. Smith, H. Burn, G. T. Wright, and a good number of brethren. The lodge was opened at seven p.m., and Bro. King, after answering the questions most satisfactorily, was passed to the F.C. Degree in a most impressive manner by the W.M. Bro. P.M. Wright gave the Second Tracing Board. Five pounds was voted to Bro. Baldock's testimonial. The W.M. read a telegram from Bro. Cave, sent from St. Petersburg, regretting his absence and wishing the W.M. and brethren a happy meeting. The lodge was closed in peace and harmony at nine p.m. The brethren adjourned for supper, and a pleasant evening was brought to a close by the time-honoured Tyler's toast.

WALMER.—Lord Warden Lodge (No. 1096).—This lodge held its usual fortnightly meeting on Friday, 10th inst., at eight p.m., business commencing most punctually. It was proposed by the W.M., Bro. T. Ayling, and seconded by the S.W., Bro. A. H. Des Barres, that an address of congratulation be prepared and forwarded to H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, which proposition was carried unanimously. The address was as follows:—"To His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, K.G., &c., &c., Most Worshipful Grand Master of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of England and Wales. May it please your Royal Highness: We, the Worshipful Master, officers, and brethren of the Lord Warden Lodge, No. 1096, Walmer, beg to offer our sincere and hearty congratulation on your safe return to England. In no part of this realm have the tidings of the splendid magnificence and heartiness of your reception in India been received with deeper interest and greater gratification than by the members of this lodge. And we trust the Great Architect of the Universe, who has safely brought you through the difficulties and dangers of your voyage, will continue the blessing of health to her Royal Highness the Princess, and to your illustrious family, and to your Royal Highness, and long spare you to preside over our most ancient and honourable fraternity.—Thomas Ayling, W.M.; Alexander H. Des Barres, S.W.; Edward Kirby, J.W.; Thos. J. Usher, P.M., P.G.S., Sec."

GAMBIERTON (South Australia).—Mount Gambier Lodge (No. 1207).—The usual monthly meeting of this lodge was held on Tuesday, the 14th December, 1875, and was well attended. The lodge was opened by Bro. A. F. Barrett, W.M., and the minutes of last lodge were read and confirmed. A lodge of Past Masters was then opened by the W.M. Present, P.M.'s Bros. Charles Clark and William Evans. Bro. the Rev. J. F. Hoctor was duly installed into the chair of K.S. according to ancient usage, who then invested the following brethren as his officers for the ensuing year:—S.W., W. T. C. Marrie; J.W., J. C. Shepherdson; S.D., G. B. Moules; J.D., C. Boyd; I.G., G. A. Pritchard; Tyler, J. Conigrave; Treasurer, A. Lieman; Secretary, P.M. A. F. Barrett. P.M. Bro. Wm. Evans informed the brethren that he was about to proceed to England, and it was then proposed by Bro. G. D. Wyatt and carried unanimously that the thanks of the lodge be given to P.M. Bro. Wm. Evans for his good services to Masonry in general and to this lodge in particular for the past seven years. Several brethren spoke to the esteem in which P.M. Bro. Evans was held, and regret was expressed at his departure. After

sundry business of a routine character had been disposed of the lodge was closed in harmony, after which the brethren adjourned to the banquet, which was well served by host Bro. Wm. McKay. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts having been duly honoured, "The Health of Bro. W. Evans" was proposed by the retiring W.M. in eulogistic terms, and was heartily drunk. Bro. Evans returned thanks in a very feeling speech, and expressed a hope that he should be spared to return to Mount Gambier, and concluded by proposing "Prosperity to the Lodge 1207." The Tyler's toast brought the proceedings to a close.

TEDDINGTON.—The Felix Lodge (No. 1494).—A meeting of this lodge was held at the Clarence Hotel, Teddington, on Saturday, the 20th inst. Present: Bro. F. Sumner Knyvett, Grand Steward, W.M.; F. B. Archer, S.W.; Robert Berridge, Grand Steward, J.W.; Edward B. Grabham, I.P.M., Prov. Grand Steward Middlesex, Secretary; W. G. Moore, S.D.; E. A. Woolley, I.G. Visitors: Bro. Lieut.-Col. Fras. Burdett, Prov. Grand Master, Middlesex; Bro. S. E. Turner, Lodge of Antiquity, No. 2; Bro. T. E. Woollard, Burdett Lodge, 1293. The minutes of the preceding meeting were read and confirmed. Mr. John Weston was then initiated into the Order by the W.M., after which Bros. Getty, Hunter, Twinberrow, and Youngusband were passed to the Second Degree, and Bros. Belward and Sadler raised to the Third Degree, the whole of the ceremonies being performed by the W.M. in a manner which reflected the highest credit on the lodge. The election of W.M. for the ensuing year was then proceeded with, the unanimous choice of the brethren falling upon Bro. F. B. Archer, S.W., a brother who is exceedingly popular in the lodge for his amiable qualities and high Masonic attainments, and whose year of office will be looked forward to with the most pleasurable anticipations. Bro. Archer having acknowledged the honour conferred upon him, Bro. D. Nicholson, P.M. No. 19, was unanimously re-elected Treasurer, and Bro. W. Y. Laing, P.M. 45, Tyler for the ensuing year. Bro. Grabham, I.P.M., then rose, and proposed that the best thanks of the lodge be accorded to Bro. Knyvett, W.M., for the able, courteous, and efficient manner in which he had presided over the lodge during his year of office, and as a slight mark of respect the brethren present him, at the next meeting, with a P.M. jewel of the usual value. This proposition was seconded by Bro. Archer, S.W., and carried unanimously. Bro. Col. F. Burdett expressed his satisfaction with the manner in which the work of the lodge was carried out, and congratulated the W.M. upon the success which had attended the lodge since its formation. Having given the members a few valuable suggestions with regard to the admission of initiates and joining members (the Colonel's remarks being received with great acclamation by the brethren), he took his leave of the lodge, expressing regret that other more pressing engagements prevented his remaining to the banquet, which was presided over by the W.M. After the removal of the cloth, the usual loyal toasts were given and responded to. "The Health of the Deputy Grand Master, Grand Officers, Past and Present," was proposed by Bro. Grabham, I.P.M., and acknowledged by the W.M., Bro. Knyvett, and Bro. Berridge, J.W. (Grand Stewards for the year). "The Health of the W.M." was proposed, and received in the most cordial manner, who briefly acknowledged the compliment. Bro. Weston and Bro. Sealy responded for "The Initiates," and Bro. Woollard for "The Visitors." The W.M. next proposed "The I.P.M., Bro. Grabham," who cordially thanked the brethren for all the kindness received at their hands, and congratulated the lodge upon having elected their much esteemed brother, the S.W., as their W.M. for the ensuing year, and predicted a year of great prosperity for the lodge. "Bro. F. B. Archer, W.M. elect," was the next toast proposed, and it is needless to say how very heartily this was received by the brethren. Bro. Archer assured the lodge that he would do all in his power to maintain the high position to which it had attained in the two years of its existence by endeavouring to emulate the example of the two Past Masters who had preceded him. Bro. Berridge, J.W., having acknowledged the toast of "The Officers," the Tyler's toast was then proposed and duly responded to, the brethren separating after the enjoyment of a most successful evening.

HIGH WYCOMBE.—Wycombe Lodge (No. 1501).—The regular monthly meeting of this young but highly flourishing lodge was held at the Town Hall, at three o'clock, on Wednesday, May 17th. The W.M., Bro. John Palmer, was supported by his Wardens, officers, and a goodly number of members. Among the visitors we noticed Bros. John Bowes, P.M., P.Z., P. Prov. G. Reg. Cumberland and Westmorland, and Wm. Sim, of Aberdeen. The lodge was opened in due form according to ancient custom. When the minutes of the last meeting were read and declared to be correctly recorded, two gentlemen were initiated, and one brother passed. The lodge was closed in the Second Degree. Bro. William S. Cantrell, S.W., was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing year. A Past Master's jewel was voted to the outgoing Master for the highly efficient manner in which he had discharged the duties of his office. The lodge having been closed the brethren adjourned to the banquet at the Red Lion Hotel. After the usual toasts the W.M. proposed "The Health of the Visitors." Bro. Bowes, in reply, complimented the lodge on their excellent working, with which he said he was greatly impressed. Some excellent songs were well rendered, and a solo on the violin by Bro. Sim much and deservedly applauded.

LIVERPOOL.—Lodge of Israel (No. 1502).—The success which has attended this lodge since the period of its consecration continues without abatement, and much of the prosperity is due to the hearty, energetic, and efficient manner in which the business is invariably conducted. The lodge is particularly fortunate in having a W.M. like Bro. A. J. Henochsberg, and he is also favoured in having

a most efficient and zealous staff of officers. The usual monthly meeting of the lodge was held on Monday, the 15th inst., at the Masonic Hall, Hope-street, and amongst those present were Bros. A. J. Henochsberg, W.M.; Ralph Robinson, I.P.M.; the Rev. Professor Prag, Chaplain; M. Hart, S.W.; A. Jones, J.W.; I. De Frece, Treas.; B. Levy, Sec.; S. Schonstadt, S.D.; B. Woolf, J.D.; I. Woolf, S.; W. G. Veale, Org.; W. H. Ball, Tyler; M. T. Tieski, H. D. Marks, D. L. Marcus, J. E. Davidson, the Rev. Dr. Stern, H. Ridehalgh, J. J. Jordain, A. Rabow, S. J. Henochsberg, J. Caher, I. Levy, J. Goldberg, J. R. Grant, G. Somers, A. Liebschutz, A. Cohen, J. Cohen, W. Silver, A. Isaacs, M. Preslan, P. Barnet, J. Frank, and J. Ray. The list of visitors included the names of Bros. W. Longbottom, 667; A. Stephens, P.M. 32, P.J.G.D. Cheshire; J. Prescott, P.P.J.G.W.; E. A. Lees, 537; Dr. S. Kisch, 216; J. Jacobs, 724; J. Hocken, P.M. 673; H. Trevitt, J.D. 724; T. H. Rahn, P.P.G.D.; Dr. F. G. Bailey, 786; M. Emmanuel, P.M. 205; M. Cohen, 673; W. Wurrell, P.M. 795; and R. G. Elstone, 86. After the transaction of some routine business Mr. Marks Feldman, of Hull, was initiated with much impressiveness by Bro. A. J. Henochsberg, the working tools being admirably given by the J.W., and the ancient charge by the S.W., who deserves great praise for the style in which this was delivered. The lodge was shortly afterwards closed, and the brethren adjourned to the dining-hall, where a splendid banquet was served by Bro. Fairhurst (Fisk and Fairhurst), under the presidency of the W.M., who gave the usual loyal and Masonic toasts during the evening with great point and vigour. With song, sentiment, and speech a very pleasant evening was spent by the members and the visitors.

TWICKENHAM.—Francis Burdett Lodge (No. 1503).—A meeting of this lodge was held at the Albany Hotel, on Wednesday, the 12th ult. The officers present were Bros. Colonel Wigginton, P.M., P.P.G.D.C. of Worestershire, P.G.S. of Middlesex, W.M.; Captain Birchill, P.M., &c., acting S.W.; Tomlinson, P.M., P.P.G.S.D. of Norfolk, J.W.; Horsley, P.M., P.P.G.R. of Middlesex, acting I.P.M.; Court, sen., Sec.; S. H. Knaggs, S.D.; Taylor, J.D.; Court, jun., acting I.G.; Rogers, S.; Palmer, W.S.; Sugg, A.O. The minutes of the previous meeting in March having been read and confirmed, the W.M. passed one candidate as a F.C., and gave with his usual ability the interesting lecture on the Tracing Board belonging to that degree. Several matters of minor detail having been discussed and disposed of, the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned for refreshment, which was presided over in the W.M.'s unavoidable absence by Bro. Horsley, P.M., who circulated the customary loyal and Craft toasts briefly but pertinently. The visitors were Bros. Turner, 33; Hutchings, 162; Clark, 225; Seaton and Edwards 857.

On Wednesday, the 10th inst., the lodge was convened for the dispatch of business at 6 p.m., when the above-mentioned officers were present, supplemented by Bro. Saunders, S.W. (Bro. Vaughan was the acting I.G.) The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the W.M., assisted by his officers, raised a brother to the Sublime Degree in a manner that left nothing to be desired. After some financial questions had been fully discussed, and other lodge business transacted, the W.M. stated that as the lodge had met on the eve of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales's happy return to his native shores he had thought that an address of congratulation to their M.W.G.M. from the Francis Burdett Lodge would be most favourably received by its members, and he had, therefore, as the exigencies of the case demanded, drawn and had had engrossed the proposed address, which he suggested should be signed on behalf of the lodge by the Wardens, Secretary, and himself. The address, which was excellently worded, was then read and unanimously adopted. The lodge was shortly afterwards closed in ancient form, and the members partook of a collation. Upon the removal of the cloth the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed and heartily drunk. In giving the former the W.M. alluded to the Prince's happy preservation from the dangers of the climate, the jungle, and the sea during his long but brilliant Indian progress. "The W.M.'s Health" was proposed by Bro. Captain Birchill, P.M., duly honoured, and responded to. This meeting closes the season.

PLUMSTEAD.—United Military Lodge (No. 1536).—The regular monthly meeting of the above young and vigorous lodge took place on Friday, the 12th inst., at Bro. Plaisted's fine Masonic Hall, Angelsea Hill, and as this was the last time the esteemed W.M., Bro. Powcell, would have the opportunity of presiding, a large and influential assemblage of the brethren, both of the province and neighbouring lodges, attended to do him honour; Bro. Humphrey Wood, G.S.W. for Kent, and P.M. 20, taking the place of honour at the right of the chair. Among the other visitors were Bros. C. Coupland, P.G.S. Kent, and P.M. 913; T. Smith, P.P.G.P. Kent, and P.M. 913 and 829; E. Denton, P.P.G.P. Kent, and P.M. 913 and 766; J. Henderson, P.M. 760, 829, 913, 1076, and 1007; T. Ward, W.M. 760; A. Penfold, W.M. 913; W. Carnelly, W.M. 13; C. Hobson, P.M. 700; F. J. Dawson, P.M. 700; G. Davies, P.M. 13; W. T. Vincent, S.W. 913; T. W. Butt, S.W. 700; T. Hastings, S.W. 829 and 913; A. Woodley, S.D. 700; Waters, J.W. 700; T. D. Hayes, S.D. 913; T. Hutton, J.D. 13; A. Jessup, Treas. 913; J. Chapman, I.G. 913; C. Cooke, Org. 700, 913, and 13; D. C. Capon, 913; J. T. Ritchie, 757, Bombay; W. A. Tucker, 913; A. Heron, 1331; N. Beaver, 700; W. Bidgood, 700; H. B. Bryson, 700; C. Morton, 700; J. Reilly, 13; E. Scully, 1076; E. W. Fisher, 700; E. Hewett, 13; G. H. Masters, 13; G. Elliott, 1076; W. Cobb, 700; T. Huntingford, 13; W. Watts, 913; F. Lyons, 913, 700; W. Mc-

Coy, 700; B. Norman, 13, 700, and 1076; Pryce, 913; and C. Jolly, 913. The officers besides the W.M. were Bros. W. Weston, S.W.; G. Spincks, J.W.; W. Murphy, Treas.; T. Cooper, Sec.; H. G. Picken, S.D.; G. H. Shaw, J.D.; G. S. Walsh, M.A. Chap.; J. McCaffery, Stwd.; R. G. Lapham, I.G.; and J. Lackland, Tyler. The work before the lodge was the balloting for as joining member of Bro. J. Neil, 1331, Batt. Qr. Master Sergt. R.A., who, upon approval, was duly enrolled among the brethren; the balloting for and initiating of Sergt. Walkden, Royal Engineers, Battery Quartermaster Sergt. J. Brown, R.H.A., and Sergt. James Hughes, R.A., which was happily effected. Bro. W. A. Watkins was then passed to the Second Degree, and Bros. W. Taylor and G. Harris raised to the Sublime Degree. Upon resuming the lodge the W.M. read letters of apology from Bros. Major General Brownrigg, P.G.M. for Surrey, who is an honorary member of the lodge; Eastes, D.P.G.M. for Kent, and others. He then personally thanked Bros. Humphrey Wood and Coupland for their attendance as Provincial Officers, both of whom bore testimony to the pleasure the visit had afforded and to the excellent working of the W.M. in the several degrees. The W.M. then placed £5 5s., the proceeds of the charity box in hand, to Bro. Coupland's list in aid of the Boys' School charity, he being Steward for this year's festival of that institution, regretting at the same time that on account of the youth of the lodge they were unable to contribute at present from its funds. He thanked the brethren for their assistance in obtaining as they had done the very handsome and valuable harmonium, that under the skillful hands of Bro. Cooke had added so much to the impressiveness of the rituals, and finally closed the lodge for the last time during his term of office in due form. Upon reassembling for refreshment the lodge presented a most animated appearance, and the reception of the usual toasts was most enthusiastic, that of "His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, Grand Master of England," being especially hearty, the whole of the brethren, led by the stentorian voice of Bro. Brooks, chorusing Brinley Richards' hymn till the hall rang again. Bro. Lord Holmesdale, Prov. G.M. for Kent, received due honour as did Bro. Eastes, D.G.M., and the rest of the Provincial Grand Officers, the latter toast being coupled with the name of Bro. Coupland, P.G.S. for the present year, who in reply regretted the unavoidable absence of the S.G.W., who had been compelled to leave them early, and who, had he remained, would have told them of Lord Holmesdale and the interest he took in Masonry generally, but of course more particularly in the province; they were fortunate in having the presence of the G.S.W. that night in lodge, and fortunate in having so worthy a Master to preside over them. Bro. Wood had told him that he did not regret coming so far, he had been repaid by seeing the excellent working and sound condition of the lodge (cheers) and should convey to Lord Holmesdale his great pleasure at the addition of the Military Lodge to the roll of the province of Kent. (Applause.) Brother Walsh, P.P.G. Chaplain, and Chaplain to the Garrison, then rose to propose "The Health of the W.M." He said he had been called upon to propose a toast that he felt sure the whole of the brethren would feel a pleasure in responding to, he only felt how inadequate he was to do it justice, and that was the health of their W.M. He expressed how sorry he was that he had not been a very faithful servant to the W.M. in his position as Chaplain to the lodge, but would ask them to excuse him by the fact that the great and onerous duties appertaining to the office he held in the garrison precluded him from a constant attendance at the lodge. After the handsome compliments paid by Bro. Coupland to the W.M. it was unnecessary for him to add to them, but he must say that he never felt greater pleasure in his life than in seeing the magnificent and beautiful ceremonies of the three degrees worked by the W.M. that night. He wished him long life, strength, and prosperity, for many years to come. Bro. Pownall in rising to respond was greeted with a round of cheers. He said: I thank you deeply, P.P.G.C., Rev. Walsh, for the kind and feeling manner in which you have been pleased to propose my health, and you, officers and brethren, for the hearty and flattering reception that toast has received at your hands. It is, as many of you may be aware, nearly twelve months since I had the honour of being installed your W.M., and the first W.M. of this, the United Military Lodge, by my old and esteemed friend and Bro. Past Master Bates, of Chatham, and I feel that the magnificent and impressive manner in which he performed that ceremony will not lightly or soon be effaced from your memories. That day I look upon, brethren, as the red letter day of my life, and now that I am about to retire from the position of your W.M. I feel it from the bottom of my heart, and shall always remember with pleasure the unvaried kindness and brotherly love I have received at your hands. I feel that there have been more honours showered upon me than I have deserved, but believe, etc., if I have not deserved them I have ever endeavoured to carry out the duties imposed upon me in such a manner as would, at least, entitle me to your kind consideration and indulgence. I believe, brethren, I have conscientiously and earnestly endeavoured during that time to look to the welfare and comfort of every member of the lodge. When we started nearly twelve months ago we had but twenty-six members, and now we return eighty-eight on the books of the Grand Lodge of Kent. The principal number as you are aware have been joining members, the fee for joining being especially settled at a low figure, so as to admit our military brethren who have been made in other parts of the world, when they come to this garrison, into a home for Masonry, so that they may be enabled to still keep up their connection with the Craft, even though far away from their mother lodges. Many of our military brethren have been initiated into Masonry in India, Canada, New Zealand, Gibraltar, and other places, and in most of the "civil"

lodges the joining fee is too high for them to affiliate themselves to those lodges; but now in this and the other military lodges at Aldershot and elsewhere there is a home for them where they can be made welcome among old friends and brethren in the Craft. When I took the position of W.M. of this lodge I had great hopes, before my year of office was expired, to be able to say that the whole of the necessary expenditure incurred in the formation of it had been cleared off, but those wishes have not been realised. We have paid off nearly all, and only owe some £50 or so, and I am proud to tell you that a good brother of the lodge bears the burden of that debt by way of loan. The good feeling and hospitality shown by the lodge to all visiting brethren has not been without result. It was said, and objected to by some of the original members, that the expenses incurred at the festive board were unnecessary, but I trust now that they see, and I am sure appreciate, the good feeling and brotherly love that has arisen from the short time devoted to hospitality, they will agree with me that what we have done has been done wisely and well for the benefit of the lodge. And now, brethren, as this is the last time that I shall have the honour and privilege of addressing you from this chair as W.M., let me thank all my kind friends and brethren for many a deed and many a word that has cheered and helped me on my path. I see around me those who have obtained high honours in the Craft, Past and Present P.G. Officers, W.M.'s and P.M.'s, and a large circle of old friends, and I feel that no words of mine can ever thank them sufficiently for the many and valuable services rendered to me by them. Bro. Penfold, the W.M. of the senior provincial lodge in this locality, has taken me by the hand and initiated me into the privileges and mysteries of Provincial Grand Lodge. I thank him for it, and shall ever remember it with gratitude and affection. (Loud applause.) My Bro. Ward, W.M. of the Nelson, has frequently honoured me with his presence and assistance; him too I thank sincerely. P.M. Coupland has been, and I trust will long be, a constant friend of both yours and mine, and often comes among us; and to one and all of the W.M.'s and P.M.'s and brethren present I tender my heartfelt thanks for their good wishes and hearty support. I beg most sincerely to thank my officers, Bros. Weston, Spincks, and Cooper more particularly, for the great and valuable assistance they have rendered me during my term of office, and last, though not least, to you all, brethren, for your genial support and unvaried courtesy to me as your W.M. It is a proud position to be placed in as the first W.M. of such a lodge, and I feel, and have ever felt, it a great honour. I trust many of you may some day follow me to this chair, and I feel that you will, as I have endeavoured to do, should you attain it, leave this lodge more prosperous, happy, and contented, if possible, than when you took it from myself. I feel that my efforts have not been altogether futile, and I trust that for many years to come I may as one of the P.M.'s still merit your approbation and ever be worthy of your regard and esteem. "The Initiates," "The Visitors," "The Officers of the Lodge," and other toasts followed, and after the Tyler's toast "God Save the Queen" concluded a most impressive and enjoyable gathering.

INSTRUCTION.

WELLINGTON LODGE (No. 548).—The annual banquet of this Lodge of Instruction was held at the White Swan Hotel, Deptford, on Monday evening, the 24th ult., when a large number of the brethren met to do honour to Bro. C. G. Dilley, P.M. 147, &c., their late Preceptor, who had been invited to preside, the vice-chairs being filled by Bro. Griffin, P.M. 933, the present Preceptor and Treas. of the lodge, and J. Baxter Langley, W.M. 1423. Ample justice having been done to the good cheer, provided with the elegance and profusion for which the hostess, Mrs. Porter, is so justly celebrated, and the cloth cleared, Bro. Dilley, in his usual felicitous manner, proposed the usual loyal and Masonic toasts, which, it is needless to say, were received with the utmost enthusiasm. "The Health of the Preceptor of the Lodge" was proposed by Bro. Langley, who dwelt at some length on the services Bro. Griffin had rendered to the Craft, and he felt sure that while the lodge was under his direction it could but prosper. The toast was drunk with applause, and Bro. Griffin, in thanking the brethren for the manner in which they had received the toast, assured them that he only followed in the footsteps of his predecessor, as he was sure that doing so and a punctual and diligent attendance was the only way to preserve the lodge in its present prosperous condition. If proof were needed of his attachment to the lodge, he could say with pride that he had only been absent once from their meetings since he had been elected Preceptor. Bro. Dilley then rose, and said it afforded him great pleasure to propose the toast of the evening, "Prosperity to the Lodge of Instruction," as from his long and intimate connection with the lodge he always felt a lively interest in its welfare. From the prosperity that had existed for the last few years he was induced to think that the strenuous exertions they had made in the cause of Freemasonry would without doubt soon place them in the front rank of metropolitan Lodges of Instruction. He then proceeded to refer to the past history of the lodge, and called to mind the time when the lodge was in danger of extinction, owing to the paucity of attendance, but thanks to the indefatigable exertions of one present, who he was certain they all held in the highest esteem—he alluded to their Hon. Sec., Bro. Macdonald—he was pleased to find that the lodge was—and he trusted that it would, under its present able management long continue—one of the most prosperous Lodges of Instruction in London. Their Hon. Sec. had not favoured him with a sight of the report he was about to present to the brethren, but he thought he could anticipate a very good one. He would couple with the toast the name of Bro. Macdonald. He had already hinted that mainly to his exertions the lodge owed its present prosperity. Doubtless

punctuality was the essence of his existence, and his general urbanity rendered him one of the most popular favourites in every circle in which he moved. Bro. Macdonald, on rising to reply, was received with applause. He said that he had no idea that he would be called upon to respond to the toast of the evening; he thought that he would only be called on to speak in his capacity of Hon. Secretary as to the present position of the lodge, and its work during the past year, but as Bro. Dilley had coupled his name with the toast he would thank them for the very hearty manner in which they had received it. He was pleased to be able to say that the anticipations of Bro. Dilley were fulfilled, inasmuch as he had a most satisfactory account to give them of the year's work. They had met 52 times during the year, and the total attendance was 799, or an average attendance of 151, while, after paying £7 3s. 6d. in charity and the trifling working expenses of the lodge, they had a balance in hand of over £2. He considered the brethren ought to congratulate themselves on the prosperous state of the lodge, and, in well-chosen words, urged them to continue their attendance. He did not consider that he was worthy of all the encomiums passed upon him by Bro. Dilley. They had appointed him to the office of Secretary of the lodge, and he had—and always would, so long as he held the office—endeavoured to discharge his duties faithfully and conscientiously. That he had done so in the past was shown by the testimonial they had, in conjunction with the Star Lodge of Instruction, presented him with in October last, and he could assure them that the many kindnesses he had received at their hands would stimulate him to fresh exertions for the welfare of the lodge. Bro. Griffin, in a highly complimentary speech, proposed "The Health of Bro. Dilley," who had done such good suit and service to the lodge. Bro. Dilley, whose rising was greeted with prolonged applause, thanked the brethren for the reception they had given him, and Bro. Griffin for the kind manner in which he had spoken of his past services. He did not expect to make his fortune in his present profession so rapidly as Bro. Griffin had predicted, but when he was able to retire from the turmoil of business he was sure they would be able to find him a place in the lodge, not to dispossess their present Excellent Preceptor, but in a quiet corner, where he could watch with delight the progress the brethren had made under him. He would now propose a toast that he knew they would drink with enthusiasm, "The Health of the Vice-Presidents that evening, Bros. Griffin and Baxter Langley." Of Bro. Griffin he did not think it necessary for him to speak; they all knew his worth, and his untiring devotion to the lodge. Bro. Baxter Langley, although not a constant attendant at the lodge, never failed to give them his assistance at their annual festival, or whenever he was called upon, and he was sure the worthy Doctor would, as of old, give them one of those eloquent addresses that had so often delighted the ears of his auditors. Bro. Baxter Langley, in rising to respond, thanked the chairman for the kind and complimentary terms in which he had spoken of him, and then proceeded to refer to the great use of lodges of instruction, in teaching a practical knowledge of Masonic work. He thought, however, that occasionally a fresh interest might be thrown into those meetings by turning aside from the accustomed marvelous feats of memory displayed in the Fifteen Sections to a consideration of the circumstances surrounding what might be termed Pre-historic Masonry. Arising as it did as an eclecticism from a degraded state of society and debasing idolatry, it asserted the supremacy of a system of morality veiled in allegory and illustrated by symbols, and associated with the highest intellectual efforts of the age for the advancement and culture of the tribe or nation. The influence was double in its character, making use on the one hand of rites and ceremonies, more or less dramatic and public, and appealing to the uneducated sense of the masses; whilst on the other the secret influence was felt in the selection and withdrawal from the outer world, within the limits of the so-called priesthood, the best men of the tribe or nation, to join in the work which these ancient workers in the cause of progress had undertaken. The trials to which these selected men were exposed were faintly represented in the three degrees of modern Masonry. The speaker expressed his conviction that this careful selection of candidates for initiation formerly practised was worthy of modern imitation, and that valuable lessons might be learned from the pre-historic Masons who worked for the elevation and culture of their nations in the distant past, before the foundations of the Pyramids were laid, and when civilization had its only hope in the lamp of the eclectic philosopher shrouded behind the veil of superstition. Bro. Langley again thanked the brethren for the kindness with which they had received him, and resumed his seat amid loud applause. The Tyler's toast brought a very pleasant evening to an agreeable close.

Royal Arch.

BATH.—Royal Cumberland Chapter (No 41)
A regular meeting, the last of the season, was held at the Masonic Hall, on Tuesday, May 16th. The first chair was taken by Comp. Jas. Parfitt, M.E.Z.; Comp. Geo. Parfitt, P.Z., acted as H.; and Comp. Dr. Hopkins, P.Z., as J.; Comps. Hill, E.; Hearne, N.; Brown, Pr. Soj.; Gummer, as Sen. Soj.; Howes, as Jun. Soj.; Bigwood, Janitor. There were also present Ex. Comps. Moutrie, Treas., and Rubie, P.Z., and other members. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. Letters of apology were read for the absence of Comps. Thompson, H. Carey, J. Falkner, Jun., Soj., and Williamson. Bro. W. Hunt was admitted properly prepared as a candidate for exaltation. The first part of the ceremony as far as the O.B. was conducted by the M.E.Z., and the

remainder by Ex. Comp. Dr. Hopkins, who also gave the Historical, Symbolical, and Mystical Lectures. A vote of thanks to him for his efficient services, proposed by H. and seconded by Z., was passed unanimously. Ex. Comp. Moutrie took the chair of J., and after discussion of several matters of interest only to the members, the chapter was closed at a quarter to ten.

Scotland.

GLASGOW.—Lodge St. Mungo (No. 27).—The regular meeting of this old and flourishing lodge was held in St. Mark's Hall, 213, Buchanan-street, on Thursday evening, 18th inst., Bro. D. Butler, W.M., in the chair, supported by Bros. G. Sinclair, I.P.M.; D. Dick, S.M.; Dr. J. McInnes, S.W.; G. W. Comb, J.W.; J. McEwan, J.D.; S. Dory, S.S.; G. James, Tyler, and a good attendance of members and visitors. Among the latter we noticed Bros. Alex. Bain, P.M. 103; J. Bain, D.M. 117; A. Lawrence, Sec. 117; J. McInnes, S.M. 408; J. Neagle, J.W. 441; W. Ferguson, I.P.M. 543; ("Freemason") and others. The lodge having been opened, Bro. Robt. Hood was passed to the Fellow Craft Degree by Bro. Ferguson, P.M. 543. The lodge was then opened on the Third Degree, when Bro. Wm. McIntyre, was raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason. Bro. Ferguson again performed the ceremony. The lodge was afterwards resumed on the First Degree and closed in proper form.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Thistle (No. 87).—The Provincial Grand Lodge paid this lodge their annual visit on Tuesday evening, the 16th inst., in the Commercial Hall, 30, Hope-street, Bro. J. Booth, W.M., presiding, supported by the following office-bearers:—J. W. Burns, I.P.M.; J. Fraser, P.M.; Jeffrey, D.M.; Ritchie, S.M.; W. Stewart, S.W.; R. Barr, J.W.; T. Paton, Treas.; W. Wilson, Sec.; J. McLachlan, S.D.; S. Gunning, I.G.; and Sinclair, Tyler. The meeting was very well attended by the members and also a good number of visiting brethren. The lodge was opened and the minutes of last meeting read and confirmed. The Prov. G.L. deputation, consisting of Bros. J. Gillis, P.G. Treas.; G. Sinclair, Treas. and Con. of Benevolent Fund; A. McTaggart, P.G. Sec.; A. Allison, P.G.T.; A. Bain, P.G.B.B.; J. Balfour, P.G.D.C.; J. Miller, P.G.J.D.; D. Reid, P.G.I.G.; and Hardie, Tyler, were admitted with the usual honours, and at the request of the W.M. Bro. Gillies occupied the chair, and requested Bro. McTaggart, P.G. Sec., to read the report of P.G.L. Bro. McTaggart apologised for the absence of Bro. Baird, P.G.S.M., and said Bro. Neilson, P.G.M., was yet unable to leave his room in consequence of his continued illness, and regretted he was not in possession of a letter Bro. Baird was in the habit of reading to each lodge during their visitation, written by the P.G.M. In reference to your books, they are very well kept, and you have the handsome sum of £101 18s. to your credit. You have initiated 19 during the last year, and disbursed in charity in all £15; and on the whole we are able to give you a good report. Bro. D. Reid, P.G.I.G., on the motion of Bro. Fraser, P.M., was affiliated an hon. member of the lodge. The deputation then withdrew, and the lodge was called to refreshment.

Reports of the following Scotch lodges stand over:—117, 360, 512, 556, 570, 571, 581.

LAYING MEMORIAL STONE OF THE ROYAL BLIND ASYLUM AND SCHOOL AT WEST CRAIGMILLAR, EDINBURGH.

Bro. Sir Michael Shaw Stewart, Bart., Grand Master Mason of Scotland, laid the memorial stone of the new Blind Asylum and School at West Craigmillar on Monday, 22nd inst., and on the completion of the Masonic ceremony His Grace the Lord High Commissioner formally opened the institution. The occasion presented the first opportunity that has been afforded to the Freemasons of Scotland of publicly doing honour to the present Grand Master since he was chosen to fill the Throne of Grand Lodge, and the large turn out of brethren from all parts of the country bore ample testimony, if such were needed, to the high estimation in which Sir Michael Shaw Stewart is held by the Craft.

The morning dawned inauspiciously, and during the forenoon rain fell in torrents. About noon, however, the sun looked out, and the weather cleared, the after part of the day being bright and genial. At one o'clock the members of local and provincial Masonic lodge assembled in Charlotte-square, where, under Bro. Apthorpe, Grand Marshal, a procession was formed. The office-bearers of Grand Lodge meanwhile met at Freemasons' Hall, George-street, where Bro. Sir Michael Shaw Stewart, Grand Master, opened the lodge, there being also present Bros. Lord Balfour, of Burleigh, S.G.M.; Major Hamilton Ramsay, of Garion, S.G.W.; John Laurie, G.S.; Rev. A. T. Grant and Rev. Dr. Gray, G.C.; P. S. Keir, of Kindrogan, P.G.W.; Wm. Officer, P.G.D.; D. Kinneir, J.G.D.; Daniel Robertson, B.B.; W. Mann, representative of the Grand Lodge of Sweden; Dr. Loth, representative of the Grand Orient of France; Dr. Cowan, Provincial Grand Secretary, Perthshire; J. Wolfe Murray, of Cringletie, P.G.M. Lodge Peebles and Selkirk; J. H. Neilson, Dublin, representing Grand Lodge of Ireland, &c.; W. Hay, S.G.D.; John Coghill, G.D.C.; James Ballantine, G.B.; G. F. R. Colt, of Gartsherrie, S.B.; Robert Davidson, G.O.; Wm. F. Bryce, G.T.; and James Baikie, Tyler. Fully an hour was spent in getting the brethren into marching order, but at due time the signal was given by the Grand Marshal, and the brethren moved off, the junior lodges being in front. Deputations were present from Lodges 581, 580, 571, 556, 553, 549, 548, 540, 520, 505, 482, 468, 465, 448, 429, 405, 400, 393, 385, 374, 362, 355, 349, 327, 318, 317, 309, 305, 291, 276, 272, 261, 254, 250, 248, 244, 233, 225, 223, 203, 185, 177, 166, 160, 156, 153, 151,

145, 132, 122, 117, 166, 114, 112, 111, 100, 97, 88, 72, 70, 60, 57, 49, 47, 35, 30, 28, 26, 21, 16, 13, 10, 8, 5, 34, 3, 2, and 1.

Headed by the Grand Marshal and the brass band of Lodge No. 88, Airdrie, the procession proceeded along George Street (the office-bearers of Grand Lodge falling into the rear opposite the Masonic Hall), Frederick-street, Mound, and Bank-street, to Parliament Square, where it was joined by the municipal authorities, various public bodies, and the inmates of the Royal Blind Asylum and School. The procession was then re-arranged and moved off in the following order:—Six members of the city police, three abreast; pipers and band of the 79th Highlanders; official and white rod; boys of the institution (two deep), in dark blue uniform, guided by a cord in the way the Rev. Dr. Johnston, the founder of the parent institution, used to lead the men to church; overseer and white rod; men of the institution (three abreast), carrying emblems of the various trades carried on in the asylum; messengers—small van with old men, large van with old men and piper; directors of the institution (in carriages); master, treasurer, assistant and clerk of Merchant Company (in carriages); Moderator and office-bearers of High Constables; Lord Provost in his private carriage, and wearing official robes; Magistrates of the city, Dean of Guild, and Convenor of the Trades (attended by the city officers), all in carriages and wearing official robes; band of music; guard of honour; members of subordinate lodges of Freemasons, three abreast, Junior Lodge in front; band of music; members and office-bearers of Grand Lodge; carriage of the Lord High Commissioner, containing His Grace, the Countess of Galloway, Sir Michael Shaw Stewart, Dr. Hamilton Ramsay, Purse-bearer, and Rev. Mr. Russell, Chaplain; carriage in which were Lady Jane Stewart, Lady Henrietta Stewart, Hon. Walter Stewart, and Lord Lionel Cecil; carriage containing General and Mrs. Ramsay Stewart, and Lieut. Spencer; and six members of the city police force, three abreast. The procession extended nearly two miles, and along the whole route from Parliament-square to West Craigmillar the streets and windows of the houses were crowded with spectators. When the junior lodge arrived at the entrance to the Asylum, the Freemasons halted and formed into line on either side of the thoroughfare in order to allow the Grand Lodge to pass through the ranks to the platform, the band in front meanwhile playing the "Merry Masons." The office-bearers and members of the Grand Lodge were followed into the Asylum grounds by the rest of the Freemasons, and the other processionists arrived in due course, the appearance of the carriage of His Grace the Lord High Commissioner being greeted with enthusiastic cheering, the assemblage also uncovering, and the band of the 79th Highlanders playing the Queen's Anthem. The Freemasons congregated in proximity to the north-east corner of the building, where the memorial-stone was to be laid, while the Earl of Galloway and a large company of gentlemen assembled in an adjoining marquee. The Countess of Galloway, Lady Jane Stewart, and Lady Henrietta Stewart witnessed the Masonic ceremony in a temporary balcony which had been erected over one of the entrances to the Asylum, which was profusely decorated with flags and banners. The Rev. Dr. Gray having offered prayer, Bro. Laurie placed a glass jar, containing a variety of documents, &c., relating to the institution, in a cavity prepared for their reception, after which the stone was lowered and laid with full Masonic honours, the regimental band furnishing appropriate music. At the conclusion of the proceedings,

Bro. Sir Michael Shaw Stewart said: Our Masonic ceremony is now over. It only remains for me to wish the promoters of this noble institution every prosperity. Gentlemen, directors of the Royal Blind Asylum and School, you are making a fair and a prosperous start. You already have the patronage of our Most Gracious Sovereign. Her Majesty's representative, the Lord High Commissioner, is here in person; so are the Lord Provost and magistrates. You have in addition the substantial and somewhat unusual satisfaction of commencing the occupation of a very handsome new building, as I am informed, entirely free of debt. (Cheers.) Before we part, I may be allowed to thank the brethren for their attendance here to-day. They have turned out in some strength, and I am not surprised, because it is a good and a charitable work which has brought so many of them from a great distance to take part in the proceedings of to-day. (Cheers.) Many of those who do not belong to our brotherhood are, I believe, aware that one of the most distinctive features of Freemasonry is benevolence, in the shape of good will towards men—(cheers)—and we have, as Masons, a strong sympathy with your work to-day. (Renewed cheers.) The Blind Asylum and School fill a most important place amongst benevolent institutions. They offer comfort, and modify the privations of those who, if left to themselves, would pass but a dreary life, and in many cases a hopeless existence. (Hear, hear.) You give them occupation, interest, society, and take them away from themselves, so to speak. (Cheers.) You lift them up from their hopeless position, in which by God's providence, and for some good reason, they appear to be placed, and you teach them that they can be of use—that they can help themselves—(hear, hear)—help each other, and even by honest labour almost earn a livelihood for themselves. (Cheers.) Gentlemen, I have had an opportunity of going over your institution, and I must say that the directors are to be congratulated upon its successful results, but still more, I say, are to be congratulated the inmates of the institution. (Hear, hear.) All the appliances for their comfort seem to be most perfect. You have a handsome building—ornamental even to Edinburgh, which can boast of its architecture. (Cheers.) True it is our poor friends cannot enjoy the beautiful view which expands itself in front of the windows, but they can inhale

the pure air of this locality, and can enjoy and profit by all the appliances for their comfort, for their health, and for their cleanliness, which have been so well considered and efficiently carried out. (Cheers.) May this institution long prosper, and may it be the model upon which, in different parts of the country, other institutions of a similar nature may be built. (Cheers.) I wish you, gentlemen, all prosperity in your new institution. May the future history of this building always tell of the happiness of its inmates, and reflect credit upon the memory of its founders. (Loud cheers.)

Baillie Muirhead, chairman of the Institution Opening Committee (addressing the Grand Master Mason)—It is now my pleasing duty to thank you, in name of the directors of the Royal Blind Asylum and School, for your presence here to-day, and to offer for your acceptance, as a mark of their high appreciation of the graceful manner in which you have discharged your duties, this towel, which you have already used in connection with the proceedings of to-day, and also as a memento of your having laid the foundation-stone of an institution which has for its object the amelioration of the condition of the poor blind, and opening up to them means of employment and sources of recreation which lighten the burden of their heavy misfortune and lessen the poignancy of their great calamity. (Hear, Hear.) It affords me the highest personal gratification to make this presentation. (Cheers.)

Sir Michael Shaw Stewart, in acknowledging the gift, assured Baillie Muirhead that he would value the towel, not only for its own intrinsic merits, but as a memento of his having had the honour of taking part in the opening of an institution of which he was satisfied they could not speak too highly. (Cheers.)

The Lord High Commissioner, who was cordially cheered, then said—It is my pleasing duty now to declare this institution open. I shall only ask to be allowed to congratulate the directors of this charitable institution upon their having happily been able to get the aid of the Freemasons upon this occasion. (Cheers.)

The Lord High Commissioner and party, Sir Michael Shaw Stewart, Lord Balfour of Burleigh, the Lord Provost and magistrates of Edinburgh, and a number of other gentlemen afterwards proceeded to the chapel of the institution, where cake and wine were served—the inmates of the institution, under the leadership of Mr. Grant, discoursing excellent music during the luncheon. The Lord High Commissioner having proposed the toast of "The Queen," the Lord Provost gave "The Lord High Commissioner and the Church of Scotland," remarking that during the short time the Earl and Countess of Galloway had been in Edinburgh they had won golden opinions from the inhabitants of the city. His Grace, after thanking the company on behalf of himself and the Countess, gave "Prosperity to the Royal Blind Asylum and School," speaking of the good which had been accomplished separately by the institutions in the past, and of the beneficial results that were likely to result from the amalgamation which had recently taken place. His Grace coupled with the toast the names of Mr. John Boyd and Mr. Charles Cowan, who severally replied. A number of other toasts were afterwards proposed, including that of "The Grand Master Mason of Scotland," who, in responding, took occasion to explain that he had been misinformed in stating that the institution had been opened free of debt. The company adjourned about six o'clock.

CONSECRATION OF THE BAYARD LODGE.

The latest addition to the metropolitan lodges is the Bayard, No. 1615, which was consecrated on Wednesday, 17th inst., the Earl of Limerick, the Prov. Grand Master for Bristol (who Lord Carnarvon appointed Deputy Grand Master for the day, as Lord Skelmersdale, D.G.M., was also prevented from attending by official duty), presiding in the absence of the Pro Grand Master, the Earl of Carnarvon, who had intended to consecrate the lodge personally, but at the last moment was summoned to a Cabinet Council. The Earl of Donoughmore, the Senior Grand Warden, and the Hon. W. Warren Vernon, the Junior Grand Warden, were both present in their places, as well as the Rev. C.W. Arnold, the Grand Chaplain. Amongst other brethren of notability that we saw were Sir Edward Borough, Past D.G.M. of Ireland; Lieut. General Brownrigg, C.B., P.G.M. for Surrey; Colonel Burdett, P.G.M. for Middlesex; Major-General Clerk, F.R.S.; Capt. N. G. Phillips; J. M. P. Montagu, D.P.G.M. Dorset; Hynd Pullen, J.G.S.B.; the Hon. R. Giddy, Major Shadwell Clerk, the Rev. R. J. Simpson, P.G. Chaplain; John Hervey, Grand Sec.; James L. Thomas, P.M., Prov. G. Supt. of W. Middx.

After the consecration ceremony had been most satisfactorily performed by the Earl of Limerick, Col. Somerville Burney was then installed as the first Master of the Lodge by the Grand Secretary in his usual impressive style, and the Worshipful Master then invested the officers for the year as follows: Bros. Frank Richardson, for Capt. Hunter (who was prevented attending by duty with his Militia Regiment), as P.M.; Capt. Leeson, S.W.; A. E. T. Watson, J.W.; the Reverend R. J. Simpson, M.A., Chap.; Capt. Compton, S.D.; the Rev. Dr. Robbins, J.D.; Capt. Portlock Dodson, Sec.; Robert Fyers, I.G.; James Keene, M.D., D.C.; Col. Attye, and E. H. Bedford, Stwds. Arnold Baruchson was unanimously elected Treasurer. The founders of the lodge include the names of Sir Thomas Dyer, Col. Adair, P. Prov. G.M. Somersetshire; Col. Sargent, C.B.; Col. Attye, Captain Hunter, P.G.M. for Aberdeenshire East; the Chevalier Habicht; Count de la Chapelle; Frank Richardson, P.M. No. 14; James Johnstone, and other notable members of the Craft. The usual meetings of the lodge are to be held at No. 33, Golden-sq. The banquet was held afterwards at the Café Royal in Air-street, and the following toasts

were proposed:—"The Queen and the Craft," "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, the Grand Master," "The Pro Grand Master, the Earl of Carnarvon, the Dep. G.M., Lord Skelmersdale, and the rest of the Grand Officers." In proposing this toast the W.M. regretted that official duties of great importance prevented Lords Carnarvon and Skelmersdale from being present as they had intended, but the Bayard Lodge was highly favoured with the presence of so many Grand Officers, and he coupled with the toast Col. Burdett, Prov. G.M. of Middlesex, who briefly returned thanks. The next toast was "The Grand Lodges of Ireland and Scotland." The lodge was honoured that evening with the presence of a most esteemed brother, an unusual occurrence in London, but who was well-known and revered, Sir Edward Borough, Past Dep. G.M. of Ireland. Scotland was represented by Bro. Capt. Lumsden, Substitute G.M. of Aberdeenshire East, who had been proposed as a joining member of the lodge.

Sir Edward Borough returned thanks, expressing how greatly he was gratified by the kindness with which he had been received, and stated that although he held rank and resided in Ireland he first saw the light in the Apollo Lodge, Oxford, of which he was still a member, he was much interested in seeing the formation of the Bayard Lodge, which from the military element in it, it must be "sans peur," and he felt quite sure from the foundation laid that day it would continue ever "sans reproche."

Capt. Lumsden returned thanks for the Grand Lodge of Scotland.

The W.M. then proposed "The Health of the Consecrating Officer, the Earl of Limerick, P.G.M. for Bristol," who at the last moment had been deputed by the Pro Grand Master to act for him, and had so ably gone through the impressive ceremony. The Bayard Lodge felt under great obligation to him for his kindness.

Lord Limerick returned thanks, and stated that as three other lodges that he had consecrated were flourishing he was sure the Bayard Lodge would also flourish, and it had been a great pleasure to him to consecrate a lodge of so much promise, and he would venture to predict that it would succeed and prove "second to none." In conclusion he begged to propose "The Health of the W.M., Lieut.-Col. Somerville Burney," who had exerted himself in forming the Bayard Lodge, and from what he knew of him in other degrees of Masonry he was sure he was a most zealous Mason, and felt certain that under his rule the Bayard Lodge would have, what he now wished it, every success.

The W.M. returned thanks, saying how proud and gratified he was at the success of his efforts, as proved by the meeting of that day, but it was all owing, not to his own exertions, but to the kindness he had received on all sides, especially from the officers of the Friends in Council Lodge, who had taken so much interest in this lodge that he hoped he might consider it a "Junior Friends in Council," in fact the name of the Bayard was suggested by his seeing at the time he was choosing a name a Masonic portrait, which he thought was so truly limned that he at once seized on it as most appropriate. The lodge was therefore named not only after the Knight "sans peur et sans reproche" of four centuries back, but also after a well-known brother of the present time, Captain Phillips, P.M. of the Friends in Council, who was beloved and esteemed by all who knew him, and who was ever ready to assist by every means in his power any good work.

Major General Clerk, as W.M., returned thanks for the Friends in Council, and at a general call for him, Capt. Phillips responded for the Bayard.

"The Visitors" was responded to by the Hon. R. Giddy, District G.M. designate of the Cape of Good Hope. The W.M. then gave "The Officers of the Bayard Lodge," saying he was already under great obligations to them for the assistance they had given him in forming the lodge, and that he looked to them to assist and enable him to work the lodge, and they must remember that the great and unusual honour shown to the Bayard Lodge on its start, gratifying as it was to all concerned, was still a very great anxiety, as it threw on the W.M. and officers of the lodge the great responsibility of proving themselves worthy of the favour shown to them.

Capt. Leeson, S.W., responded on behalf of the officers in a very neat and appropriate speech.

The Tyler's toast brought to a conclusion a most happy and successful meeting, and the W.M. received congratulations from all his friends.

ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

The summer entertainment to the aged inmates of the Asylum at Croydon will take place at that establishment on the 15th of June. The arrangements are now in active progress, and are calculated to prove very successful. Bro. Terry, the Secretary, has secured the services of Madame Thaddeus Wells, Bro. Lawler, Bro. Seymour Smith, and other eminent musical artists. There will be a plentiful round of amusements, as on last occasion, which our aged friends so highly appreciated. These periodical entertainments which, were inaugurated by Bro. Terry to enliven the declining days of the annuitants at the Asylum, have met with the general approval of the Craft, who assemble on these occasions, and add many choice pieces in the shape of singing, recitations, and imitations to the programme. The company will assemble at four o'clock.

The Royal Dramatic College has received £50 from the Goldsmiths' Company, £50 from the Grocers' Company, and 10 guineas from the Saddlers' Company.

DAYLIGHT reflected in dark rooms. Gas superseded in day time. Health, comfort, and economy promoted by adopting Chappuis' Patent Daylight Reflectors.—Manufactory, 69, Fleet-street London.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

Election of House and Audit Committees, Saturday, 3rd June, 1876. We understand that the two brethren nominated as candidates for the House Committee, Bros. Diaper and Sanders, have withdrawn their candidature, consequently there will be no contested election. In the Audit Committee there being nominated one in excess of the number required, there will be an election.

Masonic and General Tidings.

On dit that immediately upon the conclusion of the festivities in honour of the return of Bro. H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M., Bro. H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught will go to Manchester to join his regiment there. In connection with this event it is rumoured in Masonic circles that His Royal Highness will initiate the Earl of Ellesmere into the mysteries of the Craft, and that on the occasion a large number of lodges in the north of England will unite in a great Masonic demonstration. The late Earl of Ellesmere was Provincial Grand Master for East Lancashire. There is also a rumour to the effect that the present Provincial Grand Master (Bro. Le Gendre Starkie) will resign in favour of the Duke of Connaught.

The Fifteen Sections will be worked at the Constitutional Lodge of Instruction, No. 55, Wheatsheaf Hotel, Hand-court, Holborn, W.C., by the brethren of the Salisbury Lodge of Instruction, No. 435, on Tuesday next, the 30th of May. Bro. J. Mander, P.M. 1201, will preside. The lodge will be opened at 6.30 p.m. precisely.

On the nomination of the Master and Fellows of St. Peter's College, Professor Kalley Miller, W.M. of the Royal Naval College Lodge, Greenwich, No. 1593, has been appointed Senior Moderator of the University of Cambridge for the ensuing year. Also, on the nomination of the Master and Fellows of Emanuel College, Professor Greenhill, Woolwich, of the Isaac Newton University Lodge, No. 859, has been appointed Junior Moderator. The Moderators are the principal examiners for the mathematical tripos at which the Senior Wranglership is decided. The only previous occasion on which both Moderators have been Masons was in 1871, when Bro. H. H. Taylor, Tutor of Trinity, was Senior Moderator, and Bro. Kalley Miller Junior Moderator.

The annual meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Lincolnshire takes place on Tuesday, June 6th.

The summer half-yearly communication of the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of England will be held on the 6th prox., at the Masonic Hall, 33, Golden-square. Grand Lodge will be opened at five o'clock, when the installation of Grand Master for the ensuing year will take place.

Bro. the Right Honourable Lord Suffield, who accompanied the Prince of Wales to India, returned to North Walsham, Norfolk, on Monday night, and was heartily welcomed and entertained. His lordship, in speaking of India, said the native army was in fine condition. In his opinion, the natives were attached to England.

The foundation-stone of a new Masonic Hall was laid in Sheffield, on Tuesday, by Bro. Dr. Bartolome, in the presence of a large gathering of the fraternity. An account of the proceedings will be given in our next.

His Grace the Duke of Abercorn, Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, M.W.G.M., on Tuesday last formally opened the Belfast Industrial Exhibition in presence of a large and distinguished assemblage. His Grace was presented with an address from the Committee of Exhibition and another from the members of the Working Men's Institute in connection with which the Exhibition is being held. The Duke and suite then inspected the various sections of the Exhibition, after which he proceeded to Queen's College, where he was presented with an address by the president and professors. His Grace also received an address from the Freemasons. At half past two o'clock the Lord-Lieutenant was entertained at luncheon in the Town-hall, by the Mayor.

We are authorised to state that her Majesty's State Ball, which was announced for May 23, will take place on Thursday, June 1.

Bro. Alderman Hadley presided at an entertainment given on Thursday by the Church of England Young Men's Society (Southwark branch) in aid of St. Mary's Church, Clarence-street. The entertainment was under the patronage of the Lord Mayor and the Sheriffs of London and Middlesex.

Bro. the Right Hon. Lord Carnarvon, Pro Grand Master, returned from Pixton on Sunday night. The Dowager Lady Carnarvon is not so seriously ill as was supposed.

Dr. Robert Stewart, of Streatham, desires to express his gratitude and thanks to the numerous kind friends and brothers who sent their votes in his favour for the election of annuitants of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Asylum.

Mrs. Blackburn, Widow of the late William Blackburn, P.M., P.Z., desires to express her deep gratitude and warmest thanks to those members of the Royal Masonic Annuity Fund who, by their contribution of votes or valuable assistance in procuring them, enabled her at the recent election to secure the benefits of the above fund, and to assure them that their kindly aid will ever be held by her in the most grateful remembrance.

Mrs. Jane Burton begs to express her heartfelt gratitude for their kindness in electing her on her first appeal.

NOTICE.

A SECOND EDITION of the "Freemason" will be issued early on Saturday morning, which will contain a full report of the General Committee meeting of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls.

NOW READY.

VOLUME 8 OF THE "FREEMASON" from January to December, 1875, bound in cloth, with richly embossed device on cover. Price 15 shillings. This volume forms a first class reference and chronology of the leading events in Masonry during the past year. It may be had through any bookseller, or at the office, 198, Fleet-st., London.

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The *Freemason* is a sixteen-page weekly newspaper, price 2d. It is published every Friday morning, and contains the most important, interesting, and useful information relating to Freemasonry in every degree. Annual subscription in the United Kingdom, Post free, 10/- P.O.O.'s to be made payable at the chief office, London.

NEW POSTAL RATES.

Owing to a reduction in the Postal Rates, the publisher is now enabled to send the "Freemason" to the following parts abroad for One Year for Twelve Shillings (payable in advance):—Africa, Australia, Bombay, Canada, Cape of Good Hope, Ceylon, China, Constantinople, Demerara, France, Germany, Gibraltar, Jamaica, Malta, Newfoundland, New South Wales, New Zealand, Suez, Trinidad, United States of America, &c.

COLONIAL AND FOREIGN SUBSCRIBERS

are informed that acknowledgments of remittances received are published in the first number of every month.

NOTICE.—It is very necessary for our friends to advise us of all money orders they remit, more especially those from the United States of America and India; otherwise we cannot tell where to credit them.

TO ADVERTISERS.

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Answers to Correspondents.

All Communications, Advertisements, &c., intended for insertion in the Number of the following Saturday, must reach the Office not later than 12 o'clock on Wednesday morning.

"EYE WITNESS" is thanked, but his reply is not satisfactory. Editors have no protection against "hoaxes," except the rule be carried out.

R. Barrat, Britannia Lodge, Sheffield, and J.M.L. received.

NEWSPAPERS RECEIVED.—"Weekly Courant," Columbia, Pennsylvania, U.S.; "Masonic Journal," Greensborough, N.C.

The following stand over:—"Plain English;" Reports of St. John's Chapter, 328; Torquay; St. Andrew's Lodge, 958; Granite Lodge, 1328; Hemming Lodge, 1512.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

[The charge is 2s. 6d. for announcements, not exceeding four lines, under this heading.]

BIRTHS.

BERRIDGE.—On the 6th inst., at Drayton Lodge, Banbury, the wife of S. Berridge, of a son.

JACKSON.—On the 19th inst., at Isleworth, the wife of H. Jackson, of a daughter.

MARSHALL.—On the 20th inst., at Buckland-villas, Belize Park, the wife of H. Marshall, of a son.

MORTIMORE.—On the 15th inst., at Eccleston-square, the wife of F. Mortimore, Esq., of a daughter.

THOMPSON.—On the 19th inst., at Nottingham Cottage, Upper Tulse-hill, the wife of R. H. Thompson, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

BAILLON.—WILLIAMS.—On the 28th March, at Stanley, Falkland Islands, Louis A. Baillon, son of L. Baillon, Esq., of Woodthorpe, near Nottingham, to Mary Julia, daughter of C. H. Williams, Esq.

HALL.—SEWELL.—On the 18th inst., at Christ Church, Lancaster-gate, Charles, son of A. Hall, Esq., of Craven-hill-gardens, W., to Edith Adelina Rebecca, daughter of the late J. Sewell, Esq., of Valparaiso.

DEATHS.

BULLOCK.—On the 19th inst., John Bullock, Esq., late of Milner-square, Islington, and Sevenoaks, Kent, the friend and helper of literary men, aged 74. Indian papers please copy.

KING.—On the 16th inst., at Leckford, Hants, Ann, daughter of the late T. King, Esq., of Eling, Hants.

LONG.—On the 19th inst., at St. Mary's-road, Peckham, William T. Long, in his 35th year.

MARTIN.—On the 19th inst., at Gibson-square, Islington, Alexander Martin, aged 77.

YOUNG.—On the 18th inst., at Reigate, Mary, widow of G. F. Young, Esq., M.P., in her 86th year.

JONES.—On the 22nd inst., at Holland-road, Kensington, the wife of W. J. Jones, Esq., of a son.

The Freemason,

SATURDAY, MAY 27, 1876.

THE CITY'S WELCOME TO THE PRINCE OF WALES.

We shall all have read with pleasure and approval the agreeable account of our Royal Grand Master's visit to Guildhall last Friday, of the loyal reception of the Princess of Wales and the Royal Family, of the hearty enthusiasm which greeted the Prince of Wales, and of the great success which attended all the efforts of the Corporation to do honour to their Royal and illustrious guest! Everything seems to have been most admirably conceived and carried out, and amid the many memorable entertainments which have been given by the Corporation of the City of London, none have been more brilliant, and none more complete. The speeches were all hearty and to the point, not too long to be non-effective, and not too prosy to be wearisome; but all happy in tone, and genial in temper, and wisely limited in duration, so as not to interfere with the more graceful claims and pressing fascinations of Terpsichore! We especially commend the Lord Mayor's address, and the happy reply of our Royal Grand Master, as thoroughly true and manly, thoroughly English in sentiment, and entirely in harmony with the feelings and opinions of all present. Like in all that he does, he has clearly pointed out that he thoroughly understands what are the duties and responsibilities of his exalted rank, and we can quite realize how that geniality of temperament, and kindness of manner, and cordiality of utterance, have left the most favourable impressions in far lands, and among other people, just as they have moved the dusky races of Hindostan, and have aroused and animated the enduring and heartfelt loyalty of Englishmen. To the Princess of Wales the festivity must have been one of great pleasure, inasmuch as after a long separation her husband was once more safe and sound at home again, among his own people, in the midst of his loyal fellow citizens, returned to his happy home, and surrounded by many of the greatest and noblest in the land. The Duke of Edinburgh spoke as a gallant sailor, modestly and manfully, and the Duke of Cambridge was, as he ever is, clear and soldier-like in his recognition of the services and duty of the army, and his honest and becoming pride in that great profession over which he so fidely presides. Indeed, all the proceedings of this great gala were marked from first to last by the English word "thorough," reflecting the highest credit, as we said before, on the Executive Committee and on all interested in the carrying out of the needful arrangements. We miss, indeed, the eloquent words of the "Premier," who, "more suo," would have lent the grace of his eloquence to commend and to intensify that loyal gathering and that goodly scene. But still we may well be content with the display, and proud of the City's welcome to the Prince of Wales. The memories of such happy high days survive the passage of time and the fleeting avocations of social life. They record the sayings and doings of the noblest in rank and the most exalted in the world's roll of honour and merit. They remind the statesman and the student, the thoughtful and the serious of the sympathies of a great people and the aspirations of the loyal and the patriotic, and they serve to point out to us clearly how close after all, is the tie which, happily for us all in this favoured land, still binds together the throne of our fathers, the prestige of the House of Brunswick with Englishmen of all ranks and conditions, high and humble, rich and poor. Esto perpetua, we shall say to this loving union, and may after generations still peruse the record in the truthful pages of the "Freemason" of a similar gathering in the great Guildhall, and of that unchanged attachment which should ever exist between the Sovereign of the realm and the City of London, between those who are called to bear rule over us according to our ancient laws and our wise constitution, and all classes of this loyal and mighty Empire.

THE ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

All will have perused in our Second Edition last week the result of the election on Friday. Twenty-three male candidates were elected without a poll, among whom we rejoice to see poor Bro. Dr. Stewart's name, and 21 widows out of 32. So successful is the Institution that we almost regret that the other 10 candidates were not also elected by resolution of committee, as we are quite sure that such a proposition would have received the enthusiastic support of the Craft. Indeed, we are almost inclined to think that the present position of the charity would warrant the committee electing them by a special meeting and supplementary resolution. The happy return of our Royal Grand Master would be a sufficient justification as a commemorative act. At any rate they might have the annuity allowed them until the next election. The Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution has now a permanent income of £2211 13s. 2d.; the yearly claims on the two funds amount to £8972, which is an increase, as Bro. Terry properly reminds us, of £3565 during the last four years. But we are quite sure of this, that this most valuable Institution will never want the loyal and unswerving support of our great and benevolent Order, and we note with much satisfaction that £5500 in round numbers have been invested during the last 12 months, and that the joint balance still amounts to £5174 3s. 8d. We therefore beg to call attention once more to the most happy and creditable position of this very valuable charity of our Craft, and we beg to tender to Bro. Terry not only our hearty felicitations on this most prosperous state of affairs, but our sincere good wishes that his zealous and praiseworthy exertions will be rewarded by a still enlarged measure of liberal support in the future by our charitable and increasing Order.

THOROUGH.

Some Freemasons, alike in speech and essay, often take a desponding view both of the prospects and "outcome" of Masonic literature. We do not. True, indeed, it is, to the most superficial student of English Masonic history, that Masonic literature has always waged more or less a desperate warfare for existence, for success! But we think that this can be accounted for in the nature of things, and the peculiarity of the position of Freemasonry itself. As a rule, Freemasons, who are men of the world, men of business, as well as Freemasons, enjoy with all others the expanded and even overpowering literature of the day. The interest attached to Masonic "belles lettres," to its past history and passing topics, to its archæological essays, and its didactic expositions, have only, so to say, a claim on the few among the many, commend themselves ever alone to a limited and, we may add, a select circle. The great mass of our Order come to Freemasonry for recreation and refreshment, for the privacy and inner life of the fraternal social circle, and unless they have some deep personal interest in the columns of the "Freemason," for instance, they can afford but a few passing moments to its consideration or perusal! A similar state of things exists as to Masonic archæology, exposition, moral axioms, and the lucubrations and theories of conflicting schools. This is all reading over and above the common and almost needful literature of the day, and demands time and requires leisure. Whatever the future may have in store for us, we cannot, it appears to us, ever expect, under any circumstance, a very general taste for Masonic literature, whether of the graver or the lighter kind, though we could fairly wish that more support were accorded by Freemasons, on Masonic principles, too, to Masonic literature. The "Freemason," for instance, has always been a thorough Masonic paper, conducted on simple, straightforward, business, Masonic principles, from its first hour of existence to the present time. It has never appealed to the Order for support, either in accents of adulation, or in whining tones, in lugubrious lamentations, or in recklessness of assertion; but it has gone forth to the entire fraternity as a literary organ, standing

on its own merits alone, without seeking favour or partiality, or support of any kind. Let any one peruse the old volumes of the "Freemason," they will see how very independent has been its tone, how Masonic its teaching, from its first hour of experimental effort to the later moments of assured success. "Thorough" is the word which seems to mark alike its utterances and its avowals, its treatment of all subjects that come within its ken. It seeks to give to the reading and discerning Masonic public, at fair market price, a valuable, and useful, and first-class article, warranted to wear well, and certain to find favour. It wishes no one to support it who cannot conscientiously do so; it asks no one's patronage who does not feel disposed to accord it cheerfully and fraternally. It lies before the brethren on every Bookstall in the kingdom, and if brethren like its tone and temper, approve of its sentiments, agree with its general exposition of Masonic principles, and value its faithful record of Masonic proceedings, they can buy it and read it, but if they are unwilling, if they do not care for its hebdomadal intelligence, they are not expected to do so, they are not compelled to do so, and as we ask for no one's support, just so we do not complain when none is accorded. We live in a free country, we belong to the Order of Freemasons; liberty of reading as well as of thought and conscience are the birthright of us all, and we wish very distinctly to say to-day, that we ask of none the sympathy or support which they cannot themselves readily offer and fraternally accord. We value more than we can well express the thorough independence of the "Freemason." Open to all, friendly to all, hostile to none, it admits into its columns gladly, under certain wise rules of needful reserve, the free expression of Masonic opinion. It has from the first encouraged those archaeological enquiries of the modern school, which, when Masonic research was at a discount, and long before those who glibly talk about it now, knew anything at all about the matter, was carried on by a small band of intelligent brethren. To our Masonic charities the "Freemason" has already offered a generous and genial support, and we are glad to think, that in foreign countries, especially in the United States, it has earned for itself the support and sympathy of a large number of intellectual and devoted brethren. Now we say all this to-day in no spirit of vulgar boasting, or egotistical self laudation. We are content, as we said before, to do our best, and in one sense we do not seek either the approval or disapproval of our indulgent readers. By this we mean that we endeavour to speak the truth, to do the right, and having achieved this manfully, consistently, in a thorough Masonic spirit, we neither court praise nor deprecate censure; we are content to leave our honest outspoken words to the great court of public Masonic opinion, alike to justify our position and to uphold our view of men and things. There will, of course be always allowable differences of opinion in matters Masonic as in all sublunary affairs, and we cannot, of course, expect that our dicta will always be unchallenged, inasmuch as we claim no infallibility, and profess no official authority for anything we propound. But giving the best attention to all that we place before our readers, we feel that, as we never write rashly or unadvisedly, or without much reflection, we have little to alter and nothing to withdraw. Indeed, we are inclined to hope and to believe that it is this very careful and conscientious freespokenness which commends the "Freemason" to a constantly increasing circle of readers. And now having said all this, we stop here to-day. From time to time we think it well to remind our readers what the "Freemason" has been, what it is, what it does, how it seeks to represent English Freemasonry, to advocate Masonic principles, and to advance Masonic literature, on thorough true Masonic grounds, merely asking what all have a right to ask, in our favoured land, for a fair hearing and impartial treatment. If it commends itself to the feelings and views of our excellent brethren we rejoice greatly, and no effort will be spared on our part to make it acceptable to all; but we do not and cannot profess, as we said before, ever to appeal for support or patronage, as we neither require the one nor do we ask for the other. The brethren can see the

"Freemason," and read it, and judge for themselves, as they are alone the best judges, whether it is a thorough Masonic paper, calling for their fraternal good wishes, deserving their attentive perusal, and demanding their cheerful and zealous support.

Original Correspondence.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for, or even as approving of the opinions expressed by our correspondents, but we wish, in a spirit of fair play to all, to permit—within certain necessary limits—free discussion.—Ed.]

OFFICERS' JEWELS.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

From a private correspondence I have had with our esteemed Bro. Hughan, I find that in speaking of the Grand Lodge from which our lodge warrant emanated in 1765 my description is liable to be misunderstood.

The Grand Lodge in question would appear to be the same as that which granted the warrant of the Adams Lodge, mentioned by Bro. Spears in this day's "Freemason" (Lord Kelly was then Grand Master), and, as Bro. Spears remarks, our old members always designated the lodge as an "old York lodge," and rather prided themselves on being able to do so.

Our lodge warrant commences thus: "We, the Grand Lodge of the most ancient and honourable fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons (according to the old Constitutions granted by His Royal Highness Prince Edwin at York, Anno Domini nine hundred twenty and six, and in the year of Masonry Four thousand nine hundred twenty and six)," &c.

Bro. Hughan says the correct title should have been "Grand Lodge according to the old Constitutions," or "seceders of London."

Hoping we shall hear something further on the subject of the jewels from brethren belonging to the old lodges, I remain,

Yours fraternally,

May 20, 1876.

Lux.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

In giving the list of Stewards for the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls you have made a mistake in my name (West Lancashire Province, No. 1086, J. C. Sims). It should be J. C. Lunt. Kindly correct the same, and oblige

Yours faithfully and fraternally,

JOSIE. C. LUNT.

MASONIC JURISPRUDENCE.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

"He that is first in his own cause seemeth just, but his neighbour cometh and seeketh him."

So wrote our first Royal Grand Master, and the words may be applied appropriately even to-day to the W.M. of the Trafalgar Lodge, No. 971, who, I see from your issue of the 20th inst., is asking a question respecting Past Wardens of private lodges being entitled to be present at the installation of our present Royal Grand Master.

Knowing the object for which the information is sought to be obtained, I object to the way in which the query is put, and request permission to state the case more clearly, premising, at the onset, that each lodge under the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of England, was entitled to be represented at the above-named installation by two Wardens, the W.M., one M.M., and as many Past Masters of the lodge as applied for tickets.

The actual Wardens of Lodge —, No. —, were both unable to attend the installation of His Royal Highness, and Bro. A. B., Past S.W., and Bro. C. D., Past J.W. of the said lodge, offered their services to officiate in their stead, and requested that application should be made for tickets to enable them to do so.

Tickets were applied for and obtained without any demur whatsoever, in the names of those brethren, as Past Wardens, acting on behalf of the actual Wardens, and they attended the installation.

Is Bro. Jim Sheard justified in stating that those brethren attended that ceremony under false colours?

Your opinion on the above will be esteemed by yours fraternally,

HENRY INGHAM,

Batley, 22 May, 1876.

P.M., P.Z. 258; Z. 1214.

[Certainly not. We answered the question bona fide.—Ed.]

It will interest our readers to learn that the casket containing the address presented to H.R.H. the Most Worshipful Grand Master at his reception in the city on the 19th inst. is a most recherche piece of workmanship, Oriental in design, and composed of the purest gold and enamel. The form is oblong, supported by eight pillars of Indian character, surmounted with a figure of Britannia, and at each corner elephants' heads are introduced with great effect. The arms of the Most Worshipful Grand Master are enamelled in the front, the Corporation arms on the two side panels, and the inscription on the reverse side of the casket. The inscription runs as follows:—"To His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, K.G., from the Corporation of the City of London, with an address of congratulation on the return of His Royal Highness from India, May, 1876." Mr. Benson, the eminent jeweller of Ludgate Hill and Old Bond-street, is the manufacturer of this superb work of art, who also in 1863 had the honour of making the first casket presented to the Most Worshipful Grand Master by the Corporation.

ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

[The following appeared in our Second Edition last week.]

The annual meeting of the subscribers to this Institution was held yesterday at the Board Room, Freemasons' Hall. Lieut.-Col. Creaton presided. There were also present among others Bros. H. Browne, John Symonds, Samuel Gale, C. J. Bennett, Thos. J. Sabine, William Stephens, A.H. Tattershall, Griffiths Smith, S. Rawson, Joseph Smith, J. Constable, A. Lucking, J. A. Wardell, Wm. Hale, C. A. Cotterburne, H. Browne, Richard Spencer, G. Ward Very, James Dunsford, W. Mann, Capt. J. Wordsworth, W. H. B. Tomlinson, Henry Smith (West Yorkshire); H. W. Hemsworth, H. J. Friend, Charles Godtschalk, Charles Lacey, Edward Cox, Raynham W. Stewart, Rev. C. J. Martyn, Samuel R. Everitt, A. D. Loewenstark, George Lambert, Hyde Pullen, W. C. Parsons, L. Stean, Rev. Dr. Brette, Fred. G. Pownall, W. Paas, Samuel May, Peter De L. Long, H. Bartlett, James Stevens, Thos. W. White, H. Muggeridge, Geo. Bolton, J. F. Tibbals, H. Garrod, H. Massey ("Freemason"), E. Harris, F. Binckes, H. G. Buss, N. B. Headon, F. B. Davage, H. Potter, Benj. Head, C. J. Cooke, and James Terry (Secretary).

At the opening of the proceedings Bro. James Terry read the following letter which he had received:—

"Marlborough House, May 18, 1876.

"Dear Sir,—His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales approves of the annual festival of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution being held on the 14th February, 1877.

"Yours faithfully,

(Signed)

FRANCIS KNOLLYS."

Bro. Terry afterwards read the balance-sheet, which showed as follows:—

MALE FUND.			
Balance 31st March, 1875	£2229	14	5
Subsequent Receipts	7075	4	8
Cash Withdrawn from Deposit	2800	0	0
	£13104	19	1
Disbursements	£5371	9	5
Invested at Interest	1500	0	0
Purchase of £1500 3 per cent. Red. Annuities... ..	1408	2	6
	8279	11	11
Balance on this account ...	£3825	7	2

WIDOWS' FUND.			
Balance 31st March, 1875	£1557	14	3
Subsequent Receipts	4802	2	1
Cash Withdrawn from Deposit	1200	0	0
	£7559	16	4
Disbursements	£3809	15	11
Invested at Interest	1000	0	0
Purchase of £1500 3 per cent. Red. Annuities... ..	1408	2	6
	6217	18	5
Balance on this account ...	£1341	17	11

SUSTENTATION FUND.			
Balance 31st March, 1875	£4	9	1
Subsequent Receipts	30	0	0
	£34	9	1
Disbursements	27	10	6
Balance on this account.....	£6	18	7
Total Balance.....	£5174	3	8

Bro. Terry said the permanent income of the Institution was £2211 13s. 2d.

Bro. Terry then read the following report of the Committee of Management:—

The Committee of Management in presenting the report of their proceedings to the Governors and Subscribers, congratulate them most heartily upon the continued success which has attended the Institution during the past year.

The festival held at Freemasons' Hall on the 9th Feb. last, under the distinguished presidency of the R.W. Dep. G.M., Lord Skelmersdale, Prov. G.M. for the Western Division of Lancashire, and supported by a Board of 215 Stewards, proved the most successful the Institution has yet experienced—£9174 10s. 6d. being the sum announced—and this has since been increased to over £9380, an addition of £2330 upon any previous occasion. To his lordship the committee tender their grateful thanks for his kindness in presiding, and also for the deep personal interest evinced by him in advocating its claims and bringing the benefits conferred by it prominently before the Craft. To the Stewards from the Province of West Lancashire they also tender their thanks in nobly supporting the Chairman, as well as to the rest of the Board of Stewards for the great exertions made by them to render the festival a success.

During the past year two Special General Meetings have been held,—one in November last having for its object an alteration in the rules to confer additional votes upon Stewards according to the amounts brought in by them; and the committee are assured that this had a very beneficial effect at the last festival, evidenced by the increased subscriptions brought in; the other held in April last was also to alter the laws enabling the committee to give an additional £4 per annum to every annuitant. This can only take effect after it has received the sanction of Grand Lodge in June next. The committee feel convinced that the increase thus proposed to be made will meet with the approval of the Governors and Subscribers and be gratifying to the Chairman and Board of Stewards of the late festival, by whose exertions this has been enabled to be done.

On the list for election were 23 male and 32 female candidates; the vacancies were 17 men and 10 widows; and these have been filled up; and the committee have also determined in view of the increasing support accorded by the Craft to place ten additional widows upon the Fund, so that after the election there will be 130 men each receiving £40 and 110 widows each receiving £32 per annum. There are also 15 widows receiving half the pension previously enjoyed by their late husbands, and which is paid them for a period of three years, unless they are elected to the full pension before the expiration of that time. These various payments will absorb a sum of £8972 per annum, being an increase of the amount paid the annuitants during the past four years of £3565. The committee trust that the Craft will gladly support them in their endeavours to confer the greatest amount of good consistently with the permanent stability of the institution.

To the Grand Lodge of England the committee tender their renewed thanks for again granting £70 to enable the committee to provide coals during the winter months for the residents of the institution at Croydon, a gift which is very keenly appreciated by them.

A vacancy in the trusteeship has been created by the death of the W. Bro. John Savage, P.G.D., and one of the Vice-Presidents. Bro. Savage's connection with the institution extended over many years, and the committee deeply deplore the loss they have sustained by his removal from them. This vacancy will have to be filled up to-day.

We have also to record the death of Bro. W. Farnfield, who held the position of Secretary for thirty years. In him the institution ever had an excellent officer, and his death is sincerely regretted by the committee.

The institution at Croydon is in a thorough state of repair, and the residents, under the watchful care of the Honorary Surgeon, Henry John Strong, Esq., M.D., (to whom the committee are under many obligations), enjoy good health considering their advanced years.

The large number of candidates continually coming before the committee shews the necessity of renewed efforts being made to increase the funds to enable them to cope more effectually with the claims upon their sympathy; and they doubt not but that the Craft will in the future, as it has nobly done in the past, uphold them in their endeavours to relieve every deserving case which may be brought before them. They feel assured that the brethren will co-operate with them, inasmuch as the cause is one worthy of their sympathy and support; and the committee in asking the Craft to give support feel they cannot do better than quote the words of the M.W. Pro G.M., the Earl of Carnarvon, when presiding at the anniversary festival in 1869:—"I believe that there is no charity greater or more beneficent, or practically more useful than that which in the decline of life, with the growth of infirmities, in the period of sickness, above all, in the period of helplessness, extends a relief from all these tribulations, and yet does not separate the aged man from the partner of his life, from his children, from his friends with whom he may have been associated in the past, which does not compel him violently and compulsorily to snap all those cords, all those ties and connections of sympathy which have been the work of a lifetime, and which he will carry down, at least in his affections, to the grave to which he is hastening."

To this report was subjoined a statement of the receipts and disbursements during the past year, ending the 31st March, 1876, together with the particulars of the permanent income of the institution.

(Signed) JOHN CREATON,
Chairman.

This report having been received and adopted, Bro. Joseph Smith moved, and Bro. Capt. Wordsworth seconded the re-election of Bros. Adlard, Bellerby, and W. Hale on the committee of management. This was carried unanimously; and Bro. John Symonds, H. G. Warren, and A. H. Tattershall were chosen auditors.

On the motion of Bro. Joseph Smith, seconded by Bro. S. Rawson, the Rev. C. J. Martyn, Past G. Chaplain, was elected Trustee in place of the late Bro. John Savage.

The Scrutineers of votes were afterwards appointed, and the election of 21 out of 32 widows was proceeded with. There being sufficient vacancies for all the male candidates no election on the male fund was held; consequently these brethren were placed on the list:—

1 Hagan, Charles.	13 York, Robert.
2 Rogers, John.	14 Mann, Charles.
3 Roads, Charles.	15 Cartuthers, James.
4 Greathead, William.	16 Schofield, Robert.
5 Noel, John.	17 Green, William.
6 Wood, John.	18 Miller, Thomas.
7 Nash, William Henry.	19 Cogan, Robert.
8 Irving, John.	20 Rose, John.
9 Waterson, John.	21 Johnson, John.
10 Dashwood, Henry T.	22 Stewart, Robert.
11 Rowen, Thomas.	23 Thackthwaite, Robert.
12 Brown, William.	

The following was declared to be the result of the election:—

No on Voting Paper.	Names.	Votes.
16	Hoare, Henrietta	1069
17	Blackburn, Eliza W.	1044
26	Burton, Jane	903
4	Gidney, Lydia	763
25	Johnson, Harriet	703
12	Cowen, Harriet	676
13	Keen, Mary	684

20	Harvey, Honor	654
32	Keddell, Martha F.	634
8	Redick, Maria	620
30	Brown, Sarah	619
11	Charlton, Sarah	616
24	Govier, Elizabeth	615
21	Froud, Mary	594
31	Wingfield, Frances	590
22	Rogers, Frances	552
1	Tidswell, Susannan	541
9	Edwards, Eleanor	539
29	Lundy, Charlotte	538
6	Wilkes, Elizabeth	513
14	Russell, Sarah	446

UNSUCCESSFUL.

7	Dark, Ann	443
28	Trotter, Ann	351
27	Packwood, Emily	273
3	Churchill, Elizabeth	203
2	Wreyford, Elizabeth	195
23	Thompson, Julia	177
15	Shearer, Ann	86
10	Chipchase, Emily	44
5	Elliott, Isabella	24
19	Stansfield, Alice	
18	Dowse, Sarah. (Withdrawn by Order of Committee)	

Bro. W. Hale proposed and Bro. H. Garrod seconded a vote of thanks to the scrutineers, which being carried Bro. S. Rawson responded.

The result of the election was then ordered to be advertised, with the names of the successful candidates, and it was also ordered that the proceedings of the day be printed and circulated among the lodges and Chapters.

Bro. Garrod moved, and Bro. Adamson seconded a vote of thanks to Col. Creaton for presiding.

This motion was carried unanimously, and Colonel Creaton having acknowledged the compliment, the brethren separated.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF BERKS AND BUCKS.

One of the largest Masonic gatherings that has ever taken place in this province was held at Reading, on Tuesday, the 16th inst., the Berks and Bucks Provincial Grand Lodge being convened at the Albert Hall, Friar-street, which had been suitably prepared for the purpose. Members of the two lodges in that town, augmented by numerous arrivals from the lodges at Abingdon, Maidenhead, Newbury, Windsor, Aylesbury, High Wycombe, Buckingham, Newport Pagnell, and visitors from other provinces, assembled at the hall at one o'clock, and the officers of the Provincial Grand Lodge entering the hall in procession were received by the general body of Masons with the accustomed honours. The Right Worshipful the Provincial Grand Master, Sir Daniel Gooch, Bart., M.P., presided, supported by his deputy, the Rev. J. S. Brownrigg, and the Prov. Grand Officers, among whom were Bros. Moxhav, Biggs, Weightman, Hodges, R. Bradley, Williams, Woodhouse, Bulley, Brown, Winkfield, Powell, Ivey, Burns, Carter, Hurley, Botley; Revs. Fraser Campbell and A. Robins, and others well known in the province as "expert" Craftsmen. The visitors included Bros. Mercer, Past Grand Master of China; Goldney, M.P., Deputy Grand Master for Wilts; Toomer, Wilts; Dewe, Hants; Birch, Middlesex; &c. We also noticed present Bros. Baker, Ballard, Powell, Clarke, Morland, Shepherd, Tomkins, Barrett, D'Almaine, Gooch, Palmer, Reeve, Tolley, Glover, King, Nowell, Westfield, Fraser, Huckoale, Dent, Danks, Mount, A. Welch, Parry, Baker, Albury, Blackwell, Stransome, S. Bradley, Geo. Cosburn, Cave, Flanagan, Major Stephens, Ferguson, Ravenor, Knight, Wheeler, Jarman, Christian, Beal, Margrett, Oades, Cotterell, Newman, Pollard, Balding, &c., in all rather more than 100.

The roll having been called, and the minutes of the P.G. Lodge held at Aylesbury last year read and confirmed, the Prov. G. Sec. read the finance report, Bro. Chancellor, the Treas., being absent in consequence of indisposition. The Prov. G. Sec. also read the reports of the Charity Committee, and the lodges in the province. The members now numbered 630. There had been 89 initiations during the year, and the joining members numbered 39. The balances in the lodges amounted to upwards of £800.

The P.G.M. said it was highly gratifying to know that there had been a steady increase during the past 12 months. He hoped that those lodges which had not yet given their support to the Provincial Charity Fund would see the propriety of doing so. Hitherto the amount voted from the Grand Lodge funds to the charity fund had been 20 guineas, but as the number of lodges had been latterly increased the demand upon the charity fund was likely to become greater, and he therefore thought they might safely increase the grant to 25 guineas. He accordingly proposed a motion to that effect.

The D.G.M. said that as the primary object of their institution was charity there was no reason why they should hoard up their funds; and he felt they would be perfectly justified in augmenting the grant to the charity fund year by year as necessity may arise. He therefore seconded the motion, which was put by the P.G.M. and adopted.

The D.G.M. then moved that £73 10s. be transferred from the charity fund in grants of five and seven guineas each to those lodges which had made substantial contributions to the fund.

This proposal was seconded by Bro. Williams and carried.

Bro. Chancellor was unanimously re-elected Treasurer, being proposed by the P.G.M. and seconded by the D.G.M.

The D.G.M. then proposed, and the P.G.M. seconded, a resolution having for its object the more effectual disposal

of the votes for the Masonic institutions held by the various lodges, and also by individual members, and this was carried "nem. con."

Bros. Winkfield, P.M. 591; Hodges, P.M. 795; and Powell, P.M. 945, were then respectively invested with the Provincial Charity Jewel.

The Provincial Grand Master then appointed and invested the Provincial Grand Officers for the ensuing year as follows:—

Bros. H. H. Hodges, P.M. 795, Prov. S.G.W.; R. C. Hurley, P.M. 1101, Prov. J.G.W.; Rev. F. Campbell, 574, Prov. G. Chaplain; Rev. A. Robins, P.M. 771, Prov. G. Chaplain; George Chancellor, P.M. 1101, Prov. G. Treasurer; H. Poynter, P.M. 948, Prov. G. Registrar; W. Biggs, P.M. 574, Prov. G. Secretary; Josh. Blowers, P.M. 414, Prov. G.S. Deacon; W. J. Powell, P.M. 945, Prov. G. J. Deacon; H. D. Gooch, P.M. 631, Prov. G. Sup. of Wks.; J. O. Carter, P.M. 209, Prov. G. Dir. of Cer.; John Palmer, P.M. 1501, Prov. G. Asst. Dir. of Cer.; John Reeve, W.M. 840, Prov. G. Sword Bearer; P. Glover, 574, Prov. G. Organist; W. King, P.M. 948, Prov. G. Pursuivant; C. Nowell, 771, Prov. G. Asst. Pursuivant; F. Westfield, Sec. 1501; D. W. Frazer, S.W. 1410; W. Huckoale, S.D. 1501; M. W. Dent, J.D. 1501; J. E. Danks, 1101; R. C. Mount, 414, Prov. G. Stewards; and W. Hemmings, Prov. G. Tyler.

The P.G.M. having expressed his thanks to Bros. Mercer and Goldney for having honoured the gathering with their presence, those gentlemen briefly addressed the brethren.

The P.G.M. then announced that the next Provincial Grand Lodge will be held at High Wycombe; and the business of the lodge was soon afterwards brought to a close.

At three o'clock the officers and brethren sat down to a sumptuous banquet at the Queen's Hotel, the chair being occupied by the Provincial Grand Master, who, on the introduction of dessert, proposed the toast of "The Queen and the Craft," followed by that of "His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, Most Worshipful Grand Master of England, and the rest of the Royal Family," the P.G.M. expressing the joy that all must feel through the safe and happy return of His Royal Highness from his Indian tour.

The next toast was that of "The Most Worshipful the Pro Grand Master, the Deputy Grand Master, and the Grand Officers of the Grand Lodge of England, Past and Present."

The D.G.M. proposed "The Health of the Right Worshipful the Provincial Grand Master, Sir Daniel Gooch, Bart., M.P.," which was received with the greatest possible enthusiasm. The D.G.M. believed he was correct in saying that it was an established rule that the busiest men were always most attentive to business, and this was certainly true in the case of Sir Daniel Gooch, who was always engaged with business of importance, and there were few men who transacted business matters more efficiently than Sir Daniel, and yet he found time to attend to his duties as Grand Master of this Province, besides which he attended the meetings of the Grand Lodge of England with great regularity. (Cheers.) As a province they might certainly congratulate themselves on having at their head one who had distinguished himself, whether in the undertakings of every day business or in his duties as a Mason. (Cheers.)

The P.G.M., in returning thanks, observed that it had given him great pleasure to see the Provincial Grand Lodge so largely attended. It was true he had a great many engagements to occupy his time and attention, but supported and encouraged as he was by the brethren of this province he could not but discharge his Masonic duties to the best of his power and ability. (Cheers.) They had heard from their able Secretary, Bro. Biggs, how the lodges were progressing, and also of the support given to the charities, and he could only ask them to continue in the same course, and he hoped that when they assembled at Wycombe next year they would have as much reason to be pleased with the results as on this occasion. (Cheers.) The P.G.M. then proposed "The Health of his Deputy, Bro. the Rev. J. S. Brownrigg," speaking of him as a zealous, active, and good Mason, who had rendered him great assistance in fulfilling his duties as P.G.M., (Cheers.) The P.G.M. also spoke in warm terms of the valuable services of the Rev. Sir John Warren Hayes, who for many years efficiently performed the duties of D.G.M. and whose name he associated with the toast.

The D.G.M. assured the brethren it gave him sincere pleasure to be of service to them, and said he had the fullest authority for stating that every lodge in the province was in a satisfactory state. (Cheers.)

The Rev. Sir J. W. Hayes, Bart., thanked the brethren for this renewed expression of their kind and fraternal feeling and attributed to the great and beneficial change that had occurred with regard to Freemasonry in this province during the past 10 years to the energy of Sir Daniel Gooch, and also to the circumstance that the Deputy Grand Master resided in the Bucks Division of the province. He hoped the prosperity which now characterised Masonry would not only continue, but increase year after year. (Cheers.)

The P.G.M. proposed "The Health of the Visitors," remarking that it gave him particular pleasure to couple with this toast "The Health of Bro. Goldney," who ably filled the position of Deputy Grand Master for the Province of Wiltshire—an office which he himself held for many years, during which he formed associations and friendship upon which he looked back with a great amount of pleasure. (Cheers.)

Bro. Goldney, in thanking the brethren, said it not only delighted him to have been the guest of their esteemed Grand Master, but he was charmed with all he had seen and heard that day, and he hoped Freemasonry would long

continue to flourish in this province. He was striving in his own province to follow in the footsteps of his predecessor, now their worthy Provincial Grand Master, whose excellent example was still producing good fruit in the Wiltshire province. From time to time philosophers had attempted to establish a system of universal fraternity and love, and there had been religious movements for the purpose of attaining that end, but he knew of no institution so well calculated to accomplish the purpose as Freemasonry. (Cheers.) If they would but endeavour to maintain the cardinal principles of their Order, and illustrate them in their actions, they would all become better men, and they would thus do much towards civilising and humanising the whole of mankind. Speaking of the Masonic symbols, Bro. Goldney reminded the brethren that not many centuries ago men who advanced scientific truths became the objects of attack and persecution, as in the case of the great Bacon, and it was only by signs and symbols that men could in those days safely communicate great scientific principles to those who would appreciate and foster and encourage them, and therefore in Masonry they had as it were the foundation of those great pursuits to which in these days the world owes so much. (Cheers.)

"The Health of the Provincial Grand Wardens, and other Grand Officers, Past and Present" having been proposed, was responded to by Bro. Hodges, S.G.W. and Bro. Hurley, J.G.W.

The P.G.M. gave "The Health of the Worshipful Masters, Officers, and Brethren of the Reading Lodges, and other Lodges in the Province," for whom Bro. Yeates, W.M. Union Lodge, and Bro. Brown, P.M. Greyfriars Lodge, responded. The P.G.M. thanked the Reading Lodges for the arrangements they had made for the P.G. Lodge. Bro. Brown explained that the W.M. of the Greyfriars Lodge (Bro. Freeman) had unexpectedly been called away on important business, which accounted for his absence.

The P.G.M. proposed "The Health of the Provincial Grand Secretary, Bro. Biggs," of whose indefatigable exertions in the cause of Masonry Sir Daniel spoke in the most eulogistic terms. (Cheers.)

Bro. Biggs, P.G.S., suitably responded, observing that for nearly 25 years past it had been his good fortune to be associated in Masonry with Sir Daniel. In Wiltshire he attained to the high position of Senior Grand Warden, Sir Daniel being Deputy Grand Master. They left Wiltshire about the same period, and on coming into Berkshire he found himself again in office under Sir Daniel. He accounted it an honour of which any Mason might well feel proud to have served under Sir Daniel as he had done, and to have enjoyed for so long a period the confidence of such a good-hearted, honest, and straightforward Masonic character as Sir Daniel was known to be. (Hear, and cheers.)

Then followed the toasts of "The Masonic Charities," "The Musical Brethren," "The Stewards," "The Master Masons" (for whom Major Stevens responded), "The Press," &c.

The speeches were interspersed by vocal music, and the proceedings were prolonged until past eight o'clock.

NEW MASONIC HALL AT GALASHIELS.

LAYING OF FOUNDATION-STONE.

A Masonic ceremony of some interest to the brethren of the province was performed at Galashiels on Friday, 12th inst., the occasion being the laying of the foundation-stone of a new hall by the local lodge, with the countenance and support of the Grand Lodge and their more immediately associated brethren of the district. Since its institution in 1816 the Lodge No. 262, St. John's, Galashiels, has never, it should be explained, had rooms of its own, and for the past year or two a favourite project with its officials and other active members has been the erection of a hall that would adequately provide for the requirements of the increasingly popular society. This scheme having been in its more recent progress taken up by the W.M., Bro. A. Thomson, reached a few months ago a stage which warranted the procuring of building plans from Messrs. Hall and Murray, Galashiels. These plans, which are now being put into execution on a site at the corner of Templar Terrace and the new street which it is intended shall run through part of Gala Park, are of a character that will, besides admitting of the erection of a thoroughly suitable hall, enable the Masonic brethren to provide themselves with this luxury at very little real expense. With an object of this kind in view, the architects have designed a commodious block of buildings, containing, in addition to the requisite lodge accommodation, so placed as not materially to add to the expense of the whole, workmen's dwelling-houses sufficient for ten families, with shop premises on the ground floor. Externally the elevation, showing in style an adaptation of the Scottish baronial, is two storeys in height, with a large attic flat, and in its east and north fronts (which measure in length respectively 65 and 72 feet) has somewhat of a pronounced character. On the East side, that fronting the Free Church recently erected, there is placed at the part most removed from Templar Terrace the entrance to the hall, and in order to characterise the building there has been here introduced the principal feature of the design. The door is arched, and finished with handsome moulding, while from a corbel, run in about six feet from the ground, the wall is projected fully six inches, and carried upwards in the form of a broad gable, broken with a circular window and three panels—the first bearing the date "1876," the second with "Masonic Hall," in raised letters, and the third showing the Masonic emblems. Originally it was proposed to finish this part of the design by the addition of a Scotch baronial tower of considerable height, but, in the meantime, the plans do not provide for this, but merely for the completion of the gable by moulded and lapped "skews," with a thistle in the centre. Intervening

between this and the gable which, at the other end of the building, forms its counterpart (with, however, none of its more distinctive characteristics), the elevation is a plain one, pierced on the first and second floors by the doors and windows of the dwelling-houses, and on the attic floor by large circular dormer windows, and broken immediately above the ground floor by a "string course," which is carried round to the north front. With the projection of a second gable above some shop premises the design for the east side is completed, and the block then runs to the north for the distance already specified with an outline very much the same as already described, though altogether more of a secondary character. The hall itself is situated on the second floor, but being thrown back and lighted entirely from the roof, no trace of it except the entrance is visible from the exterior. Although thus occupying no very pretentious place, it is, however, a thoroughly suitable one, being 41 feet by 24 feet 6 inches, and 19 feet in height, and having attached to it a series of commodious ante-rooms. The total cost of the work without the tower is estimated at £3,000, of which a considerable sum has already been expended in excavating the site, this having run into the side of a hillock, and being a costly one to make use of.

The ceremony of Friday was favoured by everything that could contribute to its success—the weather being fine, the assemblage of Freemasons large, and the interest taken in the proceedings by the public very marked. After assembling at the Public Hall, the brethren of St. John's and those forming deputations from the sister lodges in the province were marshalled in processional order by Bro. Bryce, of the Grand Lodge, at one o'clock, and thereafter marched, with music supplied by two bands, through the principal streets of the town, on their way towards what was to be the scene of the ceremony. In all, this procession comprised upwards of 200 Masons, the lodges being disposed of in the following order:—No. 482, Kirkcaldy (number of deputation, 10); No. 405, Rifle, Edinburgh (12); No. 360, Munro (3); No. 291, Celtic, Edinburgh (8); No. 262, St. John's, Galashiels (60); No. 261, Tweed, Kelso (7); No. 223, Trafalgar, Edinburgh and Leith (4); No. 216, Stow, (9); No. 178, Scotia, Glasgow (1); No. 132, St. Luke's, Lauder (15); No. 111, St. John's, Hawick (22); No. 70, St. Abb, Eyemouth (10); No. 32, St. John's, Selkirk (16); No. 24, Kilwinning, Peebles (6, carrying the working tools); No. 10, Dalkeith (6); No. 8, Journeymen, Edinburgh (32); the Provincial Grand Lodge, headed by Bros. Inglis, of Torsonce, Provincial Grand Master of Peebleshire and Selkirkshire (who had been requested to lay the foundation-stone); A. Thomson, S.P.G.M.; Scott, P.G.S.W.; Donaldson, P.G.J.W.; Rev. A. J. Murray, Eddlestone, P.G. Chaplain; R. Sanderson, P.G. Sec.; Kyle, P.G. Deacon; Nisbet, P.G. Steward; Scott, P.G. Steward; Waddie, P.G. Bible-Bearer; Thomson, P.G. Bard; R. Brown, P.G. Master of Ceremonies; and the Grand Lodge, represented by Bro. A. Hay, Grand Jeweller; Bro. W. Officer (P.M. of No. 1); and Bro. W. Hay, Grand Deacon.

On the site of the new building a large piece of ground had been railed off, within which a platform was erected for the accommodation of ladies who wished to see the ceremonial, and the space necessary for marshalling the Masons taking part in the proceedings was furnished. Outside the barriers a large crowd of the townspeople gathered, all anxious to be spectators of what was taking place. At two o'clock, by which time all outsiders had got into position, the procession arrived at the enclosure, and immediately after the Provincial Grand Master had been conducted to a small platform erected for his use, the ceremony was then commenced. Prayer was first offered by the Rev. Bro. Murray, after which

Bro. Thomson, S.P.G.M., said that previous to the foundation-stone of the new hall being laid he wished, in name of the Lodge St. John, to present Bro. Inglis with a silver trowel. (Cheers.) This presentation was, he said, made to their brother as an acknowledgment of the valuable services he had rendered as Provincial Grand Master—(Cheers)—was made, too, because Bro. Inglis was a Border man, and highly appreciated everything connected with the Borders—(Cheers.) and as an acknowledgment of his high literary attainments, gentlemanly bearing, and above all, of those high Masonic principles the possession of which endeared him to every brother in Scotland. (Cheers.)

Bro. Inglis, in acknowledging the presentation, said he accepted with gratitude and pleasure the handsome trowel that had been put into his hands. The Substitute-Grand Master had spoken of him (Bro. Inglis) as a Border man, and there was no mistake that he was right, and in his family they held a charter from Robert Bruce of certain lands near Hawick—the lands of Branzholm, which now belonged to the noble family of Buccleuch, but in regard to which the noble Duke was always ready to admit that this (Bro. Inglis's) family preceded his house in the Borders (Cheers). The Duke's sept was a strong one, quite able to take the cattle of the English, and to keep them—(laughter and cheers)—while his clan was a smaller one, though very obstinate—(laughter)—and when they found themselves opposed to the whole force of the English Borders were obliged to change their possession of Branzholm for certain other lands. (Cheers.)

With full Masonic rites the foundation-stone was then laid, the officials more prominently taking part in the proceedings being the Provincial Grand Master, the Substitute Grand Master, Bro. Sanderson, P.G. Secretary, Bro. Scott, P.G.S.W., and Bro. Donaldson, P.G.J.W. The ceremony having been completed,

Bro. Inglis addressed the brethren. At the outset he alluded at considerable length to the last occasion when he appeared in public in Galashiels in connection with the celebration of the Scott Centenary, and spoke of that demonstration as the result of unbiassed, generous, and en-

lightened enthusiasm on the part of the townspeople. Referring to the occasion that had brought them together, he congratulated the Lodge St. John on the work that had just been begun, stating that they were the first lodge who, during his period of office at least, had thought fit to erect a temple of their own. (Cheers.) Churches they had of all denominations, devoted exclusively to Christian worship; was it too much, then, he asked, that they who professed the great Christian principles of love of virtue, and of charity, should have a place of assemblage for themselves? (Cheers.) He said "No"—(cheers)—and how entirely the brethren of St. John's agreed with him had already been shown. (Renewed cheers.) He trusted, he said in conclusion, that the brethren of the town would meet together in the new hall on the level and square for many a year to come. (Cheers.)

Bro. Thomson, in conveying the thanks of St. John's Lodge to Bro. Inglis for his services, remarked that, if he did not mistake the temper of the Freemasons of the South of Scotland, their Provincial Grand Master would soon be put in a position in the Grand Lodge itself in which he might enjoy the throne for a season. (Cheers.)

The speech-making being concluded, the procession was re-formed, and marched back, in inverted order, to the Public Hall, where the day's festivities were wound up with a Masonic banquet, over which Bro. Inglis presided.

THANKSGIVING FOR THE PRINCE OF WALES'S SAFE RETURN.

Bro. the Rev. R. J. Simpson, Past Grand Chaplain, will move the following resolutions at Grand Lodge on the 7th June:—

Resolved,

1. That this Grand Lodge desires to record its humble and hearty thanks to Almighty God for the preservation and safe return of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, Most Worshipful Grand Master of English Freemasons, and that, with a view to testifying to this loyal and devout feeling in a more united, public, and solemn manner, this Grand Lodge resolves (with the approval of the Most Worshipful the Grand Master and the kind permission of the proper authorities) to hold, on some convenient day, a service of praise and thanksgiving in St. Paul's Cathedral.

2. That as a thank offering on this occasion this Grand Lodge votes from its Fund the sum of £1,000, which, together with the offerings made at the service in St. Paul's, shall be devoted to the benefit of such charitable object in India as may be recommended by the Most Worshipful Grand Master.

In the event of the above resolutions being passed,

Resolved,

3. That the following brethren constitute a special committee to carry out this resolution, viz.:—

R.W. Bro. Lord Skelmersdale, D.G.M.
R.W. Bro. Earl of Donoughmore, G.S.W.
R.W. Bro. Hon. W. W. Vernon, G.J.W.
V.W. Bro. Aeneas J. McIntyre (Q.C.), G.R.
R.W. Bro. J. Havers, P.G.J.W.
V.W. Bro. J. B. Monckton, P.G.D.
R.W. Bro. J. Clabon, Pres. B.G.P.
R.W. Bro. Sir A. Woods, G.D.C.
V.W. Bro. J. Hervey, G. Sec.
V.W. Bro. S. J. Wigram, G. Chap.
Bro. Dr. Erasmus Wilson, W.M. No. 2.
Bro. Standish Grady.
Bro. Major General Clerk.
V.W. Bro. R. J. Simpson, P.G. Chap.

LODGE OF BENEVOLENCE.

The monthly meeting of the Lodge of Benevolence was held on Wednesday evening, at Freemasons' Hall. The quarterly meeting of the Board of Masters was previously held, at which the paper of business for Grand Lodge Quarterly Communication was settled. Even for the meeting of the Board of Masters, which is always numerously attended, the number of brethren who were present was very large—100 brethren attended. Bro. John M. Clabon, P.G.D. President, presided; Bro. James Brett, P.G.P., Junior Vice President, was in the Senior Vice President's chair; and Bro. S. Rawson, Past District G.M. of China, was in the chair of the Junior Vice President. The Grand Senior Warden of the year, the Earl of Donoughmore, was among the numerous brethren who took part in the proceedings. There were also present Bros. S. Foxall, W. F. Nettleship, Percy Leigh, J. M. Case, Benj. Head, H. Marsh, E. Watts, John Bingemann, W. Fourdrinier, H. Bartlett, Samuel May, W. H. Hemsworth, John Green, W. Clifton Crick, C. J. Morgan, James Pinder, John Constable, William Dodd, W. H. Lee, John Wright, P.G.P.; Jos. Smith, P.G.P.; Cotterburne, P.G.P.; Dr. Hogg, W. Stephens, W. J. Murlis, Hogard, Griffiths Smith, W. H. Myers, B. H. Swallow, Rev. J. M. Vaughan, S. Poynter, J. Hervey, H. G. Buss, A. A. Pendlebury, W. T. Howe, and F. Binckes.

The Lodge of Benevolence sat for four hours, and in the course of the evening voted a total of £653, which was made up of three sums of £50 each, one of £40, four of £30, nine of £20, five of £15, eight of £10, one of £5, and one of £3.

Lodge was then closed and adjourned.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.—Safely and Securely.—When the severities of winter have yielded to the genial spring, invalids should make a determined effort to regain their lost health, when, through confinement indoors, want of appetite, and disturbed sleep, the entire system has been weakened and the spirits have been broken down. Holloway's remedies are equal to the occasion. The ointment rubbed over the regions of the stomach and liver, aided by the internal administration of his pills, will rectify the digestion, regulate the bile, and purify the blood—three sanitary actions which will speedily confer renewed vigour, brace up the failing nerves, confirm the flaccid muscles, and restore to the ailing, cheerfulness, that great charm of existence.—ADVT.

METROPOLITAN MASONIC MEETINGS.

For the Week ending Friday, June 2, 1876.

The Editor will be glad to receive notice from Secretaries of Craft Lodges, Royal Arch Chapters, Mark Lodges, Preceptories, Conclaves, &c., of any change in place or time of meeting.

SATURDAY, MAY 27.

Lodge 1541, Alexandra Palace, Muswell Hill.
Chap. 176, Caveac, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Lily, Greyhound, Richmond.
Manchester, 77, London-st., Fitzroy-square.
Star, Marquis of Granby, New Cross-rd.

MONDAY, MAY 29.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Prince Leopold, Lord Stanley Tav., Kingsland.
Strong Man, Jerusalem Tav., St. John's Gate.
Sincerity, Railway Tav., Fenchurch-st. Station.
Camden, Stanhope Arms, Up. James-st., Camden To.
Eastern, Royal Hot., Mile-end-road.
St. James's Union, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Wellington, White Swan, Deptford.
Perfect Ashlar, Victoria Tav., Lower-rd., Rotherhithe.
Sydney, White Hart Ho., Church-rd., Upper Norwood.

TUESDAY, MAY 30.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney.
Domestic, Surrey M.H., Camberwell New-road.
Faith, 2, Westminster Chambers, Victoria-st.
Prince Fredk. Wm., Lord's Hot., St. John's Wood.
Dalhousie, King Edward, Triangle, Hackney.
Prosperity, 1, Camomile-st., Bishopsgate.
St. Marylebone, British Stores Tav., St. John's Wood.
Constitutional, Wheatsheaf Hot., Hand-court, Holborn.
Israel, Rising Sun Tav., Globe Road.
Royal Arthur, Prince's Head, York-road, Battersea.
Beacontree, Red Lion, Leytonstone, at 8.
Metropolitan Chapter, Jamaica Coffee Ho., Cornhill.
Eccelsior, Commercial Dock Tav., Rotherhithe.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 31.

Lodge 898, Temperance-in-the-East, Newby-pl., Poplar.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Mt. Lebanon, Windsor Castle Tav., Southwark-bdg.-rd.
Pythagorean, Prince of Orange, Greenwich.
New Concord, Rosemary Branch Tav., Hoxton.
Royal Union, Horse and Groom, Winsley-st., Oxford-st.
Confidence, M.H., Basinghall-st.
Peckham, Maismore Arms, Park-road, Peckham.
Stanhope, Thicket Hot., Anerley.
Finsbury Park, Finsbury Park Tav., Seven Sisters'-rd.
Southwark, Southwark Park Tav., Southwark Park.
Duke of Connaught, Havelock Tav., Dalston, E.
United Strength, Grafton Arms, Kentish-town.
Mount Edgumbe, 19, Jermyn-street, St. James's.
Islington, Crown and Cushion, London Wall.
Whittington, Black Bull Tav., Holborn.

THURSDAY, JUNE 1.

Lodge 742, Crystal Palace, Star and Garter, Kew Bridge.
" 1155, Eccelsior, Sydney Arms, Lewisham-rd.
" 1178, Perfect Ashlar, Bridge House Hot.

Chap. 9, Moriah, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Egyptian, Hercules Tav., Leadenhall-st.
Fidelity, Yorkshire Grey, London-st., W.
Finsbury, Jolly Anglers' Tav., Bath-st., City-road.
Temperance in the East, Catherine-st., Poplar.
Ebony, 12, Ponsonby-st., Millbank.
Highgate, Bull and Gate, Kentish-town.
The Great City, 111, Cheapside.
High Cross, Coach & Horses, High-road, Tottenham.
Salisbury, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Marquis of Ripon, Albion Tav., Albion-rd., Dalston.
Prince Frederick William Chapter, St. John's Wood.

FRIDAY, JUNE 2.

Lodge 1275, Star, Ship Hot., Greenwich.
" 1489, Marquis of Ripon, Ball's-Pond-rd., N.
Chap. 259, Prince of Wales, Willis's Rooms, W.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Union Waterloo, Thomas-st., Woolwich.
St. George's, Globe Tav., Royal-hill, Greenwich.
Robert Burns, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Belgrave, Lyceum Tav., 354, Strand.
Unions Emulation (for M.M.'s), F.M.H.
Temperance, Victoria Tav., Victoria-road, Deptford.
Clapton, White Hart, Clapton.
Metropolitan, Portugal Hot., Fleet-st.
Westbourne, Horse & Groom, Winsley-st., Oxford-st.
Metropolitan, Pentonville-road.
United Pilgrims, Surrey M.H., Camberwell New-road.
St. James's, New Tanners' Arms, Grange-rd., Bermondsey.
Duke of Edinburgh, Silver Lion, Penny-fields, Poplar.
Doric, Earl Grey Tav., Mile-end-road.
Burgoyne, Grafton Arms, Prince of Wales's-road, N.W.
St. Luke's, Commercial Tav., King's-road, Chelsea.
Chigwell, Bald-faced Stag Hot., Buckhurst-hill.
Burdett Courts, Approach Tav., Victoria Park.
Royal Standard, Finsbury Park Tav., Holloway.
Ranelagh, Clarendon Hot., Hammersmith.
Pythagorean Chapter, Prince of Orange, Greenwich-rd.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN WEST LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE.

For the Week ending Saturday June 3, 1876.

MONDAY, MAY 29.

Lodge 148, Lights, M. Rooms, Warrington.

TUESDAY, MAY 30.

Chap. 721, Grosvenor, M.H., Chester.
Merchants' L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

THURSDAY, JUNE 1.

Lodge 249, Mariners, M.H., Liverpool.
" 950, Hesket, Royal Hot., Fleetwood.
" 1032, Townley Parker, Howard's A., Whitle-le-Wds.
" 1070, Starkie, Black Horse Hot., Kirkham.
" 1473, Bootle, Molyneux R., Bootle.
Chap. 758, Bridgewater, M.H., Runcorn.
St. John's L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

FRIDAY, JUNE 2.

Lodge 1375, Architect, Didsbury Hot., Didsbury.
" 1387, Chorlton, M.R., Chorlton-cum-Hardy.
" 1505, Emulation, M.H., Liverpool.
Duke of Edinburgh L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN GLASGOW AND WEST OF SCOTLAND.

For the Week ending Saturday, June 3, 1876.

All the Meetings take place at Eight o'clock.

MONDAY, MAY 29.

Lodge 103, Union & Crown, 170, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
Chap. 122, Thetis, 35, St. James-st., S.S., Glasgow.

THURSDAY, JUNE 1.

Lodge 11, St. John's, King's Arms, Maybole.
" 22, St. John Kilwinning, George Hot., Kilmarnock.
" 149, St. Andrew, Masons' Arms, Irvine.
" 157, St. John, Main-st., Beith.
" 165, Royal Arch, King's Arms, Ayr.
" 320, St. John, Royal Arch, M.H., Ardrossan.
" 370, Renfrew, M.H., High-st., Paisley.
" 465, St. Andrew, M.H., Garngad-rd.

FRIDAY, JUNE 2.

Lodge 116, Royal Arch, Council Hall, Rutherglen.
" 135, St. James, Crown Inn, Tarbolton.
" 175, St. John, M.H., Greenock.
" 215, St. Andrew, Avondale Inn, Strathavon.
" 217, Cumberland Kilwinning, T.H., Port Glasgow.
" 242, Houston, Cross Keys Hot., Johnstone.
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" 360, Commercial, 30, Hope-street, Glasgow.
" 408, Clyde, St. Mark's Hall, Glasgow.
" 459, Kelburne, Cumbræ Hot., Millport.
" 512, Thorntree, M.H., Thornliebank.
" 551, Clydesdale, Royal Hot., Larkhall.

SATURDAY, JUNE 3.

Lodge 458, St. John, Wilson's Hall, Busby.
" 544, St. Andrew, M.H., Coatbridge.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN EDINBURGH AND VICINITY.

For the Week ending Saturday, June 3, 1876.

THURSDAY, JUNE 1.

Lodge 97, St. James's, St. James's Hall, Writers' Court.

FRIDAY, JUNE 2.

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At the Annual General Meeting of this Institution, held at Freemasons' Hall, London, on Friday, the 19th May, 1876, W. Bro. Colonel J. Creaton, Vice-Patron, P.G.D., in the chair. After the general business was disposed of, the Governors and Subscribers proceeded to the election of Twenty-one Female Annuitants, from an approved list of thirty-two candidates (the whole of the Male candidates being placed on the list without election), when the following were declared duly elected:—

	Votes.
Mrs. Hoare, Henrietta	1069
" Blackburn, Eliza W.	1044
" Burton, Jane	993
" Gidney, Lydia	763
" Johnson, Harriet	793
" Keen, Mary	684
" Cowen, Harriet	676
" Harvey, Honor	654
" Keddel, Martha F.	634
" Redick, Maria	620
" Brown, Sarah	619
" Charlton, Sarah	616
" Govier, Elizabeth	615
" Froud, Mary	592
" Wingfield, Frances	590
" Rogers, Frances	557
" Tidswell, Susannah	541
" Edwards, Eleanor	539
" Lundy, Charlotte	538
" Wilkes, Elizabeth	513
" *Russell, Sarah	446

Marked thus * elected to fill a vacancy occasioned by death since the voting papers were issued.

The votes of the unsuccessful candidates will be carried forward to the next election.
Copies of the result sheet, with number of votes polled for all candidates, may be had on application to the Secretary.

By Order,

JAMES TERRY,
Secretary.

4, Freemasons' Hall, London, W.C.
19th May, 1876.

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REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS.

Craft Masonry.

SOUTHERN STAR LODGE (No. 1158).—On Tuesday, the 23rd ult., a very strong gathering of members and visitors took place at the "Montpelier" Tavern, Walworth, it being the night of nights, namely the installation meeting of this transpontine lodge. The proceedings commenced at an early hour in the afternoon. The officers present were Bros. Wise, W.M.; Macdonald, S.W., W.M. elect; Walters, J.W.; Allen, S.D.; Harris, J.D.; Smith, I.G.; J. Wright, I.P.M. (W.M. Royal Commemoration); A. Wright, P.M., Treas.; Pulsford, P.M., Sec.; Newsham, Asst. Sec.; Hobbell, Asst. Org.; Towers, P.M.; Clark, P.M.; H. Potter, P.M., and Dr. Goldsboro, P.P.G.S.W. of North Wales and Shropshire, &c. (hon. member); Steed, Tyler. Among the numerous visitors we noticed Bros. Ough, P.G.P., and Hogg, P.G.S. of England; Platt, P.M. 23; Dann, P.M. 72; Dilley, P.M. 147; King, P.M. 172; Keeble, P.M. 275; Neville, P.M. 765; Collander, P.M. 908, W.M. designate 1582; Mander, P.M. 1201; Burrell, P.M. 1446; Seard, W.M. 140; Woodman, W.M. 1559; Walls, S.D. 1381; Morphew, S.D. 1585; Elliott (Mount Lebanon). The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the W.M. passed Bro. Deffrus to the F.C. Degree with that care and ease which has characterised his working throughout his arduous year of office. The ceremony of inducting Bro. G. Macdonald to the chair of K.S. was then commenced, Bro. Wise being Installing Officer; and Bros. Clark, P.M.; Dann, P.M.; and Pulsford, P.M., respectively officiated as S.W., J.W., and D.C. It is always gratifying to be in a position to chronicle the maiden effort of any I.P.M., why may endeavour to carry out successfully the difficult task of installing his successor, but when it is performed well—as was the case on this occasion—it becomes a positive pleasure. Bro. Wise's working was simply perfect, and the best proof that can be afforded that his exertions were approved by his crowded auditory was the ovation he received at the conclusion of the ceremonial. The officers were then inducted as follows:—Bros. Walters, S.W.; Allen, J.W.; Smith, S.D.; Harris, J.D.; A. Stewart, I.G.; A. Wright, P.M., Treas.; Pulsford, P.M., Sec.; Newsham, Asst. Sec.; Fortune, D.C.; Holland, W.S.; Burr, Org.; Hobbell, A.O.; Steed, Tyler. The pleasing duty of presenting Bro. Wise with a very handsome P.M.'s jewel was then performed by the W.M., who complimented the I.P.M. for the very admirable manner in which he had presided during his year of office, and that he personally considered him a pattern Master, both in lodge and at the banquet table. In conclusion the speaker said that by Bro. Wise's careful attention to the lodge funds he had relinquished office with the largest sum ever left in the Treasurer's hands by any former I.P.M. of the Southern Star (loud applause), and he hoped that the G.A.O.T.U. would enable him to live many years to wear the jewel which he had so worthily won. Bro. Wise in reply thanked the lodge for the jewel and the W.M. for the kind manner in which he had graced its presentation. He went on to tell them that he had served all the offices of the Lodge from I.G., and that by constant application and attention at lodges of instruction he had endeavoured to master the Masonic ritual, although he confessed he had to contend with a constitutional dulness. In concluding his remarks he exhorted those brethren who had a desire to reach the chair of K.S. to frequently attend lodges where good instruction could be obtained, and stated "en passant" that under the auspices and title of the Southern Star a lodge would be opened at the Crown Hotel, Blackfriars, on the 15th instant, when the ceremonies of consecration and installation would be rehearsed by Bro. Terry, P.D.G.C. of Herts, &c., their W.M. being Hon. Secretary, Bro. Pulsford Preceptor, and himself Treasurer to the said intended lodge. A committee consisting of the officers and seven lay members, viz., Bros. Dowsett, Heffer, Hobbell, Birham, Beavis, Fane, and Wilkie having been appointed to carry out the arrangements of the summer festival, the lodge was closed and the brethren adjourned to the banquet. Upon the removal of the cloth the W.M. gave "The Queen and Craft" (National Anthem—Bro. Walls). In proposing "The Health of H.R.H., the M.W.G.M.," the W.M. briefly touched upon the incident of the Prince's Indian tour and his happy welcome home, and in conclusion he spoke of the great attention and interest H.R.H. had displayed both in this country and abroad in everything relating to Freemasonry,

and he, the W.M., considered that the Prince was undoubtedly one of the best Grand Masters that the ancient Craft had ever had. "God Bless the Prince of Wales" having been sung by Bro. Farrell, the W.M. proposed "The Earl of Carnarvon, Pro G.M., Lord Skelmersdale, D.G.M., and the rest of the Grand Officers Past and Present," coupled with the names of Bros. Ough, P.G.P., and Hogg, P.G.S., who responded. In consequence of four gentlemen, viz., Messrs. Block, Pontin, Simms and Scar, having been initiated at a recent L. of E., the W.M. brought their names forward, and they were toasted as "The Initiates," and subsequently they each returned thanks. In giving "The Visitors" the W.M. remarked upon the number of distinguished brethren that had that day honoured the installation meeting of the lodge by their attendance. He was personally exceedingly pleased with the presence among others of Bros. Dilley, King, and Mander, whose abilities as Masonic Preceptors were well and deservedly known. In conclusion he hoped that their visit had been in every way satisfactory to them. This toast having been duly honoured, Bros. Dilley, King, Goldsboro' and Mander made very able replies, the latter brother's speech in particular being full of point and humour. Bro. Wise, I.P.M., then rose and gave "The W.M." In the course of his remarks he said that after the many kind expressions that had fallen from the lips of the various visitors in praise of the genial qualities and abilities of Bro. Macdonald, and which encomiums could be fully endorsed by every member present, it was quite unnecessary for him to dilate upon the subject, but in concluding, he felt sure that the W.M. would give every satisfaction during his year of office in the discharge of the great duties of the position he had undertaken. In reply, Bro. Macdonald said that he was quite overpowered by the many words of praise that had that evening been passed upon him by the visitors, and taken up by the I.P.M., who had so ably proposed his health. He then touched upon his connection with the lodge, which had been established some nine or ten years, and stated that he had received his first lessons in Masonic working from Bro. Dilley, and since then by Bro. Pulsford, their worthy Secretary, and hoped that the instruction thus kindly given had not fallen on barren soil, but of that the members of the lodge could be the only judges. He concluded by telling them that he would do his best to enhance the prosperity of the Southern Star, which lodge had in so short a time made such gigantic strides in the world Masonic, and begged them to believe that that was the happiest moment he had ever experienced. Between the toasts, Bros. Hogg, Ross, Walls, Walters, and others poetically and vocally amused the brethren. The remaining toasts were "The Masonic Charities," "The Past Masters," "The Officers of the Lodge," and the Tyler's. The proceedings, which were throughout eminently successful, terminated at an advanced hour, and the brethren separated until the fourth Tuesday in September.

GRANITE LODGE (No. 1328).—In the accession of members to this lodge there seems to be an especial fatality. The followers who flocked to the standard of King John were never more enthusiastic or more loyal to his cause than were those to the Craft who on Saturday, the 13th ult., were added to the grand category of innocent martyrs to the fascinations of the Masonic art. When the ancient Druids of Stonehenge were in the pride and glory of their fame never could the devotees of their peculiar "ism" have sought the shrine of their sacred lapidarian pile imbued with nobler sentiments or endowed with feelings of deeper appreciation of their primitive pastimes than were those who on that particular day enshrined their names in the blessed cause of Freemasonry. History has certainly been repeating itself in the Granite Lodge with something approaching to amazement. At almost every lodge the brief chronicle the times has to record the addition of a whole batch of strangers ready and desirous to embrace the mysteries of the Craft. The ranks are being constantly filled, and volunteers are repeatedly enlisting. But who can wonder at these events under the able generalship of the P.W.M. (Bro. Oliver), and his subalterns, the celebrated "Juniors," the performance of whose offices forms no indifferent part of the whole of the strategical movements of the mighty army of Freemasons. With sincere regret he said the announcement was made that the W.M. (Bro. Muggeridge) was unable to assume his post on this occasion from continued indisposition, and it therefore fell to the lot of Bro. Oliver to raise to the Sublime Degree of M.M. Bros. J. H. Outhwaite, C. J. Jones, J. B. Lee, G. H. Chapman, Egerton J. Pain; to pass Bro. A. J. Hewitt, and initiate Bro. Edward Francis Clarke. Bro. David Duke was also initiated, and Bro. R. B. Austin likewise. A donation to the Royal Masonic Girls' School was voted, to be placed on the list of Bro. W. H. Muggeridge, W.M., who will represent the lodge as Steward at the next festival. The lodge then formed itself into a forum for the discussion of general matters. Bro. Lewis Thomas rose to speak of the prosperous condition of the lodge, while Bro. Hackett's moulted told of the unmistakably abundance of his Chancellorship of the Exchequer and the redundancy of the precious metal. As a consequence of this pleasing intelligence nothing less than a summer banquet could be thought of—especially when it was considered that all the Masonic charities had been freely patronised, and considering also the long interval between that and next meeting. Many innocent remarks followed the suggested event, in order to make the occasion in all respects worthy of the Granite Lodge. Strange to relate—for we do not mind for once divulging a cabinet secret—the ladies were positively brought into question—a subject every one will allow admitting of a wide field of pretty discourse and luscious "sweet nothings," as the fair sex call compliments, on the charms and the beauty of "the pinks of fashion and the darlings of the day," as

the song would remark. And some brother, more remarkable for the softness of his heart than the hardness of his head (as Bro. Middlemass would say), positively had the cool effrontery to propose that the rank and file of the Granite's army of pleasure seekers should be swollen on the great occasion by the presence of the ladies. Need we say, as the song says, "that a storm arose," the bosom of the deep was never more agitated; and after the surging waves of opposition had done their destructive work the proposition was fated, like the baseless fabric of a vision, to leave not a wreck behind, for in the full tide of masculine prejudice the feminine boat was completely tossed to the winds and the resolution negatived. While this discussion was going on Bro. Cole, at No. 2, Westminster Chambers, had prepared a very pleasant supper for their delectation; after partaking of which Bro. Oliver, in the chair, proposed "The Health of Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen," "The Most Worshipful Grand Master, His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales," and coupled with it that of all the Royal Family, which were heartily responded to. Following these toasts, "The Health of the Pro Grand Master, the Earl of Carnarvon, and Lord Skelmersdale," were given next, and responded to with true Masonic enthusiasm. "The Health of Bro. Cottebrune" was given next, and the W.M. remarked that he was so valuable to the lodge that they should regret very sincerely to lose his services. Bro. Batson proposed "The Health of the Master," who, he said, had always fulfilled the office of the chair with kindness, and the addition of cordiality. Bro. Oliver, W.M., in thanking them, remarked that it always gave him pleasure to be amongst the members of the Granite Lodge. He then proposed "The Health of the Initiates," and coupled with it the names of Bros. Middlemass, Browning, and Turner, each of whom responded, Bro. Middlemass enlivening the proceedings by a very able and humorous speech. The W.M. then gave "The Health of the P.M.'s, Bros. Batson, Lenly, D. Maid, and J. Lewis Thomas," each of whom acknowledged the toast, and expressed the great pleasure they felt at the magnificent growth of the Granite Lodge. The W.M. next selected the worthy Treasurer, Bro. Hackett, and Bro. Thomas, the Secretary, as the objects of his favour. Bro. Hackett, in returning thanks, observed that it was not a thankful office to keep the cash; but he nevertheless hoped he should long continue to do so if it were only for the pleasure of being called "the Man of Brass." It was his peculiar function to advocate expenditure, and whenever it was a question of charities he was proud to say he always did so with joy. They must be careful, however, not to let charity degenerate into pauperism; and therefore it was with feelings of gratification that he heard there was to be an expenditure on a summer banquet. The funds were ample and could well afford the proposed event. Bro. Thomas remarked that the duties of his office were performed with much pleasure, for it added greatly to the willingness with which he fulfilled his obligations when he knew he was Secretary to a lodge second to none in the metropolis. He assured them that there was no man so well able to take care of the cash as Bro. Hackett. The W.M. then proposed "The speedy restoration to health of the W.W., Bro. Muggeridge," which was cordially responded to. "The Health of the Minor Officers" brought to their feet Bros. Bosworth, Gardner, and Kirk, who each referred to their respective functions as the units which go to making the condition of the Granite Lodge one of unmixed pleasure and satisfaction, and the brethren separated shortly after midnight.

ST. DUNSTON'S LODGE (No. 1589).—This lodge held a meeting at Anderson's Hotel, Fleet-street, on Thursday evening, the 25th ult. Bros. Dwarber, P.M. 55, W.M.; Wellsman, P.M. 858, S.W.; L. Alexander, P.M. 188, J.W. (in the absence of Bro. Dalwood through illness); A. Tisley, Sec.; Turner, J.D.; Woodbridge, I.G.; and the following visitors:—Bros. H. J. Green, W.M. 1538; C. H. Stephenson, W.S.; E. Swanborough, J.D. H. F. Cox, D.C. 1319; J. W. M. Doselle, P.M. and Sec., 55; A. R. Haley, P.M. 862; C. Centun, of Le Travail Lodge, at Verviers, in Belgium; O. Low, 258; W. R. Buckmann, 1287; J. Shuter, P.M. and Sec., 858. Bros. Manners, Low, Clemow, Bull, and Thurgood were raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason.

KENDAL.—Union Lodge (No. 129).—The regular meeting of this old and flourishing lodge was held at the Masonic Rooms, Stramontage, on Thursday, the 23rd ult., when Bro. Fred. Chas. Grayson, W.M., presided, assisted by his officers, Bros. Rich. J. Nelson, S.W.; W. Crauston, J.W.; Geo. B. Greenall, Treas.; George J. McKay, Sec.; W. H. Akerigg, S.D.; Thos. Baron, J.D.; Robt. B. Hunter, I.G. There were also present the following members:—Bros. Harry Rauthmell, P.M. and M.E.Z. 129, P.P.G.D. of C. Cumberland and Westmorland, Steward for the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys; H. F. Scales, Thos. C. Fearenside, O. G. Grayson, W. F. Robson, W. Middleton, Jas. Gooding, J. Hunter, F. W. Watson, W. Harrison, R. Godfrey, Jas. Winder, Edward O. Dwyer, J. Banks. Visitors:—G. Taylor, 1051; J. Wilkinson, 940; A. Balmforth, 779. The lodge was opened in the first Degree with solemn prayer, and the minutes of last meeting read and confirmed. Bros. Edward O'Dwyer and James Winder, were passed to the degree of F.C. by the W.M. in a very able and impressive manner. This being the last meeting for the season, the W.M. (in deference to the wish of several of the younger brethren) decided to meet on the last Thursday of next month, for the purpose of raising the two candidates, to enable them to attend Provincial Grand Lodge in autumn, which is expected to be held at Kirkby Lonsdale, the seat of the Right Hon. the Earl of Bective, P.G.M. of Cumberland and Westmorland, when a very large gathering of the brethren

from the province and elsewhere is anticipated. Bro. P.M. Rauthmell informed the brethren that any member desirous of attending the Festival of the R.M.I. for Boys could obtain a ticket for dinner (price one guinea) from himself, being Steward for the province, or Bro. Binckes, Secretary of the Institution. Heartly good wishes having been expressed by the visiting brethren, the lodge was solemnly closed in peace and harmony at 8 p.m.

JERSEY.—Lodge La Cesaree (No. 590).—The 25th anniversary meeting of this lodge was held on Thursday, May 25th, at the Masonic Temple, for the sole purpose of installing the W.M. elect and investing his officers. Soon after 4.30 the lodge was opened by Bro. A. Grant, W.M., supported by Bros. Geo. J. Renouf, P.M., P.S.G.W., as S.W.; Capt. P. Messervy, J.W.; A. Schmitt, P.M., P.P.S.G.W., Sec.; J. T. du Jardin, P.M., P.P.S.G.W.; J. Oatley, P.M., P.S.G.W.; John Durell, P.M., P.P.S.G.W., Treas.; A. Gallichan, I.G., and others. Amongst the visitors were Bros. Gen. T. C. Kelly, C.B., W.M. 877, P.S.G.D.; E. Martel, W.M. 958, P.P.G.D.C.; C. Kingsnorth, W.M. 245, P.P.J.G.W.; R. Barrow, P.M. 491, P.G. Reg.; P. W. Benham, W.M. 244, P.G. Treas.; J. O. Le Sœur, P.M. 491, P.G. Sec.; W. Metherell, W.M. 1003; P. Blampied, S.W. 245, P.G.D.C.; F. Le Feuvre, J.W. 877, P.G.S.B.; and others. After the confirmation of minutes the lodge was opened in the Second Degree. Bro. A. Schmitt took the chair as Installing Master, when Bro. J. T. du Jardin presented Bro. A. Grant as W.M. elect., the customary enumeration of duties was made and acknowledged, the ancient charges were read and assented to, and the obligation of W.M. elect administered. The lodge was opened in the Third Degree, and all brethren who had not passed the chair withdrew. A board of Installed Masters was then formed, and Bro. A. Grant duly placed in the chair of K.S. according to ancient custom. The usual processions, salutations, and proclamations were gone through, and after the address, delivered by the I.M., Bro. A. Grant, W.M., briefly remarked that, fully acknowledging the difficulty of the task he had undertaken, he was sensible of the honour conferred upon him for the second time. He accepted the responsibility, and trusted with God's support he should not be wanting in the worthy discharge of it, especially as he had been promised and could confidently rely upon efficient help from the P.M.'s. The following appointments were made, the I.M. in each case officiating and offering appropriate remarks: Bros. J. Pallot, I.P.M.; Capt. P. Messervy, S.W.; E. Carre, J.W.; J. Durell, P.M., Treas.; A. Gallichan, S.D.; J. Le Goupillot, J.D.; J. P. De St. Croix, I.G.; H. du Jardin, Tyler; and A. Schmitt was invested by the W.M. as Sec. The proceedings connected with the installation having been brought to a close, the Secretary presented the annual report of the Audit Committee, containing the actual financial condition of the lodge and a number of recommendations, which, on a proposition duly made and seconded, were received, approved, and ordered to be entered on the minutes. No other business offering, the lodge was closed; the brethren adjourned and sat down to an excellent dinner, the chair being occupied by the W.M., supported on his right by Bros. A. Schmitt, Gen. T. C. Kelly, J. Pallot, P. W. Bonham, and J. Durell, and on his left by Bros. J. T. du Jardin, A. Viel, P. W. Binch, J. O. Le Sœur, E. Martel, R. Barrow, G. J. Renouf, G. F. Baker, W.M. 491, and other members. The usual local and Masonic toasts having been duly honoured, including those of W.M., P.M.'s, W.M.'s of sister lodges, Bro. J. Durell proposed "Prosperity to our Royal Masonic Benevolent Institutions," expressing in warm and sympathetic terms his views on the powerful importance of those noble institutions, benefitting so many decayed brethren and sisters, and hundreds of our orphans boarded, clothed, and educated. He energetically urged upon the brethren the duty of liberally supporting both the old and the young, alluding particularly to the efforts made and crowned with success in this province by delegating one of its members to represent it as Steward at the festival of the School for Girls in the person of Bro. A. Schmitt, and coupling his name with the toast, which elicited the warmest applause. Bro. A. Schmitt gracefully acknowledged the kind and warm sentiments manifested by the brethren towards our Royal Masonic Institutions, and briefly narrated his own impressions engrained in his mind on the practical utility and benefits of these benevolent institutions by his visiting and inspecting as Steward the School for Girls. He depicted rapidly and vividly not only the charming structure of the building, but expatiated particularly on the judicious arrangements for the health, comfort, and happiness of the children, and could not but express his heartfelt joy and gratification with regard to the adopted system of education: French, German, English, needlework, music, domestic duties, &c. He advocated the noble cause of our Benevolent Institutions, the chief object of our charitable duties towards our neighbour, and worthy of every Mason's support, and in concluding he conveyed in the name and on behalf of the girls his most grateful thanks to the lodges, chapters, and brethren who came forward so liberally, enabling him thereby to creditably accomplish his mission. Bro. A. Schmitt then proposed a special toast, "The Absent Honorary Members of the Lodge, our eminent Bros. Dr. H. Hopkins and Wm. James Hughtan (Truro)." He sketched in terse terms the Masonic work and merit of these indefatigable pioneers in the research of historical knowledge and truth, the accomplished Craftsmen of learning and erudition, who, by the fruits of their hard labour, diffuse cheerfully Masonic light amongst the brotherhood in general by making the real object of Freemasonry known, understood, and appreciated. This sentiment was enthusiastically applauded. The speeches were interspersed with excellent vocal music, and the proceedings terminated at half-past nine o'clock.

JERSEY.—St. Aubin's Lodge (No. 958).—The anniversary meeting of this very much respected and flourishing lodge took place at the Masonic Temple,

Jersey, on Tuesday, the 16th ult., under very favourable auspices. Of course the point culminant was the installation of W.M. for the ensuing year, although the ceremony of raising was previously performed in a very impressive manner. It is, however, important to state that the lodge was opened at four o'clock p.m. under the able Master-ship of Wor. Bro. E. Martel, P.P.G.D. of C., assisted by Wor. Bro. J. Oatley, as S.W.; Bro. W. H. Chapman, J.W.; Wor. Bro. R. Barrow, P.M. 491, as Deacon; with several other members. Amongst the visitors were Very Wor. Bro. Wm. J. Le Cronier, D.P.G.M.; W. Bros. A. Schmitt, P.P.G.S.W. (who acted as Steward for the Province at the Festival of the Girls' School this month); J. O. Le Sœur, P.G. Sec.; P. W. Benham, P.G. Treas.; W. Buzzard, P.M. 168, P.G.D. for Warwickshire; with a great number of other visitors. At 5.30, the W.M., being W.M. elect (he having been elected for the second year), vacated the chair for Very Wor. Bro. Wm. J. Le Cronier, D.P.G.M., who gracefully acted as Installing Master. The W.M. was presented to him to receive at his hands the benefit of installation, and never was that duty performed in a more efficient manner. After the W.M. was installed, he proceeded to appoint his officers, and such as were present were duly invested. Previous to the lodge being closed Wor. Bro. A. Schmitt rose and gratified the brethren with an energetic and interesting account of his duties and experience as Steward of the Province at the festival of the Girls' School, which, by the way, caused a great deal of pleasure to all present. In the name of the orphan girls he thanked the brethren for their zeal and energy in supporting so noble and useful an institution, at the same time encouraging the Craft in persevering in that same path which is conducive of so much good, placing our Order at the head of all other philanthropic societies. At 6.30 the lodge was finally closed, and the brethren adjourned to the banquetting hall of the Temple, where the anniversary banquet was prepared by Bro. W. H. Long, P.M. of the lodge. After the cloth was removed the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and received with that warmth and zeal which should at all times characterize Masons—"The Queen and the Craft," "The M.W.G.M. His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales," &c., &c., the Wor. Master eulogizing each toast in turn with tact and ability. The next toast was "The P.G.M. for Jersey, his Deputy, and the Officers of Provincial Grand Lodge of Jersey," and the manner in which it was accepted was a sufficient proof of the allegiance of the province to its head. The toast was responded to by the Very Wor. Bro. Wm. J. Le Cronier, D.P.G.M. With that spirit of love and courtesy which has endeared him to the Craft, he assured the brethren that the task he had done on that occasion was one that will remain uppermost in his Masonic career, for in installing Wor. Bro. E. Martel he knew well that he was giving additional foundation to the Craft in the province, and it was with the greatest pleasure that he wished him good health and prosperity, and without further comment proposed "The W. Master's Health," which was accepted with great enthusiasm. The W.M. in acknowledging the fraternal good wishes of the brethren, promised his earnest endeavours in promoting the welfare of St. Aubin's Lodge in particular, and the Order in general. The next toast by the W.M. was "The Visitors," responded to by Wor. Bro. W. Buzzard, P.M. 68, and P.P.G.S.D. for Warwickshire, thanking the Jersey brethren for the cordial welcome he had received at their hands, at the same time expressing his pleasure and satisfaction in seeing the rapid strides Masonry was making in the Province of Jersey, remarking it was quite extraordinary to see a small community like this province possess seven lodges, whilst the Province of Bristol had a population of more than double the number, and could only boast of eight lodges. He should go back home with recollections that would always give him great pleasure when he thought of Jersey. The next toast was "The Past Master of St. Aubin's Lodge," by the Worshipful Master, in which were coupled the names of the R.W. the Provincial Grand Master, Wor. Bro. Wm. Hopkins, P.P. G.S.W. for Warwickshire, and Wor. Bro. A. Schmitt, his sincere friend, which was accepted in a truly Masonic and fraternal manner, and responded to by Wor. Bro. J. O'Flaherty, I.P.M., [and in thanking the brethren for their mark of respect towards the Past Masters, said he would only have been too happy to have had the pleasure of Bro. Past Master Dr. Hopkins's company at the festival, although many miles from Jersey, he had always shown the greatest interest for the welfare and prosperity of the lodge, inasmuch as he was the founder, and the St. Aubin's Lodge could not give a better testimony of filial affection than by accepting the toast in the manner they had. In the course of the evening good pieces of vocal and instrumental music were given by several of the brethren, and at 10.30, when the Tyler gave the final duties required at all Masonic gatherings, the brethren separated, delighted with the anniversary festival of St. Aubin's Lodge.

HAMPTON.—Hemming Lodge (No. 1512).—An emergency meeting of this rapidly-increasing lodge was held at the Lion Hotel on Thursday, the 18th ult. There were present a goodly number of brethren. The officers present were Bros. Hopwood, P.M. 141, W.M.; W. Hammond, P.M. Jordan and Lebanon, P.J.G.D. of Middlesex, I.P.M. and acting Sec.; Hill, P.M. Canonbury, &c., S.W.; Hurst, J.W., W.M. elect; Ockenden, D.C., acting S.D.; Walls, acting J.D.; Jessett, I.G.; and Gilbert, Tyler. There was a very full agenda of business. Messrs. C. V. J. De Fernex and E. Andrews were initiated; Bros. W. Knowles, J. Read, and J. Smythe passed; and Bros. W. J. Day, J. Donald, and P. S. Gavann raised. The three arduous ceremonies were all well carried out by the W.M. It was proposed by the W.M. elect, seconded by the I.P.M., and unanimously carried, "That the sum of five guineas be voted for the purchase of a copy of the Installation Picture of His Royal Highness the Most Worshipful Grand Master, to be the property of the lodge, and

placed in the keeping of the W.M. for the time being." Previously to the closing of the lodge, Bro. W. Hammond, I.P.M., took occasion to remind the brethren that he had accepted the post of Steward at the forthcoming festival of the Boys' School, as representing the Lebanon Lodge, of which lodge the Hemming was an offshoot, and hoped that those brethren who had not promised their subscriptions to other Stewards would kindly assist him. The members shortly afterwards partook of a well-served collation. Upon the removal of the cloth the W.M. gave "The Queen and Craft," which was duly honoured. Bro. Walls having sung the "National Anthem," the W.M. proposed "The Health of the M.W.G.M.," in which he stated the gratification he felt—which he was sure was also shared not only by every member of the Hemming Lodge but by the Craft universally—at the safe arrival of H.R.H. after one of the most brilliant and arduous Royal progresses on record. They had doubtless all read of the many splendid receptions and entertainments the Prince had received during his tour, but they would all fall short of the grand fête and "Welcome Home" that the citizens of London had organised in honour "The W.M.'s Health" was proposed by the I.P.M., and duly honoured. The W.M., having briefly replied, gave "The Initiates," to which toast Bro. De Fernex made a humorous reply. The W.M. also proposed "The Officers." In his speech he particularly mentioned the great services he had received during his year of office from the I.P.M., the Sec., the Wardens, and the majority of the junior officers. Previously to concluding his remarks the W.M. said that that evening being in all probability the last time he should have an opportunity of presiding at the convivial board, he wished to acknowledge the faithful manner in which the reports of the lodge proceedings by Bro. Walls had been published in the columns of the "Freemason," and he should, therefore, in addition to the officers of the lodge then present, annex that brother's name to the toast. Bros. W. Hammond, I.P.M.; Jephson, (late Treas.); Hill, S.W.; Hurst, J.W., and W.M. elect; Jessett, I.G.; Ockenden, D.C.; and Walls having suitably acknowledged the compliment, the Tyler's toast was called, and the brethren separated. During the proceedings Bros. Hurst, Hill, Read, Walls, and De Fernex vocally amused the brethren. The installation of Bro. J. Hurst, W.M. elect, will take place on the third Thursday in October next.

Royal Arch.

THE WILLIAM PRESTON CHAPTER (No. 766).—The installation meeting of this thriving chapter was held on Thursday, the 25th of May, this night being the commencement of the third year since the foundation of the companionship, under the noted banner lodge. Comp. Captain James Kain, the M.E.Z., was unfortunately absent through illness, and Comp. George Newman, one of the most active Masons of the day, occupied his place, with Comp. Dr. R. Harland Whitman as H., and Comp. P.Z. Worrall, as J. Comps. H. Garrod, P.Z.; Augustus Braun, Dr. Kempster, W. E. Newton, and Gibson were working officers. The first business after the reading of the minutes was the exaltation of four brothers, namely, Bros. While, P.M. of United Strength, No. 228 ("Freemason"); W. T. Rickwood, of the Lion and Lamb, No. 192; J. R. Williams, and F. G. Barns. Comp. Dr. Kempster, acting as P.S., with Comp. W. E. Newton as assistant, led the brethren most efficiently through the initiatory steps of the beautiful degree, and Comps. Newman and Garrod delivered the charges in a manner which made the deepest impression upon the exaltees. The companions under the Chair Degree were then excluded, and on their return they found Comp. Dr. H. H. Whitman installed as M.E.Z., Comp. Newman, as H., and Comp. A. Braun, as J. Comp. W. Worrall was invested as Scribe E., Comp. Garrod as Treas., Comp. Dr. Kempster as Scribe N., and Comp. W. E. Newton as P.S. There were also present Comps. Gibson, Gunner, W. E. Newton, Slienmans, Reissmann, Partridge, Klenck, Davison; and the visiting companions were J. Taylor, of the Doric, and G. Abbott, of the Lion and Lamb. After Comp. Dr. Kempster had given a notice of motion to raise the exaltation fees, and the annual subscription, as well as several names for exaltation—the names in fact of all the officers, with one exception, of the Earl Spencer Lodge, the exception being the name of one who was ill—the chapter was closed, and the brethren adjourned to the banquetting-room, where an excellent banquet was spread, the indefatigable Comp. Newman acting as Steward. The usual loyal toasts were given by the M.E.Z. with remarkable point, and then Comp. Worrall proposed the loyal toast of "The Chapter," speaking in warm terms of the M.E.Z. This was warmly drunk, and Comp. Whitman responded. He then proposed the toast of "The Exaltees," each of whom responded, and spoke of their warm appreciation of the ceremony through which they had passed. In the course of the evening the principal officers responded to the toasts of their healths, and Comp. Dr. Kempster gave his reasons for desiring to raise the fees and subscriptions, saying that he desired to see the chapter in a position to give aid to the Masonic charities. These sentiments were warmly applauded. The companions were greatly delighted with harmony by Comps. Garrod and Gunner.

WHITTINGTON CHAPTER (No. 862).—The last convocation of the session was held on Friday, 26th ult. In the absence of the M.E.Z. (Comp. Jones), the chapter was opened by W. Stephens, H., acting as Z.; Comp. Coote, P.Z., H.; and Comp. Weaver, P.Z., J. The minutes of the last convocation were confirmed, when two candidates, Bro. Penn, 511, and Bro. Parker, of 1489, were both exalted to this Supreme Degree, and the addresses of the Principals were rendered in a conspicuously correct

anner. This being the annual election, Comp. W. Stephens was unanimously elected Z.; Kingston, H.; Tinsy, J.; R. W. Little, Treas.; J. Weaver, Scribe E.; Moore, N.; and W. J. Murliss, P. Soj. A P.Z. jewel was voted to the retiring M.E.Z., and the chapter closed. A splendid banquet was served by Bro. Clemow, and the usual toasts given, that of "H.R.H. the Grand Z." being most heartily received, and grateful thanks given for his return.

LIVERPOOL.—Mariners' Chapter (No. 9).—The annual meeting of this chapter was held at the Masonic Hall, Hope-street, on the 18th ult., there being then a large and influential gathering of companions. The chapter was opened at six o'clock by Bro. H. Pearson, Z., assisted by Comps. W. Doyle, Z., P.P.G.J., as H.; P. B. Gee, J.; Arthur Davies, E.; Rev. Phillip Haines, S.N.; Joseph Wood, Treas.; J. E. Jackson, P.S.; and the members present were Comps. W. Jones, P.Z.; J. Croxton, W. P. Jennings, J. H. Gregory, W. Fish, J. Normanton, W. Roberts, J. Ellis, J. Parkes, W. Nelson, P. Robbie, W. Pittain, G. W. Webster, W. C. Webb, A. Cotter, W. Peak, R. Carter, W. Curtis, C. Warriner, H. Firth, Archdeacon, D. Lloyd, and J. Griffiths. The visitors included Comps. T. Clark, P.Z., and Z. 673; R. R. Martin, Z. 1094; T. Shaw, J. 823; H. Burrows, S. 673; H. Jackson, 291; J. Skelby, 673; and others. The minutes of the previous chapter were read and confirmed. Bro. Robert G. New, who had previously been balloted for, being in attendance, was duly elected by the M.E.Z., assisted by his Principals. The work was done in a most creditable manner, Comp. J. E. Jackson especially deserving honourable recognition. Comp. Henry Pearson was afterwards installed M.E.Z. for the second year, and Comp. P. B. Gee was inducted Z., and Comp. J. E. Jackson as J., the work being done in a masterly manner by Comp. T. Clark. The following were appointed and invested as officers:—Comps. Joseph Wood, Treas. (for the seventh time); A. Davies, S.E.; W. Jones, P.Z., as S.N. (on behalf of Comp. T. Ocklelaw, who was unable to be present on account of having met with a very severe accident); Rev. P. Haines was re-elected Chaplain, and Comp. W. H. Ball, Janitor. After some formal business had been transacted the chapter was closed, and the companions adjourned to a substantial banquet served by Comp. Ball. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given during the evening.

TORQUAY.—St. John's Chapter (No. 328).—The annual chapter meeting for the installation of Principals and officers took place at the Masonic Hall, Torquay, on Tuesday, May 23rd. Five joining companions were first balloted for and elected, and the exaltation of Bro. W. G. King also was effected, after which the principals elect, Ex. Comps. Thomas Perry, 2; James Murray, H.; and Wm. Ellis Warren, J., were installed by Ex. P. Z., Rev. Robt. Bowden, P.P.G.C., assisted by Ex. Comps. P.Z. D. Watson, and I.P.Z. C.J. Harland. Comps. Bradull and J. Hurrell were respectively inducted to the offices of S.E. and S.N., the Prin. Soj., Comp. Piggott, being unavoidably absent. After the close of the chapter the Comps. repaired to the Royal Hotel, where a recherche banquet served by Comp. King awaited them, over which an enjoyable evening was spent. Amongst others present were Comps. G. G. Johnstone, Treas.; Benjamin Fullwood, Evers, Dodge, Morgan, Hussey, King, Chennour, &c. A P.Z.'s jewel was presented to the retiring Ex. Z. C. J. Harland, on behalf of the chapter by Ex. Comp. Rev. R. Bowden in feeling and appropriate language, and acknowledged by the recipient.

Mark Masonry.

LEICESTER.—Fowke Lodge (No. 19).—The regular meeting took place at Freemasons' Hall, Leicester, on Thursday, 25th May, 1876. Present: R. W. Bro. W. Kelly, P.G.M.M.M.; Bros. Rev. W. Langley, D.P.G.M.M.M.; Clement Stretton, W.M.; G. Toller, jun., I.P.M.; W. Weare, S. S. Partridge, and J. M. McAllister, P.M.'s; W. Sculthorpe, S.W.; G. Odell, Treas.; W. T. Rowlett, M.O.; G. Stacham, J.O.; T. A. Wykes, Sec.; F. Young, S.D.; and several others. Visitors: Bros. W. Griffiths, M.O.; J. Barber, I.G.; and W. Smith, all of No. 30. Several candidates whose names were on the summons having been approved on the ballot, the following, who were in attendance, were advanced to the degrees of Mark Man and Mark Master, the ceremony being performed, at the request of the W.M., by the I.P.M.: Bros. R. Pickering, 423; J. Hitchman, 455; Matts and Watson, 1391; and Rev. C. H. Wood, 1560. After discussion, it was unanimously resolved that the fees for advancement should be slightly raised, and also that the July meeting should not be held. Some other unimportant matters having been disposed of, the lodge was closed in harmony.

WHITEFIELD.—Wike Lodge (No. 142).—The annual meeting was held at the Church Inn on Wednesday, 17th inst. Business: to advance a brother and to instal the W.M. elect. Bro. William Barlow, P.M., Sec. and Reg. Mks., advanced Bro. John Robertson to the honourable Degree of M.M.M. The chair was then assumed by Bro. W. O. Walker, P.M., P.G.S.W., as Installing Master, and the W.M. Elect (Bro. Jas. Barlow) was presented by Bro. Nathaniel Horrocks, P.M., and afterwards duly installed. The appointment and investment of the officers next took place, as follows:—Bros. J. Heap, S.W.; J. Davidson, J.W.; Orlando Startup, M.O.; Jos. Bentley, S.O.; William H. Kirkman, J.O.; Richard Chambers, Treas.; William Barlow, Sec. and Reg. of Marks; Thomas Laycock, S.D.; Ralph Brickles, J.D.; and Whitworth, Tyler. There was a good attendance of members. The Grand Lodge of Mark Masters was represented by Bro. W. O. Walker, and the Provincial Grand Lodge by the following brethren—viz., Henry Maden, Nath. Horrocks, J. B. Champion, Wm. Barlow,

and Richard Chambers. Heartly good wishes were expressed by the brethren from various lodges. After the lodge was closed the brethren adjourned to supper, which was of a very substantial character.

WHITWELL LODGE (No. 151).—The regular meeting of this lodge took place on Thursday evening, 18th inst. At the time appointed the lodge was opened by Bro. Joseph Nicholson, P.M.M. and Treas., the W.M.M., Bro. P. de E. Collins, being unavoidably absent. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and unanimously confirmed. The brethren then proceeded to the election of a W.M.M., Treasurer, and Tyler for the ensuing year. The ballot was taken in the usual form. Bro. James Gardiner, P.M., Junior Warden, was unanimously elected W.M.M. The Treasurer, Bro. Jos. Nicholson, P.M.M., was re-elected.

Scotland.

PARTICK.—Lodge St. Mary (No. 117).—The monthly meeting of this highly prosperous lodge was held in their magnificent hall, Douglas-street, Partick, on Wednesday evening, the 17th ult. Bro. W. Wylie, W.M., presiding; Bros. A. Brunton, I.P.M.; J. Bain, D.M.; J. S. Donaldson, S.M.; D. Peacock, S.W.; A. Agnew, J.W.; J. M. Wylie, Treas.; A. Lawrence, Sec.; T. Wallace, J.D.; J. Calderwood, S.S.; and others. Visitors: J. Morgan, W.M. 219; R. Jack, W.M. 128; W. Ferguson, P.M. 543 ("Freemason"); C. McKenzie, J.W. 354; J. Martin, D.M. 219; F. Dow, Sec. 219; J. Duthie, 219; M. Stark, 553; and others. On the lodge being opened, and the minutes of last meeting read and approved of, the deputation of the Provincial Grand Lodge was announced, and received with the usual honours. There were present Bros. J. Baird, P.G.S.M.; G. Sinclair, J. Gillies, A. McTaggart, Miller, Ritchie, Bain, Balfour, and D. Reid. Bro. Baird, at the request of the W.M., occupied the chair. Bro. McTaggart read the report, which was a most satisfactory one, and complimented the Master and members on the handsome hall they had recently erected, and were now assembled in. You added 58 to your roll last year, which stands very high in the province, you have given to-night the handsome sum of £12 15s. to the Benevolent Fund, and you disbursed during the last year £16 towards charity. I have only to say in conclusion that your books are very well kept, and the lodge generally is working in strict harmony with the Constitutions of the Grand Lodge of Scotland. The W.M. on resuming the chair proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the Provincial Grand Lodge deputation, which was given with a will. Bro. Baird replied, and they then withdrew. The lodge was then called to refreshment, when the usual loyal toasts were given and drank with enthusiasm. "The Provincial Grand Lodge of Glasgow" was replied to by Bro. McKenzie, J.W. 354. "The Visitors," proposed by Bro. Brunton, and replied to by Bro. Morgan, W.M. 219. "The W.M.," proposed in an eloquent speech by Bro. Morgan, W.M. 219. Bro. Wylie replied. Other toasts followed, and after the last toast, "Happy to Meet, Sorry to Part, and Happy to Meet Again," had been drunk, the lodge was re-transferred and closed in due form.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Commercial (No. 360).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held in their hall, 30, Hope-street, on Friday evening, 19th ult. Bro. J. Monro, W.M., presiding; J. M. Oliver, S.W.; T. Graham, J.W.; D. Lamb, D.M.; W. Findlay, S.M.; J. Brude, P.M.; J. Smith, Sec.; R. Reid, S.D.; W. Keiller, J.D.; R. Brodie, D. of M.; and Minnoch, Tyler. The lodge being opened, and minutes of last meeting approved of, the new code of bye-laws was read and passed for the last time and remitted to the P.G. Lodge for approval. Bro. W. Campbell was passed to the Fellow Craft Degree by Bro. J. M. Oliver, S.W., and Bros. Schroeder and Walter Buchanan were raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason by Bro. D. Lamb.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Star (No. 219).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held in their Hall, 12, Trongate, on Monday evening, 22nd ult. Bro. J. Morgan, W.M., in the chair; J. Martin, D.M.; W. Anderson, S.M.; Jas. Horn, S.W.; D. Mearns, J.W.; Ben. Smart, Treas.; F. Dow, Sec.; John Brown, S.D.; Taylor, J.D., Park, S.S.; Elliott, I.G.; and Pearson, Tyler. The meeting was particularly well attended by the members. Visitors present, Bros. J. M. Oliver, S.W. 360; J. Booth, W.M. 87; W. J. E. Dobson, W.M. 571; J. Law, I.P.M. 570; J. Houston, D.M. 571; M. Stark, L.D.M. 553; R. Prout, W.M. 45; W. Campbell, Sec. 465; J. Duthie, P.Z. 67; J. M. Innes, S.M. 408; J. Foulds, 30, P.M. St. Mungo, 179; J. Annand, P.Z. 144; W. Ferguson, P.M. 543 ("Freemason"); R. Campbell, St. John, N.B., Canada, 22; J. Wilson, 34; W. Reynolds, 556, and others. On the lodge being opened and the minutes of last meeting read and confirmed, Bros. D. Campbell and James Barclay were passed to the Fellow Craft Degree by Bro. Oliver, S.W. 360. The lodge being summed on the E.A. Degree, some business of minor importance was satisfactorily disposed of, when it was unanimously agreed to have the annual excursion on Thursday, 22nd June, by steamer Gunnivere to Corrie, in Buteshire, and a committee appointed to carry out the necessary arrangements. The lodge was then called to refreshment, when the Chairman proposed the usual loyal and Masonic toasts. "The Provincial Grand Lodge of Glasgow" was replied to in a very able speech by Bro. Dobson, W.M. 571. "Visitors" replied to by Bros. Foulds, P.M. 179, and Booth, W.M. 87. Bro. Oliver, S.W. 360, in suitable terms, proposed "The W.M.," Bro. Morgan replied. After spending a short time in harmony, the lodge was recalled to labour and closed.

GLASGOW.—Lodge St. Clair (No. 362).—A meeting of this lodge was held in their hall, 25, Robertson-street, on Monday evening, the 22nd ultimo. Bro. W. J. Hogg, W.M., presiding. R. Glass, D.M., A.

Rutherford, S.W.; C. Galletly, J.W.; W. Pascoe, Treas.; G. Fraser, Sec.; W. Galbraith, S.D.; the other office-bearers, and a full attendance of brethren. The lodge was opened and the minutes of the last meeting read and approved of. Bro. Alex. Warsaw was raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason by Bro. Hogg, W.M., in his usual able and impressive manner.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Athole (No. 413).—The regular meeting of this prosperous lodge was held on Tuesday evening, the 23rd ult., in St. Mark's Hall, 213, Buchanan-street, Bro. J. Louttit, W.M., presiding, Bros. Neilson, D.M.; Leeds, S.W.; Holms, J.W.; Agnew, Treas.; and others. Visitors: Bros. W. Ferguson, P.M. 116; Dobson, W.M. 571; Bannerman, D.M. 73; Ferguson, P.M. 543 ("Freemason"); and members from Lodges Nos. 87, 102, 117, 178, 197, 275, 332, 347, and 360. Mr. J. McKay was initiated by the W.M. The Provincial Grand Lodge made their annual visit of inspection to this lodge this evening; the deputation consisted of Bros. J. Baird, P.G.S.M., acting P.G. Master; with Bros. Jas. Gillies, Treas.; A. McTaggart, Sec.; John Miller, J.D.; J. Ritchie, Architect; A. Allison, jeweller; J. Balfour, Dir. of Ceremonies; J. Miller, Dir. of Music; and David Reid, I.G. The deputation having been received in due form, the W.M., Bro. Louttit, vacated the chair for the time being in favour of the acting P.G. Master, who then called upon the P.G.S. to read the report. Premising that he had simply to congratulate the lodge upon its continued prosperity, Bro. McTaggart accordingly read the report, which was in effect that the books of the lodge were found to be in a very satisfactory condition, and that, generally, No. 413 was working in strict accordance with Grand Lodge law. The amount of funds on hand, as at last audit, was £108 2s. 4d.; amount handed over by the lodge to the P.G. Benevolent Fund, £5 15s.; and amount distributed by them in private charity, £2 4s. The number added to the roll of membership during the past working year was 22. In briefly commenting upon the report, Bro. McTaggart referred to the satisfactory facts deduced by the examination of the night, namely, that the funds on hand had advanced from £93, as at last visitation, to the handsome figure above-mentioned; that, which was something remarkable, there had been no emergency meetings during the past year, and that, of the number of entrants stated, only one received the three degrees in one night. Of the books, he might add that the Secretary's was remarkably well kept, and the Treasurer's, as before, a model of excellence. The acting P.G.M., Bro. Baird, said he had no doubt it would afford the members of the lodge much pleasure to hear how they had been prospering, and, after a few words of wholesome advice as to their working, referred to the unfortunate circumstance that, through continued indisposition, their worthy Provincial Grand Master, Bro. Montgomerie Neilson, had been unable to take his place in these visitations. Unable to appear amongst the brethren of his province personally, he had forwarded to him (Bro. Baird) a communication to be read to them, and which he would accordingly now read. It was as follows: "Brethren, Having made all my arrangements to devote a considerable time to the visitation of lodges in my province, it is exceedingly disappointing to me to have been laid up with a severe illness, from which I have not yet so far recovered as to be able to leave the house. I feel, therefore, constrained to send you this message. Brethren, although it is desirable that your Provincial Grand Master should be with you as often as possible, still I have great confidence that, notwithstanding my absence, you will do your duty as Freemasons to yourselves and to the Craft; selecting true and tried brethren for your Master and office-bearers, who accept the offices and honours not for the gratification of power or pride, or for any selfish motive, but for the good of the lodge and the upholding of the Craft in all its ancient rites, ceremonies, and privileges. I have had cause sometimes to regret the evident appearance of a selfishness that restricted to the narrow limits of a lodge that open-hearted sympathy and brotherly love which every Freemason ought to extend freely and impartially to all members of the Craft. Brethren, I take this opportunity of impressing upon you the great Masonic truth that the existence of any lodge in a state of honourable prosperity depends upon how Freemasonry generally stands among us, and more particularly in the province to which that lodge belongs. Every good Mason ought to aim at, first, upholding Freemasonry everywhere in honour and dignity before the brethren and the outer world; second, do all in his power to promote its welfare in the province to which he belongs; and third and last, be true and faithful in all his dealings within his own lodge. In this province the state of the individual lodges is very satisfactory; but I deeply regret that there is not a stronger bond of brotherhood throughout the whole province, with a united determination to place Freemasonry in a more prominent and honourable position. I hope in a short time to ask your assistance in this direction, feeling confident that you will give me your willing and earnest co-operation. Meantime, until I am able to meet you, accept my fraternal salutation. (Signed) Montgomerie Neilson, P.G.M. of Glasgow." The acting P.G.M. then asked the W.M. to resume the chair he so worthily occupied. The latter said he was sure they all sympathised deeply with the P.G.M. in his present condition, and he hoped it would not be long before he was strong and able to be with them again. On behalf of Lodge 413, he had to thank the acting P.G.M. and other brethren of the deputation for the favourable report they had given them; and it would be the study of the lodge always to work in harmony with the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of Scotland, and with the instructions they received from the Provincial Grand Lodge on their annual visits. The Provincial Grand Lodge deputation thereafter retired. Three brethren were afterwards passed to the Fellow Craft Degree by the W.M. in his usual able manner.

Obituary.

BRO. SIR THOMAS HENRY FERMOR-HESKETH, BART.

On Sunday last, the 28th ult., the death was announced of Bro Sir Thomas Henry Fermor-Hesketh, eldest son of the late Sir Thomas George Fermor-Hesketh, of Rufford Hall, late R.W.P.G.M. of West Lancashire. Deceased, who resided at Fermor Lodge, Southport, was in the 30th year of his age. He had been ailing a little for a day or two, but there was no apprehension of immediate danger. However, on Dr. Shaw, of Southport, making his usual rounds in the evening he called at Fermor Lodge, and found Sir Thomas in bed in a dying state. Every possible attention was paid to him, but he expired about an hour and a quarter after the doctor's arrival, the cause of death being effusion on the brain. The deceased took the title and estates on the death of his father, about three years ago, and these are now taken by Captain T. G. Fermor-Hesketh, who for some time has been abroad. There are two sons and two daughters still living, one of the latter being married. Deceased was interred in the family vault at Rufford Church during the week.

On Monday evening the Lady Mayoress gave a grand fancy dress ball at the Mansion-house. The spacious apartments of the official residence were very tastefully decorated, and the saloon was converted into a perfect garden of the choicest plants and flowers. The Lord Mayor, who assumed the character of Charlemagne, and the Lady Mayoress, as the wife of that monarch, received the company in the saloon, and with them were several members of their family, Mrs. Savage representing "Snow"; Mrs. Tindal-Bosanquet, "the Chateau-de-Poil," from the famous picture in the Peel collection; Miss Cotton, the Princess Mary, daughter of Henry VII. The fifteen stewards wore the costume recently suggested by Mr. Du Maurier in Punch—white cloth evening dress suits, relieved by black linen—and looked very well in that novel garb. The reception lasted from 9.30 o'clock until close upon 11, when, preceded by the City Marshal and the Sword and Macebearers and the Stewards, the Lord Mayor and the Lady Mayoress proceeded to the dais in the Egyptian Hall, where dancing at once commenced to the music of the Coldstream Guards, under the direction of Mr. F. Godfrey. The effect of all the various costumes was picturesque in the extreme. Supper was served soon after midnight in the old ball-room, and afterwards dancing was resumed and continued far into the morning. Of the many splendid dresses worn on the occasion none were more noticeable than those copied from the recently missing picture of Gainsborough's "Duchess of Devonshire." The French, German, and Austrian Ambassadors were among the guests, as were also a large number of members of both Houses of Parliament, many officers of the Army and Navy, and a considerable circle of private guests.

A movement is on foot to organise a corps of gentlemen to be called "Knights of the Red Cross." Their mission will be to proceed to the Levant, and if necessary, to act in defence of the Christian population, and more especially of British subjects, who are to a great extent helplessly exposed to the religious fury of the Mussulmans. The Knights will be carefully chosen, and will be under command of a tried practical soldier with large experience of Eastern countries, aided by a competent staff of Lieutenants. As the cause is just, holy, merciful, and needful, an appeal is made to Christians of every denomination—Templars and all other knights included—for their aid and sympathy.

Messrs. Peachey's establishment in Bishops-gate-street was brilliantly illuminated on Saturday last in honour of the return of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales. The device displayed was the Royal Arms surrounded with rays of light, which was much admired.

Royal Academy of Music, Hanover Square.—Dr. Llewelyn Thomas was appointed Hon. Consulting Physician to this institution at the last meeting of the Committee.

In this age of change, when old fashioned ideas of trading are scattered to the winds, not always with satisfactory results, it is well at times to note that change means progress, and a good example is furnished by the London and Westminster Supply Association (Limited), its success ensured by the energy, tact, and sound principles on which the Association is conducted. The stores, situate opposite the Ludgate Hill Railway Station, affording ready access to members from all parts, are replete with every requirement; the various departments arranged on separate extensive floors affording all the convenience of completing purchases under one roof, without experiencing the waste of time and inconvenience entailed by a round of calls on tradesmen, and at a reduction in price. A bulky volume of some 250 pages is forwarded quarterly post free, containing with price list full particulars of the association. With the practical experience in kindred institutions of Mr. Graham Irwin as General Manager, and Mr. Ashton as Secretary, from whom every information can be obtained, it cannot but continue to progress as heretofore; and we advise those who are interested to call at 10, New Bridge-street, and judge for themselves the working of this popular institution.

The consecration of the "Lewis" Royal Arch Chapter, No. 1185, will take place at the King's Arms Hotel, Wood Green, on Saturday next. The ceremonies of consecration and installation will be worked by Comp. John Hervey, G.S.E. The Officers Designate are Comps. A. Leared, M.E.Z.; George James Row, H.; A. Durrant, J. A full report of the meeting will appear in the "Freemason" of the 17th inst.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Clydesdale (No. 556).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held in their own hall, 106, Rose-street (S.S.), on Tuesday evening, 16th ult., Bro. W. Phillips, W.M., presiding; J. McNaught, S.W.; T. Phillips, J.W.; J. McKechnie, Treas.; G. B. Yuill, Sec.; J. Webster, Chaplain; W. Smith, I.G.; and W. Graham, Tyler. There was a full attendance of members and visitors, among whom we noticed Bros. D. Ronald, W.M. 275; McNaught, P.M. 275; J. Horn, Sec. 275; J. Louttit, W.M. 413; P. Brownlie, J.W. 34; W. Ferguson, P.M. 543 ("Freemason"); and others. On the minutes being read and confirmed Messrs. J. Downie, S. Johnstone, and R. McMillan were initiated by the W.M. The members of the P.G. Lodge on leaving Lodge Thistle, 87, visited this lodge, and were received with the usual formalities. The W.M., handing the mallet to Bro. Sinclair, requested him to occupy the chair. Bro. Sinclair thanked the W.M. and returned the same, and then called upon the Secretary to read the report. Bro. McTaggart said: This is the second visit to this young lodge, and I am glad the account we have to give is very good; your books are in excellent order, with a very small exception as regards the Roll Book. That, I trust, will be remedied soon. You have a balance of £18 10s, after clearing the debt of this comfortable new hall, which cost £138, and in the future you will be sitting rent free. You have given the handsome sum of £9 15s. to-night to the Benevolent Fund, and I am glad to notice you have given a considerable sum during the past year towards charity. You have initiated the large number of 61 last year, and as far as our visitation has gone no lodge in the province has been more careful in conferring the degrees according to the Grand Lodge Constitutions. I have therefore much pleasure in congratulating the Lodge Clydesdale, No. 556, on the efficient manner in which the business has been conducted. Bro. Sinclair then complimented the Master, office-bearers, and members on the prosperous condition of the lodge. Bro. Phillips, after moving a hearty vote of thanks to the deputation of the P.G. Lodge, proposed that Bros. Sinclair, Gillies, and Allison, and also Bro. W. Ferguson, P.M. 543 ("Freemason"), become honorary members of the lodge, which was unanimously agreed to, and they were duly obligated by Bro. McTaggart, P.G. Sec. The lodge was then called to refreshment, when the brethren spent a short time in harmony.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Kenmuir (No. 570).—This lodge held their regular meeting in Balgray Hall, Springburn, on Thursday evening, 11th ult., Bro. R. Aikman, W.M. presiding; J. Wark, S.W.; W. Reid, J.W.; J. Sharp, Treas.; D. Russell, Sec.; the other office-bearers, and a good attendance of members and visitors. Three brethren were raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason by Bro. R. Currie, 73. The Provincial Grand Lodge deputation, consisting of Bros. J. Gillies, P.G. Treas.; A. McTaggart, P.G. Sec.; A. Bain, P.G.B.B.; J. Balfour, P.G.D. of C.; D. Reid, P.G.I.G.; and J. B. Hardie, P.G. Tyler, having arrived about nine p.m., were admitted and received with the usual honours, the W.M. handing the mallet to and requesting Bro. Gillies to preside over the meeting, which was acceded to. Bro. McTaggart, P.G. Sec., read the report, which showed the lodge to be in a very prosperous state, and complimented the Master and members on the efficient manner in which the books, &c., of the lodge were kept. They were young, but he was glad to see that they had initiated nineteen members since August, 1875, the date of constitution of the lodge. Bro. Gillies having briefly addressed the members, returned the mallet to the W.M., at whose request the members of Prov. Grand Lodge, along with Bro. G. M. Donald, W.M. Thistle and Rose, 73, and Bro. W. J. E. Dobson, W.M. Dramatic, 571, were made honorary members of the lodge. The lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned for a short time to refreshment, when the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and responded to.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Dramatic (No. 571).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held in St. Mark's Hall, 213, Buchanan-street, on Wednesday, the 17th ult., at 2.30 p.m., Bro. W. J. E. Dobson, W.M., in the chair; Bros. J. Houston, D.M.; H. W. Jackman, S.W.; W. Sivewright, J.W.; W. Barbour, Treas.; D. Campbell, Sec.; R. S. Smyth, S.D.; L. Mitchell, J.D.; and Robertson, I.G. This was the most numerously attended meeting of the lodge since its constitution. Among the visitors were Bros. G. McDonald, W.M. 73; K. Jack, W.M. 128; J. Morgan, W.M. 219; W. Ferguson, P.M. 543 ("Freemason"); R. Aikman, W.M. 570; J. Bannerman, D.M. 73; C. McKenzie, J.W. 354; J. M. Oliver, S.W. 360; B. Smart, Treas. 219; P. Brownlie, J.W. 34; and a large number of others. On the lodge being opened Messrs. J. Cameron and Hendri Ludwig were initiated by the W.M. Bro. Mitchell, J.D., presented the lodge with a very handsome mahogany case for holding the office-bearers' aprons, sashes, jewels and collars, and a hearty vote of thanks was awarded him by the W.M. The Provincial Grand Lodge deputation, consisting of Bros. J. Gillies, P.G. Treas.; A. McTaggart, P.G. Sec.; J. Miller, P.G.J.D.; J. Ritchie, P.G. Archt.; A. Allison, P.G. Jew.; A. Bain, P.G.B.B.; and J. Balfour, P.G.D. of C., were then received, the brethren being upstanding, and after taking their places on the dais the W.M. handed the mallet to and requested Bro. Gillies, P.G. Treas., acting P.G.M., to occupy the chair and preside over the meeting, which he accordingly did, and called upon the P.G. Sec. to read the report as drawn up by the deputation. Bro. McTaggart, after referring to the desirability of having a lodge such as the Dramatic for professional gentlemen in a large city like Glasgow, complimented the W.M. on the efficient position the lodge occupies in the province, and attributed the success the lodge has attained to the energetic Master and his office-bearers. The report I have to read is to the following effect:—"We, the undersigned office-

bearers of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Glasgow, hereby certify that we have visited the Lodge Dramatic, No. 571, on Wednesday, 17th May, 1876, examined the various books and found them in excellent condition, and the lodge generally is working in strict harmony with the Constitutions of the Grand Lodge of Scotland." Bro. Gillies, after confirming the report read, and the remarks made by the P.G. Sec., said he was glad to see such a large meeting, and especially at this hour of the day, and concluded by wishing every success to the Lodge Dramatic. Bro. Dobson, W.M., returned thanks to the deputation for their flattering report and friendly visit, also to the members and visiting brethren for their attendance. The W.M. then proposed, and Bro. Jackman seconded, "That the members of Provincial Grand Lodge, and also Bros. J. Morgan, W.M. 219; W. Ferguson, P.M. 543 ("Freemason"); R. Aikman, W.M. 570; J. M. Oliver, S.W. 360; and G. W. Wheeler, Chaplain 73, become honorary members of the lodge," and were accordingly obligated by the W.M. The deputation then withdrew. The lodge was then raised to the Third Degree, when Bro. J. Bromilow, of Lodge 73, was raised by Bro. Wheeler, Chaplain 73.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Plantation (No. 581).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held in the Masonic Hall, 207, Craigiehall-street, Plantation, on Monday evening, the 15th ult., Bro. Thos. Stobo, W.M., in the chair; D. Peacock, S.W.; J. Henry, J.W. The Master was supported on the dais by Bros. J. Morgan, W.M. Lodge Star, 219; W. Ferguson, D.M.; Alex. Gow, S.M.; W. Taylor, Treas.; R. Allan, Sec. On the lodge being opened and minutes of last meeting read and adopted, and other business of minor importance disposed of, Messrs. J. Guthrie Smith and John Hart, who were regularly proposed and seconded at last meeting, were favourably balloted for and admitted, and received the First Degree at the hands of Bro. Ferguson, D.M. Bros. J. Lindsay, Thos. Walker, and J. Neish were passed to the Fellow Craft Degree by Bro. J. Morgan, W.M. 219.

An emergency meeting of this lodge was held in the hall, Craigiehall-street, on Friday evening, 10th ult., Bro. Stobo, W.M., presiding; Peacock, S.W.; Henry, J.W.; and all the other office-bearers in their respective places, and a good attendance of members and visitors. Messrs. David Young, superintendent of police, and John Gardner were initiated into the First Degree, and Bros. J. A. Campbell and J. Neish were raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason, both ceremonies being performed by Bro. W. Ferguson, D.M.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.

[The following appeared in our Second Edition last week.]

The General Committee meeting of this Institution was held on Thursday afternoon, 23th ult. Lieut.-Col. Crauton presided. There were also present Bros. H. Browne, H. A. Dubois, W. Bristow, John Symonds, W. Paaz, Joshua Nunn, John A. Rucker, John Gibson, S. P. Norris, Joseph Clever, Benj. Head, A. H. Tattershall, A. Senfold, J. B. Shackleton, E. Harris, George Aingold, Lieut.-Col. Peters, Rev. J. M. Vaughan, Thos. J. Sabine, H. J. Tuson, Dr. Erasmus Wilson, Frank Richardson, Peter De L. Long, Robt. B. Webster, W. Bavin, Thomas Cubitt, Joseph Smith, Frank Holmes Hunt, Thos. Fenn, H. Coward, A. J. Duff Filer, W. T. Howe, W. Stephens, Thos. Meggy, J. Lord, Frederick Graves, Chas. A. Long, J. Terry, Capt. J. Wordsworth, Charles Jardine, Thomas Massa, J. C. Seard, W. Snelgrove, W. Kemp, John Young, Charles G. Hill, F. Adlard, Levy, A. D. Loewenstark, J. B. Scriven, Leopold Ruf, A. A. Pendlebury, Raynham W. Stewart, W. Noak, Robert Kenyon, J. Boyd, B. H. Swallow, M. S. Larham, Alfred H. Diaper, H. G. Bess, Herbert Dicketts, Thos. W. White, Thos. Bull, Frank Green, W. H. Smith, J. K. Stead, J. M. P. Montagu, W. Hyde Pullen, T. B. Lancaster, Robert Bridgde, Henry W. Bothamley, William Dodd, H. Massey ("Freemason"), F. W. Ramsay, Griffiths Smith, T. F. Peacock, F. Binckes, Wm. F. C. Moutrie, E. H. Finney, A. L. Dussek, Henry Venn, Z. D. Berry, W. Myatt, John Geo. Marsh, Pierce Egan, J. Mason, B. Picking, W. Ramsey, Wm. Roebuck, Joseph Hill, J. B. Dellagana, M. D. Loewenstark, J. T. Moss, Thos. Taylor, and W. Hedges (in place of Bro. Little, Secretary, absent through ill health, but who, the brethren will be happy to learn, is much better than he has been).

After the reading of the minutes, upon the recommendation of the House Committee, Bro. Joshua Nunn gave notice of motion for next meeting to increase the salaries of the three assistant governesses. One extra governess taken from among the pupils was appointed.

Three little girls passing satisfactorily were placed on the list for election; one case was withdrawn, and one deferred for better reading.

The election of members of the House and Audit Committees was afterwards proceeded with, for which Bros. Venn, Major Finney, and W. F. C. Moutrie, were scrutineers of votes. At the declaration of the poll the following brethren were found to have been elected:

HOUSE COMMITTEE.—Bros. John Boyd, 51; Henry Browne, 48; Henry A. Dubois, 52; Benjamin Head, 64; Peter De Lande Long, 43; Joshua Nunn, 74; Lieut.-Col. James Peters, 58; John A. Rucker, 68; Griffiths Smith, 70; Alfred H. Tattershall, 60; Rev. Joseph M. Vaughan, 45; Thomas W. White, 75.

AUDIT COMMITTEE.—Bros. John G. Chancellor, 50; Herbert Dicketts, 54; Thomas Kingston, 37; Henry C. Leavander, 67; Hyam M. Levy, 38; John G. Marsh, 41; Joshua Nunn, 67; William Roebuck, 60; Robert B. Webster, 64.

Votes of thanks to the chairman and scrutineers closed the proceedings.

THE LORD LIEUTENANT OF IRELAND IN BELFAST.

His Grace the Lord Lieutenant, accompanied by Lady Georgiana Hamilton, Lord Claud John Hamilton, and attended by several aides-de-camp, arrived in Belfast on May 22 by special train from Dublin. The Viceregal party having been met at the Terminus of the Great Northern Railway by the Mayor (Mr. Robert Boag, J.P.), Sir Charles Lanyon, J.P., High Sheriff of County Antrim; Lord Templetown, and a number of other gentlemen, were escorted to carriages in waiting and driven to the Town Hall. Throughout the entire route the enthusiasm was very great, the reception accorded to the distinguished visitors being cordial in the extreme. The Council Chamber was specially prepared and adorned for the occasion, and here his Grace was presented with an address on behalf of the Corporation, to which he made an appropriate reply. Subsequently, the Viceregal party were conducted through the extensive premises of Messrs. Richardson, Sons, and Owden, Limited, which they inspected with great interest. They were afterwards driven to the Abbey, the seat of Sir Charles Lanyon, with whom they remained as guests during their stay in the country.

One of the most interesting incidents connected with His Grace's visit to Belfast was his reception by the Freemasons of Antrim and Down in the Music Hall, immediately after the Mayor's luncheon. His Grace, as our readers are aware, is the Grand Master of the Masonic body in Ireland. He has always shown a deep interest in the welfare and advancement of the Order, and it was due to his exalted position as well as to his high personal character that the brethren of this and the adjoining Masonic province should show their respect for him on the occasion of his visit. Accordingly, large numbers assembled in the Music Hall on Tuesday afternoon for the purpose of presenting an address, congratulating His Grace on his acceptance of the office of Grand Master, in succession to the late Duke of Leinster, who so long presided over the counsels of the body, and expressive of that loyalty which has always characterised the Freemasons of this and the sister kingdoms. The doors were thrown open at half-past three, and immediately the lower hall was filled by representatives of nearly all the lodges of the provinces of Antrim and Down. The brethren were attired in the regalia of the Order, some in the beautiful insignia of the Prince Mason Degree, others in that of the Knight Templar, and others again in the red and blue of the Royal Arch and Master Mason Degrees. The appearance of the whole body was most imposing, and seldom, indeed, has such a display been witnessed in the North of Ireland in connection with Masonry. Bro. John G. McGee, one of the oldest and most experienced Masons in Belfast, acted as Provincial Grand Director of Ceremonies, and, assisted by Bro. Robert M'Calmont and Bro. Edward Allworthy, discharged the duties of the office with much acceptance and ability. The brethren were first formed in lodges, and a procession having been formed, the whole body proceeded to the upper hall, where they filed off alternately in lodges to the right and left of the room, leaving ample space in the centre for his Grace and the Grand Officers to proceed to the dais. A choir, composed of brother Masons, and under the direction of Bro. John H. Carroll, who presided with his accustomed ability and skill at the harmonium, occupied the gallery. On the platform a raised dais was erected for the Grand Master, the Provincial Grand Master of Antrim, and his deputy. The arrangements were altogether highly satisfactory, and were carried out with great precision and accuracy.

At about half-past four o'clock, Lady Georgiana Hamilton, attended by several ladies, and escorted by the Right Worshipful the Mayor of Belfast, was ushered on to the platform. On her appearance the whole assembly rose, and for several minutes the hall resounded with cheers in honour of her ladyship. His Grace, who was accompanied by Bro. Sir Charles Lanyon, the Provincial Grand Master of Antrim, was received in the lower hall by the holders of platform tickets, the Stewards, and Provincial Grand Lodge Officers. A procession was then formed, and the Grand Master was conducted to the upper room.

On arriving at the door of the upper room the procession filed off to right and left, leaving an avenue for the Grand Master to proceed to the dais, to which he was conducted by the Deputy Grand Master. As his Grace walked up the room, a march was played by Bro. Carroll on the harmonium. On arriving at the platform he was loudly and enthusiastically cheered. He took his seat in the Grand Master's chair, having on his right Bro. Sir Charles Lanyon, and on his left Lady Georgiana Hamilton.

Among those on the platform and in the body of the hall we observed:—The Right Worshipful the Mayor of Belfast, Hon. Edward O'Neill, M.P., Bro. William Johnston, M.P., Sir Richard Wallace, M.P., Bro. James Alexander Henderson, J.P., Bro. Alexander Tate, Provincial Grand Secretary of Antrim; Sir Charles Lanyon, P.D.G.M.; R. McCalmont, P.G. Treas.; T. Valentine, John Lanyon, D. F. Spiller, John G. McGee, P.G.D.C.; Thomas Fisher, P.S. G.W.; John Ireland, P.P.S.G.W.; O'Connell Shaw, John Hanna, P.P.S.G.W.; Rev. Hans Woods, Rev. W. C. McCullagh, P.G.C.; Rev. Jonathan Seaver, William Redfern Kelly, C.E.; G. A. Reid, Ward, P.P.S.G.W.; Clendinning, John Wright, E. Allworthy, R. J. Hilton, P.P.G.S.; Hugh Doey, Armstrong, Henry Bottomley, P.J.G.W.; William J. Owen, P.S.G.W.; Morrow, P.G.J.G.; Boyd, P.G.S.B.; N. W. Grimshaw, P.P.G. J.D.; Frederick Kinahan, Emerson, P.P.G.J.; T. J. Welland, P.P.G.C.; Wakefield Dixon, John Woods, P.P.G.I.G.; James Scott, P.P.G.J.W.; Robert, Neill, William Dobbin, James Henry, John Stott, Henry McCashin, John H. Carroll, Louis Mantell, James Neill, Robert Campbell, William Rankin, W. J. Rainey, Denis

Leonard, William Whitla, C. L. Reid, John Davidson, Lewis Ryans, W. A. Parke, J. P. Harris, Charles Stewart, C. H. Atkinson, S. S. Frackelton, P.G.C.; Herbert Lanyon, Girdwood, Edward Orme, C. H. Ward, Andrews, Poole, Robert Irwin, Gibson, E. O'R. Dickey, W. C. Cunningham, Robert Vance, Charles Litley, B. J. Sandheim, John W. Templeton, Samuel Abernethy, Robert Matthews, Robert Adison, Simpson, W. Tennent Henry, Provincial Grand Senior Deacon, Down; Henry Montgomery, Past Provincial Grand Secretary, Down; Beauchamp N. Johnson, Downpatrick, James Jordan, P.M., do.; J. S. Clarke, P.M., do.; R. J. Harrison, P.M.; Thomas Jennings, P.M.; James Atkinson, do.; Robert McIlwaine, do.; Douglas Lithgow, R. Deeves, T. Nesbitt, and others.

On the Grand Master taking his seat, Bro. Sir Charles Lanyon, addressing the brethren present, said: I will ask you to salute the Right Worshipful the Grand Master of Ireland by three times eleven on the third coming down, taking the fire from me.

A right hearty salute having been given, Bro. Sir Charles Lanyon said: Bro. Tate, Provincial Grand Secretary, will now read the address of the Masons to the Most Worshipful the Grand Master of Ireland. (Loud applause.)

Bro. Alexander Tate then read the following address:—To His Grace James Duke of Abercorn, K.G., Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Most Ancient and Honourable Society of Free and Accepted Masons of Ireland.

Most Worshipful Sir,—On the auspicious occasion of your Grace's visit to Belfast, we, the Freemasons of the Province of Antrim, beg leave to approach your Grace with the warmest feeling of respect and attachment.

It has been a source of deep gratification to the brethren of this province, as of every other in the country, that your grace should have so readily consented to preside over our ancient Order in Ireland, and that the chair so long adorned by the virtues of our late revered Grand Master should now in succession be so worthily and happily filled.

Mindful of the exalted position occupied by your Grace in the government of the country, we gladly avail ourselves of this opportunity to give expression to the firm principles of loyalty and devotion which we entertain towards our Queen and country, and which have ever honourably distinguished the Masonic fraternity. We hail your Grace's connection with the Craft as a bright omen of its future prosperity, and it is our fervent prayer that your Grace may long be spared in health and happiness to preside over our councils, and that beneath your fostering care the spirit of Masonry may still further advance on her beneficent cause of charity, brotherhood, and good will.

(Signed on behalf of the members of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Antrim),

DONOGALL, P.G.M.

CHARLES LANYON, D.P.G.M.

ALEX. TATE, P.G. Sec.

The Grand Master, in reply, said: Right Worshipful Sir and brethren—I am very glad that my visit should have afforded me the opportunity of receiving your kind address, and I thank you very heartily for it. I can the more cordially appreciate your expressions of loyalty and devotion to our most gracious Sovereign and country, because my long experience as a Mason convinces me of their perfect sincerity. (Applause.) I thank you also for your kind sentiments towards myself. Your gratification at my presiding over the most ancient and honourable Society of Free and Accepted Masons in Ireland affords me much pleasure (loud applause), and I can assure you that the honour was one which I gladly accepted. I trust I may be long able to preside over our ancient Order in Ireland, and use my best endeavours to further those feelings of charity, brotherhood, and good-will which have always animated our Craft in this kingdom. (Loud applause.)

The choir then sang the Masonic glee "Come Brother Masons," which was rendered in truly excellent style, the assemblage testifying their appreciation of the ability displayed in its execution by hearty applause, in which his Grace himself joined.

Bro. Robert M'Calmont then called for three cheers for the Grand Master, which were given in a most enthusiastic manner. Cheers were also given for Sir Charles Lanyon, Lady Georgiana Hamilton, and the other ladies present.

The choir then gave a Masonic version of "God Save the Queen."

The Viceregal party then took their departure amid loud and long-continued cheering, his Grace shaking hands with several of the brethren on his way out. The reception accorded to the Grand Master was altogether of a most enthusiastic character, and seemed to afford much gratification to his Grace, as well as to his beautiful daughter, whose presence lent additional interest and éclat to the proceedings.

Nothing tends so much to render a railway excursion uncomfortable as the preliminary struggle at the booking office. The companies in multiplying agencies for the sale of tickets render it a passenger's own fault if he undergoes the inconvenience. It will be seen from an announcement in another column that tickets for the popular excursions of the Great Western, and also of the Brighton Company, may now be obtained at Bro. Kingston's Universal Railway Office, Fitzroy-square, an arrangement which will be of some value to the populous north-west district of London.

Bro. Dr. Bartolomé, the well-known physician of Sheffield, has been unanimously elected President for the next meeting of the British Medical Association, the largest medical body in the world.

Masonic and General Tidings.

The Prince of Wales has, we are informed, presented portraits of himself and the Princess of Wales to the officers of the Serapis.

In a Convocation held at Oxford on Tuesday afternoon, the proposal to confer the degree of D.C.L. by diploma upon Bro. His Royal Highness Prince Leopold, of Christ Church, was carried unanimously. The Latin document, embodying the resolution of the University, specified; the "comitas, modestia, et simplicitas" which had won for Prince Leopold in his three years' residence the general regard, and expressed the hope and expectation that his father might live again in him. His Royal Highness will, it is understood, be present at the festivities of the Commemoration, and will arrive at Oxford on Thursday, June 15, to be present at a meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Oxford on the 16th inst. It has been stated that the Prince and Princess of Wales will also honour the Commemoration with their presence.

THE QUEEN'S AIDES-DE-CAMP.—The following general order has been issued by His Royal Highness the Field-Marshal Commanding-in-Chief:—By the Queen's command Field-Marshal His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, K.G., and Major His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught, K.G., are hereby appointed personal aides-de-camp to Her Majesty.

The remains of the late Dowager Countess of Carnarvon were conveyed on Wednesday by the Great Western Railway from the family seat at Pixton, Somersetshire, to Newbury, accompanied by one of her ladyship's sons, the Hon. Alan Herbert, and several old servants from Pixton. As a remark of the respect to the deceased Countess, whose family has long been associated with Newbury, the Mayor and Corporation, attended by the mace-bearers and a large number of the principal inhabitants, formed a procession in the Station-road, and preceded the hearse to the outskirts of the borough. The corpse was conveyed to Burghclere Old Church, where it will be deposited in the family vault.

His Excellency the Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland, M.W.G.M. Ireland, and the Duchess of Abercorn and Lady Georgiana Hamilton left Dublin on Tuesday evening for their residence, Hampden House, Green-street, Grosvenor-square.

The Dutch journals announce that Prince Frederick of the Netherlands will celebrate in July next the 16th anniversary of his installation as Grand Master of the Freemasons of the Netherlands.

Among those present at the levee held on Monday at St. James's Palace, by H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, on behalf of Her Majesty, were Bro. J. B. Monckton, Town Clerk of London, President of the Board of General Purposes, and Bro. J. Whichcord.

The Southern Star Lodge of Instruction (No. 1158) will be opened at the Crown Hotel, Blackfriars-road, on Thursday, June 15th, 1876, when the ceremonies of consecration and installation will be rehearsed.

The St. Luke's Lodge of Instruction (No. 144) has been removed to the White Hart Tavern, 49, King's Road, Chelsea. The meetings are held every Friday evening at half-past seven o'clock.

The Domestic Chapter of Instruction, under the able care of such accomplished workers as Comps. Boyd, Bull, Cameron, Cottebrune, Kench, Wheeler, and others, has been most successfully resuscitated, and will henceforth meet at the Union Tavern, Air-street, Piccadilly, every Wednesday evening at 8 o'clock.

NEW CHAPTER IN LIVERPOOL.—The Consecration of the Hamer Chapter (No. 1393) will take place at the Lodge Room, Everton Road, Liverpool, on Thursday, the 8th inst. Bro. John Jones, P.M., is the Z. designate; Bro. R. H. Evans, I.P.M., the first H.; and Bro. Henry Jackson, W.M., the first J. From the well-known Masonic enthusiasm of these brethren and others associated with them in the formation of the new chapter there is no doubt the Hamer will prove a decided success and do honour to the memory of the name which it bears.

The death is announced from Rheims of M. Eugène Roederer, the head of the celebrated champagne firm of Louis Roederer.

TESTIMONIAL TO BRO. HAYDON.—A meeting was held at the Three Bucks Tavern, Old Jewry, under the presidency of Mr. Inspector Bailey, for the purpose of presenting a testimonial to Bro. M. Haydon, detective-sergeant, on his leaving the force, in which he has served a great number of years. The testimonial consisted of a timepiece, presented by members of the force, and a purse of £52 10s. from other friends. The timepiece bore the following inscription:—"Presented to Mr. Michael Haydon, detective-sergeant of the City of London Police, on his retirement from the force after a service of 34 years, by his brother officers, as a mark of their esteem and high appreciation of his character. May, 1876."

The Provincial Grand Lodge of Surrey will be held on the 13th inst., at half-past one o'clock punctually, at the Greyhound Hotel, Croydon. R.W. Bro. Lieut.-Gen. J. S. Brownrigg, C.B., requests the attendance of the brethren at Divine service, which will take place in the parish church, Croydon, at 3.30.

Mrs. Lydia Gidney, Norwich, desires to express her heartfelt thanks to the brethren who kindly assisted her at the late election.

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TO OUR READERS.

The *Freemason* is a sixteen-page weekly newspaper, price 2d. It is published every Friday morning, and contains the most important, interesting, and useful information relating to Freemasonry in every degree. Annual subscription in the United Kingdom, Post free, 10/-

P.O.O.'s to be made payable at the chief office, London.

NEW POSTAL RATES.

Owing to a reduction in the Postal Rates, the publisher is now enabled to send the "*Freemason*" to the following parts abroad for One Year for Twelve Shillings (payable in advance):—Africa, Australia, Bombay, Canada, Cape of Good Hope, Ceylon, China, Constantinople, Demerara, France, Germany, Gibraltar, Jamaica, Malta, Newfoundland, New South Wales, New Zealand, Suez, Trinidad, United States of America, &c.

COLONIAL AND FOREIGN SUBSCRIBERS

are informed that acknowledgments of remittances received are published in the first number of every month.

NOTICE.—It is very necessary for our friends to advise us of all money orders they remit, more especially those from the United States of America and India; otherwise we cannot tell where to credit them.

TO ADVERTISERS.

The *Freemason* has a large circulation in all parts of the Globe, its advantages as an advertising medium can therefore scarcely be overrated.

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GEORGE KENNING, 198, Fleet-st.

Answers to Correspondents.

All Communications, Advertisements, &c., intended for insertion in the Number of the following Saturday, must reach the Office not later than 12 o'clock on Wednesday morning.

J. J. S.—In London, about £5 5s., the lowest amount. J. S. had better find some Masonic friend to introduce him to a lodge. There is no other way.

W. L. Lindsay Crawford, 579, S.C., and "An Honorary Member," in our next.

The following communications stand over:—

Metropolitan Lodge, 1507.

Alexandra Palace Lodge, 1541.

St. John Operative Lodge, 347, Rutherglen.

BOOK RECEIVED.—"Effects of Inspiration," by Bro. Logan D. H. Russell. (Review next week.)

NEWSPAPERS AND MAGAZINES:—"Weekly Courant," Columbia, Pa.; "Keystone," Philadelphia; "The Craftsman;" the "Whitehall Review."

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

[The charge is 2s. 6d. for announcements, not exceeding four lines, under this heading.]

BIRTHS.

BENNETT.—On the 25th ult., at The Chestnuts, South Norwood Park, the wife of Fredk. Bennett, Esq., of a daughter.

BIRD.—On the 21st ult., at Charlewood-road, Putney, the wife of G. A. Bird, of a son.

ST. AUBYN.—On the 24th ult., at Stokefleming Rectory, South Devon, the wife of the Rev. E. St. Aubyn, of a son.

STRICKLAND.—On the 26th ult., at Beckenham, Kent, the wife of W. C. Strickland, Esq., of a son.

THOMPSON.—On the 27th ult., at Wiltshire-road, Brixton, the wife of S. Thompson, jun., of a son.

WEBB.—On the 29th ult., at Maple-road, Penge, Mrs. Webb, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

ANDREWS—SHARPUS.—On the 23rd ult., at All Saint's, Fulham, Walter William Andrews, of Brighton, to Angeline Blanche, daughter of the late T. Sharpus, Esq., of Knightsbridge.

FISKE—NEWBY.—On the 23rd ult., at St. Giles's, Camberwell, Robert, son of F. R. Fiske, of Norwich, to Harriette Emma, daughter of W. Newby, of Peckham-rye.

THURSTON—SEADLEY.—On the 25th ult., at Alverstoke, Hants, John Horatio Thurston, Esq., of Kingston, Thornbury, to Ellen Elizabeth, daughter of the late Major J. S. Sedley, of Alverstoke.

WILLINGTON—LUMLEY.—On the 27th ult., at St. Matthias', West Brompton, by the Rev. Henry Westall, Charles Edward Willington, second son of Dr. Willington, of South Kensington, to Mary Lumley, eldest daughter of the late George Henry Lumley, Esq., of Kest. No cards.

DEATHS.

FERMOR-HESKETH.—On the 28th ult., Bro. Sir Thomas Henry Fermor-Hesketh, aged 30.

FORDHAM.—On the 21st April, at the residence of his cousin, F. Rowland, Esq., London, Ontario, Canada, Robert Stirtevant W. Fordham, the only son of the late R. J. Fordham, of Leyton, Essex.

SHELDON.—On the 24th ult., at Rycote Lodge, Cleydon, Caroline, daughter of the late R. Sheldon, aged 45.

THOMAS.—On the 26th ult., at Chichester-road-villas, N.W., Clara Emily, daughter of R. Thomas, Esq., aged 19.

The Freemason,

SATURDAY, JUNE 3, 1876.

HOW SHALL WE BEST CELEBRATE OUR GRAND MASTER'S RETURN?

Several opinions may be expressed on this very interesting topic, and we do not claim for anything that we are about to say either the tone of dogmatism or the attribute of infallibility. There are difficulties no doubt attendant on any very large gathering of our Order, whether at the Crystal or the Alexandra Palace, or elsewhere, and of course much would have to depend on the view our Grand Master himself takes of the matter in all its bearings, Masonic and otherwise. But Grand Lodge meets on June 7th, and it is clear that, failing any larger assembly for the purpose of gratulation and loyal welcome to our Grand Master, some notice must be taken of this unusual and striking event in the annals of Freemasonry. Accordingly, two notices are on the agenda paper for June 7th with reference to this subject—the first by our esteemed and distinguished Bro. John Havers, P.G.W., the other by our worthy Bro. P.G.C. R. J. Simpson. By the first notice the Grand Lodge would record its grateful recognition on its own minutes of our beloved Grand Master's return, and in order to commemorate fitly so happy an event would give £1000 to the fund for the restoration of St. Alban's Cathedral and £1000 for the completion of St. Paul's. Bro. Simpson's motion would lead to a service at St. Paul's in grateful remembrance of this glad event, and would also grant £1000 to be devoted to some Indian charitable purpose, to be approved of by the Grand Master. With all deference to our worthy brother, the P.G.C., we incline to think, and to think strongly—and we therefore feel bound honestly to say so—that the motion of P.G.W. John Havers most commends itself to our feelings, alike of Masonic loyalty and to every Masonic sentiment in us, as a speculative and accepted brotherhood to-day. It may, indeed, be argued by some, we think illogically, that as Freemasonry is professedly neutral on all matters of religious distinction or denominational teaching it ought not, even by implication or indirectly, ever seek to identify itself with any one religious body. But the fallacy of such an argument lies in this. We are not proposing to make any such donation to St. Alban's Cathedral, or St. Paul's Cathedral, because they are the churches of a religious body. We are not suggesting by our vote that we in any way identify ourselves with the Church of England, or any other aggregation of religionists, but we vote the money as Freemasons towards a religious work, by whomsoever carried on, and because both these cathedrals specially appeal to us as historical landmarks in the annals and archaeology of our great Order. For be it remembered here why no doubt P.G.W. Havers, with his customary ability and clearness of vision, has thought well to invoke the aid of the Grand Lodge of England to these two great undertakings. This is of course our way of looking at the matter, an hypothesis of our own, and we do not presume to put anything forth as the actual theory of our brother the P.G.W., not even to assume that such will be the able argument he will assuredly, "more suo," adduce in support of the proposition. St. Alban's is in all our legends identified inseparably with the first effort of our operative Order, and all our later Masonic MSS., from the 16th century at any rate, mention St. Alban and the provincial Verulamium. That great and interesting cathedral contains mementoes both of Alban and Amphibalus, and no history of our operative forefathers can be complete without recognition of the early connection of Alban with the operative guilds. And so St. Paul's is equally linked on, through Sir Christopher Wren, and the Masons who revived Freemasonry in 1717 (from which revival the whole of existing Freemasonry everywhere now takes its origin), with our great speculative brotherhood to-day. We cannot conceive a more fitting use of our funds for general purposes, we cannot ourselves realise any very serious opposition to such a wise and seasonable, such

a large-hearted, and, in our humble opinion, such a truly Masonic proposal. Some time ago our distinguished D.G. Master in his own zealous province brought forward a proposal to aid in the restoration of Chester Cathedral, which was happily and heartily carried, and we then ventured to point out how thoroughly Masonic, in our opinion, such a proposal was, and how untenable the objection to it on any supposed grounds of denominational preference. If our good brethren will seriously consider the matter they will see that the ground East Lancashire took, and we took, is a perfectly Masonic and safe one, viz., that we are not making the grant simply to a denominational body, as an act of denominational sympathy, but that we are making it as Freemasons, because our operative fathers built those very cathedrals, and we seek in our generation, and in our measure to aid to renovate and restore them. St. Alban's Cathedral was built, no doubt, by the then operative guild of Freemasons; St. Paul's Cathedral was raised by those who formed part of the revival lodges of 1717, and who have every claim on our respect and remembrance, on our great material prosperity to-day as a flourishing and purely speculative brotherhood. No more fitting recognition, we venture to repeat, can be made of our gratitude and loyalty as an united fraternity than the proposal so seasonably put forward, and we venture to express the hope and the belief that it will meet with unanimous acceptance and approval on the part of Grand Lodge, sure as we are that it will be readily and enthusiastically endorsed by our intelligent and educated Craft. We have every reason to believe, from what we know of the public Masonic career of our esteemed Bro. P.G.W. Havers, that he would have good cause for knowing that his resolution would receive the approval of H.R.H. the Grand Master.

OUR ROYAL BROTHER KING GEORGE OF HANOVER.

As loyal Freemasons, we shall have noticed that this distinguished member of our own Royal Family, the Duke of Cumberland, and also King George of Hanover, is now in England, on a visit alike to his native country, and the Queen, and the Royal Family. He is, we all know, a member of our Order, a P.G.M. of the Old Grand Lodge of Hanover, and as such merits, as he will receive, a warm and sympathetic greeting from our English brotherhood. We, too, for whom alike the fortunes and movements of our Royal Family have always an abiding interest—we are rejoiced to think how well this pleasant meeting of the Royal Family chimes in with the happy return of the Prince of Wales from India, and we are also pleased to note that amid the gay luster of the Court our Royal Family is ever so truly mindful of kindly association and affectionate intercourse. We beg—as we know we represent the feelings of our Order, always loyal, in bright as well as cloudy days—to express a hope that some opportunity may be accorded the Fraternity of expressing its respectful attachment and regard for this distinguished member of our Royal Family, a sincere and earnest member of our ancient Craft.

THE MYSTERIES OF FREEMASONRY.

We are not a little amused at the evident embarrassment into which the reviewer in our good contemporary, the "*Guardian*," has recently fallen when writing upon the "*Aporreta*" of Freemasonry. He is reviewing the "*Discrepancies of Freemasonry*," &c., a posthumous work of Bro. Dr. Oliver, recently published by Bro. Hogg, and though he writes a longish review, and says a good deal, it is quite clear, to use a common phrase, that he hardly knows what to make of it all. He seems to be startled at the fact that there are any discrepancies in a subject which is clearly one of those things which a "fella" can't be expected to understand. And he soon, therefore, becomes lost in the abysses of confusion worse confounded, of unsolvable doubts, of a hopeless dilemma. It is even inexplicable to him, alike, why any discrepancies should exist

at all, and, above all, what those discrepancies are. So that his review ends where it begins, however skilfully worded, in haze and ignorance, in doubt and difficulty. Nor could it well be otherwise, nor need we affect to wonder at it. Indeed, it would have been even more strange had it been otherwise. For here is the reviewer not "in the swim," to use a young man's term of the day, professing to know all about everything, and to explain everything clearly to wondering clerical readers. But what does he know? What can he explain? It is quite clear that he cannot unfold, even though he be like the Delphic Oracle, what he does not understand, even on his own showing, and Dr. Oliver's own showing, what is surrounded by mystery, and wrapped up in enigma and obscurity! As a very remarkable evidence of how much any one can say about nothing at all, and of a lucid explanation of what he does not understand, we commend the "review" in the "Guardian" of the 24th May, page 695, to which we have alluded, to the careful study of our clerical and non-clerical subscribers. We do not overlook, in saying all this, that Bro. Dr. Oliver's book was intended primarily for Freemasons, not the "profanum vulgus," and that he is professedly expounding the exoteric teaching of the Order, to initiates. Therefore, he takes for granted a certain amount of existing knowledge on the subject in the minds of those who read his words, which ostensibly in the case of the reviewer, did not and could not exist. Hence the reviewer's bewilderment and bewonderment, his hopeless endeavour to unravel the twisted skein of Masonic discrepancies, his mournful confession of hopeless and helpless ignorance. Here is a grave work, issued by a respectable publisher, professing to unfold the "discrepancies of Freemasonry," and all to him is a jargon of an unknown tongue, he finds in the hoped-for solution of cavils and controversies, only assertions in which nothing is asserted, and explanations in which nothing is explained. Now we confess we sympathize with the reviewer, because we are strongly of opinion that after all the fault does not so much lie with him as these professed explanations of Masonic teaching. We have always felt, and feeling so, we have a right honestly to express our opinion, that the latitude of publication assumed by our excellent old brother Dr. Oliver, cannot Masonically be defended, or recommended to-day for imitation. It is quite clear to us that he allowed himself, for one motive or another, to issue, before a curious and reading public, a great deal concerning Freemasonry which ought never to have appeared in print at all. We all of us recognise gladly his great ability as a writer, his assiduous labours as an Archaeologist, the love he had for our good old Order, the scholarly turn he gave to all those striking disquisitions which he so carefully elaborated. But having said this, and with great admiration for our old teacher, we must not, as it appears to us, shut our eyes to the clear, if somewhat unpalatable fact, that he inaugurated and initiated a system of Masonic explanation and exposition fraught with danger to the best interests of Freemasonry, and forbidden by its normal constitutions. We mean this. He put before profanes as well as professed the inner teaching and cherished ceremonial of our Order far too unreservedly, in our humble opinion, and explained in print accessible to all, what after all is far better confined, and meant to be confined moreover, to the tyled area of the lodge-room. There can be little doubt that, as always happens, the explanatory system he introduced has had its neophytes and imitators, who have outdone their first preceptor, and have sought to disrobe Freemasonry, so to say, and leave her like some blushing nymph of old before startled and inquisitive gazers. We fear that the process has done no good, but rather harm, to the Craft. There is with some a morbid anxiety, to which it is wrong to pander, there is with others a love of notoriety which is little less than unworthy. And in the meantime our "Alma Mater" silently suffers. What the limits of Masonic publication should be is no doubt a somewhat difficult matter to decide, and it is one on which many conflicting opinions exist. We shall recur to it next week. But in the meanwhile we feel bound to

say this, that while we are most favourable naturally to the diffusion of all proper Masonic light on all matters which can fairly come before the open court of the public, we deprecate the appearance of anything which is intended to be kept "in camera," and above all we fear that the open communication of details of ritual, which, solely intended for the lodge, deters many of our brethren from that support to Masonic literature which otherwise they would be disposed to accord. We have for some time past carefully guarded the pages of the "Freemason" from all purely ritual discussions, and we intend for the future to follow the same course.

HYPERCRITICISM.

We did not intend to return to this subject, but the letter of our correspondent, "Plain English," seems to call for a few more fraternal remarks from us. To say the truth, we do not quite comprehend what it is our good complaining brother is really "driving at." He says he did not wish us to write "Anglo-Saxon," but that his words were "plain Saxon English." Then he informs us that "every well informed person knows that the Anglo-Saxon was a transition language, and passed away soon after the Norman Conquest"—this we fancy will be news to Mr. Max Müller; and lastly he tells us that Carlyle's is "plain Saxon English." These then seem to be the main points of his letter, except that he still says "sub sigillo confessionis" is not a common expression, and that as for "clientèle" he admits his "ignorance of the appropriate use of it." What then has it all come to? But simply this. Our good brother like a great many of our fellows now-a-days, "Rari nantes in gurgite vasto," will try and deal with subjects which they have not carefully studied, or even laboriously thought out. For we live in an age of flippancy of assertion, and shallowness of information, be it ever remembered. We, however, who have both studied and thought out the matter, are not likely to heed even our friendly critic "Plain English," as, with all deference to him, his communications clearly evidence, that whatever may be the strength of his peculiar views, they are literally his own, and opposed to all that philology has achieved, or literary culture would suggest. When a brother gravely recommends Carlyle's verbiage as a model of plain Saxon English, he is either, as the French would say, an Anglo-Saxon "enragé," or he supposes that none of us have ever read Carlyle. Now, we have studied Carlyle; and much as we admire his originality of thought, his honesty of utterance, and his force of words, we must decline to accept either his language or his style as a model for English composition. Old Johnson was probably right when he told us that we must carefully study Addison if we wished to write the English language correctly and gracefully, and we cannot admit that Carlyle's thundering passages have in any way affected the truth of his "dictum" or offered us a better style in the place of that which is alike clear and forcible, apposite and eloquent. Still we will not be hypercritical. We agree with "Plain English," "après tout," that it is not advisable as a general rule to use foreign words when you can supply their English equivalents, but we equally feel convinced that many a heavy sentence of pure English prose is lightened materially by the contrast of some lighter foreign expression, which covers a good deal of ground, and relieves the monotony of our classic vernacular. So here the controversy ends, in all good humour. We shall be on our guard not to hurt our good brother's feelings more than we can help, and that is all we can safely promise.

THE CENTENNIAL AT PHILADELPHIA.

We are glad to be permitted to send across the wide Atlantic our hearty good wishes to our American brethren, who are now amid the world's citizens gathering together at Philadelphia. They will see a noble hall, one of the later Exhibitions which mark the depth and sincerity of the Masonic spirit in America, and

they will behold the onward growth of that noble fraternity which persecution has not been able to impede nor cruel slander to destroy. It is very striking for us, even amid our material prosperity, and growing numbers at home, to realize the fact, patent and positive, that considerably over half-a-million of brethren range themselves under the sacred banners of Freemasonry in the United States, and that if this ratio of increase continues, a few years will see that number probably doubled. One of our little insular amiable weaknesses, perhaps defects, is that we do not know much of the actual condition of other countries. We take haphazard statements as indubitable verities, and the flashy assertions of some hurried traveller, too hurried to be reliable, as accurate data. Some wiseacre has said that Freemasonry in the United States, though numerically great, is not intrinsically Masonic in sentiment or work—that it is too much given to outside show, and does not remember the "weightier matters" of its unchanging law of love and active benevolence. We have denied the statement before, by whomsoever made. We deny it again to-day. That Freemasonry has some difficulties to contend with in the United States is true; that some anomalies attend its present position we are not ignorant of; but, as we have before pointed out, these arise from conflicting jurisdiction and separate Grand Lodges—all necessarily in the way of an uniform system of teaching or action. Indeed, some of the reported decisions of individual Grand Masters seem to us at times to savour more of the personal idiosyncrasies of the "Ego" than of any proper authority or Masonic teaching. But giving all this in, and let the objector make the most of it, we fancy that the Freemasons in America may fairly challenge those of other jurisdictions on most points of Masonic principle, practice, and obedience. They adhere very firmly to the *lex scripta* of the Order, and seek to uphold the landmarks of Freemasonry. They are endeavouring to throw around their lodge ceremonial all the attractiveness of a chaste æstheticism, and they are also seeking to raise Masonic halls everywhere, so as to give to the brethren the priceless advantages of privacy and Masonic independence. And not only this, but they are doing a great deal in the cause of Masonic charity, some no doubt more, some less, but all the facts, and they are many, which constantly come before us of the earnest benevolent spirit of American Freemasons towards their suffering brethren, or their "belongings," left in privation or penury, are very "thorough" in themselves and very pleasant to note. It often appears to us that we hardly make allowance enough, even in matters worldly, for the many difficulties attendant on the formation of that very great country, the United States of America. Equally we err often in Masonic matters. They have had harder struggles than we have had to go through in this old sheltered land of ours, and they have come out of them nobly, unscathed and undaunted, stronger and more compact than ever. All honour to them! And we to-day, knowing well the warm heart and the true Masonic feeling of our good English Craft, beg in their name to congratulate our brethren now in Philadelphia on this their Centennial, in an honest fraternal spirit, and with many hearty good wishes. Knowing what we do of many eminent Masons there, publicly and personally, as brother Masons and as valued friends, we rejoice to claim them as belonging to the great brotherhood of Freemasonry. We, if we may say so, shake them heartily by the hand to-day, as we express our hope that their Exhibition may be a complete success, and that while all may gain alike pleasure and improvement from this great peace federation of the world, our brethren in the United States will not the least enjoy their visit and be stimulated by the working of Freemasonry in Philadelphia to a deeper attachment even, if possible, to the principles and practice of our excellent Fraternity.

The preliminary works in connection with the Channel Tunnel have just commenced at Langatte, near Calais. Shafts have already been sunk to a depth of forty metres, and the work is being carried on rapidly, the labourers working night and day. A powerful pump has been set up to absorb the water that is met with in rather large quantities.

Original Correspondence.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for, or even as approving of the opinions expressed by our correspondents, but we wish, in a spirit of fair play to all, to permit—within certain necessary limits—free discussion.—Ed.]

THANKSGIVING FOR THE PRINCE OF WALES' SAFE RETURN.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

It has been declared as a landmark of the Order that "Freemasonry is a peculiar system of morality veiled in allegory and illustrated by symbols." Masonic writers and others equally well versed in matters appertaining to the society have proclaimed the Order to be neither of a political nor religious tendency, and that it accepts men of every diversity of creed, providing their moral qualifications are of a satisfactory character. Bearing these facts in mind, I would ask whether any critical member of the fraternity can, after reading the paragraph inserted in the last number of your journal, reconcile the statements referred to with the first proposition of our reverend brother? I think not. The demonstration would prove a dangerous precedent, and would seriously affect the foundation of the institution. Why should Masonry be identified with religious proceedings? Is it to gratify vanity, or what? The fact is, Sir, there has been for some time past a persistent desire on the part of many clerical members of the fraternity to associate Masonry with religion. Unless this growing evil is suppressed I fear that the Order in England will become as disreputable as in France. I must here mention that I am not personally acquainted with Brother the Rev. R. J. Simpson, the originator of the movement. He enjoys the reputation of being a powerful orator, and has, according to accounts furnished me, done much good in the parish of which he is rector. With regard to the second proposition in respect to the sum of £1000, it must be admitted that, being for a charitable object, it has a legitimate claim upon the consideration of Grand Lodge. But why should this amount be sent abroad when so many poor and deserving brethren at home are clamouring for assistance? It is proverbial that the English take especial care to enquire into the wants of the "interesting foreigner," whilst those of their countrymen are scarcely noticed. If the demonstration at St. Paul's Cathedral has been suggested to our rev. brother it was ill advised. If otherwise, then let us be charitable and ascribe it to an error of judgment. As Pope says:—

"'Tis with our judgments as our watches; none go just alike, yet each believes his own."

Every brother in the Masonic Order is no doubt glad that His Royal Highness has returned in safety to his native land, and sincerely wishes him long life and happiness. The Prince is unquestionably a sensible man, and is, if I mistake not, from what I have observed on one or two occasions, opposed to what is generally experienced by distinguished men—obsequious flattery.

I am, dear Sir and brother, truly and fraternally yours
London, 29th May, 1876. C. S.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,

It has been suggested to me by a brother, that my proposal to meet in St. Paul's for a thanksgiving service would identify Freemasonry with a particular religious body—I venture to think that this is indeed "straining at a gnat," and to a most unpractical extent.

1. In the Provinces Provincial Lodges constantly attend service in the parish church of the town in which they meet.

2. At weddings, funerals, and other special occasions, Churchmen, Nonconformists, Roman Catholics, and Hebrews often meet without danger or inconsistency.

3. Masonry is professedly a religious institution, and should not allow any trifling or technical difficulty to stand in the way of its asserting its religious character when a great national and Masonic occasion fairly calls for solemn and united action.

4. Such a gathering for such a purpose would surely suggest those ideas of union, brotherly love, and charity which are so much needed in these days, and so consonant with the spirit and principles of our Order.

Lastly, Does not the argument I allude to, if of any weight against my proposal, tell with twofold force against Bro. Havers' proposition—for surely thousands of non-members of the Church of England would and do gladly join their fellows in her Churches on special occasions, who would not dream of giving a donation to her Church building or decoration.

It is not as a clergyman of the Church of England, but as a Mason, I have made the present proposal (with the warm approval of many and distinguished Masons), and I hope we may not lose such an opportunity of proving before the world our loyalty, our charity, and our religion.

Fraternally yours,
May, 31st, 1876.

R. J. SIMPSON.

WELCOME TO OUR GRAND MASTER.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Referring to your valuable suggestions as to a public Masonic welcome to the Most Worshipful the Grand Master of Freemasonry in England on his return from India, would it not be well that the demonstration, say at the Alexandra or Crystal Palace, or elsewhere, should be of a cosmopolitan character, and include such of the brethren as have at least attained the P.M. Degree—who, although non-subscribing members to a symbolic lodge in this country, are nevertheless de jure Masons at heart in the fullest acceptance of the Order,

I am, fraternally yours,

I. M. L., P.M., &c., &c.

Euston, N.W., May 24th, 1876.

HYPERCRITICISM.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

A recent issue of your journal contains a leader on "Hypercriticism," which is called forth by my letter signed "A Stickler for Plain English." It misrepresents my views on one or two points. I did not recommend the use of "Anglo-Saxon" by English people of the present day. It would have been nonsensical, because every well-informed person knows that the Anglo-Saxon was a transition language, and passed away soon after the Norman Conquest. What I did say was suggested by your expression, "our Anglo-Saxon Brotherhood." And accordingly I was led to mention my views about the propriety of using "plain Saxon English." I am aware that what you say is correct about our English language comprising a mixture of other languages. But I still maintain a long-held opinion that our present use is degenerating. Note our English Bible. With a few trifling exceptions the diction is suited to the age in which we live. Everybody knows that our language undergoes constant change. I observe it every year. The very spelling of simple words, and even of proper names becomes changed. But my notion is that in modern journalism we often find ourselves in a blaze of newly-made English. The other day I read in a leading journal an account of the Prince's arrival in England, wherein it was stated that an address was *illuminated* on vellum (the italics are my own). This substitute for illuminated might be the error of the writer, or perhaps of the printer only. I cannot agree with you that the Latin phrase "sub sigillo confessionis" is ordinarily used by modern writers. I identify it entirely with a certain system of the Roman Catholic Church. I admit my ignorance as to the appropriate use of the word "clientèle;" of course anybody could ascertain its meaning by turning to a French dictionary. I confess I am not a constant reader of Carlyle's works, nor do I always comprehend the views of that mystical writer. But it is plain Saxon English. So also is the language used by an eminent clergyman now deceased, the Rev. Frederic Denison Maurice. In each of these authors I read what is acceptable to

Yours truly and fraternally,

A STICKLER FOR PLAIN ENGLISH.

May 24th, 1876.

THE FREEMASONS' TAVERN.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I notice in the agenda paper of Grand Lodge a communication respecting the Freemasons' Tavern. I should like to know what connexion there is between tavern interest and Freemasonry. Are the funds of Grand Lodge dependent on the success of a public tavern? Is it not time that Freemasonry stood alone, independent of any such questionable income?

Yours fraternally,

P. M.

MRS. FARNFIELD AND GRAND LODGE.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

May I ask through your columns if the relatives of the widow of our late Bro. Farnfield are cognisant of the fact that Bro. H. Green has given notice of motion "That the sum of £100 be voted to Widow Farnfield as an annuity during the pleasure of Grand Lodge?"

Yours fraternally,

ENQUIRER.

A SUGGESTION.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

The reading of a letter in the "Freemason" of May 20th, headed "Officers' Jewels," and giving a very minute description of some antique jewels in the possession of a lodge at Sheerness, suggested to me how entertaining to the readers of the "Masonic Magazine" would be the publication of full-sized engravings, with a short history of all such jewel-, tokens, and medals pertaining to Masonry.

Apologising for thus troubling you, I remain, yours fraternally,

THOS. FRANCIS, 804.

LAST MEETING OF GREAT PRIORY.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Permit me to express my great disappointment in seeing no report (as yet) in your columns of the meeting of the Great Priory of England and Wales which was held in London on the 12th ult. Surely many K.T.'s subscribe to the "Freemason" who would like to see reports of the doings of the Great Officers of our Order in its columns. And surely, also, you are supplied with or are allowed to furnish such reports.

Yours fraternally,

A PAST PROVINCIAL GREAT OFFICER.

May 24th, 1876.

FRENCH LODGES IN LONDON.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

In the April number of the "Monde Maçonnique," at page 386, I find these words:—"Avis aux Maçons Voyageurs. Les tenues régulières de la loge Française établie à Londres sous le titre les 'Philadelphes et la Concorde Réunion,' ont lieu tous les Mercredis à 9 heures du soir 6, Charles-street, Middlesex Hospital, au Spread Eagle."

I wish, therefore, to ask through your columns, 1st. Is this lodge a regularly warranted lodge? and 2ndly, is it warranted by the Grand Lodge of England, or the Grand Orient of France?

I am, yours fraternally,

AN ENGLISH READER OF THE
"MONDE MAÇONNIQUE."

[Perhaps some French brother can answer this.—Ed.]

A CORRECTION.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

By some curious mistake in your report of the Phoenix Lodge on the 27th ult., you have inserted the name of your reporter, Bro. Massey, as having been installed W.M. of that lodge. Bro. J. D. Massey who now holds that position, is I believe, no relation whatever to your representative, who was not present on that occasion, but as you are aware, your journal was represented, as it has been in many London and provincial lodges for some three years past, by

Yours truly and fraternally,

T. C. WALLS.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Will you kindly answer the following questions in your next issue? 1. Is a present S.W. of a colonial lodge entitled to visit Grand Lodge by virtue of his office? 2. If so, is an introduction necessary from any other member of Grand Lodge, or how is he to obtain admission?

I remain, Sir and brother, yours fraternally,
Dover, 30th May, 1876.

[He will require a voucher, but if returned to Grand Lodge as S.W. of his lodge he has no doubt a seat in Grand Lodge.—Ed.]

UNITED GRAND LODGE.

The following is the agenda of business to be transacted in Grand Lodge, Wednesday, 7th June, 1876:—

The minutes of the Quarterly Communication of the 1st March for confirmation.

The minutes of the Grand Festival of the 26th April for confirmation.

The M.W. Grand Master will make an announcement with reference to certain alterations and additions which it is the pleasure of His Royal Highness to make in relation to the charity jewel.

Election of members of the board of General Purposes.

Election of members of the Colonial Board.

Election of members for the Committee of management of the "Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and Widows of Freemasons."

Report of the Lodge of Benevolence for the last quarter, in which are recommendations for the following grants, viz.:—

The widow of a brother of St. Bartholomew's Lodge, No. 696, Wednesday ...	£50 0 0
The widow of a brother of the Lodge of Nine Muses, No. 235, London ...	50 0 0
A brother of the De Grey and Ripon Lodge, No. 905, London ...	100 0 0
The daughter of a late brother of St. Andrew's Lodge, No. 222, London ...	50 0 0
The daughters of a late brother, of Royal Forest Lodge, No. 401, Slaidburn ...	50 0 0
A brother of the Star and Hope Lodge, No. 520, Agra, Bengal ...	50 0 0

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF GENERAL PURPOSES.
The Board of General Purposes have to report as follows:—

Several questions bearing on the interpretation of the Book of Constitutions have been, during the past quarter, brought under the notice of the board, which, having been duly considered, have been satisfactorily dealt with, no specific report to Grand Lodge upon or in connection with them becoming necessary. Some important matters connected with the buildings of the society have been dealt with by the Premises Committee, and approved by the board.

The question of a re-arrangement of the seating accommodation for the brethren in Grand Lodge has received considerable attention, resulting in the addition of upwards of one hundred seats, which, in the opinion of the board, is the utmost that can be done in the existing area.

The board have been for a long period engaged in correspondence with the lessees of Freemasons' Tavern with reference to the question of rent, and in result recommend to Grand Lodge that if a thoroughly responsible tenant or tenants can be found by the Tavern Company (the present Lessees), who would be willing to take over the lease, Grand Lodge should assent to a reduction of the rent of the tavern from £1500, at which it at present stands, to £1200 per annum, and to such re-adjustment of the term as may appear fair and reasonable, and that the Board of General Purposes be empowered to negotiate and act accordingly.

The President will therefore move to that effect.

(Signed) JOHN B. MONCKTON, President.

At the meeting on the 16th May, after the ordinary business was concluded, it was proposed, seconded, and carried unanimously, that the best thanks of the members of the board are eminently merited by the President for the great attention he has paid to the duties of his office, for the admirable manner in which he has discharged them, and the great courtesy and kindness he has on all occasions evinced to his colleagues, and they are therefore fraternally tendered to him.

(Signed) PETER DE LANDE LOGG, Vice-President.

To the report is subjoined a statement of the Grand Lodge accounts at the last meeting of the Finance Committee, held on Friday, the 12th day of May, shewing a balance in the hands of the Grand Treasurer of £6172 12s. 8d.; and in the hands of the Grand Secretary, for petty cash, £75; and for servants' wages, £96 15s.

Appeal of Bro. W. C. Rowe, W. Master of the Lodge of Truth, No. 944, Bombay, against the decision of the R. W. District Grand Master of Bombay, censuring the lodge for having passed and raised a brother at one and the same meeting.

The papers relating to this appeal will be in the Grand Secretary's office till the meeting of Grand Lodge, and open for the inspection of the brethren during office hours.

The report of a special general meeting of the Governors and Subscribers of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and Widows of Freemasons, held at Freemasons' Hall, on Tuesday, the 25th day of April, 1876, will be laid before Grand Lodge, and the following proposed alterations in the rules which were then agreed to will, in accordance with the laws of the institution, be submitted for the approval of Grand Lodge.

That Law 4, page 12, be altered by substituting the figures "£40" for £36, and that Law 4, page 13, be also altered by substituting the figures "£32" for £28.

The laws as altered now read thus:—

"The amount of the annuity shall be £40 per annum," and "The amount of the annuity shall be £32 per annum."

The annual report of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and Widows of Freemasons, dated the 19th of May, 1876, will be laid before Grand Lodge.

PROPOSED MOTIONS.

By R. W. Bro. John Havers, P.G.W.:

That this Grand Lodge desires to return its humble and hearty thanks to the Almighty Architect of the Universe for the safe return to his native land of their beloved Grand Master, His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, and, in memory of that happy event, determine to devote the sum of £2000 in aid of the restoration of the two churches which are most intimately connected with the history of Freemasonry in England.

Resolved therefore—

(1st.) That a sum of £1000 be granted from the Fund for General Purposes towards the restoration of St. Paul's Cathedral, and the like sum of £1000 from the same fund towards the restoration of St. Alban's Abbey.

(2nd.) That a committee, to consist of the Pro Grand Master, the Deputy Grand Master, the Grand Treasurer, Grand Registrar, President of the Board of General Purposes, and the Grand Superintendent of Works, be and is hereby appointed, and such committee (after conference with the Restoration Committee of the respective churches) shall decide in what manner the gifts can best be made so as to carry out the wishes of Grand Lodge.

By W. Bro. Benjamin Head, P.G.D.:

That the sum of £70 be given from the Fund of General Purposes; that the money be placed in the hands of the Secretary of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and Widows of Freemasons, to supply the inmates of the asylum at Croydon with coals during the winter months.

By Bro. Henry Greene, P.M. 256:

That the death of the late Bro. William Farnfield, Past Assistant Grand Secretary, having left his widows and two daughters in very restricted circumstances, he having been unable—in consequence of the expenses incidental to the bringing up of his numerous family (ten)—to make suitable provision for them, that an annuity of £100 per annum be granted to Mrs. Farnfield during the pleasure of Grand Lodge.

By V.W. Bro. the Rev. Robert James Simpson, P.G. Chaplain:

Resolved—

(1.) That this Grand Lodge desires to record its humble and hearty thanks to Almighty God for the preservation and safe return of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, Most Worshipful Grand Master of English Freemasons, and that with a view to testifying to this loyal and devout feeling in a more united, public, and solemn manner, this Grand Lodge resolves (with the approval of the Most Worshipful the Grand Master and with the kind permission of the proper authorities) to hold on some convenient day a service of praise and thanksgiving in St. Paul's Cathedral.

(2.) That as a thank offering on this occasion this Grand Lodge votes from its fund the sum of £1000, which, together with the offerings made at the service in St. Paul's, shall be devoted to the benefit of such charitable object in India as may be recommended by the Most Worshipful Grand Master.

In the event of the above resolutions being passed,

Resolved—

(3.) That the following brethren constitute a special Committee to carry out the Resolutions, viz.:—

R.W. Bro. Lord Skelmersdale	.....D.G.M.
R.W. Bro. Earl of Donoughmore	.....G.S.W.
R.W. Bro. Honourable Wm. W. Vernon	.....G.I.W.
V.W. Bro. Aeneas J. McIntyre, Q.C.	.....G.R.
R.W. Bro. John Havers	.....P.G.W.
V.W. Bro. John B. Monckton	.....Pres. B.G.P.
W. Bro. John M. Clabon	.....P.G.D.
R.W. Bro. Sir Albert W. W. Woods,	
Garter	.....P.G.W. and G.D.C.
V.W. Bro. John Hervey	.....G. Sec.
V.W. Bro. Rev. Spencer R. Wigram	.....G. Chap.
W. Bro. Dr. Erasmus Wilson	.....Dept. W.M. No. 2.
W. Bro. Standish Grove Grady	.....P.M. No. 14.
W. Bro. General Clerke	.....P.M. No. 706.
V.W. Bro. Rev. R. J. Simpson	.....P.G. Chap.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS AND OINTMENT.—Protracted suffering of any kind soon wears down the strongest frame, and weakens the most determined spirit, as the dropping of water will in time wear away the hardest granite, so will persistent pain wear away the powers of the strongest mind. Let none, therefore, who are afflicted with chronic, rheumatic, or neuralgic pains, or old painful sores, and ulcerations, which render their life miserable, yield to despair, but give these inestimable twin remedies a steady and fair trial. Many who have done so (having previously tried "almost everything" without relief) have been delighted and amazed at the change for the better, which has been the result of their use. They are invaluable in skin diseases.—ADVT.

Copies of the "Freemason" for May 1st and 8th, 1875, containing a full account of the proceedings at the Installation of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, as Most Worshipful Grand Master and First Grand Principal, are still obtainable at the office, 198, Fleet-street.

The "Masonic Magazine" for the current month, contains an engraving of the first church built in England, A.D. 61.

METROPOLITAN MASONIC MEETINGS.

For the Week ending Friday, June 9, 1876.

The Editor will be glad to receive notice from Secretaries of Craft Lodges, Royal Arch Chapters, Mark Lodges, Preceptories, Conclaves, &c., of any change in place or time of meeting.

SATURDAY, JUNE 3.

Gen. Com. Boys' School, at 4.
Chap. 975, Rose of Denmark, Star and Garter, Kew.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Lily, Greyhound, Richmond.
Manchester, 77, London-st., Fitzroy-square.
Star, Marquis of Granby, New Cross-rd.

MONDAY, JUNE 5.

Lodge 16, Royal Alpha, Willis's Rooms, St. James's.
" 188, Joppa, Albion Tav., Aldersgate st.
" 1319, Asaph, F.M.H.
Chap. 1056, Victoria, M.H., Masons' Avenue.
Red. Cross Con., Premier, Regent M.H., Regent-st.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Prince Leopold, Lord Stanley Tav., Kingsland.
Strong Man, Jerusalem Tav., St. John's Gate.
Sincerity, Railway Tav., Fenchurch-st. Station.
Camden, Stanhope Arms, Up. James-st., Camden To.
Eastern, Royal Hot., Mile-end-road.
St. James's Union, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Wellington, White Swan, Deptford.
Perfect Ashlar, Victoria Tav., Lower-rd., Rotherhithe.
Sydney, White Hart Ho., Church-rd., Upper Norwood.

TUESDAY, JUNE 6.

Lodge 171, Amity, Ship Hot., Greenwich.
" 1383, Friends in Council, 33, Golden-sq.
" 1506, White Horse of Kent, 33, Golden-sq.
" 1549, Abercorn, Abercorn Hot., Great Stanmore.
Chap. 1269, Stanhope, Thicket Hot., Anerley.
Grand Lodge M.M.M.'s, 33, Golden-sq.—See Advt.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney.
Domestic, Surrey M.H., Camberwell New-road.
Faith, 2, Westminster Chambers, Victoria-st.
Prince Fredk. Wm., Lord's Hot., St. John's Wood.
Dalhousie, King Edward, Triangle, Hackney.
Prosperity, 1, Camomile-st., Bishopsgate.
St. Marylebone, British Stores Tav., St. John's Wood.
Constitutional, Wheatheaf Hot., Hand-court, Holborn.
Israel, Rising Sun Tav., Globe Road.
Royal Arthur, Prince's Head, York-road, Battersea.
Beacontree, Red Lion, Leytonstone, at 8.
Metropolitan Chapter, Jamaica Coffee Ho., Cornhill.
Excelsior, Commercial Dock Tav., Rotherhithe.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 7.

Quarterly Com. Grand Lodge, at 6, for 7 p.m.
LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.
Mt. Lebanon, Windsor Castle Tav., Southwark-bdg-rd.
Pythagorean, Prince of Orange, Greenwich.
New Concord, Rosemary Branch Tav., Hoxton.
Royal Union, Horse and Groom, Winsley-st., Oxford-st.
Peckham, Maismore Arms, Park-road, Peckham.
Stanhope, Thicket Hot., Anerley.
Finsbury Park, Finsbury Park Tav., Seven Sisters-rd.
Southwark, Southwark Park Tav., Southwark Park.
Duke of Connaught, Havelock Tav., Dalston, E.
United Strength, Grafton Arms, Kentish-town.
Mount Edgumbe, 19, Jermyn-street, St. James's.
Islington, Crown and Cushion, London Wall.
Whittington, Black Bull Tav., Holborn.

THURSDAY, JUNE 8.

Lodge 10, Westminster and Keystone, F.M.H.
" 1216, Macdonald, Hd.-qtrs. 1st Surrey Rifles.
" 1558, Duke of Connaught, Surrey M.H.
" 1599, Skelmersdale, M.H., Masons' Avenue.
Chap. 72, Royal Jubilee, Horns Tav., Kennington.
" 619, Beadon, M.H., Masons' Avenue.
K.T. Precep., 117, New Temple, Inner Temple.
Rose Croix Chap., St. George's, 33, Golden-sq.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Egyptian, Hercules Tav., Leadenhall-st.
Fidelity, Yorkshire Grey, London-st., W.
Finsbury, Jolly Anglers' Tav., Bath-st., City-road.
Temperance in the East, Catherine-st., Poplar.
Ebony, 12, Ponsonby-st., Millbank.
Highgate, Bull and Gate, Kentish-town.
The Great City, 111, Cheapside.
High Cross, Coach & Horses, High-road, Tottenham.
Salisbury, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Marquis of Ripon, Albion Tav., Albion-rd., Dalston.
Prince Frederick William Chapter, St. John's Wood.

FRIDAY, JUNE 9.

Lodge 1420, Earl Spencer, Northcote Hot., New Wandsworth.
Chap. 6, Friendship, Willis's Rooms, St. James's.
" 33, Britannic, F.M. Tav.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Union Waterloo, Thomas-st., Woolwich.

Robert Burns, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Belgrave, Lyceum Tav., 354, Strand.
Unions Emulation (for M.M.'s), F.M.H.
Temperance, Victoria Tav., Victoria-road, Deptford.
Clapton, White Hart, Clapton.
Metropolitan, Portugal Hot., Fleet-st.
Westbourne, Horse & Groom, Winsley-st., Oxford-st.
Metropolitan, Pentonville-road.
United Pilgrims, Surrey M.H., Camberwell New-road.
St. James's, New Tanners' Arms, Grange-rd., Bermondsey.
Duke of Edinburgh, Silver Lion, Penny-fields, Poplar.
Doric, Earl Grey Tav., Mile-end-road.
Burgoyne, Grafton Arms, Prince of Wales's-road, N.W.
St. Luke's, Commercial Tav., King's-road, Chelsea.
Chigwell, Bald-faced Stag Hot., Buckhurst-hill.
Burdett Courts, Approach Tav., Victoria Park.
Royal Standard, Finsbury Park Tav., Holloway.
Ranelagh, Clarendon Hot., Hammersmith.
Pythagorean Chapter, Prince of Orange, Greenwich-rd.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN WEST LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE.

For the Week ending Saturday June 10, 1876.

MONDAY, JUNE 5.

Lodge 133, Unanimity, Bull Hot., Church-st., Preston.
" 613, Unity, Palatine Buildings, Southport.
" 703, Clifton, Clifton Arms, Blackpool.
" 1045, Stamford, T.H., Altrincham.
" 1051, Rowley, M.R., Athenaeum, Lancaster.
" 1264, Neptune, M.H., Liverpool.
" 1380, Skelmersdale, Queen's Hot., Waterloo.
Everton, L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

TUESDAY, JUNE 6.

Lodge 673, St. John's, M.H., Liverpool.
" 986, Hesketh, Grapes Inn, Croston.
" 995, Furness, M.T., Ulverstone.
" 1256, Fidelity, Bull Hot., Poulton-le-Fylde.
" 1476, Blackpool, Clifton Arms Hot., Blackpool.
Chap. 203, St. John of Jerusalem, M.H., Liverpool.
Mark Lodge, Walton, Croylands-st., Kirkdale.
Merchants' L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 7.

Lodge 86, Loyalty, M.H., Prescott.
" 484, Faith, Gerard's Arms, Ashton-in-Wakefield.
" 580, Harmony, Wheatheaf, Ormskirk.
" 730, Ellesmere, Royal Oak Hot., Chorley.
" 758, Ellesmere, M.H., Runcorn.
" 1013, Royal Victoria, M.H., Liverpool.
" 1335, Lindsay, 20, King-st., Wigan.
" 1354, Marquis of Lorne, M.R., Leigh.
De Grey and Ripon L. of I., N. Hill-st., Liverpool.
Downshire L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.
Harmonic L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

THURSDAY, JUNE 8.

Lodge 333, Royal Preston, Vic., Garrison Hot., Fulwood.
" 786, Croxeth, United Service, M.H., Liverpool.
" 1035, Prince of Wales, Kirkdale, Liverpool.
" 1182, Duke of Edinburgh, M.H., Liverpool.
" 1213, Bridgewater, Cross Keys Hot., Eccles.
Mariners' L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

FRIDAY, JUNE 9.

Lodge 1280, Rock, Bedford House, Rock Ferry.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN GLASGOW AND WEST OF SCOTLAND.

For the Week ending Saturday, June 10, 1876.

All the Meetings take place at Eight o'clock.

MONDAY, JUNE 5.

" 124, Kilwinning, Union Tav., Ayr.
" 129, St. Mirren's, St. Mirren's Hall, Paisley.
" 138, Operative, Blue Bell Hot., Ayr.
" 237, St. John, Masonic Arms, Girvan.
" 332, Union, 170, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
Chap. 53, Dumbarton, Elephant Hot.
" 119, Rosslyn, 25, Robertson-st., Glasgow.

TUESDAY, JUNE 6.

Lodge 34, St. John, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
" 7, Hamilton, Kilwinning M.H.
" 68, Doric, 44, Church-st., Port Glasgow.
" 73, Thistle and Rose, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
" 87, Thistle, 30, Hope-st., Glasgow.
" 173, St. John, M.H., Largs.
" 117, St. James's, M.H., Coatbridge.
" 233, Hamilton, Spaldings Hot., Hamilton.
" 406, St. John, Dalziel, M.H., Motherwell.
" 433, St. Thomas, Edlington Hall, Dalmellington.
" 437, Govandale, Portland Buildings, Govan.
" 442, Neptune, M.H., Ardrossan.
" 497, St. John's, Brewery Hall, Catrine.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 7.

Lodge 0, Mother Kilwinning, M.H., Kilwinning.
" 4, Glasgow Kilwinning, 170, Buchanan-st.
" 21, Old St. John, M.H., Lanark.
" 86, Navigation, Commercial Hall, Troon.
" 126, St. Andrew, George Hot.
" 128, St. John, M.H., Shettleston.
" 166, St. John, 29, Graham-st., Airdrie.
" 198, Royal Arch, King's Arms, Maybole.
" 331, St. Peter's, Portland Arms, Galston.
" 354, Caledonian Railway, 30, Hope-st., Glasgow.
" 571, Dramatic, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
Cha. 87, Shamrock and Thistle, 12, Troon.

THURSDAY, JUNE 8.

Lodge 88, New Monkland, T.H., Airdrie.
" 109, St. Markock, T.H., Kilmarnock.
" 203, St. John's, Olive H., Airdrie.
" 334, St. John's, Castle Inn, New Cumnock.
" 557, Blantyre Kilwinning, Craigie Hall, Blantyre.
" 570, Kenmuir, Balgray Hall, Springburn.
Chap. 50, Glasgow, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.

FRIDAY, JUNE 9.

Lodge 18, Dumbarton, Mission Hall, Dumbarton.
 " 147, Cadder Argyle, Chryston, M.H.
 " 170, St. John, Black Bull Inn, Renton.
 " 427, St. Clair, M.H., Garngad-rd., Glasgow.
 Chap. 144, St. Rollox, M.H., Garngad-rd., Glasgow.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN EDINBURGH AND VICINITY.

For the Week ending Saturday, June 10, 1876.

MONDAY, JUNE 5.

Lodge 429, St. Kentigern, Royal Hot., Penicuik.

TUESDAY, JUNE 6.

" 5, Canongate and Leith, 86, Constitution-st.

THURSDAY, JUNE 8.

Lodge 8, Journeyman, M.H., High-st.

FRIDAY, JUNE 9.

Chap. 56, Canongate, M.H., John-st.

ROYAL ALBERT ORPHAN ASYLUM,
 Collingwood Court, Bagshot, Surrey.—At the Half-Yearly Election, held on the 30th May, the following children were declared the successful candidates:—

Boys.

Cocks, George	3320
Draycott, Harry	2628
Eyre, Herbert	2350
Appleton, James	2338
Ellis, Norman Sidney	2221
Kent, Thomas George	2207
Attawell, Henry	2185
Goldring, Egbert	2164

Girls.

Lathlean, E. Miranda	3245
Beland, Eliza	3220
Hopper, Annie Maria	2963
Eaton, Eliza Emma	2726
Beirton, Ellen	2654
Shoyer, Elizabeth	2354
Gibb, Beatrice Maud	1989
Webster, Lilley	1777

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UNITED GRAND LODGE.

The Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge of English Freemasons was held on Wednesday evening, at Freemasons' Hall. The brethren began to assemble at a very early hour, even before the doors were opened, although that event always occurs an hour before the Grand Master takes the chair. It was evident that some excitement prevailed among the Craft, for the brethren mustered in large numbers, and completely filled the body of the hall. When the procession of Grand Officers, accompanying Lord Leigh, who was to preside, entered, the dais was the only portion of the hall unoccupied. An impression had prevailed that the Prince of Wales would be present, and this would account for the presence of many of the brethren. But the principal cause of the large gathering was the notices of motion on the agenda paper for the devoting £3000 to various objects as a thankoffering for the safe return of the Grand Master to England. A fortnight ago information was given in the daily press, as well as in the "Freemason," of an intention on the part of Bros. Havers and Simpson to move that three sums of £1000 each should be given to the restoration of St. Alban's Abbey, St. Paul's Cathedral, and in charity in India. Hence the large attendance.

Among the brethren present were Lord Leigh, Major Ramsay, District G.M. Punjab, D.G.M.; Earl of Donoughmore, G.S.W.; the Hon. W. Warren Vernon, G.J.W.; Sir H. Edwards, Earl of Shrewsbury, Lord Tenterden, Richard Giddy, the new District G.M. of Griqualand, South Africa; John Havers, Æ. J. McIntyre, Q.C.; J. B. Monckton, John Hervey, Rev. Sir J. Warren Hayes, Rev. S. R. Wigram, Rev. C. J. Martyn, Rev. R. J. Simpson, Sir Michael Costa, H. D. Sandeman, Rev. C. W. Arnold, G.C.; Sir F. M. Williams, S. Rawson, F. Pattison, Rev. T. F. Ravenshaw, Rev. C. R. Davy, Brackstone Baker, C. Hutton Gregory, W. White, Captain Platt, Colonel Creaton, Dr. Jabez Hogg, R. W. Stewart, E. S. Snell, Benjamin Head, H. Browse, Edmund Phillips, W. E. Gumbleton, C. A. Murton, Percy Leith, S. L. Tomkins, F. P. Morrell, R. Havers, R. J. Spiers, F. P. Cockerell, Dr. R. Williams, Alderman Hadley, Joshua Nunn, Hyde Pullen, J. Mason, James T. Collins, Wilhelm Kuhe, Sir Albert Woods, Garter, P.G.W., and G.D.C.; Col. Birchall, G.D.; T. W. Boord, M.P., G.D.; E. J. Barrow, G.D.; J. M. Case, G.D.; J. E. Saunders, H. J. P. Dumas, J. C. Parkinson, J. A. Rucker, I. Fenn, S. G. Homfray, W. F. Nettleship, Rev. Edward Moore, James Glaisher, Robert Gray, A. J. Filer, C. A. Cottebrune, T. Adams, W. Ough, S. G. Foxall, John Coutts, E. P. Albert, Joseph Smith, James Brett, and John Wright.

Grand Lodge having been formally opened, and the minutes read by Grand Secretary and confirmed,

The Acting Grand Master rose and said: Brethren, I have now orders to make an announcement, which I will do in a very few words. Certain charges of complaints having been preferred against the District Grand Master of Trinidad, the Grand Secretary, by command

of the M.W. Pro G.M., requested an explanation from the District Grand Master on several occasions. No explanation whatever having been given, the M.W. Pro Grand Master superseded the District Grand Master, and intimated to the lodges in Trinidad that his powers had ceased.

Grand Secretary then, by command of Lord Leigh, read the following announcement with reference to certain alterations and additions, which it is the pleasure of H.R.H. the Grand Master to make in relation to the charity jewel:

A brother having served the office of Steward to any two of the following institutions, viz., the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, has the privilege of wearing the charity jewel, provided he shall at the time of so serving have personally subscribed, as to each of the two Masonic schools, 10 guineas at the least, and as to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, £10 at the least. The jewel shall be suspended to a ribbon of one and a half inches in width, the colours of which shall be white and blue, white and red, blue and red, or white, blue, and red respectively, according to the institutions for which the brother has served the Stewardships as above, namely, white for the Institution for Girls, blue for the Institution for Boys, red for the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution.

A brother being, according to the foregoing regulation, entitled to wear the charity jewel, and who may have served the office of Steward to any other institution a second time, may wear a clasp attached to the ribbon, and an additional clasp for each occasion of having served the office of Steward to any of the institutions, but in no case shall he be entitled to wear such clasp or clasps unless he shall on each of those occasions at the time of serving such Stewardship have personally subscribed a like amount as above named.

A Vice-President of any one or more of the Masonic Institutions being otherwise entitled to the charity jewel, may wear attached to the ribbon immediately above the jewel a rosette of the colour or colours before mentioned, or in combination, according to the institution or institutions of which he is a Vice-President.

A Vice-Patron of any one or more of the Masonic Institutions, being otherwise entitled to the charity jewel, may wear the same suspended from a ribbon around his neck, of the like width and colour or colours respectively, or in combination, according to the institution or institutions of which he is a Vice-Patron.

Every brother who shall serve the office of Steward at any anniversary festival of any one of the Masonic charities as the representative of some provincial or country lodge, who shall personally attend such festivals, and shall bring up thereto contributions amounting to not less than 100 guineas, shall have the same rights and privileges as to wearing the charity jewel or clasp as if he had himself contributed the sum of 10 guineas whilst serving such stewardship.

No charity jewel, clasp, ribbon, or rosette shall be obtained, except through the office of the Grand Secretary, to whom the Secretaries of the respective institutions shall after their respective annual festivals hand lists of the names of the brothers entitled to the jewel or decorations hereinbefore authorised.

The election of members to serve on the Board of General Purposes and the Colonial Board were then taken; and at the close of the evening the following were found to have been chosen:—

BOARD OF GENERAL PURPOSES.—MASTERS.—Bros. E. March, G.S.L.; John Brockett Sorrell, 176; Henry Bishop, 66; John Gibson, 259; Henry A. Dubois, 1325; Alfred Richards, 40; Robert Freke Gould, 92; Rev. Wm. Taylor Jones, 1601. PAST MASTERS.—Bros Peter De L. Long, 1150; Daniel Betts, 1351; Henry C. Levander, 632; Charles F. Hogard, 205; John F. Huggins, 18; Samuel Poynter, 902.

COLONIAL BOARD.—Bros. James Brett, 177; Erasmus Wilson, 2; Brackstone Baker, 21; Francis Bennoch, 1; Samuel Poynter, 902; Griffiths Smith, 569; Robert Freke Gould, 92.

The under-mentioned brethren were nominated at the General Committee on the 24th of

May to be on the Committee of Management for the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and Widows of Freemasons, and no others were named:—Bros. James Brett, P.M. 177; Charles A. Cottebrune, P.M. 733; Thomas Cubitt, P.M. 157; John A. Farnfield, P.M. 256; Charles F. Hogard, P.M. 205; M. Levy, P.M. 188; John G. Stevens, P.M. 554; Alfred H. Tattershall, P.M. 140; Henry George Warren, P.M., G.S.L.; and Thos. Wm. White, P.M. 21.

The recommendations of the Board of Benevolence were severally put and agreed to.

The following Report of the Board of General Purposes was then presented:—

Several questions bearing on the interpretation of the Book of Constitutions have been during the past quarter brought under the notice of the board, which, having been duly considered, have been satisfactorily dealt with, no specific report to Grand Lodge upon or in connection with them becoming necessary. Some important matters connected with the buildings of the Society have been dealt with by the Premises Committee and approved by the board.

The question of a re-arrangement of the seating of the brethren in Grand Lodge has received considerable attention, resulting in the addition of upwards of one hundred seats, which in the opinion of the board is the utmost that can be done in the existing area.

The board have been for a long period engaged in correspondence with the Lessees of Freemasons' Tavern with reference to the question of rent, and in result recommend to Grand Lodge that if a thoroughly responsible tenant or tenants can be found by the Tavern Company (the present Lessees), who would be willing to take over the lease, Grand Lodge should assent to a reduction of the rent of the tavern from £1500, at which it at present stands, to £1200 per annum, and to such re-adjustment of the term as may appear fair and reasonable, and that the Board of General Purposes be empowered to negotiate and act accordingly.

(Signed) JOHN B. MONCKTON,
President.

Freemasons' Hall, London, W.C.,
16th May, 1876.

At the meeting on the 16th May, after the ordinary business was concluded, it was proposed, seconded, and carried unanimously, that the best thanks of the members of the board are eminently merited by the President for the great attention he has paid to the duties of his office, for the admirable manner in which he has discharged them, and the great courtesy and kindness he has on all occasions evinced to his colleagues, and they are therefore fraternally tendered to him.

(Signed) PETER DE LANDE LONG,
Vice-President.

To the Report is subjoined a statement of the Grand Lodge Accounts at the last meeting of the Finance Committee, held on Friday, the 12th day of May last, showing a balance in the hands of the Grand Treasurer of £6172 12s. 8d.; and in the hands of the Grand Secretary, for petty cash, £75; and for servants' wages, £96 15s.

On the motion of Bro. Monckton, the Report was taken as read, and it was afterwards agreed to be received and entered on the minutes.

Bro. Monckton, President of the Board of General Purposes, said he wished to say a few words as to the recommendation of the board contained in the last paragraph in their report, and he should move that that paragraph be approved. He did not think that the Grand Lodge would require that all that had taken place between the committee on the one hand and the board on the other should be made public, or give in detail what had taken place by the Board of General Purposes in their interviews with the directors. He might say that it was notorious that the Tavern Company was not a success, and little need be said on that point, but he thought he might say for his colleagues on the board, that it was their opinion that it would be better for the interests of the Craft if the tavern was in their hands rather than in that of a company. In the present state of the Ta-

vern Company they asked them what was to be done to enable them to find a tenant, but the board had no power to modify their terms unless it was done with the consent of the Grand Lodge, and after giving the subject the fullest consideration they recommended that if a tenant was to be found that the Grand Lodge should consent to a reduction of the rent from £1500 to £1200 per annum. In making that recommendation the Board were of opinion that the adoption of it would be for the interest of the Craft.

Bro. Raynham Stewart said he considered the best way to deal with this matter was to leave it in the hands of the Board of General Purposes, and he had great pleasure in seconding the motion.

Bro. Mason said he felt sure that many of the brethren must have been taken by surprise at the proposed reduction of the rent of the tavern, as a reduction of it had taken place three years ago. He should have been glad if he could have supported the proposition, but they were not there for the gratification of their own feelings, but to legislate for the interests of the Craft. They were the custodians of the property, not for themselves, but for the benefit of others. He contended that if the Tavern Company failed to make it profitable it was through their mismanagement, and because that was so were they to be called upon to reduce their rent? It was a matter of notoriety that the tavern was not properly conducted. (Loud cries of "Time, time.") It was all very well for brethren to cry out "Time," but this was a matter of great importance, and the Book of Constitutions said that a brother was not to be interrupted when he was speaking. If their tavern was properly conducted it would be one of the most prosperous in London. He opposed the resolution, and moved as an amendment that the report be referred back for further consideration, and that it be brought up at the next quarterly communication.

Some delay occurred before a seconder was found, and after a few words from Bro. Binckes the amendment was negatived, and the original motion was put and agreed to by a large majority.

The Grand Registrar (Bro. Æ. J. McIntyre) then moved the adoption of the following paragraph of the report:—

"At the meeting on the 16th May, after the ordinary business was concluded, it was proposed, seconded, and carried unanimously, that the best thanks of the members of the board are eminently merited by the President for the great attention he has paid to the duties of his office, for the admirable manner in which he has discharged them, and the great courtesy and kindness he has on all occasions evinced to his colleagues, and they are therefore fraternally tendered to him."

The motion having been seconded, it was put and carried unanimously.

Bro. Monckton said he felt that he could best express his gratitude to the Grand Lodge by saying as little as possible, but he felt deeply grateful for their kindness to him upon all occasions.

The Report of a Special General Meeting of the Governors and Subscribers of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution for aged Freemasons and Widows of Freemasons, held at Freemasons' Hall, on Tuesday, the 25th day of April, 1876, was before Grand Lodge, and the following proposed alterations in the rules, which were then agreed to, were, in accordance with the laws of the Institution, submitted for the approval of Grand Lodge:—

That Law 4, page 12, be altered by substituting the figures "£40" for £36, and that Law 4, page 13, be also altered by substituting the figures "£32" for £28.

The laws as altered now read thus:—

"The amount of the annuity shall be £40 per annum," and

"The amount of annuity shall be £32 per annum."

The report and alterations were put and agreed to.

Bro. McIntyre said there was an appeal of Bro. W. C. Rowe, W.M., of the Lodge of Truth, No. 944, Bombay, against the decision of the

R.W. District Grand Master of Bombay, censuring the lodge for having passed and raised a brother at one and the same meeting. This appeal was of a rather curious character, as there could be no doubt that the District Grand Master was right in his decision. The facts of the case appeared to be that the W. Master of the lodge was absent from his lodge in India, and the Senior Warden was a Mason made under the Scotch Constitution, under which it was not uncommon—in former times more than at present—for more than one degree to be conferred in the same night. He gave a direction to the J.W. to apply to the District Grand Master for a dispensation for the two degrees to be conferred on the same night. The District Grand Master happened also to be absent, and it so occurred that his deputy was also a Scotch Mason, and he, acting on his knowledge of Scotch Masonry, granted the dispensation. In the event it happened that on the evening in question there was no P.M. of the lodge present, but there was a P.M. from another lodge, and he, acting on the dispensation, conferred the degrees upon the same night. Somehow or other a report of the proceedings was communicated to a Masonic paper that is published in India, and in the notes and queries in that paper it was asked whether this was not a rather extraordinary proceeding. I do not know that a document was sent home, but it came to be known in England, and our worthy Grand Secretary, who is always taking care that nothing wrong should be done in Masonry, heard of it, and a communication was made to India. On its receipt, the District Grand Master for Bombay acted very properly; he called attention to the irregularity that had occurred, and stated that under all the circumstances he censured the lodge for their irregularity, censured the brethren who had taken part in the proceedings, and warned them not to do it again. In the meantime the S.W. resigned his office under the English Constitution, and so escaped censure. Now, against this censure there was an appeal, on the ground that those censured were not the only persons to blame and that those others had not been censured. Bro. McIntyre concluded by suggesting that the appeal should be dismissed, and that the decision of the District Grand Master should be confirmed, which was done accordingly.

Bro. Havers: During a period of nearly 40 years, 30 of which I have spent in the active exercise of the duties of Grand Lodge, many times I have addressed you, many times pleasantly, often on difficult occasions, and though I have lately felt disposed to leave the discussions here to younger and abler hands I find that there is still an occasion on which I must claim the privilege of addressing you. If ever there was an occasion in which I spoke with confidence this is the occasion, because the subject of my remarks will find its way to the heart of every man present. I beg to propose that this Grand Lodge desires to return its humble and hearty thanks to the Almighty Architect of the Universe for the safe return to his native land of their beloved Grand Master, His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, and in memory of that happy event, determine to devote the sum of £2000 in aid of the restoration of the two churches which are the most intimately connected with the history of Freemasonry in England. I therefore beg to move that the sum of £1000 should be voted for the restoration of St. Paul's, and a like sum of £1000 to the restoration of St. Alban's. (No, no.) I am sorry to observe those objections. They show that some have come here with a foregone conclusion, but I will ask those brethren to permit me to state my arguments, which, with all modesty, I will endeavour to make clear. None will doubt that we have abundant cause of rejoicing in the safe return of our beloved Grand Master, but if we have occasion to return thanks for the safe return of the Prince of Wales, we have abundant reason to return thanks for the blessings which have been vouchsafed to our Order. Any one who will compare Masonry now with Masonry twenty years ago cannot fail to be struck with the result. Our charities are flourishing beyond the expectation of the most sanguine of us all; we have not a shilling of debt, we have an increas-

ing income of £12,000, and an expenditure of less than £6000; we have, therefore, abundant means to assist on a great public occasion. Now, no doubt the grant of £2000 is a large outlay to make to bodies that are not strictly Masonic, Masonry never lost and never will lose by stepping out of the beaten track. Some say that we ought to devote this to our charities. The success of the charities is secure; whatever they have had, they are having, and will continue to have. The welfare of our Order, and the success of our charities is our first consideration, but it is unwise to restrict our charities to these sole objects. We should teach the outside world that Masonic charity can go outside of Masonry. I think it is a wise and politic thing for Grand Lodge to step out of the beaten track, and I think this a grand opportunity for doing so. Now, it may be asked, what claims have St. Paul's and St. Alban's upon us? And why should we give our funds for denominational purposes? I will endeavour to show you. St. Alban, like him whom we have all represented, lost his life, as you know, from his fidelity to his order. He was the builder of that great Abbey that bears his name, probably one of the most beautiful structures in the country. To most of us St. Alban's is familiar. To those who have not seen it I would say you could not better spend a summer afternoon than in viewing the grand work I have mentioned. All St. Alban's history is associated with our most cherished traditions, but it is not because he gave his life to save the life of his guest that we principally cherish his memory; it is because he was the founder of the first Grand Lodge of England. St. Paul's brings us down to a much later date. It was built, or rather rebuilt, by our most illustrious Grand Master Sir Christopher Wren. You know it is one of the greatest ornaments of the metropolis; and probably you know, too, that the interior of the building has never been completed according to his designs. I may mention, incidentally, that the identical maul and working tools that he used are now used in his own lodge, the Lodge of Antiquity. I am told that this vote if carried would be for a denominational object. Outside these walls I hate the term "denominational." It is not denominational; as well might you say that Grand Lodge is denominational, because the plain truth is this, Masons are of no special religion, they honour every man's religion and interfere with none. I ask you to vote this money to these churches because I think that there could not be a better thank-offering to God; I ask you only because these are historical ornaments which are inseparably and intimately connected with our honoured Institution. Let us look even to our neighbours on the continent; be their head king or emperor, or the government republican, they devote a sum annually to the restoration of a cathedral. Have our provincial brethren considered this objection when they restored St. Mary, Redcliffe, or Gloucester Cathedral? They did not consider that their gifts were for denominational purposes. There are some, who know nothing of us, who charge us with being of no religion. I need not waste a moment's words upon these. Every Mason who hears me knows it is utterly untrue. I will venture to say on my own behalf, and I think I may say on yours, that Masonry is a help to religion. I ask you to accept my resolution at the end of a long Masonic life, as I feel assured it will make us stand better in the eyes of the world; it will induce men of higher influence and greater intelligence—(no!)—to join our Order. Let us pass this resolution in justice to ourselves; let us do it in reverence for our predecessors—why should you allow their cherished works to languish and decay. We never close our social gatherings without wishing for our poor or distressed brethren a safe return to their native country if they desire it. How much more then should we show our gratitude when the safe return of our beloved Grand Master has been granted us. It is a grand opportunity which we should not neglect as a graceful expression of our feelings towards him, and also of a substantial expression of thanks to Almighty God for a blessing received. Before concluding I may mention that I have

submitted this resolution for the Grand Master's approval, and I am permitted to say that it received his hearty and entire approval. There is one more subject before I sit down that I must allude to. If this is to be done it should be done with unanimity. I am sorry to find that this is not likely to be the case. I take occasion to inform my brethren that my resolution and the last one on the paper do not run together. I could not expect to carry them both. My resolution stands on its own merits. It is a right thing to do, and this is a right time to do it; and I trust that by your vote this evening you will add a jewel to that diadem of loyalty which has ever been our proudest boast.

Bro. Gould, W.M. No. 92: I beg to second the resolutions which have just been proposed by R.W. Bro. Havers; resolutions so good in themselves and urged in so able a manner, as to induce me to bespeak the indulgence of Grand Lodge in trespassing even for a few moments upon its attention. It may, I think, be taken as a fact that we are all agreed as to the fitness of voting a sum of money, though a divergence of views may exist as to the purposes to which it should be applied. Without again going into subjects which have been so ably and so exhaustively discussed by Bro. Havers, I may be allowed to say that, in my judgment, there could be no more appropriate way of celebrating our Grand Master's safe return than by adopting the resolutions now before Grand Lodge. The purposes proposed are simple and unostentatious. No elaborate machinery is required to carry them into effect; but they would demonstrate most forcibly the expression of our gratitude to the Giver of all Good, our fealty and attachment to our Grand Master, and our desire to illustrate those sentiments by aiding in the restoration of two national edifices, whose histories, as Bro. Havers has so eloquently shown, are inseparably connected with that of our Order, and who, in a great measure, own their very existence to the labours and exertions of our ancient brethren.

Bro. Simpson rose and said: I take the liberty of rising at this early stage of the proceedings in order that I may lay before this Grand Lodge a few remarks on the very complicated state of affairs that we find ourselves in at present. It is very evident that the whole of the brethren present cannot support the motion of Bro. Havers. Seeing, therefore, that such a motion should be unanimous, I beg to state that I withdraw the motion I have put on the paper. I am sure Most W.G. Master, that I am not trusting too much to the charitable indulgence of my brethren when I say that they will give me credit for two things which I will explain—one is an honest expression of an opinion, and the other is the upholding the character and dignity of our Order. It was with such motives that I ventured to propose the motion that is upon the paper. I wrote to Bro. Havers for his opinion, and I am sure that our Deputy Grand Master if he were here would state that he approved of it. He said to me, Bro. Simpson, I like your idea, and you are at liberty to state this. Thus it was made, but feeling that the passing of a resolution on such a subject should be unanimous, I withdrew it. I propose an amendment. I propose that the words from "the Prince of Wales" be omitted, and the following words be inserted:—That a special committee be appointed to consider the best mode in which this feeling can be perpetuated in some practicable and charitable form, and to report thereon to this Grand Lodge. This would give time for thought and for the ventilation of the many excellent suggestions which no doubt various brethren will desire to make. I will not yield to Bro. Havers in zeal for the Craft—and after 25 years I ought to know its general principles. I will not yield to him in zeal for the religious body to which, out of this lodge, I belong. If Bro. Havers's motion pass to-night, if he is able to throw an archæological veil over the motion he has made, if he can do this, it gives a blow to Masonry from which it will never recover. I say that it will involve us in questions which we desire to keep entirely distinct from Freemasonry, and that it will be employed in the future to our detriment. If brethren wish to benefit the cathedrals let them come out like men, or like churchmen, and do it; but Grand Lodge represents the whole of Masonry, and, therefore, dipping into its

funds for outside purposes is, in a measure, a breach of trust. I give Bro. Havers credit for the highest motives in proposing this motion. I cannot but feel that his archæological knowledge and his reverence for and desire for the restoration of beautiful edifices is very praiseworthy, but can these objects be compared with good scholarships for our Boys' School—(cheers)—and a Prince of Wales wing for our old men—(loud and continued cheering)—or some other proposal better than my Indian project. I shall be perfectly ready, for I do not stand upon the fact that because I propose a thing it is the best thing that can be done, but I do think that this amendment will give us time, brethren, and Bro. Havers may feel that we shall not lose unanimity, and if we are able to come to some conclusion which will be satisfactory to the whole Craft, our time will not have been lost.

Bro. Baxter Langley rose to second the amendment of Bro. Simpson, and in doing so remarked that, giving full credit for excellent motives to Bro. Havers, he did not think he had proposed the best method of commemorating the return to this country of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales; and he thought that if noble Sir Christopher Wren were present he would say "Not St. Paul's, not St. Alban's, but the charities of our institution."

Bro. Hutton Gregory said that Bro. Simpson, by this amendment, instead of introducing the dove had thrown down the apple of discord. He was quite sure the meeting was unanimous up to a certain point, beyond which they were divided in opinion whether or not it should take the form of charity. He believed that something in the monumental style would be more appropriate; and he instanced, as a precedent, the statue of the Duke of Sussex, which stands on a niche behind the throne, which was executed 30 years ago in honour of the M.W.G.M. of the day.

A brother rose and suggested that, for the sake of unanimity, Bro. Havers should be asked to divide his motion into two parts, so that the first part, on which they were all agreed, might be passed unanimously, and they might then proceed to consider the remainder as a separate resolution.

Bro. Baxter Langley suggested that as a great many Masons were Jews, these brethren were not likely to concur in a vote for ecclesiastical purposes.

Bro. Raynham W. Stewart reminded the lodge that they had to consider whose money and funds they were dealing with as members of Grand Lodge. They were the funds of all creeds, and Grand Lodge had no right to appropriate them to our own. He suggested that the question be referred to a committee.

Cries of "time" having been frequently repeated.

Bro. Binckes expressed his surprise that in the discussion of so important a question the cry of "time" should be raised at nine o'clock in the evening. He said he would not follow Bro. Havers's argument, but would remind him that the matters he had referred to were only traditional. He should not support the original motion. Bro. Havers had tried to carry Grand Lodge with him by saying that by passing his resolution they would be doing something towards erecting and repairing God's house. But he would remind them that churches had been built by most irreligious men. He would like the vote to stop at £2000, leaving it open in what direction the sum should be distributed.

Bro. Havers replying to the observation that had been made said that he could scarcely have credited that he should not have been allowed to read his resolution without interruption, and animadverted upon the conduct of the brethren who had caused the interruption. "Bro. Simpson had said that if this resolution were carried it would give a blow from which Freemasonry would never recover, but, he would ask, had it so suffered in past times? They had been asked to give the money to the charities, he answered, do, in heaven's name, give twice as much to your charities, but do let us for once act like high-minded Masons, and step out of the line to do a graceful act. Do not lay yourselves open to the charge of keeping your charity all to

yourselves. It may be a good sort of charity that begins at home, but not that stops there. He had been asked to withdraw his motion; as a member of Grand Lodge he could not do so. He had been asked to divide his motion, to stop at the preamble, and it would be carried; of course it would, for that would be an empty vote which would cost them nothing.

The M.W. Acting Grand Master: Before I put this to the meeting I must be permitted to express, occupying this chair for the first time since the return of the G.M., occupying it in the unavoidable absence of the Pro-Grand Master, from causes with which we all sympathise, I must be permitted to express my own gratitude in connection with the gratitude of every member of the Craft of the province over which I have had the honour and pleasure of presiding for twenty years, and of every Mason in the United Kingdom to the Great Architect of the Universe having spared our Grand Master to return to this country after the most successful visit to India, where it appears to everybody that he gained the esteem of every individual with whom he has come in contact. I hope that that visit to our great Indian empire will create above all things that unity and brotherly love which we, who are Freemasons, should always desire to maintain with our brethren in India. I have now to put the amendment as proposed by Bro. Simpson and seconded by Bro. Langley.

The amendment was carried by a large majority, but there being some dissatisfaction expressed, cries of "Divide!" were raised, but the division only made the result the more apparent.

After some further remarks of no real importance from brethren who had already spoken,

W. Bro. Benj. Head's motion "That the sum of £70 be given from the Fund of General Purposes; that the money be placed in the hands of the Secretary of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and Widows of Freemasons, to supply the inmates of the asylum at Croydon with coals during the winter months" was put to the meeting and carried unanimously.

Grand Lodge was then closed in ample form and with thanksgiving.

REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS.

Craft Masonry.

METROPOLITAN LODGE (No. 1507).—An emergency meeting of this young lodge was held on Tuesday, May 30th, at 269, Pentonville-road, King's-cross, Bro. Michael, W.M. Also present Bros. Willing, I.P.M.; Williams, S.W.; Kingham, J.W.; Tims, Sec.; Side, as S.D.; Seales, J.D.; Stiles, I.G.; Read, Saintsbury, Check, Cadett, Hewison, Solomon, Clark, Tims, jr.; Wrigley, &c. Visitors: Bros. Bull, P.M. 145; McDougall, I.P.M. 713; Finner, S.D. 1227; Morgan, 1385. There were five raisings, one passing, and four initiations. Ceremonies worked in a very fluent and impressive manner, after which Bro. Check's first motion was withdrawn, and his other one not securing a seconder fell to the ground. Notice of motion respecting the inadequacy of the rooms for the large gatherings of the lodge, was given for the ensuing meeting in September, which will be the installation. The brethren adjourned to banquet, when a very pleasant evening was spent, several of the brethren giving proofs of no mean vocal powers.

THE ALEXANDRA PALACE LODGE (No. 1541).—The usual meeting of this progressing lodge was held on Saturday last in the private rooms at the Palace whose name it bears. The attendance was good, and Bro. P.M. Kelly King, the S.W., in the absence of the Master, opened the lodge, the officers assisting being Bros. P.M. Dyte, P.M. Stacey, P.M. Palmer, P.M. Haigh, P.G.S.; Lee, Daniel, and John Rowlands. The first business, after the confirmation of the minutes, was the initiation of five gentlemen who had been duly elected, and this duty was undertaken by Bro. P.M. Stacey, in order to permit the acting W.M. to transact other lodge business. The work was done in Bro. Stacey's St. James's Union and Victoria style—"perfect in all its parts," and honourable to the worker. The gentlemen who were now made brothers were Messrs. W. W. Fitch, J. Hulme Pearman, John Neil, William Knight, and William Shelly. The acting W.M., Bro. Kelly King, then took the chair, and passed Bros. Blackman, Daniel, and Stubbins, and Bros. Harris, Calvert, Gush, and Delvalle were raised. The lodge was then resumed in the Primary Degree, and the ballot was taken for the election of Bro. C. Wedding Skinner, whose desire to join the brethren of the Alexandra Palace Lodge was proved to be unanimously reciprocated by a clear ballot box. The election of Master—the first election which the lodge has had—ensued, and the members showed their appreciation of Bro. Kelly King's

assiduous labours by unanimously electing him as the W.M. for the ensuing year, and all who know our Bro. Kelly King will say that by this act the lodge has at once proved its worthiness as a Masonic body and its acknowledgements of favours received. The hardworking and universally esteemed Bro. Dyte was as unanimously elected Treasurer, and thanked most warmly for his labours throughout the year. The brethren dined "en famille" at the table d'hôte, and of course there were none of the usual speeches. If the usual eloquence was lacking the usual good feeling was not; and with braced up nerves for the second year of the life of the lodge the brethren broke up their meeting at an early hour.

SURREY MASONIC HALL LODGE (No. 1539).—An emergency meeting of this highly successful lodge was held at the Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell New Road, on Thursday evening, the 1st inst., Bro. Mark Samuel Larham, W.M., presided, supported by Bros. Ramsay, S.W. (W.M. elect.); Oliver, P.M., Sec.; Ritherdon, J.D.; Ross, I.G.; Harvey, D.C.; Allen, Claris, Martin, Chartres, Seal, Tims, Murray, Walden, and the following visitors:—Bros. Hines, Royal Jubilee; Wallis, P.M. De Grey and Ripon; Cackett, S.W. Duke of Connaught; H. Thompson, Great City, and P.M. Domatic and Southern Star ("Freemason"); Perryman, Sphinx; Hastie, P.M., Macdonald; Rock, P.M. Kennington; Vockins, P.M. Sphinx; Dubois, P.M., Era; Middlemass, Leigh; and Pain, Granite. The lodge was opened in due form. Bros. Claris and Moss were severally raised to the Sublime Degree with all the care and correctness which has ever distinguished the working of the W. Master. He also most impressively recited the traditional history, and gave a beautiful explanation of the Tracing Board and Working Tools. The ceremony gave entire satisfaction, and several of the visitors expressing their opinion that this splendid ritual was seldom so efficiently rendered. The next business was to pass Bros. Cannon and Wells to the Second Degree, which was also most ably performed by the W. Master. A ballot then took place for Mr. John Walden and Mr. Francis Tims, which being unanimous in their favour they were impressively initiated into the mysteries and privileges of ancient Freemasonry. There being no further business the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned for refreshment, which was well served. On the withdrawal of the cloth the W.M. said that as an emergency meeting the toasts would be few in number, and in some few concise remarks proposed "The Queen and the Craft," which was duly honoured. The W. Master next gave "The Health of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, Most Worshipful Grand Master," and congratulated the Craft on his return in good health to his native land. This toast was most enthusiastically responded to. The W.M. said the next toast he had to propose was "The Health of their Newly-Initiated Brethren," and remarked that he was very proud of having the privilege of initiating two gentlemen into the Order who would do credit to the lodge, and not before his time as W.M. expired, as that would be the last time he would occupy the chair for the performance of that ceremony. He therefore called upon the brethren to join heartily with him in drinking "The Health of their Newly-Initiated Brethren." This toast was most cordially responded to. Bros. Walden and Tims expressed the great pleasure they had derived from being admitted to the ancient Order of Freemasons, and for the very cordial manner in which their health had been drank. They were deeply impressed with the ceremony they had gone through, and said it would be their study to become good members of the Order. Bro. Clarke, P.M., said he had much pleasure in proposing the next toast, which was "The Health of their Worshipful Master." It had been at various times a great pleasure to him to propose that toast, for he felt assured that Bro. Larham had done all that was possible for him to do to promote the welfare of the lodge, and he believed that the brethren would regret that he was about to quit the chair of W.M. He asked them to join with him in cordially drinking his health. The toast was drunk with hearty cheering. The Worshipful Master, in reply, thanked Bro. Clarke for the kind remarks he had made, and the brethren for the unanimous way in which they had responded to them in drinking his health, and if he had given them satisfaction he was amply repaid for any trouble to which he had been put. He ought not, however, to say anything about trouble, for it was really a pleasure to him, or he should not devote as much time as he did, for he always devoted two or three nights a week to Freemasonry, to shew the love he had for it. He cordially thanked them for the honour they had conferred upon him. The W.M. said there was one toast that must not be omitted, and that was "The Health of their brother Visitors," and the lodge gave them a hearty welcome. The toast was well received. Bro. H. Thompson ("Freemason") said he had been highly pleased with the very able manner in which the working of the lodge had been conducted that evening by the W.M., but it was nothing less than he expected of him, when he knew the able tutor who had instructed him, and the information he received he also most willingly imparted to others as the preceptor of other lodges. He thanked the brethren also for their hospitality, and took occasion to remark that the present was a particularly interesting period as regarded the Order of Freemasonry, for His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales would again appear and take his place in the Grand Lodge as the Most Worshipful Grand Master, and it was almost needless to say that on his return from his tour in a distant land he would be warmly received by his brother Freemasons. There were two or three notices on the agenda of the Grand Lodge which were open to criticism, and upon which there might possibly be a difference of opinion, but as that as it might there was one point upon which they would all be unanimous, and that was the hearty welcome his

Royal Highness would receive on his return from his successful tour in the East, where he had been received with acclamation in every part of those vast and distant dominions. He (Bro. Thompson) believed that they as Freemasons were greatly indebted to the Prince of Wales for the suggestions he threw out to the Craft at the time of the glorious gathering of the greatest number of Freemasons ever assembled together at his installation twelve months ago, when he impressed upon them that the watchwords of the Order were "loyalty and charity." The brethren had profited by those suggestions, for at the last election for their Benevolent Institution an event had occurred which had no parallel in its previous history, for all the male candidates were taken on to the fund without undergoing the ordeal of an election, and a large proportion of the widows who were candidates were successful in obtaining the benefits of the Institution, which showed how the charitable feelings of the Craft, had been stimulated by the appeal which had been made to them by their Royal Grand Master. He thought, therefore, that this was a position most gratifying to them, and that when they met His Royal Highness at the Grand Lodge he would receive the welcome he so eminently deserved. Bro. Middlemass also returned thanks in a very humorous speech, in which he jocosely rated Bro. Thompson for having taken the wind out of his sails and left him little to say beyond thanking the lodge for the Masonic treat in working, and the hospitality he had received. Bro. Rock said he was greatly pleased to be amongst them, and expressed his determination to become a member of the lodge. Bro. Vockins, P.M. of the Sphinx Lodge, also briefly returned thanks. The Tyler's toast brought a most enjoyable evening to a close at an early hour. A number of songs were sung, and the entire proceedings were distinguished by harmony and goodwill, and the parting took place in the true spirit of Masonry.

BATH.—Royal Cumberland Lodge (No. 41).—An emergency meeting was held in the Masonic Hall, on Thursday, June 1st, which was attended by Bros. Brown, W.M.; Clark, I.P.M.; Cooper, P.M.; Rubie, P.M.; Ashley, P.M. and Treas.; Captain Peel Floyd, P.M.; Wilton, P.M. and D.C.; Major Preston, P.M.; Dr. Hopkins, P.M. 41 and 938, and P.P.G.S.W. for Warwickshire; F. Wilkinson, S.W.; Faulkner, J.W.; C. Wilkinson, Sec.; P. Braham, S.D.; Gummer, I.G.; Hunt and Radway, Stewards; Bigwood, Tyler; and other members. As visitors Bros. Col. Ford, P.M. 58; Collins, 53; Hughes, 53; Reeves, P.M. 906; Freeman, 906; Styles, 906; Cantrell, 1501. The lodge was opened in the First Degree, at quarter to eight, by the W.M. A ballot was taken for a candidate for initiation, which proved unanimous in his favour. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree, Bro. Ashley took the chair, and Bros. Mercer, Meatyard, and Wheeler having been presented as candidates for raising were examined as to their proficiency. This proved unusually satisfactory, entitling them to be entrusted previous to dismissal for preparation, which was done. The lodge was opened in the Third Degree; the candidates were re-admitted, and duly raised by W. Bro. Ashley, who performed his duty in an admirable and impressive manner, ably assisted by Bro. W. Bro. Cooper, in certain portions for which his voice and style peculiarly fit him. The S.W. explained the symbolism of the working tools. It may be stated that on this occasion, as also in the First and Second Degrees, throughout the Mastership of the present W.M. the form of ceremony differs considerably from that in ordinary use, described as the Old York ritual, in which the verbiage is somewhat more diffuse. At the conclusion of the traditional history the lodge was closed in the Third and afterwards in the Second Degree. Bro. Brown, W.M., then resumed the chair, and finally closed the lodge at quarter to ten.

GREENWICH.—Lodge of Amity (No. 171).—The installation meeting of this old lodge was held on Tuesday evening, at the Ship, Greenwich. Bro. Clarence Harcourt, W.M., presided, and he was assisted by Bros. C. P. Whiteley, S.W.; J. H. Batty, J.W. pro tem.; S. W. Partridge, S.D.; W. H. Bateman, J.D. pro tem.; and J. W. Clever, I.G. pro tem. There was also a fair attendance of brethren of the lodge and visitors. Bros. Green, Gooding, and Mardon were raised, and Messrs. Buck and Straith were initiated. Afterwards Bro. Joseph Clever, P.M., installed Bro. Charles Perry Whiteley as W.M., who invested the following brethren as his officers:—Bros. Partridge, S.W.; J. W. Clever, J.W.; Clarence Harcourt, I.P.M., Treas.; Joseph Clever, P.M., Sec.; J. H. Batty, S.D.; W. H. Bateman, J.D.; E. Phillips, I.G.; and Geo. Smith, T. A P.M. jewel was presented in open lodge to Bro. Harcourt by the W.M., who congratulated him on the ability with which he had discharged the important functions of Master of the lodge during the past year. Bro. Harcourt acknowledged the compliment which the lodge had paid him. He reminded the brethren that at the beginning of his term of office he had not been able to attend very regularly, but during the latter portion of the time his engagements have allowed of his paying more attention to the affairs of the lodge, and he had endeavoured to discharge the duties of W.M. to the satisfaction of the brethren. The brethren afterwards dined together and honoured the usual toasts. Bro. Johnson (G. Master's Lodge) responded for "The Grand Officers," &c. Bro. Scotter, No. 22, responded to the toast of "The Visitors," Bro. James Terry for "The Masonic Charities," and Bro. J. W. Clever for "The Officers." Both the initiates replied to the toast drunk specially in their honour. The list of visitors comprises the names of Bro. Llewellyn Jones, W.M. 1460, and Lemon, Treas. 1601. A most agreeable evening was spent by the brethren.

PORT ELIZABETH (Cape of Good Hope).—Lodge of Good Hope (No. 863).—At the installation meeting of this lodge there was a large attend-

ance of members of the lodge and visiting brethren. The Past Masters present were:—Bros. C. T. Wheelwright, S. Bain, J. C. Kelmsley, Jas. Kelmsley, Dr. McIntjes, and the I.P.M., Bro. E. R. Smith, who acted as Installing Master, and performed his duties most creditably. Bro. S. Alabaster, having been installed and duly honoured, invested his officers as follows:—Bros. C. R. Whinfield, S.W.; C. R. Read, J.W.; W. Philip, T.; J. L. Laurie, Sec.; J. C. Probert, S.D.; F. Holmes, J.D.; C. Dickinson, Org.; B. Holmes and H. Smith, Stewards; T. Colling, I.G.; J. Morley, O.G. The installation over, the brethren adjourned to the banquetting room, where an excellent repast had been laid out. To this the fullest justice was done. The newly-elected W.M. then gave first "The Queen and the Craft," and afterwards "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales and Grand Master of England," both of which were drunk with enthusiasm. In a neat speech Bro. Smyth, I.P.M., proposed "The Health of the Worshipful Master, Bro. Alabaster," expressing the confidence he felt that he would satisfactorily perform the onerous duties that would now devolve upon him. The toast having been duly honoured, Bro. Alabaster acknowledged the compliment paid him in suitable terms, promising his best endeavours to fulfil the duties pertaining thereto. Bro. S. Bath P.M., in proposing "The Health of the Installing Master," complimented Bro. Smyth highly upon his zeal and efficiency. Bro. Smyth having replied, "The Newly-elected Officers" was given by Bro. Wheelwright, P.M., and acknowledged by Bro. Whinfield. "The Health of the Visiting Brethren" was next proposed, and in responding Bro. Dr. McIntjes, W.M. of the Bon Accord Lodge, Aberdeen, made a most eloquent and thoroughly Masonic speech, which made a deep impression upon all present. The usual interchange of compliments then took place between the two sister lodges; the services of the retiring officers were acknowledged; "The Past Masters" were toasted; "Sweethearts and Wives" were remembered; the "Banquet Committee" were thanked; and "Poor and Distressed Masons" were not forgotten. The gathering, which was of a most pleasant nature, did not break up till after eleven o'clock.

SOUTHEND.—Priory Lodge (No. 1000).—The usual monthly meeting of this flourishing lodge was held on Thursday, the 1st June, at the Middleton Hotel, Southend. The lodge was opened at seven o'clock by the W.M., Bro. Dr. E. E. Phillips, P.M. 379, supported by the following officers and brethren, viz.:—Bros. A. Lucking, P.M. 160, Prov. A.G.D.C., I.P.M.; H. Rowley, P.M., P. Prov. G.D., acting S.W. (the S.W., Bro. Rev. S. R. Wigram, Grand Chaplain, being unavoidably absent); Revs. H. J. Hater, S.W. and W.M. elect, 160; P. Prov. G. Chaplain, acting J.W.; Rev. H. Hayes, Chaplain; J. A. Wardell, P.M. 160 and 1000; P. Prov. G.D., Sec.; J. R. Hemmann, P.M., P. Prov. G.D., Org.; W. Chaplin, S.D.; W. P. Beliss, J.D.; F. D. Grayson, acting I.G.; J. C. Johnstone, P.M. 25 (I.C.) D.C.; Mountain, Tyler; J. V. Harris, P.M., P. Prov. A.G.D.C.; H. Briggs, F. V. Jillings, J.W. 100; W. Frost, W. D. Meritt, G. F. Jones, J. English, and B. Mackie. After the reading and confirmation of the minutes, the ballot having proved unanimous in favour of Mr. W. H. Newman, he was duly initiated. Bro. G. F. Wood was then raised to the Sublime Degree of a M.M. by the W.M., who afterwards gave the traditional history, the whole of the ceremonies being well carried out. A candidate having been proposed for initiation, the lodge was then duly closed and adjourned to the last Thursday in September. The brethren then partook of refreshment. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and duly honoured, some excellent songs were well rendered, and the Tyler's toast having terminated the proceedings, the brethren separated, after the enjoyment of a most successful evening.

LANCASTER.—Rowley Lodge (No. 1051).—The ordinary monthly meeting of this lodge was held on Monday morning, the 5th inst., in the Masonic Rooms, Athenaeum, the Worshipful Master, Bro. H. Longman, occupying the chair of King Solomon. The lodge having been opened in the First Degree with the usual formalities the minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed. Mr. John Thomas Jackson and Mr. Thomas Bell were balloted for and unanimously elected, but in consequence of its being Whit Monday, no degrees were conferred, the work being postponed till Monday, June 12th. The usual proclamations were made, and hearty good wishes having been tendered by the visiting brethren, the lodge was closed in peace and harmony.

FOREST HILL.—West Kent Lodge (No. 1297).—The regular bi-monthly meeting of this lodge was held on Saturday, the 27th ult., when there were present at the commencement of business Bro. D. Stead, W.M.; J. Allen, I.P.M.; C. R. Crouch, S.W.; E. C. Massey, J.W. ("Freemason"); with the Deacons and other officers, and also many brethren. The business included the passing of Bro. Zuccardi, and the initiation of Mr. Gay Ess, the ceremonies being performed by the W.M. in a manner which entitled him to the sincere approbation of the brethren, inasmuch, as was afterwards observed by the I.P.M. it was abundantly clear that which it was asserted that a Master should know the W.M. was acquainted with in every particular. At the conclusion of the active part of the proceedings two candidates of good social position were proposed by Bro. G. Coruni, and duly seconded. The lodge having been closed in due form there was a short sitting for refreshment, and it being the Queens birthday "Her Majesty's Health" was proposed and drunk with, if possible, more than the customary cordiality. "The Health of the Brother Initiate," and that of "The W.M." were also drunk.

NORWICH.—Walpole Lodge (No. 1500).—The ceremony of installing Bro. T. Isley as the W.M. of

Lodge Walpole for the ensuing year was admirably performed in the Assembly-rooms at Norwich, on Thursday afternoon, the 1st inst., by the I.P.M., Bro. T. Lord, in the presence of a goodly number of P.M.'s and brethren, who subsequently spoke very highly of the working. The W.M. appointed his officers as follows:—Bros. T. J. Mackley, S.W.; F. Mills, J.W.; D. Mannings, S.D.; A. Bullard, J.D.; J. Harper, I.G.; P.M. F. B. Quinton, Sec.; S. J. Carman, Treas.; P.M. G. Brittain, Org.; P.M. W. H. Stevens, D.C.; Matthews and Payne, Stewards. In the evening the brethren sat down to a splendid banquet, exceedingly well served by Mr. Levett, who made most satisfactory arrangements for the comfort and enjoyment of the brethren. The newly-installed W.M. filled the chair, and ably fulfilled its duties. He was supported by Bros. A. M. F. Morgan, P.D.P.G.M.; G. B. Kennett, W.M. 52; J. C. Chittock, W.M. 943; J. Commins, W.M. 93; G. C. Stevens, Sec. 52; W. Provart, W.M. 807; G. Brittain, P.M.; Bonfellow, W.M. 100, Yarmouth; Bond, I.P.M. 100; D. Stone, Lowestoft; H. Lamb, P.M. 807; H. Burgess, 943; R. Thorns, P.M.; R. Gilman, P.M. 93; Henneymeyer, 51, Colchester; F. Wright, Colchester; Chas. Winterbon, Colchester; H. J. Martin, 807; R. Boulton, and others. The S.W. and J.W. chairs were occupied by the brothers appointed to those offices. Letters apologising for non-attendance were received from several brethren high in the Craft. A feature in the after-dinner proceedings was the presentation of a handsome Past Master's jewel to the retiring W.M., Bro. Lord, as a mark of fraternal esteem and a recognition of the efficiency with which he "worked" the lodge during his term of office; and a similar jewel to P.M. W. H. Stevens, in cordial acknowledgment of his twenty years' services to Masonry in various positions, and especially as Preceptor of the Lodge of Instruction. The presentation in each case was made in felicitous terms by the W.M., who announced that a list of the subscribing brethren was being beautifully illuminated by the well-known local artist, Mr. Gunn, the son of a respected brother Mason. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts having been given, that to the memory of the late distinguished brother after whom the lodge is named being drunk in solemn silence, Bro. A. M. F. Morgan proposed "The W.M.'s of Lodges," and took occasion to refer to the admirable working which he had witnessed in this lodge, and to express his confidence that its good reputation would be sustained by the present W.M. Bro. G. B. Kennett responded to the toast, and among others which were honoured were, "The Initiate," Bro. C. Daniels; "The Installing Officer," Bro. Lord; "The Visitors," Bro. G. C. Stevens responding; "The Officers," Bro. Mackley; "The Past Masters," Bro. Brittain; "The Treasurer and Secretary," Bro. Quinton; "Non-resident Brethren and Visitors from other Provinces," Bros. Wright, Bond, Stone, and others; and "The Press," Bro. H. J. Martin responding for the "Freemason." Some excellent vocal and instrumental music interlarded the speeches, Bro. Winterbon playing in a masterly manner a fine selection on the pianoforte.

GREAT STANMORE.—Abercorn Lodge (No. 1542). The second regular meeting of this lodge was held at the Abercorn Hotel on the 2nd ult. Bro. R. Helsdon, W.M., in the chair, supported by his officers and many of the brethren. Visitor, Bro. C. Cathrow, P.P.G.S.B. Surrey. The lodge was opened in solemn prayer at 3.40 p.m., and after the usual regular business was disposed of, Bro. E. G. Swatton, having undergone a highly satisfactory examination, was duly passed to the Second Degree, and the Tracing Board ably explained by the W.M. The lodge having resumed to First Degree, the ballot was unanimous in favour of Mr. W. S. Marshall, and Mr. T. Peach as candidates for initiation. Bro. C. Long, I.G. 733, was also admitted as a joining member. Mr. Marshall being unavoidably absent, Mr. Peach was duly enlightened and impressed with the First degree. The election for W.M. was then proceeded with, for the ensuing year, and was unanimous in favour of Bro. J. W. Garrod, S.W. Bro. Rogers was also unanimously elected Treasurer, and Bro. Huddleton appointed Tyler. The W.M., Wardens, and three brethren were then appointed on the Audit Committee to meet June 13th, at 5 p.m. Various other minor matters were then disposed of, and the sum of £5 5s. voted annually for a Past Master's jewel. Mr. A. E. Fradelle was proposed for initiation at the next meeting, and after the usual good wishes the lodge was adjourned, until the installation meeting in July, and closed with solemn prayer at 6 p.m. The customary banquet followed, enlivened by the musical brethren and assisted by the talented Organist, Bro. H. L. Winter, all passing off highly satisfactory.

MORECAMBE.—Morecambe Lodge (No. 1561).—The installation meeting of this lodge was held in the Masonic Room, Morecambe-street, on the 1st inst. Although the lodge has only been consecrated within the last nine months, yet, under the superintendence of its first Worshipful Master, the zealous and indefatigable member of the Craft, Bro. J. D. Moore, P.G.S.B., England, it has during the time considerably extended itself, and already occupies a prominent position amongst the Masonic lodges in West Lancashire. There was an unusually large number of brethren present, as well as several visitors from Lancaster. Amongst the former were Bros. Dr. Moore, Capt. Garnett, J.P., (the Worshipful Master elect); W. Duff, T. Longmire, H. Hartley (Morecambe), H. Hartley (Heysham), G. Bingham, W. Stephenson, R. Bannister, J. Shaw, A. E. Poole, W. Aspdon, W. W. Wilde, J. Gott, and amongst the latter being Bros. W. J. Ley, P.G.W.; H. Longman, W.M., (1051); J. L. Bradshaw, P.M. (1051); F. G. Dale, J.W. (1353); T. Atkinson, W.M.; F. Dean, P.M.; John Hatch, P.M.; E. Simpson, P.M.; E. Cardwell, S.D.; J. Atkinson, J. Pilkington, J. Thistlethwaite, (281); W. Stewardson, W.M. (Heskell Lodge); D. Redwood, (1800); Dr. Tidswell, &c. The Worshipful Master, Bro. Dr.

Moore, occupied the chair as installing officer, and was supported by his respective officers. The lodge having been opened in the first degree the minutes were read and confirmed, after which the lodge was raised to the second and third degrees. The Worshipful Master elect having been previously presented by the Wardens, the ceremony of installation was proceeded with, officially performed by the installing officer, by whom Bro. Capt. Garnett was inducted to the Chair of King Solomon, according to the ancient rites and ceremonies of the Craft, and afterwards received the homage of the assembled brethren. The working tools were presented by Bro. Longman. The newly elected Master then proceeded to elect his officers for the ensuing year as follows:—Bros. W. Duff, S.W.; T. Longmire, J.W.; H. Hartley, (Morecambe), Treas.; W. Stephenson, Sec.; A. Hartley, (Heysham), S.D.; W. Longmire, J.D.; A. K. Stansfeld, I.G.; and R. Bannister, and E. C. Poole, Stewards, who were inducted into their respective offices by Bro. Moore. The lodge was afterwards closed down to the first degree, when on the motion of the newly-installed Master, seconded by Bro. Duff, a most cordial and hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Dr. Moore for the able and efficient manner in which he had performed the ceremony of installation. The remaining Masonic business was then gone through, at the conclusion of which the brethren adjourned from labour to refreshment, and proceeded to the house of Bro. T. Longmire, the West View Hotel, where a sumptuous banquet was prepared, which was presided over by Capt. Garnett, the newly-appointed Master, who was supported by Bro. Dr. Moore and other leading brethren of the Craft; the duties of croupier being ably discharged by Bro. Duff, the S.W., who was supported by the Deacons and other members of the lodge. On the conclusion of the repast, the chairman gave "The Health of the Queen," and of "The Prince of Wales, the Most Worshipful Grand Master of England." Speaking of the proposal to be brought forward in the Grand Lodge that the Freemasons should have a Masonic thanksgiving in honour of His Royal Highness's safe return from India, the Chairman said he felt sure that nothing could more meet with the approval of the Masonic brethren throughout the country than such a proceeding as that, for the Prince of Wales was endeared to them, not only by Masonic ties, but also by the many other good qualities which he had shown. (Applause.) Bro. Longman proposed the next toast, "The Health of the Earl of Carnarvon, Pro Grand Master, Lord Skelmersdale, the M.W.D.G.M., and other Grand Lodge and Provincial Grand Lodge Officers," coupling with the former the name of Bro. Dr. Moore, and with the latter that of Bro. W. J. Sly, each of whom acknowledged the toast. Bro. Moore, in a few well-chosen sentences, proposed the health of the Chairman, and said that although some of them had not seen much of him, yet he would be found no mere tyro in Freemasonry. He considered that in their proceedings to-day honour had been distributed in two places—Bro. Capt. Garrett having conferred honour on the Morecambe Lodge in accepting the office of Master, whilst the Morecambe Lodge had conferred equal honours on Capt. Garnett in installing him as its head. (Hear, hear.) He was sure their new Master would make a good and efficient officer, and that the prestige of the office would lose nothing at his hands. The toast was received with enthusiasm, and the Chairman was heartily greeted on rising to respond. He first expressed the pleasure he felt at being so kindly received amongst them, and expressed his indebtedness to Bro. Dr. Moore for the position he occupied on the occasion. He had always been desirous of attaining to the Master's chair, but owing to the exigencies of a soldier's life, he had never remained long enough in one place to allow of his accomplishing it, and he was obliged to give up hope of doing so till he should have left the service. It was entirely owing to Bro. Dr. Moore that he occupied the position he did, and so long as he had the honour of being Master of the Morecambe Lodge it would be his pleasure and duty to follow as clearly as he could in the footsteps of his worthy predecessor in the office—Bro. Moore. The Chairman then proposed "The Health of the Installing Officer," and thought the Morecambe Lodge must feel much indebted to Bro. Moore for the interest he had taken in it. Bro. Dr. Moore briefly acknowledged the compliment, and expressed his readiness at all times to give what assistance he could for the advancement of the lodge and its members. Bro. E. Simpson proposed "The Health of the Wardens," which was responded to by Bros. Duff and T. Longmire. Bro. Dr. Moore next gave "Success to the Lancashire Lodges," which was responded to by Bros. T. Atkinson, W.M. 281; H. Longman, W.M. 1051; and G. Dale, J.W. 1353, with whose names the toast was coupled. "The Healths of the Treasurer and Secretary" was proposed by Bro. John Hatch, and acknowledged by Bro. Stephenson. Bro. Sly proposed "The Assistant Officers," which was responded to by Bros. H. Hartley and W. Longmire. "The Visitors" followed, and was responded to by Bro. Tidswell. Bro. Moore proposed "The Health of Bro. F. Dean, as an old Past Master, the toast being warmly received, and was duly acknowledged by Bro. Dean. Bro. Duff proposed "The Masonic Press," and alluded to the discretion and prudence exercised by Bro. J. Atkinson in the reports which he furnished of Masonic proceedings, and with whose name the toast was coupled. Bro. J. Atkinson having acknowledged the compliment, Bro. Dr. Moore proposed "The Newly Initiated," coupling with the toast the name of Bro. John Gott, who responded. Other toasts were given and responded to, and the proceedings, which throughout had been of a very agreeable character, terminated about half-past nine o'clock.

The ordinary monthly meeting of this lodge was held in the Masonic Room, Morecambe-street, on Friday, 2nd inst., the chair of K.S. being occupied by the newly-installed W.M., Bro. Capt. Garnett. There was

only a small number of members present, but several brethren were present from Lancaster. The lodge having been opened with solemn prayer, the minutes of previous meeting were read and confirmed, after which the lodge was raised to the Second Degree. Bros. Wilde and Gott having given proof of their proficiency as Fellow Craftsmen, retired, and the lodge having been opened in the Third Degree, they were subsequently re-admitted and raised to the sublime degree of M.M.'s by the W.M., whose working of the ceremonies connected therewith was marked by an exactness and impressiveness very rarely witnessed in one who has hitherto held only subordinate offices in the Craft. The concluding portion of the ceremony was worked by the I.P.M., Bro. Dr. J. D. Moore, P.G.S.B. England, with his well-known ability; the working tools being presented by Bro. H. Longman, W.M. 1051. The lodge was then closed down to the First degree, when Bro. J. C. Bradshaw, P.M. 1051, and Bro. F. G. Dale, J.W. 1353, were proposed as joining members. The usual proclamations were made, and hearty good wishes having been rendered by the visiting brethren, the lodge closed in peace and harmony.

Boyal Arch.

BOLTON.—St. John's Chapter (No. 848).—The regular meeting of this chapter was held at the Bull's Head Inn, Bradshawgate, Bolton, on Thursday, the 1st of June, when there were present Comps. Jos. Horrocks, Z.; Robt. Harwood, P. Prov. G. Standard Bearer, H.; Harry Ainsworth, J.; Thomas Chambers, P.Z.; James Newton, P.Z.; Thos. Wilson, P.Z.; and others. The chapter having been opened, and the minutes of the previous meeting read and confirmed, the ballot was taken for a candidate for exaltation, who was unanimously elected. The installation of Principals and investiture of officers then followed, the ceremony being performed by Comp. James Newton, P.Z. The following are the new officers for the ensuing year:—Comp. Robert Harwood, Z.; H. Ainsworth, H.; R. Glaister, J.; Thos. Chambers, E.; H. Greenwood, N.; Jas. Allen, Prin. Soj.; J. Harwood, 1st Ast. Soj.; Thos. Milligan, 2nd Ast. Soj.; T. Wilson, Treas.; T. Higson, Janitor. A candidate was proposed for exaltation, and the chapter was closed.

Mark Masonry.

HINCKLEY.—Knights of Malta Lodge (No. 32).—This old time-immemorial Mark Lodge held its regular meeting on Wednesday, May 24. Present: V. W. Bro. Rev. W. Langley, P.M. 21, P.G.C., Prov. D.P.G.M.M.M., in the chair of Adoniram; Bros. Clark, S.W.; Preston, as J.W.; W. H. Griffiths, M.O.; Smith, as S.O.; Worthington, as J.O.; G. Toller, I.P.M. of 19 as Deacon; Marston, I.G.; and several other brethren. Two candidates being present, Bros. Blastich and Simpkin were advanced to the degree of Mark Man and Mark Master by the W.M. The by-laws of the lodge were considered and amended as to the fees for advancement and annual subscription. Several candidates were proposed, and the lodge was closed in harmony.

A MASONIC FUNERAL IN CHINA.

Interments with Masonic honours are by no means infrequent in America; but as the distinctive features of the Craft never appear at the grave unless at the request of the deceased, such funerals are very rare in this colony. Mr. E. Estarico, who was formerly proprietor of the Hotel d'Europe, died on Monday last, and according to his dying wish, he was buried in the Happy Valley Cemetery on the 28th March, with all the ancient forms and ceremonies of the Order. Deceased was a member of the Zetland Lodge, and the dispensation having been obtained from the R.W. District Grand Master, T. G. Linstead, by the W. Master of the above named lodge (Bro. L. Mallory), the lodge was formed in the Masonic Hall, a large number of members being present, including the D.G. Master. The preliminary part of the solemn service having been gone through, the members unrobed and adjourned to the Mortuary Chapel, where the lodge was re-formed, and the brethren accompanied the remains of the deceased to the grave.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF NORTHAMPTONSHIRE AND HUNTINGDONSHIRE.

The holding of the Grand Lodge of Freemasons of the province of Northamptonshire and Huntingdonshire, at Peterborough, on the 2nd inst., afforded an opportunity for laying the foundation stone of the new aisle which is to be added to the church of St. Mary in that city. The brethren began to assemble at half-past eleven at St. Peter's College, and after attiring themselves, proceeded to the lodge-room and took up the positions assigned to them.

The lodge was opened in due form by the W.M. of St. Peter's (Bro. Waller), and shortly afterwards his Grace the Duke of Manchester, Provincial Grand Master, and Bro. Butler Wilkins, Deputy Provincial Grand Master, with the other Provincial Grand Officers, arrived, and the business was proceeded with. Bro. R. Howes, 445, Fidelity, was re-elected Treasurer; Bro. R. H. Griffin, P.G. S.W. 442, St. Peter's; Bros. J. T. Green, 360, Pomfret, P.G.J.W.; the Hon. and Rev. J. Courtenay Vernon, 607, Chicheley, P.G. Chap.; the Rev. S. Westbrook, 373, So-crates, Prov. G. Assist. Chap.; J. M. Stanton, P.M. 360, P. Prov. G.S.D.; Hawley, Prov. G. Reg.; F. G. Buckle,

Prov. G. Sec.; G. Gaches, 442, St. Peter's, Prov. G.S.D.; Percival, 445, Fidelity, Prov. G.J.G.D.; Jackson, 373, Socrates, Prov. G. Supt. of Works; Marson, P.G.D. of C.; Molyneux, 607, Chicheley, A.P.G.D.C.; Ward, 466, Merit, P.G. Swd. B.; Margetts, 455, Perseverance, P.G. Purst.; Eales, 737, Wentworth, Std. B.

The officers were invested by the Right Worshipful Grand Master, assisted by the D. Prov. G.M.

Bro. Buckle, P. Prov. G.S., then read the report of the Board of Benevolence, who voted the sum of £25 and £20 to two widows in the province, £10 to the male fund of the aged and decayed, and £21 to the Boys' School.

Jewels commemorative of the installation of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, K.G., M.W. Grand Master of England, were voted to the Stewards of Norths, and Hunts, Bro. E. Cox, 360, Pomfret, and Bro. J. Marson, 373, Socrates.

The Prov. G.M. then moved that an address of congratulation be presented to H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M., on his safe return from India.

The W.M. of St. Peter's seconded, and it was approved.

A vote of thanks to the brethren of that lodge for the handsome manner in which they had received the Provincial Grand Lodge was proposed by Bro. Butler Wilkins, D. Prov. G.M., seconded and approved, and this concluded the business.

The brethren were then marshalled by Bro. Marson, Dir. of Cers., in the quadrangle of the College, and proceeded by the playground through the Deanery to the Cathedral, opening out right and left along the nave, so that the Prov. G. Officers and Chaplain might pass up the centre, and then closing in and taking the seats allotted to them in the north and south transepts. Prayers were read by the Rev. W. Katterns, curate of St. Mary's, and the lessons by the Assistant Chaplain (Bro. F. S. Westbrook) and Canon Argles respectively. The anthem was "O give thanks," that most appropriate passage being introduced. The stone which the builders refused has become the headstone in the corner, and Handel's "Hallelujah Chorus" was finely rendered by the lay clerks and choristers after the anthem proper. The sermon was preached by the Prov. G. Chaplain (Bro. the Hon. and Rev. J. Courtenay Vernon), who took for his text 1 Peter iii. 8—"Be ye all of one mind." He said he had selected the words because he considered them appropriate to that day's business, and more particularly to the Craft to which so many of those present belonged. One of the great beauties, and the chief essence of the brotherhood, was that in all its principles and precepts it inculcated and sought to instil into the mind unity amongst themselves, and good will and peace to all mankind. The preacher then showed the wider significance of the words to Christians, and contrasted those who held the unity of the faith with that false unity which was to be found amongst the ungodly, but which rested on no solid foundation because there was no true love amongst them. He concluded with an appeal on behalf of the building fund of St. Mary's and the Masonic Charities, and after the sermon the Stewards collected amongst the brethren. The singing of the hymn, "All people that on earth do dwell" was followed by the Benediction.

The service being over, the brethren re-formed, leaving the west part of the Cathedral in the following order:—Bros. Mills and Willson, Sword Bearers; Lodge No. 737, Wentworth (Wellingborough), T. Cook, H. James, &c.; Lodge No. 607, Chicheley (Thrapston, Bros. Revs. Westbrook, Hawthorn, and J. Courtenay Vernon); Lodge No. 466, Merit (Stamford), Bros. Orford, Peck, Wright, Rev. S. G. W. Sanders, &c.; Lodge No. 455, Perseverance (Kettering); amongst whom we noticed Bros. Miller, P.P.J.G.D. and P.M.; Margetts, W.M.; Coles, P.M.; Salmons, P.M.; Standley, I.G.; Dainty, and Beeby; Lodge No. 445, Fidelity (Towcester), Bros. G. Osborn, R. Howes, W. A. Howes, T. M. Percival, W. H. Linnell, Crowley, G. Wilcox, Smith, J. Tunnard, &c.; Lodge No. 373, Socrates (Huntingdon); Lodge No. 360, Pomfret (Northampton), represented by Bros. R. Howes, P.G.T.; J. T. Green, P.G.J.W.; J. Stanton, P.M.; H. J. Atkins; J. Whitehouse, P.G.S. and J.W.; H. W. Parker, H. Spoor, E. Ashford, A. Richardson, J. Bingley, Gadsby, Wood, H. Brown, Rev. S. J. W. Sanders, &c.; J. H. Williams, Winter, S.W., and Dean; Lodge No. 442, St. Peter's, Junior Members, Past Masters, the Cornucopia containing wheat, and the trowel, Bro. Vergette, S.W., with ewer of wine, and Bro. Gachen, J.W., with ewer of oil; Dr. Waller, W.M. of 442, with mallet of the lodge. Past Provincial Grand Lodge Officers of Norths and Hunts; visitors of the other Provincial Grand Lodges, Juniors in front, and Wardens and Deputy Grand Masters in the rear, the Grand Lodge officers; Superintendent of Works and Registrar, the latter with bottle containing newspapers, including copies of the "Freemason," to put under the stone; the Secretary and Treasurer, the latter with coins to put under the stone; Junior Warden with plumb rule, and Senior Warden with level; Assistant Chaplain and Chaplain of Provincial Grand Lodge; the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, Dr. Butler Wilkins, with a square; the Director and Assistant Director of the Ceremonies; Standard Bearer, Sword Bearer; His Grace the Duke of Manchester, P.G.M.; Bros. Dixey and Pilcher, Stewards.

It may be easily conceived that the procession was one of which the like has not been seen for many a day in Peterborough. The inhabitants, no doubt, were gratified by the sight, and the profuse use of flags, streamers, and banners, many of which were inscribed with "Hearty Good Wishes," showed that something out of the ordinary way had been anticipated. As the procession moved through the Minster and out of the west gateway, to the Market-place, and then turned along the Causeway, in the direction of the New-road, the route, admirably kept by the Stewards, assisted by the police, was lined with hundreds

of people, many of whom were, no doubt, discussing with much curiosity the clothing, so richly adorned with gold and silver, and the jewels, which in the case of the Provincial Grand Officers, literally covered their breasts.

On arriving at the Church of St. Mary's, the hymn, "We love Thy place, O God," was sung, and the brethren having opened out and faced inwards, the Duke, and those who were to take part in the ceremony, walked through to the site of the stone-laying. Canon Argles heartily welcomed His Grace, who had come with so many of his brethren to assist the work of enlarging a church which was so much required for an increasing population. There was still a deficiency of £400, and they had looked forward to something being done that day by the powerful Masonic body, of which His Grace was the head.

The bottle of papers and coins was then placed in a cavity of the stone, and covered; after which His Grace (the P.G.M.) spread the mortar with the trowel belonging to the St. Peter's Lodge, and the stone was lowered with three drops. The plumb rule, level, and square were next applied, and the Duke then tapped it with the gavel or mallet and pronounced it well and truly laid, in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. The mallet used on this occasion has a history, as the inscription on the plate shows. It is as follows:—"By order of the Worshipful Grand Master, His Royal Highness the Duke of Sussex and Worshipful Master of the Lodge of Antiquity, and with the concurrence of the brethren of the lodge, this plate has been engraved and affixed to this mallet, A.L. 5831, A.D. 1817, to commemorate that this being the same mallet with which His Majesty King Charles the Second levelled the foundation stone of St. Paul's Cathedral, A.L. 5672, A.D. 1675, was presented to the old Lodge of St. Paul, now the Lodge of Antiquity, acting by immemorial constitution by Bro. Sir Christopher Wren W.D.G.M., Worshipful Master of this Lodge and architect of that edifice.

Bro. F. G. Hodson, P.P.G., Chaplain, said he had been requested to address a few words to them in connection with the ceremony they had just witnessed. When engaged on a work like that they were but performing the natural duties of their order. They were Masons. In Masonry and all akin to it some of their deepest sympathies were enlisted, especially in such Masonry as that which, when completed, they had reason to believe would add to the glory of God and the good of their fellowmen in that city. It was the pride of true Masonry to lend both its sanction and its help to all works which were consecrated to the honour of the great Architect of the Universe, and the eternal welfare of their brethren in the world. He reminded them of what was done at the last general meeting of the Grand Lodge of England to commemorate the safe return of the Grand Master, the Prince of Wales, and said that being influenced by a similar spirit, their Provincial Grand Lodge felt itself at home in the good work in which it was engaged. Doubtless that addition to St. Mary's Church was a good work, for the church was at present inadequate to the wants of the increasing population, and there could not be so many worshippers as would otherwise avail themselves of the privileges offered. The remembrance of the glories and fair proportions of Solomon's magnificent temple came to the mind of the Mason on such an occasion as that, and stirred within him a desire to make God's house more beautiful and more majestic than was His own house then. Many of the noble sentiments of their Craft were intimately connected with that grand old temple at Jerusalem. God grant that they might so influence their minds as to cause them to freely open their purses and freely lend their aid to all kindred institutions.—In reply, his Grace, the P.G.M., said he had been very much favoured in being requested to lay the stone, and he hoped that success might attend their efforts in getting funds to complete the building. The brethren had done something towards reducing the deficit, and in any case he hoped the services would still be continued for the benefit of their fellowmen and to the Glory of God.

His Grace then scattered wheat upon the stone as an emblem of the blessing they desired to be poured upon them by Him whom they honoured, and the Masonic part of the ceremony being concluded, the public were invited by Canon Argles to contribute to the building fund.

The stone laid was inscribed as follows:—"Dei gloria. This corner stone of the north aisle as an addition to the Church of Saint Mary, Peterborough, was laid on the 1st of June, 1876, by his Grace the Duke of Manchester, Prov. G.M., and the officers and brethren of Norths and Hunts.

The new aisle, we may add, will be 14 ft. 9 in. wide, and 62 ft. long, and will be seated with chairs so as to accommodate 208 persons. The north wall will be removed and in the place of that will be an arcade like that on the south side, while the windows will be utilized for lighting the new aisle, and it will thus accord more closely with the other part of the church, which has but little claim to notice architecturally. It is also intended at the same time to construct a tower which will be carried up to the new roof and covered, so that the spire can be added hereafter. The total cost of the work is upwards of £1,000, of which £400 has yet to be obtained. Mr. H. M. Townshend is the architect, and Mr. J. Thompson the builder.

After the ceremony of laying the stone the brethren re-formed in procession and walked to the Great Northern Hotel, where the banquet had been prepared in a tastefully-decorated marquee. The canvas was lined with red, white, blue, and green bunting, and shields bearing the Masonic emblems were affixed to the poles. There were three or four gasaliers in case artificial light was needed, and the general effect was heightened by large mirrors at each end of the marquee. The chair was taken

by the Prov. G.M., and on the right of his Grace sat the D. Prov. G.M., Bro. Butler Wilkins; on his left Bro. Kelly, P. Prov. G.M. of Leicestershire, with the provincial officers on either side.

About 200 sat down to the excellent repast served in Bro. Moore's usual manner, and which gave the greatest satisfaction.

After grace, which was said by the Prov. G. Chaplain, the good things were discussed for some time, Bro. Marson taking the office of toast-master, which he discharged most efficiently.

In giving "The Queen and the Craft," his Grace said he was sure he could not say anything in an assembly of loyal Englishmen, much less in an assembly of loyal Masons, to induce them to receive cordially the health of the Queen. Under her reign the country had flourished, the Empire had increased both in extent and in wealth, in power and in prosperity. They all hoped as Masons and as loyal subjects that her reign might long continue, and that they might long drink the toast of "The Queen and Craft."

The toast was duly honoured, a private band playing the National Anthem.

The Prov. G. Master next gave "The Health of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, K.G., the M.W. Grand Master of England," and said he had been told by those who had accompanied His Royal Highness on his Indian tour that nothing could have been happier than the way in which he received persons of all races and ranks. He made a most favourable impression upon all, and his friends especially were delighted with the tact, the discretion, and the good taste which he showed at all times. As a Mason they knew his merits, and as his (the Duke's) time was short he would say no more, but ask them to drink cordially "The Health of their Grand Master, the Prince of Wales."

As the P.G.M. had to leave in order to be present at the State Ball at Buckingham Palace that evening, the chair was afterwards taken by the D.P.G.M., Bro. Butler Wilkins, who gave the "M.W. Pro G.M., the Earl of Carnarvon, and the M.W.D.G.M., Lord Skelmersdale, and Officers of the Grand Lodge," and then called upon Bro. Waller, W.M. 442, to propose "The Health of the P.G.M., his Grace the Duke of Manchester."

That was done in suitable terms, Bro. Waller saying that the popularity of their P.G.M. was proved by the many public demands made upon him.

Bro. Kelly, P.P.G.M. Leicestershire, next gave "The Health of the P.D.G.M., Bro. Butler Wilkins.

Bro. Kelly remarked that however generous the Grand Master might be, upon his deputy must fall the burden and heat of the day in carrying out the duties. He was glad to know that Bro. Inns had such a successor. But as "good wine needs no bush," a good toast required no eulogium.

D.P.G.M., Butler Wilkins, replied very ably. He took the opportunity of thanking the different lodges and chapters in the province for the kind reception they had given him whenever he had had the honour of paying them a visit, and he thought that had not the Prov. G.M. been compelled to leave he would have been gratified to know that throughout the province over which he presided all the lodges were in working order. Differences of opinion would arise in all communities, but he was happy to say that in that province they were so slight as not in any way to interfere with the carrying out of those Masonic principles which all should observe, and which tended to unite them more closely in the cause of brotherly love, relief and truth. In meeting his brethren at the close of the first year of office, he felt himself in a position somewhat similar to that of a member of Parliament before his constituents, sensible of many shortcomings; but when he saw so many present, to welcome the R.W. Prov. G.M., and remembered that many had entered the higher degree of Royal Arch with satisfaction to themselves,—when he called to mind the energy and zeal displayed in working the different lodges which so many had joined, while others were seeking admission into their Craft,—he could not help feeling, that Masonry was steadily and surely progressing. It was progressing, he was happy to say, in the right direction. He made the remark last year on a similar occasion, that there should be no standing still, but that they should all do their best to support those institutions, from which they derived benefit. That had borne fruit, for they had seen that day in the person of the present Senior Warden (Bro. R. H. Griffin) a well known truth amply illustrated, that in every age men would always rise to fill the offices as occasion required. The D.P.G.M. then spoke of what the province had done for the Masonic institutions, remarking though it numbered only eight lodges, it stood in the front rank, and was, he might say, A 1 in the amount of its subscriptions. He was sure that the honour conferred on Bro. Griffin would be endorsed, and that it would stimulate other brethren in after years to follow so good an example. The D.P.G.M. spoke amusingly of the Provincial Grand coach, and its double team of eight having gone so smoothly that all he should have to do would be to try and remove the difficulties if the road became rough and rugged, and keep the necessary parts well oiled; and he closed with expressing thanks to the P.G.S. and the brethren of St. Peter's.

The toast of "The Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution" gave opportunities for Bros. Binckes and Terry to advocate those they represented, and several other toasts—"The Visiting Brethren," "Past Provincial Grand Officers," "Provincial Grand Treasurer and Secretary," "Provincial Grand Wardens, and Officers, and W.M.'s of Lodges," &c.—were afterwards given, with the Tyler's toast at the finish.

The Provincial Grand Lodge will be held next year at Thrapston.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF LEICESTERSHIRE AND RUTLAND.

The half-yearly communication of this Provincial Grand Lodge was held at the Corn Exchange, Melton Mowbray, on Monday, May 29th.

The charmingly fine weather, the numerous attendance, and the reception accorded by the members of the local lodge contributed to render the meeting one of a most successful and enjoyable character. The Rutland Lodge, No. 1130, under the auspices of which the Prov. Grand Lodge was held, was opened by the W.M., Bro. Luke Riley, after which the R.W. Prov. G.M. and the officers of the Prov. Grand Lodge entered the lodge in procession, the chair being surrendered to the Prov. G.M., the Right Honourable the Earl Ferrers, who opened the Provincial Grand Lodge in due form. Amongst those present, in addition to the Prov. G.M., were the following:—Bros. Rev. W. Langley, P.P.S.G.W., acting as D.P.G.M.; Rev. J. F. Halford, Prov. S.G.W.; J. J. Fast, P.P.S.G.W.; J. C. Duncombe, Prov. J.G.W.; W. Adcock and C. Stretton, P.P.J.G.W.'s; Revs. J. H. Smith and (Canon) H. J. Burfield, Prov. G. Chaplains; W. B. Smith, Prov. G. Treas.; C. Woodcock, Prov. G. Reg.; S. S. Partridge, Prov. G. Sec.; F. J. Baines, Prov. G.S.D.; Weare and Duff, P.P.G.S.D.'s; W. Hardy, P.P.G.J.D.; R. Dalgleish, Prov. G. Supt. of Works; C. J. McBride, Prov. G.A.D.C.; T. Markham, P.P.G.D.C.; R. Boughton-Smith, P.P.G.A.D.C.; H. James, Prov. G. Sw. B.; C. L. Ferneley, as Prov. G. Org.; J. Wright Smith, Prov. G. Purst.; Bright and Amatt, P.P.G.P.'s; L. Riley, Prov. G.A.P.; Alfred Palmer and C. E. Stretton, P.P.G.A.P.'s; Worthington, Prov. G. St. B.; Cleaver, Selby, and Mason, Prov. G. Stewards; Bembridge and Dunn, Prov. G. Tylers, and many other Past Provincial Grand Officers, W.M.'s, and Wardens of private lodges. The visitors' list included Bros. H. Peake, Prov. S.G.W. Norths and Hunts; P. Glover, Prov. G. Org. Berks and Bucks, and Hunts.

The Prov. G.M. having been saluted with the customary honours, the Prov. G. Secretary read the minutes of the last meeting in November last, which were confirmed.

The Roll of Lodges was next called, when it was found that every lodge in the province was well represented.

A Report of the Provincial Committee of General Purposes was submitted, recommending the appointment of a Provincial Charity Committee for the purpose of managing and utilizing the voting power of the province at the elections of the great Masonic charities, and more systematically and effectively advocating the claims of those institutions on the liberality of the brethren, and also further recommending the formation of a Charity Fund to be devoted to the support of the charities above referred to, and for Masonic relief in special cases. The report was unanimously adopted and by-laws, framed by the Committee and submitted for adoption for the purpose of carrying into effect their recommendations, were considered and discussed seriatim, and, with certain additions and amendments, proposed by Bros. Langley, Stretton, and others, were duly passed.

Amendments were also made in the by-laws of the Prov. G. Lodge for the purpose of giving the Committee of General Purposes a more representative character, and also for admitting new lodges and other Masonic bodies using the Leicester Masonic Hall to representation on the Committee of Management of that building.

Bros. L. A. Clarke and C. Stretton were unanimously re-elected to represent the Leicester Masonic Hall Committee.

The following congratulatory address to the M.W.G.M., H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, on his return from India, was read by the Prov. G. Secretary:—

"To His Royal Highness, Albert Edward, Prince of Wales, Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Ancient and Honourable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of England,

"May it please your Royal Highness,
"We, the Provincial Grand Master, the Past Provincial Grand Master, the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, Officers and Brethren of the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Leicestershire and Rutland, in Provincial Grand Lodge assembled, desire to embrace the opportunity, which our half-yearly communication this day held at Melton Mowbray affords us, of offering to your Royal Highness our warmest congratulations upon your safe and happy return to your native land. We have heard with feelings of unbounded satisfaction that on all sides you have been received with that respect and devotion which your exalted position justly entitles you to, and at the same time with a thorough heartiness which the generous nature of your character so fully inspires. We are confident that the journey so wisely undertaken by your Royal Highness and now prosperously terminated, has been fraught with immense advantages to the princes and peoples of India, and that the judicious and conciliatory manner in which you have treated those with whom you have come in contact has left an impression which will not be easily effaced.

"We feel that our heartfelt gratitude is due to the Great Architect of the Universe for safely carrying you through the dangers and difficulties of your journey, for the preservation of your health in the changes of temperature and climate to which you have been subjected, and for giving you strength to carry out the arduous duties you have everywhere so ably and willingly performed. Our fervent prayer will ever be that He will have you in His keeping and give you health and much happiness, that you may be a blessing to your country, your family, and the Ancient Craft over which you so worthily preside.

"Signed this 29th day of May, 1876.

"Ferrers, Prov. G.M.

"William Kelly, P.P.G.M.

"Henry St. John Halford, D.P.G.M.

(Countersigned)

"S. S. Partridge, P.M., Prov. G. Sec.

Bro. the Rev. Canon Burfield moved and Bro. the Rev. J. F. Halford seconded the adoption of the address, and on being put by the R.W. Prov. G.M., the motion was carried by acclamation.

This concluded the business of the meeting, and after hearty good wishes had been expressed by the several visitors and an invitation tendered by Bro. Peake, Prov. S.G.W. of Norths and Hunts, to the Leicestershire and Rutland brethren to visit his province at the meeting of Prov. G. Lodge at Peterborough on Thursday next, the Provincial Grand Master closed his lodge in accordance with ancient custom.

The brethren afterwards went to the George Hotel, where an excellent banquet, prepared by Bro. Childs, was in readiness, at which the Provincial Grand Master presided, and on his retirement to leave by an early train the chair was taken by Bro. the Rev. W. Langley, when the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and duly honoured, and a very pleasant evening was spent.

It is but just to the brethren of the Rutland Lodge, No. 1130, to record that the various arrangements, both in the lodge-room and at the banquet, for the reception of the members of Provincial Grand Lodge were in every respect admirable and perfect, and the hearty welcome offered to them was most gratifying.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF ESSEX.

The annual meeting of this Provincial Grand Lodge was held at the Mission Hall, Harwich, kindly lent for the occasion by Bro. R. J. Bagshaw. There was a large attendance. The hall was tastefully decorated with flowers at the upper end, supplied by Bro. Ward, of Ramsey, and the furniture of the lodge was entirely new, being that provided for the Star of the East Lodge, Harwich, under whose banner the proceedings were held. Much credit is due to the W.M. of the Harwich Lodge, Bro. G. G. Pye, and his indefatigable Secretary, Bro. Basham, for the completeness of the arrangements for the reception of the brethren of the province. The Provincial Grand Treasurer, Bro. Barton, opened the proceedings. The Right Worshipful Deputy Provincial Grand Master, Bro. M. Clark, was then installed, and the lodge opened in form, Bro. the Rev. Mr. Pertwee offering prayer.

A letter was read from the R.W.P.G. Master, Bro. R. J. Bagshaw, regretting his inability to be present; also from the Grand Secretary, Bro. Hervey, the First Master of the Star in the East Lodge; and Lord Waveney, P.G.M. Suffolk, to the same effect.

The officers for the ensuing year were appointed as follows:—The Deputy Provincial Grand Master, Matthew E. Clark; Senior Warden, Augustus Clench, W.M. 697; Junior Warden, Alfred Welch, W.M. 51; Chaplain, the Rev. E. Pertwee, Lodge Hope, Brightlingsea; Treasurer, Joseph Burton, P.M. 276, Chelmsford; Secretary, John Wright Carr, P.M. 160 and 276; Registrar, — Clarkson, Bagshaw Lodge, Buckhurst Hill; Senior Deacon, Frank Whitmore, W.M. 296; Junior Deacon, E. E. Phillips, W.M. 1000; Director of Ceremonies, Peter Matthews, W.M. 276; Assistant Director of Ceremonies, Alfred Lucking, P.M. 160; Superintendent of Works, — Burgess, Hope and Unity; Organist, Rogers; Sword Bearer W. Basham, Sec. 650; Bishop, 276; Tyler, — Sarell, 276.

The only lodge unrepresented was the Rosslyn Lodge, the Master of which was prevented at the last moment from attending by a domestic affliction.

The brethren afterwards dined at the Great Eastern Hotel. The banquet was served in a style that gave general satisfaction. There was some excellent singing, and towards the close of the proceedings a party of hand-bell ringers performed an entertaining selection.

The R.W.D.P.G. Master presided, supported by the W.M. of the Star in the East, Bro. G. G. Pye, and about eighty other brethren. Bro. Clench, W.M. of the United, Colchester, G.S. Warden, in the vice-chair.

Among those present at the lodge and banquet were the following:—W. O. Ward, 65, P.P.G.P.; James Durrant, P.M., P.P.S.D. Essex; H. Foulger, 433; E. West, W.M. 1431; W. H. Walker, 650; Walter Balls, 650; Alfred Sturgeon, S.W. 1343; Frederick Adlard, 276, P.A.D.C.; William Balles, 433; A. S. Rogers, S.D. 433; W. Clarry, P.M. 433; C. Blyth, P.M. 433; G. Riches, P.M. 433; J. E. Wiseman, P.M. and Sec. 433, P.P.G.S.D.; B. York, P.M. 433; John Ward, P.M. 433; Joseph Hanly, I.G. 51, P.G.S. Essex; Francis B. Capon, 51; W. Nichols, 433; T. R. Quilter, P.M. 51; J. Howard, 650; Thomas Jennings, 650; W. H. Butcher, 650; J. Dunlop, S.W. 650; N. Dickson, P.M. 650; F. Edwards, 1091; G. Jackson, 650; Charles Pratt, 650; D. Reed, W.M. 453, 1437; J. Clarkson, P.M. 145; J. Watts, 650; E. E. Phillips, P.M. 379; T. F. Bishop, 276; F. Wright, 697, 1500; W. F. Hasler, S.W. 1312; D. Howard, 650; T. Water, 650; W. Oxenham, J.D. 650; Thos. Malchom, 100, 1457; A. K. Clench, W.M. 697; T. Eustace, P.M. 697; W. Bright, 1312; G. Harvey, 697; E. Shedd, W.M. 276; T. W. Naylor, S.W. 697; A. Richardson, 697; W. P. Lewis, P.M. and P.Z. 51; Geo. Mercer, 51; W. H. Ablitt, 51; T. Downing, 697; W. Barrett, 213; R. Thackeray, 650; A. T. Chambers, 650; W. H. Bateman, J.W. 697; W. G. Siggers, 697; A. Hunt, 276; E. Hennemeyer, 51, 697; A. Welch, W.M. 51; Ambrose Tennant, Henry Samuel, P.M. 51; W. Richey, 51 and 700; W. S. Sprent, 51, P.G.S.B.; W. Basham, Sec. 650; A. C. Veley, P.M. 276, P.G.J.W.; C. Gunner, Tyler 51; J. Brice, 650; W. Murray, 225; T. Truce, P.G.D. 276; Frank Whitmore, P.M. 276; W. G. Burgess, W.M. 214; G. Gard Pye, P.P.G.S.W., W.M. 650, S.W. 51; F. A. Cole, P.P.G.R., P.M. 51; S. Chaplin, P.P.G.S.W., P.M. 51; T. J. Ralling, Sec. 51; Fred. Standingford, 1024; John Coppin, P.M. 51, P.P.

G.J.W.; T. Rix, R.M. 697, P.P.G.S.B.; J. H. Boulton, D.C. 697; Chas. Lucas, 650; D. M. B. Wheeler, J.W. 276; and others.

Visitors—J. R. Foulger, P.M. 177 and 795, P.Z. 177; Robert Bewick, J. H. Staddon, W.M. 376; and others.

The Provincial Grand Lodge voted £10 10s. out of its funds towards the Harwich lifeboat.

Masonic and General Tidings.

At the Levée held by H.R.H. the Prince of Wales for and on behalf of Her Majesty the Queen our excellent and well-known Bro. Lieutenant-Colonel James Peters had the pleasure and honour of presenting to H.R.H. the Prince of Wales Bro. the Rev. J. Vaughan, M.A.

The Prince and Princess of Wales arrived on Monday afternoon at Sandringham with their children for the Whitsun holidays. The Prince has been absent from Sandringham for eight months. Their Royal Highnesses and suite consisted of Lady Emily Kingscote, Miss Knollys, Colonel Teesdale, Bro. Francis Knollys, Mr. Holzmann, and the Rev. J. N. Dalton.

A valuable testimonial, in the shape of a handsomely-chased silver claret jug, has been presented to Bro. J. T. Ward, of St. John's College, Cambridge, the senior wrangler, by the master and scholars, past and present, of the Rochester Grammar School, at which Bro. Ward was educated. Bro. Ward, who met with a complete ovation, alluded in terms of gratitude to the excellent education he had received at Rochester, before he passed to the University, under the able tuition of his valued master, the Rev. Robert Whiston.

POSTAL ARRANGEMENTS.—It is announced by order of the Postmaster-General that correspondence for the French colonies will be subject, on and after July 1st, to the rates of postage applicable to the Postal Union. There will also be a reduction of postage to the East Indies, Aden, and Zanzibar, and to Australia and New Zealand, via Brindisi, and to Ceylon, the Straits Settlements, China, Labuan, and other foreign countries in the East, either via Brindisi or via Marseilles.

The thirty-first festival of the Royal General Theatrical Fund was held on Wednesday night in the Freemasons' Tavern, Great Queen-street. Mr. Alfred de Rothschild presided, and among those present were Mr. J. B. Buckstone, Mr. Alfred Wigan, Mr. E. Villiers, Mr. J. Coleman, Mr. E. L. Blanchard, Mr. E. Ledger, Mr. C. W. Thompson, and Mr. Garston Murray.

The Coaching Club has given a donation of £50 to the Cabdrivers' Benevolent Association, 15, Soho-square, as a contribution to the annuity fund for aged or infirm cabmen.

The annual *fiête* and summer entertainment at the Asylum for Idiots, Earlswood, Redhill, Surrey, will be held on Thursday, July 6th.

It is expected that H.R.H. Prince Leopold, Prov. G.M. Oxford, who arrived in Paris on Tuesday night, will make some stay in that capital.

Sir Gilbert Scott's design for completing the restoration of the exterior of the octagon of Ely Cathedral, at a cost of nearly £3000, has been adopted.

The Secretary of State for War has approved of a review of Volunteers taking place in Hyde Park on or about July 1. The exact date will hereafter be notified.

Madame Tussaud and Sons have added a model portrait of the late Sultan, Abdul Aziz, to their collection.

H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M., was presented with a congratulatory address by the brethren of Lynn on Monday last.

The annual dinner of the Needlemakers' Company will take place at the Star and Garter, Richmond, on Saturday, the 24th inst.

The annual festival of the Benevolent Fund of Mark Grand Lodge will be held on the 19th July.

The Provincial Grand Lodge of Kent is to be held at Deal on Wednesday, July 12th, at which meeting it is proposed to vote one hundred pounds to the relief of three poor brethren, two hundred pounds to the Freemasons' Boys' School, forty pounds to the Girls' School, and a similar amount to the Benevolent Institution; also to consider the following proposition, proposed by Bro. G. Snow, P. Prov. G.S.W.:—"That in the opinion of this Provincial Grand Lodge the time has arrived for special provision being made for the infant orphans of Masons, and that the opinion of the other Provincial Grand Lodges be ascertained as to whether an institution, somewhat similar to the Infant Orphan Asylum, having for its object the reception of infant orphans of Masons' be established, it would receive their support."

CONSECRATION OF A NEW LODGE IN LIVERPOOL.—The warrant for the Dramatic Lodge, No. 1609, was received last Saturday, and the consecration will take place in the course of next week or that following. Bro. J. Bell, W.M. 1356, is, by special dispensation, the W.M. Designate, and Bro. W. Chapman the S.W. Designate; and there is little doubt that the latest addition to the roll of lodges will, from the spirit displayed in connection with its foundation, take first rank in every respect amongst those in West Lancashire.

On Wednesday evening the Worshipful Company of Fishmongers entertained a numerous and distinguished assembly in their hall at London Bridge, on the occasion of the presentation of the freedom of the guild to Bro. His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught.

Hospital Sunday, 18th inst.

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VOLS. 1 & 2

OF THE

MASONIC MAGAZINE.

198, FLEET-STREET, LONDON.

TO OUR READERS.

The *Freemason* is a sixteen-page weekly newspaper, price 2d. It is published every Friday morning, and contains the most important, interesting, and useful information relating to Freemasonry in every degree. Annual subscription in the *United Kingdom*, Post free, 10/-

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are informed that acknowledgments of remittances received are published in the first number of every month.

NOTICE.—It is very necessary for our friends to advise us of all money orders they remit, more especially those from the United States of America and India; otherwise we cannot tell where to credit them.

TO ADVERTISERS.

The *Freemason* has a large circulation in all parts of the Globe, its advantages as an advertising medium can therefore scarcely be overrated.

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Answers to Correspondents.

All Communications, Advertisements, &c., intended for insertion in the Number of the following Saturday, must reach the Office not later than 12 o'clock on Wednesday morning.

Several communications unavoidably stand over.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

[The charge is 2s. 6d. for announcements, not exceeding four lines, under this heading.]

BIRTHS.

ARMSTRONG.—On the 27th ult., at South Shields, the wife of J. F. Armstrong, M.D., of a son.

BAKER.—On the 2nd inst., at Herne-hill-road, Brixton, the wife of J. F. Baker, of a son.

BROWNE.—On the 2nd inst., at Framden, Suffolk, the wife of the Rev. S. B. Browne, of a son.

HUNT.—On the 3rd inst., at Oak Park, East Finchley, the wife of J. W. Hunt, of a son.

LEITH.—On the 3rd inst., at Queen's-gardens, the wife of W. Leith, Esq., of a son.

MARRIAGES.

BAKER—WILKES.—On the 1st inst., at St. Paul's, Walsall, Harry Baker, of Huyton, Lancashire, to Sarah Kezia, daughter of Mr. G. Wilkes.

COOK—FORREST.—On the 1st inst., at Milltown, Co. Dublin, Herbert Cook, Esq., of Matlaske Hall, Norfolk, to Edith, daughter of J. Forrest, Esq.

COOPER—FREUER.—On the 1st inst., at Wetheringsett-cum-Brockford, Suffolk, Philip, son of D. Cooper, Esq., of Pyne-House, Clapham Common, to Mary Ray, daughter of the late W. L. B. Freuer, of West Rudham, Norfolk.

DEATHS.

COLLINS.—On the 30th ult., Daniel Edward Collins, Esq., of Whitley, near Coventry, aged 54.

DAWSON.—On the 4th inst., at 71, Elsham Road, Edith Grace, youngest daughter of Thomas Dawson, Esq.

DRUMMOND.—On the 3rd inst., at St. George's-place, Hyde Park-corner, London, George Stirling Home Drummond, Esq., of Blair Drummond and Ardoch, Perthshire, aged 63 years.

PULLEN.—On the 4th inst., at Lower Broughton, Manchester, Willie, the dearly beloved son of Robert William and Nancy Pullen, in the 7th year of his age.

ROSE.—On the 1st inst., at Farleigh Road, Stoke Newington, John Falconer Rose, aged 37.

WEST.—On the 3rd inst., at Putney, Edward Robert, son of F. B. West, aged 30.

WOOD.—On the 30th ult., at Westlands, West Grinstead, George Edward Wood, Esq., aged 76.

The Freemason,

SATURDAY, JUNE 10, 1876.

THE LIMITS OF MASONIC PUBLICATION.

This is confessedly one of the most difficult topics on which to dilate, or with which to treat. And the difficulty arises from the very nature of things, from the necessities of the case. For we in England—rightly or wrongly, we pause not to enquire to-day—adhere firmly to the oral delivery of ceremonial and exposition. In some countries it is different, but with us, and we think wisely, there is no "sealed book," so to say, of general appeal and infallible authority. Hence the publication of the proceedings of the Craft in England always has two great difficulties to contend with, and runs the risk of being confronted by one of the two "horns of the dilemma," over-publication of detail, uninteresting repetition of commonplace and well-known Ritual formularies. "Incidis in Scyllam cupiens evitare Charibdin." If, for instance, you dilate too much on lodge proceedings, you inevitably find yourselves treating as common and fit matters for publication the minutiae of the ritualism of Freemasonry until to profanes as well as to professed the technical terms and usages of lodge work become quite familiar. This we hold to be a great mistake, and therefore we have now for some time carefully eschewed, as far as lay in us, all references and correspondence respecting pure ritual, and shall certainly continue to do so. So again, if you simply relate the normal proceedings of lodge work and lodge banquets, the reading becomes neither very intellectual nor very profitable. Like in all other things, sameness produces monotony, and plethora leads to surfeit. It appears to us, therefore, that in order to keep to the "golden mean" in this branch of Masonic literature we should always endeavour to avoid too much expansion and freedom of language on the one hand and too much repetition of well-known habits on the other. While one extreme is hurtful to the interests of Freemasonry, the other falls upon our Masonic palate, so that it often requires a steady hand to keep the helm amidships, and steer the good old Craft safely through the breakers on either side into the still water of peaceful and approving sympathy. We hold, then, it will be observed, that great caution is still both advisable and requisite in all Masonic publication, and that especially as regards the current proceedings of the Order our reports should be neither too profuse in gushing statements, nor too dry in long-accustomed technicalities. That is a most mistaken view of the Masonic Press which would identify it with anything of unlicensed publication, and we cannot too severely deprecate anything like hasty indiscretion on a point which is, in our opinion, so essential to the best interests of Freemasonry, owing to the peculiar nature and characteristic of the Institution itself. But there is another feature of this question, of publication which we must now consider. It is not merely the hebdomadal reporting of Masonic proceedings, or lodge gatherings, with which we have to do. We may observe that the actual reports in the "*Freemason*," qua reports, are marked by great clearness, skill, and fairness. But there is a Masonic literature which is, to say the truth, going ahead. And if it be true that good old Dr. Oliver paved the way by a too liberal dealing with Masonic regulation, by too much of communicativeness on matters, too, not purely archaeological, we can but feel that others have out-Heroded Herod. In some countries and by some writers Masonic publication seem to have been pushed to the extreme that propriety would suggest or duty sanction. Some might be disposed to say and to think a good deal beyond both, but we do not wish to appear to lay down anything like the principles of a Masonic censorship. There is still a wide difference, in our humble opinion, between what is allowable to print on Masonic archæology, and what is permissible, even in good form, to publish in respect of Masonic ceremonial. The former may fairly be submitted to the profane and to the world, the latter ought to be reserved for the professed and the lodge-

room. In this respect we feel sure that we are on a wrong tack and a "false scent," so to say, and shall have to retrace our steps, to "hark back." We cannot continue to go the pace! If the system some are following is to be persisted in, there will be little left of Masonic reserve, and all the checks of Masonic silence and caution will have been ruthlessly swept away. Though this is true rather of other countries than our own, still the warning is needed by us, as we have a school, though not a large one, anxious apparently, though not on any very intelligible grounds, to be very generous and communicative as regards the arcana of Freemasonry. We can, then, have little hesitation in condemning such a system openly to-day. It is hurtful to Freemasonry, and injurious to us all. It affects our Masonic character for fair dealing and plain sailing, and our fidelity to an honorable observance of our own laws, and tends more than anything else to give arms to the hands of those who deprecate or dislike Masonic literature per se, while it alarms the timid, and decides the hesitating, being so clearly an open violation of the first principles of our Order. What Masonic literature may be, might be, ought to be, we will consider next week.

THE EXPENSES OF LODGE BANQUETS.

One of the most unsatisfactory arrangements of our private lodges is, that connected with the victualling and commissariat department. A very large amount is annually swallowed up by the payment for dinners, which might be much better used, for which no satisfactory return is made, and which are too often, amid much external show, but a "Barnacles feast" for hungry and querulous brethren. It is certainly very hard, after a long day's work in chambers or counting-house, amid the Bulls and the Bears, in the hospital, or in the parish, amid the grave duties which harass and perplex all ordinary mortals, to find ourselves seated down to partake of insipid viands and questionable wines, to receive indeed but a very poor equivalent for what we pay so liberally. One feels under such melancholy circumstances how the innate dignity of the Briton and of the Freemason is palpably and materially injured; how the needful feelings of self-respect and self-gratification ought to be asserted and vindicated. But what is to be done? Labour requires refreshment. We must eat and drink, though the cynic may say, "Je ne vois pas la nécessité," and how else are the arduous sacrifices we make for the work and honour of our lodges to be fitly repaid or compensated? What "solatium" are we to receive when we have adjourned from the serious responsibilities of lodge rule and work, to the pleasant symposium, or the sustaining and animated banquet? It appears to us that lodges have the remedy in their own hands, and that all complainants can speedily have their vehement and indignant complaints remedied. Why should not lodges, for instance, cater for themselves at Freemasons' Hall and elsewhere? Why should they not, if they think well so to do, cook their own victuals, and lay in their own wine, alike in that central house of English Freemasonry and in all private lodge halls? The adjournment for the banquet to cafés and hotels is, we believe, a great mistake. We apprehend that there is no real difficulty in the matter, and that where there's a will there's a way. There is accommodation, for instance, under the Board Room, and elsewhere, at Freemasons' Hall, where lodge private kitchens might be set up. There is space and convenience, with some easy alteration, for the storage of lodge cellars. We feel sure that such a change would be most acceptable to lodges and valuable to the health of our brethren. The expenses of the banquets could be materially reduced, and contentment instead of grumbling would be the result. If the whole of these arrangements were placed under one able and active brother, with autocratic powers, the present difficulty would soon cease, and we should no more hear the mournful complaint of excellent men and Masons, that their digestions are impaired and their tempers soured, and that they do not receive a "quid pro quo." We feel deeply for all such, and for their bodily and mental sufferings, and can only hope that ere

long we may have to report in our veracious pages a happier state of things, and publish even the expressed satisfaction of a grateful clientèle. It is just possible that the complaints which rise up are somewhat exaggerated, and much perhaps may be allowed at the close of May, when diners out are somewhat dyspeptic, and the average Briton or Freemason is looking forward for sea breezes, or Welsh hills, for the waters of some German "Bad," or for the restoring freshness of the English Channel. It is at such a time that molehills become mountains, and that Bro. Grogan's indisposition and Bro. Potter's objurgations are traceable as much as anything to successive dinners and a good deal of "refreshment." We are only talking now of bonâ-fide complaints, and we are perfectly aware that such complaints are not universal. But we contend that our whole system of lodge banquets requires revision and control. We spend, in our humble opinion, too much upon it, owing to defective arrangement, and we feel sure by a careful readjustment of our Grand Lodge regulations in this respect a wonderful saving would accrue and more satisfaction generally be given to the Craft. We are of course aware that there are two sides to this, as to every other question, and if any of our good brethren like to give us their opinion on it, "pro or con," we shall, with needful editorial supervision of course, "bien entendu," be willing to give them a fair field and free course in our impartial columns.

THE EAST.

What memories and associations belong to the East. Whether as Freemasons or as citizens of the world, we must be the dullest, or most apathetic of mortals, if we do not feel an interest in that wondrous region, whence has burst forth, so to say, the whole history of the world, from which still flow to us to-day the most affecting and the most solemn of human association. The voices of a great dead past, of a mighty old world, seem to emerge alike from the lapse of ages, and the haze which still overhangs that wondrous Orient, reminding us of a common origin and fellowship, the same sympathies, and the same rejoicings, of blended hopes and fears, interests and aspirations, united aims and relationships, the faith of ages, the rule of life! As Freemasons we must ever look kindly and benignly on the East. The East beheld our origin and witnessed our onward march; its legends and its living memories, distinguish from first to last every tradition of our Order, and every portion of our ritual! But taking a broader view even as citizens of the world, the East must have, as it seems to us, a charm ever for us all! It is still to us the magic land of romance, and early dreams, the land whose marvellous yet fascinating story still affects the innocence of youth, warms the maturity of manhood, and brightens the twilight of old age! Its history and its people, its vicissitudes and its trials, its heroes and its heroines, its wonders and its landmarks still move the imagination and arrest the steps of the wandering pilgrim abroad, of the admiring student at home. There is a spell from its calm decay, its monumental glories, its scenes, its sands, its palm trees, its seas, its palaces, its pyramids, and its rivers, which can lend to poetry a charm, to prose a fervour, which equally attract the attention of our statesman and the student, the antiquary, and the annalist, the believing, and the sceptical, the traveller, and the stay at home. From it what mighty impulses have been lent to art, and science, to poetry, to the drama, to the architecture we admire, and to the paintings we praise? Say what we will, the East is still for us the land of romance and yet of reality, of strange contrasts, of marvellous vicissitudes, of all that is often weird and awful, and yet graceful and glowing, of all that makes up the sentiment of life, or develops the poetry of being. And the East is a clime moreover, of often startling intelligences, and unlooked-for events. Beneath that blue sky and glaring sun, beneath the lethargy and exhaustion, so to say, of nature, are to be found the vivid passions, and the stirring emotions of more excitable lands! We hear in the daily telegram, of the deposition of this Sultan, the elevation of that Caliph of

the Faithful, and we are lost in a mist of strange conjectures and endless queries. To-day all seems to be done in a new way, on the most approved plan, of this civil and sagacious age, of a time when men often think the veil of outward and affected courtesy, may be a substitute for angry acts and outrageous proceedings! Exit the old Sultan, enter the new Sultan; the cards are shuffled, and the situation is changed. Voila tout. With that exception all remains the same, and what the future has in store for us, and for the East, who can venture to say? Well all this is better than the days of dark deeds in the Seraglio, of heartrending shrieks in the Bosphorus, of the crimes which stain the annals of Turkey, of that recklessness of human suffering which too often marks the revolution of empires. The old Sultan is in the Pavilion of the Tcheragan Palace, resigned and contented with his family, and numerous dependants, and the new Sultan is amid all the stateliness and glories of the Dolma Bagtche Palace, a few days previously hiding in a cellar, his life hanging on a thread. How wonderful are the vicissitudes of the world, and the shifting scenes of this sublunary life. For some time to come we all shall await with breathless interest the telegraphic intelligence of each returning day, as the life drama of the East is played out, and one act succeeds to another, on that crowded stage. Still as Freemasons, our sympathies go with the East. Not being politicians, we do not even presume to glance at what the profane publicist may conjecture or assert, but this we may be permitted to observe, that as of old, the East still plays the most important part in the history of the ages as they roll on, and so we believe it will ever be in the good Providence, of the Great Architect of the Universe, until that greater hour, when even the wonders of the Orient shall have passed away, and this world of ours, with its greatness and littleness, its triumph and its defeats, its heroism and its horrors, is itself but a faded vision of the past.

We had written this when the sad news is flashed to us in a few hours of the dark ending of Abdul Aziz, an astounding surprise, as the "Times" has it, and an awful incident, we will add of Oriental politics. The telegrams assert that by suicide in the Tcheragan Palaces, Abdul Aziz put an end to his life, on the morning of June 4th. He was buried, it is said, "in the afternoon of the same day, with all the usual pomp, and all the honour due to the deceased," and was "placed in the Mausoleum of the Sultan Mahmoud." Here we leave the matter to-day, as it would be a waste of time now, in our imperfect information, to dilate at any length on such wondrous changes and so mournful a catastrophe.

WHIT-MONDAY'S HOLIDAY.

As Freemasons, we rejoice in all that affects the social happiness, and comfort, and welfare of the People. We leave politics to the politicians, and grievances to the grievance-mongers, and the turbid scenes of foreign affairs to those whose duty and interest are identified with their peaceful progress and happy solution. But on our own principles we have a right, and we mean to exercise it, from time to time, to express our humble opinion on all matters which relate to the social progress of our own "goodfolk" or of humanity at large. We are among those who have always welcomed the quarterly holiday. We feel sure that it is a wise provision, fraught with health and happiness, to many toiling thousands, whose lives of hourly, daily labour are cheered by the anticipation of a pleasant outing. And do not let us too hastily take stock, or affect to discuss the question how the holiday is used, for many very difficult considerations arise up before us at once. It is not the working-classes alone who misuse opportunities, or pervert hours of ease! And because of the "abuse" by some of these days of "holiday," are we to deny the use to the great majority, which seriously and soberly avails itself of its hard-earned day of honest recreation? It is pleasant to note how, despite the marring weather, how thousands were abroad everywhere on Whit-Monday in health and good-humour de-

termined to enjoy their "Alba dies!" We trust that on another holiday we may not hear that "red tape" again interferes even with a holiday. It seems that at the British Museum and other places women with babies in their arms were not admitted. Now we are not much given to babies ourselves—we are like the man who said distinctly that he "objected to babies on principle!" We are quite aware of the nuisance sometimes caused by vociferous and uneasy babies, and as a rule no doubt the exclusion of this turbulent portion of the community is justified by every law of comfort, quiet, and hygiene. But it is not so much the babies, as the women who carry their babies, we are thinking of. What are they to do? Why should they be excluded on their holiday? It is their one holiday for many weary months, and as they cannot leave their babies, why are they not on these holidays to have the same enjoyments as others? It seems to us very "hard lines" for the women, who can appreciate as well, if not better, than the men, the acquisitions of science and the wonders of nature, the results of enterprise, and the relics of archæology. So let us hope for better things, and for the increased use of the popular holidays, never grudging on any ground whatever that occasional cessation of toil and care which is ever good, depend upon it, for us all alike.

THE QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION.

The early hour at which we go to press on Thursday renders it impossible for us to call attention editorially to the proceedings of the last Quarterly Communication, which we shall hope to do next week.

ERRATUM.

In the first leader of last week read "West Lancashire" for "East Lancashire."

Original Correspondence.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for, or even as approving of the opinions expressed by our correspondents, but we wish, in a spirit of fair play to all, to permit—within certain necessary limits—free discussion.—Ed.]

REGALIA.

To the Editor of The Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I was pleased to see that my letter on this very important subject called forth criticism, and I will at once proceed to answer Bros. "R. W. O." and "Magnus Ohren," i.e. to the best of my ability.

I agree with "R. W. O." that the private lodge jewels, referred to on p.p. 121 and 122, seem to be those that are worn suspended from the collar of office; but, that, Article 2, p. 118, appears to allow a P.M.'s jewel to be worn as a breast jewel (one may suppose) although "Past Master" is not named on p. 16 as a degree "recognised and acknowledged."

It is a pity that Bro. "M.O." did not take a little more time when he so kindly essayed to put "R. W. O." and myself to rights, as a very cursory glance at his letter and the following remarks will indicate:—

Firstly: He gives a quotation from my letter, yet attributes it to "R. W. O."

Secondly: He says "R. W. O." and "Ad Rem" "confound presentation with regulation jewels," but reference to my letter, or "R. W. O.'s" second letter, will show neither of us to be in such a state of abject ignorance of the main point, or article, on which this "vexata questio" turns.

Thirdly: He seeks to fix the case personally on "R. W. O." by suggesting "if he should become eligible to attend Grand Lodge he will find," &c. Personalities are un-Masonic, unnecessary, and objectionable.

Fourthly: He gives an extract from the Constitutions on jewels, but as there is another, under the head of regalia, that is so much more explicit and binding which I think would have been the better to have reproduced, therefore I will embody a copy of it in this letter.

Fifthly: Respecting Bro. "M.O.'s" title or affix, is it right or wrong? Is not a Warden of the Grand Lodge termed a "Grand Warden?" and of a Prov. Grand Lodge a "Prov. Grand Warden for ———?" If so, should not Bro. "M.O.'s" affix run as follows:—"P.P.J.G.W. for Surrey?"

Article 2, p. 118 (referred to above), says:—"No honorary or other jewel or emblem shall be worn in the Grand Lodge or any subordinate lodge which shall not appertain to or be consistent with those degrees which are recognized and acknowledged by and are under the control of the Grand Lodge as part of pure and ancient Masonry."

If the foregoing admits of a Past Master wearing a P.M.'s jewel on his breast, in addition to the one on his collar, it is still qualified by the Article on p. 122, which says they shall be in silver, for with certain exceptions, made and provided, is it not clear that in regalia—

Private lodges are restricted to sky-blue and silver, and are termed "Blue."

Grand Lodge and Provincial Grand Lodges are restricted to garter-blue and gold, and are termed "Purple."

So, in a word, you may designate the former as "silver" and the latter as "gold."

Such being the case, can gold be said to appertain, or belong to, be consistent with, or be substituted by silver?

Further—The degree or status of a Past Master being acquired in a "Silver" lodge, I should say, as a paragon of inconsistency, give me a brother who wears a Past Master's jewel in silver on his official collar, yet can wear a gold one on his breast.

In reference to what Bro. "M. O." says about "confounding presentation with regulation jewels," while he admits presentation jewels must be consistent with the degrees recognized and acknowledged, yet he would allow gold to be substituted for silver; would it not be as consistent to allow a Rose Croix jewel to be worn simply because it is a "presentation jewel?" Could anything be more incongruous? The one word "consistent" is surely enough to make the meaning of the law clear. Crabb ("English Synonyms") defines consistent as follows:—"It is not consistent with the elevated and dignified character of a clergyman to engage in the ordinary pursuits of other men."

Gold to be substituted at pleasure for silver is surely as inconsistent as it would have been to have expected the late Mark Lemon to have appeared at an evening party in the motley costume of a jester.

Or that evening dress, generally understood to mean black and white, would justify any one appearing (as "Punch" suggested) in a black shirt, and white coat, trousers, &c.

Or, again, of the actor who, having but a scanty wardrobe, played Hamlet in a red cloak, and, on being taken to task, made a virtue of the necessity by referring to the text,—

"Tis not alone my inky cloak, good mother," and adding,— "Had they never heard of red ink?"

Bro. "M.O." says that P.M.'s jewels are generally presented. Perhaps so, but surely a P.M. is equally justified in buying one as he is in receiving one as a present.

Doubtless many a worthy P.M. has not been so fortunate as to have one presented to him, and the high price set by the fashion of illegal or inconsistent (gold) jewels may deter him, or he may prefer giving the money to the charities.

As a recommendation to lodges, or brethren, about to present a P.M.'s jewel to a brother they esteem worthy of such a proud mark of distinction, let me suggest that they buy a silver jewel, and as it is so truly worldly to mete out esteem by intrinsic value, let the difference be made up to five or ten guineas and paid over to one of our noble charities, in the name of the P.M., and let these facts be recorded in a plain address—thus, say, £13 would be ample for the jewel, the address, and to make the P.M. a Life-Governor in one of our charities. Where is the P.M. who would not elect this truly Masonic and self-commending plan, notwithstanding how much he might have personally given to the charities? Such a jewel would be a "jewel" indeed.

Fraternally yours,

"AD REM."

To the Editor of The Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Bro. R. W. O. asks certain questions for his own information. I presume that when you allow letters to appear in your paper you expect replies to be given which may be interesting to the Craft in general. My letter was so intended, and is, I consider, sufficiently intelligible. I beg to be excused from going into personal questions for which I have neither time nor inclination.

I am, &c.,

MAGNUS OHREN, P.P.G.J.W.

HONORARY MEMBERS.

To the Editor of The Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

If your space permits would you kindly give a short resumé of the status of an honorary member in a lodge, or refer me to some work where it may be found. I think this would be of sufficient general interest to warrant its insertion.

Yours fraternally,

"AN HONORARY MEMBER."

FRENCH LODGES IN ENGLAND

To the Editor of The Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Referring to a letter from an English reader of the "Monde Maçonnique" in this days "Freemason," I think if your correspondent will refer to our Grand Secretary he will find that the lodge referred to is not recognised by any Masonic body, as I have in my possession a copy of a certificate issued by a lodge calling itself "The Reformed Masonic Order of Memphis, or Rite of the Grand Lodge of Philadelphia," and holding its meetings at Stratford, in Essex. This was sent to all the lodges, accompanied by a circular from our late Grand Secretary, Bro. Wm. G. Clarke, dated 24th October, 1859, cautioning all regular Masons against allowing any member of such a body under any circumstances to have access to their lodges, or holding any communication with such irregular lodges.

I have no doubt that you can obtain a copy of the above on application at the Grand Secretary's office.

Yours fraternally,

ARTHUR LEARD,

P.M., Sec. Lewis Lodge, 1185, Wood Green, June 3rd, 1876.

MASONIC JURISPRUDENCE.

To the Editor of The Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Would you kindly inform us (Lodge 579, St. Bryde), through the columns of your influential journal: (1) Whether a brother can demand being a member of a newly constituted lodge, because he merely signed a petition praying a charter to be granted, without producing vouchers, such as diploma, to demit from his mother lodge—to prove beyond doubt he is the man he represents himself to be. (2) If he becomes a member is he not required to obligate or take some obligation to obey the bye-laws and office-bearers of the lodge? (3) Can such a brother belong to his mother lodge and be a voting member of another without owing any obedience or obligation to the latter? (4) Whether should the Greater Light be closed during the lodge being called from labour to refreshment, or shut during such refreshment. Is it illegal to have it open during the latter?

Yours fraternally,

W. H. LINDSAY CRAWFORD,

Secretary 579, S.C.

[(1) A brother signing a petition for charter as a founder has a right to be a member, but must produce diploma, and demit from his mother lodge or last lodge he may have been a member of. (2) He must be obligated to the newly constituted lodge. (3) He cannot be a voting member of any lodge unless all dues are paid and obligated. (4) The Greater Light should be closed during the time the lodge is at refreshment.]

A CAUTION.

The following circular has been issued by Lodge Friendly, 1513, Barnsley:—

"April, 1876.

"Dear Sir and Brother,—

"A man, having a foreign accent, grey whiskers, tall, and aged about 65 years, who gives the name of Francis Joseph Risse, has by his artfulness imposed upon several members of this lodge, and obtained various sums of money from them on misrepresentation. He says that he is, or was a member of St. Peter's Lodge, Peterboro'; that he is a Hungarian, and only wants sufficient money to enable him to get to Peterboro', when he will be able to obtain money to take him to his native place. Enquiry having been made at the lodge named, we find that he is an impostor, and never was a member of St. Peter's Lodge. As this man is in possession of a great deal of information we take the liberty of putting you on your guard, lest the members of your lodge be imposed upon as we have been.

"We are, Worshipful Sir and Brother, yours faithfully and fraternally,

"THOMAS BRAITHWAITE, W.M.,
"T. F. SHEPHERD, Secretary."

REPORTS OF THE HIGH DEGREES.

To the Editor of The Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I wish to join "A Past Provincial Grand Officer" in expressing my disappointment as no report has been given in the "Freemason," not only of the meeting of Great Priory held in London May 12th, but of two other important meetings held in London the same week, namely, the A. and A. Rite 33° and the Royal Order of Scotland. I am sure a report of the business transacted at such meetings as these would be far more interesting to a large number of the brethren who are not able to attend them than the speeches that are so fully reported from Craft lodges.

I should like to see the "Freemason" move like what it professes to be, namely, "a first class reference and chronology of the leading events in Freemasonry during the year."

I am, yours fraternally,

CHAS. FENDELOW.

[We should be very happy to publish all such documents if we only received them.—ED.]

Mulum in Parbo; or Masonic Notes and Queries.

CATCH QUESTIONS.

Can any brother give me the interpretation of certain letters, and catch questions—at page 100 of the Revelations of a Square, either in the "Freemason," or privately to "Enquirer," care of Editor of the "Freemason," 108, Fleet-street, London, E.C. The letters are T. F. B. G. T. H. A. F. G., and H. F. W. P. O. T. T. P. O. T. F. ENQUIRER.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF EAST LANCASHIRE.

The annual meeting of the above Prov. Grand Lodge was held in St. Saviour's School, Bacup, on Thursday, the 25th May. There was a large attendance of brethren from all parts of the province, the total number present being about 400. The Craft Lodge was opened in the Three Degrees by the W.M. and Officers of the Samaritan Lodge, No. 286, Bacup, after which the R.W. Prov. G. Master (Col. Le Gendre N. Starkie), and the Prov. G. Officers entered in procession, and the Prov. G. Lodge was opened in due form and with prayer at half-past one o'clock. The roll of lodges was called over, when it was found that all the lodges in the province—82 in number—were represented, in some instances very numerously. The R.W. Prov. G. Master announced that he had received letters of apology from the absent Prov. G. Officers, also one from Bro. J. L. Hine, P. Prov. S.G. Warden, Chairman of the Charity Committee, who was to have been presented at this meeting with a testimonial as an acknowledgment of his assiduous and successful exertions in pro-

moting the interests of this province with the various Masonic charitable institutions, but who was prevented from attending by severe indisposition. The R.W. Prov. G. Master paid an appropriate tribute to Bro. Hine's eminent services, and expressed his deep sympathy with him upon the circumstances which prevented him from being present.

The Right W. Prov. Grand Master then said he would now proceed to instal Bro. George Mellor, the May of Ashton-under-Lyne, as Deputy Provincial Grand Master, but he could not do so without alluding to the loss the province had sustained by the death of Bro. W. Romaine Callender, who formerly held the office. On a former occasion he had alluded to the death of the late Deputy Grand Master, but the event was then so recent, and their sense of the loss they had sustained so painful, that he could not fully and adequately express his feelings, and it was quite impossible for him to do so now. He then proceeded to speak of the zealous, courteous, and efficient manner in which Bro. Callender had discharged his Masonic duties, and said with regard to Bro. Mellor, that he was a gentleman who was known both in his private and public capacity to be a thoroughly honourable, straightforward, upright, and gentlemanly man. He had succeeded well in the various municipal and civic offices he had held in the borough in which he resided, and he had no doubt the same conduct he had displayed in those offices would be equally well displayed in the distinguished Masonic office that was now about to be conferred upon him.

Bro. George Mellor having been duly installed, briefly returned thanks for the honour the Provincial Grand Master had done him in appointing him, with the approbation of his brethren, to that high and distinguished position. Referring to the late Bro. Callender, he spoke of him as a perfect and excellent Mason, and said he could not find words in which to express himself better and more appropriately than those of our national bard—

"He was a man, take him for all in all

We shall not look upon his like again."

He trusted that in the discharge of his duties he should be encouraged by their approbation and help. (Applause.)

Bro. Statham, Prov. G. Treas., presented his statement of the accounts of the Provincial Grand Lodge, which were found to be in a highly satisfactory condition. Bro. John Thomas Hooper, of Blackley, near Manchester, was elected G. Treasurer for the ensuing year by an almost unanimous vote.

The Provincial Grand Master then proceeded to invest the Provincial Grand Officers with their insignia and jewels of offices as follow:—

W. Harrison, Blackburn	Prov. S.G.W.
Thomas Rhodes, Manchester	Prov. J.G.W.
The Rev. A. Salts, LL.D., Littleborough, and the Rev. S. Y. Bradshaw, Manchester	Prov. G. Chaplains.
J. T. Hooper, Manchester	Prov. G. Treas.
Thos. Chorlton, Manchester	Prov. G. Reg.
John Tannah, Bolton	Prov. G. Sec.
W. O. Walker, Bury	Prov. G.S.D.
Albert Wolstenholme, Heywood	Prov. G.J.D.
John Pilling, Bacup	Prov. G. Supt. Was.
C. M. Jones, Rochdale	Prov. G.D. of Cers.
James Shillito, Manchester	Prov. A.G.D.C.
James Mills, Heywood	Prov. G. Swd. Dr.
Thos. Hargreaves, Haslingden	Prov. G. Org.
W. Cunliffe, Blackburn	Prov. G. Purs.
Westray Bean, Bacup	Prov. A.G. Purs.
Robert Crossley, jun., John Crossley, James Barker, William Blackledge, John Wilson, and Rawdon Ashworth, all of Bacup	Prov. G. Stewards.
Charles Walker	Prov. G. Tyler.
Hobson Wadsworth, Burnley	Prov. G. Std. Br.

The business of the Provincial Grand Lodge was then transacted, and amongst other business it was agreed that Bro. Tannah, the Prov. G. Sec., should be paid the sum of £100 per annum for the services of an assistant. We may here state that Bro. Tannah, was appointed to his present office in 1848, when the meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge was held at Bacup, since which time he has held the office with entire satisfaction to all concerned. The services of Bro. Mutton, his assistant, were also spoken of in high terms.

The Prov. Grand Secretary then announced that Bro. N. Chadwick, of the Samaritan Lodge, No. 286, had to perform what he had no doubt would prove a very pleasing duty. Bro. Chadwick then, approaching the Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master, said he had been requested by the officers and brethren of the Samaritan Lodge, No. 286, to undertake what was to him a most pleasant duty. It was to present to the Right Worshipful Grand Master some acknowledgment of his great kindness in causing the most important, successful, and in several respects memorable meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of East Lancashire to be held at Bacup. That acknowledgment had taken the form of an address, which read as follows:

"The Honourable Fraternity of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons.

"To Colonel Le Gendre N. Starkie, Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master of East Lancashire.

"Right Worshipful Sir and brother,—

"We, the officers and members of the Samaritan Lodge, No. 286, Bacup, desire to offer you our hearty thanks for the honour you have conferred upon us in holding the annual meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge at Bacup, and also to accord to you, and to all the provincial officers and brethren, a most cordial welcome on the occasion of your visit to this populous and enterprising part of our province. We feel proud to acknowledge that you have, since your elevation to your high and distinguished position, discharged your onerous duties with commendable

zeal, tact, and efficiency, and that under your fostering care the Craft has not only been, but continues to be, favoured with increasing prosperity. We fervently pray that under Divine Providence you may be long spared to preside over this important and flourishing province, and faithfully to preserve our landmarks, symbolisms, ceremonies, and privileges, as Ancient, Free, and Accepted Masons of England.

"We are, Right Worshipful Sir and Brother, on behalf of the officers and members of the lodge, yours fraternally,

"James Pilling, W.M.

"Henry Taylor, S.W.

"John Wilson, J.W.

"James Barker, P.M., Hon. Sec.

"John Pilling, P.M., Treas.

"Bacup, 25th May, 1876."

He scarcely need say that the expression of feeling in that address was sincerity itself. It was a downright honest and true Masonic feeling, and one that on the part of the R.W. Grand Master was well merited. He had only to hope, and he had no doubt such hope would receive the fullest realisation, that the address would be received in the same kind spirit as that which had dictated its presentation.

The address was beautifully illuminated, and was enclosed in a massive gold frame.

The R.W. Prov. G. Master, in acknowledging the compliment, said it gave him great pleasure to find that his Masonic conduct had so far commended itself to the approval of the brethren of the Samaritan Lodge as to elicit from them such a tangible mark of their confidence. It was the first testimonial he had received since he entered upon the duties of his present high and distinguished position, and he should treasure it as a memento of one of the most pleasant provincial meetings he had ever attended. He should hang it in his home where it could be seen by his friends, and should hand it down as an heirloom to his children and his children's children. He hoped that as the letters of that address were illuminated in blue and gold that the address itself would ever illuminate his Masonic conduct.

The Prov. G. Lodge was then closed, after which the officers and brethren were, under the direction of Bro. C. M. Jones, Prov. G. Dir. of Cers., and his assistant, Bro. James Shillito, marshalled in processional order to the Mechanics' Institution, where the usual banquet was to be held. The brethren wore their badges and jewels of office, and were headed by the Wellington brass band. The streets were well lined with spectators, and as the weather was tolerably favourable, the procession, though we are afraid it did not meet everybody's expectations, was a great success.

The arrangements for the banquet at the Mechanics' Institution were on a large and costly scale. The hall had been decorated for the occasion in a most artistic and superb style. The back part of the platform was raised and covered with carpet, on which was placed a table extending the full width of the platform. There was also a table on each side of the platform, each of which was hung round with blue and purple velvet, &c., and overlaid with fine white muslin. The space behind the Grand Master was made to represent a bay window with orange and blue curtains, and red valances trimmed with spangles, &c. The space behind the side tables was made to represent windows, with red and white curtains and purple and silk velvet valances, &c., trimmed with gold lace. Over these were shields, banners, &c., and from the roof were suspended festoons of green and pink muslin. In front of the platform there was placed, among a variety of beautiful plants, a statue, representing a female figure with a light in her hand. The windows were all draped with red and green sateen, trimmed with gold lace, &c., and overlaid with fine leno muslin, and purple and crimson silk velvet valances trimmed with gold lace. On the walls between the windows there was placed, on a blue ground, a fine landscape scene in Switzerland, and also figures representing different nations. These were placed on a scarlet ground, and underneath were very magnificent mirrors in gilt frames (kindly lent for the occasion by Mr. Henry Clough, Messrs. P. and J. Greenwood, and Mr. Wm. Lord). These were on a green and gold ground, over which were hung very massive silver-plated stars, shields, and banners, and other ornaments and Masonic emblems. Under the gallery, at the back part of the hall, was a framework of wood, covered with gold and green, and in the centre there was a mirror and other ornaments. The ground work was blue and the centre scarlet, and bore the initials H.R.H. in gold. Over these were placed the Prince of Wales' feathers in gold, and on each side was a magnificent shield, covered with gold and ornamented with Masonic emblems. The two spaces on each side of the platform were made in the form of panels, on which were figures, on a blue and white ground, of the Prince of Wales and the Princess of Wales. Various parts of the hall were adorned with shields and banners. The gallery was very neatly adorned with plants, flags, and shields, and the seats were covered with scarlet baize. The staircase and entrance were also decorated with shields, banners, &c., and the steps and landings were all covered with carpets. There was a profuse display of plants and flowers, which had been kindly lent for the occasion by Mr. E. Hoyle, of Moorlands, Mr. H. Maden, of Rockcliffe House, and Mr. John Hargreaves, of Greensnook.

The address which had been presented to the Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master was exhibited in front of the platform, and was greatly admired. After the banquet ladies were admitted to the gallery, and they attended in large numbers, and were supplied with dessert. The vocalists were Miss Ho't, of Rawtenstall; Miss Smith, of Radcliffe; Mr. Green, of Rochdale; and Bro. Dumville, of Manchester; Bro. H. Taylor, S.W., ably

officiating as accompanist, and they went through a most appropriate performance in first-class style. After dinner,

The Prov. Grand Master gave in succession the toasts of "The Queen," "The Prince of Wales, M.W. Grand Master." In proposing the toast of the Prince of Wales, the Grand Master referred to the fact that our future Sovereign had become a member of the Order, and had become Worshipful Grand Master of this country and the colonies. The toast was received with "three times nine."

The Prov. Grand Master next proposed "The Princess of Wales and the rest of the Royal Family." Her fame, her goodness, and her beauty went before her before she arrived in this country. No princess ever came to this country who had more identified herself with the people of this country. The rest of the Royal family fulfilled their duty in a manner creditable to themselves and satisfactory to the country.

The Deputy Grand Master, Bro. George Mellor, proposed "The Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon, Provincial Grand Master, the Right Hon. Lord Skelmersdale, Deputy Grand Master;" and the Grand Officers Present and Past." When they saw noblemen like these becoming members of the Craft, and doing their best for the good of the Order, they ought to be very proud.

Bro. James A. Birch proposed "Col. Le Gendre Starkie, R.W. Provincial Grand Master," which was received with loud cheers. In another portion of the county the name of Starkie was revered. He ventured to assert that the prestige of that house had never been more highly sustained than in the person of the Provincial Grand Master. The manner in which he performed suit and service in the Grand Lodge showed how fit he was for the position. The progress of Freemasonry in the province during his rule had been most rapid. He referred to the successful exertions which the Grand Master had made to establish a Masonic charity in East Lancashire, and said he ventured to think that in future days the rule of the Provincial Grand Master would be blessed by the families of indigent Masons. The toast was drunk with much enthusiasm.

The Prov. Grand Master returned his heartfelt thanks for the manner in which Bro. Birch had proposed his health, and said he only wished he was half as good a Mason as their brother had represented him to be. Though he was a stranger in that part of Lancashire, the manner in which he had been received would ever remain impressed on his mind. He simply wished as a man and a Mason to do his duty, and he hoped they would excuse his deficiencies. He had been brought up in the cradle of Freemasonry, and had the example of his father, as a Mason, before him. He sought neither honour nor glory. The true Mason did not seek honour or glory, but endeavoured to do his duty. They were a body of people who wished to do good. Friendship, love, and truth were the elements they held by. He loved his province as a father loved his family, and if he enforced the laws he would endeavour to do so justly, but as leniently as possible. He thanked the brethren of Bacup for the hearty manner in which they had received him, and the testimonial which they had presented to him.

The Prov. Grand Master, after passing a warm tribute to the memory of Bro. W. R. Callender, M.P., proposed "George Mellor, Esq., Worshipful Deputy Provincial Grand Master, and the Provincial Grand Officers, Present and Past." He trusted Bro. Mellor would long have the pleasure of working in harmony and unity with him for the good of the Order. He trusted Bro. Mellor would have happiness in his new office.

Bro. Mellor briefly returned thanks. He said he had been thirty-five years connected with the Craft, and he had always tried to do his best for the interest of the Order. He thanked them for the great honour they had conferred upon him, stating that he would do all in his power for the good of the Craft.

The Prov. G. Master gave the next toast, "The Samaritan Lodge, No. 286, Bacup." He expressed the delight of himself and the other members on the manner in which they had received the Grand Lodge. He was glad there was a lodge of Freemasons in Bacup. He did not know how they managed their meetings, or whether they got blown up when they went home. He could assure them he never got blown up when he went home. He wished prosperity to the Bacup Lodge, and he hoped to meet many of them in future Grand Lodges.

Bro. the Rev. A. J. Harrison returned thanks for the W.M. He spoke only the sentiments of the brethren of the lodge when he said it was a proud day for the Freemasons of Bacup. The coming among them that day of so many men of high intelligence was a proof that Freemasonry was worthy of respect. Not only would the seventy or eighty members in Bacup be stimulated by the events of the day, but all the brethren of the Craft in Rossendale.

The other toasts were "The Masonic Charities," proposed by Bro. W. Harrison; "The Visiting Brethren," proposed by Bro. W. Blackledge, and acknowledged by Bro. Helliwell, of Bury; "The Ladies," proposed by Bro. J. T. Barcroft; "The Army, Navy, and Volunteers," proposed by Bro. R. H. Hardman; and "All Poor and Distressed Masons." The appropriate glee of "Good Night to the Day" exhausted the programme, after which the meeting broke up.

In the evening the front of the Mechanics' Institution was illuminated, the devices being a star and the Prince of Wales' feathers.

NAVAL PREPARATIONS.—Preparations have been made for dispatching to Malta medical stores for 5000 men, in addition to the strength of the squadron at present in the Mediterranean.

GRAND MARK LODGE.

The Half-yearly Communication of Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons was held on Tuesday evening, at 33, Golden-square, the Hall of the High Degrees of Freemasonry. At the opening of Grand Lodge it was formed as follows:—The Earl of Limerick, M.W.G.M.M.M.; Rev. G. R. Portal, P.G.M.M.M.; Col. Starkie, as G.S.W.; Capt. N. G. Philips, G.J.W.; Major Geo. Barlow, G.M.O.; John Chadwick, G.S.O.; S. Rosenthal, as G.J.O.; Rev. C. R. Davy, G. Chap.; Frederic Davison, G. Treas.; H. C. Levander, G. Reg.; F. Binckes, G. Sec.; Samuel Jones, G.S.D.; J. C. Gregg, G.J.D.; Robert W. Edes, G. Insp. of Wks.; Thomas Trollope, M.D., G.D. of C.; T. W. Coffin, P.G.S.B., as G. Swd. Bearer; T. S. Mortlock, G. Std. Bearer; J. H. Spencer, G.I.G.

The following brethren were also present:—F. Richardson, W. Thompson, Sir F. W. Winn, Prov. G.M.; Rev. W. Langley, P.G.C. (Leicester); S. Rosenthal, P.G.D.; Rev. D. Shaboe, P.G.C.; George Mellor, P.G.M.O.; Rev. T. F. Ravenshaw, P.G.C.; Thomas J. Sabine, P.G.A.D.C.; D. M. Dewar, P.G.S.; J. H. Scott, P.G.S.; Wm. S. Webster, P.G.S.; Magnus Ohren, P.G.M.O.; Thomas Meggy, P.G.M.O.; A. Great Rex, P.G.S., and P.G.J.O.; J. Pringle, P.G.S.; Stephen Dibdin, P.G.O.; R. G. Glover, P.G.S.; W. E. Gumbleton, P.G.W.; George Neall, P.G. Supt. Wks.; Thomas Cubitt, P.G.D.C.; John Read, P.G. Org.; Wm. Roebuck, P.P.G.J.W., Middlesex and Surrey, P.M. Old Kent; E. J. Hart, Reg. Mks., Bon Accord; R. W. H. Giddy, P.M. Northumberland and Berwick; P. L. Simmonds, P.M. St. Mark's, No. 1; Rev. P. H. E. Bretter, W.M. St. Mark's, No. 1; J. T. Shapland, W.M. Fortescue, No. 9; J. J. Fast, P.M. Howe, No. 21; J. C. Mason, J.W. Southwark, No. 22; W. F. Cox, S.O. Furness, No. 36; J. E. Curteis, P.P.G.W. Devon, P.M. Sincerity, No. 35; H. Bagot, W.M. Furness, No. 36; S. B. Ellis, S.O. Britannia, No. 53; G. J. McKay, Cumberland, No. 60; Rev. K. Miller, P.M. Isaac Newton University, No. 112; J. M. P. Montagu, P.M. St. Mary's, No. 121; J. J. Gibson, S.D. Panmure, No. 139; G. Martin, W.M. Mallet and Chisel, No. 134; T. C. Pulman, W.M. Panmure, No. 139; C. Lacey, W.M. Temple, No. 173; H. G. Morse, St. Peter and St. Paul, No. 163; J. Braithwaite, S.W. Southdown, No. 164; H. Court, jun., M.O. Francis Burdett, No. 181; H. Court, J.O. Francis Burdett, No. 181; Col. H. S. Burney, H. Pullen; R.W. Bro. J. Elliott, D.P.G.M.M.M. Devon; W. Bro. J. Gould, P.G.D. Devon; W. Bro. H. Matthews, P.P.S.G.W. West Yorkshire; W. Bro. R. Berridge, P.J.G.W. Middlesex and Surrey; W. Bro. R. Butterworth, P.P.G.D.C. Lancashire; W. Bro. R. J. Mure, P.G.M.O. Middlesex and Surrey; W. Bro. F. H. Cozens, P.G. Org. Middlesex and Surrey; and H. Massey ("Freemason").

Bro. F. Binckes, Grand Secretary, having read the minutes of the last half-yearly communication, and of the movable Grand Lodge held at Bristol on the 28th April last, they were severally put to Grand Lodge and confirmed.

Bro. Binckes then read the following Report of the General Board:—

The number of certificates issued in the six months to 31st March last is 438.

During the same period warrants for new lodges have been granted:—

No. 189, Scarlett, Burnley.

No. 190, Adoniram, Mussoorie, Bengal.

No. 191, Friendship, Unanimity, and Philanthropy, Bridgewater.

No. 192, St. Cuthbert's, Berwick-on-Tweed.

The lamented death of Bro. W. Romaine Callender, M.P., caused, in addition to the loss of his valuable services as R.W. Deputy Grand Mark Master, a vacancy in the government of the province of Lancashire, in connection with which his exertions in behalf of the Order had been so successful and so highly appreciated. Fitting and appropriate notice of this unexpected and regretted event has already been taken, and it now only remains to add that the duties of R.W. Deputy Grand Mark Master, and of R.W. Provincial Grand Mark Master of Lancashire, have devolved upon the Rt. Hon. Lord Skelmersdale, whose appointment, it is confidently believed, will be hailed with satisfaction, not only by the brethren of the Province of Lancashire, but by the members of the Order at large.

Another change in provincial rule has been occasioned by the death of R.W. Bro. Sir John Cordy Burrows, whose too brief tenure of office as first Provincial Grand Mark Master of Sussex was productive of very considerable benefit to the Order, though the full advantages of his presidency could not be realised, as undoubtedly would have been the case had his valuable life been prolonged.

As successor to Sir Cordy Burrows, the brethren of the Province of Sussex, in Grand Lodge assembled, unanimously recommended Bro. James Mackay Cunningham, M.D., who so ably assisted his predecessor as Deputy Provincial Grand Mark Master, and the M.W. Grand Mark Master has been pleased to approve such recommendation.

In Madras the board have to report that in succession to R.W. Bro. Arthur Macdonald Ritchie, B.A., whose term of office had expired, Bro. Aubrey William Ogilvie Saunders has been recommended and approved as R.W. Provincial Grand Master.

A movable Grand Lodge was held by command of the M.W. Grand Mark Master at Bristol on Friday, 28th April, for the purpose of constituting a Mark Province of Bristol, and of installing Bro. William Augustus Frederick Powell as first Provincial Grand Master. A very successful meeting was held under the presidency of the W.M. Past Grand Mark Master, the Rev. G. R. Portal, in the unavoidable absence of the W.M. Grand Mark Master, who had fully proposed to be

present, and from the known zeal of the Bristol brethren and the Provincial Grand Master, it may be safely predicted that the degree will take firm root in that ancient city.

The board have had under consideration the memorial, together with letters under date 26th November and 29th December, 1875, and 8th January, 1876, from a brother whose case has been previously before the General Board and this Grand Lodge. They regret that the personalities contained in these communications make it inadvisable under present circumstances to go further into the questions which he has raised. The correspondence is open to the inspection of any member of Grand Lodge.

Copies of the proceedings of the General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the United States of America, and of the proceedings of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the State of Maine, have been received. The board have to express their cordial acknowledgments to the learned and illustrious Comp. Josiah H. Drummond, Past General Grand High Priest, for his able defence of the Masonic position of this Grand Lodge as the legitimate head of the Mark Degree in England, contained in both the above publications.

The resolution adopted by this Grand Lodge at the last half-yearly communication, with reference to the relations between this Grand Lodge and other supreme Masonic jurisdictions under the "Tripartite Treaty," has been formally communicated by the Grand Secretary to the recognised officials of those bodies.

The annual festival in aid of the "Benevolent Fund" will be held on Wednesday, 19th July. The arrangements will be published in due course. The services of brethren representing lodges or provinces as Stewards are earnestly requested.

A grant of £20 to Bro. M. E., recommended by the board, requires confirmation by Grand Lodge.

The board has extreme satisfaction in submitting a recommendation, in proof of the gratifying condition of the finances of Grand Lodge, for the investment of £200 on account of the General Fund.

The invested property will then be:

On account of General Fund £400 0 0

" Benevolent Fund 600 0 0

The Grand Treasurer's accounts for the six months to 31st March are subjoined, which show:

GENERAL FUND.

Balance from 30th September, 1875 £348 19 0

Half year's receipts £495 14 6

4 19 2

495 13 8

Total 844 12 8

Half year's disbursements 313 7 7

215 10 3

528 17 10

Balance 1st April, 1876 £315 14 10

FUND OF BENEVOLENCE.

Balance 30th September, 1875 £301 1 4

Receipts for the half year:

Donations 31 17 6

Dividends 14 17 6

46 15 0

347 16 4

Grants to Petitioners 75 0 0

200 Canadians 215 10 3

290 10 3

£57 6 1

On the motion of Bro. the Rev. D. Shaboe, P.G.C., seconded by the Rev. Dr. Brette, this report was ordered to be received.

On the motion of Bro. Levander, G. Reg., seconded by Bro. Meggy, P.G.M.O., the grant of £20 to Bro. M.E. was confirmed.

On the motion of Bro. W. S. Webster, seconded by Bro. Davison, G.T., £200 was ordered to be invested for the General Fund account.

The report was then ordered to be received and entered on the minutes, on the motion of the Rev. D. Shaboe, P.G.C., seconded by Bro. T. J. Sabine, P.G.A.D.C.

This being the day for the annual Installation of Grand Master, Dr. Thomas Trollope, G.D.C., proclaimed the Right Hon. the Earl of Limerick M.W.G.M.M.M. for the ensuing year, and he was saluted accordingly.

The Earl of Limerick afterwards rose and said,—Brethren, I have to thank you for this proof of your confidence in electing me for another term of office. I thank you heartily for the honour you have done me. I think I may say that during the past year of my office the Order has in no way gone backward. We have had, however, owing to individual losses of brethren high in office, and much esteemed in our Order, times of most sincere and heartfelt mourning; but, in spite of these losses, which we all deplore, the Order has gone on steadily progressing during the last year. A considerable number of new warrants have been granted, a new province has been formed, and I may say that the Degree is in as flourishing a state now as it ever has been in time past. I trust that during the next term of office with which you have so kindly entrusted me the progress which has been made will be continued. (Hear, hear.) My next duty is to thank those brethren who have so well discharged the duties of Grand Office during the past year, in my own name, and I am sure I may also do it in the name of Grand Lodge. Having done that I have to declare the Grand Offices vacant, and to proceed with the appointment and investiture of officers in their places. The office of Deputy Grand Master became vacant, as you are aware, since the last meeting of Grand Lodge, by the lamented death of our Bro. Romaine Callender. That office I have been able to fill, I trust and believe, to the

satisfaction of all brethren of the Order by appointing to the vacancy Lord Skelmersdale. All the brethren are acquainted with the fact that from the nature of his duties during the parliamentary session, which are very arduous, he is kept pretty constantly in London. Our meeting now is held during the short parliamentary recess, and he is unfortunately out of town and not able to be here to-night. The brethren know that he discharges the duties of any office he undertakes very ably, and that he never takes an office the duties of which he does not thoroughly intend to discharge zealously. I appoint Lord Skelmersdale as Deputy Grand Master.

The following brethren were then appointed Grand Officers for the year:—

The Earl of Jersey.....	G.S.W.
General Brownrigg	G.J.W.
Rev. P. H. E. Brette, D.D., and Rev.	
J. S. Brownrigg, M.A.	G.C.
F. Davison (elected)	G.T.
H. C. Levander	G.R.
F. Binckes	G.S.
W. Roebuck	G.M.O.
W. S. Webster	G.S.O.
H. Matthews	G.J.O.
Josiah Austin	G.S.D.
J. E. Curteis	G.J.D.
Edis	G.S.W.M.
H. M. Green	G.D.C.
Charles Lacey	G.A.D.C.
Henry Bagot	G. Swd. B.
E. W. Franklin	G. Std. B.
Frederick H. Cozens	G. Org.
John G. Fast	G.I.G.
H. W. Binckes	G. Asst. Sec.
C. T. Speight	G.T.
Captain Mason, C. Pulman, and	
George Bolton	G. Stewards.

The Grand Master next nominated Bros. W. E. Gumblerton, Thomas Meggy, S. Rosenthal, Edis, Dibdin, and Ohren to serve on the General Board, and the Rev. G. R. Portal to be President.

Bros. Cubitt, Dewar, Sabine, Stidolph, and Roebuck were elected as members of this Board.

The Grand Master invested Bro. W. Roebuck with the Charity Jewel. Addressing Bro. Gerald Martin, from Poonah, he said that it was exceedingly pleasant to him to have to discharge a duty which had been cast on him by the brethren of Poonah. They had requested him to present to Bro. Gerald Martin, P.M. 1,34, a P.M. jewel, bearing the following inscription:—"Presented by the Brethren of the Mallet and Chisel Lodge, No. 134, to Worshipful Brother Gerald Martin, as an expression of their admiration and esteem for him as a Master, and their regard for him as a friend and brother."

Bro. Gerald Martin said it would always be a great pride to him to wear this jewel.

A Brother moved for a return at next Grand Lodge of the expenses of the Mark Grand Lodge Benevolent Festival of 1874, with the names of the Stewards, the amount payable by each, and a list of those who had not paid their proportion.

Bro. the Rev. D. Shaboe said that this subject had been mentioned before, and he had himself spoken upon it. He hoped that the expression of the brethren's feelings then given would have induced every brother who had not paid to forward the money. It was with great regret he found it necessary that such a motion should be made. Still he did not think there was one brother in that room who would put his name down as representing such a magnificent lodge as that, and not pay his money, unless through some forgetfulness. He hoped that by next Grand Lodge they would find that the right thing had been done; if not, he should have to say something very strong on that occasion.

Bro. Binckes informed the Grand Master that he had made repeated applications to the brethren who had not paid, but he hoped that what had just been said would have the desired effect.

Bro. Curteis, G.J.D., said they had heard that the funds of this Grand Lodge were in a flourishing condition, so flourishing indeed that they were able to put aside certain sums for investment. He therefore thought that they might also put aside something for some charitable object. (Hear, hear.) Consequently he would propose that 25 guineas be given to the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, and begged to give notice of motion to that effect.

The Rev. Bro. Langley, Leicester, then said he had been desired by the Prov. G.M. of Leicestershire to express his regret for his absence from this Grand Lodge, but he hoped that the Right Hon. the Grand Master would honour the province of Leicestershire by holding the Movable Grand Lodge there in the autumn, when he trusted another Mark Lodge would be consecrated there.

The M.W.G.M. said he should be very happy to accept the invitation which had been given by the brethren of Leicestershire, to hold a Movable Grand Lodge there.

The customary salutes for the new Grand Officers were afterwards given, and Grand Lodge was closed.

The banquet was held at the Café Royal, Air-street, and was followed by the usual toasts. The Right Hon. the Grand Master presided, having the Rev. Dr. Brette, G.C., on his right, and the Past Grand Master, Bro. Portal, on his left.

In giving the toast of "The Queen and Mark Masonry," the Grand Master said that there was no one who practised that most exalted principle of our Order, Charity, more than the Queen and the Royal family. With respect to Mark Masonry, it never was more flourishing than now, and he believed it was steadily progressing, both as regarded numbers and usefulness at home and abroad, and wherever it took root. It lost no ground it ever made, and wherever it was planted its roots struck. (Hear, hear.) This toast was followed by that of "The Prince

of Wales and the rest of the Royal Family," and the Grand Master said that Craft and Mark Masons, and all Englishmen, gladly welcomed the Prince on his return to England. Although he had been suffering from illness lately, it was not of a serious character. At present Mark Masons had the honour and pleasure of having only one member of the Royal family belonging to them, but he trusted this would not long be the case. They certainly had a most zealous and hard-working brother among the Order in his Royal Highness Prince Leopold, and before very long he would be Master of a Mark Lodge, in which position, as in every other he took upon him, he would thoroughly work out his obligation. (Hear, hear.)

Bro. the Rev. G. R. Portal, P.G.M., proposed "The M.W.G.M.M.M." The growth of this degree was really almost marvellous. He could remember, when he was Grand Chaplain, attending Grand Lodge in a very small room in Freemasons' Tavern; there were but fifteen persons present (who all talked at once). Now, however, they saw what a brilliant assembly was got together, and they had heard that night that 600 certificates had been issued in the year, and there were now nearly 200 lodges on the roll. He thought this was due to no one brother in particular, but to each of the Grand Masters. Never was it safer than in the hands of Lord Limerick, and he would say this with the greatest confidence, having known them all. No one had set himself more at work than the present Grand Master, and the success of the Order was certain while his lordship was at its head.

The M.W.G.M., in reply, said,—Your M.W.P.G.M. has spoken of me in terms much more complimentary than I could in any way deserve (No), because all I could endeavour to do has been to follow closely in the footsteps of the previous Grand Masters, during whose time Mark Masonry has made steady progress. I am only thankful that that progress has not been in any way retarded during my year of office. I feel very proud at the continued progress it has made, and I trust and hope it will make still further progress in the future. Everything leads us to suppose that the progress which has been made in the past is only an augury of what it will be in the future. At the present moment the Mark Degree is second only to the Craft to which we all belong. It surpasses the Royal Arch; it surpasses the other degrees in the number of its lodges, and in the number of its members; and I trust at some future time it will rival the Craft itself, for I cannot see any reason why where there is a Craft lodge there should not also be a Mark lodge. I look upon the Mark Degree as a complement of the Craft. I thank you, brethren, very heartily for the manner in which you have received the toast of my health. I have said that the Order has continued to prosper and flourish in the United Kingdom and in places abroad. I may add that there are openings in places abroad for its taking root where it has not hitherto. We had with us to-night a brother who, I believe, is returning to the Cape of Good Hope as District G. Master of that colony, and I trust he will be able to explain the principles of our Mark Degree out there, which may lead to the formation of new Mark lodges there. Much as we regret his temporary absence, I trust it will tend in a considerable degree to the progress of the Order. I must say that I look forward to a very great future for this Mark Degree, and as it has not gone back during my time I confidently expect to see it prospering, and spreading its useful work.

The M.W.G.M. then proposed "The Past Grand Masters," and approved of the custom of this Grand Lodge selecting its G. Masters for a certain term only. This he considered had a very beneficial effect, for it had surrounded the G.M. for the time being with a body of brethren who were acquainted with the customs, the traditions, and working of the Order. All the brethren knew what excellent Grand Masters they had had and how much they had done for the degree; but he believed not one of them had done more for it than Bro. Portal. (Hear, hear.) They all knew how thoroughly his heart was with the degree and how zealous he was in promoting its best interests. He had known Bro. Portal for a great many years, and was aware how entirely his heart was with Mark Masonry.

Bro. Portal, in reply, said it was a singular fact, which had been suggested to him by a sharp-witted friend, that all the Past Masters of this Grand Lodge were in the ruddiest and most vigorous health. Grand Lodge had not lost one of them. On the General Board their attention had been directed towards the promotion of this Order. When he saw how rulers were treated in other countries he could not but congratulate himself that the rulers of this Order were the receptacles of the confidence of Mark Masons, and he was thankful that they gave the P.M.'s credit for what they did for the good of the Order. With such feelings they would go on doing their best, because they knew they would have the sympathy and encouragement of the brethren.

The M.W.G.M. then gave "The Grand Officers," and referred to the great zeal those brethren had always displayed who were entrusted with office that evening. Among them he alluded to Lord Skelmersdale, Bros. Levander, Binckes, Davison, Dr. Brette, Rev. J. S. Brownrigg, Gen. Brownrigg (who was the oldest Mark Master present, having been advanced thirty-three years ago). One of this brother's first acts on his arrival in India was to sign a petition for a new Mark lodge out there. (Cheers.) With a staff of such G. Officers he (the M.W.G.M.) felt sure of efficient support.

General Brownrigg, in the course of a very brief reply, said he was afraid he had not done so much for Masonry as he ought to have done. Still, as we read in a very old authority that the sins of the fathers were visited on the children, he hoped in this case that the good his sons might do would be some recompense for his own faults.

The M.W.G.M. then gave "The Prov. Grand Lodges," on whom Grand Lodge relied for the conduct of the Order on proper and constitutional principles. These Provincial Grand Lodges had of late years greatly developed; their numbers had increased, and their efficiency had grown

Grand Lodge congratulated itself on the way the work was done in the provinces. The Province of Bristol had recently been constituted, and it augured well for the progress of Mark Masonry in that ancient home of Masonry. The year before two Provincial Grand Lodges were formed, and from year to year Mark Masonry was spreading, and a strong and settled form of government was established.

Bro. Elliot, D.P.G.M. Devon, replied.

Bro. Levander proposed "The Benevolent Fund," to which Bros. Roebuck and Brette responded.

The M.W.G.M. proposed "The Grand Stewards," coupling with it the name of Bro. H. Massey ("Freemason"), Past Grand Steward, who briefly acknowledged the compliment, and the remaining toasts were afterwards given, and the brethren separated.

Scotland.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Kilwinning (No. 4).—An emergency meeting of this lodge was held in the hall, 162, Kent-road, on Friday afternoon, at 4 p.m., the 2nd inst., Bro. R. Prout, W.M., presiding, supported by his office-bearers and a fair attendance of members. On the lodge being opened a brother was passed to the F.C. degree by Bro. T. Stewart, P.M. Thistle and Rose, No. 73, and afterwards a brother was raised to the sublime degree of M.M. by Bro. G. W. Wheeler, Chaplain No. 73.

KIRKINTILLOCH.—St. John Kilwinning Lodge (No. 28).—The regular monthly meeting of this very old lodge was held in their lodge-room, "Black Bull" Inn, on Saturday afternoon, the 27th ult. Bro. D. Cameron, W.M., presided, supported by his Wardens, and Bro. Allan, D.M., acting Sec. On the lodge being opened, and the minutes of last monthly meeting read and confirmed, two applications were read from the following gentlemen—Messrs. John Buchanan and Alexander Russell—and favourably received. They were then admitted and received the E.A. degree at the hands of Bro. Cameron, W.M., in that brother's able and impressive manner. Bro. Archibald Neven was afterwards raised to the sublime degree of M.M. by Bro. D. Gilchrist, W.M. St. Andrew's, Glasgow, No. 465. The meeting was well attended by members, and a deputation was present from Maryhill Lodge, No. 510, headed by Bro. John McKay, W.M. The lodge was then resumed in the First Degree, and closed in due form.

GLASGOW.—Union and Crown Lodge (No. 103).—The monthly meeting of this lodge was held in the Commercial Hall, 30, Hope-street, on Monday evening, the 29th ult., Bro. D. Murray, W.M., in the chair, supported by Bros. A. M. Wright, I.P.M., acting S.W.; W. Ferguson, P.M. 543, acting J.W.; R. Munro, D.M.; J. McFarlane, S.M.; Neil Cameron, Treas.; J. Gillies, P.M. Sec.; A. Gray, J.D.; J. Gray, I.G.; and R. Boyd, Tyler. Among the visiting brethren were Bros. D. Butler, W.M. St. Mungo, 27; W. Foster, P.M. 354; David Reid, I.P.M. 465; Jas. Findlay, S.M. 333; J. McLeish, S.M. 465; J. Bannerman, D.M. 73; John Stewart, 360; R. Young, St. Patrick, Belfast, 195 (I.C.), and members from Nos. 28, 73, 169, 219, 292, 204, 307, 333, 465, and 553. On the lodge being opened, the Secretary read the minutes of the last monthly and one emergency meeting, which were approved. The W.M. then complimented the office-bearers and members of the lodge on the choice they had made in securing the Commercial Masonic Hall for holding their meetings, at the same time remarking that he (the chairman) hoped the day was not far distant when the Union and Crown Lodge, No. 103, would be in a position to have a hall of their own. The W.M. then said he was glad in using his prerogative in proposing for honorary affiliation to the Union and Crown Lodge Bros. J. Findlay, S.M. 333; W. Ferguson, I.P.M. 543 ("Freemason"); J. Stewart, 360 (N.B.D.M.); and J. Bannerman, D.M. 73, for services rendered to the lodge; and they were duly obligated by Bro. Gillies, P.M., Sec. Mr. Jas. Patterson was initiated by Bro. A. M. Wright, I.P.M., in his usual careful manner. The lodge was then closed, and afterwards a Board of Installed Masters was formed, and conferred that degree on Bro. W. Foster, P.M. 354. Bro. Ferguson officiating, supported by Bros. Gillies, Murray, and Reid. The brethren then adjourned to refreshment, when a short time was spent in harmony.

RUTHERGLEN.—Lodge St. John Operative (No. 347).—The regular monthly meeting of this lodge was held on Friday evening, the 26th ult., Bro. D. Smart, W.M., in the chair; J. Murdoch, S.W.; T. Alston, J.W. The W.M. was supported on the dais by Bros. D. Butler, W.M. 27; Hamilton, W.M. 116; W. Phillips, W.M. 556; A. Gow, S.M. 581; J. Cunningham, I.P.M.; and M. Abbott, D.M. of the lodge. The principle feature of the evening's business was presentation to Bro. Cunningham, I.P.M., for his valuable services to the lodge as W.M. for the long period of four consecutive years, and the occasion turned out a large number of brethren from the different lodges in the Province of Glasgow and neighbourhood, no less than 200 were present. Deputations were present from the following lodges—33, 4, 18, 27, 28, 73, 103, 116, 128, 142, 219, 275, 278, 305, 333, 362, 408, 441, 556 and 581. The lodge having been opened, and minutes of last meeting read and confirmed, four gentlemen, Messrs. P. McGregor, J. McCrae, S. Burlington, and S. Wilson were initiated into the E.A. Degree by Bro. Smart, the W.M. The lodge was then closed and transferred to refreshment. Bro. M. Abbott, D.M., was called upon to make the presentation, who, in a excellent speech, referring particularly to the past conduct of the worthy brother whom he had the honour to present with this testimonial, the untiring energies with which he had for the past years wrought for this, his mother lodge in particular, and the Craft in general. He also referred to this charitable disposition,

remarking that he had set a good and true example to those who may follow in his footsteps. Bro. Abbott then presented Bro. Cunningham with a massive gold watch and chain with appendages, and they were, we understand, subscribed for not only in Scotland, but in England and Ireland as well, owing to the esteem in which he is held. Bro. Cunningham replied in feeling terms, confining himself principally to the progress of the lodge during his mastership. He stated that the initiates had been numerous, they had also acquired a splendid hall which they were now assembled in, and that he had worked pretty hard, but all the honour was not due to him, if he had not been supported by the most able and willing office-bearers it would have been utterly impossible for him as an individual to have gone through the work, he therefore thanked the brethren for the handsome and costly present. (Applause.) During the evening the several W.M.'s present occupied the chair in rotation, and among the various toasts which were honoured, "The Prosperity of Lodge St. John, No. 347," was proposed by Bro. D. Butler, W.M. 27, and replied to by Bro. Smart, W.M. "The Visitors," proposed by Bro. Smart, W.M., and replied to by Bro. Robert Allan, Sec. 581.

GLASGOW.—Commercial Lodge (No. 360).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held in their hall, 30, Hope-street, on Friday evening, 2nd inst., Bro. John Munro, W.M., in the chair; Davidson, P.M.; J. M. Oliver, S.W.; J. M. Duncan, acting J.W.; John Smith, Sec.; G. Scott, Treas.; R. Brodie, D. of M., and a very good attendance of members and visiting brethren. Among the latter was a Bro. J. Richmond, of Lodge 526, holding of Grand Lodge of Springfield, America. On the lodge being opened the minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed. Bro. W. Campbell was then raised to the sublime degree of M.M., Bro. Oliver, S.W., giving the obligation, and the W.M., Bro. Munro, performing the remaining part of the degree in his able and impressive style. The lodge was then resumed in the First Degree, and closed in due form.

GLASGOW.—Clyde Lodge (No. 408).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held in St. Mark's Hall, 213, Buchanan-street, on Friday evening, the 2nd inst. In the unavoidable absence of Bro. W. Harper, W.M., Bro. T. Gordon, P.M., D.M., occupied the chair; J. McInnes, S.M.; W. Bilsland, S.W.; J. Neagle, J.W. 441, acting J.W.; W. Anderson, Treas.; R. Wallace, &c. Among the visitors were Bros. G. McDonald, W.M. 73; J. Bannerman, D.M. 73; Wheeler, Chap. 73; Kay, S.D. 73; A. Bain, P.M. 103; Ferguson, P.M. 543 ("Freemason"). The lodge was opened, and Mr. Angel Roman Colunga was initiated. Messrs. Louis Lesser Dutch and Andrew Deans were also initiated on behalf of Thistle and Rose Lodge, No. 73. Bros. Colunga and Dutch having to leave Scotland in a few days, were then passed at their own request to the F.C. degree, and they were afterwards, along with Bro. M. Smith, raised to the sublime degree of M.M., Bro. T. Gordon, P.M., D.M., performing the whole of the ceremonies. The lodge was then reduced to the E.A. degree, and closed in due form.

GLASGOW.—St. Andrew Lodge (No. 465).—A meeting of this lodge was held in their Masonic Hall, 69, Garngad-road, on Thursday evening, the 1st inst., Bro. D. Gilchrist, W.M., presiding; J. McLeish, S.M.; G. B. Davidson, S.W.; W. Chalmers, J.W.; W. Campbell, Sec. Visitors: Bros. J. T. Muir, W.M. Argyle, No. 335; J. Martin, D.M. 219; B. Smart, Treas. 219, and a deputation of fifteen; J. McInnes, S.W. 332; W. Ferguson, P.M. 543 ("Freemason"); J. S. Allan, D.M. 28, and others. The lodge being opened, and the minutes read and confirmed, it was called to refreshment, when the W.M. in succession proposed the following toasts, which were most enthusiastically responded to, viz., "The Queen and the Craft," "The Three Grand Lodges," "Grand Lodge of New Brunswick," (replied to by Bro. Campbell, of Lodge No. 22), "The Provincial Grand Lodge of Glasgow," "The Visitors," coupled with the name of Bro. Muir, W.M. 335, who replied in a very able manner; "The W.M.," proposed by Bro. Martin, D.M. 219, and neatly replied to by Bro. Gilchrist; "The Masonic Press," by the W.M., replied to by Bro. Ferguson, P.M. 543 ("Freemason"). Other toasts followed. During the evening Bros. Chalmers, Davidson, Neven, Grieve, and others contributed to the enjoyment by singing some excellent songs, and the brethren, after spending a most harmonious evening, separated, after the Tyler's toast, "Happy to meet, sorry to part, and happy to meet again."

THORNIEBANK.—Lodge Thorntree (No. 512).—The regular monthly meeting of this prosperous lodge was held in their hall, on Saturday last, Bro. Robert Scobie, W.M., presiding, supported by Bro. Robert Fletcher, S.W., and Bro. Robert McEwan, J.W., and was attended by a numerous and distinguished company. Amongst the visiting brethren were deputations from the Paisley St. Mirren's Lodge, No. 129, and Renfrew County Kilwinning Lodge, No. 370, Paisley. On the lodge being opened on the First Degree, it was announced that the members of the Provincial Grand Lodge, Renfrewshire East, were in waiting outside for the purpose of inspecting the lodge. The W.M. gave instructions to receive them, which was accordingly done, with the usual honours. The deputation, in the unavoidable absence of the Provincial Grand Master, Col. Campbell, of Blythwood, was headed by ex-Bailie Caldwell, of Craigielea, P.G. Deputy Master, who, on taking his seat on the dais, was handed the mallet by the W.M. of Thorntree Lodge, and requested to occupy the chair, which compliment the Deputy Master gracefully acknowledged, at the same time returning the mallet, and requesting the R.W.M. to retain his seat. Ex-Bailie Caldwell then said that they had made a careful examination of the books of the Lodge Thorntree, No. 512, and found them to be in a most satisfactory condition, reflecting

great credit on the Secretary. The general working of the lodge was found to be in strict harmony with the constitution of the Grand Lodge. He complimented the lodge on their excellent staff of office-bearers, making special reference to the W.M., and also spoke of its prosperity, no less than twenty-five new members being added to its roll for last year. In conclusion, he hoped that the same prosperity would attend the lodge in the future as had been the case in the past. The W.M. then thanked the deputation for their flattering report; after which two candidates were admitted as members of the Order, the initiation ceremony being ably rendered by Bro. Scobie. The lodge was called to harmony, and the Provincial deputation and visiting brethren most hospitably entertained by the office-bearers of Thorntree Lodge, when hearty good wishes were expressed by the brethren from the various visiting lodges towards the Thorntree Lodge for their kindness to them on this occasion.

GLASGOW.—Clydesdale Lodge (No. 556).—A meeting of this lodge was held in their hall, 106, Rose-street, S.S., on Tuesday, 30th ult., Bro. W. Phillips, W.M., in the chair; J. McNaught, S.W.; T. Phillips, J. W.; H. M. Culloch, D.M.; J. McKechnie, Treas.; G. B. Yuill, Sec.; P. Young, S.D.; J. McCammon, J.D.; W. Smith, I.G.; and W. Graham, Tyler; and a large turn-out of members and visitors. Among the latter we noticed Bros. W. J. E. Dobson, W.M. Dramatic, 571; G. C. H. McNaught, P.M. 275; Wm. Foster, P.M. 354; J. M. Oliver, S.W. 360; M. Stark, 553; W. Ferguson, P.M. 543 ("Freemason"); J. Robertson, I.G. 571, and others. The minutes of last meeting being read and confirmed, and other business disposed of, Messrs. J. Bennet, R. Mabin, and Peter Lloyd were initiated into the E.A. degree by the W.M. Bros. Alex. Moore, S. Johnstone, and Robt. McMillan were passed to the F.C. degree by Bro. W. Ferguson, P.M. 543; and Bros. R. Wilson, A. Richardson, and J. Moore were raised to the sublime degree of M.M. by Bro. Phillips, W.M. The lodge was then reduced to the First Degree, and afterwards a short time was spent in harmony and refreshment.

MASONIC AND GENERAL LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.—We would again call the attention of our readers to the steady progress which this company is making. We do so more particularly at this time as its financial year ends on 30th September next. It is also a very satisfactory fact that this company has had no difficulty or trouble whatever in passing its accounts and balance-sheet with the Board of Trade, in compliance with the Act. The accounts for the year ending 30th September, 1875, have been duly filed and passed by the Board of Trade, and when the next blue-book is issued will appear therein. These are facts which should be pleasing to our readers, and we strongly recommend our brethren to follow out the advice of the late Charles Dickens, "Be assured, whether you are thinking of the safety of your life by land, or by railway, or by sea, or of the unbroken condition of your arms and legs, or of the maintenance of general health, or of comfort, and competence in your old age, or of the interests of wife and children when you may be no more, or for a provision for your boy when he reaches the apprenticeship age, or of the happy marriage and the wedding portion of your little Mary Anne, one day to be, you hope, a blushing bride, now a tiny prattling fairy of two or three years—never mind the subject matter—"Be assured." In a recent but eloquent speech made by the Rev. Dr. Gillan on assurance matters, he said: "I commend such institutions because I see in them the centre point or germs of many of the higher virtues which adorn man and the Christian. Among these, self-abnegation stands out the most prominent. Narrowness is banished, and liberality takes its place. In many cases of life assurance restraint is placed on individual inclination. Domestic privations are often submitted to, which the selfish must admire; and where luxuries or superfluities are denied for this purpose, a blessing is safe to rest on what remains. This is the highest sentiment which can inspire the breast, and what can be more touchingly indicative of genuine generous affection than the adoption of such a course? Whatever is contained in your Policy is secured for the benefit of others. It is a provision for your nearest and dearest when you can provide for them no longer. It is to ward off the horrors of poverty, and, humanly speaking, to render destitution impossible. To vindicate the neglect of such a precaution on the plea of plenty while living cannot be admitted. On the contrary, the more comfortably the family are kept, the greater the cruelty of leaving them to the cold charity of an unfeeling world. The greener the pasture now, the more dreary will the desert be then. Such exercises of self denial cannot go without their reward."

What ought to prove an investigation of interest and value is about to be made in Glasgow. It is determined to begin a series of observations on the air of that city. It is understood that Dr. Russell, the medical officer of health has associated with himself Dr. Joseph Coates and Mr. Dickson, the former of whom will undertake the microscopic examination of the air-working, and the latter the chemical. The result should be exceedingly interesting, and the example might with advantage be followed in other great cities.

Copies of the "Freemason" for May 1st and 8th, 1875, containing a full account of the proceedings at the Installation of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, as Most Worshipful Grand Master and First Grand Principal, are still obtainable at the office, 198, Fleet-street.

The "Masonic Magazine" for the current month, contains an engraving of the first church built in England, A.D. 61.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

The General Committee of this institution was held on Saturday, the 3rd inst., at Freemasons' Hall, Bro. John Symonds in the chair. There were also present Bros. Benj. Head, Capt. J. Wordsworth, H. Browne, Jesse Turner, R. B. Webster, J. B. Scriven, Alfred H. Diaper, W. Hyde Pullen, George J. Palmer, H. Massey ("Freemason"), F. H. Ebsworth, J. G. Chancellor, Richard Spencer, Alex. Wallace, W. Mann, J. W. Dosell, F. Adlard, Percival Sanford, S. Rosenthal, A. Durrant, and F. Binckes, Secretary.

After the reading of the minutes it was agreed, on the recommendation of the House Committee, to admit two boys by purchase on the payment of 170 guineas each.

Bro. H. Browne, P.G.D., again brought forward the subject of admission to the School by purchase, which he wished the brethren to weigh well. He thought that by allowing such a system they were not doing good to the Craft at large. It was all very well when the School was not in a prosperous condition, but that state of things was now altered; and if they took in children whose friends were sufficiently well off to raise amongst them a sum of 170 guineas, they were excluding those children whose friends were really without any means to support them. The system of purchase was to the injury of the poor and distressed; and he had it in contemplation to give notice for the next Quarterly Court to consider the desirability of discontinuing the present system. He felt that it was a matter which required consideration by the whole body of Masons.

The Chairman, having referred to the "laws" of the institution, found that to carry out Bro. Browne's object it would be necessary to repeal the two laws which allowed the purchase system.

Bro. Browne said that that would be his notice of motion.

Capt. J. Wordsworth observed that three years ago he was on the committee appointed to consider these laws. They had many meetings, at the first of which they decided to strike out purchase; but as they found that it would be very hard to lose any deserving case, after considerable argument the price of purchase was raised from 150 to 170 guineas. Now that the laws had been made after considerable thought and care, he believed they would be making a mistake if they again altered them, more especially as they had assimilated the rules of the Girls' School with those of the Boys'. By-and-bye, if they went on making so many alterations, they would not understand what the laws were.

Bro. Browne then gave his notice of motion.

The House Committee was afterwards elected as follows:—

Bros. Henry Browne, J. Giles Chancellor, Benjamin Head, W. Henry Hunt, W. F. C. Moutrie, William Paas, W. Hyde Pullen, William Roebuck, Sigismund Rosenthal, J. Bagot Scriven, R. W. Stewart, John Wordsworth.

The election of the Audit Committee was then taken:—

Bros. John Boyd, J. W. Dosell, Benjamin Head, W. Mann, D. W. Pearce, George James Row, Jesse Turner, Alexander Wallace, R. B. Webster.

There was no contest for either of these elections.

Four boys were then placed on the list for the October election, and two cases were deferred for better reading. An outfit was granted to one ex-pupil, and the Committee adjourned.

Mr. J. L. Toole is just now the star of the Scottish theatrical evening. The genial comedian opened at the Edinburgh Theatre on Monday, and was received as usual by a "bumper." Mr. Toole is very popular in Scotland. He spends his day in receiving visits from and visiting the literary and other intellectual dignitaries of the land. Heaps of invitations to dine await him; and it is no secret that some of the Fathers of the Church are delighted to make his acquaintance, and see him also from a sly corner of the theatre. If you see an individual with his coat collar turned up and a wide-awake on, sitting in the shadow of the balcony or the pit, depend upon it that man is a reverend father or a university professor. Mr. Toole's visits will always put money in his purse.

A report of the "Premier" Red Cross Conclave will appear in our next.

We are requested to state that the Bishop of London has removed his residence to Fulham Palace.

Her Majesty the Queen has been pleased to send a box of toys, brought in Germany, to St. Andrew's Hospital, Clewer, Windsor, for the use of the children in that hospital.

A marriage has been arranged between Lady Gwendolin Talbot, second daughter of the Right Honourable the Earl of Shrewsbury, Provincial Grand Master for Staffordshire, and Viscount Helmsley, M.P. for the North Riding, eldest son of the Earl of Faversham.

DAYLIGHT reflected in dark rooms. Gas superseded in day time. Health, comfort, and economy promoted by adopting Chappuis' Patent Daylight Reflectors.—Manufactory, 69, Fleet-street, London.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.—Old Wounds, Sores, and Ulcers are not only unsightly, often loathsome, they frequently give rise to exhaustion of body, and depression of mind, which seriously retard recovery, and remotely endanger life. Daily experience confirms the fact, which has triumphed over all opposition for thirty years, viz., that no means are known to equal Holloway's remedies for curing all Legg, Sores, Wounds, Diseases of the Skin, Erysipelas, Abscesses, Burns, Scalds, in all cases, where the skin is broken. To cure them infirmities quickly is of primary importance, as compulsory confinement weakens the general health. The ready means of cure are found in Holloway's Ointment and Pills, which heal the sores and expel their cause.—ADVERT.

METROPOLITAN MASONIC MEETINGS.

For the Week ending Friday, June 16, 1876.

The Editor will be glad to receive notice from Secretaries of Craft Lodges, Royal Arch Chapters, Mark Lodges, Preceptories, Conclaves, &c., of any change in place or time of meeting.

SATURDAY, JUNE 10.

Lodge 176, Cavendish, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
" 1361, United Service, Greyhound Hot., Richmond.
" 1423, Era, King's Arms Hot., Hampton Court.
" 1446, Mount Edgumbe, Swan Tav., Battersea.
Mark Lodge 144, Grosvenor, Caleonian Hot., Adelphi.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Lily, Greyhound, Richmond.
Manchester, 77, London-st., Fitzroy-square.
Star, Marquis of Granby, New Cross-rd.

MONDAY, JUNE 12.

Chap. 1319, Asaph, F.M.H.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Prince Leopold, Lord Stanley Tav., Kingsland.
Strong Man, Jerusalem Tav., St. John's Gate.
Sincerity, Railway Tav., Fenchurch-st. Station.
Camden, Stanhope Arms, Up. James-st., Camden To.
Eastern, Royal Hot., Mile-end-road.
St. James's Union, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Wellington, White Swan, Deptford.
Perfect Ashlar, Victoria Tav., Lower-rd., Rotherhithe.
Sydney, White Hart Ho., Church-rd., Upper Norwood.

TUESDAY, JUNE 13.

Lodge 167, St. John's, Holly Bush Tav., Hampstead.
" 548, Wellington, White Swan Tav., Deptford.
" 834, Andrew, Clarendon Hot., Hammersmith.
" 1269, Stanhope, Thicket Hot., Anerley.
" 1538, St. Martin's-le-Grand, M.H., Masons' Avenue.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney.
Domestic, Surrey M.H., Camberwell New-road.
Faith, 2, Westminster Chambers, Victoria-st.
Prince Fredk. Wm., Lord's Hot., St. John's Wood.
Dalhousie, King Edward, Triangle, Hackney.
Prosperity, 1, Camomile-st., Bishopsgate.
St. Marylebone, British Stores Tav., St. John's Wood.
Constitutional, Wheatheaf Hot., Hand-court, Holborn.
Israel, Rising Sun Tav., Globe Road.
Royal Arthur, Prince's Head, York-road, Battersea.
Beacontree, Red Lion, Leytonstone, at 8.
Metropolitan Chapter, Jamaica Coffee Ho., Cornhill.
Excelsior, Commercial Dock Tav., Rotherhithe.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 14.

Com. R.M.B.I., at 3.
Lodge 708, Carnarvon, Mitre Inn, Hampton Court.
" 1017, Montefiore, F.M.H.
" 1228, Beacontree, Private Rooms, Leytonstone.
" 1260, Hervey, F.M.H.
" 1305, St. Marylebone, Eyre Arms, St. John's Wood.
Rose Croix Chap., Grand Metropolitan, 33, Golden-sq.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Mt. Lebanon, Windsor Castle Tav., Southwark-bdg.-rd.
Pythagorean, Prince of Orange, Greenwich.
New Concord, Rosemary Branch Tav., Hoxton.
Royal Union, Horse and Groom, Winsley-st., Oxford-st.
Peckham, Maismore Arms, Park-road, Peckham.
Stanhope, Thicket Hot., Anerley.
Finsbury Park, Finsbury Park Tav., Seven Sisters'-rd.
Southwark, Southwark Park Tav., Southwark Park.
Duke of Connaught, Havelock Tav., Dalston, E.
United Strength, Grafton Arms, Kentish-town.
Mount Edgumbe, 19, Jernyn-street, St. James's.
Islington, Crown and Cushion, London Wall.
Whittington, Black Bull Tav., Holborn.

THURSDAY, JUNE 15.

Lodge 1227, Upton, Spotted Dog Tav., Upton.
" 1320, Blackheath, Crown Hot., Blackheath.
" 1339, Stockwell, Half Moon Tav., Herne Hill.
Mark Lodge 7, Carnarvon, Mitre Hotel, Hampton Court.
Precep. E., Observance, 14, Bedford-row.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Egyptian, Hercules Tav., Leadenhall-st.
Fidelity, Yorkshire Grey, London-st., W.
Finsbury, Jolly Anglers' Tav., Bath-st., City-road.
Temperance in the East, Catherine-st., Poplar.
Ebony, 12, Ponsonby-st., Millbank.
Highgate, Bull and Gate, Kentish-town.
The Great City, 111, Cheapside.
High Cross, Coach & Horses, High-road, Tottenham.
Salisbury, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Marquis of Ripon, Albion Tav., Albion-rd., Dalston.
Prince Frederick William Chapter, St. John's Wood.
Southern Star, Crown Hot., Blackfriars-rd.

FRIDAY, JUNE 16.

House Com. Boys' School, at 4.
Lodge 6, Friendship, Willis's Rooms, St. James's.
" 975, Rose of Denmark, White Hart Hot., Barnes.
" 1118, University, F.M.H.
Chap. 92, Moira, London Tav., Bishopsgate-st.
Precep. 6, St. George's, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
Rose Croix Chap., Invicta, 33, Golden-sq.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Union Waterloo, Thomas-st., Woolwich.
Robert Burns, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Belgrave, Lyceum Tav., 354, Strand.
Unions Emulation (for M.M.'s), F.M.H.
Temperance, Victoria Tav., Victoria-road, Deptford.
Clapton, White Hart, Clapton.
Metropolitan, Portugal Hot., Fleet-st.
Westbourne, Horse & Groom, Winsley-st., Oxford-st.
Metropolitan, Pentonville-road.

United Pilgrims, Surrey M.H., Camberwell New-road.
St. James's, New Tanners' Arms, Grange-rd., Bermondsey.
Duke of Edinburgh, Silver Lion, Penny-fields, Poplar.
Doric, Earl Grey Tav., Mile-end-road.
Burgoyne, Grafton Arms, Prince of Wales's-road, N.W.
St. Luke's, Commercial Tav., King's-road, Chelsea.
Chigwell, Bald-faced Stag Hot., Buckhurst-hill.
Burdett Coutts, Approach Tav., Victoria Park.
Royal Standard, Finsbury Park Tav., Holloway.
Ranelagh, Clarendon Hot., Hammersmith.
Pythagorean Chapter, Prince of Orange, Greenwich-rd.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN WEST LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE.

For the Week ending Saturday June 17, 1876.

MONDAY, JUNE 12.

Lodge 314, Peace and Unity, Militia Mess R., Preston.
" 703, Clifton, Clifton Hot., Blackpool.
" 1021, Hartington, H.M. C.H.B., B.-in-Furness.
" 1350, Fernor Hesketh, M.H., Liverpool.
" 1398, Baldwin Castle, Dalton-in-Furness.
" 1496, Trafford, Northumberland Hot., Old Trafford.

TUESDAY, JUNE 13.

Lodge 178, Antiquity, Royal Hot., Wigan.
" 241, Merchants, M.H., Liverpool.
" 1250, Gilbert Greenall, M.R., Warrington.
" 1384, Equity, Commercial Hot., Widnes.
Chap. 613, Bridson, M.H., Southport.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 14.

Lodge 281, Fortitude, the Athenaeum, Lancaster.
" 1052, Callender, P.H., Rusholme.
" 1061, Triumph, M.H., Lytham.
" 1094, Temple, M.H., Liverpool.
" 1356, De Grey and Ripon, 80, N. Hill-st.
" 1403, West Lancashire, Commercial Hot., Ormskirk.
" 1547, Liverpool, M.H., Liverpool.
Chap. 673, St. John's, M.H., Liverpool.
" 1345, Victoria, Cross Keys Hot., Eccles.
Neptune L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

THURSDAY, JUNE 15.

Lodge 203, Ancient Union, M.H., Liverpool.
" 343, Concord, Militia Mess Rooms, Preston.
" 425, Cestrian, M.R., Eastgate-row, Chester.
" 605, Commerce, Seacombe Hot., Seacombe.
" 1299, Pembroke, Rawlinson's Hot., West Derby.
William de la More Preceptory, M.H., Prescott.
Liverpool Red Cross Conclave, M.H., Liverpool.
St. John's L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

FRIDAY, JUNE 16.

Duke of Edinburgh L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN GLASGOW AND WEST OF SCOTLAND.

For the Week ending Saturday, June 17, 1876.

All the Meetings take place at Eight o'clock.

MONDAY, JUNE 12.

Lodge 102, St. Mark, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
" 204, St. Paul, George Inn, Ayr.
" 205, Garthland St. Winnoch, Eagle, Lochwinnoch.
" 219, Star, 12, Trongate, Glasgow.
" 307, Union and Crown, M.H., Barrhead.
" 362, St. Clair, 25, Robertson-st., Glasgow.
" 384, Athole, Washington Hot., Kirkintilloch.
" 503, St. George, Oddfellows' Hall, Helensburgh.
" 541, Marie Stuart, M.H., Crosshill.
Chap. 76, Abbey, 8, High-st., Paisley.

TUESDAY, JUNE 13.

Lodge 230, St. Barnabas, Black Bull Hot., Old Cumnock.
" 413, Athole, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
" 419, Neptune, 35, St. James-st., S.S., Glasgow.
" 426, Prince of Wales, M.H., Renfrew.
" 441, Glasgow, 22, Struthers-st., Glasgow.
" 543, St. John, M.H., Dalmuir.
" 556, Clydesdale, 106, Rose-st., Glasgow.
" 579, St. Bryde, M.H., Uddingstone.
Chap. 17, Greenock, M.H., Cathcart-st., Greenock.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 14.

Lodge 178, Scotia, 12, Trongate, Glasgow.
" 333, St. George, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
Chap. 113, Partick, M.H., Douglas-st., Partick.

THURSDAY, JUNE 15.

Lodge 27, St. Mungo, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.

FRIDAY, JUNE 16.

Lodge 31, St. Mary's Colness, Com. Hot., Wishaw.
" 306, St. Thomas, 90, Wellgate-st., Larkhall.
" 321, St. Andrew, R.A., Public Hall, Alexandria.
" 471, St. John, Stane Inn, Shotts.
" 496, St. Munn, Ardnadam, Kilmun.

SATURDAY, JUNE 17.

Lodge 512, Thorntree, School House, Thornliebank.
" 524, St. Andrew, M.H., East Kilbride.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN EDINBURGH AND VICINITY.

For the Week ending Friday, June 16, 1876.

MONDAY, JUNE 12.

Lodge 145, St. Stephen, Writers' Court, Edinburgh.

TUESDAY, JUNE 13.

Lodge 1, L. of Edinburgh, Mary's Chapel, Waterloo-pl.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 14.

Lodge 2, Canongate Kilwinning, St. John's Chapel.

Chap. 1, Edinburgh, F.M.H., George-st.

THURSDAY, JUNE 15.

Lodge 48, St. Andrew, F.M.H., George-st.
" 226, Portobello, Town Hall, Portobello.

Chap. 152, Perseverance, Constitution-st.

FRIDAY, JUNE 16.

Chap. 83, St. Andrew, F.M.H., 98, George-st.

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REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS.

Craft Masonry.

CAVEAC LODGE (No. 176).—The installation meeting of this excellent lodge was held on Saturday, the 10th inst., at the Albion, Aldersgate-street, Bro. J. Brockett Sorrell, W.M., presiding. Among the items of ordinary business disposed of during the evening was the balloting for, as a joining member, of Bro. William Kirkness, Lodge 18 (S.C.), proposed by Bro. Akenhead, and seconded by Bro. Perceval A. Nairne, P.M., and the raising of Bro. Cecil Lamb. The lodge was called off for a short interval, and on reassembling the W.M. elect, Bro. Walter Miller Goss, was announced, admitted, and presented to the W.M. for the benefit of installation, and having notified his adhesion to the tenets laid down in the Book of Constitutions, he was obligated, and presented to a Board of Installed Masters, and installed into the chair of K.S. in due form. The work was most admirably performed under the very efficient management of Bro. C. Browne, D.C., whose zeal for the good working of the ceremonies is well seconded by all the other officers, who appear to be most solicitous for the true well-being of the lodge. The officers appointed were Bros. Stride, S.W.; Sorrell, jun., J.W.; C. T. Dorey, P.M.; Sec.; Stansfield, S.D.; Neumegen, J.D.; Thorpe, I.G.; Chs. Browne, D.C.; and Ryley, Tyler. The appointment of Treasurer was reserved, as both Bros. Pemble Browne and Nairne were unavoidably absent on account of family bereavement, for which the lodge expressed its sorrow and condolence. The W.M. then rose, and said that one of the first acts he had to perform as Master of the Caveac Lodge was a duty of an extremely pleasant character, which was to invest the I.P.M., Bro. J. B. Sorrell, with the Past Master's jewel, which had been presented to him by the unanimous vote of the brethren for the admirable manner in which he had conducted the affairs of the lodge during his year of office. He trusted that Bro. Sorrell would live long to enjoy the happiness of wearing it. Bro. Sorrell, in acknowledging the gift, thanked the brethren for the unanimity of their vote, and also expressed his obligations to the Past Masters for the aid they had so willingly rendered him, and to the officers for the ability with which they had assisted him in the working of the ceremonies. He concluded by saying that the jewel with which they had just graced him would ever remind him of the unanimous goodwill which had always followed his footsteps during his career in the Caveac Lodge. Among the other brethren present were the following:—Bros. Thos. Quihampton, P.M.; G. Le-mann, P.M.; H. Besley, P.M.; A. F. Morice, E. Akenhead, C. S. Lamb, A. Enfiller, Wm. Kirkness, Oscar Moore, Wm. Jones, members of the lodge; and among the visitors were Bros. F. H. Cozens, Royal Albert, 907; E. B. Grabham, W.M. Royal Athelstone, 19; W. G. Moore, P.M. Polish National, 534; Herbert Puckle, Macdonald, 1216; Charles Atkins, P.M. Egyptian, 27; F. S. Knysett, Lodge of Felicity, 58, G.S., and W.M. Felix Lodge, 1494; T. H. Waterworth, P.M. Gihon, 49; Chs. Bischoff, P.M. Serendib, 112, I.C.; Jas. Verity, W.M. Ebury, 1348; T. Gus-cotte, J.W. Good Report, 136; J. H. Hastie, P.M. Macdonald, 1216; R. Symington, I.G. St. Peter's, 1330; and E. C. Massey, J.W. West Kent, 1272 ("Freemason"). The business of the evening having been concluded, the lodge was closed in peace and harmony, and the brethren adjourned to an excellent banquet. At the conclusion of the report grace was sung by the musical brethren present, Bros. Distin, Baxter and Carter, who also during the evening sang some excellent songs, glees, &c., greatly increasing thereby the pleasurable effect of the entertainment. On the removal of the cloth the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed by the W.M., and cordially responded to by the brethren. In replying to "The Health of Lord Skelmersdale and the rest of the Grand Officers, Past and Present," Bro. Eneas McIntyre, Grand Registrar, said: Worshipful Master, Bro. Wardens and brethren—I rise with great pleasure to return thanks on behalf of the officers of Grand Lodge Past and Present. I can well bear testimony to the great powers that is always exhibited by Lord Skelmersdale, and how especially anxious he is to perform the duties of his high office. During a very short period he has consecrated two lodges, one in the metropolis, and one in the country. The only lodge that he has consecrated in the metropolis will, I think, have very great influence on the Craft, because at that lodge at the first meeting it initiated five Q.C.'s

and the Attorney-General is to be one in addition. Now, when eminent lawyers came thus into the Craft I think that they must strengthen the debating power of Grand Lodge. Not but that there is considerable debating power there already, as we frequently hear there some very long and very able speeches; but at all events when the first law officer of the crown, and a great many other distinguished members of the law bar, who have the Queen's commission as Queen's Counsel, come in, it shows that men of intelligence do not hesitate to come into this institution. The other lodge is in the country, whose members are chiefly brethren in the higher grades of Freemasonry. They have done their best to officer it with those who have aspired to the higher degrees, who are still desirous to do their duty to their Sovereign and the M.W.G.M., and are equally anxious to be instrumental in spreading a knowledge of Freemasonry. I was, unfortunately, unable to arrive in time to see the working of the ceremony of raising to-day, but the able manner in which the addresses were given by the Past Masters of the lodge were admirable indications of what the general working must be. I have often heard of the Caveac Lodge, where the true working was done in the true style, and I can quite believe that the rumour does not exceed the truth. Of one thing I am sure, and that is the cordiality with which you have received the officers of the Grand Lodge. Bro. Browne proposed "The Health of the W.M.," who, in returning thanks, observed that he never should have the same pride in occupying a similar position in any other lodge, because the Caveac was his mother lodge. It had been pointed out to him that the chisel, though a very small instrument, was one of the greatest importance, and this encouraged him to hope that he might be able to make himself useful. He concluded by proposing "The Health of the I.P.M." Bro. Sorrell, in returning thanks for the compliment paid to him, said that he retired from the position of Master with a feeling of relief, because the office of Master of a lodge involved grave and great responsibilities, one of the gravest of which consisted in the fact that the Master of a lodge ought to set a good example to the brethren. He had not been able to do much during his year of office. He had had the pleasure of serving two Stewardships for Masonic charities, and he had been placed on the Board of General Purposes. He was not yet acquainted with the duties, but whatever he had to do he would endeavour to do it with his might. The toasts of "The Visitors," "Past Masters," "Treasurer," and other officers of the lodge were given from the chair and responded to with the heartiest cordiality, after which the Tyler's toast brought to a conclusion the proceedings of a very pleasant evening.

MACDONALD LODGE (No. 1216).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held on Thursday evening, June 8th, at the Head Quarters of the First Surrey Rifles, Flodden-road, Camberwell. Bro. Mark Samuel Larham, W.M., presided; Bro. Ross, S.W. pro tem.; and Bro. Carnell, J.W. The other officers were in attendance, with Past Masters Wagstaff, Messenger, Hastie, and others, besides several visitors, amongst whom were Bros. Middlemas, 957; Reynolds, 1329; H. Thompson, 1426, and P.M. 177 and 1158 ("Freemason"), &c. The minutes of the installation meeting having been read and confirmed, the lodge was opened in the Second Degree, and Bro. C. G. Danford was examined as to his progress in the science. His answers being deemed satisfactory, he was directed to retire, and the lodge being advanced to the superior degree he was impressively raised by the W.M. to the degree of M.M., and, as is the custom of Bro. Larham, the entire ritual was gone through without any of the omissions which sometimes take place. Seldom is this beautiful degree worked with more care and accuracy, and general approbation was awarded to the W.M. for the ability he had displayed in the performance of his duties. The lodge was then lowered to the Second Degree, and Bros. Besley and Golding were severally passed to the Second Degree. A ballot took place. It being unanimous, Mr. Augustus Carnell, a brother of the Senior Warden, was initiated into the mysteries and privileges of ancient Freemasonry. There being no other business, the lodge was closed in due form, and the brethren adjourned to the canteen of the corps, where refreshment was provided by Bro. Kethro, sergeant major and sutler. At its conclusion the W.M. said as the hour was advanced, and many brethren were anxious to catch their trains, the toasts would be very few and very brief, and without further comment he would give "The Queen and the Craft," which was cordially responded to. The W.M. said the next toast he had to propose was that of "Their Brother Visitors," and that evening it was his privilege and pleasure to welcome a large number. Having enumerated them, he called upon Bros. Thompson and Middlemas to respond to the toast. Bro. H. Thompson ("Freemason") said, as the evening was far advanced, he should adopt an expression used by Bro. Monckton, the President of the Board of General Purposes, at the Grand Lodge on the previous evening, in returning thanks for the complimentary vote which had been passed to him by the Grand Lodge for his services during the past year, when he said that the best way he could show his gratitude for the honour conferred upon him was by making his observations as short as possible. Although he should adhere to that, still he should take the opportunity of saying that he felt they must all be well pleased at the working of the different degrees by their talented Worshipful Master. For his part to be present on that occasion gave him unmixed pleasure, and although it might be a form a speech sometimes on the part of visitors to pass favourable criticisms on the working of lodges, stimulated by their friendship for many of the members, yet in the present instance he could sincerely and conscientiously say that during the whole of his Masonic career he rarely saw equalled, and never excelled, the excellent working of the lodge from the Worshipful Master in the chair down to the lowest officer,

and most heartily did he congratulate the lodge on arriving at such happy results. Having thanked the brethren for their hospitality, not enjoyed for the first time, he should leave Bro. Middlemas to fill up what he had left unsaid. Bro. Middlemas, in one of his exceedingly jocose addresses, also acknowledged the compliment conferred upon the visitors. The W. Master said he had great pleasure in proposing "Their Newly-Initiated Brother, Bro. Carnell," and he hoped that he should have an initiate at every meeting so that he might be able to go through the three ceremonies at every meeting of the lodge throughout the year, and he then gave them an intimation that he should call an emergency meeting for the second Thursday in July. The toast was heartily received. Bro. Carnell thanked the brethren for the kind manner in which he had been received, and for the honour they had done him in admitting him to their lodge, and he hoped that he should prove a good Mason. Bro. Hastie, I.P.M., said when the brethren saw the gavel in his hand they knew what toast he was about to propose, which wanted no words from him to recommend it. He called upon them to rise and drink the toast he was about to propose, which was "The Health of their W. Master." The Worshipful Master thanked the brethren for the kind manner in which they had responded to the toast. It would be a great pleasure to him if during his year of office they would give him plenty of work, so that he might have a candidate at every meeting. One or two other toasts were given, and the brethren separated.

MIDDLETON.—Imperial George Lodge (No. 78).—In consequence of the Provincial Grand Lodge of East Lancashire being held on the 25th ult., the regular meeting of this lodge was postponed, by circular, until the following Thursday, June 1st. The brethren having assembled on that date at the Assheton Arms, the lodge was opened in due form at 5 p.m. by Bro. David Reid, W.M. The minutes of the last regular meeting, after being read by Bro. Forrester Fothergill, Sec., received confirmation. The passing of Bros. Robert Beresford and George Brunt was next proceeded with, after which Bros. David Tatton and Edwin Dodd were raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason. The W.M. performed each of the four ceremonies. A telegram was received by Bro. D. Reid, W.M., from W. H. Kershaw, I.P.M., regretting his inability to attend, and asking him to bring forward on his behalf (in accordance with notice of motion) the desirability of raising the annual subscription to enable the lodge to make suitable grants to the Masonic charities. Bro. D. Reid, W.M., put the matter before the brethren, and the same received immediate and unanimous support, and was therefore carried. "Hearty Good Wishes" were accorded from Lodges 935 and 1219, after which the usual ritual brought the lodge to a close. Before quitting the chair of K.S. the W.M. informed the brethren that his absence at the social board was compulsory, he having to take a journey northwards. Prior to discussing the capabilities of Bro. David Reid's principal officer, Bro. George Bradbury, who had charge of the banquet board, we must remark that the idea introduced by Bro. Wood, P.M., D.C., and duly passed on April 27th, viz., "That the lodge buy and supply all clothing and jewels, the profits to go to the Charity Fund," when coupled with the subject introduced by Bro. W. H. Kershaw, I.P.M., which also bears upon charity, is regarded as a bold marching step, bringing the members of No. 78 nearer to their brethren in distress. All hope that the lodge will shine with renewed lustre in the annals of charity, and by joining hand in hand, and journeying step by step, to assist the tempest-tossed to "Anchor fast, Anchor." The social meal having been completed, Bro. George Bradbury, S.W., gave the customary toasts in a masterly manner, dilating upon each, but at the same time keeping in mind that old saying, "Brevity is the soul of wit." The newly-passed and raised brethren made suitable replies to the toasts relating to them. "The Health of the W.M.," wishing him a speedy journey and a safe return, was also received with acclamation, verifying the old adage, "Absence makes the heart grow fonder." Harmony abounded freely, in some instances vocalists rendering their own compositions with pleasing effect. Bro. John Rogers, W.M. 1219, gave his own effusion, and a very appropriate one as a visitor's song, "One hour with you, and you, and you," the whole of the brethren joining hand in hand during the chorus. Bro. Forrester Fothergill, Sec., concluded the list of "originalities" with "Sailing on the deep blue sea." In accordance with time-honoured custom, the Tyler's toast, given by Bro. Jno. Kent, brought a pleasant evening to a close.

WARRINGTON.—Lodge of Lights (No. 148).—The Masonic world at Warrington was fully alive on Tuesday, the 6th inst. The Craft has a history in this thriving manufacturing town. The distinguished antiquary Elias Ashmole was initiated there in 1646, and so pleased was he with all he then saw and heard that he carefully recorded the fact of his initiation in his diary, which can be seen at the British Museum. From that time down to the present the Craft has been well cared for. Some twenty years since, however, it was in rather a languishing condition, but, thanks to the present Secretary, of No. 148, and others, new life was infused into the working, and from that time to the present, Warrington has been looked upon as a model of correct, well-interpreted ritual. At the time of the "revival" the old lodge, which was the only one, had about twenty members; now there are two lodges, and a chapter, and the muster roll records nearly two hundred names. In the early part of the present year Bro. Greenall, one of the senior members, was made a Baronet, and a unanimous desire was at once expressed to present that worthy brother with an address of congratulation. The first convenient opportunity of presenting the address was during the Whitsuntide recess, and accordingly a Lodge of Emergency was summoned for five o'clock on Tuesday, June 6th, 1876. The W.M.

Bro. W. H. Robinson, was supported by his Wardens, Bros. Thomas Tunstall and Joseph Pickthall, and a large number of brethren. The lodge was opened in due form, and it being reported that Bro. Greenall sought admission, he was duly received, and under the direction of Bro. John Bowes was saluted as became his rank. The W.M., rising from his chair, said: Right Worshipful Bro. Sir Gilbert Greenall, we are met for the especial purpose, as you are aware, of presenting to you an address of congratulation on the occasion of your elevation to a baronetcy. I assure you we are all actuated by one single desire, and that is in a feeble manner perhaps to give expression to the intense gratification we experience on the present occasion. You have lived amongst us all your life, and for more than a quarter of a century been one of us. In filling the various offices you have secured credit to yourself and great advantage to your brethren. Such being the case, we all felt a brotherly desire of giving you some tangible proof of our esteem and regard. I now call upon our esteemed Secretary, Bro. Bowes, to read the address, of which he is the author, after which I shall invite those brethren who desire the opportunity to support the sentiments briefly expressed in the address. Bro. Bowes then read the address as follows:—"To Sir Gilbert Greenall, Bart., M.P., R.A.C., P. Prov. G.S.W., W.L. and Past Senior Grand Warden of England. Right Worshipful Sir and Brother,—We, the W.M., Wardens, officers and members of the Lodge of Lights of Ancient, Free, and Accepted Masons, No. 148 Warrington, beg your acceptance of our fraternal congratulations on the occasion of your being raised to the dignity of a baronetcy by Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen. As members of your mother lodge we experience peculiar pleasure on this occasion, because you have been long and intimately associated with us in the promotion of the best interests of our ancient Craft. You were admitted to Masonic light on Monday, 28th January, A.D. 1850, and we are proud to know that in your mother lodge you were promoted to those positions which qualified you for the high Masonic distinction you now enjoy. During the first year of your Mastership of the lodge, A.D. 1865, we celebrated our centenary festival, and we have good reason to remember the great importance your official position amongst us imparted on that interesting occasion. That the Most High may long preserve you and Lady Greenall, and when this transitory life shall have passed away that the Lewis, upon whose birth it was our pleasure and privilege to congratulate you, may sustain the high distinction conferred upon his father with equal honour, dignity, and grace, is our ardent prayer. So mote it be.—We are, Right Worshipful Sir and Brother, your faithful brethren. Signed on behalf of the lodge—W. H. Robinson, W.M.; Thos. Tunstall, S.W.; Jos. Pickthall, J.W.; John Bowes, P.M., &c., Hon. Sec. Masonic Rooms, Sankey-street, Warrington, 27th March, A.D. 1876." Bro. Jas. Hepherd, P.M., J.P., on the invitation of the W.M., said that he felt it a great honour, as one of the senior members of the lodge, to take part in the interesting proceedings of that day. The members of the Lodge of Lights felt proud that they numbered among their members a brother who deserved so well of his Queen and country. Bro. Greenall was well known to all present, and to know him was to esteem and respect him. As a Mason he held high rank, as he deserved to do, and they felt proud of him in that respect. He cordially endorsed the sentiments conveyed in the address drawn up by their excellent Secretary, and in common with every member of the lodge he tendered to Bro. Greenall his hearty congratulations. Bro. Pickthall, J.W., said he could not let the occasion pass without adding his congratulations to those of his brethren. Bro. Sir Gilbert Greenall had their best wishes. They all united very heartily in the prayer with which the address closed, and he hoped their distinguished brother would assure Lady Greenall and the Lewis how sincerely they prayed for their health and happiness. Bro. Thos. Tunstall, S.W., said, as one of the younger members of the lodge, he begged on behalf of himself and that section of the members, to express the extreme gratification they all felt at his elevation to a baronetcy. The name of Greenall was a household word amongst them, and it was their aim to emulate his good example in carrying out the sublime precepts of their ancient and honourable Order. Bro. Sir Gilbert Greenall, in reply, said he begged to express his heartfelt thanks for the very kind sentiments expressed towards him by the W.M., his Wardens, Bros. Hepherd, Bowes, and other brethren, and for the presentation which had just been made to him as a token of regard from the brethren of the lodge. He received them with pleasure and delight, and he should ever remember his having been amongst them on that occasion. He always felt that there was amongst them that good and kindly feeling which ought always to exist amongst brethren, members of the Masonic Order. He felt especially grateful for the reference which had been made to him in the position he held as a Mason. He was first attracted to Masonry by the respect which he had for some excellent friends who were Masons, and having voluntarily offered himself as a candidate for the mysteries and privileges of the Order, he could most sincerely assure them that he had never had the least reason to regret having taken that step. The honour that it had pleased Her Majesty to bestow upon him would in no way alter their friendly relations. He felt towards his brethren as he ever had done, and he hoped to meet them again and again in lodge, and in the discharge of those great and important duties which they had in common undertaken to perform. He felt very grateful to them for the kind allusions which had been made to Lady Greenall, and the good feeling expressed for the welfare of his and her son. He was sure his wife would highly prize their good feeling, and he hoped that if their son was spared to grow up to manhood he would be a good and useful man, and, like his father, be attached to Masons, and in due time to be a

good and true Mason himself. He again begged to thank them for their kindly expressions and the token they had given him of their friendship, which he should always look upon with pleasure and prize very highly. The address was beautifully written and illuminated in book form on vellum, and elegantly bound in blue morocco, with suitable Masonic emblems in their proper colours. The work was executed by Bro. Hine, of Manchester.

Scotland.

GLASGOW.—Lodge St. John (No. 34).—The regular monthly meeting of this lodge was held in their hall, 213, Buchanan-street, on Tuesday evening, the 6th inst., Bro. D. M. Nelson, W.M., in the chair, supported by Bros. Fletcher, P.M., acting S.W.; P. Brownlie, J.W.; Craig, P.M.; J. D. Young, D.M.; T. B. Bell, S.M.; J. Dunn, Treas.; J. Dick, Sec.; and others, and a very numerous attendance of members and visiting brethren. The minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed. Applications were read from Messrs. Isaac De Casseres and Paterson Wingate, and favourably received, and they were afterwards initiated into the E. A. Degree by Bro. T. B. Bell, S.M. The W.M. informed the brethren that tickets for the annual summer excursion to Stirling, Dollar (for Castle Campbell), and Rumbling Bridge were now ready, and could be had from any of the office-bearers. He (the Chairman) hoped that as many of the members as possible would find it convenient to join in the excursion, which takes place on Thursday, the 29th June, and he felt sure from the route selected that it would be a most enjoyable one. The lodge was then called to refreshment, when the Chairman proposed the usual loyal and Masonic toasts, and after spending an agreeable hour in harmony the lodge was closed in due form.

PAISLEY.—Paisley Chapter (No. 112).—The regular monthly meeting of this chapter was held in St. Mirren's Masonic Hall, 5, Moss-street, Paisley, on Friday evening, 2nd inst. There were present Comps. W. Gemmell, acting M.E.Z.; James Gilmour, acting H.; John Carswell, J.; A. McPherson, S.E.; George Fisher, acting S.N.; Brennan, First Soj.; M. Leod, Assist. Soj., and a full attendance of companions and visitors. The chapter was opened in regular form, and the minutes of the previous meeting read and adopted. Thereafter Bros. Rev. W. F. Mills, Chaplain; Peter Blair, Treas.; and J. Knox (all of Lodge St. Mirren, 129, Paisley), were exalted R.A. Masons. Comps. J. Marshall and F. McGibbon, of Abbey Chapter, 76, Paisley, were affiliated members of No. 112. This having brought the business of the meeting to an end, the chapter was closed in due and ancient form.

SHETTLSTON.—Lodge St. John (No. 128). This ancient lodge was visited by the Provincial Grand Lodge of Glasgow on Wednesday evening, the 7th inst. The deputation, headed by Bro. James Gillies, acting P.G. Master, was received with due demonstrations of fealty by the W.M. (Bro. R. Jack), his office-bearers, and the brethren of the lodge assembled. In the absence of the P.G. Secretary (Bro. McTaggart) the report made by the deputation was read by Bro. D. Reid, P.G.I.G., and was in terms of commendation as to the working of the lodge. The number added to the membership from December, 1874, to December last was 21; at balance at the credit of the lodge, as at last audit, was £27 7s. 0½d.; they had handed over £3 to the Benevolent Fund of the Provincial Grand Lodge, and no disbursements had been made during the year in the way of private charity, none having been required. The acting P.G. Master, Bro. Gillies, said they would observe that the report of the deputation was a short one. The books of the lodge were in perfect order, and the members of the deputation were very much pleased to find that the lodge had at their credit the handsome balance of £27 odd, and also that during the past year they had made so many as 21 new members. Bro. Gillies concluded his few remarks with paying a well-merited compliment to his "old and respected friend, Bro. Allan," Secretary of the lodge, who joined the Craft so far back as 58 years ago, and whose minute book at this day is a marvel of exactness and beautiful calligraphy. The W.M., Bro. Jack, said it gave him great pleasure to hear the very satisfactory account of their last year's proceedings, as reported by the P.G. deputation. He could assure the latter that he would do his very best to forward the interests of Lodge 128, and, if possible, make it better than it had been before. After a hearty vote of thanks to the deputation, and Bros. John Miller, P.G.J.D., and David Reid, P.G.I.G., had received affiliation into Lodge St. John, the members of the Provincial Grand Lodge withdrew. This concludes the round of Provincial Grand Lodge visitations for the present year.

PAISLEY.—Lodge St. Mirren (No. 129).—The regular monthly meeting of this most prosperous lodge was held in their Masonic Hall, 5, Moss-street, on Monday evening, the 5th inst., Bro. H. S. Edmonds, W.M., presiding, with Bros. W. Gemmell, S.W.; G. Fisher, J.W.; A. Wallace, P.M.; A. Macpherson, Sec.; McLeod, S.D.; and the other office-bearers, with a very full attendance of members and a few visiting brethren. The lodge having been opened, the Secretary read the minutes of last meeting, which were adopted. Bros. J. Harris and J. B. Gibson were passed to the Fellow Craft Degree by Bro. Edmonds, W.M., in his usual able style. Thereafter the same brethren, on account of having to leave the country in a few days, were raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason by Bro. G. Fisher, J.W., at request of the W.M., in a very able and impressive manner. The lodge was then resumed on the First Degree, and closed in due form.

GREENOCK.—Lodge St. John's (No. 178).—A meeting of this lodge was held in St. John's Hall, Greenock, on Friday evening, the 5th inst., Bro. McMaster,

W.M., in the chair, supported by the other office-bearers, who were in their respective places. The lodge being opened in the First Degree, three candidates were regularly proposed and balloted for, and initiated into the mysteries of Freemasonry. The lodge was then advanced to the Second Degree, and afterwards to the Third Degree, when the same three brethren were passed and raised. As this lodge is largely composed of seafaring brethren, they hold a special grant from the Grand Lodge to confer the three degrees in one night. The lodge was then resumed in the E.A. Degree, and put under the sway of the J.W., when the following brethren enlivened the evening's harmony with some excellent songs and recitations, viz., Bros. Wright, Martin, Anderson, Douglas, and Elliot, Bro. Martin officiating at the harmonium. After the Tyler's toast had been duly honoured, the lodge was called back to labour, and closed in due and ancient form by the W.M.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Caledonian Railway (No. 354).—The monthly meeting of this lodge was held in the Masonic Hall, 30, Hope-street, on Wednesday evening, the 7th inst., Bro. A. B. Ferguson, W.M., in the chair; John Harley, S.W.; C. McKenzie, J.W.; R. A. McLean, Sec.; D. T. Colquhoun, Treas.; J. Harley, J.D.; and others, and a very large and influential attendance of members and visitors. Among the latter were Bros. Julius Brodie, P.M. 360, and I.P.M. 541; W. Ferguson, I.P.M. 543 ("Freemason"); J. Scott, D.M. St. Bryde, 579; Capt. R. Walker, Lodge Pelham Pillar, 792, Grimsby, E.C.; James Conner, Lodge La Sicilia, Palermo; J. McInnes, S.W. 408; R. Mitchell, D.M. 332; J. Fyfe, 465; and others. On the lodge being opened and the minutes of last regular meeting and one emergency meeting having been read and approved of, an application was made to the lodge on behalf of a deceased brother's widow for relief, and a sum of money was unanimously voted out of the funds of the lodge, and also out of the benevolent fund, towards her assistance. Mr. Henry Borrill was then initiated into the Entered Apprentice Degree by the W.M., and thereafter was passed to the Fellow Craft Degree by Bro. Ferguson, P.M. 543. He (the candidate) having to leave this country in a few days, was afterwards, along with Bros. T. Donaldson and H. Harff, raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason by Bro. Ferguson, P.M. 543. The lodge was then reduced to the First Degree, and after going through the usual routine of minor business, and according a vote of thanks to Bro. Ferguson for working the Second and Third Degrees, the lodge was closed in due form.

GOVAN.—Lodge Govandale (No. 437).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held in the Masonic Hall, Portland Buildings, Govan, on Tuesday evening, 6th inst.; Bro. J. Miller, W.M.; J. McFarlane, I.P.M.; A. Campbell, P.M.; R. Muir, S.W.; A. James, J.W.; A. Blair, Treas.; J. Sutherland, Sec.; and others. The occasion being the visitation of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Glasgow, the meeting was largely attended by the members and visiting brethren from lodges Nos. 34, 28, 86, 116, 117, 124, 204, 219, 347, 360, 401, 413, 405, 543, and 581. The deputation consisted of Bros. J. Gillies, P.G. Treas., acting P.G.M.; A. McTaggart, M.A., P.G. Sec.; J. Miller, P.G.J.D.; Alex. Bain, P.G.B.B.; J. Ritchie, P.G. Arch.; and D. Reid, P.G.I.G. At the request of the W.M., Bro. Gillies, acting P.G.M., occupied the chair, and called upon the P.G. Sec., Bro. McTaggart, to read the report. The latter said it was his pleasing duty again to congratulate Lodge Govandale upon another year of success. Their working during the past year had been admirable, as was borne testimony to in the report of the deputation, which was as follows:—"We, the undersigned office-bearers of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Glasgow, hereby certify that we visited Lodge Govandale, No. 437, on the 6th day of June, 1876—examined the various books of the lodge, and found them in a very satisfactory condition—and that, generally, the lodge is working in strict harmony with the constitution of the Grand Lodge of Scotland. He (Bro. McTaggart) thought they would admit that it was almost impossible to give them a higher certificate than that. The deputation were delighted to have found that night that they had been unable to detect anything whatever in the books of the lodge worthy of animadversion. With regard to the books, he, in the first place, begged to pay a distinct compliment to the Tyler of the lodge, that old and tried servant Bro. McIntyre, for the admirable condition of the sederunt book. A better kept one they had not seen that year. The minute book was admirably kept; the roll book in very good condition, and the cash book very well kept indeed. The balance at the credit of the lodge as at last audit was £57 15s. 3d.; and he (Bro. McTaggart) was very proud to know that the successors of the present deputation, to whom it would fall to visit Lodge 437 next year, would have the satisfaction of finding that the funds were very much increased. Another item he had to notice was that during last year the lodge had had no distinct claims upon their private charity, and that indicated, so far, that the character of their membership was beyond reproach. They had handed over to the P.G. Benevolent Fund the handsome sum of £9 10s.—as against £8 last year; and the number of intrans during the past year was 21. The acting P.G. Master (Bro. Gillies) said it must be very gratifying to the lodge to hear such a report as they had just heard read; showing, as it did, that Lodge Govandale was second to none in the Province of Glasgow. Indeed, there was scarcely a lodge in the province that held such a position at the present time as Lodge 437. The W.M. (Bro. Miller) said he had much pleasure in informing the deputation that the office-bearers of Lodge Govandale worked together all as one; and for his part (the speaker) it would always be his aim, so long as he was there, to work in strict conformity with Grand Lodge laws. He then proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the deputation

for their visit, which was given with a will. Bro. Gillies, in returning thanks for the compliment, stated that with regard to the report they had made of the condition of the lodge, he might inform them that their P.G. Secretary could not put his finger upon a single black spot in the books. Before retiring the following members of the deputation received honorary affiliation to the lodge at the hands of Bro. John McFarlane, P.M. viz., Bros. John Miller, James Ritchie, and David Reid. Bro. Ritchie returned thanks for the honour conferred on behalf of himself and Bros. Miller and Reid. Thereafter Bro. W. Findlay was passed to the Fellow Craft Degree by Bro. W. Ferguson, S.M.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Dramatic (No. 571).—A meeting of this lodge was held in St. Mark's Hall, 213, Buchanan-street, on Wednesday, 7th inst., at three o'clock p.m., Bro. W. E. Dobson, W.M., presiding; G. Houston, D.M.; H. W. Jackman, S.W.; W. Sivewright, J.W.; Weir, acting Sec.; R. S. Smyth, S.D., and a good attendance of members. Among the visitors were Bros. W. Bell, I.P.M. 34; J. Balfour, P.G.D. of C.; J. M. Oliver, S.W. 360; W. Ferguson, P.M. 543 ("Freemason"); W. Borland, 117; G. W. Wheeler, 73; W. Adams, D. of Mus. 153; W. McDonald, 153; D. C. Allan, 153; Gault, 441; A. Gray, 458; and others. The minutes of last meeting were read by Bro. Weir and confirmed. Bro. James Cooper, Lodge Neptune, 375, Aberdeen, was elected a joining member, and obligated by the W.M. Thereafter Bros. J. Cameron, Henri Ludwig, and Adam Gibb were passed to the Fellow Craft Degree in a very efficient manner by Bro. J. M. Oliver, S.W. 360, and Bro. Walter Buchanan was raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason by Bro. Ferguson, P.M. 543, Bro. Adams, 153, presiding at the harmonium during the ceremonies. The lodge was then closed.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Plantation (No. 581).—The regular meeting of this young lodge was held at the new Masonic Hall, Cragiehall-street, on Monday evening, the 5th inst. In the absence of Bro. Stobo, W.M., Bro. W. Ferguson, P.M. 543, D.M., occupied the chair, supported by Bros. D. Peacock, S.W.; J. Henry, J.W.; Wm. Taylor, Treas.; Robt. Allan, Sec.; Imrie, S.D.; Halley, J.D.; Paterson, I.G.; and Cumming, Tyler; and, as usual, the meeting was well attended by visiting brethren and members of the lodge. The acting W.M. was supported on the dais by Bros. John Monro, W.M. Commercial Lodge, 360; John Davidson, P.M. 360; and J. W. Burns, I.P.M. Thistle Lodge, 87. The lodge having been opened, the Secretary read the minutes of one emergency and last regular meeting, which were approved of. Bros. John Hart and Peter Stobo were passed to the Fellow Craft Degree by Bro. Ferguson, D.M. On the lodge being resumed on the First Degree, it was unanimously agreed to hold a harmony meeting on Monday evening, the 26th inst., to celebrate St. John's Day (24th June). Thereafter a new Code of bye-laws was read for the third time and passed, after a few slight alterations. The business being ended, the lodge was closed.

THE DEATH OF ABDUL-AZIZ.

The following is a translation of the official report of the physicians who were summoned to examine the body of the late Sultan:—"In a lower room of the guard-house adjoining the Imperial Palace of Tcheragan we found a body lying on a mattress placed upon the floor, and covered by a new linen cloth. Upon removing the covering we recognized the body as that of the ex-Sultan Abdul-Aziz. Every part of the body was cold and bloodless, pale, and covered with coagulated blood. There was no rigidity, the eyelids were partly open, the cornea slightly opaque, and the mouth half closed. Upon removing the linen bandages from the arms we found a little below the bend of the left arm an opening five centimetres in extent and three in depth. The edges of the wound were jagged and irregular; the direction of the wound downwards and from without. The veins in this region were cut, and the cubital artery was open for three parts of its internal diameter. In the bend of the right arm we found a wound in a slightly oblique direction, also jagged, of two centimetres in extent and one-and-a-half in depth. In this place only the smaller veins had been touched, the arteries being intact. A pair of scissors was produced to us ten centimetres long, very sharp, and having upon one of the blades a small lateral knob towards the point. The scissors were stained with blood, and we were told that it was by means of that instrument that the ex-Sultan had inflicted upon himself the wounds described above. We then proceeded to the residence of the deceased ex-Sultan, where we were shown a vast chamber looking upon the sea. We found there, upon the corner of a sofa, placed near a window, a pool of blood, and upon the matting on the floor was a large quantity of coagulated blood in one mass, with several smaller patches in other places near it. From the above facts we are unanimously of opinion—1, that the death of the ex-Sultan, Abdul-Aziz, was caused by hemorrhage produced by injuries to the vessels in the bends of the arms; 2, that the instrument produced to us was perfectly adapted to effect such wounds; 3, that the direction and the nature of the wounds as well as the instrument which might have inflicted them lead us to the conclusion of suicide. Signed by Drs. Marco, Nouri, A. Sotto (Médecin Attaché à l'Impériale et Royale Ambassade d'Aurich-Hongrie), Spagnolo Marc Markel, Jatropoulo, Abidinour, Servet, J. de Castro, A. Marroin, Jules Millingen, C. Caratheodory, G. D. Dickson (Médecin de l'Ambassade d'Angleterre), O. Vitalis (Médecin de l'Administration Sanitaire), Edouard Spadaro, J. Nouridjian, Miltiade Bey, Moustapha, Méhemet."

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF SURREY.

The annual meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Surrey was held on Tuesday at the Greyhound Hotel, Croydon, and was very numerously attended. The list of brethren present comprised the names of General Brownrigg, the Provincial Grand Master; Col. Burdett, Provincial Grand Master of Middlesex; C. H. Woodward, P.P.G.J.W.; G. E. Wainwright, P.P.G.S.W.; A. C. Ebbutt, P.P.G.P.; Rev. Ambrose W. Hall, P.P.G.C.; C. E. Amos, P.P.G.P.; James Squire, P.P.G.S.B.; T. Cawley Eager, P.M. 1395; Edwin March, S.W. 410; John Close, J.W. 463; Geo. Yoxley, S.D. 463; John S. Shuter, I.G. 463; Francis Buckland, S.W. 889; Edmund Stratton, 452; Wm. Young, P.M. 203; John Bond, W.M. 889; J. Lambert Sim, W.M. 370; Wm. Locock Webb, P.P.G.W.; J. Boor, P.M. and Sec. 370, P.P.G.S.B.; Magnus Ohren, P.P.G.J.W.; Dr. H. J. Strong, P.P.G.J.W.; James Churchill, Wm. Wells, W. Weller, 1564; Eph. L. Wilkinson, 1564; William Ledger, 1564; John Eaton Crouch, 1564; George Payne, 1564; H. A. Pocock, J.D. 463; W. Budden, W. Stacey, J.W. 1564; F. West, 463; W. J. P. Dumas, P.G.D.; Gilbert J. Smallpiece, P.S.G.W.; Dr. W. R. Williams, P.G.D.C.; P. W. Lynhouse, 370; J. W. M. Dosell, 463; E. Divewds, 777; C. W. Driver, W.M. 1149; J. Webster, W.M. 1564; W. Askham, Sec. 1564; A. Carter, 1564; Thomas P. Dickinson, P.G. Reg.; R. W. Price, P.G.D.W.; Warren H. Diamond, S.W. 370; Charles Gale, W.M. 1347; H. R. B. Podmore, P.P.G.S.; Draper P. Woodward, 1347, P.M. 171; John Rhodes, 463; Fred. Wisdom, 463; Fred. Cambridge, 1348; W. Pyne, 463; W. E. Rogers, 463; Henry Potter, 1347; Wm. Chessall, S.W. 416; George Bradnell, 255; Byron H. Ridge, 463; S. Parsons Smith, S.W. 1556; Arthur W. Cook, P.G.S.; David Rowe, 1046; John Castle Grant, W.M. 1362; Wm. J. Kemp, J.W. 1362; C. W. Arnott, George White, P.P.S. G.W.; James Robins, J. Bonner, 463; J. P. Melin, James Cooper, 55; W. Smallpiece, P.M. 1395; Wm. Grant, 398; H. Massry, P.M. 619 ("Freemason"); Thomas Wagner, 463; W. H. Saunders, 889, S.W. 1503; J. H. Parker, 463; Francis T. V. Honeywell, P.M. 889; Charles Bastin, 463; J. B. Ainsworth, 463; J. M. Gillingham, 463; T. Dalziel, 1564; Charles Grillion, P.G.S.D., K.J., P.H. 463; T. H. Ebbutt, 463; H. Reed, 463; John King, 410; James Putney, 1362; Thomas Orenden, 452; John Hooke, 463; G. T. Carter, P.M. 382; Mark Wenham, 804; T. R. Redgrave, 463; Attwood Bignall, 463; B. Robinson, 205; and Thomas Lawler, 92. Grand Lodge was opened at half-past one o'clock, and was formed as follows:—

General Brownrigg	Prov. G.M.
George White	as Prov. G.S.W.
Dr. Rhys Williams	Prov. G.J.W.
Rev. C. W. Arnold	Prov. G.C.
T. P. Dickens	Prov. G.R.
Chas. Greenwood	Prov. G. Sec.
H. G. Francis	Prov. G.S.D.
Wells	Prov. G.J.D.
Albert Dawes	Prov. G.Org.
W. Sharp	Prov. G.Swd. B.
C. T. Speight	Prov. G. Tyler.

After the usual preliminary business had been transacted, the minutes and Grand Treasurer's accounts received, five guineas were voted to the widow of a deceased Surrey brother; five guineas to the Croydon Hospital; five guineas to the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls; five guineas to the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys; and five guineas to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution.

The Prov. Grand Master proceeded to appoint his officers for the year, but before doing so he said there was one thing which he must speak of. He had only two superior officers, the Wardens, but he knew the worth of a large number of brethren of the province; and if it were possible he should make Wardens of them all. Some of the brethren considered that they should have the higher offices, but he would state that whatever office he bestowed on a brother, that brother was a Grand Officer, and should be perfectly satisfied with the purple in that office, because it was given to the best of the Provincial Grand Master's ability. (Hear, hear.)

The Grand Officers of the year were then given as follows, the Prov. Grand Master himself investing the brethren:—

Harrison	D. Prov. G.M.
Rev. Ambrose Hall	Prov. G.S.W.
John Lambert Sim	Prov. J.G.W.
Rev. D. J. Drakeford	Prov. G.C.
A. B. Cook	Prov. G. Reg.
Charles Greenwood	Prov. G. Sec.
Eager	Prov. S.G.D.
C. Gale	Prov. J.G.D.
Podmore	Prov. G.S. of Wks.
John Close	Prov. G.D.C.
Rhodes	Prov. G. Org.
Capt. M. S. Brownrigg	Prov. G. Swd. Br.
D. B. Woodward	Prov. G. Purst.
Charles Pawley, F. West, W. Kemp, and Turquand	Prov. G. Stewards.

The Prov. G.M. afterwards said that on these occasions it was usual to say something with regard to the position of Masonry in the province, and he was very grateful to be able to give the brethren a good account of its progress during the last year. Since the former meeting he had consecrated three new lodges, the Addiscombe Lodge, the St. John's Lodge at Knaphill, the Studholme Lodge; and on Tuesday next he was going to consecrate the Lodge of Friendship and Harmony, at Walton-on-Thames. He thought that was a very good year's work. In fact, were it not that he was well satisfied with the elements of which these lodges were composed, he should say that this pro-

gress was almost too quick. It was very easy to have lodges too numerous, and he owned that he should always hesitate to recommend to the Most Worshipful the Grand Master the granting of a new lodge unless he was perfectly well satisfied that occasion required it, and that the component parts of it were such as would be an honour to the Craft, and do credit to the province. He continued to receive excellent accounts of all the lodges in the province. He regretted he had not been able to visit so many as he could wish; but in all he had visited he had found good feeling and that exhibition of true brotherhood that must always be the great characteristic of the Order. (Hear, hear.) He repeated that the state of Masonry in the province was very satisfactory. He would now mention another subject which had been canvassed very much in the neighbouring province of Berks and Bucks, and he believed in that of Middlesex also. A letter had been received from the Deputy Prov. G.M. of Berks and Bucks, the Rev. J. Studholme Brownrigg, G.C., with reference to the votes for the Masonic charities. It was thought by the brethren in those provinces, and also in this province, that they might utilize their votes for the charities more than they did by a combination of the three provinces, which were territorially annexed to each other. If there was a very urgent case in either province, by a combination of their votes they might bring such an amount of power to bear as would insure the success of the candidate. Of course it was not intended to interfere with any strong case of their own; but in a case which was very urgent in either province where the other provinces had no very urgent case it would be a very good thing if the provinces could help one another. With respect to his own votes, when an election was coming on he always looked down the list to see if there was a Surrey Mason, or the widow or child of a Surrey Mason, on it. If there was he gave his votes for that case; because the brethren must remember he only held those votes in trust; they were the votes of the province, to be devoted to cases from the province. Sometimes there was no Surrey case, and then he gave his votes to what he thought the most deserving case. He would now call upon Bro. Greenwood to read the letter he had referred to, and after that the brethren could consider what they should do upon the subject. He thought a charity committee might be appointed.

Bro. Greenwood, Prov. G. Sec., then read the letter from the Rev. J. Studholme Brownrigg, which contained the suggestions mentioned in the Prov. Grand Master's above observations.

The Rev. C. W. Arnold said he had a communication on this subject from the Dep. Prov. G.M. of Berks and Bucks some time ago, asking him to consider the question, and at the present meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge to take part in a discussion on it, and if possible bring it to a result. He had very great pleasure now in moving that a committee, as suggested by the Prov. G.M., be appointed for this province, and that they should unite with the neighbouring provinces—he did not see why Wiltshire should not be included; the more they were the stronger they would be—in supporting candidates. No doubt they would be able to carry any candidate in. At present a great many votes were lost; some were frittered away by being given to a candidate in whom the subscribers had no particular interest, and whom they did not know; others were spoiled by not being properly filled up; and others by not being filled up at all. It was a most desirable thing that the votes should be sent to a charity committee, who would see that they were properly filled up. He took a great interest in this question because he thought it would be doing more good to the charities, and more good to their own parties. He would conclude by moving that a charity committee be appointed for the province.

Dr. Strong seconded the motion. He quite concurred in the above remarks that many votes were lost from papers not being properly filled up, or not filled up at all. If they were sent to the committee they would not be lost. In the course of a few years it would be known who had votes and who had not. He would like to throw out the suggestion that the committee should not consist of the W.M.'s of the lodges in the province, because they were annually changed, and would come to their work in ignorance of their work; but if one brother was appointed from each lodge to hold the office permanently he would be acquainted with the work.

The Prov. G.M. said this was a good suggestion; and perhaps the Treasurer or Secretary of a lodge would be the best member they could get for the purpose. He then called on Col. Burdett to give them any information he could on the question of the Charity Committee.

Col. Burdett, Prov. G.M. of Middlesex, said that the question of a Charity Committee for the province of Middlesex was brought before the brethren some time back; but it was only discussed then, although he hoped now to carry it out not only in that province, but in combination with the adjoining provinces. There was this point to be taken into consideration, that the brethren of Surrey and Middlesex, which were really Metropolitan provinces, belonged, in a great proportion, to London lodges as well, and the province of Middlesex felt a difficulty in uniting as a province independently of those brethren acting in London. All the brethren acting in the province were most anxious to work in their own lodges and for their own candidate, and so a Middlesex candidate or a Surrey candidate would have little chance unless those two provinces or more were joined together. They might carry their candidate, if joined together, without the assistance of the London brethren, although he did not wish it to be understood that they were not at all times happy to have the assistance of the London brethren. Joined together the provinces might carry one or two cases without much difficulty. Middlesex considered the question last year, but gave it up because the brethren could not see that the province was strong enough to carry a candidate by itself.

Bro. Greenwood, Prov. G. Secretary, said that in 1859 the same question was brought before Grand Lodge of England.

Col. Burdett observed that he had communications from East Lancashire which pointed out that in that province the principle was thoroughly carried out.

Bro. Greenwood said it was Bro. Symonds who brought the matter before Grand Lodge in 1859, but it was then done more in aid of the charities than to concentrate voting power on behalf of a candidate. Bro. White (now present) sent up each year his report for some time, but gradually the system fell into decay. The system then adopted was for the purpose of obtaining funds for the charities; now it was to unite voting power on behalf of candidates.

The Prov. Grand Master thought the question before the brethren was the approval of the design; it would be for them to appoint a committee hereafter; after which it would be communicated to the other provinces of Middlesex, Berks and Bucks, and Wilts. If they approved of the principle they would have to appoint a committee. Bro. Grand Chaplain had moved that a committee be appointed. This had been seconded. When carried, Grand Lodge would nominate the members. The suggestion of Dr. Strong was a good one, that some permanent officer of a lodge should be appointed; and his own feeling was that they could not have better members than the Secretaries; who, with the Prov. Grand Chaplain, the Deputy Prov. G.M., and the Prov. G.M. could form the charity committee of the province. He did not wish to propose any; he only threw out the suggestion; but he would be happy to take any trouble himself.

Bro. the Rev. C. W. Arnold said he thought it would be better to put it all into one resolution. Of course the Secretaries would be the best persons to place on the committee, because they had all the communications respecting their lodges, and were perfectly conversant with all the business brought forward. He begged to add to his motion "That the committee consist of the Prov. G.M., the Deputy Prov. G.M., the Prov. G. Chaplain, the Prov. G. Secretary, and the Secretaries of the different lodges."

Bro. Webster, W.M., St. John's Lodge, seconded the motion, as altered, which was then put and carried, after which the Audit Committee was appointed.

Bro. H. J. P. Dumas, P.G.D., then rose and proposed "That Grand Lodge should vote a sum of money towards a testimonial which was on foot to be presented to Bro. Charles Greenwood, who for nearly a quarter of a century had ably discharged the duties of Secretary of the Prov. Grand Lodge." He thought that such a testimonial should at least be subscribed to by Prov. Grand Lodge. He would leave it to the Prov. G. Treasurer to propose the amount; and he was sure that Bro. Greenwood himself and all the subscribers to the testimonial would appreciate it.

The Prov. G.M. said he cordially agreed with the proposal to present to Bro. Greenwood this testimonial, sensible as he was that there was no brother in the province who more deserved such a recognition of his services.

The Prov. Grand Treasurer said he also heartily concurred in the proposition, for no one had derived so much assistance from Bro. Greenwood as he had for a period of twenty years; and he did not know what he should have done without him. Bro. Greenwood took upon himself a vast amount of work, burdens which really none but a brother like him could properly bear, and it was all done in a business-like way. He should propose that twenty guineas be voted towards the testimonial. (Cheers.)

Bro. H. E. Francis seconded the motion, which the Prov. Grand Master put to the Grand Lodge, who carried it unanimously.

Provincial Grand Lodge was then closed, and the brethren went to the parish church of Croydon to join in the afternoon service. The grand old church was crowded, notwithstanding its immense size. Seats were reserved for the brethren (who attended without Masonic clothing) in the body of the church. Prayers were read by the Rev. Canon Hodgson.

The sermon was preached by the Rev. C. W. Arnold, Grand Chaplain, who took for his text I. Cor., iii., x., xi.

The sermon will be given in extenso in our next.

The offertory, which amounted to £25 7s. 6d., was given to the Croydon Hospital.

Shortly after five o'clock the brethren partook of a sumptuous banquet at the Greyhound, where the Provincial Grand Officers were the guests of the East Surrey Lodge of Concord. The customary toasts were honoured subsequently.

The Prov. Grand Master said, in proposing "The Queen and the Craft," that as it was impossible a Queen could ever be a Freemason, the Craft symbolised their fealty to their sovereign by connecting her with the Craft in this toast. At the same time the brethren must not forget that irrespective of the loyalty they owed Her Majesty, she was the daughter of a Mason, and out of four of her sons, three were Masons. If anything could attach her more warmly to the Order, it must be that fact.

The Prov. G.M. in giving "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M.," said that the hearts of all Masons went with him when he set out on his Eastern expedition. It was impossible when he went that long journey to dissociate in our minds certain perils which attached to the journey. He went among a fanatic population; and it was fresh in our memory that the Viceroy of India had not long before fallen by the hand of an assassin. There were also dangers of climate, and dangers in the field. We all knew his pluck in sports, in which he was always in the front rank of the sportsmen. Well, he had come back, and it had been our good fortune to see him come back sound and safe in wind and limb. We rejoiced to see him again amongst us; and if he received a Masonic reception it would be such a one as he might be proud of.

The Prov. G.M. next proposed "The Pro Grand Master, the Earl of Carnarvon," who, he said, had frequently expressed to him his regret that he was unable to attend lodges and chapters more frequently than he did.

In proposing "Lord Skelmersdale, Deputy G.M., and the rest of the Grand Officers," the Prov. G.M. said he was a fine manly English gentleman, and a good cricketer, who must win the hearts of all who knew him. He begged to couple the name of the Grand Chaplain with the toast. The brethren of the Province of Surrey—perhaps it was a feather in their caps—had the honour of finding Bro. Arnold made Grand Chaplain at last Grand Festival. (Hear, hear.) They must all have been delighted with that excellent sermon they had just heard. (Hear, hear.) It was a very difficult sermon to preach, for they must remember they were in a church of which the vicar was not a Freemason; and he could not imagine any subject treated with more good taste than Freemasonry was by the Chaplain in that sermon. He made himself perfectly understood by the brethren; his references to Masonic symbols could not have been more perfect; and yet it was a sermon which could be preached to the whole world. It appealed thoroughly to the sympathies of the brethren as Masons, and was yet an admirable sermon to the outer world. They would all join with him in thanking Bro. Arnold for his excellent discourse. His appeal produced £25 7s. 6d., the greater part of which was contributed, he thought, by the Masons. He hoped so. The musical service was very good, and he had never heard the Hallelujah Chorus done better. Many who took part in the musical service were amateurs, who wished to do the Masons, or rather Bro. Woodward, honour. Next time Prov. Grand Lodge met he hoped more of the choir would be Masons. He wished to express his thanks to all who took part in the church portion of the ceremony.

Bro. Rev. C. W. Arnold, G.C., in reply, said, if there was one thing which had given him more pleasure than another in being one of the Prov. G. officers this year it was that they had given him plenty of work to do. In the first place, as the Prov. G.M. had said, in the present year there had been three lodges consecrated in the province of Surrey, and at all of these he (Bro. Arnold) had assisted, and he was glad to do so. An idle man was a disgrace to Freemasonry. Therefore, when he was asked by the Prov. G.M. to preach a sermon that day he said at once he should be glad to have the occasion, because he should feel he had done his duty of a Chaplain, and he did not care about being a Chaplain unless he had got some work to do. There was one thing he should wish to say. When they were at church he could not bring it into his sermon, because it was a thing most intimately connected with Freemasonry. He spoke about those who were of a fraternity, but he could not speak to them about the admission of persons into a fraternity. Now, they all knew that Freemasonry was extending largely in the country. Lodges were being opened day after day; and there was no doubt that there had been a great impulse given to Freemasonry of late. What he would say was, that he hoped every Freemason would carefully guard this in his heart, and take the greatest pains that no unworthy person should come into it. Having added this, he had nothing more to say. He thought then that his work as their Chaplain would be done.

The Prov. G.M. next proposed "The Visitors," and trusted they would accept from him in name of the Prov. G. Lodge the heartiest welcome.

Col. Burdett, Prov. G.M. Middlesex, replied. He said he had been very much gratified by what he had seen that day, and by the presence of so many Masons of the Province of Surrey. It was always gratifying to get a little interchange of hospitalities, and he only hoped that when he held the Prov. G.L. of Middlesex the Grand Master and brethren of Surrey would accept of its hospitality. The more these interchanges took place the more it strengthened the hands of the parties. They were able to do a great deal more than they could individually; and with respect to the charity committees which had been spoken of in Grand Lodge, it would be found that they would be able to effect an immense amount of good.

The Prov. G. Treasurer proposed "The Health of the Prov. G. Master." He was not going to say he regretted this toast should have fallen to him to propose, or that it should have fallen to better hands, although he regretted his inability to do justice to the toast. But there was not a brother in the room better qualified to discharge this duty than himself, because he was the oldest Prov. G. officer in the kingdom. He was made a Prov. G. Officer by Bro. Hall. He served under Bro. Dobie; and he now served under Bro. Brownrigg. As such an old Prov. G. officer, he ought to be a judge of the qualities of a Prov. G. Master, and although he knew very well, and they all knew, what Bro. Dobie was, and now difficult it was for a Prov. G.M. to follow Bro. Dobie, their present Prov. G.M. did follow him, and followed him well, and they were fortunate in having such a brother to preside over them. They knew his great ability, and he was well skilled in the Masonic Craft; and above all they knew that he was impartial. He thought he should weaken the toast if he dwelt longer upon it.

The Prov. G.M. said he was sensible of the brethren's kindness, which it appeared to him, increased year after year. It went straight to his heart. He congratulated the brethren on the very excellent gathering they had had that day. Every year he came among them he knew them better, and recognised many old faces. But he found many new ones, which was always pleasant. Four years he had held the office, and in that time the province had done very well indeed. They had done very well, even if it was only in the accession to the number of the lodges. But it was not that so much that he felt. Of course that was an advantage to them. They got more cosmopolitan; they embraced a larger circle of friends and brothers; but

what he felt most was the invariable kindness with which he was received. He then proposed "The Grand Treasurer," who had been for many years a faithful and trusted officer of the province.

The Prov. G. Treas. responded, and said his work had been one of love. His duties, however, had been light by his having been associated with other excellent officers, particularly the Prov. G. Sec.

Bro. H. J. P. Dumas said, with reference to the testimonial to Bro. Greenwood, that he expected such an amount of spontaneity and readiness of concourse on the part of the brethren that there would be no need of any committees. All that would be required was that circulars should be issued to the lodges, which would no doubt subscribe their £5 each, and the individual brethren could subscribe what amount they chose. He expected altogether as much as £140.

The Prov. G.M. next proposed "The Prov. G. Secretary." He could only say what he had said before, that he did not know what he should have done without Bro. Greenwood. With such a supporter the brethren must be well satisfied. He (the Prov. G.M.) took all the responsibility of his own acts; but he could not have a better supporter.

Bro. Greenwood, in the course of a very brief reply, said he had been Prov. G.S. for several years, and during that time he had seen the Craft progress vastly in the province. Year by year lodges had been added to the roll, and certainly that circumstance had tended to increase his labours; but still that was a labour of love.

The Prov. G.M. then gave "The Health of the Prov. Senior and Junior Grand Wardens." Whether a brother received the appointment of Prov. G. Warden or Prov. G. Pursuivant, the appointment conveyed the Prov. Grand Master's sentiments of the worth of those on whom he bestowed the appointment, and one should be considered as good as the other. The appointments he had made that day had been made after due consideration, and he hoped and trusted that the province would think that his selection was a good one.

Bro. Ambrose Hall said, in reply, that the toast was an important one, and the Provincial Grand Officers were an important body Masonically. Although the work they had to do Masonically was not large, yet the Grand Officers were determined to do it well; to carry out in the lodges the teachings of the Order; and to set such an example as they should set. Above all it would be theirs, in any way they could, to uphold the offices they respectively filled, and to support the Provincial Grand Master who now so ably, so eminently, and so courteously ruled over the important Province of Surrey. He was sure the few words he had said expressed the feelings of the brethren who were associated with him in Grand Office. The offices they held they were not only proud of, but they were determined to fulfil the duties of them with honour to the Craft and credit to the province.

The Prov. G. Junior Warden also expressed the same sentiments.

The Prov. Grand Master then proposed "The East Surrey Lodge of Concord," under whose auspices the Prov. Grand Lodge had been held. It would not be inopportune while proposing this toast if he made a suggestion, in which he was quite sure they would all agree, that the Secretary of the lodge be requested to convey to that beautiful choir which had sung in the church the very grateful thanks of the brethren. Something of that sort should be put on record, because he felt that they could not have been more gratified with the singing if it had been given in any of the cathedral churches in England. A great many of the gentlemen came forward spontaneously to do honour to them as Freemasons, and he thought the brethren would be wanting in courtesy if they did not ask Bro. Woodward to convey their very best thanks for the great treat they had had that afternoon. He would propose "The Health of the W.M. and the Brethren of the East Surrey of Concord," who had so sumptuously entertained the Provincial Grand Lodge. It had seldom occurred in any province that a Provincial Grand Lodge had been so well entertained.

Bro. Dickens, W.M., East Surrey Lodge of Concord, responded. He said the lodge were much pleased that what they had done had met with the gratification of the Prov. G. Lodge. He could not help thinking that it was impossible they should not have been pleased with the musical ceremony in the splendid old parish church. The brethren of the East Surrey Lodge of Concord were very much pleased with the Grand Chaplain's sermon, and they were sorry he had been obliged to leave so early. He hoped that the thanks of the brethren of the East Surrey Lodge of Concord would be conveyed to him. He would also add that the R.W. Prov. G.M. might suggest to him that the sermon should be printed and distributed among all the lodges of the province.

The Prov. G.M. was at this time compelled to leave, and he deputed the Prov. G. Treasurer to take his place.

The Prov. G. Treasurer proposed "The Press," and called on Bro. H. Massey, of the "Freemason," to reply. This having been done, the Prov. G. Treasurer proposed "Bro. C. H. Woodward's Health." On him had fallen the burden and heat of the day, and his services had been most useful. All the proceedings had been managed by him, and he had gone heart and soul into them, not only with regard to Grand Lodge or the banquet, but more especially as regarded the church. The proceedings had gone through without a hitch.

Bro. H. C. Woodward said, the toast had taken him by surprise, but as the representative and Acting Secretary of the East Surrey Lodge of Concord he felt very deeply the compliment paid him. Without being egotistical he must say he had thrown all his effort and strength into making this meeting a great success. He had worked hard and spent many hours over it, and had exerted himself in many ways to attain his end; great assistance had

been given him by others, and they had been the means of carrying the service in the church through in a way which must be memorable in the annals of Croydon for many years to come. The choir numbered nearly one hundred voices, and there was not six Masons among them. He felt very proud that the Prov. G.M. had asked him to write a letter thanking those gentlemen who had so rallied round the Craft. The offertory had gone to Croydon Hospital; and this was an object he had in view, to show that Masonic benevolence was not confined to their own circle. He was also very proud when the vicar in an interview he had with him gave him the use of the church. The vicar however said to him, "I rather regret Mr. Woodward, that you have not selected something local for the offertory." He (Bro. Woodward) said, "If you will excuse me, I will alter it in a moment," and he decided to give it to Croydon Hospital.

"The Masonic Charities" were then proposed, for which Bro. F. Binckes, Secretary of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, responded, and the Tyler's toast closed the evening's proceedings, which were enlivened by some beautiful music by Bros. Carter and Lawler.

PROVINCIAL PRIORY OF LANCASHIRE.

By command of Sir Knight Albert Hudson Royds, V.E. Prov. Prior, the annual meeting of the Provincial Priory of Lancashire was held at the Freemasons' Hall, Union-street, Oldham, on Thursday, the 1st inst., for the purpose of transacting "divers urgent and important business in connection with the province."

The St. George Preceptory was opened at twelve o'clock noon by Sir Knight Hollingworth, E.P., and the Provincial Officers, subsequently marshalled by Sir Knight Hopkins, Prov. D.C., then entered in procession. The V.E. Sub-Prior, Sir Knight C. R. N. Beswicke-Royds (acting in the absence through illness of the V.E. Prior), having been received under the A.O.S., took his place on the throne, and opened the Provincial Priory in due form and with solemn prayer.

Sir Knight Ashworth, Chancellor (in the absence of Sir Knight Chadwick, Registrar), called the muster-roll of the preceptories and of the Provincial Officers of Lancashire, when it was found that all the preceptories were represented except the De Lacy, Burnley (vacant); Edmund Plantagenet, Ardwick (suspended); Faith, Wigan; St. John of Jerusalem, Todmorden; and Plains of Mamre, Burnley. The following Provincial Officers were present:—Sir Knts. C. R. N. Beswicke-Royds, V.E.P. Sub-Prior, on the throne; J. B. Phillips, Prov. P.; W. Ashworth, P. Chancellor; W. Doyle, P. Constable; J. A. Birch, P. Treas.; G. Turner, P. Vice-Chancellor; S. H. Smith, P. Sub-Marshal; J. Greaves, P. Almoner; P. M. Jones, P. St. B. (Vex Belli); J. Worsley, P. B.B.; J. Hall, 1st P. Aide; J. B. Carr, 2nd P. Aide; J. W. Taylor, P. C. of G.; J. E. Jackson, P. S.B.; J. L. Goodwin, P. Org.; H. Thomas, P. 1st Pur.; and J. Lawton, P. Equerry. Letters of apology, expressing regret at inability to attend, were read from Sir Knts. Hall, Prov. G.M.; T. Clark, Prov. St. B.; Jenkins, Prov. W. of R.; and Dr. J. K. C. Smith, Prov. 1st Pur.; and the reasons given for their absence were accepted as satisfactory. Amongst others present were the following Sir Knights:—H. L. Hollingworth, E.P.; John Greaves, P. G.C.; P.G.A.; H. Thomas, 1st Capt.; J. Crompton Lees, 2nd Capt.; J. G. Ireland, Registrar; W. Blackburn, Capt. Lines; J. Clifton, A. Clegg, P. Phillip Melate, H. S. Alpess, P.P., First Grand Captain; Thomas Birchall, P. G. Constable; J. Wood, Treas. Wm. de la More Preceptory; T. P. Ainsworth, J. Hall, P. Royle, Dr. S. D. Lees, P.P. G.C., &c.; T. Ginni, E. Pierpoint, P.G.C. of L.; E. Halliwell, C. M. Jones, E.P.; Reginald Young, E.P.; R. H. Low, E.P.; M. Mawson, 1st Captain (Alpess Preceptory); R. Landless, E.P.; W. Cottam, E.P. (Prince of Peace); J. A. Birch, Treas.; R. Whitworth, E.P. (Albert); W. H. Hopkins, P.P.G.D.C.; J. Potter, E. Whittaker, J. Procter, B. Taylor, 1st H. (St. Joseph); J. F. Tweedale, P.P.G. Sub-Prior (St. George's); and others.

The minutes of the previous Provincial Priory held at Liverpool were passed, and the accounts of the Prov. Treasurer (Sir Knight J. A. Birch), audited by Sir Knights H. L. Hollingworth and J. E. Jackson, were certified as correct, the balance in hand being £16 12s. 9d. Sir Knight J. A. Birch was re-elected the Treasurer for the ensuing year.

The Prov. Sub-Prior then invested the officers for the ensuing year, and the following is a complete list of the staff at the head of the province:—Great officers: Sir Knights A. H. Royds, V.E. Prov. Prior; Clement R. Beswicke-Royds, E. Sub-Prior; Rev. J. B. Phillips, Prelate; W. Ashworth, Chancellor; J. Greaves, Constable; S. H. Smith, Marshal; J. A. Birch, Treas.; and J. Chadwick, Registrar. The officers were Sir Knights G. Turner, V.C.; T. H. Jenkins, Sub-Marshal; C. M. Jones, S.B. (Beauceant); J. Worsley, W. of Reg.; J. Hall, Almoner; J. B. Carr, S.B. (Vex Belli); J. Taylor, B.B.; J. E. Jackson, 1st Aide; J. K. Smith, 2d Aide; H. Thomas, C. of G.; R. Landless, Swd. Bearer; J. L. Goodwin, Org.; H. L. Hollingworth, First Pur.; J. C. Lees, Second Pur.; and J. Lawton, Equerry (unanimously elected).

The P. Sub. Prior nominated, on his own behalf, as members of the General Purposes Committee for the ensuing year, Sir Knts. W. H. Wright, P.D.P.G.C.; Col. Berchall, P.G. Chamberlain; R. H. Hutchinson, P.G. S.B.; and T. Croxton, P.G.S.B. The Provincial Priory nominated Sir Knts. G. P. Brockbank, P.G.C.; J. F. Tweedale, P.G.S.B.; W. Doyle, P.P. Con.; and G. Mel-

lor, P.P.G. Cap., with the following Knights, ex-officio:—V.E. Sir Knt. A. H. Royds, Prov. Prior; Em. Sir Knt. C. R. N. Beswicke-Royds, P. Sub. Prior; Sir Knt. W. Ashworth, P. Chancellor; J. A. Birch, P. Treas.; and J. Chadwick, P. Registrar.

It was resolved to hold the next meeting of the Provincial Priory under the banner of the Jerusalem Preceptory, Manchester. After alms had been collected,

The Prov. Sub. Prior addressed the Knights on the present position and prospects of the Order, and referred to the report presented to Great Priory, strongly condemning the conduct of the Grand Chancellor in suppressing the circular containing the opinion of 103 P.E.C.'s and Preceptors of this province respecting Sir Knt. Montagu's motion and the recent changes in the statutes of the Order. He concluded by thanking those Knights who had attended, and urged all who could possibly do so to attend the next convent general. He also urged the P.E.C.'s and Preceptors to attend to all communications received from the Chancellor.

The announcement that the Grand Chancellor had suppressed the papers containing the opinion of the Preceptors and P.E.C.'s in reply to Sir Knt. Montagu's motion was received with great disapprobation. It was stated that 103 P.E.C.'s and Preceptors in the province had sent in replies stating it as in their opinion desirable that the word "Masonic" should be restored to the title of the Order, that the designations "E.C." and "First and Second Captains" should also be restored, and that Past Rank should be bestowed on all who had held any Grand or Provincial office, after having once attained the office of Preceptor.

On the motion of Sir Knt. Major Turner, seconded by Sir Knt. Captain Greaves, the thanks of the Priory were voted to the V.E.P., with the expression of a desire that he would soon be restored to health and enabled to resume his active duties for the good of the Order.

The Priory was then closed, and the Sir Knights adjourned to a *recherche* banquet in the same building.

ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

The Committee of this Institution met on Wednesday afternoon at Freemasons' Hall. Bro. Colonel Creation presided. The other brethren present were Bros. J. Rawson, Raynham W. Stewart, Hyde Pullen, Griffiths Smith, H. G. Warren, Benjamin Head, R. Warner Wheeler, J. M. Case, William Hale, James Brette, John Constable, H. M. Levy, Thomas W. White, Thomas Cubitt, W. Hilton, C. F. Hogard, H. Massey ("Freemason"); W. Lane, and James Terry, Sec.

Bro. James Terry, after reading the minutes, announced the death of one male annuitant who had received one year's annuity. Bro. Terry also reported the names of the brethren elected by Grand Lodge to serve on the House Committee of the Institution. He likewise reported that the apartments lately occupied in the asylum by an annuitant whom the Committee had, after repeated promises of amendment, been necessitated to expel, on account of his persistently rendering himself obnoxious to the other residents, had been wilfully damaged by this brother, and it was imperative on the Committee to have them repaired. Whereupon it was decided to have the required repairs effected, and the brother informed that the cost of such repairs would be deducted from the amount of his next quarter's annuity. A vote of thanks was unanimously passed to Dr. Strong, the Medical Officer of the Institution, for his gift of a very handsome clock for the use of the Asylum.

Bro. Terry read a letter from the brother of the late Bro. Cutbush, acknowledging, on behalf of the deceased brother's widow, the letter of condolence directed at the last meeting of the Committee to be sent to her. The writer of the letter added, in his own behalf, that he should do his utmost to carry out the wishes and intentions of the late Bro. Cutbush with respect to supporting the Institution if he had lived.

The Chairman informed the Committee that three candidates, who were each over 80 years of age, were unsuccessful at the last two elections. The Committee had the power, by the laws of the Institution, to take candidates under such circumstances on the fund without further election, and that, having that power, he should move that they be taken on.

Bro. John Constable seconded the motion, which was then put to the meeting and carried.

Bro. Raynham W. Stewart moved, pursuant to notice, that Miss Norris, the daughter of Bro. Norris, an inmate of the Asylum, be appointed as Matron of the Institution. She had been a most valuable person down there, and he himself had witnessed the kind way in which she had behaved to all the inmates, both male and female. It was very desirable that there should be a female there to attend to the wants of the old ladies. No one could have done so with more care and affection than Miss Norris had for a long time without fee or reward. She gave up a good situation to go there and look after her father; and the time had come when he thought the Institution should no longer accept her services gratuitously. He therefore moved that her services be secured at a salary of £30 a year.

Bro. John Constable seconded the motion.

The Chairman said that he quite concurred with Bro. Stewart's remarks. Miss Norris was a most valuable person to the Institution, according to his own observation.

Bro. Terry said he had a telegram from Dr. Strong regretting his inability to be present, as he had intended, to bear his testimony to Miss Norris's valuable services and to support the motion.

The motion was then put and carried, and a vote of thanks was passed to the chairman, and the Committee adjourned.

Masonic and General Tidings.

Bro. Albert Blengini (late professor of fencing to Bro. H.R.H. the King of Greece) will give a grand assault of arms at Willis's Rooms, St. James's, on Thursday, June 22nd, on which occasion he will be assisted by the principal Masters at present located in London. Prices of admission 10s. 6d., 5s. 6d., and 3s. Tickets may be obtained of Bro. Blengini, at the ticket office, Willis's Rooms, St. James's.

An official communication from the War Office notifies that Field-Marshal His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, will review the Volunteer Force belonging to London and the vicinity, in Hyde Park, on Saturday, the 1st July. Should any volunteer corps within an easy distance of London wish to attend the review at their own expense, their application will be taken into consideration with a view to their admission so far as space and numbers will allow, provided that such applications be received at the War Office on or before Monday, the 9th inst. Instructions will be issued as to the place and times at which the several brigades will be formed. The review is to be at five o'clock.

The Cripplegate Lodge, No. 1613, will be consecrated on Saturday, June 24th, at the Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street. Bros. J. R. Foulger, P.M. 177, W.M. designate; G. M. Felton, C.C., S.W. designate; C. J. Benson, J.W. designate.

The seventh annual fete in aid of the Metropolitan and City Police Orphanage will be held at the Crystal Palace on Wednesday, June 5th. The entertainments will be on a grand scale.

BRO. SIR EDWARD LEE (manager of the Alexandra Palace Company, Muswell-hill) has consented to undertake the management of the Manley Palace and Park Company (Limited), on the expiration of his agreement with the Alexandra Palace Company.

Bro. Sir Gilbert Greenall, M.P., Past S.G.W. of England, has been presented by the Freemasons of Warrington with an illuminated address, congratulating him on his recent elevation to a baronetcy.

A presentation of a very gratifying character was made on Friday last to Bro. W. J. Jennings, manager of the Albion, Aldersgate-street, on the occasion of his fiftieth birthday. The staff of the establishment, with a few other personal friends, had united to give him a testimonial of their esteem and regard, and it took the form of a timepiece and two candelabra, all under glass shades, together with a handsome silver salver, bearing a suitable inscription. The presentation was made by Mr. J. Staples (one of the directors), in the name of the donors, and in concluding a highly complimentary address, the speaker expressed a hope that Bro. Jennings, with Mrs. Jennings, would be spared for many years to come, and that each succeeding year would be pleasanter and more prosperous than the preceding—a wish that was heartily endorsed by the staff who assembled together at the time.

The Queen, accompanied by Princess Beatrice, and attended by Lieutenant-General Sir T. M. Biddulph, the Dowager Marchioness of Ely, and Colonel Maude, will return from Scotland to Windsor on Thursday the 22nd inst., being a few days later than was expected.

Prince Hassan, son of the Khedive, arrived in London on Sunday evening, and is staying at 85, Lancaster-gate.

MARLBOROUGH COLLEGE.—The Rev. George C. Bell, Head Master of Christ's Hospital, and late Fellow of Worcester College, Oxford, was yesterday unanimously elected Master of Marlborough College, in place of Dr. Farrar, now Canon of Westminster.

BRO. CAPTAIN WEBB, the "Hero of the Channel," as he is now popularly styled, appeared at St. James's Hall on Saturday, in what was probably a new experience to him, viz., the character as a lecturer. The lecture was upon swimming in general, and the great swim across the Channel in particular, and with it, as his stock in trade, Bro. Webb means to visit most of the provincial towns of England.

Bro. A. Tisley has been appointed Vestry Clerk of St. Dunstan's in the West, in the place of his father, who has resigned through ill health.

A report of the consecration of the Hamer Chapter, No. 1393, will appear in our next.

The Countess of Zetland gave birth to a son and heir at her town house in Arlington-street, on Sunday. The infant takes the title of Lord Dundas.

Obituary.

BRO. COL. A. B. RICHARDS

We regret to announce that Bro. Col. A. B. Richards died on Monday night after a protracted illness. The deceased gentleman was the author of several dramatic productions, and had for some years occupied the post of editor of the "Morning Advertiser." Having taken an active part in the early stages of the volunteer movement, he remained a consistent supporter of the claims of our citizen soldiers.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS AND OINTMENT.—There is always taking place in the blood an interchange of material. Nutrient is absorbed into it from the processes of digestion and assimilation, and effete and useless matter is constantly being eliminated from it by the various excretory processes which Nature has furnished us with. During hot and sultry weather, when various causes are at work to urge into undue activity the circulation of the blood, and to retard one or other of these excretions, great risk occurs of the balance being disarranged, and violent and sudden attacks of diarrhoea, cholera, cramps, and similar diseases are the consequences thereof. Holloway's remedies restore the loss of balance, regulate the circulation and excretions, and quickly give relief.—ADVT.

SECOND EDITION.

A Second Edition of the "Freemason" will be published at nine o'clock on Saturday morning, containing a full report of the proceedings at the Provincial Grand Lodge of Oxford, at which His Royal Highness Prince Leopold, Provincial Grand Master of Oxford, will preside.

TO OUR READERS.

The *Freemason* is a sixteen-page weekly newspaper, price 2d. It is published every Friday morning, and contains the most important, interesting, and useful information relating to Freemasonry in every degree. Annual subscription in the *United Kingdom*, Post free, 10/- P.O.O.'s to be made payable at the chief office, London.

NEW POSTAL RATES.

Owing to a reduction in the Postal Rates, the publisher is now enabled to send the "Freemason" to the following parts abroad for One Year for Twelve Shillings (payable in advance):—Africa, Australia, Bombay, Canada, Cape of Good Hope, Ceylon, China, Constantinople, Demerara, France, Germany, Gibraltar, Jamaica, Malta, Newfoundland, New South Wales, New Zealand, Suez, Trinidad, United States of America, &c.

COLONIAL AND FOREIGN SUBSCRIBERS are informed that acknowledgments of remittances received are published in the first number of every month.

Notice.—It is very necessary for our friends to advise us of all money orders they remit, more especially those from the United States of America and India; otherwise we cannot tell where to credit them.

TO ADVERTISERS.

The *Freemason* has a large circulation in all parts of the Globe, its advantages as an advertising medium can therefore scarcely be overrated.

For terms, position, &c., apply to

GEORGE KENNING, 198, Fleet-st.

Answers to Correspondents.

All Communications, Advertisements, &c., intended for insertion in the Number of the following Saturday, must reach the Office not later than 12 o'clock on Wednesday morning.

A special report of the entertainment to the inmates of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, too late for this week, will appear in our next.

M.M.—With reference to the book you mention, write to the Editor, with name.

BRO. BURDETT YEOMAN.—In our next; unavoidably crowded out.

New Masonic Hall at Sheffield, and laying a foundation stone at Gibraltar, in our next.

"A P.M." is thanked for advice, which is no doubt well intended, but the Editor has "other fish to fry."

The following also stand over:—Hartington Lodge, Derby; Gilbert Greenall Lodge, Warrington; Rose of Denmark Chapter, Lodge St. Barchan, 156 S.E.; Consecration of Torbay Lodge.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

[The charge is 2s. 6d. for announcements, not exceeding four lines, under this heading.]

BIRTHS.

ADDISON.—On the 10th inst., at Manchester, the wife of J. Addison, Esq., of a daughter.

BAKER.—On the 11th inst., at Owllets, Cobham, Kent, the wife of T. H. Baker, Esq., of a son.

BARRETT.—On the 12th inst., at Slough, Bucks, the wife of H. R. Barrett, of a daughter.

BLAMEY.—On the 13th inst., the wife of Matthew H. Blamey, Esq., 62, Charing Cross, of a son.

ZETLAND.—On the 11th inst., the Countess of Zetland, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

ARMSTRONG—DENTON.—On the 8th ult., at St. Mary's, Norton, William, son of W. Armstrong, Esq., of Pelaw House, Chester-le-Street, to Eva, daughter of the late J. P. Denton, Esq., J.P.

ROTTENBURG—HUTTON.—On the 8th inst., at St. Stephen's, South Dulwich, by the Rev. Canon Parrington, assisted by the Rev. J. Mees Clark, M.A., Rural Dean, Franz Johannes Rottenburg, L.L.D., Attache of the Imperial German Foreign Office, to Elizabeth Marion, second daughter of Bro. Charles W. C. Hutton, J.P., Delair, Dulwich.

DEATHS.

BALLARD.—On the 13th inst., at 3, Chapel-place, Vere-street, William Ballard, late of Bow-street, aged 84.

DENMAN.—On the 12th inst., at Norfolk-road, Dalston, Mr. James Denman, aged 74.

JACKSON.—On the 11th inst., at Slindoo, Sussex, Eleanor, wife of F. R. Jackson, Esq., aged 75.

JOHNSON.—On the 12th inst., at Epsom, Mary Ann, daughter of the late C. M. Johnson.

RICHARDS.—On the 12th inst., Bro. Col. A. B. Richards, after a long illness.

SCUDAMORE.—On the 13th inst., at Bessborough-gardens, S.W., Mr. Thomas Scudamore, in his 68th year.

The Freemason,

SATURDAY, JUNE 17, 1876.

THE LAST QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION.

The greatest enemies of the "Freemason" cannot accuse it of truckling to the opinions of one or many. It has from the first hour of its existence been most independent in tone and temper, in thought and utterance, and perhaps that is the very reason, a good reason—by the way—why it has received so much kindly and general support from the Craft at home and abroad. If brethren do not agree with its expressed sentiments, at any rate they know well that such openly avowed opinions are both original and independent, based on deliberate convictions, and animated by proper independence. We still shall have, we trust, to-day, full credit with our numerous readers for simple honesty of utterance, for "straight running," and "plain sailing," in what we are about to say. We shall hoist no strange colours, and throw out no false signals, but shall steer a steady course. The intelligent and perspicacious reader will by this time probably have discovered that what we are going to say will not be all "couleur de rose," or please every one. Nothing, indeed, is easier than to swim with the stream, it is perhaps even, humanly speaking, not the most unpleasant of proceedings; nothing is more convenient at times than to go with the majority. We shall all of us remember the axiom of safety at Eatonswill election, where, we believe, it was the poetic Snodgrass's view of matters that if there are two mobs shout with the largest. But then such an accommodating disposition is often purchased at a high price, viz., the complete loss of manly independence. So we prefer to stick to our own old colours, on which the motto, "honest and free opinion," is inscribed, leaving both the words we use and the arguments we bring forward, to the kindly and fraternal criticism of an indulgent but appreciating Masonic public. Nothing, in our opinion, is so detrimental to the character of the press, Masonic or profane, as any mere yielding to passing delusions or unreasoning majorities; nothing so sad as to note too often the complacency of writers and speakers who go with the popular current, and fancy that they form the views of the majority. At such a time all that the serious and thinking can do is to lament over that insufferable and inflated egotism, which seems to cry out in stentorian tones see "how we apples swim." So they may, pro tem, but, after all, what a contemptible bobbing up and down it is! After this high-flown exordium, need we say that we do not agree with the result of the last Quarterly Communication, nay, that we rather think it a matter for much concern. With all deference to Grand Lodge, and with all respect to the speakers and voters for the amendment, we venture to express our very great regret that Bro. Havers's seasonable resolution was not carried, and that the amendment was. We venture even to think, that in coming to the decision it did Grand Lodge acted somewhat hastily and impulsively, led away by mistaken appeals, "at Lathomos," on grounds we equally venture to consider illogical. We cannot help feeling strongly that the whole question was decided on an incorrect issue, and that the line of argument, as against Bro. Havers's motion, was very defective in all its premises. For, as we read the speeches of the orators we find, according to our comprehension, which we admit is limited, that the simple and straightforward resolution of the Past Junior Grand Warden was met by considerations of sectarian feeling and very limited views of Masonic benevolence, which ought never even to have been glanced at in Grand Lodge, and appeals were made to severances and sensibilities which ought never to have been invoked at all. The difference, for instance, as between Christian and Hebrew brethren in respect of a supposed denominationalism ought never to have been dwelt upon for one moment, and we feel sure of this, that our worthy Hebrew brethren, good Masons as they are, will not the least feel thankful to those who

in their nervous anxiety came forward as it were to protect their rights and to claim their votes. For the motion was not, and never was intended in any way, as a denominational one. That the two cathedrals selected for aid belonged to a Christian body of religionists is most undoubtedly true, but it was not proposed that they should receive the support of Grand Lodge on denominational grounds but on Masonic ones, because they appealed to the "sentiment" and memories of Freemasons. The gift was proposed as a Masonic gift, as a grateful recognition to a kind Providence, which has brought our Grand Master safe and sound back to us and to old England, and it was based on Masonic principles alone, just as it was in our opinion sanctioned by Masonic teaching, and archaeological souvenirs. It may seem to some that the distinction we have just laid down is without a difference, that it is rather special pleading. But it is not so, the difference between the two positions being very real and distinct, and we may add, very wide indeed. We always deeply deplore the appeal to anything like the intolerance of sectarianism in our peaceful and liberal-minded Order. Bro. Havers's whole Masonic career has been one of unflinching and unswerving maintenance of absolute toleration; and he was not à priori likely to suggest any denominational preferences; and, as we know that he based his proposal on Masonic grounds, and Masonic association alone, we do much regret, we venture to repeat, that anything like the "tocsin" of religious differences should have been rung in the slightest degree within the uncontroversial arena of Grand Lodge. The proposal was either good or bad per se, and in our opinion should have been met solely on the ground of inexpediency, if at all. We can quite understand brethren objecting to the vote, on the principle that Masonic funds were meant for Masonic purposes alone, but such an argument could not be put forward in the face of a recent grant for £100 for the exploration of Palestine, which, though in our opinion reasonable and proper, was not practically defensible on such grounds. We are all aware that there was a second openly professed ground of resistance to the resolution, and we confess that the second reason was, and is, as distasteful to ourselves. We have always objected to that narrow view of many, that Masonic benevolence is meant only for Freemasons. When, then, one of the grounds openly put forward was that something might be better done for the Asylum or the Boys' School, we certainly think it well to point out to-day that such is not the most elevated view of our Masonic responsibilities. We have always felt that there was a certain amount of truth in the popular objection that Masonic benevolence had somewhat of selfishness about it if you confined the liberality of the Order to Masons alone. Primarily, of course we are bound to do so, but, as it appears to us, there are occasions from time to time, when by a large-hearted munificence and liberal sympathy, we are to evince our good will towards humanity at large, towards religion, towards local distress, towards national objects, towards æsthetic improvements, and we will add, towards church restoration. The argument that we ought to do something specially for our Masonic charities does not exclude the propriety of doing something for something else, which the Grand Lodge might approve of, and which as Freemasons we ought to feel it to be our duty to do. It is a great pity, we think, that as before the outer world just now, Grand Lodge should, by its vote, seem to endorse any such, in our opinion, narrow-minded view in respect of Masonic charity. It is in fact so great a limitation of Masonic benevolence, as to reduce it to the mere donations of a benefit order. That such is a popular way of looking at the matter among Masons just now is, we fear, the case, but that fact does not make it any more the truth, or creditable to Freemasons or Freemasonry. We have the matter here to-day. We trust that all our brethren will believe that in writing as we do we write both conscientiously and carefully. We have measured our words, and we feel it to be our duty to give full scope to our own honest convictions. They

may not chime in with the views of some of our good brethren, but unless ours was an untrue utterance of deliberate conviction, unless we were to write to order, and to please either a majority or a minority, which we do not, we must frankly say what we really feel and believe. We always welcome free discussion in the pages of the "Freemason," within proper limits, but we have a right to claim for ourselves, alike freedom of expression, and honesty of purpose. We feel strongly that a good opportunity of doing a very handsome thing properly and gracefully has been allowed to slip away unimproved. The only effect of the amendment has been "to hang things up," as they say, until September, as the resolution will have to be confirmed, and some provisions made for the appointment of a committee by somebody, which at present is "in nubibus." Then in our opinion the movement, as a movement of the Craft, will be too late, the proposal will come with a halting grace, and perhaps the best solution of all now, for this difficulty, as perhaps the "dignus vindice modus" will be simply to confine the resolution to a record of our grateful thanks for our beloved Grand Master's safe return. We must consider our Grand Master in the matter more than anything else, more than some of us have done, more than any question even of the triumph of particular views, or above all of a successful amendment.

MASONIC NARROW-MINDEDNESS.

We all of us sadly remember, and as sadly experience day by day, amid the cares which harass, or the treacheries which betray, how most imperfect and disappointing everything is of earth. For some reason or other it is a truth, however, which we hardly like to realise. And yet too surely and too plainly it is so. Often, like children with their fairy tales, we surround our "Chateaux en Espagne," and all the adjacent country with glowing shadows, with a roseate hue. All is fair and pleasant to the sight; we listen to the voices of songsters which fill the fairy groves, we inhale the perfume of odorous flowers which lift up their heads in many a gay parterre. All is full to us of life and light, and brightness and bloom, there seems to be for us no possible change, there loom for us no dark clouds in the distant horizon. Alas, in the early morn the shadows have been swept away while the dew is on the grass, and the grey tints around us warn us of the approach of day. The fairy fabric has crumbled into nothingness, gone from us for ever, and no trace of it remains. We see nothing but the misty and dingy moorland before our very eyes. Life has indeed come to us with its trials in the family, its worries abroad, its public annoyances, and its private griefs, and we most of us have a ghost in the cupboard which we lock up, as we think, safely at home. Such is the world for us and ours in which we live to day, and such will it, such must it be always here. Neither time, nor chance, nor civilization, nor education, nor public opinion, nor anything else, can affect, or alter this way of the world. Such as it has been, such it is, and such it will be, until this earth of ours has fulfilled its weird, and its pomp and pleasures, and show and sorrows, all are forgotten among the things which were, in a "long ago" never to return. Now, amid some of the imperfections of this earthly lot of ours, some of the "petites misères de la vie humaine," narrow-mindedness is, though very prevalent, most annoying. We see it in many ways and things, and it always appears to us as the veriest parody alike on our professions of humanity, our claims for sympathy, and our "outcome" of civilization. As a general rule, narrow-minded people, and we know a "bonny lot" of them, are the greatest of bores. To use a familiar expression, they never "look beyond" their "noses," and most ungenial companions, and unsympathetic associates they are. They try and judge everything here by the one unailing standard of their own narrow-mindedness, which is simply the sublimation of the personal ergo, the embodiment of concentrated selfishness, in opinion, in policy, and in practice. Nothing here now seems to go down with them, which does not accord with their canon of supreme and overpowering nar-

row-mindedness. Their rule of life, their expression of opinion, is always consistent in this respect. They will not look beyond the "narrow limits" of their own subjective sympathies, and the consequence is that on all occasions, public or private, they betray a narrow-mindedness which is most conspicuous, which almost always leads to pettiness of aim, and seems to sanction grovelling motives of action; and is fashioned into exclusiveness and pharasaism, and ends in callousness and intolerance. We have met many narrow-minded persons in our life, and hopeless and unpractical they are in every relation of earth. They stop all improvements, they resist all reforms, they are obstructives, A. I. copper-bottomed at Lloyd's, (see the log of the Water Lily), and everything has to be meted out and regulated on secondary principles according to their narrow-minded view of things, persons, and events. Most hard, intolerant, and unsympathetic they ever are. They always prove themselves narrow-minded in their narrow-mindedness, whether in the "Forum" or in matters of business, surrounded by a family circle, or taking part in the affairs of men. Now narrow-mindedness in Freemasonry would seem to be impossible, and yet, even in Freemasonry, and among Freemasons, it can be found. It is strange that it should be so, but so it is, though most inconsistent with the enlarged principle of thought and practice we Freemasons profess before men. There are many Freemasons who look on Freemasonry, not as a means to a great end, high aims, and noble effects, but as a means to itself, a means for themselves. They boldly avow a narrow minded opinion in all such matters. Freemasonry was intended for Freemasons, Freemasonry was not intended for the many, but for the few, Freemasonry ought to keep its good things for its own members, Freemasonry is not meant to be too elevated, either in teaching or practice. For them all appeals either to first principles, or more sympathetic aspirations is looked upon as moonshine and humbug. Freemasonry is only to be valued for what it is to them. It has pleasant gatherings, good banquets, agreeable re-unions, a certain amount of charitable activity, but not too much, all is as well as can be, what more does anyone want? Well, we certainly always prefer "optimists" to pessimists" in this life, but we object very much to that far too common view of matters, which in its own narrow-mindedness, condemns the efforts and longings of those, who believing in Freemasonry, seek to raise it to the proper sense, and discharge of its goodly mission. Of course if Freemasons do not believe in Freemasonry "cadit quæstio," you can do nothing with them. They are too narrow-minded to bear the light, they will never admit that they are in the wrong, or never move out of their "jog trot." For them Freemasonry means something quite different from what it means to the ardent and the earnest, but so it is, and nothing any one can say will mend matters, or change the situation. We always deplore narrow-mindedness in things Masonic because Freemasonry is to us the epitome of all that is liberal, tolerant, large-hearted, and generous. It condemns with no uncertain voice the hateful differences and the petty disputes which often warp the minds and conscience of living men until they become narrow-minded, bigoted, intolerant, persecuting, unbelieving in their time and generation. Freemasonry would inculcate a higher morality and unfold a nobler lore. It would lead us all, be who we may, to uphold the right and maintain the true, not in narrow-minded persecutors, but because they are to us simply the right and the true. Freemasonry would tell us all "be just and fear not," never allow the tumult of passion, or the violence of party, to blind your eyes to what is good and true in others, to the nobler and more exalting, sentiments of our warring humanity. Above all, do not be narrow-minded. Freemasonry would urge you to take a large liberal enlightened view of men and things, and never by word or action, as Freemasons, proclaim to any one, that your governing rule of life is a narrow-mindedness which nothing can enlarge, a grovelling idea of Freemasonry itself, which is fatal to your very profession as a Freemason, and is destructive of the great and

glorious principles of our tolerant and enlightened brotherhood.

AN ULTRAMONTANE INSULT TO THE PRINCE OF WALES.

The "Times" of June 13th publishes from its own correspondent at Cadiz, by telegram, among other items of intelligence, which we take "verbatim et literatim" from our august contemporary, the following startling passage:—"In Cadiz and Cordova the fact that the Bishop of Cadiz having, at a public dinner, alluded to the Prince of Wales as 'the Herejote,' or Great Heretic, excites much discussion and disgust." We are glad to find that the good sense of the Spanish people revolts from the vulgarity and rowdiness and intolerable impertinence of the Ultramontane party. Let us conceive what the state of feeling would be in England if some exalted prelate, "plenus veteris Bacchi," were to venture in the excess of his ultramontane ardour thus to insult the Prince of Wales. We do not think that such a thing could happen in England, but there is really no knowing to what lengths the "insanis ira" of the Ultramontanes will not lead them now. They seem to be perfectly unmanageable. It has become a very serious matter indeed for all thinking persons, for all who know anything of the history or teaching of the Roman Catholic Church, because all this violent "monomania" only too surely evidences that behind the flowery professions of able and agreeable persons like Monsignor Capel the ascetism of Cardinal Manning, and the earnest zeal of Bishop Ullathorne, there still is in the Roman Catholic Church the fixed persuasion that all are heretical except themselves, and that it is their duty to denounce to condemn, and to burn all such misguided persons. Will no Roman Catholic lift up his voice against these continued outrages upon all that is kind and courteous, decent and decorous, fitting and true? With many as regards the golden and fiery days of the loving Inquisition their quotation would be, "Adveniant utinam sic mihi sæpè dies." But when to this, what we fear is the fact, we superadd the intense virulence and we may say brutality of the ignorant, the perverse, and the fanatic, it becomes indeed both a very alarming question and a very mournful lookout, alike for civilization and for Christianity—for religion and for humanity.

THE EAST.

The news from the East is still conflicting and dubious. The medical profession in England seems to be somewhat sceptical, and somewhat justly, we think, as to the unsatisfactory account of the nineteen medical men and their professional accuracy in this special case. No doubt many of the surroundings are full of doubt, fear, and mystery, but still on the whole the balance of probabilities is in favour of the hypothesis, that Abdul Aziz committed suicide. We can hardly believe that two English medical men, or, indeed, any medical men at all, would for any reason of state, or other cause, have put their names to a lying document in the face of the whole civilized world, or that of Abdul Aziz had been cruelly and shamefully murdered, this truth would not have leaked out by this time. We do not deny that some of the "surroundings" of the case are very unsatisfactory and suspicious, but Midhat Pasha, and those who are honestly seeking to reform and preserve the Turkish Empire, if they have yielded to the temptation of violently removing an uneasy rival to the new Sultan could have taken no worse course for Turkey or for themselves. At this present era, such a fact, if substantiated, would be looked upon with universal abhorrence, and would be the forerunner in our humble opinion of the downfall of Turkey in Europe. But we lean to the belief, on the whole, that the medical account is true per se, despite some not unreasonable objections in this country as the hurried nature of the enquiry would arise to a great extent from the peculiarities of Turkish feelings and institutions on the subject of "post mortem" examination for instance and the like. Let us hope then that peace may be preserved, and that all [those "rumours"], of

war may pass away, so that the Turkish Government may have every facility accorded to them, of endeavouring to prop up a "sinking state," and to bring order into the unfortunate condition of these financial affairs, and above all to recognize the claims of the unfortunate Turkish bondholders. Under the careful provisions of a constitutional régime Turkey may be able perhaps to "weather the storm," and we in England, as citizens of the world as well as Freemasons, must applaud the efforts of all who honestly seek to give security to property, and the sanctions of law and good government to all alike, and above all, to enforce the principles of toleration, amid the very contrasted classes and religions of the inhabitants of Turkey. We do not however, write as politicians, but as Freemasons, anxious for peace, and liberty of thought and conscience, and the happy progress of civilization, order, law. The most recent accounts from Turkey in the "Times" of Monday and Tuesday seems fully to bear out our view of the question, the "Times" notes that many disquieting rumours are going abroad. We will add, that despite some uneasy feeling on the matter, we believe the character of the present ruler, and of his constitutional advisers is too high to warrant even a suspicion of unfair play. The unfortunate Abdul Aziz seems deliberately to have put an end to his own life, and was, as the "Times" says, "Felo de Se." The translations of the medical report of the "inquest," such as it was, is, in our opinion, decisive of the case, as the medical men who have signed that remarkable document (in another column), are many of them of the highest professional skill and most honourable character. Medical men have always a very high sense of the responsibility of truth. We may add that the account of "Our Own Correspondent" in the "Times" of Monday is a very sad "romance of the harem," indeed.

Original Correspondence.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for, or even as approving of the opinions expressed by our correspondents, but we wish, in a spirit of fair play to all, to permit—within certain necessary limits—free discussion.—E.]

THE LAST QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

The whole proceedings in reference to the opposition to my motion in Grand Lodge on Wednesday last are so utterly incomprehensible to me that I think it right to place the following facts before my brethren:—

Bro. the Rev. R. J. Simpson wrote to me some little time ago, asking me my opinion as to the propriety of holding a thanksgiving service at St. Paul's, strongly urging it, and adding that if I thought well of it he would be glad if I would bring it forward.

I wrote him in reply, telling him of the objections I saw to it, and sending him a copy of the notice of motion I had given.

All who were present in Grand Lodge will remember that he led the opposition to my motion, and at once withdrew his own. All will remember how earnestly, and even solemnly, he denounced my motion; how it was wrong in principle; how it would strike a great blow at Freemasonry, and open the door to worse things, and how painful it was to him as a clergyman of the Church to be obliged to sacrifice his feelings to his principles.

I shall hardly need to say that I heard this statement with amazement when I knew that he had expressed the very reverse opinion to me, when I held in my possession a letter from him, addressed to me and dated 23rd May (the day before the meeting of the Board of Masters), in which, after replying to some of my objections, he thanks me for sending him a copy of my notice of motion, adds that he prefers his own, and then concludes his letter thus:—

"Your plan is an admirable one *per se*, but I venture to say it is not so apposite to the occasion as the one I propose. It wants that *personal and living* element which I think should (sic) an occasion possess. A mere resolution, and confined to Grand Lodge, would scarcely embody the feeling of the whole Craft. Let me add that I rather question how far donations to two churches would meet with universal acceptance. I like the idea very much from my standpoint, but I do not think it sufficiently linked with this occasion. I am going to propose £1000 from Grand Lodge, together with the offerings at St. Paul's, for such charitable object in India as the G.M. may recommend. Ever fraternally yours, R. J. SIMPSON."

I make no comments on this: here are the facts. I leave others to judge of them.

Permit me to say that I feel the most intense feeling of regret at the result of last Wednesday's discussion, not mere personal mortification at my defeat, for I would ten times rather have my defeat than gain such a victory as Bro. Simpson gained, but an intense feeling of sorrow and regret that a majority of the brethren present should have placed Grand Lodge in such a position. Had I thought it possible that my motion would not have been carried by a very large majority, nothing on earth would have induced me to bring it forward. My regard for the Craft I

have so long served, and my respect for our Grand Master, would alike have prevented me.

I regret that a great opportunity has been marred, and in my opinion a fatal mistake made, a mistake which I venture to think will lower us in the estimation of the world. The outside world will naturally say, These Freemasons boast of their traditions, and of their large-heartedness, but you see they are careful to confine their bounty within their own boundary, because to give a thank offering to their own charities is very like taking from one pocket to put into another. The Masonic world (at least the thoughtful amongst them) will say, giving money (except under unusual necessity) from the Fund of General Purposes to the charities is merely taking from the general funds that which ought to come from individual pockets. When we consider what has been done by our provincial brethren in the restoration of churches and cathedrals in Gloucester, in Durham and Worcester, at St. Mary Redcliffe, in Cheshire, in Warwickshire, and in other places, I cannot but feel that they have given a bright example to us, and have shown that they are far above the unworthy prejudices which seem to have guided Grand Lodge on Wednesday last.

I must notice another point, because I think that an injustice was (doubtless unwittingly) done to a worthy class of brethren. I do not know the name of the brother who urged in objection to my resolution that our Jewish brethren would complain of such a grant as that I proposed. I did not contradict this at the moment. I thought that the brother might have some grounds to go upon, but from enquiry I have since made I am strongly of opinion that our Hebrew brethren would utterly disclaim any such objection.

Yours fraternally,

JOHN HAVERS, P.G.W.

P.S.—I observe that in the daily papers I am reported to have said that we have an income for General Purposes of £6000 a year. What I did say was that after defraying all expenses our surplus amounted to nearly £6000 a year.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

There are one or two little omissions in your report of my remarks in Grand Lodge which might lead to misapprehension, and which I am sure you will allow me to supply.

I withdrew my motion in reference to the public thanksgiving at St. Paul's on the ground that there was no prospect of it being carried *unanimously*, and that such an act, if performed, should be the result of an undivided vote.

I have reason to believe that that part of my motion would have been carried by a large majority.

I wish to add that, as far as I was concerned, I contemplated no procession in the streets, nor even in the Cathedral, nor the wearing of Masonic clothing; and yet this was the only argument I heard raised against the proposal. I cannot but feel that we have lost a grand and legitimate opportunity of vindicating the character and asserting the dignity of Freemasonry. I was much pained to have been compelled to oppose the latter part of Bro. Havers' motion, but I sincerely trust now that the feeling of Grand Lodge has been so unmistakably expressed, he, as well as other distinguished and zealous Masons above and below the dais, may well and truly try to find some object at once useful and appropriate by which the event which has so gladdened all our hearts and called forth our thankfulness may be commemorated, and this with unanimity and concord. Your correspondent "C. S." did well to conceal his name, as he has yet to learn that "Charity that thinketh no evil," either of clergymen or laymen. I think he will now acquit me of being too "clerical" or "obsequious." Let us all try and appreciate each other's motives, and, if occasion call for it, never shrink from expressing our opinions on any public question with fearless independence, and yet with temperance and charity.

Your leading article in the "Freemason" of the week before last on the proposals before Grand Lodge was a good sample of this.

I did not agree in the conclusions you drew, but I much admired the Masonic spirit with which your argument was expressed.

I propose to lay the names of the Special Committee before Grand Lodge in September.

I am, yours fraternally,

R. J. SIMPSON.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Can any one tell me what our worthy Bro Binckes means when he says that some of the builders of churches were "irreligious persons?" What also, I would ask, had such an argument to do with the matter? I have got a sort of idea that I understand what my energetic brother was driving at in such a remarkable archaeological statement, but as I do not feel quite sure I shall be glad if any competent brother will throw light upon the matter.

Yours fraternally,

JOHN JONES, M.M.
X his mark.

CORRECT MASONRY.—WHAT IS IT?

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

In your columns of the 10th inst. appears a report of the meeting on June 2nd of the Grand Lodge of Freemasons of the Province of Northamptonshire and Huntingdonshire, at Peterborough, with an intimation that the said meeting afforded an opportunity for laying the foundation stone of the new aisle which is to be added to the church of St. Mary in that city. After the usual ritual, and applications attendant upon laying a foundation stone, it was pronounced, in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy

Ghost, well and truly laid. Being comparatively a young Mason, I venture to ask for light upon that portion of the ceremony, which, in a universal form, is foreign to our Order, viz., the invocation of the Trinity. I myself, apart from our Order (be it distinctly understood) acknowledge the unity in trinity, and the trinity in unity; but there are many who range under our banners who reject it altogether, but who, on account of the grand formation of our Craft, are not excluded from our Order, provided they believe in the glorious Architect of Heaven and Earth, and practise the sacred duties of morality. The idea, therefore, that arises in my mind is that nothing but what is strictly in accordance with universal Masonry, should be recognized at any Masonic ceremony, as we are taught that Masonry is the centre of union between good men and true, and the happy means of conciliating friendship amongst those who must otherwise have remained at a perpetual distance. Doubtless all those who were present at the laying of the stone could acknowledge the trinity, but from my limited knowledge I am led to suppose that all Masonic deeds should be unsectarian, and not merely carried out in behalf of those actually engaged, but for and in the name of the whole Masonic family, spread over the whole of the inhabitable globe, some of whom differ as to the existence of the Trinity, but who, one and all, believe in God, the Great Architect of the Universe.

Fraternally yours,

J.E.L., 78, 1458.

Manchester, June, 12th, 1876.

MASONIC REPORTS.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I have for nine years been a member of the Masonic Order, have passed one chair, and now occupy that of my mother lodge. I have often read the "Freemason," but not lately, for I deemed it full of the ritual of the Craft. I bought, however, the last number of your paper, to read the proceedings of G.L., and to my great delight I perceived an article written (I suppose by you as editor) saying that "for some time we have eschewed giving the minute of the ritualism, and that the paper will continue that course with regard to the ritual of Freemasonry." I must confess that I think your correspondents have given far more extracts of the ritual than the reporters. I am very pleased that you only mean to give general accounts of the meetings of lodges, and the speeches at the banquets. I hope you will proceed also to refuse any correspondence containing portions of the ritual which all good Masons wish to keep secret. I thank the author of this article (especially if it be yourself). It will, I am sure, increase the sale of your journal better than if it had continued the course formerly taken as to quotations from the ritual which alarmed all good Masons.

Yours truly,

WM. H. KIDSON,

GREAT PRIORY OF THE ORDER OF THE TEMPLE AND HIGH DEGREES.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I heartily agree with my good friend Bro. Fendelow that it is a great pity full reports of Great Priory, the Royal Order of Scotland, and A. and A. Rite do not appear in the "Freemason." There are numbers like myself who take a warm interest in these degrees and orders, and yet are precluded often from attending the meetings. Every good Mason, in the provinces at all events, sees the "Freemason," if he does not take it, and we think it a great mistake on the part of the powers that be when no account appears of important meetings in London, which if they occurred anywhere else would be amply reported in the provincial newspapers.

I think, except under very unusual circumstances, Masonic meetings should not appear in provincial papers; but the "Freemason" is the organ of the fraternity at large, and in it all degrees and orders connected with Masonry should be represented.

Trusting that our good friends in Chancery-lane and Golden-square will take the hint,

I am, &c.,

EMMA HOLMES.

ANCIENT AND PRIMITIVE MASONRY.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I observed that you published in the "Freemason" of a few weeks' back a communication relating to Ancient and Primitive Masonry.

Could you or any of your readers answer the following questions:—

1. Are there any lodges or other bodies now working the rite in this country?
2. Is any book of constitutions or list of members published, and if so where can they be obtained?
3. Is it forbidden to members of the A. and A. Rite to practise Ancient and Primitive Masonry?

I should be much obliged if you would insert this in your paper.

I enclose my name, but not for publication.

Yours truly and fraternally,

"PANACHE."

NEW LODGES.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Since the publication of the "Masonic Calendar" there have been about thirty-five new warrants granted for Craft Lodges. Would you kindly give a list of them in the "Freemason" for the benefit of the brethren?

Yours fraternally,

H. T. B.

HEALTH, comfort, and economy promoted. Gas superseded in day time, and daylight reflected in dark rooms by adopting Chappuis' Patent Daylight Reflectors. Manufactory, 69, Fleet-street, London.

CONSECRATION OF THE LEWIS CHAPTER,
NO. 1185.

A new chapter was consecrated on Saturday last at the King's Arms, Wood Green. The chapter is attached to the Lewis Lodge, No. 1185, and bears that name and number. The ceremony of consecration was performed by Comp. John Hervey, G.S.E. (who consecrated the Lewis Lodge nine years ago). He was assisted by Comp. A. A. Richards, who took the chair of H.; Comp. James Terry, who took the chair of J.; Comp. the Rev. C. J. Ridgway, of Buckhurst Hill, who acted as Chap.; Comp. Dr. Basil Ringrose, S.E.; Comp. H. G. Buss, as D.C.; and the following companions:—Arthur Leared, G. J. Row, Alfred Durrant, George Newman, J. Berrie, Samuel May, C. T. Speight, F. Binckes, Raynham W. Stewart, J. Rawes, T. Vesper, W. Worrell, W. Morgan, H. T. Thompson, H. Garrod, Seymour Smith, H. Massey ("Freemason"); Taylor, S. J. Reynolds, and Power. Comp. W. Worrell presided at the organ, and Comp. Seymour Smith led. After chapter had been opened, and Comp. Hervey had addressed the companions present on the nature of their meeting, the other portions of the ceremony were gone through up to the point where the Chaplain delivers the oration. Comp. Hervey then called on the Rev. C. J. Ridgway to perform this office, which the Rev. Companion did as follows:—

M.E.Z., Principals, and Companions. The beautiful ceremony prescribed to be used at the consecration of a new lodge or chapter includes as a prominent feature an oration on the merits of Freemasonry. We should be doing the wisdom of our ancient brethren who devised this ceremony a great injustice if we supposed that this was meant to be confined to an eulogism on the system or on those who profess it. The former is unnecessary, for the science of Freemasonry speaks for itself; neither would the latter be congenial to its spirit, for the practice of Freemasonry carries with it its own reward to those who practise it aright, and they value not the praise or flattery of men. The purpose of an oration has a higher and a nobler aim, for as every human institution is liable to be deteriorated and corrupted by the wear and tear of ages, it is intended to carry the mind back to the first principles of the Order, to trace the stream of Freemasonry through the quicksands which beset its course, to clear away the rocks and shoals which time has accumulated until we reach the clear pellucid fountain from which flow the pure and crystal waters of charity, morality, and justice. It is intended to enforce on the members of every new chapter that they are to guard its landmarks with zealous care, and to extend its principles with unflinching, self-denying zeal. Such is, I believe, the object of this prescribed oration; and I could only wish that I had power of language sufficient to enforce upon you the importance of exercising this care. I pray you to remember that on you is thrown the responsibility of evincing to the Craft at large that the confidence placed in you by the Supreme Grand Chapter has not been misplaced. I trust you will never forget that this chapter should be so conducted as to improve the quality of Freemasonry rather than to increase the numbers of professing Freemasons; above all that it may be a great centre for the diffusion of brotherly love, relief, and truth; in brotherly love, as shown in mutual forbearance and forgiveness, mutual aid and sympathy, joy in a companion's joy, and grief in a companion's grief, relief of his wants, freely and ungrudgingly given, relief not only to his bodily but to his mental wants, relief not only to himself but to those who are nearest and dearest to him, in the persons of his widow and his orphans; and above all, that the hand of a brother given to a brother Mason should be the sure pledge of brotherhood; ay, and when given to any of the outer world should be received as an obligation binding as any the law of man could devise, because given by a Mason. Above all, let charity and benevolence be your motto, words tending to the same end, but by different means; charity to give when you have the power, to every one of your fellow creatures in the hour of their need, and his handmaid, benevolence, to wish well to, and to strive well for every good cause, even when, as in the apostle's case, "silver and gold we have none" to give. Remember that the noblest instinct of man, his noblest attribute, is labour, to work through the morn, to work through the noon, to work through the evening of life, until "the night cometh when no man can work." And what man is in muscular life, he should be in the higher domain of spiritual life. The highest and most complete state of man, which his nature most longs for, and in which it fulfils its most sublime instinct, is work, bodily and intellectual, leading up to moral and religious work. For as the race began with an outward paradise which, being lost, many yet offer the type of a higher paradise to be gained, so each individual life begins with muscular life, that passing through the hard struggles of work, in which body, mind, and soul are alike engaged, it may carry its ideal with it, and emerge at last into a state of inspired liberty and spontaneous beauty. It may be a gigantic task that which has been sketched out for us by the wisdom and self-denial of our forefathers in the Order; but if any of the objects of human activity are worth living for at all—if on the whole it is not the highest wisdom to say, "Let us eat and drink, for to-morrow we die"—it is impossible to imagine a nobler or more stirring object of ambition, a cause for which a man could with more complete satisfaction, or in which he would be sure to meet with a fuller or purer reward, and to which he could devote all the energies of his life as a Mason, than to carry out to their limit the principles inculcated by Freemasonry. Let each in his own sphere, each according to the talents with which God has endowed him, take up his share of the work which lies at his door waiting to be done. There is work for all; and if Masons would but do the work which they should do, then would they be fulfilling indeed what they

had undertaken in the First and Second Degrees to perform. Then of them it would be said, and if deserved, how sweet would it be to hear said, "When the ear heard me, then it blessed me; and when the eye saw me, then it gave witness to me; because I relieved the poor that cried, and the fatherless and him that had none to help him; the blessing of him that was ready to perish came upon me, and I caused the widow's heart to sing for joy." God imposes on us serious duties; we must struggle in the interests of humanity against the strong when they abused their strength, and against the powerful when they abuse their power. From time to time the struggle is interrupted to contemplate its fruits—the oppressed delivered from the tyrant, the poverty or disease stricken man snatched from the abyss of want and sent forth with rejoicing on a new career of life; the widow encouraged, protected, and supported when she believed she was forsaken by all the world; the orphan once wan and emaciated now lighted up and rosy in the splendid dawn of its young life. Thus do we pass from indignation to tenderness, and we understand the aim of life. Then may we thank God, who, giving us the task to combat the powerful and wicked, gives us also to succour the innocent and the feeble, and who, side by side with the grave duties of life has placed the cheerful ones, the latter to uphold the former. The man who so understands and practises Freemasonry, is a better Mason and better acquainted with its symbolical teachings than he who, having taken every degree under the sun, has never carried into everyday life the principles and teachings which Freemasonry has perpetually enjoined upon him. He is a Mason who can, and he is not a Mason who cannot.

"Grasp the whole world of reason, life, and sense

In one close system of benevolence;

Happier, as feeling, in whatever degree,

The height of bliss in height of charity."

The ceremony of consecration and dedication of the Lewis Chapter was then completed, and the installation of the Principals and induction of the Officers commenced. At the installation of the Principals there were no less than 15 installed Principals present.

Comp. James Terry first installed Comps. Leared, Row, and Durrant in the J. chair; afterwards installing Comps. Leared and Row in the H. chair.

Comp. Hervey then installed Comp. Leared as Z., and the other companions were then admitted, and Comp. Dr. Basil Ringrose was appointed S.E.; Comp. George Newman, S.N.; Comp. J. Berrie, P.S.; Comp. Samuel May, P.Z., Treas.; and Comp. C. T. Speight, Janitor.

The Chapter voted thanks to Comps. Hervey, Richards, Terry, Buss, and Ridgway for consecrating and assisting in the consecration of the chapter, of which they were then elected honorary members. Comp. Samuel May informed them that they would always be welcome whenever they would honour the chapter with their presence.

Comp. Hervey, in acknowledging the compliment for himself and the other companions, said it had given them all much pleasure to attend and launch a new chapter. They wished the Principals and companions health and strength to carry out the arduous duties that were in preparation for them during the ensuing year, and at the same time they wished every success to the chapter.

The Principal Sojourner proposed Comp. Grabham as a joining member, and Comp. Treasurer proposed 24 brethren for exaltation.

Comps. H. T. Thompson and Jones, 583, were also proposed as joining members, and there being no further business on hand the chapter was closed, and the brethren adjourned to banquet.

The usual toasts followed.

Comp. Raynham W. Stewart, in responding for "The Grand Officers," said that he as well as several of the other companions present had the honour of attending the consecration of the Lewis Lodge by Comp. Hervey, and he wished the same success to the chapter as had been the good fortune of the lodge.

In giving the toast of "The Consecrating Officers," Comp. Leared said that Comp. Hervey was the oldest Mason in the room, but for all that he hoped they would frequently see him for many years at their meetings. He expressed the same wish with respect to the other companions who had assisted Comp. Hervey.

Comp. Hervey replied, and said that as the shades of evening were closing round them he would best consult the wishes of the companions by being brief. Comp. Leared had begun his speech rather ominously by alluding to him as the oldest companion in the chapter. Whether he meant it as a compliment or as a reproach he did not know, but he did not for one moment think he meant it as a reproach. Certainly, it was a very questionable compliment. (Laughter.) But whether he was the oldest or the youngest he was none the less grateful to the M.E.Z. and the companions for the toast. Returning thanks for himself and the older consecrating officers, he might say that if the little service they had been able to perform had been satisfactory it was ample reward for any trouble they had taken. Speaking for himself, if it had not been for the good support he had received from Comp. Terry and the other companions he did not know where he would have been. He was afraid he should have been not only the oldest man but the most incapable. However, a combination of forces had existed, and they had all contributed their mite to make the ceremony go off well. For this he thanked the companions who had assisted him, and all the companions who had taken part in the ceremony. There was now something else for him to do than to respond for the toast. He had to propose "The Health of the M.E.Z.," because there was no authorised officer at the consecration of a chapter to do it. He therefore proposed the toast, and coupled with it "Success to the New Chapter." The companions present were most anxious that the chapter should flourish, and that at the end of the M.E.Z.'s year he might find it in as flourishing a condi-

tion as would be gratifying to the M.E.Z. He (Comp. Hervey) was sure that the M.E.Z. and his officers would do their utmost to carry out the duties they had so solemnly engaged themselves to perform in a manner that would redound to their own credit and that of the chapter which had been inaugurated. He trusted, and felt satisfied that when they were assembled together, probably about that time twelvemonths, to celebrate the first anniversary of that chapter, there would be a good account to render of their proceedings for the year; that the M.E.Z. would retain the good health he now enjoyed, as well as the goodwill of the companions whom he had undertaken to govern for the year. The toast having been enthusiastically drunk,

Comp. Leared said that the consecration of the Lewis Chapter had been a long talked of affair. They had long tried to get it up, and at last they had done so, as he thought, with every prospect of success. That day they had been particularly fortunate. All they had to do now was not to let it die out, and as far as he was concerned he would not let it die out if he could in any way help it.

Comp. Leared next proposed "The H. and J." As they were untried companions he could not say much about them. He must wait until that day twelvemonth. All that could be done now was to drink their health, and hope they would be good officers and do their duty.

Comp. Row responded in nearly the same terms. The H. and J. were at present untried, and did not know what they could do. They were only young in Royal Arch Masonry, but he was sure they would do their utmost to fulfil their offices to the satisfaction of the chapter, and he hoped in another year there would be at least twenty-five members of the chapter.

"The Visitors" was the next toast, and Comp. Leared, in proposing it, said that Comp. Binckes, who was one of the visitors, was the first Master of the Lewis Lodge, which had been very prosperous. The augury was a good one, and he should single him out to respond. Although it was the first time he was present, he hoped it would not be the last.

Bro. Binckes replied, and said he spoke, he was sure the sentiment of every one present when he said how pleased he was to be there that evening to witness the consecration of the Lewis Chapter at Wood Green. For himself he might say it carried him back some nine years since when Comp. Leared, their good friend Comp. Hervey, their Treasurer, Comp. May, met to give "a local habitation" at Wood Green to the Lewis Lodge, which had already had a "name." He (Comp. Binckes) felt very much the honour of being its first Master. Comp. Hervey consecrated the lodge and installed him. Naturally he (Comp. Binckes) felt a great interest in this district; and when he saw sitting on the Most Excellent's right and left, occupying the positions of H. and J., companions both of whom were initiated into Freemasonry by him (Comp. Binckes) in the Lewis Lodge, he need hardly say with what pleasure he saw his youngest "children" arrive at such high dignity. Anything in connection with Freemasonry and the lodge at Wood Green must always have his utmost support and sympathy. Whatever the occasion might be he came down and renewed those old associations and very pleasurable recollections which always hung round Freemasonry. Many had questioned the possibility of the success of the lodge. That was now an established fact; and he entertained the most extreme confidence that the same success would attend the new chapter. At all events, that it might be so was his most sincere wish, and he was sure it was the wish of every companion who had had the honour of being invited to this happy ceremony.

Bro. C. R. Jones, of South Australia, also responded, and said that when a Mason got to Australia he was sure to be well received in lodges. But there was a practice prevailing there which he should much like to see here—that of having very strict examination of a brother who presented himself for admission if he was not known. It was an extremely difficult thing for a Mason to get into a lodge, and if he could not satisfactorily go through a very searching examination he was rejected. The Freemasons there did it with the view to the best interests of the Order. There were several spurious Masons about, and the portals of the lodge were closely guarded against them. None but the true Mason could gain admission, and he would like to see the same vigilance observed in this country, as it had struck him that admission to lodges here was far too easy.

The M.E.Z. having proposed "The Officers,"

Comp. Binckes proposed "The Charities," a toast which he thought should not be forgotten on the opening night of a new chapter, although it was not to be expected that anything practical could be done then for the institutions. He should therefore ask them for nothing more than a sentimental approval, with which he should be perfectly satisfied. He spoke with gratitude of what the Lewis Lodge had done for the charities. He begged the companions, whatever they did, never to lose sight of the charities, for on them depended at once the foundation and the keystone of the Order. He coupled with the toast the names of Comps. Durrant, J., and Terry, the former of whom would represent the Lewis Lodge on the 28th inst. at the Boys' Festival.

Comp. Durrant said that as far as he was concerned he believed in charity. It summed up a great deal of Masonic history. As representing the Lewis Lodge at the Boys' Festival, he hoped to take up a list which would be no discredit to himself or that lodge.

Comp. Terry, after regretting the absence of Comp. Little, who was away on account of ill-health, and thanking the Lewis Lodge for all which it had done for the Girls' School, thanked the Lewis Lodge for what it had done for the Benevolent Institution, of which it had enrolled itself a Vice-President. There were 240 annuitants upon the fund, taking £9000 a year from it. [The Man-

agers of the institution were desirous of extending the number. The subscribers hitherto had done nobly, and the committee, endeavoured to spend the money subscribed to the best advantage. The Craft had been very liberal in their subscriptions; but he trusted that the new members of it would come and subscribe, and not leave it to the old ones entirely. Let them remember that they never would have the "Lewis" if it were not for the old men and old women; for they must come back in everything to the primary cause. They must think of the old men and old women. The Grand Master in his wisdom had in fact told them which they ought first to support by fixing the festival of the Benevolent Institution the first in the year. Comp. Terry concluded by again thanking the companions for what they had done in their capacity as brethren, and he hoped that when all the liabilities of the Lewis Chapter had ceased to flow in the companions would subscribe with a liberal hand to the institutions. (Hear, hear.)

Comp. C. T. Speight then gave the Janitor's toast, shortly after which the companions returned to town.

Reviews.

INSPIRATION, &c. By RUSSELL LOGAN, M.D.

Our brother—who was for some time officially connected with the Hospital for Consumption—has written a very valuable treatise on Inspiration, and the effects of inhalation as an active agent in pulmonary disease. When we first took up the book the word "Inspiration" seemed to us to denote one of those grave questions which as Freemasons we have no right to discuss. But on opening the work we soon found that it was a technical medical term as opposed to respiration. We have read the book with much interest, and rejoice to think how successful the curative efforts of Bro. Logan Russell have been. For there is hardly any complaint so sad in its character, so serious in its ravages in this damp cold clime of ours, as consumption. How often does it blight the hopes of youth and quench the light of life amongst us, how very frequently does it under treacherous guise sap the living forces of opening promise, and make a sad void in the domestic circle, even among those blooming flowers of ours which add such fragrance and lend such grace to the dull stern hours and heavy battle of life. Nothing appears to us to be so sad as to watch day by day, hour by hour, waning moments, and wasting strength, to note that hectic flush which is significant of danger, to realize that weakness which alas! but steadily augments, telling its own sad tale, and leading to the mournful conviction that human skill is powerless to arrest the inroads of invidious disease. We feel, then, strongly that our brother in his efforts to ward off the first approaches of this destructive malady, to mitigate its force, and to recover its sufferers from its enclosing grasp, is like a good Freemason, a benefactor to humanity. Of him may be said, as was quoted the other day, "Se faire aimer c'est être utile aux autres." We therefore cordially commend the work to all our readers, and we believe we have the honour of claiming many medical ones among them, as we think that our brother's laudable efforts and interesting little book should be as widely known and as studiously read as possible.

DAS SYSTEM DER LOGE, "BON PASTEUR." By Bro. Dr. HERMANN BEIGEL, P.M. of the Tranquillity Lodge, London. Winter, Praterstrasse, Vienna.

One of the most interesting and cleverly written books we have for some time perused. We thank our Bro. Beigel sincerely for it, it is a most seasonable and effective contribution to Masonic archæology. We trust that this is not the last chip of Masonic ashlar which we shall have from his pen, and we hope also that he will pursue his studies in the great library at Vienna, and who knows on what Masonic MSS. and constitutions he may yet stumble? The MS. to which he calls attention is, it seems, No. 15,158, on the "Hof Bibliothek" at Vienna, hitherto unknown and unedited, and contains the account and ritual of a lodge which worked under the name of "Bon Pasteur" "Dis gute Hirte" in Poland about 1766, at Warsaw and Vienna. It seems to have been in existence in 1749, and to have been then directed by the mystic J. Thoux de Salverte. In 1788 "Graf Hulsén" was at its head, and it is said to have got from the Grand Lodge of England a deputation for a Provincial Grand Lodge, and to have called itself "Sublime Orient Polonais," or "Sublimis Oriens Poloniæ." An earlier lodge "Pythagoras," is asserted to have existed in 1726 at "Hoppan," and to have hailed from the Grand Orient of France. This is, however, impossible! The ritual, &c., belongs to a lodge, Bro. Beigel says, working under the "Bon Pasteur," though the name of the individual lodge is not given. This system had seven grades, and is apparently a purely mystical and, we must add, meaningless arrangement, drawing from alchemy and magic, forms and symbols equally useless and valueless. Indeed, this, like all other treatises on the subject, demonstrates how greatly those have erred who have allowed themselves to drift away from the simpler and truer teaching of Craft Masonry. Into what labyrinth of hopeless ineptitude, childish ceremonial and perverted symbolism have they not led their acolytes? In order to construct their pseudo-knightly and pseudo-mystical grades, they have had to make use of the inventive faculty in order to put together, what in many cases is nothing but a jargon of unmeaning rubbish. The affectation of theosophic lore and of abstruse speculations is only a makeshift for idle nonsense and a gaudy but utterly valueless covering for the "vain conceits" of the concoctors of many of the High Grades. This special system had, as we said before, seven distinct grades, all equally, in our opinion, meaningless and historically untrue. Whatever the object of mysticism

or any other ism may have been, we in vain ask ourselves the question to-day, *cui bono*? That these grades meant something is probably true; but what that something is, if anything, has yet to be clearly pointed out. It may be said that they were in themselves harmless. Well supposing we admit that they were, that does not really affect the question, or increase their value. Au contraire, we feel strongly how greatly to be deprecated is the departure from our simpler English system. We have said this because we honestly think so, and we always object alike to a "suppressio veri, or suggestio falsi." But we quite concede to others the right of looking through different coloured spectacles, and if they like these so-called mystical grades, which to us have no mysticism about them, except "bottled moonshine," we do not venture to question their perfect liberty of thought and action, though we cannot ourselves either realize their value, or appreciate their existence. We thank Bro. Beigel for a clear and well-written statement of the facts of the case, and for a very valuable contribution to general Masonic archæology.

W. F. A.

METROPOLITAN MASONIC MEETINGS.

For the Week ending Friday, June 23, 1876.

The Editor will be glad to receive notice from Secretaries of Craft Lodges, Royal Arch Chapters, Mark Lodges, Preceptories, Conclaves, &c., of any change in place or time of meeting.

SATURDAY, JUNE 17.

Lodge 1185, Lewis, King's Arms, Wood Green.
" 1326, Lebanon, Red Lion Hot., Hampton.
" 1364, Earl of Zetland, Old Town Hall, Hackney.
Chap. 1326, Lebanon, Red Lion Hot., Hampton.
Mark Lodge 104, Macdonald, M.H., Basinghall-st.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Lily, Greyhound, Richmond.
Manchester, 77, London-st., Fitzroy-square.
Star, Marquis of Granby, New Cross-rd.

MONDAY, JUNE 19.

Lodge 1159, Marquis of Dalhousie, F.M.H.
" 1201, Eccletic, F.M.H.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Prince Leopold, Lord Stanley Tav., Kingsland.
Strong Man, Jerusalem Tav., St. John's Gate.
Sincerity, Railway Tav., Fenchurch-st. Station.
Camden, Stanhope Arms, Up. James-st., Camden T.
Eastern, Royal Hot., Mile-end-rd.
St. James's Union, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Wellington, White Swan, Deptford.
Perfect Ashlar, Victoria Tav., Lower-rd., Rotherhithe.
Sydney, White Hart Ho., Church-rd., Upper Norwood.

TUESDAY, JUNE 20.

Chap. 11, Enoch, F.M.H.
" 186, Industry, F.M.H.
" 933, Doric, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Metropolitan, 269, Pentonville-rd.
Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney.
Domestic, Surrey M.H., Camberwell New-road.
Faith, 2, Westminster Chambers, Victoria-st.
Prince Fredk. Wm., Lord's Hot., St. John's Wood.
Dalhousie, King Edward, Triangle, Hackney.
Prosperity, 1, Camomile-st., Bishopsgate.
St. Marylebone, British Stores Tav., St. John's Wood.
Constitutional, Wheatsheaf Hot., Hand-court, Holborn.
Israel, Rising Sun Tav., Globe Road.
Royal Arthur, Prince's Head, York-road, Battersea.
Beacontree, Red Lion, Leytonstone, at 8.
Metropolitan Chapter, Jamaica Coffee Ho., Cornhill.
Excelsior, Commercial Dock Tav., Rotherhithe.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 21.

Lodge 190, Oak, F.M.H.
" 1044, Wandsworth, Spread Eagle Hot., Wandsworth.
" 1150, Buckingham and Chandos, F.M.H.
" 1382, Corinthian, George Hot., Millwall Docks.
Chap. 10, Westminster and Keystone, F.M.H.
Rose Croix, Bard of Avon, 33, Golden-sq.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Mt. Lebanon, Windsor Castle Tav., Southwark-bdg.-rd.
Pythagorean, Prince of Orange, Greenwich.
New Concord, Rosemary Branch Tav., Hoxton.
Royal Union, Horse and Groom, Winsley-st., Oxford-st.
Peckham, Malsmore Arms, Park-road, Peckham.
Stanhope, Thicket Hot., Anerley.
Finsbury Park, Finsbury Park Tav., Seven Sisters'-rd.
Southwark, Southwark Park Tav., Southwark Park.
Duke of Connaught, Havelock Tav., Dalston, E.
United Strength, Grafton Arms, Kentish-town.
Islington, Crown and Cushion, London Wall.
Whittington, Black Bull Tav., Holborn.

THURSDAY, JUNE 22.

House Com. Girls' School, at 4.
Lodge 60, Peace & Harmony, London Tav., Bishopsgate.
" 99, Shakespeare, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
" 858, South Middlesex, Beaufort House, Fulham.
Chap. 217, Stability, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
Mark Lodge 118, Northumberland, Grotto H., Twickenham.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Egyptian, Hercules Tav., Leadenhall-st.
Fidelity, Yorkshire Grey, London-st., W.
Finsbury, Jolly Anglers' Tav., Bath-st., City-road.
Temperance in the East, Catherine-st., Poplar.
Ebony, 12, Ponsonby-st., Milbank.
Highgate, Bull and Gate, Kentish-town.
The Great City, 111, Cheapside.
High Cross, Coach & Horses, High-road, Tottenham.
Salisbury, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Marquis of Ripon, Albion Tav., Albany-rd., Dalston.
Prince Frederick William Chapter, St. John's Wood.
Southern Star, Crown Hot., Blackfriars-rd.

FRIDAY, JUNE 23.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Union Waterloo, Thomas-st., Woolwich.
Robert Burns, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Belgrave, Lyceum Tav., 354, Strand.
Unions Emulation (for M.M.'s), F.M.H.
Temperance, Victoria Tav., Victoria-road, Deptford.
Clapton, White Hart, Clapton.
Metropolitan, Portugal Hot., Fleet-st.
Westbourne, Horse & Groom, Winsley-st., Oxford-st.
Metropolitan, Pentonville-road.
United Pilgrims, Surrey M.H., Camberwell New-road.
St. James's, New Tanners' Arms, Grange-rd., Bermondsey.
Duke of Edinburgh, Silver Lion, Penny-fields, Poplar.
Doric, Earl Grey Tav., Mile-end-road.
Burgoyne, Grafton Arms, Prince of Wales's-road, N.W.
St. Luke's, White Hart, King's-rd., Chelsea.
Chigwell, Bald-faced Stag Hot., Buckhurst-hill.
Burdett Courts, Approach Tav., Victoria Park.
Royal Standard, Finsbury Park Tav., Holloway.
Ranelagh, Clarendon Hot., Hammersmith.
Pythagorean Chapter, Prince of Orange, Greenwich-rd.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN WEST LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE.

For the Week ending Saturday June 24, 1876.

MONDAY, JUNE 19.

Lodge 721, Independence, M.R., Eastgate Row, Chester.
" 1502, Israel, M.H., Liverpool.
Everton L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

TUESDAY, JUNE 20.

Lodge 667, Alliance, M.H., Liverpool.
" 1225, Hindpool, Hartington Hot., Birr.-in-Furness.
" 1276, Warren, Seacombe Hot., Seacombe.
" 1325, Stanley, M.H., Liverpool.
" 1570, Prince Arthur, N. Hill-st., Liverpool.
Chap. 605, De Tabley, Seacombe Hot.
Merchants' L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 21.

Lodge 823, Everton, M.H., Liverpool.
" 1086, Walton, St. Lawrence's, School, Kirkdal.
" 1345, Victoria, Cross Keys, Eccles.
" 1353, Duke of Lancaster, Athenæum, Lancaster.
Mark Lodge, 31, Fidelity, Norfolk Hot., Hyde.
De Grey and Ripon L. of I., 80, North Hill-st., Liverpool.
Downshire L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

THURSDAY, JUNE 22.

Lodge 594, Downshire, M.H., Liverpool.
Chap. 216, Sacred Delta, M.H., Liverpool.
" 1086, Walton, St. Lawrence's School.

FRIDAY, JUNE 23.

Chap. 680, Selson, M.H., Liverpool.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN GLASGOW AND WEST OF SCOTLAND.

For the Week ending Saturday, June 24, 1876.
All the Meetings take place at Eight o'clock.

MONDAY, JUNE 19.

Lodge 581, Plantation, Craigiehall-st., Glasgow.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 21.

Lodge 117, St. Mary, Douglas-st., Partick.
" 571, Dramatic, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
Chap. 150, Shetleston, M.H., Shetleston.

SATURDAY, JUNE 24.

Lodge 28, St. John, Black Bull Inn, Kirkintilloch.
" 39, St. John, M.H., Townhead, Kilsyth.
" 187, St. John, Black Bull Inn, Carluke.
" 573, Livingston St. Andrew, McNaughton's Hall.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN EDINBURGH AND VICINITY.

For the Week ending Saturday, June 24, 1876.

MONDAY, JUNE 19.

Lodge 44, St. Luke, F.M.H., George-st.

TUESDAY, JUNE 20.

Lodge 36, St. David, Ship Hot., East Register-st.
" 405, Rifle, F.M.H., George-st.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 21.

Lodge 160, Roman Eagle, Iona Hot., Nicholson-st.

THURSDAY, JUNE 22.

Lodge 392, Caledonian, F.M.H., George-st.

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A FESTIVAL CANTATA.

Praise to the Great Architect of the Universe.

Words selected from Psalms cxxi. and cxxv.

Music composed by T. Brooks, R.A.M., Organist 1358,
(formerly Org. St. Albans Abbey).

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2nd " " " " 2/6
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Extra Accompts. to the Songs for Violin & Violoncello 1/0

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REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS.

Craft Masonry.

ST. MARYLEBONE LODGE (No. 1305).—The usual bi-monthly meeting of this lodge was held at the Eyre Arms, St. John's Wood, on Wednesday evening, the 15th inst., Bro. S. Draper, W.M., in the chair. After the usual routine business, Bro. R. T. Tubbs rose, and proposed that the sum of ten guineas be paid out of the lodge funds in aid of a testimonial to Bro. S. G. Foxall, P.M., A.G.P. Grand Lodge, the late Secretary, in recognition of the zealous and courteous manner in which for five years he held that office he had so efficiently performed the duties. Bro. Tubbs, in a speech of some length, placed before the lodge the efficient services rendered by Bro. Foxall, both as founder of the lodge and for five years its Secretary, and stated that the present prosperous condition of the lodge was mainly due to the energy and perseverance of Bro. Foxall. The motion having been carried, the lodge was closed according to ancient custom, and the brethren, including two officers from Grand Lodge, adjourned to the banquet.

OXFORD.—Apollo University Lodge (No. 357).—An emergency meeting of this lodge was held on Monday, 19th inst., when the Worshipful Master (the Rt. Worshipful Bro. H.R.H. Prince Leopold, K.G., Prov. G.M. Oxon) presided. There were several initiations and passings, and H.R.H., who undertook the whole of the work himself, showed, by the excellent way in which he discharged the duties of his office, how thoroughly the details of the Craft were appreciated by him.

CHESHUNT.—Gresham Lodge (No. 869).—The installation meeting of this lodge took place at Cheshunt Great House, Cheshunt Park, on Saturday, the 10th inst., under the presidency of Bro. A. C. Wylie, P.P.G.S.B. Herts, assisted by his officers. The lodge being opened, the ballot was taken for Messrs. J. T. Mabey and B. Mitchell, and that being unanimously in their favour they were duly initiated into the light of Freemasonry. The lodge was then opened in the Second Degree, and Bros. Bernard and Holland passed to the degree of Craftsmen, both ceremonies being worked by the W.M. in a very impressive manner. The chair was then taken by Bro. F. D. Rees Copestick, P.P.G.S.B. Herts, as Installing Master, and Bros. Layton and Neck having proved their proficiency in the former degree were raised by him to the sublime degree of Master Mason. Bro. Wylie next presented the W.M. elect (Bro. John Grocott) for the benefit of installation, which was conferred upon him in a full Board of Installed Masters, and on the return of the brethren he proceeded to appoint the following as his officers:—Bros. W. H. Etherington, S.W.; E. G. Pottle, J.W.; Rev. C. E. Mayo, M.A., Chaplain; F. D. Rees Copestick, Treas.; W. E. Gompertz, Sec.; T. C. Chapman, S.D.; Thomas Stephens, J.D.; Thomas Perry, I.G.; C. E. Cheese, Organist; Gompertz, jun., and Dickie, Stwds. This being the whole of the business on the summons, the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to a *recherché* banquet at the Green Dragon. The W.M. having returned thanks proceeded to give the usual toasts in a manner that convinced the brethren that the right man was in the right place that day, all of which were drunk with enthusiasm. In proposing "The Health of the P.G.M." he alluded to the pleasure they all felt at the fact of the approaching Provincial Grand Lodge being held in the old and historical mansion placed at the disposal of the Gresham Lodge by the kindness and courtesy of their esteemed Chaplain, Bro. Mayo, and trusted the brethren would muster in full force to do honour to the P.G.M. on that occasion. The toast of "The Initiates" was responded to by Bro. Mabey, and that of "The Visitors" by Bro. Birdseye, who congratulated the lodge on the excellence of its working, and especially Bro. F. D. R. Copestick on the manner in which he had performed the installation ceremony. The toast of "The Past Masters" was responded to by Bros. W. E. Gompertz and J. Copestick, the former, as Senior P.M. present, expressing the great pleasure he felt in witnessing the great progress the lodge had made since he first took office therein, and assured the brethren that in the future he would, as he had done in the past, do whatever might lie in his power to promote its prosperity. In responding to the toast of the W.M., Bro. Grocott assured the brethren that he felt proud of the honour they

had conferred upon him in placing him in the position in which he stood—that nothing should be wanting on his part during his year of office to support the credit and dignity of the lodge. The W.M. next proposed "The Health of the Installing Master, Bro. F. D. R. Copestick," and said there were few lodges could boast of brethren, as they could, capable of working this beautiful ceremony, and certainly very few who could perform it in the masterly way that it had been done that day. Bro. Copestick, in responding, assured the brethren that nothing afforded him more pleasure than to see the beautiful ceremonies of our Order rendered with proper effect, and strongly urged the younger brethren to attend lodges of instruction, and thus make themselves thoroughly acquainted with its ritual, at the same time not to forget that the great principles of Masonry were of even more consequence than its ceremonies, however beautifully rendered. The evening's entertainment was enlivened by some very good songs, but eventually the Tyler's toast brought it to a close, the brethren having spent a very pleasant day.

DERBY.—Hartington Lodge (No. 1085).—The monthly meeting of this lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, Gower-street, on Wednesday, 14th inst. The brethren present were:—H. T. Bobart, as W.M.; W. Heathcote, S.W.; J. H. Biggs, as J.W.; M. H. Bobart, Treas.; Geo. Pipes, Sec.; J. Heathcote, S.D.; J. O. Manton, as J.D.; W. B. Hextall, as I.G.; J. Shaw, D. of C.; T. Slinn, Tyler; Butterfield, and Russell. Visitors: Bros. R. Bennett, W.M. 731; Wright, P.M. 731; and W. Bancroft, 163. The lodge was opened at 7.45 p.m., Bro. H. T. Bobart, I.P.M., acting as W.M., in consequence of Bro. S. Pipes being unwell. After the circular convening the lodge was read, and also the minutes read and confirmed. Mr. John Lane (engineer) was duly initiated into the mysteries and privileges of Freemasonry in ancient and solemn form by the W.M. After other business being brought forward, the W.M. received the hearty good wishes of the visiting brethren, when the lodge was closed in perfect harmony and brotherly love, and adjourned to the first Wednesday in July.

LIVERPOOL.—Neptune Lodge (No. 1264).—The annual installation gathering of the brethren connected with the Neptune Lodge, No. 1264, which is one of the most numerous in the province of West Lancashire, was held on Monday evening, the 5th inst., at the Masonic Hall, Hope-street, Liverpool, and complete arrangements, combined with fine brotherly feeling, contributed to make the whole of the interesting proceedings pass off most successfully. The post of honour at the opening of the lodge, which took place shortly before four o'clock, was occupied by Bro. Peter Berriman Gee, the esteemed and efficient W.M., and amongst the brethren of the Neptune present then or shortly afterwards were Bros. J. S. Dixon, P.M.; A. Davies, P.M.; H. Williams, P.M.; W. Roberts, S.W.; A. Cotter, J.W. (W.M. elect); J. Healing, P.M., Treas.; A. C. Wylie, Sec.; W. Royle, S.D.; J. Korn, J.D.; W. C. Webb, S.; W. H. Ball, Tyler; H. Huxley, W. D. Thomas, J. Kelly, J. Williams, J. Hughes, J. Schultz, R. Brandreth, T. H. Arden, J. Molyneux, J. Brown, R. Black, T. Walton, J. Beattie, B. Parkes, J. Arundell, C. H. Jones, W. Jones, C. Fothergill, T. G. Wilkin, T. Singleton, A. Fletcher, W. Gray, J. Lyon, T. Johnson, W. Tulloch, T. Ryley, G. Temple, W. Fish, J. A. Hughes, A. Gray, and S. Hessam. The numerous visitors included Bros. J. Skeaf, P.G.O. S. J. Henochsberg, S. 1502; L. Solomon, 1507; J. Lecomber, 504; H. Pearson, P.M. 249; T. Shaw, W.M. 823; R. Collings, 249; J. Holland, P.M. 823; J. E. Jackson, W.M. 667; James Winsor, W.M. 203; K. P. France, S.W. 594; H. Ashmore, W.M. 1325; M. Corless, P.M. 673; W. Healing, W.M. 1094; J. Franks, S.W. 203; J. Devaynes, P.M. 667; T. Holden, 1182; F. H. Rahn, P.P.G.D. Durham; C. Leighton, P.M. 1325; J. Woodman, S.D. 823; A. Hart, J.W. 724; W. Doyle, P.P.G.J.D.; T. Clarke, P.M. 673; T. Evans, P.M. 1356, S.W. 1570; J. T. Callow, W.M. 1505; and others. After the lodge had been duly opened and the minutes of the previous meeting confirmed, the chair was taken by Bro. J. Healing, P.M., who proceeded to instal Bro. Alexander Cotter into the chair of W.M. The ancient charge having been read very effectively by Bro. A. C. Wylie, Sec., the lodge was raised to the Third Degree, and then all below the rank of Installed Master retired. On being re-admitted, the brethren saluted the newly-chaired W.M. in the usual form, and the ceremony was concluded by Bro. P.M. Healing—the charges to the I.P.M., W.M., Wardens, and brethren being especially effective. On the motion of Bro. I.P.M. Gee, seconded by Bro. P.M. Dixon, a cordial vote of thanks was passed to Bro. Healing for the manner in which he had performed the ceremony, and this was ordered to be minuted. The following were the officers invested:—Bros. P. B. Gee, I.P.M.; W. Royle, S.W.; J. Korn, J.W.; J. Healing, P.M., Treas. (re-elected); T. Walton, Sec.; J. Hill, Org.; W. C. Webb, S.D.; A. C. Wylie, J.D.; T. H. Arden, I.G.; J. S. Dixon, P.M., D.C.; T. Grant, S.S.; W. Fish, J.S.; C. Fothergill, A.S.; and W. H. Ball, Tyler. The brethren subsequently dined in the banqueting room of the hall, under the presidency of Bro. A. Cotter, the new W.M. of the lodge. There was a large representation of members and visitors. After the usual loyal and Masonic toasts, Bro. J. Skeaf, P.G.O., responding for "Bro. the Honourable Frederick Stanley, D.P.G.M., and the Officers of the Province," "The Health of the Worshipful Master" was given by Bro. P. B. Gee, I.P.M. He was sure the toast need only be mentioned to meet with the hearty approval of every one present. Bro. Cotter, their W.M., had risen from the lowest office in the lodge, and therefore he was well known and highly appreciated by every one in the

lodge. He (Bro. Gee) felt certain their W.M. would maintain the dignity of the Neptune Lodge, and keep up that reputation which had been so well upheld by many eminent brethren who had previously filled the chair. Bro. Cotter, W.M., in response, thanked the brethren for the cordiality of the reception given to the toast, and he trusted that, thus possessing the good feeling of all in the lodge, they would have a prosperous and happy year. Their lodge now numbered something like 250 members, and he promised them that he would do all in his power to give entire satisfaction throughout his year of office. On the other hand, he hoped every one would strive to make his year as comfortable and cordial as he possibly could. He had not the slightest fear as to the coming year, looking to the past, with the help of the officers and brethren generally. The W.M. then proposed "The Installing Master, Bro. J. Healing, P.M.," whom he referred to in highly eulogistic terms. Bro. Healing replied in a forcible and pointed manner. "The Immediate Past Master" was the next toast given by the W.M., and in doing so he referred to the many excellent services Bro. P. B. Gee, I.P.M., had rendered to the lodge during the two years he had filled the office of W.M. As a mark of the great esteem felt for Bro. Gee by every member of the lodge, he had great pleasure in presenting him with a very valuable and handsome diamond ring, which he trusted that he would long be spared to wear, and go out and in amongst the brethren of the Neptune Lodge. The toast was received with great enthusiasm and special honours. Bro. P. B. Gee, I.P.M., in acknowledging the presentation and compliment, said he had had so many honours showered upon him that he was at a loss to find words to sufficiently express his thanks. He had done his work to the best of his ability during the two years he had occupied the chair, and if he had secured the approbation of the brethren he was amply repaid. After a number of other toasts the pleasant proceedings were brought to a close at an early hour. Excellent harmony was contributed by Bros. A. C. Jones, A. Child, Pugmire, Hobart, and Skeaf, who presided at the piano. One of the most delightful features of the musical programme was a new song called "Dying Embers," written by Bro. Skeaf, which is quite a gem in its way, and sure to become popular with harmoniously inclined brethren.

HAMPTON.—Lebanon Lodge (No. 1326).—This lodge held its regular meeting on Saturday, the 17th inst., at the Red Lion Hotel, Hampton. Present: Bros. H. A. Dubois, P.P.G.A.D.C. Middlesex, W.M.; W. Hammond, P.G.J.D., &c., I.P.M.; E. Gilbert, S.W.; C. W. Fox, J.W.; F. Walters, P.P.G.P. Middlesex, P.M., Sec.; W. Mitchell, acting S.D.; J. B. Shackleton, acting J.D.; J. P. Baldwin, P.M., I.G.; H. Gloster, D.C.; H. Potter, P.M., W.S.; J. C. Woodrow, P.M.; D. Steinhauer, J. Greenwood, T. Stone, J. Howe, A. Rolington, F. Knight, J. Hernaman, C. Lucop, G. S. Streeton, W. Stanton, and others. Visitors: Bros. B. Sharp, 168, P.M.; Rev. T. W. Cane, 1309, Sec.; R. W. Martin, 201; and E. Beckwith, 1423. Messrs. W. Blackley and W. T. Trehearn were initiated into the Order. The bye-laws were read and agreed to, Bro. Gilbert, S.W., was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing year, Bro. S. Wickens was re-elected Treas., and Gilbert, P.G.T., Tyler. Bros. J. C. Woodrow was nominated for office as A.S.; J. Symes, as C.S.; and G. Shott, as Steward. Bros. W. Mitchell, W. Stanton, and J. B. Shackleton were elected on the audit. Five guineas was proposed, but seven was the amount voted to be spent in purchasing a Past Master's jewel, to be presented to H. Bro. H. Dubois as a slight recognition of his services during his year of office. The lodge was closed in ancient form, and adjourned till the third Saturday in July. The brethren afterwards sat down to banquet, and spent a social evening, some capital songs and speeches, &c., being given by several brethren. The Tyler's toast terminated another pleasant meeting at "happy Hampton."

LEICESTER.—Albert Edward Lodge (No. 1560).—The last meeting for the season took place at Freemasons' Hall, Leicester, on Tuesday, the 13th inst., when there were present: R.W. Bro. W. Kelly, P. Prov. G.M.; Bros. G. Toller, jun., as W.M.; Rev. Canon Burfield, P.M., S.W.; C. E. Stretton, as J.W.; Rev. E. Woodcock, P.M., Chaplain; Clement Stretton, P.M., Treas.; Rev. W. Langley, P.M., Sec.; Rev. F. H. Richardson, S.D.; J. F. Rolleston, J.D.; S. S. Partridge, P.M., D. of C.; W. Sculthorpe, P.M., and Capt. Goodchild, Stwds.; A. H. Burgess, as I.G.; G. H. Hodges, P.M.; Dr. Clifton, P.M.; Rev. C. H. Wood, R. S. Toller, H. S. Gee, and several others. Visitors: Dr. Buck, P.M. 279; Rev. F. Brindley, Chaplain 37; T. A. Wykes, J.W. 523; and J. Hodges, 523. The lodge having been opened, a ballot was taken for several joining members, and for Mr. J. A. McDonald as a candidate for initiation. These having all been declared duly elected, Mr. McDonald was duly initiated into Masonry by the acting W.M., assisted by the R.W.P. Prov. G.M. The lecture on the Tracing Board was given by Bro. S. Partridge. The remainder of the business having been transacted, the lodge was closed, and the members dined together at the hall, when a very pleasant evening was spent, enhanced by the musical abilities of the Revs. F. Richardson, F. Brindley, and T. A. Wykes.

Royal Arch.

OXFORD.—Apollo University Chapter (No. 357).—A meeting of this chapter was held in the University Masonic Hall, on Saturday last, 17th inst., for the purpose of balloting for, and, if elected, of exalting Bro. H.R.H. Prince Leopold, K.G., P.G.M., W.M. 357; together with his Secretary, Bro. R. H. Collins, M.A., of Lincoln College, and of Lodge 357; and Comp. H. O. Wakeman, B.A., Fellow of All Souls' College, W.M. of the Churchill Lodge, 478, of Lodge 357; and the Salopian

Chapter, as a joining member. His Royal Highness was proposed by Comp. Pickard, P.Z., and seconded by the M.E.Z., Comp. Reginald Bird, M.A., Fellow of Magdalen College. Among those present were Comps. R. Bird, M.E.Z.; F. P. Morrell, H.; H. R. Cooper Smith, B.A., J.; W. W. Harrison, M.A., Treasurer, and E.; Col. the Hon. W. F. Sackville-West, M.A., N.; R. Isherwood Williamson, Christ Church, Principal Sojourner; the Hon. W. Warren Vernon, Assistant Sojourner; the Rev. H. A. Pickard, M.A., P.Z.; A. Winkfield, P.Z., and Director of Ceremonies; and others. It need hardly be said that the ballot was successful, and all three candidates were duly exalted.

JERSEY.—Cesaree Chapter (No. 590).—The anniversary convocation of this chapter was held on Thursday, June 8th, at the Masonic Temple. In the temporary absence of Comp. G. J. Renouf, Z., Comp. R. Barrow, P.Z. 491, was requested to take the First Principal's chair, and supported by Comps. A. Schmitt, P.Z., P.G.S.E., as H.; J. O'Flaherty, J.; J. Oatley, P.Z.; A. Viel, P.Z.; Ed. Martel, H. 491, P.Z., opened the chapter. The companions were admitted. Among the visitors were Comps. Gen. T. C. Kelly, C.B., J. 491; J. O. Le Sueur, S., E. 491; E. J. Bellingham, P.Z. 244; E. Leigh Bennett, J. 244; Wm. H. Long, P.Z. 244; Capt. J. Williams, Treas. 244; and others. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed, when a ballot was taken for Comp. J. Le Neveu as a candidate for joining, and for Bro. Wm. H. Campbell, regularly proposed for exaltation, which proved unanimous in favour in each case. Bro. Campbell being in attendance, was admitted to the Supreme Degree of H.R.A.M. of Jerusalem. The first part of the ceremony, as far as the Ob., was conducted by the acting Z., and the remainder by Comp. A. Schmitt, who also gave the Symbolical and Mystical Lectures. The Historical was delivered by Comp. O'Flaherty. A conclave of Installed First Principals was now formed, and presided over by Comp. A. Schmitt, who performed the ceremony of installing Comps. P. W. Binet, as Z.; Jos. O'Flaherty, as H.; and E. Martel, as J. The companions were re-admitted and saluted their new chiefs. The I.Z. then invested Comps. Wm. H. Chapman, as S.N.; A. Viel, P.Z., P.S.; and H. Du Jardin, Jan. The annual report of the Audit Committee was then presented, showing a satisfactory financial position of the chapter. There being no other business, the chapter was closed, and the companions adjourned for refreshment. When the cloth was removed, the usual loyal and Royal Arch toasts were given and duly honoured. One toast, however, deserves a special mention, referring to the absent distinguished honorary members of the chapter, Comps. Dr. H. Hopkins (Bath), and Wm. James Hughtan (Truro), which was proposed by Comp. A. Schmitt, and sympathetically received with "Hearty Good Wishes" by the companions. The Janitor's toast brought the proceedings to a close at ten o'clock.

Knights Templar.

OXFORD.—Cœur de Lion Preceptory (No. 29).—A meeting of this preceptory was held on Monday, 19th inst., at the Masonic Hall, Oxford, for the purpose of incepting Bro. H.R.H. Prince Leopold, K.G., proposed by Sir Knt. the Rev. Edward Moore, Prov. Grand Prior Oxon, and seconded by Sir Knt. R. J. Spiers, P.G. Capt., Prov. Grand Sub-Prior, Oxon; and also Comp. Capt. H. Lay, of Swerford House, Oxon, proposed by Sir Knt. R. J. Spiers, Prov. Sub-Prior and seconded by Sir Knt. Joseph Reade; Comp. Col. the Hon. W. E. Sackville-West; and Comp. J. Heber Clarke; the two latter having been balloted for and elected at the last preceptory. Among those present were Sir Knts, Sir Patrick Colquhoun, Grand Chancellor of England; Gooldeen, Grand Treasurer of England; the Hon. W. Warren Vernon, Grand Preceptor of England; the Rev. E. Moore, Prov. Prior for Oxfordshire; R. J. Spiers, Sub-Prior of Oxford, and Past Grand Captain; together with the following officers of the Cœur de Lion Preceptory:—Sir Knts. W. Thompson, E. Preceptor; A. S. Hurford, P. Preceptor; Rev. T. Cochrane, Constable; H. R. Cooper Smith, Marshal; R. J. Spiers, P.C., Treas.; C. Bishop, Registrar; J. Juggins, Chamberlain; R. Isherwood Williamson, Capt. of Guard; J. S. Lowe, Dir. of Ceremonies; E. Scudamore Lucas, Standard Bearer; J. Saunders, (Mayor of Oxford), Aide de Camp; J. Potts, First Herald; J. E. Courtenay Bodley, Second Herald; Comps. W. Stephens and G. Norward, Equerries, and Sir Knts. S. P. Spiers, Eversley, Bevers, Hurford, Hawkins, &c. The ceremony of inceptation was impressively performed by Sir Knt. W. Thompson, Eminent Preceptor, who, at its conclusion, installed Sir Knt. the Rev. Thomas Cochrane as Eminent Preceptor for the ensuing year. The latter then invested his officers as follows:—Sir Knts. Walter Thompson, P. Preceptor; H.R.H. Prince Leopold, K.G., Constable; Chas. Bishop, Marshal; W. Thompson, Treas.; the Rev. G. M. Brock-Arnold, Chaplain; Col. the Hon. W. Sackville-West, Registrar; R. Isherwood Williamson, Christ Church, Sub-Marshal; J. Juggins, Chamberlain; J. E. C. Bodley, Balliol Coll., Almoner; Fenton Hedges, Capt. of Guard; Jason Saunders (Mayor of Oxford), Director of Ceremonies; J. Potts, Standard Bearer; W. W. Harrison, M.A., P.E.C., Brasenose Coll., Org.; Joseph Reade, Aide de Camp; E. S. Lucas, First Herald; R. Usher, Second Herald; Comps. W. Stephens and G. Norward, Equerries. Previously to the meeting a luncheon took place in the banquetting room of the Masonic Hall, Alfred-street, Sir Knt. the Rev. Edward Moore, Provincial Prior for Oxfordshire, presided, and Prince Leopold was included in the company present.

Bro. T. Brassey, M.P., will lay the foundation stone of the Hastings and St. Leonard's Baths on the 28th inst.

Scotland.

GLASGOW.—Lodge St. Mungo (No. 27).—The regular monthly meeting of this very old and prosperous lodge was held in St. Mark's Hall, 213, Buchanan-street, on Thursday evening, the 15th inst., Bro. Dugald Butler, W.M., presiding; Alex. Bain, P.M. 103, and P.G. B.B., acting S.W. in the absence of Bro. Dr. McInnes, S.W.; G. McComb, J.W. The attendance of members and visitors was large, among whom were Bros. Weir, Dott, Hood, Booth, Brown, Campbell, Kidd, McEwan, Paton, Albin, Morrison, Dory, and Janes. Visitors: Bros. Dr. Ballantyne, 195; R. Rae, 49; B. V. Sharpe, Lodge Loyal Welsh, Pembroke Dock, 378 (E.C.); W. Ferguson, P.M. 543 ("Freemason"); Gardner, 360; Beaton, 103; Campbell, 360; Paterson, 360, McEwan, 362; Johnstone, Rae, and Blain, of 465; and others. On the lodge being opened, Bro. Robt. Hood was raised to the Sublime Degree of M.M. by Bro. Ferguson, P.M. 543. Bro. Albin presiding at the harmonium. There being no further business the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to the side room and sat down to refreshment, the W.M. in the chair, who proposed the following toasts in succession:—"The Queen and the Craft," "The Three Grand Lodges," "The Provincial Grand Lodge of Glasgow." Bro. Baird, P.G.B.B., replied. "The Visitors," Bros. Sharpe, 378 (E.C.) and Dr. Ballantyne replied, "The Masonic Press," Bro. Ferguson ("Freemason") replied. Other toasts followed, and a very happy hour was wound up by drinking the last toast, "Happy to meet, sorry to part, and happy to meet again."

GLASGOW.—Lodge Star (No. 219).—The regular monthly meeting of this very flourishing lodge was held in their own Hall, 12, Trongate, on Monday evening, the 12th inst., Bro. J. Morgan, R.W.M., in the chair, supported by Bros. W. Anderson, S.M.; J. Horn, S.W.; D. Mearns, J.W.; Francis Daw, Sec., and the other office bearers, and, as usual, a very large attendance of members. Among the visitors were Bros. D. Reid, I.P.M. 465; James Duthie, Z. 67; J. Annand, Z. 144; Hugh Killin, Sec. 178; J. Stewart, 360; W. Ferguson, P.M. 543 ("Freemason"); and brethren from lodges Nos. 87, 116, 117, 178, 332, 347, 408, 458, 465, 543, and 571. The lodge having been opened, the Secretary read minutes of last regular meeting, and one emergency meeting, which were approved of, and after other business of minor importance had been disposed of Mr. John Boyd was admitted and initiated into the First Degree by Bro. Ferguson, P.M. 543. There being no other work the lodge was closed.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Athole (No. 413).—At the monthly meeting of this lodge, which was held in St. Mark's Hall, 213, Buchanan-street, on Tuesday evening, the 13th inst., Bros. Jas. Louttit, W.M., presiding; Daniel Leeds, S.W.; And. Holms, J.W.; J. Miller, P.M.; P. Agnew, Treas.; W. Neilson, D.M.; W. Grindlay, J.D.; W. Lockie, I.G.; and a very full attendance of members and visiting brethren. Among the latter we noticed Bros. W. Ferguson, P.M. 116; J. H. Gill, Sec. 332; P. Brownlie, J.W. 34; R. Bruce, Lodge Inhabitants, Gibraltar, No. 153 (E.C.); W. T. Waddell, Lodge Brownrigg Lodge of Unity, No. 1424, Chatham (E.C.); W. Ferguson, P.M. 543 ("Freemason"), and members from Lodges Nos. 50, 116, 197, 73, 202, 178, 275, 321, 332, 347, 354, 427, 437, 510, 570, 571, and 581. On the lodge being opened an application was made for a gentleman to be initiated on behalf of Lodge Union, No. 332, and the same was cordially received by the office-bearers and brethren of lodge 413. The gentleman, whose name is Mr. W. Dickson, was then initiated into the First Degree by Bro. Jas. Booth, W.M., Lodge Thistle, No. 87, in a very careful manner, Bro. Miller, P.G.D. of M., presiding at the harmonium. The Sec. of Lodge Union returned thanks to the Master and members of No. 413 for their kindness in initiating the candidate on behalf of the Lodge Union, No. 332, and said should they require a similar request at any time it would be cheerfully complied with. The lodge was then opened in the Third Degree, when Bros. J. McFarlane and G. F. Nicol were raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason by Bro. J. Miller, P.M., in his usual able and impressive manner. The lodge was then reduced and closed in due form.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Caledonian Railway (No. 354).—An emergency meeting of this lodge was held in the Masonic Hall, 30, Hope-street, on Wednesday evening, the 14th inst., at 6 p.m., Bro. A. B. Ferguson, W.M., in the chair; John Harley, S.W.; C. McKenzie, J.W.; J. Harley, S.D.; and Bros. Drummond, Speirs, Patterson, Russell, Armour, and Hain. Among the visitors were Bros. J. Clark, Org., Mother Kilwinning; A. Brown, D.M. 16; A. Fletcher, 39; H. Hardy, 87; D. Reid, I.P.M. 465; J. M. Oliver, S.W. 360; W. Ferguson ("Freemason"); J. Fisher, 28; G. Adam, 68; A. Baillie, 117; T. Granger, 117; J. H. Fash, 332; Rae, 465; Jones, 465; and others. On the lodge being opened, Messrs. Joan MacGaw, W. Chalmers, Peebles, and John Lindsay were initiated into the E.A. Degree by Bro. W. Ferguson, W.M. The lodge was then opened in the Second Degree, when a brother was passed by Bro. Oliver, S.W. 360. Afterwards a brother was raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason by Bro. W. Ferguson, P.M. 543. The three ceremonies were rendered in a very careful manner, Bro. Hardy presiding at the harmonium during the evening. The lodge was then closed.

The annual meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Suffolk will be held at Ipswich on Monday, the 3rd of July. Lodge will be opened punctually at twelve o'clock by Bro. the Right Hon. Lord Waveney, Prov. G.M.

LODGE OF BENEVOLENCE.

The monthly meeting of the Lodge of Benevolence was held on Wednesday evening at Freemasons' Hall. Bro. Joshua Nunn, Senior Vice-President, took the President's chair; Bro. James Brett, Junior Vice-President, took the Senior Vice-President's chair; and Bro. J. M. Case, G.D., that of the Junior Vice-President. The other brethren present were Bros. S. Rawson, P. Dist. G.M. China; John Emmens, P.G.P.; Rev. J. M. Vaughan, E. P. Albert, G.P.; C. F. Hogard, W. Mann, W. H. Myers, W. T. Howe, C. A. Cottebrune, P.G.P.; Griffiths Smith, P.G.S. H. Bartlett, Samuel Poynter, W. J. Murlis, Jos. Smith, P.G.P.; H. Massey ("Freemason"); H. T. Thompson, Herbert Dicketts, P.G.S.; John Boyd, P.G.P.; Marsh, J. Charkell, J. Gibson, J. Green, E. Legg, J. A. L. Barnard, J. H. Watts, C. Andrews, Emery A. Quait, J. J. West, G. J. Kain, 766; J. Pinder, W.M. 15; A. Pilbeam, C. P. Cobham, J. A. Copestick, Norman, Wm. Stephens, H. Tuson, J. Hervey, G.S.; H. G. Buss, Prov. G.T. Middlesex; A. A. Pendlebury, and C. B. Payne, G. Tyler.

The amount of £405 for grants made at last Lodge of Benevolence was confirmed. There were 16 new cases before the brethren, most of them exhibiting a large amount of sore distress. One case was dismissed, and one deferred; and £305 was voted to the remainder. With the exception of one case the applicants were most liberally dealt with, and even in the exceptional case the amount granted was named merely that the recipient might receive the money at once, instead of having to wait till December, which a large amount would have necessitated. No disadvantage can accrue to the recipient because he can petition the Board again. Two grants were made of £50 each; one was for £30; one was for £25; five were for £20; and five for £10. Lodge was then closed.

CONSECRATION OF THE HAMER CHAPTER, No. 1393.

There was an excellent assembly of companions of the R.A. Order at the Clarence Hotel, Everton Road, Liverpool, on Thursday, the 8th inst., when the Hamer Chapter, No. 1393, was consecrated at 3 o'clock in solemn form. Comp. R. Wylie, P.Z., was the consecrating officer, assisted by Comp. Dr. J. K. Smith, P.Z., as H.; Comp. J. Pemberton, P.Z., as J.; and Comp. J. McKune, P.Z., as D.C. In the course of the impressive consecration, which was admirably performed, valuable assistance was given by Comps. Sarjeant, P.Z.; J. T. Callow, P.Z.; H. Williams, P.Z.; and J. R. Goppel, P.Z. Amongst the others present were Comps. H. S. Alpass, P.G.S.E.; H. Nelson, P.Z. 673; T. Clark, P.Z. 673; H. Burrows, P.S. 673; J. Hocken, P.Z. 673 and 220; L. Bagnall, 823; J. Houlding, 823; H. Pearson, Z. 249; W. Jones, P.Z. 220; Leeson, J. Wood, Treas. 249 ("Freemason"); J. McCarthy, Hargreaves, A. C. Wylie, J. Holland, P.Z. 823, Smith, and others.

The following were the investitures:—Comps. J. Jones, Z.; R. H. Evans, H.; H. Jackson, J.; J. Price, S.E.; T. Large, S.N.; and Comp. Williamson was elected Janitor. Several joining members were proposed, and also a number of candidates for exaltation.

The musical brethren, who assisted effectively at the ceremony, were Comps. J. Skeaf, the Rev. J. R. Jenkins, C. Huswell, and T. Armstrong.

At an excellent banquet which followed, the usual toasts were given and responded to. In response to the health of the P.G. Officers, Comp. H. S. Alpass called particular attention to the reprehensible system of blackballing which prevailed in too many instances; and he also urged the desirability of subscribing for the restoration of Chester Cathedral in connection with the proposed gift from W. Lancashire. "The Health of the Chiefs" was proposed by Comp. R. Wylie, and responded to by Comp. J. Jones, Z., who in turn gave "The Consecrating and Installing Officers," which was acknowledged by Comp. R. Wylie.

During the evening special reference was made to the St. John's Chapter, No. 673, for the kindness of the chiefs and companions in granting the use of their furniture for that occasion.

Mulum in Parbo; or Masonic Notes and Queries.

St. Alban—of whom not much is known—was, in all probability, an Englishman by birth, knighted at Rome—so say the old chroniclers, and especially John Lidge, the poet, and for saving Amphibalus, or Amphibalas, of Caerleon, became the Proto-Martyr of England. As regards his connection with Freemasonry it is not so clear, though there is no à priori reason why the old guild legend should not be quite true, that he was the patron of the Roman Guild of Operative Freemasons at Verulamium, St. Alban's. Bro. Havers seems to be taken to task in talking of him as our first Grand Master; but Bro. Havers was fully justified by the official statement of the Order, and, indeed, in our opinion, by archaeological evidence. Of course Bro. Havers did not mean a Grand Lodge like ours, but he was the Grand Master, or Grand Patron, of the Annual Operative Brotherhood, and probably presided in the Operative Annual Assembly. All Masonic sentiment, and tradition, and legend, and memories point to St. Alban's Cathedral as the resting place both of Albanus and Amphibalas, and no motion could be, in my humble opinion, ever more seasonable, or more fully justified, than the motion of our distinguished Bro. John Havers.

A MASONIC STUDENT.

NEW MASONIC HALL IN SHEFFIELD. LAYING THE FOUNDATION STONE.

On the 23rd ult. the foundation-stone of a new Masonic Hall, which is to be erected in Sheffield, was duly laid. The site is in Surrey-street, at the junction of that thoroughfare with Eyre-street. The hall is not intended to be a large building, but it is expected that additions will be made to it. On the ground floor will be a dining-room 52 feet long and 26 feet 6 inches wide, with a height of 15 feet. Above it will be the lodge-room, of the same length and width, but 24 feet in height. This latter apartment will be fitted with pitch pine, and will be relieved with cornices and moulded ribs, and will have a dais at the end. The style of architecture adopted is that known as classical, and the frontage of the building will be of ashlar stone. Messrs. Scargill and Clark are the architects, and Mr. James White, of Penistone-road, the contractor.

At five o'clock in the afternoon there was a large assemblage of the Freemasons of the district to witness the ceremony of laying the stone, which was undertaken by Dr. Bartolomé, P.P.G.J.W. The proceedings were opened by Bro. Alex. Hay, P.P.G.S.B., and P.Z., who said they had met on the present occasion to lay the first stone of the New Masonic Hall. He would just explain that it had been the wish of the directors to lay this stone with full Masonic honours, but various reasons had arisen why this should not be carried out. In the first place, it would have been necessary to have invited the Provincial Grand Lodge to have attended, and also the principal members of the heads of the Corporation, and other persons and rulers in the town. That was according to ancient and Masonic custom. They, however, did not think they were justified in spending large sums of the shareholders' money in obtaining the honours above referred to. Having decided so far, they next looked at the best thing to be done, and decided that one of the members in Sheffield should lay this stone. It was the unanimous wish of the officers and brethren they had spoken to on the subject that Bro. Bartolomé should be invited to lay this stone, and he must say he believed no member in Sheffield was more fully entitled to the honour. For many years the doctor had been a consistent member of the Craft, and had done much for it. They thought the best thing they could do was to ask Dr. Bartolomé to lay this stone, and he had kindly consented to fulfil the office. He had much pleasure in presenting Dr. Bartolomé with a trowel, with which he hoped the latter would properly lay the stone. The trowel, he hoped, would be handed down to the doctor's descendants for many generations, and in time to come his children's children would know how he had been respected and esteemed in Sheffield.

Dr. Bartolomé, taking the trowel, asked that in the first instance they would allow him to return them his sincere thanks for the honour they had conferred on him in asking him to lay the foundation stone of this future building. He might say without vanity that he believed if consistency and sincerity in profession could make a man entitled to an honour, he was entitled to that honour. He had looked over the minute books that day, and he had found that during the three years he was in office he was absent from a meeting but twice. The lodge thought proper on one occasion to take notice of that, and to state that he was unable to be present through indisposition. He was happy to say he could not recollect this fact, but he saw it upon the minutes. Before they proceeded to the business of the day he must call on Canon Blakeney to be kind enough to invoke the aid of the Most High in the work they were about to do. Let them not proceed another step without invoking the aid of Him who could alone prosper the undertaking.

The Rev. Canon Blakeney then offered up prayer, after which Dr. Bartolomé was presented with a mallet and trowel, the latter having engraved upon it the following words:—"Presented to Bro. Mariano Martin De Bartolomé, P.P.G.W., Provincial G.H. by the Masonic Hall Company, Limited, on the occasion of his laying the foundation stone of the New Masonic Hall, Sheffield, 23rd May, 1876." The laying of the foundation stone was then proceeded with. In a cavity beneath it was placed a bottle containing copies of the memorandum and articles of the association of the company, the "Freemason," the "Sheffield Daily Telegraph," the "Independent," the library scheme, a short history of the hall, together with coins, and a list of the Past Masters and acting Masters of the Britannia, Brunswick, and Wentworth Lodges.

Dr. Bartolomé (taking the mallet in hand, and tapping the foundation stone which had been lowered to its bed), said that in the name of the Most High Architect of the Universe he declared this stone duly laid. Might it be the beginning of a superstructure perfect in all its parts and creditable to its builder. He anticipated from the history of Freemasonry in Sheffield during the past forty years a very glorious success for the future. This was not the first time he had been instrumental in promoting this good work. About forty years ago he undertook it with less prospect of success than they had at present, and yet let them look at the results. Let them anticipate what great events had from trivial causes sprung. He hoped that this hall might be the means not only of cementing the brotherhood and diffusing the principles of the Craft, but also of showing that there was something more in Masonry than simple profession.

This concluded the proceedings, and the members of the Craft then adjourned to luncheon in the Cutlers' Hall.

Bro. R. M. Bancroft, of the Engineers' Staff, Great Northern Railway, and an occasional contributor to "Engineer," "Builder," and other scientific papers, has been elected President of the Civil and Mechanical Engineers' Society for the coming session.

CONSECRATION OF THE LIVERPOOL DRAMATIC LODGE, NO. 1609.

No more interesting event in the history of Freemasonry has taken place in Liverpool for a considerable time than that which was witnessed at the Masonic Hall in that "shipping village" on Friday, the 16th inst., when the Liverpool Dramatic Lodge, No. 1609 on the Grand Lodge registry, was consecrated with more than ordinary solemnity and impressiveness. Everything combined to make the initiatory ceremonies pass off with "eclat." Bro. Lord Skelmersdale, Dep. Grand Master, R.W.P.G.M. for West Lancashire, very warmly recommended the prayer of the petitioning brethren in applying for their warrant; and his lordship would most gladly have been present at the ceremony on this occasion if his parliamentary duties had not kept him in London. The absence of his lordship was about the only regretful circumstance in connection with the day's proceedings, although his place was very worthily filled by his P.G. Officers appointed to take part in and conduct the consecration and installation proceedings. The lodge, as will be gathered from its name, has been specially organised for the purpose of giving fitting and convenient opportunity to the numerous theatrical brethren who are either resident in Liverpool or who may visit it as "stars" from time to time of attaching themselves to some lodge where they can meet with each other within the charmed Masonic circle. The success attending that already instituted in London is well known in Masonic circles, and there is not the slightest doubt that, from the keen and earnest enthusiasm with which the Liverpool "Dramatic" has been started, and the honourable names which the leaders in the new lodge bear in the Craft, it will prove one of the most important and creditable additions to the rapidly-increasing roll of lodges ranging under the banner of the Grand Lodge of England. The promoters of the Liverpool Dramatic Lodge express their determination to make it a model lodge, and doubtless it will not only increase greatly in its members, but will also continue to maintain that calibre with which it has been started.

The brethren assembled at the Masonic Hall at two o'clock, and shortly after that hour Bro. H. S. Alpass, P.G. Sec., took the chair as consecrating officer, being very ably assisted in his work by Bros. R. Wylie, P.P.S.G.D.; and the Rev. J. M. Morgan, P.G. Chaplain; and Dr. J. Kellett Smith, P.G. Registrar. Important services during the most impressive proceedings were also rendered by Bros. T. Armstrong, P.G. Treas.; J. R. Goepel, P.P.G.D.C.; R. Brown, W.M. 241; and J. M. Bennett, W.M. 1350. Amongst those present, besides those above named, were Bros. Joseph Bell, W.M. 1356 (the W.M. designate of the new lodge); W. J. Chapman (S.W. designate); L. Courtenay (J.W. designate); D. Saunders; B. B. Marson, P.M. 1356; J. Pyer, H. G. Stafford, W. W. Sandbrook, J. Atkinson, A. Collinson, A. Woolrich, R. Palgrave, P.P.G. Purst. (Gloucester); J. Lunt, P.G.D.C.; J. Skeaf, P.G.O.; J. Wood, Treas. 1094; W. Doyle, P.P.J.G.D.; W. Coates, 1356; J. Capell, J.W. 1299; J. Jacobs, 724; I. de Frece, Treas. 1502; M. Hart, S.W. 1502; T. Evans, P.M. 1356; W. Hildyard, 461; Dr. A. Whittle, 823; S. Hess, P.P.G.J.W. (Cheshire); T. A. Collinson, P.G.S.; J. T. Pugmire, 241; J. Queen, 105; J. Reay, 292; J. R. Bottomley, 1356; C. P. T. Therley, 1350; H. P. Squire, 1356; E. Pierpoint, P.P.G.S.D.; J. Beldon, 1356; R. W. Younge, 79; E. C. Booth, 228; J. Carter, J. Keet, 1356; E. O. C. Rothwell, P.M. 1356; P. F. Buck, 673; C. Hasswell, 203; T. J. Hughes, 216; H. Alexander, 203; and others.

The lodge was opened in the Third Degrees by Bro. H. S. Alpass, P.G. Sec., the chair of S.W. being occupied by Bro. E. Pierpoint, P.P.G.S.D.; that of J.W. by Bro. W. Doyle, P.P.G.J.D.; Bro. Dr. J. R. Smith, P.G. Reg., acting as P.G. Sec.; and Bro. the Rev. J. M. Morgan, P.G.C., as the P.M. The whole of the consecration ceremony was most effectively performed by Bro. Alpass and those who assisted him on the occasion; and a special word of commendation is due to Bro. J. Skeaf, P.G.O.,

who had charge of the musical arrangements, and the musical brethren—Bros. T. J. Hughes, C. Haswell, J. T. Pugmire, and J. Queen. Very rarely has any musical service been so magnificently rendered, impressing every one by the style in which it was given. During the ceremony Bro. Morgan, Prov. G. Chaplain, delivered the following appropriate and excellent oration:—

Provincial Grand Officers, Worshipful Master elect, and Brother Masons: The safe return of our illustrious Grand Master, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, to his native land is welcomed by us all with feelings of heartfelt thankfulness. His preservation from the perils of the deep, from accident, from sickness, and from all the many dangers of so long a journey in foreign lands, calls upon us, I say, to render thanks to Almighty God for His goodness and loving mercy. "O that men would therefore praise the Lord for His goodness, and declare the wonders that He doeth for the children of men." I may not stop to dwell on his reception, wherever he has bent his steps, by our brethren of the Craft. Men, dwellers in many climes, inhabitants of a vast continent, of different languages, and of various origin—one and all held forth the right hand of fellowship to our august brother and Prince—a lasting proof, were such required, of the influence of the principles of our Order on the hearts of many men, dwellers in many lands. Presiding Grand Officer, Provincial Grand Officers, Worshipful Master elect, and Brother Masons: We are met here this day on a solemn occasion. There is a deep meaning in every part of this day's high ceremonial, from the opening to the closing prayer; in each and every act we implore the aid, or, in solemn chant, sing the praise of the Supreme Being, the author of all happiness, our Preserver, our Protector, and our God! I take one portion of the consecration service (I think I do not err in calling it a service), and a very solemn one too—that of the offering of corn, and wine, and oil, and salt. In presenting corn to the presiding officer, the bearer says, I present you with corn, the sacred emblem of plenty; and then in presenting wine he says, I present you with wine, the sacred emblem of truth; and when offering oil, he declares it to be the sacred emblem of charity; and last of all he says, I present you with salt wherewith to season this lodge, as the symbol of wisdom and learning throughout the world. This is no unmeaning or frivolous ceremony, but one which must lead our thoughts to the Great Architect of the Universe, who not only has ordered all things well in heaven and earth, but who has provided so bountifully for His creature, man, that in thinking thereon we call to mind the beautiful words of the volume of the Sacred Law, "He watereth the hills from above; the earth is filled with the fruit of Thy works. He bringeth forth grass for the cattle, and green herb for the service of men. That he may bring food out of the earth, and wine that maketh glad the heart of man; and oil to make him a cheerful countenance, and bread to strengthen man's heart. Man goeth forth to his work, and to his labour; until the evening." And this reminds me that the brethren, the promoters of the lodge we are now engaged in setting apart for Masonic purposes, have had a particular object in view in thus adding one more to our number in the Province of West Lancashire. With many of our brethren, engaged in honourable but most laborious professions, the rays of the setting sun does not see the close of their day's toil. True, many of them may have gone forth to their labour in the morning; but when twilight calls most of us home, then indeed, their work in reality commences. The Acting Provincial Grand Secretary has just read the warrant from Grand Lodge. The particular object then in view in founding this lodge, called the Dramatic Lodge, No. 1609 in the register of Grand Lodge, was to enable brethren connected with the drama and the press, whose peculiar avocations precluded their attendance at lodge meetings held at the usual hour in the evening, to assemble together at a more convenient time. I know nothing more calculated to raise and elevate their conduct in the pursuit of their arduous tasks than the service of Masonry. The Drama

exhibited to mankind in a proper spirit, and surrounded by certain safeguards, is a great teacher both in respect to morals and duty. When the performances, be they tragic or comic, are high in tone and convey great moral lessons, for both tragedy and comedy are capable of doing so; indeed such are their noblest duties and aims; then, I say, the world at large may reap great and lasting benefits from the genius of the writer in his closet, or the actor on the stage. "Nulle trahens varios adverso sole colores."—Virg. An. iv. 701. "Drawing a thousand colours from the light." The power of a free press, I need not tell you, brother Masons, is great; almost beyond our own conception; but can be used and is used, sometimes for evil as well as for good; but nothing is or can be perfect. Truth in the end always prevails, and honesty of purpose and rectitude in writing in the end too, bring their reward; not alone the reward of fame, and of influence, but in a pecuniary sense also. It is better even to allow some license in the Drama and in the Press, than to draw the rein too harshly. In a country like our own, men will be found ever ready to correct abuses, which, with so much liberty in writing and freedom of thought, are sure to occur from time to time. Happy that country whose laws are so wise, so just, and yet so well balanced, as to give so much of liberty as is necessary for free discussion and yet hold within themselves a controlling power. I said that no science was able to compete with or excel our own in calling on men to pursue the paths of truth and honour. To proclaim and encourage virtue in whatever form it may appear, ranks among the mightiest achievements of our race. Such has been the endeavour of Freemasonry from the earliest periods to the present day. Let us ever remember that light and truth are two of the great essentials of the Royal Craft: that light comes from God; and that truth, as it is a Divine attribute, so is it the foundation of all Masonic virtues. "O send out Thy light and Thy truth; let them lead me, let them bring me unto Thy holy hill, and to Thy tabernacle." Brother Masons, while we walk in the light, let us keep to the truth also; for it is sincerity and truthful dealing that complete the harmony of a lodge, and render us acceptable in the sight of Him, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid. So mote it be.

At the close of the consecration ceremonial, Bro. R. Wylie, P.P.S.G.D., took the chair in the E., and proceeded to instal Bro. Joseph Bell as the first W.M. of the Lodge. Bro. Bell was presented for the benefit of installation by Bro. H. S. Alpass, P.G. Sec. and Bro. J. R. Goepel, P.P.G.D.C.; the ancient charge being read by Bro. Dr. J. K. Smith, P.G. Reg. After a board of Installed Masters (numbering nearly 20) had been held, other brethren were admitted, and they saluted the highly popular newly-chaired W. Master with great cordiality. The following brethren were afterwards appointed the first staff of officers of the new Lodge;—Bros. W. J. Chapman, S.W.; Z. Courtenay, J.W.; A. Woolrich, Treas.; H. J. Loveday, Sec.; W. W. Sandbrook, J.D.; J. Atkinson, I.G.; J. Pyer, S.S.; A. Collinson, J.S.; and W. H. Ball, was unanimously elected Tyler. Before the lodge was closed there were upwards of a dozen proposed for joining and also for initiation.

The brethren were then "called off" to a recherche banquet, provided by Bro. D. Ball, P.G. Tyler, in the large banquetting room, to which upwards of 40 brethren sat down under the presidency of Bro. Bell, the W.M. After dessert had been placed on the table, the Worshipful Master said, Brother Grand Officers and Brethren, I am proud to have the honour of proposing the first toast, and in drawing your attention to the name of Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen, I know that the toast of her health will be welcomed with every mark of enthusiasm, which your feelings of love and of loyalty to her throne and person can prompt you to show, and in drinking Her Majesty's health, I am certain that in hoping she may long be spared to reign over this great kingdom, my tongue will only convey the wishes and desires of your hearts. Brethren I have the honour of proposing, and the privilege of calling

upon you to join in drinking the health of Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen.

National Anthem, solo by Bro. J. W. Pugmire. The W.W. again rose and said, Prov. Grand Officers and Brethren, I have now the honour of proposing the health of the Most W.G. Master, Bro. H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, and the pleasure of inviting you to join with me in toasting our G. Master, with true Masonic enthusiasm. We cannot but feel grateful to T.G.A.O.T.U. that He has brought our G.M. back safely from his long journey—a journey accompanied by so many perils both by land and sea. Now that H.R.H. has returned, I am sure he will be more endeared than ever to the Freemasons of this great realm, (Hear.) Brethren I assure you it is a source of real joy for me to couple with the name of the G.M. that of the Princess of Wales and the rest of the Royal Family.

Masonic version, "God bless the Prince of Wales," sung by Bro. T. J. Hughes.

The W.M. again rose and said, P.G. Officers and Brethren, I have great pleasure in proposing the next toast, the health of the M.W. Pro Grand Master, Bro. the Right Hon the Earl of Carnarvon. We must all be proud to find that the first of the noblemen of this land are associated with our order, and to know that the offices in Grand Lodge are filled by brethren who, upon every occasion, not only discharge their duties with zeal and fidelity, but promote with voice and purse those Masonic Charities which are the greatest ornaments of English Freemasonry.

Skeaf's fine new song, "Masonry, Friendship, and Brotherly Love," was sung with fine effect by Bro. Pugmire.

The W.M. again said, Brethren, the next toast upon our list is, the health of the R.W. Deputy G. Master, and P.G.M., the Right Hon. Lord Skelmersdale, and the Officers of Prov. Grand Lodge Past and Present. In proposing this toast I feel it my duty to mention the kind support given by his Lordship to our petition, and the great assistance I have received from his officers, in forwarding and promoting our new lodge. Brethren, I have great pleasure in proposing the health of Lord Skelmersdale and his P.G. Officers, coupling with this toast the name of our worthy and respected Prov. G. Registrar, Dr. Smith.

Song, "The Old House at Home," given with vigour by Bro. Hughes.

Bro. Dr. J. K. Smith, P.G. Reg., in response said:—W.M. it is at all times a pleasure to respond to this toast, although I wish it had fallen into more capable hands than mine. I assure you it is difficult to say sufficient in praise of Lord Skelmersdale. Your Worship has said something about his kindness in regard to your petition, but I can assure you that every brother who comes before his lordship must have met with the same courtesy and gentlemanly bearing. The P.G. Officers, no doubt, would convey to the P.G.M. the expression of the feeling of that lodge, and I am personally obliged for the manner in which you have mentioned my name. I have had some conversation with Provincial Grand Officers Past and Present, and they each and all agree with me in saying that a want has been felt for many years for a lodge like the Liverpool Dramatic, as there were many honourable men connected with the profession who could not otherwise have the privilege of attending or entering a lodge. I must express my intense delight at being here this afternoon at the ceremony of consecration, and I wish you prosperity in every possible way in your future existence.

The W.M.: Brethren we have proposed several toasts this evening with sincere pleasure, but in calling your attention to the fifth I am certain we shall all agree, that none have deserved or will obtain a heartier welcome than the health of the Consecrating and Installing Officers. (Hear, hear.) To Bros. Alpass and Wylie we are indebted for a beautiful ceremony, rendered by them with that care and efficiency which have always gained the highest praise, and for their efforts to-day we gladly offer our best acknowledgments and thanks. Brethren, I call upon you to join with me in drinking "The Health of the Consecrating and Installing Officers," coupling with the toast the names of Bro. Alpass, P.G. Sec., and Brother Wylie, P.P.G. S.D. of this Province.

The S.W. (Bro. Chapman) here recited "The

Tar's Yarn," with a gusto and expressiveness which could hardly have been excelled.

Bro. H. S. Alpass, P.G. Sec., after apologising for a severe cold which would prevent him from saying all he desired, proceeded—W. M. and Brethren: I have had the pleasure to-day of being consecrating officer of a lodge which has been organised to meet a great—I believe a very great—want in this town of Liverpool. Freemasonry, like every similar institution which endeavours and whose object is to suit itself to every time and every occasion, and to a certain extent to every situation in life, has, in sanctioning the warrant for the Dramatic Lodge, endeavoured to meet a pressing want which has been felt in Liverpool for some time. The time was when Freemasons' lodges always met in the evening, and I am sorry to say that in past times, too, when we had different social customs and usages, they not only met in the evening but parted in the morning—a custom which until a very recent period adhered to Freemasonry. It was supposed that to become a Freemason a man ought to go to his lodge in the evening and return home early in the morning; but that reproach ought to have been removed from us long ago. We, like every institution in the country, have adopted the customs of the day, and have got rid of many of those causes of reproach which also formerly attached to the higher classes of society. For a man to be seen drunk at any banquet would be sufficient to strike him out of our knowledge, and we certainly would not receive him with any cordiality. This Dramatic Lodge has been consecrated to suit the convenience of certain brethren. In London a certain number of the Craft who desired to meet in their own lodge there had established a Dramatic Lodge, which has been most successful, and includes amongst its members many of the highest class of intellects on the stage in every department. They appreciate Freemasonry as we do, but they are obliged to meet at such an hour in the day as will suit their professional engagements. Well, brethren, here we have to-day consecrated the Liverpool Dramatic Lodge, and there is no doubt, from the character of the members who have been proposed to-day, that it supplies a want which has long been felt by those whose engagements preclude them from attending any lodge in the evening. Freemasonry desires to suit itself to every rank and condition, and above all it must desire to attract within its circle the intellect of the country. I know of no higher intellects than those connected with the stage, and some of these this Dramatic Lodge will doubtless embrace. There is scarcely any profession in which it is so difficult to make a mark as that of the stage. Many of us have been stage-struck, no doubt—(hear, hear)—and if you look at a certain handbill in the club-room of this building you will find that the Lord Mayor of London, in a burlesque of "Richard III.," was represented by a well-known brother, and that brother was myself. (Laughter.) I hope our professional brethren will not feel aggrieved, but I may state that the Royal Amphitheatre was never so well filled as on that occasion. (Hear, hear, and renewed laughter.) If any enterprising manager were now to give me sufficient inducement I might again feel inclined to re-appear and again fill the Royal Amphitheatre. (Great laughter.) It has been to me a source of pleasure to recommend that this accommodation should be given to the dramatic profession. I am quite sure that every visitor here to-day will see in what has been done that no mistake has been made. (Hear, hear.) The names of the brethren who have been proposed for initiation will show to the Craft at large that we have supplied a great Masonic want. The lodge has started in good hands, and more than that, it will be supported by brethren who, as professional gentlemen, irrespective of Masonry, have ever shown a most anxious desire to help distressed brethren. (Hear.) Whatever their position may be, we can see from the public journals how ready they are to help every one who falls into distress—an indication that in connection with Masonry they would not forget their distressed brethren. It has been to me a source of great satisfaction to consecrate this lodge, and I wish you every success.

Bro. R. Wylie, P.P.S.G.D.: Brethren, it has

also given me great satisfaction to instal the W.M. to-day. I am quite sure you could not have had a better Master than Bro. Bell. From what I have seen of him I am quite sure he will do his work in a manner at once honourable to himself and to the province of West Lancashire. Brethren, charge your glasses, and drink a bumper to the prosperity of the Dramatic Lodge, coupled with the health of Bro. Bell, Worshipful Master.

The toast was honoured with great enthusiasm, with Masonic honours. Bro. R. Young at this point gave a humorous ditty, which greatly delighted every one.

The W.M., in reply, said: Bro. Wylie, Provincial Grand Officers, and Brethren,—On rising to respond to the toast of my health, so kindly proposed and so well received by the brethren, I hardly know how to convey my thanks in words, or express how much I estimate your good wishes; but I may say, as Worshipful Master of this lodge, that I shall strive to merit your good opinion and the honour the founders of this lodge, the Liverpool Dramatic Lodge, have conferred upon me in electing me to be their first W.M. Brethren, I tender you my grateful thanks for your good wishes.

The W.M. then proposed "The Officers," and in doing so said he was quite certain he might reckon on their assistance during the coming year in promoting the harmonious and efficient working of the lodge. His aim, seconded by the co-operation of his officers, would be to make the Dramatic Lodge second to none in the province.

"Mynheer Van Dunck," was sung by Bros. Pugmire, Haswell, and Queen.

Bro. W. J. Chapman, in responding to the toast, said: If I say I am not accustomed to public speaking you will probably not believe me; but there is this distinction, that until now I have always had words found for me. Still, I can now find words to say that I sincerely thank you on behalf of the officers of the lodge. It is only two years since I became an E.A., and now I am placed in the second position in this lodge, which I hope will be eminently successful. So far as I am concerned, I can promise that everything will be done by me to promote the Craft generally and the Dramatic Lodge in particular.

Bro. L. Courtenay, J.W.: I have also to thank you very much for the great compliment paid to me as an officer of the Dramatic Lodge, and I assure you I shall do all in my power to promote the well-being of the lodge. I trust you will not find me wanting in my duty.

The W.M. next proposed "The Musical Brethren," and spoke of the great charm which had been given to the consecration ceremony by their really admirable singing.

Bro. D. Saunders here sang "The Fine Old English Gentleman" in a style which elicited the heartiest approbation of the brethren.

Bro. J. Skeaf, P.G.O., in returning thanks for the toast, said it had given him and the other musical brethren peculiar pleasure to be present at the consecration of the Dramatic Lodge. He advocated the greater use of musical arrangements in connection with all their Masonic ceremonies.

Bro. C. Haswell, 203, also responded to the toast.

The W.M. next gave "Our Visitors," and in doing so said he was sure there would be no lodge in West Lancashire which would prove more profitable than the Dramatic.

Song—"The Pilgrim of Love," by Bro. Pugmire.

Bro. R. Palgrave, P.P.G. Purst. (Gloucester), and Bro. R. Brown, W.M. 241, responded to the toast, the latter strongly advocating the claims of the West Lancashire Masonic Educational Institution on the brethren of the new lodge.

The W.M. said he hoped it would be found that no lodge in that province would do more for their charitable institutions than the Dramatic Lodge.

Bro. Alpass gave some interesting details of the Masonic charities; and after Bro. R. Brown had given two of his inimitable ditties, the banquet proceedings were closed with "The Poor and Distressed" toast, given by the S.W.

Bro. Skeaf presided during the evening at the piano.

The lodge was then closed in due form, to meet next Tuesday, the 27th inst., for the transaction of business.

The presents to the lodge were numerous, valuable, and handsome, and amongst the donors were Bro. J. Bell, W.M., who gave columns and gavel; Bro. B. B. Marson, P.M. 1356, who will be acting P.M. of the new lodge, who presented a Bible; Bro. W. J. Chapman, S.W., a box of working tools; Bro. J. Atkinson, frame for the warrant; Bro. A. Woolrich, Treas., strong box; Bro. A. Collinson, J.S., Secretary's box; Bro. Beldon, 1356, silver salver and square and compasses; Bro. W. W. Sandbrook, J.D., sword, and others.

CONSECRATION OF THE LLANIDLOES LODGE, No. 1582.

The great progress of Freemasonry in each of the English provinces is a daily attested fact, and North Wales, under the Masonic rule of the R.W. Bro. Sir W. W. Wynn, Bart., M.P., as its P.G.M., has done its best to maintain its place, and successfully so, in the onward movement, and the consecration of the above-named lodge, on Thursday, the 8th June, has added another new home for Masonry in the Welch province. The ceremony took place at the Tre-wythln Arms Hotel, in Llanidloes, the presence of the R.W. Grand Master attracting a large number of officers of the Provincial Grand Lodge of North Wales, and of the adjoining provinces, among whom were the R.W. Bro. Major Phillips, P.G.M. of South Wales; Bros. T. W. J. Goldsbrough, P.P.G.S.W.; J. Peters, P.G.S.W.; W. Blakeway, P.P.G.J.W.; W. H. Spaul, P.G.S.; Alex. Walker, P.P.G.S.W.; G. H. Woodley, P.P.G.S.D.; J. B. Boucher, P.G.Org.; J. Salmon, P.G.S.B.; W. Russell, P.P.G. Dir. Cer.; W. Gurney, P.P.G.S.D.; W. T. Banks, P.G.S.B.; R. J. Sisson, P.G.S.; W. Collender, P.G.S.; D. P. Owen, P.P.G.P.; W. Britton, P.P.G.S.W. (Derbyshire). Also the following brethren:—G. Ward Verry, P.M. 554; T. R. Morris, W.M. 998; W. Withy, P.M. 998; N. Dunville, P.M. 152; Edwd. Hamer, W.M. 1072; E. B. Smith, W.M. 1432; Thomas Rutter, P.M. 998; James Britton, P.M. 850; John Corbett, W.M. 1477; Pryce Jones, 998; J. Danily, 998; J. Sides Davies, J.W. 998; Samuel Hazlett, 1432; J. Barnard, 998; W. Griffiths; Alfred Taylor, 1432; J. Maclardy, 1432; P. H. Hodges, 537; John Hughes, 1432; John Kitto, 1072; W. A. Davies, 1072; W. H. Williams, 1072; Roscoe, 268; Miller, 1357; F. Parmenter, 1369; J. Anderson, 998; R. Parry, 998; Miller, 537; and others.

The Lodge was opened in the Three Degrees by Bro. Goldsbrough, assisted by Bro. Frederick Britton, P.M., and Bro. T. R. Morris, W.M. 998. The musical accompaniments were under the able direction of Bro. Boucher, P.G. Organist, assisted by Bros. Dunville, Hazlett, Miller, and Roscoe. On the completion of the ceremony of consecration, the V.W. Bro. W. H. Spaul, F.G. Sec., presented W. Bro. W. Collender, P.M., the Master designate, to the R.W.G.M., who requested Bro. Goldsbrough to install him as W.M. The officers appointed were, Bros. W. A. Davies, S.W., and John Kitto, J.W. Bro. Edwd. Hamer was unanimously elected Treasurer; Bro. W. H. Williams, S.D.; John Hughes, J.D.; W. Russell, I.G.; Bro. Henson, Tyler. The Master invested each of his officers, delivering to each the customary charge. Bro. Goldsbrough delivered the usual addresses to the W. Master and to the brethren of the lodge, and Bro. D. P. Owen, P.M. 998, the address to the Wardens.

On the motion of the W.M., seconded by the S.Warden, and carried by acclamation, the best thanks of the lodge were voted to the R.W.G. Master for his kindness in honouring the lodge with his presence.

The R.W.P.G.M. acknowledged the compliment and said, it gave him great pleasure to be present that day, and trusted that the delay in consecrating the lodge would not in any way inconvenience the brethren. He congratulated the lodge upon having such a brother to preside

over them, one whom he had not known many years, but whom he felt sure would spread the principles of Freemasonry among them.

On the motion of the W.M., seconded by the S.W., Bro. Goldsbrough, P.P.G.S.W., Bro. D. P. Owen, P.M. 998, and Bro. James Salmon, P.P.G.S., P.M. 428, were severally and unanimously elected honorary members of the lodge. Each of the brethren having acknowledged the compliment paid them by the lodge, a number of propositions were made for candidates for initiation and joining members. Hearty good wishes to the W.M. and the lodge were expressed on behalf of several lodges, and the lodge was closed in ancient form. The brethren, upwards of sixty in number, partook of an excellent banquet provided by Bro. W. Russell, at the Town Hall, the banqueting room of which was elaborately decorated with flowers, evergreens, flags, &c. The usual toasts followed. In giving "The health of the Queen," the W.M. said—At all social meetings the first toast is the Sovereign of the country, thereby acknowledging the fealty due to the head of the realm; times out of number has this toast been given and received by Her Majesty's subjects, so dear is it that it is, as it were, always fresh, but when we, as Freemasons, add to it "the Craft," it doubly shows the allegiance we hold to the Sovereign of this land, our ancient charges directing us always to pay due respect to the Sovereign of any land that may for a time become the place of our residence. How proud we must feel in thinking that our chief and greatest respect is paid to one so eminent in her station as our Queen. Brethren, long may she live enshrined in our hearts, and now that she has taken again to the discharge of the active duties of her high station, may she more and more feel that our best wishes are constantly expressed that she may be spared for many years to come to guide and govern us aright. The toast having been duly honoured,

The W.M. said—Our next allegiance is due to the Masonic Monarch of that world of Masonry comprised under the Constitution of England. When we consider the close alliance between the two Sovereigns, how much more must it enhance our loyalty and feelings of regard to his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, our Most Worshipful Grand Master. Brethren, you all know better than I can tell you how for the last six months he has been working, harder than many of us would care to experience, in order that his mother's subjects in the far distant countries of India may feel, not only in name but in deed, they are part and parcel of this great Empire, as much thought of and cared for as those whose circumstances bring them day after day close to the throne. He has been spreading the benefits of Freemasonry far and wide; amongst his first acts on landing was to attend a Masonic gathering, such an one as had never before been seen in India, thereby proving the universality of our noble science. Brethren, whilst thinking, our Grand Master, let us not forget his Consort, the Princess of Wales; think of the many anxious days she had whilst separated from all that was near and dear to her—think how she stifled the feelings of the wife in never once permitting fears to outweigh what she considered the performance of a great duty, knowing as she did the unhealthy climate the Prince of Wales was going to. Now let us rejoice with her that he has safely returned once more to enliven our gatherings with his presence.

The W.M. proposed "The Health of the Earl of Carnarvon, Pro Grand Master, and Lord Skelmersdale, Deputy Grand Master, and the Grand Lodge of England," dwelling upon the great services rendered by them during the absence of the M.W.G.M. in India.

The W.M.: I must now ask you to drink to "The Health of the Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master of North Wales and Shropshire." (Immense cheering.) The reception you have given at the bare mention of the toast will prove more to Sir Watkin than any words of mine can possibly do the deep and great feelings of love that we Masons of this Province have for our Provincial Grand Master. Whom could we have at our head that more thoroughly enters into our wishes as regards the promotion of Free-

masonry in the Province than our present head—but recently arrived in England after a long absence, almost his first act was to fix days for consecrating new lodges? Here to-day, to-morrow at Newtown. Right Worshipful Sir, as this is the first lodge you have visited within the Principality since your happy return amongst us, allow me to be so presumptuous as, in the names of the Freemasons of the Principality, to most heartily congratulate you on your complete restoration to health. Brethren, when drinking the health of our Most Worshipful Grand Master, we joined thereto the health of his Consort. In drinking the health of Sir Watkin let us add to the toast a name highly honoured amongst us, that of "Lady Wynn," the partner of the joys and sorrows of our Right Worshipful Grand Master. Right Worshipful Sir, let me add, that amongst the many pleasing reminiscences of this auspicious day, the most prominent in the minds of the brethren of the Llanidloes Lodge will be that they were the first in North Wales to have the great pleasure of receiving you and congratulating you upon your return, and allow me, Right Worshipful Sir, on their behalf, to thank you for coming here to-day to honour us with your presence, and consecrating our lodge. (Cheers.)

Sir Watkin—I beg to return thanks for the kind way in which you have received my health. I told you in the lodge room I regretted that my absence from England caused the delay in my attending to the consecration of this lodge. Connected as I am with this part of the county by old ties, and by ties of property, I did not like that this lodge should be opened by deputy. Having been mixed up with this county in various ways for so many years I, selfishly, perhaps, did not wish to depute the honour to other persons, although I know Lord Harlech would have done so more to your satisfaction, as he has more power of oratory. (No, no.) I have taken that liberty, and I apologise for having done so. As soon as I returned from abroad I wished to come here, but through the death of my brother-in-law I was obliged to ask you to have it postponed. I trust you will pardon the liberty I took. I went abroad for the benefit of my health, and had an advantage which I fear many of you have not had—a charming winter. During my absence from England I scarcely saw a shower of rain or felt a cold day. I had also the archaeological and Masonic advantage of seeing the remains of that great temple which Solomon built. When you pass over the surface of the ground the remains can be little seen; but when you go down below it is curious to see the vaults, and it astonishes one to think how, before the times of steam power and derricks, such mighty stones were put into their places; it is a wonderful sight. I had the advantage of seeing the lodges of Malta, and it is a pleasure to see, even in those distant countries, how they respect the rites of Freemasonry. As to the good of Masonry, it is one of those powerful bodies which extend over nearly the whole of the world in all liberal countries (I believe in some countries it is feared it may do harm). If you look over the Book of Constitutions, its tenets are, Fear God, Honour the Queen. I beg again to thank you for the kindness you have always shown me since I have had the honour to preside over this Provincial Grand Lodge. Before I sit down I must express to you how much Lady Williams Wynn will feel when I tell her how kindly you have received her name. She passed a great deal of her early life in a country where Masonry is as much looked up to as it is in England—the country from which the Princess of Wales comes; and I believe the Prince of Wales was induced to enter Masonry because both in Sweden and in Denmark he had heard of the benefit and good of Masonry. Though, of course, it might be a regret to us that he was made a Mason in another country, it is a great pleasure to all Masons that he presides over us. I trust he will some time, though long hence, rule over this country. I regret extremely to say that during the last few days I was in London, from what I heard, the Prince of Wales is not likely to come into the Principality this year. After the exertions he has undergone in India he requires rest. He was unable to be present at the Derby, and he has now gone into the country.

The W.M. then proposed "The Health of Lord Harlech, the Deputy Prov. G. Master, and the Officers of the Provincial Grand Lodge," and expressed the regret which he knew all must feel that the state of his lordship's health did not permit of his being present. He also said, with respect to the other Provincial Grand Officers, he would not trouble them with many remarks on the way in which they carried out the duties of their respective offices, but could not overlook two of the officers whose duties were more permanent than those of others. He alluded to their highly-respected and esteemed Provincial Grand Treasurer and the Provincial Grand Secretary (Bro. Spaul), and coupled with the toast the name of Bro. Spaul.

The R.W. Prov. G. Master—I am going to take up the gavel. We have arrived at the toast of the evening, and we have to return thanks to the Llanidloes Lodge for the kind reception they have given us; and we have to congratulate them on the promise of their being one of the very efficient lodges of the province; and I shall call upon you to drink to their prosperity. As to Bro. Collender, I have not known him for very many years. He is one of those Masons who have come into this country and who have worked for the good of Masonry. He is one of those who have been among the active Masons, and I beg to propose his health.

The W.M. said—Right Worshipful Grand Master, I return you sincere thanks for the very kind way in which you have proposed my health as Master of Llanidloes Lodge. I can assure you that the success of to-day is not in any way attributable to myself, but to the other founders of the lodge. When I was invited to become the first Master of the lodge I felt it was a duty incumbent on me, and one which I think is incumbent on every Mason when called upon to do so, to accept the office. Having accepted that office in which you, Right Worshipful Sir, have been pleased to place me this day, nothing shall be wanting on my part to place this lodge in that position in the province it is entitled to. As the time is getting on, and time and train wait for no man, I will only again return you my sincere thanks for proposing my health, and my brethren for so kindly responding to the toast.

The W.M. said—I have now the pleasing duty to propose to you "The Health of Bro. Goldsbrough." His name is as familiar in the province as a household word. It is now more than 12 years since he came amongst us Masonically, and that as the first Master of No. 998. Since then he has consecrated every new lodge, with one exception, in the province. How many of us must be indebted to him for assistance in placing Freemasonry at our doors. Brethren, to attempt to give you any idea of what Bro. Goldsbrough has done in Masonry is utterly beyond my powers. You have all seen in how impressive a manner he has performed the ceremony of consecration this day. Very Worshipful Sir, on behalf of the Llanidloes Lodge let me sincerely thank you for the great kindness you have done us this day by conducting the ceremonies, and to express our wish that the Great Architect of the Universe will spare you for many years to come, to enable you to repeat for the guidance and instruction of lodges yet to come the beautiful ceremonies of to-day.

Bro. Goldsbrough replied, thanking the W.M. and brethren for the honour they had done him, and congratulated the lodge upon their auspicious commencement, and wished the W.M. and brethren every prosperity.

The W.M., in proposing "The Visitors," remarked that amongst the great pleasures of Masonry is that of welcoming in our lodges and at the festive board visiting brethren. He thanked the visitors for so materially assisting in the pleasure of the day by their presence, and in aiding so greatly in launching the new ship so propitiously, and expressed the hope that the brightness of the present might be only the promise of many such visits, and assuring them that the Llanidloes Lodge would be only too glad to welcome them. The W.M. coupled with this toast the name of the R.W. Bro. Major Phillips, P.G.M. for the western division of South Wales.

R.W. Bro. Major Phillips replied, acknowledging the compliment, and expressed the great gratification he felt in having been present on the occa-

sion, and in being introduced to the Provincial Grand Master of North Wales and Shropshire.

The W.M. proposed "The Health of the Officers of the Lodge," to which the Senior Warden, Bro. W. Daviss, and the Junior Warden, Bro. Kitto, replied.

The Tyler's toast brought to a close the proceedings of a day long to be remembered by the Craft in Llanidloes. The pleasure of the evening was greatly enhanced by the singing of Bros. Dunaille, Hazlitt, Roscoe, and Russell.

Masonic and General Tidings.

His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales has intimated, through the Duke of Westminster, that he is unable to accept the invitation to be present at the National Welsh Eisteddfod to be held at Wrexham on Aug. 28 and three following days.

The Queen, accompanied by Princess Beatrice, attended by the Dowager Marchioness of Ely, Lieut.-General Biddulph, Mr. Sahl, and Mdlle. Norèle, left Balmoral on Wednesday afternoon for Windsor Castle, where the Royal train arrived at 9 o'clock on Thursday morning.

There are now in Pennsylvania fifty-five commanderies of Knights Templars and over 6000 Knights. In New York there are fifty-two commanderies and 7577 Knights. In the United States there are 539 commanderies and over 45,000 Knights.

ANTI-MASONIC PETITION.—A lengthy and extensively signed petition to the coming General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church in America against Freemasonry, and urging that all Freemasons be made to either leave the lodge or the church, is being "circulated in this city. It is stated, on good authority, that Deacon Atwater and others of the elders, for some reason or other, positively refused to sign it."—Grand Rapids Democrat.

Bro. J. B. Monckton represented the Corporation of the City of London at the funeral of Sir Thomas Henry, Bart., on Wednesday morning.

Bro. H.R.H. Prince Leopold, Prov. Grand Master of Oxfordshire, was incepted as a Knight Templar, on Monday last, at Oxford, in the Cour de Lion Preceptory. His Royal Highness was afterwards appointed Constable by the Rev. T. Cochrane, E.P. A full report appears in another column.

A report of the first annual festival of the White Rose of York Conclave, No. 120, of the Red Cross of Constantine, &c., will appear in our next issue.

We learn with much pain of the death of Bro. Theodore Mansel Talbot, R.W. Prov. Grand Master of South Wales (Eastern Division). An obituary will appear in our next.

A telegram has been received at Waterford from Bro. Lord Charles Beresford, M.P., J.G.W. Devon, denying that he had any intention of resigning his seat in Parliament as representative for the county of Waterford.

STATE BALL.—The second State ball at Buckingham Palace is fixed for Tuesday, the 4th prox.

The Provincial Grand Lodge of Worcester held a meeting on Tuesday, at Dudley, about 120 brethren attending. A report will appear in our next.

Tuesday was the 39th anniversary of Her Majesty's accession to the Throne.

IMPOSTOR.—A woman, representing herself as the widow of a Knight Templar, H. E. Smith, of Leeds, England, is becoming quite notorious in the western part of Pennsylvania for her impositions upon the Masonic fraternity as an applicant for charities. She secured a considerable sum in Pittsburgh and at several other places.

SPARKLING AVALON.—There is a sunny suggestion of gracefulness and beauty in the name itself, which rings on the ear like an echo of the classic chimes of ancient verse, or the picturesque word-music of mediæval romance, and which, in truth, is in harmony with its origin, history, and—shall it be said—present signification. The monkish chronicles of Glastonbury tell of the first; Tennyson's *Mort d'Arthur* enshrines a glowing passage, describing the charms of the Valley of Avalon (or Valley of Apples), as a contribution to the second; whilst the Devon Vintage Company's great discovery—a thorough sparkling wine (as advertised in our columns) made from the "Must," or "Most," of the apple, and therefore appositely entitled "Sparkling Avalon"—embodies the last. Nor is the phrase "great discovery" an exaggerated one, considering that it opens up a new native industry, which must in time take rank with those of the first importance—employing a large amount of indigenous labour, and economising the millions we now spend annually on foreign vinous productions. For let it be distinctly understood that the discovery of a method for perfecting the process of converting the "must" of the apple into genuine wine—a process long known and of admitted importance, but the perfecting of which had never before been accomplished, though persistently attempted in the districts of France and Germany, and also in this country—gives us, not a pleasant wine-like beverage, but a true, finished, pure, sparkling wine itself, which improves with age, and is equal in all other respects—qualities, properties, and effects—to many of the productions of Epernay—a fact demonstrated in Government Analysts' and other scientific reports, and eagerly recognised by the first wine critics of the day. As the company are now supplying the vintage of 1873, lovers of "foaming wine" are confidently recommended to test the merits of a discovery which places within their reach, at a moderate cost, a genuine English wine of merited excellence.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF OXFORD.

[The following appeared in our second edition last week.]

The annual meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Oxford was held yesterday at the Apollo University Masonic Hall, Oxford. Grand Lodge was opened by Bro. Reginald Bird, M.A., Deputy Provincial Grand Master, Bro. the Rev. H. A. Pickard, M.A., being in the Prov. G.S.W. chair, and Bro. Cooper Smith in the chair of Prov. G.J.W. There were also present Bros. Rev. R. W. M. Pope, P.G. Chaplain; Thomas Randall, 340, P.G. Treas.; R. J. Williamson, 357, P.G.R.; S. Frankland Hood, 478, P.G.S.; Julius Sladden, P.G.D.C.; W. Eagleston, P.G.S.B.; W. W. Hobbs, 340; H. Williams; R. J. Spiers, P.P.D.G.M.; Gordon Campbell, P.G. Steward; J. E. W. Bodley, J. W. Donnor, Walter Peppercorn, W. Parish, 1575; Joseph Reade, P.G.P., W.M. 1034; J. Stanley Lowe, P. Prov. J.G.W.; W. R. Bowden, 340, W.M.; Glencross, 357; John Chapman, 340; T. B. Brown, P.M. 998; Christopher Paul, P.P.G.R.; Dudley Parsons, 786; W. P. Eversley, 357; F. W. Ansell, 340; J. J. Hughes, 340; J. N. Palmer, P.P.G.C.; J. Cavan, 357; J. S. Booth, 1515; Jason Saunders, 1515; Joseph Freeman, 1515; Hugh H. Riach, P.P.G. Sec.; Wm. Scroggs, 1399; H. W. Parry, 1399; T. J. Pullen, 340; Edwin Nichols, 1046; Wm. Boon, 1399; J. B. West, 359, P.P.G. Supt. Wks.; John Spittal, S.W. 599; Walter J. Douglas Campbell, Prov. G. Steward; Rev. H. Adair Pickard, P.G.C.; Emil Belinke, 938; Louis K. Hilton, 359; J. Weightman, P. Prov. G.W. of Berks and Bucks; Wm. Warren Vernon, Grand Junior Warden of England; Edward G. Braton, P.J.W.; John Juggins, P.P.G.J.W.; Henry O. Wakeman, Prov. G. Supt. Wks.; John Potts, I. Prov. G. Supt. Wks.; F. Symonds, P.P.S.W.; C. Duffell Falkner, P.P.G.D.; F. E. Weatherly, 357; W. R. Pratt, 340; S. Solomon, 1515; A. Symonds, 357; E. D. Whitmarsh, 357; Wm. Park, 340; Francis Tuck, 340; T. Jarvis Bennett, 340; James Jenkin, 340; Harry Robins, 340; Hugh Eldrid, P.G.P.; John Scrivener Palmer, Samuel Patey Spiers, P.P.G.W.; Walter Parratt, 357; E. R. Edwin, P.S.G.D.; Jules Bue, P.P.G.S.W.; V. De Tivoli, 457; J. Round, 350; Thos. S. Plowman, Sec. 478; F. R. Hall, I.G. 340; Fred F. Morrell, P.S.G.W.; Rev. Thomas Cochran, P.P.G.C.; Thos. E. Torkington, 357; R. H. Collins, 357; H. P. Symonds, 478; H. Houghton, 340; Wm. Seeley, P.G.P.; H. Massey ("Freemason"); F. Horton, 1575; F. Hedges, 357; Col. J. N. Sargent (Malta), G. Taunton, Wm. Stephens, Prov. G. Tyler; and Geo. Norwood, P.G.T.

Grand Lodge having been formally opened, the minutes of the last Provincial Grand Lodge and the Provincial Grand Lodge of Emergency of 23rd January, whereat His Royal Highness Prince Leopold was installed Provincial Grand Master, were read and confirmed.

Bro. Reginald Bird, Deputy Provincial Grand Master, then read the reports of the different lodges within his jurisdiction, and at its conclusion he thought, from what he had read, the brethren need have no fear of being injured in the province. It seemed to him that the lodges were both increasing in number and in the balance of money which they had in hand. He was very glad to see that they were not spending all their resources in banquets, but that they were reserving something for more enduring objects.

Bro. Bird afterwards read the report of the Charity Committee of the province, which showed what brethren had served the office of Stewards of the different Masonic institutions. It also showed that every candidate which the committee had taken in hand to support at the different charity elections during the year, had been elected the great benefit there was to be derived from a combination of votes. As a proof of this he read the following letter which he had received from the Albany Lodge, Newport, Isle of Wight, whose Tyler for many years the Charity Committee of Oxfordshire supported with their votes.

Albany Hall, Newport, Isle of Wight,
12th June, 1876.

To the Right Worshipful Bro. H.R.H. Prince Leopold, K.G., Provincial Grand Master; the W. Bro. Reginald Bird, M.A., Deputy Provincial Grand Master; and the Charity Committee of the Province of Oxfordshire.

We, the Worshipful Master, Past Masters, officers and brethren of the Albany Lodge, No. 151, Newport, Isle of Wight, in open lodge assembled, beg leave most fraternally to tender our heartfelt thanks for the very generous support given by the Province of Oxfordshire to the case of Henry Tarrant Dashwood, the old Tyler of the Albany Lodge, and Past Prov. G. Tyler to the late Province of the Isle of Wight, one of the newly-admitted for the benefit of annuity from the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons. The votes from the Province of Oxfordshire in conjunction with the whole of the votes of Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen enabled the brother representing the case at the election (10th May) to feel sure of Bro. Dashwood being elected (so far as surety may be anticipated) had a poll taken place.

Signed on behalf of the lodge,

GEORGE WYATT, P.M. and Treas., Pro. Sec., No. 151,
E. W. WATTS, M.A., W.M., No. 151.

(Cheers.)

Bro. Bird announced that the brethren who had gained the charity jewel were Bros. Cooper Smith, Pro. G.J.W.; Beade and Williamson; and that those brethren who were entitled to wear the bar in addition to the jewel were Bros. Long, Morrell, Fox and Clarke. (Cheers.)

Bro. Morrell moved the adoption and reception of the report, and this having been seconded was put to the meeting and carried.

A brother then rose and said that after the success which had attended the labours of the Charity Committee

for the year he thought that the very least this Provincial Grand Lodge could do was to return them their hearty thanks, and he begged to move that the hearty thanks of the Grand Lodge be given to the Charity Committee.

This was seconded and carried.

Bro. Thos. Randall, Prov. G. Treas., said it should be borne in mind that great ends had been accomplished by the province having secured in three or four elections, after great exertions by members of the province, and several out of it, the election of candidates. They were of course desirous at all times to reciprocate any assistance they received. From one lodge in Sussex, through the Grand Registrar, this province obtained 170 or 180 votes for one candidate, and he had much pleasure in saying that those votes were to a unit returned. From other parts they also received great favour during the past year. The fund of benevolence attached to Grand Lodge of England had given £200 to members of lodges in the province of Oxfordshire. (Hear, hear.) Under these circumstances, he thought that addressing the Prov. G. Lodge as the oldest member in the room, he was not out of place at all in appealing to the individual members of the lodges to place themselves in a position of returning these favours, by subscribing to the Masonic Charities and thereby obtaining votes. Many young members must see how much the honour of the province was involved in their being able to do a great deal for the charities; and he trusted that the satisfactory results of the Charity Committee's labours might be backed up by the individual subscriptions of the younger members of the lodge. If the Schools and the Masonic Benevolent Institution were supported by the province in a manner commensurate with the favours the province had received during the past year the brethren of this province would indeed be zealous in promoting the interests of the Craft. He strongly urged upon the brethren individually to subscribe to the charities and thereby support the province. He, however, hoped he would be pardoned for bringing the subject under the notice of the brethren (Hear, hear.)

At this point His Royal Highness, Prince Leopold, Prov. G. Master, attended by Bros. the Hon R. H. Collins, C.B., and Walter James Douglas Campbell, entered the lodge, and took his seat on the throne and was saluted in due form.

The Grand Treasurer reported that his accounts had been properly audited and found correct.

Bro. Reginald Bird proposed that Bro. Randall be re-elected Treasurer of the province. He had held the office for many years, and had performed its duties in the most satisfactory possible way to the members of the province. He had acted most faithfully in the discharge of his duties, and had been able to put a sum to the credit of the province which had been of the greatest use to it in time of need. He thought that the members of the province could not do better than re-elect Bro. Randall as the Prov. Grand Treasurer. (Applause.)

Bro. R. J. Spiers, Past Deputy Provincial Grand Master, seconded the motion. For many years he had known Bro. Randall well, and found that in his position of Prov. Grand Treasurer he had been of great service to the province.

Bro. Randall was then re-elected Grand Treasurer for the province unanimously, and amidst great applause.

The R.W. Prov. Grand Master afterwards distributed the charity jewels to Bros. Cooper Smith, Reade, and Williamson, and the extra bar to Bros. Long, Morrell, Fox, and Clarke. His Royal Highness then said: I appoint Bro. Reginald Bird to be my Deputy. (Cheers.)

Bro. Bird thanked his Royal Highness very much for the appointment, and added that he highly appreciated the honour.

The following brethren were next called up to the throne to receive investiture at the hands of His Royal Highness in their various offices:—

Bros. Jules Bue, M.A., Worshipful Master of the Alfred Lodge, 340, Provincial Grand Senior Warden; H. Offley Wakeman, B.A., Fellow of All Souls College, W.M. of the Churchill Lodge, 478, Grand Junior Warden; the Rev. R.W.M. Pope, M.A., Worcester College, Worshipful Deputy Master of the Apollo University Lodge, 357, and the Rev. J. Spittal, M.A., W.M. of the Cherwell Lodge, 599, Grand Chaplains; Alderman T. Randall, Alfred Lodge, Grand Treasurer; W. Peppercorn, Churchill Lodge, Grand Registrar; J. E. C. Bodley, Balliol College, Apollo Lodge, Grand Secretary; T. B. Brown, Marlborough Lodge, 1399, Senior Grand Deacon; J. Reade, Bowyer Lodge, 1035, Junior Grand Deacon; F. W. Ansell, Alfred Lodge, 340, Grand Supt. of Works; C. G. Paget, Christ Church, Apollo Lodge; G. Campbell, B.A., Exeter Lodge, Apollo Lodge, Grand Dir. of Ceremonies; J. Jenkin, Berrie Lodge, 1515, G. Sword Bearer; W. Tarrant, B. Mus., Magdalen College, Apollo Lodge, Grand Organist; F. Dolley, Bertie Lodge, Grand Pursuivant; J. Chapman, Alfred Lodge, Assistant Grand Pursuivant; W. J. Douglas Campbell, St. Alban Hall, Apollo Lodge; N. N. Glencross, Exeter College, Churchill Lodge; F. Hedges, B.A., Exeter College, Churchill Lodge; H. H. Parry, T. F. Plowman, Churchill Lodge; H. Harris, Bertie Lodge, Grand Stewards; and Bros. W. Stephens and G. Norwood, Grand Tylers.

On the motion of Provincial Grand Treasurer, Bro. Randall, the usual vote of ten guineas was given to the Masonic institutions; and another ten guineas to the Oxford Local Charities; three guineas of the latter to be given to the Radcliffe Infirmary.

Bro. Spiers seconded the motion, and said that the Freemasons of Oxford did not forget the local charities. Freemasons as a body, although they contributed large sums to their own special institutions, never forgot the wants of those of the outside world, but were always ready to assist them. (Cheers.)

On the motion of Prince Leopold, seconded by Bro.

Bird, a vote of congratulation to the Prince of Wales on his safe return to England was unanimously adopted.

Grand Lodge was then closed and the brethren adjourned to banquet at the Clarendon Hotel, where his Royal Highness presided, and proposed the toasts of the evening. The brethren did not separate till a late hour.

ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.
SUMMER ENTERTAINMENT TO THE AGED ANNUITANTS.

[The following appeared in our second edition last week.]

On Tuesday evening the Summer Entertainment to the aged inmates of the Asylum at Croydon was given by the friend and supporters of the Institution, several of whom took part in the performances. With the exception of a slight shower of rain the weather was very favourable, and enabled the visitors to walk about the grounds, which have been recently put in nice order, the walks being beautifully gravelled, the grass neatly trimmed, and the borders supplied with a good show of flowers and shrubs. For the latter both the inmates and friends of the Institution are indebted to the late lamented Bro. Cutbush, who during his lifetime made repeated gifts of these valuable additions to the horticultural beauty of the place. Bro. James Terry, the Secretary of the Institution, at whose suggestion periodical entertainments to the annuitants were first established, secured the services of several well-known dramatic and musical friends to produce a programme for the evening which should be acceptable to all. By the kind permission of the House Committee of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, the brass band of the School, consisting at present of nineteen of the boys, attended with their musical instruments, and played, with very great taste and considerable ability, some good selections of modern music in a tent set up in the grounds. This was the commencement of the proceedings, and filled up the early portion of the evening before all the visitors had arrived. On the arrival of these visitors they first partook of tea, at which Mrs. Terry kindly presided. The signature-book at this time bore the following names:—A. Johnson, W. E. Newton, J. Carter, John Constable, Frederick Binckes, Richard Percy, Charles K. Killick, John G. Stevens, Theo. Distin, T. Lawler, jun., Robt. H. Halford, Mrs. Terry, Miss Terry, W. J. Crutch, Mrs. Percy, Mrs. Halford, Mrs. Morris, Edwin G. Legge, J. Newton, Geo. E. Fairchild, Richard M. Marsh, Joseph Stock, Mrs. Stock, Geo. Blizard Abbott, W. Morgan, Geo. Lee Knill, W. F. Taunton, Wm. Lane, H. Massey ("Freemason"), Mrs. Crutch, Raynham W. Stewart, and Bro. Terry.

When tea was disposed of the party paid visits to the old ladies and brethren in their homes, and were shown the different arrangements for their happiness and comfort. The performances after tea commenced about half-past six, when the annuitants were summoned by sound of bell to assemble in the pretty hall of the Institution, where seats were commodiously arranged, and all the best places reserved for the inmates of the asylum. The hall was tastefully decorated, and some choice ferns and flowers lent for the occasion by Dr. Strong, added very materially to the general ornamentation. Miss Terry opened the musical portion of the entertainment by singing to her own accompaniment on the piano, "La Pepita," and her execution of the music, as well as the superiority of her voice, was commended by the professional musical brethren who were present. Her performance was enthusiastically applauded, and, had time permitted, she would have been called on to favour the company with some further selections. But there was a programme of great length before the audience, and everything had to be concluded by ten o'clock, after which time the trains to town were but scarce. Mr. George E. Fairchild, well-known as a public reader of considerable eminence, read, "The Honourable Mrs. George Augustus Figgington Flasher," in a style which was unexceptionable, and convulsed his hearers with laughter. Mr. Fred Stevens, the son of Bro. John G. Stevens, gave some comic songs in character, which rather took the company by surprise, as they were unprepared for the appearance of a dramatic wardrobe in so quiet an abode as the Benevolent Institution. It was, however, a most acceptable novelty and was received with the strongest marks of approval. The execution of the songs was exceedingly humorous, and deserved all the hearty applause it obtained. Bro. Henry Marston, the popular actor, stirred the assembly by his powerful rendering of "The Charge of the Light Brigade," and gave a specimen of the diversified character of his talents in his comic recitation of the well-known parody of "The Death of Sir John Moore." Mr. Fairchild recited with great vigour the tragic piece "The Pipe," and Mr. Taunton took a different turn by giving some imitations of the Penny Readings, and reproducing some of those curious characters who are to be found at fairs (or rather were to be found at fairs, when such things existed), the peripatetic vendors of the most superior articles that were ever manufactured to win coin from the pockets of unwary clodhoppers.

"Tim Turpin" was given by Bro. John G. Stevens, at the special request of the brethren who have heard him recite this piece before; and on this occasion it may safely be said that he equalled any of his former powerful delineations.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT.—More Precious than Gold.—Diarrhoea, Dysentery, and Cholera are, through the summer's heat, carrying off the young as the winter's cold destroyed the aged. In the most acute cases, where internal medicines cannot be retained, the greatest relief will immediately result from rubbing Holloway's soothing Ointment over the abdomen. The friction should be frequent and brisk, to insure the free penetration of the Unguent. This will calm the excited peristaltic action, and soothe the pain. Both vomiting and griping yield to it; when fruits or vegetables have originated the malady, it is proper to cleanse the bowels by a moderate dose of Holloway's Pills (before using the Ointment).—ADVT.

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Answers to Correspondents.

All Communications, Advertisements, &c., intended for insertion in the Number of the following Saturday, must reach the Office not later than 12 o'clock on Wednesday morning.

The following stand over:—Lodge of Fortitude, Lancaster; Rowley Lodge, Lancaster; Forest of Dean Lodge; Union Waterloo, Woolwich; St. James's Lodge, Halifax; Pattison Lodge, Plumstead; United Military Lodge, Plumstead; Felix Lodge, Teddington; Rose of Denmark Chapter, Kew Bridge; Stuart Chapter, Bedford; MacDonald Mark Lodge; Whitwell Mark Lodge, Maryport; Premier Conclave, Red Cross; Skelmersdale Conclave, Liverpool; Joppa Lodge; Frederick Lodge of Unity; Dalnuir Lodge, S.E.; "Correct Masonry;" "proposing Joining Members."

ERRATUM.—In our report of Grand Lodge Bro. Baxter Langley was stated to have seconded Bro. Simpson's amendment; the seconder was Bro. W. R. Marsh (P.M. Albion, No. 9).

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

[The charge is 2s. 6d. for announcements, not exceeding four lines, under this heading.]

BIRTHS.

BABINGTON.—On the 17th inst., at Clifton, Bristol, the wife of the Rev. Basil B. Babington, Minor Canon of Bristol, of a daughter.

BENNETT.—On the 16th inst., at Adelaide-road, South Hampstead, the wife of C. H. Bennett, Esq., of a daughter.

BELLINGER.—On the 16th inst., at Cressington, Liverpool, the wife of T. Bellinger, of a daughter.

CRAWLEY.—On the 18th inst., at Theydon Bois, Essex, the wife of J. J. Crawley, of a daughter.

DAWSON.—On the 16th inst., at Brighton, the wife of E. F. Dawson, Esq., of a son.

EGERTON.—On the 17th inst., at St. George's-hill, Lady Louisa Egerton, of a daughter.

KINGSTON.—On the 18th inst., at Fitzroy-street, W., the wife of Bro. S. T. Kingston, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

DAVIES—JACKSON.—On the 17th inst., at St. Luke's, Chelsea, Francis Pritchard Davies, M.B., of Barming-heath, near Maidstone, to Agnes Warden, daughter of the late A. Jackson, Esq.

FOX—DOYLE.—On the 20th ult., at the Bavarian Chapel, London, Charles Henry Fox, Esq., of Dublin, to Mary Rebecca, widow of the late J. Doyle, Esq.

GILCHRIST—ONSLOW.—On the 25th ult., at Christ Church, Byculla, Robert A. Gilchrist, 1st Cavalry H.C., to Henrietta Fanny, widow of the late Capt. H. C. Onslow, Madras Staff Corps.

DEATHS.

TALBOT.—On the 19th inst., Bro. T. M. Talbot, R.W. Prov. Grand Master for South Wales, aged 37.

CODNER.—On the 22nd inst., Bro. Antonio J. Codner, at 2, Bulstrode-street, Cavendish-square, aged 46.

HENRY.—On the 16th inst., Sir Thomas Henry, Bart., aged 69.

CHART.—On the 18th inst., at 9, New-road, Brighton, Henry John Chart, in his 55th year.

HAWKSWORTH.—On April 27, at Alexandria, John Mason Hawksworth, C.E., aged 36.

KERR.—On the 14th inst., at Bishopstoke, Thos. Nixon Kerr, of Kilburn, aged 36.

The Freemason,

SATURDAY, JUNE 24, 1876.

MASONIC SACRIFICES.

It is pleasant always to note in this unsatisfactory world of ours how practice and profession, deeds and words, go hand in hand. It is very agreeable, whether for the philosopher or the moralist, to realize calmly and clearly that the "outcome" of humanitarian assertions and of mortal strivings is something a good deal better every way than "sounding brass or tinkling cymbal." For, after all, reality is a very great thing indeed, in life and among men, and nothing is so painful as the sad awakening to the fact, oftentimes true, that after all is said and done, the taint of hollowiness and insincerity too often underlies the eloquence of the eloquent, and vitiates the efforts of the energetic, and therefore it is very refreshing to note to-day what very great sacrifices Freemasons often make for Masonic literature. Indeed, it is not too much to say that they are very striking indeed. Editors may perplex their weary brains, publishers may draw continually on their bankers' account, in order to keep Masonic literature afloat, but these are secondary considerations—the zeal of the Order and the spirit of self-sacrifice which Freemasonry enjoins and Freemasons evidence in regard to literature as well as other matters render the progress of Masonic literature, per se, plain, easy, and lucrative. No cares attend its onward progress, no doubts or fears affect the question of its success; and the satisfactory balance-sheets of contemporary enterprises in the Masonic literary world prove how incontestably Freemasons recognize the duty of supporting their own press and their own serials. Bro. Gouley, in America, could tell a sensational tale how much Masonic literature owes to the sacrifices of his brethren, and even in England there would be no difficulty, we think, in laying a case before our readers, starting alike in its simplicity and certainty, in the facts it evidences, and in the spirit it illustrates. Have our readers followed us? We are not going to-day to find fault or to complain. We do not even presume to criticize, much less to condemn. But in the interest of all Masonic literature, not ourselves alone, we do wish to point out to our many excellent brethren the absurdity of the position in which they place all who cater for the literary tastes of the Order, and, above all, in which they place themselves. We have always been above appeals "ad misericordiam," or anything else. We ask for no one's support, just as we quarrel with no one who thinks Masonic literature either a luxury or a bore. We can hold our own against all comers, and, please God, we mean to do so, relying on the friendly support and ready encouragement of a weekly increasing circle of readers and of friends. We are speaking the simple truth, in no spirit of boasting or swagger. The advertising business is not before us just now, and we are not writing for effect, but for "conscience sake." We think it very hard indeed that brethren should be so careless or so apathetic, so uninterested and so little in earnest, that it is a matter of total indifference to them how here, at home, or anywhere, in fact, Masonic literature can be supported and encouraged. Some brethren are like the idle child of old, who would not take the trouble to pick the pear, but expected it to drop into its mouth; and many of our kind friends appear to think that our publisher, like other publishers, is to provide a Masonic literature at almost cost price to them. They forget that, week by week, literature, like a great machine, requires oiling to go on; that somebody must pay editors, readers, compositors, folders, &c., &c.; and that Masonic literature has no endowments, and unless they help is not very likely to be self-supporting. Is it not provoking, though very ridiculous, not to say contemptible at the same time, for us to receive the announcement: "Discontinue, I can see the paper in the news room;" "Discontinue, I am going to join with a brother;" "Discontinue, I did not like that article;" "Discontinue, I don't approve of the insertion of this letter;" "Discontinue, I have not time to read a Masonic paper?" Such, we

venture to say, is unfortunately the feeling of utter indifference by which too many are actuated everywhere at home and abroad as regards Masonic literature, and no wonder that it has to wage a very uphill battle nearly everywhere. If it is important that we should have from time to time trustworthy accounts of our Masonic progress, if the words of eloquent speakers are to be reported, and the acts of higher and humbler Masonic bodies duly chronicled, if it is a duty incumbent on Freemasons to give a generous and fraternal hand to Masonic literature, then we all of us need a reform and an amendment, alike in our views and ways on this subject. We began in a lighter tone, we have become more serious as we have gone on; but we do not wish to be misunderstood. If Bro. Potter likes to read his "Freemason" in the news room, instead of having his own independent copy—price 2d.—let him do so. If Bro. Peppercorn prefers to read his "Freemason," or any other paper, with Bro. Bloxam, pray let him do so; if good Bro. Fluffey, that eloquent old P.M., sees the "Freemason" at his lodge, "à la bonne heure" we don't complain. Only we wish to say this, that while such facts are amusing per se, as showing the value some brethren put on Masonic literature, the effect of it all is to render Masonic literature more and more independent in itself, and perhaps after all it is as well. Cliqueism, like many other wars, has done more to ruin the Masonic press than anything else, in our opinion, and we rejoice to feel and to know that despite the fluctuating interest and necessary vicissitudes of all Masonic literature, the very independence of the "Freemason" seems to be more and more acceptable to a liberal-minded Craft. With a hearty laugh thus at the idiosyncracies of some of our good correspondents and readers, we pass from this tempting subject, like the French Assembly, to the "order of the day," and hoisting manfully our old and honest flag as an independent Masonic paper, stand upon our own merits, claiming favour or subsidy, partiality or patronage, from None.

THE PRESENT TENDENCY OF FREEMASONRY.

We must not and should not shut our eyes to the fact, and a very serious one it is, that there is growing amongst us a very low state of feeling as regards the intent of Freemasonry. With many it is openly assuming the theory of a benefit Order, with others that same idea, if not publicly avowed, is privately and practically held. A great many new members join us, it is to be feared, for the material position and prospects of the Order. Not a few put down their money to-day freely enough, but with the expressed look out for a rainy day for themselves and theirs. Now this, we venture to think, is entirely wrong, and if not checked must lead to the degradation and ruin of Freemasonry. Freemasonry is in no wise a benefit Order, and cannot be; it offers no "quid pro quo," it promises no return for money invested, it says to no one, pay in so much now and you shall have so much out hereafter; it knows nothing of the position or principles of a monetary society, taking so much and repaying so much. Lord Zetland warned the Order years ago that Freemasonry had nothing in it akin to a benefit society, and his warning seems to be needed even at this hour. Many of our brethren talk as if Freemasonry was a great treasury, so to say, from which Freemasons were to draw "ad libitum," and that having paid in so much they had a right to claim its assistance, and share in its good things. Now we have always contended, and always shall contend that there is no "contract," so to speak, in the matter. All that Freemasonry gives, and does, in the way of eleemosynary help, Freemasonry gives and does on the great broad principle of true Masonic compassion and benevolence alone. For the "decayed Freemason," for the widow of a brother, for the orphan sons and daughters of deceased members of the Craft, it has always words of sympathy and deeds of love. But it is to be feared, that even in this, its generosity is abused, and its aid is sometimes unduly obtained. Many it is to be feared are placed in our schools, for instance, whom friends and relatives might well support and educate at

home, and on this point the moral conscience of many persons is somewhat lax, in respect of claiming aid from a generous Order, and so saving their own pockets. But here comes in the unsound teaching. Bro. Johnson has paid seven years to his lodge, the "Amity," and when Bro. Johnson dies he leaves a widow and an infant family. The friends say "We are well to do," but as there are those charities, and as Bro. Johnson has paid for seven years let him claim the benefits of his own Order." Now it is assumed that all candidates placed on our educational charities, for instance, are fit and proper cases, that is to say, cases in which, through want of means, the family is unable to discharge the duties which would have devolved on the father had he lived, and as the poor child thus sues for our help, "in forma pauperis," and the Order steps forward "in loco parentis" to aid, to educate, and to fit, in as far as in it lies the child of our brother for the rough Broadway of life. But Freemasonry understands, as a "petitio principia," that the candidates would not apply for Masonic aid, unless such aid was indispensable, unless it was the natural condition of affairs. If, then, any to-day put forward candidates for our charities whom well-to-do relatives could take care of, they are not fulfilling their part of the implied understanding. They are in fact, trespassing on the golden generosity of the Craft, and doing injury to the claims of others actually in need of all possible assistance. We admit that there are some difficulties in the matter. We speak from careful consideration of the subject, and we will give an illustration of what we mean. Bro. Robinson dies, a young man, and a full paying member. Had he lived he would have been a prosperous man. But the Great Architect of the Universe has taken him suddenly away, and his widow, with four children, is nearly penniless. She has rich relations. One rich relation says, "I am willing to assist you, but I have children of my own, and I do not see that I am called upon to educate your children." Now though we may consider such conduct, perhaps morally, as moralists, looking beyond technicalities of the law, &c., yet the man cannot be compelled to do what he willingly will not do. And what then is the widow to do? What are Freemasons to do? Is the child to starve, or grow up like a brute beast, while we and a hard-hearted relative dispute as to the binding nature of moral obligations, or what are moral obligations in this respect? Certainly not? We must step in, and we must try to educate the orphan and aid the widow. But if we could get rid of these mistaken views, lurking in our midst about "value received," about "legitimate returns," about our claim for "material benefit" from Freemasonry, we should, we think, rise to a higher level, as to the way we look at our Masonic Charities generally. For "mutatis mutandis" the same argument applies no doubt, in a greater or less manner, as regards all our Masonic Benevolent Institutions. They simply would become charities for the suffering and needy, purely charities, not a return for subscriptions and donations, not the result of an investment of capital for a rainy day, not a righteous claim, not a benefit we demand, but the simple and bonâ fide offering of pure Masonic benevolence, to bind up the wounds of our suffering brotherhood, to pour on the wine and oil of sympathy, into pining homesteads and aching hearts. To show how all this false principle is working, let us look at the programme of the proposed new Grand Lodge of Ontario, in the "Daily Toronto Globe" of May 27th. We say nothing now of this new movement and separation. Probably on the principles of Grand Lodge formation laid down in the Canadas, it is as logical as any other formation, though we say this not knowing anything of the merits of the case, and simply on an abstract consideration of Canadian precedents. But that new programme boldly asserts the necessity of a "solatium" in case of death, a weekly payment in case of sickness or accident out of the funds of Grand Lodge or Provincial Grand Lodge, for all the members, thus boldly avowing a beneficial and "quid pro quo" principle in Freemasonry, and reducing Freemasonry—nay, we will say

degrading Freemasonry—to the level of a benefit order. Whatever else the new Grand Lodge of Ontario may be, it cannot claim to be Masonic, in our opinion, and if, these, its first principles, be openly acted upon and upheld, we cannot suppose that any Grand Lodge of genuine Freemasonry will in any way recognise it, or look upon as a Masonic Order, since if a benefit order, it ceases to be a Grand Lodge or private lodge of Freemasons. Let us be on our guard then against any tendency amongst us, open or implied, to abandon our noble principles of gratuitous and generous donations, of a true charity for the secondary, and we must add, mere selfish assertion of beneficial claims. We do not deny that benefit orders are good, per se, but what we contend for is that Freemasonry is not and never can be a mere beneficial order, and that if you seek to incorporate into Freemasonry the axioms and claims of a benefit society you are paving the way for the inevitable decay and destruction of Freemasonry.

WHAT THE MASONIC PRESS MAY AND SHOULD BE.

In this our third article on the subject we wish to write as briefly as we well may, fearing that we may otherwise exhaust the patience of our readers. That a Masonic press is advisable and important, valuable and needful, to-day, we venture to think; that it may be a great aid to true Freemasonry we also hold, but then it must avoid some of the errors and quicksands which have abounded in its previous course. One great defect as regards the Masonic press has been its personality. It is lamentable to think what scurrility has sometimes found its way into Masonic columns. As the representatives of a brotherhood professing fraternal love as its keynote, it would be amusing, were it not so saddening, to observe this inconsistency of humanity. Some of the most personal, and we will add, vulgar, productions we ever read have emanated from a Masonic penman, writing, moreover, "ad fratres." Strange inconsistency, but so it is. Now in saying this do not let any suppose that we underrate the importance of the real "hitch of the matter," the actual difficulties of the case. It is no doubt sometimes hard to restrain a strongish word or epithet, when we have proof before our eyes of the ignorance of the sciolist or the audacity of the charlatan. It is not so easy always to keep within due bounds, the eager disputant, or the keen controversialist, who finds his motives impugned, his words travestied, and his opinions derided by one whom he considers in the nature of things incompetent to pass an opinion on the merits of the case. Many people rush into the pages of a Masonic or profane newspaper whose views are hazy and whose language is most insulting, and hardly a week passes but we see how true it still is that "fools enter in where angels fear to tread." And hence a little latitude must always exist for honest indignation, and critical severity, for the laudable exposure of the impostor and impertinent, for the ardent language and glowing fervour of the injured, the assailed, or the defamed. But having said this, we feel that we have made all needful allowances for the exigencies of passing controversies and excitable writers, and we are bound, it appears to us, to set our face against all press personalities. The imputation of evil motives, the covert insinuation, the open falsehood, the violence of some "feeble forcible," and the mistaken vehemence of some amateur libeller are all things "bene notanda," and "bene evitanda" in Masonic journalism. Freemasonry will rise much higher in the opinion of the outside world, when Masonic papers put on one side that embittering tone which too often mars and degrades their pages, when Masonic controversies can be conducted in a spirit of fairness and toleration, and when all of attempted bullying, or browbeating, or absurd assumption, or unreasoning dogmatism, shall have passed away from Masonic pamphleteers, and Masonic disputants, never to return. The judgment of the world, based on the evidence of the Masonic press, is too often unfavourable to Freemasonry on the ground that its practice does not square with its profession—that it says one thing and does the very contrary; and that while

it openly asserts as its leading principles, the teaching of a charitable, elevated, tolerant, benevolent brotherhood, Freemasons shew themselves to be very often in the press the most intolerant, the most uncharitable, the most vulgar, and the most abusive of mankind. These are hardish words, but they are true, and, above all, they are needed, whether popular or unpopular, acceptable or unacceptable. And another point for the Masonic press to avoid is ritual publication. We have fallen into "evil courses" in this respect, and must retrace our steps. We have been publishing far too much about the "arcana" and "aporrata" of our Order, and must hold our hands. There is plenty of ground for Masonic writers to travel over and for Masonic publications to dwell upon, without loading our pages with unwise discussions upon ritual and ceremonial. Masonic archæology has plenty of hope for the student and the teacher, and except for the sake of illustration, ceremonial ought not to be dwelt upon by Masonic writers. We have latterly excluded all ritual discussions from the "Freemason," and we shall continue to do so. There is quite sufficient in the current news of the day, in the abstract principles of Freemasonry, in the onward progress of Masonic affairs at home and abroad, and, above all, in the interesting study of the annals and antiquities of our great Order, to occupy the leisure of the Masonic correspondent, to lend force to the exhortation of the Masonic teacher, to enliven the contribution of the Masonic critic, and to claim the close attention of the Masonic editor. Guided by the principles we have laid down of abstention and caution, we have no doubt ourselves but that the Masonic press has a useful and beneficial, a great and goodly future before it. In all that it seeks to proclaim and to enforce, didactically or hortatory before the Craft, its utterances ought always to be marked by distinct adherence to principle, and an elevated tone in all things. Through evil report or good report, popular or unpopular, it should never truckle to expediency, but should always display before all men that noble banner of blue, on which glitter in letters of gold the talismanic words, Honour, Justice, Loyalty, Charity, Brotherly Love, Toleration, Truth.

BRO. HAVERS'S LETTER IN OUR LAST.

We do not think it well, as the French say, "pour le moment," to anticipate or comment on the course of the discussion which our very able and distinguished Bro. John Havers, J.G.W., has paid us the compliment of commencing in the "Freemason." We do this first because Bro. Havers is a "host" in himself, and perfectly able to fight his own battle most effectively, and secondly because at present as our agreement with Bro. Havers is complete, alike in the abstract and in the concrete, it would almost seem impertinence on our part to intervene in discussion so ably commenced. It may, perhaps be our duty to say a few words before the fraternal and friendly controversy closes, but we do not affect to conceal our opinion that we, like Bro. Havers, greatly deplore the result which Grand Lodge arrived at, and of which, in our opinion, he, not unnaturally, and so forcibly points out, the untoward consequences.

OUR THANK-OFFERING.

Communiqué.

'Tis not so very long ago that our witty contemporary, "Punch," presented us with a ludicrous picture of the way in which it seems good to some men to celebrate any great event. A man finds his friend regaling himself in an eating house, and is amazed at his extravagance—"What! Real Turtle, Smith? and Verison, too, to follow? Why, whatever does this mean?"

"Oh, my dear fellow, this is our wedding day, you know, and I always make a point of commemorating such important occasions."

We confess at the time to being immensely tickled with Smith's greedy self-complacency, but we little thought that we should ever have to write ourselves this very Smith, but this is precisely our position by our Grand Lodge vote at last Quarterly Communication. We are positively going to be so liberal as to spend, as a thank offering, two thousand pounds upon—ourselves. Masonry must have entered upon an entirely new phase, or else the "Rulers of the Craft" must have been led away by some specious argument to the perpetration of one of those solecisms of which, in their calmer moments of reflection, they will be heartily ashamed. What is the state of matters

Bro. Havers, a member of the Order, upon whose bare "ipse dixit" the Craft need never have hesitated to act, pointed out to the brethren a manner in which they could show their gratitude to Almighty God for our Royal Grand Master's safe return, as fully accordant with the principles of the Craft as it was cosmopolitan in its object, inasmuch as in it was involved, in the one case the restoration of the handiwork of the Grand Master who founded our Order here, and in the other case the completion of the design of that other Grand Master who resuscitated that Order from the obscurity into which it had temporarily sunk. Surely no more worthy object could be presented as the work of the Masons of this present day. But no! Why should we step out of our way to do this work? Why spend our money on objects extraneous to the Order? Why spend anything at all? Surely we could record our thanks to the Great Architect, and let that recorded gratitude suffice. But it would hardly do for a charitable body like we are to decline to spend our money upon the embodiment of charity, and so we must find some good excuse for withholding our hand. Hence the parrot-cry of "Denominationalism."

But what is such a cry worth? How can a thing that is national be denominational? And surely, if any one thing in all this realm of ours is national it is Wren's great masterpiece—St. Paul's. If there be any monuments dear to Masons in this kingdom, surely such pre-eminently must be St. Alban's Abbey and Wren's Cathedral. "Denominationalism"—As well might we call the Duke of Bedford's gift of the Bunyan Statue denominational; as well call feeding the starving Hindoo a fostering of the Hindoo religion; as well call the relief that we sent to our French neighbours after their disastrous floods treasonable because they have in times gone by been our implacable foes. Then, what was the miserable peg on which this specious argument was hung? "Some of the Craft are Jews." We should think our Hebrew brethren will be exceedingly obliged to the brother who made this delightful discovery. One word, we should think, would sufficiently dispose of this terrible obstacle to our doing a noble and national act by restoring the House of the Lord. If the King of Tyre had listened to any twaddle about "Denominationalism" (if there were any body in his day so misguided as to give utterance to it, which we very much doubt), where would have been Solomon's temple? Or if the Persian Monarch had taken the same course, where the temple of Zerubbabel?

One such thought of the past and all its hallowed associations, and we are quite sure that there is no Hebrew member of the Craft who would sanction his being thus shown up in the light of an obstructive to the active work of Masonry to-day.

Of that vote of last week, then, we feel heartily ashamed and we are quite sure that every right-minded brother will be of the same opinion. There is, however, one way of making amends for the mistake. The committee are to apply the money to such charitable object as to them shall seem the best. Surely they cannot do better than spend it upon Charity itself. Let them, then, take the bull by the horns, and disarming a factious opposition, wipe away this reproach to the Masonry of to-day by applying the money, over which they have this discretionary power, to the noble and high-minded purpose set before them by our esteemed Bro. Havers.

Original Correspondence.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for, or even as approving of the opinions expressed by our correspondents, but we wish, in a spirit of fair play to all, to permit—within certain necessary limits—free discussion.—Ed.]

THE LAST QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I deeply regret that Bro. Havers has thrown so much personal feeling into a matter which should be dealt with only on public grounds. Any brother can see at a glance, from the tone of his letter, that it does not breathe "peace" or "good will."

I must demur to either the taste or the tact which he has displayed in publishing a private note of mine without my consent, or even knowledge. I venture to think he shewed a want in the same direction, but in a much more serious case, by making the use he did of our M.W. Grand Master's name as a lever to propel his motion to a successful issue. As to my letter, I am not sorry he published it.

Even as it stands, without any explanation, I do not think it is inconsistent with any subsequent word or act of mine.

I may, however, say that it was written on May 23rd, immediately on receipt of Bro. Havers's note and copy of motion, that is, before I had had time to carefully consider the subject of it, or to consult even one of my brethren. It was written in a spirit of kindness and humility as addressed to one who was my senior in years and Masonry, and superior to me in everything save zeal for Masonry and independence of thought and action, in both of which I claim to be his equal.

I stand to every word of my letter, but I quite grant that the fortnight that elapsed between my writing it and the meeting of Grand Lodge had strongly increased my objections to Bro. Havers's motion.

But I say now as I wrote then, "I think the plan of giving to St. Paul's and St. Alban's an admirable one per se—that is, in itself and by itself—and 'from my standpoint' (as a clergyman of the Church of England) 'I like the idea very much,' but the plan by itself was one thing, and as paid for out of Grand Lodge funds another. My view as a clergyman merely was a natural one; my opinion as a Mason, and a member of Grand Lodge, was a conscientious one. In the one case I had only to follow my pleasure, in the other to do my duty—a duty from

which even the rather overbearing threats held over me before I went into Grand Lodge did not deter me.

Bro. Havers says, "I heard this statement with amazement when I knew that he (Bro. Simpson) had expressed the very reverse opinion to me."

I read this with more than amazement—with sorrow. This statement is purely imaginary, as I never so expressed myself.

On Bro. Havers's lecture to Grand Lodge on selfishness and narrow-mindedness, and on his opinion expressed now as to Grand Lodge's "fatal mistake" and "lowering" policy, I make no comment. Grand Lodge is able to judge for itself—and act for itself too.

The terms in which the motion for a committee is worded leave the widest field for proposal, in fact, leave everything open except St. Paul's and St. Alban's. Let us hope that Bro. Havers will accept a place on that committee, and that he has more than "one blessing" to bestow on his brethren, and more than one idea with which to commemorate the safe return of one illustrious Grand Master whose own memorable watchwords, "loyalty" and "charity," should be the lines on which our memorial should run. And as Bro. McIntyre truly said in Grand Lodge "time does not press," in fact, it is our best friend, it will mellow our opinions, it will be an aid to reflection, it will check the hasty word, and inconsiderate act, and tend to give us a well-matured plan to which we, I trust, shall give a hearty and unanimous approval.

I am, dear Sir and Brother, yours fraternally,

R. J. SIMPSON.

P.S.—I think Bro. Havers must see on reflection that the instances of church decoration, &c., which he quotes from the Provinces, involving such limitations of area and of numbers, and regulated by local association, are by no means cases in point as precedents for Grand Lodge. Besides, I have yet to learn that these works were paid for purely, or at all, out of the Provincial Grand Lodge Fund.

While Bro. Havers has quoted my letter conveying mild and gentle hints, and written at the first blush, he has forgotten to mention my two urgent entreaties to him to withdraw the latter part of his motion, on the ground that I had reason to believe a large majority would oppose it, and that it was so desirable to have unanimity. These communications were made on the day of Grand Lodge meeting.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

In the two last numbers of the "Freemason" I have been looking in vain amongst your "Correspondence" for some expression of opinion respecting the result of the division on Bro. Havers's resolution at the last Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge. I was present on that occasion, and had to stand during the whole of the proceedings at the end of the room, in the midst of—if I were not describing a meeting of Freemasons I should justly call a rabble! The uncharitable remarks which were bandied about; the unseemly interruption of the speakers; the disorderly and thoroughly un-Masonic conduct of those by whom I was surrounded, surprised and disgusted me. Bro. Simpson said that if Bro. Havers's motion were carried it would give a blow to Freemasonry from which it would never recover. The absurdity of this statement must surely by this time have become apparent to Bro. Simpson himself. The fatal blow to Freemasonry will be the success of the principle which actuated the majority who overthrew Bro. Havers's resolution, viz., that the enrichment of our charitable institutions is the highest aim of the Order, and the true criterion of Masonic excellence. Far be it from me to say one word detrimental to the interests of the Masonic institutions. By all means, let them be supported to the fullest extent. If they want new wings to their buildings, and addition to their funds, let their wishes be fulfilled and their needs supplied. But I regret to see the idea gaining ground that "the charities" are to be all-engrossing objects, and the sole outlets of our Masonic sympathies, because the result must inevitably follow that Freemasonry will become nothing more or less than a benefit society. Charity is the distinguishing characteristic of a Freemason's heart. But that charity which has the approbation of heaven and of earth, and is like its sister, mercy, doubly blessed, that charity which, we are told on the authority of the Sacred Volume, is the greatest of all virtues, is something more than almsgiving, for a man may "give all his goods to feed the poor," and have no charity. So, too, a Mason by dint of importunity may collect, or ostentatiously subscribe enormous sums of money to our charities, and at the same time be a quarrelsome, pestilent fellow, and thoroughly un-Masonic in all his conduct towards his fellow men. Depend upon it, it is more difficult to think kindly of a man, or to act generously towards him, when opposed to us in rival claims, in religious belief, or in political opinions, than it is to supply the wants of the needy, to care for the fatherless, or provide for the widow. Freemasonry bids us do all. But foremost amongst the principles she inscribes on her banner as the glorious motto of the Order is "Brotherly Love."

I therefore deeply deplored the result of this division the other night, because it exalts a principle which twenty-five years' experience convinces me will bring about this apparently astounding paradox that our charities will be our ruin.

With regard to Bro. Haver's proposition, I do not say it was the best which could by any possibility have been devised, but it had this remarkable feature that it was both national and Masonic. It was national because St. Paul's Cathedral is a national monument. Its matchless dome, far exceeding in external beauty St. Peter's, at Rome, is the pride and delight of all Englishmen of whatever creed. It was Masonic because St. Paul's Cathedral is the crowning effort of the marvellous genius of the great H.A. of English Freemasonry, Sir Christopher Wren,

prince of architects. St. Alban's Abbey too, according to our traditions, which Masons at any rate ought not to sneer at, is the place where the first G. Lodge of England was held, and therefore the proposition to give 1000 guineas to the restoration of each of these public monuments, in order to celebrate the return home of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, our beloved M.W.G.M., was peculiarly appropriate to an event which was both national and Masonic.

I am, Sir and Brother, yours faithfully and fraternally,
A PROVINCIAL GRAND OFFICER.

June 20th, 1876.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

In last week's "Freemason" Bro. Simpson wrote to "supply one or two little omissions," at the same time recommending us to "try and appreciate each other's motives."

Now, there is nothing that I more desire than to appreciate Bro. Simpson's motives in this matter at their true worth, and I doubt not that he will supply one or two more little omissions which at present stand in the way of my doing so.

Firstly, I gathered that Bro. Simpson desired to reject Bro. Havers's motion because it was denominational. What would Bro. Simpson designate his own motion of a Grand Lodge thanksgiving in St. Paul's Cathedral?

Secondly, I gathered that Bro. Simpson considered the restoration of St. Alban's Abbey and the completion of Wren's cathedral—both Masonic works—as "outside purposes" with regard to our Order. What would Bro. Simpson deem his own vague something in India to be?

These questions satisfactorily answered will enable many others to properly appreciate our Bro. Simpson's motives than, dear Sir and Brother,

Yours faithfully and fraternally,

W. T.

ANCIENT AND PRIMITIVE MASONRY.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

In reply to "Panache," allow me to say that this Rite has no lodges within the limits of the English language. It has chapters, senates, and councils meeting in various parts of Great Britain, Canada, United States of America, &c., and requires all members to be legitimate Master Masons. It is also generally practised in Roumania, &c. It claims to supply a want by giving all known degrees to M.M.'s, without distinction of religion or politics, and owns a number of brethren of the Hebrew and other Monotheistic faiths. The A. and A. forbid all Rites but their own; the A. and P. sanction all legitimate Rites.

Yours truly and fraternally,

GANESDA.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

In the issue of June 17th I see a letter signed "John Jones, M.M. X., his mark." I have not my Book of Constitutions by me at present, but as far as I can recollect they say in a foot note to the paragraph relating to the declaration before initiation that as every candidate must sign the declaration it follows that no man who cannot write can be made a Mason. This being the case John Jones' lodge had better give an account of itself for initiating, passing, and raising one who can only sign by means of a X.

Yours fraternally,

M.M. (without the assistance of a X.)

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Bro. Magnus Ohren accuses me of "asking certain questions for my own information." We live in a time that all assertions are not taken as facts, without proof.

Many a brother would be glad of the same information as myself, especially of the Grand Lodge for Surrey, had there been such a thing. I find by M.O.'s letter in the last that P.P.G.J.W. has been substituted for Past G.J.W. for Surrey. It is not fair when a brother makes a mistake, which is likely to mislead his readers, and is not willing to acknowledge it, but casting insinuations of selfishness upon the querist. Bro. M.O. finishes with, "I beg to be excused from going into personal questions, for which I have neither time nor inclination."

As Bro. M.O. of his own free will and accord came to put "Ad Rem" and myself to rights from our confounding position; but when further explanation was asked, he declines with the above quotation. I beg to draw the attention of Bro. M.O. to Bro. "Ad Rem's" kind letter, above his own in the last "Freemason," and just note paragraph "Thirdly."

Dear Bro. Editor, allow me to convey to Bro. "Ad Rem" my best thanks.

Yours fraternally,

R.W.O.

THE BOYS' SCHOOL DISTRIBUTION OF PRIZES.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I note an announcement in your columns about the Boys' School distribution of prizes, which has rather surprised many old Masonic buffers like myself. Bro. Binckes is famous for his "tours de force," and somebody has called him "Hercules," though why I know not, except it be that his labours are very many, and though I have no doubt he has a good explanation ready, as he generally has, yet this really beats "Banagher."

The prizes are to be distributed under the "Presidency of the Council of the 33°."

I had always thought that the Chairmanship was a "personal" occupation, but it seems to be "impersonal," and instead of one chairman we are to have many. No doubt there will be exemplified the truth of the old saying, "in the multitude" of chairmen, &c.

But what I want to know is, does the whole Council preside at the distribution of the prizes? and if so, how can it do so, being an abstract body, not a concrete individuality?

Here, then, there seems to me a misuse of words.

And then I also want to know what the Council of the 33°, quâ a Council, has to do with our Royal Masonic Institution for Boys.

I could quite understand some distinguished member of it, like our good Bro. Hyde Pullen, for instance, presiding, but I cannot make out why the whole Council is to preside at our Craft school, nor how it agrees, so to say, with the "eternal fitness of things."

I venture for once to think that our worthy friend and Bro. F. Binckes has made as, the Frenchman said, "Von kette Bistock."

I think many of us would have preferred the presidency of some distinct Masonic personality, instead of that hazy and mysterious agglomeration—the Council of the 33°.

When Theodore Hook was asked if he would sign the 39 Articles he said, "Forty if you please," scandalizing the orthodox Don, and nearly losing his admission to the University, and, therefore, I hesitate a little at inquiring of Bro. Binckes, what is the meaning of the 33° degree? and why it should not be 34°?

Maurice Quill, M.D., when requested to tell the Duke of Wellington why he had exchanged into the 33rd, said, "Your Grace, to be near my brother, who's in the 34th," and, so, perhaps, the only reason for 33° is that it follows numerically 32.

Excuse my ignorance and density, and forgive the intrusive curiosity of a

VENERABLE CRAFTSMAN.

THE MASONIC CYCLOPÆDIA.

Dear Bro. Kenning,—

The old saying runs, "There's many a slip between the cup and the lip," and that is certainly made good as regards your Cyclopædia.

You will remember how towards the close of 1872 we talked it over, and how also, when Bro. Mackey's elaborate work appeared, a whale among the minnows, it seemed to us, "pour le moment," needless to persevere with our proposal.

About this time last year you recalled my attention to the matter, saying that you thought you saw your way to the "placing" on the Masonic literary market of a Cyclopædia, not too large, not too verbose, cheap and condensed—a neat and compendious book of reference.

The summer intervened, and about October I began my work.

But, as you will call to mind, nearly two months' delay occurred in the beginning of 1876, owing to the printing arrangements, and then another six weeks nearly, owing to necessary retractions of certain portions.

The compilation of any cyclopædia is a hard task, but that of a Masonic Cyclopædia especially so, despite my collections and preparations, for, as you know, I have the largest collection probably of collated MS. and references of any one in England. In a Masonic Cyclopædia the difficulty, always confessedly great, is augmented by the carelessness of our own writers, who give dates which are anachronisms, references which cannot be found, and quotations which cannot be verified. I have spent many a weary half hour in finding out mistakes which ought never to have been made, and rectifying inaccuracies for which there is no excuse. I may observe here that it is a very easy thing to reprint printed matter, to "print upon" what is already before the public, or even to make up copy with printed clippings; but to transcribe a book of many hundred pages of original matter, especially when one's handwriting is not of the best, is for men of ordinary calibre like myself a very uphill task. I have, I believe, every Cyclopædia that has been written, barring an Italian one, and nothing so much strikes one, how much original work and references remain to be done in order to ensure accuracy in every respect. So on June 15th I find myself thus far safely advanced: all up to the end of G is finished and in the hands of the printers, and the letter H will soon be. I give beneath a specimen of H, which I think will convince my readers of the bona-fide character of the work. I will just add this, that it would be a pity to spoil standard Masonic work of reference by any hurry or any impatience.

I am now, as you are aware, daily working hard at the book, and I have no doubt to complete my undertaking towards the end of the year.

All I can say is to-day, to our kind friends and subscribers, if any disapprove of a delay which is quite unavoidable, they can have their subscriptions returned, but I think that they will all gain by a more careful elaboration of the work, and during the remainder of the year we can receive names of subscribers until December 31, 1876. Then the list must finally close. The large number of names we have already is a hopeful sign of the awakening interest in matters archaeological, and I trust when the Cyclopædia at last appears it will neither belie the kindly patronage of my brethren, nor disappoint their just expectations. In the meantime I recommend all those who have not subscribed for a copy to send their names to George Kenning, 198, Fleet-street, London, E.C., and I am quite certain of this, that they will all get their money's worth, and indeed a good deal more.

P.S.—The subscription price is 7s. 6d.

I am, dear Bro. Kenning, yours always fraternally,
A. F. A. WOODFORD, P.G.C.
10, Upper Porchester-street, Hyde Park-square, W.,
June 15, 1876.

H.—Kloss cites no less than nine contributions to Masonic literature under this letter.

HACHE, CHAPITRE DE LA.—Chapter of the Axe, the 32nd of the 90 grades of the Rite of Misraim.

HACK, Jacob W. B. E. Von.—(The name is also written "Haack.") was in 1762 member of the Lodge "Zur Enigkeit," in Frankfort, A.M., and from 1764 until 1766 its W.M. He was also a member of the Strict Observance. Kloss mentions two or three of his addresses, and especially one which he delivered December 27th, 1768, at the admission of Louis VIII., Landgrave of Hesse Darmstadt, when he appears to have been W.M. of the Lodge "Zu den drei Disteln," at Frankfort-on-the-Main.

HACQUET.—A French brother, formerly a "Notaire" at Port-au-Prince, and one of the founders of the General Grand Lodge of the "Rite Ancien et Accepté," in Paris, 1801. He was also a member of the Grand Orient in 1804 and 1810, and was President of the Royal Arch Chapter at Paris in 1814.

HADAMAR, P.H.—W.M. of the Lodge "Vereinigten Freunde," in Mayence, who delivered an address at the Winter St. John's, 1819.

HADLY, BENJAMIN.—An English brother present at the Special Lodge at the Hague, for the reception of the Duke of Tuscany and Lorraine, afterwards the Emperor Francis. Anderson and Entick and Noorthouck, in the Constitutions of 1738, 1756, 1784, mention the names of John Stanhope and John Hollendorff as the Wardens. Preston, however (Oliver's edition, 1861), states that Bro. Benjamin Hadly and a Dutch brother were the two Wardens on that occasion. Of him nothing more seems to be known.

HAGAR.—Bro. Dr. Oliver has used the difference as existing between the sons of Sarah and Hagar, as significant in the teaching of older Masonry of the necessity of freeborn candidates. We believe, however, that such teaching is entirely modern, and the question of freeborn (see "Freeborn") rests upon an entirely different ground, the need of which has long since passed away.

HAGGAI.—The Prophet, born in Babylon, and with Zerubabel and Joshua aided to restore and dedicate the temple at Jerusalem, B.C. 516. His name is given to the Third Principal in a Royal Arch Chapter. Curiously enough, Bro. H. Warren found his seal during his researches in Subterranean Jerusalem.

HAGUE.—The capital of Holland, called also La Haye, and Haag; in Dutch it is Gravenhage. Freemasonry was founded practically there, in 1731, by the special lodge which, under a dispensation from Lord Lovel, G.M., initiated the Duke of Tuscany and Lorraine. There is no trustworthy evidence, in our opinion, of the lodge Het Vredendal, or Frederick Vredendal, which is said to have been founded by an Englishman in 1637, some even say from 1519 to 1601, on an English warrant, though, as far as we know, no warrants were given until the 18th century. A French lodge seems to have been founded there in 1734. "Loge du Grand Maître des Provinces unies et du resort de la Généralité," at the Golden Lion at the Hague, by Vincent de la Chapelle mainly. A Dutch Lodge, was formed, it is said, in 1735, under the name of "Le Venerable Zele." There seems also about this time another lodge, termed L'Union, to have been formed by Von Dagrán, and this, and the Veritable Zele, and the Lodge La Royale, the third in order of consideration, led to the formation of the National Grand Lodge, December 25th, 1756.

HAIBER.—A French brother, who translated Kurtis's History of Pope Innocent III. Paris, 1838.

HALE.—More properly Hele. Means to cover, to conceal. It is clearly an A. Saxon word, and is derived, it has been often suggested, from the A. Saxon "Helan," which is pronounced halan, it is said, to cover or conceal. The word still is in use in the west of England, we are told, and a "hellar" is said to answer to the Latin "regulator." It has been, however, pointed out that as the word Hillyer or Hilliar is also used it may come more properly from "hilan," A.S., to conceal or cover, not helan. There is another meaning to it, which probably comes from the Saxon "hael," exemplified in the old form, "drinc hael," "waes hael," or from the old word heyle, hale, healthy. It is a word well known to Freemasons. "Hele," in the sense of conceal, was an expression in use among the old guild formulae, though the word heyle, health, was also written "hele," and is to be found in many of the guild ordinances. Some one has suggested that the word may be also a corruption of "halde," to hold fast or firm, but we prefer the more obvious, or A. Saxon use. This is one among many little indicia of the real antiquity of our usages and ritual.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF LINCOLNSHIRE.

By command of His Grace the Duke of St. Alban's, P.G.M., the annual meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Lincolnshire was held on Tuesday, 6th inst., at the Corn Exchange, Brigg, under the banner of the Anchor Lodge, No. 1282.

Rev. Samuel E. Hodgson, of Scawby, W.M., ably assisted by Bros. W. Pigott, T. Fryer, A. Field, and others, comprising the committee of management, carried out the arrangements for the convenience of the brethren, which were all that could possibly be desired. Fine weather, combined with an important list of business on the agenda paper, attracted a large attendance of the Craft, every lodge in the province being represented.

It had been proposed by the Committee of Management for the brethren to be present at Divine service in the fine old parish church before Provincial Grand Lodge was opened, but owing to the refusal of the vicar (the Rev. W. J. Wylie) to lend the edifice for such a purpose, the idea was abandoned.

The decision of the vicar (unprecedented, we imagine, in the annals of Freemasonry) is a matter of much regret, and forms subject for much comment in the Craft, both of the town and province generally.

Provincial Grand Lodge was opened in due form shortly after half-past twelve o'clock by His Grace the Duke of St. Alban's, P.G.M., supported by the following P.G. Officers:—Bros. W. H. Smyth, D.P.G.M.; Thomas Slaton, 838, P.G.S.W.; J. A. Thomas, 272,

P.G.J.W.; Rev. J. C. K. Saunders, 1286, P.G. Chap.; C. M. Nesbitt, 712, P.G. Treas.; Henry Watson, 297, P.G. Reg.; F. D. Marsden, 712, P.G. Sec.; Gerard Ford, 1286, P.G.S.D.; Alfred Parkin, 1482, Supt. of Works; T. E. Jacobson, 588, P.P.G.D. of C., as P.G.D. of C.; George Nelson, 1282, Asst. P.G.D. of C.; W. Swallow, 1447, P.G.S.B.; John Barraclough, 1386, P.G.O.; Thomas Fryer, 1282, P.G.S. (who was also Secretary of the Managing Committee); Fred Watson, 1386, P.G.S.; W. Sissons, 1447, P.G. Reg. N. and E. Yorks, P.G.S.; W. S. Bladon, 422, P.G.S.; and Benj. Box, 422, Prov. Grand Tyler.

Among the other distinguished brethren we noticed W. Bros. John Sutcliffe, P.M. 1294, P.P.G.S.W.; Jas. Fowler, P.M. 712, P.P.G.S.W.; R. J. Boyall, 362, Prov. Charity Steward; Rev. D. Acr, D.D., W.M. 1232, P.P.G. Chap.; Wm. Pigott, P.M. 1282; Rev. G. W. Lowe, 272; W. E. Howlett, P.M. 422, P.P.G. A.D. of C.; W. W. Copeland, P.M. 792, P.P.G.S.D.; Rev. T. P. Holdich, W.M. 1286; Jack Sutcliffe, W.M. 1294; Thomas Morris, P.M. 1282, P.P.G.P.; James Bellamy, P.M. 588, P.P.G.P.; Wm. Pratt, W.M. 1386; Rev. Wm. Lynes, 588, P.P.G. Reg. Stafford; P. P. Dickenson, W.M. 297; Alfred Richdale, W.M. 426, P.P.G.S.B.; Charles Smyth, W.M. 1600, P.P.G.P.; with many others too numerous to particularize.

The lodge was also honoured by the company of visiting brethren from the Britannia Lodge, 139, St. George's Lodge, 242, Alfred Lodge, 340, and Arkwright, 1495.

Letters of apology were received from Bros. W. Pooles, 838, P.G.D. of C.; Alfred Kirk, 422, P.G.P.; J. W. Palmer, 838; and W. B. Bratley, 838 Stewards.

The hymn of "Invocation" was never rendered with better effect than by the brethren assembled this day in the spacious building appropriated for the purposes of Prov. Grand Lodge, which being concluded, the roll of lodges in the province was called by the P.G. Secretary, shewing a total of 167 brethren present, every lodge in the province being represented. There are now no less than twenty lodges established in this province (just double the number which the present Provincial Grand Master found in existence on his appointment in 1863). Facilities of railway communication between the town of Brigg and the southern portions of the county being very inadequate, combined with the fact of it being market day at Alford, Spalding, Gainsborough, and Market Rasen, was no doubt the cause of a large number of brethren being absent.

The minutes of the last Provincial Grand Lodge held at Boston 10th June, 1875, and the minutes of a Provincial Grand Lodge of Emergency held at Grimsby on the 2nd August, 1875, for the purpose of laying the foundation stone of a new Masonic Hall in that town, having been read and confirmed, the Dep. P.G.M. stated that, in accordance with a resolution passed at the last Prov. Grand Lodge a handsomely illuminated address had been forwarded to H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, congratulating him on his elevation to the dignity of M.W.G.M. of England, which had been duly acknowledged in a letter to Bro. Jas. Fowler, P.P.G.W., who had been chiefly instrumental in designing the same and carrying it into execution.

The Provincial Grand Treasurer, Bro. C. M. Nesbitt, 712, then submitted his financial statement, shewing a balance in hand of £28 14s. 6d., after paying all expenses of the current year, including a donation of twenty guineas to the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls.

The Provincial Grand Secretary (Bro. F. D. Marsden, 712) delivered a report of the committee of the Prov. G. Fund of Benevolence, which sat that morning, and abstract of accounts to 27th ult., showing a balance in hand of £125 10s. 5d., besides a sum of £550 invested. This fund was established in 1863, mainly through the instrumentality of the late energetic Prov. G. Secretary, Bro. C. E. Lucas, and has been the means of relieving the aged and necessitous Mason, or his widow, in the many instances which must certainly from time to time occur in a large province like Lincolnshire.

It is very important, however, that W.M.'s of lodges, and their officers, should make themselves acquainted with the rules under which this Fund of Benevolence is distributed.

Like the recipients of the Grand Lodge Fund of Benevolence, no petitioner is entitled to relief from this fund unless he (or her husband, father, or brother, as the case may be) has been for at least two years a subscribing member to a regular lodge in the province, and it was with feelings of extreme regret that the committee felt it their duty that day to throw out petitions from two lodges on behalf of their Tyler and Tyler's widow on the score of informality, one not having been a subscribing member, and the other petition not having been forwarded to the Prov. G. Secretary in time to be placed on the summons.

A petition was presented by the Pelham Pillar Lodge, 792, on behalf of Mrs. Black, whose husband was unfortunately drowned at Dieppe in November last in the execution of his duty as an engineer, leaving her with a family of four young children, all under the age of seven years, totally unprovided for. This being an extreme case, the committee felt it their duty to send a recommendation to Prov. Grand Lodge that the sum of £25 be awarded.

The committee had then proceeded to discuss the offer made to them last year by the committee and subscribers of the "Oliver Memorial Fund," and which was then left in obedience, viz.: That the sum already received for the Oliver Memorial Fund, amounting to nearly £200, should be presented to the Prov. Grand Lodge of Lincolnshire, to be vested in and become part of the Prov. Grand Lodge Benevolent Fund, on condition that Prov. Grand Lodge will endeavour to raise a further sum, say of £200 at the least, such amount to be invested on good security, and termed "The Oliver Memorial Fund," subject to certain rules and regulations to be afterwards named.

After considerable discussion, the Chairman, Bro. W. H. Smyth, D.P.G.M., suggested that the sum of £1000

would secure the right of presentation to the Boys' School once in every three years, and proposed that a recommendation be given to Prov. Grand Lodge that the offerings of the brethren of the province during the coming year should be devoted to the attainment of this object in connection with the Oliver Memorial Fund, so that there might always be an "Oliver boy" in the school, thus keeping alive the memory of that worthy and learned Mason, of whom this province has so much reason to be proud.

Bro. Chapman, W.M. 1294, proposed as an amendment that Provincial Grand Lodge be recommended to give its support during the ensuing year to the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys.

Bro. J. Sutcliffe, P.M. 1294, P.P.G.S.W., here gave some interesting statistics respecting the voting power of the province, and the ever increasing difficulties in securing a candidate's election for either of the schools, after which the amendment was put to the meeting and lost, the proposition of the chairman being carried almost unanimously.

Bro. Chapman, W.M. 1294, then proposed, and Bro. Jas. Robinson, W.M. 792, seconded, "That the Provincial Grand Lodge be recommended to give one hundred guineas out of the Provincial Grand Lodge Benevolent Fund of Lincolnshire in aid of the charity selected this year to receive the support of the province, which was carried unanimously.

Bro. H. Watson, P.G. Reg., gave some interesting statistics relating to the fund at the disposal of this committee, shewing that since its formation in 1865 the grants to petitioners had been equal to the annual income received, independently of the interest arising from monies at first invested, and (while advocating the practice of a liberal charity as far as possible) strongly deprecated the idea of touching the invested fund.

The report of the committee having received the unanimous approval of the brethren,

The Provincial Grand Registrar, Bro. H. Watson, gave the return from the various lodges during the past years shewing a total increase of forty-two members, as against an increase of forty-one members in 1874. The tables were drawn up very carefully and accurately, shewing that Bro. Watson was quite at home in his work, and the province may be congratulated on having such an efficient officer. One additional lodge, the Hamilton, 1600, had also been constituted in March last, whose returns would not be sent in until December next.

Bro. Radley, 838, P.P.G.S.W. and Sec. to the Provincial Charity Committee, was called upon by the P.G.M. to read his annual report, but said that, owing to pressure of business that day and the late arrivals of the trains at Brigg, the committee had not yet met. He should be happy to submit his report to the committee at Boston on the 27th inst., due notice of which would be given.

Bro. R. J. Boyall, P.M. 362, Prov. Charity Steward, then presented a list of subscriptions collected by him last year from the brethren of the province in aid of the fund of the R.M.I. for Girls, amounting to £564 14s., and presented at the festival in May last. He tendered his sincere thanks to the brethren for the kind assistance they had given him in his work.

A vote of thanks was unanimously accorded to Bro. Boyall for his exertions as Provincial Charity Steward of 1875, on the subsequent motion of the W. Dep. G.M.

Bro. Chapman, W.M. 1294, proposed, on behalf of Bro. Jno. Sutcliffe, 1294 (who, we regret to say, had met with an accident during the course of the morning), "That the sum of one hundred guineas be given out of the P.G. Benevolent Fund to the charity selected by the province for general support during the ensuing year.

At this stage of the proceedings Bro. Sutcliffe entered the lodge, and having taken his place on the dais amidst the acclamations of the brethren, seconded the proposition, which, having been recommended by the Committee of the Fund of Benevolence, was carried nem. con.

The P.G. Secretary asked permission to print a new edition of the P.G. Bye-laws, and suggested that a copy should be presented to every officer on his appointment to P.G. Lodge, which was granted.

Bro. Weston, P.G. Treasurer, proposed, and Bro. Rev. D. Ace, D.D., W.M. 1232, and P.P.G. Chap., seconded, "That Bro. James Fowler, P.M. 712, P.P.G.S.W., be elected Provincial Grand Charity Steward for the ensuing year, and that the special object for the consideration and charity of the Province should be the "Oliver Memorial Fund."

His Grace the Duke of St. Alban's, P.G.M., said, before putting this resolution to the meeting, he thought it might be convenient if the brethren were informed of the extent and nature of the proposed "Oliver Memorial," and asked the P.G. Registrar to shadow forth, as far as might be, the purpose to which the contributions of the brethren were to be devoted. This would much strengthen the hands of the Charity Steward, as the brethren would feel more confidence in subscribing when they knew simply to what purpose the fund was to be applied.

Bro. H. Watson, 297, P.G. Reg., stated, in reply, that this fund was started immediately after the death of their revered brother, Bro. Dr. Oliver. The brethren deemed it expedient that a substantial sum should be raised, and a fitting memorial obtained, so that the name of that great and good man should be handed down to posterity, and some recognition made of his numerous works and great services on behalf of Masonry. Acting upon this suggestion, Bro. Richard Hall, P. Prov. G.S.W., and Dr. Harrison, P.P.G.J.W., who was at that time W.M. of the Witham Lodge, started a subscription, but which, after an expenditure of nearly £20 for advertisements, printing, and postage, resulted in a nett sum of £200 odd. This not being a sufficient sum to procure a fitting memorial to so revered a brother, it was decided that the fund should be increased, and assimilate itself with Prov. Grand Lodge.

Dr. Oliver being peculiarly associated with this province, it was thought desirable that the fund should be taken out of the hands of the Oliver Memorial Committee and placed under the control of Prov. Grand Lodge, so that a suitable tribute might be paid to the memory of so good a Mason. It was ultimately resolved that the £200 which had been already subscribed should be presented to Prov. Grand Lodge on condition that they endeavoured to raise a sum of at least £200 in addition. At the last meeting of Prov. Grand Lodge Benevolent Fund, and after considerable discussion, it was resolved that the Oliver Memorial Fund should be supported, and the W.D.P.G.M. shadowed forth a plan which met with the entire concurrence of all present. It was that the Provincial Grand Lodge should accept the £200 subscribed, as a nucleus, and then grant £100 in addition from the Benevolent Fund. Then if this £300 were supplemented by another £700 in the province, it would make £1000, which, if presented to the Boys' School, would entitle the province in perpetuity to present a boy annually (?) for admission into that institution. (Applause.) Such boy would be termed the "Oliver Memorial Boy." (Renewed applause.) This would show their love for one who had done so much for Masonry, not only in Lincolnshire, but throughout the whole world. When he looked at the register and found no less than 784 subscribing brethren in the province, he thought that if this matter were thoroughly taken up by the Masters and Secretaries of lodges there would be no difficulty in raising the £1000. If this were done it would be a permanent benefit to the province, and also a fitting memorial to the name of Dr. Oliver. (Applause.)

The motion having been put to the meeting was carried with applause.

Bro. Thomas Slaton, 838, P.G.S.W., proposed, and Bro. Watson, P.G. Reg., seconded "The re-election of Bro. Chas. Michell Nesbitt, 712, as P.G. Treas. for the ensuing year." This was carried unanimously, and Bros. Fowler and Griffin were again elected auditors of the Provincial Grand Lodge accounts.

The Provincial Grand Master then proceeded to invest the following officers for the ensuing year:—

*Wor. Bro. Major W. H. Smyth, Elkington Hall, D.P.G.M.; Wm. Pigott, 1282, P.P.G. Charity Steward, P.G.S.W.; Fred Watson, 1386, P.G.J.W.; Rev. G. W. Lowe, 272, P.G. Chaplain; *C. M. Nesbitt, 712, P.G. Treas.; *H. Watson, 297, P. G. Reg.; *F. D. Marsden, 712, P.G. Sec.; Jack Sutcliffe, 1294, P.G. S.D.; James Robinson, 792, P.G.J.D.; E. Chamberlain, 1232, P.G.S. of W.; George Nelson, 1282, P.G. D. of C.; Robert Nicholson, 1304, P.G. Assist. D. of C.; W. S. Bladon, 422, P.G.S.B.; W. Mason, 297, P.G.O.; J. Queenborough, 272, P.G.P.; F. Goodhand, 712, P.G. Steward; H. Sharpe, 1304, P.G. Steward; E. R. Dibben, 588, P.G. Steward; E. E. Jevons, 1286, P.G. Steward; A. Field, 1282, P.G. Steward; H. Smith, 272, P.G. Steward; *Benj. Box, 422, P.G. Tyler.

Those marked * have held the same office before.

Bro. Jas. Robinson, W.M. 792, the newly-appointed P.G.J.D., on behalf of the Pelham Pillar Lodge invited P.G. Lodge to visit Grimsby in 1878. The invitation was warmly supported by Bro. Chapman, W.M. 1294, on behalf of the St. Alban's Lodge, and met with a ready acquiescence from His Grace the R.W.P.G.M.

The D.P.G.M. also mentioned that he had received an invitation from the Hundred of Ellor Lodge at Spalding, and His Grace promised that, though no decided answer could be given now, yet the kind invitations should receive due and careful consideration.

The Dep. P.G.M. announced that the next Provincial Grand Lodge would be held under the banner of the Olive Union Lodge, 1304, at Horncastle.

Bro. Jas. Fowler, the newly-appointed Grand Steward for the Oliver Memorial Fund, rose to thank the brethren for the honour they had done him in electing him, and expressed the hope that they would assist him to the utmost, seeing that the object to be obtained, viz., a permanent presentation to the Boys' School, would be to the honour as well as the great benefit of the province. He assured them that while the smallest contributions would be thankfully received, he should not refuse the larger ones.

Bro. T. E. Jacobson, of Sleaford, suggested that, as it was inconvenient for many of the brethren at the extreme limits of the county to come so great a distance to Prov. Grand Lodges, it should be a matter for consideration whether two meetings should not be held each year, one for the northern and another for the southern divisions.

In replying, His Grace the R.W.P.G.M. said he would do his best to consult the wishes of the brethren, but could not help thinking that one of the great advantages of this meeting was that it brought together the brethren from the north and from the south, and he personally should be very sorry if there was one meeting for the south and another for the north. Before closing, he wished to say a few words in respect of the Ancholme Lodge, which was comparatively a new one. He felt that the brethren from a distance must consider that they had been most loyally and well received by the fraternity at Brigg, whose arrangements for the Prov. Grand Lodge had been simply admirable. (Applause.)

The lodge was then closed in due form, and the brethren adjourned to a banquet provided by Mr. Kirkham, of the Angel Hotel, and served in a magnificent marquee, obtained from Mr. Fussey, of Hull. The chair was occupied by the R.W.P.G.M., and the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured, the brethren separating at an early hour.

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A SERMON

PREACHED IN CROYDON PARISH CHURCH BY THE REV. C. W. ARNOLD, GRAND CHAPLAIN, TO THE BRETHREN OF THE PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF SURREY.

"According to the grace of God which is given unto me, as a wise Master Builder, I have laid the foundation, and another buildeth thereon. But let every man take heed how he buildeth thereupon. For other foundations can no man lay than that is laid which is Jesus Christ."—1 Cor. iii. 11. The Apostle St. Paul is very fond of introducing into his writings allusions taken from the various occupations of the nations to whom he wrote. Thus we find him referring to the great national games of Greece, boxing, racing, and wrestling, for which the most careful training was required, and from which the Apostle draws a moral lesson applicable to the Church to which he was writing. In the present chapter he draws his similitude from gardening and building. He commences by speaking of himself as planting; Apollon, who succeeded him, as watering the plants he had already reared. But suddenly he changes his figures with the words, "Ye are God's husbandry, ye are God's building;" doubtless the latter word brought back to his mind the glorious buildings of Corinth, a city renowned throughout the world as the place where one of the most beautiful orders of architecture (the Corinthian) took its origin, and so, as usual, a single word changed the current of his thoughts, and in working out the new idea he proceeds, in the words of my text, and how beautiful, how grand is his conception of the Christian Church. God, the Great Architect, marked out the plan (formed in his mind before the creation of the world). The Apostle, as a wise master builder, and therefore selected for the most important work, laid the foundation. Other hands, not necessarily so skilful, were called on to complete the building, and so the stately fabric rose, the work, no doubt, of many hands, but one master-mind controlled them all, so that unity of design pervaded the whole edifice. This was the reason for the Apostle's advice. The unity of the Church was in danger, and he wrote to the Corinthians to rebuke them for their divisions and quarrels. And if we examine into the similitude he uses, how well does a building illustrate the unity that ought to exist in a brotherhood or church. Just as each stone in a building has its suitable place in its own course, so each member has his relative position assigned to him according to his talents; and as each stone is firmly cemented to the rest, so should each brother be united to those on either side of him (as well as those in the courses above and below) by a close bond of friendship. The courses of stones represent the different orders and ranks of men, and just as the effect of a building is spoiled by any inequality of surface, so a brother who puts himself out of his proper position mars that unanimity which ought to exist throughout the community. Again, the fact that each stone is supported by those on either side and those below, calls to our mind the words of St. Paul, "Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ." It inculcates the great doctrine of brotherly love, to support a brother in his laudable undertakings, to be swift of foot to preserve him from sorrow or suffering, to give him material aid in the time of distress, to remember his wants in our daily supplications, to bear him, as it were, upon our breast, and care for his interest and that of those dependent upon him, asking the Most High to provide for him even as for ourselves, to give him sound advice in time of difficulty, and to support his character in his absence as well as in his presence. And as each stone should clearly bear the impress of the chisel upon its surface, and be free from any flaw or defect, coated over or concealed by any foreign substance, so should the character of each member be stamped by sincerity and truth, and shine forth undisguised by hypocrisy or deceit of any kind. Thus should truth, brotherly love, and unanimity be the distinguishing features of every brotherhood. Notice carefully the humility of the Apostle. He calls himself, indeed, a wise Master Builder, but he takes no credit to himself; whatever he was, it was God's doing. He says, "According to the grace of God which is given me I have laid the foundation." All the glory is given to God, for St. Paul never forgot that he was once Saul the Persecutor, and that it was only by the direct interposition of God that he became Paul, the chosen Apostle. He worked entirely by God's direction; he taught entirely by God's revelation. How strongly does he urge this in the 1st chapter of his Epistle to the Galatians. The building was God's, and if he were the Master Builder, it was God's grace that made him so and gave him the ability. Here then, we can each learn a lesson. We have all got God's work to do; we are all called in some degree or other to build for God, to be God's Masons. Let us then learn the lesson of humility, not boasting for fear we should presume and fall, but giving God all the glory if He has thought fit to make us "labourers together with God," and asking him to give us grace sufficient to enable us to carry out his work so as to merit his approval, and so that it may stand the test in the day of trial, to which the Apostle alludes a few verses further on. Notice secondly the importance the Apostle gives to the foundation, "other foundations can no man lay than that is laid which is Jesus Christ." In his Sermon on the Mount our Lord points out the necessity of a solid foundation in his parable of the wise man who built upon the rock, and the foolish man who built upon the sand, and in his conversation with St. Peter it was the confession that Jesus Christ was the Son of God, which our Lord declared to be that rock on which he would build His church, for as this same Apostle stated before the Jewish Council "there is none other name given among man whereby we must be saved." This, then, was the foundation laid by the Apostle: this was the

doctrine on which he founded every church he planted, viz.: Salvation in Christ crucified, through the grace of God, and justification by faith as the means, a faith proved to be genuine by its producing as its fruit good works in accordance with the will of God. But, says the Apostle, "let every man take heed how he buildeth thereupon." The foundation may be good, but unless the superstructure be also sound, the building will come to ruin. The material must be sound, and the cement perfect: there must be perfect symmetry in every part of the work, and fair proportion. What, then, is the lesson the Apostle wishes to convey but this? that just as each successive workman carries out the plan of the architect, under the superintendence of the master builder, so each teacher in Christ's Church must take care that his doctrine accords with the foundation laid down by the Apostle lest he mar the work and spoil God's building. As I remarked before, each of us is called in some degree to build for God, and to aid in rearing His church on earth. Each father, each brother, each mother, each sister, by actual instruction, or by the force of example, becomes a builder—a good one or an evil one according as each carries out the will of God. Let each, then, apply this to himself, let each ask the questions, "Am I taking heed how I build thereupon? Do I, by my words and actions, beautify God's Church? Is my conduct measured by the rule of rectitude? Are my actions squared by the principles of morality? Are my words, and even my very thoughts, kept within the compass of propriety? Do I look to Christ alone as the foundation, building all my hopes on Him, and humbly trying to follow in His steps?" Put these questions to yourselves with all sincerity, and may God, in His mercy, grant that each of you may be a faithful builder. But I should not work out this subject fully without referring to the parallel passage in the Epistle to the Ephesians. At Ephesus was the most beautiful temple in existence, celebrated by heathen writers, as one of the seven wonders of the world, and dedicated to the heathen goddess. In allusion to this beautiful building, the Apostle says (Ch. II. 16 p.) "Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the Saints and of the household of God; and are built upon the foundation of the Apostles and Prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone, in whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto an holy temple in the Lord; in whom ye also are built together for an habitation of God through the Spirit." When St. Paul says, "Build on the foundation of the Apostles and Prophets," is this passage at variance with my text? Certainly not. He does not mean that the Apostles and Prophets are the foundation in themselves, but that the Ephesians are built on the Apostles' and Prophets' foundation, i.e., the foundation on which the Apostles and Prophets themselves were built, and this was none other than Christ. Thus, when analysed, one passage illustrates the other, and both teach the same doctrine. But he goes on to say that Christ is also the chief corner stone. What, then, does he mean by this? There are two interpretations, and from each we learn the same lesson. Our Lord applied to Himself the words of the Psalmist, "The stone which the builders rejected the same is become the head of the corner;" and tradition says that at the building of the Temple a particular stone was rejected again and again as unsuitable, until at last it was put in the important position of chief corner stone, which binds the whole building firmly together. Or by chief corner stone may be meant that important stone, which, carefully set with square, level, and plumb rule, stands up at the corner to guide the builders, and from which all measurements are taken. But take which ever of these interpretations you like, and the teaching is the same, viz., that Christ is to be the foundation and Christ the crowning stone to which all others must be subservient. God's Temple, i.e., His Church, is founded in Christ and perfected in Christ; each Apostle and holy Prophet is built into it as a separate stone; the building thus fitly framed groweth into an holy temple in the Lord; into this same temple each Christian is built, and the whole edifice is a habitation of God by the indwelling of His Holy Spirit. If we are to be built into this holy temple of God we must be sound and living stones, not moss-eaten and decaying ones, or else when the Architect comes to view the building he will order such bad material to be removed and thrown away as useless rubbish. "Know ye not," says the Apostle, "that you are the Temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you? If any man defile the Temple of God, him will God destroy, for the Temple of God is holy, which temple ye are." Each Christian is a part of God's Temple (the Church) and so must be holy; but still further each ought to be in himself a separate Temple of God in which his spirit dwells. Here, then, we have (if possible) even a stronger inducement to personal holiness, lest we grieve His Spirit and drive Him from us. Oh let us ever cherish this precious gift of the indwelling Spirit, for "without holiness no man can see God." We are not our own. We are God's by creation; Christ's by redemption, the Spirit's by sanctification. Thus we belong to each person of the Holy Trinity for the work that they have done for us. Let us then resign ourselves entirely to their will; let us give up all sensual pleasures, all earthly lusts, and strive after holiness. Let our aim be to be counted worthy of a place in God's Temple here, that being gradually assimilated by the sanctifying influence of the Spirit into the likeness of Christ, we may hereafter be translated into His kingdom above, there to shine as precious stones in that holy temple not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. Having thus examined into the meaning of the text, I would now pass on to apply it to show that the only temple which can stand is the one founded on Christ. We read this afternoon in our first lesson (I. Kings IX.) of the acceptance by God of the beautiful building which Solomon erected, and how He promised to "put His name there for ever, and that His

eyes and His heart should be there perpetually;" but at the same time He threatened that if the people forsook Him and served other Gods, He "would cast Israel out of the land which He had given them, and this house which He had hallowed for His name he would cast out of His sight." Everything in the worship of the Jews looked forward to the coming of Christ; the sacrifice was a type of Christ; the shewbread was a type of Christ; the High Priest both in dress and office was a type of Christ, in fact the whole service was typical of Christ, and the visible glory of God filled the temple. But the Jews were not careful to continue to build thereupon and fell into idolatry, and so after repeated warnings God carried his threat into execution. The temple was destroyed, and the Jews were carried away to Babylon; after a time they were restored to their land again, and a second temple rose where the first temple stood. It did not indeed like the first contain the visible glory of God, but when the fullness of time was come, and God sent his Son into the world, Jesus, the son of God, himself frequented that temple and brought to it by His presence even greater glory than the first ever enjoyed. But a second time the people seemed beyond the hope of pardon. They "rejected the Holy One and the just, and preferred a wanderer;" before Pilate they cried, "His blood be on us and on our children." God heard that cry, and as they refused to recognise and accept the Messiah, so he destroyed their temple utterly, scattered them into every part of the world, and to the present day they are a living testimony of the truth of God's word, existing as a separate people, yet utterly unable to carry out the rites of their religion. The Jewish religion, the law, was in itself perfect, a pure system of morality; but man in his fallen state could not fulfil it, and by it alone could none attain salvation; thus as St. Paul says "the law is our schoolmaster to bring us to Christ, that we might be justified by faith," and not by works. The new covenant could not be justified upon the old, the Gospel upon the law, as our Lord showed by the parable of the new wine in old bottles, and the new patch upon the old garment. Thus the law came to an end together with the temple, for when the temple was destroyed it was impossible to fulfil the law. And now, brethren, let us apply the subject more closely to ourselves as Freemasons. We are bound together to observe a pure system of morality, veiled in allegory and illustrated by symbols. We are taught to look on everything by which we are surrounded in life as reminding us of some duty and conveying some moral lesson, and nothing can be more perfect in moral teaching than the charges delivered in our lodges. Above all, Masonry directs us to the Bible as the great light which will guide us into all truth, directs our steps in the paths of happiness, and teaches us the whole duty of man. What, then, is the teaching of God's Word? That no system of morality, however pure, can save a man. No temple, however stately, however beautiful, can be perfect and stand the test which God will apply to it, unless it is founded on Christ. Be careful then, I exhort you, not to trust in Masonry as if it could save you by itself, but lay Christ as your foundation, place all your hope of existence with God in the merits of his atonement, look for justification by faith in Him, and let your sincerity be proved by the holy life you lead. Look to Him for strength to help you through his holy spirit dwelling in you, and seek for the gift of that spirit by diligent prayer and participation in the sacraments. Look on Masonry only as a help to guide you on your path of Christian duty, as echoing the Apostle's advice, that denying ungodliness and worldly lusts we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in the present world," looking forward to that great day when Masonry and all other human institutions will have passed away, and we shall behold the Most High as he is in his temple not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. Our blessed Saviour whilst upon earth was constantly employed in rendering assistance to suffering man. We can scarcely turn over a single page of the Gospels without reading some miracle of healing, or some instance of love shown by words of comfort and sympathy to fellow creatures in the time of trouble and distress. The test that he ordained of being true disciples was that of love, "as I have loved you that you should love one another." If then, my brethren, you belong to the temple of God and rest on the foundations of Jesus Christ, I appeal to you today to give a tangible proof of this by your Christian love. I ask you to contribute towards the funds of the Croydon Hospital. It is a noble institution which needs no words of recommendation of mine, and one which has year by year been increasing in usefulness. Nearly 4000 cases of suffering were last year relieved, and as the population increases in these parts so rapidly, in all probability the calls upon it in the present year will be still greater. It depends wholly on charity, and has dispensed even more than its income in hope of increased support. Brethren, I need not use many words to urge you to be liberal to-day. As Christians I ask you to think of all the mercies for which you have reason to be thankful, and to express your gratitude by giving back to Him, who gave you all, some thank-offering for health and strength, some recognition of His love. As Masons you are doubly pledged to liberality, and should show the genuineness of your principles by your willingness to extend your charity to your fellow creatures in the hour of suffering and distress. You have many reasons for thankfulness which I cannot mention now, but I urge you to give to-day not a coin carelessly or hastily bestowed out of your abundance, but to consider carefully the recipient and the cause. Recollect you give not only to the blind, the lame, the sick, the suffering, but even to Christ himself; and the day is drawing near when the gift now liberally bestowed will be acknowledged by Him in the presence of His Father, and will cause one more gem to sparkle in the crown which you hope to receive in the realms of happiness above.

CONSECRATION OF THE SOUTHERN STAR LODGE, INSTRUCTION, No. 1158.

Another of those extremely useful adjuncts of Freemasonry, yelet Lodges of Instruction, has been added to the southern district of the metropolitan circle by the inauguration at the Crown Hotel, Blackfriars-road, of a lodge under the warrant of the Southern Star, 1158.

The further extension of the means of obtaining Masonic instruction is always a matter for congratulation to the Masonic world at large, and that the present instance was recognised as a boon to a large section of brethren inhabiting the neighbourhood was evinced by the numerous assemblage of brethren who met to assist in the opening of the new lodge. Situated as it is within but a few minutes' walk from the foot of Blackfriars Bridge, it is easy of access from the City, while tram-cars passing the house afford the best possible means of communication to the southern suburbs.

Within a few minutes of the time appointed Bro. Terry assumed the chair, having for his Wardens Bros. Wise and A. Wright, P.M.'s of the parent lodge; G. Macdonald, W.M. 1158, as D.C.; Burr, 1158, Org.; and Beavis, 1158, as acting Sec.; and amongst the brethren present we noticed Bros. C. J. Hogg, P.G.S., P.M. 58; G. W. F. Loftus, P.P.J.G.W. Middx, 1193; J. Wright and Towers, P.M.'s; Stewart, I.G.; Fortune, D.C.; Holland, W.S.; and Bros. Brady, Beavis, Wilks, F. H. Smith, Parker, Holloway, Austin, Wills, Freeman, Melloy, and Bullock, 1158; Ernest Smith, 1559; D. Rose, P.M. 73; Gordon, Rutter, and Taylor, 753; Vincent, P.M. 666; Leader, 1275; H. Shaw, D.C. 834; Jenkins, 1475; Catterson, 548; Goddard, 186; Kent, P.M. 879; T. Wingham, P.M. 25; Nott, J.D. 87; Fellowes, 871; W. Stewart, 141; Brown, 511; Downey, 186; and several others, in all exceeding sixty.

The lodge having been opened in the three degrees, Bro. Terry proceeded to rehearse the ceremony of consecration as followed in consecrating a regular lodge.

The lodge being duly consecrated, Bro. Terry proceeded to instal Bro. Macdonald, W.M. of the parent lodge, into the chair of K.S., who appointed and invested his officers as follows:—Bros. Walter, S.W.; Allen, J.W.; Wise, Treas.; Beavis, Sec.; S. Smith, S.D.; Heffer, J.D.; Stewart, I.G.; and Stead, Tyler. The usual addresses to the W.M., Wardens, and brethren were given in a manner that invoked the high encomiums of all present. The work of the lodge being ended, Bro. Terry was unanimously elected the first honorary member of the lodge, and the brethren present resolved nem. con. to constitute themselves the Southern Star Lodge of Instruction.

Bro. J. Walter having been elected unanimously W.M. for the ensuing Thursday, appointed his officers in rotation.

Lodge was closed in due form, and the brethren adjourned to a cold collation, presided over by the W.M. of the mother lodge, Bro. Govan Macdonald.

After the cloth had been cleared, the W.M. briefly introduced the usual loyal and Masonic toasts. The toast of the evening, "Prosperity to the Southern Star Lodge of Instruction," was then proposed by Bro. Wise, I.P.M. 1158, the original promoter of the lodge of instruction, who spoke at some length on the utility and importance of such institutions. Coupled with the toast were the names of the W.M. and Bro. Pulsford, the Preceptor, the former of whom, in replying, called the brethren's attention to the fact that God helps those who help themselves, and he was convinced that those who sought the instruction they needed and required in this lodge would find it at the hands of the Preceptor, Bro. P.M. Pulsford. The latter, in rising, endorsed all that the Worshipful Master had said.

The W.M. next proposed "The Health of Bro. Terry, the Consecrating Officer."

Bro. Terry, in replying, expressed his gratification at having been of some little service to the brethren of the Southern Star Lodge that evening, and in one of his forcible and characteristic addresses urged the brethren that while they were seeking a knowledge of the beautiful ceremonies of the Craft not to overlook the brightest ornament that adorned it—charity.

The toast of "The Promoter of the Lodge, Bro. Wise, I.P.M. 1158," was then given by the W.M., and duly responded to, and after "The Officers of the Evening" and "The Host," Bro. Block had been similarly honoured, the Tyler's toast brought this very successful meeting to an agreeable termination.

We had well nigh omitted to mention that the musical portion of the ceremony, under the able direction of Bro. Burr, was all that could be desired, and the members of the Southern Star Lodge of Instruction may be congratulated upon the success of their first meeting.

Reviews.

"THE ROYAL MASONIC CYCLOPEDIA." By Bro. K. R. H. Mackenzie.—Bro. J. Hogg.

In the interests of Masonic study and archaeology we welcome all efforts to elucidate Masonic terms, or to harmonize Masonic discrepancies, which are many. Bro. Mackenzie, who is proceeding with his work in monthly numbers, has put out—Bro. J. Hogg, being his publisher—another number of his work. He now has reached N. For those who interest themselves in the abstruse speculations of so called theosophic Masonry, or the Hebrew Cabala, or Kabbalah, Bro. Mackenzie offers much of information and dwells more largely on such topics than any other writer we know of. His article on "Goetia," will be also full of novelty for some.

THE VICAR OF BRIGG AND THE FREEMASONS.

The following letter was addressed to the editor of the "Hull and Lincolnshire Times":—

Sir,—You gave in your last issue an accurate report of the proceedings of the Freemasons at Brigg on the 6th inst., at the Lincolnshire provincial meeting. It is generally understood that the objects of the fraternity are the promotion of benevolence, morality—in a word, every charitable feeling and practice, and every Christian and moral virtue. On this occasion, as several clergymen belong to the Order, it was desired by some of the members, as was the case at Peterborough Cathedral the week prior to the last, and some time since at York Minster, to have a service at Brigg Church; but the vicar, the Rev. W. J. Wylie, M.A., claiming a gift of penetration beyond his clerical brethren, discovered such infidelity or expansion of religious views among Freemasons as to refuse them the privilege of the worst of sinners—pessimism—to join, as Freemasons, in his Church at Brigg (which, by-the-bye, is a National Church), in the service of prayer and praise, and declined to allow one of the Grand Chaplains of their Order, a duly ordained minister of the Church of England, as well as Mr. Wylie, and whose teaching must conform to the articles and liturgy of the Church of England, to address Freemasons on their religious and moral duties in his church, or rather the Church of England, at Brigg. Furthermore, it may be stated as authentic that one of the sidesmen of Brigg Church, an influential resident in that town, aided the vicar by his influence and purse, very recently, to place a peal of bells in the tower of Brigg Church, and this gentleman is well known to be the leading Freemason in the town of Brigg; and the Master of the Freemasons' lodge at Brigg, at the present time, is a neighbouring clergyman, Mr. Wylie's equal in ability, moral conduct, orthodoxy, and piety. Now, can there be a more wanton exhibition of the absence of brotherly love, or a more tyrannical aggression on the rights of the laity, than to exclude them from the service of common prayer, the prescribed ritual of our National Church? Such an assumption of power as to exclude, or rather excommunicate, both priest and people from the services of the Church of England is to reach the acme of petty popedom in England, and to set up a capricious clerical test as the condition of public worship. As a benefited clergyman of the Church of England, and a doctor of divinity of both English Universities, I record my protest against this audacious yet puerile aggression on the rights of conscience and the principles of civil and religious liberty. Such drivelling sentimentalism, evinced in action by tyrannical authority, only rouses the laity to personal indignation, and leads some to argue, however illogically, for the disestablishment of the Anglican Church, which, in common with others, I so strongly deprecate. Let the Pope of Rome, if his Holiness please, place Freemasonry, as he does the Church of England, under his ban. We require not, but rather protest against, any mawkish imitation of the decrees of the Vatican, with respect to Masonry or other matters, from any clergyman who eats the bread, and ministers in the church, of the British Reformation.—I am, Sir, yours obediently.

DANIEL ACE, D.D.

FREEMASONS AND THE DRAMA.

The Masonic body has on various occasions of late been made the medium in Devonshire for appeals in aid of charitable objects. It recently occurred to a brother or brethren that there were sufficient Masons in the neighbourhood fond of appearing on the stage to form a histrionic club, and that Masonic patronage might be counted on if the proceeds of the entertainments were given to charitable objects. Several brethren rallied promptly to the suggestion, and the formation of the club was recently announced.

This week the members make their debut at the Plymouth Theatre Royal, and have selected on the present occasion for their aid the Royal British Female Orphan Asylum at Stoke, and the Royal Masonic Boys' School in London. Last evening the first performance was given, and conspicuous among the audience was a liberal gathering of brethren in full Masonic dress, which had been requested. The performances were opened with a prologue written and spoken by Major Shanks. Its special appeal to "the brethren of the mystic tie" and its compliment.

"Ladies, I need make no appeal to you,

For in your hearts you all are Masons true,"

drew warm applause. The pieces for the evening were Dion Boucault's drama "The Colleen Bawn," followed by "Jeremy Diddler." In the drama the principal parts were taken by Messrs. Curteis, Hardress Cregan; J. Rendle, Kyrle Daly; W. H. Pike, Myles-na-Coppaleen; Lucas, R.M., Danny Man; and Twose, Father Tom; with the aid of lady professionals. The piece passed off smoothly and with very few hitches, and that this should be so, when given by an amateur company on the first occasion of its members playing together, was highly creditable. The racy Irish pathos and fun that have enabled that drama to be played for dozens of nights together at the same theatre with success could not be expected under the circumstances. Jeremy Diddler had the marked advantage of having Mr. J. R. Newcombe in one of his stock characters, given with his usual ability, and afforded much amusement. On Friday "The Ticket of Leave Man" and "Raising the Wind" was performed. With the advantage of further histrionic culture and acquaintance with stage business, the club will doubtless increase in attraction, especially if playing at a more popular period of the year for theatrical performers.—"Western Morning News."

A concert in aid of the benevolent funds and charities connected with the Torbay Lodge, No. 1358, and in commemoration of the safe return to his native land of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W. Grand Master of Freemasons, was given on Tuesday, June 6th, at the Royal Bijou Theatre, Paignton. The brethren of the neighbourhood mustered in large numbers, wearing Masonic clothing, a dispensation having been granted by the Provincial Grand Master, Rev. J. Huyshe. A festival cantata formed the first part of the concert, the words selected from Psalms 121 and 125, the music composed by the Organist of the lodge, Bro. T. Brooks, R.A.M. (formerly Organist of St. Alban's Abbey). The composer conducted, and the solos and recitations were very ably rendered by Miss Brooks, the Rev. W. H. Butlin, and the Rev. W. Watkins. A choir of upwards of thirty voices sang the choruses very effectively, and the whole work was received with warm approbation by a large and critical audience, the earnest feelings of all being thoroughly moved by the appropriate verses from Psalm 121, in the concluding portion, "The Lord shall preserve thy going out, and thy coming in, from this time forth, for evermore. Hallelujah!" "My help cometh from the Lord, who hath made heaven and earth. Hallelujah! Amen." The second part was a miscellaneous selection. The songs—"The Raft," Rev. W. Watkins; "Tom Bowling," Rev. W. H. Butlin; "Soft melody, thy kindly voice," and "The Mermaid," Miss Brooks—were deservedly encored, the two latter being very skilfully accompanied on the violin by Bro. A. H. Dendy, whose beautiful instrument was heard to great advantage in the cantata, and throughout the programme. The part singing by the choir was much admired, "Spring with fairy foot" being encored. The finale, "God Bless the Prince of Wales," was sung with hearty zeal, bringing this successful concert to a conclusion, and it is a pleasure to be able to state that the result of this loyal and fraternal meeting will be a considerable augmentation of the charitable funds of the lodge.

The Prince of Wales (who has recovered from his recent illness) visited the Horse Show at the Alexandra Park on Wednesday. His Royal Highness arrived at twenty minutes past one o'clock. The Prince met with an enthusiastic reception. After déjeuner his Royal Highness witnessed a leaping competition. It is expected that he will leave on Saturday for Sandown Park.

The amount of contributions to the Hospital Sunday Fund received at the Mansion House to Wednesday evening exceeded £13,000.

Bro. Sir Edward Lee has had the honour of being presented to H.R.H. the Prince of Wales by His Grace the Duke of Beaufort.

METROPOLITAN MASONIC MEETINGS.

For the Week ending Friday, June 30, 1876.

The Editor will be glad to receive notice from Secretaries of Craft Lodges, Royal Arch Chapters, Mark Lodges, Preceptories, Conclaves, &c., of any change in place or time of meeting.

SATURDAY, JUNE 24.

Lodge 1541, Alexandra Palace, Muswell Hill, N.
K.T. Precep. D. Mount Calvary, London Tav., Bishopsgate.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Lily, Greyhound, Richmond.
Manchester, 77, London-st., Fitzroy-square.
Star, Marquis of Granby, New Cross-rd.

MONDAY, JUNE 26.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Prince Leopold, Lord Stanley Tav., Kingsland.
Strong Man, Jerusalem Tav., St. John's Gate.
Sincerity, Railway Tav., Fenchurch-st. Station.
Camden, Stanhope Arms, Up. James-st., Camden To.
Eastern, Royal Hot., Mile-end-road.
St. James's Union, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Wellington, White Swan, Deptford.
Perfect Ashlar, Victoria Tav., Lower-rd., Rotherhithe.
Sydney, White Hart Ho., Church-rd., Upper Norwood.

TUESDAY, JUNE 27.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Metropolitan, 269, Pentonville-rd.
Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney.
Domestic, Surrey M.H., Camberwell New-road.
Faith, 2, Westminster Chambers, Victoria-st.
Prince Fredk. Wm., Lord's Hot., St. John's Wood.
Dalhousie, King Edward, Triangle, Hackney.
Prosperity, 1, Camomile-st., Bishopsgate.
St. Marylebone, British Stores Tav., St. John's Wood.
Constitutional, Wheatheaf Hot., Hand-court, Holborn.
Israel, Rising Sun Tav., Globe Road.
Royal Arthur, Prince's Head, York-road, Battersea.
Beacontree, Red Lion, Leytonstone, at 8.
Metropolitan Chapter, Jamaica Coffee Ho., Cornhill.
Excelsior, Commercial Dock Tav., Rotherhithe.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 28.

Anniversary Festival R.M.I. for Boys.—See Advt
Lodge 2, Antiquity, F.M.H.

" 754, High Cross, Seven Sisters, Tottenham.
" 778, Bard of Avon, Greyhound, Hampton Court.
" 808, Temperance-in-the-East, 6, Newby-pl., Poplar.
" 1415, Canipbell, Mitre Hot., Hampton Court.
" 1540, Chaucer, Bridge House Hot., London-bridge.
Chap. 13, Union Waterloo, M.H., Woolwich.
" 810, Lily of Richmond, Greyhound, Richmond.
" 907, Royal Albert, White Hart, Abchurch-lane.
Red Cross Con. 15, St. Andrews, 68, Regent-st., W.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Mt. Lebanon, Windsor Castle Tav., Southwark-bdg.-rd.
Pythagorean, Prince of Orange, Greenwich.
New Concord, Rosemary Branch Tav., Hoxton.

Royal Union, Horse and Groom, Winsley-st., Oxford-st.
Peckham, Maismore Arms, Park-road, Peckham.
Stanhope, Thicket Hot., Anerley.
Finsbury Park, Finsbury Park Tav., Seven Sisters'-rd.
Southwark, Southwark Park Tav., Southwark Park.
Duke of Connaught, Havelock Tav., Dalston, E.
United Strength, Grafton Arms, Kentish-town.
Islington, Crown and Cushion, London Wall.
Whittington, Black Bull Tav., Holborn.

THURSDAY, JUNE 29.

Gen. Com. Girls' School, at 4.
Mark Lodge 3, Keystone, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.
LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.
Egyptian, Hercules Tav., Leadenhall-st.
Fidelity, Yorkshire Grey, London-st., W.
Finsbury, Jolly Anglers' Tav., Bath-st., City-road.
Temperance in the East, Catherine-st., Poplar.
Ebony, 12, Pensonby-st., Milbank.
Highgate, Bull and Gate, Kentish-town.
The Great City, 111, Cheapside.
High Cross, Coach & Horse, High-road, Tottenham.
Salisbury, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Marquis of Ripon, Albion Tav., Albany-rd., Dalston.
Prince Frederick William Chapter, St. John's Wood.
Southern Star, Crown Hot., Blackfriars-rd.

FRIDAY, JUNE 30.

Chap. 749, Belgrave, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.
LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.
Union Waterloo, Thomas-st., Woolwich.
Robert Burns, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Belgrave, Lyceum Tav., 354, Strand.
Unions Emulation (for M.M.'s), F.M.H.
Temperance, Victoria Tav., Victoria-road, Deptford.
Clapton, White Hart, Clapton.
Metropolitan, Portugal Hot., Fleet-st.
Westbourne, Horse & Groom, Winsley-st., Oxford-st.
Metropolitan, Pentonville-road.
United Pilgrims, Surrey M.H., Camberwell New-road.
St. James's, New Tanners' Arms, Grange-rd., Bermondsey.
Duke of Edinburgh, Silver Lion, Penny-fields, Poplar.
Doric, Earl Grey Tav., Mile-end-road.
Burgoyne, Grafton Arms, Prince of Wales's-road, N.W.
St. Luke's, White Hart, King's-rd., Chelsea.
Chigwell, Bald-faced Stag Hot., Buckhurst-hill.
Burdett Coutts, Approach Tav., Victoria Park.
Royal Standard, Finsbury Park Tav., Holloway.
Ranelagh, Clarendon Hot., Hammersmith.
Pythagorean Chapter, Prince of Orange, Greenwich-rd.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN WEST LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE.

For the Week ending Saturday July, 1, 1876.

MONDAY, JUNE 26.

Chap. 241, Friendship, M.H., Liverpool.

TUESDAY, JUNE 27.

Lodge 241, Merchants', M.H., Liverpool.
" 1393, Hamer, 22, Everton-rd., Liverpool.
" 1609, Dramatic, M.H., Liverpool.
Chap. 823, Everton, M.H., Liverpool.
Mark Lodge 11, Joppa, M.C., Birkenhead.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 28.

Lodge 220, Harmony, Garston Hot., Garston.
" 724, Derby, M.H., Liverpool.
Chap. 1052, Callender, P.H., Rusholme.
" 1356, De Grey and Ripon, M.H., Liverpool.
Neptune L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

THURSDAY, JUNE 29.

Lodge 1313, Fermor, M.H., Southport.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN GLASGOW AND WEST OF SCOTLAND.

For the Week ending Saturday, July 1, 1876.

All the Meetings take place at Eight o'clock.

MONDAY, JUNE 26.

Lodge 103, Union & Crown, 30, Hope-st., Glasgow.
" 292, St. John, Bishop-st., Rothersay.
Chap. 122, Thetis, 35, St. James-st., S.S., Glasgow.

TUESDAY, JUNE 27.

Lodge 556, Clydesdale, 106, Rose-st., S.S., Glasgow.
Chap. 67, Cathedral, 21, Stuthers-st., Glasgow.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 28.

Lodge 505, Burns St. Mary, Commercial Ina, Hurlford.
Chap. 73, Caledonian of Unity, 213, Buchanan-st.

THURSDAY, JUNE 29.

Lodge 570, Kenmuir, Balgray Hall, Springburn.
Chap. 117, Govan, Portland Buildings, Govan.

FRIDAY, JUNE 30.

Lodge 518, Loudon Kilwinning, Com. Hot., Newmilns.
" 118, St. Bride, M.H., Douglas.
" 125, St. James, Masons' Arms, Newton Ayr.
" 153, Royal Arch, Cogan-st., Pollokshaws.
" 195, St. John Caledonian R.A., Lennox Arms.
" 236, St. John, Walsonton Iron Works, M.H., Forth.
" 244, Union, Black Bull Inn, Stonehouse.
" 347, St. John Operative, M.H., Rutherglen.
Chap. 79, Commercial, 30, Hope-st., Glasgow.

SATURDAY, JULY 1.

Lodge 458, St. John, Wilson's Hall, Busby, at 6 p.m.
" 544, St. Andrew, M.H., Coatbridge.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN EDINBURGH AND VICINITY.

For the Week ending Saturday, July 1, 1876.

MONDAY, JUNE 26.

Lodge 349, St. Clair, F.M.H., George-st.

TUESDAY, JUNE 27.

Lodge 151, Defensive Band, Alexandra H., Cockburn-st.
Chap. 40, Naval and Military, F.M.H., 98, George-st.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 28.

Lodge 112, St. John, Royal Hot., Musselburgh.

FRIDAY, JUNE 30.

Lodge 223, Trafalgar, 54, Bernard-st., Leith.

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REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS.

Craft Masonry.

JOPPA LODGE (No. 188).—The last regular meeting of this old established lodge was held at the Albion Hotel, Aldersgate-street, on Thursday, the 8th ult., instead of the usual day of meeting, viz., the first Monday in the month, that being this year bank holiday. The lodge was opened at five o'clock in the afternoon by Bro. Alexander, P.M., acting for the W.M., who did not arrive until later in the evening, and Bros. Lazarus, S.W.; Miller, J.W.; Auerhaan, Treas.; Albert, P.M.G.P., &c., Sec.; Spiegel, S.D.; Hymans, I.G.; Van Noorden, Org.; Isaacs and Baker, Stewards; Hickman, I.P.M.; and Roberts, Levy, Abraham, Past Masters. The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the acting W.M. passed Bros. Rohmann, Stransky, Collier, and Bromfield, and the W.M., Bro. A. G. Dodson, upon his arrival raised Bros. Riebold and Staley (Tranquillity). The ceremonies were well performed. Bro. A. Auerhaan, late of this lodge, having been proposed to re-join, and several minor matters having been discussed, the lodge was closed, and the brethren and the visitors, amounting together to the number of 104, sat down to an excellent banquet, which was well served under the management of that well-known caterer, Bro. Jennings, and superintended by Bro. Keeping. Among the visitors we noticed Bros. H. Pullen, P.G.S.B., and Foxhall, A.G.P. of England; Buss, P.G.T. of Middlesex; Ross, P.M. 185; Austin, P.M. 933; Senecal, P.M. 860; Stead, W.M. 1297; Woodman, W.M. 1551; T. C. Walls, S.D. 1381, &c.; Jarvis, 14; Ball, 15; McLish, 55; Fletcher and Baker, 180; Staley, 185; A. Auerhaan, 1, late 188; Solomons, 194; Lewis, 907; Williams, 933. Upon the removal of the cloth the W.M. gave the customary loyal and Craft toasts, prefaced by a few well-chosen remarks. "The National Anthem" was then rendered by Bros. Van Noorden and Benjamin, Mr. Prenton, and Mesdames Alma Tork and Dore. In proposing "The Pro G.M., the D.G.M., and the rest of the P.O.'s Past and Present," the W.M. took occasion to congratulate the lodge upon being honoured that evening by the presence of Bros. H. Pullen, P.G.S., and Foxhall, A.G.P., and coupled the last-named brother with the toast. Bro. Foxhall in reply stated that, although he held the lowest office in Grand Lodge, he felt it to be a very great honour in being selected to be one of that distinguished body, and he was also exceedingly gratified on the present occasion at having his name mentioned in connection with the toast, and in conclusion he congratulated the Joppa Lodge upon the exceptionally good working of its various officers, from the highest to the lowest grade. The W.M. then gave "The Joppa Benevolent Fund," which he remarked was in a very sound and flourishing condition, which state of things he was happy to say was the result of there having been no applications for some time past for a participation in its benefits. This fund had the advantage of being well-managed by the President, Vice-President and committee, and he, therefore, called upon them to drink the health of those worthy brethren in connection with the toast. Bro. Alexander, P.M., the President, returned thanks. Bro. Hickman, the I.P.M., who had but recently recovered from a severe accident, and the effects of which were still apparent, then rose and met with a very warm greeting. He stated that he felt exceedingly pleased at being able to meet them once again, and well enough to wield the gavel to call order for the toast of their W.M. He had seen some of Bro. Dodson's working that day in lodge, and from what he had heard from others who had had an opportunity of witnessing the manner in which the onerous duties of the chair had been discharged by the W.M. since his installation he was sure the lodge would join with him in drinking the W.M.'s health most heartily. This toast having been duly honoured, the W.M. made a very modest and brief reply, and immediately gave "The Visitors," and read the names of the numerous brethren present that evening, and observed, as the lateness of the hour would not permit all of them to reply, he should call upon that very old and esteemed P.G.O., Bro. Hyde Pullen, to respond. This toast having been received with excellent fire Bro. Pullen made a very neat reply, in which he briefly touched upon the working of the lodge, the unity which appeared to prevail among its members, and above all the prosperous state of its benevolent fund, which he hoped would be long without an application for relief, and in conclusion he thanked them for the kind reception they had accorded to him and his co-visitors. The toasts of

"The Past Masters, Treasurer and Secretary, Wardens and Junior Officers" followed in quick succession, and were suitably acknowledged by the individual brethren honoured. The musical arrangements of Bro. V. Noorden and his staff of artistes were excellent, and were supplemented by the instrumental and vocal contributions of Bros. Jarvis, Walls, and others. The Tyler's toast brought the proceedings, which were eminently successful, to a conclusion, and the brethren separated until the first Monday in October next.

WOOLWICH.—Union Waterloo Lodge (No. 13).—The closing meeting of this old and excellent lodge for the year 1876 took place on Wednesday, the 14th ult., at the Masonic Hall, William-street, and Bro. Carnelly, who has sat in the chair for the last 13 months owing to alterations in the bye-laws, will now retire from office in favour of Bro. F. G. Pownall, who, with more than ordinary luck, retires this month from the chair of the United Military Lodge, No. 1536, of which he was the first Master, and is now by unanimous consent W.M. elect of the lodge under notice. There was a large muster of Bro. Carnelly's friends and supporters present, and the lodge was well filled, no less than four W.M.'s elect being present at one time, viz., Bros. Vincent, of the Pattison, No. 913; Weston, of the United Military, No. 1536; Butt, of the Nelson, No. 700; and Pownall, of the Union Waterloo. The work of the lodge having been finished in the masterly manner for which Bro. Carnelly is so often praised, as we have before shown, Bro. Pownall was elected to the chair for the ensuing year. Bro. J. Henderson, P.M., Treas., and Sec. of several lodges in the district, and who has held the office of Treasurer of the lodge for the last 23 years, was once again entrusted with its finances, and Bro. B. Norman, Tyler to the Capper and Nelson Lodges, and Janitor for the Pattison Chapter, was again elected O.G., Bros. Davies Denton, and Reilly and Hosgood, were then elected on the Audit Committee, and after the petition of a poor and distressed brother had been received previous to presentation to the Grand Lodge of Benevolence, the lodge was closed, and the brethren spent a most enjoyable evening in harmony, during which the W.M. elect paid a high tribute to the zeal and energy of Bro. Syer, the Secretary, who, he declared, had worked unremittingly for the success and prosperity of the lodge. Bro. Syer eloquently replied, and the Tyler's toast concluded the proceedings.

HALIFAX.—St. John's Lodge (No. 448).—The brethren of this lodge held their regular meeting at the Masonic Hall to welcome home Bro. Frederick Whitaker on his return from his recent voyage round the world. There was a very large attendance of brethren, who heartily greeted Bro. Whitaker, whom they presented with a very unique P.M.'s jewel in gold, and which bore the following inscription:—"Presented by brethren of St. John's Lodge, No. 448, Halifax, to Bro. Frederick Whitaker, P.P.J.G.D. of W.Y., P.M. 307, in recognition of his services as W.M. for the year 1875, this 13th day of June, 1876, being the first lodge meeting after his return, 27th May, from his tour round the world." On the scroll was the Latin motto, "Palmani qui meruit ferat." After the business of the lodge was concluded all the brethren adjourned to the spacious dining-hall, and there partook of a very sumptuous repast, which was presided over by the W.M., Bro. T. Wheelhouse, Bro. C. T. Rhodes occupying the vice-chair, and Bro. Thomas Whitaker, P.M. 307, in the S. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts having been proposed and honoured, Bro. Wheelhouse, in very eulogistic terms, proposed "The Health of Bro. Frederick Whitaker," and spoke of the gratification it afforded them to see him once more amongst them. Bro. Whitaker, who was loudly cheered, related, in his happiest style, his experience of Freemasons and Freemasonry as practised in the various countries through which he had travelled, and how he on one occasion received the hearty grip of the Most Worshipful Grand Master, His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales. The evening was spent in an exceedingly pleasant manner, the brethren departing about 12 p.m.

CROYDON.—Frederick Lodge of Unity (No. 452).—On the 20th ult. the installation meeting of this lodge was held at Bro. Budden's, the Greyhound Hotel. Bro. W. S. Masterman, W.M., presided, and was supported by his officers, Bros. J. W. Sugg, S.W. and W.M. elect; George Wright, J.W.; James Robins, P.M., Treasurer; Magnus Ohren, P.M., Sec.; A. T. Jeffery, S.D.; C. H. Edwards, J.D.; Charles Pawley, I.G.; E. H. Sugg and C. A. Manning, Stewards; H. E. Frances, P.M., D.C.; and the following brethren:—Bros. W. Locock Webb, P.M.; Dr. Henry J. Strong, P.M.; R. H. Evans, P.M.; Arthur J. Dickinson, F.C.S., P.M.; W. Sugg, C.E., P.M.; E. T. Zohrab, F. G. G. Obert, F. A. Manning, C. M. Ohren, G. E. Ohren, J. W. Gray, C.E.; F. Cassell, and George Robins. There were also the following visitors:—Bros. Dr. Jabez Hogg, P.G.D. of England; Thos. P. Dickinson, W.M. of the Surrey of Concord, 463; Dr. Clayton Palmer, of the Burdett Lodge, 1293; Henry Potter, Constitutional, 55; A. H. Wymouth, Great Northern, 1287; J. S. Leafe, Star, 1275; O. H. Colven, Felicity, 58; E. Spooner, Earl Spencer, 1420; H. Massey ("Freemason"). Bro. George Robins, who was initiated at the last meeting of the lodge, was passed to the Second Degree by Bro. Magnus Ohren, P.M. and Sec., who also initiated Mr. John Methven, gas engineer, of the London Gas Company. Bro. Frances, P.M., installed Bro. J. W. Sugg as W.M. of the lodge, who afterwards invested as his officers:—Bros. W. S. Masterman, I.P.M.; George Wright, S.W.; Arthur T. Jeffery, J.W.; D. J. Drakeford, Chaplain; James Robins, P.M., Treas.; Magnus Ohren, P.M., Sec.; C. H. Edwards, S.D.; Charles Pawley, J.D.; H. E. Frances, P.M., D.C.; E. H. Sugg, I.G.; F. A. Manning and E. T. Zohrab, Stew-

ards; and C. T. Speight, Tyler. The W.M. afterwards initiated Mr. Geo. F. Cousins, stockbroker, and Mr. J. W. Rogers, solicitor, performing the work in masterly style. A P.M.'s jewel was voted to Bro. Masterman. The Special Committee's report was read and approved, as was also the agreement with Bro. Budden for holding the lodge at the Greyhound, Croydon. The Treasurer's report was also read and adopted, shewing £40 3s. 11d. in hand, and current subscriptions, £100 16s. Bro. J. A. Frinney was proposed by P.M. Jas. Robins for rejoining, and Mr. David Sugg, son of P.M. Wm. Sugg, was proposed for initiation. The brethren afterwards retired to an excellent banquet, and honoured the usual loyal and Masonic toasts. The work concluded the brethren adjourned to an excellent banquet, provided by Bro. Budden, and the usual Masonic toasts followed. After the toasts of "The Queen and the Craft," and "The M.W.G.M.," the W.M. gave that of "The Pro Grand Master, the Deputy Grand Master, &c.," and said that as the brethren had found Masonry progress within the last few years, it was pleasing to find that those whose circumstances had placed them in the leading forces of the Craft had well performed their duties. Dr. Jabez Hogg, P.G.D., responded, and said he felt very much obliged to Bro. Ohren for giving him the opportunity of being present, as he had seen the new W.M. well up to his duties, and doing his work in a fluent and efficient style. The lodge must be proud that it was blessed with such good Masters, but more especially with a Master who was able on his first night to perform his work so fluently. He had listened to him with very great pleasure. He did not know that it was the privilege of Grand Officers to criticise what was going on, but he had taken the liberty to express what he felt. The lodge had furnished an example which others should not be slow to follow, and young Masons who aspired to achieve a position should take pattern by Bro. Sugg. He (Bro. Hogg) hoped to see him in the highest position the Craft had in its power to bestow. The W.M. next gave "The Provincial Grand Master of Surrey and the Prov. G. Officers, Present and Past." The Prov. G. Master, by the commission he held, and by the sheer force of his character, had endeared himself to all the Masons of the Province. The Prov. G. Officers had his "hall-mark" on them, and were an honour to the Province as well as to the lodges to which they belonged. So many brethren of this lodge wore the provincial purple that he had felt his own apron tinged with the prevailing colour. Bro. W. Locock Webb responded. He had always taken a great interest in Masonry in the Province of Surrey for many years, and though he had been absent some time he did not think it had done him any harm, because such absence had caused him to see with the greater clearness when he came back to these meetings the great progress that had been made in his absence. There were but seven lodges in the province some sixteen years ago. There were sixteen now. Very few members could be got together at a lodge in former times, but now nearly thirty regularly assembled, and on this great progress he congratulated the brethren sincerely. Bro. H. E. Frances proposed "The W.M.," and referred to the humorous speech in which he responded to the toast of "The W.M. Elect" on the last occasion. In spite of what he then said he was no doubt fully aware of his ability to take the responsible duties upon him which he had that evening placed in his hands by the Installing Master. He would not have taken the office if he had not been capable of discharging its duties. He had faithfully performed his duties in all the offices he had undertaken, and the brethren had now a Master of whom they might well be proud. Bro. Webb had been a great honour to the lodge, but Bro. Sugg was quite capable of following in his footsteps. The W.M., in reply, said he thanked the brethren very much for the honour they had done him, and for the very cordial way in which they had drunk the toast. He also thanked Bro. Francis for the kind way in which he had introduced the toast to the attention of the brethren. When he (the W.M.) became a member of this lodge seven years ago he came in with but one predetermined idea—to do his duty; and from that day to this he had endeavoured to discover in what that duty consisted, and the result of his observation was that in Masonry to do one's duty was simply to do his best, and more than that was not expected of any brother. When he looked round and saw the judicious Treasurership of Bro. Robins, and the careful Secretaryship of Bro. Ohren, he felt that he must follow in their footsteps as well as in those of the other P.M.'s of the lodge. This was the course he should endeavour to pursue, and with that feeling it was that he entered on the duties of his office. (Hear.) The W.M., in giving the toast of "The P.M.'s," said it was human nature for men to kick the ladder over when they arrived at the summit of their ambition, or to forget the ladder by which they had climbed. He, however, could not forget the steps by which he had been raised, or the good offices of Bro. Francis, who had installed him. The brethren all knew how much they were indebted to him for the assistance he at all times rendered them in the ordinary work of the lodge, and also in installing the W.M. that day. Therefore in proof of their appreciation they should drink his health. Bro. Frances replied, and the W.M. then proposed "The P.M.'s," and said that Dr. Doran had written a work on "Monarchs retired from business;" but whether public men became like Cincinnatus following the plough, or Mr. Gladstone felling timber, their work was a paradise compared with that of the P.M.'s of the lodge. They might truly say of themselves that "something attempted, something done, they had earned a night's repose." It had been said that the Duke of Wellington was never tired of looking at the field of Waterloo, but the P.M.'s of the lodge might never be tired of looking back on what they had done, and of witnessing its results. Bro. Masterman, I.P.M., responded. He had in his year

tried to keep alive the old spirit of hospitality in the lodge, and had done everything with the desire of helping the lodge with his might. Bro. Webb had had the privilege of belonging to the lodge many years, and brethren like him had worked hard and well in support of the lodge. When the W.M. should come to occupy a place among the P.M.'s, he did not think he would be at all disappointed in finding it a comfortable and honourable position. He thought he would find it an elysium. "The Initiates" was the next toast, which the W.M., in giving, impressed on those brethren with the words of Napoleon, that every private soldier in the French army carried a general's baton in his knapsack. With this saying he begged to assure the initiates that it was in their power to become W.M.'s. All the initiates replied, and the W.M. next gave "The Visitors," and Bro. Dickin, W.M. East Surrey Lodge of Concord, replied. "The Press" was humorously proposed by the W.M., who selected Bro. H. Massey, "Freemason," to respond. "The Treasurer and Secretary" was replied to by Bro. James Robins, and "The Officers" by the S.W., after which the brethren returned to town. Bros. Magnus Ohren, George Robins, and the J.W. sang several excellent songs during the evening, which was most agreeably spent.

LEICESTER.—John of Gaunt Lodge (No. 523).—The installation meeting of this prosperous lodge was held at the Freemasons' Hall, on Thursday, the 22nd ult., and was perhaps one of the most pleasant and enjoyable meetings in the history of this well-known and popular lodge. In addition to a large muster of officers and brethren, there were present Bros. Kelly, F.R.I.I.S., P.P. G.M.; S. S. Partridge, P.M., P.G.S.; Robert Brewin, P.M., P.P.G.S.W.; Geo. Toller, jun., P.M., P.P.S.G.W.; Thos. Sheppard, P.M.; Thos. Worthington, W.M. 50; Geo. Clifton, P.M., P.P.G.P.; A. K. Baines, W.M. 1495; Fred Grant, W.M. 1330; J. M. McAllister, W.M. 279, P.P.G. Supt. of Wks.; Rev. W. Langley, P.M. 50, P.P.S.G.W.; R. B. Smith, W.M. 1007, P.P.A.G.D.C.; Robt. Waite, P.M. 279, P.P.J.G.W.; R. A. Barber, P.M. 1391, P.P.G.P.; A. Palmer, P.M. 209, P.P.G.P.; F. J. Baines, P.M., P.D.S.C.; C. C. Woodcock, P.G. Reg.; C. Stretton, J.W. 279; C. A. Righter, of New York; C. S. Preston, S.W. 50, P.P.G. Sword Bearer; and Dr. Hunt, P.P.G.A.D.C.; E. Mason, W.M. 1391, P.G. Stwd.; and others. The lodge was opened in due form by Bro. Thorp, the retiring W.M. The minutes of the last lodge were read and confirmed, and the Treasurer's report for the past year having been read and adopted, the best thanks of the lodge were given to Bro. W. B. Smith, P.M., P.G. Treas., for his valuable services as Treasurer. Bro. W. T. Rowlett, S.W. and W.M. elect, was presented by Bro. S. S. Partridge, P.M., P.G.S., to Bro. Thorp, for installation, and having given his assent to the ancient charges and regulations, was obligated, and a board of Installed Masters having been opened, was installed in due form into the chair of K.S., and saluted with the customary honours. The ceremony of installation was most ably performed by Bro. Thorp, I.P.M., in a most impressive manner, which was remarked by every brother present as being simply perfection. At the close of the ceremony the W.M. proceeded to appoint his officers, which he did as follows:—Bros. T. A. Wykes, S.W.; R. Taylor, J.W.; W. B. Smith, P.M., Treas.; W. C. Strout, Sec.; G. Odell, S.D.; J. Young, J.D.; C. Johnson, P.M., Org.; C. C. Woodcock, I.G.; T. M. Quinn, T. R. Pickering, Stewards; C. Bembridge, and T. Dunn, Tylers. A vote of thanks was passed to Bro. Thorp, the Installing Master, for the admirable way in which he had performed the ceremony. The R.W. Bro. Kelly, P.P.G.M., then, in the name of the lodge presented him with a Past Master's jewel suitably inscribed, and complimented him in high terms on the very efficient way in which he had discharged his duties during his past year, and also bore testimony to the very perfect manner in which he had installed his successor. Bro. Thorp in acknowledging this tribute of respect thanked the brethren for their kind feeling, and assured them that he should not relax his interest in the welfare of the lodge. Heartly good wishes having been given by the visiting brethren, the lodge was closed in due form. The brethren, about seventy in number, re-assembled at the banquet table, and took of a most sumptuous repast, which reflected the highest credit on the Stewards, Bros. Sargeant and Smith. After the banquet the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and responded to, and were interspersed with the instrumental selections (especially arranged for the occasion by Bro. H. Nicholson), performed by Bros. H. Nicholson (flute); G. L. Vaughan (flute); W. T. Rowlett, W.M. (oboe); T. A. Wykes, S.W. (bassoon); and H. B. Ellis, 1391 (pianoforte), which called forth the enthusiastic applause of the brethren. Bro. Thorp, I.P.M., proposed the toast of the evening, "The W.M. of John of Gaunt Lodge, Bro. W. T. Rowlett, and Success to the Lodge," and in doing so congratulated the lodge in having elected so worthy a brother to preside over them. The toast was received with immense enthusiasm, and the W.M. responded in feeling and eloquent terms. Bro. Brewin, 112, and 444, an old P.M. of the Lodge, and P.P.S.G.W. of the Province, in responding to the toast of "The Visitors," paid a high compliment to the officers of the lodge for their first class working, and compared it with the time when he was W.M. in 1860. Bro. C. A. Righter, of New York, in a speech of rare ability also returned thanks on behalf of the visitors. The Tyler's toast and parting song finished one of the most successful meetings of the lodge.

PLUMSTEAD.—Pattison Lodge (No. 913).—The election of W.M. of the above lodge for the ensuing year took place at the last monthly meeting, held on the 1st ult., at Bro. Tucker's, the Lord Raglan, Plumstead, Bro. A. Penfold, W.M., in the chair, supported by the whole of his officers. After working the three degrees in the interest of several candidates who were entitled to it, and

and the voting to a distressed brother, who had some years ago been a member, of a good round sum for his present needs, Bro. W. T. Vincent, S.W., was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing year. Bro. A. Jessup being as loyally voted into his old position as Treasurer. Bro. R. Lister was voted Tyler by acclamation, and then, as some recognition of the valuable services rendered by Bro. Penfold to the lodge during his year of office, it was proposed, and carried unanimously, that a jewel of the value of £10 10s. should be presented to him by the lodge as a mark of esteem and gratitude for those services. After suitable replies from the blushing recipient of such, though well deserved yet high honours, the lodge was closed in due form, and the brethren adjourned for refreshment, the usual loyal and Masonic toasts being of course fully honoured. We had almost forgotten to mention that the W.M. elect has presented the lodge with a superb harmonium, which, under the skilful manipulation of Bro. C. Cooke, Org. 700 and of 13, contributed much to the impressiveness of the ceremonies. The installation and banquet take place early next month.

TEDDINGTON.—Felix Lodge (No. 1494).—The installation meeting of this lodge was held at the Clarence Hotel, Teddington, on Saturday, the 17th ult. Present, Bros. F. S. Knyvett, Grand Steward, W.M.; Edward B. Graham, I.P.M.; F. B. Archer, S.W., W.M. elect; Hyde Pullen, P.G.S.B., acting as J.W.; W. G. Moore, P.M., S.D.; T. S. Archer, J.D.; E. A. Woolley, I.G.; Geo. Hancock, P.M., Past Prov. G. Deacon Somerset, D.C.; and the following visitors: Bro. Hyde Pullen, P.G.S.B.; Bro. H. G. Buss, Provincial Grand Treasurer, Middx.; Bro. W. R. Pullen, East Medina, No. 175; J. Whitmore, M.D., P.M. Royal Athelstan, No. 19; A. R. Marten, Past Grand Steward, P.M. 58; J. Keates, Eden Lodge, Limerick; F. Knyvett, 160; H. Thorn, P.M. 165; W. W. Aldridge, P.M. 165; T. Yeol, 167; J. Brockett Sorrell, P.M. 176; J. Brockett Sorrell, jun., J.W. 176; E. H. Smithette, 180; E. G. Fox, P.M. 235; T. D. Boulton, P.G. Stwd. 259; T. Wilkinson, Sec. 271; H. T. Wrenfordsley, 442; W. Croucher, 534; T. E. Woollard, 1203; P. Dickinson, S.W.; 1208; W. F. Taunton, 1385; T. W. Ockenden, D.C. 1512. The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the previous meeting read and confirmed. Several communications from brethren expressive of regret at not being present were read. Bro. Sharon Grote Turner (Lodge of Antiquity, No. 2) was elected a joining member. Bros. Getty, Hunter, Twinberron, and Youngusband were raised to the Third Degree by the W.M., after which Bro. Francis Bradley Archer was presented by Bro. Graham, P.M., Prov. Grand Steward Middx., to the W.M. for installation, the ceremony being performed by Bro. Knyvett, W.M., in a very able and impressive manner. On Bro. Archer being installed into the chair, and saluted according to ancient custom, he invested Bros. Knyvett as I.P.M.; Graham, P.M., Secretary; Berridge, Grand Steward, S.W.; W. G. Moore, P.M., J.W.; T. S. Archer, S.D.; E. A. Woolley, J.D.; J. Melville Curtis, I.G.; George Hancock, P.M., D.C. There being no further business before the lodge the brethren adjourned to banquet, presided over by Bro. Archer, W.M.. On the removal of the cloth grace was beautifully sung by Bros. Sealy, Hunter, and Taunton, and the usual loyal toasts were given and responded to. Bro. Hyde Pullen, P.G.S.B., in returning thanks for the Grand Officers, congratulated the W.M. upon his present position, and it was with sincere pleasure he had witnessed the prosperity of the lodge under the Masterships of Bros. Graham and Knyvett, and he had little doubt that it would continue unabated under the rule of the present W.M., who had shewn considerable ability and tact even the short time he had occupied the chair. Bro. H. G. Buss, in responding for the Prov. Grand Officers, expressed his regret that the Prov. Grand Master, Bro. Col. Francis Burdett, was not able to attend on this occasion. He was exceedingly gratified on his last visit to find the lodge in its present state of efficiency, and felt assured that it would still continue to prosper. "The Health of the W.M." was proposed in eulogistic terms by Bro. Knyvett, I.P.M., who spoke of the valuable services which Bro. Archer had rendered, and the pleasure it had afforded him to install into the chair of the Felix Lodge a brother who would continue to maintain the dignity and high position which the lodge held in the province of Middlesex. The toast was very enthusiastically received, and Bro. Archer in responding said that he would do his utmost to keep the lodge in its present state of efficiency, and thanked the brethren for the hearty manner in which his health had been drank. Bro. A. R. Martin, Past Grand Steward, P.M. 58, responded for "The Visitors." The toast of "The Past Masters, Bros. Graham and Knyvett," was duly acknowledged by the latter, and that of "The Officers" by Bro. W. G. Moore, P.M., J.W. The Tyler's toast brought the meeting to a close. It is due to the musical brethren of the lodge to say their efforts to please were highly appreciated, and contributed very much to the success of the evening.

CHISLEHURST.—Chislehurst Lodge (No. 1531).—This young lodge, now just twelve months old, celebrated its first installation meeting since its foundation, on Saturday, the 24th ult., at the Bull Inn, Chislehurst, Bro. John Coutts, its first W.M., performing the ceremony of installing his successor. The choice of the brethren having fallen upon Bro. G. F. Guest, the S.W. of the past year, he was presented by Bro. Griffin, the Secretary, and having given his assent to the ancient charges laid down in the Book of Constitutions, the W.M. administered the customary obligation; and a Board of Installed Masters having been formed he was presented to them in the usual course, and formally installed into the chair of K.S. On the re-admission of the brethren he was proclaimed and saluted, and Bro. Coutts delivered the various addresses in a very impressive manner. This ceremony being concluded Bro. Guest appointed his officers for the year as follows:—Bros. W. Kipps, S.W. Gloster, J.W.;

Coutts, Treas.; Griffin, Sec.; Mason, S.D.; Hardman, J.D.; Hutchings, I.G.; Fox, D.C.; Hunt, W.S.; and Grant, Tyler. Among the other brethren present were Bros. Edwd. Kipps, Thomas Skinner, L. Samuel, G. B. West, W. Goldsmid, J. Ford, W. J. Butler, H. C. F. Dana, R. J. Luck, J. W. Williams, and W. Hollis, members; while the visitors included Bros. Sadler, 25; A. J. Ireton, 1348; Chas. Andrews, 77 and 299, P.M.; John Davison, 299, W.M.; G. B. Gates, 829, W.M.; B. J. Manley, Alfred Avery, P.P. G.R. Kent; and W. Seaman, 1314; and E. C. Massey ("Freemason"). After the conclusion of the before mentioned ceremonies, there being no other business before the lodge, it was closed in perfect harmony, and the brethren adjourned to partake of an excellent banquet in the pretty public school-room near the inn, which had been secured for the occasion, a boon which on so warm an afternoon the brethren were not slow to appreciate. Beautiful Chislehurst was looking its best, and wearing its freshest greenery after the recent heavy rains; and the view of meadows, studded with magnificent elms, seen from the school windows in the afternoon sunlight, was very refreshing to the eyes of the town-worn men who had met there, and contributed another element of enjoyment to the dainty fare provided by mine host of the Bull Inn. On the removal of the cloth the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed by the W.M., who in referring to the Grand Officers, Past and Present, said that it only needed a visit to Grand Lodge to prove the wisdom of the Prince of Wales in his choice of Grand Officers, for the way in which they performed their duties showed not only that they were efficient, but that they took a personal interest in the task they had undertaken. Bro. Coutts, in replying for the Grand Officers, joined in the eulogies that had been bestowed on the Earls of Carnarvon and Skelmersdale; and in thanking the W.M. for coupling his name with the toast hoped that the brethren would not think him vain for saying that it was not every brother who was a Grand Officer, but he assured them that, not withstanding his possession of that dignity, he felt more at home amongst them than he did on the dais of the Grand Lodge of England. The Chairman next proposed "The Health of Lord Holmesdale, Prov. Grand Master, and Bro. Eastes, D.P.G.M. of Kent," coupling the toast with the names of Bro. Avery, P.P. Grand Registrar; Bro. Russell, and Bro. Andrews, who replied in suitable terms. Bro. Coutts: Brethren, the W.M. has entrusted me with his gavel. You know, I am sure, the use I shall put it to. I summon you to drink "The Health of your W.M., Bro. Guest." Bro. Guest has been elected to be the Master of the Chislehurst Lodge during the ensuing year on account of his well-known ability to perform the work attaching to that office, and he has been to-day installed into the Master's chair, and I ask you to join me in wishing him a happy and prosperous year, and in drinking very good health to the W.M., Bro. Guest. The W.M., in thanking the brethren, said that he felt diffident as to the performance of his duties, following as he did the steps of so able a worker as Bro. Coutts. He trusted that his officers would perform their duties to the utmost of their ability, which was their best way of making his duties easy to perform. The W.M. then proceeded to propose "The Health of the Immediate Past Master, Bro. Coutts," than whom they could not have had an abler worker for the first ruler of the Chislehurst Lodge. While doing so he had the pleasure of presenting and investing Bro. Coutts with a Past Master's jewel, and trusted that he would live many years to wear it. He must not look at its intrinsic value. That was no index of the appreciation which the brethren had desired to mark; he must believe in their regard for him, and look upon the jewel merely as a sign to mark that regard. Bro. Coutts, in returning thanks, said that he felt very proud of their reception of the toast, and of the jewel with which they had been pleased to present him. Whenever he looked at that jewel in future it would remind him not only of his year of office as Master of the lodge, but of all the work they had had together in establishing it and bringing it up to its present prosperous condition. They had paid for all their furniture; they were free from debt; they had sent three Stewards to the Masonic Charities, and before they were nine months old had contributed something like £90 to the funds of those charities. He again thanked them for this memorial of their good will, and assured them that to the day of his death he should think of it with love, and wear it with pride. Several other toasts, including "The Visitors," "The Treasurer and Secretary," "The Masonic Charities," "The Officers of the Lodge," were given and responded to, till at length the benevolent wishes expressed in the Tyler's toast brought the proceedings to a conclusion, and the brethren returned to town after a pleasant evening that had not been spoiled by being protracted to a late hour.

PLUMSTEAD.—United Military Lodge (No. 1536).—The first year of this flourishing lodge was appropriately closed on Friday, the 9th ult., by the election of W.M. for the next year of its existence. There was a large attendance of both brethren and visitors, and Bro. Plaisted's fine hall was well filled by a gathering of the elite of the lodges of the district. Owing to the unavoidable absence of Bro. Pownall, the W.M., Bro. R. Croisdale, P.M. 706, and of the lodge, presided, supported by Bros. Capt. C. Phillips, P.M. 706, as P.M.; W. West, S.W.; G. Spinks, J.W.; W. Murphy, Treas.; H. G. Picken, S.D.; J. McCaffery, D.C.; R. G. Lapham, I.G.; J. Lackland, Tyler. After the work before the lodge had been eloquently done by the W.M., Bro. W. Weston was unanimously elected to the proud position of W.M. for the ensuing year, and the Treasurer and Tyler were duly re-instated in office, Bros. Weston and Lackland returning thanks in brief but well-chosen sentences. A ten guinea jewel was then voted to Bro. Pownall, to mark the lodge's appreciation of his valuable services, and Bro. Cooper was

unanimously adjudged a Secretary's jewel and the thanks of the lodge for his arduous labours during the past year as Secretary of the lodge. The new harmonium purchased by subscription of the members was opened, and various selections played in a masterly manner by Bro. C. Cooke, Org. 700, and of 13. After the lodge had been closed in due form, the brethren re-assembled for refreshment, and under the experienced hand of Bro. Croisdale the toasts were both eloquent and to the point, aiding the success of a most enjoyable evening in more than ordinary style. The installation and banquet will be at Bro. Plaisted's comfortable and commodious hall, Anglesea-hill, Plumstead, early next month.

Royal Arch.

ROSE OF DENMARK CHAPTER (No. 975).—The quarterly communication of this chapter was held at the Star and Garter Hotel, Kew Bridge, on Saturday, the 3rd ult. The officers present were Comps. James Terry, acting M.E.Z. (in the absence of M.E. Companion Poole, who had been suddenly called away to Wales to visit his son, who was seriously ill); John Newton, H.; Henry Martin, J.; J. P. Richards, S.N.; W. Dodd, S.E.; J. Green, P.S.; J. Walker, A.S.; H. G. Buss, P.G. Treas.; T. Price, P.Z.; also a fair muster of the companions, and the following visitors: Comps. D. W. Rain, P.S. 1293; Roberts, 771; C. G. Hill, S.N. 177. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. Bro. John Bingham, P.M. 55 and W.M. 1599; and Bro. Charles H. Goode, of No. 27, were balloted for and approved. Bro. Bingham being in attendance, was duly exalted into Royal Arch Masonry in Comp. Terry's usual excellent style, after which the chapter was closed in ancient form, and the companions adjourned for refreshment. On the removal of the cloth the M.E.Z. gave the usual loyal and Masonic toasts from the Chair. In proposing the toast of "The Visitors," Comp. Terry, in the name of the chapter, gave them a hearty welcome, and they, in response, spoke in high terms of the excellent working they had seen, also of the true fraternal affection and unanimity of feeling that existed among the companions of the chapter. The Janitor's Toast brought to a close a very pleasant and happy evening.

BEDFORD.—Stuart Chapter (No. 540).—The quarterly meeting of this young but flourishing chapter was held on Tuesday, June 13th, when there were present Comps. Col. Stuart, M.E.Z.; Alderman Bull, H.; Cookson, J.; and the rest of the officers, with several companions. The chapter was visited by an old friend to Bedfordshire Masonry, Comp. Barfield, P.Z. Mount Sinai Chapter. The business of the evening was to exalt Sir John Montague Burgoyne, Bart., of Sutton Park, but he was unfortunately prevented from attending, to ballot for and exalt Bros. H. Harris, R. Barry Stafford, and R. H. Coombs. The ballots having been taken were found to be unanimous, and the above-named brethren were exalted in due course. After the proposal of another member to be exalted in September, hearty good wishes were tendered from Mount Sinai Chapter, and the chapter was closed, the companions afterwards spending a pleasant interval of refreshment.

LIVERPOOL.—Walton Chapter (No. 1086).—The annual gathering of the companions attached to this chapter took place on Thursday, the 22nd June, at Kirkdale, Liverpool. Comp. W. Jones was installed Z.; Comp. W. Septon, H.; J. Goodacre, J.; the Rev. J. Hyde, S.E.; Comp. W. Walker, S.N.; and Comp. Hammer, P.S. The installation ceremony was most satisfactorily performed by Comp. John Lunt, P.Z., P.G.D.C. W.L., assisted by Comp. W. Archer, P.Z. Bro. Dr. Young was exalted to the R.A. Degree in capital style. At the banquet which followed there was a large and highly influential attendance.

TYWARDREATH.—Unity Chapter (No. 1151).—At the annual meeting of this chapter, held on Tuesday, the sum of £10 was voted to the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys. A Board of Installed Principals, consisting of Ex-Comps. the Rev. Dr. Treffry, the Rev. Geo. Ross, W. Guy, and T. C. Stephens, then proceeded to instal Comps. Dr. A. A. Davis, as Z., and W. Tonkin, as H. Comp. W. Polkinghorne being unavoidably absent, his installation as J. was postponed until the next meeting. The First Principal then invested as officers Ex-Comps. Stephens, as P.Z.; Capt. Colville, Scribe E.; J. Wellington, Scribe N.; N. H. Lamb, Treas.; T. Walton, P.S.; H. Elliott, Janitor.

Mark Masonry.

MACDONALD LODGE (No. 104).—This lodge met for its seventh anniversary at Masons' Hall, Mulsall Avenue, Coleman-street, E.C., on Saturday, the 7th ult., and was honoured by a special visit from the Deputy Provincial Grand Mark Master for Middlesex and Surrey, the V.W. Bro. Frederick Davison, who was accompanied by the W. Bro. Sigismund Rosenhul, P.G.D.C., and the W. Bro. James Smith, P.M. 129 and P.G.S. The lodge was opened by the W.M., Bro. Robert Berridge, who was supported by Bro. T. W. White, S.W., and W.M. elect; the V.W. Bro. Thomas Meggy, P.G.M.O.; the V.W. Bro. James Stevens, P.G.J.O.; and W. Bro. William Worrell, Past Masters of the lodge, and a strong muster of officers and brethren. Minutes having been confirmed, Bro. John Gilbert Edgecombe, of the Hengist Lodge, No. 195, was approved of for advancement with other candidates at a subsequent meeting, the business of the evening being too important to curtail by performing that ceremony in the full and perfect manner customary in this lodge. Bro. Meggy then read a dispensation forwarded through him to the lodge from the M.W.G.M.M., the Earl

of Limerick, authorising and directing the W.M. and Past Masters to instal, as a W.M. of the Order, Bro. C. A. Heinmann a member of the lodge, and P.M. (Craft), who is about to proceed to Japan, where it is contemplated he will establish a Mark Masters' lodge, of which he will be the W.M. designate. At the request of the W.M., Bro. Meggy officiated as Installing Master, and Bro. T. W. White, the W.M. elect, and Bro. C. A. Heinmann, by selection of the M.W.G.M.M., were duly presented, and most ably installed as Worshipful Masters. They were saluted according to ancient custom, and expressions of good wishes towards both, the one in his capacity of Chief Officer of the Macdonald Lodge, and the other in regard to his contemplated journey and promotion of the interests of the Order, were freely and heartily enunciated. Bro. White then proceeded to the appointment of his officers in the following order, viz.:—Bros. Alfred Williams, S.W.; North Ritherdon, J.W.; Edward Moody, M.O.; Edgar Drewett, S.O.; W. P. Collins, J.O.; Thomas Meggy, P.M., Treas.; F. H. Cozens, P.M.; Charles Hamerton, P.M., Sec.; N. J. F. Bassett, S.D.; G. Yaxley, J.D.; G. W. Verry, I.G.; W. C. Hale, Org.; J. K. Pitt, W.S.; H. F. Partridge, C.S.; J. Close, D.C.; and W. Grant, Tyler. Bro. J. K. Pitt was unanimously nominated for Provincial Grand Officer. At the close of the business before the lodge the Deputy Provincial Grand Master called for the production of the minute book, and expressing his great satisfaction with former proceedings, and the progress of the lodge, was pleased to record therein the gratification with which he had witnessed the performing of the installation ceremony by Bro. Meggy, and the carrying out of the commands of the M.W.G.M.M. The lodge having been closed, the brethren adjourned to banquet, in the provision for which, at a reasonable cost, and with quality and quantity of fare and most attentive service, the new proprietors of Masons' Hall fairly earned the complimentary comments expressed by members and guests. So much satisfaction was given to the lodge, both in respect of working accommodation and at subsequent refreshment, that a suggested removal to other quarters, which at a previous meeting had been mooted, was now entirely abandoned, and the lodge will continue its meetings at the same place for, we hope, many years yet to come. After honouring the usual loyal and Masonic toasts, and spending a most enjoyable evening, the brethren separated.

Red Cross of Constantine.

THE ORIGINAL OR PREMIER CONCLAVE met 29th May at Masonic Hall, Regent-street, for the installation of officers and other routine business. The conclave was opened by the retiring M.P.S., Sir Knt. T. Burdett Yeoman, after which the voluminous minutes of the former gathering and others in connection with the business of the conclave were read and approved; at the conclusion a ballot was taken for Bro. Wm. Henry Pannel, C.C., Lodge 18. It was unanimous. The following brethren, who had already been approved, were duly invested (Bros. Druest, Thornton, and Fowler) by the Very Eminent and Illustrious Sir Knt. Angelo Lewis, who also on this occasion, in the absence of Sir Knt. R. Wentworth Little from serious illness, for whom much sympathy was expressed, enthroned the M.P.S., Sir Knt. Dubois, amid marks of general approval. He also installed the following officers, viz., the Rev. Dr. Brette, as Eusebius; Rev. J. Vaughan, Senior General; Rev. P. M. Holden, Junior General; R. W. Little, as Recorder and G.T.; Sir Knt. Moore, Prefect; and Gilbert, Sentinel. The conclave was then closed, and the Sir Knights retired to the refectory, where a sumptuous banquet was prepared and enjoyed. The routine toasts were then proposed and responded to with brevity, and pleasingly appreciated. Present at banquet: The V.E. and Illustrious G. V. Roy, Colonel Bordett; Dubois, M.P.S.; T. Burdett Yeoman, I.P.S.; Moss, P.S.; Hubbard, P.S.; Angelo Lewis, P.S.; T. Cubit, P.S.; Levander, P.S.; Sir Knight Moore, H.; and Holden, Colonel Peters, Parker, Organist. Visitor: Hyde Pullen. A cordial vote of thanks was tendered to Sir Knt. Angelo Lewis for his services, and large expressions of sorrow were spoken at the absence of the highly esteemed and beloved Sir Knt. Little. The Sir Knights separated after spending a most enjoyable evening.

LIVERPOOL.—Skelmersdale Conclave (No. 77).—The annual meeting of the above conclave was held at the Masonic Hall on Monday evening, the 5th ult., when there was a pretty fair representation of the members of the Knights of Rome and the Red Cross of Constantine. The conclave was opened by the M.P.S., Em. Sir Knt. W. Cottrell, at seven o'clock, and the muster roll showed that there were present Sir Knts. Henry Jackson, V.E.; John McCarthy, S.G.; Josh. Skeaf, J.G.; Thomas Ashmore, Treas.; W. H. Corbin, Recorder; H. Burrows, Herald; James C. McGuire, Steward; J. K. Smith, P. Sov. Dep. In. General; C. T. Callon, P. Sov.; Henry Nelson, P. Sov.; Richard Reader, T. W. Bibby, J. W. C. Cave-Brown-Cave, T. Webster, W. S. Matthews, and others. Amongst the visitors were Sir Knight Rev. Rees Jenkins, P. Sov. After the records had been confirmed in proper form, Bro. A. C. Wylie, J.D. of the Neptune Lodge, 1264, was duly exalted. Ill. Sir Knt. Dr. J. Kellett Smith, D. Int. Gen. West Lancashire, then took his place on the throne, and Sir Knt. Henry Jackson was presented by Em. Sir Knts. Ashmore and Cottrell, Past Sovs. The Knights under the rank of enthroned Sovereigns then withdrew, and Em. Sir Knt. Jackson was solemnly enthroned in the Chair of Constantine. Sir Knt. J. McCarthy was installed as the V.E. Ill. Sir Knt. the Rev. J. R. Jenkins, A. G. Marshal, assisted the enthroning Sovereign, and offered the prayers most impressively. The Sir Knights, on being readmitted, saluted the M.P.S., and the following were invested officers

of the conclave:—Sir Knts. J. Skeaf, Senior General; R. H. Evans, Junior General; W. H. Cooper, H.P.; T. Ashmore, P.S., Treasurer; Garrett, Recorder; J. W. Cave-Brown-Cave, Prefect; H. Burrows, St.B.; Reader, Orator; T. W. Bibby, Herald; T. Webster, Sen. Aide; A. C. Wylie, Jun. Aide; H. Nelson, P.S., D.C.; and P. Ball, Sentinel. The conclave was then closed, and the Knights retired for refection. In the course of the evening the usual toasts were given. Em. Sir Knt. T. Ashmore, the senior Past Sov., proposed "The M.P.S.," and the latter gave "The Health of Enthroning Sov., Ill. Sir Knt. Dr. Smith." In replying for "The Visitors," Em. Sir Knt. the Rev. J. R. Jenkins expressed his great admiration for Christian Masonry, and desired the Skelmersdale Conclave the greatest success.

Scotland.

DALMUIR.—Lodge St. John's (No. 543).—The regular monthly meeting of this lodge was held in their hall, at Dalmeir, on Tuesday, the 13th ult., Bro. S. Leckie, W.M., in the chair; A. McNaughton, Junior, D.M.; J. Barrie, S.M.; J. F. Wilson, S.W.; J. Muirhead, J.W.; M. Watson, Treas.; J. Alexander, Sec. J. Morrison, S.D.; J. Stairs, J.D.; J. Morton, Chap.; A. Smith, I.G.; J. Adair, Tyler; and amongst those present were Bros. R. Manson, D. McDonald, J. Thomson, Barton, Malcolm, Serj.-Major Chamberlain (E.C.), and others. The lodge being constituted, minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed. Messrs. W. Young, A. Dobie, and W. Brown, who were previously proposed and seconded, were favourably balloted for and afterwards initiated into Freemasonry by the W.M. The lodge was then opened in the Third Degree, when Bros. A. Ritchie and Hillhouse were raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason at the hands of Bro. Leckie, W.M., who performed the ceremony in a most efficient and faultless manner.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Plantation (No. 581).—A meeting of this lodge was held in the Masonic Hall, Craigiehall-street, on Monday evening, the 19th June. In the absence of the W.M., Bro. Dr. Peacock, S.W., occupied the chair; Geo. Fisher, J.W. 129, acting S.W.; and J. Henry, J.W.; W. Taylor, Treas.; R. Allan, Sec.; A. Imrie, S.D.; J. Halley, J.D.; J. Campbell, S.S.; J. Dowell, J.S.; J. Nash, acting I.G.; and Cuning, Tyler; and a large attendance of members and visitors. Amongst the latter were Bros. J. Monro, W.M. 360; Jas. Gillies, P.M. 103, P.G.T.; and others. Messrs. H. Grindlay and J. Cameron were initiated by Bro. R. Allan, Sec.; and Bros. P. Stobe, Thos. Walker, and John Hart were raised by Bro. W. Ferguson, D.M., Bro. Fisher, J.W. 129 giving the obligation. A vote of thanks was awarded to Bro. R. M. Lintock for presenting the lodge with a set of handsome water cwers, &c. The lodge was then closed.

GOVAN.—Lodge Govandale (No. 437).—An emergency meeting of this lodge was held in the hall, Portland Buildings, Govan, on Tuesday, 30th ult., Br. J. Miller, W.M., in the chair; R. Muir, S.W.; A. James, J.W.; A. Blair, Treas.; J. Sutherland, Sec.; and others. Amongst the visitors were Bros. J. Tweedie, 518, E.C.; R. Allan, Sec. 581; W. Brown, 3; W. McCall, 27; W. J. Craig, 86; D. Swan, 175; R. Russell, 205; C. McIver, 413; McFarlane, 413; W. Ferguson, P.M. 543 ("Freemason"); and others. Mr. W. P. Knox was initiated, and Bro. W. Findlay was raised. Both ceremonies were performed by Bro. W. Ferguson, S.M. There was no other business.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Dramatic (No. 571).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held in St. Mark's Hall, Buchanan-street, on Wednesday, June 21st, at three o'clock p.m., Bro. William J. E. Dobson, W.M., presiding, assisted by Bros. Dugald Butler, W.M. 27; John Morrison, D.M.; Foulds, P.M. 179; Mitchell, J.D., acting S.W.; Wm. Sivewright, J.W.; G. Weir, acting Secretary; Barbour, Treasurer; and a number of visiting brethren. The W.M. then proceeded to open the lodge in the E.A. Degree, and afterwards requested the acting Secretary to read the minutes of previous meeting, and they being unanimously approved, were declared duly confirmed by the W.M. Bros. Henri Ludwig and John Cameron being in waiting for the Third Degree, the lodge was thereupon advanced to the Sublime Degree. The W.M. asked Bro. Foulds, P.M. 179, if he would work this degree, to which Bro. Foulds cordially assented. Bros. Ludwig and Cameron were accordingly admitted, and received the M.M. mysteries in a very able manner. There remained some general business, such as passing of by-laws, &c., &c., which entailed the loss of some time, but the business being at length settled, the lodge was reduced to the E.A. Degree, and no further business being to hand, the lodge was duly closed in ancient form.

It is intended to entertain General Lord Napier of Magdala at dinner on the 10th inst. at Willis's Rooms, to celebrate his return from India. His Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge will preside.

Bro. the Rt. Hon. Lord Suffield presented the prizes to the pupils of the Paston Grammar School on Wednesday.

Bro. Capt. Matthew Webb informs us that at the latter end of August next he will attempt to swim from the North of Scotland to Ireland, under the same conditions as he crossed the Channel.

DAYLIGHT reflected in dark rooms. Gas superseded in day time. Health, comfort, and economy promoted by adopting Chappuis' Patent Daylight Reflectors.—Manufactory, 69, Fleet-street, London.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

The 78th anniversary festival of this Institution was held on Wednesday evening at the Alexandra Palace, when nearly 700 ladies and brethren sat down to an elegant dinner, which was presided over by the Right Hon. Lord Leigh, Provincial Grand Master of Warwickshire. The festival was a great success, and the whole of the proceedings passed off most satisfactorily. Among the brethren who sat at the cross table with his Lordship were Bros. the Rev. W. K. Ryland Bedford, V.P. of the Board of Stewards; the Hon. R. W. Giddy, District G.M. South Africa; Colonel Burdett, Prov. G.M. of Middlesex; the Hon. W. Warren Vernon, Junior Grand Warden of England; the Rev. C. J. Martyn, Past Grand Chaplain; Dr. Jabez Hogg, Past Grand Deacon; Thomas Cubitt, Past Grand Pursuivant; R. J. Spiers, Past Deputy Prov. G.M. Oxford; Rev. Dr. Morris, Head Master; Captain Cope, Past G.S.B.; John Hervey, Grand Secretary; Geo. Plucknett, Treasurer; J. T. Collins, P.G.S.B.; W. Hall, the Medical Officer of the Institution; H. Browne, P.G.D.; R. W. Stewart, P.G.D.; James Terry, F. Adlard, Hyde Pullen, Benj. Head, P.G.D.; W. Roebuck, Capt. Wordsworth, J. G. Chancellor, Charles Cooté, S. Rosenthal, H. G. Buss, A. A. Pendlebury, W. Dodd, N. Green, George Newman, John Sutcliffe, A. H. Diaper, R. Barnes, Samuel May, E. Coste, I.P.M. 1613, P.M. 9, &c.; Bros. W. H. Perryman, Lodge 3; Joseph Clever, Lodge 12; Robert Douglas, Lodge 23; W. N. Lash, Lodge 73; Edward Hopwood, Lodge 141; N. Gluckstein, Chapter 141; Robert Secker, Lodge 435; J. G. Stevens, Lodge 933; Alfred Durrant, Lodge 1185; W. A. Tinney, Lodge 1319; W. J. Murlis, Lodge 1489; Charles Hogard, Prov. of Essex; D. M. Dewar, Prov. of Middlesex; W. Hammond, Prov. of Middlesex; H. Phythian, Prov. of Middlesex; W. Sharp, Prov. of Surrey; J. M. Kidd, Prov. of Sussex; Frederick Soars, William Manton, and Capt. Salt, Province of Warwickshire; H. Massey ("Freemason").

Dinner was served at a few minutes after five o'clock. The arrangements were well made, and although there were so many brethren and ladies present there was no confusion or any difficulty in finding places. Neither was there any overcrowding, the large dining hall affording ample accommodation for every one. When the repast had been disposed of, "Benedictus" was sung, and the toasts were then proposed.

The Chairman in proposing "The Queen," said—Ladies and brethren, I am sure that it does not need any words from me to call from you a hearty response to the first toast which I am about to propose to you; it is the "Health of our beloved Queen," and when I remind you that she has reigned over us for thirty-nine years, and that this day happens to be the anniversary of her coronation day I know that you will the more heartily respond to the toast. It is not however only as Queen of England that I ask you to drink her health in a bumper, but as patroness of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys. I am delighted to see so many ladies gathered here to-day, and I am sure of this that they will heartily join with me in drinking the health of the best Sovereign that ever reigned over this kingdom. I give you "The Queen" with the greatest pleasure, "The Health of our Queen, Victoria, and long may she live over a happy and contented people."

The Chairman, in proposing "The Grand Master," said—Ladies and brethren, the next toast I have to propose is that of the "Prince of Wales, Grand Master of England." I am quite sure that all my brethren will agree with me in hoping that our illustrious brother may long continue to be our Grand Master. We must all rejoice at his return home to this country in safety after his most successful visit to our great Indian Empire, where he appears to have gained by his courtesy and his kindness the respect and attachment of all with whom he has come in contact, and I feel quite satisfied that our illustrious brother will by his visit have done a great deal to secure the happy relations that now exist between our Indian princes and chiefs and the

native of India. I give you with great pleasure "The Health of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M. of Freemasons of England."

The Chairman, in proposing the next toast, said—I believe that it is universally allowed that Freemasonry has made some most prodigious strides within the last few years, and during the last five and twenty years especially. It seems extraordinary to me to see so large an assembly as this, composed, too, not only of brethren, but of that sex whom we are happy to call "sisters." I think you will allow that the success of Freemasonry must be mainly due to the excellent chiefs who govern our Craft. It is not only in the numbers, but in our great Masonic charities that we are so prosperous. Never in the history of Freemasonry has Freemasonry stood higher than it does at this moment. I think, therefore, that our best thanks are due to our chiefs, and that we cannot do less than honour the toast I am about to propose to you. I give you "The Earl of Carnarvon, the Pro Grand Master of England, Lord Skelmersdale, the Deputy Grand Master, the Prov Grand Masters, and the Present and Past Grand Officers." I have the pleasure of having on my right one of the Prov. Grand Masters, a brother who is esteemed and respected wherever he is known, and I may say that he is known throughout this country. I allude to the Rt. Worshipful Prov. Grand Master of Middlesex, my excellent brother Col. Burdett. We only hope that the great province he presides over may long continue to have such a Prov. Grand Master. I need not, in addressing an assembly that knows quite as much as, if not more than, I do of the merits of Col. Burdett, speak of him, or say any more in his praise. I will, therefore, give you the toast.

Col. Burdett, in reply, said—I assure you it is with extreme pleasure that I attempt to return thanks for the Earl of Carnarvon, Lord Skelmersdale, and the rest of the Grand Officers, a toast which has been so favourably put before you by your worthy chairman. We have all known for a considerable time that our officers have been most efficient in every possible way. We have had men of the highest grade in that position. We have had men of the greatest influence ruling over us; but I must say they have ruled over us with credit to the Order and themselves. We never had a more efficient Pro Grand Master or a more efficient Deputy G.M. than we have at the present time, and I believe also that we never had more efficient Grand Officers generally. We all feel great pride in having such men as Lord Carnarvon and Lord Skelmersdale as Pro Grand Master and Dep. Grand Master, on whose excellences I might dilate were you not so thoroughly acquainted with them; but I have a great deal more pleasure now than in returning you my thanks on their behalf. I have to propose to you a toast. In proposing it to you I feel perfectly confident that both by ladies and brethren it will be accepted with the greatest fervour. We have been presided over to-day by a nobleman who has most ably and efficiently filled the position which he has been called upon to occupy; and though it is not the first appearance he has made before you (for I believe he has presided at the festivals of these institutions four or five times before), he is ever ready to come forward and assist us when we require his assistance, and whenever he thinks he can do any good to or benefit our institutions in general. We are perfectly aware that the Province of Warwickshire holds its head up in the most wonderful manner, and we shall hear by-and-by what the results of its subscriptions will be towards this institution. But as long as I have been in the Order, and it is over forty years—I may say I have never seen an institution so supported as this has been, and I have never seen such a meeting as that of to-day, participated in as it is by ladies as well as brethren. I will, however, not trespass longer on your time, for I know it is very valuable; but I will propose to you at once, "The Health of our noble Chairman, Lord Leigh."

The Chairman, in responding, said—Ladies and brethren, I can assure you that I feel most deeply sensible of the very kind manner in which you have drunk my health; and I thank my kind Bro. Col. Burdett for the very kind, indeed

far too flattering way, in which he has proposed the toast to you. I can assure you, brethren, however, that I feel it to be a great honour, and indeed a great pleasure, to preside this day at the 78th anniversary of one of your noble Masonic Institutions. And now, ladies and brethren—may I not say Sisters and Brethren, for I am quite satisfied of this, that the ladies who have honoured us this day with their presence at this anniversary would not have done so had they not felt a sisterly interest in our great Masonic Charities?—I have to propose to you what may be termed the toast of the evening. It is not my intention to detain you with a long speech, but I cannot propose such an important toast as that of "Prosperity to the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys" without saying one or two words. As I have already observed, this is the 78th anniversary of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys. 78 years ago, when this institution was founded, there were 6 boys; it commenced with 6 boys, who were clothed, educated, and placed out in different schools. Since then there has been upwards of 1,300 boys clothed, educated, and maintained at the expense of the Craft. To-day we have 186 boys, not placed out as they were a few years ago in different schools, but all collected together in one noble building within a short distance of this table—in one noble building which is the freehold property of the Freemasons of England. The land has been purchased, and a house built by the Freemasons of England; the debt on it has been paid off, and it is now our own property. Well, within the last year—I should observe that I have no doubt that most of those that I address here to-night, indeed I know a very large number of them, know the building, and can bear witness to its being an admirable building for the purpose—within the last year a detached house has been bought for an hospital, where sick boys can be received, and being removed from the bustle and confusion of a large establishment they would derive benefit quicker from medical treatment there than they would if confined in a sick room in a large school. The boys receive a most admirable education, and the managers of that institution will be able to tell you that most of those, indeed, almost every one of those boys who have left the institution since its formation have been known to be going on well and had made their way in the world in a satisfactory manner. With regard to the results of their education, I can assure you those that have seen the list of examinations—the satisfactory list of their examinations—will bear witness to what they have done. The results this past year have been most astounding. I am delighted to see that out of the number of prizes and honours that they have gained three boys from the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys have gained first-class honours in the Local Examinations of Cambridge; and what I am sure will delight and please my Warwickshire brethren is, that one of those lads standing at the head of the list is a Warwickshire lad, bearing the well-known Warwickshire name of Beaumont. Great credit—very great credit, I may say—is due to the excellent Head Master and his assistants. I have had the pleasure of making Dr. Morris's acquaintance, and I can bear witness from what I have seen of that gentleman that he is undoubtedly the right man in the right place. Some of my Masonic brethren—not many of them, but some of them—have recently spoken to me of the expense of the maintenance of the boys. Wishing particularly to ascertain the real facts of the case, I, in company with a good brother of mine who I wish was here present this evening, but who unfortunately has been detained at home by unforeseen circumstances—I allude to Bro. Machen, the D. Prov. G.M. for Warwickshire—went on a visit to the institution some short time ago, where I met our kind friend, Bro. Binckes, to whom this institution, let me say, owes a great deal for his admirable exertions, and we went fully into the accounts of the expense of the maintenance of the boys for the last 10 years; and I feel satisfied myself that the charges made against this institution of being extravagant cannot be sustained. I will not weary you with the accounts and statistics for the last ten years, but I will merely take the last two years, 1875

and 1874. In 1875 the maintenance of each boy was something like £40 and two or three odd shillings; but in 1874, the year previous, it was £43, some odd shillings; and on a calculation it can be shown that there has been an actual reduction in 1875, although provisions and everything else are dearer than they were—there has been an actual reduction of £3 and some 3s. or 4s. in 1875 over 1874. Now, I cannot think that with the admirable and first-class education that we give our boys, and considering the respectable but not extravagant manner in which they are clothed and fed, that £40 per boy for giving them the best education you possibly can give them is a very extravagant sum. Brethren, I believe this institution to be well deserving of your support. I believe we have one of the best schools in England, a school which the Freemasons of England may be justly proud. Your institution has received great support, and I hope it will continue to receive that support. I hope that when we presently hear the list of the contributions read out by our excellent Secretary, Bro. Binckes, you will find that a noble subscription has been raised for this School this day. I am delighted to find such a long list of Stewards. I believe they are upwards of 200. I am quite sure that we all must feel deeply indebted to those Stewards for their great exertions; and we have to thank Sir Henry Edwards—who, I wish was here to-day—for having acted as President of the Stewards; and I must say that I regard with very great pleasure and satisfaction the number of Stewards that have appeared for the province over which I have had the honour of presiding now for very nearly twenty-five years. In a very few months I shall have gained my silver wedding day; and I thank the 80 Stewards very heartily for their very great kindness in coming up to-day to attend this festival. I only hope and trust, as I say, that this institution may go on and flourish; but it should be remembered that it has no actual funded property. If it has it is not a very large one. It is not like some of the other Masonic Institutions—it has to depend very much on its subscriptions from Grand Lodge and on private subscriptions from Freemasons. It has no funded property; and if we only educate 186 boys it will take more than £7000 a year to maintain the institution. But we hope to do a great deal more than educate 186 boys: we hope to receive before long 200 boys. There are many candidates that will be very glad to be received who cannot be received on account of want of funds. A brother of mine was suggesting just before the banquet what an admirable thing it would be to have some scholarships. I wish we could have some scholarships and send our boys to Oxford and Cambridge; and I am quite certain of this, that if we did they would do credit to our Masonic Institution. I will not detain you with many more observations. I do not wish to weary you; but before proposing this important toast I hope you will excuse my alluding—but very shortly—to an article that appeared in a Masonic publication towards the end of last February. In this Masonic paper the writer, in a manner analysing the subscriptions that had been received at the last festival of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, when my noble Bro. and friend Lord Skelmersdale so ably presided, alluded to the noble support his lordship received from his own Province, West Lancashire, on that occasion. Had the remarks of the writer ended there I should have had not a word to say on the subject. On the contrary, I readily endorse every word the writer said, as indeed West Lancashire came forward most nobly to support the Right Worshipful Brother the Provincial Grand Master who so ably presides over West Lancashire. But the writer went on to make a comparison between the subscriptions received from West Lancashire and those received from the other provinces and London; and I must really say he rather unfairly spoke of the want of the liberality of the province over which I have so long presided, and which included, as he said, the wealthy and important town of Birmingham. Now, I am quite satisfied of this, that the writer of that article could not have been aware that at the very moment he was writing the article we had eighty Stewards in

Warwickshire doing all they possibly could to raise subscriptions for the Masonic Boys' School; and it was really almost impossible, and not to be expected, that the province could in the same year support two of our Masonic Institutions. Moreover, the writer of that article could not have been aware that some fourteen or fifteen years ago the Freemasons of Warwickshire came nobly forward to support this very institution, the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, when I had the pleasure of being President, and that for two successive years Warwickshire sent up Stewards with large subscriptions to support the three excellent Masonic Institutions successively, when I had the honour, though unworthily, of presiding over them. I will not detain you with many more observations, but simply say, and I must be excused for saying, I do think that no writer can fairly, or ought fairly, to draw comparisons between subscriptions raised in one province over another. It should be borne in mind that we usually in our Masonic charities select some Grand Officer, whether Grand Officer from London or one from the province, to preside over these charities; and as a matter of course the Masons of that particular province over which their own Grand Master presides, feel a pleasure, as they ought to do, to come forward and support him. I hope and trust that presently we may hear that Warwickshire has subscribed a tolerable sum this evening to this charity, but would it be fair to compare Warwickshire with some other province in this kingdom when their own Provincial Grand Master presides at this table. Warwickshire brethren feel, and feel deeply, I know, a pleasure, as they have always done, in assisting their Grand Master, and I am quite satisfied of this, that they will do so this evening. I hope you will excuse these observations, which are rather personal to myself and to my province; but I could not refrain from making them, inasmuch as I have received invariable kindness from the brethren of Warwickshire who I know are as liberally disposed as any Freemasons in the kingdom. On their account I could not refrain from making these few observations. I now give you with the greatest possible pleasure "Prosperity to the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, and may it continue long to flourish." I couple with the toast the name of the Treasurer, Bro. George Plucknett.

Bro. Plucknett, in responding and thanking the brethren for their liberal support of the institution hitherto, said he did not expect that the subscriptions of that evening would be at all behind any of the subscriptions of former years. He felt that the institution owed a great debt of gratitude to the Stewards, to his lordship for presiding, and to Bro. Binckes for the perseverance, the energy, and the time which he had given to the affairs of the institution. He was quite sure that to-morrow morning Bro. Binckes would begin to provide for the festival of next year, and not lose a single day.

Bro. Binckes then rose to announce the list of subscriptions, but first observed that he had 280 Stewards. He felt it due to the province of Warwickshire to say that the province had his entire sympathy in reference to the remarks which had fallen from his lordship, inasmuch as he remembered that the very first time after he (Bro. Binckes) had the honour of becoming Secretary the festival was presided over by Lord Leigh, when he was largely supported by the Province of Warwickshire, whose subscription, amounted to very nearly £800. Eighteen years had rolled by since that time, and he now had the extreme gratification of finding again in the chair the same noble lord in hale and good health. (Cheers.)

LONDON LODGES.

Grand Stewards' Lodge, Bros. William Bris-	£	s.	d.
tow, P.G. Std., P.M. ...	15	15	0
1 Ralph Gooding, M.D., B.A., F.L.S., J.W. ...	63	0	0
2 E. Parker Deacon, J.D. ...	61	14	0
3 William Henry Perryman, S.W. ...	47	17	6
4 H. R. Muckintosh, J.W. ...	26	5	0
5 Alfred H. Diaper, P.G. Steward, W.M. ...	42	0	0
6 Sir George R. Prescott, Bart. ...	21	0	0
7 F. Adlard ...	65	2	6
8 J. L. Geiger, S.W. ...	14	14	0
9 E. Kimber, W.M. ...	28	7	0
10 H. Le Strange, W.M. ...	32	11	0
11 E. C. Taylor, W.M. ...	115	10	0

12 J. Clever, P.M. ...	51	9	0
13 W. P. Applebee, P.M. ...	23	2	0
18 J. M. Burt, S.W. ...	38	17	0
21 J. Waldram, I.G. ...	44	2	0
22 A. Partridge, W.M. ...	43	1	0
23 R. Douglas, S.D. ...	28	5	0
28 J. G. Neilson, S.W. ...	54	12	0
29 J. E. Middleton, P.G. Steward, S.W. ...	17	17	0
34 W. B. Date, I.G. ...	66	3	0
46 G. F. Humphery, P.G. Std. ...	46	13	0
55 J. T. Robertson, W.M. ...	76	13	0
58 F. W. Smith ...	63	0	0
59 J. Dence, S.D. ...	120	10	0
60 G. Anderson, J.D. ...	66	1	0
73 W. N. Lash ...	170	2	0
91 T. R. Marshall, J.D. ...	44	2	0
92 R. F. Gould, W.M., P.M. 153, 570 ...	66	13	0
141 E. Hopwood, P.M. ...	31	10	0
142 J. W. Lambert ...	28	7	0
157 L. J. Drew, P.M. ...	105	0	0
162 H. Ramsden, J.W. ...	28	7	0
169 G. Bolton, V.P., P.M. ...	103	19	0
173 W. Wiles, W.M. ...	66	3	0
179 J. U. Burt, W.M. ...	38	1	0
180 A. Cameron, P.M. ...	48	6	0
181 E. W. Stanton, P.M. ...	33	12	0
183 R. H. Groombridge, P.M. ...	21	0	0
186 C. W. Noehmer, P.M. ...	92	8	0
188 J. E. Walters ...	32	11	0
192 G. Newman, P.M. ...	72	9	0
198 J. M. Lockwood, I.G. ...	31	0	0
235 E. Fox, P.M. ...	10	10	0
259 G. P. Goldney ...	94	10	0
435 R. Secker, S.W. ...	66	13	6
657 G. P. Gillard ...	86	2	0
742 H. Cox, P.M. ...	50	8	0
813 G. Sinclair, Treas. ...	207	4	0
822 J. Nicholas, S.W. ...	31	10	0
871 H. J. Tuson, W.M. ...	11	11	0
902 R. N. Field, P.M. ...	103	19	0
933 J. G. Stevens, S.W., P.M. 554 ...	207	18	0
969 C. W. Thompson, S.D. ...	200	0	0
1178 J. Stock, J.D. ...	10	10	0
1185 A. Durrant, W.M. ...	116	0	6
1201 J. Mander, P.M. ...	36	15	0
1216 S. H. Wagstaffe, P.M. ...	65	11	0
1259 E. Jex, P.M. ...	120	10	0
1275 J. J. Limebeer, W.M. ...	21	0	0
1288 R. V. Davies, W.M. ...	24	3	0
1298 G. H. Jaffa, I.G. ...	37	0	0
1309 R. P. Tebb ...	5	5	0
1319 W. A. Tinney, S.W. ...	11	11	0
1328 J. Oliver, P.M. ...	116	0	6
1381 G. Everett, W.M. ...	57	14	0
1383 Major S. H. Clerke, P. Prov. G.W. Devon, S.W. ...	239	8	0
1445 W. T. Howe, P. Prov. G. Purst. Middlesex, P.M. ...	47	5	0
1489 W. J. Murlis, W.M. ...	42	2	0
1538 H. J. Green, W.M. ...	18	18	0
1540 C. W. Hudson, J.D. ...	127	1	0
1572 R. P. Hooton, W.M. ...	18	18	0
1607 F. Brown, S.W., G. S. Blythe J. M. P. Montagu, D.P.G.M. ...	53	11	0
131 5 0			
LONDON CHAPTERS.			
141 N. Gluckstein ...	28	7	0
MARK DEGREE.			
1 Rev. Dr. E. Brette, W.M., G. Chap. BERKS AND BUCKS. ...	10	10	0
771 J. Johnson ...	36	15	0
945 W. Ballard, W.M. ...	77	15	0
1101 Rev. C. R. Honey, Chaplain ...	37	5	0
CHESHIRE.			
425 J. McHattie, W.M. ...	113	0	0
A. G. Smith, J.D. ...	11	0	6
J. Hanson ...	42	0	0
CORNWALL.			
131 W. J. Hughan, P.G.D., P.Pr.G., Sec. &c., V. Pres. of Inst. ...	432	12	0
CUMBERLAND AND WESTMORELAND.			
129 J. C. Kaathmell, P.M. ...	147	0	0
DERBYSHIRE.			
353 G. A. Taverner, W.M., Hugh E. Diamond, Pro.G.W., P.M. ...	65	2	0
731 W. Knight, D.C. ...	42	2	0
802 J. H. Biggs, Sec. ...	17	6	6
850 J. Hill, Jun. ...	5	5	0
DEVONSHIRE.			
189 J. E. Curteis, P.M. ...	173	5	0
DURHAM.			
661 R. Candlish, P.M. ...	275	2	0
ESSEX.			
276 E. H. Carter, W.M. ...	84	0	0
453 C. F. Hogard P.M. 205. ...	60	18	0
GLOUCESTERSHIRE.			
82 Col. G. H. Basevi, P.D.D.G.M. Punjab ...	166	9	0
493 A. V. Hatton ...	78	15	0
1067 R. J. Kerr, P.Pr.G. Std., P.M. 26 ...	26	5	0
493 (Chap.) E. T. Inskip, M.E.Z., P.Pr.G.W. HANTS AND ISLE OF WIGHT. ...	5	5	0
130 J. B. Thomas, Prov. G.S.D., P.M. ...	119	14	0
319 J. D. Legg ...	15	15	0
723 R. Eve, V.P., P. Prov. G.W., P.M. ...	40	9	0
HERTFORDSHIRE.			
1385 J. Cutbush, W.M. ...	82	17	0
KENT.			
199 J. D. Terson, P.M. ...	68	7	
784 A. F. S. Bird, P.M. ...	27	6	
913 C. Coupland, Prov. G. Purst., P.M. 706 ...	123	9	
1089 J. Hancock, P.M. and Treas. ...	73	10	0
1096 T. Ayling, W.M. ...	10	10	0
A. H. Des-Barres, S.W. ...	10	10	0
1206 R. J. Emmerson, P.P.G.W. ...	129	3	0

	£.	s.	d.
1208 A. Wilson, P. Prov. G.S.B., P.M.	100	16	0
1309 E. Coste, P.M. 9	116	11	0
LANCASHIRE—EAST DIVISION.			
37 G. P. Brockbank, P. Prov. G.D., P.M. 64,	46	4	0
221, V.P.	10	10	0
62 J. W. McClure, P. Prov. J.G.W.	10	10	0
221 T. Entwistle, P. Prov. G.W., P.M.	10	10	0
C. Stanley, S.W.	5	5	0
J. Richardson, J.W.	5	5	0
Chorlton,	10	10	0
LANCASHIRE—WEST LANCASHIRE.			
203 B. W. Rowson, P. Prov. G. Sup. W., P.M.	68	5	0
1375 G. D. Pogbin, P.M.	36	15	0
LEICESTERSHIRE AND RUTLAND.			
C. W. Stretton, P. Prov. G.W.	12	10	0
LINCOLNSHIRE.			
1294 J. Sutcliffe, V.P., P. Prov. G.W. 600, 792,	250	0	0
P.M. 464, 1294			
MIDDLESEX.			
382 Woodward, E.C., P.M.	11	11	0
1393 Phythian, Henry, Prov. G. Sec	23	12	6
1326 Hammond, William, P.P.J.G.D., P.M.	45	3	0
1415 Dewar, Donald M., W.M.	13	13	0
1423 Baldwin, J.W., P.M.	27	6	0
NORFOLK.			
Morgan, A. F., D.Pro.G.M.	1	1	0
Marshall, Joseph, P.M., P.Pr.G.	44	2	0
NORTHUMBERLAND.			
685 Cockcroft, L.M., D.Pr.G.M.	303	9	0
NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.			
1434 Hack, John, P.M.	63	0	0
OXFORDSHIRE.			
357 H. Deane, Hon. W. W. Vernon, G.J.W.	30	8	6
340 Fk. W. Ansell, J. W.	32	2	6
599 John Potts, P.Pro.G.S. of W., W.M.	31	0	0
SOMERSETSHIRE.			
446 Capt. A. Perkins, Pr. G.J.W.W.M.,	40	19	0
973 C. H. Lopes (G.C., M.P.), W.M.	31	10	0
STAFFORDSHIRE.			
539 T. M. Humphries, W.M.	117	12	0
624 C. F. Graham, W.M.	172	4	0
SUFFOLK.			
1224 Rev. C. J. Martyn, P.G.Chap., V.P.	33	1	0
SURREY.			
370 J. Boor, P.Pro.G.S.B., P.M., V.P.	31	10	0
416 Rev. A. Hall, W.M., P.Pr.G.Chap.	18	8	0
452 G. Wright, J.W.	10	10	0
463 W. Sharp, S.W., P.Pro.G.S.B	116	11	0
889 T. Long, P.M.	33	6	6
SUSSEX.			
271 G. Ford, W.M.	68	14	6
732 J. M. Kidd, W.M.	137	11	0
WARWICKSHIRE.			
43 Lord Leigh, J. Phillips, W.M., J. J.			
Moore, P.M., S. Sinauer, J.W., A.			
Blanckensee, P.M., P.P.G.S.D.	57	15	0
74 J. Moffat, W.M.	21	0	0
J. C. Gell, P.M.	21	0	0
C. Lee, P.Pr.G.W., P.M.	22	1	0
J. Muggleton, P.M.	22	1	0
E. Parisot	14	14	0
J. Vaughan, P.Prov.G.D.Cers., P.M.	22	1	0
254 C. Edwards, W.M.	63	0	0
H. Matterson, P.M., P.Pr.G.D.	63	0	0
284 Col. J. Machen, D.Pro.G.M.	10	10	0
G. Moore, P.M.	5	5	0
G. Wilson, M.D., S.D.	5	5	0
F. H. Haynes	5	5	0
B. Campbell	5	5	0
301 C. B. James, W.M.	90	17	0
395 W. Green, W.M.	11	11	0
395 H. Stanley, P.M.	75	12	0
432 R. C. Sinclair, P.M., H. Slingsby, P.M.	22	1	0
468 Dr. B. Fletcher, P.D. Pr. G.M., J. T. Collins,			
(P.G. Sta.) Pro G. Treas., P.M., J.			
Archer, P.M., P.P.G.S.B., Rev.W. Randall,			
W.M. P.G. Ch., W. Spurrier, P.M.,			
T. H. Smith, P.M., P.P.G.D., G. P.			
Wragge, V.P., P.M., P.P.G.P.	52	10	0
473 J. R. Chirm, Prov. G. Supt. Wks., P.M.,	57	15	0
W. Short, P.M.	57	15	0
J. Poole	115	10	0
502 H. Bennett, P.M., J. Haswell, P.M.	47	5	0
567 G. Smith, W.M., J. Boddington, G. Eyres,			
G. Hiorns	42	0	0
Rev. W. K. R. Bedford	32	11	0
587 C. T. Rowe, P.M., G.G.O.	36	15	0
725 S. E. Elworthy	5	5	0
B. W. Hicks, P.M. and Treas.	10	10	0
W. Manton, P.M.	10	10	0
F. Soars	94	10	0
739 H. Rowley, W.M., J. G. Biermas, P.M.,			
C. A. McCalla, J. W.	40	5	6
887 W. Ross Jordan, W.M.	36	15	0
Capt. Salt, J.P., P.M., P. Prov. G.W.	38	17	0
925 W. Price, W.M.	21	0	0
J. W. Matthews, S.W.	5	5	0
J. C. Gray, J.D.	11	10	0
T. Reece	5	5	0
A. Morrell	5	5	0
938 Howkins Thomas, P.P.G.A.D.Cers, P.M.,			
Whitfield, Hubert; Zair, John, Jr.,			
P.Pr.G.D.Cers.	134	8	0
1016 Barber, Stephen, W.M.; Gilbert, J. S.W.,			
Dec, J., Rocliffe, Secretary.	52	10	0
1031 Jackson, W., W.M.	26	2	0
1163 Myers, J., W.M.	15	15	0
Pursall, John, P.P.G.W., P.M.	10	10	0
Wood, Stephen, P.M., P.G.D.	47	5	0
1180 Webster, E.A., W.M.	48	6	0
1333 Mears, Dr. Robert; Tippetts, F. G., P.			
Pro.G.Reg., P.M.	15	15	0

1246 Baker, Geo., W.M., P.P.G.Purst; Guilter,			
H.G., P.M., P.P.G.S.B.; Smith Henry,			
P.M.; Voughton, T., P.M.; Quilter,			
C. H., I.G.	67	7	0
1431 Sanderson, H., P.M., P.Pr.G.D.C.	46	4	0
1474 Lyon, Solomon, W.M.; Davis, M., P.M.	52	10	0
1551 Wood, Stephen	12	12	0
WILTSHIRE.			
586 R. Stokes, P.M. and Treas., P.P.G.S.W.	65	2	0
YORKSHIRE—WEST.			
Sir H. Edwards	10	10	0
B. Shaw, P.G.D., P.D. Prov. G.M. and			
V.P.	10	10	0
208 C. Woolons	10	10	0
F. Hanson	10	10	0
302 H. Smith, Prov. G.S., V.P.	10	10	0
380 J. Wordsworth, P. Prov. G.W., W.M.,			
V.P.	52	10	0
G. Perkin, Treas.	10	10	0
600 C. Crabtree, W.M.	10	10	0
1239 W. White, W.M.	10	10	0
J. Clark, S.D.	10	10	0
F. M. Tindall	10	10	0
J. Thompson	10	10	0
W. Cooke, Prov. G.M., Sec.	42	0	0
NORTH WALES AND SALOP.			
384 H. Platt	10	10	0
1124 W. P. Spaul, Pro.G. Sec., P.M.	60	18	0
SOUTH WALES—EASTERN DIVISION.			
364 R. J. Thomas, P.Pr.G.W., P.M.	210	0	0
FOREIGN STATIONS—EAST INDIES.			
G. Davies, Dist.G.Sec. Punjab	10	10	0
GREECE.			
C. F. Matier, P.G.W.	92	8	0

The Rev. W. K. R. Bedford proposed "The Vice-Patrons, Vice-Presidents, Trustees, and Committees," to which Bro. Raynham W. Stewart, P.G.D., responded.

The Chairman, in proposing "Success to the Sister Institutions, Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, and Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution," said he felt that the Masonic body would continue to give that generous support to all the three great institutions as long as the world existed that it had given hitherto.

Bro. James Terry said—My Lord and brethren, permit me in this assembly most heartily and most sincerely to thank you, not alone for the generous accord with which you have mentioned the names of the Girls' School and the Benevolent Institution, but also as a representative of one of the institutions to thank the noble lord in the chair, and the brethren of the Province of Warwickshire, for the very kind, noble, and generous response they have given to the appeal of your lordship to-night, more especially when we consider that this time last year no less a sum than £12,700 was brought in for this institution. We cannot but congratulate the Chairman, Bro. Binckes, the Secretary, and the Committee for being enabled for a second time to announce a similar amount. Ladies and brethren, we have to thank you most heartily for the very generous support that you have given to the Girls' School and to the Benevolent Institution during the past year, and to remind you that the sum announced at our three institutions has arrived at the great result of £32,000, and, my lord, if this may be taken as an augury of our success in the future, in 1877 the amount will then be the largest ever known. Ably supported by the brethren of the provinces, we earnestly hope and trust that during the year 1877 a sum far exceeding £32,000 may be brought in for the benefit of the three institutions. On behalf of the Secretary of the Girls' School, whose absence from indisposition we all most sincerely regret, and on my own behalf in connection with the institution which I have the honour of representing, I have to assure your lordship that if the Province of Warwickshire will but bestow their favour in 1877 on behalf of the poor old men and the poor old women to the same amount as they have done to-day for the boys, our most hearty and sincere thanks will be bestowed on you, my lord, brethren, and ladies. I trust all of us may be spared to the coming year to witness even a greater result than that achieved to-night.

The Rev. W. K. R. Bedford responded for "The Stewards," which was proposed by Col. Burdett.

The Rev. Bro. Randall, P.G.C. Warwick, proposed "The Ladies," and shortly afterwards the party adjourned to the drawing room.

A selection of vocal and instrumental music was performed under the direction of Bro. Chaplin Henry.

Bro. Goodchild was toastmaster at the banquet table.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.

The General Committee of this Institution met on Thursday afternoon in the library, Freemasons' Hall. Bro. Thomas W. White took the chair. There were also present: Bros. Col. Creton, H. Browne, Henry Smith, Griffiths Smith, Major Finney, Col. Peters, F. Adlard, Benj. Head, H. A. Dubois, John Boyd, R. B. Webster, H. J. Tuson, H. Massey ("Freemason"), Thomas Massa, Peter de Lande Long, Joshua Nunn, Richard Spencer, and Bro. Hedges.

The Chairman said that the House Committee had decided to let the children in the school have their treat at the Crystal Palace on Monday next.

Seven children were put on the list for the October election, for which vacancies were declared. The list will contain 44 candidates. The tender of Messrs. Smale of South Lambeth, for building the new wing to the Girls' School, for the sum of £7017 was accepted.

Bro. Hedges read a letter from Bro. Henry Muggeridge resigning as from October next his position of Collector to this institution which he had held for twenty years. The letter stated that the cause of this was the failing health of the writer, which prevented his discharging his duties with satisfaction to themselves.

Col. Creton said that some of the brethren would be much surprised at this letter being sent. The brethren must have seen with regret for some time that Bro. Muggeridge's health was not so good as it had been. He himself had met him in different parts of the town during the last few months, and it was with great difficulty he moved about. He was sure all the brethren would regret Bro. Muggeridge's resignation, and the cause of it. But as it was necessary that a motion should be made now that this letter of resignation had been received, he (Col. Creton) begged to move "That the resignation of Bro. Muggeridge be accepted, and that it be accepted as from the 1st of October next." At the proper time he should give notice of motion for the Quarterly Court in October that Bro. Muggeridge's great services to the Institution be recognised by the grant of a substantial annuity.

Bro. Joshua Nunn seconded the motion for the acceptance of Bro. Muggeridge's resignation.

Bro. Col. Creton said he should move that the Acting Secretary in writing to Bro. Muggeridge stating that his resignation had been accepted should say that it was with very great regret that the brethren received it. From the high respect they all had for Bro. Muggeridge everything that was necessary to be done must be done in the kindest and most delicate way possible.

Major Finney seconded the motion which was adopted.

Notice of motion was given on behalf of Bro. Raynham W. Stewart for the Quarterly Court of Saturday next for the admission of ten girls not successful at last election to the school, the infirmary to be used for the purpose.

Bro. H. Browne (for Bro. Tattershall) moved an increase of £5 in the salaries of each of the Assistant Governesses, and the granting a salary of £21 to a fourth.

Bro. Browne said the subject had been carefully debated by the House Committee, who considered that the way in which the ladies discharged their duties fully entitled them to this recognition.

Bro. Col. Creton seconded the motion, which was carried.

Bro. H. Browne (for the Rev. J. Browne) moved that Miss Sheppard, the Assistant Matron be granted a salary of £30 a year. It was but a small remuneration for her services which had been very valuable especially during the illness of Miss Jarwood.

The motion, which was seconded by Bro. Griffiths Smith, was carried.

Authority to the Chairman to sign cheques was afterwards given, and the Committee adjourned.

Masonic and General Tidings.

HOLY PALESTINE PRECEPTORY.—A meeting of this preceptory will be held on the 5th inst., at the Masonic Hall, Golden-square, at 5.30 p.m. precisely.

CORONATION DAY.—Wednesday being the 38th anniversary of Her Majesty the Queen's coronation, it was observed at Windsor with the usual honours. At early morn and throughout the day merry peals were ringing from the Chapel Royal, St. George's, Windsor Castle, and St. John's Church. At noon a Royal salute was fired in the Long Walk. At all the naval ports and in the military districts the day was observed as a holiday.

Bro. James Glaisher presided at the annual meeting of the General Committee of the Palestine Exploration Fund on Tuesday last.

The Fifteen Sections will be worked in the Confidence Lodge of Instruction, Masons' Hall Tavern, Basinghall-street, on Wednesday next. Bro. Thos. Barnes will preside.

A supplement will again be given next week.

The consecration of the Sackville Lodge, No. 1619, will take place at the Crown Hotel, East Grinstead, on the 11th inst. Bro. Furner, the Deputy Prov. Grand Master of Sussex, will perform the ceremonies.

Bro. Alderman S. C. Hadley was on Saturday last elected Sheriff of London and Middlesex.

There will be no meeting of the Royal Order of Scotland at 33, Golden-square, on Tuesday next.

The Dublin Corporation have resolved to co-operate with the Royal Dublin Society to invite the British Association to Dublin in 1878.

Bro. R. F. Gould's letter in support of Bro. Havers's motion reached the editor so late, that it unfortunately stands over until next week.

A full report of the meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Cornwall will appear in our next.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS. DISTRIBUTION OF PRIZES.

Since the establishment of the present institution, never has there been collected at the Wood Green School so numerous and fashionable an assembly as honoured the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys with their presence on Monday last, the fineness of the day, doubtless, largely contributing to that result. The distribution of the prizes gained by the boys during the year always possesses a considerable degree of interest, but it appears every year rather to increase than otherwise, in consequence of the sharp competition stimulated by witnessing the awarding of prizes to others, while they have been less fortunate themselves. This produces a determination, and a fresh starting point, and every year shows that it is attended with the best results. It is the usual custom for the appointed chairman for the festival to preside on these occasions, but this year it was under the presidency of the members of the Supreme Council 33° of England, of whom there were present Bros. J. M. P. Montagu (in the chair), Grand Chancellor; Major Clerke, Grand Senior General; S. Rawson, P.D.G.M. for China; Hugh D. Sandeman, P.D.G.M. for Bengal; Hyde Pullen, Sec. 33; S. Rosenthal, and Giddy, Inspector General 33° for South Africa. Amongst the other brethren present were the Hon. H. A. Vernon, J. Grand Warden; Joshua Nunn, P.G.D.; Adlard, P.M. 11; Mander, P.M. 1201; Swallow, P.M. 382; Harty, S.W. 1201; E. M. Haig, P.M. Grand Stewards' Lodge; J. Stevens, 783; Austin, 935; J. G. Chancellor, P.M. 463, 657, P.P.G.D. Surrey; H. Thompson, 1426, and P.M. 177 and 1158 ("Freemason"); and others.

The company assembled in the large examination hall at three o'clock, and so numerous was the attendance that many were unable to obtain admission. On Bro. Montagu taking the chair, before the delivery of the prizes commenced,

Bro. Binckes, the Secretary, said he wished to offer a few observations. On that day they were met to deliver the prizes, and did not pretend by any public examination to show the abilities of their pupils, as they had been ascertained by a course of the strictest examination, first in the school, and afterwards at that of the Cambridge Middle Class, and which had been most satisfactory. At the Cambridge examination for all England the number of boys who passed averaged 55.3 per cent., while those of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys averaged 77.7 per cent., and 14 out of 18 boys sent up passed. Taking the new boys they showed an equally satisfactory result, for of the eleven who went up, nine passed. In all London twenty-one passed out of forty-four, equal to 47.7 per cent., while of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys nine out of eleven passed, or an average of 81.8 per cent. The subject of "theoretical mechanics" was taken up after Christmas. In May Bryant and Shaw presented themselves on this subject at South Kensington, and gained second-class certificates from the Science and Art Department. He also referred to a report which appeared in the "Times" of that day in reference to the distribution of the prizes gained at the last Cambridge Local Examinations, which took place in the theatre of the London University on Thursday last, and when the Dean of Manchester presided. It stated that the examination was held during the last week in December, and on that occasion the candidates numbered 121, viz., 104 juniors, and 17 seniors. Of the seniors one only took honours, H. W. C. Smith. Of the juniors three obtained a first class, W. Beaumont, R. Bryant, and H. G. Shaw, all of them educated under Dr. Morris, at the Royal Masonic Institution. (Loud cheering.) He then alluded to the fact that they had met that day under the presidency of the members of the Supreme Council of the 33rd degree, who had been most liberal supporters of all their Masonic Institutions, and he thought they should be glad to avail themselves of every eligible opportunity for the purpose of placing them in a prominent position, as a small acknowledgment for their continued and generous support. The 33rd degree was only nine in number, and at the head of this august body was the Prince of Wales, but the acting head of it was the Earl of Carnarvon, and attached to it is Colonel Vernon, a Provincial Grand Master, Lord Waverley, Provincial Grand Master for Suffolk, and Bro. Hyde Pullen, whose name was a household word in Freemasonry. All the members of the Supreme Council of the 33rd degree were Life Governors, and many had served Stewardships. No less a sum than £600 had been received from Golden-square on behalf of their institutions, and he believed that Major Clerke on Wednesday next, at the festival, would hand in his list for more than £200. Bro. Montagu was Vice-President of one of their institutions, and Bro. Rosenthal was Vice-Patron of the Boys' and Vice-President of the Girls' Schools. Such being the case, he thought they would be guilty of great neglect if they did not avail themselves of the earliest opportunity of acknowledging their eminent services.

The Chairman said after the exhaustive speech of Bro. Binckes little was left for him to say beyond thanking the Stewards and the House Committee for the honour they had done the Supreme Council in asking them to preside on that occasion. They had done their best for the support of these Charities, and that little recognition of their services would stimulate them to do more than they had done at present, and by helping those who were unable to help themselves they trusted the brethren would find that Bro. Binckes was justified in the eulogium he had passed upon them.

The distribution of prizes then commenced, the Chairman offering a few words of encouragement to each boy as he came up to receive them, but in some instances the plurality was so great that the boy returned literally loaded with honours. The following is a list of the prizes:—

FIRST CLASS.—1st Prizes:—Classics, W. Beaumont; Mathematics, R. Bryant; Modern Languages—French,

W. Beaumont; German, R. Bryant; English, W. Beaumont; Scripture, W. Beaumont. 2nd Prizes:—Classics, F. E. Ladd; Mathematics, M. Bowler; English, M. Bowler.

SECOND CLASS.—Classics, W. Booser; Mathematics, A. Bryant; Modern Language:—French, C. Warr; German, C. Sage; English, W. Booser.

THIRD CLASS.—Classics, T. R. Clemence; Mathematics, W. Davenport, and T. L. Molineaux; English, F. C. Gates; French, J. B. Barrett.

FOURTH CLASS.—Arithmetic, E. L. Price; French, Harold Williams; Latin, A. Pearson; English, Lee Goodier.

FIFTH CLASS.—Arithmetic, C. Jackson; English, T. H. Murrant; Latin, A. H. Stevenson; French, T. H. Murrant.

SIXTH CLASS.—General Proficiency:—1, Barclay; 2, J. T. Swallow.

SPECIAL PRIZES, PRESENTED BY PRIVATE DONORS.

By Bro. Brocklehurst: General Industry and Improvement, F. Hodge.

By Bro. Lyons: French, F. J. W. Hughes.

By H. C. Sylvester: Freehand Drawing, C. Lane; Painting, W. Haskins; Shading, W. B. Booser; Geometry, G. Croydon; Perspective, R. Bryant; Model, E. G. L. Sweet.

By the Members of "The Old Scholars' Reunion": Science, R. Bryant.

By Bro. Capt. Wordsworth, value 42s., awarded June 26th, 1876: Elocution, W. R. Jones.

By Bro. the Rev. R. Morris, LL.D.: First Class, German, F. E. Ladd; First Class, French, R. Bryant; Second Class, Divinity, A. Bryant; Third Class, French, F. J. W. Hughes; Third Class, Divinity, G. Barnard; Fourth Class, French, M. Robinson; Fifth Class, French, J. F. B. Mules; Efficiency as Monitor, E. G. L. Sweet; Industry, Daniel G. Doswell; First Choir, J. B. White; Second Choir, H. Wood; Third Choir, E. L. Ralling.

THE PRIZES PRESENTED BY THE HOUSE COMMITTEE.

Writing, W. B. Booser, C. Healey; Dictation, Robert Bryant, W. Ramsey Parker; History, W. Beaumont, Malcolm Hawes; Geography, E. G. L. Sweet, W. Beaumont; General Attention to Studies, Robert Bryant, E. T. Sage; Mental Arithmetic, Robert Bryant, E. L. Price; Proficiency in Drill, E. G. L. Sweet, W. H. Packwood; Efficiency as Monitor, C. Lane; General Proficiency, R. Bryant, W. Beaumont.

The distribution of the principal prizes was followed by the performance of "Ici on Parle Français," and with the following characters:—Major Regulus Rattan, W. Beaumont, Victor Dubois, W. R. Jones; Mr. Spriggins, R. Bryant; Mrs. Spriggins, W. R. Parker; Angelina (their daughter), E. E. Oates; Julia (Wife of Major Rattan), E. T. Sage; Anna Maria (a Maid of "All Work"), W. S. Sparkes.

This little piece was most admirably acted throughout, and excited roars of laughter. This was followed by scenes from "Le Bourgeois Gentilhomme," the characters being represented as follows:—Monsieur Jourdain, C. D. Green; Le Maître de Musique, E. T. Sage; Le Maître à Danser, H. Bowler; Le Maître d'Armes, E. E. Oates; Le Maître de Philosophie, W. R. Jones; Un Laquais, W. S. Sparkes.

The "make up" of some of the characters was most admirable, and the performance elicited loud applause. The entertainments were interspersed with songs, duets, and solos on the pianoforte, and the whole proceedings gave the highest satisfaction, and at the close of them the Chairman said all he had witnessed had been most admirably got through, and said a subject had been talked about for the last six years, which was whether something could be done for the boys after they left the school. They left it with a good education, which was putting into their hands a weapon of power to fight the battle of life, but he thought that something should be done for them between the age of 16, when they left, and 20 or 21, when they would be able to use the weapons with which they had been provided. He also suggested that they should endeavour to obtain a scholarship of £60 or £80, tenable for four years, to enable those who were capable of distinguishing themselves by the good education they would get at one of their universities. If they got one scholarship—if they got in the point of the wedge—when the usefulness of it was seen others would speedily follow, and therefore he hoped that a struggle for one of £60 or £80 should be made, and then he had no fear but others would follow.

The company then retired to the dining-hall for refreshment, after which the Health of Bro. Binckes, Dr. Morris, and others was proposed and responded to, and the proceedings were brought to a close.

The brethren will learn with much regret that Bro. Henry Muggeridge, the respected collector of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, has, through the infirmities of age, felt compelled to resign the post he has now held for twenty years with satisfaction to the whole body of the Craft. His letter announcing this determination was read at the meeting of the General Committee on Thursday last, and caused a universal feeling of regret. The brethren at large, we feel sure, will share this feeling, as there is no brother more respected in the Craft or more widely known than our Bro. Muggeridge.

The valuable collection of porcelain, &c., formed by the late Bro. W. Romaine Callender, M.P., Past Deputy Provincial Grand Master Lancashire on Tuesday and Wednesday, was sold by auction at the rooms of Messrs. Christie, Manson, and Woods, King-street, St. James's. The proceeds of Tuesday's sale amounted to £1450, and among the more important items were a dessert service by Chamberlain, which realised 46 gns.; a fine openwork scroll vase sold for £75; a superbly-coloured figure of Winter knocked down at £70; and a pair of vases painted with birds and insects, which fetched 100 guineas. At Wednesday's sale a magnificent Angouleme vase fetched 155 guineas.

Obituary.

BRO. HENRY MOXON.

It is with feelings of the deepest sorrow we announce the death of Bro. Henry Moxon, which sad event took place at his residence, Ellesmere Villa, Eccles, on Tuesday, June 20th, 1876, of bronchitis, from which he has suffered for some time. He was initiated in Lodge of Faith, No. 581, Openshaw, on June 21st, 1871, served the office of J.D., 1872; S.W., 1873; and W.M., 1874. He was exalted in the Chapter of Rectitude, 1874; S.E., 1875; and J., 1876. Of a uniformly affable, courteous, and genial nature, Bro. Moxon was esteemed and beloved by all with whom he came in contact. His labours were not confined to the Lodge of Faith only, he was always willing to render assistance wherever needed. Bro. Moxon held the office of superintendent of the telegraph department of the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway Company. He was the inventor of several electrical patents. The deceased was very highly respected. His remains were interred at Harpurhey Cemetery, Manchester, on Friday, June 23rd. It pleased the G.A. of the U. to take him from amongst us at the early age of 38 years.

BRO. THEODORE MANSEL TALBOT.

Intelligence of the death of Bro. Theodore Mansel Talbot, only son of Bro. C. R. M. Talbot, M.P., of Margam Park, was received at Swansea on Monday, and caused a widespread feeling of regret. Bro. Talbot died in London, at the residence of his father, 3, Cavendish-square. The deceased brother was born on the 7th June, 1839, and was therefore 37 years of age on the 7th of last month. He was educated at Christ Church, Oxford, where he took his M.A. degree, and was subsequently made a magistrate for this county. He was exceedingly popular, and held several public offices. He was Lieut.-Colonel of the 1st Glamorgan Administrative Battalion of Rifle Volunteers, Provincial Grand Master of South Wales (Eastern Division), and Master of the Glamorganshire fox-hounds. He had been for several years a member of the Cowbridge Farmers' Club, and took a great interest in anything connected with the improvement of agriculture. While president of the club he gave a great stimulus to the proceedings by his regular attendance at the quarterly meetings of the society, and, in company with Mr. John Garsed, of Moorlands, brought forward for discussion several subjects of great interest to the farmers of the neighbourhood. He was also a very active and valued member of the committee of the Glamorgan Agricultural Society, and gave annually several money prizes for competition in the district. Of late years he took a very lively interest in church matters, and superintended the restoration of the fine old Abbey Church at Margam. He belonged to the Ritualistic or High Church party, and was churchwarden of the parish of Margam. In political opinions he was a Liberal, and was exceedingly tolerant in all matters both political and religious. His amiable disposition endeared him to all who enjoyed the pleasure of intercourse with him, and the news of his death caused the most profound sorrow amongst old and young, rich and poor. It is believed that the funeral will take place at Margam. Deep sympathy is felt for Bro. C. R. M. Talbot throughout the county.—"Swansea and Glamorgan Herald."

BRO. MEHEMED RASHID PASHA.

H. E. Mehemed Rashid Pasha, Minister of Foreign Affairs, lately murdered at Constantinople, was a distinguished man and a Mason. At a time when to be a Mason was to incur hostility from the late Sultan, Rashid Pasha, then Governor General of the Viceregency of Smyrna sought initiation at the hands of Bro. Hyde Clarke, at that time the acting District Grand Master of Turkey. He was by the latter initiated, passed, and raised in the Homer Lodge of that city, in the French language, and received the certificate of Grand Lodge. The attachment of Rashid Pasha to Masonry remained constant, and when Governor General of Syria he gave encouragement to the Masons of that viceregency. It may be mentioned that H.H., the late Fuad Pasha, was a Mason of the Grand Lodge of England, initiated in London, and on the occasion of the visit of the late Sultan in 1867 was offered the Grand Mastership of Turkey by Bro. the Earl of Zetland through Bro. Hyde Clarke, as was that of Egypt to the Prince Halim Pasha, another English Mason and the present District Grand Master. Fuad Pasha hesitated, and was afraid, though there was a lingering hope among the Masons about the Sultan, that the latter might apply for initiation, and this hope was communicated to Lord Zetland.

Bro. John Sutcliffe, Provincial Grand Master of Lincolnshire, having been elected by the brethren of the Royal Order of Scotland for Lancashire and Cheshire their Provincial Grand Master, celebrated the event by endowing the chair with the Vice-Presidency of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, contributing 100 guineas to that institution on Wednesday last in the name of the Provincial Grand Master. His installation will take place at Manchester on Tuesday next.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT.—More Precious than Gold.—Diarrhoea, Dysentery, and Cholera are, through the summer's heat, carrying off the young as the winter's cold destroyed the aged. In the most acute cases, where internal medicines cannot be retained, the greatest relief will immediately result from rubbing Holloway's soothing Ointment over the abdomen. The friction should be frequent and brisk, to insure the free penetration of the Unguent. This will calm the excited peristaltic action, and soothe the pain. Both vomiting and griping yield to it; when fruits or vegetables have originated the malady, it is proper to cleanse the bowels by a moderate dose of Holloway's Pills, before using the Ointment.—**ADVERT.**

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

COLONIAL and FOREIGN SUBSCRIBERS are informed that acknowledgments of remittances received are published in the first number of every month.

It is very necessary for our readers to advise us of all money orders they remit, more especially those from the United States of America and India; otherwise we cannot tell where to credit them.

REMITTANCES RECEIVED.

Abbott, R., Australia (P.O.O.)	£0 12 0
Adams, G., Canada (P.O.O.)	1 4 0
Alexander, J., Trinidad (Draft)	1 6 0
Allen, A., China (P.O.O.)	0 10 0
Bailey, B. U.S.A. (P.O.O.)	0 12 0
Baker, W., China (Draft)	1 6 6
Barbers, T., The Cape (Cash)	0 9 0
Bennett, D., India (Cash)	1 4 0
Brown, H., Africa (Cash)	0 12 0
Clark, S. B., Germany (Cash)	0 4 9
Dawson, F., U.S.A. (Draft)	0 8 6
Elliott, R., The Cape (P.O.O.)	0 12 0
Evans, J., India (P.O.O.)	0 17 4
Holmes, J. G., Malta (Cash)	13 3 6
Jackson, F., U.S.A. (P.O.O.)	0 12 3
Jones, W., Canada (P.O.O.)	1 4 0
Kerr, R., India (P.O.O.)	0 12 0
Morris, A., U.S.A. (P.O.O.)	3 0 0
Rankin, R. A., Queensland (P.O.O.)	0 10 0
Saure, Dr., Germany (Cash)	5 16 0
Wetherill, H., Constantinople (P.O.O.)	1 7 0

TO OUR READERS.

NEW POSTAL RATES.

Owing to a reduction in the Postal Rates, the publisher is now enabled to send the "Freemason" to the following parts abroad for One Year for Twelve Shillings (payable in advance):—Africa, Australia, Bombay, Canada, Cape of Good Hope, Ceylon, China, Constantinople, Demerara, France, Germany, Gibraltar, Jamaica, Malta, Newfoundland, New South Wales, New Zealand, Suz, Trinidad, United States of America, &c.

Answers to Correspondents.

All Communications, Advertisements, &c., intended for insertion in the Number of the following Saturday, must reach the Office not later than 12 o'clock on Wednesday morning.

We have, owing to the pressure on our increased columns of the Boys' School Festival, and the Correspondence to ask the forbearance of many most esteemed contributors.

The following reports and communications stand over: Provincial Grand Lodge of Worcestershire; Lodge True Friendship, 160; Florence Nightingale, 706; Consecration of the Cydwaen Lodge, 1594; Masonic Ceremony at Woolwich; North Wales Charitable Association; Staffordshire Masonic Charitable Association; St. John's Day in Belfast.

BOOKS, PAPERS, AND MUSIC RECEIVED.

"New York Square," "Philadelphia Keystone," "Bulletin du G. Orient," "Act and Part on the Square," written by Bro. F. Lancelot. "Musical Budget," No. 6.

TO OUR SUBSCRIBERS.

Twelve Errata appear in the specimen of the "Masonic Cyclopædia" in Masonic Magazine for July. See rectified specimen in August number of the Magazine.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

[The charge is 2s. 6d. for announcements, not exceeding four lines, under this heading.]

BIRTHS.

ABRAM.—On the 22nd ult., at St. Leonards-on-Sea, the wife of J. Abram, Mus. Doc., of a daughter.

BARTON.—On the 22nd ult., at Shirley, near Southampton, the wife of A. P. Barton, Esq., of a son.

GARRARD.—On the 20th ult., at Harrowgate-road, South Hackney, the wife of E. W. Garrard, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

BRAITHWAITE-CHICHESTER.—On the 22nd ult., at Wotton, Surrey, Reginald, son of J. Braithwaite, of Gloucestershire, Hyde Park, to Adelaide Catherine Anne, daughter of the Rev. G. V. Chichester, M.A.

COWIE-WATSON.—On the 22nd ult., at All Souls', Langham-place, Charles Morgan Cowie, Esq., M.A., to Rose, daughter of the late R. L. Watson, Esq.

DEATHS.

ADDISON.—On the 24th ult., at Albion-street, Hyde Park, Henry Robert Addison, aged 71.

BAILY.—On the 24th ult., at Standon, near Ockley Surrey, William Baily, Esq., in his 70th year.

MOXON, H.—On the 20th ult., Bro. Henry Moxon, aged 38.

TALBOT.—On the 19th ult., Bro. T. M. Talbot, R.W. Prov. Grand Master for South Wales, aged 37.

The Freemason,

SATURDAY, JULY 1, 1876.

MASONRY TOO EXPENSIVE.

In a newspaper account of the meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Lincolnshire (not the Grand Lodge of Lincolnshire, as some of the provincial papers like to call it) our very distinguished Bro. the Duke of St. Alban's, the P.G.M. of that zealous province, is represented as saying that he was somewhat afraid the annual appeals for our charities might end in making Freemasonry "too expensive." As we do not find that remark in the official account published in our columns last week, we fancy that His Grace's words have been misquoted or misunderstood. It is quite clear to all who have studied the subject of our charities, that so far from our annual appeals lessening, they must increase with the rapid augmentation of the numbers and the wants of the Order. Whether anything can be done to remedy a growing evil in this respect is another and a very different matter, but that our charities will require large and liberal support from the Craft for years to come, is as certain as that they themselves are a noble monument in themselves to the sacrifices and warmheartedness of Freemasons. Indeed, were Freemasonry ever to be reduced to the position of a great benefit order, or of an association, mainly distinguished by the social gathering and outward adornment, it would soon lose the support of its most earnest and intelligent members, sink in public opinion, and finally fade away from this bustling and busy scene of human life. Its use would be at an end, its value would have passed away; and amidst its idle gatherings for pleasure or for show, and on its temples still kept to tell of other days, of better work, and higher aims, the word "Ichabod" would be distinctly legible. For Freemasonry is something higher and better to us all than a mere aggregation of good fellows, a mere social club, a mere beneficial society. It comes to us all, we think, with higher claims, and asserts before us all graver responsibilities. It has a mission, and that mission is to inculcate among men a pure morality, conjoined with principles of universal toleration, liberty of conscience, and freedom of belief, and above all the practice of Masonic and general benevolence. Our Masonic charities have naturally the first claim upon us, inasmuch as they well represent the active principles of Masonic beneficence. But such charities cannot be maintained for nothing, neither would it be well for us that they should. It is an old saying, and true as old, that "nothing is worth much for which we will not make some sacrifices;" and if our Freemasonry is a real thing to us, if we believe in it, if we value it at its proper worth, it will not appeal to us in vain for the warm support and the liberal contribution. That Freemasonry may become too expensive on account of its annual donations to its own great charities we do not believe, but we think we understand what the Duke of St. Alban's means, if he used the expression, namely, that the various Masonic payments may make Freemasonry too expensive unless carefully watched over. But Freemasons have this portion of the question in their own hands. That we may reduce our lodge expenses and banquet expenses is possible and probable, but we do not see how we can, or why we should lessen our contributions to Masonic charity. And even as regards this "moot point" of lodge expenses, much may be said on both sides of the question, and we are not prepared offhand to admit that much could be gained by a reduction of the social expenses of the metropolitan and some other lodges. For the London brethren may fairly say this: "You condemn our system as too expensive, but we surely are the best judges of what suits the meridian of London, and under this very depreciated system we have made, year by year, goodly efforts for our great charities." For many years, at any rate, the main burden of supporting our charities fell upon the London brethren, as we must all fairly concede, and though a noble provincial

movement, inaugurated by West Yorkshire, in support of the Metropolitan Institution set in about 1860—16 years ago, even to this hour the returns show how well the London lodges are doing their duty by the charities. We, therefore, doubt much the contention that Masonry is becoming either too expensive per se, and we greatly deprecate any such idea as regards our Metropolitan charities, and the necessary claims they have and make upon us all. Lodge expenses must be settled by the various lodges themselves, and so far from it being advisable, in any sense, to lower the cost of Freemasonry, our impression and belief are strongly that, if anything its fees of admission, &c., ought to be increased. We are giving too much, too cheaply! The Boys' School especially, for years to come, must demand large subsidies from our brethren, both in town and the provinces. It has no funded capital, and though Mr. Gladstone is not favourable to "endowments," we fancy that both the Committee and Bro. Binckes would be very glad if they could announce the replacement of the old endowment of the Boys' School, spent as we hold quite properly, in building the Boys' School of the future. When these lines meet the eyes of our readers the Boys' School Anniversary Festival for 1876 will be over, and we trust that the Committee and Bro. Binckes will be supported and cheered by an agreeable return for this most important and well conducted charity of our Order. It is no little credit to our English brotherhood that they are raising at three per cent. very nearly the interest of a million of money, generally, towards the liberal maintenance and wants of their great metropolitan and educational Benevolent Institutions.

MASONIC AMENITIES.

It is a very pleasant thing to be praised and patted on the back, and commended and encouraged to proceed in the way wherein we ought to go. It is often very welcome for the toiling and the struggling to receive the friendly word of encouragement, and the kindly assurance of sympathy. Many of us can recall tones and voices now past and hushed, which sounded very pleasantly in our ears as we began to climb the rough hill of life, and we all of us "can do," as the saying is, with as much as you like of sincere interest. But such is not always our lot. Hard words, and cold words, and scant sympathy, and unfriendly criticism are too often our lot in life, and though we have to submit to them, and outlive them, they are often at the time somewhat difficult of endurance and appreciation by us all. But this is the way of the world, and we shall not find its counterpart in Freemasonry. Shall we not? Let us see. We fear very much that Freemasonry still has within its system, like all other systems of earth, a lurking taint of unreality and insincerity. Yes, it is humiliating at times to note how the littlenesses of earth crop up, even in Freemasonry. The jealousy of success, the intolerance of superiority, the rivalry of trade, the competition of business, the animus of the self-seeking, and the pert vulgarity of the narrowminded, too often exhibit themselves amongst us in those "Masonic amenities," as we term them, which are such a stumbling-block in the way of Freemasonry, such a reflection on Freemasonry itself. And though the forms such Masonic amenities assume are various and variable, they yet are easily discernible by the watchful eye of the intelligent Freemason. We see them to-day amongst us in numberless instances of lodge life, and Masonic progress. If people wonder that it should be so, if Freemasons complain of the existence of such an anomaly in our Masonic profession, the answer is plain, "Nous sommes tous mortels" still, and Freemasons are not, and never will be, exempt here from the passions and frailties of humanity. But yet, an objector might say, "Surely Freemasonry always sets forth the duties of self restraint and forbearance, the importance of self discipline, and the great need and the greater benefit of a considerate and conciliatory spirit." "So it does, my dear sir," the respondent would reply, "but Freemasonry, like everything else, has many un-Masonic members, those whose theory may be right but whose

practice is different, whose Masonic profession and Masonic actions do not square." Now, as there are one or two prevailing forms which these Masonic amenities often assume, let us note them and seek to profit by the illustration. First of all, there are those who never will see any good in anything you do, propose, plan, or suggest. In lodge and out of lodge, there are those who, like Pickpoint Pashly, of forensic memory and reputation, always find points and pegs to hang something upon. In his case he was distinguished by much personal acumen and legal skill; in their case they are the magpies and the marplots of our lodges. They will always object, they will always find fault, they will never be convinced, they will never be satisfied. How many weary hours have we seen consumed in lodge meeting by the hopeless pertinacity of some brother, obstinate or impracticable, in a glorious minority of one, but yet resolute and unconvinced, even to the last? Such brethren are full of "pros and cons," and "quips" and "quiddities," and very tiresome they are, often very little deferential, to the W.M. or brethren—great nuisances, greater bores. Then there are those who always "smell a rat" in everything—the would-be sagacious and discerning. In vain you plead the common humdrum, matter-of-fact, business way of proceeding of the lodge; hopelessly you assure them that there is nothing in their supposition, they know better than you do yourself, and feel quite sure that there's more than meets the eye in some simple matter, plain as A B C. These knowing and mysterious brethren often give most needless trouble, as they will unravel a mystery where there is none, they will get to the bottom of things, where probably the thing has, so to say, no bottom at all. Very angry they are when opposed, angrier still when laughed at, as they richly deserve. There is a large class in our Order, always abounding in personalities. Personal they are, and personal they always will be, and, of course, in their hands everything becomes personal, and the lodge itself assumes the appearance of a clique or a cabal, and everything is permeated in it and outside of it by the hateful animus of unmeaning likes and dislikes, the too often dangerous and degrading influences of vulgar personality. And lastly, we have the Masonic writer who affects to criticize the articles of a confere. As a general rule, no thoroughly true Masonic writer ever condescends to allude in an unfriendly spirit, to the writing of a brother Mason, unless in the distinct interests of truth or right, to correct an error, to put right a misstatement. If allusions are made, (it is far better, in our opinion, not to allude to contemporary writers at all), they should be made in a spirit of true criticism and Masonic forbearance. Nothing like offensive recriminations, personal animosity, vulgar coarseness, or uncourteous expressions, should ever be permitted in Masonic journalism. Some young writer, indeed, may be excused, through ignorance or ineptitude, but the old hack should be ashamed of himself, whoever he be, who prostitutes his pages in order to gratify personal vanity, or manifest very "bad form." When such writers offend against every canon of propriety, every axiom of Masonic teaching, the innermost dictates of good feeling and decency, and express themselves in language which may be English or High Dutch, or anything you like, what can you do? You simply pass them by with a sigh of pity, with a smile of contempt, as feeling assured, that they will never take up their Freedom in the great Guild of writers, honest and true, and you leave them to that sound public opinion, which always, sooner or later, decides critically and truly between the ignorant and the intelligent, the impostor and the true, the man without brains and the man with brains, the man whose words are the merest platitudes, and the man whose words are worth reading. Potts and Slark still exist in the literary world, but let us hope and trust that Masonic journalism may be long and safely preserved from their "amenities," from all that can sully and defame the free course of Masonic literature, and the forbearing and courteous character of Masonic writers. We on our part utterly condemn and despise all Masonic personalities.

MASONIC IMPOSITION.

We are not going to indulge to-day in a long tirade against that simulation of distress and suffering which very often imposes on our kind-hearted brethren. We are not intending to dilate now on that standing nuisance in some parts of the country very abounding, the travelling impostor, though much might well and seasonably be said on both topics. The real live Masonic impostor when we come across him, we think the best thing to do with him is to hand him over to the nearest policeman, and relegate him to a limited diet and temporary seclusion from society. Our remarks to-day, take as it were a wider range, and perhaps may have a more direct interest for us. We live in an age of much pretention and noisy utterance. Shallowness and self-sufficiency mark a good deal of our professions, both of sympathies and of open teaching, and we are inundated just now, as it seems to us, with a bevy of noisy talkers but not of thinkers. Ours is a great epoch of secondhand information, and most sure it is, that we like our "thoughts like clothes all ready-made." Hence we have to listen to idle themes and crude suggestions, to the reveries of the unpractical, the theories of the hazy, the hopeless chimeras of an overwrought fancy, or the unhealthy lucubration of some unreasoning sciolist. Nothing is more painful, nay humiliating than to have to wade through the turgid nonsense of some aspiring rhapsodist, or the indigested indigestible bathos of the so-called profound thinker. In nine cases out of ten such writers are impostors, amiable impostors perhaps, who have no claim to originality of any kind, and who have no pretence to careful study of the subjects they so glibly write about. Whether they have evoked their own self-conscience, as some are fond of saying just now, or no, matters nothing at all, they are blind leaders of the blind, and as they have studied nothing truly, they have nothing to communicate really. They are and will always remain "literary duffers," full of froth and noise, and oftentimes vulgar personality and pretentious pomposity, but as teachers valueless, as leaders helpless, as guides hopeless. And those of us who are conversant with the literature of the hour, must at times feel deeply moved at the spectacle before our eyes, of this hurrying and confused crowd of teachers and writers without any definite aim or distinctness of utterance. That there is a brighter side to the picture we do not deny, but we have but too faithfully, we fear, endeavoured to describe the "epidemic" which is affecting and deteriorating our current literary efforts. Of course we are well aware that much may be fairly advanced in favour and support of a free course for literature, liberty of discussion, expansion of thought, development of the conscious intellect, &c., &c., but still to our mind the "outcome" so far is not pleasant or promising, but, on the contrary, suggests very many serious considerations. And this state of things exists in Freemasonry. It has been our wont often to talk of the charlatans of the past, like Cagliostro and Fiach, and many more; but we must not shut our eyes to the fact that just now we have before us very many evidences that much that has been put forward in respect of Freemasonry is based on no accurate knowledge of the subject, has been formed with no proper "measuring rod" of the dimensions of the Masonic building, that in short our "Naometria" is neither very accurate nor very scientific. Many of us form systems, and then invent theories; many of us propound certain notions of our own, and then give them the name of the wisdom of the past. And hence practically our public teaching becomes an imposition, and we impostors Masonically. That is to say, we ventilate opinions whose bearings we have not ourselves realized; We assert conclusions of our own, which we submit as "dogmata," and without regard to abstract truth per se; we make the subjective sentiment of the moment, a bone of contention or a test of orthodoxy. We shall recur to this subject in another issue, as it is a very important one in itself, and has a good deal to do, more than we perhaps think, with the future progress and prosperity of Freemasonry.

BOYS' SCHOOL ANNIVERSARY FESTIVAL FOR 1876.

The Boys' School Anniversary Festival took place at the Alexandra Palace, on Wednesday, June 28th, under the Presidency of our distinguished Bro. Lord Leigh, when upwards of £12,000 was announced by the Secretary, with twenty-one lists to come. We shall recur to the subject in our next. We beg emphatically to congratulate the House Committee and Bro. Biackes.

Original Correspondence.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for, or even as approving of the opinions expressed by our correspondents, but we wish, in a spirit of fair play to all, to permit—within certain necessary limits—free discussion.—Ed.]

THE LAST QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION. To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Bro. Simpson, in his letter published in your impression of Saturday last, rebukes me seriously for "the use" which he says "I made of the Grand Master's name, as a lever to propel my motion to success." Bro. Simpson is right in the fact, though not in the somewhat coarse explanation he gives to it. I thought I had referred sufficiently to this subject in my last letter, but holding, as I do, that when a man commits an error the only proper way is frankly to admit it, I do admit that I made a grave mistake, and I am exceedingly sorry for it. Believing, as I did, that my motion would be carried, I thought that it would add an additional zest to the satisfaction with which it would be carried to know that the Grand Master approved of it. I judged by myself and by the opinions of the many distinguished brethren upon whose judgment I place great reliance, and whom I had consulted upon it. I alone, however, am responsible for it. I alone bear the blame. I learned for the first time that a Grand Master must not express an opinion. I have served under four different Grand Masters, and although I may have once heard an expression of opinion by one of them received in silence, I never before heard the opinion of the Grand Master received with cries of "No, no." When I heard those cries, then for the first time I saw the formidable nature of the opposition to my resolutions. I unwittingly exposed our Royal Chief to this discourtesy, and I am deeply sorry for it.

I now proceed to Bro. Simpson's letter generally. He complains that I published a private letter of his without his consent. I utterly deny this. I claim that I had a perfect right to make any use I thought proper of his letter. It was in no way a private letter; it was written to me on public business, and on matters which were to be publicly discussed in the course of a few days. I am not surprised that he does not like, as he evidently does not, that the opinions he expressed to me should be known to vary so immensely from those which he expressed in Grand Lodge; but that is his concern, not mine. I claim, then, my perfect right to use his letter, and I am about to exercise that right again.

Before doing so I must premise that I do not understand Bro. Simpson, perhaps he does not understand himself. "Methinks he does protest too much"—of that, however, others will judge. On Wednesday last, by the last post, I received from Bro. Simpson a letter, in which he asks me to serve on a committee to be nominated in September next, and then goes on to say, "I confess I feel very sore at one or two of your expressions in reference to me before Grand Lodge meeting and in your recent letter, but I feel bound, both as a clergyman and a brother Mason, to sink any personal feeling I may have, in order that charity and brotherly love may abound amongst us."

At or about the very time that he wrote these words (for I believe that you do not receive communications for publication after Wednesday) he must have written the letter which appears in the "Freemason" of Saturday last. Why did he write that letter to me? and why did he so write, if he had already written, or contemplated writing, his letter to you? How singularly charity and brotherly love abound in it; how singularly practice follows profession!

Bro. Simpson labours hard to prove that the opinions he expressed in his letter to me and those declared by him in Grand Lodge are reconcilable. The artifice is too transparent, the effort is a failure. He writes, "I say now, as I said then, I think the plan of giving to St. Paul's and St. Alban's an admirable one per se—that is, by itself and in itself, and from my standpoint (as a clergyman of the Church of England), I like the idea very much." But the plan by itself is one thing and as paid for out of Grand Lodge funds another. Now, this latter part is exactly what he did not say. Was there one word in his objections to me as to Grand Lodge funds? No, but there was a reason given, and a very different one, why my plan, being admirable per se, was not perfect, and that reason Bro. Simpson gave, "because it wants that personal and living element which he thought such an occasion should possess." His present argument is an after-thought, and will not hold water. He says in the one case he had to follow his pleasure and in the other to do his duty. Some people might have thought that pleasure as a clergyman and duty as a Mason might have been together in such a case. How did our reverend brother's pleasure and duty feel in reference to his own proposition for a public service of Masons at St. Paul's, and a grant of £1,000 from Grand Lodge funds to a charity in India?

In reference to the passage in my last letter, where I said "I heard Bro. Simpson's statement in Grand Lodge with amazement, when I knew that he had expressed"

very reverse opinion to me," Bro. Simpson now writes, "I read this with more than amazement—with sorrow. This statement is purely imaginary, as I never so expressed myself." This is hardly courteous, but I presume is an instance of abounding charity. He never so expressed himself! Why, let any man of ordinary intelligence read Bro. Simpson's letter to me (as quoted in your impression of June 17) and say if it does not contain the very reverse of the opinions he expressed in Grand Lodge; all the special pleading in the world cannot alter the fact.

Bro. Simpson next charitably, and in a spirit of brotherly love, takes me to task for the lecture which he says I gave to Grand Lodge on "narrow-mindedness" and "selfishness." The former word I never used. It does not belong to me, and if it is in want of an owner I make Bro. Simpson a present of it. The word "selfishness" I did use, but I did not use it either in the way or with the intention which he seeks to attribute to me. The words I used were to this effect, "If you give this money to one of our own charities, will you not be thought by the world to be acting in a selfish manner?" If I gave offence by saying this, I am sorry for it, but I thought it, I still think it, and I am generally in the habit of saying what I think.

Bro. Simpson says, and here I am glad to be able to agree with him, that "he has yet to learn" that the works of restoration of churches in the provinces were paid for purely, or at all, out of Provincial Grand Lodge funds. He will learn if he enquires of any of the Provincial Grand Secretaries of the provinces. I have named that grants were made from each of the Provincial Grand Lodge funds. He may enquire further if he pleases, and with a similar result, as to the building and restoration of churches at Leamington and Nuneaton, and even in my own county, Herts. He says I must see that these are not precedents for Grand Lodge. I beg to say I do not see it. They are to my mind good and generous examples, which I think Grand Lodge might have followed with honour and advantage.

In the concluding paragraph of his postscript Bro. Simpson refers to my having forgotten the two urgent communications made by him to me to withdraw my resolution, and which communications were made on the day of Grand Lodge meeting. I received a letter from him on that day asking me to give him five minutes' conversation previous to G. Lodge. I did so, and at that meeting Bro. Simpson asked me if I would withdraw all the latter part of my resolution, offering in such case to withdraw his own. I naturally declined to do so, stating that to comply would be to deprive my resolution of its whole spirit. He urged no objection to it, but from something in his manner just before we separated I put this question to him, "Do you mean to oppose my motion on the ground that it is a grant for a denominational purpose?" He hesitated, and then replied that he should not pledge himself. That I used any overbearing threats to him I utterly deny. There were two well known Grand Officers present, and if I used any sort of threat they must have heard it.

I give Bro. Simpson every credit he deserves for the ability, the secrecy, and the subtlety with which he conducted the attack on my resolution. I had made no preparation for it, and I fully believed, until led to doubt by his hesitation in answering my last question, that he meant to run his motion fairly against mine, and I had no doubt as to the result in such case.

He says that he quite grants that the fortnight which elapsed since he wrote his letter had strongly increased his objections to my resolution. This is an unfortunate admission, because objections which had never been raised could not be increased. The only objection he had raised was that my resolution wanted the living and personal element, whatever that may be, and that he liked his own best.

Why, let me ask, did Bro. Simpson not come to me and say, "My opinions have undergone a very considerable change, I find that there are very strong objections to my resolution on what are called denominational grounds; there are equally strong objections to yours. I invite you to withdraw yours, and I will withdraw mine; if you do not I shall feel it to be my duty to drop my own motion, and to oppose yours on denominational grounds." However extraordinary this might have appeared as coming from a clergyman, it would at least have been a manly and straightforward course, and how different might have been the result.

I am sorry that I have been prolix, but I thought it right to say so much. I have now done with Bro. Simpson as far as personal matters are concerned. Any interchange of personalities between him and myself will do no good, will not alter the condition of affairs, or make us to retrieve the steps which I think we have wrongly taken. I am ready to give my help in any way that may be thought desirable, but at present I confess that I do not see my way out of the difficulty.

I proposed my resolution because it had a national as well as a Masonic object; if any one will propose a better I will willingly support it, at the same time I quite agree with your witty correspondent of last week, that to give a large sum of money to one of our own charities will not be the best way of exhibiting our generosity.

Your fraternally,
June 26th, 1876.

JOHN HAVERS.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

A "Provincial Grand Officer," whose modesty compels him to be nameless, considers a statement I made in Grand Lodge "an absurdity." I dare say if we knew his name it would add still greater weight to his opinion, and give me a heavier blow.

My statement was to the effect that the passing of a resolution in Grand Lodge to grant two donations out of Grand Lodge funds to assist in restoring and adorning two

churches of the Church of England would have been a blow to Freemasonry.

Now, Sir, I am dull enough to be of the same opinion still, and have the consolation of feeling that the brethren of Grand Lodge in the proportion of twenty to one are equally obtuse. Perhaps it may be that the fine air of the provinces gives a man clearer moral and intellectual conceptions than can be expected from our London fogs.

But, Sir, jesting apart, I do hope that when the mist raised by this controversy has passed away, we shall see plainly that we have escaped a great danger, however veiled in archæology and illustrated by fiction.

No amount of eloquence or historical research could in the eyes of plain Englishmen alter these facts, (1) that it was proposed to grant a sum of £2000 to two churches belonging to a particular religious body, and (2) that such a proposition was never made in Grand Lodge before. Had we passed this vote where were we to stop? Why on some similar occasion should not St. Clement Danes' Church, built by Sir Christopher Wren, and one of these national monuments come in for a grant, but in this case with still stronger claims, inasmuch as there are no wealthy authorities within, and no chance of much support from without.

I quite agree with our "P.G. Officer" in his broad definition of "Charity," but do not agree with him in the opinion that because we raise a memorial on this occasion in some measure connected with one of our institutions, our "charities will be our ruin."

If he means that it would be desirable as you yourself, Sir, seem to imply, to purge our charities of the evils attendant on our present unfair and hap-hazard, system of election, I should be inclined to fall in with his gloomy forebodings, but to aid the orphan, the widow, and the aged, after most thorough investigation and according to their just claims, or to raise a memorial having some direct or indirect reference to those charities will never "ruin us." Nay, it would build us up and would lead us to erect a superstructure more perfect in its parts, and more worthy of the Great Master Builder than any "temple made with hands," which is but "a shadow of the true."

As to the queries of your correspondent, "W.T." (who also writes from some shady and anonymous spot), I would say:—

1.—I have already indicated pretty plainly why I moved a rejection of the latter part of Bro. Havers's motion. My own motion as to a thanksgiving service (not of Grand Lodge only, but of Freemasons) stood on very different grounds, as I stated in a former letter, which perhaps I cannot better illustrate than by asking "W.T." this question: Of the many men of various creeds who assembled to pay their last tribute to Sir Thomas Henry at the Roman Catholic Chapel of Kensington, how many does he think would have voted a grant from some charitable fund, of which they were trustees, for the purpose of enlarging the chapel, perhaps known to have been built by a man of well known benevolence, and who was also connected with an institution of which some of those gentlemen were members? To assemble for a moral and religious purpose in any building is one thing, to vote money for its restoration or decoration is another, and that out of funds raised for a wholly different object, and which were never before even applied for on behalf of such an object.

That we have gone out of what Bro. Havers calls "the beaten track" of Masonry in our grants the records of Grand Lodge amply, and I will add happily, testify. The fire at Chicago, the Indian Famine, the Famine in Persia, the Palestine Exploration, all bear witness that Grand Lodge is not "narrow" in its principles nor "selfish" in its beneficence, but any man with half a head can clearly see the broad line that separates these objects from that for which Bro. Havers claimed our Masonic support.

As to my Indian idea, all I can say is, that I believed, and still believe, that a general object of a charitable kind, or even of a purely Masonic kind, could have been found in India which would have appropriately linked this occasion with our M.W. Grand Master's visit, and would certainly have been more cognate to Masonry and charity and our Grand Master than St. Alban's Abbey, even though justly entitled to the Masonic antecedents which Bro. Havers claimed for it.

I have touched on these points raised by "W.T." I trust they may point to my "motives," and that if any doubt remains "W.T." as a good Mason may adopt the definition of "charity" advocated so well by our "Prov. G. Officer," and pronounce them "good motives."

I am, dear Sir and Brother, fraternally yours,
June 26th, 1876.

R. J. SIMPSON.

[We beg to disclaim distinctly any such opinion as Bro. Simpson credits us with in respect of the elections of our charities. We do not consider our present system unfair or "haphazard," and we cannot understand to what opinion of ours Bro. Simpson alludes, or why he should quote us at all. With all deference to him such a question has not been so far raised.—Ed.]

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I was present at the last meeting of Grand Lodge, and was pained to see many things occur which can hardly be mentioned without a blush of shame rising to the faces of all who assisted by their presence. For the first time I heard hisses in Grand Lodge, yet no caution or reminder came from the chair that it was an offence specially guarded against in the Book of Constitutions. I heard a paid officer of one of the charities protest against a vote of money in which his institution was not to share. I heard, or fancied I heard, a clergyman of the Church of England object to a proposed vote as denominational, while a notice stood in his name proposing that we should all attend a cathedral service, and I heard and saw on all sides displays of temper which were most unseemly. I think it was clear to many present that the worthy and amiable Provincial Grand Master who occupied the chair

was not strong enough to control the assembly. He was not sure of his position, and in putting one of the amendments proposed he made an awkward mistake. The rule of seniority when our M.W. Grand Master, his Pro and Deputy Grand Masters, are all absent is a mistaken one, and one that has before now been productive of considerable mischief. I need not now point out how it might be amended, simply that it ought to be, and that too without delay. As for the outcome of the whole matter, I hope the committee will never be appointed. I hope our M.W. Grand Master will himself recommend how the thank-offering should be applied, and if he were to say that he thought it might be given to an hospital for incurables, the money would be applied to aid a charity lamentably inadequate to the needs of the community, and sadly neglected by most persons in favour of general and special hospitals of all kinds. I believe such a proposal would be accepted by an overwhelming majority. It could not hurt the sensibilities of a single member of Grand Lodge, and, while adopting and confirming the proceedings of the last Quarterly Communication, it would remove the stigma of selfishness so painful to the true Freemason.

Yours fraternally,

A PAST GRAND OFFICER.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I have read with deep interest the correspondence between Bros. Havers and Simpson, and the letters of other brethren who have written on the subject of the discussion at the last Quarterly Communication.

I voted against Bro. Havers's motion, and should do so again; I should have voted against the motion of which Bro. Simpson had given notice, and which he afterwards withdrew. If Bro. Havers's motion had been lost, and the original motion of Bro. Simpson's had been proposed, I should have been bound to move, as an amendment, a resolution which had been already written out and approved by many of the brethren.

Whilst I admit that great respect is due to Bro. Havers, I cannot, without a sense of humiliation, read or hear the suggestion that we should bow before his authority in a matter on which any properly constituted mind can at least form an independent opinion. His eloquence, which no one can admire more than I do, was dogmatic in its tone, and on some points questionable in taste, for whilst he had most improperly consulted H.R.H. the Grand Master on his motion, he made the impropriety of his act the more pointed by quoting the Grand Master's opinion upon a matter delicately relating to himself. The imputation that the brethren had come there with a foregone conclusion was in equally questionable taste, as it implied that no one but himself had a right to form any opinion beforehand. His "foregone conclusion" was a mistake; but it was scarcely fair or courteous to insinuate that the brethren in Grand Lodge were not open to argument and reason.

Bro. Havers questions whether the remark was apropos—that the contributions from which the vote was to be taken were derived from persons of various opinions, and that we could not expect Jews and others to regard his motion favourably. I can positively state that the brother who alluded to the Jews was immediately afterwards congratulated and thanked by Jews who were present in Grand Lodge; he has since received other expressions of approval.

I am, as many members of the Order in the north of England are, a Unitarian; and the use of Masonic money to restore and perpetuate architectural emblems derived (as I believe) from the ancient Thallus-worship would be offensive and disgusting to me and many others. I could not suffer such a thing to be done without a respectful and earnest protest. If sectarianism or denominationalism has been introduced the fault lies with the original motion.

Bro. Havers plausibly argues that the vote is asked for these buildings (St. Paul's and St. Alban's) because they are Masonic monuments, and not because they are churches belonging to a denomination. My reply is that we should bestow our votive offering upon a Masonic purpose free from the objection which applies to these two churches. If, however, Bro. Havers argues in favour of the churches not because they are places of Christian worship, but because they are Masonic monuments, how can he consistently argue against those who wish the memorial to be essentially within Masonic boundaries? If the insinuation of narrow-mindedness applies to those who think that the money should be devoted to purposes connected with the Masonic charities, does it not equally apply to those who argue that it should be devoted to enlarge or restore a Masonic architectural monument?

I am bound to say on behalf of many liberal Jewish brethren who are intimate personal friends that their modest habit of tolerance, which challenges no man's religious views, would probably have allowed the occasion to pass with only a silent negative vote or abstention from any part in the discussion, but this courteous respect for the opinions of others is not to be mistaken for approval or even indifference; and I am assured, and firmly believe that Jewish Masons generally approve of the protest made by one of the speakers on their behalf.

I am, dear Sir and Brother, yours fraternally,

J. BAXTER LANGLEY.

50, Lincoln's-inn-fields, W.C.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I write to ask a question, and to suggest practical action.

We who were present at the last Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge know well what Bro. Havers's motion was. We know that Bro. Simpson's amendment "to refer the whole matter to a committee" was carried, and that, therefore, Bro. Havers's motion was not put.

When the committee is appointed and approved of by

Grand Lodge, will any brother who has Parliamentary experience tell me why the committee is debarred from recommending either £1000 to "the vague something in India," or (as Bro. Simpson seems to imagine) £1000 to St. Paul's, or £1000 to St. Alban's, or £1000 to each or all of these objects?

In any case I appeal to those who, like myself, agree in every word that Bro. Havers said, and to those who, not agreeing in all he said, would still support the resolution he proposed, and I ask them to come forward and out of their own pockets give a thank-offering for the return of our beloved Grand Master from his perilous journey. I propose to give £20 provided that 100 brethren will give or collect the same before the Grand Lodge to be held in September next, the sum collected to be divided into two equal parts for St. Paul's and St. Alban's.

Let those who agree with Bro. Simpson do the same if they please.

And let those who object to spend anything on objects extraneous to the Order make any appeal they please for purely Masonic purposes. But let us do something at once.

Yours fraternally,

I.P.M.

OF PROPOSING (JOINING) MEMBERS.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I have just received the "Freemason" for the 1st April, and wish to draw attention to one point in the letter therein of "S.P." in reply to "A Secretary." From the evident ability of the writer, and his position in the Craft, no doubt his construction of the law will generally be taken *ex cathedra*, and therefore the more necessary, I think, that attention should be drawn to any point in his letter to which exception may fairly be taken. Long before this will reach you some other brother may probably have already performed the same duty, and so spared you the trouble of publishing this letter. If not, I would say that the only point in which I differ from Bro. "S.P.'s" propounding of the law is with respect to his proposing of joining members. "S.P." says casually that a joining member can only be proposed at a regular meeting, in contradistinction to a candidate for initiation who may be proposed at a lodge of emergency, or as otherwise provided "in writing." I venture to italicise Bro. "S.P.'s" words:—"The rule is that a candidate shall be proposed at a lodge meeting, *not, mark, as in the case of a joining member, necessarily at a regular meeting*—at any lodge meeting, even a lodge of emergency." Now, referring to the Constitutions, I do not see that this distinction as marked in italics exists. The wording of the law is, "No brother shall be admitted a member of a lodge without a regular proposition in open lodge," and "No person shall be made a Mason without a regular proposition at one lodge." Where is the distinction? What is done at a lodge of emergency is as much done in open lodge as if at a regular meeting, and it appears to me that the word "open" in the passage relating to the proposing of joining members is not in opposition to the first clause in the corresponding passage relating to the proposing of initiates, but rather to the proviso for cases of emergency made in the second clause of the same passage, that in fact, propositions of members, whether for joining or initiation, can be regularly made at any lodge, whether regular or emergent, and that, further, under certain conditions provided and so carefully explained in "S.P.'s" letter, candidates for initiation can be proposed "in writing"—an exception that does not apply to joining members.

Yours fraternally,

W. S. L.

Craddock, South Africa, 10th May, 1876.

CORRECT MASONRY—WHAT IS IT?

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

In your columns of the 17th ult. appears a letter bearing on the meeting, held on June 2nd, of the Grand Lodge of Freemasons of the Province of Northamptonshire and Huntingdonshire, at Peterborough, which afforded the said meeting an opportunity for laying the foundation-stone of the new aisle which is to be added to the Church of St. Mary, of that city. After the usual form and applications necessary on such an occasion the stone was fixed, and pronounced, in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, well and truly laid. Whether the Holy Trinity used in the sense referred to is in accordance with the Constitutions of England I am unable to say, never having seen a copy myself. However, in Scotland the Constitution is plain and clear on the subject, which is as follows:—"The stone is placed on the bed according to the rules of Masonry, the closing ceremony is finished by the Grand Master or other presiding brother giving the stone three k—s saying, 'May the Almighty Architect of the Universe look down with benignity upon our present undertaking, and crown the edifice, of which we have now laid the foundation, with every success.'"

Freemasonry is truth, and all truth must be identical, but the origin of each is different, their histories are unlike. The principles of Freemasonry preceded the advent of Christianity; its symbols and its marvellous tales were derived from the "Solomonic Temple." Why, I ask, this christianization of our ancient Order? If I understand Freemasonry aright it is a high standard of morality, and if we as Masons attain to the above platform we do well; if the aspirations of a brother go higher his mind is actuated by Divine truth and not human wisdom—it is mere human wisdom Freemasonry presumes to inculcate. I think it would be well for those of our brethren who occupy high places in the Craft to study well the ceremonies they are about to be engaged in before an outer world, who know nothing of our internal workings. This would be a means, in my opinion, to obviate much unpleasantness and discussion as in the present instance (the innovation of the Trinity). This, from a Masonic standpoint, is an error

which materially affects the cosmopolitan character of our institution. The universality of Freemasonry is its boast; then as a brotherhood let us hold fast to a universal method, so that citizens of every nation may conscientiously partake of its illuminations, and converse in its language. At its altars men of all religions could kneel, to its creed disciples of every faith may subscribe. "Correct Masonry—what is it?" In short, it is just this—"Doing all the good in your power to others, expecting nothing to flow back to yourself." Such is the spirit of Freemasonry. As a Mason I have no right to advance a religious sentiment, well knowing it would wound the feelings of a brother or brothers. Our Order is world-spread, we therefore cannot allow in our public ceremonies what we do not teach in subordinate lodges. All Masonic deeds are unsectarian, with the exception of belief. In this we must be all of one mind, viz., believing in the glorious Architect of Heaven and Earth, and practice the sacred duties of morality. These are the only qualifications St. John's Masonry demands.

Yours fraternally,
Lennoxton, June 19th, 1876.

P. ROBERTSON.

MASONIC LAW.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I was told 40 years ago, by the then W.M. of our lodge, that Masonry possesses many great and invaluable privileges, but in order to secure those privileges to worthy men, and we trust, to worthy men alone, vows of fidelity were required. I made those vows, that I might be entitled to those privileges, and I always thought that those who did not make them would not be entitled. Judge my surprise when I see that lodges are constantly in the habit of voting large sums of money out of their funds for the benefit of the profane world, who are not Masons. This, I believe, is contrary to our Book of Constitutions. If I am wrong I shall be glad if you or some other brother will refer me to the paragraph and page of that book that gives lodges that power. I have been a P.M. for 35 years, and I have looked it over and over again and can find no such power.

Yours very fraternally,

AN OLD P.M., ONE, &c.

HONORARY MEMBERS.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

No one seems inclined to reply to the question as to the status of honorary members, and so I will do so, the subject being certainly well worthy and susceptible of an authoritative answer.

The Board of General Purposes, and the Colonial Board, reported to the Grand Lodge on the 7th December, 1864, as follows, which report was carried:—

"The Board having consulted the Grand Registrar in the matter, beg to state that they coincide with him in the opinion that the Book of Constitutions does not in any wise recognise honorary members of private lodges. When that book speaks of members it means only those brethren who are regularly contributing members to the funds of the lodge to which they may belong. Such brethren only ought to be returned to Grand Lodge as members of private lodges. The status of an honorary member must be strictly confined to the lodge which so elects him, and can in no way give him any position in the Craft outside the door of his lodge. He cannot, therefore, hold any office in the lodge, or vote upon any subject which might even remotely affect the Craft at large; in short, that his status and privileges as an honorary member entitle him to attend the meetings of the lodge, and partake of its refreshments, without the necessity of being introduced by a subscribing member. Honorary members have no other rights or privileges whatever."

It will be seen that honorary members have simply the privilege of nominal membership of lodges, such as the receipt of the circulars and other business communications, and, as noted in the foregoing, in addition to the rights they already possess by subscribing to lodges, and in the event of such brethren ceasing to subscribe annually to a lodge they are debarred from visiting even the lodges of which they have been elected honorary members, excepting in accordance with Clause 3 "Of Visitors" (Book of Constitutions, p. 89, edit. 1875).

WILLIAM JAMES HUGHAN.

Reviews.

CUI BONO MASONRY? By the late FRANCIS MASON, M.A., D.D. Edited by E. G. MAN, Barrister-at-Law.—Cassell, Petter, and Galpin.

We have read this work with much interest. Bro. Mason was a missionary of the Baptist Society, in Burmah, among the Karens. He was a man of great energy and linguistic acquirements, and has left behind him a goodly amount of work in the shape of portions of the Bible and New Testament manuals, and many other useful works, in the Karen and other dialects. He laboured in his honourable vocation in Burmah for forty-four years, and died at Rangoon in 1873, having just previous to his death been appointed professor of Pali, at the Government High School of Burmah. The list of his various valuable educational and religious translations fills over two pages, and we cannot but express our warm feelings of admiration at so useful and hardworking and elevated a career. We regret deeply to hear, as too often happens to be the case that his widow is not in affluent circumstances, and this fact has induced Bro. E. G. Man, D.G. Registrar of British Burmah, to edit this posthumous work of his. Bro. Mason, who was originally made a Freemason, it appears, in Missouri, U.S., and received his degrees from Judge Bates, then W.M. of his mother lodge, the name of which is not given, was made G. Deacon of the G

Lodge in Missouri about 1813. In fact, at the time of his death Bro. Mason had been fifty years a Freemason. That he saw its intense reality, and means of good, that amid his civilizing and religious labours, he could put on paper his high estimate of the undoubted value of Freemasonry, is the best answer, in our opinion, to many a violent anathema, and many a vulgar malediction. We rejoice greatly in having the lifelong testimony of such a good worker, and true-hearted and enlightened man, in favour of our most calumniated fraternity. The book, as it is, is the development of lectures delivered in Lodge Greenlaw, 1875, Toungoo Burmah, January, 1871, and no doubt, had the writer lived, would have received those touches, and that final arrangement of the argument which the hand and mind of the author alone could give to it. As it is, it is a very emphatic commendation of Freemasonry per se, and deserves the attention of all Masonic book collectors, and all Masonic students. We earnestly commend it to the notice of all our reading brethren, and to all lodge libraries, and we hope that it will be ordered for our own Grand Lodge Library.

LINKS IN THE CHAIN OF EVIDENCE, CONNECTING ISRAEL AND ENGLAND. By Bro. J. LEYLAND FEILDEN.—London: W. H. Guest.

This is too abstruse a book for our limited pages, inasmuch as it would demand too much space. Those who wish to see a review of it must be so good as to obtain the "Masonic Magazine" for August. W.F.A.

CONSECRATION OF THE CRIPPLEGATE LODGE (No. 1613).

A new Lodge for the Ward of Cripplegate was consecrated on Saturday last at the Albion, Aldersgate-street, by Bro. Terry. At the opening of the lodge its formation was Bro. James Terry, W.M.; H. G. Buss, Prov. G. Treasurer Middlesex, S.W.; H. Howard Hodges, P. Prov. G.S.W. Berks and Bucks, J.W.; Robert Abbott, Secretary; John Constable, I.G.; and Bro. W. J. Crutch, D.C. Bro. Fred. H. Cozens was Organist, and was assisted in his duties by Bros. T. J. W. Simons, G. T. Carter, and Chaplin Henry. The other brethren of the lodge present were: W. R. Baker, E. R. Bright, Fred. King, John Curle, S. Cohen, W. Medwin. The visitors were A. Treadwell, W.M. 177; Ephraim Davey, 1566; W. T. Scott, S.W. 9; W. G. Durrant, S.D. 1056; J. Bingemann, P.M. 55, W.M. 1599; E. Legg, W.M. 861; J. L. Cogan, S.W. 1365; A. Robbins, P.M. 1056; W. J. Bishop, 180; T. A. Hussey, 180; H. J. Felton, 1056; A. Calk, 1056; J. Harris, 657; L. Boulton, 1056; F. Herold, 1056; D. Posener, J.W. 183, S.W. 1227; C. Gammon, P.M. 195; W. S. Nichols, I.G. 209; H. Massey, P.M. 619 ("Freemason"); U. Knell, J.D. 862, 1471; G. F. Wilson, 569; N. D. Partridge, W.S. 1449; G. Abbott, P.M. 192; J. P. Allen, 933; A. A. Pendlebury, P.M. 1056; G. W. W. Wilson, 1009; T. T. Moon, 1424; C. S. Pearce, 65; G. B. Payne, P.M. 27; Levy, P.M. 188; N. Reed, I.G. 765, J.D. 1572, S.D. 1601; C. Archer, 1426; J. Morton, P.M. 1056; G. Wilson, P.M. 178; F. Jackson, 1475; E. Matthews, W.S. 65; J. B. Lemaire, P.M. 12; C. Spangler, 12; and E. Harfeld, P.M. 185.

The ceremonies of consecration and installation were most ably performed, the whole of the proceedings passing off without the slightest hitch or hesitation of any sort, and the vocal portions being rendered with professional accuracy. Bro. J. R. Foulger, Citizen and Spectacle-maker, P.M. 177, was installed W.M., who invested Bros. E. Coste, P.M. 9, I.P.M.; G. M. Felton, Citizen and Loriner, S.W. 1056, S.W.; Bro. C. J. Benson, Citizen and Spectacle-maker, 192, J.W.; Bro. J. C. Corke, Treasurer; Bro. Robert Abbott, Secretary; F. M. McCarthy, S.D.; Bro. Groner, J.D.; Bro. Seares, I.G.; Bro. Stephenson, D.C.; Bro. Clark, W.S.; and Bro. W. Steedman, Tyler.

Three propositions for initiation and two for joining were made, and the J.W. afterwards proposed a vote of thanks to Bro. Terry and the other consecrating officers for performing the ceremony. This was seconded by Bro. Coste, and carried unanimously, the W.M. remarking that he had never heard the ceremony so ably rendered as he had that day.

Brother Terry acknowledged the compliment on behalf of himself and the other brethren who had assisted. It had afforded him infinite pleasure to see Bro. Foulger again installed as the W.M. of a lodge, as he was sure the choice of the brethren had fallen on a most worthy brother. That he and the brethren who formed the lodge might have every prosperity in the

lodge was the earnest desire of him (Bro. Terry) and the other brethren who had assisted, and they hoped they might have the pleasure of frequently coming to the lodge and witnessing its prosperity.

The S.W. and Bro. Coste moved and seconded honorary membership to the consecrating brethren, which was unanimously adopted; and Bros. Buss, Hodges, Constable, and Crutch replied, after which the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to a choice banquet provided in the large hall by Bro. Jennings.

This having been partaken of, grace was sung by the professional brethren, and the usual toasts were proposed.

The W.M. in giving the toast of "The Queen and the Craft," said it was a pleasure to all Masons to drink the health of our Sovereign Lady the Queen, not only from their feelings of loyalty and because she was patroness of the Order, but because members of her family did "aprons put on, to make themselves one, with a Free and Accepted Mason." In giving "The M.W.G.M.," the W.M. said that all Masons were delighted at the Prince of Wales's return from his long and tedious journey; but they were also greatly pleased to find that he had been so well received, and that wherever a body of Freemasons was to be found in the course of his travels they gave him a hearty welcome. To those who were Masons on distant shores the Freemasons of England returned their most sincere thanks for the reception they accorded the M.W.G.M. The Prince of Wales was always ready, willing, and anxious to support Freemasons in everything they brought forward in a just and righteous cause. He was also looked upon as the right hand of Freemasons and as a G.M. who did credit to the order. No matter whether in India or in England we found he was well and heartily received, and Masons considered that such a reception he heartily deserved. The toast of "the Pro Grand Master, the Earl of Carnarvon," the W.M. said, was one equally interesting to Freemasons. He was a brother who they found working hard in the Imperial Parliament for the welfare of his fellow-men in distant climes, and also among our legislators for the welfare of England in defending and directing our laws. He was always to be found at hand in giving a helping hand to Freemasonry whenever required; in fact he was a most industrious worker in the Craft, whose welfare he had at heart. "The Deputy Grand Master, Lord Skelmersdale, and the rest of the Grand Officers," which was the next toast, all of whom were most anxious and willing to do all they could for the brethren, introduced the subject of Grand Secretary's absence from this consecration, and the W.M. said that Bro. Herve had sent him a letter to say it was with extreme regret he was compelled to be elsewhere. The President of the Board of General Purposes, Bro. Monckton, had also expressed his regret that he was not able to be with the brethren that evening, but he wished every success to the Cripple Gate Lodge. Bro. E. Coste, I.P.M., proposed "The Health of the W.M." The W.M. had placed him that evening in the position of the P.M. for the ensuing year, and he had to thank the brethren for recognising him in that position. It was with great pleasure he proposed "The Health of the W.M.," and it was with all sincerity he proposed it, for he had known Bro. Foulger for many years, and he was quite sure there was not a brother who did not hold him in the highest esteem. Every brother in the lodge was proud to think that he had been designated as the W.M. of the Cripple Gate Lodge. They could not find a better brother to preside over them, and they all hoped he would have a most successful year. He trusted that all the other officers of the lodge would do their utmost to make it so.

The W.M. said in reply: I rise on this occasion with the greatest diffidence. I know scarcely what to say. I have to thank you for the very kind manner in which you have received the toast and drunk my health. I think you have received it and drunk it heartily, cordially, and with all that brotherly feeling which should always exist among Freemasons. It is true that I have been in Cripple Gate Ward for

many years, and I feel proud of being selected as the first W.M. of this lodge. I feel proud that the brethren have had sufficient confidence in me to place me in the superior position to preside over them for the forthcoming year. I certainly was alarmed at the first onset when the movement was started in the ward, and the brethren of the ward rallied round each other and decided that application should be made for a warrant to be granted for this lodge, and that I should be their Master. I feel that the distinguished honour conferred on me is really an honour that I did not deserve, because I think there might have been found a more distinguished brother. Be that as it may, it was decided that I should be the man, and I will endeavour to do all in my power to prevent you regretting your choice. I hope the Cripple Gate Lodge will be what we intend it to be, a lodge of true and faithful brethren, true to each other and faithful to the Craft; to do all that is honourable in Masonry—that Masonry shall be proud of having such men in the field; that we shall do what is necessary, and all we can, in our charities, which really are the groundwork of Masonry. Although charity may begin at home, I hope we will begin in such a manner that it will be felt at Grand Lodge that Cripple Gate was the proper locality to start a meeting place for Freemasons, where honour should be done to the Craft. I hope it will be; I feel it will be. Of course we are a young lodge at present. We cannot talk of the services of this lodge, but I feel that charity is the first step that we can take to make Masonry truthfully known to the outer world; at any rate, although the outer world are not acquainted with our mysteries and our secrets, they are acquainted with this fact, that we have most noble institutions, schools for the education of our brethren's children, and an asylum for the old men and old women. This the outer world does know, and I often hear them say they think there is something in Freemasonry more than they really know of it, or such large sums would not appear in the newspapers as they see subscribed to the Benevolent Institution and the Schools. This is the something the outside world are really inquisitive about. They must come among us to learn it, and I hope they will find that there is really something in the Cripple Gate Lodge. We do not mean in the common acceptance of the term that we are all cripples in this ward, although I believe in 1010 Edmund the Martyr, the first King of the East Angles, as he was called, who died in the country, was borne through this parish, and, as was the custom then, the cripples assembled at Cripple Gate, believing that there was some peculiar charm in it to heal their infirmities, and it is said that as the body passed the cripples all danced and sang. I do not know if that is true or not, as I was not there to see; it may be only a matter of history; but from history I have other information with regard to Cripple Gate. In Cripple Gate lie the ashes of some of the celebrated dead of this country. Milton, our great poet, Foxe, the great writer of the "Book of Martyrs," are both buried in Cripple Gate Church. We have records to shew that Whittington resided in Cripple Gate, and that in 1244 Cripple Gate was rebuilt by the brewers of London, and in those days the cripples used to assemble round that gate to gather the alms. But we find that masonry is not altogether unknown in Cripple Gate; for we hear of a lodge called the Bedford Lodge in 1739 being held at the Mitre in Union-street, Cripple Gate. We have still a Union-street, Cripple Gate, but not a "Mitre" there. We have the Five Bells, and that is probably the same house. I merely mention that by the way; but it is a fact that we have Masonry in Cripple Gate from 1739. In 1776 it conformed to the rules of Grand Lodge of England under Lord Blaney, Grand Master, and the number of the lodge was No. 364. The initiation fee was then a guinea; the visitor's fee 1s. 6d. (Laughter.) The quarterly subscription 2s. 6d.; and the supper charge was 6d. (great laughter), not the same price as the Albion certainly. (Laughter.) In 1791, according to Masonic history, which I have been reading carefully, I find that this particular lodge was honoured by the preference given to it by His Royal Highness the Prince

of Wales, then the Grand Master of England, who commanded that the gentlemen of his household should be initiated in that lodge, and they were so initiated. So that I wish it to be understood that Masonry is not altogether new in the ward of Cripple Gate. We are very pleased to find that Masonry was sustained here many years before we ever thought of Masonry, or before we were born, and when Masonry belonged to very few. I feel proud of the ward of Cripple Gate, which has something to do with my history. The very first ground I planted my boot on in London—for I was country-born—was in the ward of Cripple Gate. The first residence that I had in London was in the ward of Cripple Gate; all my success in life has been in the ward of Cripple Gate; I married in the ward of Cripple Gate; my children were born in the ward of Cripple Gate, they were baptised at Cripple Gate Church, everything connected with me has been in the ward of Cripple Gate; I am a freeman of the ward of Cripple Gate; I took up my livery in the ward of Cripple Gate, and as we say in all our ward dinners, "May the ward flourish root and branch!" It is not for the root to grow and the branches to wither, but for both to flourish, and I believe we shall flourish and that the good ship will, with good pilots on board and careful steersmen, sail with safety through all the dangers that may beset us. So much for Cripple Gate. But having said so much for the ward let me speak of the Cripple Gate Lodge. Let it be known to the world and known to ourselves that we have started in earnest to do what is right in the history of Freemasonry. Let us all believe in brotherly love, relief, and truth. Let us do as much as within us lies; let us do all that is not detrimental to ourselves and connections to promote the interests of Freemasonry at large. That is what we really intend to do, what is right, what may be considered necessary for the interest of the Craft and the welfare of Freemasonry. Of course we are yet but young Freemasons; we cannot talk about our traditions; we can only hope we shall be able to put ourselves in a position second to none in the Craft so far as the Cripple Gate Lodge is concerned. With that, I beg to thank you for the kind manner in which you have placed me at the top of the tree in this lodge, and I hope we shall go on through the ensuing year most prosperously, and that future years may be as successful as we will endeavour to make the present. (Cheers.)

The W.M. afterwards proposed the toast of "The Consecrating Officers," which he said, from the known ability of these brethren, relieved him of the necessity of making many remarks. The lodge owed a deep debt of gratitude to the consecrating officers for their services in launching the lodge into working order. Bro. Terry, in thanking the brethren for the toast on the part of himself and his brother officers, said they all highly appreciated the compliment which had been paid them. Referring to some of the historical circumstances mentioned by the W.M. he said it was a fortunate thing that the W.M. was not present at Cripple Gate in 1010 when the ashes of Edmund, King and Martyr, went through the gate, as he might have put rather a rough hand upon some of the cripples and taken them before the Lord Mayor. Men must be made for the time; and it was also a circumstance for congratulation that the poor cripples did not live in 1876, although he had, as far as he could, provided against casualties, and, to give a tone to the Cripple Gate Lodge, had come prepared, thinking that the cripples could not have a better support than a crutch, he had brought his friend Bro. Crutch that evening to help them. (Laughter.) He had also brought with him a Constable, who, he thought, would be a fit assistant for the W.M. (Renewed laughter.) And they must also remember that these indefatigable brethren had yet a further officer to assist them in keeping order, for the prison "Buss" was by his side. (Renewed laughter.) They were all so interlocked one way and the other that they could not move without being of mutual assistance; and he was pleased to think that he had been able to bring such able help that evening. For himself he hoped he was not too "Terry"—ble to be looked at. (Laughter.) He and the other consecrating officers were very

proud at being elected honorary members of the Cripplegate Lodge, a lodge which was connected with so renowned a locality as had been referred to by the W.M. From the narrative of the connection of the Ward of Cripplegate with the illustrious dead which they had heard it was clear that the W.M. had reason to be proud of his connection with it. He had said that he was married in it, and that his children were born and brought up in it. The lodge might congratulate the ward that though it was the ward of Cripplegate it had not turned out cripples. There certainly was not one in that room. He had expected to see some other eminent Freemasons there that evening, and he thought that they would deeply regret their absence when they came to learn the splendid reception which had been accorded to those who had taken part in the establishment of the lodge. Brother Terry concluded by again thanking the W.M. and brethren of the lodge for the toast, and wishing the greatest prosperity to the lodge.

The W.M. next proposed "The Visitors" of the names of whom there were three or four columns on the signature book. The lodge was very proud to have them in their midst, and he hoped they would go away with a good report of what they had witnessed.

Bro. Abbott, P.M. 192, who was one of the respondents, said he felt great interest in the welfare of the Cripplegate Lodge, because many of its members were members of his own lodge. The brethren of that lodge were first afraid that they would lose many of their own members by the establishment of the Cripplegate Lodge. That fear, however, has passed away, and the lodge recommended the prayer of the petition for a warrant. Some of the brethren of 192 were chosen as officers of the Cripplegate, and three of them he might claim as his own children.

Bro. Scott, S.W. 91, also replied, and expressed his pleasure at the performance he had witnessed. Referring to the working of the W.M., he could not help expecting that the Cripplegate Lodge would have great success. In the W.M. and his officers it had brethren who would conduct it safely through any troubles and difficulties that might arise. Many brethren of his own lodge (No. 91) were members of this lodge, and this enabled him to speak with much confidence, for he knew what they were. His own lodge was of course always uppermost in his mind, and with respect to it he could not help saying—

"Where'er I go, whatever realms I see,
My heart, untrammelled, still returns to thee."

Bro. Wilson also replied, speaking in the same high terms of the W.M., officers, and brethren.

The W.M. next gave "The Recommending Lodge," for which Bro. A. Treadwell, W.M. 177, returned thanks. Bro. Foulger was initiated in that lodge and passed through all its offices; had been a member of that lodge twenty-one years, and was highly respected there.

The W.M. next proposed "The Masonic Charities," and said that he felt the Cripplegate Lodge would prosper, and as it prospered it would remember the Masonic Charities. He begged to thank Bro. Terry, the Secretary of the Benevolent Institution, and the lodge would show its appreciation of its services that evening by assisting his institution. He would suggest that the Benevolent Institution should be first remembered by the Cripplegate Lodge.

Bro. James Terry replied: 285 brethren had enrolled themselves as Stewards for the Boys' Festival, when a still larger subscription than that of last year was expected. He hoped that would be the forerunner of still larger success in 1877 for the other two institutions. Whether in London or in the provinces the most generous support had been accorded to all three institutions. Some brethren had, perhaps, a fancy for one institution above another; but, taken altogether, the various Committees might congratulate themselves that the support was most liberally extended. £9380 was subscribed at the last Festival of the Benevolent Institution, and it certainly could not be said that the Craft failed in its duty on that occasion. £8200, notwithstanding the illness of the Secretary to the Girls' School, was subscribed in May to that institution, and at least £14,000 was ex-

pected for the Boys on the 28th inst. This would make some £32,000; but let not the brethren run away with the idea that because this was a large sum the institution could not spend it all; neither let them think that because there was no election for the old men last time they could do without an election in future; nor because they took on twenty-one widows out of thirty-one they had so much money they did not know what to do with it. For this institution there was but one election in the year, and the Committee were desirous to put on all they could, so that the poor people might not have to wait another year. The Committee had agreed to pay each annuitant an increase of £4 a year, which, although it might appear a small sum, was a very large increase for a poor old man or woman. There were three poor old women who were not successful at last election, but each of them being 80 years of age and upwards, the Committee, as they had the power, took them on the fund without election. The Girls' School Committee were going to lay out a large sum of money on a new wing to the school, and no one who had been down there could help coming away with the determination to do all he could for that institution. With regard to the Boys' School, they had heard from its energetic Secretary, their Hercules, a man of most gigantic stature, of tremendous mind, and of irresistible force when he was determined to carry a point, that he was determined to beat the other two Secretaries. He (Bro. Terry) hoped he would not be disappointed, but that the Craft would support him. All three had but one object in view, to go on and prosper to the utmost extent. The W.M.'s suggestion that the lodge should first support the Benevolent Institution was a very kind one, and he should feel that his attendance to consecrate the lodge had not been without effect. He saw many brethren round the table who had nobly supported him in the past, and he saw no reason to doubt that they would do so again. He hoped that each brother as he was initiated would think that upon his own shoulders, on his own efforts, would depend the success of each institution, and if they could only get the young members coming in to take the same interest as the old ones, there was a bright future opening before them. There would go forth to the world, not with a view of bringing them into the Order, an account of the large subscriptions to the institutions; and there would be brought into the Order good, true, and faithful men, who would not be speculative Masons, but Masons in heart and fact, who would contribute largely to the support of the Masonic Institutions. (Cheers.)

Bro. Corke, Treasurer, proposed that a list should be at once commenced, and offered to give ten or fifteen guineas towards it. The lodge would thus show practically the gratitude it felt to Bro. Terry and those brethren who had assisted him in the consecration of the lodge. It would be the pride of his heart if before Bro. Terry left that evening he (Bro. Corke) could place in his hands a cheque for £50 to make the Cripplegate Lodge Vice-President of the Benevolent Institution. Bro. Abbot, the Secretary, his partner, would also put £15. The brethren had met in social intercourse to do good and to be charitable, and he hoped they would support them. If they would promise to do so, he (Bro. Corke) would at once give Bro. Terry a cheque for £50. (Great cheering.)

The S.W., the J.W., the I.P.M. each added £5 5s. to the list, and in a few minutes Bro. Corke informed Bro. Terry that the list amounted to £60.

Bro. Terry then rose to thank the brethren. He said that of the sixty-one lodges he had consecrated the Cripplegate was the first that had paid him such a compliment. He hoped the other sixty would bestir themselves to emulate the Cripplegate. He trusted that much good would result from it. Long might the Grand Master be spared to grant warrants for such lodges as this.

The W.M. said that as the lodge intended to become Vice-President of all the institutions, a cheque for £50 would be given to Bro. Terry, and the other £10 would go towards the list for one of the other institutions.

"The Officers" was the next toast, to which

there was a hearty response by the Treasurer (who thanked the visitors very much for assisting) The Secretary, the Wardens and Deacons.

Bro. H. Massey replied for the "Freemason" to the toast of "The Masonic Press," and the Tyler's toast brought the proceedings to a close. There was some excellent singing during the evening by Bros. Fred. H. Cozens, T. W. Simons, G. T. Carter and Chaplin Henry.

METROPOLITAN MASONIC MEETINGS.

For the Week ending Friday, July 7, 1876.

The Editor will be glad to receive notice from Secretaries of Craft Lodges, Royal Arch Chapters, Mark Lodges, Preceptories, Conclaves, &c., of any change in place or time of meeting.

SATURDAY, JULY 1.

Gen. Com. Boys' School, at 4.
Lodge 1194, Villiers, Grotto Hot., Twickenham.
Precep. 127, Bard of Avon, Hampton-court.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Lily, Greyhound, Richmond.
Manchester, 77, London-st., Fitzroy-square.
Star, Marquis of Granby, New Cross-rd.

MONDAY, JULY 3.

Lodge 16, Royal Alpha, Willis's Rooms, St. James's.
" 1319, Asaph, F.M.H.
Chap. 28, Old King's Arms, F.M.H.
" 91, Regularity, F.M.H.

Mark Lodge 139, Panmure, Balham Hot., Balham.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Prince Leopold, Lord Stanley Tav., Kingsland.
Strong Man, Jerusalem Tav., St. John's Gate.
Sincerity, Railway Tav., Fenchurch-st. Station.
Camden, Stanhope Arms, Up. James-st., Camden To.
Eastern, Royal Hot., Mile-end-road.
St. James's, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Wellington, White Swan, Deptford.
Perfect Ashlar, Victoria Tav., Lower-rd., Rotherhithe.
Sydney, White Hart Ho., Church-rd., Upper Norwood.

TUESDAY, JULY 4.

Colonial Board, at 3.
Lodge 171, Amity, Ship Hot., Greenwich.
" 1549, Abercorn, Abercorn Hot., Stanmore.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Metropolitan, 269, Pentonville-rd.
Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney.
Domestic, Surrey M.H., Camberwell New-road.
Faith, 2, Westminster Chambers, Victoria-st.
Prince Fredk. Wm., Lord's Hot., St. John's Wood.
Dalhousie, King Edward, Triangle, Hackney.
Prosperity, 1, Camomile-st., Bishopsgate.
St. Marylebone, British Stores Tav., St. John's Wood.
Constitutional, Wheatheaf Hot., Hand-court, Holborn.
Israel, Rising Sun Tav., Globe Road.
Royal Arthur, Prince's Head, York-road, Battersea.
Beacontree, Red Lion, Leytonstone, at 8.
Metropolitan Chapter, Jamaica Coffee Ho., Cornhill.
Excelsior, Commercial Dock Tav., Rotherhithe.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 5.

Chap. 55, Constitutional, Private Room, Leytonstone.
Precep. 129, Holy Palestine, Café Royal, Regent-street.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Confidence, M.H., Bushall-st.
Mt. Lebanon, Windsor Castle Tav., Southwark-bdg.-rd.
Pythagorean, Prince of Orange, Greenwich.
New Concord, Rosemary Branch Tav., Hoxton.
Royal Union, Horse and Groom, Winsley-st., Oxford-st.
Peckham, Maismore Arms, Park-road, Peckham.
Stanhope, Thicket Hot., Anerley.
Finsbury Park, Finsbury Park Tav., Seven Sisters'-rd.
Southwark, Southwark Park Tav., Southwark Park.
Duke of Connaught, Havelock Tav., Dalston, E.
United Strength, Grafton Arms, Kentish-town.
Islington, Crown and Cushion, Lion Wall.
Whittington, Black Bull Tav., Holborn.

THURSDAY, JULY 6.

Lodge 10, Westminster and Keystone, F.M.H.
" 1155, Excelsior, Sydney Arms, Lewisham-rd.
" 1360, Royal Arthur, Wimbledon Club Lecture Hall.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Egyptian, Hercules Tav., Leadenhall-st.
Fidelity, Yorkshire Grey, London-st., W.
Finsbury, Jolly Anglers' Tav., Bath-st., City-road.
Temperance in the East, Catherine-st., Poplar.
Ebury, 12, Ponsonby-st., Milbank.
Highgate, Bull and Gate, Kentish-town.
The Great City, 111, Cheapside.
High Cross, Coach & Horses, High-road, Tottenham.
Salisbury, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Marquis of Ripon, Albion Tav., Albany-rd., Dalston.
Prince Frederick William Chapter, St. John's Wood.
Southern Star, Crown Hot., Blackfriars-rd.

FRIDAY, JULY 7.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Union Waterloo, Thomas-st., Woolwich.
Robert Burns, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Belgrave, Lyceum Tav., 354, Strand.
Unions Emulation (for M.M.'s), F.M.H.
Temperance, Victoria Tav., Victoria-road, Deptford.
Clapton, White Hart, Clapton.
Metropolitan, Portugal Hot., Fleet-st.
Westbourne, Horse & Groom, Winsley-st., Oxford-st.
Metropolitan, Pentonville-road.
United Pilgrims, Surrey M.H., Camberwell New-road.
St. James's, New Tanners' Arms, Grange-rd., Bermondsey.
Duke of Edinburgh, Silver Lion, Penny-fields, Poplar.

Doric, Earl Grey Tav., Mile-end-road.
Burgoyne, Grafton Arms, Prince of Wales's-road, N.W.
St. Luke's, White Hart, King's-rd., Chelsea.
Chigwell, Bald-faced Stag Hot., Buckhurst-hill.
Burdett Courts, Approach Tav., Victoria Park.
Royal Standard, Finsbury Park Tav., Holloway.
Ranelagh, Clarendon Hot., Hammersmith.
Pythagorean Chapter, Prince of Orange, Greenwich-rd.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN WEST LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE.

For the Week ending Saturday July 8, 1876.

MONDAY, JULY 3.

- Lodge 113, Unanimity, Bull Hot., Church-st., Preston.
" 613, Unity, Palatine Buildings, Southport.
" 703, Clifton, Clifton Arms, Blackpool.
" 1045, Stamford, T.H., Altrincham.
" 1051, Rowley, M.R., Athenæum, Lancaster.
" 1264, Neptune, M.H., Liverpool.
" 1380, Skelmersdale, Queen's Hot., Waterloo.
Everton L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

TUESDAY, JULY 4.

- Lodge 673, St. John's, M.H., Liverpool.
" 986, Hesketh, Grapes Inn, Croston.
" 995, Furness, M.T., Ulverstone.
" 1256, Fidelity, Bull Hot., Poulton-le-Fylde.
" 1476, Blackpool, Clifton Arms Hot., Blackpool.
Chap. 203, St. John of Jerusalem, M.H., Liverpool.
Merchants' L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 5.

- Lodge 86, Loyalty, M.H., Prescott.
" 484, Faith, Gerard's Arms, Ashton-in-Wakefield.
" 580, Harmony, Wheatheaf, Ormskirk.
" 730, Ellesmere, Royal Oak Hot., Chorley.
" 758, Ellesmere, M.H., Runcorn.
" 1013, Royal Victoria, M.H., Liverpool.
" 1335, Lindsay, 20, King-st., Wigan.
" 1354, Marquis of Lorne, M.R., Leigh.
De Grey and Ripon L. of I., N. Hill-st., Liverpool.
Downshire L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.
Harmonic L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.
Mark Lodge, 65, W., Lancashire, M.H., Liverpool.

THURSDAY, JULY 6.

- Lodge 249, Mariners, M.H., Liverpool.
" 950, Hesketh, Royal Hot., Fleetwood.
" 1032, Townley Parker, Howard's A., Whittle-le-Wds.
" 1070, Starkie, Black Horse Hot., Kirkham.
" 1473, Bootle, Molyneux R., Bootle.
Chap. 758, Bridgewater, M.H., Runcorn.
St. John's L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.
Precep. Alpess M.H., Liverpool.

FRIDAY, JULY 7.

- Lodge 1375, Architect, Didsbury Hot., Didsbury.
" 1387, Chorlton, M.R., Chorlton-cum-Hardy.
" 1505, Emulation, M.H., Liverpool.
Duke of Edinburgh L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN GLASGOW AND WEST OF SCOTLAND.

For the Week ending Saturday, July 8, 1876.
All the Meetings take place at Eight o'clock.

MONDAY, JULY 3.

- Lodge 124, Kilwinning, Union Tav., Ayr.
" 129, St. Mirren, 5, Moss-st., Paisley.
" 138, Operative, Blue Bell Hot., Ayr.
" 237, St. John, Masonic Arms, Girvan.
" 332, Union, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
" 581, Plantation, Craigiehall-st., Glasgow.
Chap. 53, Dumbarton, Elephant Hot., Dumbarton.
" 119, Rosslyn, 25, Robertson-st., Glasgow.
Lodge 34, St. John, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
" 7, Hamilton, Kilwinning M.H.
" 68, Doric, 44, Church-st., Port Glasgow.
" 73, Thistle and Rose, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
" 87, Thistle, 30, Hope-st., Glasgow.
" 173, St. John, M.H., Largs.
" 177, St. James's, M.H., Coatbridge.
" 233, Hamilton, Spaldings Hot., Hamilton.
" 406, St. John, Dalziel, M.H., Motherwell.
" 433, St. Thomas, Eglington Hot., Dalmellington.
" 437, Govandale, Portland Buildings, Govan.
" 442, Neptune Kilwinning, Prince's-lane, Ardrossan.
" 497, St. John's, Brewery Lesser Hall, Catrine.

TUESDAY, JULY 4.

- Lodge 34, St. John, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
" 7, Hamilton, Kilwinning M.H.
" 68, Doric, 44, Church-st., Port Glasgow.
" 73, Thistle and Rose, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
" 87, Thistle, 30, Hope-st., Glasgow.
" 173, St. John, M.H., Largs.
" 177, St. James's, M.H., Coatbridge.
" 233, Hamilton, Spaldings Hot., Hamilton.
" 406, St. John, Dalziel, M.H., Motherwell.
" 433, St. Thomas, Eglington Hot., Dalmellington.
" 437, Govandale, Portland Buildings, Govan.
" 442, Neptune Kilwinning, Prince's-lane, Ardrossan.
" 497, St. John's, Brewery Lesser Hall, Catrine.
Lodge 34, St. John, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
" 7, Hamilton, Kilwinning M.H.
" 68, Doric, 44, Church-st., Port Glasgow.
" 73, Thistle and Rose, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
" 87, Thistle, 30, Hope-st., Glasgow.
" 173, St. John, M.H., Largs.
" 177, St. James's, M.H., Coatbridge.
" 233, Hamilton, Spaldings Hot., Hamilton.
" 406, St. John, Dalziel, M.H., Motherwell.
" 433, St. Thomas, Eglington Hot., Dalmellington.
" 437, Govandale, Portland Buildings, Govan.
" 442, Neptune Kilwinning, Prince's-lane, Ardrossan.
" 497, St. John's, Brewery Lesser Hall, Catrine.

THURSDAY, JULY 6.

- Lodge 11, St. John's, King's Arms, Maybole.
" 22, St. John Kilwinning, George Hot., Kilmarnock.
" 149, St. Andrew, Masons' Arms, Irvine.
" 157, St. John, M.H., Beith.
" 165, Royal Arch, King's Arms, Ayr.
" 290, Dalry Blair, White Hart H., Dalry.
" 320, St. John, M.H., Salcoats and Ardrossan.
" 370, Renfrew, M.H., High-st., Paisley.
" 465, St. Andrew, M.H., Garnad-rd.
" 547, Stewart, M.H., Kilsyth.
Chap. 114, Baron of Renfrew, M.H., Renfrew.

FRIDAY, JULY 7.

- Lodge 116, Royal Arch, Council Hall, Rutherglen.
" 135, St. James, Crown Inn, Tarbolton.
" 175, St. John, M.H., Greenock.
" 217, Cumberland Kilwinning, T.H., Port Glasgow.
" 242, Houston, Cross Keys Hot., Johnstone.
" 275, Shamrock & Thistle, 22, Struthers-st., Glsqw.
" 360, Commercial, 30, Hope-street, Glasgow.
" 408, Clyde, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
" 459, Kelburne, Cumbræ Hot., Millport.
Lodge 512, Thorntree, School House, Thornliebank.
" 551, Clydesdale, Royal Hot., Larkhall.
hap. 112, Paisley, St. Mirren's Hall, Paisley.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN EDINBURGH AND VICINITY.

For the Week ending Saturday, July 8, 1876.

MONDAY, JULY 3.

- Lodge 429, St. Kentigern, Royal Hot., Penicuik.

TUESDAY, JULY 4.

- Lodge 5, Canongate and Leith, 86, Constitution-st.

THURSDAY, JULY 6.

- Lodge 97, St. James's, St. James's Hall, Writers' Court.

FRIDAY, JULY 7.

- Lodge 291, Celtic, of E. and L., Ship Hot., E. Register-st.

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REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS.

Craft Masonry.

CHAUCER LODGE (No. 1540).—A meeting of this lodge was held at the Bridge House Hotel, Southwark, on Wednesday, 28th ult. Bro. T. J. Sabine, W.M., P.P.G.S.B. Midx., P.M. 73, &c., presided. There were present Bros. J. C. Mason, S.W.; E. S. Stidolph, J.W.; W. Hudson, P.P.G.D. Sussex, P.M., Treas.; F. Walters, P.P.G.P. Midx., P.M., Sec.; W. J. Kemp, J.D.; H. Faija, I.G.; Hawks, D.C.; A. P. Steadman, W.S.; T. J. H. Wilkins, P.M.; Wright, P.M.; and many others. Amongst the visitors we noticed Bros. H. Keeble, P.M. 1275, &c.; A. Pulley, P.M. 169; Sandiman, P.M. 315; T. Walls, 141; R. Buck, 1559; and others. The work, done in an admirable manner, was raising Bros. Harrison, Blackwell, Hooper, Diack, and R. Buck, and passing Bro. H. Levy. The J.D., Bro. Hudson, was absent in consequence of his representing the lodge as its Steward at the Boys' Festival. The members subscribed ten guineas to make the W.M. in perpetuity a life subscriber to the Boys' School, the W.M. for the time being possessing life subscriberships of both Girls' and Boys', both subscribed for voluntarily by the members of this lodge. Some important notices of motion having been given, candidates proposed for initiation, and joining members proposed, the lodge was closed. Banquet and dessert followed.

MIDDLETON—Imperial George Lodge (No. 78).—The ordinary monthly meeting of this lodge was held at the Assheton Arms, on Tuesday, June 22. The W.M., Bro. David Reid, took the post of honour at 6 p.m., and his officers being in their respective places, he proceeded to open the lodge. The Secretary having read the minutes of the last meeting, they were in due course confirmed. The ballot was then taken for a candidate, proposed by Bro. H. Wilson, Mr. William Valentine, of Chorlton-on-Medlock, Manchester, it being satisfactory he was initiated by the W.M., after which the lodge was passed to the Second Degree, and the working tools of a F.C. presented to Bros. Berresford and Brunt, which ceremony was omitted at the last meeting in consequence of other important business. These brethren having retired the lodge was raised to the Third Degree, and the Tracing Board explained to Bros. Tatton and Dodd. The lodge was then reduced to the First Degree and the whole of the brethren summoned to labour, after which the W.M. moved on behalf of Bro. H. Heywood, P.M. and Treasurer, who was unable to attend, "That a donation of Fifty guineas be given from the Charity Fund to the East Lancashire Systematic and Benevolent Institution." The W.M. having informed the brethren that this new institution was working well and wisely, and therefore worthy of the support of the Imperial George Lodge, then appealed to Bro. Wood, P.M., D.C., to give further information with regard to the institution, he being the representative of the lodge at its meetings. Bro. Ward, on rising, seconded the motion, and pointed out in an explicit manner, the great boon such an institution would be to a province of such magnitude as that of East Lancashire. He also informed the brethren that its benefits would doubtless be experienced by many not connected with the province, by many not attached to the Masonic Constitution of England; his remarks here applying to brethren in distress, who were wending their way to their native homes, or in search of occupation. To dispense this charity, which with a little licence we might term "migrating Charity." Bro. Wood, P.M., D.C., informed the brethren that an Almshouse had been appointed, who resided in Manchester, and to whom a distressed brother could apply for assistance, and if found worthy he would at once receive it. It is with regret we have read and heard much of late of designing Masons, and Masonic impostors; we feel that this fact was uppermost in the mind of Bro. Wood, when he advised the brethren to refer all cases of distress to the proper officer at the Masonic Hall, in Cooper-street, Manchester, there their case should be fully investigated, and as a consequence worthy men and worthy men alone would be relieved. Those who could not present themselves at that hall, would be regarded as Masons without mind or

without brief. At the conclusion of Bro. Wood's remarks the resolution was ably supported by Bros. Ridley, Cheetham, and Fothergill. The W.M. then put it to the meeting, viz., "That a donation of fifty guineas be given from the charity fund to the E.L.S. and B.I.," and it was unanimously carried. Bro. S. H. Cheetham, P.M., proposed, and Bro. Riley seconded, a candidate for initiation, and the candidate was entered accordingly on good report. Bro. Wood, P.M., D.C., proposed, and Bro. Bradbury, S.W., seconded, "That the lodge be adjourned until September;" this also received general support. Two lodges were represented at this meeting, Bro. G. Sayles giving the customary salutations for Caledonian, 204, and Bro. R. Abrahams, P.M. for Walton, 1086. Before closing our report we must mention that Bro. S. H. Cheetham, P.M., kindly undertook the post of Tyler in order to allow Bro. John Kent, O.G., to be present at the working inside the lodge. He is an able officer in preparing rude matter to be placed in due form, and owing to this duty he is seldom within the door of the lodge; but the closing of the lodge for the season was certainly witnessed by one admired by all—our Bro. John Kent. The banquet having been disposed of, the usual toasts were proceeded with. Time would not permit "the power of song" to be much indulged in. Bro. S. H. Cheetham, P.M., enlivened the evening with his favourite melody, "The Anchor's Weighed." To their respective toasts "The Initiate" and "The Visitors" replied, that of "The Tyler" concluding and closing Imperial George Lodge doings until Thursday, Sept. 28th. May 78 resume labour, in the way in which it usually terminates it, in accordance with that old motto, "Cor unum, via una." ("One heart, one way.")

ROCHFORD.—Lodge of True Friendship (No. 160).—The installation meeting of this lodge was held on Saturday, the 24th ult., at the Old Ship Inn, when Bro. Rev. H. J. Hatch, P. Prov. G. Chaplain Essex, was installed as the W.M. by the V.W. Bro. Rev. S. R. Wigram, Grand Chaplain, the beautiful ritual being rendered with the excellent effect for which our worthy brother is celebrated. Bro. A. Lucking, P.M. 160 and 1000, Prov. A.G.D.C., assisted as Director of Ceremonies. The W.M. invested the following as his officers:—Bros. J. Reeve, I.P.M.; F. V. Jillings, S.W.; W. Allen, jun., J.W.; H. Wood, P.M., P. Prov. G.O., Treas.; G. Burgess, P.M., P. Prov. G.D., Sec.; T. W. Gower, S.D.; G. Goodman, J.D.; G. Josling, I.G.; A. Lucking, D.C.; W. V. Wilson and H. Harper, Stewards; J. Allen, Tyler. There were also present Bros. W. T. Allen, P.M., P. Prov. A.G.D.C.; J. A. Wardell, P.M. 160 and 1000, P. Prov. G.D.; Dr. E. E. Phillips, W.M. 1000, Prov. G.D.; G. F. Browning, P.M., P. Prov. G.W.; D. B. Grout, P.M., P. Prov. G.D.; Dr. King, Dr. G. F. Jones, Z. Pettitt, J. Harrington, J. C. Underwood, W. Frost, and A. Harrington. Amongst the numerous visitors were Bros. Major Birch, P. District G. Sec. of Bengal, P.M. and P.Z.; F. G. Green, P.M. 1024, P. Prov. S.G.W.; F. Wood, P.M. 1000, P. Prov. S.G.W.; W. F. Francis, W.M. 1024; W. C. Bell, 1024; F. Canton, 1000; W. H. Norman, 1000. On the motion of the newly-installed W.M., seconded by Bro. H. Wood, P.M., a most cordial vote of thanks was accorded to the Rev. S. R. Wigram for the able and impressive manner in which he had performed the ceremony of installation, which was ordered to be entered on the minutes. The lodge having been closed, the brethren sat down to an excellent banquet. On the withdrawal of the cloth the usual loyal toasts were given, all of which were drunk with enthusiasm. The W.M. gave "The R.W. Prov. G.M.," whom he regretted, was unable to be present through continued ill health, and next gave "The R.W. Dep. Prov. G.M. and the rest of Prov. Grand Officers, Present and Past," which was acknowledged by Bros. A. Lucking and Dr. E. E. Phillips. Bro. J. Reeve, I.P.M., then rose, and said it was exceedingly gratifying to him to have the privilege of proposing "The Health of the W.M.," who was in every respect qualified for the position to which the lodge had elected him. The toast having been cordially received the W.M. made an able response. Bros. Major Birch, Green, Wood, and F. Canton returned thanks to the toast of "The Visitors." The former said he had visited lodges in many parts of the globe, and was very pleased at the cordial welcome he always received, and wished the W.M. every prosperity during his year of office. The W.M. then gave the remaining toasts, viz., "The P.M.'s," "The Treasurer," "The Secretary," and "The Officers," which were suitably acknowledged. Some excellent vocal and instrumental music was rendered between the speeches under the direction of Bro. T. Lawler, assisted by Bros. Hodges and J. Thornton, and was highly appreciated by the assembled brethren. The Tyler's toast brought the day's proceedings to a close, which were of a highly successful and satisfactory character.

LIVERPOOL.—Merchants' Lodge (241).—The members of this celebrated lodge, which has long been recognised as the premier lodge in the Province of West Lancashire for its deeds of charity and excellence of its working, met at the Masonic Hall, Hope-street, Liverpool on Tuesday afternoon, the 27th of June, for the purpose of assisting at the annual installation ceremony and giving a hearty character to the greeting received by the W.M. after his year's admirable services. The Merchants' Lodge has now enjoyed an existence which stretches over the best part of a century, and during the whole of that time its chair has been filled by many worthy men and Masons—not the least distinguished and valued of these being Bro. Richard Brown, Hon. Sec. to the West Lancashire Masonic Educational Institution, who gave up the reins of government as the W.M. of 241 on this occasion. Bro. R. Brown, as W.M., opened the lodge in due form, and with him in the opening portion of the proceedings were a numerous and influential gathering

of the fraternity. The chair was subsequently taken by Bro. Robert Wilson, P.M. 241 P.P.G.S.D., who proceeded in a masterly style to instal Bro. G. Hutchin as the W.M. in the E. The following were invested officers for the coming year:—Bros. R. Brown I.P.M.; Councillor G. Peet, S.W.; James Winsor, J.W.; Dr. McGeorge, P.M.; Treasurer (re-elected); T. H. Sheen, Secretary; G. Broadbridge, P.M., P.P.G.D.C., D.C.; T. Salter, S.D.; W. Williams, J.D.; S. Jacobs, I.G.; and Peter Ball, Tyler. At the conclusion of this portion of the business the W.M. said he had great pleasure in presenting Bro. Brown, I.P.M., with a P.M.'s jewel, which had been voted from the funds of the lodge. Nothing which he (the W.M.) could say could add to its value in any way, and as there would be a future opportunity of saying something more, he would then rest content by merely presenting the jewel to Bro. Brown. In acknowledging the gift Bro. Brown said he need hardly tell the brethren that he thanked them heartily for the distinction conferred upon him. He hoped to wear the jewel as long as he lived, and remember with pride and pleasure the twelve months he had filled the chair in that lodge. At the close of the business proceedings the brethren took train for Birkdale, near Southport, where a sumptuous banquet was served at the Palace Hotel. Bro. G. Hutchin, W.M., presided, and amongst nearly 100 guests were Bros. H. S. Alpess, P.G. Sec.; R. Wilson, P.P.S.G.D.; G. Broadbridge, P.P.G.D.C.; J. Skeaf, P.G.Org.; R. Brown, I.P.M.; R. Robinson, P.M.; W. M. Chudley, P.M.; Dr. S. J. McGeorge, P.M.; J. Cobham, P.M.; J. I. Knight, P.M.; all the officers who had been invested, and Bros. W. Coates, 1356; W. Savage, G. Hulse, W. Johnson, J. Latta, B. Levy, I. de Frece, Treas. 1502; A. Woolrich, Ewart, &c. When dessert had been placed on the table, the W.M. proposed "The Queen," "The M.W.G.M. Bro. H.R.H., the Prince of Wales," and "The M.W. Pro Grand Master, Bro. the Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon;" and Bro. P.M. Chudley gave the toast of "The R.W. the D.G.M. and Prov. G.M. of West Lancashire, Bro. the Right Hon. Lord Skelmersdale," and "The Grand Officers, Past and Present." The toast of "The W.D.P.G.M., Bro. the Hon. F. A. Stanley, and the Officers of the Prov. G. Lodge, Past and Present," given by the W.M., was responded to by Bro. H. S. Alpess, P.G. Sec. In doing so he said it always afforded him great pleasure to visit the Merchants' Lodge, which he remembered longer than, perhaps, any brother in that room. It had always been a lodge which was well worked, and whose members were greatly respected throughout the length and breadth of the province. His memory extended over a quarter of a century of the lodge's history, and during that time it had always been foremost in works of charity. Bro. Alpess then made an eloquent appeal to the brethren on behalf of the proposition to contribute a sedilia to the restoration of Chester Cathedral by the brethren of West Lancashire, which would cost about £450. Of this £170 had already been subscribed, and he appealed to the brethren to show the same large heartedness which had been shown in other provinces in connection with similar work. The W.M. then proposed "The Masonic Charitable Institutions," Bro. Broadbridge responding on behalf of the Hamer Benevolent Fund and the London charities, and Bro. Brown on behalf of the West Lancashire Masonic Educational Institution, incidentally stating that that Institution was progressing in every possible way, and that there was now nearly the sum of £13,000 invested in connection with the charity. This was in face of the fact that during the past two years the amount paid for education had nearly doubled, and the number of children had also nearly doubled. Bro. W. Williams, J.D., rose at this stage of the proceedings, and said he rose on that occasion with a great deal of pride and considerable diffidence to discharge a duty which had been committed to his care by a number of the brethren of 241—with pride, because it was always a source of gratification to recognise the merits of any member of the lodge, and especially one who had gained the confidence of the brethren; and with diffidence, because he knew there were many members who were older in years, with a larger amount of Masonic experience, with greater ability, and some possessing a more intimate acquaintance with the brother in whose honour he had been asked to express the feelings of the lodge. He now desired on behalf of the brethren to express the sentiments and high regard for Bro. Richard Brown felt for him in the lodge, and any poverty of words on his (Bro. Williams's) part would be forgotten in that fact. A number of the brethren of the Merchants' Lodge had been for a considerable time anxious to testify their appreciation of the signal merits of Bro. Brown, not alone in connection with the faithful discharge of the various Masonic duties he had performed, but of his general character, and the many excellent qualities which distinguished him in his social relations. They had all seen how faithfully and well he had fulfilled the duties of the chair during the past twelve months, but it would be presumptuous to speak in the presence of so many brethren who knew Bro. Brown better. To endeavour to dilate on the many excellences he had shown in every position would be to scent the rose, and paint the lily. They saw centred in Bro. Brown all that they should seek to imitate. (Hear, hear.) The brethren had therefore deputed him (Bro. Williams) to request his acceptance of a testimonial, as marking of the appreciation felt for him in connection with the able discharge of all the duties appertaining to his official position and personal connection with the members in different relations of life. Knowing the large amount of time which Bro. Brown bestowed on his Masonic duties it was felt that this could not be done without the co-operation of his wife; and it was therefore felt that she too ought to be recognised in connection with the presentation. He would now present a jewel for Mrs. Brown, typical of the artist's profession she so much honoured, and in which he hoped she would achieve

still greater honours; for he (Bro. Williams) looked upon Bro. Brown as the representative of art amongst them. A brother of the lodge, anxious to testify individually to Bro. Brown's excellent qualities, asked his acceptance of a handsome gold watch, and nearly the whole of the brethren further desired to present him with a gold chain, to mark their high sense of his many excellent qualities. This magnificent Albert chain, of chaste design, is perhaps one of the most unique extant. In the centre of the chain are inserted, between gold bezels set with flat crystals, three gold Aurei of the Roman Empire, pronounced by distinguished numismatists to be rare specimens, and in a splendid state of preservation. Two of the coins are of the reign of the Emperor Domitian, 12th Cæsar, date A.D. 81 to 96, and the third of the Emperor Trajan, A.D. 98 to 117. The coins were purchased at Sotheby's in 1875, and formed part of the collection of Augustus Langdon, Esq., LL.B., F.Z.S., Trinity College, Cambridge, and Lincoln's Inn. Each of the bezels is set so as to rotate on pivots, in order to show reverse and obverse sides. The chain is of the pattern known as the fetter link, coupled with a small circular link, and to the drop links at the end is suspended a medallion beautifully engraved and bearing a suitable inscription, with the monogram "R.B." on the other side. The chaste and elegant brooch presented to Mrs. Brown was also a gem in its way, and thoroughly unique in design. By an ingenious contrivance it can also be worn as a pendant or negligé. The brooch is also apropos in its construction, representing an artist's pallet in gold, with brushes, maul stick, and pigments. The tips of the brushes are enamelled in colours, and the pigments on the pallet are depicted by gems, set transparently, viz., opal, aqua marine, amethyst, turquoise, and almadine, whilst the head of the maul stick is surmounted by a pearl. There is an appropriate inscription on the back of the brooch. Bro. Brown, in acknowledging the gifts, said he was sure the brethren would excuse him from making a speech on that occasion. He felt all heart and no words. When, twelve months since, it was prophesied that he would satisfy the brethren, he little dreamed that any feeble effort on his part would be recognised in this manner. It could not be from anything in him, but from their love for the Merchants' Lodge. He must thank the brethren again and again, and hoped the G.A.O.T.U. would mete out to them the grace and goodness they had always shown to him. Bro. Brown then proposed "The Worshipful Master," who responded in happy terms. "The Visitors," given by the W.M., was acknowledged by Bro. J. E. Jackson, W.M. 667, and Bro. I. de Frece, Treas. 1502. Bro. J. Cobham, P.M., gave "The Installing Master," acknowledged by Bro. R. Wilson, P.M. "The Worshipful P.M.'s," given by the W.M., was responded to by Bros. Robinson, Cobham, McGeorge, Chudley, and Brown; and "The Officers" by Bro. Councilor Peet, S.W. An excellent musical programme was furnished by Bros. T. Foulkes, Pugmire, Hobart, and Skeaf, the last-named presiding at the piano.

LANCASTER.—Lodge of Fortitude (No. 281).—On Wednesday evening, the 28th June, the Festival of St. John the Baptist was celebrated by the members of the Lodge of Fortitude dining together at the house of Bro. R. Hartley, the North Western Hotel, Morecambe. Between forty and fifty members of the Craft (including a few visitors who attended by invitation) assembled, the W.M., Bro. T. Atkinson, presiding, supported on the right by Bros. Dr. Moore, Count Pandolfini, W. C. Edmonds, H. Longman, W.M. 1051; and on the left by Bros. John Hatch, Sec.; James Hatch, Treas.; E. Simpson, W. King R. Bond, G. Kelland, and others. The Dessert having been placed on the table, the Chairman, on rising to propose the first toast, said that owing to the fineness of the weather, he hoped short speeches would be the order of the evening, an injunction which was obeyed to the letter, the speeches being short, pithy, and to the point. He then proposed "The Health of the Queen," and also that of "The Prince of Wales, the M.W.G.M. of England," both of which were received in the usual loyal manner, and with musical honours. The Chairman next proposed "The Health of the Earl of Carnarvon, Pro G.M., Lord Skelmersdale, D.G.M., the Grand Officers of England, and the Provincial Grand Officers, Past and Present," coupling with the toast the name of Bro. Dr. Moore. Bro. Dr. Moore, in responding, alluded to the skill and ability displayed by both the noble lords in the discharge of their duties to the Craft, and to each of whom he was indebted, the former having honoured him by investing him with the badge and collar of an officer of the Grand Lodge of England, and the latter had, as most of them knew, installed him within the last twelve months into the Master's chair of the Morecambe Lodge on its consecration. With regard to the G. Lodge officers, and those of the Provincial Grand Lodge, all who had dealings with them, either by letter or in person, would bear him out when he said that their proceedings were marked with the greatest efficiency and courtesy. Bro. Simpson next proposed "The Health of the Chairman, their Worshipful Master," which was received with hearty demonstration and musical honours. The Chairman, in acknowledging the compliment, expressed the pleasure it had been to him to occupy the post of Worshipful Master of the Lodge of Fortitude. He thought the duties would have been more arduous, but he had been so well supported by his respective officers—than whom he did not think there were better in the North of England—that the duties had been a positive pleasure to him. Bro. J. Hatch then proposed "Success to the Lancaster Lodges," coupling with the toast the name of Bro. Longman, who acknowledged the compliment, and reciprocated most heartily the good wishes expressed by Bro. Hatch towards the Lancaster Lodges, and hoped the good fellowship which now existed between them would go on to the end of the chapter.

Bro. James Hatch proposed "The Health of the Wardens," which was responded to by Bros. Taylor and Jowitt, with whose names the toast was coupled. Bro. Fenton, in complimentary terms, proposed "The Health of the Treasurer and Secretary," both of whom acknowledged the toast, the former remarking that the funds of the lodge were in a very prosperous state; they were not anxious to obtain many new members, but would rather see the young lodges go on till they got nearer the prosperity and the number of members enjoyed by the mother lodge. Bro. Kelland next proposed "The Visitors." The toast was acknowledged by Bro. Count Pandolfini, who expressed his pleasure at being present, and the hearty welcome which had been extended to him, and hoped the Masonic lodges in the district would go on and prosper. Bro. W. King proposed "The Junior Officers," which was responded to by Bro. McRaith. Bro. W. Hall proposed "The Masonic Press," which was responded to by Bro. J. Atkinson ("Freemason"), with whose name the toast was coupled. Bro. Bingham also responded. Bro. Dr. Moore gave the Tyler's toast, "To all poor and distressed Masons," which brought the after dinner proceedings to a close.

LIVERPOOL.—Downshire Lodge (No. 594).—The members of this old lodge had a grand "field day" on Thursday, the 22nd June, when installation and picnic were fixed. The lodge was summoned for initiation and installation ceremonies at half past nine o'clock in the morning, and shortly after that hour Bro. T. Dilcock, W.M., took the chair, supported by Bros. H. Hunt, I.P.M.; S. E. Ibbs, P.P.G.S.B., P.M., D.C.; W. J. Rowse, P.M.; P. M. Larsen, P.M.; R. P. France, S.W.; J. Lecomber, J.W.; R. Ing, P.M., Treas.; J. L. Houghton, Sec.; J. H. Martin, S.D.; T. Boswell, J.D.; G. Maxwell, S.; W. G. Veale, Org.; J. Benneke, W. H. Menzies, W. Leatham, J. Phelau, J. Hine, C. Bond, P. Halme, D. Quayle, A. Rankin, J. Gabriel, J. Milnes, R. Maddox, J. Prince, Williams, J. McCormack, A. Morrison, J.W. 1570; J. G. Hartley, W. H. Booth, S. B. Goodman, R. J. Wilkinson, J. McCall, A. R. Watt, and J. H. Burch. The visitors included Bros. T. Evans, P.M. 1356, S.W. 1570; W. Cotterell, P.M. 123; T. Shaw, W.M. 823; J. Skeaf, P.G.O.; T. Roberts, S.W. 673; W. Shorts, P.M. 724; H. Henochsberg, W.M. 1503; E. Kyle, P.M. 973; J. Healing, P.M. and Treas. 1264; W. Vaughan, W.M. 724; J. Rea, 1182; J. B. Myers, W.M. 1182; J. A. Edginton, P.M. 1182; D. Jackson, S.D. 673; and others. After Bro. Dilcock, W.M., had initiated two candidates, he immediately proceeded with the installation of Bro. R. P. France as his successor in the chair of W.M., a ceremony which he performed most satisfactorily and impressively. The officers who were subsequently invested were Bros. T. Dilcock, I.P.M.; J. Lecomber, S.W.; J. L. Houghton, J.W.; R. Ing, P.M., Treas.; T. Boswell, Sec.; W. Leatham, S.D.; J. P. Pederson, J.D. (by proxy); G. Maxwell, I.O.; S. E. Ibbs, P.M., D.C.; W. G. Veale, Org.; J. Collas, S.S.; J. H. Burch, J.S.; and W. H. Ball, Tyler. On the motion of Bro. H. Hunt, P.M., seconded by Bro. Larsen, P.M., a cordial vote of thanks was passed to Bro. Dilcock for the very able manner in which he had performed the ceremony of installation. After some slight refreshments at the close of business, the brethren, along with their wives, sisters, and sweethearts, started by special omnibuses for the pretty village of Hale, which, after a lovely ride of about two hours, was reached in safety. Upwards of 100 were present, and the whole afternoon was of the most enjoyable kind. A substantial dinner was provided by "mine host" of the Child of Hale in a large tent, and toast, sentiment, and presentation followed the repast. The W.M., in fitting terms, proposed "The Queen," "The M.W.G.M., &c.," "The D.G.M., P.G.M. West Lancashire, and Officers of the Province," responded to by Bro. Skeaf, P.G.O. "The Health of the W.M." was proposed and received with great cordiality. In giving "The Installing Master," the W.M. took the opportunity of presenting Bro. Dilcock, I.P.M., with a very handsome Past Master's jewel as a token of the respect and esteem of the brethren. A similar compliment, it should be stated, was paid to Bro. Veale at the meeting in the morning, when he received a valuable jewel in recognition of his services as Organist. The toast of "The Visitors" was acknowledged by Bros. Cottrell, P.M. 223; and J. Healing, P.M., Treas. 1264. "The Ladies," responded to by Bro. T. Evans, P.M. 1356, brought the toast list to a close, and the happy party adjourned to the green, where dancing was kept up with spirit to the strains of Martin's band. The weather was fine during the afternoon, although rain began to fall before the "pick-nickers" reached Liverpool in the evening.

WOOLWICH.—Florence Nightingale Lodge (No. 706).—The installation of Bro. G. M. Tapp, W.M. elect, in the chair of the above lodge, took place on Tuesday, the 27th June last, at the Masonic Hall, William-street, Bro. R. Croisdale, P.M., &c., being the Installing Officer, and most admirably did he perform the important and impressive ceremony. Among the visitors present were Bros. C. Coupland, P.G.S. Kent, and P.M. 913; Pidcock, P.M., &c., 30; T. Ward, W.M. 700; T. W. Whitmarsh, 1150; W. T. Vincent, W.M. elect 913; W. Weston, W.M. elect 1536; G. Spinks, J.W. 1536; G. W. Reed, J.W. 13; T. S. Hellier, 1536; Virgo, 700; and C. Jolly, 913. After the new W.M. had been duly saluted by the brethren in order, by his wish, Bro. Croisdale invested the following brethren with the badges of their office:—W. T. Gamble, S.W.; F. J. Sales, J.W.; S. Mutch, S.D.; J. J. Donolly, J.D.; E. Sweeny, I.G.; Sydney Clarke, P.M., Treas.; E. Denton, P.M., Sec.; and H. E. Eves, Tyler. A very cordial vote of thanks was then moved to Bro. Croisdale for so well and ably performing the installation ceremony, which was ordered to be inscribed in the minutes of the lodge, and then the lodge was closed in due form and with solemn prayer. The banquet, which was a most superb

one, took place at Bro. De Grey's house, the Freemasons' Tavern, opposite the Dockyard Station, Bro. Moulder having charge of the service, which was as usual simply perfection. Upon the removal of the cloth, the W.M., in choice terms, proposed the usual loyal and Masonic toasts, which we need hardly say were loyally responded to. P.M. Croisdale then rose to propose "The Health of the W.M." He said their esteemed Bro. Tapp had most ably filled the various offices of the lodge, and he felt sure that they all had great regard for him, and that under his efficient guidance the prosperity and happiness of the lodge would be secured. Bro. Tapp, in reply, said that until that evening he had held but a subordinate position in the lodge, but now that he had been placed in the position of W.M. he hardly knew how sufficiently to thank them. He felt it to be a position that called upon him to uphold the dignity of the Craft, as well as the inviolability of its mysteries, and they might depend upon his best efforts to that end. The principles of Freemasonry had been beautifully described by a great American Freemason, who said "Although the origin of our fraternity is shrouded in darkness, and its history is to some extent obscure, yet we can confidently say it is the oldest society in the world, and we are equally sure its principles are based on pure morality; its ethics are the ethics of Christianity; its doctrines the doctrines of patriotism and brotherly love; its sentiments the sentiments of exalted benevolence. Upon these points there can be no doubt; whatever is good, and kind, and Christianable, it encourages, and whatever is vicious, cruel, and oppressive it reprobates." These he held to be the true principles of their Order, and as long as it was in his power he should endeavour to so carry them out that they would never regret placing him in the proud position as W.M. of the Florence Nightingale Lodge. In proposing "The Health of the Past Masters of and belonging to the Lodge," the W.M. said they were the patriarchs of it; they formed a cyclopædia for the benefit of the lodge, for they not only told them what to do but how to do it. Bro. Sidney Clarke, in reply, said it was a source of great regret that Bro. Santi, the now I.P.M., was not present to reply to the toast, but as the first duty of all was to obey the call to duty he could not be present, and he felt sure they were sorry at his enforced absence. So far as the Past Masters were concerned they always had the greatest pleasure in assisting an aspiring brother to the chair so worthily filled that day by Bro. Tapp. He had every confidence that their W.M. would do his duty in such a manner as to reflect honour upon the lodge, and that the Past Masters would do theirs by assisting both him and the brethren generally in any difficulty that might occur to them. The toast of "The Visitors" was then honoured, and in putting it the W.M. expressed the pleasure it gave him and the lodge to see visitors. He felt proud to have by his side one who had initiated him into Freemasonry, and who was an honour to the Craft; he alluded to their distinguished Bro. P.M. Coupland. He asked them to do honour to it, and coupled it with Bro. Coupland's name, who, in reply, expressed the gratification he felt at seeing his initiate in the chair, but would have liked to have heard Bro. Pidcock respond to the toast, because he was better known among them than he was. Although circumstances had compelled him (the speaker) to leave the lodge, yet he assured them he was not an idle Mason; he now stood Steward for the Boys' School, and was happy to tell them that he should, next day, have the pleasure of taking to the Alexandra Park the nice little sum of £123 for that Institution. Bro. Pidcock as well briefly replied. The last toast was that of "The Officers," to which Bros. Gamble, Sales, Sweeny, and Mutch severally replied, and then "God save the Queen" concluded a most enjoyable affair.

WEST HARTLEPOOL.—Harbour of Refuge Lodge (No. 764).—The annual installation of officers in connection with this lodge, took place on Tuesday, the 13th ult. Bro. W. T. Tate was installed the W.M. for the ensuing year, the ceremony being most impressively performed, in the presence of a full lodge, by Bro. Coxon, P.M. The other officers were Bros. Casebourne, I.P.M.; Eisher, S.W.; Tweedy, J.W.; Harpley, Treas.; Cowper, Sec.; Lane, S.D.; Merryweather, J.D.; Young, Org.; Garry, I.G.; Atkinson, Tyler; and Tweddell and Bamlett, Stewards. The banquet, which was of a sumptuous description, was held at the Royal Hotel, Bro. Gallon's, several influential brethren of the province and neighbouring lodges being amongst the guests.

CARDIFF.—Bute Lodge (No. 960).—The installation of Bro. T. G. Glass, P.P.G.P., as W.M. for the ensuing year, took place on the 26th ult., as St. John the Baptist's Day fell this year upon Saturday. A cloud of gloom was cast over this usual interesting ceremony by the death of the beloved brother, the Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master, Theodore Mansel Talbot, of Margam Park. Consequently, all observances of a festive nature were entirely set aside, and nothing but the urgent and formal business of the lodge was entered into. Lodge was open in due form by the Worshipful Master, Bro. S. Weichert, Past Provincial G.S.D., at four o'clock, and the minutes having been read and confirmed, lodge was then opened in the Second Degree, when two worthy brethren were passed, after which the ceremony of installation commenced. Bro. Glass was led to the chair by Past Master Bro. Thomas, and having sworn to obey the ancient charges, was duly obligated, after which the lodge was raised to the Third or Sublime Degree. A Board of Installed Masters having been formed, the new W.M. was formally advanced to the chair. All Master Masons were now readmitted, and Bro. Glass was, for the first time, declared W.M. for the ensuing year. Lodge was then lowered to the Second Degree, and finally to the First, and Bro. Glass, for the second and third time, declared W.M. The Worshipful Master then proceeded to appoint and invest his officers, which were as follows: Bros. S.

Weichert, I.P.M.; Dominic Watson, S.W.; Southern, J.W.; Calder was appointed Treas.; J. Williams, Sec.; H. Dyer, S.D.; S. Williams, J.D.; D. L. Thomas, I.G.; Hill, D.C.; Fisher, Org.; Bros. T. J. Morgan and P. M. Martin, Stewards; W. Davies, Tyler. A vote of condolence was then passed, and will be forwarded to Mr. C. R. Mansel Talbot, for the loss of his son, the late lamented Provincial Grand Master. Several brethren spoke in eulogistic and touching terms of the amiable and kind manner, as well as the sterling ability, of their late brother. It was also resolved that the lodge go into mourning for the space of three months. Bros. Past Masters Thomas and Martin were elected to serve on the Grand Lodge Committee. A vote of thanks was accorded to Bro. Weichert for the able manner in which he had performed the duties of Installing Master, and Bro. Weichert suitably replied. A vote of thanks was accorded to Bro. Henry Saunders for the efficient manner with which he had discharged the duties of Secretary during the past year. The lodge was then closed, and adjourned until next regular lodge night.

LIVERPOOL.—Stanley Lodge (No. 1325).—The annual festival gathering of the members connected with this lodge took place on Tuesday, 20th ult., at the Masonic Hall, Kirkdale, when and where there was a very large and influential gathering of the brethren. The Stanley has passed through some trying vicissitudes, but now a brighter day has dawned, and the lodge may fairly challenge comparison with any other in the province with respect to financial prosperity and excellent working. The lodge was opened by Bro. H. Ashmore, W.M., and amongst the others present were Bros. C. Leighton, I.P.M.; F. Knight, S.W.; James W. Burgess, J.W.; C. Heyden, Sec. and Treas.; J. H. Bradshaw, J.D.; J. P. Bryan, Organist; R. B. Burgess, N. Robertson, R. Upton, T. Wisman, J. Peakman, T. Foulkes, W. H. Quayle, J. Twiss, C. Marshall, and C. Winskill. The list of visitors included the names of Bros. the Rev. H. G. Vernon, P.P.G. Chaplain; J. W. Turley, P.P.J.G.D.; J. T. Callow, W.M. 1505; R. R. Forshaw, Sec. 1035; T. Fozzard, P.M. 1025; J. Houlding, J.W. 813; J. Ellis, W.M. 1086; W. Archer, P.M. 1083; T. Shaw, W.M. 813; E. Jones, 1290; W. Forrester, S.S. 1035; J. Hayes, P.M. 249; and W. Crane, P.M. 1299. The balance-sheet for the year disclosed a most satisfactory state of things, alike creditable to officers and private members. While there was only a nominal balance from last year to begin with, the affairs had been so well managed that at the close an exceedingly handsome balance now remained at the bank to the credit of the lodge. Bro. Francis Knight was presented for the benefit of installation as W.M. to Bro. H. Ashmore, I.P.M., who performed the whole of the ceremony most effectually and impressively. The subjoined brethren were invested officers of the lodge for the ensuing year:—Bros. H. Ashmore, I.P.M.; James W. Burgess, S.W.; J. H. Bradshaw, J.W.; C. Winskill, Sec.; Charles Heden, Treas.; T. Foulkes, S.D.; J. Twiss, J.D.; R. B. Burgess, I.G.; N. Robertson, S.S.; J. Thomas, J.S.; S. Hill, A.S.; J. P. Bryan, Hon. Organist; C. Leighton, P.M., D.C.; and M. Williamson, Tyler. The lodge was afterwards closed, and the brethren adjourned to the banquet, which was held in the hall, and provided in good style by Bro. Casey. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured, that of "The Provincial Grand Officers" being very cordially and suitably replied to by Bro. the Rev. H. G. Vernon, P.P.G. Chaplain, W.L., who congratulated the lodge on the prosperous condition of its affairs. "The Health of the W.M." was proposed by Bro. Ashmore, I.P.M., and enthusiastically drunk. In replying, Bro. Knight, W.M., said he was glad to state that he hoped the lodge would shortly take a position second to none in the province, and he was determined to follow up the excellent example of the late Worshipful Master, Bro. Ashmore. The toasts of "The Past Master," "The Installing Master," "Officers of the Lodge," &c., were also given. After a most enjoyable evening the brethren separated. The meeting was enlivened by a capital selection of music, performed by Bros. Foulkes, Twiss, Quayle, and Forrester, under the direction of Bro. J. P. Bryan. One of the most interesting features of the proceedings was the presentation of a handsome Past Master's jewel to Bro. Ashmore, I.P.M., on behalf of the lodge, by the W.M.

LANCASTER.—Rowley Lodge (No. 1507).—An emergency meeting of this lodge was held in the Masonic Room, Atheneum, on Wednesday evening, the 12th ult. The chair of K.S. was occupied by Bro. H. Longman, the W.M., and there was a good attendance of members and visiting brethren. The lodge was opened in the First Degree with solemn prayer, and subsequently raised to the Second and Third Degrees, when Bro. John Hudspeth, having shewn proficiency as a Fellow Craftsman was raised to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason. The lodge having been closed down, Mr. John Thomas Jackson, and Mr. William Bell, having been unanimously elected at the previous lodge meeting, were afterwards initiated into the mysteries of the Craft, the working tools of an Entered Apprentice being presented by the J.W. The lodge was subsequently closed with the usual formalities.

LIVERPOOL.—Liverpool Dramatic Lodge (No. 1609).—The first regular business meeting of this lodge, which had been consecrated a few days previously, was held at the Masonic Hall, Hope-street, Liverpool, on Tuesday, the 27th ult., and the fine spirit and enthusiasm displayed by the brethren in connection with the first of their work augurs well for the prosperous future of the lodge. Bro. Joseph Bell was in his place as W.M., supported by Bros. B. B. Marson, P.M.; W. J. Chapman, S.W.; Lindo Courtenay, J.W.; A. Woolrich, Treas.; H. J. Loveday, Sec.; W. W. Sandbrook, J.D.; J. Atkinson, I.G.;

C. Pyer, S.; A. Collinson, S.; W. H. Ball, Tyler; R. Williams, W. Hildyard, W. Stafford, J. Reay, &c. Amongst others present were Bros. H. P. Squire, 1356; I. de Frece, Treas. 1503; Dr. A. Whittle, W. H. Shakespeare, 356; A. Hart, J.W. 724; Dr. A. W. Pierce, 673; J. Clegg, P.M. 1299; J. B. Bottomley, 1356; H. Lobb, J. W. Ashe, J. Skeaf, P.G.O.; J. Keet, 1356; W. Coates, P.L. Buck, 673; W. E. Tyrer, 203; J. R. Bramham, 1209; J. Busfield, 216; Dr. J. K. Smith, P.P. Reg.; Gilbert Maxwell, I.G. 504; T. W. Long, 1299; H. Stafford, 1356; A. Bucknall, 667, and others. There were six candidates for initiation, and 17 brethren proposed for joining; and after the ballot had been taken they were all declared unanimously elected. Bro. Loveday (unavoidably absent from the previous meeting) was now invested Secretary; and Bro. J. Skeaf, P.G.O., was invested the Organist of the new lodge. Messrs. Frederick Wilkinson, E. Cotton, W. Mears, and R. J. Cotton were impressively initiated by the W.M., the ancient charge being very effectively given by the S.W. The brethren at the close of the business, after a number of propositions for initiation and joining, adjourned to the banqueting room, where they partook of refreshments, and a genial and pleasant evening was spent, the brethren separating about seven o'clock.

Mark Masonry.

BOMBAY.—Lodge Holmesdale in the East (No. 72).—At a regular meeting of this lodge on April 15th there were present Bros. C. E. Mitchell, W.M.; A. McKenzie, I.P.M. and Treas.; W. C. Rowe, S.W.; B. Robinson, as J.W.; C. Tudball, M.O.; O. Tomlinson, S.O.; J. Luke, as J.O.; W. G. Davie, Sec.; W. Burton, I.G.; and J. Seager, Tyler. The lodge was opened in due form at 6.50 p.m. The summons convening the meeting having been read, the minutes of last regular meeting were read and confirmed. The minutes of the last Permanent Committee were read and adopted. The I.G. having informed the W.M. that the Provincial Grand Master and his Provincial Grand Officers were without the door of the lodge, they were admitted in due form, and the Provincial Grand Master saluted with the honours due to his rank. The P.G.M. then took charge of the lodge for a short time, and said as this was his official visit he now asked if the brethren had any complaints to make against the W.M. or any of the officers, and receiving no reply, congratulated the lodge on the efficient state and harmonious way the members were working together, and then handed over the charge to the W.M. The W.M. then informed the brethren that the first duty of the evening was to install the W.M. elect, Wor. Bro. W. C. Rowe, as W.M. for the ensuing year. The Secretary was then requested to read the ancient charges to Bro. W. C. Rowe, having agreed to which, he was duly obligated in the usual form. All brethren below the rank of Installed Mark Masters were then requested to retire. The brethren were again in a short time admitted, and Wor. Bro. W. C. Rowe was then proclaimed W.M. of Lodge Holmesdale in the East, No. 72, E.C., for the ensuing year, and saluted accordingly. The W.M. then proceeded to invest the following officers for the ensuing year:—Bros. C. Tudball, S.W.; B. Robinson, J.W.; O. Tomlinson, M.O.; W. G. Davie, S.O.; C. Parker, J.O.; J. E. Tyers, Sec.; J. B. Lyon, S.D.; J. Luke, J.D.; E. Fuelling, I.G.; J. Luke, Steward. The W.M. then thanked the brethren for electing him their W.M., adding that he would do his best during the ensuing year to work up the lodge creditably, and he trusted the officers he had chosen would do their best to assist him—and he had every reason to think they would. He was very sorry to say he would lose Bro. O. Tomlinson very soon, who, he understood, was going to England next month for a short time, but he was sure he would assist them heartily in the working when he returned, wishing him every prosperity, a safe voyage, and God speed. Bro. C. Tudball then proposed and the W.M. seconded Bro. T. Connell as a joining member. The W.M. proposed and Bro. C. Tudball seconded Bro. J. Thomas as a re-joining member. The W.M. proposed and W. Bro. A. McKenzie seconded Bro. T. Branson, of Lodge Truth, No. 944, E.C., as a candidate for advancement. Bro. Tudball proposed and the W.M. seconded Bro. R. W. Burton as a re-joining member. The W.M. then thanked the Provincial Grand Master for his visit to the lodge in suitable terms, and said that he hoped the next official visit he paid he would find they had increased in numbers and working in an effective manner. The Provincial Grand Master then rose, and returned thanks for himself and Provincial Grand Officers, and said he had not the slightest doubt of the lodge doing well in the present year under the able management of their newly-installed Master. The W.M. then proposed and R.W. Bro. E. T. Leith seconded that a list be circulated amongst the members of the lodge for the purpose of subscribing towards a P.M.'s jewel for Wor. Bro. C. E. Mitchell, for his services to Lodge Holmesdale during the past year, which was carried. Wor. Bro. C. E. Mitchell then rose, and returned thanks in suitable terms for the honour they had done him, and said that the jewel would be highly prized by him. There being no further business before the lodge, it was closed with prayer at 8.45 p.m.

MARYPORT.—Whitwell Lodge (No. 151).—The installation meeting of this lodge was held on Thursday evening, the 18th ult., at the Freemasons' Hall, Maryport. Bro. P. de E. Collin, W.M.M., and P.G. Reg. of M., presided, assisted by his officers. There was also a fair attendance of the brethren of the lodge. Bro. G. G. Haywood, P.M.M. 60, P.G.M.I.G. England, acted as Installing Master, and performed his duties most creditably. Bro. James Gardiner having been installed and

duly honoured, invested his officers as follows:—Bros. Q. Moore, S.W.; P. Mandle, J.W.; J. R. Banks, M.O.; G. M. Tickle, S.O.; J. H. Banks, J.O.; J. Nicholson, P.M.M., P.G. Treas., Treas.; P. Dodgson, Sec.; Rev. W. Beeby, Chaplain; T. Moore, Reg. of M.; J. Smith, Org.; D. Bell, S.D.; J. W. Robinson, J.D.; G. E. Mitchell, I.G.; J. Quay, Tyler pro tem. The installation over, all present were invited to a substantial collation, which was well served by the Messrs. Abbott. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and duly honoured, and a most agreeable evening was spent by the brethren.

Knights Templar.

PRESCOT.—William de la More Preceptory.—The usual periodical convocation of the Knights attached to this Preceptory was held at the New Masonic Hall, Prescott, near Liverpool, on Thursday, the 15th ult. Sir Knight Reginald Young, E.P., was in his place; and amongst others present were Sir Knights Dr. J. K. Smith, P.E.P.; Thos. Ashmore, 1st C.; W. Tyrer, Prelate; H. Nelson, and C.; J. Wood, Treas. ("Freemason"); W. J. Thomson, Expert; Ballard, Almoner; R. Brown, Registrar; W. S. Matthews Boulton, Comp. C. Munroe, of the Everton Chapter, and Comp. Coward were duly installed, and the preceptory was subsequently closed in peace.

Scotland.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Union and Crown (No. 103).—This lodge held its monthly meeting in the Masonic Hall, 30, Hope-street, on Monday evening, the 26th ult. Bro. A. M. Wright, I.P.M., in the chair; Bros. W. Thomas, S.W.; W. Forsyth, J.W.; R. Munro, D.M.; Neil Cameron, Treas.; J. Gillies, P.M., Sec.; A. Bain, P.M.; P. McCay, P.M.; P. Cullen, B.B.; Arch. Gray, J.D.; Jas. Gray, I.G.; and a very large attendance of members. Among the visitors were Bros. J. M. Oliver, S.W. 360; D. L. Henderson, 111; J. Boyd, 175; Higgins, 275; Robertson, 219; Capt. J. Gray, 362; W. Ferguson, P.M. ("Freemason"); and others. Bro. Gillies, P.M., Sec., before reading the minutes said he was sorry to inform the brethren that their respected W.M., Bro. D. Murray, was unable to attend through an accident received a few days ago. Messrs. G. Solomon and Henry Boum were initiated on behalf of Lodge Thistle, No. 87, by Bro. A. M. Wright, I.P.M. Bros. J. Paterson, J. Taylor, Solomon, and Boum were then passed by Bro. J. M. Oliver, S.W., Lodge Commercial, 360. The lodge was then resumed on the E.A. Degree when Bros. J. M. Oliver, S.W. 360, and G. W. Wheeler, Chaplain, Lodge Thistle and Rose, 73, were obligated honorary members of the Lodge Union and Crown, 130, by Bro. Gillies, P.M., Sec. Bros. Oliver and Wheeler replied in suitable terms for the honour conferred. The lodge was then closed.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Clyde (No. 408).—An emergency meeting of this lodge was held in St. Mark's Hall, Buchanan-st., on Monday evening, 26th ult. Bro. W. Harper, W.M., occupied the chair; W. Bilsland, S.W.; J. McInnes, S.M., acting J.W., and a good attendance of members and visiting brethren. On the lodge being opened, Mr. John Beaton was initiated into the E.A. Degree by Bro. W. J. E. Dobson, W.M. Dramatic Lodge, No. 571. On account of the above-named gentleman having to leave the country in a few days he was then passed to the F.C. Degree by Bro. J. Campbell, I.P.M. St. John's Lodge, Shettleston, No. 128. Bros. D. Mc Bain and J. Beaton were afterwards raised to the Sublime Degree of M.M. by Bro. W. Harper, W.M. The three degrees were wrought in a most careful and impressive manner.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Scotia (No. 178).—The funeral of the late Bro. Joseph Singleton, W. Master of this lodge, took place on Wednesday afternoon, the 28th ult. The brethren of the Craft who request to follow the remains of their deceased brother to the grave assembled in the hall of Lodge Clydesdale, at No. 106, Rose-street (S.S.), and numbered 150 in all, including representatives from no fewer than twenty lodges, as follows:—Nos. 34, 27, 73, 75, 103, 116, 128, 153, 178, 219, 237, 275, 360, 362, 419, 437, 441, 556, 570, and 571. In the hall an appropriate religious service was conducted by Bro. Rev. J. C. Stewart, L.L.D., of St. Bernard's, Cumberland-street; after which the brethren, who were in full Masonic costume, formed in procession outside, and proceeded to the house of the deceased in Crown-street, where they again formed in front of the hearse with the body, which was there in waiting. The relatives and friends of the deceased and other non-Masonic mourners who followed the hearse numbered about fifty; and the cortege created quite a stir along the line of route to the eastern division of the Southern Necropolis, where the remains were deposited without further special ceremony.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Clydesdale (No. 556).—A meeting of this lodge was held in their own Masonic Hall, 106, Rose-street, S.S., on Tuesday evening, the 27th ult., Bro. W. Phillips, W.M., presiding; J. McNaughton, S.W.; T. Phillips, J.W.; J. Boyle, S.M.; J. Mc Kechnie, Treas.; G. B. Yuill, Sec.; and others. We noticed among the visiting brethren J. Campbell, P.M. 128; G. C. H. McNaught, P.M. 275; D. Ronald, W.M. 275; W. Findlay, S.W. 275; J. M. Oliver, S.W. 360; W. Ferguson, P.M. ("Freemason"); H. Killin, Sec. 178; M. Stark, 553; Stevens, 553; and others. Mr. M. McLaren was initiated into the First Degree by Bro. Campbell, P.M. 128. Bros. P. Lloyd, J. Downie, S. Johnston, G. Solomon, R. H. Simpson, R. McMillan, H. Baum, and R. Mabin were raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason by Bro. W. Phillips,

W.M., in his usual able and perfect style. The annual picnic of this lodge took place on Thursday, the 29th ult. Starting at eight a.m. from Main-street Station, the excursionists caught the Iona at Prince's Pier, Greenock, and were by her landed on Rothesay Quay at eleven a.m. From the town of Rothesay they proceeded by special omnibus to Mountstuart, into the magnificent grounds of which they were freely admitted. A suitable spot having been selected, the good things necessary for creature comfort were spread forth on the grass, and there and then the party pic-nicked. Bro. W. Phillips, W.M., presided, but the proceedings exhibited that agreeable freedom from stiffness and conventionality which such a fresco gathering, with the presence of lovely women, of course, are calculated to induce. Returning, as they had come, to Rothesay, the party got on board the steamer Sultan, which took them back to Prince's Pier again. Thence the train in waiting landed all safe in Glasgow by 8.15 p.m. The weather throughout was simply superb, and no other element of success being wanting, it was pronounced that the pic-nic could hardly have been a pleasanter one.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

The July General Committee meeting of subscribers to this Institution was held on Saturday last in the Board-room, Freemasons' Hall. The brethren present were Capt. J. Wordsworth (Chairman), Henry Browne, Jesse Turner, John Symonds, S. Rosenthal, W. F. C. Moutrie, Henry Smith, W. Hyde Pullen, C. F. Matier, Robert B. Webster, H. C. Levander, J. G. Chancellor, F. Adlard, H. Massey ("Freemason"), and F. Binckes (Secretary).

Twelve boys were placed on the list for the October election. That list was settled, when there appeared upon it 60 candidates; and twelve vacancies in the school were declared to be open for filling up at that election. The salary of the Organist at the school was raised to £20 a year. This being the day for giving notices of motion for the Quarterly Court of Monday next, the announcement of that fact was made by the Secretary, but no notice was given. Bro. Binckes announced that the subscriptions at the late festival amounted to £12,178, and lists were coming in daily which were swelling the amount, and he had no doubt that the total would amount to £12,500. (Cheers.)

The Chairman then rose and said he should propose a vote of thanks to the Right Hon. Bro. Lord Leigh, Prov. G. Master for Warwickshire, for presiding at the festival, and to the Stewards and brethren from that province for their assistance, not only on that but on past occasions. The amount which was announced at the festival greatly exceeded the anticipations of the brethren who had the management of the affairs of the institution. More especially was the amount raised a noble sum because we heard everywhere of the bad condition of trade, and this being a fact was very much to the disadvantage of the Institution. Another thing which might be said to have been to the disadvantage of the festival was the numerous attacks which had been made lately by certain brethren upon the general management of the Institution. All the world had read them or heard of them, but still this had not deterred brethren from supporting the Boys' School most liberally. He was not, however, surprised at this, because he felt sure that whatever attacks were made on the Institution there would be plenty of brethren who would come boldly to the front and do all they could to advance the interests of the School. (Hear, hear.)

Bro. C. F. Matier seconded the motion, and thought it was due to Lord Leigh and the Stewards and brethren from Warwickshire that such a resolution should be come to.

The motion was carried unanimously, and

Bro. J. Symonds said he thought they must all congratulate Bro. Binckes (Secretary) on the result which had been achieved. (Hear, hear.)

An outfit was then granted to one of the pupils who had obtained a situation in the Post Office, and was giving great satisfaction, and the Committee adjourned after passing the usual compliment to the Chairman.

The Southport Town Council have accepted the offer of W. Atkinson, Esq., of Manchester, to provide a free library and fine art gallery for that town, to cost £8000.

ROYAL ALBERT ORPHAN ASYLUM.—The offices of this institution are now at 18, Newgate-street. Bro. Werrell, Secretary.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF WORCESTERSHIRE.

A Provincial Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of this county was held in the Public Hall, Dudley, on Tuesday morning, 27th ult. In the absence, through indisposition, of the R.W. Bro. Albert Hudson Royds, Provincial Grand Master, the Worshipful Bro. William Masefield, Deputy Provincial Grand Master, presided. There was a large muster of Provincial Grand Officers and Master Masons of the province, and the adjoining Provinces of Warwickshire and Staffordshire, the following being amongst the brethren present:—Bros. W. H. Jones, P.S.G.W., P.M. 564; T. M. Hopkins, P.G.J.W., P.M. 529; M. Dennison, P.P.S.G.W.; A. Brown, P.P.S.G.W.; S. Smith, P.P.S.G.W.; W. H. Westwood, P.P.G.J.W.; E. M. Warmington, P.P.G.J.W.; W. R. Cosens, D.D., P.G.C.; Rev. W. Randall, P.P.G.C.; J. C. Warwick, W.M. 468 and 462; Rev. J. Downes, P.P.G.C., P.M. 539; Rev. S. Tozer, P.P.G.C.; C. C. W. Griffiths, P.G.T., P.P.S.G.W., and P.M. 280; J. Stokes, P.G.R., P.M. 524; J. A. Pell, P.P.G.R., and P.M. 524; H. Cross, P.P.G.R.; W. Bristow, P.G.S., P.P.S.G.W., P.M. 252; R. Broomhall, P.G.S.D., P.M. 564; W. Gegg, P.P.G.S.D., Hereford; Gideon Smith, P.P.G.J.D.; E. Poole, P.P.G. Supt. of Works, W.M. 498, and P.M. 560; L. H. Kendrick, P.P.G. Supt. of Works, and P.M. 573; T. Brettell, P.G.D.C.; J. Fitzgerald, P.P.G.D.C.; A. F. Godson, P.P.G.D.C.; G. Westbury, P.P.G.S.B., and P.M. 573; G. Bloomer, P.P.G.S.B.; T. Troman, P.G.O. and P.D. 573; T. E. Lucy, P.P.G.P., and P.M. 529; Blundell, P.P.G.P., and P.M. 560; W. Caldicot, P.G.S.; T. Sneyd, P.P.G.I.G., and P.M. 539; Stanley, P.G.T.; W. Smith, W.M. 252; C. F. Clark, P.M. 252; D. Bradley, P.M. 498; G. Baldwin, P.M. 280; J. S. Hoppett, P.M. 498; J. Davies, S.W. 498; J. B. Folkner, W.M. 873; E. Turner, P.M. 252; F. J. Russell, J.W. 1204; V. Stallard, I.G. 280; J. W. Naylor, S.W. 560; J. Bedford, Sec. 560; G. Buck, Sec. 280; H. Hadden, W.M. 1204; R. S. Blundell, J.D. 560; J. Vaughan, S.W. 85; W. Gittos, S.W. 498; I. Foley, J.W. 564; F. Powell, 1204, P.M. 848; R. Eagar, 564; F. Garner, Tyler 252, 498, and 347; J. Dixon, J.W. 377, and S.D. 560; G. Taylor, S.W. 377; G. P. Chapman, I.M. 573; W. Turton, W.M. 377; J. M. Howes, J.W. 377 A. Comber, Organist 560; J. Parker, Steward 529; R. L. Campbell, P.M. 564; F. G. Underwood, 1204; W. C. Green, 377; J. W. Chadwick, 377; J. S. Fisher, 1163; J. Duggard, 377; J. Rodgers, 252; W. Brookbanks, 252; W. Waring, J.D. 252; J. Cellins, 252; H. Watts, 74; H. Bagott, 252; E. Hartley, 252; J. Russell, 252; M. Allen, 252; J. Clements, 47; J. Taylor, 696; F. C. D'Arcy Ellis, 564; R. G. Walker, 252; C. E. Bloomer, S.W. 573; G. K. Patten, S.D. 498; W. Waldron, 573; H. Hughes, 564; J. Jordan, 468; C. L. Lester J.W. 252; J. Bentley, 373; J. Baylis, 573; T. F. Higgs, 252; G. Morris, 252; W. E. Walker, I.G. 252; G. F. Thompson, S.D. 252; J. Dawes, P.M. 498; E. Naylor, 252; J. Naylor, 252; Rev. C. Wyncoll, 498; J. Beckley, 523; J. B. Lee, 573; J. Smith, 280; T. H. Fisher, S.W. 564; T. W. Candless, S.D. 377; J. G. Beasley, S.D. 573; J. G. Nicklin, 573; J. W. Charnock, 573; H. R. Duddell, 573; W. Mills, Tyler 560; J. H. Morgan, 498; R. T. Horley, 74 and 482; W. Bagott, 252; H. Wilson, P.M. 1204; G. R. Godson, P.M. 1098; G. T. Owen, 252; J. H. Smith, 498; A. Preedy, 925; H. Scott, Tyler 564; S. Bagott, 252; W. Holland, 252; and E. Gwynn, 1204.

The Harmonic Lodge having been opened in the third degree by the W.M. Bro. W. Smith, assisted by Bros. W. Gittos and C. L. Lester,

The Worshipful Bro. W. Masefield, D.P.G.M., and Provincial Grand Officers, entered the lodge, and were received with the customary honours. The Provincial Grand Lodge was then opened in due form, and the muster roll of the lodges in the province was called.

Bro. Bristow, P.G.S., said before they proceeded with the business of Grand Lodge he thought some expression of regret should emanate

from the lodge at the absence of the R.W.P.G.M., Bro. Albert Hudson Royds, through indisposition, and of sympathy with his family under the circumstances. He would move that as a proposition.

The W.D.P.G.M. seconded the proposition, and it was carried unanimously.

Bro. Bristow then read the minutes of the last Provincial Grand Lodge, which were unanimously confirmed.

The Provincial Grand Treasurer's statement of accounts having been read, they were unanimously adopted. They showed a balance of £30 6s. 5d. in hand, compared with £1 7s. 3d. last year.

Bro. Albert Brown, P.S.G.W., called attention to the non-compliance with previous suggestions of Provincial Grand Lodge, requiring a statement of the progress of Masonry in the province; and after some discussion,

Bro. Griffiths, P.G. Treasurer, read a statement, from which it appeared that the Harmonic Lodge (252) had 36 members in 1874 and 38 in 1875; Worcester (280), 58 in 1874 and 60 in 1875; Hope and Charity (377), 46 in 1874 and 49 in 1875; Royal Standard (498), 20 in 1874 and 25 in 1875; Semper Fidelis (529), 48 in 1874 and 49 in 1875; Vernon (560), 33 in 1874 and 37 in 1875; Stability (564), 36 in 1874 and 32 in 1875; St. Michael's (1097), 13 in 1874 and 20 in 1875; Royds (1204), 41 in 1874 and 32 in 1875. During the year there had been forty initiations and twenty-four resignations and deaths in the province, leaving a total increase of sixteen.

Further discussion followed, a general opinion being expressed that it was desirable that Worshipful Masters should supply returns of their respective lodges prior to the meeting of the Prov. Grand Lodge.

Bro. Bristow, Prov. G. Secretary, promised that the returns required by Bro. Brown should be presented at future meetings of the Prov. Grand Lodge.

Bro. C. C. W. Griffiths, P.M. 280, Prov. G. Treasurer, and Bro. W. Bristow, P.M. 252, Prov. G. Secretary, were unanimously re-elected, and the following officers were appointed and invested for the ensuing year by the Deputy W. Prov. G. Master:—Bros. S. Smith, P.M. 252, S.W.; H. Cross, P.M. 1204, J.W.; W. R. Cosens, D.D. 252, Chaplain; G. W. Grosvenor, 377, Registrar; A. F. Godson, P.M. 1097 S.D.; J. Bourne, W.M. 529, J.D.; J. Blundell, P.M. 560, Supt. of Works; D. Bradley, P.M. 498, D.C.; R. L. Campbell, P.M. 564, A.D.C.; W. Stallard, W.M. 280, Sword Bearer; T. Troman, P.M. 573, Organist; W. Smith, W.M. 252, Pursuivant; W. Waring, C. L. Lester, F. G. Thompson, W. Gittos, J. Dawes, and G. K. Patten, Stewards, and J. Stanley, 529, Tyler.

Upon the invitation of Bro. A. F. Godson, The Deputy Prov. Grand Master appointed Tenbury as the place at which the next Provincial Grand Lodge should be held.

On the motion of Bro. T. Brettell, seconded by Bro. J. S. Hoppett, and supported by Bros. the Rev. Dr. Cosens and J. Stokes, it was decided that half the offertory should be given to St. Thomas's Day Schools and the other half to the Dudley Dispensary.

On the motion of Bro. F. A. Godson, seconded by the W.D.P.G.M., a vote of congratulation, similar to that adopted by the Grand Lodge of England, was ordered to be sent to H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M., upon his safe return from India.

As this concluded the business of the Provincial Grand Lodge, it was closed in due form; after which Bro. W. Smith, W.M. Harmonic Lodge, closed his lodge, and the brethren walked in procession to St. Thomas's Church, where Divine service was held.

During the time the brethren were walking from the hall to the church the bells rang out right merrily, and the streets were thronged with people. Great praise is due to Bro. H. Burton, chief superintendent of police, for the admirable way in which the police arrangements were carried out, there being no delay whatever in the course of the procession.

The service was full choral, Mr. Walter Spinney presiding at the organ during the first part of the service, and Bro. Troman, P.G.O.,

during the time the alms were being collected, and played the concluding voluntary. The prayers were intoned by the Rev. S. J. Marriott. The proper psalms were the 1st, 15th, 122nd, and 133rd. The Rev. C. Wyncoll read the 1st lesson, Ecclesiastes xxxv., and the Rev. A. L. Greaves the 2nd, 1st Peter ii, to verse 18. The hymn before the service was the 188th, and the Anthem was the collect for the fifth Sunday after Trinity, "Grant, O Lord," and set to music by Mozart; it was sung with excellent effect by the choir. The hymn before the sermon was the 243rd.

The sermon was preached by the Rev. D. V. Cosens, P.G.C.

At the close of the sermon a collection was made, the 370th hymn being sung in the meantime. The sum collected amounted to £12 7s., which was subsequently increased to £15 from the funds of the Harmonic Lodge.

After the benediction had been pronounced by the Rev. Bro. Dr. Cosens the brethren reformed in procession and walked to the Dudley Arms Hotel, where a banquet was served.

At the conclusion of the dinner several brethren made a complaint that they had not been properly attended upon.

About ninety of the brethren sat down, the W.D.P.G.M., Bro. W. Masfield, presiding, and after "The Health of the 'Queen and the Craft'" had been duly honoured,

The Rev. Bro. Dr. Cosens delivered a very feeling and appropriate address to the four Lewises (sons of Masons) who had carried the Bible in the procession to and from the church. He earnestly exhorted them to make the Bible their rule of life, and if they did that it would be a comfort to them in the hour of their death. He hoped they would remember that day in their after lives as being a happy day well spent. He then presented each of the lads with a beautiful reference Bible, containing on the fly-leaf an inscription in reference to the occasion.

"The Health of the Princess of Wales and the rest of the Royal Family" having been acknowledged,

The D.P.G.M. proposed "The Health of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, Most Worshipful Grand Master of England," and remarked that he was sure no man could have the interests of the Craft more at heart than had His Royal Highness. He was the right man in the right place, and had given a great deal of time and attention to the order, and greatly honoured the Craft. (Loud applause.)

The toast was drunk with much enthusiasm, and was followed by the air "God bless the Prince of Wales," Bro. Troman accompanying on the pianoforte.

Bro. J. Stokes, P.M. 252, P.P.G. Reg., next proposed "The Health of Bro. the Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon, R.W. Pro. Grand Master; Lord Skelmersdale, Deputy G. Master, and the Officers of Grand Lodge, Present and Past." Bro. Stokes remarked that it was one of the great benefits of Masonry, and one of those circumstances which helped to support the Craft in the eyes of the outside world, that great personages paid so much attention to Freemasonry. They had the greatest and highest in the land joining the Craft—(hear, hear)—and it was not merely wealth that they brought with them—because that did not count for much when the grand principle of the Craft was involved; but they had also the highest intellects of the day joining them in carrying out the principles of Freemasonry; and by that alone the outside world must know there was something good in the Order. (Hear, hear.) That Lord Carnarvon belonged to those of mighty intellect was sufficiently proved by the fact that his lordship was one of those who possessed the confidence of her Majesty and assisted in ruling the nation. (Hear, hear.) That position of itself showed that his lordship was one of those who shed a lustre upon the Craft to which he belonged. (Applause.) He had therefore great pleasure in proposing "The Health of the Pro Grand Master, Lord Skelmersdale, and the Officers of the Grand Lodge." (Applause.)

The toast was drunk with Masonic fire.

The D.P.G.M., in proposing "The Health of the Right Worshipful Bro. Albert Hudson Royds, P.G.M. of Worcestershire," said he should have

liked to have seen him there that day. The P.G.M. was always ready to give them any assistance, and he hoped he would be long spared to preside over them. (Applause.)

The toast was drunk with much enthusiasm.

Bro. W. Bristow, P.G.S., proposed "The Health of the Worshipful Bro. William Masfield, Deputy Provincial Grand Master of Worcestershire." (Applause.) He said it was not necessary for him to say anything to recommend the toast, for he was sure they were all pleased to see Bro. Masfield in that position, though they all deeply regretted the cause. (Hear, hear, and applause.)

The Deputy Provincial Grand Master briefly acknowledged the compliment, and he afterwards proposed "The Health of the Provincial Grand Officers of Warwickshire and Staffordshire, coupled with the name of Bro. the Rev. Wm. Randall."

Bro. the Rev. W. Randall, in responding to the toast, said he could not himself endorse complaints which some brethren had made of the catering, for never at a meeting of Grand Lodge had he, as a visitor, been better treated or better served than he had been on that occasion. (Applause.) It was always exceedingly interesting to him to go to any Masonic meeting, but it was especially interesting to him to go that day out of his own province to meet the brethren of Worcestershire, and one of the strongest motives he had in attending was to renew his intercourse with the Worshipful Deputy Grand Master. (Applause.) He was sure it did not need the artistic genius whose efforts he saw so well displayed before him (referring to an excellent portrait of Bro. Masfield by Mr. H. T. Munns) to commemorate or render immortal among Masons the memory of the Deputy Provincial Grand Master; for not only in his own province of Worcestershire, but as he (the rev. brother) could bear testimony, out of his province also, he stood amongst the highest of Masons. (Applause.) Having been seated opposite that noble portrait, he could not help saying, as a Mason, that it was a great gratification to think that when the time came—which they hoped might be far distant—when it might please the Great Architect of the Universe to remove Bro. Masfield to the Grand Lodge above, they would still have that portrait left as a memento to all Masons in the province as an encouragement to follow the example of one who had led them so well in Masonry. He could not help further saying that it had been peculiarly gratifying to him to come there and to listen, as he had had the pleasure and the opportunity for the first time of listening, to the Provincial Grand Chaplain. It did not come, perhaps, so appropriately from him to say so as from other Masons, but he claimed, in common with all thinking men, to appreciate the words which had been spoken to them in the House of God, as the Prov. Grand Chaplain had spoken to them that day. (Applause.) He must express his high appreciation of the truly eloquent sermon which had been delivered to them that day. (Applause.) It gave him the very greatest pleasure to hear such sentiments, so much in accord with his own feelings. (Applause.) He felt sure that that intercourse of province with province, lodge with lodge, and brother Mason with brother Mason, was both interesting and beneficial, and greatly calculated to promote the advancement of the Craft. But perhaps the most interesting event of the day was the scene which he had just witnessed for the first time in his Masonic experience of now thirty-three years—the presentation of the volumes of the Sacred Law to those little embryo Masons, as they might be called—the rising generation of Masons, who would fill the place of the present brethren when they were called away. (Applause.) He was sure it was worth travelling any distance to witness such a scene. (Applause.) He again thanked the brethren for the opportunity they had given him of spending what he might truly call one of the most increasing Masonic days he had ever passed.

Bro. the Rev. S. T. Tozer also responded.

Bro. J. Stokes next proposed "The Health of the Prov. G. Chaplain, Bro. the Rev. Dr. Cosens," which was heartily drunk, and appropriately acknowledged by the rev. brother.

The D.P.G.M. proposed "The Officers of Provincial Grand Lodge, Past and Present."

Bros. S. Smith and M. Dennison returned thanks.

The D.P.G.M. proposed "The Worshipful Masters of the Lodges in the Province," and coupled with it the name of Bro. W. Smith, the W.M. of the Harmonic Lodge.

The toast was drunk with musical honours.

Bro. W. Smith briefly returned thanks, and said it afforded him considerable pleasure in being called upon to respond on behalf of his brother W.M.'s in the province. During the ten years he had been in Masonry he did not believe he had omitted attending his lodge more than three times, and he had done all he could to further the interests of the Craft. He could not endorse the complaints which had been made as to the catering, and considered they were an after thought when attention was drawn to the fact that dessert had been commenced before the health of "The Queen" had been drunk. (Hear, hear.)

The healths of "The Visitors," "The Provincial Grand Stewards," and the "Tyler's toast" were afterwards duly honoured.

At intervals during the evening some capital songs were sung by several of the brethren, Bro. T. Troman, P.G.O., presiding at the pianoforte in his accustomed masterly style.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS—VISIT TO THE CRYSTAL PALACE.

The annual visit of the Masonic Girls' School to the Crystal Palace was made on Monday last. The day's treat is provided by the Board of Stewards of the annual festival, who hand over the balance which remains after all the expenses of the festival have been discharged, for affording to the pupils of the school, in which they take such great interest, a pleasure beyond the walls of the Institution. The Crystal Palace is constantly chosen for these little outings, as it combines three very desirable elements—information in a wide field of practical subjects, many sources of entertainment, and a splendid expanse of country. With all of these before them the little girls find plenty to engage their attention, and look forward with great anxiety to the recurrence of the visit. On Monday they left Clapham Junction by train at 10.9 in the morning, accompanied by Miss Davis, and all the governesses and teachers, Bro. Faulkner (one of the Stewards of the late festival) and Bro. Hedges, in place of Bro. Little (Secretary), who had not returned from his sojourn in the country, where he has been recruiting his health. The whole of the morning after the arrival at the Palace was spent in viewing the Palace and grounds, which after the occasional showers of the preceding week were looking their best. At one o'clock a cold collation of the very best description was provided by Bro. Sawyer, and presided over by Bro. Thomas W. White, Chairman of the House Committee for the month; and when this had been disposed of the party visited the performances at Myers' magnificent Hippodrome, which must be acknowledged to have been the crowning amusement of the day. An excellent tea followed at five o'clock; and afterwards the Palace and grounds were again rambled over. At a quarter-past eight the company again took train, and arrived at the Institution at Battersea Rise half an hour later, after having spent a most charming day. Among the ladies and brethren who took part in the day's diversions were Mrs. Thomas W. White, Bro. Colonel J. Peters and party, Bro. Faulkner, Bro. Mason, Mrs. Mason and Mrs. Pemberton, Bro. and Mrs. Muggeridge, Bros. R. W. Hedges, Phillips, Phillips, jun., Capt. J. Wordsworth, and Bro. Kirby. Bros. Thomas W. White, Faulkner, and R. W. Hedges accompanied the party home.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.—Bro. Raynham W. Stewart intends bringing the following motion forward this day (Saturday): "That considering the satisfactory condition of the funds of the School; 10 of the successful candidates at the last election highest of the Poll, be admitted without further election, at the same time as those already elected, and that arrangements are made for their reception in the Infirmary until the alterations now in progress at the School are completed."

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF SUFFOLK.

The annual provincial grand meeting of the several lodges comprising the Province of Suffolk was held on Monday, at Ipswich. By the kindness of the Mayor, the Grand Lodge was opened in the Council Chamber of the Town Hall, which capitolly set off the various emblems of the Order, and the banners of the lodges which assembled.

The Lodge had been fixed to be opened at "High Noon," but it was close upon one o'clock before the Provincial Grand Officers were marshalled into the lodge-room.

The chair was taken by the Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master, Lord Waveney, supported by the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, Bro. the Rev. E. I. Lockwood, and the respective officers of the province, and about 200 other brethren.

The lodge having been opened in due and ancient form, the minutes of the last meeting were confirmed.

The representatives of lodges then stated the condition of the lodges, which were generally in a flourishing state.

The minutes of the Board of Finance were read. They reported that a meeting was held on the 26th ult. The accounts having been audited, a surplus of over £70 existed, and it was proposed that the sum of £5 be voted to the widow of the late Rev. J. J. Farnham, which the P.G.M. decided to do; £10 was voted to the Institution for Aged Freemasons, £10 10s. to the Girls' School, and £10 10s. to the Boys' School.

The appointment and investiture of officers was next proceeded with, as follows:—P.P.J. W., Bros. S. H. Wright, P.M. 516; P.G. Registrar, A. D. George, P.M. 114; P.G.D. of Ceremonies, W. Clarke, P.M. 959; P.G.A. C., W. D. Payne, I.G. 959; P.G. Stewards, W. Daking, A. Read, and G. J. Paine; and P.G. Organist, Lindley Nunn.

Bro. Boby proposed, and Bro. Mills seconded, the re-election of Bro. Huddleston as P.G. Treasurer. Carried unanimously.

Bro. Syer was re-elected Tyler, on the proposition of Bro. Luff, seconded by Bro. Westgate.

After the conclusion, the brethren were marshalled by Bro. Clarke, Director of Ceremonies, and marched to the Tower Church.

As the brethren entered the church, Bro. Lindley Nunn, Provincial Grand Organist, played as a voluntary a movement from Spohr. The service was full choral. The first part was intoned by the Rev J. R. Turncock, and the second by the Rev. C. A. Raymond. The lessons were read by the Rev. R. N. Sanderson. The hymns before the sermon were, "O Lord how joyful 'tis to see" and "O praise our God to day," 181 and 232 A. and M. Bro. the Rev. J. B. Tweed Provincial Grand Chaplain, preached the sermon, taking as his text Matthew xxiii. 8.—"All ye are brethren." He congratulated the brethren upon the privilege of meeting within those consecrated walls to join in that solemn part of the ceremonies of the day, and he took it as a great privilege to be called upon to address to them a few words of counsel. Their assembly was not a mere matter of form, but was voluntary, and resulted from the mutual feeling of brethren to give expression to their gratitude to God for the blessing both temporal and spiritual which he had showered upon them during the past year, and to invoke his blessing during the year which was now before them. They met not as strangers whose names were isolated and as men indifferent to each others' welfare, but as brethren whose hearts and interests were linked together in a common band to acknowledge God, to express their dependence upon Him, and to pray for His help and direction. The design of Christ in coming into the world was the unity of mankind in a bond of universal brotherhood, and this association was formed for the like purpose, and was in harmony with that great and beneficent design. Without professing to be distinctly Christian in character, its design was to serve the purposes of Christianity. Its working for the reformation men into a brotherhood was sublime, and it

would grow in proportion as civilization and education extended. In their brotherhood there was no restriction as to creed, and any interference with a brother's religious feelings was a violation of the rules of the Order. Without any intention of detracting from Christianity, he must say that the Masonic Order went further back than even the advent of our Lord, and formed its law of union and brotherhood upon the original constitution of man's nature, and the belief of a common parentage was its foundation. There should always be unity of heart amongst them, as unity was their strength, and they must seek to avoid all that would tend to divide them. The great aim of the brotherhood was to help one another in adversity, and to that end they must be united in prosperity. Their object was to assist one another and hold out a helping hand to him who needed it. No Mason was a worthy brother who neglected his obligations in that respect. Whenever a Mason met a Mason at home or abroad he was sure of meeting one who was prepared to greet him with the kindly offices of a brother. He urged upon his hearers to endeavour to put an end to all those things which terminated in a division among men and contribute each his quota towards gaining a universal brotherhood.

After the service the brethren returned to Grand Lodge, and after the transaction of other business it was closed in the usual manner.

On returning to Prov. G. Lodge, Bro. Emra Holmes proposed a vote of thanks to his worship the Mayor for the use of the Council Chamber and the Town Hall, which was cordially seconded by Bro. Newson Garrett, who regretted very much that the Mayor, Mr. Mason, was only so by name.

The banquet was held in the Assembly Room, Northgate-street. A very recherche repast was supplied by Mr. Ashford, of the Running Buck Inn.

Grace before meat was sung by a choir consisting of Bros. Abbott, Steele, and Graystone, with Bro. C. J. Cooke at the piano.

Grace after meat having been said by Bro. J. B. Tweed,

The Worshipful Prov. Grand Master, in proposing the first toast of the evening, spoke of the Queen as the first lady in the land, who, besides her other distinctions, had made herself distinguished as one of the Craft, being the mother of the head of the Craft.

The toast was drunk with three cheers, the National Anthem being also sung by the choir.

The P.G.M. proposed "The Grand Master of England, His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales," and referred to the visit of His Royal Highness to India, and to the great affection shown towards him on his return.

Song: "God bless the Prince of Wales," by the choir.

The P.G.M. proposed "The Grand Master, the Deputy Grand Master, and the Grand Officers," and coupled with it the name of Bro. Head, who responded, and expressed his pleasure at all times of visiting the Grand Lodge.

The P.G.M. next gave the toast of the "Representatives of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Norfolk," wished them all success in the province, and was sure the whole of the brethren would sympathise with them in their bereavement—the death of the P.G.M., the Hon. F. Walpole.

D.P.G.M. Morgan replied, and said it was a most pleasant but a most onerous task for him to reply to the toast. He thanked the Province of Suffolk cordially for their sympathy expressed at their recent bereavement. He little thought on a day in November last that the sun of their prosperity was so soon to set, but as the sun set so it must rise, and he trusted such would be the case in October or November next, when they expected His Royal Highness the G. Master would be able to visit Norfolk to instal their new Master. He was certain that if any of the Suffolk brethren would visit his province on that occasion they would be received with Masonic cordiality. Norfolk and Suffolk were geographically situated, that he considered it a geographical mistake that they were not one county, and that a thorough Masonic feeling ought to exist between them. He knew that an imperial

Masonic feeling existed, but he thought a higher feeling, if such could be.

The D.P.G.M. proposed "The Health of the Provincial Grand Master, Lord Waveney," and in eulogistic terms referred to the interest the noble lord took in the welfare of the Craft in the province, and to his readiness at all times to turn away from his great duties as a peer of the realm to devote his time to the Craft.

The P.G.M., in responding, said he felt they had received him with a welcome far more warm than he deserved, but it was a pleasure to be comforted and supported with the evidence they had given of the manner in which they appreciated his efforts, as expressed by his worshipful friend on his right. They had every day something to learn, and if he had to sit at the feet of a teacher, as the saying was, he should be a Suffolk man if possible, he should be one well acquainted with the peculiarities of Craft knowledge, and he should be such a one as their brother Head, who, in pointing out some mistakes in the programme, did it with the authority of age, but without its severity. (Hear, hear.) The way to reap advantage from another's knowledge was to follow his precepts, and he (the R.W.P.G.M.) attributed the success they had credited to him in a great measure to what he had learned from him. He had learned one lesson in particular, "Once engaged as a Suffolk Craftsman engaged for all time." (Applause.) He (the R.W.P.G.M.) was not amongst them as much as he could wish, but when he did come they received him as well as if he had been with them every week, giving them counsels, which, if they had been worth anything, he felt would have been effective from the effective way in which they would have been carried out. (Hear, hear.) He was proud of being in such a field with such colleagues as he had. He thanked them every man for their hearty welcome, which compensated for many a doubt, many an anxiety, many an uncertainty, assuring him as it did of the confidence that it was his strong desire to do that which was right and just in his position. (Applause.) The P.G.M. then proposed the health of a brother who, he said, was the working Head of their organization, who was always amongst them, and had grown old in their service. He was indebted to him for faithful and true counsel at all times, and he wished honour to be given to whom honour was due. (Applause.)

The Chairman proposed "The Deputy Provincial Grand Master, Bro. the Rev. E. I. Lockwood," who, in responding, said he had been spoken of in too high terms. He considered his duties to be a labour of love, and if the brethren would bear with him in his growing age, so long would he be associated with the province.

"The Provincial Grand Chaplain and the Clergy of the Province" was given and responded to by Bro. J. B. Tweed, the P.G.C.

The P.G.M. proposed "The Wardens and Officers of the Grand Lodge of Suffolk, Past and Present." He coupled with the toast the names of Bro. E. Dorling, P.P.G. Secretary, who responded for the Past Officers, and the P.G.S. W. on behalf of the present officers.

"The Visiting Brethren" was responded to by Bro. G. Gard Pye on behalf of the Province of Essex, and by Bro. the Rev. T. L. Kyffin from Wales.

The noble Chairman gave the "Provincial Grand Secretary," and referred to his great interest in the province, and said he was the proved man of the Craft.

Bro. Lucia responded.

"The Charities" was proposed by the Provincial Grand Master, who in doing so stated that the sum collected in church that day amounted to £6 15s. 4½d.

Bro. Head and Bro. Body responded.

"The Masters of Lodges in the Provinces" was responded to by Bro. W.T. Westgate, W.M.

"The Ladies" and the Tyler's toast brought an enjoyable evening to a close.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT.—More Precious than Gold.—Diarrhoea, Dysentery, and Cholera are, through the summer's heat, carrying off the young as the winter's cold destroyed the aged. In the most acute cases, where internal medicines cannot be retained, the greatest relief will immediately result from rubbing Holloway's soothing Ointment over the abdomen. The friction should be frequent and brisk, to insure the free penetration of the Uguent. This will calm the excited peristaltic action, and soothe the pain. Both vomiting and griping yield to it; when fruits or vegetables have originated the malady, it is proper to cleanse the bowels by a moderate dose of Holloway's Pills before using the Ointment.—ADVT.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF CORNWALL.

The Freemasons of Falmouth, on Thursday, 22nd ult., gave a right hearty welcome to their brethren of the province on the occasion of the annual Provincial Grand Lodge meeting of Cornwall being held in that town. The principal streets were, from end to end, profusely decorated with the flags of all nations; the Town Hall, in which the Provincial Grand Lodge was held, was most tastefully arranged with flags, evergreens, and other ornamentation, the work of the Mayoress (Mrs. Webber) and her daughters, and the same skill and taste were shown in the decoration of the Polytechnic Hall, where the annual banquet was held.

The attendance of brethren from all parts of the province was so large—every lodge was represented—that many of them were unable to obtain admission into the Town Hall.

Bro. the Earl of Mount Edgcumbe, Prov. G.M., presided, and amongst those present were Bros. R. Rogers, 331, P.P.G. Sec., and P.D.P.G.M.; T. Chirgwin, 131, P.G. S.W.; H. G. Colvill, 330, P.P.G.S.W.; F. W. Dabb, 589, P.P.G.J.W.; W. C. Borlase, 121, P.P.G.S.W.; F. J. Hext, 330, P.P.G.S.W.; J. W. Peard, 977, P.P.G. S.W.; R. John, 131, P.P.G.D.C.; E. T. Carlyon, 331, P.G. Sec.; W. H. Jenkins, 331, P.P.G.S.W.; E. A. Davies, 1099, P.P.G.S. Works; N. J. West, P.G.S.B.; W. H. Blossome, 318, P.P.G. Chap.; W. Tweedy, 331, P.G. Treas.; R. Heath, 589, P.P.G.O.; J. Peter, 557, P.G.J.W.; W. W. Dymond, 557, P.G. Org.; E. Milford Cock, 589, P.P.G.S.; W. D. Pearce, 789, P.P. G.S.W.; J. H. Filmer, 893, P.G. Stwd.; W. F. Newman, 75, P.P.G.D.; J. Hocking, jun., 589, P.P.J.G.D.; T. Taylor, 318, P.P.G.S.D.; E. D. Anderton, 331, P.P. G.S. Works; T. N. Curry, 318, P.P.G.S.D.; J. Ninnes, 699, P. Prov. G.R.; G. Lemon Church, 699, P. Prov. G. Chaplain; J. Hawkins, 789, Prov. G. Steward; J. Paull, 699, P. Prov. G.S.D.; S. Mitchell, 699, P.P.G.S.; W. J. Johns, 131, P.P.G.R.; J. G. Mason, 557, P.P.G.S.W.; T. Gill, 967, P.G. Steward; W. Hosken, 967, P.P.G.O.; W. Guy, 496, P.P.G.D.C.; F. H. A. Wright, 331, P.P.G.C.; G. Brown, 131, P. G.W. of Leicestershire and Rutland; S. Holloway, 131, P.P.G.J.D.; W. Lake, 131, P.P.G.R.; R. A. Courtney, 510, P.P.G.D.C.; F. Dennis, 75, P.G.P.; P. Giles, 496, P.P.G. Steward; E. G. Dyke, 496, P.P. G.O.; J. Grigg, 491, P.G.S.; E. Commis, 330, P.P.G.R.; H. Cochran, 1136, P.G.J.D.; S. Moyle, 699, P.G.S.; J. Boaden, 366, P.G.C.; J. Hill, 970, P.G.S.; J. Cardew, 1164, P.P.G. Steward; W. N. Abbott, 977, P.P.G. Steward; G. W. Trener, 965, P.P.G.S.B.; J. Dennis, 330, P.P.G. Steward; B. Brokenshar, 856, P.P.G.S.D.; W. Lean, 699, P.P.G.T.; W. Rooks, P.G.P.; R. Penwarden, P.G. Tyler; A. T. Grant, 318, P.G. Steward; and numerous Past Masters, Wardens, officers, and brethren of the various lodges in the province.

The Provincial Grand Lodge having been opened in due form, the minutes of the last meeting were read by Bro. Richard John, and confirmed.

Before the regular business was proceeded with,

The Prov. G.M. addressed a few observations to the brethren, in the course of which he said:—You will be glad to know that during the past year there have been three new lodges formed in the province, which I have had the pleasure of consecrating, viz., the Fort Lodge, Newquay, the Duke of Cornwall Lodge, at St. Columb, and the Mount Edgcumbe Lodge, at Camborne—(hear, hear)—and, so far as I can ascertain, I believe they are progressing very favourably in their infancy. At Newquay, indeed, the Fort Lodge seems to have gone beyond its infancy, the members having already increased from 25 to 40. It is also a very satisfactory thing to see that the lodges throughout the province are gradually having buildings of their own instead of holding their meetings at inns. (Hear, hear.) The foundation-stone of three new Masonic halls have been laid this year, one at Redruth, the other at Launceston, and a third at Callington, and out of the twenty-seven lodges now existing in the province twenty of them have provided rooms or halls of their own. (Applause.) Of the remaining seven, two are new lodges that have only recently been formed, and therefore it could hardly be expected that they would as yet have established a building of their own. I look upon this as exceedingly satisfactory, because I believe it is of great importance that lodges should have rooms of their own instead of having to meet at public houses. (Hear, hear, and applause.) I am glad to be able to say that there has been a marked improvement in the manner in which the returns have been sent in this year. Last time I expressed a hope that they would be sent in more regularly than formerly, and now I am informed that there has been no default whatever, all the lodges having sent in their returns within the time required. That has enabled Bro. Hughman to bring out his Directory with much greater ease and punctuality, and has also materially facilitated the work of the Secretary. The returns show that Masonry is making very satisfactory progress throughout the province, as during the year the numbers have increased from 1240 to 1433, and during the time I have had the honour of holding the position of Prov. Grand Master there has been an increase of between four and five hundred brethren. (Applause.) At the same time I believe it is the general observation of those with whom I have consulted on the matter that the tone and status of the brethren who are admitted has not deteriorated, but has rather been raised. (Hear, hear.) You will see presently from the Treasurer's account that we have a larger balance this year than last—£58 6s. 10d. against £46 4s. 11d., and this notwithstanding the fact that £80 of our funds have been distinctly expended in charity, and probably with such a balance as we have now in hand we

shall be well able to contribute again, as heretofore, to the great Masonic charities of the country. I think it is only due that Cornwall should contribute to those charities because, owing mainly to the indefatigable zeal of Bro. Hughman, we have received a great deal of advantage from them. We have been remarkably successful with our candidates, and it is due to those charities that we should subscribe to them as a province. (Hear, hear.) I know that for many years the efforts of Bro. Hughman have occasioned him a great deal of trouble and expense, and we really owe him a debt of gratitude for all that he has done. (Applause.) His lordship mentioned, in conclusion, that he had received four applications from lodges desiring to have the next year's meeting held in their towns, and he intimated that he should hold it in the eastern part of the province.

Bro. R. John then read the report of the Prov. Grand Secretary, which stated that the number of initiations in 1875 was 167, as against 177 in the previous year. The joining members were 64 last year as compared with 54 in 1874, and the total number of members at the present time is 1433, giving an increase of 193 over the year preceding. During the last year the Prov. Grand Master has consecrated three new lodges, at Newbury, St. Columb, and Camborne. The returns for the past year have come in much more punctually than heretofore, and this has enabled Bro. Hughman to complete and issue his Directory in a reasonable and convenient time.

The Prov. Grand Treasurer's report showed that the expenditure for the year had amounted to £179 9s. 4d., and the receipts to £232 16s. 2d., leaving a balance in hand of £58 6s. 10d. Last year the credit balance was £46 4s. 11d.

Bro. Chirgwin, Secretary of the Cornwall Masonic Annuity and Benevolent Fund, read the report of the committee, which stated that the amount received from the various lodges in the province during the year amounted to £158 16s. 6d., as compared with £142 10s. in the previous year, showing an increase of £16 6s. 6d. (Applause.) The capital of the fund now amounts to £2493 5s. 4d., an increase over last year of £232 14s. 10d. Suggestions having been made for an alteration of the rules, the committee thought it desirable that a small committee should be appointed to consider the matter, and to report at the next Prov. Grand Lodge meeting. The Secretary's duties having during the last few years considerably increased, the committee recommended that an assistant Secretary should be appointed at an annual salary of £10. They also recommended that a sum not exceeding £100 be voted for grants to be dealt with by the subscribers at the next annual Provincial Grand Lodge meeting, and that a vacancy be declared in the Annuity Fund, in consequence of the death of one of the annuitants.

The report was unanimously adopted; and the following brethren were appointed as a Committee to revise the rules,—"The Prov. Grand Master, and Bros. T. Carlyon, T. Webber, W. Tweedy, W. J. Hughman, G. L. Church, E. D. Anderton, T. Chirgwin, and R. Rogers.

The report of the Committee of Relief having been passed,

Bro. Chirgwin read the report of Bro. Hughman, P.P.G. Secretary (prevented through illness from attending), respecting his management of the votes for the London Masonic Charities on behalf of the province. They had, he said, been successful in securing the election of a deceased brother's widow as an annuitant of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, and she would receive £32 per annum for life. As they had but 122 votes for widows in the province, and polled 654, it would readily be seen that without exchanging their votes for the other Masonic Institutions success would have been impossible. (Hear, hear.) By reason of having no candidate this time for the Girls' or Boys' Institution they were able to assist the Province of Devon in obtaining the election of its candidates. Devon and Cornwall should always be united in such a good work. (Applause.) The consolidation of the votes and good working organization in other provinces rendered it imperatively necessary for the Province of Cornwall to unite most completely and combine together as lodges for the management of their votes for the great Masonic Charities. Individual action meant a loss to the community, and unless the subscribers and the contributing lodges were willing to send their votes to an agreed centre, for the use of the Province generally, it would be as well to give up hopes of ever carrying their candidates. Combined action in the past had secured about £2500 in value for the Province of Cornwall in ten years. (Applause.) As Steward for the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys he hoped to send up on the 28th June at least 400 guineas—(applause)—and he only wished the amount could have been trebled, for as Masons they failed in their duty if they neglected the claims of the fatherless and widows in their affliction. (Hear, hear.)

The report was adopted, and a cordial vote of thanks was given to Bro. Hughman for his past valuable services in the province in connection with the Masonic charities.

Bro. Tweedy next proposed that a sum of money should be voted to Bro. Hughman in order to reimburse him his personal expenses during the many years that he had laboured in connection with the charities. (Hear, hear.) While Bro. Hughman had succeeded in every election, and had placed a large number of their poorer brethren and their relations on the funds of the great Masonic charities, he had never been paid a single penny for his expenses, which must have been very considerable, because he had to travel about from place to place in order to obtain the votes that were needed, this being the only way by which prompt success could be obtained. Bro. Hughman had refused to take any money for himself, but would be proud to have his name associated as a donor with one

of the Masonic Institutions. He (Bro. Tweedy) therefore moved, "That in consideration of the great trouble Bro. Hughman has taken, as well as the amount he has been out of pocket for postage and other expenses in carrying out the canvass for and election of candidates for the great Masonic charities, a sum of twenty guineas be paid in his name to one of the great charities, and that in future all out-of-pocket expenses be repaid to him. (Applause.)

The motion was seconded by Bro. T. Webber, and cordially supported by Bro. Colvill, and before putting it to the meeting the P.G.M. said there could be but one opinion as to the advantage of the work in which Bro. Hughman had been so long engaged, nor, he thought, could there be a second opinion as to the desirability of adopting his proposal to put all the votes of the different lodges together, in preference to attempting individual action. (Applause.)

The resolution was then carried with acclamation.

The following sums were voted:—£25 to the Cornwall Masonic Annuity Fund; £10 10s. to the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys; £10 10s. to the Institution for Girls; and £10 10s. to the Institution for aged Freemasons.

The Secretary and Treasurer of the Cornwall Masonic Annuity Fund were re-elected for the year ensuing, and Bros. Trener and S. Jacobs were appointed as Auditors.

The election of an annuitant to this fund fell through, as the ballot did not prove favourable to the candidate who applied for it.

An application was made by the widow of a deceased brother for a grant on behalf of her youngest child to assist in his education, and it was resolved to give the sum of £15 a year for three years.

The Committee of Relief were re-elected.

The Prov. G. Master invested the following brethren as his officers for the year ensuing:—

R. Rogers	.....	D. Prov. G.M.
The Rev. G. L. Church, 699	.....	Prov. G.S.W.
E. D. Anderton, 331	.....	Prov. G.J.W.
The Rev. J. K. Lethbridge, 789	.....	Prov. G.S.C.
The Rev. J. B. Jones, 1272	.....	Prov. G.J.C.
W. Tweedy	.....	Prov. G. Treas.
E. T. Carlyon	.....	Prov. G. Sec.
W. Jenkins, 967	.....	Prov. G. Reg.
J. Cardew, 1164	.....	Prov. G.S.D.
J. H. Filmer, 893	.....	Prov. G.J.D.
T. White, 510	.....	Prov. G.S. Wks.
J. Chegwidan, 510	.....	Prov. G.D.C.
T. Gill, 967	.....	Prov. G.A.D.C.
J. Vivian, 75	.....	Prov. G.S.B.
Carter, 75	.....	Prov. G. Organist
A. T. Grant, 318	.....	Prov. G. Purst.
W. Rooks	.....	Prov. G.A. Purst.
Rusden	.....	Prov. G. Tyler.

The following brethren were invested as Stewards:—T. Webber, 75; C. Archer, 789; G. Barnes, 1164; T. C. Polglase, 75; J. Burgess, 1006; Tonkin, 977; T. C. Stevens, 1151; S. Serpell, 331.

Bro. R. John was re-appointed as P.G. Asst. Sec., and Bro. Crewes received the appointment of Assistant Secretary to the Cornwall Masonic Annuity and Benevolent Fund.

Bros. Hughman and Penrose were elected as Auditors for the coming year.

This concluded the routine business, but before the Provincial Grand Lodge closed a resolution was unanimously passed expressing gratitude to the Great Architect of the Universe on the safe return of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, Grand Master of England, from his Indian tour.

At mid-day the brethren marched in procession to the parish church, where an excellent sermon was preached by Bro. the Rev. G. L. Church, from the words, "But I trust that ye shall know that we are not reprobates. Now, I pray to God that ye do no evil, not that we should appear approved but that ye should do that which is honest, though we be as reprobates." The rev. gentleman said it would be rather late in this year of light, 5876, if he were even to attempt to defend Freemasonry from the sometimes absurd and sometimes false charges that were brought against it. Not long since it was denounced from the Vatican and classed with such secret societies as the Inquisition, the Illuminate, and other similar institutions, and no doubt it was so denounced because they were known as "Free and Accepted Masons," and the Church of Rome did not allow liberty of conscience or freedom of thought to any, but every man's will must be subject to that of one who called his decrees infallible. That Freemasonry had its secrets they did not for a moment deny, and further than that it was their proud boast, as it was their bounden duty, that they should not reveal them to any one but a brother. But those secrets affected not their religious or political opinions. They were condemned by the outer world for keeping the essentials of their institution from the knowledge of those who were not members of it, and it was said that this must sufficiently prove them to be of a bad nature and tendency. If, however, secrecy be a virtue—and who could deny it—could that be brought against them as a crime which had been considered an excellence in all ages. He contended that the institution of Freemasonry was one highly to be approved of both on account of the principles which it inculcated, and the great good which it accomplished in the community.

A collection was made at the close of the service, and realized £15 8s. 4d., with one exception, the largest ever made. Of this sum two-fifths will go to the Cornwall Masonic Annuity Fund; two-fifths to the Falmouth Dispensary, and the remaining one fifth to the clergyman of the parish.

In the afternoon a large number of brethren sat down to an excellent banquet, provided at the Polytechnic Hall by Bro. Carter, of the Royal Hotel. The P.G.M. presided, and the usual Masonic toasts were proposed and responded to.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

COLONIAL and FOREIGN SUBSCRIBERS are informed that acknowledgments of remittances received are published in the first number of every month.

It is very necessary for our readers to advise us of all money orders they remit, more especially those from the United States of America and India; otherwise we cannot tell where to credit them.

TO OUR READERS.

The *Freemason* is a sixteen-page weekly newspaper, price 2d. It is published every Friday morning, and contains the most important, interesting, and useful information relating to Freemasonry in every degree. Annual subscription in the *United Kingdom*, Post free, 10/- P.O.O.'s to be made payable at the chief office, London.

NEW POSTAL RATES.

Owing to a reduction in the Postal Rates, the publisher is now enabled to send the "*Freemason*" to the following parts abroad for One Year for Twelve Shillings (payable in advance):—Africa, Australia, Bombay, Canada, Cape of Good Hope, Ceylon, China, Constantinople, Demerara, France, Germany, Gibraltar, Jamaica, Malta, Newfoundland, New South Wales, New Zealand, Suez, Trinidad, United States of America, &c.

TO ADVERTISERS.

The *Freemason* has a large circulation in all parts of the Globe, its advantages as an advertising medium can therefore scarcely be overrated.

For terms, position, &c., apply to
GEORGE KENNING, 198, Fleet-st.

Answers to Correspondents.

All Communications, Advertisements, &c., intended for insertion in the Number of the following Saturday, must reach the Office not later than 12 o'clock on Wednesday morning.

The following stand over:—

Nelson Lodge, Woolwich; Naval and Military Conclave, Landport; Sovereign Sanctuary, Ancient and Primitive Masonry, Manchester; Tyrian Lodge, 1110; Sherborne Lodge of Manchester, 1168; Granite Lodge, 1329; "On Proposing Joining Members, J.P., P.M." Books—Music, &c., RECEIVED.—"La Chaine d'Union," "Furniture Gazette," "Hand and Heart," "Ladies Treasury."

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

[The charge is 2s. 6d. for announcements, not exceeding four lines, under this heading.]

BIRTHS.

CURTIS.—On the 2nd inst., at Drayton Park, Holloway, the wife of J. Curtis, jun., prematurely, of a daughter, who survived but a few hours.
DOWNES.—On the 29th ult., at St. Mary's-terrace, Paddington, the wife of E. Downes, of a son.
SIM.—On the 30th ult., at Kussowlic, India, the wife of G. H. Sim, Esq., R.E., of a daughter.
THOMPSON.—On the 26th ult., at Elmsfield, Gateacre, near Liverpool, the wife of F. B. Thompson, Esq., of a son.
WHITE.—On the 29th ult., at Ledbury-road, W., the wife of A. J. White, Esq., of a son.

MARRIAGES.

ADEY—WALKER.—On the 14th ult., at Charleston, South Carolina, Henry Thomas Morse Adey, Esq., of New York, to Anna, daughter of H. P. Walker, Esq.
BRATTLE—OHREN.—On the 28th ult., at Christ Church, Forest-hill, Kent, Astyanax, only son of the late Dr. Brattle, late of Sulhampstead, Berks, to Rosa Cecilia, third daughter of Bro. Magnus Ohren, A.L.C.E., F.C.S., of Lower Sydenham. No cards.
OWEN—SAUNDERS.—On the 1st inst., at St. George's, Bloomsbury, John Owen, Esq., of Addison-gardens, South Kensington, to Julia, daughter of E. Saunders, Esq.

DEATHS.

SINGLETON.—On the 24th ult., Bro. Geo. Singleton, at his residence, 39, Crown-street, Glasgow.
ACLAND.—On the 21st ult., at Ellerslie Terrace, Clapham, Mr. James Acland, aged 77.
ASHBY.—On the 1st inst., at Eling, Near Southampton, Francis Stedman Ashby, aged 42.
COYLE.—On the 30th ult., at Woolston, near Southampton, Lewis Coyle, aged 36.
KEAR.—On the 30th ult., at Stanhope Terrace, Hyde Park, in her 79th year, Susan Adams, wife of C. D. Kerr.
MOFFAT.—On the 1st inst., Lucy, wife of G. Moffat, Esq., of Eaton-square, in her 51st year.
MORRIS.—On the 1st inst., William Morris, of Esp-hill, Holt, Denbighshire, aged 81 years.
SHADOLT.—On the 2nd inst., at Surbiton, Charles Shadolt, in his 69th year.
WALPOLE.—On the 29th ult., at Alverstoke Rectory, Margaret Harriet Isabella, wife of the Rev. T. Walpole.

The Freemason,

SATURDAY, JULY 8, 1876.

THE BOYS' SCHOOL ANNIVERSARY.

We congratulate the House Committee and Bro. Binckes on their last most successful gathering. The return of £12,000 is a noble return, and in itself a sufficient and satisfactory reply to foolish charges and perverse incriminations. The confidence of the Craft is thus openly expressed in the executive of the Boys' School, and is a good set off against puerile personalities and a childish agitation. But we pass to a pleasanter topic. The success of the Boys' School gathering for two years fully justifies the "coup de Binckes" to which we alluded last year, which some thought hazardous, some shook their heads at, but concerning which the result has completely justified the words and views of our energetic brother. The hearty support accorded to the School evinces the continued and lively interest of our great Order in that institution, and we trust that 1877 may even witness increased sympathies and larger returns. We sincerely congratulate the managers of the institution, the Stewards, and not the least Bro. Binckes, on the success which has justly attended their united efforts, and on the good feeling manifested by that remarkable gathering at the Alexandra Palace, in response to the many, persevering, and meritorious efforts of the Secretary of the Boys' School. Another point is also, we think, a subject for deep satisfaction, and gratulatory notice, namely, the state of the school, as evinced by the examination, reflecting all credit on Dr. Morris, the able and zealous head master. As Bro. Binckes pointed out in his able address at the distribution of prizes, at the Cambridge examination for all England the average of "passes" was 55.3 per cent., while that of the Masonic Boys' School was 77.7, nearly 77.8—14 out of 18 boys sent up passed. These were the old boys. Of the new boys, whereas out of all London 21 passed out of 44, equal to 47.8 per cent.; of the Masonic schools 9 out of 11 passed, or an average of 81.8 per cent. The candidates at this examination were 121, 104 juniors, 17 seniors. Of the seniors only 1 obtained honours, while of the juniors 3 obtained a first class, and those three, W. Beaumont, R. Bryant, and H. G. Shaw, all of them educated under Dr. Morris, at the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys. This fact surely will be appreciated by all who value the Boys' School, both for what it is and for what it may be, both for what it is doing and yet will do; and we congratulate Bro. Dr. Morris on this very pleasant commentary on his zealous labours of twelve months. The institution seems to be in most admirable working order, and we doubt not but that it will continue to receive, as it deserves, the warm and unwavering support of our educated, and loyal, and discerning Craft.

RESULTS OF THE DENOMINATIONAL CRY AT LAST GRAND LODGE.

Already all sincere Freemasons must deplore the "ugly rush" of the controversial "animus" which the most unwise appeal to denominational feelings at the last Quarterly Communication has already paved the way for and led up to. We cannot look on the tone and temper evolving, so to say, from this Masonic "self-consciousness" of ours without mingled feelings of alarm and shame! And this is the end of all our profession and flowery words? We cannot too much deplore, we feel bound to say, the opposition to Bro. Havers's motion, on the pitiful, and we will add debasing, ground of denominational differences. Such a discussion is forbidden by our own regulations, such a state of things is utterly alien from Freemasonry and absolutely discreditable to Freemasons. Bro. Baxter Langley, for instance, must see that his reference to architectural emblems in Anglican churches is utterly indefensible, especially on Masonic grounds. We fail to conceive, much less to understand, how he, a Freemason professedly could have deliberately penned such a paragraph, which

recalls to one's memory the worst phasis and "animus" of the old deistical controversy and violence, and is hurtful to the feelings of thousands of his brethren, as it is one of the most ridiculous theories ever propounded by the hostile and unbelieving spirit, of the scorner and the infidel. Such a statement, however absurd on the face of it, and utterly unfit for our pages, or that of any decent publication, must be a subject of deep pain to all conscientious members of the Church of England, and brother Freemasons. There is no possible good in introducing such a ridiculous assertion architectonically, such an unjustifiable remark from a Masonic writer, and we cannot allow such a passage again, or any discussion on it, direct or indirect, to sully our respectable pages. But this is one proof among many of the intensity of that bitterness on such a subject which is a disgrace to our common humanity. But to find Freemasons not considering the feelings of others in the heat of their denominational "furore" is indeed a "leetle too much," and a bitter burlesque on our undenominational teaching. We have always lamented the line of argument employed in opposition to Bro. Havers's motion, as savouring to us alike of intolerance and bigotry, and an utter un-Masonic appreciation of the proposition of our very distinguished brother. For Bro. Havers's proposition never was intended as a denominational one, and no more unfortunate issue for the peace of Freemasonry ever was raised than this pseudo-denominational cry, on whomsoever the blame may really lie. While, then, we always welcome free discussion, we are not bound to allow on Masonic principles of toleration or consideration, that the religious feelings of any of our brethren should be trampled under foot, and if Bro. Baxter Langley wishes to pursue his peculiar line of discussion, or to express opinions which not only architecturally thousands of his brethren utterly scout and laugh at, though they feel them none the less as coming from a brother Freemason, he must find some more accommodating periodical than the "*Freemason*," in which to dilate upon this refined and ennobling topic. As a matter of history and fact we treat any such theory as a most puerile and perverse chimera, but as a matter of fraternal feeling it is, in our opinion, both indefensible and un-Masonic thus to throw down a gauntlet to the honest convictions of myriads of certainly not the least intelligent of our Order. It is altogether "an unclean thing," and as Freemasons we will have "none of it," and no more to do with it; and we must express our regret to our many readers that in our wish to be fair to all, we ever allowed such a passage to appear in the pages of the "*Freemason*."

ANALYSIS OF THE RETURNS OF THE BOYS' SCHOOL FESTIVAL.

When we come to deal with the large return announced by Bro. Binckes of £12,000, and look into its component figures, we are necessarily struck with one or two points—1st, the large provincial returns, and 2nd, the large metropolitan returns, evincing all alike a widespread interest in the Order, and unabated confidence in the executive of the School. This is as it should be, but we have thought it well just to dwell a little in detail on the returns themselves, as they certainly "both point the moral and adorn the tale." Warwickshire, in support of its P.G.M., the distinguished President for the year, heads the list with the large amount of £2000 2s. 6d. Kent follows with £659 19s. 6d. and is succeeded by Cornwall, under our very worthy Bro. W. J. Hughan, with £432 12s. Then appears West Yorkshire with £339 3s.; and Northumberland with £303 9s. Staffordshire sends up £295 1s., while Gloucestershire and Durham transmit, the former £276 14s., the latter £275. Lincolnshire, through our energetic Bro. Sutcliffe, always ready for Masonic good works, contributes £245 14s., and Surrey and South Wales, (East Division) each gives in £210, and Hants and the Isle of Wight come up with £176 8s., and Devonshire with £173; while Cheshire forwards £155 10s. 6d., and Berks and Bucks £152 15s. Cumberland and Westmoreland next appear with

£147, and Essex produces £144 18s. Derbyshire offers £129 15s. 6d., and Middlesex furnishes £121 5s. 6d. West Lancashire has remitted £105, Oxfordshire £93 11s., and Greece, through Bro. Matier, £92 8s. East Lancashire has remitted £88; Somersetshire £72 9s., North Wales and Salop £74 8s., Wiltshire £65 2s., and Nottinghamshire £63. Norfolk sends £45 3s., and Suffolk £32 1s.; while Leicestershire and Rutland forward £12 10s., and the Punjab £10. As the Metropolitan lodges have collected in round numbers £4700, the balance of £7500 in round numbers (exclusive of small amounts from other bodies, as London chapters and the Mark Degree), has been collected by the Provincial Stewards and lodges and brethren. Such a fact speaks clearer than words as to the zeal and interest of our entire fraternity in the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys. And great and commendable as the "totality" is, and gratifying as the result must be to Bro. Binckes, after his many anxieties and arduous labours, there yet remains a goodly margin of duty to be done and efforts to be made by individual brethren and lodges. As a fact, it is a very striking one per se, as Bro. Terry well put it, that we have received this year £32,000 for our great Metropolitan Charities, but there are yet new fields to be worked out by our indefatigable Bro. Secretaries, and new "lodes," as it were, to be "struck" by zealous "Stewards" and good workers in the sacred cause and recurring duty of Masonic charity. And we shall not be surprised if Bro. Terry's prophecy turns out to be true, that 1877 will witness still larger returns and welcome contributions to the support and extension of our noble Charities.

Original Correspondence.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for, or even as approving of the opinions expressed by our correspondents, but we wish, in a spirit of fair play to all, to permit—within certain necessary limits—free discussion.—Ed.]

THE LAST QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

In the "Freemason" of last Saturday I notice a letter from Bro. J. Baxter Langley, upon which I ask your permission to say a few words. He writes "that he cannot, without a sense of immolation, read or hear the suggestion that the Craft should bow before my authority in a matter on which any properly constituted mind can at least form an independent opinion."

I do not know about every body reducing himself to a sense of humiliation on reading such a statement, but I should think that everybody who did read it, saw its absurdity. Surely Bro. Langley cannot imagine that I ever made such a claim, or that the writing of so thoughtless and so unwarrantable a remark was more than the work of some too zealous friend. Who that friend was I do not know.

I will not follow Bro. Langley into personalities, or complain of the liberal criticism he has bestowed on my tone, taste, &c. I can only say I am sorry I do not please him, but when he writes that my reference to a "foregone conclusion" was a mistake, and that it was scarcely fair or courteous to insinuate that the brethren in Grand Lodge were not open to argument or reason, I have something to say.

If it was not fair and courteous, I can only say that it was true; and may I ask (as fairness and courtesy should not be all on one side) was it fair and courteous, or was it not opposed to all our usual practice in Grand Lodge to interrupt a speaker while he was in the act of reading his resolution, and before he had adduced a single argument in support of it? All who were present in Grand Lodge must have observed that there were a large number of brethren congregated at the lower end of the hall who offered the chief interruption, and who did not suffer even the resolution to be read without interrupting by loud cries, who, to use Bro. Langley's own words, "were not open to argument and reason," but who came there (according to my words) with a "foregone conclusion."

It may not be fair, it may not be courteous in Bro. Langley's opinion, but I repeat my solemn conviction (increased tenfold by what I have since heard of the remarks made at that end of the hall) that a large number of brethren did come there with a "foregone conclusion."

Nay, I will go further, and for the honour of our Institution I state my deliberate opinion that the decision come to by the majority of Grand Lodge on that occasion will not be received with approbation by the great body of the Craft at large. I have far too high an opinion of the large-heartedness of Masons generally and of their chivalrous and high-minded dignity and intelligence to believe that they will allow prejudice to stand in the way and mar the progress of all the higher and more enlightened feelings of our nature.

I do not refer to other parts of Bro. Langley's letter, because I have already given the reasons which he now asks for, why we should in a thankoffering send some object

which should be national as well as Masonic, but, Sir, there is a paragraph in that letter which I cannot pass over in silence. It commences "I am . . . a Unitarian." I will not quote the remainder of the words (which should never have been written or spoken in Masonic society), because I cannot forget that one of the first charges impressed upon us at our very entrance into Freemasonry is, "that we shall avoid every topic of religious discussion." In my opinion the paragraph I refer to is in direct violation of our Masonic law; the belief expressed in it is as unwarranted as it is indecent, and as uncalled for as it is offensive, and insulting to the whole Christian community.

Let me ask you to give me space further to thank "T.P.M." for his kindly letter, and to say how willingly I will subscribe £20 towards carrying out the scheme he proposes, and which I only hope may be successful.

Yours fraternally,

JOHN HAVERS.

July 3rd, 1876.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I hail with much pleasure the frank admissions and regrets which Bro. Havers conveys in his last letter, and also his intention of being "done with Bro. Simpson as far as personal matters are concerned."

I must, however, on public grounds correct one or two grave inaccuracies into which our brother has fallen.

He says, alluding to his speech in Grand Lodge, "I never before heard of the opinion of the Grand Master received with cries of 'No, no.' When I heard those cries then for the first time I saw the formidable nature of the oppositions to my resolutions."

If Bro. Havers will check his memory by the recollection of almost any other brother present, or by your own excellent report of his speech, he will find this statement of his the very reverse of the fact. The "No, no's" were uttered at a very early stage of his speech, as well as on subsequent occasions, and had reference solely to his St. Paul's and St. Alban's proposal. His introduction of the Grand Master's name was not made till almost the concluding passage of his speech, and after Grand Lodge had during the preceding ten minutes given unmistakable proof of its adverse opinion.

I should have thought that under such circumstances Bro. Havers would, on his own present showing, have abstained from the course he now so candidly deprecates.

I take it for granted that none of us feel that our "Grand Master must not express an opinion," but most of us do think that to quote that opinion may be lawful, but not at all times expedient, especially when a strong opposition has clearly shown itself in regard to a proposal for which the Grand Master's approval had been doubtless sought and gained, but probably amidst a thousand other public matters crowding on his attention.

I shall not trouble you about my private letters to Bro. Havers. I am sure he will not affirm that a man cannot write a private note on public business. If he does not affirm this, his defence for quoting my notes in public without my leave, falls to the ground, as I certainly considered them private communications, and not intended for the public press. But as I said before, I am glad, as far as I am concerned, that they were published.

I wish to assure Bro. Havers that in proposing my amendment I did not act with "secrecy" or "subtlety." I can give him my word that I had not made up my mind to withdraw my motion up to the moment when I entered Grand Lodge, and that I only rough-drafted my amendment after Bro. Havers began his speech.

I like to conclude with something pleasant in prospect after this "winter of our discontent." It is Bro. Havers' words in the last paragraph but one, "I am ready to give my help in any way that may be thought desirable."

This is so happy a contrast to the statement contained in his private reply to me, that I take it for granted he will serve on the committee, and help to bring about that consummation so devoutly to be wished for—a unanimous decision.

I am, dear Sir and Brother, yours fraternally,

R. J. SIMPSON.

P.S.—I have read your foot note to my last letter with interest, and if you will allow me, I propose to say a few words in your next number on the subject alluded to, as suggested by your forcible article on "The Present Tendency of Freemasonry," in your impression of June 24th.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

If I could feel the deprivation, it would doubtless be a matter of poignant regret that I do not share in that obtuseness which is a matter of consolation to Bro. Simpson, and his "twenty-to-one" of Grand Lodge, but I do not feel the loss; neither is it a matter of ambition to me that I should be so preternaturally acute as to espy "denominationalism" in a glorious impulse; it is quite enough for me to be only so far blessed with corners as to be rectangular, and so to act "on the square," and view the generous impulse of an open-hearted brother in the same straightforward light in which he conceived it.

One further remark (which I trust Bro. Simpson will regard as personal only so far as it is a reply to that which he himself wrote, and which had no origin with me) and I, too, will cast banter aside and address myself once more to the matter under discussion. I cannot, for the life of me, see the necessity of the unmerited sneer directed at a Prov. G. Officer by one who has probably risen to his present position by the same step of the very same ladder of promotion—at all events, if he has not, he would have had no cause for shame if he had. I, too, have been a Prov. G.O., and I am proud of the distinction; but more than this, if it should ever be my good fortune to be promoted to Grand rank in Grand Lodge I shall still always cherish the jewel of my Provincial rank,

as I shall, too, regard with the deepest affection my Mother Province. If, however, this slighting mention of my brother's correspondent be taken as merely a "jest," then, indeed, has Bro. Simpson spoken the "true word in jest" for the "fine air of the provinces" has given the brethren there "clearer intellectual conceptions" to perceive the right-mindedness of Bro. Havers's proposal, as well as "clearer moral conceptions," by which they have in so many instances carried out exactly similar work (as that brother has so pointedly shown), than have the "fogs" to the brethren resident in "London." I will dismiss this part of the subject by assuring you, Sir, that we Provincials are very happy in filling the more humble places allotted to us, for we feel that so long as a solid structure is required it would not be well for Masonry, that all of us should be cope-stones like Bro. Simpson.

Now, Sir, with regard to the two questions that I put to Bro. Simpson, I find that he has given me no answer at all. I can, however, glean this much, that attendance at a service in St. Paul's is not more "denominational" than following to the last rites the remains of the late chief magistrate. Just so, for both are decidedly denominational, although pardonably so from the very cause which they would be designed to serve. This does not advance us much in trying to understand Bro. Simpson's "motives," but what follows is probably more to the purpose, for in it we find what constitutes the sting of this terrible "denominationalism," the wherefore of its having to be so sedulously avoided. It is when it comes to putting your hand in your pocket that an action becomes denominationalism. Exactly so!

Next Bro. Simpson tries to show that the votes of money proposed by Bro. Havers would be alienating the funds of Grand Lodge from their only lawful destination, i.e., charity. Has Bro. Simpson ever read his "Constitutions?" if so, he must surely know that there is such a thing as a "Fund of Benevolence," which "shall be solely devoted to charity;" thus clearly leaving the "Fund of General Purposes" entirely at the disposal of Grand Lodge, which may apply it at its good will and pleasure to any object either within or without the Craft. This last remark leads me to ask Bro. Simpson yet another question in addition to my previous ones. How comes he to decry Bro. Havers's proposals as being outside our Order, and yet, in his letter of June 26th says, "That we have gone out of what Bro. Havers calls the beaten track of Masonry in our grants the records of Grand Lodge amply, and I will add happily, testify?" (The italics are mine.)

Yet one other question—If Bro. Simpson withdrew his motion because he knew that it would not be passed unanimously, which he felt that such a motion ought to be, why ever did he press his amendments when he saw that there was not a ghost of a chance of their leading to anything else than a division? Oh! for consistency!

One other word and the "W.T. (who also writes from some shady and anonymous spot)" will have done. How "shady?" "Also," does "also" refer to "Prov. G.O." in the "light of the provinces?" or to "Bro. Simpson" in the "London fog?" To the former I trust, for I do not at all wish to be considered under the influence of the latter, the description of which seems wonderfully well adapted (self-chosen, too!) to describe one side of this controversy. "Anonymous," how can this "spot" be "anonymous?" I have written anonymously, it is true, but what object would be served by putting to my queries the name of merely a Provincial Grand Officer? You, Sir, were satisfied of my identity as a member of Grand Lodge, and, therefore, of my being entitled to a voice. However, if Bro. Simpson really desires to discover my personality, he may recognize me as one of those brethren (non-obtuse," thanks to Bro. Simpson!) whose right hands were held up to protest against the hollow insincerity of giving to God a vote of thanks "which cost us nothing;" and more than this, he may recognize me again, if Grand Lodge should ever again suffer itself to be betrayed into the unmasonic condition of "appearing before the Lord empty," by mine being the only right hand held up, if need should be, against such a mockery and a sham.

I remain, dear Sir and Brother, faithfully and fraternally.

W. T.

(To the Editor of the Freemason.)

Dear Sir and Brother,—

There were reasons, dictated neither by modesty nor fear, which induced me to write anonymously to you a fortnight ago. In advocating or denouncing principles an anonymous signature is permissible, and often preferable, if the writer avoids personalities. I attacked no one in my letter, and my name would not have made Bro. Simpson's statement, to which I alluded, more or less absurd than it actually was. I do not know whether "London fogs," or the want of "clearer moral or intellectual conceptions," make Bro. Simpson so dull of comprehension, nor do I know by what computation he arrives at the consolatory feeling "that the brethren of Grand Lodge in the proportion of twenty to one are equally obtuse" (I beg pardon of the brethren. I am using not my own, but Bro. Simpson's words), but judging from the division at the last Quarterly Communication I should put his majority at three to two. Bro. Simpson appears to have forgotten the old maxim "practice is better than precept," for whilst he intersperses his sentences with pious utterances and fervent hopes that "peace may abound, &c.," he indulges in jests, sneers, and misrepresentations which are not likely to bring about the realization of this desirable end. Bro. Simpson is plausible but not profound. I give two instances from his last letter. He says, "I quite agree with our 'P.G. Officer' in his broad definition of 'charity,' but I do not agree with him in the opinion that because we raise a memorial on this occasion in some measure connected with one of our institutions

our charities will be our ruin." Am I to regard this statement with "amazement" or "sorrow?" I never expressed or implied such an opinion, nor did I say that "to aid the orphan, the widow, and the aged," will ruin us. What I did say was, briefly, this, "If our institutions want new wings to their buildings let them be built; if they want additions to their funds let them be supplied. But if our charities are to become the all-engrossing objects, and the sole outlets of our Masonic sympathies,—if the enrichment of these charities is to be considered the highest aim of the Order, and the sole criterion of Masonic excellence, then Freemasonry must inevitably become a benefit society, and thus "our charities will be our ruin." I say nothing in disparagement or in disrespect of benefit societies. They are admirable institutions, but Freemasonry is in no sense akin to them. Besides which, to care for the needy, the sick, and the aged, to provide for the fatherless and the widow, is not exclusively a Masonic attribute. It is a natural instinct, common to all who are not debased and degraded. Whereas the dignity and high value of Freemasonry is to promote brotherly love and spread a true Masonic spirit throughout our dealings with each other.

The other instance of Bro. Simpson's plausibility is as follows:—"No amount of eloquence or historical research could in the eyes of plain Englishmen alter these facts (1), that it was proposed to grant a sum of £2000 to two churches belonging to a particular religious body, &c." This is true as far as words go, but "plain Englishmen" love fair dealing, and it is utterly false as far as the intention of the grant was concerned, and consequently it is a very unfair statement. Call the Church of England "a particular religious body!" Why, it is the national church! I suppose the Rev. Bro. Simpson will not deny that, and therefore the proposal of Bro. Havers was to give £2000, not "to two churches belonging to a particular religious body," but to that which was national as well as Masonic. It is this national element which removes from the grant its denominational aspect, to quote Bro. Havers's own words, in the eloquent speech in which he proposed his resolution, as far as I can remember.

"As well might Grand Lodge be called denominational because our Grand Chaplains are always clergymen of the Church of England. As well might the whole Craft be called denominational because the children in our schools are educated in the principles of the Church of England, and because whenever we did attend a religious service, which in the provinces was a constant practice, we always attended the parish church."

Of course, in one sense of the word, the Church of England is denominational, but only in the sense in which it would be used by the sectarian, the illiterate, and the unpatriotic. Those who would deny that the Church of England is the national church might as well deny that Her Most Gracious Majesty Queen Victoria is Queen of England because amongst her subjects there are those who would prefer a Republic to a Monarchy.

As Masons we are cosmopolitan and unsectarian, but we do not cease to be the subjects of the country in which we were born, and one of the duties most strongly urged upon every brother on his admission to the Order is "never to forget the allegiance which is due to the Sovereign of his native land; and the sacred and indissoluble attachment which binds him to the country from whence he derived his birth."

The return of the M.W.G.M. was an event both national and Masonic. A memorial to celebrate that event should have that double feature, and I know not how better that object could have been attained than by carrying out Bro. Havers's resolution.

Whatever rejoinder this communication may elicit, I shall not again address you on this subject. I thank you for your courtesy in inserting my letters, and trust Bro. Simpson will forgive me if I again subscribe myself,

Yours fraternally,
July 3rd, 1876.

A PROVINCIAL GRAND OFFICER.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

"The winner takes his bite, and the loser gets his bark." I trust, therefore, that the opponents of Bro. Havers's motion, whilst enjoying their victory, will not think out of place a few parting lamentations, over that, which from the minority's point of view, seems to have become a lost opportunity.

We sought to do, as in other countries, we believe would have been done, under precisely similar circumstances, by brethren of all creeds, had the restoration or embellishment of such representative edifices as Notre Dame, St. Peter's, the Mosque of St. Sophia, or the Taj Mahal been suggested by them, as presenting the happiest embodiment of the loyal, patriotic, Masonic, and withal religious sentiments, which combined to render a thank-offering desirable.

The chief argument used against us, was the superior claim of the charities upon the bounty of Grand Lodge, and as to this, some extracts from the speech of our late Grand Master, Lord Ripon, on March 11th, 1874, when presiding at the Boys' School festival, are a good deal in point:—

"But you must remember that we Freemasons have a habit, especially when we assemble together upon public occasions, of boasting exceedingly of our charitable institutions, and of telling those who are not Masons that in those institutions may be found the proof of what are the principles and the result of the Craft. Well, in one sense that is true; but there is another sense in which it is far less true than I should desire. I have become increasingly impressed with the conviction that the burden of their support falls much too much year after year upon the same shoulders. I have heard an estimate made that

after all there is not above one-sixth of the members of the Craft who are subscribers to these institutions. What I want to impress upon you to-night is this, that it is far better that these institutions should be supported by small subscriptions from large numbers, than that they should be supported by large subscriptions from a few. You who can subscribe and do not, have no right to say that the Boys' School is a credit to Freemasonry; it is a credit to its subscribers; it is no credit, but a discredit, to those who do not subscribe. A great many small subscriptions will in the end come, as you well know, to a great deal more than a few large ones, and what you want is, that these institutions should rest upon the widest possible basis, that they should be truly representatives of the spirit of this ancient fraternity, that what we say after dinner we may say deliberately at all times without fear of contradiction, that the spirit of the Craft is to be judged by the fruits which it bears in institutions like this, because these institutions do not rest upon the generosity of the few, but because they are founded upon the broad and staple basis of the general support of the Craft."

"Sectarian prejudice" was an expression freely used by the majority, and several speakers were quite apologetic, for opposing the restoration of national monuments, connected with the faith which they individually professed. Now it seemed to the minority, that, resting the claims of "St. Paul's" and "St. Alban's" entirely upon their Masonic and national character, the accident of their being connected with the religion of the state, so far (in our judgment) from rendering less appropriate the proposed tribute of respect to the future head of Church and State, produced in the minds of those of us who were members of the Established Church, a deep feeling of satisfaction, that by a happy coincidence, the monumental restoration our project comprised, would give pleasure to our co-religionists without the pale of the Order, thus, within these limits, blending, as it were, the rejoicings of the Craft with those of the nation, whilst an additional grace, we conceived would adorn the form of our thank-offering, from its meeting with the hearty approval of him who (though differing as to details) we one and all were delighted to honour.

The Churchmen amongst us saw, therefore, no reason to apologize for constituting, as (in that capacity) we believed we did, the majority of Grand Lodge. We entertained, and still entertain, a very earnest conviction, that our Jewish brethren, instead of disapproving the motion, as was contended, would have considered the employment of Grand Lodge funds in the restoration of two celebrated English Churches to have been dictated by equally high-minded and beneficent motives, with those which have prompted the devotion of moneys, contributed otherwise than by members of the Hebrew faith, towards recent excavations at Jerusalem, and the better exploration of the Holy Land.

Yours fraternally,
R. F. GOULD,
W.M. 92; P.M. 153, 570, 743.

RUBBISH.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

How can you admit such "rubbish" as Bro. B. Langley has thought fit to send to you about the emblems, &c., in Church Architecture?

Were it not all so essentially absurd, and so utterly beneath notice critically, archaeologically, and Masonically, I would protest, as a member of the tolerant Church of England, against such unseemly remarks, and such needless outrage on the feelings of thousands of good men and honest members of the Order, poor Christians though they be. If this is the "outcome" of modern intellectual studies, God help us all!

It only shews how extremes meet, and how Ultramontanes and ultra-liberal in religious speculations (I say nothing of politics) are equally intolerant.

But that is nothing new.

I wonder that it did not occur to Bro. B. Langley that when he brings in this childish illustration he was transgressing the Masonic canon, which forbids allusion to the religious tenets or sympathies of others.

Were the assertion not a proof in itself of the ignorance of the writer on the subject he affects so complacently to handle. I would say a good deal more, but "mole ruit sub," it is self-destructive, either of his capacity to throw new light on the matter, or even of his having realized the true teaching of Freemasonry, in any respect. Anything more sad than this outbreak of denominational venom I have never seen, and it really makes an old Mason blush for shame to think of the inconsistency of those, who for years have gibed of brotherly love and unsectarian kindness. But I will not trespass on your pages, over crowded as they are, but I hope you will never again allow such a passage as that to which I have adverted to pass your editorial censorship.

Yours fraternally,

A FREEMASON AND A MEMBER
OF THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND.

[We entirely agree with our correspondent. We always wish to be "fair." We have erred in allowing such a paragraph to appear. It will not occur again, nor any discussion upon it. It is indeed a sad commentary on Masonic profession.—ED.]

CORRECT MASONRY—WHAT IS IT?

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

A letter appears in the columns of July 1st, signed P. Robertson, Lennoxtown, in reply to mine of June 17th, where I draw attention to a report appearing in the "Freemason" of the 10th ult., informing your readers that the Grand Lodge of Freemasons of the Province of Northamptonshire and Huntingdonshire on June 2nd, laid the foundation stone of the new aisle which is to be added to the Church of St. Mary at Peterborough,

and that His Grace the Duke of Manchester (the I.P.M.) pronounced the stone well and duly laid, in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Having an idea that the invocation of the Trinity was foreign to our Order, and thinking that information on the subject would be acceptable to many brethren as well as myself, I sought it through your world wide columns, and am informed by Bro. P. Robertson, that the Scottish Constitution is silent and clear on the subject, that the stone is laid according to the rules of Masonry, and that the Almighty Architect of the Universe is implored to look down with benignity upon the undertaking. Scottish procedure is therefore explicit. Will some brother or brethren now give information with respect to the English form of laying a foundation stone? Should English and Scottish Masonry, in this point, be alike? In order to make the subject a universal one, may I again ask—Correct Masonry—What is it? Is it the introduction of distinctive doctrines or dogmas, some of which would sear the feelings of many of our brethren? I think not. It is the propagation of that broad and radiant light, the belief in God the Glorious Architect of Heaven and Earth. In the latter brethren of all creeds and nationalities can take part, in the former some feel it their duty to hold aloof. Therefore, if the Trinity is not connected with our Order, many of our readers would like to know why an innovation at a public Masonic ceremony, an innovation which as Bro. Robertson remarks, is from a Masonic standpoint an error, which materially affects the cosmopolitan character of our institution.

Yours fraternally,
Manchester, July 3rd, 1876.

J.E.L., 78, 1458.

AN EDITORIAL SLIP.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Surely a little passage in Bro. B. Langley's last letter escaped your editorial supervision? It is singularly offensive even to us poor benighted members of the Church of England, Freemasons though we be.

I had expected better things of you.
Yours very fraternally,

A CLERICAL BROTHER.

[We plead "guilty, and throw ourselves on the mercy" of our readers. We ought not to have allowed the passage to appear, but in our wish to be fair we have unintentionally offended the conscientious convictions of others. It only shows how very perverse has been the "denominational cry," and how un-Masonic.—ED.]

MASONIC JEWELS.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Will you kindly inform me whether the Mark Master's jewel may be worn in a Craft Lodge? In the Book of Constitutions, under the head "Private Lodges," § 22, it is forbidden to wear any jewel except such "as shall be consistent with those degrees recognised by the Grand Lodges as part of ancient Freemasonry," and it is declared by the Act of Union of 1813, that "pure ancient Masonry consists of three degrees and no more, viz., those of the E.A., the F.C., and the M.M., including the Supreme Order of the Holy Royal Arch." Taking these extracts together, I have been surprised to hear the ruling of a P.M. of my lodge, that any brother is at liberty to wear either the Mark or any other jewel. I should be glad to know what is the practice elsewhere, as well as the law on the subject.

Another matter is the wearing of the Craft apron in a Mark Lodge. Is not this contrary to the "Mark" Constitutions? For though I conclude that a candidate for advancement, being as is necessary a M.M., may wear his Craft apron, a brother advanced is bound to wear the Mark apron. I shall be glad to be put right on these matters.

I am, yours fraternally,

M.M. and M.M.M.

[In our decided opinion a Mark jewel cannot be worn in a Craft lodge, neither can a Craft apron be worn in a Mark lodge. The P.M. who gives such a "dictum" as our correspondent mentions, must be utterly ignorant of the Book of Constitutions.—ED.]

A STATEMENT.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Will you kindly peruse the following statement, and if convenient let me hear your opinion and advice.

I am a M.M., Royal Arch Mason, and Knight Templar, and belong to Thos. J. Turner, Lodge 409, Washington Chapter 43, and Chicago Commandery 19, all of the City of Chicago, U.S. of North America. I was in the employ of an American firm, when I came to this country for the purpose of buying goods for their account in England, France, and Germany. However, on my arrival, or shortly after the house failed, and the house in Hamburg, upon whom I was to draw for travelling funds, refused to accept my drafts, consequently I was left high and dry in a foreign country without money or friends. I started out at once to find employment but was unsuccessful for a time, and while looking about for a situation, I thought I should visit a lodge, hoping to meet with some brother who might possibly be able to assist me in finding employment. Accordingly I went one evening to the Masonic Hall, and gave my name, lodge, &c., to the Tyler, who, however, informed me that unless I had "papers" I could not be admitted. I stated my case to him and asked to be examined, but all to no purpose. On my return home I ransacked my papers, and found, I may say, accidentally, a document from my commandery, which I have had occasion to use in the States in order to obtain admission into a commandery when travelling. The reason I took this paper some time ago was that I had just taken

the higher degree, but having no competent brother to properly teach me I could not work my way into a commandery when I had no one to vouch for me, besides it saves the sometimes extremely tedious examinations in the States. On desiring to visit a lodge or chapter I have always been duly examined and been found entitled to admission.

I again went to the hall on the following evening and presented this document to the Secretary, stating that it would be impossible to get this paper unless I had taken all the preceding degrees, but the Secretary happened to be of a different opinion, and the consequence was I had to return home without shaking hands with some of those whom I consider friends and brothers.

Now if this style of treating Masonic brethren in foreign countries is the proper one, I think it but just that every brother upon being raised to the Sublime Degree of a M.M. should at all times be informed by the W.M., besides the customary lecture, that it is necessary, when abroad, to carry a bundle of "papers," to prove him to be a Mason, in good standing and clear on the books. Although it is perhaps not appreciated by many Masons I shall mention here that at a time when I happened to be S.D. of our lodge a stranger called at our place of meeting, who upon being found a M.M., said he came from this country and was on his way from New York to San Francisco. On his arrival in Chicago he found he had lost his money, and only had his railway ticket. He was compelled to ask somebody for assistance, and very properly, as I then thought, came to a Masonic Lodge. Travelling in an emigrant train it takes nearly six days to get to San Francisco, and we did not think it right he should be compelled to travel that long distance without food and arriving at the coast without a cent. I made a motion to assist him at once to the best of our ability without referring him to the Relief Committee. After requesting the stranger to retire the brethren made a collection, and he received a handful of greenbacks amounting to about 78 dollars. The brother went West the same night.

I do not wish to have the above meant for bragadocio on my part, or Thos. J. Turner lodge, but merely state it as an incident in Masonry. To resume my statement I will say, that in order to obtain the papers which are necessary to obtain permission here, I must write to the Secretary of my lodge and chapter, and also to the Grand Lodge and Chapter, and it would take at least six weeks before I could expect to get them. But I am not inclined to do so, for I am of the opinion that a person who is actually in want of assistance is not supposed to come already prepared with a roll of "papers."

I have, and I am proud of it, not asked for any pecuniary help, but merely wished to be introduced to some respectable persons.

I hold a seven years' character from my last employers, and I should think that if I could have made the acquaintance of a respectable merchant he might have helped me in getting a respectable position. As it is I have been compelled to engage myself as labourer in the docks at 3s. 6d. a day, which is certainly no dishonour, but I sometimes think rather rough.

I am capable of corresponding in French, German, and English, and have a fair knowledge of Spanish and Dutch, and don't you think my services would be worth a little more than 3s. 6d. a day to some merchant.

I beg your pardon for taking up so much of your valuable time, but as you frequently kindly take notice of correspondents I venture to ask if I am entitled to the treatment I received.

I am, fraternally yours,
7, Regent Road, Liverpool, J. HENRICHS.
[We think the best thing that we can do is to publish this straightforward letter, as it may ensure attention, and attract observation among those most interested.—Ed.]

AN EXPLANATION.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—
I see that Bro. Binckes gives a partial answer to my letter of enquiry in his interesting speech at the distribution of prizes at the Boys' School, on Monday, the 25th. His reason for the "Presidency" of the Council of the 33rd was as a recognition of its continued support of, and interest in the school. That no doubt is a valid reason, and as it is a question of gratitude for past favours, we are bound to think and believe that Bro. Binckes, who will be as customary "looking onwards," sees in it an earnest too of favours yet to come. But still, with all deference, I think, the announcement of a personal President as in years gone by, would have been better, and whether it was our worthy Bro. Montague or Rosenthal, or Hyde Pullen, each would be equally and personally acceptable to all present. At any rate Bro. Binckes may plead, as he generally does, a very good answer in the word "success." I congratulate the House Committee and himself for the "couleur de Rose" of everything, and wish all possible success to the Boys' School.

I am,
AN ANCIENT CRAFTSMAN, AND
SUPPORTER OF THE BOYS' SCHOOL.

MASONIC JURISPRUDENCE.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—
Will you kindly answer the following questions: Whether St. John's Day (24th June), if the annual festival of a lodge, is a regular lodge, and at such meeting propose, ballot for, and give degrees to candidates? Supposing such to be the rule, whether the next regular lodge in July (often nine or ten days apart) is sufficient notification in terms of Sec. 2, "Proposing Members," p. 84, Book of Constitutions of being the "next regular" lodge; or whether it must be a lodge of emergency for that particular work begun on St. John's Day, in terms of Sec. 7, page 86?

Again, sec. 3, "Visitors," page 89, Book of Constitutions, says "A brother who is not a subscribing member to a lodge shall not be permitted to visit any lodge in the town or place where he resides more than once during his secession from the Craft."

A very prevalent opinion exists in practice that the "once" does not mean once pur et simple, but only once a year. Is this the right interpretation? or is the plain reading of the Book of Constitutions to mean once, and once only, in the town or place in which he resides?

Yours fraternally, A Sxc.

BRO. ALLCOTT.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Bro. G. A. Allcott, of the Zetland Lodge, Hong-Kong, and Companion Industry Chapter, 186 (also P.M. Lodge of Harmony, Texas, A.C.), has, owing to want of time before his departure, desired me to express through the medium of your columns his hearty and fraternal good wishes to all those who during his sojourn in this country offered him the heart of truth and the right hand of brotherhood. To many Bro. Allcott was able to bid a personal farewell, but to some, owing to the shortness of time and suddenness of his recall to his duties by the Chinese Government, he can now only bid farewell by your kindly inserting this letter.

A little more than a year ago Bro. Allcott came to this country a perfect stranger, yet before his departure for China so highly and generally was he appreciated by the Craft that he was entertained at a banquet by a large number of brethren, and presented with a testimonial of their fraternal esteem and regard.

Apologising to you for so far trespassing on your valuable space,

I remain, dear Sir and brother, yours fraternally,
M. KEITH FRITH, Lodge 1426.

Middle Temple, July 4th, 1876.

A CORRECTION.

(To the Editor of the Freemason.)

Dear Sir and Brother,—

In your report of the distribution of prizes at the R.M. Boys' School you make Bro. Binckes state that I am a "Vice-President of one of these Institutions." What Bro. Binckes stated was that "Bro. Montagu was a Vice-Patron of the Boys' School, and Miss Montagu also, and that Bro. Montagu and all his children were governors of all the other Masonic charities."

I am, dear Sir and brother, yours faithfully and fraternally,
I.M.P. MONTAGU, 33,
D.P.G.M. Dorset.

NORTH WALES AND SHROPSHIRE MASONIC CHARITABLE ASSOCIATION.

The members and supporters of this most valuable Masonic institution held a half-yearly meeting on Tuesday, June 20, and celebrated the event by a picnic at Glandlyn, the seat of Bro. Sir Watkin W. Wynn, Bart., M.P., on Bala Lake. With his usual kindness and generosity Sir Watkin had thrown open his house and grounds for the inspection of the visitors, and under the influence of one of the loveliest summer days that has visited us this season, the magnificent scenery of the locality was seen to the best advantage, the place, in fact, being one of the most lovely spots for a picnic that could well be desired. The main body of the party, which numbered about seventy, reached Sir Watkin's private station at Glandlyn about one o'clock, whence they were conveyed in a steam launch and in pleasure boats across the lake to the house. A sumptuous luncheon had been provided in some adjacent building by Miss Davies, of the Plasoch Hotel, Bala, to which the company sat down, the chair being taken by Sir W. W. Wynn, President of the Association. Amongst the guests were Bros. Bodenham, Newport; Spaul, Oswestry; Captain Williams, Bala; Horatio Jones, Shrewsbury; R. King, Shrewsbury; Dr. Brookes, Wellington; W. Boucher, Shrewsbury; Vaughan Williams; Evan Morris, Wrexham; Owen, Wrexham; Salmon, Chester; Parmer, Bala; Jones, J.P.; Capt. Anwyl; Dr. Jones, Bala; the Rev. David Evans, rector of Bala; Captain Jones; Woodcock; Anwyl, Bala; Passingham, Bala; Attwell, Llangollen; Lloyd, Bala; T. Williams and W. Williams, Bala; Owen, Bala; and others. A hearty attack was made upon the provisions that had been most bountifully provided, and at the conclusion of the luncheon it was announced that no formal toasts would be proposed.

The half-yearly meeting for business was then held, Sir W. W. Wynn presiding, and, amongst other business, a life subscribership to one of the London charities was voted to Mr. Spaul, of Oswestry, in recognition of his exertions in promoting the interests of the association. Life subscriberships to one of the London charities were also awarded by ballot to the following gentlemen:—Bros. Roff King, Lodge 601; John Barber, 601; Attwell, 1369; E. Bunney, 117; Evan Morris, 1336; J. Craston, 117; R. Waters, 117.

A sum not exceeding ten guineas was voted towards the education of a boy named Head, the son of a Mason, during the current year, and it was unanimously resolved that the next half-yearly meeting should be held in Shrewsbury in December next.

Votes of thanks were then passed to the sub-committee for carrying out the arrangements for the picnic, and to Bro. Bodenham for acting as Treasurer, after which the proceedings closed with a cordial vote of thanks to Sir W. W. Wynn for his kindness in presiding, and for throwing open his house and grounds to the visitors. The band of the Bala militia was present during the afternoon, and enlivened the scene with a variety of dance music, which also found amusement for the lovers of dancing, who mustered somewhat numerous. Sir Watkin's steam

launch, and several pleasure boats, were placed at the disposal of the guests, and were extensively used. The whole party were conveyed across the lake in boats to meet the 7.15 train at Glandlyn Station, and thus the picnic, which had been very delightful throughout, was brought to a close.—"Oswestry Advertiser."

CONSECRATION OF THE CYDEWAEN LODGE, No. 1594.

The day following that of the consecration of the Llanidloes Lodge (an account of which appeared in the "Freemason" of the 24th ult.) the R.W. Bro. Sir Watkin Williams Wynn, P.G.M., held another special Grand Lodge in the public rooms at Newtown, to formally constitute the above-named lodge.

The visit of Sir Watkin to this town was taken advantage of by the inhabitants generally to testify their regard to him, and to prove that they heartily participated with the rest of the principality of North Wales in the feelings of joy and gladness on his return to England in restored health.

On his entrance into Newtown the preceding evening he was greeted with the cheers of assembled crowds; the church bells were rung, and his progress through the streets was beneath several triumphal arches, decorated with evergreens and flags, and streamers bearing words of welcome, the most conspicuous among the latter being "A hearty welcome to Sir Watkin, the Prince in Wales;" "Long live the Prince in Wales;" with the Welsh mottoes, "Eryr Eryrod Eryri," "Heb Ddu heb ddm, Duw a digon." From every house, from the lofty buildings of Bro. Pryce Jones and others in the principal streets, to the lowly cottages in the bye-streets, were displayed, more or less pretentious tokens of the general feelings of joy and of welcome towards this popular nobleman, whose honoured name has ever been sufficient to call forth from the warm hearts of the Welsh feelings of enthusiasm and veneration.

A large number of brethren, many of whom had come from the extreme points of this widely-spread province, assembled in the public rooms in Newtown at one o'clock. Bro. Goldsbrough, P. Prov. G.S.W., appointed Bro. Wm. Cottender, P.M. 998, and W.M. of 1582, and Bro. E. T. Morris, W.M. 998, as Wardens pro tem.; and Bros. George Owen, P.M. 1124, P.P.G. Dir. of Cer., and James Salmon, P.M. of the Sir Watkin Lodge, P.P.G.S.B. of Cheshire, to assist as Past Masters. The musical arrangements were most ably and effectively carried out by W. Bro. J. Boucher, of Shrewsbury, Prov. G. Org., assisted by Bros. Dunville, P.M. 152; Hazlitt, W.M. 1432; Rascoe, 268; and Miller, 268.

The R.W. Provincial Grand Master, with the Provincial Grand Lodge, entered the lodge-room in procession, amidst the loud plaudits of the assembled brethren, Bro. Boucher playing a grand march during the procession, and until Sir Watkin had taken his place on the throne.

The R.W.P.G.M. opened a P.G. Lodge, the business of which being concluded was closed in due form.

The ceremony of consecration was then proceeded with, and at the conclusion the V.W. Bro. Frederick Britton, P.M. 850, P.P.G.J.W. of Derbyshire, was presented by the V.W. Bro. W. H. Spaul, Prov. G. Sec., as the Master designate of the lodge, and was duly installed W.M. by Bro. Goldsbrough.

The W.M. then invested Bro. Goldsbrough as Past Master, and closed the Board of Installed Masters.

On the re-admission of the brethren, Bro. Frederick Britton was proclaimed with the customary honours in the respective degrees. He then invested the following brethren as the officers for the year:—Bros. Danily, S.W.; Gilbank, J.W.; Pryce Jones (unanimously elected), Treasurer; E. R. Morris, Secretary; C. Morgan, S.D.; A. Ikin, J.D.; R. Parry, I.G.; J. Barnard, Tyler.

The W.M. addressed the R.W. Prov. Grand Master, thanking him on behalf of the members for the honour he had conferred upon them by his personal attendance at the consecration of the Cydewaeln Lodge, and congratulated him upon his return to England in renewed health.

The R.W.P.G. Master thanked Bro. Britton and the brethren of the lodge for their kind

feeling towards him, and expressed his regret that he had not been able to consecrate the lodge sooner.

The W.M. proposed a vote of thanks of the lodge to Bro. Goldsbrough for the very able and effective way in which he had conducted the ceremonies of consecration and installation, and proposed that Bro. Goldsbrough be elected an honorary member of the lodge.

The proposition was seconded by Bro. Danily, Senior Warden, and carried unanimously.

Bro. Goldsbrough having thanked the W.M. and brethren for the honour they had conferred upon him,

Several propositions for candidates for initiation and as joining members were made.

"Hearty good wishes" were expressed on behalf of the lodges represented by the brethren present, and the lodge was closed in ancient form, and adjourned.

The brethren were then formed into a procession by Bros. J. Salmon and G. Owen, and they proceeded through the main streets of the town to St. David's Church, where Divine service was performed by the Rev. J. Williams, Rector of Newtown, and the Rev. Wynne Jones, Vicar of Llanllwchaearn.

On the entrance of the procession into the church Bro. Boucher played a solemn and grand march, composed by him for the occasion, and dedicated, by permission, to the Provincial Grand Master. A collection was made on behalf of the local charities. On the close of the service the brethren returned in procession to the Elephant Hotel, where they partook of an excellent banquet, provided under the direction of Bro. and Mrs. Turner, the proprietors of the hotel. The W.M. occupied the chair, supported on his right by the R.W. Bro. Sir W. W. Wynn, the P.G. Master, and on his left by V.W. Bro. T. W. Goldsbrough, P.P.G.S.W., also by the undermentioned brethren, to the number of sixty:—V.W. Bros. J. B. Hooper, P.P.G.W.; W. H. Spaul, Prov. G. Sec.; J. Peters, P.G.S.W.; W. Blakeway, P.G.J.W.; W. Bros. Alex. Walker, P.G.S.D.; G. W. Woodley, P.P.G.S.D.; Jas. Salmon, P.G.S.B. Cheshire, W. T. Banks, P.G.S.B.; George Owen, P.P.G. Dir. of Cer.; J. B. Boucher, P.G. Org.; D. P. Owen, P.P.G.P.; W. Gurney, P.P.G.S.D., Hereford; W. Russell, P.P.G.D.C.; Major R. J. Sisson, P.G.S.; William Collender, P.G.S.; G. Ward Verry, P.M. 554; T. R. Morris, W.M. 998; W. Withy, P.M., P.Z. 998; H. Dunville, P.M. 152; E. Hamer, W.M. 1072; E. B. Smith, W.M. 1432; Thomas Rutter, P.M. 998; John Corbett, W.M., 1477; Samuel Hazlett, W.M. 1432; Bros. Pryce Jones, 998, Treas. 1594; J. Danily, 998, S.W. 1594; E. R. Morris, 998, Sec. 1594; J. Sides Davies, 998; N. Gilbank, 998, J.W. 1594; John Kitto, 1072; C. Morgan, S.D. 1594; F. Parmeter, 1369; — Roscoe, 268; J. Miller, 1357; J. Anderson, 998, I.G. 1594; A. Ikin, J.D. 1594; Alfred Taylor, 1432; W. A. Davies, 1072; W. H. Williams, 1072; T. H. Hodge, 537; John Hughes, 1432; John Maclardy, 1432; J. Barnard, 998, T. 1594; Alfred Taylor, 1432; William Griffiths, 1432; and other brethren whose names we have not received.

The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given by the W.M., and heartily responded to by the brethren.

In proposing "The Health of Sir Watkin Williams Wynn," Brother Britton remarked that the R.W. Grand Master had not been absent from the consecration of any one of the new lodges formed in his Province since he had presided over it (now nearly a quarter of a century), and the brethren of the "Cydeuaen" Lodge rejoiced to see him on the present occasion, restored to health. The W.M. said that with the toast he would also join that of "Lady Williams Wynn." The toast was received with the utmost enthusiasm and duly honoured by the brethren.

Sir Watkin, in reply, said, "I mentioned to you in the lodge-room, and I re-iterate it now, that I am extremely sorry I could not attend to consecrate your lodge sooner, and I tell you again to-day, as I told you at Llanidloes yesterday, that I do not like opening a lodge by deputy, in a rising and prosperous district, and in a town where I first came to command your Yeomanry and where I have spent so many

happy days. I must take this occasion to thank the brethren for the very kind reception they have given me to-day. I have more lodges to open in the Province, and I trust many of you whom I see here will assist me in doing so. In the name of Lady Williams Wynn, I return you her thanks. She lived many of her early days in those northern countries where Masonry is as much looked up to and carried out as it is in this, our happy island. I may take this opportunity to express my regret that the Prince of Wales will not be able to come amongst us in July. After his journey to India and his late illness his doctors recommend him not to fatigue himself more than he can help. I beg again to thank you for your kindness in looking over my shortcomings. As time is short, will you now allow me to give you the toast of the evening, 'Prosperity to this Lodge,' the foundation of which, with the assistance of Dr. Goldsbrough, we have laid to-day. I trust the foundation will prove to be a solid one, and that it may continue to be one of the prosperous lodges in this Province. You have got, what I am very glad to see coming amongst us, many Masons from other Provinces to preside over you. Your Worshipful Master comes from a town where they tried to teach me Latin and Greek, and I am very glad to look on him as a neighbour, here. I give you 'The Health of the Worshipful Master of the Cydeuaen Lodge, and Prosperity to him.'"

The W.M., in reply, said he felt deeply grateful to the Provincial Grand Master for the honour he had done him in proposing his health and prosperity to the Cydeuaen Lodge. All felt the deep interest that Sir Watkin took in Freemasonry, a proof of which was in his not allowing a new lodge in his province to be consecrated by deputy, but had himself attended on every occasion; that he (the W.M.) greatly rejoiced, and felt sure he was only expressing the feelings of all the brethren present, at the return of the Provincial Grand Master to England in renewed health, and that it gave the members of the lodge great pleasure to have him with them on so auspicious an occasion. He felt it to be a great honour to have been selected by his brethren as the first Master of the lodge, and trusted he might be found equal to the task, and he would do his best to promote the best interests of Masonry in the district.

The W.M. proposed "The Health of the Visiting Brethren," for which Bro. Gurney, P.P.G.S.D. of Herefordshire returned thanks.

The next toast proposed by the W.M. was "The Health of the Consecrating Officer, Bro. Goldsbrough," expressing in highly complimentary terms the way in which the ceremonies of the day had been carried out by him, and again thanking him for the services he had rendered to the Cydeuaen Lodge.

Bro. Goldsbrough acknowledged the compliment paid him by the W.M. and the brethren present, and assured them he highly appreciated their great kindness.

The W.M. proposed "The Health of the Officers of the Lodge," to which Bro. Danily, S.W., and Bro. Gilbank, J.W., respectively replied.

Several other toasts were proposed during the evening, among which was "The Health of Bro. Pryce Jones (of Dolern), Treasurer of the Lodge," and the W.M. observed that the best thanks of the brethren of the lodge were due to their esteemed Bro. Treasurer for the hospitality he had shown to the R.W. Provincial Grand Master.

Bro. Pryce Jones said he felt only too glad to do anything in the interests of Freemasonry, and of Newtown generally, and as he had the honour of entertaining the Prince in Wales at Newtown, he hoped to see the day when the Prince of Wales would come amongst them.

The W.M. said that the thanks of the brethren were justly due to Bro. and Mrs. Turner for the very excellent dinner they had provided for the brethren.

The final toast was given, and the brethren separated at an early hour after an evening spent in a truly fraternal and enjoyable manner.

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MASONIC CEREMONY AT WOOLWICH.

The monument erected by the brethren of the Province of Kent, more particularly those of Woolwich and Plumstead, to the memory of the late Bro. J. Graden, who, after many years good work for Masonry, died in harness, was unveiled on Saturday last at the Woolwich Cemetery in Wickham-lane, Kent, in the presence of a large and influential gathering of the Craft, many ladies being present. The monument stands just within the gates, and is in the form of a high and ornate Maltese cross, designed by one of the most eminent architects of the day, whose name we have been requested to omit, but who may well be proud of such a noble work of art. The front tablet of the plinth bears the following inscription:—"John William Graden, P.M., P.Z., P.P.G.D., and P.P.G.S. Kent, who died on the 9th March, 1875, at Woolwich, aged 57 years, erected in commemoration of long and eminent services to the Craft by the Union Waterloo, Nelson, Florence Nightingale, and Pattison Lodges, the Union Waterloo and Pattison Chapters, and numerous brethren."

Among the brethren present were Bros. Coupland, P.M. 913, and P.G.S. Kent; Tongue, P.M. 913, and P.P. G.W. Kent; Henderson, P.M. 13, &c.; Dawson, P.M. 700; Clersdale, P.M. 706; Davies, P.M. 13; McDougall, P.M. 913; C. Hobson, P.M. 700; Bickerstaff, P.M. 700; Carnelly, W.M. 13; Pownall, W.M. 1536, and W.M. elect 13; T. Vincent, W.M. elect 913; W. Weston, W.M. elect 1535; Hastings, S.W. 829; Spinks, J.W. 1536; Day, 1076; Jessup, Treas. 913; Butler, J.W. 913; Hayes, S.D. 913; Chapman, I.G. 913; Syer, Sec. 13; D. Davies, 913; Upperton, 913; Jarvis, 913; Day, 913; Bonnett, 913; Mabbett, 913; Widgery, 913; Palmer, 913; Bignall, 2; Ruddock, 1201; Jacobs, 13; Cleal, 13; Sturgeon, 13; Harris, 13; Osgood, 13; McCollough, 700; McCaffery, 700 and 1536; Fisher, 700; Buckland, 700; Beaver, 700; Sweeting, 700; Triptree, 1326; Richards, 1326; Taylor, 1526; Smith, 1536; Farr, 1546; Wedding, 1536; Thompson, 1546; Tappenden, 700; Norman, 13; Green, 1076; C. Jolly, 913.

The banquet at which the committee and several friends were present was a superb and recherche affair reflecting undivided credit upon both the taste and resources of Bro. B. Plaisted, in whose fine hall it was partaken of. Bro. Coupland presided, supported on either side by Bro. Bignall, 2, the architect, and Bro. Ruddock, 1201, the sculptor of the memorial, Bro. J. Henderson in the vice-chair. Upon the cloth being removed,

The Chairman said although this was was not strictly a Masonic meeting they must never forget to pay honour to "The Queen and the Craft," nor was the toast un-honoured. "His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, G.M. of England," was most loyally and enthusiastically toasted, and then the chairman gave the toast of the occasion, namely, "The Designer of the Memorial," coupled with the name of their esteemed Bro. Bignall, the architect, who upon every occasion had shown them the greatest kindness and given them every assistance that laid in his power. As to the designer, whose lofty position in the artistic world they might have thought would have utterly precluded him from being able to attend to their wishes, he, the chairman, and he felt sure they would never forget his kindness. The memorial was a noble one, and would not only perpetuate the good work in life of him who had gone before, but would for ever stand an evidence of the talent and genius of its exalted designer. (Loud cheers.)

Bro. Bignall, in reply, thanked them for their kind and flattering mention of the designer, as well as for the reception he had that day received from the brethren. He assured them that not only the designing, but the carving, the form of the letters, even down to the utmost minute, had the earnest attention and supervision of the designer. As for himself, he had been deeply impressed by the beautiful service and touching oration delivered by the Rev. G. Chaplain, and he ventured to say it was one that would never be forgotten by him or them. In conclusion, he thanked them for their kind recognition of both the designer and himself. (Loud cheers.)

The next toast was that of "The Sculptor of the memorial, Bro. Ruddock," who, in reply to a well-earned eulogium from the chair, and hearty reception from the brethren, expressed his warmest thanks, but disclaimed any honour, the whole of which he gave to Bro. Bignall, who he declared would not have passed a single line that was wrong or a letter the least out of place. (Applause.)

The Chairman then gave "The Health of Bro. Hill, P.G.C.," who had come all the way from Faversham to be present and carry out the ceremony of the day, and thought nothing could better show their appreciation for Bro. Hill's services than to carry out in some way the beautiful aspiration uttered by him to-day over the memorial of Bro. Graden, "That out of this might come some good thing." (Applause.) He trusted that desire might be carried out, it could only be done by the united action of the whole of the lodges and chapters in the district, and he left it for their earnest consideration it would be a pleasure to their good Bro. Hill and an honour to themselves. (Cheers.)

Bro. Henderson then in glowing terms proposed "The Health of the Chairman," who, in reply, assured them that as their chairman he felt it to be an honour any one might be proud of. (Cheers.) He felt sure that from what they had seen to-day the subscribers to the memorial would acknowledge that their money had been well and worthily spent. (Hear hear.) They had all been to a deal of trouble and anxiety to see the work fully accomplished, and now that it was so he felt they had left a work that would be a credit not only to themselves, but to their brethren of the future. (Cheers.) They had done honour to the memory of a most distinguished Mason, and left for all an example that from W.M. down to the

youngest Mason, it would be well for them to emulate or at least endeavour to do so. (Applause.)

Bro. Reilly then proposed the health of Bro. Pownall, the Hon. Sec. to the Committee, and in so doing did justice to that brother's zeal and assiduity in the cause, without which he declared the great success would not have been achieved. He felt that the committee would take some ulterior steps to show their appreciation of his arduous and onerous duties, but now he would ask them to do him honour by drinking his health. (Loud cheers.)

Bro. Pownall briefly replied by saying he felt sure the Lodge, Chapter, and Subscribers would never have cause to regret doing honour to one who in his life had done so much for Masonry in the district. (Applause.)

Bro. Rignall and Ruddock now retired and left the hall amid continued cheering and clapping of hands by the brethren. Bro. Ruddock kindly leaving two guineas to the fund. Bro. Pownall then proposed the health of the Committee, coupled with the name of Bro. Dawson, who honestly believed the committee had done their best in bringing their work to a satisfactory issue. Bro. M'Dougall's health and services as clerk of works was then acknowledged and responded to. Bro. Henderson, the vice-chairman, in response to his health, spoke of the great increase in Masonry during the last twenty-six years. Bro. Tongue responded for the warm reception of his and Bro. Shorn's name, and assured them that it was a labour of love on both their parts, and a lively acknowledgment of the Press, especially the "Freemason," coupled with the name of Bro. C. Jolly, concluded the business of the day.

MASONIC DEMONSTRATION AT ROSSIE PRIORY.

A few months ago the Provincial Grand Lodge of Perthshire (East) was resuscitated under the auspices of the Right Hon. Lord Kinnaird, K.T., who is Provincial Grand Master. His lordship has always taken a great interest in Masonry, and at considerable trouble and inconvenience has shown his desire to meet the wishes of the brethren, and to restore to good working order the various lodges in the province. As an acknowledgment of his lordship's labours in this respect the brethren of Perthshire (East) resolved to pay their Right Worshipful Grand Master a complimentary visit at his palatial residence of Rossie Priory, on Saturday, being the festival of St. John the Baptist. A good number of the brethren, with their wives, families, and sweethearts, left for Inchture at noon.

The Provincial Grand Lodge was opened in due and ancient form in the Inchture Hotel by the Right Worshipful Substitute Grand Master, Bro. Dr. William Cowan; after which the brethren were marshalled by the Director of Ceremonies, Bro. Adam M'Kenzie, and headed by the Fechny Industrial School band, they marched two by two to Rossie Priory, a distance of two miles. The acting officers of the Provincial Grand Lodge were William Cowan, Substitute Provincial Grand Master; J. Hutchison, Grand Chaplain; John Chalmers, Acting Senior Warden; George Hutton, Acting Junior Warden; A. P. Kelt, Sec.; Dow, Senior Deacon; Robert Lees, Junior Deacon; Hugh Thomson, Architect; John Baird, Jeweller; Thomas M'Gregor, Bible Bearer; W. M'Lennan, Treasurer; Adam M'Kenzie, Director of Ceremonies; Wm. Fletcher, Swordbearer; W. Bryson, Director of Music; John Stephen, Standard Bearer; G. Ramage, Steward; John Stewart, Inner Guard; and David Cochrane, Tyler.

Although the turn-out was not so large as might have been expected on such an occasion, this was satisfactorily accounted for,—the battalion drill on the South Inch, among other things, preventing many of the brethren from attending to do honour to the Worshipful Provincial Grand Master.

On arriving at the main entrance of Rossie Priory the brethren formed in line, and Bro. Dr. Cowan ascended the steps and read the following address:—

"To the Right Hon. Lord Kinnaird, K.T., Past Grand Master Mason of Scotland, and Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Perthshire (East): Right Worshipful Sir and Brother,—We, the members of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Perthshire (East), accompanied by the members and brethren of the lodges in the province, take the opportunity this day (the Festival of St. John the Baptist)—a day always highly esteemed, and held as a holiday, among Freemasons—to assemble and unite together at your residence to pay you a complimentary visit, as a mark of our respect and esteem for you as our Provincial Grand Master. You, Right Worshipful and respected Sir and Brother, have been long held in high esteem among men and Masons for your private virtues and public worth. Early in your life, and now somewhat over forty years ago, you were selected by the Craft Masons of Scotland to fill the very high and important trust of M.W. Grand Master Mason—the highest post which it is in the power of the brethren of Scotland to bestow on a worthy brother. You filled that office with dignity and effect, and with satisfaction to all, for some years prior to the election of our late lamented brother, His Grace the Duke of Athole. Since that time you have been commissioned by the Grand Lodge of Scotland, and have held for many years the office of Grand Master of the Craft in this province, which, though less extensive in its sphere of operations, is no less important to the proper and satisfactory working of the Craft as a whole than the Grand Lodge of Scotland itself. This office you have also filled to the satisfaction of the brethren, the numbers present on this occasion bearing ample testimony to the fact. In the discharge of the duties of your high office you have ever been held in the highest esteem and respect for your uniform courtesy and kindness to one and all with whom you came in contact, and you have always shown the most anxious desire to carry out the wishes of the brethren, to

promote the interests of the Craft, and to raise Masonry to that dignity and importance which it deserves, as being a social and moral institution of the highest value in the world, tending to bind men of all nations and creeds in one common and sacred band—a society of friends and brothers. It is unnecessary here to do more than briefly allude to your high position as Lord-Lieutenant of this large and prosperous county, and to the various useful offices you fill in other capacities, and which you have honourably, usefully, and efficiently held during very many years of a long life—or to your position as a landlord in one of the most beautiful and fertile tracts of country in our native land, and in which your benevolence and kindness, your private worth and excellence of character, as a man and a Christian, and your zeal, energy, and perseverance in originating, improving, and extending in everything that tends to improve the physical condition and elevate the intellectual capacity of man, have been so many years conspicuous. We need only point to those beautiful farms, and happy homes, and smiling faces, we see around your princely dwelling, to show that you are at once a nobleman in the true sense of the word, a Christian, and a Mason. Yours has been a life well spent in the daily performance of good and useful works. In conclusion, we now wish Lady Kinnaird (whose Christian graces are so well known) and yourself a long continuance of life, health, and happiness, to enable you for years to come to carry on your good works. In the name and on behalf of the Provincial Grand Lodge and the lodge in the Province of Perthshire (East), we subscribe ourselves,—J. B. Brown-Morrison, Depute Provincial Grand Master; Wm. Cowan, Substitute Provincial Grand Master; William MacLeish, W. Senior Grand Warden; John Chalmers, R.W.M. Scoun and Perth, No. 3; John Young, R.W.M. St. Andrews, No. 74; George Hutton, R.W.M. Royal Arch, No. 122. Dated at Rossie Priory, Inchture, this 24th day of June, 1876. William Cowan, Officiating Grand Sec."

Bro. Lord Kinnaird then said—It is with very great gratification, as you may imagine, that I receive this visit from the Right Worshipful Substitute Master, officers, and brethren of the lodges connected with that part of the country over which I have the honour to preside—of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Perthshire (East). I take it as a very great compliment paid to me in the capacity of Provincial Grand Master, and I learn that you are all ready, shoulder-to-shoulder, to help me, as long as I have the honour to fill that office, in promoting the best interests of the Craft. This address, I cannot but say, I receive with heartfelt thanks. At the same time, I cannot but say that I wish the concluding part had been couched in less glowing terms. I am afraid it is the too partial feeling of the brethren towards me that has caused some of the expressions there to be, however gratifying, somewhat painful. You have alluded to the long time which I have been permitted by Providence to live, and, looking back over these long years, I cannot but feel that there are many, many things which I could have wished undone, and many things which I could have wished had been better done; but this I can truly say, that ever since it has pleased the Divine Architect of the Universe, in his Providence, to bless me with such a helpmate as you see here—(Hear, hear, and applause)—as counsellor and guide, I have endeavoured, with her assistance, to do my duty in that state in which it has pleased the Great Architect of the Universe to place me. (Applause.) That helpmate has, indeed, taught me to look to higher things,—to hope and remember that I may some day be an inmate of that temple not made with hands,—that temple of which the one our great founder established on earth is merely the symbol. I do, therefore, feel peculiarly gratified at this visit of the Masonic lodges connected with this province, and I do earnestly hope that, as long as I may be spared, I may be encouraged to do my duty not only towards those lodges and that Craft with which I have been so long connected, and in whose well-being I have always taken the greatest interest. I look upon this day as one that will not be soon forgotten, either by myself or her ladyship, who has been alluded to, and who has shared with me so many of the trials and sorrows, and at the same time the blessings, of this life. In her name, and in my own name, I most earnestly thank you for your visit, and I also thank the Great Architect of the Universe for smiling upon us in such a beautiful day; and I trust you will all enjoy yourselves, and as long as we are spared may we meet as brethren of the Craft to which we belong. (Applause.) It is true [that, owing to that secret which cannot be divulged even to those nearest and dearest to us (a laugh), we are looked upon with some suspicion (laughter), but there is one thing, we are united in love, that great Christian principle of love, and we, as Masons, are bound, in whatever circumstances we are placed, to assist each other with true Christian benevolence. (Applause.)

Three cheers were then given for Lord Kinnaird, and three for Lady Kinnaird; after which the company were shown over the magnificent apartments in Rossie Priory, his lordship rendering this privilege all the more enjoyable by his interesting descriptions of the various objects of interest.

In the course of the afternoon lunch was served to the brethren and their lady friends in a large marquee erected in one of the parks. The Right Worshipful Grand Master, Lord Kinnaird, presided, and Bro. Chalmers, R.W.M. Scoun and Perth, discharged the duties of Croupier.

The Chairman proposed "The Queen," and "The Three Grand Lodges of Scotland, England, and Ireland," which were heartily responded to.

The Croupier proposed "The Worshipful Grand Master, Bro. Lord Kinnaird." He considered himself highly honoured indeed in having the privilege of proposing this toast. He was exceedingly sorry that the brethren did not appear to be so enthusiastic as they ought to have

been; but, as had been explained to his lordship, circumstances were against them, but he hoped the next time they came to Rossie Priory there would be a far larger turn out. (Applause.)

The toast was enthusiastically responded to.

Bro. Lord Kinnaird, in reply, said he assured them that it was not a mere form of speech when he said how sincerely he felt the kindness which they had shown to him in coming to visit him. It had been explained to him that circumstances had prevented many who they knew intended to come—(hear, hear)—but when they considered that this was the first attempt of the kind, as it became known it would be more largely patronised. He hoped, when it was reported that they had spent such a fine day, if he were spared to hold the office in Perthshire (East) which he was so proud to hold, he would see many more of the brethren visiting Rossie Priory. (Hear, hear, and applause.) He was sure they would say he had given them as hearty welcome as any Mason or neighbour could give (hear, hear), and he could only trust that next year he would see a very large and influential gathering of the Craft. (Applause.) They saw on his left one of the most enthusiastic of Masons (Bro. Dr. Cowan), and he hoped Bro. Cowan would continue his good work, so that Masonry would soon assume that position it formerly had in Perthshire, and that they would next year have a larger gathering at Rossie Priory. (Applause.)

Bro. George Hutton proposed "Prosperity to the Lodges in the Province." He was sorry that on this occasion there were none of the country lodges represented, and that on one of the very best of summer days. As there was no country Master present, he coupled the toast with Bro. Chalmers.

Bro. Chalmers said he had no doubt when the brethren read in the papers the account of this visit they would be very sorry that they had not been present, and he had no doubt that in future years there would be a large turn out.

Bro. Thomson, Past Master of the Royal Arch, Perth, proposed "Prosperity to the Lodge St. Andrew (No. 74). He was sorry that the Right Worshipful Master (Bro. John Young) was unavoidably prevented from being present, as he had been one of the most enthusiastic for this visit. They all knew that the Lodge St. Andrew had been admirably conducted, and had been looked up by some of the most eminent men in the country. (Applause.)

Bro. Adam M'Kenzie returned thanks for the kind manner in which they had drunk prosperity to Lodge 74. He was exceedingly proud of having been present on the occasion of their visit to Bro. Lord Kinnaird, and the entertainment they had received from his lordship was worthy of a brother and a friend. (Hear, hear.) When he returned to his mother lodge, he would not fail to tell them of the kindness he had received. (Applause.)

Bro. Lees proposed "The Royal Arch Lodge" (No. 122), to which Bro. Hutton replied.

The Chairman then proposed "The Wives, Sisters, and Sweethearts of Masons," on whose behalf Bro. Quartermaster-Sergeant Scott suitably replied.

As the weather was most tempting for a walk over the extensive policies, the brethren then rose, and, after singing "Auld Lang Syne," proceeded to visit the gardens and grounds, and to enjoy themselves in the spacious parks.

At seven o'clock the company again met in front of the Priory, and, after giving repeated cheers for Lord and Lady Kinnaird, resumed the journey home, highly delighted with the excursion and the cordial welcome they had received from the noble lord.

RESUSCITATION OF LODGE ST. JOHN (No. 174) AT DUNNING.

In connection with the above demonstration, and to show the good work which has been commenced in the Province of Perthshire (East), it may be mentioned that, by permission of the Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master, a deputation from the brethren went to Dunning on Saturday, the 17th ult., in order to assist the Right Worshipful Master of that lodge, Bro. Henry Menzies, and his officers and Wardens, in restoring that ancient lodge to good working order. The deputation consisted of the following brethren:—Bros. Dr. Cowan, Substitute Provincial Grand Master; John Chalmers, W.M. Scoun and Perth (No. 3), who officiated as Provincial Grand Warden; George Hutton, W.M. Royal Arch (No. 122), who officiated as Junior Provincial Grand Warden; Robert Lees, Junior Grand Deacon; John Robertson, Grand Inner Guard; and David Cochrane, Grand Tyler. Bro. William Jones, Past Master of St. John's (174), officiated as Grand Senior Deacon. The Provincial Grand Lodge was opened in due and ancient form at four o'clock by the Right Worshipful Bro. Cowan, after which, by the request of the Right Worshipful Master of St. John's (174), that lodge was duly opened, and six new members were initiated into the First Degree of Masonry by Bro. Cowan, who performed the ceremony in a most impressive manner. Bro. Stewart (of the Kirkstyle Inn) and Bro. Howie were also affiliated to the lodge. The lodge was duly closed at six o'clock; after which the brethren enjoyed two hours in pleasant social intercourse. The brethren who visited from Perth are in hopes of revisiting Dunning soon, to assist the Right Worshipful Master in giving the remaining degrees to the new members. They also hope that, under the present rule, this ancient lodge, which at one time numbered 90 members, will soon be restored to its former prosperity. Bro. Menzies is very popular in Dunning, and he takes a great interest in the Craft; and there is no doubt that, with the material he has now to work with—men of intelligence, worth, and respectability—this will speedily be accomplished.

STAFFORDSHIRE MASONIC CHARITABLE ASSOCIATION.

The eleventh half-yearly meeting of this association was held on the 13th ult., at Alton Towers, which, by the kind permission of Bro. the Earl of Shrewsbury, Pro G.M., was visited by a Masonic party of gentlemen, accompanied by many ladies. From a report just issued by the association we learn that the Masonic charities pertaining to the province are ably managed, and the support given to the three Royal Masonic Institutions for Girls, Boys, and Aged Freemasons is of the most encouraging character. Life subscriptions to each of the above-named institutions are obtained for Staffordshire brethren by means of the Charitable Association, and the voting strength of the province is thereby considerably increased in favour of the Staffordshire candidates requiring aid. Twenty-nine of these life subscriptions were balloted for at this meeting, as follows:—Bros. Frederick Brandon, 418; Edwin Peake, 637; Frederick Arkinstall, 662, Senior Warden of 1520; Edwin Hodson, 624; James Alcock, 98; T. G. Fellow, 1520; Arthur Barnes, 1032; K. Macrae, 624; W. G. Bagnall, 662; James F. Wileman, 546; James Miller, jun., 460; George Bennion, 546; Wm. Wykes, 482; David Griffith, 460; Wm. Bentley, 98; Alfred Caddick, 662; C. Marsh, 460; Arden Hardwick, 546; Robert Plant, 456; W. R. Blair, 546; J. Clarke, M.D., 1839; J. V. Barber, 482; Charles Trigg, 1039; J. Norris, 451; Silas Gibson, 966; Edward Corn, 451; T. C. Graham, 624; T. M. Humphries, 539. The two last-named brethren served as Stewards at the festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys. A pleasing feature indicative of the growth of this association is found in the fact that more than one-third of the Freemasons in the province are supporters of the Masonic Charities through the medium of this organization. Much permanent good is likely to accrue from the efforts of its promoters, whose most sanguine expectations have been hitherto fully realized. The local education of the children of deceased brethren is undertaken by the Committee of Management, in addition to the assistance rendered to the London institutions.

Masonic and General Tidings.

Monday, by command of Her Majesty the Queen, the day for holding the annual meeting of the Prince Consort's Association was altered from July 12th to Monday, the 10th inst., when H.R.H. Prince Leopold, P.G.M. Oxford, will distribute the prizes and certificates in the Home Park, Windsor.

Bro. the Rt. Hon. Lord Balfour of Burleigh, P.S.G.W., lays the foundation stone this day of the new tenement block of buildings for the Workmen's Dwellings Improvement Company (Limited), about to be erected in Disney-street, Mint-street, Borough, S.E.

A Lodge of Instruction has been formed in connection with the Derby Lodge, No. 724, Liverpool, meeting on the second and fourth Mondays in each month at the Masonic Hall, Hope-street, Bro. J. W. Ballard, P.M. 724, as Preceptor.

A Provincial Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of the Province of Middlesex and Surrey will be held at the Greyhound Hotel, Richmond, on Saturday, the 22nd inst. Lodge will be opened at five o'clock.

Bro. Captain R. Rankin Hutchinson has been appointed Vice-Consul of Spain and Nicaragua. Our brother is a Chevalier of the Order of Santa Rosa, and is a décoré under the German Convention.

NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION.—At the forthcoming meeting at Wimbledon the proprietors of the popular "Spécialité Sherry" (Messrs. Felton and Sons, of Albermarle-street) again give a purse value £20.

We are asked to announce that the ceremony of laying the foundation-stone of the model dwellings in the Borough is unavoidably postponed.

Bro. Lieutenant E. J. V. Watteville has been appointed Flag-Lieutenant to the newly-appointed Commander-in-Chief on the Irish Station, Rear-Admiral Hillyar.

THE COLONIAL BOARD.—His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M., has appointed Bro. Griffiths Smith, Past Grand Steward, Vice-President of the Colonial Board.

A Special Court of Governors of the West Lancashire Masonic Educational Institution will be held on Friday next at the Masonic Hall, 22, Hope-street, Liverpool, at half-past five.

A meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Monmouthshire will be held at the Town Hall, Pontypool, on Thursday next.

We understand a warrant has been applied for, for a new lodge to be named "The Middle Temple," and to meet at Freemasons' Hall. The Masonic relevancy of the title will at once occur to each member of the Craft. Among the eminent brethren on the Bench of the Honourable Society which gives its name to the proposed lodge, who have expressed their approval of the enterprise are the Treasurer for the year, Bro. J. J. Powell, Q.C., our esteemed Bros. the V.W., the G.R., E.J., Mr. Intyre, Q.C., and Francis Roxburghe, G.C., P.G.R., F. A. Philbrick, Q.C., P.G.J.D., a member of the Inner Temple, and several other distinguished legal brethren have signified their hearty good wishes for the success of the application. Our worthy brother Samuel Poynter, P.M. 902, 1491, &c., Barrister at Law, and a member of the Honourable Society of the Middle Temple of many years' standing, is the W.M. designate.

METROPOLITAN MASONIC MEETINGS.

For the Week ending Friday, July 14, 1876.

The Editor will be glad to receive notice from Secretaries of Craft Lodges, Royal Arch Chapters, Mark Lodges, Preceptories, Conclaves, &c., of any change in place or time of meeting.

SATURDAY, JULY 8.

Quart. Gen. Court, Girls' School, at 12.—See advt.
Lodge 1361, United Service, Greyhound Hot., Richmond.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Lily, Greyhound, Richmond.
Manchester, 77, London-st., Fitzroy-square.
Star, Marquis of Granby, New Cross-rd.

MONDAY, JULY 10.

Quart. Gen. Court, Boys' School, at 12.—See advt.
Lodge 1366, Highgate, Gatehouse Hot., Highgate.
" 1506, White Horse of Kent, 33, Golden-sq.
Chap. 1319, Asaph, F.M.H.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Prince Leopold, Lord Stanley Tav., Kingsland.
Strong Man, Jerusalem Tav., St. John's Gate.
Sincerity, Railway Tav., Fenchurch-st. Station.
Camden, Stanhope Arms, Up. James-st., Camden To.
Eastern, Royal Hot., Mile-end-road.
St. James's Union, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Wellington, White Swan, Deptford.
Perfect Ashlar, Victoria Tav., Lower-rd., Rotherhithe.
Sydney, White Hart Ho., Church-rd., Upper Norwood.

TUESDAY, JULY 11.

Lodge 167, St. John's, Holly Bush Tav., Hampstead.
" 548, Wellington, White Swan Tav., Deptford.
" 1269, Stanhope, Thicket Hot., Anerley.
Rose Croix, Oxford and Cambridge, 33, Golden-sq.
Supreme Grand Council 33°, 33, Golden-sq.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Metropolitan, 269, Pentonville-rd.
Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney.
Domestic, Surrey M.H., Camberwell New-road.
Faith, 2, Westminster Chambers, Victoria-st.
Prince Fredk. Wm., Lord's Hot., St. John's Wood.
Dalhousie, King Edward, Triangle, Hackney.
Prosperity, 1, Camomile-st., Bishopsgate.
St. Marylebone, British Stores Tav., St. John's Wood.
Constitutional, Wheatsheaf Hot., Hand-court, Holborn.
Israel, Rising Sun Tav., Globe Road.
Royal Arthur, Prince's Head, York-road, Battersea.
Beacontree, Red Lion, Leytonstone, at 8.
Metropolitan Chapter, Jamaica Coffee Ho., Cornhill.
Excelsior, Commercial Dock Tav., Rotherhithe.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 12.

Com. R.M.B.I. at 3.
Lodge 708, Carnarvon, Mitre Inn, Hampton-court.
" 820, Lily of Richmond, Greyhound, Richmond.
" 1228, Beacontree, Private Rooms, Leytonstone.
Supreme Grand Council, 33°, 33, Golden-sq.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Confidence, M.H., Bushall-st.
Mt. Lebanon, Windsor Castle Tav., Southwark-bdg.-rd.
Pythagorean, Prince of Orange, Greenwich.
New Concord, Rosemary Branch Tav., Hoxton.
Royal Union, Horse and Groom, Winsley-st., Oxford-st.
Peckham, Maismore Arms, Park-road, Peckham.
Stanhope, Thicket Hot., Anerley.
Finsbury Park, Finsbury Park Tav., Seven Sisters'-rd.
Southwark, Southwark Park Tav., Southwark Park.
Duke of Connaught, Havelock Tav., Dalston, E.
United Strength, Grafton Arms, Kentish-town.
Islington, Crown and Cushion, Lion Wall.
Whittington, Black Bull Tav., Holborn.

THURSDAY, JULY 13.

Lodge 1288, Finsbury Park, Finsbury Park Tav., N.
" 1321, Emblematic, Tulse Hill Hot., Tulse Hill.
" 1558, Duke of Connaught, Surrey M.H.
Chap. 554, Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney.
K.T. Precep. 128, Oxford and Cambridge, 33, Golden-sq.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Egyptian, Hercules Tav., Leadenhall-st.
Fidelity, Yorkshire Grey, London-st., W.
Finsbury, Jolly Anglers' Tav., Bath-st., City-road.
Temperance in the East, Catherine-st., Poplar.
Ebury, 12, Ponsonby-st., Milbank.
Highgate, Bull and Gate, Kentish-town.
The Great City, 111, Cheapside.
High Cross, Coach & Horses, High-road, Tottenham.
Salisbury, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Marquis of Ripon, Albion Tav., Albany-rd., Dalston.
Prince Frederick William Chapter, St. John's Wood.
Southern Star, Crown Hot., Blackfriars-rd.

FRIDAY, JULY 14.

Lodge 1420, Earl Spencer, Northcote Hot., New Wndswth.
Chap. 33, Britannic, F.M. Tav.
Rose Croix Chapter, Mount Calvary, 33, Golden-sq.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Union Waterloo, Thomas-st., Woolwich.
Robert Burns, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Belgrave, Lyceum Tav., 354, Strand.
Unions Emulation (for M.M.'s), F.M.H.
Temperance, Victoria Tav., Victoria-road, Deptford.
Clapton, White Hart, Clapton.
Metropolitan, Portugal Hot., Fleet-st.
Westbourne, Horse & Groom, Winsley-st., Oxford-st.
Metropolitan, Pentonville-road.
United Pilgrims, Surrey M.H., Camberwell New-road.
St. James's, New Tanners' Arms, Grange-rd., Bermondsey.
Duke of Edinburgh, Silver Lion, Penny-fields, Poplar.
Doric, Earl Grey Tav., Mile-end-road.
Burgoyne, Grafton Arms, Prince of Wales's-road, N.W.
St. Luke's, White Hart, King's-rd., Chelsea.

Chigwell, Bald-faced Stag Hot., Buckhurst-hill.
Burdett Coutts, Approach Tav., Victoria Park.
Royal Standard, Finsbury Park Tav., Holloway.
Ranelagh, Clarendon Hot., Hammersmith.
Pythagorean Chapter, Prince of Orange, Greenwich-rd.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN WEST LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE.

For the Week ending Saturday July 15, 1876.

MONDAY, JULY 10.

Lodge 314, Peace and Unity, Militia Mess R., Preston.
" 1021, Hartington, H.M. C.H.B., B.-in-Furness.
" 1350, Fernor Hesketh, M.H., Liverpool.
" 1398, Baldwin Castle, Dalton-in-Furness.
" 1496, Trafford, Northumberland Hot., Old Trafford.
Chap. 148, Elias Ashmole, C.R., Warrington.

TUESDAY, JULY 11.

Lodge 178, Antiquity, Royal Hot., Wigan.
" 241, Merchants, M.H., Liverpool.
" 1250, Gilbert Greenall, M.R., Warrington.
" 1384, Equity, Commercial Hot., Widnes.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 12.

Lodge 281, Fortitude, the Athenaeum, Lancaster.
" 1052, Callender, P.H., Rusholme.
" 1061, Triumph, M.H., Lytham.
" 1094, Temple, M.H., Liverpool.
" 1356, De Grey and Ripon, 80, N. Hill-st.
" 1403, West Lancashire, Commercial Hot., Ormskirk.
" 1547, Liverpool, M.H., Liverpool.
Chap. 1345, Victoria, Cross Keys Hot., Eccles.
Neptune L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

THURSDAY, JULY 13.

Lodge 216, Harmonic, Adelphi Hot., Liverpool.
" 333, Royal Preston, Vic., Garrison Hot., Fulwood.
" 1035, Prince of Wales, Kirkdale, Liverpool.
" 1182, Duke of Edinburgh, M.H., Liverpool.
" 1213, Bridgewater, Cross Keys Hot., Eccles.
Chap. 220, Harmony, Garston Hot., Garston.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN GLASGOW AND WEST OF SCOTLAND.

For the Week ending Saturday, July 15, 1876.
All the Meetings take place at Eight o'clock.

MONDAY, JULY 10.

Lodge 102, St. Mark, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
" 204, St. Paul, George Inn, Ayr.
" 205, Garthland St. Winnoch, Eagle, Lochwinnoch.
" 219, Star, 12, Tron-gate, Glasgow.
" 307, Union and Crown, M.H., Barrhead.
" 362, St. Clair, 25, Robertson-st., Glasgow.
" 384, Athole, Washington Hot., Kirkintilloch.
" 503, St. George, Oddfellows' Hall, Helensburgh.
" 541, Marie-Stuart, M.H., Crosshill.
Chap. 76, Abbey, 8, High-st., Paisley.

TUESDAY, JULY 11.

Lodge 230, St. Barnabas, Black Bull Hot., Old Cumnock.
" 413, Athole, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
" 419, Neptune, 35, St. James-st., S.S., Glasgow.
" 426, Prince of Wales, M.H., Renfrew.
" 441, Glasgow, 22, Struthers-st., Glasgow.
" 543, St. John, M.H., Dalmuir.
" 556, Clydesdale, 106, Rose-st., S.S., Glasgow.
" 579, St. Bryde, M.H., Uddingston.
Chap. 17, Greenock, M.H., Cathcart-st., Greenock.
" 69, St. Andrew's, 25, Robertson-st., Glasgow.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 12.

Lodge 178, Scotia, 12, Tron-gate, Glasgow.
" 333, St. George, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
Chap. 113, Partick, M.H., Douglas-st., Partick.

THURSDAY, JULY 13.

Lodge 88, New Monkland, T.H., Airdrie.
" 109, St. Mark, Crown Hot., Kilmarnock.
" 334, St. John's, Castle Inn, New Cumnock.
" 557, Blantyre Kilwinning, Craigie Hall, Blantyre.
" 570, Kenmuir, Balgray Hall, Springburn.
Chap. 50, Glasgow, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.

FRIDAY, JULY 14.

Lodge 18, Kilwinning, Church-st., Dumbarton.
" 147, Cadder Argyle, M.H., Chryston.
" 170, St. John, Black Bull Inn, Renton.
" 427, St. Clair, M.H., Cambusnethan.
Chap. 144, St. Rollox, 69, Garngad-rd., Glasgow.

SATURDAY, JULY 15.

Lodge 512, Thorntree, School House, Thornliebank.
" 524, St. Andrew, M.H., East Kilbride.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN EDINBURGH AND VICINITY.

For the Week ending Saturday, July 15, 1876.

MONDAY, JULY 10.

Lodge 145, St. Stephen, Writers' Court, Edinburgh.

TUESDAY, JULY 11.

Lodge 1, L. of Edinburgh, Mary's Chapel, Waterloo-pl.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 12.

Lodge 2, Canongate Kilwinning, St. John's Chapel.
Chap. 1, Edinburgh, F.M.H., George-st.

THURSDAY, JULY 13.

Lodge 8, Journeyman, Blackfriars-st., High-st.

FRIDAY, JULY 14.

Chap. 56, Canongate Kilwinning, M.H., John-st.

BALL FAVOURS,

NEWEST DESIGNS.

MASONIC DEPOTS 1, 2, & 3, LITTLE BRITAIN,

BRANCHES { 198, Fleet-street, London.
2, Monument-place, Liverpool.
9, West Howard-street, Glasgow

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REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS.

Craft Masonry.

GRANITE LODGE (No. 1328).—To paint a scene is one thing, but to fit it for the due performance of the actors, is another business altogether. It would not do to make your actors speak their speeches from the spire of St. Paul's to the groundlings beneath, nor would it do to hire a balloon for a sea voyage. And so likewise, if you are going to air your pent-up lungs you would not select as a promenade the pristine purlieus of Paddington. No, your nose would instinctively turn in the direction of the balmy breezes of Brighton, and your inner man would plaintively appeal to you to "give him air." We have heard of ingenious men who weigh the earth, and watch the stars, and can tell to an ounce what old mother earth weighs, and judge to a nicety the sublimity influence of stars; but no one, we venture to wager, has ever yet calculated the amount of physic and pills swallowed by the living multitude of towns in order to keep body and soul together; indeed, it is doubtful whether such details could ever be forthcoming. People gasp for breath often enough in London; the atmosphere is sometimes as thick as a Dutch cheese, and quite as nasty. You may plunge your proboscis in the best "Rimmell," but the pleasure is too transient; it is soon gone, and the perfume scattered to the four (though one is often quite enough) winds of Heaven. What wonder, then, if the merry men of the Granite seek in the bosom of old mother earth at Virginia Water that consolation which they cannot find at home? Bro. J. Lewis Thomas, the pioneer of pleasure, with the faithful band of brothers, gave abundant proof of the possession of judgment when they selected this charming spot for a summer banquet. How soothing to the active mind of man is the rippling of the waters; to hear the translucent stream playing and dashing about under a sun of 110° is a sensation which makes a lasting impression. How delightful to sit in the cool shade of the flowery dell, basking not in, but out of the sunshine. For this is what you can do at the "Wheat-sheaf," Virginia Water; and what the members of the Granite did on Wednesday, the 29th ult. It is one of the brightest jewels that old England can boast of. Let it be stated that on that auspicious day they all assembled at the Waterloo Station of the London and South-Western Railway, where a train of saloon carriages was in waiting to convey them to this verdant spot, this ideal Lake of Como, which after a short time they reached in safety, at least they were about one mile distant from the Wheat-sheaf. At the Virginia Water Station they were not destined to land without a greeting, for no sooner had they reached terra firma proper than Bro. Crossland put in an appearance and conducted them over the "Holloway Sanatorium" for mental diseases built in the Tudor style, and which was presented to the nation by the eminent pill and ointment manufacturer, it having cost him £170,000, and on which an additional £100,000 will be expended ere it is thoroughly completed. The brethren very much enjoyed the inspection, which occupied about an hour. To keep to the business of the day (for you cannot perform the parts of the programme without business), after they had investigated all the details of the building the brethren speedily found their way to the Wheat-sheaf, where in the full bounty of nature they revelled for some time until the signal came that drags were in readiness to convey them to Windsor Castle. Eager for the fray, the brethren speedily mounted their vehicles, and in a twinkling were fast on the road making towards the Long Walk, which some very fine animals enabled them to reach in little or no time, and here all was loveliness. You could not shed a ray of your eye without its being filled with the exquisite forms of nature. To see the tall trees growing in such luxuriance on either side of you, then to behold in the far distance that gorgeous old castle, were sights that would vie with anything continental. Her Majesty being within the castle, the brethren had to remain without, and they accordingly "hung their banners on the outer wall," that is to say, they rested, and were thankful. Time, the ancient enemy, soon made giant strides, and bade them return to the Wheat-sheaf, "which they did." Here awaited them the feast of reason. A most excellent banquet was prepared and served up in a marquee tent, erected in the gardens. The menu designed from the (it would not be right to say gastronomic head) let us say the culinary imagination of Bro. Thomas, was replete with the choicest of dainties. It would be cruel to the hungry to describe the several dishes, let it suffice that they gave abundant satisfaction, and added a large laurel to the renown of the Wheat-sheaf. After the cloth was drawn Bro. John Oliver, P.M. (who occupied the chair in the absence of Bro. Muggeridge, W.M.,

from indisposition) gave the usual Masonic toasts, which were jovially responded to, after which Bro. Thomas proposed "The Health of the Visitors," which was briefly acknowledged. Then Bro. Oliver asked them to drink to Bro. Thomas for the able way in which he had conducted the management of the banquet, which they did in a hearty manner. The speeches were very few and very short, and Bro. Oliver may henceforth claim for his motto, "Brevity is the soul of wit." To have long speeches after a good dinner is like taking pills after sugar. It often happens that the tongue abuses the privilege of speech; on this occasion the merry men of the Granite were free from such a charge; and, as a consequence, the whole party were able to reach London by the eleven o'clock train. The members present were Bros. John Oliver, P.M., in the chair; Jas. L. Thomas, P.M. and Secretary; G. De Maid, P.M.; John Bosworth, P.M.; Dr. J. W. Oswald, P.M.; Fredk. West, S.W.; C. A. Cottebrune, P.M.; James Crossland, Richd. Coad, G. Chapman, J. B. Lee, P. F. Giles, Benj. Turner, J.D.; D. W. Pearce, P.M.; Wm. Holliday, Frank Kirk, A. J. Taylor, W. Wood, E. Matheson, Thos. W. Aldwinckle, J. H. Outhwaite, Frank Harger, E. G. Wyatt, J. Oswald Gardner, W.S. The visitors were Bros. Wm. Dyott Burnaby, W.M. 141; Major Shadwell Clarke, 33; Rev. P. M. Holden, S.W. City of Westminster; Martin, J. E. Poole, Jos. Randall, Dr. Palmer, Sir M. W. Williams, Aug. Woodcock, Col. Grant, Rev. C. Grant, W. S. Plimsoll, H. Webb, Clayton Palmer, jun., Jno. May, E. Crickmay, Thompson, ("Freemason"), and Messrs. F. Pollett, and Tom Hitchens.

SURREY MASONIC HALL LODGE (No. 1539).—The first anniversary and installation meeting of this successful lodge was held on Thursday, July 6, at the Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell New Road. Bro. Mark Samuel Larham, W.M., presided, and the officers present were Bros. Ramsey, S.W., and W.M. elect; Green, J.W.; Ritherdon, S.D. Ross, I.G.; Oliver, Sec.; and Harvey, D.C. The following visitors were present—C. A. Cottebrune, P.G. Purs; J. Wright, Commemoration Lodge; H. Thompson, 1426, and P.M. 177 and 1158 ("Freemason"); J. Dann, P.M. 72; Morgan, Gladsmuir, 1385; Clarke, 1385; W. Harris, 766; A. C. Shelley, 1328; J. H. Vockins, P.M. 1329; J. L. Thomas, 142, and others. Lodge having been opened and advanced to the Third Degree, Bro. Cannon was very impressively raised by the W.M. Master to the degree of a M.M. The lodge was then lowered to the Second Degree, and Bros. Walden and Timms were passed to the degree of F.C. The next business was to install Bro. Ramsey, the W.M. elect, into the chair, and that duty was most ably performed by Bro. Larham, the retiring Master, a Board of Installed Masters having been formed for that purpose. On the re-admission of the excluded brethren below the chair the new W.M. Master was saluted in the customary manner in the different degrees, and he then appointed his officers as follows:—Bros. Green, S.W.; Ritherdon, J.W.; Larham, Treasurer; Murray, Secretary; Ross, S.D.; Harvey, J.D.; Allen, I.G.; Larham, D.C.; and A. Martin, D.C. Bro. Larham, P.M., proposed that a jewel should be presented to Bro. Oliver, the late Secretary, which was put and unanimously carried. Bro. Oliver thanked the brethren for the honour conferred upon him, and he must say that not the slightest notice had been given him of any intention to do so. The report of the audit committee was presented, which showed that the funds of the lodge were in a satisfactory state, and after some other business had been transacted the lodge was closed in due form and the brethren adjourned to the banquet, which was most bountifully served. On the withdrawal of the cloth the W.M. said it devolved upon him to propose the first toast, which was "The Queen and the Craft," and as her reign had been a peaceful one they had much reason to be thankful for it. Drank with cordiality, followed by the National Anthem. The W.M. Master, in giving "The Health of the Most Worshipful Grand Master, the Prince of Wales," said that he had passed through a voyage of discovery unparalleled in the history of this or any other country, and they ought to congratulate him on his return home in health and strength, and he shewed that he was as good a man at the end as he was at the beginning. (Cheers.) The W.M. Master next gave "The Pro. Grand Master, the Deputy Grand Master, and the rest of the Grand Officers," coupling with the toasts the name of Bro. Cottebrune, P.G. Purs. The toast was cordially responded to. Bro. Cottebrune, returned thanks. Bro. Larham, P.M., said that the brethren must be aware of the toast he had to propose when they saw that for a brief period he was entrusted with the W.M.'s gavel. That was the first time he had the opportunity of proposing the health of the W.M. He (Bro. Larham) felt proud to be installed as the Master of the lodge, and having known Bro. Ramsey for some time, he felt sure that he would carry out the duties of the chair to the satisfaction of the brethren. He asked the brethren to rise and drink "The Health of Bro. Ramsey, their W.M." The W.M. Master said as their fire was sharp, so sharp must be his response, and he could assure them that he would endeavour to discharge his duties as a Mason in general and to that lodge in particular. He said it then devolved upon him to perform an exceptional and very pleasing office, and in doing so he should be the mouth-piece of the brethren. Bro. Larham had been a most able and painstaking Master of the lodge, and he (the W.M.) knew that he left no stone unturned to make all his officers equal to his own merits. He had pleasure to be his Senior Warden, and he was now Master of the lodge. In Bro. Larham they always found a ready instructor, and when he was called upon to rule the lodge he felt that he was the right man in the right place. He perfectly well knew his duties, and he carried them out both as a man and a Mason. If he was to talk until tomorrow he could not say more of him, or of the manner in

which he performed his duties, and it afforded him (the W.M. Master) the greatest pleasure in placing on Bro. Larham's breast a memento of the good will of the lodge. (He placed the jewel on his breast which bore the following inscription:—"Presented to Bro. M. S. Larham as a mark of esteem for his eminent services as W. Master. 1876.") Bro. Larham, I.P.M., said he thanked the W.M. Master very sincerely for the kind words he had been pleased to express to him for what he had done, as he had only done his duty, and thanked all the brethren present for placing him in such a proud position. He thanked them sincerely for voting him such a handsome and valuable jewel, and he could assure them that in the future as well as in the past he would endeavour to carry out his duties, and would never cease to maintain the interest of the lodge. The W.M. next gave "The Visitors," for which Bro. Clarke responded. "The Officers" was next given, and was responded to by Bro. Green, S.W. The W.M. Master said the next toast he had to propose was one not on their list, and it was "The Press," and with this he coupled the names of Bro. Thompson, Bro. Seale, and Bro. Shelley. Bro. H. Thompson ("Freemason"), in returning thanks, referred to the large sums of money received for the Masonic Institutions during the year, and the very encouraging results which had been derived from the education given in the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, several of them taking honours at the recent Cambridge examination. Bro. Seale also returned thanks. The Tyler's toast was then given, and a very happy and harmonious meeting was brought to a close.

LIVERPOOL.—Mariners' Lodge (No. 249).—The members of the Mariners', perhaps the most numerous and one of the most influential in the Province of West Lancashire, assembled in great force at the Masonic Hall, Hope-street, Liverpool, on Thursday, the 9th inst., for the purpose of the installation of the W.M. for the coming year. The lodge was duly opened by Bro. H. P. Price, W.M.; and he was supported by Bros. J. Hayes, P.M.; W. Crane, P.M.; J. J. Rose, P.M.; W. Jones, P.M.; H. Pearson, P.M.; the Rev. P. Pennington, P.M.; J. Lloyd, S.W.; the Rev. P. Hains, J.W.; Dr. J. K. Smith, P.G. Reg., P.M., Treas.; R. Collings, Sec.; J. C. Robinson, S.D.; W. Garlick, I.G.; F. Barnett, S.; W. P. Jennings, S.; J. Whalley, S.; W. H. Ball, Tyler; J. Croxton, J. Crebbin, R. J. Filder, H. W. Parry, W. Corbett, J. M. Ellison, C. J. Jones, W. H. Vernon, J. Wilson, W. Mooney, T. Roberts, J. Wood, Treas. 1094 ("Freemason"); T. Williams, W. Wilson, J. O. Jones, J. Stevens, W. Procter, T. Grayson, W. Williams, J. Nicholas, J. Cook, A. Anderson, H. Hall, A. Barnard, J. Chambers, C. White, R. Weale, C. Warner, F. Cooper, E. Ramson, J. Williams, and others. Amongst the visitors were Bros. the Rev. J. F. Goggin, P.P.G.C.; G. Morgan, P.M. 1035; Major Turner, P.M. 823; A. J. Henochsberg, W.M. 1508; C. Leedham, P.M. 220; H. S. Alpass, P.G. Sec.; J. Pemberton, P.G.S.; H. Scott, P.M. 86; J. Skeaf, P.G.O.; W. Doyle, P.G.J.D.; J. R. Goepel, P.P.G.D.C.; S. Schönstadt, S.D. 1572, and others. The chair of Installing Master was taken by Bro. Dr. J. K. Smith, P.G. Reg., who impressively and efficiently placed Bro. John Lloyd in the chair of W.M. for the ensuing year. Bro. Lloyd, W.M., after being saluted in the usual manner with great cordiality, appointed the following brethren as his efficient staff of officers:—Bros. H. P. Price, I.P.M.; the Rev. Philip Hains, S.W.; J. C. Robinson, J.W.; Dr. J. K. Smith, P.G. Reg., Treas. (re-elected); R. Collings, Sec. (re-appointed); J. Hayes, P.M., D.C.; W. Garlick, S.D.; W. P. Jennings, J.D.; F. Barnett, I.G.; W. Corbett and J. Whalley, Stewards; W. G. Veale, Org.; and W. H. Ball, Tyler. At the conclusion of the installation ceremony, Bro. J. Lloyd, W.M., inaugurated his year's labour by initiating Mr. George Cox Beecham in a style which promises well for his year of office. The brethren were then called off to banquet, which was provided by Bro. W. Vines, P.M. 220, in the large dining room of the hall. The menu embraced all the delicacies of the season, and the wines were both varied and excellent. Bro. J. Lloyd, W.M., who presided, gave the toasts of "The Queen," and "Bro. H.R.H. Albert Edward, Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M., the Princess of Wales, and the rest of the Royal Family," which were very cordially responded to. Bro. Dr. Smith gave "The Earl of Carnarvon," and "Lord Skelmersdale," the latter being responded to by Bro. J. R. Goepel, P.P.G.D.C., who said it was now little more than twenty years since he had his Second Degree in the Mariners' Lodge, and it was never in a better position than at present. He was quite sure that Bro. Lloyd would emulate the example of those who had gone before him, and maintain the excellent reputation of the lodge in the Province of West Lancashire. Bro. J. Hayes, P.M., gave "Bro. the Hon. F. Stanley, M.P., D. Prov. G.M., and P.G. Officers, Past and Present," which was responded to by Bro. Dr. Smith, P.G. Reg. Bro. H. P. Price, I.P.M., then gave "The Health of the Worshipful Master," and in doing so said the way in which he had commenced his year of office was very gratifying to the lodge. The position of the lodge was everything which could be desired—there was not a discordant voice in it, and its prosperity was very great. The toast was received with immense enthusiasm and Masonic honours. Bro. J. Lloyd, W.M., in response, said: I thank you very much indeed for the great honour which you have been pleased to confer upon me this day by placing me in the chair of the Mariners' Lodge. I assure you, brethren, I will endeavour to maintain the dignity of that chair during the coming year, and that I will assiduously strive to perform the duties which devolve upon me to your entire satisfaction. Brethren, I thank you very much for the manner in which my health has been proposed and responded to. "The P.M.'s of the Lodge," given by the W.M., was acknowledged by Bro. H. P. Price, I.P.M. The W.M. then proposed "The Installing

Master," which was received with great cordiality. Bro. Dr. Smith, in response, said it had afforded him a great amount of pleasure—more than he had ever felt before—to perform the installation ceremony that day. The gathering on that occasion spoke as to the prosperous condition of the Mariners' Lodge. He believed he was right in saying that that lodge contributed more than any other to the old Masonic Hall, and the Mariners' stood second on the list in the contributions for the new building, having given from its funds and by its private members no less than £450. This had slightly inconvenienced the funds, but he felt sure that in all works of charity they would occupy their proper position. Indeed, he was sure that that lodge would stand second to none in that or any other province in respect to its charity, and this was a fact of which they might justly be proud. They looked after the poor and distressed, and that was one of the principles which afforded them greater pleasure than any other in connection with Masonry. From the year so well inaugurated that day, and the quality of the brethren appointed to the different offices, they had every reason to expect that, to use a little vulgarism, they would go on "swimmingly." Several other toasts followed, and the lodge was closed at a seasonable hour. The vocal harmony contributed by Bros. White, Child, T. Foulkes, and Hobart was much above the average, and Bro. J. Skeaf, P.G.O., once more delighted every one by his brilliant pianoforte rendering of "The Bells of Aberdovey."

LIVERPOOL.—St. John's Lodge (No. 673).—The annual installation meeting and picnic of the members of this lodge were held on Tuesday and Wednesday, the 4th and 5th inst. The installation of the W.M. took place at the Masonic Hall, Hope-street, on Tuesday evening, when there was a large gathering of members and visitors. Bro. J. K. Digges, W.M., was in his place at the opening, and amongst others present were Bros. M. Corless, P.M.; T. Clark, P.M.; E. Kyle, P.M.; H. Nelson, P.M.; J. Thornton, P.M.; W. T. May, P.M.; J. F. Callow, P.M.; T. Roberts, S.W.; H. Burrows, J.W.; R. Pearson, P.M., Treas.; S. Johnson, P.M., P.G.A.D.C., Sec.; D. Jackson, S.D.; W. Brackenbury, J.D.; J. Hocken, P.M., D.C.; L. Herman, I.G.; J. Seddon, S.; R. Hulme, Org.; W. H. Ball, Tyler; D. Paterson, S. Lambert, I. Nichols, H. Squire, R. Whitehead, J. Sampson, F. Falshaw, T. Drysdale, T. Little, A. Trimble, J. Harford, M. N. Meccrate, T. Alvarez, and others. The list of visitors included Bros. R. P. France, W.M. 594; H. Ashmore, I.P.M. 1325; W. Doyle, P.P.J.G.D.; J. Skeaf, P.G.O.; J. Pemberton, P.M. 1264; E. O. C. Rothwell, P.M. 1356; B. B. Marson, P.M. 1356; Joseph Bell, W.M. of 1356 and 1609; Dr. J. Kellett Smith, P.G. Reg.; I. Levy, 667; B. Myers, W.M. 1182; J. A. Edginton, P.M. 1182; J. E. Jackson, W.M. 667; E. Masker, S.D. 1182; P. M. Larsen, P.M. 594; and others. After the lodge had been duly opened the chair was taken by Bro. T. Clark, P.M., who proceeded to install Bro. Thomas Roberts as the W.M. for the ensuing year, the manner in which the important ceremony was performed eliciting a hearty vote of thanks, which was ordered to be recorded on the minutes of the lodge. The officers invested were as follows:—Bros. J. K. Digges, I.P.M.; H. Burrows, S.W.; D. Jackson, J.W.; T. Clark, P.M., Treas.; W. T. May, P.M., Sec.; W. Brackenbury, S.D.; L. Herman, J.D.; J. Thornton, P.M., M.C.; J. Seddon, I.G.; T. Falshaw, S.S.; T. Smith, J.S.; R. Whitehead, Organist; and W. H. Ball, Tyler. At the conclusion of the installation ceremony Messrs. Hughes, Cantly, Caine, Garrick, O. Jones, and J. Maiden were initiated into the Order by the new W.M. in a most effective manner. Before the lodge was closed it was resolved to vote ten guineas from the funds of the lodge for the purpose of creating Bro. Pearson, P.M. (who had acted as Treasurer for ten years), a life governor of the West Lancashire Masonic Educational Institution, and also to purchase an appropriate jewel. The brethren then adjourned to supper, and during the after proceedings a very handsome P.M.'s jewel was presented to Bro. J. K. Digges, I.P.M., in recognition of his valuable services in the chair. On Wednesday morning about 200 brethren and ladies started from Lime-street Station to Overton Hills for picnic purposes, where a most enjoyable day was spent. The morning looked threatening, but fortunately the weather brightened and became everything which could be desired as the day advanced. Almost every variety of amusement was provided for the large company, and the catering of Mr. Rigby gave, as usual, universal satisfaction. After spending one of the pleasantest "outs" ever held in connection with St. John's Lodge, the party returned to Liverpool at a seasonable hour.

WOOLWICH.—Nelson Lodge (No. 700).—On Thursday, the 29th June, Bro. T. Butt, the W.M. elect of the above lodge, was installed W.M. for the ensuing year by Bro. T. Ward. The place of meeting was the Freemasons' Hall in William-st., and when, after Bro. Ward had initiated two candidates, Messrs. Rance and Claydon, and Bros. Past Masters Graham and Bowles had taken the Wardens' chairs, he proceeded with the ceremony, the coup d'oeil presented by the lodge was most striking and effective. Among the visitors were Bros. C. Coupland, P.G.S. Kent, and P.M. of No. 706 and 913; W. Tongue, P.P.G.W. Kent, and P.M. 913; T. Smith, P.P.G.P. Kent, and P.M. 829, 913, &c.; A. Penfold, W.M. 913; F. G. Pownall, W.M. 1336, and W.M. elect 13, J. M'Dougall, P.M. 13; G. Davies, P.M. 13; J. J. Cattle, W.M. 1441; A. Le Feaux, W.M. 30; T. C. Day, W.M. 1076; J. Ives, W.M. 1472; T. Vincent, S.W. and W.M. elect 913; W. Weston, S.W. and W.M. elect 1536; T. Hastings, S.W. and W.M. elect 829; W. Steele, S.W. 1472; W. Gamble, S.W. 706; J. Dorton, S.W. 1076; G. Spinks, J.W. 1536; T. D. Hayes, S.D. 913; J. Silver, J.W. 1472; A. Jessup,

Treas. 913; F. Brien, S.D. 1076; R. Stone, 615; G. Wood, 615; B. Goodale, 1327; Huntly, 87; E. Varing, 180; G. A. Pillin, 91; B. Howlett, 1472; W. A. R. Harris, 871; J. Plume, D.C. 1472; Thorne, 913; W. A. Watkins, 1536; R. Pinney, 177; C. Jolly, 913; and others. The following Past Masters of the lodge were Present: Bros. W. Ritchie, C. Hobson, F. Dawson, Treas.; J. Henderson, Sec.; as well as those in the Wardens' chairs. A board of sixteen Past Masters having been formed, Bro. Butt was placed in the chair of K.S., and duly saluted. He then proceeded to install his officers as follows:—Bros. S. Waters, S.W.; A. C. Woody, J.W.; F. J. Dawson, Treas.; J. Henderson, Sec.; J. Warren, S.D.; J. Wilkins, J.D.; E. B. Hobson, I.G.; W. McCoy, D.C.; B. Norman, Tyler; and C. Cooke, Organist. A jewel was presented to Bro. Ward for his great and successful efforts for the benefit of the lodge during his year of office, as well as a most cordial vote of thanks for the excellent way in which he had officiated as Installing Master that day, for which Bro. Ward feelingly and eloquently returned thanks. A most gratifying incident then occurred in the presentation to Bro. P.M. Dawson of a Treasurer's jewel, and we must say Bro. Dawson thoroughly deserved every word of the warm eulogy passed upon him by the W.M., and the hearty reception he met with from the brethren when he was called up to receive the gift. Bro. Dawson having briefly returned thanks, the lodge was closed in due form, and the brethren and visitors sped away by train to Gravesend, where, at Bro. Lockett's famous hostelry, the New Falcon, a splendid banquet awaited them, which having been fully discussed, and the door properly tyled, Bro. Butt, the W.M., proceeded with the toasts, loyal and Masonic, usual upon such occasions, and which, we need hardly say were most loyally responded to. Bro. Ward, I.P.M., then took the gavel by consent of the W.M., and proceeded in handsome terms to propose "The Health of the W. Master," in so doing he said they were all well aware how nobly Bro. Butt had for many years worked through the minor offices of the lodge; they all knew the excellence of his private character and life, and they had heard and seen the manner in which the visitors to the lodge had eulogised his unvaried geniality and good work, both in and out of the lodge. This would at least show them that the Nelson Lodge had not made a mistake in electing him to the high position he now filled. Bro. Butt had spared no pains to make himself worthy of the prestige of the lodge, and he (the speaker) felt sure that in his hands the interests of the lodge and the comfort and welfare of the brethren would meet with that attention and zeal that had always been characteristic of those who had, however humbly, filled the proud position of W.M. After a few pleasant remarks about Bro. Butt's "perch" on Shooter's Hill, and a word of advice to the subordinate officers to look well to their duty, Bro. Ward concluded an able address by assuring them that he, the W.M., was one with whom it was a pleasure to be acquainted, and one whom they might look up to both as a Master and a Mason. Bro. Butt, in reply, apologised as a "bashful man," who felt as if oil had been poured down his back. However, he would endeavour to do his duty in such a manner as would not cause them to regret their choice, and give them some return by increasing tenfold, if possible, the prosperity of the lodge for the honour they had done him. In replying for "The Visitors," Bro. Vincent, W.M. elect of the Pattison Lodge, with whose name the toast was especially coupled, after expressing his inadequacy for the task of responding, said he might safely congratulate the W.M. on having his name enrolled among a long list of W.M.'s who had made the name of the Nelson Lodge famous among those of the district for its work and hospitality. He, like the W.M., had his troubles to come, and trusted they might both do their duty in such a manner as would redound to the credit of Freemasonry both in and out of the district. He trusted to have, as he, the W.M. had, the best wishes of every one for the continued prosperity and happiness of both lodges. Bro. Coupland briefly thanked the W.M. and the lodge for the ten guineas they had kindly placed to his list as Steward of the Boys' School Fund. Bros. Hayes, Wood, Huntly, Pownall and Gamble as well returned thanks. "The Past Masters" were enthusiastically toasted, and after Bro. Waters had returned thanks for "The Officers," "God save the Queen" finished the business of the day. We take this opportunity, our earliest, to tender our thanks to Bro. Ward for many acts of courtesy and kindness to us during his year of office, to Bro. Butt for his cordial invitations for the future, and to all the officers and brethren of the Nelson Lodge for their assistance in making the "Freemason" a sine qua non among the literary food requisite for them, both at home and in the lodges, as well as equally as instructive.

EASTBOURNE.—Tyrian Lodge (No. 1110).—On Monday, 26th ult., the anniversary of the Tyrian Lodge, 1110, of Freemasons, took place at the Gildredge Hotel, under the presidency of the W.M., Bro. Tomkinson. The minutes of the previous lodge having been confirmed, and other business transacted, the W.M. then briefly addressed the members, thanking them and the P.M.'s, especially, for the kind assistance which they had rendered him during his year of office, and concluded by vacating the chair, and introducing the W.M. elect (Bro. Thomas Morris). The installation ceremony was then proceeded with, the Installing Master being Bro. E. W. Adamson, P.M., who was assisted by the I.P.M., Bro. Tomkinson, Bro. Matthews, P.M., the latter giving the charges in a most impressive manner. At the conclusion of the ceremony, the Worshipful Master appointed and invested his officers as follows:—Bros. J. Head, S.W.; A. Taylor J.W.; Chas. Crisp, S.D.; Geo. Perry, J.D.; C. Warwick Tomes, I.G.; C. Tomes, P.M., Treasurer; Headland, P.M., Secretary; E. W. Adamson, P.M.,

D.C.; Hood and H. Sutton, Stewards; Goldring, Tyler. The authority of the newly-installed Master having been recognised according to ancient custom, the Masonic lodge was duly closed. At the conclusion of the repeat the toast list was opened, the usual loyal toasts being given by the W.M. "The Health of the R.W. the D.P.G.M. of England, and the Officers, Past and Present," was acknowledged by Bro. Wood, a past officer of the Grand Lodge, in an eloquent and appropriate speech. Bro. Adamson followed with the toast of "The R.W. the P.G.M. of Sussex, Lord Pelham," in giving which he expressed the regret felt by the brethren at his lordship's continued ill-health, and his inability to perform the duties of his high office. It was a fact, of which they however might well be proud, that the V.W. the D.P.G.M., Bro. Furner—upon whom now devolved Bro. Lord Pelham's duties—had selected for his deputy, one of the officers of that (the Tyrian) Lodge, Bro. Cunningham. The toast of "The V.W. the D.P.G.M. and the Officers Past and Present," was then given from the chair, and replied to by Bro. Dr. Cunningham. "The Visitors" was given by Bro. C. Tomes in a humorous speech, in the course of which the speaker noticed that they had visiting brethren representing lodges in the metropolis of England, the metropolis of the United States of America, Canterbury, Woolwich, Battle, Lewes, Frome, Brighton, and Gloucestershire. (Applause.) Each visitor acknowledged the compliment paid him in a fitting speech. The speech of Bro. C. B. Potter, from St. Patrick's Lodge, No. 4, U.S. America, was especially well received, and afforded abundant proof of his being a thorough Mason, although raised in the new world. After expressing the pleasure he felt in being present on the occasion, he observed that as far as he had been taught to understand Freemasonry, its leading doctrines and fundamental principles were the same all over the world, although he found there was some slight difference in the manner of communicating and instructing between England and America, but this did not alter the fact that in whatever country or clime the brethren were bound together by the same bonds of brotherly love and good fellowship. As regards Freemasonry in America, he stated that it had a splendid history, and at the present day could boast of a success and prosperity, which, if equalled, was certainly not excelled in any other country on the face of the globe. According to his views there was nothing derogatory to the character or dignity of any man, be he Bishop, President or Prince, to place himself on a level with the Craft. On the contrary, it exalted and dignified him. In his opinion no institution was ever raised on better principles nor upon a more solid foundation, nor were ever more excellent rules and maxims laid down for the guidance of man universally than those inculcated in our different lectures. Of two things he felt proud, and boasted wherever he went, first, that he was an "Englishman," second, that he was a "Free and Accepted Mason." He concluded by assuring the brethren of his heartiest good wishes for the prosperity of Tyrian Lodge, and giving them, one and all, a hearty invitation to visit his own lodge in America. (Applause.) "The Health of the W.M., Bro. Morris," was next submitted by I.P.M. Bro. Tomkinson, who said the lodge had made an admirable choice in Bro. Morris, than whom no Mason was better fitted to preside over a lodge. His kind, hearty, and genial manner, would make him a popular Master, and secure the cordial assistance of all the members of the lodge, by whom he was held in the highest possible esteem. (Applause.) The W.M. replied in a few well chosen terms, expressive of his willingness to do the duties required of him to the best of his ability, and at all times to assist in promoting the welfare of the lodge. Before resuming his seat Bro. Morris, in proposing the toast of "The Past Masters," presented to Bro. Tomkinson, I.P.M., amidst applause, a handsome Past-Master's jewel, voted by the lodge in recognition of the valuable services rendered by him to the Tyrian Lodge, during the year of office which had just terminated. Bro. Tomkinson, in a feeling speech acknowledged the gift, and expressed his gratitude for the manner in which the toast had been offered and received. After the toast of "The Officers," and one or two minor toasts having been duly honoured, the brethren dispersed. Some excellent vocalisation was contributed during the post-prandial proceedings, by Bros. G. Warwick Tomes, A. Taylor, G. Adamson, and other brethren.

SHERBORNE.—Lodge of Benevolence (No. 1168).—The members of this lodge assembled at a Court of Emergency held at high noon, on Tuesday, the 4th inst., at the Town Hall, for the purpose of installing Bro. George F. Stokes, as W.M. for the year ensuing. The ceremony was admirably and impressively performed by the Immediate Past Master, Bro. T. D. Davis. The W.M. then proceeded to appoint the following brethren as his officers:—Bros. T. D. Davis, I.P.M.; J. Trevor Davies, S.W.; G. H. Masters, J.W.; W. S. Gillard, P.M., Treas.; A. Bradford, Sec.; P. S. H. Colmer, S.D.; G. S. Smith, J.D.; the Rev. R. H. W. Digby, Chaplain; C. J. Regan, Org.; R. G. Long, P.M., D.C.; J. W. Sherwood, I.G.; E. Pragnell and H. Searle, Stewards; J. Himbury, Tyler. Amongst the members and brethren present were the following:—Bros. the Rev. G. Thompson, Master of the lodge two years in succession, P.P.G.C.; John Chaffin, P.P.J.D. Somerset; William Milborne, P.P.J.D. Somerset; J. Ryal, P.P.S.D. Somerset; T. Sharland, A. E. Price, G. Summers, L. H. Rnegg, P.M.; W. H. Sawtell, N. E. Davies, J. Himbury, and L. Elgar. The lodge having been duly closed according to ancient ceremonies, the above brethren and visitors from labour proceeded for refreshment to the Digby Hotel, where a splendid banquet awaited them; it comprised all the delicacies of the season and was placed on the table in a manner which well sustained the repute Mr. and Mrs. Binnie Clarke have

gained for this noted hostelry, the head quarters of the B.V.H. The dessert was of a recherche character, and the wines of a first class vintage. Ample justice having been done to all the good things, and the cloth having been cleared, the W.M. presided in his usual courteous and urbane manner, and gave the usual loyal and Masonic toasts in a manner which, while it did justice to the themes he dilated upon, did not bore his hearers. The proceedings were diversified by some excellent singing, accompanied by Bro. A. R. Price (Yeovil), and the Tyler's toast brought a very enjoyable afternoon to a close. The lodge has been established about nine years, and we are glad to say is in a flourishing condition, and we doubt not, from the well known interest the present W.M. takes in it, that it will continue to prosper.

LIVERPOOL.—Hamer Lodge (No. 1393).—The annual installation meeting of this lodge took place on Tuesday, the 27th ult. The brethren assembled in the lodge-room, Clarence Hotel, at two o'clock p.m., and the chair was taken by the W.M., Bro. H. Jackson. After the usual routine business the W.M., Bro. H. Jackson, at once proceeded to the business of the day, which was the installation of the W.M. elect, Bro. J. McCarthy, S.W., who was duly presented by Bro. Wylie, P.P.G.S.D., and Bro. Armstrong, Prov. G. Treas. Bro. McCarthy appointed his officers as follows:—Bros. Sammons, S.W.; T. Large, J.W.; C. Tyrer, Treas.; R. Leason, Sec.; J. Price, S.D.; Dr. B. Price, J.D.; W. Erwin, I.G.; R. H. Evans, P.M., M.C.; C. Pilling, Steward; M. Williamson, Tyler. Bro. McCarthy then proceeded to initiate Mr. Gallagher. Nearly one hundred brethren then adjourned to the Masonic Hall, and sat down to a recherche banquet, under the presidency of Bro. McCarthy, supported by Bros. the Rev. H. G. Vernon, P.P.G. Chaplain; the Rev. J. Rees Jenkins, H. Jackson, R. H. Evans, P.M.; Robt. Wylie, P.P.G.S.D.; J. R. Goepel, P.P.G.D.C.; and T. Armstrong, P.G. Treas. The W.M. gave "The Health of Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen, Bro. H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M., the Princess of Wales, and the rest of the Royal Family," and expressed his opinion that none rejoiced more at the safe return of His Royal Highness from India than the brethren over whom he presided as M.W.G.M., and expressed a hope that the Craft would have an opportunity before long of showing in his presence their devotion to their Grand Master and their joy at "his safe return." The W.M. next gave "The Earl of Carnarvon, M.W. Pro G.M., and the Officers of Grand Lodge." Bro. H. Jackson, in giving "Lord Skelmersdale, W.D.G.M., and Prov. G.M. West Lancashire, and the Officers of Provincial Grand Lodge, said: Worshipful Sir and brethren,—I am sure that you require very few words from me to induce you to drink this toast with all the enthusiasm you can muster. Lord Skelmersdale is deservedly popular in this province, and has by his urbane and courteous demeanour, and by his evident kindness of disposition, won the hearts of all who have had an opportunity of coming in contact with him, and his devotion to Masonry is such, I should imagine, that there are very few of the brethren present who have not had an opportunity of seeing his lordship in either lodge, chapter, or other Masonic gatherings, and I am sure that all whom I am now addressing will join with me in wishing him long life and happiness. We are also very glad to see with us to-day so many members of Prov. Grand Lodge, and I am sure I express the sentiments of every member of the Hamer Lodge, when I say that I believe that the Prov. G. Officers of this province thoroughly deserve all the respect and regard that we can show them. I couple this toast with the names of Bros. Wylie, P.P.G.S.D.; Goepel, P.P.G.D.C.; Armstrong, Prov. G. Treas.; and Rev. H. G. Vernon. P.P.G. Chap. Bro. Robt. Wylie, in responding, said that the members of Prov. G. Lodge were always happy to lend their countenances and support to the lodges in the province, and that in the present instance, as far as he was concerned, he was very glad to have had another opportunity of visiting the Hamer Lodge, and seeing the excellent working which characterised it, especially the installation ceremony, which had been performed by Bro. Jackson in a manner that could hardly be surpassed, and which was creditable not only to himself, but to the lodge with which he was connected. Bro. R. H. Evans gave "The West Lancashire Charitable Institutions." He (Bro. R. H. Evans) then proceeded to claim the support of the brethren to the West Lancashire Educational Institute, and to the Hamer Fund, for the assistance of aged Freemasons. Bro. T. Armstrong, Prov. G. Treas., responded. "The Health of the W.M." was proposed by Bro. H. Jackson, I.P.M., who said: Brethren, I rise to propose what I think you will all admit to be the toast of the evening, "The Health of the Newly-installed W.M., Bro. J. McCarthy. I am sure, brethren, it is unnecessary for me to praise him, as his abilities and good qualities are well known to you all, and I am satisfied that it is seldom that a W.M. is placed in the chair of K.S. who more thoroughly possesses the confidence and esteem of his brethren. Bro. McCarthy has been closely connected with the Hamer Lodge from its commencement, and whether in a subordinate or prominent office, he has always endeavoured, and not only endeavoured, but has succeeded in discharging any duty that he had to fulfil in a manner that could hardly be excelled. I am satisfied that the interests of the Hamer Lodge are safe in his hands, and that the reputation which the Hamer Lodge has obtained for excellent working will be maintained. The good ship Hamer starts to-day on another twelve months' voyage, and I am sure that the captain here at my right may confidently anticipate a pleasant and successful one. The first and second mates, Bros. Sammons and Large, will, I am sure, do all in their power to assist him, and I am satisfied that the cordial feeling which exists between officers and crew will make this fourth voyage equal if not superior to any that have gone before. Bro. McCarthy, in responding, said:

Brethren, I thank you first of all most heartily for the great honour you have done me in unanimously electing me to the proud position of W.M. of this lodge, and I thank you most heartily for the very cordial reception you have given to this toast. I can assure you, brethren, that it will be my earnest desire to carry out the duties of the office to your entire satisfaction. I find it impossible for me to express my deep sense of the honour you have conferred upon me in placing me in this proud position. I cannot find words to express myself as I could wish, but if you could read my heart you would find thereon, engraved in letters of gold, the one word gratitude. The W.M. then gave "The Health of the Installing Master, Bro. H. Jackson, I.P.M." In conclusion, he said—Bro. Jackson, on behalf of the Hamer Lodge, I have the pleasure of presenting you with this jewel as a token of the high regard in which you are held by this lodge. I have also the pleasure of presenting you, on behalf of some of the members of the lodge who have desired still further to evince their appreciation of your good qualities, both as a man and as a Mason, with this watch, as a slight token of their regard for you personally. I hope you may be long spared to wear them. Bro. Jackson who was greeted with great cheering, which prevented him speaking for some minutes, said: W.M. and brethren—Never until to-night did I feel so utterly incompetent to shape my thoughts into words, or to express myself towards you as I could wish; but I can assure you it is the depth of my gratitude that chains my tongue, and the fulness of my heart that impedes my utterance. I feel quite unworthy of the magnificent gifts with which you have presented me, but I can assure you that I shall prize them as my most valued possessions, and shall prize them even more for their associations than for their intrinsic value. I have endeavoured to discharge my duties to the best of my ability, and to promote the interests of this lodge in every way in my power, yet I feel that your recognition of my efforts is beyond what I deserve. For your cordial reception of the toast of my health, and the very enthusiastic way you have received it, and for your many kindnesses to me on all accounts, I thank you from the bottom of my heart. The W.M. then proposed "The P.M.'s," responded to by Bros. R. H. Evans and W. S. May. Other toasts followed, songs being contributed by Bros. Hague, Richardson, Heywood, Magee, Armstrong, Evans, Robert, Merrilees, and others. Bro. Asher gave two recitations, Bro. Jackson gave "The Charge of the Light Brigade," and Bro. Walker recited a piece from Longfellow.

WOODSTOCK.—The Marlborough Lodge (No. 1399).—The fourth annual meeting was held on the 27th ult. The agenda comprised (in addition to the installation of the W.M.) the passing of two brethren and the raising of one candidate to the Third Degree. The following is a list of brethren present:—V. W. Bros. John Galpin, W.M. of the Bertie Lodge, P.P.G.S.W.; T. W. Goldsbrough, P.P.G.S.W. North Wales and Salop; W. Bros. T. B. Brown, P.P.G. Sup. of W. North Wales, Prov. G.S.D. Oxon; Alderman Eagleston, P.P.G.S.B.; Bros. Heller, Richards, Calcutt, Acock, Robbins, and Codd, of Alfred Lodge, No. 340; Coles, Chipping Norton Lodge; H. Williams, Prov. G. Purst.; H. H. Parry, Prov. G. Std. B.; Falkener, Tibbetts, Salter, Brooks, Butler, Haines, Brushour, Halliwell, Meadley, Westland, Crane, Reynolds, J.W.; Long, S.D.; Seeley, J.D., P.P.G. Pt.; Prescott, I.G.; Crane, Palmer, Boon, Lowells, and Bayliss. In the absence of the I.P.M., Bro. Goldsbrough opened the lodge, and passed Bros. Brooks and Butler to the Second Degree. Bro. T. B. Brown, Senior P.M., then took the duties of the chair, and raised Bro. Salter to the degree of a M.M., after which he installed W. Bro. H. Williams Master elect. The ceremonies were performed in a faultless and impressive manner, and called forth from the brethren a marked testimony of their high appreciation of the Masonic talent of Bro. Brown. The W.M. appointed the following officers:—Bros. Reynolds, S.W.; Long, J.W.; Seeley, S.D.; Prescott, J.D.; Crane, I.G.; Palmer, Org.; Boon and Lowells, Dir. of Cer.; Bayliss, re-elected Tyler. Letters from the R.W. Bros. Reginald Bird, D.P.G.M., and R. J. Spiers, P.D.P. G.M., also from Bros. Hobbs, P.P.G. Sec., and Potts, W.M. of the Cherwell Lodge, were read, expressing their regret at being unable to attend. "Hearty good wishes" were expressed to the W.M. on behalf of the several lodges represented by the visiting brethren. The lodge was then closed, and the brethren partook of a well served banquet provided by Bro. Haines, the W.M. presiding. The customary toasts were given and honoured with due loyalty and warm Masonic feeling. "The Health of the R.W. Bro. Reginald Bird, the Dep. Prov. G. Master," was proposed by the W.M., with that of "The Officers of the Prov. Grand Lodge," and coupled with the names of Bro. John Galpin, W.M. of the Bertie Lodge, P.P. G.S.W., and Bro. H. H. Parry, Prov. Grand Steward. Bro. Galpin, in reply, said: "Worshipful Master, officers, and brethren, I am somewhat sorry it has fallen to my lot to be the first speaker to this toast, as it is difficult to make discordant sounds at all accord with the beautiful harmony we have all listened to with so much pleasure from the singers, and it places me at a considerable disadvantage. It is some time since I had the honour to attend this lodge. Many of the brethren think I was initiated in this lodge, but such is not the case; I associated myself with it as I do with all the young lodges in the province. I can assure you it is with much pleasure and delight that I have observed the progress made in Freemasonry by some of the young blood I was instrumental in introducing into the lodge, and especially the brother who occupies the distinguished position of Worshipful Master on the present occasion, and I cannot help expressing the contrast between the time when I looked on him as the trembling initiate, and now that he occupies the chair of

W.M. of the lodge which gave him birth into Freemasonry, and the pleasure is enhanced by my seeing also the next office in rank to the W.M., and whom I was chiefly instrumental in introducing into the lodge, in the second position in the lodge, it speaks somewhat in his favour. Still dwelling on contrasts as affected by the facts and positions of others, as a member of this lodge I was only a Master Mason. My Masonic greatness has much increased, having been invested with the Mastership of my lodge, and this has brought me before you at so early a period of the evening. The more I see of the Craft the better I like Freemasonry, and the greater progress I make the greater is my fondness for it. I can assure my brethren it will amply repay them to acquire those positions, and when they have gone through them, as I have done, they will be as well satisfied as I have been. Ending my subject of contrasts, with respect to my old friend, Bro. Goldsbrough, on my right, there is no change; he is always the same, ever ready to assist us with his great Masonic knowledge and goodness. All I can say is "Long may he live, and may we all live to meet him for many years to come." Bro. T. B. Brown, Prov. G.S.D. "proposed The Health of the W.M.," and said—Bro. Galpin has expressed how great is the pleasure he feels that the brother whom he was the means of bringing into the Lodge had aspired to and reached the office of Master, I need not say how great a pleasure it is to me to reflect that I initiated him in this lodge not more than three years ago. To become the Master of a lodge in so short a time is a comparatively rare circumstance, and can only occur in the case of young lodges. It is usually many years before a new member of a lodge gets to the chair of W.M. I do not think any brother will regret having elected Bro. Williams as the Master of this Lodge; he will do honour to himself and to the lodge." The W.M.: "I thank Bro. Brown very much for the way in which he has proposed to you my health, and you, brethren, for the warmth of your reception of the toast. I will do all I can for the welfare of Freemasonry, and for this lodge in particular, and I trust that at the expiration of my year of office you will not have any cause to find fault with me. I have to thank my brother Brown for the excellent and impressive manner in which he has performed the ceremony of my installation, which must have been a great treat to you all; and as he was the means of introducing me to the light of Freemasonry I trust that he will give me the benefit of his able support during my year of office, and enable me to carry out the duties of the lodge to your satisfaction. He is one of the founders, and is the father of the lodge, and without him we could not carry on. I hope to have his assistance during my year of office. I again return you my sincere thanks. Bro. Goldsbrough: I need no word of eulogy to commend to you the toast I have to propose. It is "The Health of the Founder and Father of the Lodge, Bro. Brown, G. Senior Deacon of this Province." It has been my privilege to know Bro. Brown for many years past, and to have installed him as my successor in the chair of a lodge (of which he was one of the most energetic of its founders) in the widely spread Province of North Wales and Shropshire, where the R.W. Provincial Grand Master appointed him Grand Superintendent of Works. As many of you are aware, I had also the pleasure of installing Bro. Brown as the first Master of this lodge, and he has well earned the high distinction conferred upon him by His Royal Highness Prince Leopold, the Right Worshipful Grand Master of this province. Long may he live to enjoy the honour, and continue to render his valuable services to his brethren in this province. Bro. Brown, P.G.S.D., acknowledged the compliment paid him by Bro. Goldsbrough, and responded to by the brethren, and said that so far as the lodge was concerned, he was anxious to keep up what he considered the proper working, and if he succeeded in that, he should be satisfied, and that he was always pleased to assist the brethren in the work of any of the offices of the lodges in the province when he was called upon to do so. The W.M.:—In no lodge are visitors more welcome than they are in the "Marlborough," and we are always pleased to see them with us, and to show them what we can do. To-day we are honoured with the presence of Bros. Codd, Weller, Acock, Cotes, and Robbins, and I am happy to say that three of those brethren, seeing what we are doing in the Marlborough Lodge, have expressed their desire to become joining members of it, and I am quite sure we shall only be too pleased to have them with us. I shall couple with this toast the name of Bro. Codd. Bro. Codd said—I could wish that the Worshipful Master had chosen some one else to respond to the toast, but I can assure him that we all feel grateful for the kindness and hospitality we have experienced at the Marlborough Lodge, and we have all been greatly pleased at the way in which the ceremonies have been performed this evening, everything so thoroughly well conducted. The Worshipful Master may well feel proud to show such perfect order and good working as we have witnessed to-day. The W.M. Proposed "The Health of Bro. Goldsbrough," and said,—This is a toast which ought to have been brought before you earlier in the evening. Bro. Goldsbrough is a distinguished member of this lodge, and we hope to have the pleasure of seeing him here for many years to come. We have to thank him to-day, especially, for the excellent and impressive manner in which he conducted the duties of the Second Degree. Bro. Goldsbrough having replied, the W.M. proposed "The Health of the Officers of the Lodge," and said he had been fortunate in being able to select brethren whom he was sure would attend regularly, and coupled with the toast Bro. Reynolds, the Senior Warden, and Bro. Long, the Junior Warden. Bro. Reynolds: I beg to thank the Worshipful Master for his kindness in proposing the health of the officers, and to assure him that I will endeavour to carry him through his year of office, and will assist him in every way in my power in the duties of the lodge.

It is not quite four years since Bro. Dr. Goldsbrough initiated me in this lodge, and I have now the honour to occupy the chair of Senior Warden. Bro. Long, J.W., said he had been a member of the lodge for four years, but had been a member of the Craft for twenty-seven years, and he had only taken office that he might do his duty to the Craft. The Tyler's toast closed the proceedings. We cannot close this notice without acknowledging the services of Bros. Halliwell, Meadley, Westland, and Crane, whose delightful harmony greatly contributed to the pleasure of the evening.

INSTRUCTION.

UNITED PILGRIMS' LODGE (No. 507).—The brethren of this flourishing lodge met on Friday evening, the 30th June, at the Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell-new-road, when the Fifteen Sections were worked: Bros. T. Poore, Asst. Preceptor, W.M.; Mark S. Larham, Preceptor, S.W.; James Stevens, J.W.; Francis, Sec.; J. W. Watts, S.D.; Sevain, J.D.; Cass, I.G.; and Geider, Tyler. There were also present Bros. Forster, Shilton, Thurston, Ashford, Harvey, Wallis, Cox, Taylor, Noke, McMurray, Cackett, Bean, Clark, Drysdale, Ward, Barry, Webb, Sims, and Bye; and visiting Bros. Wiltshire, 720; Dann, 72; Hampton, 192; Rasell, 488 (New York); and Colley, 401. The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the previous meeting read and confirmed. The Fifteen Sections were then worked in the following order, viz.:—

First Lecture ...	First Section	Bro. Thurston.
"	Second "	" Stevens.
"	Third "	" Ashford.
"	Fourth "	" Watts.
"	Fifth "	" Poore.
"	Sixth "	" Harvey.
"	Seventh "	" Geider.
Second Lecture...	First Section	Bro. Wallis.
"	Second "	" Coe.
"	Third "	" Cass.
"	Fourth "	" Francis.
"	Fifth "	" Taylor.
Third Lecture ...	First Section	Bro. Larham.
"	Second "	" Noke.
"	Third "	" Watts.

The lodge was then closed down to the First Degree, and on the usual enquiries being made a vote of thanks was carried with acclamation to Bro. Poore for the very able manner in which he had performed the duties of W.M. This was replied to by Bro. Poore, who expressed a high eulogy on Bro. Larham as Preceptor of the lodge, and also on the brethren who had so admirably assisted him to work the sections. A vote of thanks was then recorded to the brethren who had assisted in working the sections, which was replied to by Bro. Watts. Bro. Larham was elected W.M. for the ensuing week, and the lodge was then closed and adjourned. It is gratifying to find that so many brethren are supporting this Lodge of Instruction, as it is evidence of the strong feeling entertained at the present day in favour of those lodges which are held at halls devoted to Masonic purposes in preference to taverns.

Mark Masonry.

PROVINCIAL GRAND MARK LODGE OF HAMPSHIRE.

The Provincial Grand Mark Lodge of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight met at Freemason's Hall, Southampton, on Thursday, the 6th inst., under the presidency of the Most W. and Rev. Bro. G. R. Portal, the Provincial Grand Mark Master.

There were present the V.W. Bro. W. Hickman, D.P.G.M.M.; Bros. Thos. Best, 63, P.P.S.G.W.; M. E. Frost, 17, P.P.S.G.W.; R. L. Loveland, 63, P.G.J.W.; Col. Hooper, 63, P.P.J.G.W.; E. Sheppard, 54, P.P.J.G.W.; H. R. Trigg, 62, P.P.G.M.O.; H. Cawte, 2, P.G.S.O.; A. Cudlipp, 17, P.P.G.J.O.; T. Gules, 140, P.G.M.O.; T. W. Faulkner, 140, P.P.G.J.O.; W. C. Redward, 2, P.G. Treas.; J. E. Le Feuvre, 37, P.G. Sec.; G. F. Lancaster, 2, P.G. Insp. Wks.; J. C. Stroud, 63, P.G. St.Br. S. S. Pearce, 63, P.P.S.G.D.; J. Harrison, 62, P.G.J.D.; J. Lillywhite, 2; R. H. C. Ubsdell, 17, P.G.A.D.C.; Michael Emanuel, 63, Past G.S.; P. Warren, 63, P.G.S.; R. Osborne, 17, P.G.O.; Rev. E. Y. Nepean, 63; Rev. F. W. Thoyts, 37; J. D. Legg, 63; B. Watson, 63; H. T. Bath, 63; Geo. Rake, 17; A. G. Rider, 63; W. Payne, 2; K. G. Westley, 63; J. Maltley, 17; G. A. Green, 2; C. A. Dyer, 63; J. Winship, 63; G. A. Tilling, 63; J. L. Symon, 63; E. W. Wyatt, 140, P.G.I.G.; H. R. Fox, 140; W. H. Holmes, 140; J. H. Smith, P.P.G.D.C.; J. Watson, 17; J. H. Biggs, 63; H. Horton, 63; G. R. Johnson, 17; E. M. Wells, 7; J. R. Weston, P.M. 63; M. Aley, 63.

The minutes of the last P.G.M. Lodge having been confirmed, the Treasurer read a statement of the accounts, which were adopted unanimously. Bro. Hooper then proposed the re-election of Bro. W. C. Redward as Treasurer, which, being seconded by Bro. Frost, was carried unanimously.

The M.W. the P.G.M. Master having been in office three years, it now became the duty of the P.G. Master to recommend some brother to the Grand M. Lodge to fill the chair of P.G.M. Master. The V.W. Bro. Hickman, D.P.G.M.M., in a few appropriate remarks proposed, and Bro. Frost, P.S.G.W., seconded, the re-nomination of the present excellent P.G.M. Master, Bro. G. M. Portal, whose anxiety to promote the interests of the Order could not be surpassed. It need scarcely be said that the proposition was carried by acclamation.

The Prov. G.M. Lodge then proceeded to elect a brother to serve the office of Grand Steward for the ensuing year, and Bro. S. S. Pearce, P.P.S.G.D., W.M. 63, was, on the motion of Bro. Hickman, seconded by Bro. H.

Cawte, P.G.S.O., unanimously elected to that office. Bros. R. H. C. Ubsdell, P.G.A.D.C., and R. Osborne, P.G.O., were then elected auditors.

The D.P.G.M.M. proposed, and Bro. J. U. Hillman P.P.G.M.O., seconded, a vote of condolence to the widow of Bro. S. Forbes, P.P.S.G.W., who had, during the past year, been suddenly cut off, after an illness of but a few days, from a career of much usefulness in Masonry, and this was heartily responded to.

The P.G.M. Sec., Bro. Le Feuvre, W.M. 37, read a report, showing the progress of Mark Masonry in the province, which was satisfactory, as showing that the number of advancements into the Order in the province had been maintained during the past year as compared with the two preceding ones. An especial cause for congratulation was noted in the revival of the Aldershot Military Lodge, 54, which after some years of suspended animation had resumed work under the able rule of Bro. F. Binckes, the Grand Secretary of the Order, who, having been elected W.M. of that lodge, had a few weeks since been installed into the chair by the Deputy P.G.M. Master, Bro. Hickman, assisted by Bro. Le Feuvre, the P.G.M. Secretary.

The P.G.M. Master then appointed and invested his officers as follows:—V.W. Bro. W. Hickman, 63, D.G.P.M.M.; Bros. J. Lamb, 37, P.G.S.W.; G. G. Rake, 17, P.G.J.W.; J. R. Weston, 63, P.M.O.; F. Court, 2, P.G.S.O.; E. M. Wells, 17, P.G.J.O.; the Rev. E. Y. Nepean, 63, and the Rev. F. W. Thoyts, 37, P.G. Chaplains; W. C. Redward, 2, P.G. Treasurer; J. Lillywhite, 21, P.G. Reg. Marks; J. E. Le Feuvre, 37, P.G. Secretary; O. A. Dyer, 63, P.S.G.D.; W. H. Holmes, 140, P.J.G.D.; G. F. Lancaster, 2, P.G. Insp. Works; E. W. Rebbeck, 125, P.G.D.C.; J. L. Symon, 63, P.G.A.D.C.; G. Cross, 63, P.G.S.B.; G. R. Johnson, 17, P.G.St.B.; R. Osborne, 2, P.G.O.; G. Tilling, 63, P.G.I.G.; G. A. Green, 2, H. R. Fox, 140, and W. Payne, 2, P.G. Stewards; Watson, 17, P.G. Tyler. At the close of the business the brethren sat down to a banquet.

Red Cross of Constantine.

LANDPORT.—Naval and Military Conclave (No. 35).—The ordinary meeting of this conclave was held at Smith's Hotel, on Tuesday, 27th ult. The Int. Gen. of Hants, Sir Knt. Chs. Knott, M.D., was supported and assisted by his Deputy, Sir Knt. J. Clark, and the following officers and members:—C. Groom, Vy. Eas.; J. Harrison, S.G.; B. Simister, J.G.; George A. Green, H.P.; J. Clay, P.S., Treas.; A. R. Robinson, P.S. Rec.; W. Tuck, S.B.; R. J. Rastwick, as P.; Cor. G. Adames, as Herald; J. Collins, and others. The conclave was opened in due form at 7.30, and minutes of conclave held May 23rd adopted. The ballot proving unanimously in favour of the proposed candidates, Bros. J. W. D. Pillow, J. F. Bacigalupo, and G. Rose Johnson, they were separately obligated and installed by the Int. Gen. The Historical Oration was exceedingly well delivered by the acting H.P. Sir Knts. Collins and Adames having signed, were presented with their Grand Conclave certificates. Various propositions for the welfare of the conclave having been disposed of, and two brethren duly proposed and seconded for installation, the conclave was solemnly closed at 9.45.

Scotland.

GLASGOW.—Lodge St. John (No. 34).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held in their own hall, 213, Buchanan-street, on Tuesday evening, the 4th inst., Bro. D. M. Nelson, W.M., in the chair, supported by Bros. T. Fletcher, P.M., acting S.W.; P. Brownlie, J.W.; W. Bell, I.P.M.; J. McMillan, P.M.; J. D. Young, D.M.; T. B. Bell, S.M.; John Dick, Sec.; A. Cameron, S.D.; A. Carrick, Dir. of Music; and A. Peddie, I.G. Visitors: John Monro, W.M. Lodge Commercial 360; J. Davidson, P.M. 360; D. Reid, I.P.M. 465; W. Ferguson, P.M. 543 ("Freemason"); and others. On the lodge being opened the Secretary read the minutes of last meeting, which were adopted. Bro. G. Baillie, of Lodge Clyde, No. 408, was elected a joining member and obligated by the W.M. Bros. Paterson, Wingate, A. Malcolm, and Isaac De Casseres were passed to the Fellow Craft Degree by Bro. T. B. Bell, S.M., and thereafter the above named brethren on account of having to leave the country in a few days were raised to the sublime degree of M.M. by Bro. Monro, W.M. 360. The lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to the commodious side hall, where refreshments were served, Bro. Nelson, W.M., in the chair. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and responded to. "The Health of the newly-raised Brethren" was replied to by Bros. Wingate and De Casseres. "The W.M.," proposed by Bro. Fletcher, P.M., who replied. A number of other toasts followed. The brethren then separated, after spending an hour in harmony.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Union (No. 331).—The monthly meeting of this lodge was held in St. Mark's Hall, Buchanan-street, on Monday evening, the 3rd inst., Bro. D. McKirdy, W.M., in the chair; J. B. Macnair, I.P.M.; J. McInnes, S.W.; J. McInnes, S.M. 408, acting J.W.; John Laird, Treas.; J. H. Gill, Sec.; and others, and a very large attendance of members and visitors. Bro. G. Dickson was passed to the F.C. Degree, and Bros. Jardine (of Lodge Royal Arch, Pollockshaws, No. 153) and Dickson were then raised to the sublime degree of M.M., both ceremonies being ably gone through by Bro. McKirdy, W.M.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Caledonian Railway (No. 354).—The regular monthly meeting of this lodge was held in the Masonic Hall, 30, Hope-street, on Wednes-

day evening, the 5th inst., Bro. A. B. Ferguson, W.M., occupied the chair, supported by Bros. John Harley, S.W.; Colin McKenzie, J.W.; D. Leitch, S.D.; and James Harley, J.D.; the meeting was particularly well attended by members and visiting brethren. Among the latter we noticed Bros. Julius Brodie, P.M. 360, and I.P.M. 541; W. Phillips, W.M. 556; W. J. E. Dobson, W.M. 571; Jasper Martin, D.M. 219; J. M. Oliver, S.W. 360; J. Brownlie, J.W. 34; T. Graham, J.W. 360; D. Reid, I.P.M. 465, and P.G.I.G.; W. Ferguson ("Freemason"); Michael F. Noel, Hiram Lodge No. 1, Connecticut U.S. of America; J. De Casseres, 34; N. Thomson, 581; W. Mabon, 581; and others. The lodge having been opened the W.M. proposed that Bro. W. Ferguson, P.M. 543, and Bro. H. Hardy, of Lodge Thistle, 87, be affiliated honorary members of the lodge for valuable services rendered by them, the same having met the unanimous consent of the brethren, they were then obligated by the W.M., and severally replied in suitable terms for the honour conferred. Bros. W. Chalmers, Peebles, J. McMillan, and A. Cruikshank were passed to the Fellow Craft Degree by Bro. Phillips, W.M. 556, in a very careful manner. The business being over the lodge was closed and the brethren adjourned to refreshment. The W.M. proposed "The Queen and the Craft," "The Three Grand Lodges of Glasgow," which were heartily drunk with all the accustomed honours. The S.W., Bro. Harley, proposed a special toast, to "The Health of their American Brother (Bro. Noel) which was enthusiastically responded to. Bro. Noel replied in a very feeling manner for the kind and welcome reception he received from the Scottish brethren, this being his first visit to a Scotch lodge. The J.W., Bro. McKenzie, proposed "The Visitors." Bro. De Casseres, 34, replied at some length. "The Health of the W.M." was proposed in capital style by Bro. Noel. Bro. Ferguson replied in suitable terms. The evenings' enjoyment was much enlivened by Bro. Hardy singing some excellent songs, and also gave some fine selections of music on the harmonium. After the last toast the brethren separated.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Commercial (No. 360).—The monthly meeting of this lodge was held in their hall 30, Hope-street, on Friday evening, the 7th inst. Bro. J. Monro, W.M., occupied the chair, supported by Bros. J. Brodie, P.M.; D. Lamb, D.M.; W. Findlay, S.M.; J. M. Oliver, S.W.; T. Graham, J.W.; G. Scott, Treas.; J. Smith, Sec.; W. Keiller, J.D.; R. Brodie, Dir. of Music; and J. Minnoch, Tyler. Among the visitors were Bros. W. J. E. Dobson, W.M. 571; D. Peacock, S.W. 581; J. Henry, J.W. 581; T. Harrison, 34; M. Barclay, 321; J. Allan, 399; John Smith, 94 (E.C.), and 1257 (E.C.); W. Ferguson, P.M. ("Freemason"); and a very full attendance of members. The lodge was opened, and the minutes of last meeting read and approved of. Mr. John McKechnie was initiated into the mysteries of Freemasonry by Bro. D. Lamb, D.M. A brother was passed to the Fellow Craft Degree by Bro. J. M. Oliver, S.W. The lodge was then opened in the Third Degree, and a brother was raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason, Bro. Brodie, P.M., administering the obligation, and the W.M., Bro. Monro, performing the remainder of the ceremony in a most accurate and impressive manner. The lodge was then resumed on the E. A. Degree and closed.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Dramatic (No. 571).—A very largely attended meeting of this lodge took place on Wednesday, the 5th inst., at 3 p.m., in St. Mark's Hall, 213, Buchanan-street, the W.M., Bro. W. J. E. Dobson, in the chair; H. W. Jackman, S.W., and W. Sivewright, J.W., with Bros. W. Barbour, Treas.; G. Weir, acting Sec.; R. S. Smyth, S.D.; Law Mitchell, J.D.; and J. Robertson, I.G. The W.M. was supported on the dais by Bros. Robt. Jack, W.M. St. John's, No. 128; J. Annand, Z. 144; and J. Findlay, S.M. 333. The lodge was opened in usual form, and the minutes of last regular meeting read and confirmed. The bye-laws, as drawn up by the committee appointed for that purpose, were then read clause after clause, and passed for the first time. Bro. Adam Gibb was then raised to the sublime degree of M.M. by Bro. W. Ferguson, P.M. 543 ("Freemason"). The lodge was then closed.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF HERTFORD.

The meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Hertford, the Right Worshipful Bro. T. F. Halsey, M.P., presiding, was held at Cheshunt Great House, Cheshunt Park, on Saturday, the 8th inst., when a large number of brethren of the Gresham and King Harold Lodges (which jointly received Prov. Grand Lodge on this occasion) and from other lodges in the provinces, besides many visitors from other parts were assembled. We have before referred to that interesting relic of past ages—Cheshunt Great House—which by the kindness of Bro. the Rev. C. May is the home of the two lodges above-mentioned, so that we need not again describe it. On the occasion of our first visit the Gresham had only just become domiciled there, and we must confess that they, and we presume the sister lodge also—have done much to improve it as a comfortable habitation.

On the present occasion the Lodge business was transacted in a large upper apartment of the building, the lower room or banquetting hall being reserved for its more legitimate uses.

Among the brethren present we observed the following: No. 869—Bros. Gompertz, Copestick, Wylie, Penrice, Hughes, Cheese, Rignall, Etherington, Eugene Renard, E. Power, &c. No. 1327—Bros. Sheldon, Tydemann, Roper, Crockett, T. Reilly, Wyatt, Malcolm, Lacy, Gilbert Cox, F. Robinson, J. Knight, W. Bradstock, &c. No. 1580—Bros. J. D. Massey, J. L. Mathews, J. Hillier, C. K. Killick,

Bauser H. Cox, &c. No. 504—Bros. E. Baxter, J. Winder, H. Lambert, W. Hendry, &c. No. 404—Bros. W. F. Green, Dawson, E. J. Foord; also Bros. Legg, 851; Bros. Boodts, 506; J. Taylor, 409; J. C. Cussans, 443; Pattison, 1385; H. C. Hearn, 403; S. Smith, 741; C. Henry, 201; E. C. Massey, 1267 ("Freemason"), and last though not least, our esteemed P.G. Chaplain, Bro. the Rev. W. Simpson.

The Prov. G. Sec. Bro. F. H. Wilson has having read the minutes of the last P. Grand Lodge, the Report of the Finance Board, upon the accounts, which had been printed and circulated, was ordered to be taken as read.

The P.G.S. having reported that the jewel of the P.G.P. was still missing, and that all endeavours to trace it had proved ineffectual.

Bro. Terry, P.G.D.C., proposed and the P.G.J.W. seconded a motion that a new jewel be provided which was carried.

The P.G. Secretary reported that the Bishops Stortford Lodge, of the removal of which Prov. G. Lodge had had notice, had intimated that the removal of the lodge had been duly reported to Grand Lodge.

Bro. Lowthier, P.G.S.W., P.M. 1385 and 1479:—Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master, in accordance with the notice that I gave at the last meeting I have now to propose that the sum of twenty guineas be given to the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls. I am sure I need not add any remarks of my own to this proposition because you all know so well how useful that Institution is.

The motion was seconded by the P.G.J.W.

Bro. Lambert: Right Worshipful P.G.M., if mine be the only voice against it, I shall object to the proposed vote. Have the brethren considered the vast amount of funded property the Institution possesses? I understand they want to increase the size of the buildings and increase the number of girls received, and when they have got them they will not be able to spend their income. The speaker concluded by proposing that the money should not be voted, which was seconded by Bro. Ponsonwait.

Bro. Wylie supported the original motion as he thought that endeavours should be continued to extend the benefits of the Institutions.

Another Brother suggested that the donation should not be made till it was required. They knew that the Institution did not require it.

Bro. Iles, P.G. Secretary: I wish to ask a question, which perhaps Bro. Terry can answer. Is it not intended very much to enlarge the Institution?

Bro. Terry, P.P.D.C.: The project is to expend a very large sum of money, and to take another ninety-four children. At the next election in October there are some forty applicants, and they will only be able to take in eight or nine.

Bro. Lambert inquired whether it would take £42,000 to provide for the reception of ninety-four children.

Bro. Terry: I understand that is the contract price for the arrangements for building and furnishing.

The P.G.M. then put the motion, which was carried.

Bro. Carter moved, and P.G.S.W. seconded that the sum of twenty guineas be added to Bro. Campkin's list, which was agreed to.

Bro. Carter: I rise with very great pleasure to propose a vote of £10 to the Gresham and King Harold Lodges, towards the expenses of receiving Provincial Grand Lodge, but I think that they should have afforded a little light refreshment before the assembling of Provincial Grand Lodge, as many brethren have come from thirty to forty miles to attend.

The motion was seconded by P.G. Secretary and carried unanimously.

Bro. Gompertz: Now that the motion is disposed of, I beg to explain that the lodges referred to had laboured under considerable disadvantages. They had only been in possession of this place a few months, and had had a great deal to do in cleaning and decorating, and making it as comfortable as possible. They had been at considerable expense of labour, time and money, the old hall was some hundreds of years old, and required a good deal of work to make it presentable. They had, as he had said, had a great deal to do, and he trusted that P.G. Lodge would, with true Masonic Charity, bear with them and forgive the oversight to which Bro. Carter had referred.

Bro. Lambert: The next proposition has been entrusted to me by Bro. Wilson, P.P.G.J.W. It is, that this Provincial Grand Lodge do consider the desirability of publishing a Masonic Calendar for the province. The speaker went on to say that people must have some amusement in the country, and he did not know anything more agreeable for Masons than visiting at each others' lodges; and for this purpose it was very desirable that they should have fuller information than they now possessed of the dates and places of meeting of all the lodges in the province. There were also places of interest in the province that it would be very delightful to have further information about. For instance, there was this magnificent house in which they were assembled, which belonged to almost the E. period, and would probably take us back as far as Henry II., and forward again to James II., about which would be very interesting if they had special information, and if such could be embodied in the calendar of the province, he thought the brethren would agree with him that it would be highly desirable.

The motion was seconded by Bro. Young.

Bro. Taylor: No doubt many brethren will say that this is a good notion, while others will argue that we should avoid putting too much in print with regard to Masonry. Publicity is necessary as regards the charities, because we want to know the times of the various meetings and so forth, and I think this Calendar will do good in that respect. As members of the Craft we believe and hope that all men are willing and able to do what they can for themselves, but as these calendars after a time will be very widely dispersed, I think that unscrupulous men will use

them, and ride about the province taking each individual lodge in succession, canvassing them for their own purposes. The Calendar would no doubt be useful, but I fear that difficulties will arise in years to come when it may be used in a manner we do not now contemplate. I think it is a matter that requires consideration before we adopt it.

Bro. Carter: I shall propose that a committee be formed during the forthcoming year to consider the desirability of publishing a Masonic Calendar for the province.

The Prov. Grand Master: Before I put this question I should like to say a few words myself, because it is a question I have considered, but I am bound to say that I wish the brethren to do exactly as they please, without their chairman making a speech much on one side or the other. But at the same I will say this, I cannot see the great objection to a Calendar that is under proper control as to the matter that is published in it. I think the province is getting so large now, and lodges are so scattered, that Masons in one part have but little opportunity of knowing what is doing in other parts of the province. A Calendar, which would contain all the detailed information is therefore very desirable. We are told that we can obtain this from the official Calendar of the Grand Lodge.

This is not quite correct; it is right as regards London lodges, but not as to provincial lodges. For instance, if we look at No. 869, we find that it meets on the first Wednesday or first Thursday, but not the months in which the meetings are held. Then as regards the publication of the names, it would be, I think, a great convenience to see at a glance who the officers and leading brethren of a lodge are, although of course one is supposed to know it; and it will become more difficult as lodges increase in number. We can of course find any information out of the books, but by having it in a Calendar we have it in a condensed form. When a matter is brought before me I can refer to my Calendar and see who the officers are without applying to the Secretary to send me a list. I cannot see that the question of improper applications for charity applies. I do not think it would be necessary to publish all the names of brethren in the province, and it seems to me that an unprincipled person seeking to make an improper use of the Calendar would find that it would entail more trouble than he would care to undertake. I do not see why the information should not be confined to the ordinary list of officers of the lodges, but I would point out in the case of any names no addresses are printed, and therefore I apprehend that the Masonic beggar would be unable to make out a programme. If he came to Waltham Cross he would find when he got there that a great many of those brethren lived in London; therefore, I think the risk is infinitesimal, and the question is the expense. Bro. Carter has published in a very public spirited manner, a calendar, but of course the question would be whether a sufficient number of brethren would support it to make it worth his while, if the brethren approve of the principle of this Calendar in the province.

[The conclusion of this report will be given next week.]

ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

The monthly meeting of the Committee of this Institution was held on Wednesday, at Freemasons' Hall, Bro. Benjamin Head in the chair, Bros. C. A. Cottebrune, Levy, J. Newton, Stephens, John G. Stevens, J. A. Farnfield, Charles Lacey, Hyde Pullen, L. Stean, Thos. W. White, Lane, H. Massey ("Freemason").

James Terry (Secretary) was also present.

After the reading and confirmation of the minutes the Secretary announced the deaths of two annuitants.

The Warden's report was also read, and in it was contained the information that Dr. Strong had presented the institution with 200 bedding out plants, which his gardener had planted. A vote of thanks was then unanimously passed to Dr. Strong for the gift.

The Financial Committee's report was as follows:—

MALE FUND.	
Balance last quarter	£3825 7 2
Subsequent receipts.....	1839 3 8
	5664 10 10
Disbursements.....	£1425 11 11
Purchase of Annuities.....	1880 0 0
	3305 11 11
	2358 18 11
WIDOWS.	
Balance last quarter	£1341 17 11
Receipts	1608 18 0
	2946 15 11
Disbursements.....	£1053 7 10
Purchase of Annuities.....	940 0 0
	1993 7 10
	953 8 1
Balance on Sustentation Fund.....	6 18 7
	£3319 5 7

Bro. Terry stated that out of the £9174 subscribed at last festival, all had been collected except £216. He also informed the Committee that he had received a letter from one of the old ladies whom the Committee had taken on to the fund without election, thanking them for what they had done. He further read a letter of thanks from Miss Norris for being elected Matron of the Asylum.

In answer to a question Bro. Terry said that the Cripplegate Lodge, which he consecrated three weeks ago, subscribed on the right of consecration £50 to the Benevolent Institution.

The proceedings terminated with a vote of thanks to the Chairman.

Masonic and General Tidings.

St. John's Gate has changed hands, and belongs again to the very Order of the Knights of St. John of Jerusalem who formerly possessed it. Bro. Sir Edmund Lechmere, M.P., has purchased the building. One of the upper rooms is in course of restoration for the purpose of serving as a chapel.

Bro. Alderman Hadley has met with a slight accident, which has rendered him lame, but not so as to prevent his attendance to his official duties.—"City Press."

The sum received at the Mansion House on behalf of the Metropolitan Hospital Sunday Fund amounts to about £26,500.

The Prince and Princess of Wales have signified their intention of visiting the Crystal Palace on Wednesday next, when they will be accompanied by the King and Queen of Greece. It being the first visit of the Prince to the Crystal Palace since his return from India, the occasion promises to be one of special interest.

Apartments are being prepared at Piershill Barracks, Edinburgh, for Bro. H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught, who will arrive there with his regiment on the 29th inst.

The members of the Navy Club gave their annual dinner to Bro. the Right Hon. George Ward Hunt at the First Lord of the Admiralty, on Wednesday evening at Willis's Rooms.

The consecration of the West Middlesex Lodge, No. 1612, will take place this (Saturday) afternoon, at 3.30, at the Ealing Institute, Ealing. The ceremony will be worked by the Grand Secretary. A full report of the proceedings will appear in our next.

The ceremony of consecration and installation will be worked on Wednesday next, at 7 o'clock, by Bro. Terry, at the Finsbury Park Lodge of Instruction, No. 1288, held at the Finsbury Park Tavern, Seven Sisters Road, Holloway. Bro. P. Dickinson, Preceptor. The brethren to assemble in full Masonic costume.

Bro. S. Pollitzer, P.M., 1077, P.Z. 188, 538, has been honoured by His Imperial Majesty the Emperor of Austria with the "golden cross of merit with the crown" for his great services rendered at the International Exhibition.

The appointment of Lord Suffield as Provincial Grand Master of Norfolk by H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M., as announced in the "Freemason" of May 6th has been officially confirmed. The installation will take place in October.

An evening costume recital, comprising dramatic, vocal, and instrumental selections, will take place on Monday next at the Horns Tavern, Kennington, for the benefit of Bro. Edgar Anderson.

The City of London Flower Show, originally fixed to take place on Tuesday, 11th inst., was postponed until Thursday, 13th inst., to meet the wishes of Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Teck.

Bro. Sir E. Lechmere was introduced to the House of Parliament on Monday last, and after the usual oaths, took his seat as member for West Worcestershire.

The Chapter of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem in England have voted the silver medal to Constant Van Hoydonck, the steward, and the bronze medal to the youth, Henry Trousselott, with velleum certificates, for their intrepid conduct on board the Lennie. The medals have been sent for the recipients to the Netherlands and Belgian Ministers.

The Rev. Dr. I. Strauss, Jewish minister of Bradford, has been appointed Chaplain of the Lodge of Harmony (600), Bradford. The greater number of the members of the lodge (including the Master) are Christians, and the appointment is therefore all the more gratifying. We can only regret there are still a few countries where the ruling principles of Freemasonry are disregarded by Masons, and Jews excluded by reason only of their faith. We question whether the time has not arrived for English Jewish Masons (an enormous number) to take a more spirited action in this matter. The act of the late Mr. Faudell in the Grand Lodge of England about a quarter of a century ago in raising an objection to the admission of the Crown Prince of Prussia (the present Emperor) on the ground of the exclusion of Jews from German lodges, is still remembered, and its significance should not be lost upon young and active Jewish Masons of the present day.—"Jewish Chronicle."

A report of the proceedings at the Summer Festival of the William Preston Lodge will appear in our next.

The fête of the National Temperance League at the Crystal Palace on Tuesday was very successful. The total number of visitors was 33,980. Towards the close of the day a banquet was held in the Grand Saloon, when about 400 persons took their seats, and listened to an able address from Mr. Richardson, M.D., F.R.S.

DAYLIGHT reflected in dark rooms. Gas superfluous in day time. Health, comfort, and economy promoted by adopting Chappuis' Patent Daylight Refracting Manufactory, 69, Fleet-street, London.

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—ADVT.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

COLONIAL and FOREIGN SUBSCRIBERS are informed that acknowledgments of remittances received are published in the first number of every month.

It is very necessary for our readers to advise us of all money orders they remit, more especially those from the United States of America and India; otherwise we cannot tell where to credit them.

TO OUR READERS.

The *Freemason* is a sixteen-page weekly newspaper, price 2d. It is published every Friday morning, and contains the most important, interesting, and useful information relating to Freemasonry in every degree. Annual subscription in the United Kingdom, Post free, 10/-.

P.O.O.'s to be made payable at the chief office, London.

NEW POSTAL RATES.

Owing to a reduction in the Postal Rates, the publisher is now enabled to send the "*Freemason*" to the following parts abroad for One Year for Twelve Shillings (payable in advance):—Africa, Australia, Bombay, Canada, Cape of Good Hope, Ceylon, China, Constantinople, Dehlerara, France, Germany, Gibraltar, Jamaica, Malta, Newfoundland, New South Wales, New Zealand, Suez, Trinidad, United States of America, &c.

TO ADVERTISERS.

The *Freemason* has a large circulation in all parts of the Globe, its advantages as an advertising medium can therefore scarcely be overrated.

For terms, position, &c., apply to
GEORGE KENNING, 198, Fleet-st.

Answers to Correspondents.

All Communications, Advertisements, &c., intended for insertion in the Number of the following Saturday, must reach the Office not later than 12 o'clock on Wednesday morning.

Bro. Baxter Langley's letter next week. It only reached us Thursday morning.

The following stand over:—Pattison Lodge, 913; St. John's Lodge, 273, Leicester; William Preston Lodge, 796; Hartington Lodge, 1085.

BOOKS, &c., RECEIVED.

"High Pressure Business Life," by Henry Smith, M.D.; "The Masonic Eclectic," G. H. Ramey, Editor and Publisher, U.S.; "The Voice of Masonry;" "The Keystone;" "The New York Dispatch;" "Masonic Journal," Greenborough, U.S.; "The Home Chronicle," E. W. Allen, 11, Ave Maria Lane; "Domestic Book," G. G. P. Harris, Head and Meek; part I; "Masonic Herald."

ERRATUM.

BOYS' FESTIVAL.—Bro. J. H. Ebsworth writes, "In last week's issue, opposite 1178, Bro. Stock, you print £10 10s. This is certainly a glaring error, the lodge having given £15 15s. I should imagine that the amount would be nearer sixty guineas than ten."

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

[The charge is 2s. 6d for announcements, not exceeding four lines, under this heading.]

BIRTHS.

BRERETON.—On the 3rd inst., at Fort-st., Bro. George, Madras, the wife of Capt. J. Brereton, of a daughter.
ELLIOT.—On the 3rd inst., at Holy Trinity Vicarage, Bournemouth, the wife of the Rev. P. F. Elliot, of a son.
EVANS.—On May 15th, at Alderley-Natal, South Africa, the wife of Mr. M. J. Evans, of a daughter.
GROVES.—On the 2nd inst., at Marylebone-road, the wife of B. A. Groves, of a daughter.
WEST.—On the 6th inst., at Catford Bridge, Kent, the wife of A. T. West, of a daughter.
WHALE.—On the 5th inst., at Windsor, the wife of R. S. Whale, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

CAMPBELL—CLAVERINN.—On the 5th inst., at Winlaton, Henry Alexandra Campbell, Esq., R.A., to Ivy Valerie, daughter of Sir H. A. Clavering, Bart.
WHITE—DICKSON.—On the 6th inst., at Kinlough Church, the Rev. J. W. Dickson, uncle to the bride, William Henry White, Esq., of Cloon, county Leitrim, son of the late George White, Esq., J.P., D.L., of Shruha, county L. to Audrey Harriette Dickson, fifth daughter of John Reynolds Dickson, Esq., J.P., Woodville and Tullaghan House, county Leitrim.
WOOD—THOMAS.—On the 5th inst., at St. Paul's, Holgate, York, Lionel Richard, son of R. Wood, Esq., of Bayswater, to Mary Jane, daughter of the late H. W. Thomas, Esq.

DEATHS.

CHESHIRE.—On the 5th inst., at Southend, Daniel Davies Cheshire, of Alma-road, Dalston, aged 36.
MERCER.—On the 3rd inst., at Gainsborough, Fletcher Mercer, aged 73.
OLDFIELD.—On the 5th inst., at Bourne, Lincolnshire, Sarah Anne, wife of Lieut.-Col. C. J. Oldfield, in her 30th year.
WARE.—On the 5th inst., at Berger-road, Homerton, William Ware, in his 57th year.

The Freemason,

SATURDAY, JULY 15, 1876.

THE PROGRESS OF THE CONTROVERSY.

The readers of the "*Freemason*" will be aware that an animated controversy is going on in its weekly columns with reference to the last meeting of Grand Lodge and the vote it came to on the proposition of our distinguished Bro. P.G. Warden, John Havers. So far, the contest seems rather one-sided, to speak the truth, both as to argument and opinion, as with the exception of Bro. Baxter Langley, a somewhat dangerous ally, our good brother P.G.C., R. J. Simpson seems to stand alone, whatever he may have done in Grand Lodge. Indeed, we have reason to believe that a widespread feeling of regret exists in the Craft in respect of the hasty decision of Grand Lodge. The argument of Bro. Havers is, we believe, as we have always said, unanswerable, logically and Masonically, and we feel bound to reiterate our honest conviction, that no more hollow, unreal, mistaken cry ever was heard than the denominational one by which many were induced to give a vote "in haste," which, we believe, they have already repented of "at leisure." When we look at the whole question as now before us many considerations must arise before the mind of the thinking Mason. The result, so far, is a "deadlock;" as even supposing that a committee be appointed in September nothing can be done until the Grand Lodge meeting in January, and by that time all immediate interest in the proposal itself as a present act of grateful recognition must have died away. Those who so voted for the postponement of Bro. Havers's motion forget the old adage, ever true, "Bis dat qui dat cito." Another point clearly before us is this, that any proposed appropriation to the Charities will be met by a strenuous and earnest opposition on the part of a very large number of brethren who detest selfishness and dislike unreality. The only possible proposal would be the creation of one or more scholarships, and even that proposal is attended with serious difficulties, as it is, Grand Lodge funds we are proposing to deal with, not the voluntary offerings of brethren of the Craft. After the response made to the appeals of our Charities in this year of Light and Grace, 1876, by our generous brotherhood, it would be worse than idle, indeed, it would be too absurd to ask Grand Lodge to make a specific grant to any of our great institutions. We are among those who have the gravest doubts as to the constitutional propriety of Bro. R. J. Simpson's amendment. We apprehend that really and truly no motion and no distinct amendment involving special action can come before Grand Lodge which has not been previously submitted to the Board of Masters. The Book of Constitutions, page 20, distinctly states that "any member of the Grand Lodge intending to make motion therein, or to submit any matter to its consideration, shall at a such general committee state in writing the nature of his intended motion or business that the same may be read. No motion or other matter shall be brought into discussion in the Grand Lodge unless it shall have been previously communicated to this general committee." And the Book of Constitutions gives the following simple yet good reason for this wholesome enactment in the same section, at the same page. "It being essential to the interests of the Craft that all matters of business to be brought under the consideration of the Grand Lodge should be previously known to the Grand Officers and Masters of lodges, that through them all the representatives of lodges may be apprised of such business, and be prepared to decide thereon without being taken by surprise." Brother F.G.C. Simpson gave notice constitutionally to the Board of Masters of a specific motion which he withdrew in Grand Lodge, but the amendment which he proposed was entirely distinct alike in meaning and scope, and ought, we feel certain, to have been submitted to the Board of Masters, in order to make it a valid motion. We are well aware that the

law of amendment is a very wide one in public bodies and in general meetings, but as a Grand Lodge we are governed by certain regulations, which are to us as the laws of the Medes and Persians, and properly so, for the welfare and safety of us all alike. Bro. Simpson had clearly a right to meet Bro. Havers's motion with a direct negative, but having withdrawn his own original motion submitted to the Board of Masters, he was bound, in our humble opinion, also to submit his amendment, which became practically a new motion, to the Board of Masters. Our brethren will see, we think, the important question involved in the subject under discussion, and so strongly do we feel on the point, that had we been present in Grand Lodge we should certainly have raised the question on this point of order. But another doubt comes in. Must not Bro. R. J. Simpson's amendment, if it is constitutional per se, be confirmed? We think so for the following reasons:—Though not verbally a "motion for a grant of money," see page 27, sec. 8, Book of Constitutions, it is essentially and practically so, as being preparatory to such a motion, and therefore requires confirmation. Remembering, for instance, the practice of the House of Lords, how jealously the privileges of the House of Commons are guarded, in respect of a money vote, or any resolution approaching to implying a money vote, we feel that such a motion as that of Bro. Simpson's, which is but the first step to a vote of money by Grand Lodge, requires confirmation. Had Bro. Havers's motion been carried, it must have been confirmed, and we apprehend that Bro. Simpson's motion requires confirmation also, because it is by implication a motion practically to bring about a "grant of money." Whether or no, the constitutionality of the amendment per se can be substantiated, must be left to the proper authorities, and next meeting of Grand Lodge, and we only express our humble but careful opinion on the subject "quantum valet." A suggestion has been made in our columns, that the £2000 should be raised by subscriptions amongst our brotherhood. We heartily approve of such a proposal, and shall be happy to further it in any way in our power, which may appear desirable to its zealous promoters. If any of our readers wish to express their opinion on the matter, we shall be willing, within due bounds, to give them space in our columns, though just now, and for some months to come, the "*Freemason*" will be kept down to its normal issue of 16 pages.

PEACE OR WAR.

Let us hope that the good Angel of Peace may yet interfere and arrest the progress of a civil war in the East, and the ruin and destruction of a harmless population. Some of the accounts of the atrocities in Bulgaria, committed by the Bashi Bazuks and Redifs, are too awful to credit, and we hope a prompt denial will be given to them, especially the sale of Bulgarian girls, the torture of Bulgarian men, and the dishonour of Bulgarian women. If these accounts be in any manner verified the fact must take away all sympathy on the part of Englishmen and Freemasons for any Government, Turkish or other, which permits such detestable horrors. In the meanwhile we may console ourselves with the reflection that so far the telegraphic news on both sides is equally unreliable, consisting apparently for the most part of defeats which have never taken place and of battles which have never been fought.

NOTICE TO CONTRIBUTORS AND CORRESPONDENTS.

Some complaints having been made of the length of our "lodge reports, &c.," as until our Masonic Lodge life begins again the "Supplement" from time to time will be discontinued, we think it well to say that during the summer months, as we deem not unseasonable or unreasonable, we shall use our editorial privilege very freely of condensing and abbreviating the sometimes too elaborate effusions of our many kind contributors and valued correspondents. Publisher and Editor beg alike, warmly to thank many sincere and zealous friends for favours past and present, an earnest, they hope, of many similar favours yet to come.

(Communique).

ANOTHER PAMPHLET.

"The cry is still they come."—Shakespeare.

As another pamphlet is circulating in the good Province of West Yorkshire, and so far, not like its memorable predecessor, "suppressed," I have thought it right to take upon myself the responsibility of treating it as a public, and certainly a most personal document, and publishing it in the columns of the "Freemason" for the information of all whom it may concern. My first impression was to write a letter to Bro. Kenning on the subject with "extracts," but had I done so, I felt persuaded that I should have at once been met by the asseveration that I had only given "garbled extracts." I have, therefore, thought it better to publish the pamphlet in "extenso," so that all may peruse its "ipsissima verba," harmless as they really are in themselves, recalling the old line at once, "willing to wound, but yet afraid to strike." I think, too, that those of my brethren who read this "last pamphlet," as well as those who are assailed by it, will probably laugh at it as heartily as I have done, though, with myself, they will feel great pity for the brother Freemason, who could pen, much less print and circulate, so un-Masonic a pamphlet. How far such a "production" is within or without our own Masonic laws, is a matter for serious consideration, but for obvious reasons, public and personal, I feel sure that it is for the best, that the entire Craft should have the opportunity of appreciating such a remarkable specimen of classic English and brotherly good taste. When the suppressed pamphlet appeared, (clearly libellous and actionable), it ought also to have been printed for the animadversion and condemnation of the entire Craft, but that was not done on purely Masonic grounds, and the higher feelings of Masonic consideration. But the repetition of this odious system of pamphleteering attacks, in my opinion leaves no alternative to those who like myself, despise libellous and slanderous attacks, whether those of the surreptitious or the open defamer. I do not think it well to allude to any of the personal attacks on myself, as they are beneath notice, and I can well afford to leave them to the fraternal consideration of numerous friends and brethren up and down the country, at home and abroad, who will give me credit, I know for, habitual courtesy and gentlemanly behaviour, and Masonic good feeling on all occasions. Indeed, my motto all through my life generally and Masonically has been, "Honour all men." Neither do I think it befitting in me to allude to the insult offered to the Quarterly Court in calling it a "packed meeting," or by implication to our distinguished Bro. J. Clabon, who so well presided over that numerous assembly of brethren from all parts of England. Let it be remembered that only some half-dozen, or thereabout, hands were held up, positively against the overwhelming majority of nearly 200 who voted for the needful motion of confidence generally in the executive. Neither do I dwell upon the attack on Bro. Col. Ridgway, well able gallantly to defend himself. He was not the only brother who had to complain of unseemly interruption. Neither do I comment on the attack on the House Committees, both of the Boys' and the Girls' School, nor the modest proposal, having just before praised the economical government of the Girls' School, to change its House Committee, as well as the Boys'. In all truth, the best answer to all these foolish statements and suggestions is to be found, in the determination of all other provinces in England to support the Executive authorities of the School, and to condemn that hateful personal feeling which has been introduced into this unseemly controversy. But I must ask attention to three passages in the pamphlet. When Bro. Tew compares the Investigation Committee as he calls it, with the Charity Committee of the Province over which I had the honour to preside in 1869, he makes use of an illustration almost too puerile to notice. The one was the Constitutional Committee of the Province, acting in aid of the Boys' School, under the special approval of the P.G.M., and raising money towards that very expenditure openly which has now been condemned as extravagant. The other is a

committee, in my opinion, unconstitutionally appointed originally, and illegal, according to the minutes of the Provincial Grand Lodge itself. But let that pass. Indeed, I for one look upon the Report as nothing but a censure cast upon the Charity Committee, and the Provincial Grand Lodge in 1869, which unanimously voted £500 towards the very building expenses which are now called in question. The statement at page 2, that Bro. Tew's "previous pamphlets" were "replies," in part, to Bro. Henry Watson's lucid and peaceful pamphlet in 1873 (the first pamphlet in this trumpety business having been published in 1875), is one of the most astounding that I have ever read in my whole life. The naive admission also, at page 2, that "without the private pamphlets acting as a preliminary to prepare the way, the Investigation Committee could not have so soon come to their conclusion," must be felt to be extremely flattering by the "Investigation Committee," and I recommend such a passage to the notice especially of Bro. Gill, who knows as well as any one the legal value of "ex parte" informations. With this little preface I leave the "last Pamphlet" to tell its own tale, in its "unadorned eloquence" and literal truthfulness. It is, indeed, a sad commentary alike on Masonic professions and Masonic brotherhood!

July 10th, 1876.

A.F.A.W.

I cannot omit one little amusing instance of the "animus" of the writer. In the first issue of the pamphlet, which is the copy here printed from, the D.P.G.M. of West Yorkshire, had stated that I was "late of the Fidelity Lodge." I never had the honour of belonging to the Fidelity Lodge in my life, being a member of the Philanthropic, 304, a fact which must and ought to have been known to the D.P.G.M. of a province, who has all the lodge returns before him, and, indeed, was well known to him. In another issue of the pamphlet these words are marked through with ink, without any acknowledgment of a private letter on the subject, or any expression of regret at so very peculiar a mistake.

THE GRANGE, CARLETON,
PONTEFRAC, 30th May, 1876.

To the Secretary of the Philanthropic Lodge, No. 304, Leeds.
Dear Sir and Brother,

I beg you will convey to the W.M. and brethren of your lodge my gratitude for their resolution received this day, which is the more peculiarly welcome on account of the circumstances attending the Rev. F. A. Woodford's resolution of the 10th of April before the Quarterly Court, in Freemasons' Hall.

I rejoice to think the lodges of West Yorkshire are beginning to understand the gravity of that resolution, and that the reception the representatives of the West Yorkshire Investigation Committee, and the other West Yorkshire brethren, met with at the hands of that reverend gentleman, and the members of the Quarterly Court, was of the rudest and most ungracious description. But it is for the lodges of West Yorkshire to say whether they will quietly sit down under the stigma cast upon the province by that resolution, or whether, and in what manner, they will stand by the report of their own investigation into the R.M.I. for Boys at Wood Green.

I, for my part, have done my duty, without fear or favour, in analysing the official reports for the information of the Craft; and feel that I never can again advocate the claims of the Masonic Boys' School upon the brethren of West Yorkshire unless a great reformation is accomplished in the financial, educational, and internal arrangements of that Charity.

My convictions I shall not abate, but I give this testimony that in all I have written or said, I have been influenced by the most ardent desire to promote the reformations, and the ultimate welfare of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, for which I feel sure that those who know me best will give me credit.

I assure the brethren of your lodge that I have anxiously investigated every statement and account presented in the published authorised official reports of the school for the last six years, and in the pamphlets I have issued thereon. The various statements contained in them have never yet been disproved, and I am convinced that those brethren who have the leisure and the will to study the past history of the Boys' School, and investigate the accounts set forth in the official reports, will not fail to arrive at the conclusion of the Investigation Committee, that the management of the Boys' School, on moral, educational, and financial grounds, calls for a thorough remodelling.

I defend the circulation of the pamphlets and Investigation Report for the reason that it would have been utterly hopeless to appeal to those, who through the indifference of Life Governors and other subscribers, have so long been responsible for the past and present state of affairs at the School. Those pamphlets were replies to those of Bro. Henry Watson, S.W., No. 1386, published 1873; to the letter of the Boys' School Secretary, 19th

June, 1875, his Festival Circular, 7th July, 1875, and to the pamphlet of June, 1875, already openly characterized as weak, offensive, and evasive.

I found out a year ago that had any one ventured to question such venerable senators as the Executive of the House Committee on their management, or want of management, of the institution, he would have been voted out of order and laughed at for his enquiry, for the object of the House Committee seems to be to stifle all legitimate enquiry.

The Investigation Report was a report founded on all the statements in the Official Reports, while, without the private pamphlets acting as a preliminary to prepare the way, the Investigation Committee could not have so soon come to their conclusions; and although Mr. Woodford made a great point of what he professed to consider the unconstitutional and unprecedented appointment of the West Yorkshire Committee, you cannot have failed to notice that almost in the same breath he appealed to the labours of a previous committee of the same province, in which he himself took a prominent part. With the resolutions come to by that committee I do not in any way quarrel, they may have been perfectly justified; but our report covers the ground subsequent to that occupied by Mr. Woodford. His investigations terminate with 1869, when we take up the examination, with, however, a diametrically opposite result, showing a subsequent extravagance almost unparalleled in the history of such institutions.

A greater insult and slight were never cast upon a generous province than was done by the resolution of the Rev. A. F. Woodford, on the 10th April. Thirty brethren or more from the most influential lodges in this province hastily went up to London on the invitation of this resolution, a copy of which had been received from Mr. Binckes by the D.P.G.M. of West Yorkshire only four days before the meeting in Freemasons' Hall, one of those days being a Sunday. Was it not unfair thus to give West Yorkshire no time to organise supporters to face the Quarterly Court, which was on that occasion a packed committee on purpose to out-vote West Yorkshire, and which was determined not to hear one word the representatives of your Investigation Committee had to say?—Bro. Moss, the clerk of the Sheffield School Board, the member of the Investigation Committee, well qualified to speak on any educational question, being rudely and violently refused a hearing, and West Yorkshire being consequently degraded in the eyes of the Craft.

Our province has now £10,049 15s. invested in these Boys' Schools, and is in the possession of 2145 votes. Nearly one-seventh of the whole £75,145 18s. 3d. paid by the voluntary subscriptions of the Craft for the schools and the maintenance of boys, as per the Official Reports, has been contributed by West Yorkshire, leaving to all the other provinces of Grand Lodge six-sevenths divisible amongst them. Was then the conduct of the Quarterly Court to Bro. Moss, candid or just to the representatives of such a generous province? Was the Rev. A. F. Woodford, the former chairman of the West Yorkshire Charity Committee, justified in forcing his resolution upon a packed meeting? From his sacred calling, and being P. Prov. C. of West Yorkshire, he ought to have been the first to advocate that West Yorkshire brethren should have been listened to with respect; and had this been the case, the important information in possession of West Yorkshire would have been brought before the court, and probably the vote upon his resolution suspended. But the London Executive were afraid of truth, and West Yorkshire was treated with the grossest disrespect. The brethren have, however, a great, a noble, and a just cause in hand, the reformation of the management of these schools, and West Yorkshire will, I doubt not, take up the matter and work out the solution in its own earnest and ready manner.

Contrast the reception which the Governors gave to the West Yorkshire brethren with that accorded to Bro. Ridgway, who, when a mild "No" was occasionally interposed in the course of his oration, as an indication that he was outstepping the bounds of truth, and as a warning that a full contradiction was forthcoming, with a lion-like roar asserted his determination not to be "put down by clamour," and then refer to the list of subscriptions and donations to the Boys' School, and ascertain how much he and his province do for the institution in which he professes so loud an interest. Compare for instance the £37 16s. contributed by Devonshire, with its 41 lodges and 14 chapters, in the year 1874 (the last published account), in 15 donations, with the £662 11s. contributed during the same time by West Yorkshire, with its 59 lodges and 19 chapters, in 68 donations, and then say which province has shown its practical interest in the institution—which has most stones in the building.

Bro. Ridgway was the chairman of the sham Investigation Committee which sat in Freemasons' Hall last November, and the mention of his name will remind you of the document to which he then put his name, and which was intended to have the effect of endorsing the acts of the Boys' School Committee. Why was not Bro. Winn's sensible suggestion to have a professional accountant adopted?

The antecedent facts were: Under the head of "Gratuities to (with grants and outfits for) boys on leaving the institution," a sum amounting to £124 5s. is not accounted for, and cannot be found in any of the authorised published Official Reports of the Boys' School, and no subsequent act of the committee can now place it there, although they may perhaps give some explanation of its absence. The money is not accounted for in the manner in which it should have been accounted for; of that there can be no doubt in the mind of any one who will examine the reports, and the Select Committee must at once have discovered that fact. In this strait what did they do? They went to some pigeon-hole in the Secretarial Office, and obtained certain receipts which they carefully packeted, and

labelled as A, B, or C, these being the receipts whose existence was ignored in the Official Reports, but which should have modified the statements therein published. With these receipts in hand, the Committee announce that the £124 5s. is duly "accounted for;" a matter none of us ever disputed, our stand-point being that it was not accounted for in the Official Reports, which were therefore fallacious and misleading. The wish that all might seem right begat doubtless the happy finding of that November Committee which was to silence all further enquiries.

Let me now instance a comparison in reference to cost or capital expenditure. Bro. R. W. Little, the Secretary of the Girls' School, has informed me that when the present alterations at St. John's Hill are completed, over 200 girls will be domiciled at that Masonic institution. The total capital outlay, including these alterations, will be between £29,000 or £30,000; but Wood Green, with beds for 181 boys (and only 177 said to be in the school) has cost £56,926 9s. 6d. For the cost of Girls' School, maintenance of fabric, and the clothing and education of these 200 girls or more, Mr. Little asks from the Craft as annual expenditure, only £8479; whilst in 1874 the same costs for 177 boys in Wood Green amounted to £10,075, according to the Investigation Report, and on the 10th of April, the Quarterly Court, without the Governors and subscribers being allowed to express an opinion, "authorised the payment of £2000 purchase money for the freehold of Kent House, with land required as a sanatorium."

This being so, let us enquire what this property is, and why it should be purchased at so large an expenditure of charitable funds. The house was itself till some nine or ten months ago in the possession of a case maker in Gray's Inn-road, who held the remainder of the lease, some 17 years out of 88. The property was offered for sale some 18 months previously to being taken as a sanatorium, and the only land belonging to it is a small strip of garden ground. Its rooms are small, and no doubt another two or three hundred pounds will have to be spent to adapt them for the purposes of dormitories, &c. It is about 50 yards away from the institution, on the opposite side of the roadway, has the appearance of being damp, and has been considered, by a brother competent to value, not to be worth more than £800 or £1000. If it is necessary to build an infirmary, with dormitories for fever patients and general ailments, could not one have been erected at considerably less cost than Kent House and site on a portion of the orchard at the back of the farm buildings belonging to the school? I point to this Kent House matter as an instance of how the voluntary subscriptions of the brethren are to be appropriated.

Your West Yorkshire Charity report, 25th March, 1876, says, "The institution has only £2000 funded property, and is greatly in need of subscriptions and donations." Let me add to this statement that the £2000 was invested by the London Executive, 6th November, 1875, at the time the West Yorkshire Committee was sitting at Leeds enquiring into how £2257 10s. for West Yorkshire presentations in 1870 and 1872 have been expended, and may fairly be considered as the mere capitalization of those West Yorkshire presentations.

The last Official Report says, "Important changes have taken place in the Instruction Department." These changes of Masters must be detrimental to the educational efficiency of the school. There were two new Masters in 1874, eleven in 1875; and, again, there are six new Masters, April, 1876, who it is said decline to comply with the terms for service sought to be "imposed" upon them.

Take the examinations of Christmas 1875. The Cambridge lists show that of 18 boys sent up for examination only 14 passed. Both the seniors failed. Of 174 boys "in" the school, seven of the boys out of the 14 who passed last Christmas, were boys who passed the same examination in December 1874. So that only seven new boys succeeded at Christmas 1875. Yet these educational failures have cost on an average the sum of £54 10s. 3d. each boy. On the other hand, the boys from the London Orphan Asylum at Watford, who were submitted to a similar intellectual trial, as candidates at the Oxford Local Examination, all passed, one boy as a Senior, with the title of Associate in Arts; five boys being Juniors, with a certificate.

But there are even greater allegations against the management of this most costly institution. Two boys have recently died at the school, one being a West Yorkshire boy. What were the circumstances attending the deaths of these boys? Other boys, it would appear, are likewise not treated with that motherly care in this institution which the Governors and subscribers to the schools, as the guardians of the orphan Boys, have a right to expect. I hope for the "honour" of the Craft that there will be spirit enough to enquire both how the boys when poorly are treated, and what has been the position of the Assistant Masters at Wood Green.

Lastly, look at the composition of the House Committee. You will find Messrs. Browne, Chancellor, Dubois, Head, and Paas were certainly nominated in 1869, if not considerably before this date. You will also find that Bros. Henry Browne, Henry Dubois, Benjamin Head, William Paas, and Raynham Stewart are on the list of members of the House Committee of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls. These Charities are managed by a clique. Are not some of them domiciled foreigners? How can foreigners understand about the management of English charitable institutions? The gentlemen of 1869 might very well retire in favour of other brethren. A large mixture of Yorkshire independence and energy might influence the rest of the Committee to inquire into the matters complained of in the West Yorkshire Investigation Report, and lead to a thorough remodelling of the schools.

On the other side is a copy of the Rev. A. F. A. Woodford's resolution, late of Fidelity Lodge, No. 289.

Again thanking your lodge for the resolution of confidence, I remain, dear Sir and Brother, yours fraternally,
THOMAS WILLIAM TREW.

[Copy of Circular.]

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

Quarterly General Court, Freemasons' Hall, Monday, April 10, 1876. Twelve o'clock at noon.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

At the Court to be held as above, the following notice of motion will be submitted:—

By V.W. Bro. Rev. A. F. A. Woodford, P.G. Chaplain, and P. Prov. G.W. West Yorkshire.—That, having in view recent imputations cast on the administration of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, this Court deems it to be its duty to express its unabated confidence in the House and Audit Committees and executive.

Your attendance at half-past twelve, if not inconvenient to you, will be esteemed a favour by, dear Sir and Brother,
Yours faithfully and fraternally,

F. BINCKES.

Original Correspondence.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for, or even as approving of the opinions expressed by our correspondents, but we wish, in a spirit of fair play to all, to permit—within certain necessary limits—free discussion.—Ed.]

THE M.W.G.M. AND GRAND LODGE.

(To the Editor of the Freemason.)

Dear Sir and Brother.—

I have perused with a very considerable amount of interest the correspondence and the articles that have from time to time appeared in your journal upon the matter that was brought before Grand Lodge at the last Quarterly Communication to commemorate Masonically H.R.H. the M.W.G.M.'s safe return from India, and I must confess that I as a Mason am exceedingly surprised that the subject in question, which should have been decided unanimously, has led to the public ventilation of many very unseemly party and sectarian opinions. The "unenlightened" are led to believe that we are a "band of brothers," but what must they now think when they read in the columns of the press that there is not only a divided opinion upon the proposed Grand Lodge Commemoration, but that religious and almost anti-religious observations and denominational personalities are freely indulged in by those who have all voluntarily enlisted in that noble cause, whose glorious "semper eadem" should be "loyalty, unity, and charity." There is no doubt that our M.W.G.M. is deeply touched by the reception he has received from all classes of the community upon his safe arrival home, after undergoing great fatigue and no little danger whilst performing that which was—whatever may be said to the contrary—a national necessity, but I most respectfully beg to express an opinion that it cannot but be distasteful to H.R.H. to know that many of the Masonic brotherhood have thought fit to make the proposed Craft memorial of his return not only a vexed question, but that they have also taken advantage of the opportunity to plunge into a sea of polemical discussion. Although I quite agree with many of your readers that a certain portion of one of your correspondent's letters had better have been left unwritten, yet the fact must not be lost sight of that notwithstanding Freemasonry owns no particular sect, among its numerous members are many men of high social and moral culture whose ideas upon certain topics are exceedingly broad and outré. My object in troubling you with this letter is to respectfully suggest to those prominent members of the Grand Lodge and others interested that in dealing with this question they will endeavour to bring such a scheme forward as will meet with the unqualified approval of the entire Craft, and thereby happily prevent a repetition of those heated and unfriendly arguments and oratorical displays—"pro and con"—which were indulged in at the last Quarterly Communication, otherwise the outer world will have good occasion to believe that our loyalty, unity, and charity exists but in our imagination. In "days of yore," when the Craft was in rather a precarious position, Masonic intelligence was very meagre and but rarely sought after, but as the cause has prospered most wonderfully within the last—comparatively—few years, and as every religious, political, and professional community has its public organ devoted to the promulgation of its ideas and doings, it was only right that Freemasons should have—what they have fortunately now got—a representative press. Public attention being for obvious reasons greatly drawn to the Craft, and as the publication "in extenso" of its proceedings is at the present time general, it should always be borne in mind that discussions and correspondence upon any Masonic mooted question should be conducted with a perfect freedom from denominational and other objectionable personalities, otherwise the very groundwork of our great Masonic profession, "brotherly love," will be regarded by the uninitiated as possessing merely a theoretical instead of a practical foundation.

In concluding this letter I think that one of our Rev. Bro. Simpson's suggestions, that a wing should be added to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution to Masonically commemorate the Prince of Wales's Indian visit and safe return, would meet with cosmopolitan approval.

The Boys' and Girls' Schools are, of course, objects of great interest to us, but their occupants are young, and, as a body, strong and healthy, and when discharged from those institutions are fit to enter, both morally and physically, for the "race of life;" but the benevolent objects of the other establishment are "in the sere and yellow leaf," and require every attention to render their declining years enjoyable.

It may, and very justly, be urged that there are more applications for admission into the schools than can be accommodated; but the majority of these applicants have the blessings of health and strength on their side, which

the numerous petitioners for a participation of the benefits of the Benevolent Institution have not.

In common with many other members of the Craft, I sincerely hope that if anything is done to perpetuate our M.W.G.M.'s brilliant and successful tour to and from the sunny land of India, that the cause of those who when in the heyday of youth and prosperity courted and received "Masonic light," doubtless, little thinking that the time would arrive when penury and its attendant evils would necessarily compel them in the "sunset of life," to solicit its philanthropy, namely, the "poor and distressed Masons" will not be forgotten.

Yours truly and fraternally,

T.C.W. 141, 1381, 1503, 1512, &c.

OF PROPOSING (JOINING) MEMBERS.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

The courtesy of my assumed corrector, "W. S. L.," demands from me some recognition of his letter in your last impression but one, as well as a brief explanation of the position taken up in the epistle which called it forth.

Prima facie, and unaided by any other light drawn from the Book of Constitutions than that which is derived from the clause he quotes (Rule 1, page 83), "W. S. L.'s" construction would appear to be unimpeachable; nevertheless, I think my view is the correct one after all, at all events, I have reason to know that the authorities at Grand Lodge hold that a brother cannot even be proposed as a joining member in open lodge, much less admitted or elected, unless the lodge be not only open but regular i.e., a regular meeting of the lodge according to its by-laws.

A gloss on the words "open lodge" would read, "Open lodge in this sense has always been construed as 'regular' lodge meeting." Why? Well, it is after all only by inference, deduction, and construction with another part of the Constitutions that we get at the reason.

At page 64, by Rule 9, it is enacted that "the business to be transacted at . . . (a) lodge of emergency shall be expressed in the summons, recorded on the minutes, and no other business shall be entered upon."

The authoritative jurists of the Craft rule that a proposition, when it can be legally made, is business, and no business (as we have seen) can be entered upon at a lodge of emergency that is not expressed in the summons.

As this explication to my mind did not dispose of every difficulty, I ventured to enquire further of one well skilled in the application of the law of the Craft, and thoroughly acquainted with the reading at head-quarters, what would be the effect, supposing that the summons for a lodge of emergency brought an intended proposition within the business expressed, and complied with the law by specifying after or among the other business for which the lodge of emergency was called "To propose for election at the next regular meeting of the lodge brother so and so, of such a lodge, &c.?" Nay, I contend, I can go farther than that. It is conceivable that a lodge of emergency could be called for the sole purpose of receiving the proposition of a brother as a joining member. Assume a case. A., a member of "Blue Apron" Lodge has a pressing desire to become also a member of Red Apron Lodge. Now, Red Apron Lodge adjourns from March to October. "No matter," says A. "plenty of time." In October my friend B. will propose me at the regular lodge meeting, and in November, at the next regular lodge meeting, I shall no doubt be duly elected." But behold, during the summer, events occur, which render it unavoidable, that between the October and the November meetings B. shall leave the country for, say eight or nine months. The reasons why B. might wish to expedite his admission to Red Apron Lodge will occur to most brethren; reasons sufficiently potent in his mind, we will assume, to induce him to offer personally to incur the entire expense of a lodge of emergency to be called in September for the sole purpose of proposing him in open lodge, that being the express and only business specified in the summons, in order that he may be duly admitted in regular open lodge meeting in October. Would that be legal? It seems difficult to say from the Book of Constitutions that it would not. I cannot find where the law in such an instance would have been left uncompleted with. I did not put the case to my friend with the detail I have used here, but supposed such a proceeding generally as an illustrative test. His reply was that according to inviolable and traditional construction a proposition of a joining member is not business that can be legally entered upon at a lodge of emergency. This seems to me to amount to a reliance upon the saving qualification expressed but unwritten, "when it can be legally made," which I cited some lines above, and to my mind partakes of that form of ratiocination which logicians describe as arguing in a circle, or as a lady might put it, "It isn't legal because it isn't." My esteemed and able friend, however, from whom I got the ruling, is of course not responsible for a construction that involves reading the second line of the rule as if the word "regular" were interpolated between the words "open" and "lodge," and the corollary, which, however, didn't strike me during the conversation, but, which I shall, by-and-bye, proceed to show is inevitable, that the word "meeting" must be implied as following the word "lodge."

My friend added that at all events such a case as I had assumed had never yet arisen, and I am inclined to think it is not at all likely to arise at any very early date, so that, to use a common saying, "We may take up that load when we come to it." Such an exceptional circumstance as the necessity to give notice in a circular convening a lodge of emergency of an intention at that meeting to propose a joining member to be balloted for (as he only could be balloted for) at the next regular lodge meeting is not so imminent that we need wait until it

arises for an exposition of the general law in its practical application to cases constantly recurring.

Should such a course be taken, however, I am far from saying (and I am sure "W.S.L." will agree with me) that its legality would be absolutely unarguable, notwithstanding the eminent authority that has according to common report, put a gloss upon the constitution which seems to go beyond the foundation afforded by the text.

But I have promised to show that, to support what I may call head-quarters' reading, the text not only requires the interpolation of the word "regular," but the addition of the word "meeting." I proceed to do so.

In one sense it might be maintained perhaps that even an emergency meeting was a regular meeting. It is certainly a regular lodge, for our traditional law teaches us that it cannot be duly held without a certain strictly defined formality being observed, compliance with which we are taught alone renders the lodge regular, but the correctness of the contention of the authoritative expositors involves that a proposition for joining can only be made in open lodge at a regular lodge meeting, which is an implied extension of the term lodge, for a lodge is made regular by the presence of that which must absolutely be materially and actually in the room at the time. Now this presence obviously cannot convert an emergency meeting into a regular lodge meeting, however essential it may be to render any lodge, ordinary or emergent, regular. A regular lodge includes both regular and emergency meetings. A regular lodge meeting (with one exception, to which I will presently refer) must thus be ruled to be restricted to a meeting held on a day specified in the text of the warrant or charter of incorporation.

The exception is a consecration, which is commonly held on a day not specified in the charter, and would therefore, *prima facie*, seem to be a meeting coming within the category of emergency, however it is well known (I take it as concealed on all sides) that propositions both for members joining and initiating candidates are legally receivable at a consecration meeting; but here the distinction is said to be that at a consecration the presence of the M.W. the G.M., either in person or by duly constituted deputy, renders the meeting regular. Still, I own myself not quite satisfied on such a point as this, purely started as an illustration *ex hypothesi*, would such an attendance on another occasion than a consecration, convert what had been convened as an emergency meeting into a regular meeting, so as to legalize the receipt of propositions?

I hope I shall not be considered as writing dogmatically. I only profess to give the results of the information I have taken some pains to acquire. I would not for a moment pretend to speak *ex cathedra*. The *lex scripta* and *lex non scripta*, alike bristle with difficulties; and I am sure I for one most sincerely feel that all our thanks are due to W.S.L. for re-directing attention to this most interesting part of Masonic jurisprudence. It is, I think, much to be regretted that our Book of Constitutions is not examined and revised, so as to bring it more into accord with the present circumstances of the Craft, and in directness and simplicity more immediately available for the guidance of all its members. Good easy men, comparatively few in numbers, and less exposed, therefore, to complication of interests and clashing of objects, might, in the old times, have found no inconvenience in living under laws interpreted by inference, deduction, suggestion, and construction of one section by another divided from it by a score or two of pages; but, in the present day, when our brotherhood is numbered by hundreds of thousands—when men of high education, of tact, shrewdness, and business ability, are constantly under the necessity of referring for direction to its *lex scripta*, it is in the last degree desirable that the sources of their knowledge should appear in grammatical, exact, and unambiguous phraseology, and, if necessary and convenient for men personally able to construe language, how much more desirable is such clearness for our less highly-gifted brethren, who look to direct authority as a protection from bitter, profitless, and tedious textual disputes?

A law that is hazy and equivocal, that can only be interpreted by conjectures as to its meaning, by cross references, tradition often inaccurately handed down, suggestion, inference, deduction, and, worst of all, the weak argument in justification of ambiguity *ab inconvenienti*, is a law that, failing any enforceable sanction and depending for its exposition on varying individual opinion, ceases to be useful as a rule of conduct, and as often mischievously misleads as properly directs.

The point under discussion is not the only one that gives rise to varying interpretations of our code, as any member of the two boards will bear me witness. It seems very plausible to say "Oh, our laws were never intended to be scanned by microscopic eyes—brethren, men of honour, men of the world, would know well enough what it means; we don't want any legal technicalities, no petty-fogging hair splitting," but the more honourable men are the more likely are they not to come to a conclusion without good reasons well thought out, and the less likely they are to abandon a construction so conscientiously arrived at; and, where phraseology is capable of two constructions, it must be looked for that, however honourable men may be, they will sometimes differ as to which is correct. It is a cheap and easy indulgence to sneer at a lawyer's anxiety for clearness of definition and simplicity and accuracy of expression, and perhaps professionally that anxiety is not unnaturally kept within sufficient control, for if the man who makes his own will is the lawyer's best friend, by analogy, the statute which is a compound of the tinkering of non-professional men thinking of one subject and learned gentlemen desiderating another, should stand very high in the affections of the lawyer, who has attained the proverbial third stage in the legal career—a period when, to put it euphuistically, an augmentation of professional income is an object not wholly indifferent to the practitioner.

But to rule and govern the Craft by "it has always been understood," or "it is implied," or "we construe it thus or thus," is a system which it can be no one's interest to maintain. It reminds me of the old theory of the administration of equity. Two hundred years ago equity was derisively said to be as the size of the Chancellor's foot. Some Chancellor shall have a wide foot, some a narrow, some a long foot, some a short, some a high instep, some a flat sole. According to the size and shape of my lord's shoe so shall the Chancery suitor get his relief dealt unto him."

It is, however, no use discussing an evil without suggesting a remedy. Let Grand Lodge elect a committee from among the highly educated men who adorn it as members, and instruct this body to make a thorough and careful revision of the whole code, suggesting corrections or even alterations where necessary, and not shrinking from expanding by explanations or definitions. When finished let the proof-sheets of the suggested new edition of the Book of Constitutions be sent to every lodge under the English constitution, inviting suggestions and commentaries. These received, let them be considered by the committee, and their conclusions, in the shape of a report embodying the re-edited work, be laid before Grand Lodge to be dealt with according to its wisdom. Such an enterprise would take years to complete, but they would be years well employed. It would cost money, but it would be money well spent, and the boon to the Craft at large would be invaluable.

However, *revenons à nos moutons*, I think that with the kind assistance of "W. S. L." we have at last got a true and plain reading of the exact law on the point we have had under discussion, which may be thus summarised:—

A brother as a joining member must be *visé* *voce* proposed at one regular open lodge meeting and balloted for at the next regular lodge meeting.

To this rule there is no exception.

A candidate for initiation must be *visé* *voce* proposed at one regular lodge meeting, or at an emergency meeting, if the intention to propose him has been announced in the circular convening the emergency meeting, and balloted for at the next regular lodge meeting, or at an emergency meeting, if the intention to ballot for him has with all necessary particulars, been expressed in the circular convening such regular or emergency meeting.

To this rule there is the exception that under circumstances of emergency, of the stringency of which the W.M. is the sole judge, and certain well-known conditions being complied with, the nomination may be by writing out of lodge, instead of *visé* *voce* in open lodge, and initiation, on a successful ballot, may take place at the next regular or emergency meeting of the lodge.

Yours fraternally,

S.P., P.M., &c., &c.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.

The Quarterly Court of the supporters of this Institution was held last Saturday in the Board-room, Freemasons' Hall. Bro. J. M. Clabon, P.G. Deacon, presided over the meeting, which was composed of, among others, Bros. H. Hacker, C. F. Matier, Raynham W. Stewart, Pierce Egan, F. B. Davage, F. Adlard, R. Kenyon, Griffiths Smith, A. H. Fothershall, H. A. Dubois, C. A. Cottebrune, Hyde Pullen, Capt. Philips, H. Moore, L. Ruf, G. Bolton, J. Roper, J. F. Peacock, G. M. E. Snow, S. G. Foxall, D. Beare, E. Harris, H. M. Smith, Dr. Hogg, R. W. Wheeler, W. Roebuck, T. Meggy, H. Massey, ("Freemason"), W. Hedges, and R. W. Little, Secretary.

After the reading of the minutes of the meetings of the committees, the particulars of which have appeared in the "Freemason,"

Bro. G. M. E. Snow rose to move "That commission be allowed to the collector upon such sums only as he collects and gives receipts for, and not upon donations or subscriptions paid to the Secretary." He said that at a late Quarterly Court, having a large cheque to hand in to the Institution, he asked the Chairman of the meeting whether if he paid it there and then to the Secretary the collector would receive his commission on it, and he was told that he would. This appeared to him a great abuse, as well as an incentive to laziness, for instead of going out to collect subscriptions he might sit at home. Every man was worthy of his hire; but he should be paid for what he did, and not for what he did not. Other institutions of a similar character to the Masonic Girls' School had no such thing connected with them. In the Merchant Seamen's Orphan Asylum, which only admitted children of merchant seamen, there was no commission paid to the Secretary except on subscriptions which he was solely instrumental in obtaining, and then it was only a small percentage, till it reached the sum of five shillings, and however large the subscription might be, the commission never exceeded the total sum of five shillings. At the Masonic Boys' School no commission was allowed to the collector if the subscription was paid at the office. Why, after a Steward had taken the trouble to go round to his friends and obtain donations for the Institution, which he paid in at the Secretary's office, should commission be paid to the collector when he did not even know who sent the money? It was wrong in principle, and he therefore brought forward his motion. If any brother suggested that a committee be appointed to enquire into the subject of the collector's duties and remuneration, he would be pleased to support that if it was brought forward as a motion, and withdraw his own.

Bro. Raynham W. Stewart said he should be happy to second the motion of Bro. Snow, but he might say that as Bro. Muggeridge, the collector, had resigned, as they had just heard from the minutes, he thought a committee should

be appointed to consider the question of the collector's duties and pay, and whether it was necessary to have a collector at all. If Bro. Snow withdrew his original motion he, Bro. Stewart, would move in accordance with this view.

Bro. Thomas W. White referred to the printed rules of the Institution, which provided that on the occurrence of a vacancy the General Committee might cause enquiries to be made into the office.

The Chairman said he was unable to come to a conclusion that day on the subject, and he would suggest that there should be a general enquiry first.

Bro. Snow would say that when he gave notice of his motion he did not know that Bro. Muggeridge was going to resign. He should be happy to withdraw his motion.

Bro. Snow's motion was then withdrawn.

Bro. Raynham W. Stewart moved "That considering the satisfactory condition of the funds of this school, ten of the unsuccessful candidates at the last election highest on the poll be admitted without further election at the same time as those already elected, and that arrangements be made for their reception in the infirmary until the alterations now in progress at the school be completed." In bringing the motion forward, he said he felt that the managers of the institution were bound to perform an act of justice to the subscribers, and spend the money subscribed towards supporting more of the children of Freemasons in the Girls' School than they did at present. It was not their duty to accumulate the subscriptions. The Girls' School had now £39,000 invested. It was not doing their duty to allow this sum to realise three per cent.; it ought to be spent on the children. It had been said that £10,000 was about to be spent in alterations and enlargements at the school, and that this would reduce the invested sum to £29,000. But let them at once take in more girls, and not wait for the completion of the alterations. He was only going to ask them to take in ten more girls. There were now 152 girls in the school. He wanted them to make it 162; and he was quite certain that by so doing they would be conferring a benefit on the Craft, the institution, the widows who were left with the children, and on the children themselves by fitting them for the performance of the duties of life. The thing so commended itself to the reason and feelings of the brethren, and to their favourable consideration, that he would not waste time by saying more upon the subject.

Bro. Robert Kenyon seconded the motion. He thought it recommended itself to the good heart of every Governor of this institution, and he was quite sure it recommended itself to their intelligence.

Bro. Thomas W. White, a member of the House Committee, and its chairman for the month, thought it was a great pity that Bro. Stewart had not given the House Committee some inkling of his intention to bring this motion forward, that they might have been able to discuss it at their last meeting. They were now building at considerable expense large additional buildings. The contract was signed, and the building was to be completed by the 1st of May. There was the usual strike clause in the contract, so that if a strike occurred the work might be delayed a few months longer. There would be a junction with one of the dormitories which held 19 children, and when the wall of that dormitory was broken through the 19 children would be removed into the infirmary. Already there were five children there, and this would increase the number to 24. It would hold 49, half in the infectious and half in the non-infectious ward. The two were cut off from each other; and as it would not be desirable to place the children in the infectious ward, 24 would fill the non-infectious. He did not therefore see how they could make room for another ten, and he hoped the brethren would pause before passing this resolution.

Bro. Pierce Egan could not see that this was a question for the House Committee at all, but for the Governors. There were great appliances at the institution which ought to be utilised. He had been a Mason thirty years, and had watched with great interest the progress of the schools. The Boys' School owing to the great enterprise of Bro. Binckes, and thanks to the brethren who supported him, they were able to increase the number of boys in the school to 181, and every year the subscriptions which came in were something startling. He remembered the time when it was considered a most gratifying result of a festival if they give £3500. The Boys' School festival of this year had just produced £12,500; and the three institutions altogether had received £32,000 this year. With such a fact before them he thought the brethren need have no fear of the future, which would probably give them the power to have 200 children in the school. There were only small difficulties about not having room. There was always a way across a stream, even if there was not a bridge; but this difficulty about not having room was only a puddle which might be stepped over. His feelings were very strong against a large sum such as the Girls' School had, being shut up.

Bro. Meggy hoped that the admission of the proposed ten girls would not lessen the number of those who were to be elected in October.

The Chairman: No!

Bro. C. F. Matier thought the admission of the extra number of girls would be satisfactory to the brethren throughout the country.

The Chairman said that he found instead of the Institution having £39,000, it had £42,000. The resolution need not be negative on the ground of want of funds. The only question was the accommodation in the infirmary. He gathered that there was room for forty-nine girls there. He thought that the ten might be accommodated somehow, a partition being put between the infectious wards and the non-infectious. There was one thing he regretted. He thought it a pity that Bro. Stewart did not first go to the House Committee before bringing on his motion, and lay the matter before them. However, this was no reason

for negating the resolution, the discussion on which appeared to have been all one way.

The motion was put, and carried with but few dissentients.

The Chairman hoped the House Committee would not take any offence at Bro. Stewart's action in coming to the Quarterly Court without consulting them. He (the Chairman) did not know the names of the House Committee; but he knew the high character of the Masons who usually served on that committee, and he was quite sure that they would set themselves to work to carry out the resolution.

Bro. Raynham W. Stewart asked that the Secretary might be instructed to write to the friends of the ten children to be admitted and inform them of the fact.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman closed the proceedings.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

The Quarterly Court of Subscribers and Governors of this Institution was held in the Board-room, Freemasons' Hall, on Monday at noon. Bro. J. M. Clabon, P.G.D., presided. Bro. John Symonds, F. Adlard, H. Massey ("Freemason"), R. B. Webster, S. Rosenthal, E. Taylor, Richard Spencer, and F. Binckes (Secretary) also attended. Beyond the reading and confirmation of the minutes of last Quarterly Court and the subsequent meetings of the various committees there was nothing else to do. Bro. Binckes announced that although the subscriptions at the late festival were about £12,500 he expected to receive further amounts on behalf of the institution before the close of the year. Fifty-eight candidates were announced for the next election, and vacancies for eleven candidates were declared.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman was unanimously accorded, and Bro. Clabon in acknowledging it said that there was nothing but pleasure in presiding over a meeting of Freemasons.

Obituary.

BRO. A. J. CODNER.

Our obituary column recently contained the announcement of the death of Bro. A. J. Codner, of Bulstrode-street, Cavendish-square. He was an enthusiastic Mason, possessed a fund of shrewd native intelligence, and if a little demonstrative in his tone and manner at times, was large-hearted and kind. His Masonic charitable impulses were only limited by the length of his purse. He did not, however, confine his gifts to the Craft, as many who have partaken of his generosity could well testify. He died at the comparatively early age of 46, but lived long enough to make his name worthy of remembrance for the good he intended and the good he wrought. He was one of the chief promoters of the Marylebone Lodge, No. 1305, held at the Eyre Arms, St. John's Wood, and with Bro. S. Foxall (now a Grand Officer) and others helped to make it one of the most flourishing lodges in the west of London.

METROPOLITAN MASONIC MEETINGS.

For the Week ending Friday, July 21, 1876.

The Editor will be glad to receive notice from Secretaries of Craft Lodges, Royal Arch Chapters, Mark Lodges, Preceptories, Conclaves, &c., of any change in place or time of meeting.

SATURDAY, JULY 15.

- Lodge 1185, Lewis, King's Arms, Wood Green.
- " 1326, Lebanon, Lion Hot., Lion-square, Hampton.
- " 1329, Sphinx, Bridge House Hot., London Bridge.
- " 1364, Earl of Zetland, Old Town Hall, Hackney.
- Chap. 1194, Royal Middlesex, Mitre Hot., Hampton-ct.
- " 1326, Lebanon, Red Lion Hot., Hampton.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

- Lilly, Greyhound, Richmond.
- Manchester, 77, London-st., Fitzroy-square.
- Star, Marquis of Granby, New Cross-rd.

MONDAY, JULY 17.

- Lodge 1159, Marquis of Dalhousie, F.M.H.
- LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.
- Prince Leopold, Lord Stanley Tav., Kingsland.
- Strong Man, Jerusalem Tav., St. John's Gate.
- Sincerity, Railway Tav., Fenchurch-st. Station.
- Camden, Stanhope Arms, Up. James-st., Camden To.
- Eastern, Royal Hot., Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
- St. James's Union, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
- Wellington, White Swan, Deptford.
- Perfect Ashlar, Victoria Tav., Lower-rd., Rotherhithe.
- Sydney, White Hart Ho., Church-rd., Upper Norwood.

TUESDAY, JULY 18.

- Board of General Purposes, at 3.
- Lodge 73, Mount Lebanon, Bridge House Hot.
- " 704, Camden, Bull and Gate, Kentish Town.
- " 857, St. Mark's, Half Moon Tav., Herne Hill.
- Chap. 890, Hornsey, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

- Metropolitan, 269, Pentonville-rd.
- Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney.
- Domestic, Surrey M.H., Camberwell New-road.
- Faith, 2, Westminster Chambers, Victoria-st.
- Prince Fredk. Wm., Lord's Hot., St. John's Wood.
- Dalhousie, King Edward, Triangle, Hackney.
- Prosperity, 1, Camomile-st., Bishopsgate.

St. Marylebone, British Stores Tav., St. John's Wood.
Constitutional, Wheatsheaf Hot., Hand-court, Holborn.
Israel, Rising Sun Tav., Globe Road.
Royal Arthur, Prince's Head, York-road, Battersea.
Beacontree, Red Lion, Leytonstone, at 8.
Metropolitan Chapter, Jamaica Coffee Ho., Cornhill.
Excellior, Commercial Dock Tav., Rotherhithe.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 19.

- Gen. Com. Grand Chap., at 3.
- Lodge of Benevolence, at 6.
- " 619, Beadon, Greyhound Tav., Dulwich.
- " 1044, Wandsworth, Spread Eagle, Wandsworth.
- " 1382, Corinthian, George Inn, Cubitt Town.
- Chap. 192, Lion and Lamb, Terminus Hot., Cannon-st.
- Grand Mark Lodge Festival (See Advt.).

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

- Confidence, M.H., Basinghall-st.
- Mt. Lebanon, Windsor Castle Tav., Southwark-bdg.-rd.
- Pythagorean, Prince of Orange, Greenwich.
- New Concord, Rosemary Branch Tav., Hoxton.
- Royal Union, Horse and Groom, Winsley-st., Oxford-st.
- Peckham, Malsome Arms, Park-road, Peckham.
- Stanhope, Thicket Hot., Ankerly.
- Finsbury Park, Finsbury Park Tav., Seven Sisters'-rd.
- Southwark, Southwark Park Tav., Southwark Park.
- Duke of Connaught, Havelock Tav., Dalston, E.
- United Strength, Grafton Arms, Kentish-town.
- Islington, Crown and Cushion, Lion Wall.
- Whittington, Black Bull Tav., Holborn.
- Lewis, King's Arms Hot., Wood Green.

THURSDAY, JULY 20.

- House Com. Girls' School, at 4.
- Lodge 1227, Upton, Spotted Dog Tav., Upton.
- " 1278, Burdett Courts, Approach Tav., Approach-rd.
- " 1320, Blackheath, Crown Hot., Blackheath.
- " 1365, Clapton, White Hart Tav., Clapton.
- Mark Lodge, 7, Camarvon, Mitre Hot., Hampton-ct.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

- Egyptian, Hercules Tav., Leadenhall-st.
- Fidelity, Yorkshire Grey, London-st., W.
- Finsbury, Jolly Anglers' Tav., Bath-st., City-road.
- Temperance in the East, Catherine-st., Poplar.
- Ebury, 12, Ponsonby-st., Milbank.
- Highgate, Bull and Gate, Kentish-town.
- The Great City, 111, Cheapside.
- High Cross, Coach & Horses, High-road, Tottenham.
- Salisbury, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
- Marquis of Ripon, Albion Tav., Albany-rd., Dalston.
- Prince Frederick William Chapter, St. John's Wood.
- Southern Star, Crown Hot., Blackfriars-rd.

FRIDAY, JULY 21.

- House Com. Boys' School, at 4.
- LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.
- Union Waterloo, Thomas-st., Woolwich.
- Robert Burns, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
- Belgrave, Lyceum Tav., 354, Strand.
- Unions Emulation (for M.M.'s), F.M.H.
- Temperance, Victoria Tav., Victoria-road, Deptford.
- Clapton, White Hart, Clapton.
- Metropolitan, Portugal Hot., Fleet-st.
- Westbourne, Horse & Groom, Winsley-st., Oxford-st.
- Metropolitan, Pentonville-road.
- United Pilgrims, Surrey M.H., Camberwell New-road.
- St. James's, New Tanners' Arms, Grange-rd., Bermondsey.
- Duke of Edinburgh, Silver Lion, Penny-fields, Poplar.
- Doric, Earl Grey Tav., Mile-end-road.
- Burgoyne, Grafton Arms, Prince of Wales's-road, N.W.
- St. Luke's, White Hart, King's-rd., Chelsea.
- Chigwell, Bald-faced Stag Hot., Buckhurst-hill.
- Burdett Courts, Approach Tav., Victoria Park.
- Royal Standard, Finsbury Park Tav., Holloway.
- Ranelagh, Clarendon Hot., Hammersmith.
- Pythagorean Chapter, Prince of Orange, Greenwich-rd.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN WEST LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE.

For the Week ending Saturday July 22, 1876.

MONDAY, JULY 17.

- Lodge 721, Independence, M.R., Eastgate-row, Chester.
- " 1502, Israel, M.H., Liverpool.
- Chap. 995, Furness, M.T., Ulverstone.
- Everton L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

TUESDAY, JULY 18.

- Lodge 667, Alliance, M.H., Liverpool.
- " 1225, Hindpool, Hartington Hot., Brw.-in-Furness.
- " 1276, Warren, Seacombe Hot., Seacombe.
- " 1325, Stanley, M.H., Liverpool.
- " 1570, Prince Arthur, N. Hill-st., Liverpool.
- Chap. 605, De Tabley, Seacombe Hot.
- Merchants' L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 19.

- Lodge 823, Everton, M.H., Liverpool.
- " 1086, Walton, St. Lawrence's School, Kirkdale.
- " 1345, Victoria, Cross Keys, Eccles.
- " 1353, Duke of Lancaster, Athenaeum, Lancaster.
- Chap. 580, Unity, Wheatsheaf, Ormskirk.
- De Grey and Ripon L. of I., 80, North Hill-st., Liverpool.
- Downshire L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

THURSDAY, JULY 20.

- Lodge 203, Ancient Union, M.H., Liverpool.
- " 343, Concord, Militia Mess Rooms, Preston.
- " 425, Cestrian, M.R., Eastgate-row, Chester.
- " 605, Combermere, Seacombe Hot., Seacombe.
- " 1299, Pembroke, Rawlinson's Hot., West Derby.
- Chap. 249, Mariners, M.H., Liverpool.
- Liverpool Red Cross Conclave, M.H., Liverpool.
- St. John's L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

FRIDAY, JULY 21.

- Duke of Edinburgh L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN GLASGOW AND WEST OF SCOTLAND.

For the Week ending Saturday, July 22, 1876.
All the Meetings take place at Eight o'clock.

MONDAY, JULY 17.

- Lodge 581, Plantation, Craigiehall-st., Glasgow.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 19.

- Lodge 117, St. Mary, Douglas-st., Partick.
- " 571, Dramatic, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow, 3 p.m.
- Chap. 150, Shettleston, M.H., Shettleston.

THURSDAY, JULY 20.

- Lodge 27, St. Mungo, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.

FRIDAY, JULY 21.

- Lodge 31, St. Mary's Coltness, Com. Hot., Wishaw.
- " 321, St. Andrew, R.A., Public Hall, Alexandria.
- " 471, St. John, Stane Inn, Shotts.
- " 496, St. Munn, Ardnadam, Kilmun.

SATURDAY, JULY 22.

- Lodge 573, Livingston St. Andrew, McNaughton's Hall.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN EDINBURGH AND VICINITY.

For the Week ending Saturday, July 22, 1876.

MONDAY, JULY 17.

- Lodge 44, St. Luke, F.M.H. George-st.

TUESDAY, JULY 18.

- Lodge 36, St. David, Ship Hot., East Register-st.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 19.

- Lodge 160, Roman Eagle, Iona Hot., Nicholson-st.

THURSDAY, JULY 20.

- Lodge 48, St. Andrew, F.M.H., 98, George-st.

FRIDAY, JULY 21.

- Chap. 152, Perseverance, Constitution-st.
- Chap. 83, St. Andrew, F.M.H., 98, George-st.

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REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS.

Craft Masonry.

WILLIAM PRESTON LODGE (No. 766).—

The summer festival of this lodge was held at the Pier Hotel, Rosherville, on Thursday, the 6th inst., and was numerously attended by the members of the lodge and their friends. At the banquet the chair was taken by the W.M., Bro. John Pringle, and the two vice-chairs by Bro. Capt. G. J. Kain, P.M. and Treas., and William Worrell, P.M. and Secretary. The dinner was excellently served under the superintendence of the Bros. Roberts, the worthy proprietors of the hotel. Grace having been said, the first two toasts, viz., "The Queen" and "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales," were proposed by the W.M., and were most cordially and loyally received. The next toast was proposed by Bro. W. Worrell, P.M. and Sec., viz., "Success to the William Preston Lodge," coupling with it the name of the W.M. Bro. Worrell, in the course of his speech, gave an outline of the history and events of the lodge, and with great emphasis congratulated the members upon its present prosperity. The next toast being that of "The Visitors," was most ably proposed by Bro. Capt. Kain, P.M., and was eloquently responded to by a most worthy brother (whose name escaped us) on behalf of the Freemasons, and a gentleman, a member of the Irish Bar, with great vigour and amid much cheering, returned thanks for "The non-Freemasons." The last and most popular toast was that of "The Ladies," which was proposed by Bro. J. R. Williams, and responded to by Bro. Robert Lyon, and amongst all the members of the lodge no two more respected brethren could have been found to have championed so worthy a toast. Dessert having ended, the brethren and ladies then adjourned to the ball-room, where the dancing was kept up with great vigour, and was interspersed with some excellent music. Amongst the ladies present was Miss Marie Duval, of the Royal Academy of Music, whose charming singing was greeted with immense applause. Miss Williams, Mrs. Reissmann, Mr. Conder, Mr. Reynolds, and other friends largely contributed to the musical arrangements. Ten o'clock having arrived, was the signal to prepare for the last train, and thus ended one of the most enjoyable days ever spent in connection with the William Preston Lodge. Besides the brethren already mentioned there were present Bros. Dr. Cutmore, Dr. Atwood, P. C. Steinmann, H. Reissmann, B. Abbott, P.M.; R. Sutcliffe, A. Le Grand, R. Leaman, W. Johnston, G. Smithers, A. Ransby, H. F. Partridge, and others.

OLDHAM.—Friendship Lodge (No. 277).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held at the Freemasons' Hall, Union-street, on Wednesday, the 5th inst., under the presidency of the W.M., Bro. H. Thomas. Two candidates for initiation into the mysteries of our Order were balloted for and approved. The ceremony of initiating Mr. Wm. Lees, of Hollinwood, was ably performed by P.M. Bro. H. L. Hollingworth, and that of initiating Mr. John Buckley, of Oldham, by the W.M. The last named ceremony was performed with musical accompaniment, Bro. Dr. Sparkes' beautiful music being used. The vocalists were Bros. Damville and Lister, of Manchester. Mark Stafford, Hyde; and several members of the lodge, viz.: Bros. Clifton, Page, Midgeley, Braddeek, Bailey, and others, the result being highly satisfactory. The lodge voted an annual subscription of £10 towards the funds of the East Lancashire Systematic Educational and Benevolent Institution. A vote of thanks was passed to Bro. Dr. Prestwich for his handsome present of music to the lodge. After the supper which followed the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given, interspersed with several beautiful glees, which were rendered by the musical brethren named above in a most effective manner.

LANCASTER.—Lodge of Fortitude (No. 281).—The monthly meeting of this lodge was held on the 12th inst., at the Masonic Rooms, Atheneum, Lancaster. The W.M., Bro. T. Atkinson, occupied the chair of K.S. The lodge was opened with solemn prayer in the First Degree, and the minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed. There was only routine business to transact, and this having been gone through, the lodge was closed in peace and harmony.

STOCKPORT.—Lodge of Unanimity (No. 287).—This lodge held its St. John's festival at the Dog and Partridge Inn, Stockport, on Wednesday, the 12th inst., when Bro. William Shepherd was installed Worshipful Master for the ensuing year. The ceremony was performed by Bro. John Clarke Chetham, P.M., P.P.G.S.B. Cheshire, in the most beautiful and impressive manner and

the same brother afterwards invested the following officers—viz., Bros. John Turner, S.W.; Thomas Newton, J.W.; Charles Booth, S.D.; John Leigh, J.D.; H. F. Smith, Sec.; James Huline, I.G.; Chas. J. Rix, jun., Organist; Blakehurst and James Hitchin, Steward. Several provincial officers, members of this lodge, were present—viz., Bros. George Turner, P.P.G.P.; Charles Marsland, P.M., P.P.G.S.D.; William Greateore, P.M., P.P.G.P. Cheshire; and the Installing Master also had the kind support of Bro. Beresford, P.M., P.P.G. J.D. Cheshire. Amongst the other visiting brethren present we noticed Bros. John Bledon, P.M. Affability Lodge, No. 317; John Stock, P.M. Lodge of Concord, No. 323; Josiah Hill, W.M. 323; W. Pritchard, J.W. 323; J. Williamson, Lodge of Peace, 322; and E. Lord, S.W. Egerton Lodge, No. 1030. The brethren afterwards sat down to an excellent banquet, admirably served by Bro. Ross, the host, and the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly given and responded to.

SOUTH MOLTON.—Loyal Lodge of Industry (No. 421).—A meeting of this lodge was held on Tuesday, the 11th inst., at the Masonic Hall. Present: Bros. F. Day, W.M.; Huxtable, S.W.; Hitchcock, J.W.; J. Kingdon, S.D.; Paige, J.D.; A. Kingdon, Treas.; Mountjoy, Sec.; J. T. Shapland, J. Galliford, Wm. Oram, Wm. Cole, Wm. Manning, B. Furse, and Thos. Saunders, P.M.'s; together with a large number of other members of the lodge. Mr. H. Mountjoy was initiated, and Bro. Chant passed. It was announced by the W.M. that a Provincial Grand Lodge would be held at South Molton in the month of August next, the last held in this town being now some forty years since.

SIDCUP.—Sidney Lodge (No. 829).—The installation meeting of this lodge was held on Tuesday, the 11th inst., at the Black Horse, when Bro. P.M. T. Smith, P.I.G.P., installed Bro. T. Hastings, W.M., whose first duty was to present his I.P.M., Bro. G. B. Gates, with a handsome gold jewel, which was feelingly acknowledged by the retiring officer. At the banquet the I.P.M. presented a silver goblet, emblazoned with Masonic emblems, and the names of the subscribers engraved thereon, to their esteemed late Treasurer, Bro. G. M. E. Snow, P.P.G. S.W., on his retirement from office, which was duly filled and received in appropriate terms. The officers appointed for the ensuing year are Bros. Hetheridge, S.W.; P. Gore, J.W.; W. T. Birt, Treas.; J. Henderson, Sec.; Dr. Sparrell, S.D.; W. Moulder, J.D.; J. Pudney, I.G.; J. T. Ward, D.C.; T. Smith, W.S.; S. Potts, Tyler.

PLUMSTEAD.—Pattison Lodge (No. 913).—The installation meeting of this, one of the largest and most influential of the lodges in the Province of Kent, took place on Thursday, 6th inst., at the Lord Raglan, Bro. A. Penfold performing the ceremony, and inducting his successor, Bro. W. T. Vincent, into the chair. Bro. J. Franklin was passed to the Second Degree, and then the I.P.M., Bro. J. McDougall, presented Bro. Vincent to the Installing Officer, the Board of Past Masters numbering some two-and-twenty. Bro. Vincent invested his officers as follows:—H. Butter, S.W.; T. W. Hayes, J.W.; E. Denton, P.M., Sec.; A. Jessup, Treas.; W. B. Lloyd, S.D.; J. Chapman, J.D.; R. J. Cook, I.G.; H. Mason, D.C.; J. Randal, W.S.; B. Lester, Tyler; and C. Cooke, Organist. A vote of thanks and a splendid Past Master's jewel were then presented to Bro. Penfold, and never has that decoration been more nobly and worthily won than by our good brother, who returned thanks eloquently and well for the enthusiasm and spontaneity with which the crowded lodge hailed him as the new W.M. attached the jewel to his breast. The brethren then had a beautiful ride through some of the most picturesque parts of Kent to Dartford, where at Bro. Bray's a superb banquet awaited them. The following were among the visitors present:—Bros. the Rev. W. A. Hill, P.G. Chaplain of Kent; W. Mann, P.M. 187; J. Ives, W.M. 1472; S. Goddard, P.M. 700; F. G. Pownall, W.M. 1536, and W.M. elect 13; G. Davies, P.M. 13; W. Graham, P.M. 700; C. Andrews, P.M. 77, 299, 615, &c.; F. J. Dawson, P.M. 700; G. D. Crawford, 700; Sydney Clark, P.M. 706; J. Rowland, P.M. 700; J. W. Tapp, W.M. 706; J. J. Dawson, W.M. 299; W. Weston, W.M. elect 1536; W. Gamble, S.W. 706; S. Waters, S.W. 700; — Wills, S.W. 299; P. G. Sales, J.W. 706; McCaffery, D.C. 1536 and 700; J. Donnelly, J.D. 706 and 1536; H. Shaw, J.D. 1536; G. Mitchell, 700; E. D. Williams, 1056; A. J. Mitchell, 700; A. Roddech, 1201; W. A. Watkins, 1536; C. S. Boardman, 299; T. Hastings, W.M. elect 899; S. W. Gibson, 341; H. Ough, 1150; C. Cooke, Org. 700 and 913; J. Fletcher, 615; A. Woody, J.W. 700; J. Dovey, 861; E. W. Robins, 77 and 483; G. Spinks, S.W. 1536; G. Causton, 829; F. J. Tame, 700; J. Reilly, 13; G. Churchly, 615; J. Boydon, 615, and others. The following P.M.'s of the lodge were present:—Bros. Knight, P.P.D.C. Kent; C. Coupland, Prov.G. J. Warden Kent; W. Tongue, P.P.J.W. Kent; T. Smith, P.P.G.P. Kent; E. Denoon, P.P.G.J.D. Kent; C. Ellis, Henderson, McDougall, S. Paine, and others. The first toast was that of "The Queen and the Craft," followed by that of "His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, G.M. of England;" "The Deputy Grand Master, the Earl of Carnarvon, and the rest of the Grand Officers;" "Lord Holmesdale, the P.G.M. for Kent; Bro. Eastes, D.G.M., and the rest of the Past Grand Officers," the last being coupled with the name of our esteemed Bro. Hill, P.G. Chaplain, whose name, the W.M. said, would always be affectionately remembered among them for his kindness in connection with their deceased Bro. Graydon's monument. Bro. Hill replied. Bro. Penfold proposed "The Health of the W.M." He said he had great pleasure in proposing the toast, for Bro. Vincent has shown himself worthy to fill the position, and it was one that

required filling in every sense to carry out the wishes of the members of the lodge. Well, Bro. Vincent had that day shown them that he could tread out of the beaten path if necessary, and the splendid ride and banquet given by him showed that he had not only the interest of the lodge at heart, but nerve and ability to carry out its success to a successful issue. He felt certain their W.M. would worthily sustain the reputation of the lodge, and do all in his power for its interest and well being. He therefore called upon them to drink his health heartily. Bro. Vincent, in reply, said he felt that he had a great task set before him for the next twelve months in following so perfect a Master, but he trusted that by imitating the example before him, and by a careful study to discharge his trust for the good of the lodge and the Craft in general, to gain at the end of his year their genuine satisfaction. "The Past Masters of and belonging to the Lodge" were duly honoured, and Bro. Ellis replied. In reply to the toast of "The Visitors," Bros. Pownall, Sales, and others expressed their thanks for the great treat afforded them both in the lodge and at the banquet, and cordially wished every prosperity both to the lodge and its Master. The toast of "The Officers of the Lodge" was responded to by Bro. Butler and Hayes.

REDCAR.—Marwood Lodge (No. 1244).—The annual festival of this lodge was held on Tuesday, the 4th inst., when there was a good attendance of the brethren of that and other lodges in the neighbourhood. The lodge was opened in due form shortly after three p.m., when the Installing Master, Bro. Marwood, of Bushby Hall, Northallerton, after whom the lodge has been named having taken the chair, in the most solemn and impressive manner installed Bro. James Wade Bennett as the W.M. for the ensuing year. The new officers were then appointed: viz., Bros. R. B. Atkinson, S.W.; J. L. Potts, J.W.; J. Hogg, Sec.; J. Dysan, S.D.; W. Anderson, J.D.; J. Dobbs, I.G. The other business having been transacted, the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to the Coatham Hotel, where a sumptuous banquet had been provided. The chair was occupied by the new W.M., Bro. J. W. Bennett; the vice-chair being filled by Bro. R. B. Atkinson, and Bro. J. G. Thompson acting as Director of Ceremonies. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts having been duly honoured, "The Health of the W.M." was proposed by Bro. Marwood, who commented upon the unprecedented fact that within four years he had installed both father and son in that lodge. The next toast was that of "The Late Master, Bro. Waller," which was proposed by Dr. Bennett; and the W.M. then presented to Bro. Waller, I.P.M., in the name of the officers of the lodge, a costly and beautiful jewel in gold, bearing the inscription:—"Marwood Lodge, No. 1244. Presented by the officers to Bro. Waller, I.P.M., 4th July, 1876." The jewel is in the form of a square, with the usual pendant suspended by a sky blue ribbon with three gold clasps, the whole being most richly chased and elaborately finished. The feast and presentation having been suitably responded to, other toasts followed, and a very pleasant evening was passed, enlivened by the musical brethren present, and the brethren separated hoping to meet again at the Provincial Lodge which is to be held at Redcar on the 2nd August, under the presidency of the Rt. Hon. the Earl of Zeland, P.G.M.

LIVERPOOL.—De Grey and Ripon Lodge (No. 1356).—After one of the most prosperous years of its existence, the brethren of this lodge celebrated their annual summer festival on Wednesday and Thursday, the 12th and 13th inst. The lodge was called for half-past four o'clock on Wednesday afternoon at 80, North Hill-street, for the special purpose of installing a successor to Bro. J. Bell in the chair of K.S., than whom no more efficient and hard-working Master has ever occupied that proud position. The lodge was opened by Bro. J. Bell, W.M., shortly after the stated time. After the minutes of the previous meeting had been duly read and confirmed, one candidate was initiated by Bro. Bell, W.M. At the close of this ceremony Bro. Bell right worthily brought his year's labours in the chair to a close by installing Bro. T. Horne as his successor in the chair of W.M. The W.M. then invested the following as his officers for the ensuing year:—Bros. J. Bell, I.P.M.; T. Nickson, S.W.; J. W. Williams, J.W.; J. Ireland, Treas. (re-elected); A. Woolrich, Sec.; Jos. Jones, S.D.; C. Arden, J.D.; J. Keet, I.G.; E. George, S.S.; W. Evans, J.S.; J. H. Hunter, Org.; and P.M. Larsen, Tyler. It was unanimously agreed to vote the sum of five guineas from the funds of the lodge so as to constitute Bro. B. B. Marson, P.M., a Life Governor of the West Lancashire Masonic Educational Institution, in recognition of the many valuable services he had rendered to the lodge. The brethren sat down to an excellent supper under the presidency of the W.M., who proposed the usual loyal and Masonic toasts. Bro. Bell, I.P.M., gave "The Health of the W.M." Bro. Horne, W.M., responded. The W.M. next proposed "The Health of Bro. Bell, I.P.M.," upon whom he passed a high eulogium for the manner in which he had performed the duties of the chair during the year and the ceremony of installation that afternoon. Bro. Bell replied in suitable terms, adding that it had been a source of great satisfaction to be able to instal his successor. He looked upon this as part of his duty, and he felt amply repaid by the approbation of the brethren. On the following (Thursday) morning about 200 brethren and ladies left the Central Station, Liverpool, at a quarter past 9 o'clock, for the purpose of proceeding to Hassop on route to Chatsworth House, the seat of the Duke of Devonshire. After a pleasant railway journey through some of the most magnificent scenery of Derbyshire, the large party arrived at Hassop, where a number of waggons, drawn by 36 splendid grey horses, supplied by Mr. Thompson, of Sheffield, took the pic-nickers on to Baslow, where they partook of a sumptuous banquet. After the banquet the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed and re-

sponded to with great enthusiasm. A pleasant part of the proceedings was the proposition of "The Health of Bro. Joseph Bell, I.P.M.," and the W.M., in giving the toast, took occasion to present him with an exceedingly handsome Past Master's jewel. The company then proceeded to Chatsworth House, and afterwards returned to Baslow, where a substantial tea was provided. The wagnettes and "greys" were again brought into requisition, and conveyed the company through Edinsor, across the new park, and through Beoley to Rowsley Station, whence the special train had proceeded. After one of the jolliest "outs" ever held in connection with the lodge, the party left at 8 p.m., and arrived at Liverpool shortly after ten o'clock.

HAMPTON COURT.—Era Lodge (No. 1423).—An emergency meeting of this well-established lodge was held at the King's Arms Hotel, Hampton Court, on Saturday, July 8th. Bro. J. Baxter Langley, W.M., opened the lodge. He, in an impressive manner, initiated Lieut. Walter Cole, the celebrated ventriloquist. By the kindness of the W.M., the veteran Secretary, Bro. F. Walters, I.P.G.P. Middlesex, P.M. 73, &c., was allowed to pass his friend, Bro. J. B. Riley. The J.W., Bro. T. J. Saline, P.P.G.S.B. Middlesex, P.M. 73, and W.M. 1540, having expressed his wish to do the raisings, the W.M., with his usual courtesy, allowed him to do so. Bros. E. I. Henman, G.S. Wingate, and Dr. J. W. Gillespie (late of the 42nd Highlanders), were raised by Bro. T. J. Sabine, after which the W.M. resumed the chair. All business being ended, the lodge was closed. It was arranged to hold an emergency meeting on Wednesday, 19th inst., to suit the convenience of some gentlemen already balloted for, who wished to be initiated. There were present besides those named Bros. Col. F. Burdett, R.W.P.G.M. Middlesex, P.M.; J. W. Baldwin, P.M.; S. Wolff, J.D.; J. Moon, Rumbelow, J. Faulkner, and several others. Visitor: Bro. Ockendeu, D.C. 1512. Refreshment followed labour.

SANDGATE.—Sandgate Lodge (No. 1436).—The usual monthly meeting of this lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, Sandgate, on the 10th inst., for the purpose of initiating Mr. J. J. B. Caudell into the mysteries of the Craft, and for installing the W.M. elect, Bro. R. H. Pledge, J.W., as W.M. for the ensuing year. Present: Bros. Fynmore, W.M.; Gosby, I.P.M.; Pledge, J.W.; A. Keeler, S.D.; Dickson, I.G.; Butcher, Field, Tyler; Bull, Hamilton, Simmonds, and A. Keeler. Visitors: Bros. H. Stock, P.M. 558; Kent, P.M. 558, P.G.O. Kent; Kleberg, 1604. The lodge was opened in due form at three o'clock, and after Mr. Caudell had been initiated into the mysteries of Freemasonry, the W.M. elect, Bro. R. H. Pledge, was presented for the benefit of installation at the hands of I.P.M. Gosby, Bro. P.M. Stock acting as S.W., and Bro. P.M. Kennett, as J.W. After the usual obligations had been made, all below the rank of Installed Masters retired, when Bro. Pledge was inducted in the chair of King Solomon in the usual manner. The Master Masons were then admitted, when Bro. R. H. Pledge was for the first time in the East declared W.M. of Lodge 1436 for the ensuing year, and saluted in accordance with ancient custom. The lodge was then resumed to the Second and First Degree, and the F.C.'s and E.A.'s were respectively admitted, when the W.M. was for the second and third time declared and saluted. The following brethren were then invested as officers: Bros. F. H. Field, S.W.; A. Keeler, J.W.; Gosby, P.M., Sec.; Jenner, P.M., Treas.; Dickson, S.D.; Simmonds, J.D.; Hamilton, I.G.; Butcher, Tyler. After the customary addresses had been given, the lodge was closed with solemn prayer about 5.30 p.m. The brethren then adjourned to the Royal Kent Hotel (Bro. A. Keeler's) where a very recherche banquet awaited them. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were then given and dilated on at some length, after which a vote of thanks was returned to Bro. P. M. Gosby for the able manner in which he had performed the duties of Installing Master. "The Health of the W.M., I.P.M., Officers, Visitors, and Host" having been given and severally responded to, the Tyler's toast brought a very enjoyable evening to a close about ten p.m.

BIRMINGHAM.—Lodge of Israel (No. 1474).—This lodge held its usual monthly meeting on the 10th inst. The W.M., Bro. S. Lyon, was supported by Bros. M. Davis, I.P.M.; J. Pursall, P.P.G.S.W.; J. Silverstone, S.W.; B. Lazarus, J.W.; J. Myers, W.M. of the Lodge of Emulation, Treas.; D. Lavenstein, Sec.; W. Harris, S.D.; Paul Roberts, J.D.; H. Woad, I.G. The Secretary having read the minutes of the last meeting, they were confirmed. The ballot was then taken for Messrs. H. Myers, Hurwitz and Mendlesohn, and was found satisfactory. Bro. D. Abrahams was raised by the W.M. Bro. Powell, Cohen, and Gumpleson were passed to the Degree of Fellow Craft. Messrs. H. Myers, H. Hurwitz, and Mr. J. Mendlesohn were initiated. This lodge, although only two years and four months established, has over sixty-six members, and possesses a benevolent fund. Three guineas were voted to assist a poor American Mason. The W.M. read a letter he had received from the P.G.M., Lord Leigh, thanking him and the brethren for their liberal support at the Festival of the Boys' School, over which he had the pleasure of presiding. The brethren retired to their banqueting room, the W.M. presided, and gave the usual loyal and Masonic toasts, and song, excellent music and singing brought the evening to a very successful issue.

EPWORTH.—Isle of Axholme Lodge (No. 1482) held their installation meeting on the 6th inst. Bro. G. J. Bell was the W.M. elect. The ceremony of installation was very ably performed by Bro. F. D. Walker, of St. George's Lodge, 243, Doncaster. At the close of this ceremony Bro. Bell appointed the following brethren as his officers for the ensuing year:—Bros. Alfred Parkin (who was the founder of the lodge, and has filled the chair for two years by the unanimous wish of the brethren), I.P.M.

John Campbell, S.W. and Treas.; Alfred Taylor, J.W. and Sec.; Jas. Benson, S.D.; H. Campbell, J.D.; M. Belton, I.G.; and Geo. Naylor, Tyler. The banquet was afterwards held at the Red Lion Hotel, and was of the most recherche character. The newly-installed W.M. ably presided. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and responded to, and a most harmonious and pleasant evening was spent.

TEDDINGTON.—The Felix Lodge (No. 1494).—The regular monthly meeting of the above lodge took place on Saturday, 15th inst., at the Clarence Hotel, Bro. F. B. Archer, W.M. in the chair; F. Summer Knyvett, Grand Steward, I.P.M.; Edward B. Grabham, P.M., Prov. Grand Steward Middlesex, Sec.; R. Berridge, P.M., Grand Steward, S.W.; W. G. Moore, P.M., J.W.; T. G. Archer, S.D.; E. A. Wooly, J.D.; Belward, I.G. pro tem. Visitors: the R.W. Prov. Grand Master for Middlesex, Lieut.-Col. Francis Burdett, P.S.G.W.; the Hon. W. Warren Vernon, Grand Junior Warden; H. Thorn, P.M. 165; and others. The work before the lodge was the balloting for Mr. H. E. Taylor, who was afterwards initiated into the Order, the passing of Bros. Sealy, Weston, and Cooper, and raising of Bros. Hanson and Williams, the whole of the work being done in a very perfect and impressive manner. The lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to the banquet, presided over by the W.M. On the removal of the cloth, the usual loyal toasts were given and responded to. Bro. the Hon. W. Warren Vernon, Grand Junior Warden, replied to the toast of "The Grand Officers," and in the course of his remarks congratulated the lodge upon having a brother to preside over them who was in every way worthy of their highest esteem, a brother whom he had known and respected for some years, and who had entered on his year of office with such brilliant prospects of success. "The Health of the Prov. Grand Master for Middlesex" was then given, and responded to by the brethren in a very hearty manner. Bro. Col. Burdett, in replying to the toast, spoke of the excellent working he had witnessed, and gave the brethren some exceedingly practical suggestions as to the future comfort and well-being of the lodge. Bro. Grabham, Prov. Grand Steward Middlesex, responded to the toast of "The Prov. Grand Officers," and took the opportunity of acknowledging the favourable recognition which the labours of Bro. Knyvett, I.P.M., and himself had received at the hands of the Provincial Grand Master. "The Health of the W.M." was then proposed by Bro. Knyvett in eulogistic terms, and received by the brethren with much enthusiasm. Bro. Archer, in responding, expressed the pleasure it afforded him to preside over a lodge which had already taken so high a position in the province. During his year of office he would do all in his power to make the Felix Lodge worthy of the position to which it had attained, and looked for the support of the brethren; he willingly gave them his best services. "The Health of the Initiate, Bro. Taylor," was then given and responded to. The W.M. proposed "The Health of the Past Masters," to which Bro. Knyvett replied. Bro. Berridge, P.M. Grand Steward, S.W., responded for "The Officers," who were complimented by the W.M. for their thoroughly good working. The Tyler's toast brought the meeting to a close, and after the enjoyment of a pleasant evening, rendered more so by the excellent singing of Bros. Sealy and Hunter, the brethren returned to town.

BARNSELEY.—Lodge Friendly (No. 1513).—The brethren of this young and thriving lodge were engaged in a somewhat pleasing and peculiar duty on Thursday, the 6th inst., being called upon to assist their highly honoured Past Master, Bro. Richard Carter, P.M. Nos. 61 and 1513, P.P.G.W. of W. Yorks (Mayor of Barnsley), in laying the corner-stone of St. Paul's Church, Monk Bretton, near Barnsley, agreeably with a faculty granted for that purpose by the W.P.G.M. to the W.M. and brethren of the above lodge. The date fixed upon for the ceremony was that on which the regular lodge meeting should be held, the time for opening lodge having been altered to 1 p.m., when a goodly number of brethren were in attendance. The lodge having been opened in the three degrees, the brethren were conveyed in open carriages to the residence of Bro. Jackson, at Monk Bretton, and were received by him with the most fraternal and generous hospitality. Here they were marshalled by Bro. Bustard, D.C., and proceeded to the site in the usual order. When the head of the procession had arrived at the entrance of the ground the brethren divided to the right and left. W. Bro. Carter, followed by the W.M. of Lodge Friendly, Bro. Wm. Smith, the officers, and brethren in reverse order, took their respective positions on the ground. Bro. Carter having taken his seat, the vessels of corn, wine, and oil were deposited on a pedestal placed for their reception. The Rev. A. Lambert, Vicar of Monk Bretton, requested Bro. Carter to lay the stone, and presented to him on behalf of the building committee a trowel for that purpose. The inscription upon the trowel, read by Bro. Shepherd, Sec., was as follows:—"July 6th, 1876. Presented to the Worshipful Richard Carter, Esq., Mayor of Barnsley, P.P.G.W. of West Yorks, and P.M. Nos. 61 and 1513, on his laying the corner-stone of Saint Paul's Church, Monk Bretton." Bro. Bustard, D.C., here raised the upper stone and adjusted the lower one, during which the 100th Psalm was sung. Bro. the Rev. H. J. Day, Chaplain, then read a short lesson, from the V. of S.L., Gen. 28, v. 16 to 22, after which he said: "Brethren,—Let us invoke the blessing of the G.A.O.T.U. on the work we have thus begun in His name. O Lord God, whom the Heaven of Heavens cannot contain, and who yet vouchsafest to have a house here upon earth, wherein Thy name may be constantly invoked; look down, we beseech Thee, with benign countenance on us Thy humble servants; vouchsafe to bless, make sure and establish this stone now to be placed in Thy name. Be Thou, O Lord, the beginning, the in-

crease, and the ending of the work which we have thus undertaken to Thy praise and honour; through Him who is the chief corner stone, and the true foundation, and who liveth and reigneth with Thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, world without end. So mote it be." Bro. Watson then placed in a cavity in the stone a bottle containing the inscription removed from the old church, specimens of the current coin of the realm, and a document with the following inscription:—"St. Paul's Church, Monk Bretton. The corner stone of this church was re-laid on the 6th of July, 1876, with full Masonic ceremonial, by Richard Carter, Esq., P.P.G.W., and P.M., Mayor of Barnsley; Alfred Lambert, M.A., Vicar, in his 71st year and 34th of incumbency. Building committee: Alfred Lambert, Vicar; Thomas Marsden and George Henry Jackson, Churchwardens. William Dodgson, Arthur R. Kell, and Benjamin Smith. Architect: Luigi Solaini, Liverpool. Builders: Messrs. Chadwick and Co., Rotherham. The late fabric was so damaged by a storm of wind in December, 1873, as to render it necessary to re-build the whole, from its foundations. The corner-stone itself bore the inscription:—"St. Paul's Church. This memorial stone was laid July 6th, 1876, with Masonic honours, by Richard Carter, P.P.G.W., and P.M., Mayor of Barnsley. Building committee: Alfred Lambert, Vicar; T. Marsden, W. Dodgson, G. H. Jackson, A. R. Kell, B. Smith, Luigi and Hari Solaini, architects." Bro. Carter then advanced to the front of the raised platform and said: W.M., P.M.'s, and brethren of the Ancient Order of Free and Accepted Masons, Mr. Lambert and your clerical friends, ladies and gentlemen, my neighbours in this place and district,—We are assembled to-day to engage in a ceremony which I am sure you all feel to be one of considerable importance. It is usual in connection with an enterprise of any magnitude in all classes of society to recognise in some formal manner the commencement of that enterprise. But there is something which makes it more especially becoming and appropriate in the occasion which has brought us together to-day. We are here to lay a corner stone, and so far to inaugurate a work which is for all time to redound to the honour and glory of the M.H. the A. and S.R. of the U. I accepted the duty with my brethren of engaging in this ceremony, at the request of our dear friend the venerable vicar of this parish, and we feel that in such acceptance the duty is more appropriately performed than if it had become the work of any other body. I shall not for many reasons detain you by attempting to prove the assertion which I have just made—it is more especially addressed to a fraternity whose history may be traced back to the earliest period of the history of the human race—a fraternity to whom duties of this kind have been in all ages of mankind willingly and especially confided. We accepted this work, important in the highest sense of the term, with a becoming degree of propriety which I hope we all know how to appreciate. And while we acknowledge our own personal humility and dependence, we come at the same time as Freemasons. Although we may have these opportunities of inculcating principles which in a certain manner we are forbidden from divulging to the outer world, there is nevertheless that which does commend itself to the highest of all classes, and I am proud to think that Freemasonry never flourished in this country or any other in a more distinguished manner than it does among Englishmen at the present time. I shall, without detaining this numerous assembly, place myself in the hands of the Director of Ceremonies and ask him now to proceed in the further work to be done. Thanking you, Mr. Lambert, and the building committee for the kindness and courtesy with which you have permitted us to be present on this occasion, and congratulating you on your numerous assemblage of friends and parishioners, and availing myself of this opportunity of saying that as to the work in which we are engaged, may you live to see it completed, that it may be a source of happiness, enjoyment, and comfort for many years to come. Worshipful Bro. Carter then adjusted the lower stone, after which the upper stone was slowly lowered with three distinct stops, during which the anthem, "O Lord of Hosts," was sung. Worshipful Bro. Carter then proved the just position and form of the stone by the plum rule, level, and square, which were successively delivered to him by the Junior Warden, Senior Warden, and Worshipful Master of Lodge Friendly. Being satisfied in these particulars he gave the stone three knocks with the mallet, which was delivered to him, laying the stone in the name of the most High, the Father, Son, and the Holy Ghost, the Creator of the Universe. The cornucopia, containing the corn, and the ewers, with the wine and the oil, were next handed to Bro. Carter, who strewed the corn and poured the wine over the stone, saying: In these emblems, we recognise the symbols of plenty. Nay, the bounteous giver of all good, the author of all temporal and spiritual blessing, please to bless this place of worship for all future time with abundance and plenty, of all gifts that can render material and spiritual happiness. The Chaplain then offered up the following prayer, saying: "Brethren,—Let us now supplicate Almighty God, of His infinite mercy, to bless, sanctify, and consecrate the house which is to be built in this place. O Almighty and everliving God, who in every place of Thy dominion art wholly present, wholly operating, and who yet dost hallow the places dedicated to Thy name, pour forth Thy grace upon the house of prayer here to be built, that it may be raised up a temple to Thy honour, and remain for ever inviolable. And as Thou art the founder of this house, be Thou also its protector. Here let no malice of the enemy prevail, no perverse desires divide those whom one fold contains and one shepherd guides. Here let brotherly love, relief, and truth flourish, and through the powerful aid of Thy blessed Spirit mayest Thou always be worshipped in this place in faith and charity, in purity and true devotion; and grant that all who shall here seek Thee may ever find the light of Thy countenance, and be filled with abundance of

Thy Heavenly grace, through Jesus Christ our Lord." The National Anthem was then sung, and during the singing a collection was made in aid of the building fund, resulting in the receipt of a considerable sum. The clergy, the Freemasons, the building committee, and over one hundred friends, afterwards lunched together in the National School-room, the vicar presiding. "The Queen" having been duly honoured, the Mayor of Barnsley proposed "A Welcome Back to England of our Grand Master," and he added to the toast "The Rest of the Royal Family." He passed a high eulogy on His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales for his genial warmheartedness and the many other qualities with which he graced the high position in Freemasonry, and said he believed the Order had never been more highly honoured than when His Royal Highness was installed. Alderman C. Newman gave "Prosperity to St. Paul's, Monk Bretton, and the Vicar of the Parish." He said he hoped the new church would continue very much longer than the last one, and that the worthy vicar, whose reception there showed that he was respected, would be cheered by much kindly help. He trusted that for a long time the inhabitants would heartily and harmoniously worship, guided by the loving care of so faithful a clergyman. The Vicar, who was heartily received, commented upon the odd fact that though a church had been built in the parish since he came, another was needed. He was afraid that his tenancy of the living could not last much longer, but he hoped to be spared to see the top stone put on, and a true-hearted congregation within the walls of the new church. He had ever met with kind sympathy from his parishioners, and was sorry that many of them were prevented from attending the old church, as it was impossible to hear in it. The new church, however, would be a very great improvement, and certainly the tower and spire would possess great interest. Having observed that this effort was one more evidence that the Church of England was the church of the people, the rev. gentleman concluded with a few humorous hints as to gifts of church fittings, organ, windows, bells, &c. "The Mayor of Barnsley," was proposed by the Rev. J. A. Metcalfe, and that gentleman having responded, gave "The Architect and Builders," which was acknowledged by Mr. Abson, who proposed "The Ancient and Modern Freemasons," which was responded to by several Masonic officials. "The Visitors" and "The Ladies" concluded the list. The following is a description of the new church, for which we are indebted to the kindness of the architect. The church, which is being built from the designs and under the superintendence of Messrs Luigi and H. Solaini, architects, Liverpool, will consist of nave, 59'6 by 21'0; side aisles, 59'6 by 9'0; chancel, 27'3 by 11'6, with semi-octagonal apse-vestry and organ chamber, each opening into chancel and aisle by archways, to be filled in with ornamental wood screens; tower and porch. The clerestory walls, which are to be only of sufficient height to admit small windows, will be built on five moulded red brick arches each side, supported by circular stone shafts, with moulded caps. The nave ceiling, 35 feet in height, is to be constructed in the form of half a twelve-sided polygon, boarded and divided into bays by semi-circular arched ribs, cusped and moulded and springing from stone corbels, each bay to be sub-divided into square panels by mouldings. It is intended for the boarding in panels to be of a lighter colour than the ribs, mouldings, and cornices, which will have a novel and pleasing effect. The tower, through which is the principal entrance, will occupy a central position in front of the west gable, and inclusive of spire and finial will have a total elevation of 118 feet. Owing to the favourable locality of the site the tower and spire will be visible from a considerable distance, and form an imposing feature in the surrounding landscape. The masonry throughout is to be of local sandstone. The building will partake somewhat of the "Early Decorated" in style and will contain upwards of 400 sittings. The contractors are Messrs. G. Chadwick and Co., of Rotherham.

LIVERPOOL.—Liverpool Lodge (No. 1547).—The annual installation meeting of this lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, Hope-st., Liverpool, on Wednesday, the 12th inst., when Bro. Councillor J. A. Forrest was installed as the W.M. by Bro. S. Haynes, P.M. The visitors included Bros. Dr. Taylor, P.M. 823; C. R. Copeman, 786; and R. Bennett, W.M. 1399. The officers invested were Bros. the Rev. J. F. Goggin, P.P.G.C., I.P.M.; W. J. Lunt, P.M.; D.C.; J. Marshall, S.W.; J. H. Parker, J.W.; W. C. Browne-Cave, Sec.; R. Warrier, Treas.; J. Duncan, jun., S.D.; W. Ladyman, J.D.; J. C. McGuire, I.G.; C. J. Caddock, S.S.; E. Walker, J.S.; W. Croft, Org.; and W. H. Ball, Tyler. At the conclusion of the installation proceedings the W.M., on behalf of the members of the lodge, presented Bro. the Rev. J. F. Goggin, I.P.M., with a handsome silver salver, as a mark of the high esteem in which he is held, and as a recognition of his services to the Liverpool and the Order generally. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given during the evening.

MORECAMBE.—Morecambe Lodge (1561).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held in the Masonic Room, Morecambe-street, on the 7th inst. Bro. Capt. Garnet, W.M., presided, and Bro. Dr. Moore, P.G.S.B. Eng., occupied the chair of I.P.M. The lodge having been opened with solemn prayer in the First Degree, the minutes of previous meeting were read and confirmed, after which Bros. John L. Bradshaw, P.M. 1051, and F. G. Dale, S.W. 1353, were unanimously admitted as joining members. The lodge having been opened in the Second and also in the Third Degrees, Bro. Hutton was raised to the Sublime Degree of a M.M., the working of the first portion being efficiently performed by the W.M., and that in the latter by the I.P.M., who also presented the working tools. Bro. Gregson was passed to the degree of F.C., and Mr. Thomas Wilkinson was initiated. It being considered expedient that the members

should have a more commodious lodge room, a committee consisting of the W.M., I.P.M., Wardens, and Secretary, was appointed for the purpose of arranging for the erection of a Masonic Hall. This they have happily succeeded in accomplishing; so that in a short time we may hope to see this growing and prosperous lodge located in its own premises. The usual proclamations were made, and hearty good wishes having been tendered by the visiting brethren (of whom there were several), the lodge was closed in peace, love, and harmony, with the formalities of the Craft.

STAINES.—Musgrave Lodge (No. 1597).—This young lodge held its first meeting since its consecration at the Angel and Crown Hotel, Staines, on Saturday, the 15th inst. In the absence of the W.M., Bro. Levick (who is at present in Africa) the chair was occupied by the S.W., Bro. F. Keily, P.M., Prov. G. Steward, supported by Bros. Wilson, P.M.; C. Arkell; H. Phythian, P.M.; Prov. G. Sec.; E. Cobbett, R. Sindall, J. G. Dunn, E. Fairlie, and many other brethren. The lodge was opened, and the minutes of the last meeting were duly confirmed. After which a ballot was taken for Mr. H. F. Bing as a candidate for initiation, and the result being favourable, he was regularly admitted into Freemasonry, the ceremony being excellently rendered by the acting W.M. After further Masonic business, the lodge was closed in due form, and the brethren sat down to a substantial repast under the presidency of Bro. F. Keily, who gave the usual loyal and Masonic toasts with due honours.

Ark Masonry.

SHEFFIELD.—Wentworth Lodge of Royal Ark Mariners, attached to the Britannia Lodge of Mark Master Masons (No. 53).—The first annual meeting was held on Wednesday, June 21st, 1876, when that ark, under the command of V.W. Bro. Henry Matthews, G.J.O. for England, &c., and with her full complement of officers and crew, weighed anchor at 6 bells. When fairly under weigh, all hands were called aft, the watches were set, and all were told off to their various duties. The Commander then gave the course to be steered, and ordered a sharp look out to be kept for any craft in distress, or any shipwrecked crew. Scarcely had these ordinary duties been completed when signals of distress were observed on the port bow. Orders were immediately given to alter the course, and bear down upon the strange craft. She was soon overhauled and brought alongside, and two poor castaways were taken on board. They were carefully examined, and proving to be Mark Master Masons, were regularly elevated, and placed upon the articles as Royal Ark Mariners according to ancient custom. All hands were then mustered, and V.G. Certificates were presented to four able-bodied Mariners. Bro. H. Matthews having been re-elected W.C.N., was saluted with a salvo of 4 on his re-appointment. He then appointed and invested his officers for the ensuing year as follows:—Bros. H. J. Garnett, as S.W., or J.; G. E. Bennett, as J.W., or S.; S. B. Ellis, Treas. (re-elected), and Scribe; A. Scargill, S.D.; J. B. Wostinholm, J.D.; W. White, D. of C.; J. Clark, A.D. of C.; W. Truelove, Org.; J. E. Reaney, Steward; Dr. Griffiths, Guardian; G. Wilkinson, Warder (elected). The Ark then proceeded on her passage home, and having arrived safely in harbour, and let go her anchor all hands obtained permission to leave, and take a cruise on shore. Once off duty they proceeded to partake of refreshment, which consisted exclusively of fish; the worthy Skipper presided. Grog was served and the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were then characteristically given and honoured. The nature, variety and peculiarity of the supper formed an agreeable surprise. In this branch of the Service the carrying of "deck-loads" has been prevented by the peculiar shape of the Craft, and such prohibition is also symbolized by its members, for shortly after ten o'clock saw all these worthy mariners homeward bound. A most enjoyable evening was spent. We must congratulate the lodge on its flourishing condition, for although this particular Ark was but built and launched twelve months ago, it has been fortunate in affording refuge to no less than thirteen castaways, who have received in that haven of rest such a hearty and fraternal welcome as to constitute such reception a memorable event in the salt-junk-and-lime-juice existence of everyday life.

Red Cross of Constantine.

LANCASTER.—Red Cross Conclave (No. 12).—The regular meeting of this conclave was held at the Masonic Room, Athenæum, on Monday, the 10th inst. The M.P.S., Sir Knt. Bagnall, presided, being supported by Sir Knt. Dean, V.E.; Illustrious Sir Knt. Dr. Moore, and other officers. After the formal business had been transacted, Bro. J. J. Crookell, of the Lodge of Fortitude, 281, was duly installed as a Knight of the Order, and entrusted with all its privileges. The conclave was afterwards closed in due form.

SHEFFIELD.—White Rose of York Conclave (No. 120).—The first annual festival of this young and really prosperous conclave was held on Friday, June 16th, 1876. It was indeed a "happy thought" when Bro. the Rev. A. W. Hamilton, M.A., Mus. Bac, P.P.G.C. for West Yorkshire, W.M. Britannia Lodge, No. 139, Sheffield, invited the conclave to hold its meeting at his house, Rowtor Hall, Stanton-in-Peak, near Bakewell, Derbyshire (he having recently left Sheffield on his appointment as Vicar of Stanton) and taking into consideration the fact that the old Freemasons' Hall, Sheffield, has been pulled down, and (as we reported in our issue of the 24th ult.) a spacious building is now in course of erection, the lodges, &c., in the meantime having to meet in small rooms adjoining, it is easily understood how such an invitation was

hailed with delight. These facts on being represented at head quarters, by means of a formal application, the Grand Imperial Council were pleased to issue a special dispensation authorising and empowering the Sir Knights to hold their meeting of June 16th, 1876, away from Sheffield, as desired, which dispensation proved a real boon, for the day was one of unalloyed pleasure, and has forged another strong link of attachment of the Red Cross Order to the hearts of the Sheffield Masons. When we chronicled (July 3rd, 1875) the consecration of the White Rose of York Conclave, we were deeply impressed with a sense of the Red Cross having achieved a great success, that the inauguration of the White Rose of York Conclave of this historical Order in the very historical county of York, was a day ever to be remembered, and it is now with stronger feelings of duty and pleasure we record what we are inclined to believe to be one of the greatest successes a Red Cross Conclave has ever attained; indeed, we would call, and urge, upon older and other conclaves to look to their laurels. *En passant* Constantine (the founder of the Red Cross Order) is said to have been born at, or near, York. Also that St. Helena, his mother, (the founder of the Order of K.H.S.) was a native of Yorkshire. The conclave being styled the "White Rose of York" was a happy selection, and equally *apropos* is that of the Sanctuary of K.H.S., &c., which is called "St. Helena." Old local traditions are always interesting, and we congratulate the Orders on their having renewed their association with these, and the grand old name of York. But *revenons à nos moutons*. Armed with the dispensation, arrangements were soon completed as follows:—Thursday, June 15th, the conclave was opened at 5 p.m., at the Freemasons' Hall, Sheffield, Ill. Sir Knt. W. H. Brittain, Int. Gen. for West Yorkshire, on the throne. A college of Viceroy was then opened, when Em. Sir Knt. W. Roddewig, V.E., M.P.S.-elect, having retired, a Senate of Sovereigns was opened, Em. Sir Knt. Roddewig was admitted, and presented by Em. Sir Knt. S. B. Ellis, P.S., to Ill. Sir Knt. Brittain for enthronement, which was duly performed. Em. Sir Knt. Roddewig having been placed on the throne of Constantine, was saluted according to ancient custom. The senate was then closed, and the college resumed, when Sir Knt. the Rev. E. Boteler Chalmers, M.A., P.P.G.C. for W. Yks., P.M. 139, S.G. V.E. elect, was admitted and duly consecrated, and saluted as the Viceroy Eusebius of the conclave. The college was then closed and the conclave resumed, when the M.P.S. declared it adjourned until the following day. The desirability of holding the senate and college on the evening previous to the conclave was because only those Sir Knights who had attained the rank of M.P.S. or V.E. respectively could be present at such meetings. On Friday, June 16th, the Sir Knights assembled at 9 a.m. at Mr. Haigh's establishment, Glossop-road, where four landaus and pairs were provided to convey the party, which—consisting of 23—at once started on their day's excursion, the route taken being via Baslow, where a capital luncheon had been provided, and after justice had been done thereto, the journey was resumed, via Chatsworth Park and Rowsley, just obtaining a glimpse of Haddon Hall. Having arrived at Rowtor Hall a hearty welcome awaited the Sir Knights at the hands of Bro. Hamilton. After a little rest and necessary ablutions the business of the day was proceeded with. The conclave being resumed (adjourned from preceding day), the special dispensation from the Grand Imperial Council, authorizing the conclave to meet on that day, away from Sheffield, was read, and ordered to be entered on the minutes, the formal business having been disposed of, Bros. the Rev. A. W. Hamilton, M.A., Mus. Bac., Vicar of Stanton, P.P.G.C. for W. Yks., W.M. 139; the Rev. R. C. Roy, M.A., Vicar of Youlgreave, P.P.G.C. for Worcestershire, 88; J. Spencer, 139; F. Trickett, 139; Dr. Wade, 306; and J. E. Darling, 1239, were then admitted, and duly installed and proclaimed Knights of the Red Cross of Constantine, &c. Ill. Sir Knt. Brittain then read a letter he had received from the Most Ill. G. Sov., Sir Frederick M. Williams, Bart., M.P., &c., &c., which he said gave him unfeigned pleasure to read, as he was sure it would give the Sir Knights to listen to. The following is a copy:—"17, Great James-street, Bedford Row, London, 13th June, 1876, To the Ill. Sir Knt. W. H. Brittain, 31, Intendant General for West Yorkshire, Dear Sir Knight, In compliance with your recommendation, and having regard to the services rendered to the Order in West Yorkshire by E. Sir Knt. Samuel B. Ellis (P. Sov.), Treasurer of the White Rose of York Conclave, No. 120, Sheffield, I have decided to confer upon that eminent Sir Knight the rank of an Intendant General, unattached, and to direct that his commission as such be issued as speedily as possible. I take this opportunity of congratulating you personally upon the success of your efforts to promote the welfare of the Order in your Division, and I trust you will ever have the hearty co-operation and assistance of the Knights under your rule. I remain, dear Sir Knight, Yours in faith and fraternity. (Signed) Frederick M. Williams, Grand Sovereign and Grand Commander of St. John." Em. Sir Knt. Roddewig was then inducted as M.P.S., and Em. Sir Knt. the Rev. E. Boteler Chalmers, as V.E., the officers for the ensuing year having been appointed and invested, letters of apology regretting inability to be present were read from M. Em. Sir Knt. Col. Francis Burdett, Grand Viceroy. V. I. Sir Knt. R. Wentworth Little, Grand Treasurer, &c., and several other Sir Knights, also from two brethren, candidates for the degree, who were prevented by illness from attending. Sir Knt. Moss, S.G., in a few appropriate remarks called upon the M.P.S. to present a silver snuff box, with a suitable address engraved thereon, to Ill. Sir Knt. W. H. Brittain, Int. Gen., P.S., &c., &c. This, Em. Sir Knt. Roddewig neatly performed in a few well-chosen remarks, setting forth that the box had been subscribed for, and was presented, by the members of the conclave as a small token of the fraternal regard they entertained towards Ill

Sir Knt. Britain, also as a souvenir of their thanks to him as the first M.P.S. and Founder of the White Rose of York Conclave, and of his happy and prosperous reign. III. Sir Knt. Britain in reply, stated that the presentation was an unexpected and agreeable surprise to him, his services in the introduction of the Red Cross Order into Yorkshire had afforded him much pleasure in performing, but that the practical shape in which the Sir Knights had been pleased to thank him was a new pleasure to him indeed, it would serve to him as a memento of some of the happiest hours he had ever spent in his life. He begged to tender to the M.P.S. and all the other members of the conclave his most sincere thanks. Grand Imperial Council certificates were presented to several Sir Knights. The conclave was closed. The St. Helena Sanctuary of K.H.S. and Commandery of St. John the Evangelist was opened, when eight candidates were admitted and installed knights of these ineffable grades. Em. Sir Knt. Roddewig, M.P.S., took his seat as M.E.C. Patriarchal Council Certificates were presented to a number of Sir Knights. The sanctuary was closed. Close to Rowtor Hall are some rocks, known as Rowtor Rocks, they are most romantically situated, the ascent, somewhat precipitous, is by means of a narrow winding path. It is stated (and on reliable authority), that amongst these rocks the Ancient Druids met to celebrate their rites and mysteries, there are evidences of man's handiwork, one huge stone having three seats, with arms thereto, carved in it. In this ancient mystic temple, encircled with beautiful trees in full leaf, with the verdant turf for carpet, and the blue canopy overhead, making a charming and marvellous *coup d'oeil*, the Sir Knights formed themselves into a picturesque group of which a photograph was taken. Returning to Rowtor Hall, another group was formed and photographed. Dinner was announced, when the twenty-five prompt responses to the muster roll evinced a striking and gratifying example, not only of military discipline and *esprit de corps*, but also a very unmistakable testimony to the appetizing influence of the bracing Derbyshire air. All was propitious a handsome repast was provided, and to which ample justice was done, the worthy host had a surprise for his visitors, for he had engaged the village brass band, which discoursed harmony during the dinner. "The Queen," "The Worthy Host," "The Provincial Grand Lodge of Derbyshire," "The M.I.G. Sov. Sir Frederick M. Williams, Bart, M.P., &c.," "The M.E.G. Viceroy, Colonel Francis Burdett," "The V.I.G. Treas. Sir Kt. G. Wentworth Little," and "The Officers and Past Officers of Grand Council and Senate," and other appropriate toasts were then eloquently given. Sir Kt. J. Binney, H.P., was entrusted with that of "The Healths of the Intendants General—III Sir Kt. W. H. Britain, Past Sov., &c.; and III. Sir Kt. S. B. Ellis, Past Sov., Treas., &c.; Sir Kt. Binney stated how proud the Conclave was in having two of its members in such high positions, and he testified how III Sir Knights Britain and Ellis had worked as one for the prosperity of the conclave, and on its behalf he congratulated the latter on his recent appointment. This met with a hearty reception. III. Sir Knt. Ellis, in responding, thanked Sir Knight Binney, for his kind congratulations on his recent appointment as Int. Gen. Unat., and he thanked the other Sir Knights for their warm concurrence in those remarks. What he had done for the Conclave he hoped to continue to do, there was yet a lot of work to be done, and they might claim his best efforts, he little expected so high and distinguished an appointment as he had just received at the hands of the M.I.G. Sov. Sir Frederick M. Williams, Bart., but he should always endeavour to prove worthy of it. In conclusion he felt he must again thank his fraters for their hearty congratulations, which were to him certainly second only to the appointment itself. III. Sir Kt. Britain also returned thanks for the kind remarks of Sir Kt. Binney, and their cordial reception at the hands of the Sir Knights, his work had been a labour of love to him, and whilst the conclave continued to be animated with such unanimity he felt confident in its permanent success, in promoting which he hoped to aid for many years to come. Em. Sir Knt. the Rev. E. Boteler Chalmers, V.E., then proposed "The Health of the M.P.S." saying that in Em. Sir Kt. Roddewig, the Conclave had secured one to rule over them who was second to none in zeal for Masonry, and one who was esteemed by all who knew him, the Conclave might fairly congratulate itself on its good fortune. This health was drunk most heartily, and Em. Sir Kt. Roddewig replied in suitable terms. Other toasts followed quickly, viz., "The Past Sovereigns, III. Sir Kts. Britain and Ellis," "the V.E. Em. Sir Kt. the Rev. E. Boteler Chalmers," "the Officers," "The newly-Installed Companions in Arms," for which the whole of the six replied. Carriages were announced, of which the Sir Knights at once took possession, the signal to start was given, when the band struck up "God Save the Queen." The return journey was made via Chatsworth Park, and, by special permission, close to the House, having arrived at Baslow, coffee, &c., was served; the journey was resumed and the party arrived back in Sheffield about 11 p.m., after having spent a most enjoyable day; for such was the unanimous verdict. Thus the first anniversary of the White Rose of York Conclave came to an end. The placing of a plant in new ground is attended with more difficulties than the careless looker-on imagines; granted that the plant is from good stock, and that the ground has been carefully selected—it must be watched with lyncean eyes, for it must also be protected against storms and frosts, and even from too much sun. All this has been bestowed on the "White Rose of York," since the day it was planted it has been sheltered from the storm of idle and curious assemblages, from the frosts and nipping airs of the hypercritical, nor has it been permitted to bask unreservedly in the sunshine of indiscriminate popularity. That its roots have struck deep into the hearts of the Yorkshire

brethren we are convinced—may its branches extend far and wide, but may it never "waste its sweetness on the desert air." The success of the first annual festival of this conclave was no less than that of its consecration, the fine weather, the glorious drive through beautiful scenery, the agreeable surprises in the presentation to III. Sir Knt. Britain, and the distinguished appointment of III. Sir Knt. Ellis, the photographic group, the Druidical rocks, and last, though not least, the fraternal reception, the exchange of knightly greeting, and the princely hospitality received whilst under the aegis of Sir Knt. the Rev. A. W. Hamilton, made up such an eventful epoch as to suggest to us that with the Yorkshire brethren a "Red Cross Day" and a "Red Letter Day" must have become established synonyma.

Scotland.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Scotia (No. 178).—A meeting of this lodge was held in the Star Masonic Hall, 12, Trongate, on Wednesday evening, the 12th inst., Bro. J. Millar, P.M., in the chair; Higgins, D.M.; Logan, S.M.; Hepburn, S.W.; Mercer, J.W.; King, Treas.; Killin, Sec.; McDonald, S.D.; Hart, J.D.; Matheson, P.M., Chaplain; with a large attendance of members. Visitors: G. McDonald, W.M. 73; J. Morgan, W.M. 219; J. Booth, W.M. 87; G. Muir, L.D.M. 103; Ferguson, P.M. ("Freemason"); and others. On the minutes of last meeting being read and confirmed, Bro. W. Hart was elected W.M. for the remainder of the ensuing year in room of the late Bro. Singleton, deceased. A gentleman was then initiated into the First Degree by Bro. R. Allan, Sec. 581, on behalf of the Thistle and Rose Lodge, No. 73. After disposing of other minor business the lodge was closed.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Star (No. 210).—The regular monthly meeting of this lodge was held in their hall, 12, Trongate, on Monday evening, the 10th inst., Bro. J. Morgan, W.M., in the chair; J. Martin, D.M.; J. Horn, S.W.; T. Graham, J.W. 360, acting J.W.; P. Smart, Treas.; Francis Dow, Sec.; J. Brown, S.D.; J. Lawrence, B.B.; J. Park, S.S.; and W. J. Elliot, I.G. The meeting, as usual, was well attended, and among the visitors were Bros. John Fraser, P.M. 87; R. Jack, W.M. 128; D. Reid, I.P.M. 465; J. M. Oliver, S.W. 360; J. Duthie, 2. 67; Ferguson, P.M. ("Freemason"); J. Fyfe, No. 0; Jas. Love, 87; R. Butcher, 87; W. Hart, 178; F. Easton, 354; W. Campbell, 360; W. Gardner, 360; and J. Campbell, 128. On the minutes being read and confirmed, applications were read from Messrs. H. Stewart, J. Hunter, Christie, and W. Henderson for admission into the Order, and the same being favourably balloted for, they received the E.A. Degree at the hands of Bro. Morgan, W.M. Bro. John Boyd was afterwards passed to the F.C. Degree by Bro. Ferguson, P.M. 543. There being no further business, the lodge was closed.

GLASGOW.—Lodge St. Andrew (No. 465).—A meeting of this lodge was held in the Masonic Hall, Gargad-road, on Thursday evening, the 6th inst., the W.M., Bro. D. Gilchrist, in the chair, supported by Bros. David Reid, I.P.M.; J. McLeish, S.M.; G. B. Davidson, S.W.; W. Chalmers, J.W.; W. Campbell, Sec., and the other office-bearers, and a good attendance of brethren. On the lodge being opened, the Secretary read the minutes of last meeting, which were approved of. Mr. W. Arbuckle was initiated into Freemasonry by the W.M., and Bro. J. Paton was passed to the Fellow Craft Degree by Bro. McLeish, S.M. The lodge was then closed.

THORNIEBANK.—Lodge Thorniebank (No. 512).—A large and influential meeting of this young but prosperous lodge was held in their lodge room at Thorniebank on Tuesday evening, the 11th inst. The chair was occupied by the W.M., Bro. Robert Scobie, ably supported by Bros. L. McKellar, D.M.; Robt. Fletcher, S.W.; Robt. McEwan, J.W.; W. Jardine, Treas.; Edward Schindler, Sec.; F. Waters, J.D.; R. Bently, I.G.; and J. Clugston, Tyler. The meetings of this lodge are generally well attended, and on Tuesday a number of brethren were present from Glasgow. The lodge was opened in due form on the E.A. Degree, and the minutes of last meeting were read and adopted. The lodge was then opened in the Third Degree, when Bros. Robt. Nisbet, D. McArthur, Jas. Hunter, George Kennedy, Robt. Law, Chas. Brown, and John Andrew were raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason by Bro. W. Ferguson, P.M. St. John's, Dalmuir, No. 543 ("Freemason"). The lodge was then resumed in the First Degree, when Bros. Greig, Shand, and Nisbet presented the lodge with suitable emblems for the Third Degree, which were used in the working of that degree for the first time. The R.W.M., Bro. Scobie, accepted the presentation on behalf of the lodge, and awarded a hearty vote of thanks to those brethren, the same to be recorded in the minutes of the lodge. The lodge was then closed, and afterwards put under the care of the J.W., Bro. McEwan. Bro. Scobie, W.M., in the chair. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and drank with the accustomed honours. "The Newly-raised M.M." was replied to by Bro. Nisbet in a very neat speech. "The Visiting Brethren," was replied to by Bro. Ferguson, P.M. 543. A number of other toasts followed. During the evening Bros. Greig, Smith, Shand, Burns, and Crow sang some excellent songs. Bro. Neilson sang "Our own Thorniebank," composed by himself, which elicited great applause. After spending a most enjoyable evening the lodge was called back to labour and closed, the Glasgow brethren returning by the last conveyance at 11 p.m.

We regret to state that the only son of Bro. J. M. Clabon, President of the Board of Benevolence, was killed in a railway accident on Saturday last at Gravesend.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF WEST YORKSHIRE.

On Wednesday the quarterly meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of West Yorkshire Freemasons was held in the Masonic Hall, South Parade, Huddersfield, under the banner of the Lodge of Harmony, 275. The officers of that lodge opened the preliminary lodge in the various degrees, after which Provincial Grand Lodge entered, and was presided over by Lt.-Col. Sir H. Edwards, Bart., Prov. G. Master of West Yorkshire, and assisted by the Prov. Grand Officers. About 200 brethren from the province attended.

In acknowledging the reception by the brethren, Bro. Lt.-Col. Sir H. Edwards said he felt gratified that the brethren of West Yorkshire, and those of the Harmony Lodge (275) had accorded him so kind and enthusiastic a reception. After eulogizing the Lodge of Harmony for their amiability, affability, and generosity, and instancing their large contributions to the various Masonic charities, referred to the recent anniversary for the Girls' School, over which he had the distinguished honour to preside, in the absence of our noble brother the Prov. Grand Master of Oxfordshire, H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught, who was unavoidably prevented attending. During the course of his remarks he referred to the safe return of the Prince of Wales to this country, and trusted that some fitting Masonic memorial might be established of his return, which would be an honour through all time to the Freemasons of this country. The Prov. Grand Master urged W.M.'s to possess and post themselves thoroughly in the Book of Constitutions and Prov. Grand Lodge bye-laws.

Referring to the presence of Bro. Bentley Shaw, P.P.D. G.M., the Prov. Grand Master said he had never realised the work, the ability, and the kindness of Bro. Bentley Shaw, till he (Col. Edwards) had been installed in his chair, and he trusted, as the whole lodge trusted, he would be long spared to assist the lodge with his knowledge and judgement. In concluding he trusted that peace, concord, harmony, and good fellowship would long distinguish them as Masons as good men.

Bro. Bentley Shaw having been cordially honoured in ancient style, thanked the brethren from the bottom of his heart for their reception, and hoped they would long work cordially together.

The roll of lodges, and other routine business having been gone through.

The Provincial Grand Master rose, and said it gave great pleasure to propose the next motion on the agenda paper, which was as follows:—

"The Right Worshipful Prov. G. Master moved "That this Provincial Grand Lodge desire to record its humble and hearty thanks to the Great Architect of the Universe for the safe return to his native land of our beloved Grand Master, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, K.G., from his recent tour in our own Indian Empire." He said we were all of one opinion that it was one of the greatest blessings to this country that H.R. Highness the Prince of Wales had been permitted to return to his native land in health and strength, after long travelling and voyaging in foreign climes. He was glad to say that his recent suffering had passed away, and that the malady was not in any way increased by his recent journey. He hoped that in course of time, when it pleased God to remove our gracious and beloved sovereign (and he hoped the time was long distant, (hear, hear,) our beloved Grand Master would reign over this country with the same urbanity that his royal mother did. (Applause.)

Bro. Bentley Shaw seconded the resolution in the course of some very pleasing remarks. His visit to India, he said, had in it results of an immense amount of good to us as Englishmen, and to the Indian Empire. This was a glorious country, of which every Englishman ought to be proud, and they ought also to be proud of the illustrious Prince who is to reign over us. (Applause.)

Bro. Tew, D.P.G.M., supported the motion, which was carried unanimously and enthusiastically.

Bro. J. Booth, Prov. Grand Junior Warden, then proceeded to make a statement with respect to the last Quarterly Court of the Masonic Boys' School, at Woodgreen, when

Bro. Wordsworth submitted that the proceeding was irregular.

Bro. Joseph Bately, of Huddersfield, also raised an objection to Bro. Booth proceeding on the ground of no notice of resolution having been given, and in support of his objection, quoted the 42nd bye-law of Provincial Grand Lodge.

The Prov. Grand Master, unwilling to take the responsibility upon himself, appealed to the Registrar, as the legal authority.

Bro. Booth said he had transmitted to the Prov. Grand Secretary a communication in the language of the agenda paper, but not the precise language of the motion he intended to submit. He claimed the right to explain the peculiar grounds he had taken. He appealed first to the practice of the Prov. G. Lodge; and secondly because when notice was given it was expected to have from the Charity Committee their report. That report had not been forthcoming, and he had consequently been placed at a disadvantage in submitting his resolution. Bro. Booth urged Prov. Grand Lodge to suspend the standing orders, in order to move his resolution; but if out of order he would give notice that at the next meeting he would move a resolution on the subject.

Bro. Bentley Shaw urged that the continuance of this motion would tend to destroy the good feeling of this Prov. Grand Lodge, and after referring to rulings of Prov. Grand Lodge in times past, said the setting aside of the bye-laws in this case would tend to stultify the action of the Prov. Grand Master, and set a bad precedent for future meetings.

After other speakers, Bro. W. H. Gill, Mayor of Wake-

field, Prov. Grand Senior Warden, said he had listened with much pain to the bickerings at these meetings on this Boys' School subject. He had been to London in compliance with Prov. Grand Lodge, and was willing to go a dozen times if good could come, but his belief was that such would not be the case. The legal way, if any brother had any complaint, was to attend the quarterly court. From our contributions we have shown our interest in this school, but by our action we are losing our force and influence. Bro. Gill appealed to Bro. Booth to withdraw the resolution he had given notice of, and let what has passed be passed. If any wrong exists in the internal arrangements of the school, let complaint be made in regular order, in all the friendliness of Masonic feeling, and so put an end to all this crimination and recrimination. (Applause.)

Bro. Bentley Shaw endorsed everything said by Bro. Gill. West Yorkshire had long been known for its harmony, good feeling, and generosity, and he appealed that the province should not pull the good fabric of our charities, which has flourished long and well, down about our ears, to be a lasting discredit upon us.

The Prov. Grand Master also appealed to Bro. Booth to withdraw his motion, and so secure the co-operation of good workers, both of which he feared would be sacrificed by persevering in it.

Bro. Booth, who disclaimed all personal feeling in the matter, after the appeals which had been made, and with the approval of Prov. Grand Lodge, withdrew his motion. (Applause.)

After an amicable termination to a disagreeable subject, the Provincial Grand Lodge was closed in due form.

An excellent banquet was afterwards served in the dining-hall of the lodge, where the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly proposed and responded to, the proceedings being presided over by Sir H. Edwards, Bart.

FESTIVAL OF THE MARK BENEVOLENT FUND.

The annual festival in aid of the Benevolent Fund attached to the Grand Lodge of the Mark Degree of Freemasons of England, was held on Wednesday evening at the Alexandra Palace. The President of the day was Bro. Lieut.-General Brownrigg, Grand Senior Warden of the year. The banquet on these occasions is always graced by the presence of ladies, and the practice of admitting the sisterhood has been found so successful that it meets with the unqualified approval of all the brethren who join this very agreeable annual meeting. The company is never a large one, but it is probably the more enjoyable on the account as everybody knows everybody else, and meets on the same footing as a private family gathering. This has been the case ever since the first establishment of the fund in 1859, when the banquet was given at Hampton Court, but where the space afforded to the party was not sufficient for the comfortable enjoyment of the recreation. The successive gatherings have been held at various other localities, and last year Bro. Binckes, Grand Secretary, and Past Grand Junior Warden, selected the Alexandra Palace, and the accommodation afforded was so ample, the facilities of the journey to and from it so great, and the surroundings of the Palace so agreeable that a repetition of the selection was ventured upon this year. The commodious banqueting room chosen for the occasion was elegantly laid out by Bros. Bertram and Roberts, and the dinner table was arranged in horse shoe form. There was an attractive display of flowers and fruit on the table, whereas the places were occupied by ladies and brethren alternately. The two extremities were occupied by Bro. Binckes, as Senior Warden, and Bro. Berridge as Junior Warden. The company comprised R.W. Bro. Lieut.-Gen. J. S. Brownrigg, C.B., Chairman; V.W. Bros. C. F. Matier, P.G.J.W.; H. C. Levander, G. Reg.; Frederic Davison, G. Treas.; Fredk. Binckes, G. Sec.; W. Bros. S. Rosenthal, P.G.D.C.; Hy. Massey, P.G. Steward ("Freemason"); H. W. Binckes, P.M., Asst. G. Sec.; Bros. Jno. Waldram, Thistle, No. 8; Robt. Berridge, P.M. Macdonald, 104, Prov. G.S.W. Middx.; W. Robt. Marsh, Temple, 173; D. M. Dewar, P.M. Old Kent Lodge; S. C. Dibdin, P.G.O.; Frank Elmore, Hy. Nicholson, George Buckland, Countess Bismarck, Mrs. C. F. Matier, Mrs. Binckes, Mrs. Davison, Mrs. Gill, Mrs. Marsh, Mrs. Berridge, Mrs. Waldram, Mrs. Berry, Mrs. Rosenthal, Miss Binckes, Miss F. A. Binckes, Madame Thaddeus Wells, and Madame Poole.

At the conclusion of the repeat the toasts were proposed, at an early hour, however, as the chairman had to leave in order to secure a train on the South Western, which is difficult to arrive at from the northern side of London.

After proposing the toast of "The Queen," the Chairman gave "The Prince and Princess of Wales and the rest of the Royal Family," and remarked that Prince Leopold was the W.M. elect of a Mark lodge. In proposing "The Provincial Grand Masters and Officers," the Chairman said he was somewhat outraged in doing so because he was really drinking his own health. However, as it was customary that this toast should be proposed, and he was happy to say that there was an excellent and worthy brother present who would take upon himself the responsibility of returning thanks for it. The claims of the Grand Officers (always excepting himself) upon the attention and notice of the Order was well known, and it was their zeal as Masons which obtained for them the recognition of the Grand Master. He then went on to observe that he himself was the oldest Mark Mason in the room.

Bro. F. Davison, G.T., replied, and said he was happy to inform the brethren that Mark Masonry was progressing to the Grand Officers' hearts' content, and that it was due to Mark Masonry that ladies were now admitted to festival banquets. This was the first degree which invited ladies, and the new practice had been very successful. The Benevolent Fund had also been successful, which was in

part due no doubt to the presence of the ladies. It had progressed steadily, and had been able to distribute considerable sums among poor brethren. He trusted that it would progress in the same proportion as it had done hitherto.

Bro. Binckes, P.G.J.W., proposed "The Health of the Chairman," and said that that brother was obliged to leave early, and the toasts were necessarily somewhat short and hurried. All the brethren felt very much complimented and highly honoured by his consenting to preside that evening. There was great difficulty in obtaining Chairmen for any festivals; more particularly was it so in Mark Masonry, because the number of Mark Masons was limited: nevertheless, Gen. Brownrigg consented when he was asked. There was not perhaps what might be called a great amount of eclat or prestige in the proceedings at these festivals; but they were most pleasant reunions, and every one was animated by the feeling that they were engaged in the great good work of Masonic charity. That would always commend itself to bodies of Masons, whether large or small, and it was on this account Gen. Brownrigg felt a large amount of pleasure and satisfaction in presiding over this assemblage. Bro. Binckes then referred to the subject of the presence of ladies at the festive board, a subject which had engaged the attention of several boards of Stewards. The example set by Mark Grand Lodge had been imitated in a much larger body with which he was connected, and it might now be said to have received the imprimatur of the authorities, and no doubt it would be largely followed.

The Chairman, in reply, said: Ladies—and I must especially address myself to you—I am inured by long custom to receiving the kind acknowledgments of my brethren; but it is the first time in my life on which those compliments and courtesies have been coupled with your kind and gracious presence; and I cannot tell you how very, very deeply I feel it, and how inadequate I am to return thanks for the honour you have done me. I do hope that the inauguration of this system of asking ladies to assist in our Masonic banquets may be widely spread. It may do good; it cannot possibly do harm; and what more can we want? I beg to return you my grateful thanks for the honour you have done me in drinking my health. My excellent brother Binckes has said infinitely more than I deserve, but still I feel it a great compliment and I feel much honoured in being asked to preside over this gathering. It is the least I can do after the unexpected honour the Grand Master, Lord Limerick, has done me in appointing me to the high office I have the pleasure of holding in Grand Lodge. I will now ask you to drink the toast of the evening, "Success to the Benevolent Fund." I am sorry to say my experience has been so very small; but thanks to our Bro. Binckes I have some information about the fund. I find it was established in 1867 by vote of Grand Lodge with a certain small nucleus to begin with. There are no compulsory payments towards it by capitation grants; it is supported entirely by voluntary contributions. The object of it is to provide a fund for the relief of Mark Master Masons; and if we can form a fund, however small, for the relief of urgent cases I think it is our bounden duty to do so, and I am glad in my feeble way to assist it. I find that the claims on the fund are not numerous; but the investigation of those claims is conducted with great discrimination, which will prevent any unworthy objects from receiving assistance. I now ask you to drink "Prosperity and Success to the Benevolent Fund," and I couple with it the name of Bro. Berridge, Macdonald Lodge, No. 104.

Bro. Binckes read the following list of subscriptions:—

Bro. T. Y. Strachan, Prov. Northumberland and Durham	£ s. d.
10 10 0	
" Henry Baker, Dover and Cinque Ports Lodge, 152	5 5 0
" C. W. Duke, East Sussex Lodge, No. 166	6 0 0
" Robert Berridge, Macdonald Lodge No. 104	17 14 0
" T. S. Mortlock, Temple Lodge, No. 173	10 17 0
" J. F. Norris, Prov. Bristol	15 0 0
" Rev. P. H. E. Brette, St. Marks No. 1	7 6 0
" E. B. Webb, Carnarvon, No. 7	15 15 0
" Richard Newhouse, Prov. Cheshire and North Wales	11 11 0
" F. Binckes, Aldershot Lodge, No. 54	13 13 0
" Henry Matthews, Britannia Lodge, No. 53	5 5 0
" T. S. Morris, Britannia Lodge, No. 53	5 5 0
" J. R. Wright, Britannia Lodge, No. 53	5 5 0
	£126 6 0

Bro. Berridge, 104, replied, and said that though it involved a great deal of hard work to collect the money, the Stewards did it with pleasure, and hoped that next year even greater success might attend their efforts.

The Chairman proposed "The Ladies." It was the last toast on his list, and he would have been sorry, indeed, if he had been obliged to leave before proposing it. Great advantage had been derived from having ladies at these banquets, and when the brethren thought what they would be without the ladies, they would appreciate the warm feeling with which he asked them to drink the toast. From the hour of a man's birth to the hour of his death, the presence of female hands and female hearts was felt. He (the chairman) had been in a profession which had caused him to knock about the world a good deal, and he had been in a position to see circumstances when no female nurses were to be had. In such circumstances nothing could be kinder, nothing could be more charming than the good feeling which was exhibited by one soldier to another in the military hospital and field hospitals. He had seen many touching scenes of this description, where a great rough-fisted soldier helped a sick man. But, however, tender, they were clumsy and awkward compared with women, whose tenderness in a sick room could not be equalled.

The toast having been honoured, and Bro. Dibdin having replied, the Chairman bade the company good night, and left, having previously deputed Bro. C. F. Matier to occupy his place.

"The Stewards' Health" was then proposed, and Bro. Dewar responded, informing the brethren that he had been a Mark Mason 33 years.

Bro. Binckes announced that the Benevolent Fund now reached £600, which was invested, and another £100 would be added to it after this festival. He hoped the brethren and ladies might long be spared to take part in these happy meetings.

A vote of thanks was awarded to Bro. S. Rosenthal: together with "His Health," proposed in a speech by Bro. Matier.

Bro. Rosenthal responded.

"The Masonic Press" was proposed, Bro. Matier calling on Bro. Massey ("Freemason") to reply.

Shortly afterwards the company separated.

The musical arrangements were under the direction of Madame Thaddeus Wells, assisted by Madame Poole, Bros. Frank Elmore and George Buckland. Solo Flute: Bro. Henry Nicholson; Pianoforte: Madame Wells and Bro. George Buckland.

LODGE OF BENEVOLENCE.

The monthly meeting of the lodge of Benevolence was held on Wednesday evening at Freemasons' Hall. Bros. Joshua Nunn, James Brette, and E. P. Albert occupied the three chairs. There were also present Bros. S. Rawson, Jas. Smith, C. A. Cotebrune, J. Coutts, W. Ough, John Hervey, H. G. Buss, A. A. Pendlebury, H. Garrod, W. T. Howe, Pownall, W.M. 13; Shackell, P.M. 193; T. Knight, 862; West, W.M. 890; W. Hammond, W.M. 1310; J. Bingemann, W.M. 1599; T. Whitmarsh, 1015; W. J. Murlis, 1489; J. A. Smith, 1178; John Green, 27; J. A. Hudson, W.M. 879; J. J. Michael, W.M. 1567; A. H. Tattershall, P.M. 140; and H. Massey ("Freemason").

It was announced that the only son of Bro. J. M. Clabon, President of the Board, was killed in a railway accident at Gravesend on Saturday night. A letter of condolence was then ordered to be written by Grand Secretary to Bro. Clabon.

The Board then proceeded with the cases before them, and granted £290, composed of three of £40, one of £30, three of £20, two of £15, and five of £10 each.

The Board then adjourned.

Obituary.

BRO. THE REV. FRANK W. C. SIMMONS.

The "Nelson Daily Times" announces the sudden death of Bro. the Rev. Frank W. Churchill Simmons, the Head Master of the Nelson College, who was found dead in his bed at Foxhill. For some weeks past this gentleman had been suffering acutely from rheumatic fever. Last week, however, he felt better, and on Saturday left Nelson for Foxhill in company with Mrs. Simmons. On Sunday evening Bro. Simmons appeared well and in good spirits. He retired to rest early, but was unable to sleep, and in consequence took a dose of chloral, which proving inefficacious, at a later hour he took a second dose of the drug, with, it is supposed, fatal effect. Bro. the Rev. Frank W. Churchill Simmons was educated at Rugby and Lincoln College, Oxford, where he graduated in 1852. He was appointed Head Master of the Danedin High School in 1865, in succession to the Rev. Mr. Campbell, who was drowned in Danedin harbor just after his arrival in the colony. Bro. the Rev. Simmons continued to discharge the duties of the office to which he was appointed with conspicuous ability, and speedily won for himself a scholastic reputation, and for the school over which he presided the first position in the colony. Then came the episode of his humorous letter to his old friend the late Bishop of Brechin, who having in a rash moment put the epistle into print, caused a commotion among the "unco guid" in Danedin, who straightway, with all the ferocity of narrow minds, fell upon the writer, and by imputing evil where none existed, succeeded in making Bro. Simmons's position a very uncomfortable one. So successful were his detractors, that he was glad at the end of 1867 to embrace the chance of changing his place of residence by accepting the head mastership of Nelson College. Of his work here it is impossible in a short obituary notice to speak in adequate terms. It may be all summed up in this, that Nelson College is in the first rank of the educational establishments of the colony, and this is chiefly due to the remarkable power possessed by the deceased gentleman to impart the knowledge, of which he possessed an extraordinary store. So much for his public career. Those who knew him privately—as friends knew each other—can tell how thorough and true a gentleman he was. Never prone to resent, and ever ready to forgive an affront; quick to apologise if even inadvertently he had, as he thought, hurt anyone's feelings; liberal with his purse in any charitable direction; full of true sympathy with real distress of every kind; genial and hospitable, with weaknesses like the rest of us, such was the late Bro. Simmons. Deceased was a member of the Southern Star Lodge, 734, E.C., Nelson, and a companion of the Trafalgar Royal Arch Chapter of Nelson, 157, S.C., and his companions and brethren sincerely and deeply mourn for him as a worthy brother called by the Great Master from labour to rest.

BRO. E. RANSFORD.

The death of Bro. E. Ransford, the well-known vocalist and music publisher, took place at his residence, 59, Welbeck-street, on Tuesday. He had suffered a long and severe illness. He was 71 years of age.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

COLONIAL and FOREIGN SUBSCRIBERS are informed that acknowledgments of remittances received are published in the first number of every month.

It is very necessary for our readers to advise us of all money orders they remit, more especially those from the United States of America and India; otherwise we cannot tell where to credit them.

TO OUR READERS.

The *Freemason* is a sixteen-page weekly newspaper, price 3d. It is published every Friday morning, and contains the most important, interesting, and useful information relating to Freemasonry in every degree. Annual subscription in the United Kingdom, Post free, 10/-

P.O.O.'s to be made payable at the chief office, London.

NEW POSTAL RATES.

Owing to a reduction in the Postal Rates, the publisher is now enabled to send the "Freemason" to the following parts abroad for One Year for Twelve Shillings (payable in advance):—Africa, Australia, Bombay, Canada, Cape of Good Hope, Ceylon, China, Constantinople, Demerara, France, Germany, Gibraltar, Jamaica, Malta, Newfoundland, New South Wales, New Zealand, Suez, Trinidad, United States of America, &c.

TO ADVERTISERS.

The *Freemason* has a large circulation in all parts of the Globe, its advantages as an advertising medium can therefore scarcely be overrated.

For terms, position, &c., apply to

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Answers to Correspondents.

All Communications, Advertisements, &c., intended for insertion in the Number of the following Saturday, must reach the Office not later than 12 o'clock on Wednesday morning.

Description of a Masonic jewel kindly sent for inspection by Bro. Lieut. R. H. Armit, R.N., in our next; a letter from S. B. Ellis will also appear.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

[The charge is 2s. 6d for announcements, not exceeding four lines, under this heading.]

BIRTHS.

TRAPPE.—On the 14th inst., at Stanley House, Clitheroe, the wife of T. B. Trappes, Esq., of a son.
LUNLEY.—On the 13th ult., at Calcutta, the wife of R. Lunley, Esq., of a son.
THOMSON.—On the 10th inst., at Lea Park, Grangemouth, N.B., the wife of J. D. Thomson, Esq., of a son.
COX.—On the 9th inst., at Brighton, the wife of A. H. Cox, J.P., of a son.

MARRIAGES.

WAKEFIELD.—HODGE.—On the 13th inst., at St. Michael's, Highgate, William Stephen, son of R. Wakefield, of East Moulsey Lodge, to Olivia Emily, daughter of J. Hodge, of Highgate.
NEWTON.—COLSON.—On the 4th inst., Bro. Henry E., eldest son of Bro. W. E. Newton, of Chancery-lane, to Eliza S., fourth daughter of the late Mr. J. W. Colson.
BROMLEY.—COWPER-BROWN.—On the 12th inst., at St. Barnabas, Kensington, Arthur Charles Burgoyne, son of the late Sir R. Bromley, K.C.B., to Juliette, daughter of the late T. Cowper-Brown, Esq., of the Inner Temple.

DEATHS.

DENWIDDIE.—On June 27th, at Philadelphia, Bro. Chas. A. Denwiddie.
RANSFORD.—On July 11th, at 59, Welbeck-street, Bro. E. Ransford, aged 71.
WALPOLE.—On the 12th inst., at The Grove, West Molssey, Lieut.-General Sir Robert Walpole, K.C.B., aged 67.
SWINHOE.—On the 14th inst., at Cheltenham, Henry Swinhoe, Esq., late of Calcutta.
RAIKES.—On the 17th inst., at 63, Belsize Park, Hampstead, Robert Rakes, Esq., J.P., D.L., late of Welton, Yorkshire, aged 74.

The Freemason,

SATURDAY, JULY 22, 1876.

WEST YORKSHIRE.

This distinguished province held its quarterly meeting at Huddersfield on Wednesday, the 19th inst., under the banner of the good Lodge of Harmony of that town. It came to a "most healing" termination of a very unhappy controversy, and we shall allude to it a little more fully next week, in the interests of peace and

conciliation. We are among those who have never doubted for one moment the practical good sense and true Masonic spirit of our West Yorkshire brethren.

OUR NEXT MERRY MEETING.

When the Duke of Buckingham used to dismiss his boisterous "symposium" in former days, it was, we are told, with some such formula as this, "To our next merry meeting, unless any of us are hanged in the interim." Such a "dismissio" might suit that eccentric nobleman, but by no means accords with the gravity or respectability of Freemasons. Just now Freemasons are already closing in London their active lodge life for a short recess, for the "long vacation," and practically the Masonic spring and summer season, in the metropolis at any rate, is over. Lodges are meeting and closing, and brethren are assembling, and positively for the last time as a lodge for some months to come, and some of us are separating now, perhaps not to meet till November, when the good Secretary summons the faithful children of "Alma Mater" to rally under her old banner once again. It is this which always lends, it seems to us, such a "touching" sentiment, alike to the meetings and the separations of Freemasonry. Those of us who have gathered together the longest round some old Masonic centre of light, and life, and truth, and trust, know well how uncertain are the conditions of earthly existence, how many the mutations of lodge membership. Many here to-day, in full health and strength, are missing to-morrow; our roll-call is gradually lessening, and pleasant faces and kind voices are hushed in the mist of years, and wanting in the full strong tide of life, though present ever to the kindly memory, and never forgotten by the true Masonic heart. But we began in a lighter strain, and we will recur to it, though it is impossible, we think, when touching upon such a subject, not to speak seriously. Nor is it good or true to put from us those more moving associations, which always accompany Masonic membership here. What a metamorphosis has come over the active life of the good Lodge 1800, affecting the Lodge of Friendship. Its members are many and genial, its officers are painstaking and well posted up. You nowhere see a better system or meet a heartier reception. Its work and its welcome, its charity, and its cuisine, its "morale," and its menu, are all equally irreproachable. It mixes the "utile" with the "dulce," labour with refreshment, sound teaching and cheery gathering with all alike of artistic skill, and of Masonic sympathy. Indeed, we know no better representative of a good working, charitable, social, friendly, fraternal lodge, than the one we have just named, but just now, practically "non est." At its last meeting the worthy W.M. informed an admiring circle that the lodge would close for the recess, and this announcement was repeated at the Summer St. John's, later on in the day, in his usual cheery and effective way. No more for a time for us the summons of the most zealous of Secretaries, or the toast of the most smiling of Tylers. Its members are wending their way, some here, some there, preparing to wing their flight from the heat, and glare, and close streets of the "little village," to the country and the sea side, to the yacht and the German Bad, for a trip to Norway, or some shady limes in some happy rural home, as soon, that is, as business permits them to get away, immediately they can, as they say, "decently do so." And when we all meet again what changes may have taken place. Who can say? Bro. Jones, who sings so well his favourite strain, Bro. Potter, always ready with his well known "few humble words," Bro. Jones, who is always sentimental, and Bro. Johnson, who is always transcendental; Judkins, who has a grievance, and Stipkins, who has been "improperly passed over," will still, no doubt, be to the fore, to enlighten or to bore, to fidget or to edify, the courteous W.M. and their patient brethren. But shall we all meet again to tell of what we have seen and done in the interim? The chances are against it. We may probably see that stately W.M. of ours, and that bold array of intrepid P.M.'s, the Secretary at his

desk, the Treasurer with his book, Wardens and Deacons, and Master of Ceremonies, to say nothing of Stewards, and Inner Guard, and Organist. And let us hope we shall. It would be sad if the inexorable fates had cut in twain that thread of cheerful life which binds so many a true hearted frater to his old lodge. We should miss much if that were so, the kind smile, and the warm hand, the zealous will, and the sobered mind; we should look in vain for the grey hairs of Past Master White, and the halcyon locks of Bro. Jinkinson; we should sadly note old Bro. Higgin's vacant chair, and speak in bated breath of poor dear Bro. Backhouse. But so it is, and say what we will, we are ever in a circle as it were, and we feel as we write to-day, how true it ever is, that we little know here what a day may bring forth. We have tried to write cheerfully, but we have failed, and for the best of all reasons, that we are not so young as we were, and that each birthday only whispers to us the warning lesson of Freemasonry, "Gnothi seauton." Weakness and decay, and change and severance are the lot of us all, men and Masons, and none of us can be insensible to those changes and choppings of the world which often leave us like sea weed on the shore of time, which the receding waves have cast up in all their life and vigour. We wish, however, to-day, to all our scattering and scattered brethren, health and happiness, comfort and enjoyment, wherever they may be sojourning for a season. Some who have their domestic angels to bless them and look after them, will have, as we know, their pleasure doubled and their happiness increased by all those "agremens" which woman's kind heart and gentle presence always ensure to ungrateful man. And our bachelor brethren, let us hope that they will see the "evil of their ways," and find some dear confiding creature in their pleasant outing to "bless or bore them" during the after hours of their sub-lunary career. May November see them in the good old lodge again, radiant and rejoicing, full of health and appetite, a good digestion and cheerful spirits, the married brethren prouder than ever of the wives of their bosom, the youthful Benedicts "hugging their chains" duly and properly, and all ready for work, and not unfriendly to refreshment.

THE DEMANDS ON OUR CHARITIES.

It must be quite clear to the most careless readers of our Masonic intelligence that our great charities are increasing in their demands on the zeal and liberality of our Order, and will continue to do so. Take the Boys' School for instance. It has 58 candidates for the October election, and only 11 vacancies. It is quite evident to us that unless something is done to lessen this "dead weight" of unsuccessful applicants at the next April election we shall be perfectly overpowered, and many, far too many, will be left out in the cold. We therefore would press upon the General Committee and Bro. Binckes the advisability of at once determining to raise the number of admissions to 200. Such an announcement would be received with enthusiasm by the Craft as a fitting response to its recent goodly efforts on behalf of this most important and valuable institution. Bro. Binckes states that £12,500 represents the return of the festival of 1876, and that before the close of the year he has the promise of other amounts. Never, then, was there a better opportunity for, or a more reasonable and seasonable act than the permanent increase of the Boys' School to 200. And in saying this we do not shut our eyes to the probable further necessary increase of the School. Indeed, we feel persuaded that before long the School will have to be raised to 300 to represent the growing demands of our increasing and prosperous fraternity. And do not let us carp at the fact, or grudge the increased expenditure. Freemasonry is never so much in its own element as when its members can point in honest exultation and becoming pride to its noble works of charity and beneficence, of educational labours, of humanitarian zeal. Still, as of old, its one unfailing motto is, its best answer to gainsayer and libeller, "Si queris, circumspecte."

CRICKET.

Though some of us are old, and lame, and gouty and gray-headed now, we have not altogether forgotten the days of our youth. The fine weather which prevailed last week drew together that wonderful assembly at "Lord's Cricket Ground," to witness the annual contest between Eton and Harrow. In our Masonic Order we have not only many old "Public School boys," but also a large number of "athletes," who rejoice to take part in that thoroughly English and manly game. Even under the broiling sun of Friday and Saturday the two elevens shewed no lack of that bodily activity and that zealous endurance which are such distinguishing characteristics of our English youth. And so should it be. It will be a very bad day for us all when our youth throw off that love of active habits, outdoor pursuits, that intense appreciation of the skilful, the trying, and the hazardous which serves so much to strengthen and develop the finer traits of the English character. How many a pleasant English lad fresh from Eton, or Harrow, or Winchester, and other of our great scholastic centres, has led up the dangerous breach, or nobly headed the "forlorn hope." Many a good college oar (ask the Bishop of Lichfield) has developed into the earnest missionary, and the benefactor of humanity and civilization. From anything like the mere idle "dilettante," the indifferent "swell," the uninterested "flaneur" about town, the selfish and heartless sybarite, let us hope and trust that a good Providence will long preserve our young men. With some faults, they are after all, very difficult to beat; and in all that requires calm courage or gallant endeavour, the impulse of a hero, or the ready resource of the intelligent and devoted, we still will proudly back them against all comers. We say this in no spirit of boasting, but we believe what we say. Once put on their "mettle," once thrown on their own resources, once compelled to give up the idleness of the "faineant," and the Epicureanism of "swelldom," the affectation of fashion, they still are, and prove themselves to be, "chips of the old block," of that good sound breed which has given to our country its prestige, and to England its high name among the nations of the world. Now we are among those who regret much that Winchester, Harrow, and Eton cannot meet for a week's cricket in the metropolis, and form an agreeable gathering for past and present schoolboys, as well as the cricketering world. The withdrawal of Winchester has told badly on its cricketering powers and fame, and nothing can well be more painful to all old Wykehamists, some who recall other days of victory, and famous batsmen and famous bowlers. Indeed, we never could well see why Winchester boys were not likely to behave themselves as well as other boys, or why they of all others were to be placed under such a "ban." Surely it might be pleaded "defendit numerus?" surely, if the consent of parents could be obtained, the authorities have practically really but little to do with the matter. We are aware that Winchester boys do not always come from the most affluent classes, but that is a matter surely for the College Cricket Club, and many old Wykehamists would gladly, for the love of the old "Domus Dei," contribute to the needful expenses, and many a Wykehamist in London would offer a "Dulce domum" for the week to those who would maintain the reputation of their famous school. We heartily sympathize with all "cricketers," and wish them all a good innings and admiring circle of friendly critics, male and female.

PEACE OR WAR.

Since we last wrote the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs has made a most important statement as to "non-interference" on the part of England. He has also stated that Sir Henry Elliot does not altogether credit that fearful detail of horrors which has been given in both of our contemporaries, the "Times" and the "Daily News." That war, and especially a civil war, entails "horrors" we know; that cruelties and terrible trials are its inevitable accompaniments we also are fully aware. But let us hope

for the sake of humanity, in the interests and progress of a common civilization, that these fearful outrages on Bulgarian women especially are the "mirage," so to say, of some excited correspondent. Lord Derby fears that it is hopeless to try to arrest the "dogs of war" in their uncontrollable fury, but promises non-interference in and localization of, the struggle. Is there no solution possible which would put a close at once to this internecine strife and restore security to the homestead and safety to an innocent population—offer peace, instead of bloodshed, rapine, and brutality to these suffering lands?

Original Correspondence.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for, or even as approving of the opinions expressed by our correspondents, but we wish, in a spirit of fair play to all, to permit—within certain necessary limits—free discussion.—Ed.]

THE LAST QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION OF GRAND LODGE.

(To the Editor of the Freemason.)

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Pray let me assure "W.T." that by my little innocent "provincial" jest I did not mean for a moment to "sneer" at the provincial element of the Craft. I plead guilty to a poor joke, but not to a bad spirit.

I must still adhere to my view, that to meet in a building or to vote money to that building may, and does in this case, involve questions not of mere expediency, but of principle.

I am also still of opinion that the records of Grand Lodge "happily testify that we have at times gone out of the beaten track" in making our grants. But this, like every other digression, must have a reasonable limitation, and this I humbly but fairly consider, Bro. Havers passed.

To withdraw my motion and yet to press my amendment I hold to be perfectly consistent. The former was a definite proposal, and one which, from its peculiar nature, should have been unanimously carried; the latter was indefinite, and was quite of a kind to be decided by a majority. The little flourish of religious zeal and indignation at the close of "W.T.'s" letter is rather too vague to be replied to, particularly as I hope we may be able to prove we make no "empty" boast of doing that which "costs us nothing."

I am afraid all the ingenious special pleading of the "Prov. Grand Officer" will not convince many of us that the "national" character of the Church of England so entirely extrudes the idea of its being a "particular religious body" as to justify a grant by the Grand Lodge of England for the reconstruction and adornment of two of its churches.

Our being good subjects and patriots is quite another thing, and these, I hope, we may be without unnecessarily raising a cry, neither frivolous nor vexatious, and justly calculated to raise a prejudice against the "particular religious body" so often alluded to, and to deviate from those broad and distinct lines of Freemasonry, which are at once one of its characteristic features and its only pathway of safety amongst our many "unhappy divisions."

I am, dear Sir and brother, yours fraternally,

R. J. SIMPSON.

P.S.—As to your remark in the leading article of last week, that I seem to "stand alone," I would say with Hamlet, "I mind not seems." I am content to know I have whole lodges with me. It is, however, very natural on every ground that your correspondence should mainly come from members of the minority in the late division in Grand Lodge.

[A note of caution is needed. Our good brother is going a little beyond our Masonic limits in bringing in the Church of England at all. As Freemasons we have nothing to do with her "unhappy divisions," and know nothing about them. Bro. Havers' argument rested more upon the fact of these Churches being connected with Freemasonry than quā Churches, or even churches of the Church of England.—Ed.]

(To the Editor of the Freemason.)

Dear Sir and Brother,—

The vindication of myself is a matter of so little importance, that I would not ask you again to inscribe my name upon your pages in reference to the controversy with Bro. Havers, did I not consider that the principles involved in the discussion are far more important than my own feelings. Meantime I can calmly let imputations of "ignorance," "absurdity," and the like pass by, for I have learned enough to know how little can be known, and in this sense am painfully conscious of my own ignorance.

You strongly condemn the denominational character of the discussion on Bro. Havers' motion. I can quite appreciate your condemnation of it, for it was the weak point of the motion itself, and it was mainly objectionable on that ground. It is, however, remarkable that orthodox denominationalists consider that they may enunciate anything without violating any one's liberties or hurting any one's feelings, whereas the heterodox denominationalist is "ignorant," "indecent," and monstrous if he ventures to question anything. The pride of infallibility is not confined to one sect.

With regard to the letter of Bro. Havers, let me point out that he had given notice of his motion, and carefully considered his arguments before he came into Grand Lodge, and, therefore, he came there certainly with a "foregone conclusion." The brethren listened to his arguments very fairly, and he had advanced a long way in

his speech before cries of "No, no," were raised to dispel his "foregone conclusion." In the sense of prejudging him the brethren did not decide without hearing him.

I conclude by advising Bro. Havers, as he advises me, "to avoid every topic of religious discussion" in connection with Masonry. His motion raised a denominational issue, and he, himself, in his speech stated and anticipated the denominational objection; let him understand that the assertion of his orthodoxy may be the violation of a brother's heterodoxy, and that my religious liberty is as precious to me as his to himself.

I accepted Masonry as a peculiar system of morality veiled in allegory, and illustrated by symbols; if it is to be made the vehicle of a creed it must cease to be acceptable as a universal brotherhood.

I am, dear Sir and Brother, yours fraternally,
J. BAXTER LANGLEY.

"ANOTHER PAMPHLET."

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I notice in this week's "Freemason" another pamphlet from the pen of Bro. Tew, and, without entering into any of the disputes that have so long prevailed between our brother and the executive of the Boys' School, I feel constrained, although reluctantly, to introduce myself into the controversy, as my name has been mentioned by him without any justification. I am classed by him amongst a clique who at present manage our institutions, and I must say with a very offensive reference, all such insinuations being entirely outside the truth—I do not say wilfully, but if Bro. Tew has trusted to others to supply him with the particulars I refer to, so may he have founded his whole complaints upon similar untrustworthy information, and which should have made him hesitate before subscribing his name to a document affecting the honour of some of his brethren without first satisfying himself as to the facts. In the first place, it was not in 1869, or at any other time, that I was nominated to serve on the House Committee of the Boys' School. I have the pleasure of being a life governor of that excellent charity, and beyond which my ambition does not at present lead me, as I should personally object to serve on the committee of both institutions. Again, Bro. Tew infers that at a similar if not earlier period I was also nominated to serve on the House Committee of the Girls' School. The first time I was nominated to the latter institution was in 1874, and, being unsuccessful, was again put in nomination in 1875, and elected. With regard to the inference that there are some domiciled foreigners on our committee, this must apply to me only, as mine is the only foreign name amongst those quoted by Bro. Tew in his pamphlet; but I may inform our Bro. Tew that, although bearing a French name, my ancestors, so far as can be traced for many generations, are true English in blood, and for myself, having been brought up in the Blue Coat School (a public charitable institution), I claim to possess some practical knowledge of the working of "English charitable institutions."

I am, dear Sir, fraternally yours,
H. A. DUBOIS,
July 17. P.M. 1326, P.M. 1423, &c., &c.

A MASONIC CLUB.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I have noticed in the daily papers lately advertisements relative to a "Masonic Club," about to be opened in Queen Victoria-street with a banquet at the latter end of this month. I do not see the advertisement or any other allusion to the club in your columns, at which I am somewhat surprised.

Is all right and on the square, and would you recommend it?

Yours fraternally,

A.P.M. AND H.K.T.

[We cannot explain the fact, except on the principle that Freemasons like to advertise anywhere but in the "Freemason."—Ed.]

THE VICAR OF BRIGG AND THE FREEMASONS.

By particular request we copy the following from the "Hull and Lincolnshire Times," June 24th, 1876:—

TO THE EDITOR.

DEAR SIR,—The Rev. Mr. Wylie, of Brigg, thought fit to prevent the Freemasons of Lincolnshire assembling for Divine worship in the Anglican Church in that town. He considered that, whether right or wrong in their peculiar views, it was undesirable for frail, erring men, as all necessarily must be, to seek the help and guidance of that Great Being whose special servant Mr. Wylie professes to be. Dr. Ace, a beneficed clergyman of the church, has clearly and forcibly expressed his opinion on the subject. Will you kindly allow me, as a layman, to express my regret at the course taken by Mr. Wylie? Knowing something of Mr. Wylie, I am certain he acted conscientiously, and to the best of his ability. The misfortune was that he foolishly came to a hasty decision, studiously avoided any discussion on the subject, and then mistook obstinacy for firmness. As a churchman, I deeply deplore his unfortunate mistake. It is errors like this and the Owston Ferry case that are doing the Established Church of this country so much harm in the minds of all classes. "The story of my life from year to year" brings me into close homely contact with rich and poor, and it is with the deepest concern that I see the ill effects that arise from these attempts to dogmatise over everybody else on the part of well-meaning but weak-minded members of the priesthood. It is much to be regretted that the power of the beneficed clergyman is so absolute, and that there is no prompt practical appeal to a higher authority.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

AN ANGLICAN CHURCHMAN BY
BIRTH AND CHOICE.

TO THE EDITOR.

SIR,—Dr. Ace has published a letter in the "Hull Times," accusing the Vicar of Brigg of assuming "power to exclude, or rather excommunicate, both priests and people from the Church of England, and set up a capricious clerical test as a condition of public worship." This is a serious charge to bring against a clergyman, especially when brought by another clergyman, "and a Doctor of Divinity of both English universities." "I would therefore record my protest against this audacious aggression on the rights of conscience and the principles of civil and religious liberty" on the part of Dr. Ace; for your readers should know that the Vicar of Brigg simply exercised the discretion vested in every incumbent as to who should officiate, and what service should be performed in the church entrusted to his care, and in this discretion, and according to his conscience, he declined to allow the Chaplain of a secret society to officiate on Whit Tuesday. But Mr. Wylie and his curate officiated at 11 o'clock on that day, when the Freemasons were assembling. The church was not closed against anybody, and some of the Freemasons were present at the service. I presume it is no great breach of civil and religious liberty if some persons disapprove of Freemasonry, and if a clergyman does so, or even is not a Freemason, he may very well decline to lend his church to be used for some service, or for the delivery of some address, or the entrance of some procession which he might possibly disapprove of, as it would be by your

HUMBLE SERVANT.

TO THE EDITOR.

SIR,—The letter in your last issue, headed as above, should not be read by the uninitiated as expressing the sentiments of a Freemason who desires to carry out the objects of the fraternity, which are truly stated to be "charitable feeling and Christian virtue;" but rather of one who evidences his zeal and attachment to the Order by contention, strife, and bitterness, instead of in virtue and brotherly love. The contemplation of all the vast and wonderful works of the Great Architect of the Universe shows us that their mutual dependence upon each other is necessary to establish the perfection of the whole; and thus we derive the lesson, which it is the duty of all Freemasons to practise, namely, to breathe the purest spirit of love and harmony. Our Order has always excited the ridicule of some, and offended the religious opinions of others, and whatever may be the vicar's objection to Freemasons using the house of their God, let us not forget that we can only attain the summit of our profession by the means of charity in its most ample sense; and to be a Freemason is to be in charity with all men.

I am, yours obediently,

P.M. 1882.

Brigg, 12nd June, 1876.

[We do not think any good can be accomplished by a protracted correspondence on this subject, and in thus closing it would merely add that since clergymen and ministers invariably extol the practice of Odd Fellows, Foresters, and other friendly societies commencing their festivities by attending Divine service, it would have been but a graceful action on the part of the Vicar of Brigg had he acceded to the request of the much more influential body of Masons who attended the late Provincial Grand Lodge.—Ed.]

We quite agree with our contemporary.

CONSECRATION OF THE WEST MIDDLESEX LODGE, No. 1612.

This new lodge for the Province of Middlesex was consecrated last Saturday, at the Institute, Ealing. The assemblage of the brethren to witness the ceremony was both large and important, numbering as they did some of the principal members of the neighbouring lodges. Among those were Bros. B. Sidney Wilmot, William Hilton, J. Greer, A. Muskett Yettis, W. F. Savage, W. Savage, C. B. Payne, J. B. Lancaster, F. Lawrence, W. Kershaw, C. J. Taylor, C. F. Fogarty, Gardiner, W.M. 780; Walter Goss, E. H. Taylor, J. Large, R. E. Harris, P. Cocher, W. W. Morgan, and H. Massey ("Freemason").

The ceremony of consecration was performed by Bro. John Hervey, Grand Secretary, who was assisted by Bro. Thomas Fenn, P.G.D., and P.A.G.D.C., as S.W.; Bro. James Weaver, P. Prov. G. Organist Middlesex, as J.W.; Bro. the Rev. O. G. P. Perrott, as Chaplain; Bro. H. G. Buss, as D.C.; and Bro. W. J. Murlis, as I.G. Bro. Hervey having opened the lodge, delivered a powerful address to the brethren, in which he pointed out the growing necessity there was for caution in the introduction of new members to the Craft, and advised the brethren of the West Middlesex Lodge to observe that caution in their dealings with the propositions for initiation. He afterwards reiterated the observations he made as to the use of the black ball when he consecrated the Sir Hugh Myddelton Lodge, which were duly reported in the "Freemason" of the 6th of May last.

The Rev. O. G. D. Perrott delivered the oration.

Worshipful Sir and Brethren,—

Having already assisted at one consecration to-day, that of a neighbouring church, and melting, like several I see around me, under the present more than tropical heat, I feel that this is not an occasion for making a long speech, and I shall therefore not weary you by indulging in those usual commonplaces, not unfrequently perhaps insincere, about inability, &c., but proceed direct to the task assigned me, viz., an oration, if I may venture to call such the few remarks I have to make respecting the nature and principles of Freemasonry. In an age like the present, when every institution, whatever its antiquity and usefulness,

has suffered more or less from the inroads of the sceptical and levelling tendencies of the day, it is not to be wondered at that our Craft has been from time to time assailed, ridiculed, and even anathematised, and if this is more especially true of its present history it is not less true of the past, and notwithstanding all that has been said against it, I make bold to say that never has the Craft stood on a firmer basis than at present, rearing its head aloft at the grandest ceremony ever witnessed in the Albert Hall, and having for its chief H.R.H. the Prince of Wales. The uninitiated may well wonder what this system can be which exhibits such vitality, and has survived the many attacks that have been made against it. And, Worshipful Sir and brethren, without committing myself, of pledging you to an acceptance of those traditions which would point to Adam as the first Freemason, and would identify as brethren of the Craft the sons of Lamech, who are said to have engraved our secrets on certain stone pillars which should outlive the Deluge, it seems pretty certain that Freemasonry can boast not only of considerable antiquity, extending back perhaps into the sphere of immemorial tradition, but also of many persons of illustrious rank, and of men of genius and talent, whose works survive as monuments of their greatness, and who have held the proud position of Grand Masters of our Order. I need mention only the names of Sir Christopher Wren, whose magnificent structure is at once the pride and ornament of our metropolis, of Inigo Jones, and of Cardinal Wolsey, who, amid all his ambitious projects, is said never to have neglected his duties as Grand Master. And what is it, brethren, which has given such stability to our Order? Is it not from the fact of its being based on the grand principles of "brotherly love, relief, and truth?" Yes, we may point with pride to our charities, which testify to the benevolence of past and present members of our Order, no less a sum than £32,000 having been raised this year; and here I would remark, quoting words which fell from the lips of our late revered Grand Master, that these charities ought not to be dependent on the generosity of the same few, who always give liberally, but that every brother should give his quota, remembering the old adage "Many a mickle makes a muckle." I need not plead with Freemasons about the duty of giving, for it is a practical expression of our belief in brotherly love, and besides giving, to quote the words of another distinguished brother, it becomes our duty to take an interest in the working of our charities, and I feel sure that by occasionally visiting them, and watching and aiding in their management, great good would result to the charities. Let those who cannot make themselves at once life subscribers or life governors sink the pride they may feel in seeing their names recorded in print, and give according to their means towards endowing the different chairs in the lodge; in this way, as is done in some of the provinces, greater power in the management of the charities is acquired by the lodge, and the success of one's candidates at elections is assured. Another principle on which our Craft is based is truth; we are required to rule our every action by that volume of unerring truth which lies open in every lodge, and which reveals to us the Word of God. I fear that much of the ridicule to which we are exposed is owing to the licence and excess which some few brethren indulge in, and which the laws of the land do not tolerate even in places of public resort. It was only the other day, when mentioning to a friend our ceremony of to-day, he observed "It is all moonshine, you are no better than Antediluvian Buffaloes; it is all knife and fork business with you Masons—only a question of eating and drinking." Now, it can hardly be questioned that this is the prevalent opinion amongst the uninitiated, and however true it may be with respect to some few amongst us, I venture to say that the great majority of our brethren do act up to the principles they profess, that though they may, just as any other mortals, have their differences, still they do forget and forgive with that brotherly love which they profess, and reflect in the general tenour of their lives the grand principles of the Craft; and, brethren, may it please the Great Architect of the Universe to grant that all the members of this lodge may be bright members of the Order, and may become living stones in that Grand Lodge above, where all secrets shall be revealed.

The ceremony of consecration was afterwards completed, the assistance of Bros. Wrighton, Delevanti, Lawler, Carter, and Baxter being given for the musical portions.

When the ceremony was completed, Bro. A. Beasley, of the managerial department of the Great Western Railway, and P.M. of No. 780, was installed W.M., and the following brethren were invested with their collars of office:—Bros. Brown, I.P.M.; T. Kingston, S.W.; H. Kasner, J.W.; Brown, P.M., Treas.; J. Chambers Roe, Sec.; Bird, S.D.; Greene, J.D.; Compton, I.G.; the Rev. O. G. D. Perrott, Chaplain; F. Delevanti, Organist; Leonard, M.C.; and Harrison, Tyler.

The charges were delivered by Bro. T. Fenn, and propositions were given in for initiation and joining.

The W.M., in proposing a vote of thanks to the consecrating officers, said he had no doubt that those distinguished brethren were honorary members of a good many lodges, but they would none the less value honorary membership of the West Middlesex Lodge on that account. All the brethren knew how much they were indebted to the Grand Secretary for coming there that day, and personally he (the W.M.) felt he could not thank him sufficiently for attending on such a hot day such a long distance from London. They were also exceedingly indebted to the Rev. O. G. D. Perrott for attending and delivering the oration. He therefore proposed, along with the thanks of the brethren, honorary membership of the lodge to the consecrating brethren, Bros. Hervey, Fenn, Weaver, Perrott, and Buss.

Bro. Brown, I.P.M., seconded the motion, which was then put and carried.

Bro. Hervey acknowledged the compliment on behalf of himself and the other consecrating brethren, who, he said, appreciated the compliment as highly as he himself did. They all felt that the little service they had rendered was acceptable to the members of the lodge, which they trusted and felt would be a credit to the Order. They hoped to see it persevere in a path of usefulness. In respectability it could not increase; but while it increased in usefulness so long would it secure esteem, and so long would the consecrating officers feel proud to think that part of the lodge's usefulness was owing to themselves.

After this the bye-laws were passed, and a suggestion was made that a photograph should be taken of the brethren who had participated in the consecration. This suggestion was not, however, adopted, the W.M. stating that the brethren, who were certainly ornamental, had not yet gone through a year of office to shew they were useful, and until that end had been arrived at it might not be much encouragement to other brethren if they did see the portraits. He, however, thought that if a Master did go through his year of office well the suspension of his likeness in the lodge-room would have a beneficial effect on his successors.

Bro. Hervey said that he thought it would be a good rule to adopt that the brethren who were photographed should themselves pay for the work of art.

Lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to Bro. Brown's Railway Hotel, where an elegant banquet was provided. After this had been disposed of, the toasts were given, and those of "The Queen and the Craft" and "The M.W.G.M." were first duly honoured.

Bro. T. Fenn, P.G.D., responded to the toast of "The Pro Grand Master, the D.G.M., and Grand Officers," and in doing so said he had been a member of that body for about a dozen years, and he could safely say that he believed the Grand Officers were willing and desirous on all occasions to perform any duty or service which might devolve upon them in the Craft. They were always desirous to advance the interests of Masonry, and it was on that account that they had been brought to the notice of the Grand Master and honoured with the purple. It was a great pleasure to see brethren so honoured, and he must draw to their particular attention the observations which had been made in lodge by Grand Secretary that afternoon, which would give them a good idea of what their duties as Freemasons were. He believed with the Grand Secretary that it was the selection of its members which lay at the foundation of a young lodge's prosperity.

The W.M. next proposed "The Health of Bro. Hervey, Consecrating Officer." He informed the brethren of the great assistance which he had received from Bro. Hervey in the establishment of this lodge, and of the kind advice he had given him whenever he went to consult him on the subject. His knowledge of the Book of Constitutions had been brought to bear on the advice he had given, and this had been of great service in directing the brethren. So that it was not only for coming on that very hot day to consecrate the lodge that the brethren had to thank Bro. Hervey, but for that useful and important advice which he had furnished beforehand.

Bro. Hervey, replying, said that on the occasion of consecrating a lodge, consecrating officers not unfrequently unbosomed themselves, and sometimes made themselves agreeable and sometimes disagreeable by what they said, agreeable by saying flattering things, and disagreeable by telling unpleasant truths. He was afraid he might be considered as doing the latter that evening. Still it was not for him to say only smooth things. He must tell them those things which he thought profitable for them. Lodges were being consecrated now to a large number, and the ceremonies were being very ably done. He was pleased that the ceremony that evening had given satisfaction to the brethren; but it was not to him that praise alone was to be given, as the ceremony would have been poor but for the assistance he received from Bros. Fenn, Weaver, Perrott, and Buss. (Hear hear.) Enough of himself and of those who had acted with him. He now came to a more pleasant theme "The Health of the W.M., and Success and Prosperity to the West Middlesex Lodge." Under the present W.M. he had no doubt that at no distant date the lodge would attain to great eminence. He knew it would be well handled and well conducted. As he had ventured to advise them to take care that good men only were initiated, men well known and well vouched for, he could not suppose for one moment that his advice would not be acted upon, and consequently that the lodge would not prosper.

The W.M. in the course of his response to the toast, which was most cordially received, said that all the brethren knew that what he had done for the lodge had been done with the most hearty good will, and with a sincere desire to benefit not only the Craft in general but this lodge "very much in particular." He remembered having been told two or three years ago that it was in contemplation to establish a lodge in Ealing. He said on that occasion that he should be very glad indeed to join it, well knowing that it would be composed in most part of his personal friends. The movement did not, however, arrive at maturity, but was revived by a meeting being held which he was asked to attend. He did so, not knowing what the intention of the brethren was, and he was much surprised when he was asked whether he would accept the office of W.M. His answer was "Certainly not, if any other brother could be found willing to take it, but if not he would." He was taken at his word, and from that moment to this he had felt it a great compliment, and the brethren must allow him to express his obligations to them. The arrangement, control, and management of everything in connection with the lodge had been in his hands. He said this, however, with a qualification, because the lodge would not have been so completely equipped with everything had it not been for the able assistance he had received from Bro. Roe, the Secretary, and he was quite happy in his mind to think that during his year of office

he should have such a Secretary as no lodge ever had before. He would not disguise from the brethren that a great deal of trouble had to be gone through in arranging all the preliminaries for the lodge; in fact, if he had known what an amount of trouble was involved in it he might perhaps have declined altogether when he was asked to take the chair. Bro. Hervey had lightened his labours by giving him all the assistance in his power. All the trouble he had taken was now compensated for; it had culminated in the successful establishment of the lodge, and if he had health and strength during his year of office the bright promise of that day would be in no way dimmed by the actions and performances of the future. It would be his study to set a lead to his successors, and an example and standard from which they would not do well to vary. The W.M. then proposed "The Royal Alfred Lodge, 780, the recommending lodge," with which he coupled the names of Bro. Gardiner, W.M., and Bro. W. Hilton, I.P.M. Both these brethren responded, and expressed the pleasure they experienced in finding a P.M. of their lodge occupying the distinguished position of first W.M. of the West Middlesex Lodge, especially one who had proved his efficiency for the post of W.M. in the former. "The Health of the Chaplain, and the other Assistant Consecrating Officers," was the next toast, and the W.M. took the opportunity of thanking them individually for the readiness with which they lent their aid in the performance of the ceremonies. Bro. the Rev. O. G. D. Perrott, who was the first to reply, said that what the brethren had been pleased to dignify with the title of an oration was merely a short address on the principles of Freemasonry, which he had felt much pleasure in delivering. In that address he had ventured to refer to the charities, and to recommend that those brethren who could not or did not feel disposed to give their five or ten guineas to constitute themselves life-governors of the different institutions should assist in endowing one or other of the chairs of the lodge. He should be very happy to assist in such an object, and he would propose to begin with the Girls' School. Bros. Buss and Weaver also responded. Bros. Brown and Roe replied to "The Treasurer and Secretary," and the other customary toasts having been given and acknowledged, "The Masonic Press" was submitted to the brethren by the W.M., and replied to by Bros. H. Massey ("Freemason") and W. W. Morgan. The Tyler's toast concluded the proceedings, which had been interspersed with some excellent ballads and other choice morceaux by the musical brethren named above.

CONSECRATION OF ST. THOMAS LODGE, 576, AT GIBRALTAR.

On Friday, 23rd ult., the important ceremony of consecrating St. Thomas Lodge, No. 576, took place, under the Grand Lodge of Scotland, by P.M. Thomas J. Haynes, assisted by Bros. Richard B. Hepper, W.M. Lodge Friendship, 278, acting W.S.W.; A. Gimenez, W.M. Lodge St. John, 115, acting W.J.W.; Past Masters J. R. Morgan, F. Ashton, and J. H. Haynes, P.M.'s Beal, Francher, and Holliday; Bros. J. W. Eryenth, J. Cunningham, G. Bassadone, B. White, B. G. Haynes, J. Conroy, S. Buckle, E. Bado, E. Valarino, and T. Trenerry, and about 40 more visiting brethren. After the solemn ceremony of consecration was performed the St. Thomas Lodge was declared open, and Bro. Crewell D. Haynes was presented by Bro. P.M. Morgan and duly installed as the first W.M. of the lodge, the ceremony being performed by Bro. T. Haynes in a very impressive manner, after which the following brethren were installed as the first officers of the lodge:—Bros. T. J. Haynes, D.M.; J. J. R. Morgan, S.W.; N. Clavoresso, W.S.W.; F. Ashton, W.J.W.; J. J. R. Morgan, Treas.; J. H. Haynes, Sec.; J. Rennie, S.D.; T. Haynes, I.G.; G. Llamas, Tyler.

P.M. Beal, in the name of St. John's Lodge, No. 325, I.C.; W.M. A. Gimenez, on behalf of St. John's Lodge, No. 115, E.C.; J. Cunningham, S.W., on behalf of Inhabitants Lodge, 153, E.C.; and W.M. R. B. Hepper, on behalf of Friendship Lodge, No. 278, E.C., wished prosperity and success to St. Thomas Lodge in the names of their respective lodges.

After the names of candidates and joining members had been submitted, the lodge was closed in due form.

The brethren then adjourned to the installation banquet, when the following toasts were proposed and responded to:—"The Queen and the Craft," "The Three Grand Masters, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, Duke of Abercorn, and Sir M. S. Stewart, Bart." "The Visitors" was next given, and heartily responded to.

Bro. Morgan proposed the health of a very aged Mason, although not present, being in Cadiz, "Bro. Haynes, the respected Father of the Bros. Haynes present," and requested all the brethren to assist him in giving this toast, which was done enthusiastically with Masonic honours.

Bro. B. G. Haynes, in the name of his father, and in a few appropriate words, returned thanks.

The W.M. mentioned that the St. Thomas Lodge came to fill a void long wanted in Gibraltar; that being a colony where so many Scotchmen resided it had long been their wish to have a lodge under the Scotch Constitution, as there are already lodges under the English and Irish Constitutions, and that there was plenty of room for the St. Thomas Lodge, and hoped that the whole of the lodges would work fraternally together.

"The Health of the Venerable P.M. Beal" was then given, and responded to by all present with the greatest enthusiasm.

The Tyler's toast being given brought to conclusion a most happy and long to be remembered meeting.

Gas superseded in day time, and daylight reflected in dark rooms. Health, comfort, and economy promoted, by adopting Chippies' Patent Daylight Reflectors. Manufactory, 69, Fleet-street, London.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF HERTFORD.

(Continued from page 327.)

The P.G.M. then concluded by saying that there was something of the sort in the province of Oxfordshire in which he was initiated, and that certain lodges in London, whose members had connexions at the university, helped to support it, and a copy of the Calendar was sent to each contributing lodge. The desirability of publishing it would be considered by a committee if they decided to appoint one, and if it appeared right to the lodge to authorize it, he (the P.G.M.) thought that prepared under proper supervision it might be of great use on some occasions.

It was thereupon agreed to appoint the following brethren to form a committee to consider the desirability of publishing a Masonic Calendar for the province, and to report, viz., W. Bro. H. C. Finch, P.G. Reg.; W. Wilson, P.P.G.J.W.; J. S. Carter, P.P.G.S.D.; J. Terry, P.G.D.C.; E. A. Simson, P.M. 403; F. H. Wilson, P.G. Sec.; J. C. Cussans, 443; B. Taylor; and it was further agreed on the proposition of Bro. Terry that the publication of the calendar may take place prior to the next meeting of Prov. Grand Lodge upon receiving the sanction of the Right Worshipful the Prov. Grand Master.

Bro. Carter, proposed, and Bro. Lambert seconded, the election of Bro. A. F. Copland to be the Prov. G. Treasurer, which was carried unanimously.

The officers for the ensuing year were then appointed, and invested as follows:—

Sedgwick, P.M. 104	D. Prov.G.M.
Grocott, 869	Prov. G.S.W.
Gilbert, 1327	Prov. G.J.W.
Rev. Burchell Herne and Rev. C. Mayo	Prov. G. Chaplains.
A. J. Copland, 404	Prov. G. Treas.
H. C. Finch, 404	Prov. G. Reg.
H. Wilson, P.M. 404	Prov. G. Sec.
H. Campkin, 403	Prov. G.S.D.
F. R. Webster, 1479	Prov. G.J.D.
W. H. Fellows, 404	Prov. G.S.W.
James Terry	Prov. G.D.C.
Cutbush, 1385	Prov. G.A.D.C.
E. G. Pottle, 869	Prov. G.S.B.
W. W. Pritchett, 1327	Prov. G. Org.
T. Reilly,	Prov. G. Purst.
J. E. Dawson, 404	Prov. G.A.P.
Chapman, 869; A. Malcolm, 1327; J. D. Massey, 1580; Venables, Green, 404; P. W. Taylor	Prov. P.G. Stwds.
T. Thomas, 404; and T. Wright, 403	Prov. G. Tylers.

The P.G. Sec. informed the brethren while the Tylers were in the room that this was the twenty-fifth anniversary of Bro. Taylors's being re-appointed Tyler of this Provincial Grand Lodge.

The P.G. Sec. read a letter from Bro. Wilson, P.P.G.J.W. expressing his regret at his inability to attend P. Grand Lodge, and thanking the lodge for the jewel voted to him last year and for the letter of regards that accompanied it. He further reported that a new lodge, the Cranbourne, 1580, had been duly constituted and consecrated by the Grand Secretary on behalf of the M.W. the Grand Master, on the 29th March, 1876.

Prov. G. Lodge was then closed with solemn prayer.

After the closing of the lodge the brethren assembled in the great hall, where a banquet worthy of the place and the occasion awaited them. The banqueting arrangements had been placed in the hands of Bro. T. H. Prestage of 571, Hackney-rd., who fulfilled the trust admirably, although labouring under considerable difficulties; for he not only had to get the dinner cooked where possibly a dinner had not been cooked for a century, but he had to get a cooking stove built before he could do it. The whole, however, was successfully performed and an elegant and enjoyable banquet was the result.

On the removal of the cloth the customary loyal and Masonic toasts were given from the chair and received and responded to with true Masonic cordiality.

The Toast of "The Queen and the Craft," and that of "The M.W.G.M. the Prince of Wales," were followed by the National Anthem, and "God Bless the Prince of Wales." We may here say that the musical arrangements, under the direction of Bro. G. T. Carter, P.M. 382, were excellent indeed. We do not know that we ever heard the grace "For this and all Thy mercies given," which was sung at the conclusion of the banquet, so well rendered. The singers were Bros. James Lord, Montem Smith, Seymour Smith and Chaplin Henry, who were accompanied on the pianoforte by the P.G. Organist.

In proposing "The Health of the Pro G.M., Deputy G.M. and the Rest of the Officers, past and present," the P.G.M. spoke in high terms of praise of Lord Carnarvon, both as a public man and a Mason, and also of Lord Skelmersdale, for the admirable manner in which he had justified the Prince of Wales's appointment of him, and coupled the toast with the name of Bro. Simpson, P.G. Chaplain.

Bro. Simpson, in thanking the P.G.M. and brethren for the compliment paid to the Pro Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, and past and present officers of Grand Lodge, said that so long as the true principles of Freemasonry were held by the great body of Masons they might expect to see at their head men of high position and, what was far more important, men of personal worth. He felt grateful to the Right Worshipful P.G.M. for giving him the privilege of being present on this occasion and at the working of the Prov. G. Lodge, and concluded by remarking that though they might all on some occasions express opinions in which others did not concur, he trusted that they would be charitably credited with honesty of intention and for having the great fundamental principle of Freemasonry at heart, as well as the earnest desire to promote the good of the Craft.

The P.G.S.W.: It is with great pleasure that I propose the toast of "The Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master." It is quite impossible for me to find words sufficient to express the appreciation in which he is held throughout the province, and I must therefore content myself with proposing his very good health.

The Prov. Grand Master, who on rising, was greeted with tremendous cheers, said, Bro. S. G. W. and Brethren, I have to thank you for the very kind manner in which you have proposed and received the toast of my health. I think that the reception you have given me is undeserved, because during the short time I have as yet presided over the Craft here, I have hardly had time to get such a knowledge of the Craft in the Province as I should have. I have to thank the Gresham and King Harold lodges for the magnificent reception they have given us to-day in this grand old hall. I can only say that I seldom remember to have seen a more suitable or impressive place for your meetings, for which I understand you are indebted to our Worshipful Provincial Grand Chaplain. I think the brethren of these two lodges must be most proud of the Provincial Grand Lodge on this account, that during the short time that I have been with you we have added another lodge to our number; and if we can do this every year or every two years we shall soon become one of the most important provinces on this side the kingdom. I feel sure that as long as there is such a cordial feeling throughout this province it will always be a pleasure and a pride to me to be at the head of such a flourishing division of the Craft. As time is short I will add no more on this head but will proceed to propose "The Health of the Deputy Provincial Grand Master and the rest of the Prov. Grand Officers, past and present." A Prov. Grand Master cannot do everything and must look to his officers and those in authority under him for assistance and support in carrying out his work. I am supported by such an excellent and efficient body of Masons, and of none can I speak more highly than Bro. Sedgwick. The inconvenience of communication between this and the part where he resides has compelled him to leave already, so that he will not be able to respond to this toast, however, I will name the Provincial Grand Secretary instead. I never can forget my debt of gratitude to Bro. Iles for the assistance he has at all times so readily afforded me, though I am aware his work in Freemasonry is ever a labour of love. I hope, brethren, that you will give this toast such a reception as it deserves.

Bro. Iles having responded, the P.G.M. proposed "The Success of the Masonic Charities" coupling it with the name of Bro. Terry, and remarking on the success which attended Bro. Terry as the representative of one of them.

Bro. Terry, in his reply, attributed his success to his wearing the collar of a P.G. officer; he was understood to say that when he wore the pale blue no one believed in Bro. Terry; but Bro. Terry, one of the Provincial Grand Officers of that province was a person of increased importance, and therefore he had to thank Prov. Grand Lodge for a great measure of his success. He then proceeded to review shortly the useful course taken by the Masonic institutions, in whose behalf he thanked the Prov. Grand Lodge for the toast and for the contribution they had sent up year after year to the funds of each.

"The Health of the Visitors" and "Success to the Lodges of the Province" were also proposed and responded to very cordially, and after an extremely pleasant evening the brethren separated at an early hour.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF WORCESTER-SHIRE.

ADDRESS TO THE M.W.G.M.

To His Royal Highness Albert Edward, Prince of Wales, K.G., K.V., &c., &c., &c., Most Worshipful G. Master of the Freemasons of England:

May it please your Royal Highness,—

We, the brethren of the Province of Worcester, in Provincial Grand Lodge assembled at Dudley, in the said province, this Tuesday, the 20th day of June, A.L. 5876, A.D. 1876, respectfully desire to tender our congratulations on your Royal Highness's happy and safe return to your native land from your Royal Highness's visit to and sojourn in India, which visit we sincerely hope and believe will, under the blessing of Divine Providence, tend to cement the loyalty of our fellow subjects in that important part of the British Empire to Her Most Gracious Majesty's beneficent rule, and confirm them in their affection towards our mother country.

In offering these, our loyal congratulations, we would at the same time wish to render to the Most High our humble and heartfelt thanks for His merciful preservation of your Royal Highness under all the fatigues and dangers incident to such a journey, and we pray most fervently that He will grant to your Royal Highness, and to Her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales, long life, and to Her Most Gracious Majesty a continued, long, and happy reign.

Signed, on behalf of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Worcestershire,

W. BRISTOW, P.G. Sec.
A. H. ROYDS, P.G.M.
WM. MASEFIELD, D.P.G.M.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS AND OINTMENT.—Prevention of Weakness. —Whenever circumstances produce impure blood, lessen the force or in any way disarrange the balance of circulation, stagnation takes place in the lungs, and consumption, or any other formidable symptoms, discover themselves. Let Holloway's remedies be tried on the first feelings of debility or the first annoyance of a dry, hacking cough. After the chest, both before and behind, has been formed with warm brine and the skin has been dried with a towel, the ointment should be rubbed twice a day upon the chest and between the shoulders, and the Pills should be taken in alternative doses to purify the blood and cleanse the system without weakening it or rousing or aggravating the nervous irritation.—ADVT.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF CORNWALL.

The local papers, from which we gleaned the account of the last meeting of the Prov. Grand Lodge of Cornwall, unwittingly ascribed the excellence of the arrangements to the wrong parties, and as we believe in "honour to whom honour is due," it affords us pleasure to set the matter right by reproducing the following from the "Falmouth Packet":—

FREEMASONRY IN FALMOUTH.—The first regular lodge of Love and Honour after the assembling of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Cornwall, on June 22nd, was held on Monday last, when votes of thanks were unanimously passed to those who had kindly assisted the brethren in making the meeting one of the most successful ever held in this province. The decoration of the Town Hall as a lodge on that occasion was entrusted to Bro. T. Polglase, who, assisted by Bro. Francis, carried out the work admirably, and many of our readers, although not Masons, must have admired its beautiful appearance, whilst our Masonic friends felt pride at old reminiscences—being surrounded by portraits of many old Past Masters, also the quaint and Masonically decorated chairs and pedestals—made from mahogany presented by Bro. Macnamara, in 1753, to Love and Honour Lodge, the oldest lodge in the province, dating and continuously working from June 12th, 1751. The amount of £6 3s. 4d., being two-fifths of the collection at church, was duly forwarded to the Secretaries of Falmouth Public Dispensary.

TO THE LIFE GOVERNORS OF THE ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS IN THE PROVINCE OF WEST YORKSHIRE.

"Audi Alteram Partem."

Brethren,—

I have been living in the vain hope that the strife and uncharitableness which a short time ago was stirred up in our province would have subsided, but I am sorry to see a notice on the agenda for our next Prov. Grand Lodge re-opening and renewing that ill-feeling.

It appears most strange to me that in that once happy and proud province there is not one resident brother who will take up the subject and endeavour to bring about an end to this unpleasantness.

I received Prov. G.L. summons on the 12th inst., and yesterday morning a brother voluntarily kindly sent me copy of a pamphlet, printed by Bro. Tew, ready to be sent to any lodge within the province who considers it worth while to pass upon him a vote of thanks for the prominent part he has recently taken. The receipt of these has aroused in me a desire to say something on the subject, having outside the province taken some little interest in the movements of West Yorkshire. If time permitted I could say much and give you a considerable amount of information on the un-Masonic proceedings of our D.P.G.M. He complains of the short notice Bro. (Mr.) Binckes gave him of the Quarterly Court on the 10th April. I do not know it was the duty of Bro. Binckes to give him this notice at all, but I may tell you that our D.P.G.M. knew of Bro. Woodford's notice on the 3rd April, when he was at Hull. The notice of the motion was only given to the committee in London on the 1st, so that Bro. Tew had as much time to organize his forces as any man in England, and all was done that possibly could to arouse the province by a strong appeal in Prov. G. Lodge at Wakefield on the 6th by the S.W. and J.W. What say you for the candour of your D.P.G.M. in wishing it to be inferred that he did not know of Bro. Woodford's motion until four days before the meeting of the Court? It was advertised in the daily papers in the usual way. Bro. Tew knows (or ought to know) the four fixed days on which Quarterly Court is held—shame on him wishing to make it appear he knew nothing about it until four days before. In the same paragraph he talks about a packed meeting. How ridiculous to talk about a packed meeting in the heart of London at mid-day! That large meeting assembled to shew their indignation of the un-Masonic conduct of our D.P.G.M., some of which I will expose to you before our next P.G. Lodge in October. Talking about a packed meeting comes with the most wretched grace from him! He and two of his satellites "stumping" the country, got together a meeting at Hull on the 3rd April, and when told that I had been invited to attend, wrote by return of post to Hull objecting to my being present. Why, forsooth? "Because" John Sutcliffe of Grimsby is opposed to our movement." What do you think of that from our D.P.G.M.? But I was there notwithstanding his attempt to have a packed meeting, and in my next will tell you how he and his satellites conducted themselves. I will tell you some things which I think will arouse that old spirit of Freemasonry and fair play, which I feel certain still exists in W.Y. Defer your decision on the proposal of the "ex parte" statement of Bro. Booth on the 12th, until you hear some further communication in answer to the report of our Investigation Committee.

At the close of the pamphlet before me he refers to the formation of the House Committee. Does Bro. Tew want to get on that committee? If so, he knows (or ought to know) how to proceed to get elected, and until he or some of his party have been refused admission, I say it is most un-Masonic and ungentlemanly to attack the private characters of that body. It has been said of many agitators that they rail against some supposed grievance, but never take any real action and have no desire to remove it. Is this the case with Bro. Tew? His grievance would be gone if he (or any of his friends) got on the committee. See also his inconsistency, praising the Girls, censuring the Boys' House Committee, although several of the same brethren are on both.

In writing this I hope it has some effect in arousing the dormant spirit of W.Y. I know there are many good men in the province who disapprove altogether the late pro-

ceedings. How is it therefore, they quietly sit to be led by the D.P.G.M. and his clique? I have heard it said that one high in rank, none more beloved in all the province, "blushes" for it, and I have before me a note from another brother who stands high, also who would grace the D.P.G.M.'s chair, and would rule in peace, love, and harmony, and not in constant strife, envy, and hatred, and who writing to a friend since the last Boys' School Festival, says: "I am quite delighted at the very marked success of the festival, and the damper, I may say the severe rebuke, it has given to our D.P.G.M., who has done his best to set the province by the ears. Surely it will read him a lesson."

Surely—surely there are many, many more, holding the same good honest opinions. Why don't they speak out and do away with the strife and ill-feeling engendering in our once proud and happy province.

Yours fraternally,
Great Grimsby July 14.

JOHN SUTCLIFFE.

[We have thought it right to publish this circular, but after the result of the meeting the P.G.L. of West Yorkshire, on Wednesday last, at Huddersfield, as Bro. Prov. S. G. Warden Gill says, all that has "passed should be passed." All should be forgotten and forgiven.]

FREEMASONRY IN NEW ZEALAND.

A new lodge was opened on Monday, the 15th May, in Tauranga, at the lodge-room, the Strand, under the authority of Bro. G. P. Pierce, P.G.M., acting under the constitution of the Grand Lodge of Ireland. The lodge was duly constituted and consecrated by Bro. Thomas Jenkins, P.M., of the Ara Lodge, Auckland, and P.G.D.C. of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Auckland, acting as P.O. under warrant from the Provincial Grand Master, assisted by Bros. Capt. Forster, as S.W.; Joseph Vercoe, as J.W.; the Rev. W. E. Mulgan, as Chaplain; and A. Asher, as D.C. The interesting opening ceremony was carried out by these brethren in a highly satisfactory and efficient manner, after which Bro. Henry C. Hoyte was duly installed Worshipful Master of the lodge, Bros. T. D. Wrigley, S.W.; Capt. Turner, J.W.; Joseph Vercoe, Treas.; the Rev. W. E. Mulgan, Chaplain; D. Asher, Sec.; R. C. Jordan, S.D.; W. M. Commons, J.D.; W. Watson, I.G.; Stewart, Tyler. Lodge business was then proceeded with, and a number of gentlemen proposed as candidates. After the lodge closed the brethren adjourned for refreshment to the Masonic Hotel.

Masonic and General Tidings.

The Welsh National Eisteddfod concluded on Friday, 14th inst., at Llanwrst, Lord Aveland and Bro. Sir Watkin Wynn, Bart., M.P., P.G.M. N. Wales and Shropshire, acting as presidents. The latter, in his inaugural address, strongly commended the gathering as an antidote to the prevalence of drunkenness. Lady Llanover's prize for Welsh pedal harp playing, and the championship of Wales, was carried off by Mr. Hugh Hughes, Bethesda, a quarrymen's choir from the same place reaping the chief honours for choral competitions.

The old windows round the dome of St. Paul's Cathedral are being gradually removed, and new ones of a much improved style substituted for them.

The Licensed Victuallers' Asylum Grand Fête day at the Alexandra Palace will take place on Monday, the 24th inst.

The Queen has ordered £100 to be transmitted at once to the Admiral commanding at Portsmouth, for the immediate relief of the widows and families of the sufferers by the explosion on board the Thunderer.

His Majesty the King of the Hellenes received a deputation of four gentlemen representing the Greek community in London, who presented an address. The deputation was composed of Messrs. Eustratis Ralli, Xenophon Ralli, Michel Rodocanachi, and Parragi Sclavo.

METROPOLITAN POLICE.—Colonel Henderson, Commissioner of Police for the Metropolis, has sanctioned a subscription among the officers of his force for ex-Police-Constable Goodchild, who had to resign in consequence of the part which he took in the recent agitation among the Metropolitan Police for a rearrangement of the hours of duty and other advantages, which have since been conceded by the authorities.

A marriage is arranged between Bro. Lord Balfour of Burleigh and Lady Katharine Gordon, sister of the Earl of Aberdeen.

We are delighted to learn that Bro. James Madison Porter, Deputy Grand Master of Masons of Pennsylvania, has arrived in London, much improved in health.

SUNSTROKE.—We are glad to hear that there is no truth in the story which has been circulated to the effect that Mr. Evelyn Perrott, of Sergeants'-inn, Chancery Lane, died from the effects of sunstroke on Monday morning. He is, we learn, in perfect health.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS.—Sir James Paget, Bart., F.R.S., D.C.L., has been appointed the representative of this college in the General Medical Council, in the vacancy occasioned by the resignation of Mr. Richard Quain, F.R.S.

Mr. Alexandra Russell, editor and proprietor of the "Scotsman" newspaper, died at Edinburgh on Tuesday.

A new Jewish synagogue is about to be erected at Notting-hill, London, at a cost of £18,000, to accommodate 500 persons.

THE GUILDHALL LIBRARY.—The experiment of opening the Guildhall Library in the evening appears to be successful, especially considering what time of year it has been begun in. The average number of readers is 100 in the evening, and the boon appears to be greatly appreciated.

DEATH OF THE QUEEN'S PROCTOR.—We regret to announce that Mr. Francis Hart Dyke, Her Majesty's Procurator-General, was thrown from his horse on Saturday, at Egham, and died on Monday from the injuries sustained. The deceased gentleman for over a quarter of a century filled the office of Queen's Proctor. He was at Westminster, attending to his official duties, the latter part of last week. Dr. Pollock was summoned to attend him on his meeting with the accident.

METROPOLITAN MASONIC MEETINGS.

For the Week ending Friday, July 28, 1876.

The Editor will be glad to receive notice from Secretaries of Craft Lodges, Royal Arch Chapters, Mark Lodges, Preceptories, Conclaves, &c., of any change in place or time of meeting.

SATURDAY, JULY 22.

Audit Com. Boys' School, at 3.
Lodge 1293, Burdett, Mitre Hot., Hampton Court.
" 1541, Alexandra Palace, A.P., Muswell Hill.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Lily, Greyhound, Richmond.
Manchester, 77, London-st., Fitzroy-square.
Star, Marquis of Granby, New Cross-rd.

MONDAY, JULY 24.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Prince Leopold, Lord Stanley Tav., Kingaland.
Strong Man, Jerusalem Tav., St. John's Gate.
Sincerity, Railway Tav., Fenchurch-st. Station.
Camden, Stanhope Arms, Up. James-st., Camden To.
Eastern, Royal Hot., Mile-end-road.
St. James's Union, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Wellington, White Swan, Deptford.
Perfect Ashlar, Victoria Tav., Lower-rd., Rotherhithe.
Sydney, White Hart Ho., Church-rd., Upper Norwood.

TUESDAY, JULY 25.

Audit Com. Girls' School, at 4.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Metropolitan, 269, Pentonville-rd.
Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney.
Domestic, Surrey M.H., Camberwell New-road.
Faith, 2, Westminster Chambers, Victoria-st.
Prince Fredk. Wm., Lord's Hot., St. John's Wood.
Dalhousie, King Edward, Triangle, Hackney.
Prosperity, 1, Camomile-st., Bishopsgate.
St. Marylebone, British Stores Tav., St. John's Wood.
Constitutional, Wheatheat Hot., Hand-court, Holborn.
Israel, Rising Sun Tav., Globe Road.
Royal Arthur, Prince's Head, York-road, Battersea.
Beacontree, Red Lion, Leytonstone.
Metropolitan Chapter, Jamaica Coffee Ho., Cornhill.
Excelsior, Commercial Dock Tav., Rotherhithe.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 26.

Lodge 753, Prince Fred. Wm., Queen's-tr., St. John's Wd.
" 754, High Cross, Seven Sisters, Tottenham.
" 778, Bard of Avon, Greyhound, Hampton Court.
" 898, Temperance in the East, 6, Newby-pl., Poplar.
" 1415, Campbell, Mitre Hot., Hampton Court.
Chap. 753, Prince Fred. Wm., Queen's-tr., St. John's Wd.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Confidence, M.H., Basinghall-st.
Mt. Lebanon, Windsor Castle Tav., Southwark-bdg.-rd.
Pythagorean, Prince of Orange, Greenwich.
New Concord, Rosemary Branch Tav., Hoxton.
Royal Union, Horse and Groom, Winsley-st., Oxford-st.
Peckham, Maismore Arms, Park-road, Peckham.
Stanhope, Thicket Hot., Anerley.
Finsbury Park, Finsbury Park Tav., Seven Sisters-rd.
Southwark, Southwark Park Tav., Southwark Park.
Duke of Connaught, Havelock Tav., Dalston, E.
United Strength, Grafton Arms, Kentish-town.
Islington, Crown and Cushion, London Wall.
Whittington, Black Bull Tav., Holborn.
Lewis, King's Arms Hot., Wood Green.

THURSDAY, JULY 27.

Gen. Com. Girl's School, at 4.
Lodge 871, Royal Oak, White Swan Tav., Deptford.
" 1524, Duke of Connaught, Sisters' Tav., Haggerston.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Egyptian, Hercules Tav., Leadenhall-st.
Fidelity, Yorkshire Grey, London-st., W.
Finsbury, Jolly Anglers' Tav., Bath-st., City-road.
Temperance in the East, Catherine-st., Poplar.
Ebony, 12, Ponsonby-st., Milbank.
Highgate, Bull and Gate, Kentish-town.
The Great City, 111, Cheapside.
High Cross, Coach & Horses, High-road, Tottenham.
Salisbury, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Marquis of Ripon, Albion Tav., Albany-rd., Dalston.
Prince Frederick William Chapter, St. John's Wood.
Southern Star, Crown Hot., Blackfriars-rd.

FRIDAY, JULY 28.

Lodge 780, Royal Alfred, Star and Garter, Kew.
Chap. 134, Caledonian, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.
Preceptory 74, Harcourt, Greyhound Inn, Richmond.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Union Waterloo, Thomas-st., Woolwich.
Robert Burns, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Belgrave, Lyceum Tav., 354, Strand.

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REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS.

Craft Masonry

WOOLWICH.—Union Waterloo Lodge (No. 13).—The installation meeting of this old lodge took place on Wednesday, the 12th inst., at the Freemasons' Hall, William-street, Bro. Pownall, late W.M. of the United Military Lodge, being placed in the chair as W.M. for the ensuing twelve months. Bro. G. Davies, P.M., worked the ceremony, which was witnessed by a number of the brethren of the neighbouring lodges, in rare style. The following officers were invested:—Bros. G. W. Reed, S.W.; J. Moore, J.W.; H. C. Syer, Sec.; J. Henderson, P.M., Treas.; J. Hutton, S.D.; N. Brown, J.D.; J. J. Reilly, I.G.; and B. Norman, Tyler. After the presentation of a P.M.'s jewel to Bro. Carnelly, the retiring W.M., the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to Bro. Lockett's Hotel, the New Falcon, at Gravesend, where a superb banquet awaited them. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts having been duly honoured, the rest of the evening was enjoyed in harmony, Bro. W. Sallenger having charge of a quadrille party, who, with the assistance of Mrs. Sallenger, sang a charming and varied selection of the most popular music of the day. We wish this distinguished lodge, whose century is nearly if not quite accomplished, every success and prosperity.

LEICESTER.—St. John's Lodge (No. 279).—An emergency meeting of the old mother lodge of this province was held at the Freemasons' Hall, on Wednesday, the 5th inst., under the presidency of Bro. J. Malcolm McAllister, W.M., P.P.G.S.D., supported by Bros. Clement Stretton, P.M., P.P.G.W.; A. Palmer, P.M., P.P.G.P.; G. Statham, S.W.; Clement Edwin Stretton, J.W., P.P.G.P.; Samuel Cleaver, Sec., Prov. G. Steward; C. Gudden, Treas.; G. Manton, J. Road-knight, T. Colman, W. M. Randall, and others. The members may congratulate themselves on the success of the lodge during the present year, a success that will doubtless be marked by the same results with which it is always attended where the true principles of Freemasonry are studied and reduced to practice. The sister lodges on this as on former occasions were strongly represented, and evidenced by their numbers a determination to maintain that intercourse of sociality and brotherly love which is admitted to be the foundation, and keystone, the glory, and cement of this ancient and honourable institution, and a distinguishing characteristic of Leicester Masons. The visitors present included Bros. W. T. Rowlett, W.M. 523; E. Mason, W.M. 1391; T. Worthington, W.M. 50; J. T. Thorp, P.M.; F. J. Baines, P.M.; Dr. Clifton, P.M.; R. A. Barber, P.M.; J. S. Clarke, P.M.; J. Harran, P.M.; Dr. Meadows, J.D.; E. Watson, Steward 1391; J. Young, J.D.; Rev. C. H. Wood, and McDonald, 1560; J. Ewing and T. R. Pickering, Stewards 523. Bro. William Mollard Randall, a townsman, and a distinguished officer in the American navy, was passed to the Degree of Fellow Craft, and Mr. Henry Hardy Peach was duly initiated into the mysteries and privileges of ancient Freemasonry. The ceremonies were ably performed by the W.M., and Bro. Rowlett, W.M. 523, kindly presided at the organ. After the lodge was closed the usual loyal toasts were duly honoured. Bro. Harran responded for "The Visitors," and, although bordering upon eighty years of age, his venerable and stalwart form was a conspicuous figure in the lodge. Regular and precise in saluting during the ceremonies, memory revived to him many past scenes since he was initiated in 1825. The proceedings were enlivened by some excellent songs, and the brethren separated after an evening spent with the utmost good feeling, cemented by mutual endeavours to promote each other's happiness.

LIVERPOOL.—Everton Lodge (No. 823).—The annual summer celebration of the members of this lodge took place on Wednesday and Thursday, the 19th and 20th inst. The lodge was called for installation purposes at 5 o'clock on Wednesday evening at the Masonic Hall, when and where the chair was taken by Bro. Shaw, the W.M., who was supported by Bros. W. Cottrell, P.M.; J. Holland, P.M.; W. Boulton, P.M.; J. R. Goppel, P.M., P.P.G.D.C.; W. Wilson, S.W. (the W.M. elect); J. Houlding, J.W.; W. J. Lunt, P.M., Treas.; H. Ashmore, Sec.; J. Goodman, S.D.; J. S. Cuthbert, J.D.; P. W. Oglesby, I.G.; T. Webster, S.S.; G. King, J. Boyle, J. Marsh, J. Brooks, W. Altherton, S. Campbell, W. Gaskell, J. Naughton, G. Lunt, W. Kent, T. H. Carefull, R. W.

Gow, J. Holden, J. Cavenah, J. W. Worrall, J. Cave-Browne-Cave, T. Cunningham, W. Davies, T. Ashmore, P.M.; R. A. Webster, C. P. Raymond, J. R. Broadbent, C. Smallwood, R. Leason, E. Morgan, J. Bishop, J. Bunter, J. Smith, L. Bagnall, T. Churton, G. Graham, R. Evans, W. Lowe, E. Thompson, J. E. Hollis, J. Beesley, and J. Hunter. The list of visitors included Bros. T. Chesworth, W.M. 1576; J. Marshall, S.W. 1547; R. H. Evans, W.M. 292; J. J. Rose, P.M. 249; J. Davison, P.M. 724; J. W. Burgess, S.W. 1325; C. Leedham, P.M. 220; J. Jacobs, 724; J. Skeaf, P.G.O.; W. T. May, P.M. 673; H. Pearson, P.M. 349; J. T. Callow, W.M. 1505; J. Wood, Treas. 1094 ("Freemason"); H. Jackson, P.M. 1393; P. B. Gee, P.M. 1264; J. Pemberton, P.G.S.; W. Vaughan, W.M. 724; and the Rev. G. H. Vernon, P.P.G.C. Bro. T. Shaw, the retiring W.M., concluded his year of office by placing Bro. W. Wilson in the chair of W.M. in a most impressive and efficient manner. A special vote of thanks was subsequently ordered to be recorded on the minutes, recognising the able manner in which Bro. T. Shaw had performed the installation ceremony. The following officers were invested for the current year:—Bros. T. Shaw, I.P.M.; J. Houlding, S.W.; H. Ashmore, J.W.; W. J. Lunt, P.M., Treas.; J. S. Cuthbert, Sec.; P. W. Oglesby, S.D.; T. Webster, J.D.; J. I. Boyle, I.G.; T. H. Carefull, S.S.; J. Beesley, J.S.; J. Hunter, A.S.; J. Holland, P.M., D.C.; A. J. Fishlock (by proxy), Organist; and W. H. Ball, Tyler. A jewel was presented to Bro. Shaw, I.P.M. A handsome banner was given to the lodge by the W.M. (Bro. W. Wilson), the gift being presented in the W.M.'s name by Bro. J. R. Goppel, P.M., P.P.G.D.C. On the motion of Bro. P.M. Cottrell, seconded by Bro. P.M. Holland, it was unanimously resolved that the thanks of the lodge to Bro. W. Wilson should be recorded on the minutes. It was also resolved that a sum not exceeding fifteen guineas, which will probably be supplemented by the private subscriptions of the brethren, be voted from the funds of the lodge to purchase some suitable testimonial for presentation to Bro. W. J. Lunt, P.M. as a recognition of the efficient manner in which he has fulfilled the duties of Treasurer for several years. At the conclusion of business the brethren sat down to a supper, and during the evening the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and responded to. On Thursday morning about 300 ladies and brethren proceeded by train from Lime-street to the neighbourhood of the Overton Hills, Frodsham, where a most enjoyable picnic was held. The arrangements were of the most satisfactory kind, and every officer connected with the lodge—from the W.M. to the youngest Steward—exerted himself to contribute to the general enjoyment. The creature comforts were abundant; the means of recreation varied and ample; and the weather was everything which could be desired. After one of the most enjoyable picnics, the party returned to Liverpool shortly after ten o'clock.

THE ST. MARK'S LODGE (No. 857).—The usual meeting of the above lodge was held on Tuesday, July 18th, at the Masonic Hall, Camberwell. There were present Bros. Crouch, W.M.; Adams, S.W.; Goolen, J.W.; Wynn Williams, M.D., S.D.; Green, J.D.; Newton, I.G.; Hanson, P.M., Treas.; Frances, P.M., P.G.S.D. Surrey, Sec.; Shuck, Bragg, and King, P.M.'s; Raven, Mellick, Hamilton, Russell, Loyd, Levington, Harris. Visitors: Bros. Sands, P.M. 1401, Japan; W. Martine, Price of Berum. The business of the evening was to initiate Mr. J. S. Raven into Freemasonry, to pass Bros. Raven and Loyd, and to raise Bros. Harris, Russell and Fryer. The ceremonies were admirably performed by the W.M. and his officers, this being the first time for some years when all the ceremonies had been attempted in this lodge by the W.M. Bro. Crouch's performance of the duties elicited much praise from the brethren and visitors, and not only shows the good fruit of the lodge of instruction formed in connection with St. Mark's Lodge, but reflects great credit upon its Preceptor, Bro. Francis. The brethren afterwards partook of an excellent banquet, where the musical talent of the brethren contributed to the enjoyment of the evening.

DERBY.—Hartington Lodge (No. 1085).—The monthly meeting of this lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, Gower-street, on Wednesday evening, June 5th, at 7.30 p.m. The brethren present were Bros. S. Pipes, W.M.; T. Iliffe, P.M.; W. Heathcote, S.W.; T. Gadsby, J.W.; M. H. Robert, Treas.; G. Pipes, Sec.; M. H. Bobart, as S.D.; J. H. Biggs, as J.D.; W. B. Hextall, I.G.; T. Slinn, Tyler, Butterfield, Pakemaid, Rippon, Hepworth, Manton, Steele, Whales. Visitors: Bros. Cabon, 731; Berry, P.M. 325, Salford, Manchester. The lodge was opened in the First Degree. The ballot was taken for Bro. Percy Wallis, St. Oswald Lodge, 850, as a joining member, who was duly elected. Bros. Johnson and Lane were passed to the Second or Fellow Craft Degree by the W.M. The working tools were presented to Bros. Johnson and Lane by Bro. J. Iliffe, P.M. The lodge was afterwards resumed in the First Degree. After other little business had been brought forward, the lodge was closed in perfect harmony, and adjourned to the first Wednesday in August. Many of the brethren afterwards partook of supper, after which the evening was enlivened with songs and toasts, which were thoroughly enjoyed by those who remained. The Tyler's toast being given shortly after eleven, the evening was brought to a close.

LIVERPOOL.—Temple Lodge (No. 1044).—The annual summer picnic in connection with this lodge took place on Thursday, the 20th inst., when about forty ladies and brethren started from Lime-street Station, Liverpool, for Lymm, where a most pleasant day was spent. The party started by special saloon carriage about ten o'clock, and arrived at Lymm shortly after eleven o'clock, where accommodation of the most complete kind was found at the hotel immediately adjoining the station.

Amongst those who were present, and contributed greatly to the success of the out-of-door festival, were Bros. W. Healing, W.M.; Dr. E. M. Sheldon, P.M.; D. W. Winstanley, P.M.; A. Jarvis, S.W.; T. W. Winstanley, J.W.; J. Wood, Treas. ("Freemason"); A. Birch, S.D.; and others. The expenses of the picnic were defrayed by those present, without encroaching at all on the lodge funds, and the W.M. generously provided the implements for the various numerous games, and any money won at any of these games was placed in the charity box of the lodge. A very sumptuous dinner and substantial tea were served, and the greatest pleasure was realised during the long pleasant summer run into the country. The W.M., after dinner, gave the usual loyal and Masonic toasts. Bro. Dr. Sheldon proposed "The Health of Bro. W. Healing, W.M." and Bro. the Rev. Dr. Lowe responded to the toast of "The Ladies." After a most delightful day the party returned to Liverpool about ten o'clock.

HAMPTON.—Lebanon Lodge (No. 1326).—This prosperous and flourishing lodge held its regular meeting on Saturday, July 15th, at the Red Lion Hotel, Hampton. Bro. H. A. Dubois, P.P.A.G.D. Middlesex, and P.G.S.D. Middlesex, designate, W.M., opened the lodge. The minutes of the previous lodge meeting were read and confirmed, and signed by the W.M. The ballots were declared to be unanimous in favour of the admission of Bro. B. Sharp, P.M. of several lodges, as a joining member, and Mr. David Smith as a candidate for initiation into Freemasonry. Bro. Frederick Walters, P.P.G. P. Middlesex, P.M., the veteran Secretary, took the chair, and in an able manner installed Bro. Edwin Gilbert, W.M., who appointed as his officers Bros. H. A. Dubois, I.P.M.; C. W. Fox, S.W.; R. W. Williams, J.W.; S. Wickens, P.M., Treas. (re-invested for fifth time); F. Walters, P.P.G.P. Middlesex, P.M., Sec. (re-invested for seventh time); John Hammond, P.M., S.D.; J. B. Shackleton, J.D.; W. Mitchell, Org.; J. W. Baldwin, P.M., I.G.; J. C. Woodrow, P.M. and Sec.; G. Shott, D.C.; H. Potter, P.M., W.S.; J. Symes, C.S.; B. Meyer, Steward; and T. W. Stone, Steward; J. Gilbert, P.G. Tyler Middlesex, Tyler. The W.M., Bro. E. Gilbert, proved his proficiency by the admirable style he initiated Mr. David Smith into the Order. A vote of thanks was given (and recorded on the minutes) to Bro. F. Walters, P.P.G.P. Middlesex, for doing the ceremony of installation. Some candidates were proposed for initiation, and other business done. The lodge was closed and adjourned until August. Banquet and dessert followed. During the evening the handsome P.M.'s jewel, value seven guineas, voted from the lodge funds, was presented to Bro. H. A. Dubois, who in a suitable speech acknowledged the gift. Some good songs and excellent recitations were given during the evening. The dinner and dessert was served under a tent, which added to the comfort of all concerned. There were present, in addition to those already named, Bros. W. Hammond, P.G.J.D. Middlesex, P.M.; B. Sharp, P.M.; Jesse Smith, H. Gloster, and many others. The visitors were Bros. M. Levy, 188; J. W. Wyr, S.W. 1314; G. Regan, 55; H. Hopwood, P.M. 141; J. B. Langley, W.M. 1423; S. Hill, P.M. 141; T. W. Ockenden, D.C. 1412; C. Pawley, Jun., 33; W. Alder, 901; J. W. Gill, 1701 and others.

HAMPTON COURT.—Era Lodge (No. 1423).—An emergency meeting of this prosperous lodge was held on Wednesday, 19th July, at the King's Arms Hotel, Hampton Court. In the unavoidable absence of Bro. J. Baxter Langley, W.M., the lodge was opened by Bro. Frederick Walters, P.P.G.P. Middlesex, P.M., Sec. Bro. H. A. Dubois, P.P.G.A.D.C. Middlesex, P.M., took the chair. Soon after the W.M., Bro. John Baxter Langley, arrived (he having missed a train, which caused his being late), who at once occupied the Solomonic chair, and presided over the lodge for the remainder of the meeting. He in his usual able manner, initiated first Mr. Wm. Swindlehurst, then Mr. Frederick Frampton Beard, doing the ceremony completely twice over, thereby fulfilling the wishes of the R.W.P.G.M., Col. Burdett, who objects in his province in any lodge to have more than one candidate for initiation admitted at once. This completing the business for which the emergency was called, the lodge was closed. There were present also Bros. Benj. Wright, Assist. Sec.; E. W. Devereux, S.D.; H. Falja, C.E., acting as J.D.; A. F. Loos, I.G.; W. Hammond, P.G.J.D. Middlesex, P.M.; Dr. Gillespie, E. Beckwith, and others. The large list of visitors (for an off meeting) were Bros. B. Sharp, P.M. 84; E. Hopwood, P.M. 141, &c.; E. Gilbert, W.M. 1326; J. B. Shackleton, J.D. 1326; T. Butt, 907; and others. It was announced in the lodge that Bro. H. A. Dubois, P.P.G.A.D.C. Middlesex, on the recommendation of the Lebanon Lodge, 1326, had been nominated as P.G.S.D. Middlesex, and F. Walters, P.P.G.P. Middlesex, P.M., Sec., on the recommendation of Acacia Lodge, 1309, had been nominated P.G.J.D. Middlesex. Both brothers were warmly congratulated on their good fortune, and the appointments gave great satisfaction, as both brethren are well-known hard workers in the Order. A cold collation followed labour. The members left early to return to the metropolis.

HAMPTON.—Hemming Lodge (No. 1512).—An emergency meeting of this flourishing provincial lodge was convened on the 8th at the Lion Hotel. Among those present were Bros. E. Hopwood, W.M.; S. Hill, P.M. and S.W.; Bond, W.M. (Deble), acting J.W.; W. Hammond, P.M., P.J.G.D. of Middlesex, I.P.M. and acting Secretary; Walls, acting S.D.; Ockenden, D.C., acting J.D.; Jessott, I.G. The visitors were Bros. Walters, P.M., P.P.G.P. of Middlesex, &c.; Gatten, P.M. and Treas. (141); B. Sharp, P.M. The W.M., with the assistance of his officers, initiated Bro. Charles Hamer Hill, the son of the esteemed and veteran Master, Bro. S. Hill, P.M., &c., S.W., into the mysteries of the Craft. Bro. C. V. J. De Bernex and E. Andrews were passed 44 F.C.'s, and Bros. W. Knowles,

J. Read, and J. Smythe raised to the degree of M.M. A proposition "That lodge gauntlets be provided for the Master, Wardens, and I.P.M., and added to the furniture of the lodge," having been discussed, was ultimately unanimously passed. Bro. T. Ockenden, whose services as Steward to the lodge at the last festival of the R.M.B.I. had been highly appreciated, was unanimously appointed to act in a similar capacity at the festival in 1877 for the Girls' School. Some minor business having been transacted, the lodge was closed in due form, and the brethren adjourned to an excellently well served collation. Upon the removal of the cloth the W.M. gave "The Queen and Craft." In proposing "The Health of the W.M.," Bro. Hammond, I.P.M., congratulated Bro. Hopwood upon the assiduity and zeal he had displayed in the discharge of the onerous and multifarious duties appertaining to his position. This toast having been duly honoured, the W.M. replied, "The Health of the Visitors" was briefly proposed by the W.M., who alluded to the presence amongst them that evening of Bro. Walters, P.P.G.P., the indefatigable Secretary of many Middlesex lodges, and also to Bro. Carter, the Treasurer of his mother lodge, the "Faith," and a P.M. of nearly thirty years' standing. This toast having been received with excellent fire was duly acknowledged. Bro. Hill, P.M., the S.W., with the permission of the W.M., then said that although he was aware that Masonic usage would not allow of an initiate being toasted at an emergency meeting, yet he wished to state on behalf of his son, who held that interesting position in the Hemming Lodge that evening, but whose professional duties had prevented him from staying to the collation, that he was exceedingly impressed with the ceremony of his introduction into Freemasonry. He had intended to ask the W.M. for permission to have initiated his son himself, but at the last moment he did not feel physically up to it, and in conclusion he hoped that his boy, who had already distinguished himself highly in his honourable profession, would also very soon earn for himself an equally good name in the Masonic world. Between the toasts and replies Bros. Ockenden, De Fernex, Hill, W. Hammond, Read, Walls, and Knowles entertained the brethren. The Tyler's toast at eleven o'clock terminated the proceedings.

PLUMSTEAD.—United Military Lodge (No. 1536).—The installation meeting of this lodge, the last of a cluster of five that has been celebrated within the last fortnight, took place on Friday, the 14th inst., at Bro. Plaisted's fine hall on Anglesea Hill, when Bro. W. Weston, late S.W. of the lodge, was installed W.M. for the ensuing year, a position that he has earned by earnest and good work done both in and out of the lodge since its consecration twelve months ago. Bro. Croisdale, P.M. 706, was the installing officer, and worthily sustained the reputation of the district by his splendid working. Among the visitors present were Bros. C. Coupland, P.G.W. for Kent, and P.M. 913; A. Penfold, P.M. 913; T. Ward, P.M. 700; J. A. Bates, P.M. 1424; J. McDougall, P.M. 913; E. Denton, P.P.G.D. Kent, and P.M. 13, 706, 913, and Sec. 706 and 913; R. Croisdale, P.M. 706 and 1536; Captain C. Phillips, P.M. 13, 706, and 1536; T. W. Vincent, W.M. 913; T. Hastings, W.M. 829; T. Butt, W.M. 700; G. D. Roe, W.M. 1424; H. Butler, S.W. 913; W. Gamble, S.W. 706; A. Waters, S.W. 700; J. Fowler, S.W. 1424; J. Walker, Treas. 1424; S. Crane, S.D. 1424; A. Woodley, J.W. 700; J. Hutton, J.D. 13; C. Cooke, 13, and Organist 700 and 913; J. Wilkins, J.D. 700; T. H. Hayes, S.D. 913; J. Warren, S.D. 700; H. Pryce, 913; W. McCoy, D.C. 700; D. Capon, 913; C. Morris, 1331; J. Richards, 1326; and C. Jolly, 913. Bro. Weston having been placed in the chair of K.S., and duly saluted, proceeded to invest his officers as follows: G. Spinks, S.W.; J. Picken, J.W.; T. Cooper, Sec.; W. Murphy, Treas.; H. Shaw, S.D.; J. McCaffery, J.D.; Lieut. J. Ritchie, I.G.; D. Deeves, D.C.; W. H. Wright and Weldy, Stewards; H. Hardy, Org.; and J. Lackland, Tyler. After the conclusion of the ceremony, Bro. Croisdale presented Bro. Pownall with the jewel of his office in the name of the lodge, for which the worthy recipient returned thanks. A handsome testimonial was then presented to Bro. Cooper, the indefatigable and courteous Secretary of the lodge, for the great good done by him for its success during the last twelve months, which was as feelingly received as it was heartily given. A vote of thanks was then passed to Bro. Cooke for his services as Organist during that time, and then it was proposed by Bro. Wright, and seconded by the I.P.M., "that a vote of thanks be tendered to Bro. C. Jolly, for the accurate and excellent reports of their lodge meetings, that have appeared in the 'Freemason' since and including the consecration of the lodge, twelve months ago up to the present date, and that the same be inscribed upon the minutes of the lodge." The votes were carried unanimously, and with much applause. Bro. Cooke replied at once, and Bro. Jolly subsequently, both expressing the pleasure it had afforded them to attend the meeting of the lodge, and see the wonderful progress it had made since it first saw the "light," Bro. Jolly specially advocating the claims of the "Freemason" as the organ of the Craft. The banquet was served in the hall by Bro. Plaisted, and this we must honestly say was a great improvement upon the too frequent system of going from home, as is practised in this district, to partake of it at some road or river side hotel, and was a great and unequivocal success, the menu being both choice and liberal, and was served à la Russe under the skilful direction of Bro. W. Moulder, who was especially engaged for this service. The wines were acknowledged to be of the finest brands, and perfect satisfaction was the result of Bro. Plaisted's efforts, on which we heartily congratulate him. The toasts were the usual loyal and Masonic ones of "The Queen and the Craft," "His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, Grand Master

of England, &c., &c.," Bro. Buckland singing a verse of the National Anthem and Brinley Richards's hymn after either toast. That of "Lord Holmersdale, P.G.M. for Kent," was warmly responded to, and Bro. Coupland received an ovation on his name being coupled with that of Bro. Eastes, and the rest of the Pro. G. Officers, he having just received the purple at the last Provincial Grand Lodge meeting, held on the 12th inst., at Deal. He, in reply, said he felt proud of the position to which he had been promoted among the Pro. G. Officers of Kent, not so much personally, as because it was a honour to the district, and more particularly to the Pattison Lodge; it was a position that he trusted he should always support the dignity of, as well as carry out its great and important duties, by being a medium between them and the Pro. G. Lodge, so that their interests should receive that attention necessary for their perfect support and representation. He then told them of the pleasure he had experienced at Deal at the meeting of Pro. G. Lodge, and said that after they had done duty they went to church, and heard Bro. Hill, their esteemed Pro. G. Chaplain, preach a splendid sermon, in which he was pleased to allude to the service he had lately conducted over the memorial stone erected by this district, to their late Bro. Grayden. He should have been pleased to see some of the members of the United Military Lodge present, in whose welfare he could assure them Pro. G. Lodge took great interest, trusting to see them well represented next year. He concluded by thanking them for their toast. Bro. Pownall then proceeded to propose "The Health of the W.M.," and in so doing asked them to carry back their thoughts to twelve months ago, when the lodge was consecrated under the most happy and favourable auspices, and there they would find that the one who had been almost, he might say, the prime promoter of it, now occupied the proud position of its W.M. that day. He (their W.M.) had done his duty honourably and well as a Warden of the lodge, and he felt sure that as W.M. nothing would ever move him from doing his best for the honour and welfare of the lodge. He felt that there was one hearty and spontaneous desire on their part for his prosperity and happiness, and he called upon them to drink his health and success as W.M. of the United Military Lodge. Bro. Weston, in reply, tendered them his sincere thanks. It was a proud position to fulfil, and he was fully aware of the responsibilities entailed upon it; but he should endeavour, with their assistance, so to promote the welfare and harmony of the lodge that at the end of his year of office he should, like his esteemed predecessor, leave the position knowing that what he had done had been for the honour and credit of the lodge. In reply to a very flattering toast from the chair of "The Visitors," Bro. Butt, W.M., replied for the Nelson Lodge, Bro. Vincent, W.M., for the Pattison Lodge, Bro. Croisdale, P.M., for the Florence Nightingale, and Bro. Bates, P.M., for the Brownrigg Lodge. The toast of "The Past Masters" was replied to by Bro. Pownall, that of "The Officers" by Bro. Spinks, and that of "The Press" by Bro. C. Jolly. Bro. Plaisted received a high eulogy at the hands of the W.M. for his splendid catering at the banquet, as well as for his universal kindness and courtesy to the brethren upon all occasions; and last, though not least, thanks were accorded to the musical brethren, Bros. G. Smith, R.A.B., C. Buckland, R.A.B., H. Harding, R.A.B., and Taylor, R.A.B., for their magnificent rendering of a choice selection of music during the evening, and so closed the last installation meeting of one of the many flourishing lodges in the Woolwich and Plumstead district for the year 1876, in peace and harmony with all men.

GREAT STANMORE.—Abercorn Lodge (No. 1549).—The first installation meeting of this lodge since the consecration was held at the Abercorn Hotel on Tuesday, the 4th inst., and the great success of this meeting, combined with the steady progress of the lodge since its commencement, must have been highly gratifying to the Founders, as also to its present members. The respected W.M., Bro. R. Helsdon, acquitted himself in his usual efficient manner, ably assisted by his officers, the only absentee being the worthy brother Joshua Nunn, J.W., through indisposition, and Bro. Patterson, I.G., unavoidably. The members present were Bros. Vincent, Best, Eversden, H. T. Swatton, Roy, E. G. Swatton, Felton, C. Long, Peach, and Lloyd. The visitors were numerous and distinguished, at the head of whom we beheld for the first time with great satisfaction the Prov. G. Master of the province, Bro. Col. Burdett, also Bro. Elsam, P.M., 889, P.P.G.D.C. Surrey; and J. Gorrod, 889; Bros. Smith, Thompson, J. Long, and Ascott, P.M. Westbourne, 733; Woodstock, P.M. Belgrave, 740; Briggs, P.M. Salisbury, 435; Mellard and Lee, Watford, 404; Dr. Scoffern, and Judd, Mount Moriah, 34; W. G. Wells, Dublin, 25. The lodge business being heavy, the brethren assembled partook of refreshment, and commenced business without delay at 2.10. The minutes of last meeting were confirmed. Bro. T. Peach was passed to the Second Degree. Bro. E. G. Swatton was raised to the Sublime Degree of M.M., with the full traditional history. The ballot proving then in favour of Messrs. Fradelle, Clark, and Meek, in the unavoidable absence of the former, the two latter, with, also, Mr. W. R. Marshall, who was elected last meeting, were duly enlightened, and Bro. P.M. Veal, Hon. Sec., P.P.G.S.D. Surrey, presented Bro. J. W. Garrod, S.W., for the benefit of installation, the W.M. adding this ceremony to his previous heavy labours. The new W.M. then appointed his officers, viz., Bros. Vincent, S.W.; Tidcombe, J.W.; Rogers, Treas.; C. Veal Hon. Sec.; Winter, Org.; Patterson, S.D.; Ebbs, J.D.; Eversden, I.G.; Middleton, Tyler. The first Past Master's jewel, amidst much applause, was then presented to the I.P.M., great praise being given for the beauty of design and execution. Bro. Helsdon also further took office as M.C. for the coming year. Bro. J. Nunn, on his retirement from J.W., which he took to assist in forming the new lodge, was unanimously elected an honorary member, and

the brethren also recommended that the I.P.M. be proposed to the Provincial Grand Master, when a vacancy for provincial honours should occur, for his kind consideration, and we are happy to hear such is likely to be bestowed at the forthcoming festival for Middlesex. The brethren adjourned at 6.30 to the new banquet room, where an elegant repast was served in a similar recherche manner as last year's consecration, and which evidently gave entire satisfaction. The usual Loyal and Masonic toasts were all happily given and heartily responded to, that of "The Prov. G.M." bringing, in reply from himself the most hearty congratulations upon the success of the young lodge, even exceeding his expectations, as he specially observed amongst the members not only quantity, but the required quality to make it thrive as a good working lodge. He strongly approved of the strictness of admission rendered so imperative by the bye-laws, and saw in the future every prospect of success, with credit to his Province of Middlesex. The musical contributions of Bros. Winter, Faulkner, and Garrod were highly appreciated, and the evening concluded with every appearance of prosperity for the coming year. A letter of regret was received from the P.G. Sec., Bro. R. Wentworth Little, who was through illness compelled to be absent. The beauty of the country hereabouts, its lovely floral productions, and the magnificent weather, combined with the journey from London by the Watford coach (of which many brethren availed themselves), and which on that day, thanks to F. G. Hopson, Esq., was supplemented by a second coach, driven by Captain Ramsey, all contributed to make the day one that will long be remembered. The next regular meeting will be on Tuesday, the 1st August, when three new members are announced for initiation.

INSTRUCTION.

LEWIS LODGE (No. 1185).—A lodge of instruction, called the Lewis Lodge of Instruction, under the sanction of the Lewis Lodge, No. 1185, has been formed at Wood Green, and the first meeting was held on Wednesday evening, the 5th inst., at the King's Arms Hotel, when bye-laws were submitted to the meeting and approved, and the following brethren elected officers for the ensuing year, namely:—Bros. Vesper, P.M., Preceptor; Alfred Durrant, W.M. 1185, Treas.; and T. H. Turner, J.W. 1185, Sec. Bro. George Newman kindly presented the lodge with the first books. The lodge will be held at the above hotel every Wednesday evening, at seven o'clock, and it is hoped that the brethren residing in the neighbourhood will lend assistance by their presence.

Royal Arch.

HAMPTON.—Lebanon Chapter (No. 1326).—On Saturday last, at the Lion Hotel, Hampton, the election and installation meeting of this well-established chapter was held. Comp. F. Walters, P.G. 1st A.S., Middlesex, P.Z., S.E., opened the chapter, assisted by other Principals. After election, Comp. W. Smeed, P.G. J. Middlesex, P.Z. (who was elected an honorary member), installed W. Hammond, Z.; H. A. Dubois, H.; the J., E. Hopwood, was absent; S. Wickens, P.Z., Treas.; F. Walters, P.Z., S.E. (re-invested third time); E. Gilbert, S.N.; J. Hammond, P.S.; Rev. P. M. Holden, 1st A.S.; W. Mitchell, and A.S.; J. B. Shackleton, D.C.; H. Potter, P.Z., W.S.; J. Gilbert, Janitor. A ten guinea P.Z.'s jewel was presented to Comp. S. Wickens, I.P.Z., for his services. Comp. Moss, (father of the chapter) had a ten-guinea silver goblet presented him. A ten guinea testimonial was given to Comp. F. Walters, P.Z., S.E., for services rendered as a Founder, and Scribe E. Comp. B. Sharp, P.Z. 84, was elected a member, also some candidates proposed for exaltation, and a companion for joining. The chapter closed and adjourned to Thursday, August 10th. Banquet and dessert followed. Some good songs and recitations were given. The regular toasts were given and received.

Ancient and Primitive Masonry.

MANCHESTER.—Sovereign Sanctuary.—A meeting of the Sovereign Sanctuary of the Ancient and Primitive Rite of Masonry, 33rd and last degree, in and for Great Britain and Ireland, was duly held at Manchester on the 1st inst. The places of the three Principal Officers were filled by illustrious Bros. John Yarker, G.M.G.; Charles Scott, J.P., G.A.G.; Beccy Bowman Labrey, G.K.G. of G.B. Apologies were announced from three brethren who were absent and unable to attend, either from the great distance or prior engagements. The minutes of the last convocation were read and confirmed, as well as the proceedings since—firstly, as to the Order of Miztriam; that a fee of ten shillings should be charged to cover cost of certificate and manual, and a joining fee of 31s. 6d. to members of foreign jurisdictions for the same; secondly, as to the publication of the statutes, constitutions, and history. Satisfactory evidence of the progress of the Rite was adduced under M. Ill. Bro. Alex. B. Mott, M.D., of New York, and V. Ill. Bro. Geo. Canning Longley, of Maitland, Canada, as also in this country. The decoration of the Grand Star of Sirius (conferred every five years) was awarded to Right Ill. Bro. S. P. Leather, of Burnley, Treasurer General, for the zeal and ability he had shown in the propagation of the Rite, the next year's award of the Aldeide to be made by the Grand Chancery, as also to any deserving cases for the bronze order of merit. The past dignitary officers were confirmed in the rank they now hold, but Ill. Bro. B. B. Labrey was appointed Deputy to the Grand Chancellor General. It was directed that two parts—Section v. (Areopagus) and Section vii. (Council) of the Ritual—should be placed in the printer's hands, as the funds of the Sovereign Sanctuary would allow. A ritual of the 30° was submitted, and highly eulogised as the most

beautiful ceremony in any known system of Masonry. The proceedings were closed with enthusiastic wishes for the progress of the Rite.

Scotland.

GLASGOW.—Lodge St. Mungo (No. 27).—The regular monthly meeting of this lodge was held in St. Mark's Hall on Thursday, the 20th inst., the W.M., Bro. D. Butler, presiding, supported, in the unavoidable absence of his Wardens, by Bros. A. Bain, P.M. 103, P.G.B.B., acting S.W.; W. Ferguson, P.M. 543 ("Freemason"), acting J.W. The meeting was well attended, and among those present were Bros. McEwan, jun., Dory, S.S.; Taylor, Archt.; Albin, Dir. of Music; Booth, and Sharpe. Visitors: Bros. J. Louttit, W.M. Athole, No. 413; Thomson, 413; T. Brownlie, 413; W. Brownlie, 413; W. Christie, Lodge Acacia, No. 61, Hamilton, Canada; J. Beaton, 103; Coutts, 354; Alexander, 275; W. Perritt, 441; J. A. Campbell, 581; and others. Two gentlemen were initiated by Bro. Ferguson, P.M. 543. Their names are Messrs. A. Mason Adam and R. Maitland. The lodge was called to refreshment, when Bro. Butler, W.M., proposed the following toasts, viz., "The Queen and Craft," "The Three Grand Lodges," "The Provincial Grand Lodge of Glasgow"—Bro. Bain, P.G.B.B., ably replied on behalf of "The P.G.L.," "The Newly-laid Stones"—Bro. Maitland replied. "The Visiting Brethren" was proposed in Bro. Bain's usual able style, and replied to by Bro. Louttit, W.M. 413. The W.M. proposed "The Health of Bro. McDonald," a veteran member of the lodge, which was heartily responded to. Bro. McDonald replied, and thanked the W.M. and the members of the lodge for their kindly notice, and said he was glad to be present in St. Mungo Lodge once more, and concluded, with the sanction of the W.M., in proposing "The Health of Bro. Ferguson, P.M. 543," and complimented him on the manner he performed the First Degree. During the evening Bro. Coutts gave some selections of music on the harmonium, which were highly applauded, and Bros. McDonald, Sharpe, Perritt, and Adam ably contributed to the evening's enjoyment by singing some excellent songs. Bro. Ferguson, P.M. 543, was unanimously elected an honorary member of St. Mungo Lodge, No. 27. Bro. Ferguson returned thanks for the honour conferred.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Clyde (No. 408).—An emergency meeting of this lodge was held in St. Mark's Hall, on Friday, the 21st inst., at 7 p.m. Bro. W. Harper, W.M., being absent on account of important business, the chair was occupied by Bro. John McInnes, S.M., supported by the other office-bearers. Visitors: Bros. G. McDonald, W.M. Thistle and Rose, 73; J. Louttit, W.M. Athole, 413; J. M. Oliver, S.W. Commercial, 360; and W. Ferguson, P.M. St. John's, 543. The lodge having been opened in due form, Messrs. Robert Irvine and Thomas Chivas were initiated into the E.A. Degree by Bro. McDonald, W.M. 73. Mr. J. Baillie was also initiated by Bro. Oliver, S.W. 360. Four brethren were then passed by Bro. Louttit, W.M. 413; and afterwards three brethren were raised by Bros. Oliver and Louttit.

FREEMASONRY IN MOURNING.

On the evening of Thursday, the 29th of June, a solemn and impressive ceremonial took place in the Lodge St. John, Falkirk, No. 16. The beautiful little Gothic hall was filled to the full, and as the brethren appeared in deep mourning costume, with their brightest badges and grandest jewellery craped for the occasion, there was an air of unusual solemnity took possession of the assembled brotherhood. They had met to do honour to the memory of Bro. Alex. Shields, Past Master of the Lodge; and if aught can be inferred from the numbers who were present, including representative deputations from a distance, or from the high choral and responsive service, or from the manifold repetition of the Grand Honours, not to speak of the Grand Oration pronounced in honour of the departed, he must have been a man and a brother of surpassing excellence, the range of whose influence, while it irradiated the Masonic circle that had been doing honour to his memory, must have stretched out far beyond it, and encircled a wider humanity by far than even Masonry, with its far-reaching sympathies, can embrace.

Bro. Beeby, R.W.M., conducted the proceedings with masterly effect. Bro. Falconer, by the voice of the lodge, was called upon, as Chaplain, to pronounce the oration in memory of the departed; and Bro. Maxwell Müller, Grand Director of Music for the Grand Lodge of Scotland, presided at the harmonium, and by the sweetness, the grace, and the grandeur of his performances, lent a grave and solemn enthusiasm to the brethren all. After the lodge was opened amid solemn, and indeed awful, silence, he made "The Dead March in Saul" thrill through the brethren; and after the raising of the lodge and the sublime prayer of the Chaplain, he threw his soul into a "Sacred Voluntary," which itself seemed like an oration—which in its cadences fell and rose, between the gloom of the grave and the glory of the goal—till it was lost in the mysterious splendours of the unseen. In the whole ceremonial, however, nothing was more imposing than the spirit of prayerfulness and of praise which presided over the mystic scene. You could have almost heard the proverbial pin fall throughout the whole proceedings; but strangest of all, the many voices of the brethren, whether in psalmody or in recitative response, left upon the mind the impression of awful silence and solitariness—the solitariness and the silence of the grave. And yet neither was the psalmody nor the responsive service more grave

than befitted the occasion. Indeed, the ceremonial could hardly be haloed with sweeter hopefulness. For though in one part of the service of song there was sung—

"Frail man, how like the meteor's blaze—

How evanescent are thy days!"

Yet in another part of the same sacred service the song was changed from the grave to the glorious, and the brethren sang

"Waft him, angels, through the skies,
Far above yon azure plain."

So may we report of the service with responses. At the opening of the lodge it is—"Naked we came into the world," &c.; but at its close it is transformed into the nobler voice—"Glory to God on High, on earth peace and good will toward men."

In the midst of this august ceremonial Bro. Falconer, who appeared robed, clothed, and jewelled for the occasion, was called upon by Bro. Beeby, R.W.M., to pronounce a death oration over the departed brother and Master, when he, as Chaplain, rose and spoke somewhat as follows:—"Right Worshipful Master, Senior and Junior Wardens, and brethren all,—It has ere now fallen to my lot, as one of Her Majesty's Chaplains for her forces in Scotland, to pronounce a funeral oration over a departed hero. A case so sad, so solemnizing, I keep within view at this most impressive moment. It was that of a brother of the mystic tie. He had gone to the Crimea to fight the battles of his country, but, wounded and enfeebled, he was sent home to die. Well, I recollect one dark day, when seated by his death-bed in the hospital, I asked him how his blood could ever surge into the tumultuous swellings of fierce and bloody war? when the dying soldier, swinging himself round upon his arm, replied—"By God, sir, when your brother's brains bespatter your breast you will understand how quenchless is the thirst for blood." Well do I recollect that when pronouncing his funeral oration there was not a dry eye as I quoted his dying words:—"It is not in an hospital the soldier would like to die; no, sir, but it is upon the battlefield, with his back upon the cold ground and his face to the bright blue sky." Right Worshipful Master, it is not a brother's brains that bespatter our breasts to-night; no, but it is the radiant glow of a brother's life that gilds our bosoms with more than the effulgence of a warrior's breastplate to defend us from the fierce and fiery darts of the Evil One, alone opposed to our Order, as the scions of the cedar, the sons of the temple, and the servants of the temple's god. Like Him whom we delight to honour, our voice is not for war. We choose the trowel, not the sword; the compass, not the arrow; while we pass on to glory, not through the battlements that bristle with the mortal weapons of the foe above the embrasures, scarce less wide than the cannon's mouth with its diagon's breath; but we march on to our triumphant aims through the pillared monuments of the Jachin of Beauty and the Braz of Strength, over-arched by the span of a presiding Providence, until we reach, after we have trodden the tessellated pavement of truth, that inner shrine where the awful Shekinah enfolds, as with the wings of the dove, the spirit of the departed brother. Right Worshipful Master,—Kings and potentates have delighted to do honour to our most ancient and Royal Order. And proud am I to call to remembrance at this hour the honour done to our august and loyal brotherhood, when the heir apparent to the proudest throne on earth was preparing for his brave journey to Britannia's realms in the rising sun, His Royal Highness did not forget to deposit in his princely wardrobe the clothing of a Master of our Order, from the star that adorns the breast to the gauntlet that shields the hand, and the lambskin that preserves, unsullied, the loins. Nor should I even forget at this moment the auspicious occasion in my field of labour in which this lodge took so conspicuous a part; and most pleasing is it to record that the nobleman who at that august ceremonial presided as representative of the Grand Lodge in Scotland—I mean Bro. Lord Balfour, of Burleigh—extended his noble hand, sinewed by the strength and quickened by the blood of a Royal ancestry, to grip the grim and begrimed hand of the miner, whom, as a Mason, he hailed as a brother. Yes; it is this humanity that makes Masonry truly great. Recognising all that promotes the honour, the harmony, and the faith of our ancient and Royal Order, she delights to promulgate her creed, that there is nothing human that is not divine. Our departed brother, with a rich and rare combination of all the gems that go to form the jewellery of our guild, so viewed humanity; and his sacred memory commands our homage in that he recognised the divinity that stirs within the breast of the meekest, the most fallen of the sons of men. With a spirit steeped in the empyrean of our Order, he traced and quarried out, and chiselled, and deposited in our mystic temple material, raw indeed and incapable, to less discerning eye. He was a Mason; out and out a Mason; every inch of him, from the crown of the head to the sole of the foot. Proud of his ritual, which I recollect he once characterised as more sublime and comprehensive than that of any Church on earth; proud of its symbolism, which he regarded as more affluent in its mystic meaning than aught that has passed under review of man since the inaugural day when King Solomon, our Royal and inspired founder, erected on Mount Moriah the temple of our divinity, he imported into the conduct of this lodge a gravity and a dignity, a repose and a devotion, which so becomes an Order whose past is almost hid behind the veil of prehistoric time, but whose present is ever flushed with the glow of perennial vigour. Keenly did his clear eye and clearer intelligence discern the mission Masonry is destined to fulfill. Pass in thought over the realms of Christendom; command nation after nation to marshal themselves beneath your piercing eye, and your sad deliverance must be, that the seamless garment of the Prince of Peace is torn into fragments, and the veil of His temple rent in twain from top to bottom. Is it so with

Masonry? No; and a thousand times no. It is not. All the wide world over it is One—One only—and an undivided and indivisible One. And it is One and indivisible because it possesses a loyalty, a subordination, and a fraternity elsewhere forgotten or ignored. Our departed brother made it his supreme duty to convey from his guild to the world this comprehensive, this all-embracing spirit; and he was simply a good Mason because he had a heart broad enough to embrace, like the Great Master Builder, all castes and classes, ranks and denominations amongst mankind. Right Worshipful Master, it is sometimes our privilege, as it is our undoubted province, to lay the foundation stone of architectural structures, destined to beautify the scenery or enrich the civilisation of our land. Oh! how may I call the present such a hallowed occasion? To-night we lay a foundation stone that shall support for ever this lodge. Aye! Bro. Alexander Shields lies now before you as a foundation stone. Descending, in solemn music, he has been deposited in his place of honour and repose. The jewellery of the Order has been applied; nothing has been found wanting; and it only remains that over that foundation stone we shall erect a temple to his everlasting honour. "So mote it be." You who have seen, as all of you have seen, a brother elevated to the Sublime and lofty Degree of a Master Mason, must have discerned in the act a recognition of the awe-inspiring doctrine of a resurrection to come; and it is your creed that the brother who has been true has passed from this vestibule to the inner shrine, upborne on seraphic wings; that he reposes in everlasting peace, enshrouded by the glory that illumines the Holy of Holies; that he has whispered into the Eternal Ear the awful word of a Master Mason, and received in return the sound of that name which no true Mason dares to breathe on earth. We part with our departed brother, then, in the blessed hope of a resurrection to come. So farewell, beloved brother, farewell! Farewell, Right Worshipful Master, farewell! No more shall thy clear eye bewail this august assembly. No more shall thy clearer intelligence direct its councils. No more shall, clearest of all, thy life, which embodied the strength of our faith, the glow of our love, and the halo of our hope, be apparent to the eye. My brother beloved, farewell! Thou shalt still live in our hearts, whilst the hand of the Master Mason shall build thee a monument to perpetuate thy memory from age to age. We shall meet again in the lodge which on the great day of account shall be opened, never, never more to be closed. Till then, beloved brother, and Right Worshipful Master, farewell!

After this death eulogium there was that sort of emotion one sometimes, though not often, perceives. At the close of an eloquent and impressive discourse; but one might have as well expected demonstrations of feeling in the house of God as looked for plaudits on so solemnising an occasion.

After exhausting the funeral programme, the R.W.M. addressed the brethren, briefly, though cordially and most fraternally, acknowledging the kindness of the deputations present; the offices of the Chaplain and the Grand Director of Music; and at the same time thanking the lodge for the solemn and most becoming tone which they had imparted to their grateful meeting.

After prayer from the Chaplain, the lodge was duly closed, every member satisfied that Masonry was loftier, sublimer, and holier than he had ever dreamt of or conceived.

Mulum in Parbo; or Masonic Notes and Queries.

AN ANCIENT JEWEL.

The following is the description of an ancient jewel kindly forwarded to us for inspection by Bro. R. H. Armit:—

On one side there are three arches, a man setting the keystone of the centre one, with a crowbar on the centre one. Within the centre arch are a volume of the sacred book open, with square and compasses on it, and the five pointed star; in front are two pedestals, with the square and compasses on one and the square on the other; to the right of the arches are the sun and plumb line, and to the left the moon and level; to the right of the pedestals are grouped a maul, square, hammer, and chisel, and on the left a pair of compasses, chisel, and block of stone with the letter G on it. The groundwork of the whole is a tessellated pavement. Motto round the bottom: "Sit Lux et lux fuit." On the other side is a temple; two men are on the roof, another is going up a ladder placed against the wall, and the fourth is guiding a stone with a rope which is being raised to the roof; on a raised piece of ground to the right is a carpenter's bench, a man with an apron on standing in front of it holding a square in his hand, whilst another is pointing to the roof of the temple with a stick; under them are grouped a maul, a trowel, a pickaxe, and a crowbar. Motto round bottom: "Amor honor justitia."

The jewel was presented to my father, the late John Lees Armit, of Dublin, while in Naples in 1832, by Prince Syracuse, the King of Naples' brother—at least, that is the history received from my mother. It was considered ancient.—R.H.A.

SWITZERLAND.

We learn from the "Monde Maçonnique" that the Grand Lodge Alpina and the Supreme Council of the 33° for Switzerland have made a concordat, by which all the symbolical lodges pass under the jurisdiction of the former and all the High Grade bodies under the jurisdiction of the latter.

Obituary.

BRO. R. J. STANSFELD.

On the 23rd of April passed away in the most sudden manner, from disease of the heart, a true and worthy brother and a gallant soldier, Bro. Robert Johnston Stansfeld, of Firby Hall, near York, late captain 38th and 12th Regiments, a magistrate for the West Riding of the county of York, and a subscribing member of the Lodge of Probity, No. 61, Halifax. The deceased was made, passed, and raised in the Dalhousie Lodge, Mussoorie, Bengal, No. 639, and was a consistent subscribing member of Probity, No. 61, to his death. He was much beloved and respected, and died to the great regret of all who knew him, by the members of his lodge, and by the brothers in arms with whom he had served in the army. His remains were carried to their last earthly resting place by old servants of the family, and Sir George Larpent, Bart., Col. Lowry, C.B., and Bro. Capt. Owen and Capt. Bowen attended in full uniform as pall-bearers. The gallant deceased had seen most distinguished services in the Crimea, and in India during the mutiny, and was at Lucknow. His services are thus recorded in Hart's "Army List": "Capt. Stansfeld served with the 38th Regt. in the Crimean campaign from 1st June, 1855, including the siege and fall of Sebastopol, and attack and occupation of the cemetery on 18th June (medal with clasp, and Turkish medal). Also in the Indian Mutiny campaign from Nov., 1857, including the capture of Meerangunge, siege and capture of Lucknow, and affairs of Barree and Nugger (medal with clasp)." Votes of condolence to his bereaved widow were sent by his lodge and by the bench of magistrates with which he was connected. The deceased was a member of one of the oldest families in the kingdom—the Stansfelds came over with the Conqueror, Wyons Maryons being the first of the family. It has several distinguished members, of whom one is the Rt. Hon. James Stansfeld, M.P., late one of the Lords of the Treasury. Capt. Stansfeld was elder son of Col. Stansfeld, of Field House, near Halifax, and married Agnes, younger daughter of Joseph Harrison, Esq., of Galligraives Hall, and Sainlesbury, Lancashire, D.L. and J.P. for that county.

[This would have appeared much earlier but for the illness of the writer.—Ed.]

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.

The General Committee of this Institution was held on Thursday at Freemasons' Hall. Bro. Thomas W. White presided. There were also present Bros. George Kenning, F. G. Baker, Wm. Stephens, Thomas Massa, Wm. F. C. Moutrie, H. Massey ("Freemason"), John Boyd, Thos. Kingston, F. Binckes, Major Finney, and R. W. Little (Secretary).

Three candidates were placed on the list for election. One case was deferred for reading.

Bro. Little, the Secretary, read a letter from Bro. H. Muggeridge in which he stated his willingness to remain collector to the Institution till 31 Dec. next.

Bro. Little said it would be very inconvenient if Bro. Muggeridge's resignation occurred in October, and another collector should be appointed for the remainder of the year, and he wished Bro. Muggeridge to remain in office till the latter date.

The committee thereupon agreed that Bro. Muggeridge should continue in office till 31st Dec.

The appointment of a committee to consider the office of Collector was deferred till next meeting of the General Committee.

An additional vacancy in the Institution was declared, and authority was given to the chairman to sign certain cheques.

Bro. F. Binckes, before the committee broke up, said that although it was not the usual practice of this committee he thought it might go out of its way to record its feelings of regret at the loss of Bro. Richard Spencer by death, which occurred on the 21st inst. It was done in the case of Bro. Udall, that being considered an exceptional case. Bro. Spencer's he also thought an exceptional case. He had been so closely connected not only with all the institutions, whose meetings he regularly attended, but also with the working of Masonry, that it really took him out of the ordinary category of cases. He was, moreover, 76 years of age, and he had worked up to the very latest period of his life. He thought a record of the regret of the brethren at the announcement of the sad event which had happened would not be inconsistent with the feelings of the brethren. He would therefore move "That this committee having heard of the death of Bro. Richard Spencer, one of its members, desires to record its sense of extreme regret at the announcement, and request the Secretary to write to the widow of Bro. Spencer expressing their condolence with her, and informing her of the resolution of the committee."

Bro. George Kenning concurred most heartily in the motion, and begged to second it.

The committee then adjourned.

Bro. the Rt. Hon. Lord Leigh, Prov. Grand Master for Warwickshire and Lord Lieutenant of the county, distributed the prizes at Leamington College on Wednesday, when there was a large and fashionable audience.

THE SHRIEVALTY.—Bro. Alderman and Sheriff elect Hadley has appointed the Rev. Dr. Morley Punshon to be his chaplain during his year of office. As already stated, Mr. F. W. Lewis Farrar will be his under sheriff.

This evening "Our Boys" will have reached its 50th consecutive representation at Bros. James and Thorne's pretty theatre, the Vaudeville.

THE LONDON MASONIC CLUB.

On Wednesday evening this new club for Freemasons, which is situated at 101, Queen Victoria-street, City, was opened by an "inaugural banquet." The premises had been opened for the use of members, and for all the purposes of a club, a week before, and were even then in thorough working order. The club, as will have been seen from our advertising columns, has been established for the purpose of bringing together the brethren of the metropolis, and of the provinces, and as a means of communication between them when the brethren of the provinces come to London on business. More particularly has it been established to give the latter a home, wherein they may be especially welcome, and may have every comfort at such a time. All the members who have been at present admitted have been admitted without having to pay an entrance fee, and these members now amount to about 1000 in number. It is not the intention of the committee of management, at all events for some time, to place an entrance fee upon joining members if it can possibly be avoided, hence they rely upon the support of the Masonic brethren in general to assist them in carrying on the club on this principle, and they rely with confidence on the cordial co-operation of the brethren in their endeavours so to act. It has not been without some slight pressure in the opposite direction that they have persevered in the course so laid down, but as they desire that all members of the Craft should participate in the advantages of a central club they have persisted in their design of acting on what they consider strictly Masonic principles. The building consists of a spacious hall and a large coffee-room on the ground floor for members and their friends. In the basement there is an excellent billiard room, fitted up with two of Burroughes and Watts' tables. To this room are attached lavatories and other conveniences. The cellarage department is all arranged in perfect order. On the first floor are a large reading room and a banqueting room. On the second floor are Masonic rooms to be devoted entirely to Masonry, and with these are connected clothing rooms and lavatories entirely shut off from the other portion of the building. On the third floor are other large dining and clothing rooms. The kitchen department is at the top of the house, and has been admirably arranged under the supervision and direction of that well-known caterer Bro. George States, who has been for so many years engaged as an hotel manager. The engineering and hot-water apparatus have been entrusted to Messrs. Thorne's, of Upper Thames-street, and the execution of the work has left nothing to be desired. The club buildings have been erected from the designs and under the superintendence of Messrs. Driver and Haywood, architects to the club. Since the club has been established several lodges have removed to it, and among others is the Puritan, a German lodge of some 70 members, who enjoy at their new premises facilities not hitherto obtained by continental Masons in London. The whole of the members of this lodge have joined the club, where they will have the advantage of entertaining their foreign brethren when they sojourn in London.

Lord Skelmersdale, Deputy Grand Master, and Provincial Grand Master of West Lancashire, presided at the inaugural banquet, and amongst the other brethren who were present were Bros. J. B. Monckton, Captain Philips, Hyde Pullen, Boor, Hyde Clarke, Langton, Klenck, F. Binckes, Dr. Stirling, R. W. Little, Percival, James Teny, Driver, Burton, Cooke, W. A. Colls, Thomas, E. R. Steel, Lane, F. Flint, J. E. Middleton, B. Fountain, Thomas Bishop, C. H. Mevill, Aylmer, Rev. W. Bloxome, Charrington, Colonel Drage, Leipert, J. P. White, Levin, Samuel White, H. D. Stead, A. K. Stead, James Matthews, J. Waldron, Ger. Perren, T. G. Smith, Fountain Meen, Saxon Hooper, Hatton Wells, Chr. Hawkesley, Henry Upstone, Loewenstark, E. Collins, Roberts, E. Fox, Langton Jones, J. Langton Jones, jun., M. Jacobs, Connot, G. Payne, W. H. Trego, T. F. Smith, W. Watson, Hollington, Stapleton, Morell, C. B. Cooke, Walter Spencer, and H. Massey ("Freemason").

The banquet, which was admirably put on the table by Bro. George States, the manager, contained every delicacy of the season. It was all prepared in the house, and was a proof of the perfection of the club appliances. When the banquet was concluded grace was sung by Bros. George Porren, George Fox, E. Collins, H. Upstone, W. Wells, J. Matthews, and Fountain Meen, and the toasts, which were very few in number, were then proposed.

Lord Skelmersdale, in proposing "The Queen," said that although Her Majesty was not a Freemason in fact, she was one at heart, because she carried out to the fullest extent the Masonic principle of charity. He thought that if Englishmen looked back at the whole period during which Her Majesty had been on the throne they could not but be proud that they had such a Sovereign, and they must feel that the longer she reigned over us the happier we should be as a nation and people.

In proposing "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M.," his lordship said that so much had been observed of late about the success of H.R.H.'s visit to the East, and his happy return, that it was unnecessary to add any remarks to those already made. Although he had not been out in Masonry much this year Masons hoped to see him a great deal among them the next season taking part in Masonic proceedings.

The toast of "The Pro. Grand Master" &c., followed, Lord Skelmersdale drawing to the attention of the brethren the fact that Lord Carnarvon worked very hard in Masonry, of which circumstance he (Lord Skelmersdale) became fully aware during the absence of the Prince of Wales, when the strain upon the Pro Grand Master was very great.

Bro. Hyde Pullen responded.

Bro. Boor proposed "The Health of Lord Skelmersdale," to which, when it had been most heartily received,

Lord Skelmersdale replied. His Masonic duties were sometimes very heavy, and consequently rather difficult to perform, and if he had had two bodies there would have been plenty of work for both while the Prince of Wales was away in India. He then proposed "Success to the London Masonic Club." At the time he became a member of this club he thought the establishment of such a place was a capital idea, though he had some doubts as to its being ever carried out. He was, however, happy to find that it had been, and he thought that great thanks were due to the managers, directors, and committee for the admirable way in which they had done their work. He had the honour and pleasure of going over the club from cellar to garret that afternoon, and having had some experience of building, he congratulated the architect most cordially on the way in which he had carried out his plans. It had been his (Lord Skelmersdale's) wish and desire for many years that Masonry should not be carried on at taverns, and in his own Province of Lancashire he had tried to inculcate that idea, and by degrees he hoped it would be fully carried out. Lodges should be held at private rooms and halls, and not in taverns. Nothing would more conduce to this desirable end than the establishment of clubs like the London Masonic Club. There was ample accommodation for 20 or 30 lodges without interfering with each other. There was one suggestion which had been carried out with great success in his own province in the Masonic Hall of Liverpool—every lodge that met there had its own private cellar; and this, though apparently a small thing, had been the means of bringing to the hall a number of lodges. The reason was that Masons preferred to have their own good wine to that which they ran the risk of having at taverns. Still, Masonry did not consist of eating and drinking, though he fancied there was too much of this carried on in Masonry; and if it was cut down somewhat there would be more money to give to the charities of the Order. After some more remarks of this tendency his lordship concluded by formally proposing the toast, and called upon Bro. A. K. Stead to reply.

Bro. Stead having replied, and thanked his lordship for inaugurating the business of the club by his presence that evening, said that the great support which the club had already received led the committee to indulge in the firm conviction that the whole affair would be most successful.

Bro. Langton announced that he had letters of regret for absence from the Earl of Limerick, Sir F. Perkins, Sir F. Truscott, Bro. Hervey, Bro. S. D. Waddy, Q.C., the late Lord Mayor Stone, ex-Sheriff Hutton, Alderman Notrage, Alderman Hadley, and Darla Sewell.

Lord Skelmersdale then proposed "The City of London," the grandest corporation in the world.

Bro. J. B. Monckton responded, and drew attention to the circumstance that a very large proportion of members of the corporation of the City of London were Freemasons. The late Lord Mayor was one; the next Lord Mayor that in all probability would be chosen (Sir Thos. White) was one; and, looking at the list of expectant Lord Mayors, there was every chance of the chief magistrate of the City of London for some years being a member of the fraternity.

Some other toasts were afterwards proposed, and the company separated at an early hour, having witnessed a most successful inauguration of the new club.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

SCIENCE AND ART EXAMINATIONS—MAY, 1876.

1. Theoretical Mechanics: R. Bryant, 2nd class; H. G. Shaw, 2nd class.
2. Inorganic Chemistry: R. Bryant, 1st class; G. Shaw, 2nd class.
3. Mathematics: R. Bryant, passed 4th stage; R. Bryant, 1st class, 2nd stage; W. Beaumont, 1st class, 1st stage; G. Shaw, 1st class, 1st stage; C. D. Green, 1st class, 1st stage; W. R. Parker, 2nd class, 1st stage; A. J. Walkington, 2nd class, 1st stage; W. H. Packwood, 2nd class, 1st stage; F. E. Ladd, 2nd class, 1st stage; F. Loud, 2nd class, 1st stage; C. Lane, passed 1st stage; W. Sparkes, passed 1st stage; E. E. Oates, passed 1st stage.
4. Physical Geography: W. R. Parker, passed advanced stage. H. G. Shaw, 1st class, 1st stage. W. Beaumont; W. H. White; F. C. Godsmark; C. D. Green; G. E. Croydon; W. Sparkes; and F. Loud, 2nd class, 1st stage. C. Lane; R. F. Harding; A. J. Walkington; E. Pawley; W. A. Haskins; W. H. Packwood; E. E. Oates; and F. E. Ladd, passed 1st stage.

OUR BRETHREN, THE ROYAL HAND-BELL RINGERS, Poland Street, (Bro. Duncan S. Miller, Conductor), had the honour of attending the garden party at Chiswick, given on Tuesday by their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales. Their Majesties The King and Queen of the Hellenes, T.R.H. The Prince and Princess Christian, H.R.H. The Princess Louise, and The Marquis of Lorne, H.R.H. The Duke of Cambridge, T.R.H. The Duke and Duchess of Teck, His Excellency Sir Salar Jung, His Grace The Archbishop of Canterbury, The Right Hon. Benjamin Disraeli, and many other distinguished personages were present. The manipulation of the bells evoked much interest. This is the sixth occasion on which this band of Campanologists have been honoured by Royal patronage and command.

Masonic and General Tidings.

The warrant is granted for the West Smithfield Lodge, No. 1623, Bro. Joseph Smith, P.G.P., P.M. 177, &c., W.M. designate; T. W. Adams, 765, S.W. designate; G. S. Elliott, 743, J.W. designate; F. Walters, P.P.G.P. Middlesex, P.M. 73, Secretary pro tem. The lodge will be held at the New Market Hotel, West Smithfield, City.

Bro. Colonel Peters, P.G.S.D., P.M., will be P.G.S.W.; H. G. Buss, P.M., P.G.T., P.G.J.W.; H. A. Dubois, P.M., P.P.A.D.C., P.G.S.D.; and F. Walters, P.P.G.P. Middlesex, P.M., P.G.J.D. of Middlesex, at the ensuing Provincial Grand Lodge of Middlesex. The selection of such well known and popular brethren as those four named will be sure to give great satisfaction in the province.

There are a number of Masonic lodges now at work in Valparaiso, Chili—two of them working under the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, one under the Grand Lodge of England, and one under that of Scotland. All meet in the same building, and the most fraternal relations exist between them.

The Grand Lodge of Mississippi is about to found an asylum for the widows and orphans of Freemasons, as well as an industrial school.

The last number of the "Monde Maçonique" contains several interesting papers, especially from a French point of view. We in England must be content with the simple and more humdrum work of charity and beneficence. Social and political questions are beyond our cognizance and scope.

At the last Annual Commemoration of the District Grand Lodge of New South Wales, the Right Worshipful the District Grand Master was pleased to appoint and invest as Deputy District Grand Master of New South Wales, Very Worshipful Bro. Ernest O. Smith, Past Senior Grand Deacon of England.

The Provincial Grand Lodge of Middlesex will be held this (Saturday), afternoon at the Greyhound, Hampton Court, at half-past two. A full report will appear in our next.

At the last meeting of the Liverpool Town Council, Bro. Dr. J. S. Taylor, P.M. 823, was appointed Assistant Medical Officer for the borough, at a salary of £800. At the same meeting Bro. Councillor E. Samuelson was unanimously elected an Alderman in the room of Bro. Taylor, who resigned to accept the above named office.

It is stated that the Duke of Marlborough is to succeed His Grace the Duke of Abercorn, (M.W.G.M.), as Lord Lieutenant of Ireland.

There was a large gathering of people on Tuesday last in Highclere Park, the beautiful seat of the Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon, M.W. Pro G.M., on the occasion of a united festival of the local branches of the National Deposit Friendly Society, of which Lord Carnarvon is president.

Brazil contains two rival Grand Lodges, both of which declare the other to be clandestine.

The first Master Mason's Lodge in America, is said to be "The Hoop, Water-street," Philadelphia, chartered in 1730 by Provincial Grand Master Bro. Daniel Coxe, and No. 79 on the English Grand Lodge Register.

EXTRAORDINARY ROBBERY.—On Sunday, 4th ult., during the absence of Bro. Robert Ramsay and his family from his home (Orillia, Canada), the premises were entered by some person or persons unknown, and a number of Masonic works and valuable Masonic letters and manuscripts carried off. Bro. Ramsay has offered a liberal reward, but no clue has been found to the perpetrators of this extraordinary theft. What renders the circumstances more peculiar is that works of an ordinary character were not molested, fortunately, however, the robbers did not enter an adjoining room in which there were four hundred volumes of Grand Lodge Proceedings and other books relating to the Mystic Art.

There are ninety-six English and twenty Scotch lodges now at work in British India.

The Grand Jurisdiction of Virginia contains 9301 Master Masons, and has in its treasury 4605 dols.

The first Masonic Magazine was published in June, 1793, and was known as "The Freemasons' Magazine, or General and Complete Library."

We regret to announce the death of Bro. Richard Spencer, the well-known Masonic publisher, the intelligence of which melancholy event reached us at the moment of going to press.

Bro. James Lick, the Californian millionaire, it is announced, is about to erect a Masonic monument, at a cost of 20,000 dols., in Lebanon County, Pa., in memory of certain of his Masonic ancestors.

There are 1804 Royal Arch Masons in the State of Vermont, and the annual convocation of the Grand Chapter will be held at Burlington, September 29th.

By a singular coincidence the anti-Masons have secured space at the Centennial Exhibition, and placed an array of their publications directly opposite to the display of the Masonic Publishing Company of New York. There is Masonry and its foe face to face.

DISTRICT GRAND LODGE, North Island of New Zealand.—The clothing and jewels for the above new District Grand Lodge are now on view at the Masonic Show Rooms, Little Britain.

HOSPITAL SATURDAY.—This year's Hospital Saturday collection has been fixed for the 2nd of September.

THE LONDON TAVERN.—This well-known building is in course of demolition, prior to the erection of a bank upon the site.

PALESTINE.—Colonel Gawler, Tower of London, has received a letter, dated June 27, 1876, from the heads of the Jewish community in the district of Haifa, in the Holy Land, stating that they are sending a deputy to England "to stir up the princes and nobles of the land, that they may hasten to help us in the establishment of a system for the cultivation of the soil," as was projected some two years ago, and asking his good offices. Colonel Gawler invites suggestions.

Private letters from Philadelphia state that the intense heat has paralysed business and greatly interfered with the Centennial Exhibition. Seventeen deaths from sunstroke were recorded in one day.

STRAND THEATRE.—Bro. Edward Terry announces his farewell benefit and last appearance at this theatre this (Saturday) morning, when an attractive performance will be given.

GRAND CENTENNIAL REUNION OF KNIGHTS TEMPLARS IN PHILADELPHIA.

We take this from the "New York Herald": The reunion of Knights Templar, under the auspices of the R. E. Grand Commandery of Pennsylvania, in commemoration of the hundredth anniversary of American independence, of which this city has been the scene for two days past, culminated in the most imposing demonstration ever made by the Order in this country.

Last year it was determined by the Grand Commandery of Pennsylvania, in view of the important position Philadelphia was about to assume as the scene of the Centennial Exhibition, to celebrate the annual reunion with the most elaborate ceremonies. It was resolved to have the most imposing turn-out of the Order ever before had here, and to invite not only the commanderies of the country, but those of foreign nations as well. The idea was no sooner broached than the Grand Commandery, assisted by the subordinate commanderies of the State, began the work of arranging for the display. The Philadelphia commanderies went into the work with especial enthusiasm. The street display has fully proved the success of their endeavour, although the number of visiting Knights present, large as it was, would have been still larger had not the selfishness and greed of the railroad companies in refusing to make the anticipated and promised reductions to Centennial visitors kept away many of those from far distant sections.

For the past three days the city has been flooded with Sir Knights from other parts, and thousands of people who have accompanied the subordinate commanderies to witness the witness the ceremonies incident to the reunion. Philadelphia, with her centennial record, of which she is very proud, with her Centennial Exhibition, and with her centennial flag waving from every public institution and private residence, is eminently fitted for these Masonic events, and extending, as she does in her accustomed good grace, the hospitalities of the city to the visiting Templars, the festivities of the day will not soon be forgotten.

Since last evening the street of Philadelphia have been crowded as they never were before with moving throngs of knights in military uniform, ladies and gentlemen in civilian attire, and all the motley personage of a city crowd. Bands of music by the dozen, accompanying the visiting commanderies, paraded the street, making the air joyful with stirring strains, occasionally pausing to compliment by a serene and head-quarters of their Order or some notable knight. Brilliant with flags and decorations, bright with calcium lights, vocal with martial music, the streets of this staid city scarcely ever presented such a sight as they have witnessed last night and to-day, for the spectacle of to-day, without the calcium lights and illuminations, was a still more impressive military pageant.

As early as eight o'clock the various commanderies began to assemble and assume the places assigned them, preparatory to joining in the line. The Grand Commander of Pennsylvania, S. E. Sir Charles H. Kingston, with his mounted escort from Philadelphia Commandery, No. 2, of thirty-two men; the Grand and Past Officers of the Grand Commandery of Pennsylvania, accredited representatives of commanderies, preceptories, &c.; Grand Officers of Grand Commanderies not otherwise represented, and members of the Grand Commandery of Pennsylvania assembled on Broad-street, below Chestnut, where a force of policemen kept the streets clear of the crowds, thus preventing accidents and interference. The Grand Commanderies of Massachusetts and Rhode Island, with their escort, Sutton Commandery, of New Bedford, Mass., took a position on Spruce-street, east of Broad, while the Grand Commandery of New York and subordinates occupied the same street west of Broad. Along Broad-street, on east and west sides, where the various subordinate commanderies. The Grand Commanderies of Connecticut, Ohio, Kentucky and Maine were on the east side of Broad, south of Spruce; Grand Commanderies of Indiana, Texas and Tennessee, west side of the street; Grand Commandery of New Jersey, north side of Pine, east of Broad; Grand Commanderies of Georgia, Mississippi, Alabama, Louisiana and Kansas, south side of Pine, west of Broad; Grand Commanderies of Maryland and Washington, D.C., east side of Broad, south of Pine, with Wilmington, Del., on the west side. The carriages with knights in full templar uniform, who were unable to march, occupied Broad-street, south of Lombard.

From eight o'clock till nine there was a stream of Knights passing to and fro to take their positions, and as they passed those already assembled on the street, they were saluted, while the crowd vainly endeavoured to secure places as near the curb as possible, past which stal-

wart minions of the law forbade them trespassing. Then housetops, windows, verandahs and awning posts were resorted to, which soon became so crowded with men and boys that they were often in danger of falling. As the various commanderies marched and countermarched they were greeted with enthusiastic applause and waving of handkerchiefs by those who had been fortunate enough to secure elevated positions. The appearance of the Marine band, of Washington, was the signal for an outburst of applause. As they marched down the street, their gala uniforms and instruments shining resplendent in the rays of the morning sun, and followed by Washington Commandery, the scene presented was a grand one. Grafulla's Band was also greeted with applause. The Northwestern Commandery, of Meadville, had with them a band which attracted considerable attention from the beauty of their uniform. McClurg's Band had on their new uniform, and presented a fine appearance.

A grand reception and promenade concert was given at the American Academy of Music and Horticultural Hall at eight o'clock. The two buildings were connected by a bridge. At eight o'clock an address of welcome was delivered by the Most Eminent Grand Master of the United States, Hon. James Herron Hopkins, at the close of which the promenade commenced.

At half-past nine the signal to start was given, and the procession moved in the order arranged.

SUPREME GRAND CHAPTER.

The following is the Agenda of business for the Quarterly Convocation of Supreme Grand Chapter, on Wednesday, the 2nd prox.

The minutes of the last Quarterly Convocation to be read for confirmation.

The report of the Committee of General Purposes. To the Supreme Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of England:—

The Committee of General Purposes beg to report that they have examined the accounts from the 19th April to the 18th July, 1876, both inclusive, which they find to be as follows:—

To Balance Grand Chapter	£627 17 0
" " Unappropriated Account	149 12 11
" Subsequent Receipts	486 16 9
	£1234 6 8

By Purchase of £500 Consols at 95½ and Commission	£478 2 6
" Disbursements during the Quarter	178 14 4
" Balance	399 1 11
" " Unappropriated Account	178 7 11
	£1234 6 8

which balances are in the hands of Messrs. Willis, Percival, & Co., bankers of the Grand Treasurer.

The Committee have likewise to report that they have received the following petitions:—

1st. From Companions John Chalmers, as Z.; Edward John Jones, as H.; Richard M. Blaker, as J, and seven others for a chapter to be attached to the Jumna Lodge, No. 1394, Delhi, to be called the "Chalmers Chapter," and to meet at Delhi, Punjab, in the East Indies.

2nd. From Companions Edward Twizell, as Z.; George Auburn Allan, as H.; Addison Potter, as J.; and six others for a chapter to be attached to the Tyne Lodge, No. 991, Willington Quay, to be called the "Tyne Chapter," and to meet at the Masonic Hall, Willington Quay, in the county of Northumberland.

3rd. From Companions Robt. Hamilton, as Z.; Samuel Rawson, as H.; Hugh David Sandeman, as J.; and fifteen others for a chapter to be attached to the Friends-in-Council Lodge, No. 1383, London, to be called the "Friends-in-Council Chapter," and to meet at No. 33, Golden Square, London.

4th. From Companions Anthony Stewart, as Z.; Charles Alfred Gorham, as H.; Henry Studholme Browning, as J.; and eight others for a chapter to be attached to the Lodge of Charity, No. 563, Umballa, to be called the "Umballa Chapter," and to meet at Umballa, Punjab, in the East Indies.

The foregoing petitions being in all respects regular, the Committee recommend that the prayers thereof be respectively granted.

The Committee have also received a petition from the Fortescue Chapter, No. 847, Honiton, stating that the Charter having been unfortunately lost, and that although diligent search has been made there appears to be no chance of its recovery, they pray Grand Chapter to grant them a Charter of Confirmation. The Rev. John Huyshie, Grand Superintendent of Devon, supports the prayer of the petition, which the Committee recommend Grand Chapter to grant.

The Committee are sorry to have to report that on the simple ipse dixit of a brother that he had been 12 months a Master Mason, the Old Globe Chapter, No. 200, Scarborough, exalted him, contrary to Article 67, page 22, of the Royal Arch Regulations, which requires that satisfactory proof of a brother having been 12 calendar months at least a Master Mason shall be given. The Committee believe that the chapter did not wilfully err, but in order to mark their displeasure of the carelessness displayed have inflicted a fine of one guinea on the chapter, have directed the Grand Scribe E. to admonish it to be more careful in future, and not to issue the certificate without the companion has been re-obligated at its next meeting.

(Signed) BENJAMIN HEAD,
In the chair.

Freemasons' Hall, London, W.C.
July 19th, 1876.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

COLONIAL and FOREIGN SUBSCRIBERS are informed that acknowledgments of remittances received are published in the first number of every month.

It is very necessary for our readers to advise us of all money orders they remit, more especially those from the United States of America and India; otherwise we cannot tell where to credit them.

TO OUR READERS.

The *Freemason* is a sixteen-page weekly newspaper, price 2d. It is published every Friday morning, and contains the most important, interesting, and useful information relating to Freemasonry in every degree. Annual subscription in the *United Kingdom*, Post free, 10/- P.O.O.'s to be made payable at the chief office, London.

NEW POSTAL RATES.

Owing to a reduction in the Postal Rates, the publisher is now enabled to send the "*Freemason*" to the following parts abroad for One Year for Twelve Shillings (payable in advance):—Africa, Australia, Bombay, Canada, Cape of Good Hope, Ceylon, China, Constantinople, Demerara, France, Germany, Gibraltar, Jamaica, Malta, Newfoundland, New South Wales, New Zealand, Suez, Trinidad, United States of America, &c.

TO ADVERTISERS.

The *Freemason* has a large circulation in all parts of the Globe, its advantages as an advertising medium can therefore scarcely be overrated.

For terms, position, &c., apply to
GEORGE KENNING, 198, Fleet-st.

Answers to Correspondents.

All Communications, Advertisements, &c., intended for insertion in the Number of the following Saturday, must reach the Office not later than 12 o'clock on Wednesday morning.

BRO. DUMBLEDEGE's impression of the seal dug up in a village three miles from Diss, Norfolk, is undoubtedly Masonic, whatever age it may be. A fac simile of it will appear in the September number of the "*Masonic Magazine*."

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

[The charge is 2s. 6d for announcements, not exceeding four lines, under this heading.]

BIRTHS.

- BEAUMONT.—On the 23rd inst., at Hill House, near Swansea, the wife of Lieut.-Col. Godfrey Wentworth Beaumont, late of the Scots Fusilier Guards, of a daughter.
BROWN.—On the 23rd inst., at Charlewood-road, Putney, the wife of H. Brown, of a daughter.
EVANS.—On the 20th inst., at Hertford, the wife of E. R. Evans, of a son.
FISHER.—On the 18th inst., at Conway, North Wales, the wife of T. C. Fisher, Esq., prematurely, of a son, still-born.
ARNOLD.—On the 18th inst., at Wimbledon, Mrs. C. T. Arnold, of a daughter.
BUTLER.—On the 23rd inst., at the Boundary, Wormley, Herts, the wife of W. H. Butler, of a son.
CLARK.—On the 17th inst., at Compton House, 46 and 47, Frith-street, Soho, the wife of Adolphus Clark, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

- CAMPBELL—SKIDMORE.—On the 20th inst., at Croxley Green, Rickmansworth, John Campbell, of Strachur, Argyleshire, to Ellen, only daughter of E. Skidmore, of The Pines, Rickmansworth, Herts.
MASON—HOLME.—On the 20th inst., at St. James's, Clapham, John Davis, only son of H. Mason, of Brixton and Aldersgate-street, E.C., to Mary Louisa, daughter of the late A. Holme, Esq. No cards.
SUTHERLAND—HART.—On the 24th inst., at St. George's Church, Hanover-square, Eric Sutherland, of Morayshire, N.B., to Jane Hart, of Berkeley-square, London, and Newcastle-court, Radnorshire, South Wales.
CHRISTOPHER—SPARKS.—On the 22nd inst., at St. Andrew's, Watford, Thomas Christopher, jun., of Rough Down, Boxmoor, to Edith Eleanor, daughter of J. Sparks, Esq.

DEATHS.

- SPENCER.—On the 21st inst., Bro. Richard Spencer, aged 76.
JONES.—On the 21st inst., Bro. Capt. Jones, of Liverpool.
STANSFELD.—On April 23rd, at Firby Hall, York, Bro. R. J. Stansfeld.
MATHER.—On May 3rd, in Adelaide, South Australia, Mr. J. Mather, youngest son of the late Mr. J. Mather, statuary, of London.
MURE.—On the 20th inst., at Gloucester-place, Portman-square, James Mure, Esq., in the 80th year of his age.
PULLEY.—On the 22nd inst., at Porchester Terrace, Hyde Park, Mary, wife of J. Pulley, Esq., of Lower Eaton, Hereford.
STEWART.—On the 21st inst., at Norfolk-terrace, Bayswater, Archibald Stewart, Esq., accountant, aged 50.

The Freemason,

SATURDAY, JULY 29, 1876.

WEST YORKSHIRE.

We stated in our last impression that we sincerely rejoiced at the "healing result" which West Yorkshire in its last Provincial Grand Lodge meeting had arrived at, and we cannot deny ourselves the pleasure of reiterating the same expression of feeling and opinion to-day. For some time past, for the last twelve months, or thereabouts, owing to the publication of certain pamphlets which had better now be forgotten, a good deal of excitement has been occasioned, and a great amount of personality has been evoked, in that active portion of our little Masonic world. We have from time to time pointed out that the agitation thus aroused in West Yorkshire was alike factitious and unwise, but we all of us know that it is easier to raise a storm than to lay it. We may add, a good deal easier. An old and sound authority told us many years ago, though we often forget it, that the "beginning of strife is as the letting out of water," and as we ourselves often note in human life to-day, and in passing events, there are no limits, humanly speaking, to which angry feelings and aroused sensibilities may not lead us all, when once the "steam is up," and we are engaged in personal warfare or vituperative controversies. The "*cacoethes scribendi*" comes over us, and we rush into print with alacrity, we carry on the contest with acerbity, and we end often in developing, Freemasons though we call ourselves, both a wonderful amount of "*Billingsgate*," and a striking acquaintance, with choice expletives, and choicer epithets. The controversy which began about twelve months ago seemed to be moving on in the same vicious circle. A little question of internal administration of the Boys' School became magnified into a great grievance by the heated outpourings of carping criticism and indignant individuality, until the good old Province of West Yorkshire appeared literally carried away by the idea, permeated by the suspicion, that there were gross wrong doings to reform, and some unheard of expenditure to reduce in the Boys' School. Pamphlet had followed pamphlet in quick succession, (among them the famous suppressed one), until the position reached by West Yorkshire was mournful and alarming, derogatory alike to its position and its prestige. At the Quarterly Court in April of the Boys' School nearly every province in England voted with the Executive, and £12,500 have been since sent to the annual festival in proof of the general sympathy of the Craft, unaffected by these attacks, and undeterred by this agitation. The motion, then, of the Prov. J. G. Warden of West Yorkshire, Bro. Booth, was alike unwise and uncalled for, in that it served only to fan the flame of agitation, and to perpetuate a state of things which, while injurious to the Boys' School, and opposed to Masonic teaching, was a great cause of grief to a large number of West Yorkshire Masons, and unworthy of so staunch a supporter of the charities as West Yorkshire has proved itself to be. We cannot but feel that Bro. Gill's words, the Prov. S.G. Warden of West Yorkshire, endorsed as they were by the eloquent language of our esteemed and respected Bro. Bentley Shaw, well pointed out the great inadvisability of any further continuance in so hazardous and un-Masonic a cause. Bro. Booth, yielding to the evidently all but unanimous feeling of Prov. Grand Lodge, judiciously withdrew his motion, and we will now hope and trust that we have heard the last of this painful subject. We have from the first spoken out boldly, simply, decidedly, and, we will add, consistently. We have done so because we have the deepest personal feelings of regard and attachment for our good brethren in West Yorkshire. We know from long and pleasant experience their real worth, their manly honesty, their true Masonic sympathies, and their warm Masonic hearts. Even their zeal, if not tempered with as much discretion as we deemed requisite in this recent discussion, we know well, as none can better know—is sound and earnest at the bottom, and with their usual warmth

of impulsiveness and yet sincerity, they were actuated by a belief (a mistaken one), that there was really some reform to make, some wrong to redress, in all they said and in all they did. We do not wish to retrace, and we will not go over the beaten track of the controversy now, nor even allude any more to unwise words, and injudicious pamphlets; but we will echo the words of Bro. Gill, and say, let by-gones be by-gones—on both sides let us, as brother Freemasons, shake hands, and forget that any differences have divided us, or that any severances have severed us for any time, in any manner, in any degree. There is no province in England which has a nobler past, a more prosperous present, or a more promising future before it than the Province of West Yorkshire. It led years ago the provincial movement in favour of the metropolitan charities, and earned for itself the admiration of the Craft and the gratitude of our London brethren. It has ever been marked by unity and order, by peace and loyalty, by high Masonic principles, and true Masonic work. It would indeed be a sad culmination of glorious efforts and Masonic labour for years, as Bro. Bentley Shaw so well put it, if anything now should tend to pull down the goodly building erected by W. Yorkshire with so much care, so much cost, and so many sacrifices in the greatest of all causes, Masonic charity. And, above all, it would indeed be most lamentable if such a province should continue to be torn in two by internal differences, by contending camps, or lowered by unworthy personalities, or agitated by angry pamphlets, if this antagonistic feeling to the Boys' School should be fostered, or extended, or tolerated, or encouraged any more. In the words of its amiable and distinguished chief, Sir H. Edwards, let all good men and Masons work together in love and harmony for the great and good cause of our Masonic charities, and, as Bro. Gill well expressed himself, if any grievances exist, if any supposed mismanagement prevails, let the life governor or life governors complaining come before the proper tribunal, and calmly and temperately, and carefully and manfully, make the complaint and avow the suspicion. From what we know of the London brethren, and above all of the Executive of the Boys' School, we can say beforehand that they are always ready to hear any such bona-fide complaints, and will readily award to all legitimate complainants the attention they crave and the hearing they require. But then our good brethren must indulge in no spirit of unworthy and groundless fault-finding, and they must avoid the evil and unmasonic habit of anything like anonymous libels or perverse denunciations. And, above all, there must be an end of personalities, of angry and vehement and ex parte arraignment of the executive, of direct or indirect imputations on the motives and the acts of others. No good cause was ever really served by personality, nothing is gained by statements "*ad invidiam*," except momentarily, if even then, while nothing is so injurious, even to the best of causes in the long run, on account of the inevitable reaction to false statements and unfounded allegations. And, in addition to this, as a general rule, nothing is so hurtful to the temper or the "*morale*" of us all, or so destructive of friendly feeling, harmony, goodwill, as personalities. And if this be true of all our human contests, how much more is it of that Masonic strife, which, despite our profession of higher views and "*nobler aims*," is apt to degenerate into the very lowest form of angry ebullitions, of unfair, unworthy, and unmasonic personalities? In all contests like these we are bound to allow for honest convictions, if mistaken ones, but we are also bound by every feeling of Masonic honour, and every principle of Masonic duty, to reprobate openly and decidedly, in the interest of our great and goodly Order, any departure from the unchanging principles of Freemasonry, and any relaxation of those genial and kindly sentiments which bind us so closely as a fraternity, and mark our profession, and distinguish our principles, as before men and the world. May the "*entente cordiale*" now happily restored by the removal of an unwise agitation long endure between West Yorkshire and the Boys' School—nay, may it increase

yearly, and yield still more striking and enduring fruits of Masonic sympathy and goodwill. Having spoken as we felt it to be our bounden duty to do, honestly, manfully, fearlessly, we congratulate our very distinguished Bro. the P.G.M. of West Yorkshire, Bros. B. Shaw, Gill, Joseph Batley, Wordsworth, and others in West Yorkshire on this happy cessation of an internecine strife, as well as for this pleasant victory in the best of all causes, the interest of our orphan boys, and the noble principles of Freemasonry, conciliation, peace, harmony, kindness, forbearance, and brotherly love.

THE LODGE PHILADELPHES ET LA CONCORDE REUNIS.

Our esteemed Bro. Caubet, in the "Monde Maçonnique" for July, answers a query in respect of this lodge which had previously appeared in our columns. The question was, was this lodge a "regularly warranted lodge," and under what jurisdiction? Bro. Caubet states, "Nous ne pouvons répondre, que très imparfaitement à ces questions." The gist of his further statement is that the lodge is not warranted by the Grand Orient (as it could not be), and that he does not know whether or no it has an English warrant. We shall be glad if any brother can enlighten us on the subject, as we have a strong conviction that some time back official reference was made to a surreptitious lodge of somewhat the same name in London. We shall be, however, gladly undeceived on the point, and if we have made the slightest error in confounding two essentially distinct bodies, we shall at once be ready to make Masonically an "amende honorable" in the "Freemason." The fact is a very simple one indeed, and, as the French say, some one can "constater" it at once one way or the other. Our only interest in the matter is the interest in Freemasonry, and the interest of our brethren, as we have always set our faces against irregular Masonry everywhere. We have thought it well to address a letter to our esteemed Grand Secretary on the subject, the answer to which we hope to print next week.

Original Correspondence.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for, or even as approving of the opinions expressed by our correspondents, but we wish, in a spirit of fair play to all, to permit—within certain necessary limits—free discussion.—Ed.]

FREEMASONRY EXPROBATED.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Allow me to express my warmest thanks in your columns for the communications of commendation and gratitude I have received from members of the Craft, both in the Province of Lincoln and elsewhere, for vindicating the fraternity from contumely and exprobration cast upon them recently at Brigg.

It appears that you have been particularly requested by some wily correspondent to republish certain anonymous letters published in the "Hull Times," which hitherto I have disregarded, as I consider a writer who is ashamed of his name has no claim on my attention. I have, however, been informed that one of the writers is a clergyman of extreme views, and who has as much love for the Craft as his Holiness the Pope. But,

"Non tui auxilio, nec defensoribus istis tempus eget." My letters have not as yet been answered by the party concerned. A P.M. of Brigg Lodge informs me that "he has read with pleasure my unanswerable letter, which deserves the thanks of the whole province, as it was well known that justice would be done to the Craft if the matter were placed in my hands."

My exertions have evoked a satisfactory letter from a high dignitary of the church, who regrets the sad and indefensible occurrence, now not likely to be repeated, and who would have paid "his personal respects to the ancient and honourable fraternity, lately assembled at Brigg, had he been invited to be present."

The wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable. True charity rejoiceth in the truth. Semi-apologists would do well to remember the apostolic injunction, "Let your love be without dissimulation, abhor that which is evil, and cleave to that which is good."

In conclusion, allow me to add that the privilege of Freemasons to attend the services of the Church of England is something more than an act of grace; it would have been an act of gratitude on the part of the incumbent of Brigg for receiving a peal of bells mainly through the leading Freemason of the town; but more than that, it would have been an act of generosity to ally any reputable society to the services of the Church of England, especially when that society professed the highest principles of pure morality and enlarged charity.

As I have before stated, the Church of England is a national church, not the parochial enclosure of a new sect whom our ancestors knew not half a century ago, who

call themselves more Catholic, but less charitable. That party may be well assured that no insinuations of theirs, not even persecution, will ever cower or deter me from vindicating the honour and purity of the principles of Freemasonry, and the comprehensive and Protestant character of the Church of England.

I am, Sir, yours obediently,

DANIEL ACE, D.D.,
P.P.G.C. of Lincolnshire, and
W.M. of Lodge 1232.

[This correspondence must now cease. As Freemasons we know nothing of the intestine divisions of the Church of England. We think the Vicar of Brigg wrong.—Ed.]

GRAND ORIENT OF EGYPT.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Those who are interested in the prosperity of the Grand Orient of Egypt, as I am, will be glad to know that several Grand Lodges in the United States have been considering its position of late, and have been thoroughly examining into its origin, character, and proceedings, with a view to grant recognition if the analysis prove favourable. Already, we are rejoiced to know, the Grand Lodges of California, Idaho, and Georgia have extended the Masonic right hand of fellowship to the Grand Orient of Egypt, and I expect soon to hear of others doing likewise. Our brethren in the United States "do nothing by halves," and firmly refused such recognition until the matter had been fully investigated. Indeed, the Grand Lodge of Georgia resolved to "withhold any fraternal communication until fully satisfied of its legal existence," but having before them the report of the Grand Lodge of California, in which it was stated, and proof submitted, that the "Grand Orient of Egypt was established, so far as we can judge, upon a firm basis, and not only with the permission, but under the protection and active co-operation of the present ruler of that country," and therefore entitled to be acknowledged "as a just and legally constituted Masonic power," the members soon came to the determination to gracefully accept the claims of Egypt to be admitted into the circle of legitimate Grand Lodges.

Bro. J. Emmett Blackshear, Grand Secretary, was appointed representative of the Grand Orient of Egypt, near the Grand East of Georgia, and the indefatigable Bro. F. F. Oddi, Grand Secretary of Egypt, representative on behalf of the Grand Lodge of Georgia. We sympathise with the desire of the Masonic authorities in Egypt to be placed on the same footing as many other Grand Lodges in Europe and America, and whilst the M.W. Grand Master Zola, of that jurisdiction (ably supported by the Grand Secretary), is most anxious to be acknowledged by all Grand Lodges worthy of the name, we cannot but admire his manly and independent conduct since his election, nor can we find words to put on record our appreciation of the sterling Masonic principles actuating him and the members of the Grand Orient, when on finding that their support of the Rite of Memphis was viewed with disfavour by the regular Grand Lodges, they resolved at once to call in all such warrants, and to sever for ever their connection with that useless and objectionable system of 96°. The degrees now worked in Egypt under the wing of the Grand Orient are wholly and solely Craft Masonry. Those of the "hautes grades" are entirely under the Supreme Grand Council 33° of Egypt, which, though harmoniously working with the Grand Orient, just as in this country, are quite as separate and distinct as in England, Ireland, Scotland, and the United States.

This concession to the customs of British and American Freemasons will, we feel sure, be rightly esteemed both here and "across the big pond," and believing that it will be the aim of the Grand Orient of Egypt to deserve the respect and friendly co-operation of all regular Grand Lodges, we most heartily wish them the success they intend to deserve.

Its organization having been partially commenced in 1864, and only of late thoroughly completed, it was but natural that a few mistakes should be made, especially as several Grand Bodies applied to Egypt for recognition which appeared entitled thereto. Now, however, it rests to a great measure with the regular foreign Grand Lodges what Egypt does in the way of countenancing Masonry abroad, as the more these bodies exchange representatives, and forward their proceedings, the better will the Grand Orient be enabled to avoid the illegitimate, and support only regular Freemasonry throughout the world.

At all events its Craft Constitution now is thoroughly Masonic, and in accord with Great Britain and Ireland, the oldest upholders of Ancient, Free, and Accepted Masonry.

Yours fraternally,

WILLIAM JAMES HUGHAN.

Truro, Cornwall, 22nd July, 1876.

THE MASONIC MAGAZINE.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I think your proposition of "keeping two or three pages in the Masonic Magazine, in future, purely for Masonic Archaeology," an excellent idea, and hope it will receive hearty support at the hands of the brethren. "As example is better than precept," I have much pleasure in offering as a contribution an exact copy of an Extraordinary Warrant in the possession of the Britannia Lodge, No. 139, Sheffield (constituted in 1765, and numbered 189 under the "Moderns" in 1813), which, I venture to think, is worthy of finding a place therein.

Grand Lodge to delegate to a subordinate or Provincial Grand Lodge the power to grant warrants, from lodges, &c., also the power, to such Provincial Grand Lodge, to elect (annually) its own officers or successors is, to say the least, unique.

It is extremely desirable that copies of such, or similar documents, should be published.

Primarily, because the originals run great risks from fire, or of being otherwise destroyed, or lost.

Secondly, by the incalculable advantages of such being brought prominently before all Masonic students, and,

Thirdly, it is by the un-earthing and publication of such treasures that our history may be written.

I am, fraternally yours,

S. B. ELLIS.

[We refer our readers to the "Masonic Magazine" for August.]

INFORMATION WANTED.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I should be very thankful to any Prov. Grand Officer (of England) if he would afford me the following information regarding the interior economy of a Prov. Grand Secretary's office:—

1. What books are required to be kept up, both regarding revenue and record?
2. Should not a provincial register be kept, shewing name of every subscribing member in the province, together with his lodge, age, residence, date of First, Second, and Third Degrees, if taken in the province, or date of joining, with name of mother lodge if affiliated only in the province; also shewing dates of deaths, exclusions, and resignations?
3. Should not an alphabetical index to the above-mentioned register be kept to accelerate reference?
4. Should not a list of the actual Masters and Wardens and P.M.'s who have a right to sit and vote in Provincial Grand Lodge be compiled by the Secretary immediately before every meeting of Provincial Grand Lodge, and be handed to the Provincial Grand Stewards?
5. Is it usual for a salaried Provincial Grand Secretary to have a vote on the Provincial Board of General Purposes?

I trust the answers may be as explicit as possible, and in accordance with what is the custom in the best regulated provinces of England, as the information is sought from a far off district, and much delay would occur in having to ask for explanations.

Yours fraternally,

LECTOR.

SWEDENBORGIAN RITE.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Will you oblige me by stating that I have just received from Bro. W. J. B. MacLeod Moore, 33° A. and A., Most Worshipful Sov. G.M.; Thomas Douglas Harrington, 32° A. and A., Grand Senior Warden; Geo. Canning Longley, 33° A. and P., Grand Junior Warden, a warrant for a lodge and temple of the Swedenborgian Rite, styled EMANUEL LODGE AND TEMPLE, No 3, to confer the degrees of Enlightened, Sublime, and Perfect Phreemason upon lawful Master Masons. The lodge and temple consist at present of only four members, but if any of your readers would like to enter the Rite they can do so by sending their names and the fee of £1 to Bro. S. P. Leather, Burnley, Lancashire, the J.W. of said body. We pay the Supreme Grand Lodge and Temple of the Dominion of Canada £5 5s. for our warrant and ritual.

Truly and fraternally yours,

JOHN YARKER.

7, Tynwald Terrace, Chorlton Road, Manchester.
July 24th, 1876.

THE LAST QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Pray accept my sincere thanks for allowing me to question Bro. Simpson as to the real drift of his amendment to Bro. Havers' proposal, to which questioning, however, I have been able to get no satisfactory reply.

So far as I can summarise Bro. Simpson's statements, the matter stands thus:

1. For Grand Lodge to attend St. Paul's Cathedral, quā a church, and to take part in a service there, quā a service church, would not be a denominational proceeding. But to help to complete the design for St. Paul's of Sir Christopher Wren, quā the Masonic work of one of our most distinguished Grand Masters, would be denominational.

2. To give a sum of money to help an exploring party in Palestine is not beyond the "reasonable limitation beyond the beaten track" upon which Grand Lodge may venture to tread (being, I presume, a charitable work connected with the Order), nor would it have been outside the powers of Grand Lodge to vote money to an indefinite "something in India."

But it is quite beyond this "reasonable limitation" to devote the funds of our English Grand Lodge to a work which would benefit our country, and be a lasting tribute to the loyalty of our Order towards her.

Upon this I need make no further remark—it remaining with the brethren at large to say whether this is their notion of Masonic consistency—than to congratulate Grand Lodge upon possessing a member ready and willing to fix this "reasonable limitation," which Grand Lodge has been either unable or unwilling to define in the Book of Constitutions.

As the purpose with which I started is accomplished I shall not again trouble you upon this matter, but shall leave Bro. Simpson's lucid explanation of the purport and motives of his amendment to the consideration of the next Quarterly Communication.

Allow me, however, to pause to say one word in reply to Bro. Langley's denial of Bro. Havers' statement that certain brethren went to Grand Lodge with a "foregone conclusion." It is simply and strictly true. I was in the earlier part of the evening (like another of your correspondents) at the bottom of Grand Lodge, and heard Bro.

Havers' proposal commented upon long before it was brought forward, and I heard, to my astonishment, so much then said in disparagement of the proposal that it was quite clear that many brethren had come so prejudiced as to give vent to their disapprobation before Bro. Havers had well begun. "In the sense of prejudging him the brethren did decide without hearing him."

I remain, dear Sir and Brother, faithfully and fraternally yours,

W. T.

THE INSTALLATION ENGRAVING.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Permit me the use of your columns, to reply to my numerous subscribers and friends to state that I am making strenuous efforts to have the Installation Engraving completed and in their hands by Christmas next. The engraver is steadily and perseveringly proceeding with the work, and I can assure all my friends that not an hour is being lost in carrying out this most arduous work to a successful completion. I shall have nearly 1600 portraits in the engraving, the largest muster by nearly double that has ever yet appeared in a single work.

I am, dear Sir and brother, fraternally yours,
EDWD. J. HAR V.

Reviews.

JOAN OF ARC—A Poem not awarded the Vice-Chancellor's Prize. Kerby and Endean, 190, Oxford-street.

Whether or no the statement in the preface be historically accurate, and that we have in this poem one among the "Rejected Addresses" at Dublin University, we do not feel quite sure. As Sir Walter Scott so well puts it, some of these little figurative and poetical prefaces have served to introduce to the notice of readers many works which otherwise might have remained in obscurity and neglect. But if the statement be correct, then we confess that we should like to see the poem to which the prize was really awarded. Joan of Arc is a sterling poem, and full of after promise for the writer. There are passages in it of great beauty and much poetic power, and we feel strongly that it only needs to be read to be appreciated by many of our brethren and sisters. Unfortunately the space in the "Freemason" for Reviews is very limited, but we refer our readers to the "Masonic Magazine" for September, where a fuller review of this little work will appear, and when its poetical merit will be more perfectly analyzed and described.

HIGH PRESSURE BUSINESS LIFE.—Published by Henry Smith, M.D., 8, Burton Crescent. First Thousand.

We like this little book very much. It is simple and straightforward, practical and sound. We entirely approve of the advice it tenders and the habits it enforces, the axioms it inculcates, and the warnings it propounds, as we feel how needful they are to all classes, especially that large class to which the book appears to be specifically addressed. We predicate for it much public patronage and approval.

WE PART ON THE SQUARE; Freemason's Song by SAMUEL SMITH. Music by WILLIE F. LANCELOT.—Simpson and Co., 23, Argyll-street, Regent-street.

This is a sprightly and effective little Masonic song, which, we think, is likely to become popular amongst us. We recommend it to the notice of many of our worthy musical brethren, whose endeavours to please their audiences are most praiseworthy and persevering. Certainly, music still has "charms to soothe the Masonic breast."

A CAUTION—THE SPURIOUS GRAND LODGE.

The following letter appears in the "Canadian Craftsman":—

The thorough want of reason and knowledge of Masonic law displayed by the founders of the spurious organization of the body termed the Grand Lodge of Ontario has been so fully explained in your columns that a word of warning or advice regarding the same seems almost superfluous; still, owing to the silent manner in which we work, the profane and ignorant may at any time confound the lodges working under the so-called Grand Lodge of Ontario with those under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Canada. We should therefore use every exertion to caution those desirous of entering our mysteries to guard against becoming members of an organization that cannot and does not confer upon them a single Masonic privilege, excepting, of course, that of visiting those lodges that at present lead a half life and dead existence under the authority of their spurious body.

(1.) No regular Grand Lodge will ever recognize this body, ergo no so-called Mason hailing from its subordinates can ever enter any Masonic lodge in the world.

(2.) As it is not a regular Grand Lodge, no Grand Chapter will allow its subordinate chapters to recognize its members as Masons, and consequently they will be unable to advance in the mystic art; and, as a necessary sequence, these misguided men and their deceived followers find themselves excluded from those higher mysteries which form so grand a feature in the history and labyrinthine network of our institution.

I urge, then, the strictest caution upon younger members, and particularly upon the profane, in becoming associated or allied with a body that receives fees but grants no benefits—that pretends to confer Masonic degrees which cannot be and are not recognized by a single Grand Lodge in the world—that was founded on envy and spite—exists in a false ambition, and will die in disgrace and dishonour.

GAS superseded in day time, and daylight reflected in dark rooms. Health, comfort, and economy promoted, by adopting Chappuis' Patent Daylight Reflectors. Manufactory, 69, Fleet-street, London.

GRAND LODGE OF CANADA.

The 21st Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of A. F. and A. Masons of Canada, was held at the new By-Ward Market Hall in the city of Ottawa, on Wednesday, the 12th June, at the hour of high twelve.

The following notices of motion were given at the last Annual Communication:—

By V.W. Bro. F. E. Menet.—That Article 7, "of Fees," in the Book of Constitution, be amended by striking out all after the words "jurisdiction of 2 lodge," and inserting therefor the words "Two Dollars;" also that Article 1, "of Constituting a New Lodge," the words following:—"and in case of there being more than two lodges in the nearest jurisdiction, it shall require the recommendation of no less than one-half of the said lodges."

By Bro. W. Bro. Wm. Forbes.—That the expenses of District Deputy Grand Masters be paid by this Grand Lodge, by allowing a certain amount for each lodge.

By R.W. Bro. L. Woods.—That the clause of the Constitution relating to "Constituting a new Lodge" be amended by inserting after the words "nearest lodge," the following:—"Except in cases of an application from a village, town, or city, when the consent of all the local lodges having concurrent jurisdiction shall first be obtained."

By R.W. Bro. Rev. V. Clementi.—That Article 17, "of the Grand Lodge" be amended by striking out the words "at which the place of holding the next communication shall be decided" and inserting in place thereof the words "in the City of Toronto."

By R.W. Bro. R. P. Stephens.—That Article 10, "of the Grand Lodge" be amended by inserting the following clause between the words "before Grand Lodge" and "and no alteration," namely:—"or unless notice of motion of such amendment be given in writing to the Grand Secretary, at least one month before the Annual Communication of Grand Lodge, and such notice be inserted in the summons for such Annual Communication," also that Article 1 "of proposing members" be amended by inserting next after the words "the next stated lodge meeting" the words "and in all cases held not less than four weeks from the date of the application."

By W. Bro. Wm. Norris.—That Article 1, "of the Grand Lodge" be amended by striking out the word "Canada," and inserting in place thereof the word "Ontario," and that all verbal alterations in the Book of Constitution consequent upon the adoption of this resolution be made immediately thereafter.

By W. Bro. Joseph Hursell.—That Article 2, of "Honorary Members," be amended by adding thereto the words following: "but if an honorary member does not attend a meeting of the lodge for a space of three years, or give satisfactory reasons for his absence, he may be suspended from honorary membership by a two-thirds vote of the lodge;" also, That Article 8, "of the Grand Lodge," be amended by striking out all after the words "any communication of the Grand Lodge," and inserting in place thereof the words "and Past Master of the lodge duly returned may represent the lodge, Immediate P.M. to take precedence."

By W. Bro. J. M. Banghart, or W. Bro. Wm. Hayden.—That the Book of Constitution be so amended as to provide that all routine business in private lodges be done in the Third Degree, instead of the first as at present.

By R. W. Bro. J. G. Burns.—That the Toronto district be divided into two districts, the counties of York and Peel to constitute the Toronto district, and the counties of Simcoe and Grey to constitute a new District, to be named the Georgian district.

By R. W. Bro. J. B. Traves.—That the Toronto and Ontario districts be reconstructed, so as to make three or more out of the two districts, or otherwise to divide either or both of them.

The Board of General Purposes met at the Masonic Hall, Rideau Street, on Monday the 10th inst., at noon.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

The Grand Lodge of Indiana held its ninth annual gathering on the 23rd and the two following days of May. The Treasurer's statement shows a balance of 15,400 dols.

A curious case came up in the form of a grievance. It seems that five years ago a lodge borrowed from the widow of a Mason 4000 dols., giving her a mortgage on the property of the lodge. The widow had received the money from the benefit society on the death of her husband. The mortgage proved worthless. Five members owned the lodge, on which there was a prior mortgage, but the lodge yielded them a rental of 1800 dols. As the lodge declined either to pay or secure the widow the matter was referred to the Grand Master for the purpose of ascertaining the true facts. Bros. F. S. Devo and John M. Bramwell were elected respectively Grand Master and Grand Secretary.

The fourth annual conclave of the Grand Commandery of Nebraska took place at Omaha, on 26th April. The chief officers elected are R. C. Sir Chas. F. Catlin, Grand Commander; N. E. Sir James N. Moore, Deputy Grand Commander; E. Sir William R. Bowen, Grand Recorder.

The eighty-sixth annual meeting of the Grand Lodge of Rhode Island was held on May 15. Nearly two hundred members were present. On the subject of coloured Masonry, the Grand Master says:

"The Grand Lodge of the subordinate lodges of Ohio may make as many Masons out of the negro race as it pleases, and we must and will recognise those so made as Freemasons—but we deny its power to give any Masonic vitality to any other grand body; it cannot delegate its jurisdiction, nor exercise it jointly with another, but must exercise it itself and for itself. We may be permitted to hope that wise counsel may govern its action."

Among the officers elected are M. W. G. Nicholas San-Slyck, R. W. G. S. Edwin Baker.

The ninety-fifth annual communication of the Grand Lodge of New York met on the 2nd June. 755 representatives of subordinate lodges were present. The receipts for the year foot up 100,849.25 dols., but the treasury is empty. We make the following extract from the Grand Master's address:—

"Our foreign relations remain about in the same condition as last year. The Grand Orient of France has made no sign during the year, and evidently considers the friendship and correspondence of the American Grand Lodges as a matter of no consequence. This is to be regretted; but, until there is a willingness on the part of that body to recognise the right of this and other Grand Lodges to exclusive jurisdiction within their own territories there can be no change, and we shall regretfully, but none the less firmly, be obliged to treat as strangers, those whom we would gladly welcome to our Masonic homes."

"The course of the German Grand Lodges is scarcely, if at all, more satisfactory. Claiming for themselves the very right for which we contend, and proclaiming that no lodge can be formed on German territory without their consent, they have thus far shown no willingness to concede the same right to us, or withdraw the lodges located in this and other States. They propose to compromise the matter by a series of treaties, looking, however, only to their own benefit, since they propose to have us recognise the establishment in the country of subordinate lodges owing them allegiance, but saying nothing of a reciprocal privilege on our part, even were it possible that we could profit by such a concession, or our policy allow us to proceed in that direction."

"One further step has been taken by them through their Grand Lodge League, which is the declaration that the organization of coloured persons in this country, now trespassing on the various American Grand Lodge jurisdictions, is regular, and hence that their invasion of the territory of this and other Grand Lodges in the United States meet the approval of our brethren in Germany, although at latest advices they had not gone so far as to offer direct recognition and interchange of representatives. This, however, is a matter of time, and it is far from certain that the League now in session will not take this concluding step, and thus by indiscretion place its constituents in open denial of our right to govern our own affairs without foreign intervention and dictation. There can be but one ending to all this, which I refrain from indicating at the present time, in the hope that wiser councils may yet prevail, and that harmony and peace may be secured to our brotherhood wherever dispersed."

"Another question has been presented, not for immediate action, but for calm consideration, by the Grand Lodge of Ohio."

"At the annual communication of that body last October, a special committee reported favourably on a proposition to admit a number of confessedly clandestine organizations and to divide the jurisdiction of the State with such irregular bodies. The point of the whole matter is, that this is simply a proposition on the part of the committee of the Grand Lodge of Ohio to abandon the American law of sole jurisdiction, claimed by Grand Lodges on this continent, and, if adopted, to open the whole of our territory to the incursions of such organizations as may choose to invade it, and thus by destroying our authority at the same time to put an end to the peaceful and harmonious progress we have so long enjoyed."

"No action appears to be required at this time, because the Grand Lodge of Ohio has not definitely passed upon the report of its committee, and it is to be hoped than when it does it will remain in full accord with the other American Grand Lodges and with the best interests of Masonry on this continent."

Meanwhile, I repeat, it should receive your careful attention, so that, if action should be taken in Ohio adverse to the general well being, your duty may be plain and your action prompt."

[We take this from the "Craftsman."]

THE SOUTHERN SUPREME COUNCIL.

The Supreme Council of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite for the Southern Jurisdiction of the United States commenced its biennial session, at the city of Washington, on Monday, May 29th. The regular period for the assembling of this body was the 1st of May, but, as it had been originally organized at Charlestown, South Carolina, on May 31st, 1801, it was deemed advisable that the session should commence on the last Monday of the month, so that the members might have an opportunity of celebrating the seventy-fifth anniversary of the establishment, not only of the Supreme Council, but of the Scottish Rite.

On Wednesday evening, May 31, the members of the Supreme Council, active and honorary, with a large number of Scottish Rite Masons, had a social gathering in the Hall of the Scottish Rite. Speeches were made, songs sung, and the seventy-fifth anniversary was appropriately observed.

The attendance of members during the session was comparatively large, and some important business was transacted.

On the first day Bro. Albert Pike, Sovereign Grand Commander, read his allocution, in which he gave an exhaustive view of the condition of the Rite throughout the world, and the relations of the Southern Supreme Council with other Councils.

This allocution was referred to appropriate committees for the consideration of the various subjects which it embraced.

Some very important questions of jurisdiction were decided during the session. Among these, and of most interest to the Scottish Rite Masons of this country, was that of territorial jurisdiction between the two Supreme Councils of the United States.

When the Northern Supreme Council was established in 1813, the New England States, with those of New York, Pennsylvania, and New Jersey, and subsequently Delaware, with all the territory North of the Ohio and East of the Mississippi, were allotted to the Northern Council. Recently, the Northern Council has asked for a reconsideration of this allotment, and a new division, by which the line of separation may be extended to the Pacific coast. The subject was referred by the Southern Council to the Committee on Jurisprudence, whose report was adopted, declaring that the concordat ratified in 1827 was conclusive and final, and the question could not be reopened for modification, except upon the motion of the States of the Southern Jurisdiction which were West of the Mississippi.

The most important measures adopted by the Supreme Council were those in reference to the Congress of Lausanne. That body having adopted regulations that were antagonistic to the constitution of 1786, they have not been accepted by the Supreme Councils of Scotland, Ireland, Greece, and the Southern Jurisdiction of the United States, between whom a defensive alliance is about to be formed. The following resolutions, submitted by the Committee on Correspondence, were unanimously adopted by the Supreme Council:

Resolved, That we hail as an auspicious omen for Freemasonry the early and emphatic rejection of the heresy sought to be engrafted upon and made a part of the proceedings of the Lausanne Congress of the Supreme Council of France.

Resolved, That the Supreme Council for the Southern Jurisdiction of the United States endorse, and by this action affirm, the articles of alliance submitted by our Sovereign Grand Commander, and the Sovereign Grand Commander and the Illustrious Secretary General are authorised and requested to officially sign and seal the articles of alliance, when properly engrossed.

The "heresy" to which reference is made in the first of these resolutions, is the declaration by the Congress of Lausanne, that Freemasonry recognizes, under the title of Grand Architect of the Universe, "a creative principle," thus substituting for the old-fashioned declaration of a personal God as the belief of Freemasonry, a mere metaphysical idea admitting of any sort of interpretation. The Supreme Councils above-named have refused to sanction any such dogma, as utterly opposed to all the religious teachings of the Order.

There was another bone of contention introduced by the Congress, at the instigation of the Supreme Council of France. Some years ago, that Supreme Council established one or more subordinate lodges at Honolulu, in the Sandwich Islands. Subsequently the Supreme Council for the Southern Jurisdiction established three subordinate bodies in the same place. To this the Supreme Council of France objects, as an invasion of its territorial jurisdiction. The Congress of Lausanne has sustained the objection, and, without having given the Southern Supreme Council an opportunity to defend its acts, it has affirmed that the organization of a subordinate body by any Supreme Council, in an unoccupied territory, gives to that Supreme Council entire jurisdiction over the territory, and precludes the establishment of other subordinate bodies in it by any other Council.

This doctrine is utterly repugnant to the well established law of territorial jurisdiction, that all territory is to be considered as unoccupied and common until a Supreme Body is established in it by the subordinates there existing. It is a law always recognized and practically enforced in the United States, and, therefore, the Southern Supreme Council has rejected and repudiated the declaration of the Congress.

It is thus seen that the Congress of Lausanne has not been as successful as it had been hoped that it would be, and it may be considered settled that its authority, thus repudiated by four Supreme Councils, will not be effectual in establishing a concord between all the Supreme Councils in the world.

The special committee to whom was referred the subject of the advances made by the Supreme Council of England and Wales and the dependencies of the British crown, through one or more of its officers, to our late lamented Ill. Bro. E. H. Shaw, during his sojourn in England and last illness, and to his widow and family subsequent to his decease, which amount in the aggregate to £80 sterling, beg leave respectfully to report:

"That on behalf of this Supreme Council they tender its sincere thanks to the Supreme Council of England and Wales and the dependencies of the British Crown for the assistance rendered to our late deceased Ill. Bro. Shaw and his family while they were resident and in great need in the jurisdiction of that Supreme Council.

"It will ever be a source of pleasing recollection that through the instrumentality of that council, and the undeviating kindness and fraternal affection of its members, so much was accomplished during the protracted and painful illness of our deceased brother to smooth his pathway to the tomb.

"The Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite teaches no lessons more noble and sublime than those which inculcate toleration to humanity and its weaknesses, and charity to those who, amid the changes and fluctuations of life, are bereft of their means and accumulations.

"The committee recommend the adoption of the following resolution:

"Resolved, That the Treasurer General of this Supreme Council be instructed at the earliest opportunity to remit to the Treasurer General of the Supreme Council of England and Wales and the dependencies of the British crown the sum of £80 sterling, and to express the high appreciation of this Supreme Council for the many kindnesses exhibited toward our late Ill. Bro. E. H. Shaw and his family.

"THOS. H. CASWELL, 33°
"A. E. FRANKLAND, 33°

The other business of the Supreme Council was principally of a private and local nature. It adjourned on Friday afternoon, June 2nd. At night a Sorrow Lodge was held, in public, when Bro. Pike delivered the general eulogy of the dead who had departed since the last session of the Supreme Council.

FREEMASONRY IN SOUTH AFRICA.

The consecration of a Royal Arch Chapter in Cradock took place on Tuesday, June 6th, and passed off most successfully. The weather was unusually fine. About 11 a.m. a number of lady friends and relations of the Masons were admitted to witness the ceremony, and from them we learn that it was a most interesting and impressive one. The following is a list of the officers:—Comps. J. E. Green, M.E.Z.; W. B. Chalmers, H.; A. E. Austen, J.; A. Campbell, Scribe E.; S. T. White, Scribe N.; T. R. Smallman, Treas.; G. F. Austen, Prin. Soj.; G. Bekker, Second Soj.; A. Saunders, Third Soj.; and J. Urie, Janitor.

M.E. Comp. T. P. O. Mathew, P.Z. of St. Paul's R.A. Chapter, No. 131, Adelaide, was the Installing Principal.

After the ceremony, the Masons marched in procession to St. Peter's Church, where service was conducted by the Rev. M. Norton, the offertory being devoted to repairs to the Parsonage. After service the Masons returned in procession to the lodge.

In the evening a party was given by the Masons to their friends in the Court-room, and it was unanimously agreed that it was certainly one of the pleasantest ever given in Cradock, notwithstanding the absence of decorations, for which, it appears, there was no time. The attendance was very large and the supper most excellent; it is not to be wondered at, therefore, that the guests could not tear themselves away till after four. The Masons deserve great credit, not only for the manner in which the arrangements connected with the consecration were carried out, but for the success attending the party in the evening, and deserve some return for it.

A WORD IN SEASON. (From the "New York Dispatch.")

The present year is likely to bring to our lodge doors more visiting brethren than usual, on account of the many strangers attracted hither by the national festivities and the great Exposition as a part thereof. Naturally, Philadelphia will be the objective point in the first instance, but sooner or later the great majority will favour the metropolises with their presence, and our lodges and other organizations with a visit. It is well that we should know what our duty is in the premises, and be prepared to welcome or refuse the stranger as the case may be. It should be recollected that with us the right to visit is never absolute, our rule being that one not a member of the body which he proposes to visit can only be admitted to that privilege by unanimous consent of the actual members present, or, in other words, when a member objects for any or for no reason beyond the mere objection, it is the duty of the presiding officer to refuse admission on the general principle that no visitor can be admitted whose presence will tend to embarrass the lodge work or disturb its harmony. But suppose no objection to be made—and it is but fair to say that few instances of the exercise of the right occur—the question then is as to the regularity and good standing of the brother proposing to visit, and this we may remark in passing is a question our lodges are less qualified to pass upon than they generally suppose themselves to be. In evidence we present the following article from the pen of R. W. Bro. Frank Gouley in the "Voice of Masonry":—

Having had so many inquiries propounded to us relative to the exact standing of English Masons sojourning in this country, and their claims upon our lodges for relief, as well as to the evidence or certificate to be presented with their petitions for affiliation in American lodges, we concluded to have the whole matter settled by explanation from the home office in London, in pursuance of which we submitted a list of questions embodying the material points, and from the courteous and able Grand Secretary, R.W. Bro. John Hervey, we received a reply under date of May 22nd, from which we condense the following facts:—

1st. The Grand Lodge certificate given an English made Mason at the time of his making is evidence that he received the degrees therein specified, but not evidence that he is now a member, or in good standing. Such evidence must be obtained by subsequent inquiry.

2nd. English Masons, in affiliating with one or more lodges in England, must present the same documentary evidence of good standing, &c., as is required by American lodges generally.

3rd. An English Mason at initiation becomes ipso facto a member of the lodge, unless otherwise specified at the time.

4th. All applicants for relief must present satisfactory evidence of membership and good standing.

5th. All English Masons, being members of a lodge, are charged lodge dues, whether at home or abroad.

6th. It is the law and the custom for every visitor to present his certificate, before being examined for admission, hence no American should try to visit an English Lodge without a certificate or diploma, nor should American lodges examine a visitor from outside the United States or Canada without his Grand Lodge certificate of membership, in order to avoid impositions. In Missouri the requirement is of many years' standing.

7th. English lodges, as a rule, do not issue dimitts, but membership is severed by a formal resignation, which is entered upon the record, and certificates of that fact may be subsequently obtained.

8th. An English Mason may be a member of as many lodges as he pleases at the same time, but pays his dues in all of them, and dereliction in one is dereliction in all.

In carefully reading the English Book of Constitutions in connection with the explanations given by the Grand Secretary, we find that our American lodges, as a rule, have been very loose both in the examination of and donations of relief to foreign visitors and sojourners. It is a common thing for a foreign Mason to say that he has lost his lodge certificate, whereas it is a very easy thing for him to write and get a duplicate, if he is still in good standing, and it is almost impossible to find an English Mason, although living here for years, to be able to present a receipt of payment of his lodge dues, or any other documentary evidence of present membership. He will sojourn here for several years, and when in need will present nothing but his original certificate of receiving the degrees, which is no evidence whatever that he is not now an expelled or suspended Mason. Even if he claims to have resigned his membership, he rarely presents a certificate of that fact, which, if presented, may show that he has been ever since a non-affiliate, not having paid a cent into any lodge or charity fund.

If an English Mason applies for membership here, his present status should be written home for before a ballot is had—unless he has the evidence with him—and if he is found correct, then his Grand Lodge certificate will be equivalent to a dimitt to file with his petition, as he may be a member both here as well as in his mother lodge, and his election and payment of dues here does not release him from his dues at home, nor vice versa. In writing to Bro. Hervey for this information, we stated that we needed it not only for our local State jurisdiction alone, but for publication for the benefit of all our States, and would, therefore, suggest to other Masonic journals the propriety of copying this report for the use of lodges generally.

We are evidently doing our sister English lodges great injustice, in too many instances, by harbouring and aiding sojourners who have no legal Masonic standing at home, and of which fact we remain ignorant by our failure to compel the visitor to produce a proper certificate, and the applicant for relief proper evidence of good Masonic standing and worthiness. We refer more particularly to those who have lived in this country one or more years, and not to those making merely a temporary visit to the States, and whose certificates are generally of a recent date.

From Bro. Hervey's letter we learn that Scotland and Ireland have the same system of membership and certificates, although not so strict a system of lodge dues, except that Ireland is rapidly adopting it.

We think it is time that American lodges should be more circumspect in their intercourse with visitors, both those from home and abroad.

The remarks of Bro. Gouley in the foregoing are timely, and awaken, or at least should awaken attention to the fact that we have been altogether too liberal in our acceptance of strangers among us, and somewhat too careless in admitting as correct evidence that when tried by the rules will be found altogether incompetent. Thus Bro. Hervey tells us that the certificate of the Grand Lodge of England is evidence that the party named in it has regularly received the degrees of Masonry, but it is not evidence that the possessor is in good and regular standing if any considerable length of time has elapsed between the date of the certificate and that at which the intending visitor presents himself for examination, and hence when, as is the case in a majority of instances, the certificate is anywhere from two or twenty years old when presented, it will at once be seen that we are not warranted in giving it any special weight in the decision of the question of the present good standing of the person who presents it. Still another matter will be found of great importance in this connection, and that is to be found in the fact that Masons hailing from foreign countries rarely have a certificate of recent date nor yet any document tending to show that they have maintained their standing during the intervening years.

The Grand Lodge having "retrenched" the Boards of Relief out of existence, or at least so emasculated their treasures as to make them organizations in name rather than in fact, a large portion of their work must of necessity fall back upon the lodges, as they will discover when winter sets in. We advise that in such cases no certificate more than one year old be allowed as evidence of good standing, and additionally that care be taken to ascertain whether it issues from a Grand Body with which we are in regular communication. Among those which are not of this class we may name the Grand Lodge of Hamburg, the Grand Orients of France, Italy, Spain, Hungary, Egypt, and most of the South American jurisdictions. As things look now it is probable that the number of such Masonic powers will be more likely to increase than diminish, and, therefore, being on our guard, we may save money for the relief of true brethren and their widows and orphans by refusing it to those who have no legitimate call upon our benevolence.

For their own sakes, as well as for the benefit of the household of the faithful, we urge the brethren to look into this matter, and be prepared to act understandingly when the time for action arrives.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS AND OINTMENT.—Prevention of Weakness. —Whenever circumstances produce impure blood, lessen the force or in any way disarrange the balance of circulation, stagnation takes place in the lungs, and consumption, or any other formidable symptoms, discover themselves. Let Holloway's remedies be tried on the first feelings of debility or the first annoyance of a dry, hacking cough. After the chest, both before and behind, has been formed with warm brine and the skin has been dried with a towel, the ointment should be rubbed twice a day upon the chest and between the shoulders, and the Pills should be taken in alternative doses to purify the blood and cleanse the system without weakening it or rousing or aggravating the nervous irritation.—ADVT.

METROPOLITAN MASONIC MEETINGS.

For the Week ending Friday, August 4, 1876.

The Editor will be glad to receive notice from Secretaries of Craft Lodges, Royal Arch Chapters, Mark Lodges, Preceptories, Conclaves, &c., of any change in place or time of meeting.

SATURDAY, JULY 29.

Prov. G. Lodge Middx., Greyhound, Hampton-st., at 2.30.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Lily, Greyhound, Richmond.
Manchester, 77, London-st., Fitzroy-square.
Star, Marquis of Granby, New Cross-rd.

MONDAY, JULY 31.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Prince Leopold, Lord Stanley Tav., Kingsland.
Strong Man, Jerusalem Tav., St. John's Gate.
Sincerity, Railway Tav., Fenchurch-st. Station.
Oamden, Stanhope Arms, Up. James-st., Camden To.
Eastern, Royal Hot., Mile-end-road.
St. James's Union, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Wellington, White Swan, Deptford.
Perfect Ashlar, Victoria Tav., Lower-rd., Rotherhithe.
Sydney, White Hart Ho., Church-rd., Upper Norwood.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 1.

Colonial Board, at 3.

Lodge 171, Amity, Ship Hot., Greenwich.
" 1549, Abercorn, Abercorn Hot., Great Stanmore.
Chap. 507, United Pilgrims, Surrey M.H.
" 1269, Stanhope, Thicket Hot., Anerley.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Metropolitan, 269, Pentonville-rd.
Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney.
Domestic, Surrey M.H., Camberwell New-road.
Faith, 2, Westminster Chambers, Victoria-st.
Prince Fredk. Wm., Lord's Hot., St. John's Wood.
Dalhousie, King Edward, Triangle, Hackney.
Prosperity, 1, Camomile-st., Bishopsgate.
St. Marylebone, British Stores Tav., St. John's Wood.
Constitutional, Wheatheaf Hot., Hand-court, Holborn.
Israel, Rising Sun Tav., Globe Road.
Royal Arthur, Prince's Head, York-road, Battersea.
Beacontree, Red Lion, Leytonstone.
Metropolitan Chapter, Jamaica Coffee Ho., Cornhill.
Excelsior, Commercial Dock Tav., Rotherhithe.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 2.

Grand Chapter, at 7.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Confidence, M.H., Basinghall-st.
Mt. Lebanon, Windsor Castle Tav., Southwark-bdg.-rd.
Pythagorean, Prince of Orange, Greenwich.
New Concord, Rosemary Branch Tav., Hoxton.
Royal Union, Horse and Groom, Winsley-st., Oxford-st.
Peckham, Maismore Arms, Park-road, Peckham.
Stanhope, Thicket Hot., Anerley.
Finsbury Park, Finsbury Park Tav., Seven Sisters'-rd.
Southwark, Southwark Park Tav., Southwark Park.
Duke of Connaught, Havelock Tav., Dalston, E.
United Strength, Grafton Arms, Kentish-town.
Islington, Crown and Cushion, London Wall.
Whittington, Black Bull Tav., Holborn.
Lewis, King's Arms Hot., Wood Green.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 3.

Lodge 742, Crystal Palace, Star and Garter, Kew Bridge.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Egyptian, Hercules Tav., Leadenhall-st.
Fidelity, Yorkshire Grey, London-st., W.
Finsbury, Jolly Anglers' Tav., Bath-st., City-road.
Temperance in the East, Catherine-st., Poplar.
Ebury, 12, Ponsonby-st., Milbank.
Highgate, Bull and Gate, Kentish-town.
The Great City, 111, Cheapside.
High Cross, Coach & Horses, High-road, Tottenham.
Salisbury, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Marquis of Ripon, Albion Tav., Albany-rd., Dalston.
Prince Frederick William Chapter, St. John's Wood.
Southern Star, Crown Hot., Blackfriars-rd.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 4.

Lodge 1489, Marquis of Ripon, 90, Balls Pond-rd.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Union Waterloo, Thomas-st., Woolwich.
Robert Burns, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Belgrave, Lyceum Tav., 354, Strand.
Unions Emulation (for M.M.'s), F.M.H.
Temperance, Victoria Tav., Victoria-road, Deptford.
Clapton, White Hart, Clapton.
Metropolitan, Portugal Hot., Fleet-st.
Westbourne, Horse & Groom, Winsley-st., Oxford-st.
United Pilgrims, Surrey M.H., Camberwell New-road.
St. James's, New Tanners' Arms, Grange-rd., Bermondsey.
Duke of Edinburgh, Silver Lion, Penny-fields, Poplar.
Doric, Earl Grey Tav., Mile-end-road.
Burgoyne, Grafton Arms, Prince of Wales's-road, N.W.
St. Luke's, White Hart, King's-rd., Chelsea.
Chigwell, Bald-faced Stag Hot., Buckhurst-hill.
Burdett Coutts, Approach Tav., Victoria Park.
Royal Standard, Finsbury Park Tav., Holloway.
Ranelagh, Clarendon Hot., Hammersmith.
Pythagorean Chapter, Prince of Orange, Greenwich-rd.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN WEST LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE.

For the Week ending Saturday August 5, 1876.

MONDAY, JULY 31.

Lodge 148, Lights, M. Rooms, Warrington.
" 613, Unity, Palatine Buildings, Southport.
" 703, Clifton, Clifton Hot., Blackpool.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 1.

Lodge 673, St. John's, M.H., Liverpool.
" 986, Hesketh, Grapes Inn, Croston.
" 995, Furness, M.T., Ulverstone.
" 1256, Fidelity, Bull Hot., Poulton-le-Fylde.
" 1476, Blackpool, Clifton Arms Hot., Blackpool.
Chap. 203, St. John of Jerusalem, M.H., Liverpool.
Mark Lodge, 161, Walton, St. L. Schools, Kirkdale.
Merchants' L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 2.

Lodge 86, Loyalty, M.H., Prescott.
" 484, Faith, Gerard's Arms, Ashton-in-Wakefield.
" 580, Harmony, Wheatheaf, Ormskirk.
" 730, Ellesmere, Royal Oak Hot, Chorley.
" 758, Ellesmere, M.H., Runcorn.
" 1013, Royal Victoria, M.H., Liverpool.
" 1335, Lindsay, 20, King-st., Wigan.
" 1354, Marquis of Lorne, M.R., Leigh.

De Grey and Ripon L. of I., N. Hill-st., Liverpool.

Downshire L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

Harmonic L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 3.

Lodge 249, Mariners, M.H., Liverpool.
" 950, Hesketh, Royal Hot. Fleetwood.
" 1032, Townley Parker, Howard's A., Whitle-le-Wds.
" 1070, Starkie, Black Horse Hot., Kirkham.
Chap. 758, Bridgewater, M.H., Runcorn.
St. John's L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 4.

Lodge 1375, Architect, Didsbury Hot., Didsbury.
" 1387, Chorlton, M.R., Chorlton-cum-Hardy.
" 1505, Emulation, M.H., Liverpool.
Duke of Edinburgh L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN GLASGOW AND WEST OF SCOTLAND.

For the Week ending Saturday, August 5, 1876.

All the Meetings take place at Eight o'clock.

MONDAY, JULY 31.

Lodge 103, Union & Crown, 30, Hope-st., Glasgow.
" 292, St. John, Bishop-st., Rothesay.
Chap. 122, Thetis, 35, St. James-st., S.S., Glasgow.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 1.

Lodge 34, St. John, 213, Buchanan-st. Glasgow.
" 68, Doric, 44, Church-st., Port Glasgow.
" 73, Thistle and Rose, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
" 87, Thistle, 30, Hope-st., Glasgow.
" 173, St. John, M.H., Largs.
" 177, St. James's, M.H., Coatbridge.
" 406, St. John, M.H., Motherwell.
" 433, St. Thomas, Eglinton Hot., Dalmellington.
" 437, Govandale, Portland Buildings, Govan.
" 442, Neptune, M.H., Ardrossan.
" 497, St. John's, Brewery Lesser Hall, Catrine.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 2.

Lodge 0, Mother Kilwinning, M.H., Kilwinning.
" 4, Glasgow Kilwinning, 162, Kent-rd., Glasgow.
" 21, Old St. John, M.H., Lanark.
" 86, Navigation, Arms Hot., Troon.
" 117, St. Mary, Douglas-st., Partick.
" 126, St. Andrew, George Hot., Kilmarnock.
" 128, St. John, M.H., Shettleston.
" 166, St. John, M.H., Airdrie.
" 198, Royal Arch, King's Arms Hot., Maybole.
" 202, St. Clement's, Com. Hot., Kilmarnock.
" 233, Hamilton, Spalding's Hot., Hamilton.
" 331, St. Peter's, Portland Arms, Galston.
" 354, Caledonian Railway, 30, Hope-st., Glasgow.
" 571, Dramatic, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow, 3 p.m.
Chap. 87, Shamrock and Thistle, 12, Trongate, Glasgw.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 3.

Lodge 11, St. John's, King's Arms Hot., Maybole.
" 22, St. John, George Hot., Kilmarnock.
" 149, St. Andrew, Masons' Arms., Irvine.
" 157, St. John, M.H., Beith.
" 165, Royal Arch, King's Arms, Ayr.
" 290, Blair, White Hart Hot., Dalry.
" 320, St. John, M.H., Salcoats and Ardrossan.
" 370, Renfrew, M.H., High-st., Paisley.
" 465, St. Andrew, M.H., Garnad-rd.
" 547, Stewart, M.H., Kilsyth.
Chap. 114, Baron of Renfrew, M.H., Renfrew.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 4.

Lodge 7, Hamilton Kilwinning, M.H., Hamilton.
" 116, Royal Arch, Council Hall, Rutherglen.
" 135, St. James, Crown Inn, Tarbolton.
" 175, St. John, M.H., Greenock.
" 217, Kilwinning, Port Glasgow.
" 242, Houston, Cross Keys Hot., Johnstone.
" 275, Shamrock & Thistle, 22, Struthers-st., Glsgw.
" 335, Argyle, Drill Hall, Dunoon.
" 360, Commercial, 30, Hope-street, Glasgow.
" 408, Clyde, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
" 459, Kelburne, Cumbrac Hot., Millport.
" 512, Thorntree, School House, Thornliebank.
" 551, Clydesdale, Royal Hot., Lanark.
Chap. 112, Paisley, St. Mirren's Hall, Paisley.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 5.

Lodge 458, St. John, Wilson's Hall, Busby, at 6 p.m.
" 544, St. Andrew, M.H., Coatbridge.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN EDINBURGH AND VICINITY.

For the Week ending Saturday, August 5, 1876.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 1.

Lodge 5, Canongate and Leith, 86, Constitution-st.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 3.

Lodge 97, St. James's, St. James's Hall, Writers' Court.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 4.

Lodge 291, Celtic, of E. and L., Ship Hot., E. Register-st.

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TWENTY-FIRST ANNUAL REPORT (MAY, 1876).

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21,151 Policies in force for ... £3,724,432
Annual Premium Income ... £116,753
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From commencement paid for claims ... £350,628
Laid by in the year ... £39,567
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REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS.

Craft Masonry.

LODGE NEW CONCORD (No. 813).—The annual festival of this prosperous Masonic Lodge was held at the Alexandra Palace on Wednesday, the 26th ult., under the presidency of Bro. J. R. Gallant, W.M., supported by Bro. Cusworth, S.W.; Stead, S.D.; George, J.D.; W. Gabb, D.C.; Shipway, I.G.; W. H. Main, P.M. and Sec.; and Sinclair, Tyler. The following Past Masters were also present: Bro. Emmens, J. J. Wilson, Bartlett, Atkins, H. J. Gabb; and amongst the visitors were Bro. Dixon, Crawford, Price, Tranter, Smith, Parker, Thomas, Smeed, and others, the entire company numbering about a hundred, including a fair proportion of ladies. The banquet was served in Messrs. Bertram and Roberts' best style, and the musical arrangements were admirably carried out by Bro. Walesby and Hubbard. Amongst the toasts, which were warmly honoured, were those of "The Queen," "The Prince and Princess of Wales and the rest of the Royal Family," "The Earl of Carnarvon, M.W. Pro G.M., Earl Skelmersdale, M.W. D.G.M., and the rest of the Grand Officers," coupled with the name of Bro. Emmens, P.G.P., who, in his reply, spoke of his great pleasure at seeing so numerous and splendid a company attending the lodge of which he was the founder. "The Masonic Charities" was briefly replied to by Bro. Sinclair, the Steward at the late festival for the Boys' School, who took up with him in aid of that charity from the members of the lodge, the large amount of £200. "The Health of the W.M., and Prosperity to the New Concord Lodge," was most enthusiastically drunk. "The Visitors" was responded to by Bro. Price, and "The Past Masters" by Bro. J. J. Wilson and Main. "The Ladies" were gallantly represented by Bro. Shipway. A special toast was accorded to Bro. W. H. Main, Hon. Sec., for the trouble and care which he had displayed in carrying out the details of this most successful gathering. The company then retired to the ball-room, where dancing was kept up till the hour for closing.

IVY LODGE (No. 1441).—An emergency meeting of this lodge was held on Tuesday, the 25th ult., at the Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell New-road. The lodge was opened by the W.M., Bro. Josiah J. Cattle, supported by the following officers, viz., Bro. C. F. Poupard, S.W.; L. Cornelissen, J.W.; Goodman, S.D.; D. H. Ashford, J.D.; C. S. Jolly, P.M. 87; Sec.; T. F. Knight Smith, Organist; R. Forster, I.G.; and G. T. Fox, Tyler. The lodge having been opened, the summons calling the meeting was read. Bro. Edwin Phillips and Wright were raised to the Third Degree. The lodge having been resumed to the Second Degree, the presiding officer proceeded to pass Bro. Mordie to the degree of a F.C. The lodge was afterwards resumed to the First Degree, and the ballot taken for the admission into the Order of Messrs. F. M. Coldwells and J. E. Arnold. These gentlemen, who had been proposed by Bro. C. Parkin and seconded by Bro. J. Chambers, were regularly initiated into the brotherhood. This being the first meeting of the lodge since the installation of Bro. J. J. Cattle it must be admitted that he worked the ceremonies in such a manner as to deserve the favourable opinion entertained of his ability. Bro. G. Mattock, the I.P.M., being present, the W.M. addressed him upon the mournful circumstance which prevented his attendance at the installation meeting, and stated that a jewel had been voted to him by the lodge. The presiding officer, after a few other remarks, presented the jewel to Bro. Mattock, who acknowledged the gift in a few well chosen words. All Masonic work being ended, the lodge was closed in ancient form, and the brethren adjourned to the banquet hall for refreshment. After the cloth had been withdrawn the usual Masonic toasts were given. The W.M. proposed in suitable language "The Health of the Initiates." The toast was responded to in an excellent address by Bro. Coldwells. The toast of "The Officers of the Lodge" was well received. The W.M., speaking of the duties of the officers, praised each brother for the zealous and efficient manner in which he worked, as well as those who were aspiring to office and already rendering service to the lodge. Bro. T. F. Knight Smith and several other brethren greatly enlivened the proceedings by some excellent songs. Bro. Smith presiding at the piano-forte with his usual ability and taste. At last the Tyler's toast brought a most enjoyable evening to a close, and the brethren separated soon after eleven o'clock to wend their way to their respective domestic lodges. Past Masters John Noye and Charles Smith were present at the gathering.

GATESHEAD.—Lodge of Industry (No. 48).

—The regular meeting of this lodge was held in Freemasons' Hall, Gateshead-on-Tyne, on Monday, 24th July, 1876. Present: Bros. E. D. Davis, P.M., acting as W.M.; J. E. Robson, as I.P.M.; D. Sinclair, S.W.; J. G. Waddington, J.W.; M. Corbitt, Sec.; J. Cook, as S.D.; G. S. Sims, as J.D.; John Wood, I.G.; R. Ferry, Org.; E. Liddell, J.S.; J. Curry, Tyler; several visitors, and a large number of other brethren. Bro. Wm. Alexander, of Wilson Lodge, 86, Toronto, under Grand Lodge of Canada, was elected a joining member. Bro. Swan and Fairclough received the Third Degree. A committee, consisting of Bros. John E. Robson, P.M.; E. D. Davis, P.M.; David Sinclair, S.W.; and Michael Corbitt, Sec., appointed, in addition to the Trustees, Bros. A. Clapman, P.M.; R. J. Banning, P.M.; and J. H. Thompson, P.M., to make all necessary arrangements for the purchase of the Freemasons' Hall, West-street, Gateshead, and complete the same as the committee may consider desirable.

GARSTON.—Lodge of Harmony (No. 220).

—The members of this ancient lodge met for installation purposes on Wednesday afternoon, the 26th ult., at the Garston Hotel, Garston. Bro. J. Hughes, W.M., presided at the opening, and the officers and brethren present were Bros. J. W. Baker, P.M.; C. Leedham, P.M.; W. Jones, P.M.; T. B. Tellett, S.W.; S. Tickle, J.W.; W. Vines, P.M., Treas.; C. Humphries, Sec.; J. Tewksbury, S.D.; G. Price, J.D.; J. V. Worthington, P.M., D.C.; A. Sharples, S.; J. Robinson, Tyler; J. Carter, H. Hatch, J. W. Pickering, T. F. Hill, J. Crowther, J. Coates, J. Cave, W. Throughton, P. Robertson, S. Gill, W. H. Lovelady, T. Wainwright, G. Bradshaw, H. Paine, J. H. Clark, J. R. Ivey, and S. Chambers. The visitors included Bro. W. Hughes, P.M. 1013, and B. Firth, 605. The chair of Installing Master was subsequently occupied by Bro. J. W. Baker, P.M., who impressively placed Bro. C. Humphries, P.M. 1013, in the position of W.M. for the ensuing year. The following brethren were subsequently invested as officers:—Bros. J. Hughes, I.P.M.; T. B. Tellett, S.W.; S. Tickle, J.W.; W. Vines, P.M., Treas. (re-elected); G. Price, Sec.; J. Tewksbury, S.D.; T. F. Hill, J.D.; H. Hatch, I.G.; J. V. Worthington, P.M., D.C.; A. Sharples, S.S.; T. Wainwright, J.S.; and J. Robinson, Tyler. The newly-chaired W.M. at the close of the ceremony passed four brethren to the Second Degree in a masterly manner. The W.M. then said he had a very agreeable and pleasant duty to perform, and that was to present Bro. John Hughes, I.P.M., with a very handsome Past Master's jewel as a token of the esteem in which he is held by the members of the lodge, and in recognition of the value of his services during the past year, especially with reference to the financial position of the lodge. Bro. J. Hughes briefly acknowledged the gift, and the lodge was then closed. The brethren subsequently banqueted under the presidency of the W.M. The annual pic-nic in connection with the lodge was fixed to take place on Wednesday, the 2nd inst., the place of pleasure being the pretty village of Knutsford, in Cheshire.

DEPTFORD.—Royal Oak Lodge (No. 871).

—The regular meeting, was held on Thursday, 27th July, at the White Swan Hotel, 217, High-street, Deptford. Bro. Frederick Walters, P.G.J.D. Middlesex, P.M., Secretary (in the unavoidable absence of Bro. H. J. Tuson, W.M., who was out of town), opened the lodge. There were present during the evening Bros. W. Andrews, P.M., Treas.; G. Andrews, P.M., D.C.; W. Myatt, P.M., W.S.; S. A. Lewin, P.M.; J. J. Pakes, S.W.; J. Baxter Langley, W.M. 1423, J.W.; G. T. Limn, S.D.; R. Harman, J.D.; J. G. Vohmann, I.G.; C. Wood, W. Sievey, G. Jones, W. Simmons, F. H. Burr, J. Rennie, L. Lemon, W. A. R. Harris, G. Porter, C. F. Buhler, W. Elgood, W. C. Lochhead, J. Wollett, R. Mason, G. A. Leighton, A. Macers, H. Fellows, G. Eve, J. G. Thomas, W. Cockle, E. James, R. West, and others. The visitors were Bros. C. R. Bennett, W.M. 1382; Govan Macdonald, W.M. 1158; J. Lightfoot, P.M. 147; David Smith, 1326; G. Gyde, 700; E. W. Fisher, 700; T. W. Adams, 765; G. Frost, 913; and others whose names we were unable to ascertain. Bro. F. Walters, on behalf of the lodge, solicited Bro. G. Andrews to do the work. He kindly agreed to do so. The ballots were unanimous in favour of the admission of Messrs. Gustav Wildermuth, and John Büchele, as candidates for initiation into Freemasonry. The minutes of previous lodge meeting were read and unanimously confirmed. In an impressive manner, Bro. G. Andrews, P.M., raised Bros. G. Eve, W. Simmons, and G. A. Leighton to the Degree of a Master Mason. Three gentlemen were proposed for initiation. A notice of motion was carried, which completed the business of the meeting. The lodge was closed and adjourned to Thursday, August 17th. Cold collation followed, Bro. W. Andrews, the Senior P.M., presiding in an admirable manner at the festive board. The toasts were given and responded to. Songs and recitations passed away an agreeable evening.

LIVERPOOL.—Neptune Lodge (No. 1264).

—The annual pic-nic in connection with this prosperous lodge took place on Wednesday, the 26th ult., but the old fashioned saying that "the best laid schemes o' mice and men gang aft a-gate" was once more verified, so far as the weather was concerned. The rain commenced to fall at early morning, and continued to fall without intermission until long after the return of the pic-nickers to Liverpool. Remembering the pleasant "out" last year, the committee of arrangement again chose Hollingworth Lake, near Rochdale, as the scene of the day's pic-nic. The party started from Tithebarn Station in the morning, and in due time arrived at Hollingworth Lake, amid a continuous downpour of rain. The excursionists made the most of

the unpleasant "situation," and every effort was made to make the time pass as pleasantly as possible. Ample provision in the way of "creature comforts" was made, and a round of enjoyments—skating, dancing, music, &c.—had to be improvised, which was done with much success. Every one seemed determined to do the best and make the most of the day under the circumstances, and although every one returned to Liverpool nearly drenched there was nothing but the greatest good nature predominant.

LIVERPOOL.—Dramatic Lodge (No. 1609).

—The second regular meeting of this lodge was held on Tuesday, the 25th ult., at the Masonic Hall. Bro. J. Bell, W.M., was at his post, supported by Bros. B. B. Marson, P.M.; W. J. Chapman, S.W.; L. Courtenay, J.W.; A. Woolrich, Treas.; H. J. Loveday, Sec.; W. Sandbrook, J.D.; J. Atkinson, I.G.; J. Pye and A. Collinson, Stewards; W. H. Ball, Tyler; Dr. Whittle, Dr. Pierce, H. P. Squire, J. Keet, F. Wilkinson, E. Cotton, W. Hildyard, J. Cavell, R. Williams, I. De Frece, W. Coates, and others. Amongst the visitors were Bros. G. Loredan, 389; S. Jones, P.M. 477; J. Levy, 667; G. R. Chapman, 68; W. F. Blamphin, 667; E. George, 1356; E. Purkess, P.M. 267; J. H. Ryley, 188; H. Nelson, P.M. 1505; R. E. Mitton, 1356; W. Vetter, 815; J. Elmore, 431; J. Orford, 1356. Messrs. A. Garner, R. Brough, and G. Martin were initiated by the W.M., and Bros. F. Wilkinson, E. Cotton, and G. Meers were passed to the Second Degree. The lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned for refreshment, several very enjoyable hours being spent.

INSTRUCTION.

FINSBURY PARK LODGE (No. 1288).—

On Wednesday evening, the 19th ult., the ceremonies of consecration and installation were rehearsed by Bro. Terry. The lodge, which is open all the year round, met at its usual trysting place, the Finsbury Park Tavern, Seven Sisters Road, Holloway, and about sixty brethren, many of whom had never been present at a consecration, assembled. Bro. Terry opened the lodge at seven o'clock, having Bro. R. V. Davies, the W.M. of the mother lodge, 1218, as S.W.; Bro. J. W. Wright, W.M. of the Royal Standard, 1298, J.W.; Bro. P. Dickinson, as D.C.; Bro. W. C. Beavan, as S.D.; Bro. J. F. O. C. Wood, as J.D.; Bro. C. Hawksley, as P.M.; Bro. Pigot, as Treasurer; and Bro. H. B. D. Dunn, as Hon. Sec. Amongst other brethren present were Bros. Biver, W. Rest, P. Pazzi, J. Eldridge, A. N. De Metz, Lane, Powell, Simson, Ely Legge, W. D. Dickson, C. Mitchell, H. Beck, Robinson, Searle, J. Walker, Fred. Brown, S.W. 1607 and 174; C. H. Webb, J.W. 1607; Robson, 1360; H. T. Bath, P.M. 319; Powell, 188; Chant, Simson, S. Owen, S. Wood, J. Pangbourne, W. Morgan, Morgan, jun., S. Buderus, F. Rothschild, S. J. Byng, and W. C. Bevan. Bro. Terry having opened the lodge in the different degrees, proceeded to give the ceremony of consecration, assisted by the officers, and Bro. Burr, as Organist, with Bro. G. Nunn leading the singing. The whole ceremony was beautifully rendered, including an oration describing what Freemasonry is, what lodges are, and the duties of all who join the Order. Hymns were then sung. The ceremony of consecration being completed, Bro. Terry proceeded with the installation, for which purpose Bro. Joseph Pigot, (the W.M. of the Prince Frederick. William Lodge, 753) was presented to him by Bro. P. Dickinson, D.C., as candidate for the chair. On the completion of the formal installation Bro. Pigot appointed the following brethren as his officers, and invested them in a most efficient way:—Bros. Davies, S.W.; Wright, J.W.; Beavan, Treas.; H. B. D. Dunn, Sec.; Chant, S.D.; Rothschild, J.D.; Goode, I.G.; Saul, Tyler. Bro. Terry afterwards gave the charges, and the undermentioned joining members were proposed: Bros. C. H. Webb, S.W. 1607; Ely Legge, 1607; C. Hawksley, 1196; Morgan, 1585; W. D. Dickinson, 29; C. Mitchell, 1201; Hy. Beck, 1201; Robinson, Powell, and Lane. It was proposed by Bro. Dickinson, and seconded by Bro. Davies, and carried unanimously, that a vote of thanks be recorded on the minutes to Bro. Terry for his kindness in working the ceremonies, also, that he be elected an honorary member of the Lodge of Instruction. Bro. Terry, in acknowledging the honour paid to him, thanked the brethren, and said it gave him great pleasure to work the ceremonies, and that he was amply repaid for his exertions by the satisfaction expressed, and by the attention which the brethren had given to him, and he trusted that the lodge might continue to prosper, and exhorted the brethren to support it as well as they had hitherto. The lodge was then closed.

Scotland.

RUTHERGLEN.—Lodge St. John Operative (No. 347).

—The regular monthly meeting of this lodge was held in their elegant new hall in Cathcart-st., on Friday evening, the 28th ult., Bro. D. Smart, W.M., presiding, supported by Bros. J. Cunningham, I.P.M.; Wm. Young, S.D., acting S.W.; Thos. Alston, J.W.; A. Warnock, P.M., Secretary; A. Robertson, J.D.; A. Pearson, Chap.; Hugh Hall, S.B.; P. M. Ross, I.G.; and J. Cairns, Tyler; and a well attended meeting of members and visiting brethren. The lodge was opened, and the minutes of last regular and one emergency meeting read and confirmed. It was then unanimously agreed to have the annual trip of the lodge on Saturday, 19th of August, to the grounds of Col. A. C. Campbell, P.G.M. Renfrewshire, East, by omnibus conveyance. Mr. Robert Wilson was afterwards initiated by Bro. D. Smart, W.M.

KILBARCHAN.—Lodge St. Barchan (No. 156).

—A meeting of this lodge was held in the lodge-room, on Friday evening, 21st ult. The chair was occu-

ped by the W.M., Bro. W. Lewis, M.D., supported by Bros. A. Buchanan, D.M.; R. Craig, S.W.; Cairney, acting J.W.; J. Hill, acting S.D.; J. Stevenson, J.D.; A. Grant, Sec.; and others. Mr. W. Conway, was initiated by the W.M. Three brethren were passed, the ceremony being gone through by the W.M.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF WEST YORKSHIRE.

The following report of the Provincial Grand Master's address at the last quarterly meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of West Yorkshire has been forwarded to us for publication:—

The Provincial Grand Master addressed the lodge as follows,—Brethren, members, and officers of this Prov. G. Lodge of Harmony, permit me to express my sincere acknowledgments for the cordial reception you have awarded to me, and also for the salutation you have bestowed upon the office I have the honour to occupy in West Yorkshire. We have assembled for our Midsummer meeting, under the banner of the Lodge of Harmony, No. 275 on the roll of the Grand Lodge of England. We cordially thank Major Freeman, the W.M., his officers, and brethren, for their acceptable invitation and proverbial hospitality. This magnificent lodge, which numbers upwards of 90 members, has for many years held a high position in the Craft, and has had, and I may say now has, among its ranks many brethren who have pre-eminently distinguished themselves in Freemasonry. Since the renewal of your lodge warrant in A.L. 5839, you have been remarkable as a body of Craftsmen, for the harmony which has at all times existed amongst you, and by the munificent support you have on all occasions given, and given so cheerfully, to our charitable institutions. The provincial record of subscriptions and donations in the Red Book states that this lodge commands a total of 338 votes, representing money contributions, exclusive of losses by death, to the amount of £1002. As an example for this Province, nothing could be more praiseworthy than the efforts made by the Harmony brethren at the Girls' School election last October, who, by their exertions, enabled the charity committee to carry the election of Lucy Maria Taylor, who was not a specially selected nominee of West Yorkshire. This effort on your part, brethren, was "a golden deed," and worthy of mention, again and again; you have also further shown your interest for the prosperity of our charities by your support of Lord Skelmersdale and myself, at the Annuity Fund, and Girls' School festivals, in Freemasons' Hall, the combined exertions of the brethren on these occasions resulting in a subscription list of nearly £18,000; the West Yorkshire quota being £1294, whilst last year these two items were £997 13s. 3d. Permit me to refer to the Girls' School Festival, on the 10th May, in which I, as your P.G. Master, was more directly interested. The executive of this anniversary was in hopes to have been enabled to announce that H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught would preside, but shortly before the day fixed for the festival, a strong doubt having been expressed that H.R.H. would not be in England, Bro. Little, almost at the last hour, honoured West Yorkshire by inviting me to accept the presidency for that day. I trust the cause of this institution did not suffer under the circumstances of the unavoidable absence of our Royal brother, the Duke of Connaught, for we know with what tact and ability he would have fulfilled the duties of the chair. On the Monday before the festival I had the gratification, accompanied by Lady Edwards and my son, of distributing the prizes to the pupils in the school at St. John's Hill. I can assure you that it was a most enjoyable day to us, and we hope that it may not be the last occasion upon which we may have an opportunity of seeing the admirable progress made by the girls of that institution, which is so worthy of your continued confidence and support. I must briefly allude to the return of our Grand Master, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, from the East to his native land. He has been greeted by the Craft, and by millions of his countrymen, with enthusiasm. As Freemasons, we, of this province, hail his return to England with loyalty and affection. The Grand Lodge has resolved worthily to commemorate the visit of the Prince of Wales to India, and his safe return home, and has determined that a special committee be appointed to consider the best mode in which this feeling of thankfulness at the safe return from India of our Grand Master, "can be perpetuated in some charitable and practical form, and to report thereon to the next quarterly meeting." A committee therefore has been appointed to inquire as to the most appropriate manner in which such a visit shall be commemorated, the only limit to its enquiries being that the memorial shall assume some charitable and practicable form. Our assembly to-day is gladdened by the presence of our late Deputy, Bro. Bentley Shaw, J.P. D.L. I seize the opportunity of his welcome visit amongst us to express my admiration of his lofty virtues and high Masonic qualifications; and words of mine are inadequate to give a faithful description of the feelings of respect with which we look back upon his 11½ years of service as D.P. G.M. of this Province. Before that memorable 21 of April at Halifax, when I accepted at the hands of our Royal Grand Master this chair, so long occupied by the Marquis of Ripon, I had long known our distinguished brother to be a most faithful, valuable member of the Craft; but I confess I failed to fully realise the estimation in which he is everywhere held until I came to fulfil the responsible duties attached to my office. Many of us still remember the animated debates in which our late Bro. Freeman and others took part, and we acknowledge the ability and judicious discrimination of our late Deputy in so guiding those deliberations, which terminated in the present revision of our bye-laws and regulations being adopted, and confirmed by this P.G. Lodge, held at Huddersfield on the 15th of May, 1867. A previous edition of our bye-laws received the signature and sanction of th-

Earl of Zetland, 20th September, 1848. This edition is obsolete, and the Huddersfield edition, my Deputy informs me, is now out of print, and that at some of the lodges he has visited these bye-laws are wanting in the catalogue of constitutions and laws which ought always to be found on the pedestal before each W.M. in open lodge. I have often thought it should be a bye-law of this province that each W. Master should have a copy of the Book of Constitutions, Prov. Grand Lodge bye-laws, and the bye-laws of his lodge presented to him on his installation by the Installing Master, to read and to study. It would only cost each lodge a few shillings each year, and would promote discipline and harmony. In 1848 only 32 lodges appear in the schedule of the obsolete copy; in 1867, 46 lodges in the revised edition; whilst 61 lodges require enumerating in a future edition. Under these circumstances, I, and my Deputy, have determined to have the Huddersfield edition reprinted. It is gratifying to me to notice the continued prosperity of the Craft in this large province, and to notice that Bro. M. Martin de Bartolomé, P. P.G.M., P.G.H., on the 23rd May, laid the corner stone of a new Masonic hall at Sheffield, under auspicious circumstances. On the 20th, the Lodges Hope and Pentalfa occupied their new buildings at Bradford. On the 5th June, my Deputy inaugurated in appropriate premises the Wharfedale Lodge, at Otley. We hope soon to be informed of another new Masonic Hall at Batley, and on the 8th June my Deputy was present at the inauguration of the Leeds Masonic Club. The club will, we hope, be conducive of much benefit to the Craft in Leeds, and I earnestly ask the brethren of the province to consider the remarks I made at Sheffield on Oct. 20 of last year in reference to the union of clubs with London. In the touching farewell address to our late Deputy to the Craft at Halifax, last year, he said that "peace and concord prevailed throughout the lodges, with but one slight exception, where he trusted the misunderstanding which had arisen (in one lodge) would be speedily and easily adjusted. Brethren, when I addressed you at Wakefield, I referred to this exception, and I stated that my Deputy had not been able to then find a solution to the ruling of the late Deputy being upheld. He now informs me that, with the assistance of our Prov. Grand Registrar, a harmonious settlement has been brought about, and that I can now inform Bro. Bentley Shaw that his decision will be respected. I, and my Deputy, earnestly desire, that in all the lodges there should be peace, concord, and harmony. We especially commend the word "harmony" to your consideration. It is a truly Masonic word, and worthy of all acceptance, that as Masons we should in agreement, in views, in sentiments, in manners, in interests, labour together for peace and friendship, and mutual harmony.

DISTRICT GRAND LODGE OF NEW SOUTH WALES.

The annual communication was held at Freemasons' Hall, Sydney, on Monday, the 24th day of April, 1876. There were present V.W. Bro. Ernest O. Smith, District Deputy Grand Master, in the chair; R.W. Bro. A. W. Ritchie, P.D.G. Master Madras; W. Bros. Thomas S. Bullard, P.J.D.G.W., as S.D.G. Warden; William G. Cassidy, P.J.D.G.W., as J.D.G. Warden; Wm. Henry Simpson, District Grand Treas.; O. Spencer Evans, District Grand Registrar; A. Gardner, P.B.G. Purposes; R. Leworthy, District Grand Sec.; W. Webster, P.J. D.G.D., as S.D.G. Deacon; George Merrett, P.S.D. G.W., as J.D.G. Deacon; W. Thomas, A.G.D. Ceremonies; John S. Gordon, D.G.S., as D.G. Purst; S. A. DeLissa, District Grand Tyler; and District Grand Stewards, Past District Grand Officers, Worshipful Masters, Past Masters, and Wardens of Lodges, and other brethren.

The District Grand Lodge was opened by the District Deputy Grand Master in form at 8 p.m.

The minutes of the 17th January were read and confirmed.

Bro. Dr. Charles Leslie DeVine was announced as representative from the Grand Orient of Peru.

The District Deputy Grand Master said that before Bro. DeVine was admitted he had to state that documents had been received from the Grand Secretary of the Gran Orient of Peru, dated Lima, 15th April, 1875, signed by the Grand Master, and under the seal of the Gran Orient of Peru, nominating and appointing Bro. DeVine as the representative of that body to the Masonic bodies of England and the dependencies of the British Crown; the documents written in Spanish have been translated into English, and would now be read by the District Grand Secretary. Documents read as follows:—

No. 417.

We, Doctor Blas Jose Alzamora, Sovereign Grand Inspector General of the 33rd Degree.—Ser. G.M. of the Ancient and Most Honourable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of the Orient of Peru,

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME.

Greeting. Greeting. Greeting.

For as much as the Gran Orient of Free and Accepted Masons of Peru has resolved to cultivate a correspondence more intimate than that which has existed hitherto with the grand bodies of Freemasonry, and considering that they may and ought to cement more closely the bonds of fraternal love, increase the prosperity of the Masonic family, and protect the unity, integrity, and purity of the Order by strengthening its usefulness and honour by the nomination and mutual exchange of representatives on the part of each of the bodies above mentioned.

Wherefore know ye that, having full confidence in our Most Worshipful Bro. Dr. Charles Leslie DeVine, Sovereign Prince of the Rosy Cross, 18th Degree, have we deemed expedient to constitute and nominate, and by these presents do constitute and nominate the aforesaid brother,

Dr. Charles Leslie DeVine, 18th Degree, represen-

tative of the Gran Orient of Peru, to the Masonic Powers of England and the Dependencies of the British Crown, for the purposes indicated.

In the testimony whereof we have caused the seal of the Gran Orient to be attached hereto, and have signed these presents in the City of Lima, the capital of the Peruvian Republic, on the 5th day of the Masonic month, Nisam, A.D.L.V.L., the year of the True Light, 5635, which corresponds to the 11th April, 1875, E.V.

BLAS JOSE ALZAMORA,

33°, Most Serene Grand Master.

ARTHUR M. WHOLEY, 33°,

Grand Sec. of the Gran Orient.

Worshipful Bro. DeVine was then admitted, and the Deputy District Grand Master received him as the representative of the Gran Orient of Peru.

Bro. C. H. May, P.M. Lodge 1169, read Auditor's report, with balance sheets of District Grand Lodge and Benevolent Funds for the past year. He then moved, seconded by Bro. Frederick Harper, P.M., Balmmain Lodge, 868, that the same be received, adopted, printed, and circulated, which was put and carried.

Bro. Bullard, P.J.D.G.W., proposed, seconded by Bro. Webster, P.J.D.G. Deacon, that Bro. Simpson be re-elected Treasurer for the ensuing year. Put and carried. Bro. Simpson thanked District Grand Lodge for the confidence reposed in him.

The District Grand Secretary read a letter dated the 24th April, from the Right Worshipful the District Grand Master stating his inability to be present at District Grand Lodge that evening, and requesting the District Deputy Grand Master to preside, and to invest with their collars the brethren he had appointed for the ensuing year to be District Grand Lodge office-bearers, he also thanked the retiring officers for the assistance they had rendered him in carrying out the duties of District Grand Lodge. The District Deputy Grand Master, in pursuance of the authority thus delegated to him, in the name and on behalf of the District Grand Master proceeded to invest the following brethren as officers for the ensuing year, namely:—Bros. E. O. Smith, P.M. 556, D.D.G. Master; O. S. Evans, 868, S.D.G. Warden; A. Gardner, 655, J.D.G. Warden; Rev. Wazer Begg, L.L.D., M.D., 390, Chaplain; W. H. Simpson, P.M. 390, D.G. Treasurer; T. S. Bullard, 556, D.G. Registrar; W. Thomas, 555, P.B.G. Purposes; R. Leworthy, 817, D.G. Secretary; W. D. Banks, 656, S.D. G. Deacon; J. Marshall, 390, J.D.G. Deacon; W. J. Robinson, 1169, D.G. Supt. Works; J. S. Gordon, 556, D.G.D. Ceremonies; J. E. Graham, 656, A.D.G.D. Ceremonies; F. Monckton, W.M. 637, D.G. Sword Bearer; T. W. Craven, 655, D.G. Organist; H. J. Wager, 390, D.G. Pursuivant; S. A. De Lissa, P.M. 655, D.G. Tyler.

The District Grand Stewards are W. Bros. J. J. Davy, W.M. 556; H. J. Lovett, 817; H. Perdriau, 868; El Kirchner, 1169; E. Cohen, 1552; — Stratford, 1568.

Bros. Rowe and Walton were appointed Scrutineers for the election of six P.M.'s to serve on the Board of General Purposes; a ballot was then taken when the Scrutineers retired; on their return the result of the ballot was declared to be as follows:—P.M. Webster, Lodge 1169; P.M. Bullard, Lodge 556, P.M. Cassidy, Lodge 817; P.M. Banks, Lodge 656; P.M. Hopson, Lodge 655; P.M. F. Harper, Lodge 868.

Bros. Merrett and Webster were appointed Scrutineers; a ballot was taken for the election of six Past Masters to serve on the Board of the Committee of Benevolence, the Scrutineers declaring the result of the ballot to be as follows:—Bros. Webster, P.M. Lodge 1169; Cassidy, P.M. Lodge 817; Banks, P.M. Lodge 656; Taylor, P.M. Lodge 390; Hopson, P.M. Lodge 655; T. S. Bullard, P.M. Lodge 556.

It was proposed by the D.G. Treasurer, seconded by Bro. Robinson, that Bro. Webster, P.S.D.G. Deacon, be elected Auditor for the ensuing year; proposed by Bro. Taylor, seconded by Bro. Perdriau that Bro. F. Harper, P.M. Lodge 868, be elected Auditor for the ensuing year. Put and carried.

In the absence of the President, the District Grand Secretary brought up the report of the Committee of Benevolence shewing the amount voted in relief of applicants since last communication to be £17, and that the amount granted during the past year was £156. Bro. Simpson proposed, seconded by Bro. Cassidy, that the report be received, adopted, printed, and circulated. Put and carried.

Bro. Simpson, Treasurer, brought up the report of the Committee of the Orphan Society, with the balance sheet, which was read and ordered to be printed and circulated.

A letter was read, dated 4th April, from the Secretary of the Furnishing Committee, asking for an increase in the salary of the Tyler from £4 to the original amount £8 per annum.

Bro. Simpson proposed, seconded by Bro. Taylor, that the salary of the District Grand Secretary be £120 for the ensuing year, and said that the duties of the office continued to be most efficiently performed by Bro. Leworthy.

The Dis. Dep. G. Master also said that the duties of the office had been performed most satisfactorily.

Bro. Monckton, D.G. Sword Bearer, moved as an amendment that the salary of the District Grand Secretary be £150 for the ensuing year; he thought that amount was quite little enough, as the duties of the office had been increased and faithfully carried out by the D.G. Secretary, and now the District Grand Lodge was in so flourishing a condition it could well afford that amount as salary. Bro. E. Cohen seconded the amendment.

Bro. Simpson, in reply, said he thought that the present salary was sufficient for the work done, and reminded D.G. Sword Bearer that the Secretary received besides his salary remuneration from the Freemasons' Hall Company, and further, that he was only required to give up two hours

daily to the business of his office. The amendment was put and lost, the original motion was put and carried.

Bro. Bullard, District Grand Registrar, moved, seconded by Bro. Craven, District Grand Org., that the salary of the District Grand Tyler be £8 for the ensuing year.

Bro. Taylor said he thought the present salary of £4 quite sufficient, it was at the rate of £1 for each meeting.

Bro. Bullard, in reply, said the salary at first paid the Tyler by all the lodges, including D.G. Lodge, was £100 per annum, he now had only £96. The salary formerly paid by D.G. Lodge was £8, and was reduced in consequence of the state of its funds. The Tyler had a great number of emergency meetings to attend to for which he was not paid anything extra, D.G. Lodge could now afford to pay the original salary to the Tyler, and he hoped it would do so.

Bro. Taylor said he should not oppose the motion. The motion was then put and carried.

Bro. Simpson, pursuant to notice, moved, "That the sum of £500 be taken from the cash balance and invested at interest for the District Grand Lodge." Bro. Cassidy seconded the motion. Put and carried.

Bro. Simpson further moved, seconded by Bro. Cassidy, "That the District Grand Master and District Grand Treasurer be requested to invest the amount in such a way as they deemed most advantageous for the District Grand Lodge." Put and carried.

The District Deputy Grand Master said that this time twelve months ago he had the honour to preside here and to invest the D.G.L. Officers in the name and on behalf of the District Grand Master. He trusted that the brethren who had that evening accepted office and been invested would attend punctually to their duties; as the meetings of the District Grand Lodge were only held four times a year, he could not consider their attendance on those occasions would be a very great tax on their time. He had to congratulate District Grand Lodge on the prosperous state of their funds. During the past year a very important event had taken place in the installation of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales as their Grand Master. Masonry throughout the world has been making rapid advancement of late, for since His Royal Highness's acceptance of office vast numbers had joined the Craft, no doubt owing to the Prince having proved its worthiness by becoming its head, an event that is sure to tell most favourably on Freemasonry. He trusted while we hailed with much gladness the great increase to our numbers we should strictly guard the honour of our Order by being careful not to admit amongst us any who are likely to prove unworthy members of our Craft. He pointed out that two portraits of H.R.H. the Grand Master had been obtained from London, one of which was placed in the lodge-room, and the other in the banquet-room.

The District Grand Master had granted Warrants of Dispensation for two new lodges, one to be named the St. Leonard's Samaritan Lodge, to be held at St. Leonard's, North Shore, and the other the Inverell Lodge, to be held at Inverell.

Bro. Bullard said before District Grand Lodge closed he had an observation to make. He had been informed that the fee charged by the lodges for initiation was too small in comparison with those charged in England, and especially since the accession to office of our Royal Grand Master. He was told that £10 10s. was the fee charged for initiation in some lodges in England. He considered if that was the case that in this colony the fee should be increased. He thought the matter worth consideration.

The business being ended District Grand Lodge was closed in form.

FACTS AND SUGGESTIONS ABOUT THE ANCIENTS AND MODERNS.

By Bro. JACOB NORTON.

A statement appeared in a New York paper about three months ago, that Albion Lodge at Quebec was chartered in 1721. After some enquiry of the author of the article, who assured me that he had seen the charter, &c., I was at first inclined to credit it as a fact, but subsequent reflection, however, induced me to doubt. I could not understand how an English lodge could have found its way into Quebec at a time when the enmity between the English and French colonists in North America was such as to make it doubtful whether an English resident at Quebec would have been tolerated. Further investigation showed that the said Albion Lodge was chartered by the Ancients, hence it could not be older than 1750 or later. Moreover, Quebec was not conquered by the English before September, 1759, and the said lodge, which was originally named "Royal Artillery Lodge," was probably introduced into Quebec by a military regiment, as its name implies. These and several other reasons induced me to send a communication to the "Canadian Masonic News." The MS. was mailed on the 15th of April last, the day I sailed for Europe. For reasons which need not be explained, the article was sent from Montreal to the "Keystone," at Philadelphia, where it was printed on the 29th of April. For once at least, Bro. McCalla and myself agreed in opinion. Bro. W. J. Hughan, of Truro, England, also sided with us, and the only chance of upsetting our united belief depends on the publication of the charter, and I hope the Quebec brethren will ere long comply with our united request, and send a verbatim copy of the Albion Lodge charter to some Masonic journal for publication. Should the charter not be forthcoming we shall certainly take it for granted that we were not mistaken in our belief.

The investigation of that question, however, brought to my notice several other subjects, which I proceed to give: 1st. On carefully re-examining the list of lodges of the United Grand Lodge in 1814, in Bro. Hughan's "Masonic Memorial," I found that besides the Royal Artillery, No. 9, on the list of the Ancients, 1813, and No. 17 on that of

the United Grand Lodge, in 1814, that two other Quebec lodges were respectively numbered by the Ancients, viz., 56 and 240, while not a solitary Quebec lodge can be found on the Grand Lodge of England list before the Union in 1813. This itself seems to indicate that the Ancients monopolized Quebec, and gives strength to our opinion that the Royal Artillery was also chartered by them.

2nd. I can also find that the late Charles W. Moore claimed that the so-called St. John's Grand Lodge of Boston chartered a lodge at Quebec "before 1764" (see Mass. Cons. 1857). Bro. Moore gave neither name nor date for the alleged Quebec lodge, except the somewhat dubious "before 1764." I am very much inclined to place that Massachusetts Quebec lodge side by side with the charters said to have been sent from Boston to Philadelphia, Charleston, S.C., Halifax, N.S., to the West Indies, &c. But yet it may be true, and if so, I hope the Quebec brethren will enlighten us upon the subject.

3rd. During my late visit to London, my esteemed friend, Bro. Hervey, Grand Secretary of England, informed me that the policy of the Ancients and Moderns in numbering their lodges differed in this. After certain intervals the Grand Lodge of England used to erase all its defunct lodges, and the numbers were re-conferred, according to the seniority, on the other lodges. That the Grand Lodge of England did re-number part of its lodges several times previous to 1814 can be proved; first, from the African Lodge, Boston, which was originally numbered 459, and was afterwards changed to 370; and second, the first Boston, now St. John's Lodge, known in England as Royal Exchange Lodge, was numbered at its first registry, about 1735 or 6, No. 126; in 1740 its number was changed to 110, and later still it was re-numbered 65, and at the time when it was stricken off, in 1814, it was No. 42. But I have no evidence that the Ancients had ever re-numbered their lodges en masse, and what is more curious still, on the demise of any of its old lodges its number was sold to the highest bidder, or in other words, the lodge that offered the highest sum took the number of the defunct lodge, and was entitled to precedence of the older lodges, and that at the Union in 1814 the United Grand Lodge took the numbers of the lodges of the Ancients, as they then existed, without any regard to seniority of their respective dates of charters, and placed No. 1 of each organization next to each other, changing the number of one of them to No. 2, &c.

Another fact about the lodges of the Ancients and Moderns at the time of the Union in 1814 must be noticed, viz., that on Bro. Hughan's list, as well as on all the lists of lodges published in the English calendars since the Union, the lodges of pre-union Moderns have the respective years of their constitutions annexed, while the lodges of the Ancients are minus of the year when constituted. The reason of this omission I must leave to Bro. Hughan to unravel. But anyhow, while we are certain that No. 1 on the list of the Moderns is older than its No. 2; with the lodges of the Ancients, it is actually impossible to know which is the oldest, as No. 1 may have become defunct, and No. 205 may have bought its number, and may in reality be fifty years the junior of No. 2. Now, the Quebec Lodge Albion, or Royal Artillery, was in 1814 No. 9 on the Ancients' list, but who knows whether the date of its charter may not be 1770, and that either for money or for some other consideration the No. 9 of a defunct lodge might not have been conferred upon it? The fact is, the only way we can learn the date of a charter of the Ancients is from the charter itself, or from a well authenticated copy thereof.

4th. On analyzing Bro. Hughan's list of lodges in 1814 I found that the total number of lodges of the United Grand Lodge of England was 647, out of which 250 were contributed by the Ancients, and 397 were constituted by the Moderns. Out of the 250 lodges of the Ancients, eight lodges were chartered by militia regiments in various parts of England, and about thirty were regular military lodges, while among the lodges originated by the Moderns I found but two militia lodges respectively dated 1791 and 1810, but not a solitary military lodge could I find there. It is evident, therefore, that all the military lodges of "English Registry" we read of in our colonial times, were chartered by the Ancients; for in the first place if the Grand Lodge of England had chartered military lodges before the Union, it would not have been without any in 1814, and secondly, no provision whatever about military lodges was made in any Constitution of the Grand Lodge of England published previous to the union with the ancients. But the first Book of Constitutions published by the United Grand Lodge of England contains regulations for military lodges.

Of the 250 lodges of the Ancients who united with the Grand Lodge in 1813, 127 of these lodges were still subordinate to the Grand Lodge of England in 1874 (when Bro. Hughan's memorial was published), and out of the thirty military lodges chartered by the Ancients but one of these is living, viz., St. John's, Gibraltar, and Royal Battalion of Artillery. Its number on the Ancients' list at the union in 1813 was 148. On the United Grand Lodge's list, in 1814, it was No. 181. In 1832 it was numbered 132, and in 1863 it was made 115. And of the 397 lodges contributed in 1813 or 14 by the Moderns I counted but 205 still acting under the English jurisdiction. Most of the old lodges of both wings have doubtless dissolved since the Union, but still we know that a few of them have seceded and are now working under the jurisdictions of Nova Scotia and Quebec.

And now for another fact about the Ancients that worked in Boston before the Revolution. In 1870, Bro. Gardner, the G.M. of Massachusetts, called my attention to the following paragraphs in an American reprint of "Calcott's Disquisition." After giving the nights of the meetings of the lodges working under the English Provincial Grand Lodge, and of the Scotch Provincial G.M., Joseph Warren, it then goes on to say: "I

"Under the jurisdiction of the Right Worshipful, &c., John, Duke and Marquis of Athol, &c."

"Ancient York, No. 169, the first and Third Tuesday in every month, at Mr. Alexander's Battery—March." This is the only evidence that the Ancients had a lodge in Boston. Of course, we imagined that it was a civilians' lodge. Recently, however, I found the following in "The Early History and Transactions of the Grand Lodge of New York," page 13.

"Minutes of Lodge 169, Ancient York Masons, held at their lodge-room on Tuesday evening, the 23rd of Jan., 1781."

I am firmly persuaded that the No. 169 of Boston was the identical Lodge No. 169 of New York; it was doubtless a military Lodge, and it left Boston with the British troops in 1736. Its lodge nights were on Tuesdays in both places. And as No. 169 is not given in "Hughan's Memorial" on the list of the Ancients, and as the minutes of that lodge remain in New York, the charter and lodge must have remained at New York after the war was over. I may be wrong, but such is my opinion.—"Jewish Record."

DOWN WITH MASONRY.

A large number of Christians, or philanthropists, or Christians and philanthropists, have been in session in Chicago for several days. The object of their gathering is to put down Masonry—not brick and stone masonry, but that dreadful oath-bound association whose members once killed Morgan. That is to say, killed him till after election.

The world watches the proceedings of this body with intense interest, fully believing that in the suppression of Masonry it has a mission, a great work to perform. The association numbers somewhere from 50 to 100 members. Masonry has anywhere from five millions to fifty millions of members. This will oblige every member of the anti-Masonic society to do some heavy work. Each of these has to dispose of from five hundred thousand to one million Masons. It's big odds; but there is no doubt they have the will, the desire, the inclination to succeed. All they lack now is the ability.

There is no doubt of the fact that Gen. Blanchard, in his crusade against the Masons, is doing God service—or at least he thinks he is. Masonry is a dastardly article, anyhow. Able-bodied men who appear on the streets aproned like pastry cooks or butchers occupy an equivocal position. What right have they to wear white aprons? What right have they to wear aprons at all? Are not these aprons worn so that deeds of blood can be committed without marring their clothes with gore? What terrible signification is there in all these stalwart, mysterious men going about with this unfathomable attachment? In truth, any man who will make a spectacle by marching up one street and down another, in broad daylight, with a little white apron strung around him, ought to be suppressed either by Blanchard or the police.

Again, what is meant by other Masons going about in uniform, and wearing pewter swords? What dire project is entertained by these men with plumed hats, gauntlets, and glittering sabres? It may be plunder. It may be rape. It may be something worse than either of these. Whose watch or throat is safe when gloomy-looking bands of men in funeral black, and armed to the teeth with a falchion of glittering pewter, are allowed with impunity to drill in secret places, and to march through the streets at any hour of the day or night? Where is Hickey? Where are the police? Call out the 1st Regiment, and let us have this menace removed at the point of the bayonet!

Blanchard is right every time. Every few days a dripping body is fished from the river. What proof is there that, in every case, the body is not the victim of Masonic hate and vengeance? Who has been able to satisfactorily prove that Masonry did not set fire to Chicago? And see here, Mr. Blanchard, can't you guess who abducted Charlie Ross? Do you twig? Masonry, my boy, dark, secret, silent, implacable Masonry? And did it never occur to you, Mr. Blanchard, to think of Masonry, when you have revolved that sphinx of problems, that hitherto unanswerable question which has been so long calling vainly for answer, from out the gloomy crypts of the past, Who struck Billy Patterson? For all the mysterious crimes that have escaped detection; for the explanation of bloated corpses far out on the sea, rocking idly on the swell, and coming, no one knows whence, and drifting no one knows whither; for gashed throats yawning horribly as grey morning first discovers them in the out-ways of life; for all these let Masonry answer—if it can! Will it? If not, Mr. Blanchard, then abolish its members, and may Hiram Abiff have mercy on their souls.

The Masonic business has gone on long enough, for thousands of years Masonry has existed, and during all that time tempests have swept the earth; volcanoes have inundated us with igneous wrath; wars have prevailed; grasshoppers, the murrain, the itch, measles, drunkenness, divorce, murder, suicide, shipwrecks, and termagant women have abounded and have cursed the earth, like fierce hounds, rending, tearing, afflicting humanity. Who can fail to see the connection between Masonry and all these specified evils? No one. It is as clear as it is that hunger causes nakedness, or that water creates thirst. Down with the acacia! Let it be dug up all throughout the world, and be thrown over the fence. It is a weed which takes up place which might better be occupied by the shamrock, or some other vegetable of a thrifty growth.—"Chicago Times," June 23.

The foundation stone of the new School of Art to be erected on Green Hill, Derby, was laid on Tuesday by the Baroness Burdett-Coutts in the presence of a distinguished company.

GRAND CHAPTER.

The quarterly convocation of Grand Chapter was held on Wednesday at Freemasons' Hall. The chapter was formed as follows:—E. Comp. Samuel Rawson, as M.E.Z.; E. C. Frederick Pattison, as H.; and E. C. Platt, J. There were also present Comps. Lieut.-Col. Creaton, as S.E.; Benj. Head, as S.N.; Hon. W. Warren Vernon, as P. Soj.; Gray and Saunders, Assist. Sojs.; E. J. Barron, Standard Bearer; also Comps. Buss, Snell, Parkinson, Joseph Smith, Hyde Pullen, Hogard, John Boyd, H. E. Francis, W. Hammond, W. Stephens, Pendlebury, Adlard, and others. After the reading of the minutes of the last quarterly convocation, the report of the General Purposes Committee was taken, including a report vouching the correctness of the accounts since 19th April, 1876, and reports as to the reception of petitions for four new chapters, viz., a chapter to be attached to the Jumna Lodge, 1394, to be called the Chalmers Chapter, to meet at Delhi, Punjab; a chapter to be attached to the Tyne Lodge, 991, Willington Quay, Northumberland; a chapter to be attached to the Friends in Council Lodge, 1383, to be called the Friends in Council Chapter, to meet at 33, Golden-square, London; a chapter to be attached to the Lodge of Charity, 563, Umballa, to be called the Umballa Chapter, to meet at Umballa, Punjab, all of which, being found regular, were recommended by the Committee of General Purposes, and granted by Grand Chapter.

A petition from the Fortescue Chapter, 847, Honiton, for a charter of confirmation, in consequence of the loss of the original, which was supported by Comp. the Rev. John Huysbe, Grand Superintendent of Devon, was also granted.

The committee also reported an irregularity which had occurred in the Old Globe Chapter, 200, Scarborough, where, on his simple assertion that he had been twelve months a Master Mason, a brother had been improperly exalted. The committee did not consider that it was a wilful error, and under the circumstances the Grand Chapter merely inflicted a fine of one guinea, with an admonition, and directed that the companion should be re-obligated at the next meeting.

Grand Chapter was then closed in the usual form.

A MASONIC INCIDENT.

At the feast given by the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts in December last, Rev. Bro. Young, the Grand Chaplain, related the following incident, and made the following excellent comments thereon:

The other evening, on a certain occasion, I alluded to the influence of Masonry during the rebellion. Since then I heard a story from one who was in the war, which beautifully illustrated the influence of Masonry in the direction of love and fraternity. In one of the battles of Virginia General Woodworth—I think that is the name—of Vermont, fell, and his body was within the enemy's lines. His friends wished to obtain it, and a Federal officer, who was a Mason, said to the sentinel, who was also a Mason, "You go down to the shore of the stream, and if you see a man on the other side, make some signal to him of a Masonic character." He went down to the shore, and by and by he saw a person on the opposite side. He gave the signal, but no answer was returned. The next morning when he went down he repeated the practice with the same result; no answer was given. Finally the officer himself went down and made some signals, and he soon found them answered on the other side. In course of the day communication was had, the body was given into the hands of its friends, and carried home to Vermont for interment. The rebel officer said that the sentinel on the other side did not know what those signals meant.

Now, it's just that, brethren. The world laughs at our signs, and calls them nonsense. But their object is to touch the secret springs through which we are brought into close and intimate connection with others, and are enabled, as in the case illustrated, to close a bloody chasm, and bring enemies into the relation of friends.

And so in the secret character of our organization. Why, all grand forces of nature are secret. God himself is a great secret, a great mystery; the eye does not look upon Him, the ear does not hear Him, the hand cannot reach Him, and yet we believe in His boundless love, and wisdom, and power, and we worship that Great Unseen and Invisible One. Life is secret and invisible. The surgeon, the dissector, can cut the body and lay open its parts; but he cannot lay his knife upon the secret life and expose it to the eye. The air is invisible. We only feel it on our cheeks; we hear its music in the forests. Electricity is invisible. Gravitation is invisible. All the secret powers and forces that move the world and hold systems together are unseen and secret, eluding the eye and hand. So it is in this grand institution of ours, which I believe we can not too much praise and too much love, brethren, and too much honour in our own manly characters, in our own upright lives, and in our loving disposition. It is that very characteristic of Masonry which gave it the power that is, to-day, in a hundred thousand ways that we don't see, moving the world onward, and lifting it up nearer to the skies, and preaching that love and brotherly kindness which shall make the earth we live on like the heaven we aspire to.

KNOWLEDGE AND SYMPATHY.—Good spirits may be readily restored to the late fortunate owner by a few doses of Holloway's revivifying medicine. Instant action alone is wanted to prevent the development of more disagreeable and dangerous symptoms. Every one has frequently experienced sudden personal changes from gaiety to gloom. The weather often receives the blame, when a faulty digestion alone is the cause of the depression. Holloway's Pills can be honestly recommended for regulating a disordered stomach and improving digestion. They entirely remove all sense of fullness and oppression after eating. They clear the furred tongue, and act as a wholesome stimulant to the liver, and as a gentle aperient to the bowels. They healthfully rouse both body and mind.—ADVT.

Obituary.

BRO. RICHARD DANSON, P.M. 1064.

A large section of the Masonic fraternity in and around Liverpool will learn with regret that Bro. Richard Danson, P.M. 1064, died at Heaton Moor, on Tuesday, the 25th ult., after a long illness. The deceased was best known professionally in Liverpool as the architect of the New Masonic Hall in Hope-street, and he was greatly esteemed by a large number of the brotherhood. Bro. Danson was only 41 years of age.

BRO. CAPTAIN JONES.

Died at Liverpool, on the 21st inst., suddenly, Bro. Captain Jones, formerly one of the Deacons of the Merchants' Lodge, who was very highly esteemed in Masonic circles by many brethren, and whose loss is greatly felt by many who knew him.

BRO. JOHN CHILDS, P.M. 1201.

On Thursday, the 27th ult., the remains of Bro. Past Master John Childs were conveyed to their last resting place in Lewisham Cemetery, and, although little notice could be given, there were many present to show their high regard for one who did the highest honour to Freemasonry by his most consistent and exemplary life, and whose untiring zeal for the cause of temperance and the general good of his fellows raised him in the highest esteem. It was, as far as the Craft is concerned, a private funeral.

By request, Bro. P.M. Wm. Darley, of Adams Lodge, 158, Sheerness, delivered the following oration at the grave after the usual service of the Church of England had been impressively performed by the vicar:—

Brethren and Friends,—
Not many days since I witnessed with pleasure a youth and aged sire shake hands together in the street—both seemed cheerful and happy then. The youth was taken ill, and so was the sire at the same time—the youth, most amiable and dutiful, a promising scholar, and on whom I looked with the greatest hope and comfort for the future, was my own dear boy of 17, whom it was my sorrow on Friday last to follow to the grave after but a week's illness, and his body rests within a very short distance of us. The sire was my dear friend and Brother Childs, whose body lays before us—both have left the clearest testimony that they died happy and have gone to a better world; they each mingle their voices with those before the throne of God. I have reasons to love the memory of Bro. Childs as an honourable, straightforward Mason, and an ornament to society as a lover of Masonry, who religiously carried out his obligation—ever ready to do good and to speak a word for those who were worthy. I honour him because amidst persecution he supported me in my efforts to free our excellent society from the great national curse. At his grave I venerate him as a true friend and brother, of whose acquaintance I was proud, as a man of superior intelligence and scientific attainments, and whose memory I shall ever revere as a godly man. Eternal peace to his ashes; and may the highest honours deck his brow and enshrine his spirit in the realms of light and life in the presence of the Most Holy. At his grave I devoutly pray the Most High God, and ask you present, and all lovers of genuine Masonry, to join me, that in His great goodness and wisdom He will shed His benign light upon His Royal Highness the Grand Master, the Grand Officers, and all possessing an honourable influence, inducing them to discontinue the drinking customs, and thus help to maintain pure and unsullied the noblest institution upon which the sun has ever shone, which has bound and is destined to bind together in sweetest harmony and love men of all nations, creeds, and politics. May the happiest consolations fill the breast of his widow and survivors, and the choicest blessings rest upon his children and children's children for ever. Brethren, I ask you to look with me into the open grave into which our brother has descended; let the spectacle remind us of our inevitable destiny, and guide our reflection into that most useful of all human studies, the knowledge of ourselves. May the Most Holy prepare us by His grace for that change when the great leveller of all shall come that we may join our brother in the Grand Lodge above, where the world's Great Architect lives and reigns supreme for ever. Live, my brethren, for this; show that there is in Masonry something more than a mere name, that you love one another "practically," and thus honour God and your profession. Pour the balm of consolation into the wounds of the sorrowing, help one another in all your lawful callings, do good in every way you can, and may God bless you and yours with every happiness here and hereafter. In closing allow me to pay a tribute to Masonry, a synonym of "Pure Religion," apart from Creed. Creeds are but dogmas or obstinate wills for faith created by local circumstances. Masonry, rising on angel wings above the clash of creeds and the strife of politics, reaching beyond the narrow limits of particular institutions, civil or religious, redolent with the perfumes of heaven, is now flying through the earth on a mission to dissipate prejudices, to teach man to love God and one another, regardless of creed, country, or caste, it has stood for thousands of years and braved the greatest persecution, it has promoted peace and goodwill among men, and raised the happiness of heaven, to which the monarch and the peasant unitedly do homage; whilst its heavenly charms draw together as brethren those who would be in perpetual animosity. Nations fall! Monarchs die! but Masonry, Heaven-born brotherly love, shall flourish and fructify in undying summer, and survive the wreck of matter and the crash of worlds. Finally, may it increase in its influence among all nations. May love and harmony prevail, and the God of the widow and fatherless bless the hand that helps its chariot-wheels along, or that removes impediments out of its way.

The whole were much affected, and the vicar showed respect by remaining. Afterwards the rites of Good Templars were carried out, and the whole sang "For ever with the Lord."

BRO. REV. FRANK W. C. SIMMONS.

The funeral of the late Bro. Rev. Frank W. Churchill Simmons took place at Nelson, New Zealand, on the 18th May, and was attended by a large number of the friends of the deceased gentleman. The mournful cortege left the College at half-past two for the Stoke Cemetery. Immediately after the hearse were coaches containing the nearest and dearest relatives and friends of the departed, and behind these came the collegiate scholars, followed by a great many young men who had left the institution, but bore in grateful and respectful remembrance the valued services of a kind and able master. After these came a carriage with the College Governors and the masters of the various public schools, then came two carriages occupied by well-known members of the Masonic fraternity (without the regalia of the Order), and the sad procession closed with a long string of vehicles of every kind. The service in the church was read by the Bishop of Nelson, assisted by the Rev. J. Kempthorne, after which his lordship read the service at the grave in a very impressive manner. At the conclusion of the service, according to the time-honoured custom of Freemasonry, the brethren present drew near the open grave and deposited sprigs of acacia upon the coffin, thus paying a last tribute of respect to the memory of the well-loved and deservedly esteemed Bro. Frank W. Churchill Simmons.

Mulum in Darbo; or Masonic Notes and Queries.

SMOLLETT A FREEMASON.

In an interesting article entitled "Smollett and Chelsea," by T. H. Gibson, M.A., in the "London Magazine" it is stated—"From one of his last letters, addressed to a friend in Chelsea, it would appear that Smollett was a Freemason; and that, as of course we might quickly infer from his works, he was very fond of a little genial society, not even excluding that tavernous society to which literary men in all ages seem to have been occasionally prone. Smollett, in fact, makes pointed references to the 'set' or convivial company meetings at some favoured and favouring tavern in the locality, and desires to know how the fellows are getting on, and that he may be remembered to them." What is known of this gifted novelist as a Mason? When and where was he initiated? What lodges did he visit? And will any one forward to the "Freemason" a copy of the letter alluded to in the above extract? I strongly suspect that Sterne too was a Freemason. If the true history of the Craft could only be fully come at, it would prove to be a much more glorious one than the rubbish manufactured for us by the "won't go home till morning" class of scribblers, who seem to have forgot that truth is a Masonic virtue.

GEORGE MARKHAM TWEDDELL.

MASONS' MARKS ON THE RUINS OF ANCIENT ROME.—It is only within the last year or two that we have been able to trace out the exact line of the walls of ancient Rome, as built by the kings, and this has been owing to the building of the new city, and the excavations made for that purpose by the British and American Archaeological Society's Exploration Fund. The marks found upon stone buildings of all dates in various parts of the world are those of the Masons, or builders, who were from the earliest times banded together in guilds, none being admitted without serving a specified time; these, again, according to their ability, were divided into different classes, consisting of Apprentices, Fellow Crafts, Master Masons, Mark men, and Architects, as distinct from the labourers, or men who prepared the rough stone, mixed the mortar, or carried the materials. These bands, guilds, or lodges were presided over by the most competent, forming a brotherhood, and as such existing down to the seventeenth century. Many of these lodges had charters and privileges granted to them by various kings and emperors; and because their art was taught only to the freeborn they came to be called Freemasons, which name is retained to the present day by the Masonic lodges, though they are not operative, but speculative Masons. Charlemagne and Hugh Capet granted such charters; also Pope Nicholas III. in 1278; in 1445 John de Medicis, Duke of Florence, became Grand Master of Freemasons; and Pope Leo X. was Grand Master of the Order, also Clement VIII. In our own country, St. Alban got a charter from the king and council for their protection; in 926 King Athelstan likewise granted a charter, and became Grand Master at York. Edward III. revised their constitution in 1358; in the reign of Henry VI. the House of Commons brought in an act to prohibit their meetings, which passed, and was revoked in 1450, when the king and many lords, gentlemen of his Court were made Masons. But to return to the marks. These were made by certain men of the old guild, called Mark men, whose duty it was to mark the stones with certain signs. Thus, in the Masonic lodges of the present day, called Mark lodges, each member of the lodge has a distinctive and peculiar symbol, which no other member of that lodge can take. Although on different parts of the early fortifications in Rome we find Masons' marks often repeated on stones close together, yet taking the existing remains which are at a distance from each other, we do not find the same marks repeated, with only one exception, a mark on the agger in the tower of Servius Tullius, B.C. 580, corresponds with a mark on the Palatine, B.C. 753, and a curious trident mark here is also often found on the wall of Pompeii, near the Porta Romana. Many of the marks are used by the Freemasons of to-day.—"Builder."

WISE PRECAUTIONS.

It is always wise to look ahead, to exercise a judicious caution in regard to determining any of the important relations and movements of life. By such care and forethought many unpleasant complications may be avoided, as well as the frequent embarrassments of condition to which the rash and heedless are always exposed. This careful consideration and judicious scrutiny are especially recommended to persons disposed to seek connection with the Masonic institution. The becoming a Mason ought not to be wholly a leap in the dark. The step is far too important to be taken under the promptings of any sudden whim or impulse, and without any intelligent appreciation of the nature of the society with which affiliation is sought, the kind of company that will be found there, and the general duties that will be imposed. Because of such rash and ill-considered action, disappointment sometimes attends the initiate. We call to mind several instances that illustrate the fact. Under the impulse of personal friendship for a distinguished member of the Craft, an acquaintance of ours inconsiderately sought admission into Masonry. A most estimable citizen, he was constitutionally without a particle of relish for symbolism and scenic display,—his was a prosaic nature to which forms, and ceremonies, and figurative teachings were an abhorrence. Need we say this man was not overmuch pleased with Masonry? He ought never to have entered our doors; and, probably, he would not, if he had only enquired a little more carefully as to the character of the institution.

We call to mind another very excellent person who has never been at home in his Masonic relations, chiefly because of his own strong individualism, over-sensitiveness, and reticence. This man caught glimpses of Masonry in its philosophical aspects, but he did not sufficiently consider that it makes fellowship one of its watchwords, and calls at times for personal unbending in that free intercourse and cheerful companionship for which it gives the opportunity, and provides the occasion. The expectations of our brother were not fully realized; he can enjoy only a section of Masonry, and he would have saved himself from disappointment by exercising a little more care at the outset.

One other case comes to mind. A young man of noble thought and aims, acting impulsively, knocked at the portals of a certain lodge for admission, having sought no information as to who composed its membership. The ceremony of initiation being completed, he found himself surrounded by certain brethren not at all to his liking, with whom he was obliged to associate and fraternize! He felt that he had made a mistake, that he was not in the right place, and that he had acted too hastily. Nominally he is still a Mason, but he is not of us or with us in any true sense.

Better exercise a little more careful thought at the beginning; let the candidate inform himself as to the character and claims of Masonry, look at the list of members belonging to the lodge he proposes to enter, and then if he decides to go forward he will not be likely to be disappointed. All this is in accordance with the old time teachings of Masonry. More than a hundred years ago this was the rule laid down: "In the first place, when you intend to be made a Freemason, go with your friend to the lodge, and desire him to show you the warrant of dispensation by which the lodge is held, &c. When they produce this authority or warrant, then call for the bye-laws, and having seriously perused them, consider whether your natural disposition will incline you to be conformable to them. Next call for the roll, or list of members, where you may find the names of some of your most intimate and esteemed friends, or perhaps the names of such other acquaintances as you would not choose to associate with."—"Freemasons' Repository."

IS IT CHINESE MASONRY?

The Truckee (Cal.) "Republic" says: The funeral of Yee Gee Peow took place yesterday. Full five hundred people, whites and Chinese, witnessed the ceremonies. Just exactly who Yee Gee Peow was, cannot be told. That he was a celebrated member of the Chinese Secret Society is certain. That he held a rank in this society something akin to Grand Lecturer is also known. Further, is mystery. Several times during the past few years he has been in Truckee. The society of which he was so brilliant a luminary terms itself Masonic. The members claim that they are Freemasons. Deceased instituted the first Chinese lodge in Truckee, and has always presided at their meetings since. Possessing no lodge, these enthusiastic Celestials usually met on the tops of the highest hills, and stationed guards to protect themselves from surprise during their mystic rites. Candidates were regularly proposed, balloted for, and, if elected, were regularly initiated. The sessions were always lengthy, usually lasting from nine o'clock p.m. to four or five o'clock a.m. At one time last summer upwards of three hundred Chinamen in this vicinity belonged to this mysterious Order.

HOLLAND.

A Reuter's telegram, dated the Hague, July 27, says that "Prince Alexander of the Netherlands was yesterday initiated into Freemasonry by Prince Frederick, Grand Master of the Order. To-day Prince Frederick celebrated the 60th anniversary of his investiture as Masonic Grand Master for the Netherlands. The Imperial Crown Prince of Germany and deputations from foreign and Dutch lodges were present at the commemorative festival. Prince Frederick was presented by the brethren with a gold hammer set with brilliants."

UNITED STATES.

Ovation in Honour of the New Grand Master of New York.—The special communication of Pacific Lodge, No. 233, was held on Thursday, in the Consistorial Chamber of the Masonic Temple, in honour of the Grand Officers of the Masonic Fraternity of the State of New York, and especially in honour of the unanimous election of R. W. Jas. W. Husted, 33°, to the office of Grand Master, Bro. Husted having been initiated in Pacific Lodge in the year 1856. The lodge was visited by the M. W. Elwood E. Thorne, G. M.; R. W. Jas. W. Husted, Grand Master elect; W. Bro. Joseph J. Couch, Deputy Grand Master elect; M. W. John W. Simons, 33°; R. W. Henry C. Banks, 33°, P. D. D. G. M.; R. W. Bro. Richey, D. D. G. M.; R. W. James E. Morrison, D. D. G. M.; R. W. Charles Hyde, D. D. G. M.; R. W. Bro. Barker, D. D. G. M.; R. W. William T. Woodruff, 32°; W. Bros. Chauncey Depew, Allen, Postly, Davis, Conover, Burgen, Anthon, Brown, Valentine, Dederick, Cummings, Harrison, and many others. The Grand Officers were received with the Grand Honours due to their exalted station, and were each introduced to the brethren by R. W. Bro. Isaac Teichmann, Master, in some very appropriate remarks. The lodge was addressed by R. W. Bro. Thorne, Simons, Couch, and Husted, Bro. Husted speaking at some length, gave reminiscences of his first initiation into the beautiful rites of Freemasonry, in Pacific Lodge, twenty years since, and how few of the old familiar faces were to be seen present, many, no doubt, having passed to the Grand Lodge above. His remarks were exceedingly happy, and were greatly enjoyed by the brethren. After the close of the lodge, an entertainment was given in the banquet room by the Pacific Masonic Association, at which toasts were given, and speeches made by the visiting brethren present. The remarks of Bro. Husted and Bro. Chauncey Depew were greatly applauded.

Masonic Veterans.—The fifth annual meeting and banquet of this association took place in New York during the Grand Lodge week, and was largely attended by an enthusiastic gathering of old fellows, of whom it may be said, Masonically at least, that their eyes are not dimmed nor their natural strength abated. On the contrary, with terms of service ranging from twenty-five to fifty years and more, they are still to the fore, and readier at roll-call to answer "Here!" than many young men who have yet to learn that Bark is a good dog but Holdfast is a better. After the transaction of the usual business, the following officers were unanimously elected:—President, R. W. James M. Austin; Vice-President, R. W. Charles D. Brown; Treasurer, R. W. Robert Macoy; Secretary, W. Adolphe Andreas; Corresponding Secretary, M. W. John W. Simons. At the conclusion of labour, the K. and F. Degree was conferred, fifty veterans sitting down and doing ample justice to an elegant spread. The average age of the party was found to be fifty-four years, which would not be much changed if the entire membership were present, and yet during the past year not a single death has occurred among them. The old boys have our most sincere wishes for many happy returns.

Masonic and General Tidings.

DISTRICT GRAND LODGE, North Island of New Zealand.—The clothing and jewels for the above new District Grand Lodge are now on view at Bro. George Kenning's Masonic Show Rooms, Little Britain.

The consecration of the Royal Kensington Lodge, No. 1627, will take place at Freemasons' Hall, on Friday next, the 11th inst., at four p.m. The ceremonies of consecration and installation will be worked by V. W. Bro. Hyde Pullen, P. G. S. B., P. D. P. G. M. Bros. W. T. Raymond is the W. M.; C. E. Soppet, S. W.; and W. I. G. Leith, J. W. designate.

EBORACUM LODGE (No. 1611).—The consecration of this lodge will take place on Monday at the lodge-room, 3, Micklegate, York, at half-past one o'clock.

A massive gold chain and badge of office, which is now being manufactured, is to be presented to the mayor and corporation of Warrington by Lady Greenhall, wife of the member for the borough, as an assurance of how much their past kindness has been appreciated by Bro. Sir Gilbert and herself. The offer has been accepted with thanks.

The Prov. G. Lodge of Durham will be held at South Shields, in the Free Library Buildings, under the banner of St. Hilda's Lodge, No. 240, on Tuesday, 24th October, 1876.

Petitions are in progress for a new lodge in Newcastle-on-Tyne, to be named the Hotspur; also for one at Bedlington, both in the Province of Northumberland.

His Excellency Sir Salar Jung, G. C. S. I., has sent, with kind expressions of the merits of the society to general support, a donation of twenty guineas to the Newspaper Press Fund.

A remarkable case of longevity is reported in Virchow's "Archives," by Dr. Ornstein, of Athens. The man, George Stravarides, died in Smyrna, at the age of 132 years. Although this Methuselah had always lived an irregular life, and had consumed an average of more than a hundred drachms of brandy daily, he retained full possession of all his senses, as also a complete set of teeth, up to the moment of his death. He also continued to the last to attend to the duties of his avocation—a baker. This man was born in 1743, in the reign of Mahomed I., and lived during the reigns of the nine Sultans.—"British Medical Journal."

The Dean of Westminster having left London for some weeks, all applications relating to Westminster Abbey are to be sent to the Canon in residence.

At a meeting of the general committee of the Wrexham Eisteddfod, on Monday, a letter was read from Sir W. W. Wynn, M. P., R. W. P. G. M. North Wales, enclosing one he had received from H. R. H. Prince Leopold, R. W. P. G. M. Oxford, in reply to an invitation from Sir Watkin Wynn to visit Wynnystay. His Royal Highness expressed the pleasure it would have afforded him to visit Wales, and to be present at the national gathering, but he was engaged to accompany Her Majesty the Queen to Scotland, and, much to his regret, could not accept the invitation.

The brethren of Hebburn intend to petition the Prov. G. M. of Durham to grant a Charter for holding a lodge at Hebburn, and to name it the St. Cuthbert's Lodge.

The animals presented by his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales to the Dublin Zoological Gardens are now on exhibition. They are attracting much attention.

The Prince of Wales has signified to M. Drouyn de Lhuys, President of the Jardin d'Acclimatation, his willingness to become a Vice-President of the society, and has presented to it several animals forming part of his Indian collection.

His Grace the Duke of Abercorn (M. W. G. M. Ireland), arrived in Cork on Tuesday last by special train, in order to attend the annual show of the Royal Agricultural Society, which commences on Wednesday. His Excellency was presented with an address of welcome by the Mayor and Corporation, to which he replied in suitable terms. He drove immediately to the Cork and Bandon Railway terminus, and from thence proceeded by rail to Castle Bernard, the seat of Lord Bandon, whose guest he will be during his sojourn in the south.

We understand that the Queen has approved of the appointment of Mr. John Bishop, barrister-at-law, as stipendiary justice of the peace at Merthyr Tydvil, in the room of Albert de Rutzen, Esq., appointed one of the magistrates of the police courts of the metropolis.

General Bro. Albert Pike, of Washington, has just been presented with a magnificent jewel, as a Sovereign Commander of the A. and A. Rite, Southern Jurisdiction of the United States, on May 31st ult., being the seventy-fifth anniversary of the Supreme Council. It consists of a gold double-headed eagle, gemmed with two hundred and sixty diamonds, surrounding a large amethyst. The jewel cost 900 dol., and was presented by General Bro. Toombs, of Georgia. Of course it was happily presented and most happily received.

The Antonina Palace at Malta has been taken from November next for the residence of the Duchess of Edinburgh, who will thus be not so far from her husband, at sea in the "Sultan."

The Hereditary Grand Duke of Oldenburg has been thrown from his horse, and seriously injured.

General von der Tann has delivered to the Emperor William at Gastein an autograph letter from the King of Bavaria inviting His Majesty to be present at the approaching Wagner Festival at Bayreuth.

The King and Queen of Denmark, accompanied by the King and Queen of the Hellenes, Princess Thyra, and Prince Waldemar, left Copenhagen for St. Petersburg at noon on Wednesday.

Henry Rodney Morris, eldest son of Bishop Morris, of Oregon, in the nineteenth year of his age, lost his life on the 30th of June, in an heroic but vain attempt to rescue two other men from death in a cesspool.

On Wednesday Princess Beatrice and Prince Leopold were present at an entertainment given at East Cowes in aid of the families of the men who were killed by the explosion on board the "Thunderer."

On Thursday week the Earl of Derby introduced to Her Majesty Cid El Hadj Mohammed Ebzeby, Ambassador from Morocco; Cid Deces El Zaidy and Cid Ben Nasser Ghannam, his secretaries; and the other members of the mission. Musurus Pasha also presented his credentials as Ambassador from the Sultan Murad.

On Saturday last Sir Salar Jung took leave of Her Majesty.

On Sunday last the Prince and Princess of Wales went over from Goodwood on a visit to Osborne. Their children had arrived at the Cottage on the previous Tuesday. The Queen and the Princess Beatrice attended Divine service at Osborne, where the Rev. George Connor officiated.

The Duke of Cambridge has issued a general order, in which he expresses his entire satisfaction at the result of his inspection of the Second and Fifth Army Corps, which have been brought together this year under the new system of mobilisation.

On Saturday afternoon a statue to Colonel Akroyd, late member for Halifax, and the founder of the magnificent church of All Saints, was unveiled in that town amid much rejoicing.

The Queen has granted Lord Edmund Howard, brother and heir presumptive to the Duke of Norfolk, permission to take the name and arms of Talbot, in compliance with a proviso in the will of Bertram, Earl of Shrewsbury.

On Monday Sir Salar Jung left London for Folkestone, en route for Boulogne.

The death, at the age of fifty, is announced of Mr. Mortimer Collins, the author of a considerable number of novels and much other fugitive literature.

Mr. Elijah Dixon, a well-known political agitator in the early part of the present century, died on Wednesday, aged eighty-six. Mr. Dixon, who was present at Peterloo, had of late been the head of a firm of lucifer match makers in Manchester.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

COLONIAL AND FOREIGN SUBSCRIBERS are informed that acknowledgments of remittances received are published in the first number of every month.

It is very necessary for our readers to advise us of all money orders they remit, more especially those from the United States of America and India; otherwise we cannot tell where to credit them.

REMITTANCES RECEIVED.

	£	s.	d.
Abraham, J., West Indies (P.O.O.)	1	4	0
Anderson, W., N.S.W.	0	12	0
Andrews, B., Halifax, N.S.	1	6	0
Barnes, G., Trinidad (Stamps)	0	12	0
Chambers, R., Tasmania (P.O.O.)	0	12	0
Cohen, J., The Cape	0	12	0
Cromey, W. F., Malta	10	5	0
Magnussen, A., U.S.A.	1	16	0
Miller, G., Spain	0	17	4
Pain, E., U.S.A.	1	4	0
Price, T., Singapore	1	6	0
Read, F., Queensland	0	12	0
Reeves, W. H., New Zealand	1	4	0
Saunders, R. B., "	0	16	0
Scott, George, Lagos	0	12	0
Smith, J. S., Malta	0	13	0
Smith, S. P., Jamaica	0	12	0
Spencer, R. R., Japan	0	12	0
Stevens, H., India (Stamps)	0	17	4
Taylor, J. A., Gibraltar (P.O.O.)	0	12	0
Tucker, C. E., Costa Rica	0	12	0
Webb, C. T., Demerara	0	12	0
Wells, F., Ceylon	0	17	4
Wyatt, D. R., West Indies	1	4	0
Young, J. W., Smyrna	1	14	8

NEW POSTAL RATES.

Owing to a reduction in the Postal Rates, the publisher is now enabled to send the "Freemason" to the following parts abroad for One Year for Twelve Shillings (payable in advance):—Africa, Australia, Bombay, Canada, Cape of Good Hope, Ceylon, China, Constantinople, Demerara, France, Germany, Gibraltar, Jamaica, Malta, Newfoundland, New South Wales, New Zealand, Suez, Trinidad, United States of America, &c.

TO OUR READERS.

The *Freemason* is a sixteen-page weekly newspaper, price 2d. It is published every Friday morning, and contains the most important, interesting, and useful information relating to Freemasonry in every degree. Annual subscription in the United Kingdom, Post free, 10/- P.O.O.'s to be made payable at the chief office, London.

TO ADVERTISERS.

The *Freemason* has a large circulation in all parts of the Globe, its advantages as an advertising medium can therefore scarcely be overrated.

For terms, position, &c., apply to
GEORGE KENNING, 198, Fleet-st.

Answers to Correspondents.

All Communications, Advertisements, &c., intended for insertion in the Number of the following Saturday, must reach the Office not later than 12 o'clock on Wednesday morning.

WEST YORKSHIRE, receive. It is a great pity that you are not posted up properly, or you would not write as you have done. You do not send your name.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

[The charge is 2s. 6d for announcements, not exceeding four lines, under this heading.]

BIRTHS.

BEAMAN.—On the 30th ult., at Great Dunmow, the wife of H. H. Beaman, of a son.

BROOKE.—On the 28th ult., at Eccleston-square, Lady Brooke, of Colebrooke, of a daughter.

HOLLOWAY.—On the 27th ult., at Clechonger, Hereford, the wife of the Rev. E. J. Holloway, of a son.

HOPKINSON.—On the 30th ult., at Avening Court, Gloucestershire, the wife of C. C. Hopkinson, Esq., of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

COX.—BURGHALL.—On the 26th ult., at St. John's the Divine, North Brixton, by the Rev. J. T. Athawes, M.A., Robert Talbot Cox, second son of the late Captain Robert Cox, of Weymouth, to Annie, only daughter of Thomas Burghall, Esq., of Brixton.

FORSYTH.—HARDYMAN.—On the 27th ult., in the Cathedral, Armagh, Edward Vaughan Forsyth, Esq., M.A., Christ's College, Cambridge, to Annie, widow of J. H. Hardyman, Esq., W.S.

DEATHS.

ABERNETHY.—On the 26th ult., at York-terrace, Regent's Park, Mary, daughter of the late J. Abernethy, Esq., F.R.S.

BAKER.—On the 23rd ult., at Chiddingfold, Henry Baker, Esq., aged 59.

The Freemason,

SATURDAY, AUGUST 5, 1876.

THE VICAR OF BRIGG.

Some correspondence on the refusal of the Vicar of Brigg to allow the Freemasons to assemble for public service in his church has already appeared in our columns. We do not, however, see much good in prolonging it, for many reasons. All such controversies, as a rule, leave the matter where it was at the commencement, and bring us no nearer to an agreement. And too often such polemical disputes are after all only the expression of "individualism," the "internal consciousness," the luxury of self-assertion and self-laudation, and are of no practical or possible benefit to ourselves, to Freemasonry, or to mankind. That the Vicar of Brigg was both shortsighted and intolerant in his unwise determination we shall all agree. Beyond that we do not see that Freemasonry is much affected in any way. Our good Order stands on too firm a basis, happily, to heed or care for the assertions of a Vicar of Brigg, or a Vicar of Bray, and we can afford to laugh, (though we regret the fact itself in the great cause of kindly toleration,) at all such petty manifestations of dislike or perversity, opposition or persecution. We have reason to believe that the clergy generally in Lincolnshire disapprove of such unseemly intolerance. We know several very excellent clergymen in that good county and diocese, Freemasons, and most charitable, friendly, right-minded citizens as well as clerics. We have every warrant for saying that this is an exceptional case, and that the clergy of the Diocese of Lincoln would not generally endorse the act of the Vicar of Brigg. One high dignitary has been good enough to say that he considers our Order "worthy of respect." The Lincolnshire brethren will, we feel sure, accept this as a complete "set off" against any petty discourtesy and childish opposition on the part of the "Vicar of Brigg." We fancy that the whole affair was more a little matter of personality than anything else. But the clergy should never be personal, and should remember that if their professions are worth anything they should be above all the petty feelings and degrading littlenesses of earth. We would recommend the Vicar of Brigg to read Bro. Chaucer's *Canterbury Tales*, and study carefully the character of the "pouf Persone," of whom it is well said,

And though he holy were and vertuous,
He was to sinful men not dispitous;
Ne of his speech dangerous ne digne,
But in his teching discrete and benigne.
To drawn folk to heven with fairnesse,
By good ensample was his besinesse.
Ne waited after no pompe ne reverence,
He maked him no spiced conscience;
But Cristes lore, and his apostles twelve,
He taught, but first he folwed it himselfe.
Let us hope that on another occasion the Vicar of Brigg will just bethink himself, whether on personal or other grounds, he has any right to offer a deliberate affront to our peaceable, loyal, and religious brotherhood.

THE LODGE LES PHILADELPHES ET
CONCORDE REUNIS.

We deeply regret, for many reasons, the official announcement with respect to this so called lodge, in another column. It is now quite clear that it is working without any legal warrant, and no English Freemason can properly or legally attend its meetings. It has no legal authority to meet, much less to make Masons, and it is, in fact, nothing, as far as we are concerned, but a surreptitious meeting of a secret society, not in any sense of the word Masonic. As we said before, we are sorry for it, as we regret to find it to be our duty to point out this fact clearly to the whole of our Anglo-Saxon brotherhood. It has been stated that this society is also quasi-political, but of this, so far, no evidence actually has come before us, though, if a circular, signed by Bro. Vallet and others, if we remember rightly, in any way em-

nates from this lodge, no doubt a great deal may be said about a foolish Propaganda, and a resuscitated Fourrierism. At any rate, one thing is clear, until the lodge has a legal warrant it is, as far as we are concerned, an absolutely illegal meeting, and how far it brings itself under the provisions of the "Secret Societies Act" we must leave to wiser heads than ours to say. It is, however, most important clearly to lay down this fact, namely the grave illegality of spurious bodies of Freemasons, establishing themselves without any Masonic warrant, in countries where there is a proper Masonic authority, and as any such proceeding cannot be too severely reprobated in the interests of Masonic unity, order, and right government, so our brethren cannot be too often warned against attending lodges which have no Masonic status, or taking part in proceedings which, if brought before the Board of General Purposes, will draw down censure, and in all probability eventual suspension upon themselves. We say this in no spirit of unkindness to the members of the "Philadelphes," &c., but because it is our bounden duty to point out to our readers what is the absolute truth and legal bearing as regards all such acts and proceedings.

ADVENIANT UTINAM SIC MIHI
SÆPE DIES.

London is looking sensibly thinner, and sundry pretty faces, and well known equipages are "wanting" day by day within the "mystic circle" and the crowded drive at Hyde Park. All London is on the move, and our girls are deserting us in flights of gray and green, and pink and blue, wearing sailors' hats, and striking female "birettas" with heron feathers. Well, we miss them, and shall miss them sadly. Our young men are all downcast and dispirited, and consuming large quantities of "Absinthe" and 8 and 5. It is the hot weather. No more for them the sunny smile, or the merry chaff, the bet, the dance, the promise, and the vow. Alice, and Kate, and Ethel, and Lotty are now far away, or rapidly leaving day by day; the season is all but over for 1876. And what memories cling to it! Pleasant parties and delightful gatherings, the chat in chairs, and rapid flirtations, "Undine" dresses, and wonderful bonnets, the canter in the Row, the meeting at Lillie Bridge, the dinner at Greenwich, that ball—oh yes? that ball, when Angelina promised to her adored Robert Timothy that despite pater and mater, and maiden aunt, and swell of a brother, she should be his. Alas! it's all over. Poor Robert Timothy has learnt that with the best intentions in the world her friends have been too strong for her, especially as he had nothing to offer but his heart, his moustaches, his debts, and his dancing, and that Angelina is going to marry actually in November that big Baronet, whose seat is near to theirs in the country, and whom she quizzed so unmercifully the whole season in town. And what remains? We fancy that Robert Timothy takes it very coolly, and has already made up a little party for salmon fishing in the Fiords. Happy insouciance of youth! We should have felt it more, we venture to think, but then we are old fashioned, and retrograde, and all our reminiscences belong to antiquated foggery. We are not the thing, we cannot go the pace, we are not in the swim, and we have not got the "straight tip." But yet some memories do remain to us all, even to our young men. If they do not think, they can surely remember, even though in this hot weather, "liquoring up" takes away too often the power of reflection, the possibility of reminiscence, and even the ability of thought. How many of them, we make bold to say, will hereafter call up before them happy moments, and charming faces past and gone, will remember with a sigh the jests, the smiles, the illusions of old days, will say, unless they have become soiled and selfish, arrogant and heartless, "oh the days that we went gipsying a long time ago," and re-echo old Ovid's touching words, "Adveniant utinam sic mihi sæpe dies." How little, after all, is the world in London changed from what it was twenty, thirty, or forty years ago. The stalwart and the gay are old and careworn now,

the lithe fairies of those pleasant times are stout and cheery dames, many of them grandmothers to-day, and though times have changed, and persons have altered, London is the same. the park is the same. Yes! just as it was, essentially when—well, never mind, when we were young and slim, and our tailor did not sigh with horror at the measure of our waist, or cast upbraiding looks on the tell tale tape, and upon ourselves. Alas, the fair illusions of life for us are over, and like Horace Walpole our days of 'sentiment' are gone. But still we can feel much, and admire more. We detest the "nil admirari" School. These fair girls of ours, whose presence, like the gay flowers, has added such brilliancy and perfume to the park, are still to us most important members of society. On them, we say, mainly depends the future of our social safety, and the reality of our personal and general happiness. They are often severely taken to task, and angrily arraigned, we think, unjustly to-day. They are still practically the same, unchanged and unspoiled. They have the same warm hearts, the same beaming smiles, the same tender sympathies, the same loving hopes as ever. They are still generous and true, and honest hearted and confiding, and brave and good, and if the "vortex of society" has drawn them within its "maelstrom" they are coming to the surface, rather the better for the struggle, and none the worse certainly for their "dip." We are not surprised at the melancholy appearance of our young men; it would be strange if it were not so, as if they do not know it, we can tell them that the girls are a great deal too good for most of them. Many, no doubt, of the "better sort" are feeling all we say, and will admit all that we propound. They know what a blank society becomes without the tender influence of women everywhere, how dreary work is, how dreadful bachelorhood, and they are wisely meditating to lose no more time, but to come to the "pint" on this matter of "domestic policy," as Mr. Samivel Weller judiciously observed, and to secure that angel in pink, blue, white, mauve, or cerise, who has filled for some time their sleeping visions, and monopolized their waking thoughts. May they succeed, and may they be happy, as they will assuredly gain for themselves the truest of companions, and the best of friends, the most loving of helpmates, and the most devoted of wives.

LES PHILADELPHES ET LA CONCORDE REUNIS.

FREEMASONS' HALL, LONDON, W.C.,
27th July, 1876.

SIR,—

In answer to your note of yesterday's date, I beg to inform you that the Lodge "Les Philadelphes et la Concorde Reunis," said to meet regularly in London, is not a Lodge under the Constitutions of the Grand Lodge of England, nor has any application been made here for a warrant to establish such a lodge.

I am, Sir, yours obediently,

H. G. BUSS.

pp. JOHN HERVEY, G.S.

The Editor of the "Freemason."

FRANCE.

We are glad to find that Bro. Hubert, the editor of the *Chaine d'Union* is recovered from his serious accident. The *Chaine d'Union* for July contains much that is interesting and well worth perusal.

Bro. Hubert mentions the "Masonneck Weekblad" published at Deventer, Holland, by Bro. Th. Bello, as a Masonic paper of intellectual powers and Masonic excellence.

By the "Monde Maçonnique" for July, we learn that the Grand Orient is now raising a subscription for the inundations in Alsace and Switzerland. We regret, however, to see that the "Rite Ecossais" is apparently seeking to introduce the "Maconnerie d'Adoption" in France. This, in our opinion, is a great mistake. There can be little doubt that in the last century French Freemasonry was severely injured by the prevalence of this useless and meaningless exerecence on Freemasonry. The Grand Orient has declared that Bro. Mancoede Amaro Lopes, member of the Lodge "Union et Secret," of Bahia, has well deserved of Freemasonry. He had liberated sixty slaves on his entrance into Freemasonry.

DAYLIGHT reflected in dark rooms. Gas superseded in day time. Health, comfort, and economy promoted by adopting Chappuis' Patent Daylight Reflectors.—Manufactory, 69, Fleet-street, London.

Original Correspondence.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for, or even as approving of the opinions expressed by our correspondents, but we wish, in a spirit of fair play to all, to permit—within certain necessary limits—free discussion.—Ed.]

DUTIES OF A PROV. G. SECRETARY.

To the Editor of the *Freemason*.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

In reply to "Lector" who seeks information regarding the interior economy of a Provincial Grand Secretary's office, I beg to offer the results of my long experience.

1. The books necessary to be kept are those of account and those of record, two of each. The books of account are a cash book and a ledger, the former to contain, of course, receipts and payments (by the P.G. Treasurer), the latter book to contain a debtor and creditor account with each lodge in the province. The forms of these books scarcely need description.

2. The books of record should be a receipt book and a register. Printed forms of receipts, bound up together, and consecutively numbered with their counterfoils, enable the auditors to test the receipt side of the cash book, the payment side being, of course, tested by the vouchers arranged in order of date. The register need only contain copies of the returns from each lodge in the province. Such returns should comprise the name of each member, and should state the amount of his dues. On the first appearance of a name the address should be stated, also the date of initiation, passing, raising or joining. On the disappearance of a name a cause should be sought by the P.G. Secretary, who should record in the register, "resigned, died, or excluded," as the case may be, with the date of such event. The returns should also state the office held by each member. It is unnecessary to insert in the register the "age," that is a matter for Grand Lodge, which, however, I have found to be content with the word "full;" no one requires to be gravely informed that a brother is 40, 50, or 60, as the case may be, nor is it necessary in the case of joining to mention the name of the mother lodge.

3. The register does not require an index, which would be troublesome to make, and would seldom or never be of any practical use—at least, this is my experience.

4. Previous to each meeting it is very advisable to prepare for the Grand Stewards a list of those entitled to sit and vote, and which list should be checked off as each brother passes into lodge.

5. Not having been a salaried P.G. Secretary, and never having heard the point raised, I am unable to answer the question whether it is usual for such to vote on the Provincial Board of General Purposes.

G. J. K., P.M.

and a P. Prov. G. Sec.

THE LADY FREEMASON.

To the Editor of the *Freemason*.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Can you, or any of your readers, kindly furnish me with any information respecting Elizabeth St. Ledger, daughter of Lord Doneraile, the only lady who ever was admitted as a Freemason?

I know there is a portrait of her extant, with a Masonic apron on. A copy of this portrait hangs in the Masonic Female Orphan School, Dublin.

With many apologies for intruding upon your space,
I am, Sir, yours obediently,

E. OWENS BLACKBURNE.

[Many communications have from time to time appeared respecting this estimable lady, and an account of her, with a portrait, appears in the "Masonic Magazine" for January, 1876. Much of her history is somewhat obscure, and we want a good one.—Ed.]

HIGH PRESSURE BUSINESS LIFE.

To the Editor of the *Freemason*.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

In the "Freemason" of 29th July I observe a notice of a work called "High Pressure Business Life," by Henry Smith, M.D., 8, Burton-crescent.

In "Revelations of Quacks and Quackery," by Detector, which is a reprint of letters published in the "Medical Circular" by F. B. Courtenay, M.R.C.S., Smith, of 8, Burton-crescent, is distinctly included in a list of those who, under fictitious diplomas, carry out their system of fraud principally by means of books and pamphlets, containing indeed much good matter, more completely to ensnare the educated classes, but whose intention is to induce the reader to consult the author on some real or fancied malady.

If I am needlessly trespassing on your time, and classing a worthy member of the medical profession amongst a most nefarious class of swindlers, I shall much regret it, but I wish, in the interests of truth, to put you on your guard against introducing to the public through so influential a channel as that of the "Freemason," a work which, under the guise of philanthropy, has for its object the ensnaring of the credulous in the net of the swindler.

I enclose my card as a guarantee of good faith, and am, Sir, fraternally yours,

Lewis.

[We know nothing of the writer or the work further than as a literary production. As such it is, in our opinion calculated to be useful and do good.—Ed.]

Reviews.

FACSIMILE OF DOMESDAY BOOK. With Translation. By P. G. HARRISON, Esq. Meek, 15, Wine-office-court, Fleet-street, E.C.

We have received the first number of this important reproduction of the Domesday Book, in facsimile. It is

most ably edited, and admirably printed, and deserves, we venture to think, the support alike of all collectors of books, as well as of all those who value the great national literary and historical memorials of our country. As the publisher truly observes, "Domesday" was compiled about the year 1080, in the fifteenth year of the reign of William the Conqueror, and is a very interesting historical record of the survey of the whole of 'the land of the King's geld,' in other words, it is a schedule of those lands. The desirability to all who take any interest in the land which they inhabit of being able to consult and become acquainted with one of the most valuable documents ever prepared, has emboldened us to reproduce 'Domesday Book' in a form that can be perfectly understood by all. The work will be issued in parts at 2s. 6d. each, and for those who prefer it, it is proposed also to supply it in volumes, handsomely bound in half calf lettered and gilt edges at £4 4s. per volume." Of course, such a work as this is and must be expensive, but as we hope the movement for lodge libraries will spread, we think, that there is now a good opportunity for many lodges to subscribe for the work. We hope the day is not far distant when every lodge, or every town, will have a good Masonic Library, alike for reference and reading at home, and we wish this literary venture of Mr. Meek all success, and much patronage. A facsimile of "Domesday" and fuller review of it than our crowded pages will allow, will appear in the September Masonic Magazine.

OLD BIBLES; or, an Account of the Various Versions of the English Bible. By J. R. Dore.—Basil M. Pickering, 196, Piccadilly, London.

Bro. Dore, a well-known brother in the good town of Huddersfield, has put forth a very interesting little book on this still more interesting subject. For, strange as it may seem to say so, a great deal of ignorance prevails as regards our glorious inheritance, the English Bible. All that many of us know is that it is, but of its history and the various phases through which it has gone, the obstacles it has had to contend with, and the prejudices to surmount, a large class knows next to nothing. Some of our readers might stare a little if asked to give an account of Wickliffe's or Tyndale's translation, of Coverdale's or Matthews's Bible (proprie Rogers's), of the Great Bible, of Cranmer's Bible, of Taverner's Bible, of the Bishop Bible and others. More of us might hesitate when asked to point out the difference between the authorised version of 1611 and the Bishop's Bible of 1568. And though collectors know well about the "Breeches Bible," even its true history is not always rightly understood or realized. Indeed, the archaeology of the Bible is a most interesting one by itself, and deserves careful and patient study. Bro. Dore has done good service in putting together in simple but lucid phraseology, and a popular form, the history of our English versions, and we cannot too highly commend the work, or call the attention of our brethren to it. Many would be glad to have a concise and readable "introduction" to the history of our English Bible, and when they learn that it is the work of a very zealous brother of our Order we feel sure that they will offer to it alike a hearty support and a ready patronage. We have read it through with great pleasure and profit ourselves, and we trust that many of our readers will do the same.

MASONIC MUSIC.

Three "morceaux" come before us with fair claims for notice and commendation:

No. 1 is "Grand Masonic March," dedicated to Sir W. Wynn, Bart., M.P., P.G.M. for North Wales and Shropshire, and by Bro. T. B. Boucher, P.G.O. (C. Jefferys, 67, Berners-street), which we think is destined to be popular, and used on many Masonic occasions, when the stirring march is alike desirable and indispensable.

No. 2 is the "Welcome Home Polka," by W. Smallwood (B. Williams, 19, Paternoster-row), and which, if we remember rightly, was previously noticed in our columns. At any rate, we can give to it to-day friendly words of approval and commendation.

No. 3 is "Welcome to our Prince," Marche Triomphale, for the pianoforte. By Alfred R. Caul.—B. Williams, 19, Paternoster-row.—We are glad to note such meritorious additions to our Masonic musical repertoire, and we have no doubt but that this "Marche Triomphale" will be welcomed and patronized by our good musical brethren up and down the country. We wish we could go into its actual musical merits, and those of the other two "morceaux" alluded to above, but we are like the gentleman recorded for Mr. Mansfield's inimitable "Log of the Water Lily," whose knowledge of music was limited to "two airs, one of which is 'God Save the Queen,' and the other isn't."

BOOKS RECEIVED.

"Chaine D'Union," "Ladies Treasury," "Le Moniteur des Adjudications," "History of Masonry," by Bro. G. F. Fort, Trubner and Co.

We shall publish next week an address translated from the French from the *Chaine D'Union* for July, 1876, delivered at Martinique in January this year; and also the New Papal Encyclical.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF MIDDLESEX.

The Provincial Grand Lodge of Middlesex was held on Saturday, the 29th ult., at the Greyhound Hotel, Hampton Court. The meeting was summoned for half-past two o'clock, by which time a large number of brethren had assembled, but a great deal of time was cut to waste by the sitting of the Audit Committee, and it was nearly if not quite four o'clock before all was in readiness for the meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge. At about the

hour named the brethren present were marshalled in due order by the P.G.D.C., and entered the lodge room, the R.W. Bro. Colonel Francis Burdett, P.S.G.W. England (Representative from the Grand Lodge of Ireland), Provincial Grand Master, occupying the throne, supported by Bros. Sir George Elliot, Dep. P.G.M.; R. Wentworth Little, P.G.S.W.; Buss, Treasurer; H. Phythian, P.G. Secretary; Sabine, P.G.S.B.; J. M. Siedwell, P.P.G.J.W.; A. A. Richards, P.P.G.J.W.; Charles Horsley, P.G. Reg.; G. Cardwell, P.G. Reg.; W. F. Saxton, P.P.S.G.D.; George Kenning, P.P.G.J.D.; John Singell, P.P.G.D.C.; Thomas Culitt, P.P.G.S.D.; W. H. Green, P.G.D.C.; J. C. Parkinson, P.D.P.G.M.; H. A. Dubois, P.G.S.D.; H. Massey, ("Freemason"); T. Hastings Miller, P.G. Organist; E. H. Thielay, Assistant P.G. Purst.; F. Keily, 1293 P.G. Stwd.; while among the visitors we noticed Bros. C. F. Matier, P.G.W. Greece; T. T. Pyle, T. W. Adams, W.M. 765; Greenwood, P.G.S.D.; J. Maidwell, I.G. 27; J. Green, W.M. 27; J. Terry, F. Binckes, P.G.S.; Nunn, P.G.S.B.; Hyde Pollen, P.G.S.B.; J. Docker, 1567; W. Taylor, 1503; H. Court, Sec. 1503; A. H. Tattershall, P.M. 140; E. Simpson Baikie, P.M. 708; Huggins, P.M. 1238; J. W. Berrie, S.W. 1293; J. W. Baldwin, P.M. 1423; Ingles, W.M. 708; F. Downs Kennedy, P.M. 788 and 1508; W. G. Kentish, 1293; W. Dunham, J.W. 1567; H. Potter, P.M. 11; H. T. Muggeridge, P.M. 192 and 715; Helsdon, P.M. 1549; E. Kimber, P.M. 1415; D. M. Dewar, P.M. 1415; Langley, W.M. 1423; Coulton, P.M. 382; J. Painter, J.W. 1579; Reg. W. Williams, J.W. 1326; F. W. Levander, S.W. 1415; Galton, P.G.S. 382; Vincent, S.W. 1549; Cottebrune, P.G.P.; J. Chidcott, 1512; J. W. Garrod, W.M. 1549; Tidcombe, J.W. 1549; Knyvett, P.M. 1494; Reynolds, 708; Clarkson, P.M. 865; E. Hopwood, W.M. 1512; B. Sharp, P.M. 1326; E. Gilbert, W.M. 1326; J. Hurst, J.W. 1512; D. W. Pearce, W.M. 1293; E. B. Bright, J.W. 778; and others.

The Provincial Grand Lodge having been opened by the P.G.M. with solemn prayer the minutes of the Provincial Grand Lodge, held 26th July, 1875, were read and verified, and the reports of the Audit and Charity Committees were read and confirmed. The balance at credit of the Benevolent Fund was £174 6s. 1d. The roll of the lodges in the province was called over by the Secretary, when it was found that one only (1194) was unrepresented. The roll of the Provincial Grand Officers was also called over, and it appeared that some were unavoidably absent through illness.

The following report of the progress and present position of the Province of Middlesex, which had been circulated with the summonses, was taken as read:

"It has been deemed desirable, by the R.W. Provincial Grand Master, that a brief review of the progress of Freemasonry in Middlesex, since its formation as a Masonic province, should be submitted to this Provincial Grand Lodge. On the 1st December, 1869, the late Earl of Zetland, then M.W. Grand Master, was pleased to appoint Bro. Lt.-Colonel Francis Burdett, P.S.G.W. of England, and Representative of the Grand Lodge of Ireland, to the high and dignified post of Provincial Grand Master of Middlesex, and further to direct that the province should be constituted at as early a date as possible. It may be well to recall the fact that Col. Burdett's nomination was the result of the unanimous votes of the delegates of every lodge in the province, at a meeting specially convened, and that their recommendation was subsequently graciously approved by the (then) Grand Master. It 1869 there were but eight lodges in Middlesex outside the radius of ten miles from Freemasons' Hall, viz., 382 at Uxbridge, 708 at Hampton Court, 788 at Twickenham, 865 at Hounslow, 946 at Strawberry Hill, 1194 at Isleworth, 1237 at Enfield, and 1238 at Southall. The inaugural meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge was held at Teddington on the 22nd January, 1870, on which day the Burdett Lodge, 1293, was also consecrated, Colonel Burdett being the first Master. In the course of the same year three new lodges were added to the Provincial roll, viz., Acacia, 1309, at Potter's Bar (since removed to Southall); Harrow, 1310, at Harrow; and Lebanon, 1326, at Hampton. In 1871 the number of lodges received no addition; but in 1872 two new lodges, the Campbell, 1415, and Era, 1423, both at Hampton Court, were established, and the Bard of Avon, Lodge 778, was transferred from Stratford-on-Avon, Warwickshire, to a locale in Middlesex. In 1873, the Thames Valley Lodge, No. 1460, received a warrant for Halliford, Shepperton; and in 1874, no less than three new lodges were formed, viz., the Felix, 1494, at Teddington; the Francis Burdett, 1503, at Hampton Hill; and the Hemming, 1512, at Hampton. And the accessions to our strength closes with the Abercorn Lodge, 1549, which was consecrated at Great Stanmore only a few months ago. The number of lodges has thus increased in five years and a half from 8 to 20, and the membership from between 200 and 300 to nearly 1000. But the most gratifying result to the R.W. Provincial Grand Master is the fact that, with comparatively few exceptions, this extraordinary increase in numbers has been attained by the introduction of members who are prepared to fulfil their responsibilities as Freemasons. If it were not so, such a rapid extension in mere numerical strength would become a subject for deprecation and reproof, rather than for congratulation and rejoicing. There are, nevertheless, one or two lodges in which a greater discrimination in the acceptance of candidates and joining members should be exercised and enforced, and the Provincial Grand Master will hold the Masters of any such lodges strictly responsible, in future, that the laws of the Craft are obeyed in their entirety, with reference to the status and character of all persons proposed for admission, either as joining members or initiates. It is, however, very satisfactory to know that the lodges generally are well and ably worked, that harmony and

goodwill prevail amongst the brethren, Masonic complaints being almost unknown in the province, and, above all, that a steady and liberal support is being extended to the Masonic Charities. Five years ago hardly a lodge had a vote in its corporate capacity, now, more than half of the existing lodges are Life Governors of the several Masonic Institutions.

At the last three festivals the province was thus represented:—In January, 1875, at the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, by five Stewards, producing lists amounting to £186; at the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, in May, by fourteen Stewards, with £582; and at the July Festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, by ten Stewards, with a total of £400, making in the aggregate the handsome sum of £1168 as the united donations of the Freemasons associated with the province, irrespective of large amounts contributed by some of its members, who subscribed through various metropolitan lodges, to which they also belong. The Provincial Grand Master especially desires to thank those Stewards, and the brethren who have thus materially assisted them in maintaining so well the prestige of the province, and he is confident that, as years roll on, the good example which they have set will be followed by their successors in the various lodges. By a steady adherence to the principles of the Craft, and the laws laid down in the Constitutions of the Order, the happiness and prosperity of the brethren will be permanently cemented, and from the experience of the past, which has been so fruitful in true Masonic feeling and good fellowship, the Provincial Grand Master expresses his heartfelt conviction that the Province of Middlesex will ever be conspicuous for the practice of those exalted virtues which at once characterise and adorn our Masonic profession.

The P.G. Sec. read a supplemental report, showing that since the above had been compiled three new lodges had been consecrated in the province, viz., the Elliot, the St. James's, and the Musgrave, which, it was believed, would prove an important addition to the Masonic influence of the province. The supplemental report stated that no complaints had been brought under the notice of the P.G.M. during the past year, and referred to the loss the province had sustained in the death of Bro. Codner, P.P.G. Reg. The R.W.P.G.M. having stated that the next business was to elect a P.G. Treas. for the ensuing year, P.G.S.W. Bro. Little, suggested that it would be convenient to take the motion, notice of which had been placed on the paper by Bro. H. A. Dubois, P.Prov. A.G.D.C., which, being assented to, Bro. Dubois moved—That No. 12 of the Provincial Bye-laws be altered by striking out the words "in April," and explained that in strict accordance with the bye-laws, as they stood at present, the Treasurer could only be elected in April, so that, as they held their meetings now in July, they would contravene their present bye-laws if they elected a Treasurer on this occasion without first altering the bye-law he referred to. The alteration he proposed would have the effect of enabling them to elect a Treasurer in any month of the year.

The motion was seconded by Bro. Little, P.G.S.W., who said, I think myself that this is a very important matter, as we should be almost transgressing our Bye-laws if we proceeded with the election without first expunging the words referred to. I shall, therefore, support Bro. Dubois' motion. The motion was then put and carried unanimously.

P. Grand Master: I think we may now proceed with the election of the Prov. G. Treas. It is a matter in which I myself feel greatly interested, because I feel greatly indebted to him for what he has done in the past, and what I am sure he would do in the future, and therefore I propose that Bro. Buss be re-elected Treasurer for the coming year. I am sure we cannot have a better man to—

Bro. Little: Permit me, R.W. Prov. G.M., to remind you that you proposed to confer a higher office on Bro. Buss, the holding of which would render him ineligible for the post of Prov. G. Treas.

P.G. Master: True, Bro. Little, I had overlooked that fact.

Bro. Dubois: I beg to propose that Bro. Frederick Keily, 1293, Grand Steward, be elected Provincial Grand Treasurer for the ensuing year, than whom I feel sure we could not choose a more worthy brother. The motion having been seconded, it was put by the P.G.M., and carried unanimously.

The Prov. G. Master then proceeded to appoint and invest his officers as follows:—

Sir Geo. Elliot	Deputy Prov. G.M.
Graham	Prov. G.S.W.
H. G. Buss (whose appointment was received by the brethren with loud and long continued applause)	Prov. G.J.W.
Rev. P. M. Holden	Prov. G. Chaplain
Rev. — Reynolds	Prov. Asst. G.C.
Fredk. Keily	Prov. G. Treas.
D. W. Pearce	Prov. G. Reg.
R. Wentworth Little	Prov. G. Sec.

In making this appointment the P.G.M. said that it was through the exertions of Bro. Little that the province now stood in the position it holds. The lodges were not perhaps quite so numerous as those in some northern provinces, but the influence of the province was certainly as great as any. Referring to Bro. Little's recent severe illness, he remarked that they were all extremely glad to see him again among them, and he trusted that he would soon be restored to vigorous health.

H. A. Dubois	Prov. G.S.D.
Fredk. Walters	Prov. G.J.D.
Prov. G.M. Bro. Wigginton	is appointed Prov. G. Supt. of Works, but he is not well enough to be here to-day.
Bro. Capt. G. A. Smith	also, who has been appointed Prov. G.D.C., is also absent from illness; but I trust that I shall have an early opportunity of investing them.
Kennedy	Prov. Asst. G.D.C.
Thielay	Prov. G. Swd. B.

Capt. Regd. Williams	Prov. G. Org.
Elsdon	Prov. G. Purst.
J. W. Baldwin	Prov. Asst. G.P.
J. Gilbert (re-appointed)	Prov. G. Tyler.
Capt. Cockle, Dr. Ramsay, Letchworth, Mason, Huggins, and Knyvett	Prov. G. Stewards

P.G.M.: The next duty that devolves upon me is a very pleasing one. We all look forward to become governors of the different charities, and I have great pleasure in proposing that the following sums be granted to the three Masonic charities:—Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, £10 10s.; Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, £10 10s.; Royal Masonic Institution for Aged Masons, £10. We have most of us watched these institutions with a very jealous eye, and I think every one is satisfied with the way in which they are carried on. I think we should support these charities in every possible way. The donation will be taken out of the funds of the province, so that none of us will feel it individually.

The motion was seconded by the P.G.S.W., and carried unanimously.

Bro. Little: I think I need hardly say that I feel assured that the proposition I am about to make will be heartily endorsed by every member of this Provincial Grand Lodge. You have all had before you the report of the progress of the province under the rule of the R.W. Prov. G. Master, Bro. Col. Burdett. I therefore propose "That a committee be formed for the purpose of commemorating in an appropriate manner the completion by the R.W. Bro. Col. Burdett of seven years in his office as Provincial Grand Master, and of testifying to the great advantage which the province has received from his rule." Perhaps it will be more convenient to take that first before proceeding with the next resolution.

The proposition, having been seconded by Bro. Sabine, was put by the P.G.S.W., and carried unanimously.

Bro. Little: I have now to follow up that motion by proposing "That the committee be composed of all Present and Past P.G. Officers, the W.M.'s, Wardens, P.M.'s, and Secretaries of lodges in the province, with power to add to their number. I think it advisable that the matter should be taken in hand by as many as we can get to assist, and if we could put every one in the province on the committee I think we should only be carrying out their wishes. That is my reason for adding the words "with power to add to their number."

Bro. Horsley: I beg to second that motion. I think that the manner in which our excellent Past P.G.S.W. and present Secretary has worded his motion will enable all of us to express our admiration of the manner in which our R.W. Provincial Grand Master has exercised his functions in a manner worthy of ourselves and of this Provincial Grand Lodge.

The motion was put by the P.G.S.W., and carried nem con, and Bro. Little undertook to call a preliminary meeting, at which the brethren could appoint their officers and settle their mode of procedure.

P.G. Secretary then read letters from Lord Skelmersdale, Lord Donoughmore, the Hon. W. Warren Vernon and others, regretting their inability to accept the invitations that had been sent them.

P.G. Secretary then handed to the P.G.M. a petition that had been prepared for a lodge to be called the Unity Lodge, to be held at West Drayton, as to which the R.W. P.G.M. said that it was very worthily recommended, and that he should have much pleasure in giving it his support in Grand Lodge. The Provincial Grand Lodge was then closed in ample form and with solemn thanksgiving.

A large number of the brethren present in the lodge subsequently reassembled at the banquet table, when the R.W.P.G.M. again presided.

On the removal of the cloth the Chairman proceeded to propose the customary loyal and Masonic toasts. "The Health of the Queen" having been duly honoured and a couple of verses of the National Anthem having been admirably sung, Madame Thaddeus Wells being the soloist, assisted by Bro. Lester, Bro. F. H. Cozens, Bro. Chaplin Henry, and Bro. T. Hastings Miller, P. Prov. G. Organist (who had the direction of the musical arrangements), the R.W.P.G.M. proposed "The Health of the Prince and Princess of Wales," saying, as to the former, that he was not only the commander in chief among Freemasons, but also a Field Marshal in the army of England, and he was confident that his authority was not more warmly supported by the army or the navy than it was by the loving hearts of all our Freemasons. He need not say that he was very happy to comprise in the toast "The Health of the Princess of Wales." He was sure that any commands she might give would be warmly responded to by the whole of the community, but more especially by the body of Freemasons.

In proposing "The Health of the Earl of Carnarvon, the Pro Grand Master, the Earl of Skelmersdale, the Deputy Grand Master, and the rest of the Grand Officers," the R.W. the P.G.M. said that they all knew that the Earl of Carnarvon was a brother who had exerted himself in every way possible for the institution of Freemasonry, but at the same time they knew that he had very little time to spare on account of the important office which he held in the State. There was no doubt in the world that they had one of the best men they possibly could have for Deputy Grand Master. They all knew the Earl of Skelmersdale pretty well as one of the best of Masons and one of the most charitable of men. There were several Grand Officers present, and they were sensible of the honour they conferred by their presence, and he would couple with this toast the name of Bro. Parkinson to respond for the Grand Officers.

Bro. Parkinson—Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master: On behalf of the Grand Officers I beg to return you my sincere thanks for the kindly expressions you have employed with regard to them on this occasion. Speaking of Lord Carnarvon, it is a matter of considerable pride that

we have such a Pro Grand Master, who is ready at all times to give us his time when he is able. It is by no means an unfrequent circumstance for him, though immersed in official toil as he is, to leave his office and mingle among us. The Earl of Carnarvon has the happy quality of attracting and keeping the affections of the brethren. When he was a young man fresh from college, one of his earliest training places was the Grand Lodge of England, where he was chosen the leader of what was at that time an active and vigorous Opposition. Lord Skelmersdale is a most excellent Deputy Grand Master. He possesses that winning grace that endears him to his brethren, perhaps in a higher degree than any other we have ever met, which fits him for a leader of men. On the part of the Grand Officers, I thank you for the favour with which this toast has been received. For my part I feel slightly diffident in responding to this toast, because I know that there are many brethren here fully competent to respond as Grand Officers. Passing to the immediate functions which we are assembled to celebrate to-day, I am (taking up the gavel) going to propose to you "The Health of our Provincial Grand Master." It is not very long ago that I had the privilege of serving under him for the good of the province. I know how ready he is to give his mind and ability to promote the good of his fellow creatures. Those who are students of genealogy, and who strive to trace the history of their country in the great families of England, are well aware that the Burdets, from a very early date in English history, have been intimately associated with the rise and progress of our country, now as a confidential counsellor of the sovereign, now as a counsellor of the people, but always for the honour and glory of England. Now our brother is not an unworthy successor to those great and good men. If we look at him in his country residence we find him on the board of guardians, and chairman of the vestry, and that he is always ready to devote himself to the public good. That being Col. Burdett's habit of mind where could he find better exercise for it than the Craft. And I will now say what a very pleasant feeling it is to be aware of having an influence in such a wide reaching circle. Brethren, with all the honours I propose "The Health of Col. Burdett, R.W. Provincial Grand Master of Middlesex."

Prov. G. Master: Brethren, and especially Bro. Parkinson, I feel that I am perfectly incompetent to return thanks for the toast that has just been drunk. I have always been anxious for the good of this province, but I did not think that my health would be accepted in the enthusiastic manner in which it has been received this evening, which shows that I am well supported, but I feel that I have hardly done as much as I ought to have done. I have done all I could for the interest of the province, and I will certainly, in the future, do as much as I can. I assure you it gives me great pleasure to hold my office, because of the sympathy of the brethren of the province over which I have the honour to preside. The R.W.P.G.M. went on to eulogise the officers by whom he had been assisted, especially his present staff, and concluded by proposing "The Health of the Deputy G.M., Bro. Elliott," who, in reply, was understood to say that among the many duties which he had in common with all his hearers, the principles and objects of Freemasonry had for many years occupied his thoughts much and he thought that the success of the province must develop itself in the charity and good feeling which was promoted by such celebrations as they had assisted at that afternoon; but what was presented to his mind was the power and dignity of Freemasonry as exhibited in its charity and religion, which appeared to stand outside the controversial religion of the world, and he thought that if ever a time should come of attacks upon the liberty and religion of the people, the religion of the Order would prove a support to the religion of the people in a degree which they were not at present able to estimate. He attached great importance to the charity force of Freemasonry; it was a great thing to say that they could confer £30,000 or £40,000 a year on the institutions. Whether he attended meetings in the north or south there seemed always to be a sort of homogeneity about Freemasonry which will always be able to take care of itself, and he believed there was a backbone in Freemasonry which would always have a force of gravity about it which would always maintain itself.

During the evening some very good vocal music was contributed by Madame Thaddeus Wells and the musical brethren above mentioned, Sir H. R. Bishop's glee upon Shakespeare's words, "Come over the Brook, Bessie, to me," being especially worthy of remark.

SUMMER FESTIVAL OF DOMATIC LODGE, No. 177.

The annual summer festival took place at Bro. Teale's, Rye House, on Thursday, July 20th, when, owing to the delightful weather, a very large attendance of the brethren evinced the popularity of Bro. Treadwell, the W.M., and the officers of the lodge. The Great Eastern Railway behaved very liberally, charging excursion rates, and having excellent carriages on the trains. Over 100 sat down to the banquet, without any crowding or confusion; indeed, all the arrangements made by the Stewards and the valued Secretary, Bro. Willing, insured comfort and attention. The Stewards were Bros. G. Everett, I.P.M.; Willing, S.W.; Palmer, J.W.; J. Smith, P.G.P. Treas.; Williams, Sec.; Buscall, S.D.; G. Clarke, J.D.; White, I.G.; Spink, D.C.; McLean, S.; and Bros. Ralph, Kent, Willis, Jones, and Seard, the latter of whom also acted as M.C. The banquet was well served, and a well-chosen band played during dinner time. After grace the W.M. said, the day being so fine, and many ladies wishing to enjoy a dance, speeches not being the most attractive of the day's performances, he should propose as few as possible. After the loyal toasts had been given Bro. Foul-

ger, P.M., proposed "The Health of the W.M." The W. Master expressed his thanks to Bro. Foulger, and said he felt happy to see so many rally round him. He proposed "The Health of the P.M.'s," and was sorry to see only two—Bros. Elgar and Elmes—of so many present. He (the W.M.) had received a letter of apology from Bro. Everett, I.P.M., stating that the heavy bereavement in his family prevented him attending. He knew all the brethren sincerely sympathised with Bro. Everett, and knew perfectly well he was always most anxious to be present with them and help them. Bro. Elmes replied, "The Ladies," "The Visitors," "The Officers and Stewards" were also proposed, and duly responded to.

METROPOLITAN MASONIC MEETINGS.

For the Week ending Friday, August 11, 1876.

The Editor will be glad to receive notice from Secretaries of Craft Lodges, Royal Arch Chapters, Mark Lodges, Preceptories, Conclaves, &c., of any change in place or time of meeting.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 5.

Gen. Com. Boys' School, at 4.
Lodge 1559, New Cross, New Cross Hall, Lewisham-rd.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Lily, Greyhound, Richmond.
Manchester, 77, London-st., Fitzroy-square.
Star, Marquis of Granby, New Cross-rd.

MONDAY, AUGUST 7.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Prince Leopold, Lord Stanley Tav., Kingsland.
Strong Man, Jerusalem Tav., St. John's Gate.
Sincerity, Railway Tav., Fenchurch-st. Station.
Camden, Stanhope Arms, Up. James-st., Camden To.
Eastern, Royal Hot., Mile-end-rd.
St. James's Union, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Wellington, White Swan, Deptford.
Perfect Ashlar, Victoria Tav., Lower-rd., Rotherhithe.
Sydney, White Hart Ho., Church-rd., Upper Norwood.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 8.

Lodge 167, St. John's, Holly Bush Tav., Hampstead.
" 548, Wellington, White Swan Tav., Deptford.
" 1269, Stanhope, Thicket Hot., Anerley.
" 1538, St. Martin's-le-Grand, M.H., Masons' Avenue.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Metropolitan, 269, Pentonville-rd.
Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney.
Domestic, Surrey M.H., Camberwell New-road.
Faith, 2, Westminster Chambers, Victoria-st.
Prince Fredk. Win., Lord's Hot., St. John's Wood.
Dalhousie, King Edward, Triangle, Hackney.
Prosperity, 1, Camomile-st., Bishopsgate.
St. Marylebone, British Stores Tav., St. John's Wood.
Constitutional, Wheatheaf Hot., Hand-court, Holborn.
Israel, Rising Sun Tav., Globe Road.
Royal Arthur, Prince's Head, York-road, Battersea.
Beacontree, Red Lion, Leytonstone.
Metropolitan Chapter, Jamaica Coffee Ho., Cornhill.
Excelsior, Commercial Dock Tav., Rotherhithe.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 9.

Com. R.M.B.I., at 3.
Lodge 1228, Beacontree, Red Lion, Leytonstone.
" 1260, Hervey, F.M.H.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Confidence, M.H., Basinghall-st.
Mt. Lebanon, Windsor Castle Tav., Southwark-bdg.-rd.
Pythagorean, Prince of Orange, Greenwich.
New Concord, Rosemary Branch Tav., Hoxton.
Royal Union, Horse and Groom, Winsley-st., Oxford-st.
Peckham, Maismore Arms, Park-road, Peckham.
Stanhope, Thicket Hot., Anerley.
Finsbury Park, Finsbury Park Tav., Seven Sisters'-rd.
Southwark, Southwark Park Tav., Southwark Park.
Duke of Connaught, Havelock Tav., Dalston, E.
United Strength, Grafton Arms, Kentish-town.
Islington, Crown and Cushion, London Wall.
Whittington, Black Bull Tav., Holborn.
Lewis, King's Arms Hot., Wood Green.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 10.

Lodge 1558, Duke of Connaught, Surrey M.H.
K.T. Precep. 45, Temple Crossing, Bridge House Hot.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Egyptian, Hercules Tav., Leadenhall-st.
Fidelity, Yorkshire Grey, London-st., W.
Finsbury, Jolly Anglers' Tav., Bath-st., City-road.
Temperance in the Fast, Catherine-st., Poplar.
Ebury, 12, Ponsonby-st., Milbank.
Highgate, Bull and Gate, Kentish-town.
The Great City, 111, Cheapside.
High Cross, Coach & Horses, High-road, Tottenham.
Salisbury, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Marquis of Ripon, Albion Tav., Albany-rd., Dalston.
Prince Frederick William Chapter, St. John's Wood.
Southern Star, Crown Hot., Blackfriars-rd.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 11.

Lodge 1420, Earl Spencer, Northcote Hot., New Wndswth.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Union Waterloo, Thomas-st., Woolwich.
Robert Burns, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Belgrave, Lyceum Tav., 354, Strand.
Unions Emulation (for M.M.'s), F.M.H.
Temperance, Victoria Tav., Victoria-road, Deptford.
Clapton, White Hart, Clapton.
Metropolitan, Portugal Hot., Fleet-st.
Westbourne, Horse & Groom, Winsley-st., Oxford-st.
United Pilgrims, Surrey M.H., Camberwell New-road.
St. James's, New Tanners' Arms, Grange-rd., Bermondsey.
Duke of Edinburgh, Silver Lion, Penny-fields, Poplar.
Doric, Earl Grey Tav., Mile-end-rd.
Burgoyne, Grafton Arms, Prince of Wales's-road, N.W.
St. Luke's, White Hart, King's-rd., Chelsea.
Chigwell, Bald-faced Stag Hot., Buckhurst-hill.

Burdett Courts, Approach Tav., Victoria Park.
Royal Standard, Finsbury Park Tav., Holloway.
Ranelagh, Clarendon Hot., Hammersmith.
Pythagorean Chapter, Prince of Orange, Greenwich-rd.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN WEST LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE.

For the Week ending Saturday August 12, 1876.

MONDAY, AUGUST 7.

Lodge 113, Unanimity, Bull Hot., Church-st., Preston.
" 1045, Stamford, T.H., Altricham.
" 1051, Rowley, M.R., Athenæum, Lancaster.
" 1264, Neptune, M.H., Liverpool.
" 1380, Skelmersdale, Queen's Hot., Waterloo.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 8.

Lodge 178, Antiquity, Royal Hot., Wigan.
" 241, Merchants, M.H., Liverpool.
" 1250, Gilbert Greenall, M.R., Warrington.
" 1384, Equity, Commercial Hot., Widnes.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 9.

Lodge 281, Fortitude, the Athenæum, Lancaster.
" 1052, Callender, P.H., Rusholme.
" 1061, Triumph, M.H., Lytham.
" 1094, Temple, M.H., Liverpool.
" 1356, De Grey and Ripon, 80, N. Hill-st.
" 1403, West Lancashire, Com. Hot., Ormskirk.
" 1547, Liverpool, M.H., Liverpool.
" 1588, Prince Leopold Lodge, Angel Hot., Stretford.
Chap. 86, Lebanon, M.H., Prescott.
" 673, St. John's, M.H., Liverpool.
" 1345, Victoria, Cross Keys Hot., Eccles.
Neptune L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 10.

Lodge 333, Royal Preston, Vic., Garrison Hot., Fulwood.
" 1035, Prince of Wales, Kirkdale, Liverpool.
" 1182, Duke of Edinburgh, M.H., Liverpool.
" 1213, Bridgewater, Cross Keys Hot., Eccles.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN GLASGOW AND WEST OF SCOTLAND.

For the Week ending Saturday, August 12, 1876.
All the Meetings take place at Eight o'clock.

MONDAY, AUGUST 7.

Lodge 20, St. John, M.H., Leshmahagou.
" 124, Kilwinning, Union Tav., Ayr.
" 129, St. Mirren, 5, Moss-st., Paisley.
" 138, Operative, Blue Bell Hot., Ayr.
" 237, St. John, Masonic Arms, Girvan.
" 332, Union, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
" 581, Plantation, Craigiehall-st., Glasgow.
Chap. 53, Dumbarton, Elephant Hot., Dumbarton.
" 119, Rosslyn, 25, Robertson-st., Glasgow.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 8.

Lodge 230, St. Barnabas, Black Bull Hot., Old Cumnock.
" 413, Athole, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
" 419, Neptune, 35, St. James-st., S.S., Glasgow.
" 426, Prince of Wales, M.H., Renfrew.
" 441, Glasgow, 22, Struthers-st., Glasgow.
" 543, St. John, M.H., Dalmuir.
" 556, Clydesdale, 106, Rose-st., S.S., Glasgow.
" 579, St. Bryde, M.H., Uddingstone.
Chap. 17, Greenock, M.H., Cathcart-st.
" 69, St. Andrew, 25, Robertson-st., Glasgow.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 9.

Lodge 178, Scotia, 12, Trongate, Glasgow.
" 333, St. George, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
" 510, Maryhill, M.H., Main-st.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 10.

Lodge 88, New Monkland Montrose, T.H., Airdrie.
" 109, St. Marnock, Crown Hot., Kilmarnock.
" 334, St. John's, Castle Inn, New Cumnock.
" 557, Blantyre Kilwinning, C.H., Blantyre.
" 570, Kenmuir, M.H., Springburn.

Chap. 50, Glasgow, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 11.

Lodge 18, Kilwinning, Church-st., Dumbarton.
" 147, Cadder Argyle, M.H., Chryston.
" 170, St. John, M.H., Renton.
" 427, St. Clair, M.H., Cambusnethan.
Chap. 144, St. Rollox, 69, Garngad-rd., Glasgow.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN EDINBURGH AND VICINITY.

For the Week ending Saturday, August 12, 1876.

MONDAY, AUGUST 7.

Grand Lodge of Scotland, F.M.H., Edinburgh, 5 p.m.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 8.

Lodge 1, L. of Edinburgh, Mary's Chapel, Waterloo-pl.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 9.

Lodge 2, Canongate Kilwinning, St. John's Chapel.

Chap. 1, Edinburgh, F.M.H., 98, George-st.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 10.

Lodge 8, Journeyman, Blackfriars-st.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 11.

Chap. 56, Canongate Kilwinning, M.H., John-st.

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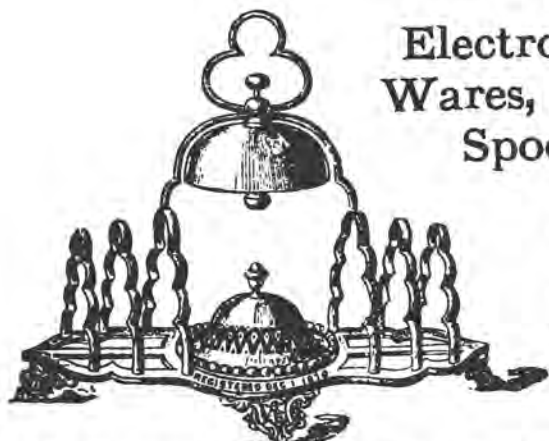
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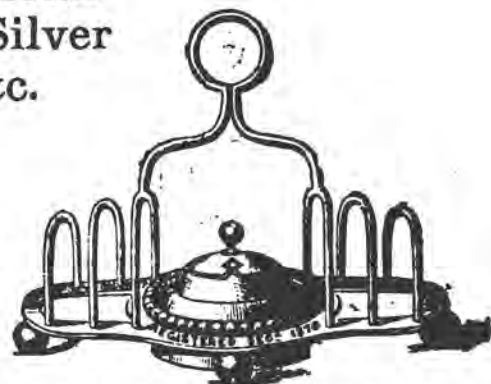


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Table Spoons and Forks, full size ...	per Dozen	60 0	50 0	40 0	30 0	80 0	70 0	60 0	46 0	18 0	28 0
Do. do. and size ...	"	56 0	46 0	36 0	26 0	...	...	...	...	16 0	26 0
Dessert Spoons and Forks, full size ...	"	49 0	40 0	31 0	22 0	63 0	54 0	45 0	33 0	12 6	18 6
Do. do. and size ...	"	44 0	36 0	28 0	20 0	...	...	...	...	11 0	17 6
Tea Spoons, full size ...	"	33 0	30 0	17 0	14 0	33 0	30 0	27 0	23 0	6 8	11 0
Do. and size ...	"	31 0	18 0	15 0	12 0	31 0	28 0	25 0	21 0	5 8	10 0
Do. 3rd size ...	"	19 0	16 0	13 0	10 0	...	...	...	...	4 8	9 0
Mustard, Salt, and Egg Spoons, gilt bowls	"	37 0	24 0	21 0	18 0	37 0	34 0	31 0	27 0	5 8	10 0
Sugar Tongs and Sauce Ladles	"	62 0	53 0	49 0	33 0	82 0	72 0	63 0	48 0	20 0	30 0
Toddy Ladles	"	56 0	46 0	36 0	26 0	76 0	66 0	56 0	43 0	16 0	26 0
Soup Ladles	"	18 0	16 0	14 0	12 0	26 0	24 0	22 0	20 0	6 0	8 0
Gravy Spoons	"	12 0	10 0	8 0	6 0	17 0	15 0	13 0	11 0	4 0	5 0
Butter Knives, Metal Handles	"	5 0	4 4	3 8	3 0	6 0	5 6	5 0	4 6	...	4 0
" Ivory	"	5 6	5 0	4 6	4 0	5 6	5 0	4 6	4 0	...	5 0

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REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS.

Craft Masonry.

METROPOLITAN LODGE (No. 1507).—As the number of the brethren of nearly every London lodge yearly increases, it becomes a task of no little difficulty to find a place large enough for the lodges to hold their summer festivals in comfort, especially as the day selected may not always be fine. There are many old resorts near London capable of providing every accommodation, but some brethren belonging to more than one lodge naturally prefer to see more varied scenery than going twice to the same place in perhaps the same week. The Metropolitan Lodge decided to hold their annual festival this year at Bro. Lewis's Hotel, Maidenhead Bridge, one of the most picturesque localities on the Thames. The day appointed, Wednesday, the 26th ult., proved a splendid day. The committee had made special arrangements with the Great Western Railway Company, who acted in a most liberal manner. Many of the brethren left by the early trains to Cookham, and came back to Maidenhead by water, and thoroughly enjoyed the trip. At five o'clock the brethren with their friends (over sixty) sat down to dinner, served in a tent on the private lawn. The dinner gave every satisfaction, and the wines were very good. The W.M., Bro. Michael, proved an efficient chairman, and was ably supported by the I.P.M., Bro. Wilting. The speeches were, owing to the desire of every one to be out in the air, very short, although heartily given and cordially received. Perfect harmony prevailed, and each seemed personally to strive to make each other happy. Great thanks are due to the committee for their arrangements, and most particularly to Bro. Stiles, the Hon. Secretary. The committee consisted of Bros. J. Willing, I.P.M.; T. Williams, S.W.; R. T. Kingham, J.W.; R. Rose, Treas.; G. Tims, Sec.; J. Douglass, S.D.; C. J. Scales, J.D.; W. Side, I.G.; W. M. Stiles, Assist. Sec.; G. Colls, W.S.; H. H. Child, W. Clarke, A. T. Rapkin, most of whom were present. There were also present Bros. Brunell, Clark, Hopton, Lovegrove, &c. Visitors: Bros. Scard, Levy, Burnett, Messrs. Humphreys, Jackson, Pomerooy, and others. The brethren and their friends arrived at Paddington about 10.30, and all concurred that they had spent a most pleasant day, and one that will be long remembered.

NEW CROSS LODGE (No. 1559).—Saturday, August 5th, was a day most anxiously anticipated by not a few brethren, members of the above young lodge, for that was the occasion of the third regular meeting since the light of Masonry first shed its luminous rays in the commodious room at the New Cross Public Hall. The appetite for business had been keenly whetted by the somewhat lengthy interval since the brethren had met together, and the weighty agenda as set forth in the summonses promised ample exercise for the officers, and an abundance of entertainment for M.M.'s, Fellow Crafts, and Entered Apprentices. But unfortunately for the attendance the immediate proximity of that day of pleasure, the first Monday in August, had a marked effect upon the first Saturday in the same month, and many, like the rest of the world, requiring rest and relaxation from labour, it followed that some of the brethren were absent on their holidays. Let us here express a hope that they enjoyed themselves as heartily as did their brethren who assembled at the New Cross Public Hall. Nearly the first to put in an appearance was the veteran Bro. F. Walters, P.P.G.J.D. Middx., Treas., whose new title sits right well upon him. Bro. H. Keeble, P.M., Sec., as a matter of course, was punctual as ever in the observance of his duties; and Bros. Metham, Smith, Grumman, Smurthwaite, and Sewell were among the first to arrive, the complete list of those in attendance being Bros. E. H. Thielley, S.W.; Walter A. Simmonds, J.W.; F. Walters, Prov. Treas.; H. Keeble, P.M., Sec.; Louis Beck, S.D.; H. J. Green, J.D.; W. Hardman, I.G.; A. Church, Tyler; Bros. Smurthwaite, Ernest Smith, Solomon Jewell, R. J. Steers, H. Metham, T. Grumman, W. Cowley; likewise the following visitors:—Bros. G. Madril, W.M. 1472; G. Macdonald, W.M. 1158; E. W. Ives, 1473; T. J. Davidge, 7; J. W. Cole, 1433;

A. F. Roberts, 1426. In the absence of the W.M., Bro. F. Walters assumed the chair, and having opened the lodge in the First Degree, the minutes of the two previous meetings were read and confirmed, after which Bro. H. Keeble, P.M., Sec., took the chair, and submitted the following apprentices:—Bros. T. Grumman, W. Cowley (1559), and Lieutenant Cole, Era Lodge, 1423, to the necessary examination, and having given satisfaction were duly rewarded, and quitted the lodge. The lodge was then opened by the esteemed Bro. Secretary in the Second Degree, and Bros. Solomon Jewell, R. J. Steers, and H. Metham, candidates for raising, interrogated as to the progress they had made in the science, and having received their due reward, took their seats until called upon for raising. Bros. Grumman, Cowley, and Cole were now admitted, and in a careful and impressive manner the W.M. (Bro. Keeble, Secretary) proceeded to pass them to the Degree of Fellow Craft, it being worthy of remark that the esteemed Secretary had never been heard to better advantage than upon this occasion, and at the conclusion of the ceremony received the thanks and congratulations of all present upon the efficient manner he had passed the three brethren. All below the Degree of M.M. having retired, Bro. Walters relieved the W.M., and having opened the lodge in the Third Degree, received Bros. Jewell, Steers, and Metham, and in his usual masterly and perfect style raised these brethren to the "degree of degrees," his clear and solemn delivery holding his hearers in deepest attention, and evoking a spontaneous round of thanks at the termination of his important task. The brethren having taken their seats in a M.M.'s lodge, the W.M. resumed in the First Degree, and vacated the chair, which was once more occupied by Bro. Keeble, who was supported by Bro. Govan Macdonald, W.M. 1158; and Mr. A. Macgillivray, a candidate for Freemasonry, was admitted, and in due solemnity initiated into the mysteries of the First Degree. This concluding the business on the agenda, the W.M. rose for the first time, and a communication of a private nature was made to the brethren by Bro. Walters, which having received their due attention, and the W.M. rising for the second and third times, the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to refreshment. Bro. Walters proposed "The Health of the Initiate," which was drunk with great cordiality, and the newly made brother, after being entertained with the Entered Apprentice song from the jovial Bro. Treasurer, returned thanks in a speech, teeming with interest, and assured the brethren that, deeply impressed as he was with all he had heard, he could assure them that he should devote no inconsiderable portion of his spare time in following up a noble and truly honourable science. The brethren soon after separated (several calling in at the Star Lodge of Instruction) until the first Saturday in November.

RADCLIFFE.—Lodge of Faith (No. 344).—At the meeting of this lodge, held last week, Bro. Marshall Taylor, P.M., was presented with a purse of gold and a handsomely-framed illuminated address by the brethren belonging to this lodge, as a token of esteem. The presentation was made by the W.M., Bro. C. M. Smith, and Bro. Taylor made a suitable reply. The address read as follows:—"Lodge of Faith, No. 344, of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of England. To Bro. Marshall Taylor, P.M., P.P.G.P.—Dear Sir and Brother,—We, the Worshipful Master, Wardens, and Brethren of the Lodge of Faith, desire to express by this testimonial and purse of money our appreciation of your valuable services rendered in the interests of this lodge in particular, and Freemasonry in general, for a considerable number of years, in which you have assisted in carrying on the rituals of this lodge in a very efficient manner, and we also desire that the Great Architect of the Universe will bestow on you and family the blessings of health and prosperity here, and the greater blessings of happiness in the Grand Lodge above.—Signed on behalf of the brethren, C. W. Smith, W.M.; Samuel Marsden, S.W.; Mark Hardman, J.W., Bull's Head Inn, Radcliffe, July 26th, 1876." Bro. Taylor was initiated in the Faith Lodge in 1858; was an officer of East Lancashire Prov. G. Lodge in 1873, and held office in the Royal Arch Chapter in 1875. He is postmaster of Radcliffe, and as he is well versed in Masonic ritual his services are in frequent request.

DERBY.—Hartington Lodge (No. 1085).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, Gower-street, on Wednesday, the 2nd August. The brethren present were Bros. S. Pipes, W.M.; H. T. Bobart, I.P.M.; F. Iliffe, P.M.; W. Heathcote, S.W.; Thomas Gadsby, J.W.; M. H. Bobart, Treas., acting as S.D.; George Pipes, Sec.; Joshua Heathcote, J.D.; Butterfield, as I.G.; T. Slinn, Tyler; Steele, Biggs, and Frazer. Visitors: Bros. Bennett, W.M. 731; Wright, P.M. 731; and Burton, 731. The lodge was opened at 7.50 p.m. in the First Degree. After the circular convening the lodge had been read, and the minutes of the last lodge read and confirmed, the W.M. proceeded to pass Bro. G. Hill, after the lodge had been opened in the Second Degree. The next business was to raise Bro. Geo. Johnson, which, after the lodge had been opened in the Third Degree, was performed in a most able and impressive manner by the W.M. The lodge was then resumed in the First Degree. Two gentlemen were proposed for initiation, which brought the lodge to a close, and the brethren adjourned to the banqueting hall, where the usual monthly supper was provided. After the cloth had been withdrawn, the usual Masonic toasts were given and heartily received, after which the meeting was brought to a close, the brethren all expressing themselves as having spent a very enjoyable evening.

PAIGNTON.—Torrey Lodge (No. 1358).—The annual installation and banquet of this flourishing lodge took place on Thursday, the 3rd inst., when Bro. John Coudrey, the W.M. elect, was installed as W. Master for the ensuing year by the Rev. Robert Bowden, P.M., P.P.G.C., in the presence of a goodly number of the brethren of the lodge and visitors. The officers were then

invested: Bros. W. E. Warren, as I.P.M.; T. Pope, S.W.; J. F. Chinnock, J.W.; G. Campbell, S.D.; F. Palk, J.D.; James Greenfield, P.M., P.P.G.D. Treas.; A. Palk, Secretary; Dr. J. T. Goodridge, P.M., Dir. of Cer.; Rev. N. Platt, Chaplain; T. Brooks, R.A.M. Org.; W. Hunt, I.G.; J. R. Bovey, and G. S. Bridgeman, Stewards; and W. Tozer, Tyler. The brethren, after business, adjourned to the Esplanade Hotel, where a recherche banquet was splendidly served by the manageress, under the presidency of the W. Master. Among those present were Bros. Cooke, of Royal Cumberland Lodge, Bath, P.P.G.S.B. (Somerset); Gordon Campbell, Apollo Lodge, Oxford, Grand Director of Ceremonies (Oxfordshire); A. H. Dendy, J. Hurrell, Hawley Lodge (Dartmouth); and Dr. S. Colston, True Love and Unity (Brixham); G. Std. of Devon. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and responded to, the speeches being far beyond the average, and the brethren, having spent a most enjoyable evening, separated at an early hour, feeling confident that the lodge will continue to prosper as hitherto.

LIVERPOOL.—Fermor Hesketh Lodge (No. 1350).—The installation of Bro. R. Collinson, the W.M. elect of the Fermor Hesketh Lodge, was held at the Temple, Hope-street, last month, in the presence of a large gathering of the brethren, including several P.G. Officers. The Installing Officer was Bro. Dr. James Bennett, the retiring W.M., who performed the ceremony in an admirable and impressive manner. Bro. R. Collinson having taken the chair, the following brethren were invested for the ensuing year:—Bros. Dr. Bennett, I.P.M., W. H. Cooper, S.W.; J. O. Samuels, J.W.; J. H. Johnston, P.M., D. of C.; T. A. Collinson, P.M., Treas.; R. Kay, Sec.; Rev. C. F. Mermagen, Chap.; W. P. Evans, S.D.; T. F. Cooper, J.D.; C. P. Titherley, I.G.; Cooke, Org.; J. B. M'Allister, S.S.; R. Thomas, J.S.; P. Ball, Tyler. The lodge was then opened up to the Second Degree, through which two of the brethren were passed by the newly-installed W.M., who discharged his duty most efficiently. The banquet was held in the large dining-hall, the W.M. presiding. The dinner was served in first-class style by Bro. Bull. After the usual loyal toasts, the W.M. proposing "The R.W.P.G.M., Lord Skelmersdale, and the Officers of the P.G. Lodge, Past and Present," and highly eulogised the satisfactory manner in which the offices of the province were administered. Bro. Guepel, P.G.D. of C., responded. Bro. R. Bennett, in proposing "The Health: the W.M." said he trusted Bro. Collinson would receive the same kindness which he had always experienced, and he was satisfied that that brother would prove an able and a zealous W.M. Bro. R. Collinson having expressed his sense of the honour done him by placing him in the chair of his mother lodge, presented, in the name of the lodge, a handsome P.M.'s jewel to Bro. Bennett, in recognition of his efficient and valuable services in the chair during the past year. Bro. Bennett said he accepted the gift with no little pleasure, and he could assure them he should always look back with gratitude to his year of office. The other toasts included "The Past Masters," "The Visiting Brethren," "The Officers," "The West Lancashire and Cheshire Masonic Educational Institutions," "The Musical Brethren," &c. The musical arrangements were excellent, and the singing and pianoforte playing of several of the brethren greatly added to the enjoyment of the evening.

Royal Arch.

LEWIS CHAPTER (No. 1185).—A convocation of this chapter, the first after its consecration in June last, was held at the King's Arms Hotel, Wood Green, on Saturday, 5th inst. Present: Comps. Arthur Leared, M.E.Z.; George J. Row, H.; Alfred Durrant, J.; Geo. Newman, T. Vesper, P.Z.; Samuel May, P.Z., Treas.; J. W. Berrie, P.S.; Edward B. Grabham, E. pro tem.; Rev. — Ridgeway, Chaplain; and others. The chapter was opened in form with solemn prayer, and the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. Ballots were taken for Comp. Grabham (Mount Sinai Chapter, No. 19) for joining, and several brethren for exaltation, of whom were present Bros. J. R. Cover and W. H. Cox. These brethren on being introduced were exalted into Royal Arch Masonry by the M.E.Z. assisted by Comp. George Newman, who delivered the lectures in a very able and impressive manner. The chapter was then closed, and the companions adjourned to a banquet, presided over by Comp. Leared, M.E.Z., who, after proposing the usual loyal and Masonic toasts gave "The Health of Comps. Cover and Postans," who separately acknowledged the toast. "The Health of the Visitors" was then proposed, and acknowledged by Comp. T. Vesper, who, as an old P.Z., took upon himself to offer the companions some very excellent advice, which was well received, and, if acted upon, cannot fail to be of great service to the chapter. Comp. Grabham responded to the toast of "The Joining Members," and congratulated the M.E.Z. upon the success to which the chapter had already attained, and predicted great prosperity for the future. Comp. G. Newman (to whom the thanks of the chapter are specially due for the exceedingly kind and useful services he has rendered) acknowledged the hearty manner in which his health had been drunk, and assured the chapter that his best services were always at their disposal. Comp. May, P.Z., responded to "The Health of the Treasurer," and Comp. J. W. Berrie, P.S., for "The Officers." It is only due to this last-named companion to say how exceedingly well the work of P.S. was performed by him, and the companions generally may look forward to an officer of great promise in Comp. Berrie. The Janitor's toast having been duly honoured, the companions separated after the enjoyment of an exceedingly pleasant evening, notwithstanding that many members were absent on account of the holidays.

Mark Masonry.

LEICESTER.—Fowke Lodge of Mark Masters (No. 19).—By the cordial invitation of the W.M.M., Bro. Clement Stretton, Past Grand Steward, the brethren of this lodge were entertained at a picnic dinner at his residence on the 13th ult. The brethren assembled to the number of seventy in their lodge-room about one o'clock, from whence they proceeded by rail and private carriages to Glen Hall, Glen Magna, where every provision had been made that could possibly promote the comfort and enjoyment of the assembled guests, and lead them in the grand design of being happy and communicating happiness to others. While some of the brethren joined in the games and amusements on the lawn, others sought the shady walks and cool retreats afforded by the magnificent trees with which the grounds are studded, and all of them manifested much interest in the working models of a complete railway and telegraph system exhibited by the talented son of the Worshipful Master. Bro. C. E. Stretton is an amateur engineer, who is eminently proficient in the theory and practice of railway construction, and, as an occasional contributor to scientific journals, his opinion and advice is highly esteemed by appreciative students in those liberal arts and sciences more immediately connected with this particular branch of engineering. The dinner was of the most recherché description, and was served in a spacious marquee erected near the conservatory. The worthy Worshipful Master presided, and was supported by Bros. Barfoot, P.G.M.O., Mayor of Leicester; W. Kelly, P.G.M.M.; Rev. W. Langley, D.P. G.M.M.; G. Toller, P.G.S.W.; Dr. Clifton, P.G.J.O.; R. Waite, P.G. Treas.; J. M. McAllister, P.G. Sec.; W. T. Rowlett, P.G.S.D.; J. T. Thorp, P.G.A.D.C.; Dr. Hunt, P.G.S.B.; T. A. Wykes, P.G.O.; Dr. Buck, Dr. Meadows, Rev. Brindley, Rev. Dodds, S. S. Partridge, P.P.G. S.W.; W. Sculthorpe, S.W.; R. A. Barber, J.W.; F. J. Baines, P.P.G.O.; and other distinguished Mark Masons. The presence of ladies added greatly to the interest of the happy occasion, and we must observe that, considering we are no longer operative, but Free and Accepted, or Speculative Masons, we can scarcely perceive why the ladies are not more intimately associated in our pursuits. Those of our readers who are interested in Mark Masonry will be glad to learn that a new lodge is being formed in Leicester, mainly through the zeal and influence of Bro. Stretton, and the W.M. designate is the Mayor, Bro. Wm. Barfoot. It only remains for your correspondent to return thanks from a numerous and influential assembly of Mark Masters and their fair friends to the W.M., Bro. Stretton, for the entertainment afforded to them, and the liberality which graced the proceedings of the day.

Ancient and Primitive Masonry.

GRAND CHANCERY.

A meeting of the Grand Chancery of the Sovereign Sanctuary was held on the 3rd August, at Manchester, by the following members: Ill. Bros. John Yarker, 33°, G. M. General; S. P. Leather, 33°, Grand Treasurer General; Beeby Bowman Labrey, 33°, as Grand Chancellor General. The following business was transacted:—1st, the grant of a Mizraim Charter to the Ancient and Primitive Rite in Canada, in favour of V. I. Bros. G. C. Longley, 33-95°; A. G. Hervey, 33-95°; John Dumbille, 33-95°; 2nd, the issue of a dispensation (4-30°) to Ill. Bro. W. L. Erson, and several members of the Ancient and Primitive Rite in the Isle of Man; 3rd, a similar document to several brethren in Gloucestershire; 4th, a similar document to several brethren in Aberdeen, Glasgow, and Edinburgh, in Scotland; 5th, a similar document to Ill. Bro. Barnes and several brethren in Middlesex. Nomination was made of an influential London brother to fill the office of Grand Administrator General, 33°, and Grand Master of Light for the South of England, and referred to the decision of the Sovereign Sanctuary at its next meeting.

Ancient and Accepted Rite.

CONSECRATION OF THE MORGANWG CHAPTER ROSE CROIX, SWANSEA, GLAMORGANSHIRE.

On Tuesday, the 25th ult., the interesting ceremonies of the consecration of the Morganwg Chapter Rose Croix, and the installation of its M.W. Sovereign, took place in the town of Swansea, South Wales.

The petitioning brethren and visitors assembled at 2 o'clock in the New Masonic Hall, recently built by the Indefatigable Lodge, and which, owing to the exertions of Bros. W. H. Tucker and W. Williams, had been handsomely and appropriately fitted up for the occasion.

Amongst the brethren present were Ill. Bros. Shadwell Clerke, 33°, Gd. Sec. Genl.; Lieut.-General H. E. Doherty, C.B., 33°, Dy. Insp. General; J. C. Parkinson, 31°; Capt. S. George Homfray, 30°; Bros. W. H. Tucker, 18°, M.W. Sov. Designate; W. Williams 18°; J. Goodall, 18°; R. Groves, 18°; and many others.

No less than 28 candidates had been duly proposed and recommended for admission into the Order on this occasion, but many were unable to attend; nine candidates, however, being present were duly perfected by the Gd. Sec. Genl., who then proceeded to perform the solemn and impressive ceremony of consecration, assisted by Ill. Bros. General Doherty, 33°; J. C. Parkinson, 31°; and Capt. S. G. Homfray, 30°.

The M.W. Sov. designate, Bro. W. H. Tucker, was afterwards installed by Ill. Bro. Major Clerke, to whom a vote of thanks was thereon accorded for the very able and perfect manner in which he had performed the ceremonies of the day.

Ill. Bros. Major Clerke, Genl. Doherty, J. C. Parkinson, and Capt. Homfray were elected honorary members, in

recognition of their services; and after the usual formulae the chapter was closed, and the brethren adjourned to the Mackworth Arms, where they partook of a handsome banquet, under the presidency of Bro. Tucker, the M.W.S.

The usual toasts were given and responded to, and the brethren separated early, the majority having to catch trains.

The following are the list of officers of the chapter:—M.W.S., W. H. Tucker; Prelate, J. Goodall; First General, W. Williams; Second General, G. Bradford; Marshal, J. C. Sladen; Raphael, D. C. Jones; Recorder, J. R. Davies; Treasurer, L. Davies; Captain of Guard, L. Howells; Organist, R. Groves; Herald, R. Maine; Outer Guard, S. Bullewell.

Scotland.

GRAND LODGE OF SCOTLAND.

A quarterly communication of Grand Lodge of Scotland was held on the 7th inst., in the Freemasons' Hall. The throne was occupied by Sir Michael R. Shaw Stewart, Most Worshipful Grand Master, and amongst those supporting him were the Earl of Mar and Kellie, D.S.M.; Henry Inglis, of Torsonce, P.S.G.M.; Major Hamilton, Ramsay, of Garion, S.G.W.; David Kinnear, acting J.G.W.; Wm. Mann, P.G.W.; Captain Charles Hunter, Prov. G.M. Aberdeenshire, East; Dr. Cowan, S. G.M. Perthshire; J. H. Neilson, Proxy P.G.M. and G.S.; John Laurie, G.S.; Alexander Hay, G.T.; and Daniel Robertson, G. Bible-bearer. Grand Lodge having been opened, a number of apologies for absence were read, and intimation was made of the decease of Bro. George Home Drummond, of Ardoch, representative from the Grand Lodge of the Netherlands, and of Bro. David Erskine, representative at the Grand Lodge of Sweden. It was agreed to record in the minutes an expression of regret at the loss of those brethren, and to appoint Major N. Bjorkman, of Sweden, as successor to Bro. Erskine. A petition for a charter to the new lodge at Frickheim was remitted to Grand Committee, with power to grant the same when put in form. The other business was routine.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF GLASGOW.

The quarterly communication of this Provincial Grand Lodge was held in St. Mark's Hall, 213, Buchanan-street, Glasgow, on Thursday evening, the 3rd inst., Bro. Fred. A. Barrow, D.P.G.M., presiding; Bro. G. McDonald, W.M. Thistle and Rose Lodge, No. 73, as P.G.S.W.; Bro. J. Booth, W.M., Thistle Lodge, No. 87, as P.G.J.W. The D.P.G.M. was supported on the dais by Bros. D. M. Nelson, W.M. St John's Lodge, No. 34, Convenor of P.G. Committee; John Monro, W.M. Commercial Lodge, No. 360; John Gillies, P.G. Treas.; John Morgan, W.M. Star Lodge, No. 219, as P.G. Sec.; J. Miller, P.G.J.D.; A. Bain, P.G.B.B.; J. Balfour, P.G. D.C.; and R. Jack, W.M. St. John's Lodge, No. 128, as P.G.I.G. The following were present: Bros. D. Ronald, W.M. 275; W. Har, W.M. 178; W. J. Hogg W.M. 362; John Miller, W.M. 437; D. Gilchrist, W.M. 465; R. McDougal, W.M. 553; W. Phillips, W.M. 556; Browlie, J.W. 34; Dick, Sec. 34; Thomson, S.W. 102; T. Thomas, S.W. 103; Bruntion, I.P.M. 117; Peacock, S.W. 117; Campbell, I.P.M. 128; McLeod, P.M., S.W. 128; Hepburn, S.W. 178; Findlay, S.W. 275; McInnes, S.W. 339; Harley, S.W. 354; McKenzie, J.W. 354; McInnes, S.M. 408; Holms, J.W. 413; Simpson, S.W. 416; McLean, J.W. 419; Davidson, S.W. 465; Peacock, S.W. 581; Ferguson, P.M. 543 ("Freemason"); and a large number of brethren from the province. Before opening the lodge, the Chairman said he might explain the reason of his being there that night, seeing, as they were aware, he had resigned office in connection with the lodge some time ago. No successor to that office, however, had as yet been appointed, and as Bro. Baird, who had in the interim been acting as Provincial Grand Depute Master, was unable to be present at this meeting, he had specially requested him (Bro. Barrow) to be present and preside. Although severing his connection with the Provincial Grand Lodge of Glasgow, he still wished well to Masonry, as his presence there that night would show. Bro. Barrow added that he thought it was a great pity that the R.W.P.G. Master had not yet filled up the vacant offices in the Provincial Grand Lodge, and that such a province as that of Glasgow should be in such a condition as it was at the present moment. The lodge having been duly opened, the Chairman read a note from Bro. Archd. M'Taggart, P.G. Secretary, giving formal announcement of his resignation of that office, and thanking the lodge for the uniform kindness and courtesy he had experienced at their hands during the period he held the appointment. Of course, the Chairman said, they could do no more than receive the resignation of Bro. M'Taggart, whose abilities had been very much appreciated in the province during the last few years. Bro. John Morgan, W.M. Lodge Star, 219, acting Secretary for the occasion, then read minutes of meetings of P.G. Lodge and of P.G. Committee, which were duly passed, with exception of a finding by the latter in reference to a schism in Lodge St. Vincent, 553, arising out of the passing of the bye-laws of the latter. In regard to this the motion that the finding of P.G. Committee be sustained was met by an amendment, moved by Bro. John Monro, seconded by Bro. P. Brownlie, 34, and supported by Bro. D. M. Nelson, "That the matter be sent back to the said committee for further consideration." The amendment was carried by a large majority. There was no further business of importance gone into, and the lodge was thereafter closed in due and ancient form; a vote of thanks to Bro. Barrow for his pre-

sence in the chair that evening being proposed by Bro. John Monro, and carried with acclamation.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Union and Crown (No. 103).—The regular monthly meeting of this lodge was held in the Masonic Hall, 30, Hope-street, on Monday evening, the 31st ult. In the absence of the W.M., Bro. D. Murray, who was in Ireland on important business, the chair was occupied by Bro. Alex. Bain, P.M., P.G.B.B., assisted by Bros. W. Thomas, S.W.; G. Muir, acting J.W.; N. Cameron, Treas.; J. Gillies, P.M., P.G. Treas., Sec.; J. S. Pollock, S.D.; A. Gray, J.D.; P. Cullen, B.B.; J. Derry, S.S.; J. Gray, I.G.; Boyd, Tyler; McGeachy, P.M.; and others. Amongst the visitors were Bros. John Monro, W.M. Lodge Commercial, 360; J. Findlay, S.M. 333; W. Ferguson, P.M. 543, ("Freemason"); J. Campbell, P.M. 128; J. M. Innes, S.M. 408; and others. The lodge was opened in the E.A. Degree, and the minutes of last regular and one emergency meeting were read and confirmed. Bro. J. Monro, W.M. 360, was unanimously elected an honorary member of the lodge, and was duly obligated by Bro. Gillies, P.M. Bro. Monro, in replying, said: W.M., Wardens, and brethren, I am at extreme difficulty to express myself in terms sufficiently becoming for the very high honour you have conferred upon me this evening. I consider this no ordinary honour, because I look upon the Lodge Union and Crown as one of the best regulated lodges in the Province of Glasgow, and reflects credit on the present as well as the past officers. I therefore thank you for the extreme kindness and honour you have done me this evening. The lodge was then opened in the Third Degree, when Bros. J. Taylor and J. Paterson were raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason by Bro. Bain, P.M., in his usual able manner.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Caledonian Railway (No. 354).—The monthly meeting of this lodge was held in the Commercial Hall, 30, Hope-street, on Wednesday evening, the 2nd inst. On account of Bro. A. B. Ferguson, W.M., being out of Glasgow on business, the chair was occupied by Bro. John Harley, S.W.; Bros. Jas. Harley, S.D., acting S.W.; C. McKenzie, J.W. The meeting, as on all former occasions, was particularly well attended, both by the members and visiting brethren. At the request of the acting W.M., Bro. R. A. McLean, Sec., read the minutes of the last regular and one emergency meeting, which were approved of. After disposing of some minor business, Bro. John Fyfe, of Lodge St. Andrew, 465, was proposed and seconded for affiliation into the lodge, and the same having met the unanimous approval of the brethren, he was obligated by Bro. Harley, acting W.M. Mr. Robert Jackson was then proposed and seconded to be initiated into the mysteries of Freemasonry and favourably balloted for, was admitted, and received the First Degree at the hands of Bro. Harley, S.W., who performed the ceremony for the first time in a most accurate and masterly style. This ending the business, the lodge was closed.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Commercial (No. 360).—The monthly meeting of this lodge was held in their hall, 30, Hope-street, on Friday evening, the 4th inst., Bro. John Monro, W.M., in the chair, Bros. J. Brodie, P.M.; J. M. Oliver, S.W.; W. Findlay, S.M., acting J.W.; G. Scott, Treas.; J. Smith, Sec.; R. Reid, S.D.; R. Brodie, Dir. of Music; H. Jamieson, I.G.; and Minnoch, Tyler. Visitors: Bros. J. Gillies, P.M. 103, P.G. Treas.; D. Murray, W.M. 103; W. Thomas, S.W. 103; J. Harley, S.W. 354; W. Mc G. Mason, W.M. 541; J. Fraser, S.W. 541; R. Walker, jun., Sec. 541; J. Murray, S.D. 541; W. Ferguson, P.M. 543 ("Freemason"); and a large number of others, with a full attendance of members of the lodge. On the lodge being opened, and the minutes of last regular meeting read and adopted, the W.M. said they had no work of their own before them that night. He, however, received applications from Lodges Marie Stuart, 541, and Union and Crown, 103, to oblige them by initiating a candidate from each lodge. He was glad to have it in his power to comply with the request. The two candidates were then admitted and initiated by Bro. Monro, W.M. A brother was then passed for Lodge Union and Crown, 103, by Bro. Brodie, P.M. 360 and 541. Afterwards Bros. Wood, of Lodge No. 103, and Macklin, of Lodge No. 541, were raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason by Bro. Gillies, P.M. 103. Before the lodge was closed Bro. Gillies moved a vote of thanks to Lodge Commercial for their kindness on this as well as on former occasions.

UDDINGSTON.—Lodge St. Bryde (No. 579). A special meeting of the above lodge was held in Latta's Hall, on Tuesday, 1st inst., at 7 p.m. Business: Raising to the Sublime Degree of M.M.; Bro. John Scott presiding as R.W.M., ably assisted by Bro. Ferguson, P.M. 543 ("Freemason") who kindly attended on this occasion. Officers present: Bros. John Scott, D.M., as W.M.; Wilson Walker, S.M.; Thomas Halkett, S.W.; Wm. H. Lindsay, Sec., as J.W.; J. W. Ruddock, I.G.; John Rankan, Tyler. Visiting brethren present: Bros. R. Hutchinson, 233; J. Parker, 233. The following F.C.M.s. were then raised to that of the Sublime Degree of M.M., viz:—Bro. William Watson, Robt. Proudfoot, Alexander Steel, James Patrick, Walter C. Ross, John Bright, Sen., John Baird, Samuel Lorrimer, Andrew McKenzie, James Robertson, William Dalziel, Armit Brown, Alex. McNicol, William Waddle, Henry McCall, and J. Morton. Bro. Ferguson ably assisted in raising the brethren to the Sublime Degree and delivered an exhaustive, impressive, and not to be forgotten charge upon the duties and responsibilities of Master Masons. The lodge was then reduced from the M.M. Degree, to that of F.C., subsequently to that of E.A. Before closing the lodge the Acting W.M. proposed a hearty vote of thanks to Bro. Ferguson for officiating on the occasion, as also for the admirable and exhaustive manner in which Bro. Ferguson

had performed the ceremony, to the delight, admiration, and profit of the brethren, and the same was ordered to be inserted in the minutes of proceedings, &c. Bro Ferguson very feelingly replied in a concise speech, after which the lodge was closed by the Acting W.M., assisted by his Wardens, in the usual ancient form.

KILBARCHAN.—Lodge St. Barchan (No. 156).—A meeting of this lodge was held in the lodge-room on the evening of Friday, 4th inst. The R.W.M., Bro. William Lewis, M.D., presided, and was supported by Bros. Andrew Buchanan, D.M. and P.M.; David Scrymgeour, S.M.; Robt. Craig, S.W.; John Orr, J.W.; Fred. Lewis, acting Sec.; J. Hill, S.D.; J. Stevenson, J.D.; and others. The lodge having been opened in due form, the applications of two candidates for initiation, viz., Mr. John Wilson, Liverpool, and Mr. John Wylie, Paisley, were submitted to the meeting. The applications having been accepted, the candidates were regularly initiated into the E.A. Degree by the W.M., in a very able manner. Thereafter, two brethren were passed to the F.C. Degree, and one brother was raised to the Sublime Degree of a M.M., the ceremonies in these degrees being likewise gone through by the W.M. There being no other business, the lodge was closed in ancient form.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF HAMPSHIRE AND THE ISLE OF WIGHT.

The Provincial Grand Lodge of the Province of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight was held at Lymington, on Monday, by command of the Provincial Grand Master. The brethren, to the number of about 180, assembled in the Town Hall at high noon.

The Right Worshipful Bro. W. W. B. Beach, M.P., Provincial Grand Master, accompanied by the Worshipful Bro. W. Hickman, Deputy Provincial Grand Master, were met at the railway station on their arrival by Bro. Rawlins, the W.M. elect of the New Forest Lodge, and conducted to the Angel Hotel.

The lodge was closed tiled at one p.m., the Provincial Grand Master and his officers being received with the customary Masonic honours.

Among the brethren present were Bros. W. W. B. Beach, M.P., the P.G.M., who presided; W. Hickman, D.P.G.M.; H. Ford, P.S.G.W.; M. E. Frost, P.G.T.; J. E. Le Feuvre, P.G. Sec.; E. Booth, acting J.G.W.; H. Cawte, P.P.G.J.W.; J. Lillywhite, P.G.R.; H. Abraham, P.P.G.D.; Rev. E. W. Watts, W.M. 151; J. R. Weston, P.P.G.R.; F. Pince, P.M. 257; Montague Alex, P.P.G.J.W. (Gloucester), G. F. Lancaster, P.M. 903, P.P. G.J.W.; R. Eve, P.P.G.S.W.; W. Chick, P.P.G.D. Dorset; T. A. Willis, P.P.G. Chaplain; W. Furber, P.M. 394, P.P.G.D.; P. Newman, P.M. and Treas. 175, P.P.G. Sec.; G. Wyatt, P.P.G.S.W.; E. W. Rebbeck, P.M. 195, P.P.G.P.; H. P. Aslatt, P.P.G.S.D.; J. Maltby, P.M. 487, P.P.G.S.B.; R. Osborne, P.G.O.; R. Sharpe, P.P.G.O.; J. Blount Thomas, P.G.S.D.; E. Snelling, P.P.G.A.D.C.; W. J. Hickman, W.M. 130; C. Cox, W.M. 394; G. Rake, 487, P.P.G. Supt. Works; R. Newland, P.M. 342, P.G.A.D.C.; C. W. Wyndham, P.P.S.G.W. Wilts; S. S. Pearce, P.M. 319; E. G. Holbrook, P.M. 309, P.P.G.A.D.C.; S. G. T. Bourke, W.M. 1428; B. Maturin, M.A., P.P.G. Chaplain; J. Maling, W.M. 903; J. Whale, W.M. 309; E. Downing, S.W. 309; J. Harrison, P.M. 804; J. Lintott, I.P.M. 804; R. J. Rastick, W.M. 1069; J. R. Hayman, 257; E. Groves, P.M. 903; J. D. Barford, P.M. 359; G. R. Johnson, 487, P.G. Steward; H. J. Way, W.M. 70; E. M. Wells, P.P.G.D.; G. Bond, S.W. 487; M. Miles, P.M. 130; H. T. Bath, P.M. 319, P.P.G.A.D.C.; R. White, P.M. 1331, P.G.P.; R. J. Turney, W.M. 342; R. B. Cheverton, I.P.M. 151; M. Emanuel, P.M. 359; G. Cross, 359, P.G.S.; J. N. Colston, J.W. 319; A. P. Wilks, W.M. 698; A. J. Hicks, P.M. 132; J. C. Ains, W.M. 35; J. Parkes, 151, P.G.S.B.; T. Giles, P.M. 35, P.G. Sup. Wks.; T. Best, P.M. 1373, P.P.G.S.W.; W. H. Gregory, P.M. 359; J. Newbery, P.M. 1112; H. R. Sims, W.M. 319; Rev. T. A. Willis, P.P.G. Chap. P.M. 309; E. R. Lester, 319, P.G.S.; W. C. Powning, W.M. 1373; W. R. Rogers, P.M. 195; T. J. Fletcher, P.M. 1112, P.G.D.C.; C. A. Dyer, W.M. 359; C. W. A. Jellicoe, J.W. 130; J. Wilson, 903, P.P.G.S.B.; D. Sydenham, W.M. 195; J. E. Salter, I.P.M. 76; S. Dore, I.P.M. 319; J. Puntis, W.M. 694; H. Doman, P.M. 319, P.P.S.G.D.; J. Hayward, P.M. 319, P.P.S.G.W.; J. R. Willson, P.M. 342 and 1428; T. Anderson, W.M. 1331.

On the minutes of the Special Grand Lodge, held at Portsmouth, to draw up an address of congratulation to the Grand Master (the Prince of Wales) on his return from India, being read, the P.G.M. briefly referred to the circumstances attending its presentation, and expressed his regret that owing to the density of the crowd on his Royal Highness's departure from the railway station, it was not possible for the brethren to accompany him; in fact, he only had the opportunity of presenting it through the window of the carriage. A short time afterwards, however he received a most gracious reply, which he would ask the P.G. Secretary to read. It was as follows:—

Marlborough House, Pall Mall, S.W.

Sir William Knollys is desired by the Prince of Wales to thank the Provincial Grand Master, the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, Worshipful Officers, and brethren of the Province of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight, for their address of welcome, and for their congratulations on his safe return from India. It is a source of great thankfulness to his Royal Highness that he has been enabled by a visit to one of the most important possessions of the British Crown to acquire a personal knowledge of its characteristic features—its interests and institutions, and to cement by intercourse with all classes of its inhabitants

the friendly feeling which it is so essential should subsist between the mother country and every part of the vast Empire.

On the motion of the P.G. Master, seconded by the D.P.G. Master, the reply was ordered to be printed, and a copy sent to each lodge in the province.

On the report of the committee for managing the Provincial Grand Lodge Funds and the P.G. Treasurer's accounts being read, considerable discussion arose as to the appropriation of a portion of the balance in hand, but it was ultimately decided (on the motion of Bro. E. G. Holbrook) that the committee should be authorised to invest the sum of £200, or such other amount as they might think proper. £20 was again voted to the widow of the late Bro. Stebbing, and £1 per month to Bro. Dawkins until the meeting of the P.G. Lodge in 1877. A special donation of twenty guineas was also granted to the Masonic Girls' School. Bro. W. Hickman, D.P.G.M., pointed out the great disparity which existed between the voting powers of the province in the case of the Boys' and Girls' Schools, the number of votes for the boys' being 480 while that for the girls' was only 250. Although this donation would only give the province two additional votes, he thought this was a step in the right direction.

Bro. Cawte, P.P.J.G.W., expressed a preference for a donation of £50 to the Benevolent Fund, and several brethren suggested a grant to both institutions, but Bro. Beach, P.G.M., counselled caution in dealing with the surplus funds of the lodge, as it was impossible to say what contingencies might arise; and it was eventually agreed that the vote of twenty guineas to the Girls' School should stand, the general question as to the respective claims of various charities on the lodge being referred to the committee to report upon. It was also pointed out that as the usual grant had not been taken up by the Girls' School for two years, the grant would be virtually forty guineas.

The Worshipful Masters of the Gosport, United Brothers, Lodge of Friendship, and Shirley Lodges, were elected a committee to audit the P.G. Treasurer's accounts, and Bros. Wallingford, Hare, and Furber, with the Masters of the various lodges, were re-elected the committee for managing the P.G. Lodge funds.

The routine business having been disposed of, the Provincial Grand Master proceeded to appoint the Grand Officers for the ensuing year. Bro. Mark Frost, P.G. Treas., was (on the motion of Bro. Eve, P.P.S.G.W.) unanimously re-elected by the lodge, and the following other officers were then invested by the P.G.M. with the insignia of office:—

H. Abraham, P.M. 130	Prov. S.G.W.
F. Pine, P.M. 237	Prov. J.G.W.
Revs. F. W. Thoys, 694, and E. W. Watts, 151	Prov. G. Chaps.
E. G. Holbrook, P.M. 309	Prov. G. Reg.
M. E. Frost, P.M. 487	Prov. G. Treas.
J. E. Le Feuvre, P.M. 130	Prov. G. Sec.
S. S. Pearce, 319	Prov. S.G. Deacon.
J. B. Atkinson, 195	Prov. J.G. Deacon.
T. J. D. Rawlins, 319	Prov. G. S. of W.
Fantis, 694	Prov. G. D. of C.
Edwin Groves, 487	Prov. G. Ast.D.ofC.
Dyer, 359	Prov. G. Swd. B.
J. R. Willson, 1428	Prov. G. Purst.
J. W. D. Billow, 487	Prov. G. Org.
Bowyer, P.M. 1461, Tucker, 1112, G. F. Sherman, 487, W. Brown, 963, Legg, and Bailey, 319	Prov. G. Stwds.
Biggs, 130, and Exell, 487	Prov. G. Tylers.

On the motion of Bro. Cawte, P.P.J.G.W., seconded by Bro. Booth, P.P.J.G.W., a letter of condolence was directed to be sent to the widow of the late Bro. Forbes, P.S.G.W., expressing the great loss the Provincial Grand Lodge had sustained by his death.

Bro. Cawte said that Bro. Forbes was for many years an active member of the province, and was always ready by every means in his power to promote the interests of Masonry.

Bro. Rake, P.P.G.S. Works, also bore testimony to Bro. Forbes's excellencies as a Mason, and said that nothing in his lifetime gave him greater pleasure than his appointment as P.S.G.W. last year.

On the motion of Bro. Rake, P.P.G.S. Works, the sum of ten guineas was voted to the Thunderer Relief Fund, and a cheque for that amount was ordered to be sent to the Mayor of Portsmouth.

At three o'clock a banquet was served in a marquee on the lawn at the rear of the residence of Bro. T. J. D. Rawlins, the W.M. elect of the New Forest Lodge, which was served in admirable style by Bro. West, of the Anchor and Hope Hotel, Lymington. The wines, which were of the finest quality, were kindly placed on the table by the liberality of Bro. Rawlins, who spared neither pains nor expense to make the meeting one worthy of the occasion. A string band, under the direction of Mr. J. D. Wilson, Southampton, played some excellent music during dinner, which was partaken of by about 120 brethren, under the presidency of the Provincial Grand Master; and amongst those present were Bro. F. Binckes, Secretary to the Boys' School, and Bro. J. Terry, Secretary to the Home for Aged Freemasons and the widows of deceased brethren.

The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and responded to with much enthusiasm—the healths of the P.G.M. (Bro. Beach), the D.P.G.M. (Bro. Hickman), and others of a personal and complimentary character being heartily drunk by the assembled brethren.

The P.G.M. mentioned, in proposing "The Health of the Pro Grand Master of the Order (the Earl of Carnarvon)," that it was his privilege to initiate his lordship into Freemasonry, and also to instal him as Provincial Grand Master of Somersetshire. He congratulated the Freemasons of Hampshire upon assembling at Lymington in such large numbers, and upon the truly Masonic spirit by

which they were animated. In selecting the place of meeting, and in appointing the Prov. Grand Officers, it was of course impossible to consult the wishes of every lodge, but it was his endeavour to do justice to the claims of all, and no time or effort should be wanting on his part to further the interests of Freemasonry in the province and to promote the great principles of which it was the embodiment.

Through the kindness of Bro. J. W. Dyson, superintendent at the Southampton Railway Terminus, a special return train left Lymington for Southampton at ten o'clock at night, which was greatly appreciated by the brethren coming from Southampton and neighbourhood.

The whole of the proceedings were most successfully carried out by a committee of five brethren from the New Forest Lodge, to whom the warmest thanks are due.

Before the Grand Lodge was opened a lodge of emergency of the New Forest brethren was held, and two brethren were raised to the Third Degree, after which Bro. H. Fellowes presented to the retiring W.M., Bro. Sims, in the names of the brethren who had been initiated by him during his year of office, a massive 18 carat gold ring, in addition to which the brethren generally have subscribed towards a presentation to be made to him at the next lodge meeting, which will take the form of a beautifully designed P.M.'s jewel.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTIONS FOR GIRLS AND BOYS.

The holidays at our educational Institutions rarely, if ever, occur without some of the pupils remaining, owing to various circumstances, and the present midsummer vacation is no exception in this respect, three girls at Clapham, and twelve boys at Wood Green having to be cared for and amused.

To facilitate this object, Bro. Benjamin Head, a Vice-Patron and member of the House Committee of both Institutions has for some few years past invited the young friends who do not spend their holidays at home to a trip to some favourite country place of resort or attractiveness. Under his kind auspices Windsor, Stonehenge, Salisbury, the Crystal Palace and other localities have been visited, much to the enjoyment of our boys and girls, and the friends by whom they are usually accompanied, and not without instruction to the children, generally including those of larger growth.

This year Box Hill and its delightful neighbourhood were visited, the party numbering about twenty-five, travelling from Victoria per London Brighton and South Coast Railway to Dorking Station, which was reached a few minutes before twelve. A pleasant walk took them to the noted little hostelry, known as "the Punchbowl," where a good luncheon was served, and partaken of with a will. A three hour's ramble over the famous Hill of Box followed, and then a return to the inn. At four o'clock all sat down to a hot dinner, plain, but most excellently served, and to which ample justice was done. Sauntering pleasantly, or reclining sub tegnumi fagi, an hour or two too rapidly sped, and the train at 7.24 conveyed the party back to town, the small contingent from Clapham leaving the train at that wonderful and labyrinthine junction, the mazes of which it is hoped they successfully threaded—the majority proceeding to Wood Green via Victoria. Unfortunately, the only member of either Committee present was the generous founder of the feast, and he arrived only late from circumstances which either unavoidable, perplexing, or annoying, as the case may be.

Bro. Faulkner rendered every assistance in promoting the good humour and enjoyment of the party, over which Bro. F. Binckes presided.

The trip altogether was most successful; the weather, after the morning showers, most delightful. The thanks of all present, as well as of those who have the interests of our schools at heart, are due to one of the oldest and best friends of both—Bro. Benjamin Head.

There were present—Bro. Head; Bro. Binckes, Mrs. and the Misses Binckes; Bro. Faulkner; Miss Sheppard, Girls' School; Mrs. Walkden, Assistant Matron Boys' School.

THE MASONIC LITERARY ADVERTISER.

The following circular is about to be addressed by our respected Publisher to the Trade:—

As we propose with our October number of the "Masonic Magazine" to have a few sheets devoted to literary advertisements alone, we think that a few words of explanation are needful and advisable. It is quite clear that many books to-day do not run a fair chance by not being brought prominently before the reading public, and certainly not our Masonic readers. Hence we wish to afford Masonic publishers and booksellers, and all publishers and booksellers, an opportunity of advertising their works month by month. And in order to do this, so as to obtain the kind support of the Trade, we wish to point out that we shall be willing, for literary announcements alone, to make a considerable reduction in the usual terms of advertisements, and to enter into special arrangements with publishers and booksellers. We feel sure that the concentration of all literary announcements, as well as works of an antiquarian or archaeological character, in a few pages at the commencement of the Magazine, will subserve the interest alike of purveyor and of reader of the current literature of the hour.

All applications for space and terms should be at once made to Bro. George Kenning, 198, Fleet-street, E.C., and they will be immediately attended to.

All advertisements for the monthly number of the "Masonic Magazine" should be sent by the 15th of the month preceding to 198, Fleet-street.

MASONIC ADDRESS TO THE LORD LIEUTENANT OF IRELAND.

On Friday, 4th inst., at seven p.m., His Grace the Duke of Abercorn graciously honoured the Provincial Grand Lodge of Munster with his presence at the Masonic Hall, Tuckey-street, to receive an address from the brethren of the province. Lodge not having been opened, Lady Georgiana Hamilton accompanied His Grace, an innovation which was acknowledged with lively satisfaction by the brethren present, who numbered over 200. We may mention that a much larger assembly would gladly have attended to honour the noble Grand Master of Ireland, but that the arrangements were necessarily very much hurried—it being not known until noon yesterday that His Grace would honour the Craft by his presence in Tuckey-street—and consequently many members of the Order had left town. The brethren assembled about 6.30, and at 7 p.m. His Grace, with his well-known punctuality, was announced by the familiar strains of the National Anthem from the antique organ, at which Dr. Marks presided. When His Grace had taken the chair, the following address was read by Lord Viscount Bernard, P.G.M.:

Most Worshipful Sir,—We, the Freemasons of the Masonic Province of Munster—the most ancient seat of Masonry in Ireland—avail ourselves of your Grace's visit to Cork to give a fraternal welcome to our Grand Master, and to express our high appreciation of the many eminent qualities which distinguish your Grace in the exercise of the functions of your high office.

We heartily recognise the fact that your Grace is pre-eminently fitted to fill the highest position in Masonry in Ireland, and we regard your acceptance of the Grand Master's office as an evidence of the interest which your Grace feels in the welfare of the Craft. We hailed your acceptance of this office with the greatest satisfaction, and felt assured it would dispel many outside prejudices, and tend to promote the noble principles and moral teachings of our ancient Order. As a Freemason, your Grace is aware that one of the first principles of the Order is loyalty; and as representative of Her Most Gracious the Queen in Ireland, we doubt not your Grace will rejoice to hear that the Freemasons of Munster, in common with their brethren throughout the length and breadth of the land, are imbued with feelings of the most ardent and devoted loyalty to Her Majesty's person and throne. In conclusion, permit us to express our earnest prayer that your Grace may be long spared to preside over and govern our Order; and that under your fostering care you may enjoy the gratification of seeing the principles of brotherly love, relief, and truth ever advancing, and becoming more and more disseminated.

Signed on behalf of the members of the brethren of the Masonic Province of Munster,

BERNARD, P.G.M.
ANDERSON COOPER, D.P.G.M.
FRANCIS GUY, P.G.W.
ROBERT WALKER, P.J.W.
HENRY S. NOBLETT, P.G.S.

His Grace the Lord Lieutenant then read the following reply:—

Right Worshipful Sir, and Brethren,—I thank you most heartily for the fraternal and cordial welcome with which you have received me on the occasion of my first visit to this ancient seat of Freemasonry in Munster.

As the representative in Ireland of our Most Gracious Sovereign, it affords me the most lively satisfaction to receive the assurance of that ardent and devoted loyalty to her Majesty's person and throne which has ever been one of the distinguishing badges of our Craft.

Your kind expressions towards myself personally are also very gratifying, and in carrying out the duties of the Grand Mastership of Ireland, it will ever give me the greatest confidence to know that my acceptance of that high office met with your hearty approval.

I need scarcely assure you that I feel a deep interest in the welfare of our Order, and so long as I have the honour to preside over it in this country I shall view with the most sincere pleasure the development of its principles, and the more wide-spread exercise of those virtues of charity and brotherly love which form so striking a characteristic of Freemasons, and which tend so materially to benefit and improve mankind.

Bro. Anderson Cooper, D.P.G.M., then submitted to the inspection of his Grace the ancient minute book of the lodge, from which he read a few interesting items. From one of them it appeared that on St. John's-day, 1726, a meeting of the Grand Lodge of Munster was held in Cork, at which the Hon. James O'Brien was unanimously elected Grand Master and appointed Springett Penn as his Deputy. Also, that in 1730, applications were made from Waterford and Clonmel for warrants to hold lodges. Also, that on the 9th of August, 1731, the minutes were signed by a former Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, the well-known James, Lord Baron Kingstown, as Grand Master, who then appointed Adam Newman as his Deputy, and Jonas Morris and William Newenham as Grand Wardens, with the unanimous approbation of the brethren. A very interesting fact for the Craft was brought to light by the perusal of these minutes. A printed copy of the "Entered Apprentice" song was produced dated 1723, in which the following familiar stanza is omitted:

"We're true and sincere,
And just to the fair,
Who may trust us on any occasion:
No mortal can more
The Ladies adore
Than a free and an accepted Mason."

The reading of these lines was received with loud cheers, rendered all the more hearty by the presence of one of those to whom these lines bear so simple yet warm a tribute of respect. This verse of the song, as we have said, does not appear in the printed copy; but it is interpolated

in manuscript, and attributed to Springett Penn, mentioned before, who is said to have been a nephew of the great William Penn, the founder of Pennsylvania. He was, at all events, the ancestor of Peter Penn Gaskell, of Shanagary, near Cloyne. His Grace evinced a warm interest in these illustrations of the past history of the Craft in the South of Ireland.

Bro. Cooper then showed Lady Georgiana Hamilton the portrait, autograph, and Masonic jewel of the Hon. Mrs. Aldworth, of Newmarket House, who, as is well-known, was the only lady ever admitted to the Order. And, as a souvenir of the fact, Bro. Thomas Ware presented His Grace with an interesting memoir of Mrs. Aldworth's initiation, and a short sketch of her life.

Repeated cheers were then given for his Grace the Duke of Abercorn and Lady Georgiana Hamilton, terminating the proceedings, which though brief were most enthusiastic, and will, we doubt not, afford the Lord Lieutenant one of the most agreeable memories of his visit to the South of Ireland.

ABUSE OF THE BALLOT.

The following remarks, by M.W. John P. Allmond, of Delaware, touch upon a subject on which many of us have had unpleasant experience; his treatment of it is worthy of study:—

Every member of the lodge exercises his right to vote, and by the conditions no member's vote can be called in question. We do not certainly know that any one abuses his principles at the ballot-box, but we do know that times come in the history of some lodges, when for months, or even years, a clear ballot is unknown. This proves either that the lodge is surrounded altogether by bad material, or that somebody inside of it has determined not to be satisfied with any applicant who may present himself. In either case it is hard for the lodge to bear its situation patiently, and resist the impulse to surrender its charter.

Some plain words on what may be termed "the abuses of the secret ballot" are needed. No Mason of any experience will deny that these abuses exist; scarcely any one but has known some palpable instance of wrong perpetrated through the ballot-box. A sacred right to the many has apparently given a few the right to do wrong, which admits of no redress. To remove the wrong would be to root up the right. In our immutable constitutions, the Great Charter of Freemasonry itself was locked up for safety, and the key purposely thrown away and lost. Concealed and brought forth in truth, it admits of no change but growth and the natural development of its vital organism, and it was entrusted to pure hands. These conditions preserved, it is perfect; but, in its contact and struggles with human passions, its very perfections are sometimes distorted into blemishes, and made the means of injustice. It is to be deeply regretted that there are those in the Order who are so far from being Masons as to seize on the ballot-box as an instrument of vengeance.

Humiliating as this admission is, it is, nevertheless, an honest confession, safer to make than to withhold, for it may be the beginning of repentance and reform. The evil is not widespread, nor is it contagious, but it roots itself like a cancer in the body of a lodge where it exists, and slowly but surely wastes it away. Some of our lodges are now suffering from it, and from the highest enjoyment of health, peace, and prosperity, they have been plunged into the depths of weakness and despondency; their energy and activity are lost, and they lie torpid and languishing, as it were pulseless, on the bed of death.

All this simply because one member, perhaps, has been disappointed in his aspiration for office; annoyed by the rejection of the petition of a personal friend or relative; or because some accused brother was not expelled. Forgetful of the high power he wields for good or evil; oblivious of his duties as a Mason, and even forswearing his honour as a man, he resorts to the revenge of the ballot-box, and hides himself behind its unquestionable right and inviolable secrecy. He strikes at the vitals of Masonic fellowship, and from that moment the lodge is dead.

Instances have occurred in which this destroying spirit assumed a bolder attitude, and proclaimed, in the lodge and out of it, in private and public, on the streets and highways, that no more work should be done in — Lodge, as every application would be black-balled—the dissatisfied Mason himself announcing that he would do the deed. In such cases there is speedy redress in charges of "gross unmasonic conduct," and expulsion from the sanctuary so wantonly profaned.

There is some spirit of hardihood, or even bravery, in the latter exhibition of rage, for it discloses an enemy who lays himself open to attack, and challenges combat. It is the covert foe from which the lodge suffers most. He is truly a serpent in a doves' nest, and, as he enjoys his revenge in secrecy, wherever he is, or whoever he may be, he is not likely to charge that the epithet above applies personally and particularly to him. He will know it himself, and keep it among his other Masonic secrets.

Let him keep the secret, and let him resolve henceforth to be a man and a Mason. Let him realize, as he never did before, the essential purity of the thing he has soiled, and the solemnity of the privileges with which he has been trifling, and he will not have read these words in vain. He will thereafter use the secret ballot as contemplated in the design and structure of Freemasonry—the guard of purity, the keynote of harmony, and the soul of honour. He will feel himself free from the tyranny of petty spite, and once more a reasonable, responsible, independent man. He will realize with a keen sensibility the truth of those words:

"'Tis pleasant to have a giant's strength,
But tyrannous to use it like a giant."

Masonic and General Tidings.

H.R.H. the Prince of Wales was, on Monday last, unanimously elected a member of the Royal Victoria Yacht Club.

On Wednesday a private match took place round the Isle of Wight between two schooners, the Hildegarde (H.R.H. the Prince of Wales), and the Aline (the Rt. Hon. the Earl of Hardwicke, P.G.M. Cambridgeshire), for a prize of 100 guineas, the first in to win the prize. The start took place at ten o'clock from Cowes, and they got off well together, but before they had got out of Cowes roads the Aline took the lead; they then made one board towards the island, and the wind afterwards going round to the southward a little, it served to lay their heads out towards the Nab Light. They came abreast off Ryde as follows:—

H. M. S.	H. M. S.
Aline	11 19 0
Hildegarde.....	11 23 30

The Aline appeared to increase her lead in making her way to the Nab Light, passing round Bembridge Point at about 1.30, and the Hildegarde about 7 min. afterwards. Having rounded the Warren it was a fine run for the cutters, and the first round was finished, with no very material change, the Aline coming in the winner.

The Duchess of Abercorn has returned to town from visiting the Earl of Mount Edgumbe, R.W. Prov. Grand Master Cornwall, and family at Mount Edgumbe, Devon.

Bros. the Right Hon. Lord Leigh, R. W. Prov. Grand Master Warwickshire, Sir E. A. H. Lechmere Bart., M.P., and R. Woolf, F.S.A., are on the Provisional Committee of the Eastern War Sick and Wounded Relief Fund.

The next meeting of the Frederick Lodge of Unity No. 452 will be held on Tuesday next, the 15th instant, at 3 p.m., at the Greyhound Hotel, Croydon, a report of which will appear in our next.

A petition for a Mark Lodge to be called the Simon de Montfort, and held at Leicester, has been sent to the Grand Lodge of Mark Masters. The Mayor of Leicester is W.M. designate, Bro. H. T. Bobart, S.W., and Bro. John Thorpe, one of the most active and zealous Masons in the Province of Leicestershire and Rutland, J.W. A movable meeting of the Mark Grand Lodge will be held in Leicester in the autumn, when it is expected the new lodge will be constituted.

RED CROSS OF CONSTANTINE.—The Grand Council of Scotland will be inaugurated at Freemasons' Hall, Edinburgh, at 5 p.m., on the 21st instant, by the officers of the Grand Council of England. Col. Francis Burdett will be the first G. Sovereign and Major Hamilton Ramsay of Garion (S.G.W. Grand Lodge of Scotland) the first G. Viceroy. The banquet will take place at the Windsor Hotel, and many visitors are expected to attend.

RE-OPENING OF CHESTER CATHEDRAL.—Dean Howson, in a letter, says that he is much gratified and encouraged by the warm interest generally taken in the re-opening services of the cathedral on the completion of the restoration of the choir. The dean believes that it would be found on the 8th, the day fixed for the re-opening service, that all parts of the restorative and decorative work in the choir were paid for, except such as can without doubt be met by special funds or by the offerings of the year. He adds that £3000 has recently been subscribed by the Chapter of Chester to the general restoration fund, in addition to the £2000 which they subscribed in 1868. It will be remembered that the Freemasons' of the Province contributed a handsome sedilia, and that the Masonic brethren in West Lancashire are following their example by another gift.

Professor Mommsen has concluded an archaeological tour in Italy. The "Daily News" hears that "He has been everywhere welcomed heartily. The Mayors of the towns met him at the gates, as the Dutch Burgomasters met Erasmus. Professor Mommsen has made important researches on the Neapolitan territory and in the Marches. At Jesi he was entertained at a public banquet. A toast to the alliance of Italy and Germany against Theocracy was rapturously honoured."

The "Whitehall Review" has reason to believe that so good has been the administration of the Parliamentary grant for the Prince of Wales's tour in India, that a small balance will be paid back to the Exchequer. This satisfactory result has been obtained, although the presents of the Prince have been equal in value to those of the native princes.

In consideration of the special and valuable services rendered by Lieutenant Cameron to the cause of science in his recent successful journey of exploration in Africa he has been promoted to the rank of commander in Her Majesty's fleet, such promotion being special and in excess of the authorised numbers.

The Earl of Dartmouth has offered to the Commissioners of West Bromwich, near Birmingham, fifty acres of land for a public park, on a lease for ninety-nine years, at the nominal rent of £1 per annum.

COLLEGE FOR NAVAL CADETS.—The committee appointed by the Admiralty to consider the question of a site for a college for naval cadets are prepared to receive offers of sites for the purpose, accessible by sea or tidal waters. Communications to be addressed to the Secretary, Naval Cadet College Committee, Admiralty, Whitehall, S.W.

ONE YEAR'S "CONSCIENCE MONEY."—An official document has been issued showing that in the year ended the 31st March last the sums remitted to the Chancellor of the Exchequer amounted to £2603 19s 11d.

LEGEND OF STRASBURG CATHEDRAL.

There is a quaint old tradition which comes down to us from ancient times, tottering under its load of age, and replete with the superstitions of the past.

On the borders of Alsatia there lies a great city, dating its foundation far back to the old Roman days, and rich in those architectural relics of the olden time which are ever so dear to the antiquary.

"Quaint offspring of centurial years, the town of Strasburg stands,
Rich in the lore of a mighty past, in legend and in story;
Rich in high-hearted men, honest sons—a country's truest glory;
Rich in its old cathedral church, with clustering ivy spread,
The Santa Crece of the land, where sleep her noble dead."

The story runs that once in every twelvemonth, on the eve of St. John, when the quiet burghers of that ancient city are wrapt in peaceful slumber, and when the hour of midnight clangs out from the loud-tongued bell which hangs in the old cathedral tower, the spirits of the stonemasons by whose hands the sacred pile was erected arise from the tomb, and once more re-visit the scene of their former labours. Up from the dark and gloomy crypt, along the columned aisles and vast dim nave, across the white gleaming marble floor, chequered with ghostly shadows that stream from picture oriel, past the stone-carved statues that keep watch and ward with their swords and sceptres, comes the long train of death-like, night-wandering shadows. Clad in their quaint old mediæval costume, the Masters, with their compasses and rules; the Craftsmen, with their plumbs and squares and levels; the Apprentice lads, with their heavy gavel; all silently greeting their companions, old and dear, with time-honoured salute and token, as of yore.

While the last note of the deep-mouthed bell is still trembling in the air, reverberating from arch to arch, and dying away amid the frozen music of the tracery roof, forth from the western portal streams the shadowy throng. Thrice around the sacred edifice winds the waving, floating train, old Erwin himself leading the way, while far up above, above the sculptured saints who look down upon the sleeping city—up where, at the very summit of the feathery, fairy-like spire, the image of the Queen of Heaven stands—there floats a cold, white-robed female form, the fair Sabina, old Erwin's well-beloved child, whose fair hands aided him in his work. In her right hand a mallet, in her left a chisel, she flits among the sculptured lacework of the noble spires like the Genius of Masonry. With the faint blush of dawn the vision fades, the phantoms dissolve, and the old Masons return to their sepulchre, there to rest until the next St. John's-eve shall summon them to earth.

Ex-Mayor Bernard, of Montreal, was buried July 15th, with Masonic honours. The Grand Lodges of Quebec and Canada and eighteen city Lodges were represented. The Mayor, the City Council, and other municipal officers attended in a body.

Bro. H. A. M. Henderson, editor of the Kentucky "Freemason," delivered a fine St. John's Day address, on June 24th, before the Brethren of Marshall Lodge, No. 427 (Bro. T. J. Bourne, W. M.), at Port Henry, Ky. The procession was a large one, headed by two bands of music. About two thousand persons were in attendance.

An American brother recently attempted to visit an English lodge, and was refused an examination because he had no certificate. He writes to the London "Freemason" as though his case was one of great hardship, but we can't see it. Every brother that travels abroad should possess a Grand Lodge certificate. It would not be a bad rule to require every brother, when outside of his own jurisdiction in the United States, also to possess and exhibit one, when seeking admittance into a lodge in another jurisdiction. Some of our Grand Lodges do require it.—"Keystone."

Something like a panic prevailed at the Royal Arsenal, Woolwich, on Wednesday, in consequence of the dry grass in the Marsh Meadows being on fire in the immediate proximity of the large magazine known as No. 5, in which is accumulated a vast store of gunpowder. The fire spread rapidly, and cleared off five acres of grass, but a large force of police hastened to the spot, and there being two fire engines kept at the magazine, and plenty of water obtainable, the flames were extinguished before they reached the building.

Popular education is steadily gaining strength in Egypt. The number of children receiving public instruction has increased from 3,000, in the time of Mahommed Ali, to 60,000 in the first years of the period of 1863-72. The obstacles in the way of public education are, however, great and exceptional in Egypt. Among the 89,893 scholars now in the primary schools there are only 3,018 girls, all, or most of whom, are of non-Mussulman families. Thus one-half of the population of Egypt is, or has been until now, beyond the influence of education, it being one of the dogmas of the East that women are not worthy of the blessings of education. The Khedive proposes to establish, at Alexandria, a great public school for children of all nationalities, at an expense of 65,000 dolls.

Mr. F. Cavill, the well-known professional swimmer, has now fully announced his intention of attempting to emulate the feat of Captain Webb in swimming across the Channel from Dover to Calais, and has fixed the 12th inst. as the day on which he will start should the weather prove favourable.

AN ANCIENT MASONIC CHARTER.

At the session of the General Assembly of Rhode Island, held June, 1758, was passed an act entitled "An act raising two thousand four hundred dollars, for and towards the erecting a public edifice in the town of Newport, to be called and known by the name of Masons' Hall." The preamble recites that—

"Whereas, Robert Jenkins, jun., Master, John Mawdsley, and Samuel Brenton, Wardens, and the chief of the Society of the Free and Accepted Masons in the town of Newport, with sundry other persons inhabitants of this colony, preferred a petition and represented unto this Assembly, that as the said town hath no building in it sufficiently large and commodious for public entertainments, where the Governor and Council, or General Assembly may occasionally meet and dine, and where any of his Majesty's Governors or other officers may be publicly entertained, as they pass through this Government, they, the said society, have agreed to set on foot and erect a commodious building to be called and known by the name of Masons' Hall, for the use of the said society and purposes aforesaid; but finding their funds to be unequal to the expense, they prayed that a lottery may be opened and set up, in order to raise twenty-four hundred dollars for carrying on and completing the proposed building."

The act then provides for the raising by lottery of the sum above named; gives the scheme of the lottery, which is to "consist of four thousand tickets at four dollars each; whereof one thousand one hundred and thirteen shall be fortunate, without any deduction." The prizes range from one of 1000 dolls. to 1000 of 8 dolls each, making the total value of the "fortunate" prizes 13,600 dolls. Managers are appointed to conduct the lottery, who are to be under oath, and give security to the General Treasurer for the payment of the prizes, &c. "Said building when erected shall serve and be improved for the celebration of all public feasts and entertainments as they may occasionally happen, in which the Governor and Council of this Colony or the General Assembly thereof may be concerned, but for no other use or purpose whatsoever without the consent or leave of the said Society of Free and Accepted Masons must be first had and obtained."

After granting authority to purchase and hold a suitable lot of land on which to build the Hall, the act goes on to provide—

"And forasmuch as it may happen that disputes and controversies may arise from time to time, as well about the building and repairing of the said House, as the regulation and government thereof, it is necessary that the said Society have a name in law. Be it therefore further enacted, that the society aforesaid be, and are hereby incorporated, body politic in fact and name by the name of the Master, Wardens, and Society of Free and Accepted Masons in the town of Newport, and by the same name they and their successors shall and may be persons able and capable in law, to sue and be sued, to plea and be impleaded, to answer and be answered unto, to defend and be defended against, in all and singular suits, quarrels, matters, actions, and things, of what kind or nature soever, touching and concerning the building aforesaid."

This, we believe, is the earliest recognition of the fraternity in the records of the State; and this civil charter is the most ancient of any granted in this country, so far as our knowledge extends. Can any correspondent throw further light on this matter?

Gov. Arnold, in his history of Rhode Island, says that in the year in which the charter above named was granted, "the first public celebration of the Order that was ever held in Rhode Island, took place with religious services at Trinity Church."—"Freemasons' Repository."

THE TEMPLE AT JERUSALEM.

In a recent number of the "Contemporary Review," we find the following remarks on the Temple at Jerusalem:—

It is, probably, no exaggeration to say that more has been written regarding the Temple at Jerusalem in respect to any other building in the known world, and unfortunately, it may be added, more that is wild and utterly untenable, this last peculiarity arises from several causes: First, because all the earlier restorers were entirely ignorant of the ground on which the temple stood, and of the local circumstances that governed its construction. It was not, indeed, till the spot was surveyed by the late Mr. Catherwood, in 1833, and his plan published on a sufficient scale in 1862, that restorers had such a map of the ground as would allow them to adjust measurements to a locality with anything like certainty. Though that plan was wonderfully perfect, considering the circumstances under which it was made, it has since been superseded by that made under direction of Capt. (now Major) Wilson, R.E., in 1864-5, which leaves nothing to be desired in this respect. It can be depended upon almost by inches, and has been engraved on a scale sufficiently large for all topographical, if not quite for all architectural, purposes. A second cause of the wildness of the restorations hitherto attempted is, that the Temple at Jerusalem was quite unique. Not only had the Jews only this one temple, but so far as we know, it was entirely of their own invention, and utterly unlike the temples of any of the nations around them. It certainly, at all events, was quite unlike the temples of the Egyptians or Greeks. It may have had affinities with those of the Babylonians and Assyrians; but notwithstanding all that has been done of late years, we know so very little of what the temples of Mesopotamia were, that these hardly help us, even at this day, and the assumption that this might be so was of no use whatever to earlier restorers. Having thus no analo-

gies to guide them, and, as it is literally and absolutely true that not one stone remains on another of the Temple, properly so called, it is not to be wondered that early restorers failed to realize the truth, and indulged in fancies which were utterly untenable. In nine cases out of ten their object was to produce a building that would be worthy of Solomon in all his glory, rather than a sober reproduction of the very moderate building described in the Bible.

THE SPIRIT OF MASONRY.

M. W. Bro. Charles Griswold in concluding his annual address to the Grand Lodge of Minnesota, uses the following touching language:

"Our journey is so very brief, and will so soon be closed, that alienations are sadly out of place; and the precious moments that are left should be faithfully improved in doing good, in strengthening the ties of Brotherly love, and enlarging our mantle of charity. No one who has any manhood about him finds it a difficult matter to think kindly of the departed. With the living we may have our serious differences and sharp cutting words; but somehow, as we come into the presence of the dead, we feel that all animosities are out of place, and all contentions must be for ever dropped. We will gently bear the cold clay to its final resting place; we will utter kind words of sympathy to the bereaved; whatever there was good or beautiful in the life of the departed, we will speak of it then, and in its absence hold our peace. To strike a dead man seems so unnatural, so mean, so cowardly, that we cannot find it in our hearts to do it. All this is as it should be. But if we would only carry the same spirit into all our relations and intercourse with the living, how much better it would be. If, when we are about to utter a hasty word, or to do the unkind act, or pronounce the harsh, uncharitable judgment, we would for a moment stop and ask ourselves the question, 'What about all this if my brother should die to-day?' 'Are my relations with him now what I would wish them to be then?' If we would but follow this course, from how much sorrow and bitter self-accusation we might be saved! And then its effects upon others? With this spirit carried out, how many of the bitter feuds that now rend society would come to an end; aye, would be nipped in the bud, and so never have an existence? How many that are crushed down would be raised up? How it would smooth down the frictions of life, and oil all the wheels of society? How many hearts are aching to-day because of wrong done by brother to brother, in the midst of which death has entered, and the opportunity for reconciliation has gone for ever? I find this sentiment beautifully expressed in verse:

"If I should die to-night!
My friends would look upon my quiet face
Before they laid it in its resting place,
And deem that death had left it almost fair;
And laying snow-white flowers against my hair
Would smooth it down in tearful tenderness;
And fold my hands with lingering caress—
Poor hand—so empty so cold to-night!

"If I should die to-night!
My friends would call to mind with loving thought
Some kindly deed the icy hand had wrought,
Some gentle words the frozen lips had said,
Errands, on which the willing feet had sped;
The memory of my selfishness and pride—
My hasty words would all be put aside,
And so I should be loved and mourned to-night

"If I should die to-night;
Even hearts estranged would turn once more to me.
Recalling other days remorsefully;
The eyes that chill me with averted glance
Would look upon me as of yore, perchance.
And often in the old familiar way—
For who can war with dumb unconscious clay?
And so I might rest forgiven all to-night!

"Oh, friends! I pray to-night!
Keep not your kisses for my dead, cold brow,
The way is lonely; let me feel them now,
Think gently of me, for I am travel-worn;
My faltering feet are pierced with many a thorn.
Forgive! Oh, hearts estranged, forgive, I plead—
When dreamless rest is mine I shall need
The tenderness for which I long to-night."

VALUE OF BOOKS.—So precious were books in the Dark Ages that gifts are recorded as acts of signal generosity, deserving perpetual remembrance. In 690 a King of Northumberland gave 100 acres of land for one book containing a history of the world. A Countess of Anjou gave 200 sheep and a large parcel of rich furs for a volume of homilies; 120 crowns were given for a single book of Livy; 100 crowns of gold for a Concordance, and 40 crowns for a satirical poem called the "Romance of the Rose." In 1720 a Latin Bible was valued at £30, at a time when two arches of London Bridge were built for less money; at a time, too, when the wages of a labourer were only three half-pence per day, and when, of course it would have cost such a man 15 years of labour to buy a Bible, which, after all, being in Latin, he could not have read.

RAILWAY PASSENGER DUTY.—It is shown by a public document just issued that in the year ended the 31st March last the railway passenger duty amounted to £736,369 6s. 2½d.

"London Society" for August contains, among other interesting matter, a story by Bro. Angelo J. Lewis, entitled "My First Client," with a page illustration.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

COLONIAL and FOREIGN SUBSCRIBERS are informed that acknowledgments of remittances received are published in the first number of every month.

It is very necessary for our readers to advise us of all money orders they remit, more especially those from the United States of America and India; otherwise we cannot tell where to credit them.

NEW POSTAL RATES.

Owing to a reduction in the Postal Rates, the publisher is now enabled to send the "Freemason" to the following parts abroad for One Year for Twelve Shillings (payable in advance):—Africa, Australia, Bombay, Canada, Cape of Good Hope, Ceylon, China, Constantinople, Demerara, France, Germany, Gibraltar, Jamaica, Malta, Newfoundland, New South Wales, New Zealand, Suez, Trinidad, United States of America, &c.

TO OUR READERS.

The *Freemason* is a sixteen-page weekly newspaper, price 2d. It is published every Friday morning, and contains the most important, interesting, and useful information relating to Freemasonry in every degree. Annual subscription in the *United Kingdom*, Post free, 10/- P.O.O.'s to be made payable at the chief office, London.

TO ADVERTISERS.

The *Freemason* has a large circulation in all parts of the Globe, its advantages as an advertising medium can therefore scarcely be overrated.

For terms, position, &c., apply to

GEORGE KENNING, 198, Fleet-st.

Answers to Correspondents.

All Communications, Advertisements, &c., intended for insertion in the Number of the following Saturday, must reach the Office not later than 12 o'clock on Wednesday morning.

BOOKS, &c., RECEIVED.

"Within Bohemia; or, Love in London." Mistress Haslewood. 2 vols. From Messrs. Remington & Co.

A review of each will appear in our next.

"The Masonic Journal," Louisville, U.S.; "The Birmingham Examiner;" "The Westminster Papers."

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

[The charge is 2s. 6d for announcements, not exceeding four lines, under this heading.]

BIRTHS

ANSLOW.—On the 26th ult., at Parville, Wellington, Shropshire, the wife of R. Anslow, of a son.
BARTLETT.—On the 4th inst., at West Cottage, Pyddletrenthide, Dorset, the wife of Captain H. Harrison Bartlett, 69th Regiment, of a son.
BRAND.—On the 7th inst., at 7, Hill-road, N.W., the wife of Ferdinand Brand, Esq., of a daughter.
CHESNEY.—On the 6th inst., at Cooper-hill, the wife of Lieutenant Colonel George Chesney, of a daughter.
JENKINS.—On June 8th, at Simla, India, the widow of Lieut. R. E. A. Jenkins, of a daughter.
JONES.—On the 30th ult., at Ladbroke Gardens, Mrs. G. Jones, of a son.
WILSON.—On the 28th ult., at Redgrave Hall, Suffolk, the wife of G. H. Wilson, Esq., of a son.
WRIGHT.—On the 5th inst., at Dunbar, the wife of H. G. Wright, Esq., of a daughter.
WYNNE.—On the 28th ult., at Westwood Cottage, Sydenham, the wife of A. A. Wynne, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

BILLINGHURST—WESBROOM.—On the 8th inst., at St. Luke's Church, Chelsea, by the Rev. G. Blunt, Fanny Billinghamurst, of Uxbridge, to Charles Wesbroom, of King's-road, Chelsea.
KEMBLE—MAULE.—On the 25th ult., at Clifton, Bristol, Henry, son of the late Rev. C. Kemble, rector of Bath, to Katherine Clara, daughter of the late J. T. Maule.
KING—HALLETT.—On the 27th ult., at St. Giles's, Camberwell, John Charles, son of the late T. King, of Leighton Buzzard, to Clara Maria, daughter of the late J. Hallett, of Rotherhithe.
UPHAM—SCOTT.—On the 3rd inst., at St. James's, Piccadilly, by the Rev. G. W. Sicklemore, M.A., vicar of St. Lawrence, Ramsgate, rural dean, William Arthur, only son of William Uphem, Esq., of Taunton, to Charlotte Scott, of St. Lawrence, Ramsgate.

DEATHS.

ANDERSON.—On the 7th inst., at Landsdowne-place, Brighton, Elizabeth Jane, wife of J. Anderson, aged 31.
BURMAN.—On the 22nd ult., Mary, widow of Capt. E. Burman, R.E., aged 84.
KING.—On the 28th ult., at Marquess-road, Canonbury, William King, in his 68th year.
KNOX.—On the 28th ult., at Shobrooke Rectory, Crediton, the Rev. R. A. Knox, aged 61.
ROBERTS.—On the 6th inst., at Ryde, I.W., Peregrine Roberts, Esq., aged 57.
VINCENT.—On the 11th ult., at Hampton-hill, Bath, Col. Henry Torrens Vincent.
WEBSTER.—On the 27th ult., drowned whilst bathing at Roker, Philip James, son of C. M. Webster, aged 34.

The Freemason,

SATURDAY, AUGUST 12, 1876.

THE LAST PAPAL ENCYCLICAL.

We print in another column a portion of a Papal Encyclical, with reference to the "Brazilian difficulty." We much regret that Bro. Hubert did not give it us "in pleno," as we always think it best to have the "ipsissima verba" before us of all documents which we deal with critically or controversially. Indeed, if any good reader will send us the "Univers" of July 24th, we shall be happy to reproduce the missing portion, and fill up these regrettable "lacunæ" in a public document of some little importance in the controversy before us. But the portion of the Encyclical now presented to the notice of the public contains quite enough to enlighten and alarm, to edify and astound. In the first place, we must notice the remarkable absence of punctuation, a weakness very Papaline. It has been said that ladies' letters are sometimes, not strong in punctuation, but without entering into such a delicate discussion, we may be permitted to observe that a more old-womanish missive we never perused. In the next place, the theory that the Freemasons have surreptitiously joined Christian confraternities, or insinuated themselves among the pious in Brazil is a barefaced—well never mind—let us say a "taradiddle," and too contemptible and puerile to notice. The controversy began by the closing the churches and denying all rites to Freemasons, as Freemasons, in Brazil by those peace-loving and true-hearted shepherds of the church, the Bishop of Olinda and the Bishop of Para. In fact, we almost wonder that Monsignore D' Olinda has not before this been made a Cardinal. In the next place, we must be struck with the assumption of supreme and universal authority, which the kind-hearted old Pope claims, though, as Mr. Gladstone remarks, his language is about as acrid and intolerant, as it is possible for the human mind to conceive, or human language to express. It is not only Roman Catholic Freemasons, but all Freemasons, everywhere, in Europe, America, in Africa, in Asia, "le monde tout entier," that Pio Nono generally anathematizes. Now we have always felt, and feel still, that this is a great impertinence. What business has the Pope of Rome to curse us, who are not Roman Catholics at all? What right has he to say anything at all against those Freemasons who are not of his own fold? If he likes to curse Roman Catholic Freemasons, and they like to be cursed, let him do so by all means, that is another affair; it is a matter of taste, and it is alone for them to settle and complain of. We have nothing to do with it. But we have a right to protest against our names being mixed up in all this "cursing and swearing," though practically the thing itself is not of much importance. Like Balaam's curse of old, such anathemata are rather a compliment and a blessing, as they prove incontestably that the Romish Church finds us in some way opposed to its childish claims of universal sovereignty. Indeed, the most mournful feature of the whole case, "selon nous," as the French say, is this setting the Church above the law of the land in matters, too, purely within the cognisance of the law, and the law alone. In one sense all religious people, except pure Erastians hold that the spiritual power, in things spiritual, is above the temporal power, but only in things spiritual. As regards things temporal, human law and social arrangements, the acts of the legislature, the warning still holds good, "Let every soul be subject to the higher powers, for there is no power but of God, the powers that be are ordained of God." We are still to be "subject not only for wrath but conscience sake," and no true Christian, and no sincere patriot, and no loyal Freemason will ever resist or defy the law of the land in which he resides, or set himself above the decrees of the supreme national authority. We may not always agree with this or that enactment, of this or that particular legislature, but we are to seek the alteration or removal of it by legal and constitutional means,

but while it is law it can claim from us, and ought to claim from us all, obedience and respect. But the Ultramontane gives to the Pope a superior authority of appeal, alteration, overruling. "Sec volo sec jubeo" is the motto inscribed on the papal curule chair. Such a principle is in direct antagonism to all constitutional government, all systems of judicature, all laws human—nay, we will add all laws divine. It is in fact the old claim of "dispensing power" in its most offensive form. It is mournful to think into what a struggle Ultramontanism has precipitated the Romish Church. It is simply a struggle now between hyper-spiritualism and legality, between the ridiculous claims of an effete domination and the peaceful onward march of civilization and order, rational authority and national law, nay, more, it is practically "Roma contra mundum," Rome against the world, and that on an untenable and absurd hypothesis of universal sovereignty, of the hopeless pretensions of the darkest days of interdict and excommunication, of a tyrannical spiritual power, and of a debasing clerical intolerance. In such a contest Rome must fail and fall.

MASONS' MARKS.

A communication in our able contemporary, the "Builder," which we printed last week, raises many important questions, and suggests several very interesting considerations for all who take an interest in Masonic archæology. And be it noted, we are now talking of "Masons' Marks" pur et simple, not of the "Mark Degree," which, though no doubt a very interesting grade in itself, has, as far as we are aware, no historical status before the end of the last century. If the theory of the "Builder" be correct, that certain members of the old operative lodges were deputed to "mark" the stones, (not at all an improbable theory, by the way), we have an explanation of the uniformity of marks which has struck all who have studied the subject. To Mr. George Godwin, the well-known architect, must be conceded the merit of having first called attention to this most important subject, though in justice to the memory of our lamented Bro. E. W. Shaw, of the Philanthropic Lodge, Leeds, and the Pentalfa, Bradford, we should never forget that he devoted a "Masonic life time to the acquisition and study of Masons' Marks." His invaluable collections, though we believe still extant, are at present unfortunately inaccessible. It is very remarkable that the recent theory of the "Builder" is nearly the same as Bro. Shaw's, propounded at Sheffield, that the marks are clearly resolvable into special marks, belonging to separate grades. There were even what he termed "blind marks," to show that the stone was wrought by members not of the guild. Some of us may remember that Mr. Street, in his account of the churches in Spain, seems to contend that you could trace the stones worked by different members of one family by special additional distinguishing marks. We believe that when the stones were wrought, the "mark man" marked the stone for the workmen, and that each man would be paid for his passed and marked work. And we will go further, and say, no doubt, in the operative guilds, each member had his mark, and if any used the same mark there was a special distinguishing token or addition, which we sometimes see in the old walls of ecclesiastical and other buildings, not otherwise easy to account for. Upon one point, and a very important one, in the communication of our respected contemporary, we should like a little more information. It is there stated that "many of these lodges" of operative Freemasons "had charters and privileges granted to them by various kings and emperors." We have often seen this and read this, and, though we fully believe it, we wish much that we could light upon such a Masonic charter, it would be worth a great many eloquent dissertations. So far any such charter has eluded all research. The Glasgow Charter, which created and confirmed the sodality to collect subscriptions and rebuild the Cathedral, is, so far, the only extant one. Bishop Lucy is said to have formed a confraternity at Winchester, by Milner, but we are not aware that the original charter exists. We believe, as indeed Depping's invaluable publication seems

to prove, that King Charles Martel gave certain privileges, and probably a charter, to the Parisian operative Masons, and also that Albanus probably obtained a charter, and that Athelstan incorporated the Masonic guilds. But these two latter statements, though both probable and possible, still require historical proof. King Athelstan undoubtedly is credited with having granted Charters to various guilds, and there is no a priori reason why our Masonic tradition should not be historically true. Charlemagne and Hugh Capet, probably also did so, as the "Builder" says, but still, strictly speaking, not by any historical evidence, or extant charter that we are aware of, and though as we said, it is highly probable, that is all we can say, as probability is one thing, and proof is another. It is only a probability so far; it is not proven. We should be glad of distinct authority for the statement, that Pope Nicholas III. granted the Freemasons a charter in 1278, and that John de Medicis, in 1445, became Grand Master of Freemasons. Where is this stated? we would respectfully ask, and should be obliged to our contemporary if he would kindly point out to us. Such a statement as this, if made by any competent historian, ought to be proveable, and of it proof must be forthcoming. We do not remember to have seen the statement before, but it is nevertheless not at all an improbable one. That Leo X. as well as Clement VIII. were Grand Masters of the Order, we confess, we doubt very much indeed, and should be deeply obliged to our friendly contemporary, if he can throw a little light on such statements, as if they are true, they are most important, and such facts are worth a great many fictions indeed. We are aware that some of the German writers have talked of Papal Bulls recognizing the "Steinmetzen," and our own Dugdale appears to have had the same idea, but, so far, we have never been able to find any valid authority for any such statement. We are inclined ourselves to believe that such Bulls were issued from Rome at a time when the building art was purely under the control of the religious fraternities and the Monastic orders. But still, we should like to see the proof. A little Charter of three or four lines would be worth a very great deal, indeed, a Bull would be invaluable for once, and we indulge the hope that such will yet turn up, when some future Hughan will write the history of our great Order. We thank the "Builder" for one of the most interesting and suggestive extracts "de rebus Latomicis" we have for some time been permitted to read.

Original Correspondence.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for, or even as approving of the opinions expressed by our correspondents, but we wish, in a spirit of fair play to all, to permit—within certain necessary limits—free discussion.—Ed.]

MASONIC PROFESSION AND PRACTICE.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I am only a young Mason, but although this communication at first sight may appear to have a rebellious tendency, I am quite prepared to bow to superior judgment, wisdom, and experience. As a matter of fact, I write mainly for information, and if I appear harsh in some of my criticisms I must plead a wrong comprehension of Masonic matters and an erroneous impression as to the object of Masonry in general.

I was initiated into the Masonic brotherhood some years since in a provincial lodge composed of educated men of perhaps rather a Bohemian turn of mind, and we met regularly every month all the year round. Although our subscription fee would have fully warranted such a procedure we did not have the customary banquet after lodge, and only allowed ourselves this feast on the night of installation. On ordinary lodge nights we sat down to a plain supper, after which a glass and song passed away the time until we broke up.

You can imagine by this that our lodge fund in hand was usually considerable, while the allowances made to indigent brethren and the remittances of subscriptions to those who could no longer afford to pay it were numerous. Such appeared to me as carrying out some of the precepts upon which the practice of Freemasonry is founded.

I now no longer belong to that lodge. I left the neighbourhood and came to London. Soon afterwards I gained admittance as a joining member to a metropolitan lodge, which I now belong to. In point of subscription it is equal to my mother lodge, but in point of extravagance it vastly exceeds the latter. We meet six times in the year, and have a champagne banquet at each meeting. If I take a visitor with me I pay £1 ros. for him, and the joke is that the lodge prides itself upon its hospitality. The result is that almost upon every occasion when assistance has to be given that cannot be easily refused, a collection has to be made in the lodge.

Having stated these facts, I wish shortly to refer to what my idea of Freemasonry is, and I trust that if I am wrong some generous brother may quickly put me right.

One of the first precepts inculcated in the minds of young Masons is charity. Indeed, from the ritual and traditions of Masonry I conceive the whole fabric to be based on this virtue. The next is temperance. Now, let us take the majority of our English lodges, and consider what portion of their funds goes to charity. Many meet six times in the year, their subscription is five guineas; they eat six banquets, and consume on an average, besides solid food of the most recherché description and cigars, at least two-thirds of a bottle of hock and half a bottle of champagne per head. Added to these expenses are those incidental to the holding and keeping of the lodge, printing circulars, &c. The balance cannot, I opine, be large, and charity must fare but ill. I have known indigent brethren sit at the doors of these lodges anxiously waiting the result of what was being discussed inside, and as the other brethren passed by him into the lodge hardly a civil word of recognition would be granted to him who once, when he had money was a welcome brother. I have not witnessed much charity in connection with Freemasonry in England. True, we have our girls' and boys' schools, and other institutions; but when I look at the number of applicants for shelter yearly turned away from their doors through lack of a sufficient number of votes, or, in other words, influence, I cannot but think that the enormous sums now squandered in so-called "refreshment" might be made to find an asylum for all these poor people. Are not all Masons equal? I was told so when I first joined, but I have got to learn that there are two grades of Masons, the one rich, the other poor. Witness the Tyler of any lodge in England, and see the treatment he gets in a good many. Hustled hither and thither, and often treated like a dog more than a human being. Is he a "brother to a king?"

Another impression I received when I first joined was that I was at liberty to enter any lodge of Freemasons throughout the world, on giving proper satisfaction of my worthiness, and joining in their meeting. Now, however, I imagine a very cold reception would be given to any visitor to an English lodge who had not distinctly been invited by a member of the lodge itself.

I hope I am wrong in this—that these impressions have been formed through want of experience; and, awaiting better instruction,

I remain, fraternally yours,

ZAPHON.

HAPHAZARD VOTING.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir,—

I read with pleasure your opinion that the present system of voting for charities was not haphazard, &c. I think you may like the enclosed little story, which has been lately published as a refutation of one sent out by the so-called Voting Reform Association. They had better cast out the beam from their own eye before they try to take the mote from their brother's.

Yours, almost a Freemason,

DIANA W. PALBY.

[The little story shall duly appear in the "Masonic Magazine" for October.—Ed.]

Reviews.

"THE HISTORY OF MASONRY." By BRO. G. F. FORT. Trübner & Co.

We have already alluded to this interesting and valuable work, one of the most important contributions to Masonic history which has for some time appeared, and so has our able Bro. W. J. Hughan, in befitting terms of encomium and approval. With a change of publishers, we are glad to recall its many merits to the attention and consideration of our readers, and we would say to all Masonic students everywhere, and we are quite sure that Bro. Hughan will concur in our remarks, that we know of no better modern Masonic work, or one more intensely interesting in itself to the Masonic student and archaeologist. To say that we agree in every position our able brother has taken up would not be the case, but we can equally recognize the value of his work and the thoroughly scholarly way in which he has put together both his arguments and his evidences. The History of Freemasonry is so wide and so important that there is and must ever be many allowable differences respecting it, and it is impossible that we should all at once arrive at an uniform appreciation of the abstract or concrete value of certain portions of general evidence, &c. Indeed, it is not too much to say that many of our theories and suggestions to-day are more or less tentative, as it is only quite recently, in this country at any rate, within the actual memory of some of us, that we have set ourselves critically to analyze the statements and proofs of our Masonic historians. Oliver, despite some great merits and a remarkable "copia verbum," accepted far too hastily previous crude statements of inaccurate Masonic writers, and was himself, despite his undoubted ability, industry, and zeal, somewhat promiscuous in assertion and careless as to reliable authority. Anderson and Preston previously did not profess to be critical; they simply condensed and methodised the confused and chaotic mass of legends and traditions. They reproduced, in fact, the guild version of Masonic history as it was, modernised to suit the requirements of the Order and the intelligence of their readers. They, too, had their merits, and we should be most ungrateful and unwise if we on "ex post facto" grounds ever ignored their many claims to our Masonic consideration and perusal. The German Freemasons have preceded us, "more Germanorum," in critical analysis, and patient study of Masonic legend and evi-

dences by nearly a century, but we venture to think, that in the long run it will be found, that the labours of our English Masonic students, including Bro. D. Murray Lyon, have done a very great deal indeed, and in a very short time, towards a correct appreciation and enlightened study of Masonic history and archaeology. But it is still quite clear that we are only, so to say, beginning the enquiry. Our one great danger still lies from hasty induction, and an impatient realism, without making due allowance for the necessarily slow process of the eradication of error and the assertion of truth. Still the "outcome" of the last few years is very encouraging in every respect, and though the history of Freemasonry has yet to be written, we hail all such readable works as Bro. Fort's as most valuable contributions to a common end, and steps, decided steps in the right direction.

W. F. A.

AN ENCYCLICAL.

The "Chaine d'Union" for July gives us a portion of an Encyclical taken from the "Univers," of July 24th, which, as Bro. Hubert truly observes, will probably awaken the religious struggle in Brazil, and render it more bitter than ever.

"L'Univers," Monday, July 24th, 1876. Rome.—To our Venerable brethren the Bishops of Brazil, Pio IX. Pope: You know, Venerable brethren, the troubles which have arisen in Brazil in these "latter days" by the act of those who, being affiliated to the Masonic sect, have insinuated themselves into the brotherhoods of pious Christians, and who, especially in the dioceses of Olinda and of Belem de Para, have brought about a grave conflict, have been for our soul the subject of the most bitter sorrow, for we could not without grief realize how widely the plague of this pernicious sect was spread abroad by the corruption of those fraternities, so much so, that the associations which have been formed to develop among the faithful a sincere spirit of faith and purity were reduced to a condition most miserable in the consequence of the mournful harvest of discord, of which they were only the germs.

Therefore we have judged that we ought without delay to remedy this evil.

This is the reason, Venerable Brother of Olinda, why by letter of date May 29th, 1873, which we addressed you, we raised our voice against this deplorable perversity introduced into the Christian confraternities. Nevertheless, using gentleness and clemency towards the members of the Masonic sect who might be deceived or misled away by delusion, we suspended for a convenient season the proviso of the censures which they had incurred, in order that they might use our goodness to desert their errors, and to retire from condemnable reunions in which they had been initiated. Further, Venerable Brother of Olinda, we commanded you, that having passed this lapse of time, if they had not come to repentance, you should suppress and declare suppressed the said fraternities, in order to re-establish them in conformity to the motive of their foundation by the enrolment of new members absolutely free from the Masonic stain.

Further, when in our Encyclical letter of November 1st, 1873, addressed to the Bishops of the Catholic world, we endeavoured to warn all the faithful against the artifices and snares of the sectaries, by publicly recalling on that occasion the pontifical constitutions issued against their perverse associations, we declared that these constitutions reached not only the Masonic societies in Europe, but also all those in America, and in the other countries of the entire world.

What then has not been our astonishment? when we learnt that, drawing a pretext from the fact that to facilitate the salvation of the culpable we had by our authority raised the interdiction by which certain churches and confraternities were smitten, they have dared to spread about the report in public, that the absolute condemnation did not apply to the Masonic society existing in those latitudes, and that in consequence their Sectaries could in safety of conscience form part of the fraternities of pious Christians.

Now to what point such obligations are distant from the sentiments of our spirit and truth.—29th April. Pius IX., Pope.

A MASONIC ADDRESS.

In the Chaine d'Union for July we find the following address, or rather, an extract from an address, delivered at a meeting of the Lodge Union, Martinique, January, 1876:

My much loved brethren,—

The brilliancy of a fête does not suspend our labours. On the contrary, never have they so much grandeur, so much sublime simplicity, as when joyous harmonies mingle themselves with our accents, at times very sad, always bitter, when we move that human clay which surrounds us all. The heart, in order to console itself, requires to hear the hymn of hope intermingled with the cry of despair. For it is mournful, at the same time that it is sublime, the work which we accomplish. Fraternity alone give us the strength to follow it, after having had the benevolence to undertake it. So many hatreds explode around our steps. Oh! sad blindness. When, then, will the world render justice to itself? It is in vain that our hearts separate themselves from all egotism, that we withdraw ourselves from paths frequented by the crowd, that we enter into our mysterious temple there to work—the calumnious accusations of our enemies follow us everywhere. And yet for whom do we work? For ourselves? No; for humanity. They will not even allow us the satisfaction of receiving its benedictions.

I hear laughter sometimes in the profane world when we talk of our labours. Happy yet, if I hear nothing but laughter. Alas, they urge the speech of malice against

very far. When our persecutors wish to pour out upon us the black venom of calumny, they reveal to astonished peoples the secrets that we keep hid in our infected lodges. The Roman Saturnalia are as nothing compared with the ignoble debauchery to which we devote ourselves. Our Temples are receptacles of corruption, and ourselves—I stop. There are men more contemptible than we are, and these are they who are our calumniators, because they are ignorant of our secret, which exasperates them. But they would be undeceived, nevertheless, if only they passed the threshold of a lodge. They would see us labour, labour not merely for ourselves, but for humanity. Oh, then without doubt they would render us justice. But, I hear those who exclaim, what do you do then for humanity? At what do you labour? For what? To propagate the light by inculcating in the spirit of our brethren important truths. By making them love virtue and hate vice. We labour to succour many, to heal the social wounds which egotism has opened out, to aid the wretched whom society repels because they suffer. [We think this is unfair on society.—Ed.] We labour to restore the world to its primitive organization without destroying the progress of ages. [This phrase is rather vague and a little questionable—and is too impractical for English minds, as in truth it is difficult to understand exactly what it means]. We believe in fraternity, we believe it is more than possible, we believe it to be practicable, and we wish that it may be spread on the earth. Behold, this is what we labour for. Our triumph will be the rain of fire which will burn up all social heresies.

The path of life is between two eternities. God marks out for each the place which it ought to occupy, notwithstanding all the difficulties of the soil. This place extends in length from one eternity to the other. It has limits on the right and on the left; and these limits are other places which many human creatures cultivate. The labour of each is marked there according to the duration which God assigns to his existence. Therefore, the daily task is more or less long according as we live for a longer or a shorter time. He whom death mows down in the flower of youth ought to labour twice as much as the person whom the seasons of old age are to whiten. For all men are obliged to give the same quantity of labour to the Master of the road. Sorrow, therefore, for him who labours not, for the day reaches its end, and time marches forward while he amuses himself. Soon the clock sounds the commencement of another day, and a voice cries to him "March!" It is time which passes and draws him after it. So that at the end of each day he discovers Divine hope. At length he arrives at the end of the road, and at the call of eternity he finds an inexorable judge, who asks of him an account of his labours. Terrible moment. What can a human being say to God, whose life has been useless to himself and his brethren?

There are those who pass through the short years of their existence plunged in a sort of blindness, which removes them to a distance from all labour, those efforts which they owe to humanity they waste and spend in pleasures and in orgies, while there are others who lose their health in obstinate toil, without thinking in their egotism to do anything for humanity. Strange aberration of our spiritual nature. It is to repair the evil which they do to society; it is to labour for them, that Freemasonry has been created, in order that ingratitude and egotism may find in the balance of God the counterpoise of charity.

For labour does not consist only in the activity of the movement which is going on in all parts of the globe.

That is an effort of matter which seeks its good each day in multiplying itself. This labour is the speculation of one part of the human race. As regards the other, it is fortune which harnesses to its chariot the miserable beings it has formed. To find his bread the unfortunate sells his liberty, his family, and his rights, of which he does not know how to make use. Certainly this labour has its good side, for without it we should all perish, but it does not answer to the end of God, for all men are not linked to it. [All this is somewhat questionable teaching.—Ed.]

There is another who entirely understands humanity in all its benefits, that is the heart which inspires, that is the spirit which directs. He studies nature continually, in order there to find a solace for all our miseries. [We should rather say religion.—Ed.] He scatters the seeds of truth in the soul, that there they may grow and bring forth fruit. He calls to the share of his favours all classes of society. He goes to the very bottom of the abysses to sound them, to measure them, in order to preserve us from them. He instructs us, he guides us. Where he carries his torch error vanishes, virtue appears. This labour, I say, is that of intelligence, it is that of philosophy, and also of Freemasonry.

At the close of night, when Aurora mounts in the firmament, it is beautiful to note the stars at once grow pale, then be eclipsed at the first ray of the sun. We shall see this spectacle sooner or later on the earth, with the exception that men will be the stars and the sun will be Freemasonry, which will dissipate the clouds of ignorance sown with lying clearness. Then each man who will come to shelter himself in our lodges will enlarge his circle. This is not an illusion. Our ideas, our principles, our doctrine, all that mysterious assemblage which surrounds us, give force and life to our labour. Already we make giant strides in the spirit of peoples. What will it be then when they all understand the work to which we desire to associate them? Already men are less timid because they begin to understand. What will it be then when they thoroughly understand?

Up, up, my brethren, let us go to work. Light! light! Let us not concentrate its rays. Let us spread it on the great social mass as a seed of life, as a benefit, as a restitution of the privileged to those whom misery has sacrificed.

In order to render all more worthy of understanding us

let us instruct them, let us develop their intelligence. The future of Freemasonry is brilliant. Sooner or later it will fashion man in its own way. But for that, it must not content itself with giving a material support to those who suffer, but it must give to them also the bread of life. Material charity does not regenerate it sometimes brutifies him who is its object by placing him too low in his own self-esteem. True charity, that of the heart and mind, takes him in his state of ignorance, draws him into the laboratory of literature, shows to him the crucible where science is formed, places him face to face with the present and the future, and says to him, "Depart, behold the end." For while we seek to give solace to some suffering beings, all our efforts ought to be turned to the good of entire humanity. Almsgiving is the bread of each day; let us give it with joy and happiness. Let us labour much to give it. But let us develop the understanding, and let us instruct it in regard of all things true. It is the mind which we ought to form, to knead, to renew, in the young generation. Let us make of literature and science an immense pedestal to humanity. We ought thus to drive back error into its caverns, and proclaim the coming of maturity by the light.

To the work, my brethren. The world will not understand us, it persecutes us, let it regard us laughing at us, let it calumniate us. One day it will know what we have done for it, and that day will be the day of its redemption and its happiness. Then will be the triumph of Freemasonry.

Warm plaudits greeted this "belle colonne d'Architecture," as the "Chaine d'Union" terms it, or, as we should say, this Masonic address.

We have done but scant justice to the original French; but our translation will give an idea of the force and spirit and eloquence of the oration. Some of our readers may think it a little hazy and sentimental, and so, to our practical English point of view, it is; and some of us might wish that we heard less of humanity and more of religion.

We cannot follow that train of thought which apparently regards Humanity and the World, as able to elevate themselves, to purify, to emancipate, and to redeem mankind. Into such philosophical speculations we cannot enter, for this reason, that we believe that it is to higher influences, and to Divine Power, that we are to look, and look alone for the present salvation and eventual restoration of man, kind. But the address we have translated has many fine thoughts and many happy passages. W.F.A.

DOWN WITH MASONRY.

By BRO. P.M. DARLEY, of Lodge 158, Sheerness.

This is not only a cry among fanatics at Chicago, but in every part of the globe where bigotry, superstition, and idolatry prevail, and the feeling is engendered by those making the greatest profession to carry out principles which distinguish Masonry. We here allude to religious professors of all creeds.

If religion teaches veneration for God, is it not a requirement that a candidate shall first make a confession of God, and bend with reverence to seek His blessing?

If brotherly love is binding on the religious professor, is it not equally so upon the Mason who, in addition to joining in an association for the promotion of reciprocal kindness and love, is also, as a rule, a promoter of the general good of society?

Down with Masonry! Yes, down with it, says selfishness, whose sepulchral cold heart lacks, like the Atheist, the warmth of Divine love, and who would sacrifice everything sacred to their silly dogmas; they would tear down a palace or temple dedicated to God, and confine us to the coffin contractions of their narrow prejudices.

They would sink us to the darkness and foggy atmosphere of semi-hermitage, stop the light of knowledge, and make us the victims of an accursed priestcraft as they are themselves, who have ever been ready to break asunder the most sacred bonds, destroy the harmony on earth, and try to reduce the pleasures of heaven to gratify their covetous tyranny—poor Spain to wit.

Up with Masonry, which promotes and does honour to the most generous human sentiments. Up with that which, like the most powerful magnet of the love of God, draws together—heart to heart—those who have borne the most bitter animosities and deadly hate. Up with that which lets in the benign light of heaven, not only to enlighten us into the mysteries of nature and science, but how we may best promote each other's interest and render ourselves most useful to the happiness of mankind. Up with Masonry, which teaches us to pour the balm of consolation to the sorrowing, to help the distressed, and lessen the aggregate of human misery. Up with Masonry, that teaches loyalty to governors and kings, in opposition to those whose influence has sapped the foundation of thrones, destroyed the peace and happiness of society, set nations at war with one another, and promoted sedition and rebellion, and multiplied the fatherless and widow.

Up with Masonry, that adds to the happiness of earth, and raises the bliss of heaven, that promotes peace among man, which must progress under the light of that bright morning star whose rising brings peace and salvation to the faithful and obedient of the human race.

Up with Masonry—let the lie be given to its enemies by the exemplary life of its members and the discountenance of any concomitants which may have a tendency to rob it of its fair fame, or in any way justify its accusers.

That it has been seriously injured in its usefulness by its surroundings is universally admitted, hence thousands who admire Masonry and who would do honour to the Craft have been compelled to disassociate from it. We re-echo, Up with Masonry, by maintaining its purely religious

character; by the discountenance of its holy ceremonies being conducted at public houses, the recognized haunts of vice; by the discountenance of those orgies which do dishonour to God and the Craft.

I cannot conceive of the possibility of a due veneration for God, nor of genuine loyalty, followed by drunken revelry. Hence, in any agitation of the question I have been proud to see in various parts of the country lodges entirely separate from hotels, and as a lover of genuine Masonry I say with all my heart, with the most loyal attachment to His Royal Highness and the Grand Officers, that its moral status and prestige will be considerably raised, greater loyalty to the throne and honour to God will follow the removal of lodges from hotels and the discountenance of the drinking practices which have hitherto proved an open sore to this excellent institution.

LAYING THE FOUNDATION STONE OF THE MEMORIAL TO ADMIRAL LORD JAMES DE SAUMAREZ, AT GUERNSEY.

After the lapse of nearly forty years, Guernsey has at length awakened to the sense of appropriately honouring the memory of one of her most illustrious sons, in the person of Admiral Lord James de Saumarez, whose name in English and European history stands out as a bright and noble example of bravery, patriotism, and Christian duty.

The record of his valiant deeds and his worthy life has been graphically and truthfully handed down to posterity by his friend and relative, the late Ferdinand Brock Tupper, in his carefully compiled "History of Guernsey and its Bailiwick," published in 1854.

On the 15th of March, 1873, the feeling which had long slumbered in the breasts of many patriotic Guernsey men towards their illustrious brother found vent in a meeting presided over by the late respected Jurat Henry Tupper, when amidst the most enthusiastic demonstrations of sympathetic feeling, and sincere eulogy, it was proposed to erect a suitable memorial of national importance to the honour and admiration of the gallant admiral. It was a grand sight to see some of the valiant compatriots of that great and good man rise up on that occasion, and bear their warm and hearty testimony to his valour and his worth; but while referring to this incident the memory of it is saddened by the fact that since that brief period two at least of those most appreciative and most earnest admirers and supporters of the gallant admiral have not been permitted to see the commencement of this good work, but have been called away to the rest which in all faith it has been said their dear brother has long enjoyed before.

The chief difficulty encountered by the committee at the outset was the form which the memorial should take. Many plans were proposed and many suggestions were made, and after much anxious consideration and the inspection of many designs sent in for competition, it was ultimately resolved that the memorial should consist of a lofty obelisk of Guernsey granite, to be erected on the brow of De Lancey Hill, a splendid elevation to the north-east of the island, between St. Peter-Port and St. Sampson's, the site of which, associated with several of the admiral's most gallant deeds, had been cheerfully granted by Her Majesty's Government on the most liberal terms.

Among the numerous designs submitted to the committee that of A. C. Andros, Esq., a Guernseyman, was adopted. As a hearty response had been made to the appeal for subscriptions, tenders were next invited for the execution of the work, and that of Mr. James Le Page, of the Ozouëts, was accepted. The cost of the structure will amount to about £2000, and it is to be completed by September, 1877. It is to be composed entirely of Guernsey granite, and its imposing appearance will form a suitable vis à vis to the Doyle Column on St. Martin's Point.

From the able manner in which Mr. Le Page has executed kindred works of even greater magnitude, we have the fullest confidence that the memorial will be carried out to the satisfaction of the committee, and the credit of the island.

As becoming such an important episode in their island history, the committee exerted themselves to give due effect to the ceremony, and having received an intimation from His Excellency St. George G. Foley, Lieut.-Governor, that he would take a prominent part in the proceedings, a request was forwarded to the several Masonic lodges in the island that they would grace the ceremony with their presence, His Excellency being a honoured and worthy brother. A dispensation from the Grand Lodge of England, under the sign manual of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, having been obtained for this purpose, the brethren were summoned to assemble at their hall in Court Place on Tuesday afternoon, the 1st August, at 2.30 p.m., when the lodge being opened in due form the brethren were suitably addressed, and it was then adjourned for the chief object of its meeting. The procession was arranged by the respective Worshipful Masters of Loyalty, Doyle's, and Mariners Lodges, and was carried out in a most effective manner.

Starting from Manor House at 4 o'clock it consisted of:

Two Tylers with Drawn Swords.

Band of the 1st R.G.M. Infantry.

Brethren, not Members of any Lodge.

Loyalty Lodge Banner.

Entered Apprentices, Fellow Crafts, Master Masons, S.D., J.D., Treasurer and Secretary, S.W. (with column), J.W. (with column), I.G., and R.A. Masons of Loyalty Chapter.

Banner of Mariners' Lodge.

Entered Apprentices, Fellow Crafts, Master Masons, S.D., J.D., Treasurer and Secretary, S.W. (with column), J.W. (with column), I.G., and I.G. of Mariner's Lodge.

Banner of Doyle's Lodge.

Entered Apprentices, Fellow Crafts, Master Masons, S.D.

J.D., Treasurer and Secretary, S.W. (with column), J.W. (with column), I.G. of Doyle's Lodge, and R.A. Masons of Doyle's Chapter.

Director of Ceremonies.

Assistant Director of Ceremonies.

Wor. Bro. W. H. Martin with the Plans.

Wor. Bro. F. Weyson, with corn.

Wor. Bro. Wakley, with wine and oil.

Wor. Bro. J. B. Gardner, with Inscription Plate.

Wor. Bro. P. Le Page, with Book of Constitutions.

Wor. Bro. Wilcock, with the Globes.

Wor. Bro. G. Weyson, with Corinthian Light.

Wor. Bro. Brown, with J.W. Column.

Wor. Bro. R. M. Smythson, with Level.

Wor. Bro. Richard, with Plumb Rule.

Wor. Bro. G. Allez, with Doric Light.

Wor. Bro. G. H. Smythson, with Ionic Light.

Wor. Bro. Armstrong, with Sacred Law.

Wor. Bro. Stickland, with Coins and S.W. Column.

Wor. Bro. Wilkins, with Square.

R. Wor. Bro. La Serre, with Mallet.

Apron and Collar of His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor, carried by Bro. W. De Jersey.

V.W. the P.D.P. Grand Master Gallienne, with Trowel. Tyler with Drawn Sword.

As the procession was being marshalled in front of the Hall, the crowd of spectators rapidly increased in numbers. The route was down St. Julien's Avenue, along the Esplanades to De Lancey Hill. The two field batteries of the Royal Military Artillery, under the command of Lieut. Colonel Jones, with their band, brought up the rear. Thousands of people lined the road on either side, the whole distance, about two miles, and appeared much interested in the novel sight.

On arriving at De Lancey Hill the brethren were halted in parallel lines facing each other, and forming an avenue through which the principal officers and distinguished visitors passed to the scene of the ceremony, the procession closing up and following to the enclosure. Here a guard of honour was in attendance, consisting of 100 men of the North Regiment of Militia, under command of Major Naftel, and officered by Capt. H. De Lisle Tupper and Lieutenants Ozanne and Faunce, and ten men from each of the other militia regiments of the island, the whole military force being under the direct command of Lieut.-Col. Gallienne, of the North Regiment. A gallery was erected in the enclosure, and this was occupied by the elite of the island, whilst around were grouped the various distinguished guests who had been invited to take part in the ceremonial. Prominent amongst these were His Excellency Lieut.-General St. George G. Foley, C.B., Lieut.-Governor, Colonel L'Estrange, R.A., Lieut.-Col. McCrea, Adjutant General, Lieut.-Col. Bell, Q.A.D.C., and Governor's Secretary; Major Julius Carey and Capt. W. Carey, A.D.C. to His Excellency; Gen. de Saumarez, Gen. McClean, Lieut.-Col. Orme, Lieut.-Col. Falla, Capt. Borland, R.N., and several officers of the 10th Fusiliers, as well as a large number of the militia officers of the island. The clergy were also in strong force, headed by the Right Reverend Bishop Ryan, D.D., the Very Reverend Carey Brock, M.A., Dean of Guernsey; and the Revs. R. J. Ozanne and G. Lee, St. Peter-Port; N. Cathcart, Holy Trinity; C. S. Darroch, St. Stephen's; A. Morris, St. James'; J. D. Kennedy, St. Sampson's; T. Bell, Vale; C. D. P. Robinson, St. Martin's; F. Mann, Forest; J. Giraud, St. Saviour's; and W. T. Collings, Seigneur of Sark; the Rev. Havilland De Saumarez, and others.

All being in readiness, General De Saumarez addressed the Lieutenant-Governor as follows:—

May it please your Excellency:

We, the Building Committee of this memorial, have been appointed by our fellow countrymen to carry into effect their resolution to erect a fitting monument to the memory of Guernsey's most illustrious son, James Baron De Saumarez, General of Marines, and Vice-Admiral of Great Britain.

In accordance with this resolution we have assembled this day to request, in their name, that your Excellency will now lay, as you have kindly consented to do, the foundation-stone of this memorial.

Forty years, fraught with many and most vital changes in Europe and the world, have passed over us since the nation had to lament the loss of Lord De Saumarez, after a career of more than fifty years actively devoted to the service of his country. How green and flourishing is still his memory, how venerated is the character and the reputation which he sustained during that long career, is abundantly proved by the resolution of his countrymen which we are now present to fulfil, and the manner in which this assembly is attended.

This day, this very day, seventy-eight years ago, was fought the ever memorable battle of the Nile, in which Sir James Saumarez was second indeed in command to Sir Horatio Nelson, but amidst the thunders which echoed in the Bay of Aboukir no one took a more distinguished share than he in the fearful struggle of that glorious action. In recalling that day we are happy in the remembrance that this is not the first occasion in which the names of Foley and De Saumarez have met; they were allied in glory when Sir James Saumarez advanced in the Orion to the attack of the enemy, and the Goliath, commanded by Sir Thomas Foley, gallantly led the fleet into action.

Enjoying the special confidence of his chiefs, Rodney, Hood, and Jervis, distinguished in each of their most illustrious actions, Sir James Saumarez was the honoured comrade of Nelson, Collingwood, and Trowbridge, a bright star in the galaxy of heroes which still illuminates with its brightness the most glorious pages of England's history.

Remarkable from his earliest days in the service, Lord De Saumarez was distinguished for his gallantry as a

young lieutenant, for his enterprise combined with skill and bravery as a commander, whether in single fight or when taking part in a general action; but above all was he distinguished as a leader, by the daring boldness and indomitable courage with which, casting aside all fear of responsibility, he flung himself and his fleet successfully upon the enemy, whilst he was still staggering as it were under the blows he had received, and which adverse and uncontrollable circumstances had enabled them to inflict. Well did Earl St. Vincent, himself the head of the Admiralty, then proclaim in the House of Peers Sir James's achievements in the double battle and final victories of Algeiras, declaring that "this gallant achievement surpassed all that he had met with in his reading or his service," and truly then did the great Nelson pronounce in the same august assembly that "a greater action was never fought than that of Sir James Saumarez."

Great and admirable as was the character of this noble commander in war, it never shone more distinctly if less brilliantly than when, preferring humanity and the weal of his country to any glory he might reap from the achievement, he magnanimously denied himself the opportunity of destroying or capturing the Russian fleet when fully in his power, believing as he did that it was hostile only by Napoleon's compulsion. The Northern Powers hastened after the peace to do justice to his conduct of the war.

We may leave to others to speak of his special love for his native island, his integrity of conduct, his eminent piety and benevolence; but ere we conclude we would congratulate our countrymen that whilst England in his lifetime showered her honours upon Sir James Saumarez, and at his death found a place for his statue in the Naval Hall of Greenwich, Guernsey, the land of his birth, will now be able to point with satisfaction to an enduring monument to his memory—may it long remain, not in truth to perpetuate his memory, which will live as long as England's history exists; but let it remain to mark his country's gratitude, a record of past greatness, a monitor to future generations.

In the name of our countrymen the committee beg again to offer their best thanks to your Excellency for so kindly officiating on this auspicious occasion.

His Excellency replied as follows:—

General De Saumarez, ladies and gentlemen—It is not only a great pleasure but I esteem it a great favour to be allowed to endeavour to do the duty to the best of my power of laying the foundation stone of the memorial to Lord De Saumarez which you are present to witness.

A long period has passed since the death of Lord De Saumarez, and, as has been well said by General De Saumarez, no monument is wanted to keep the memory of him vividly before his countrymen, still, I cannot refrain from expressing my great satisfaction that the inhabitants of Guernsey have at length come forward, and are about to raise a pillar to his honour of which I am to lay the foundation stone this day.

It is a happy coincidence that this day should be the anniversary of the Battle of the Nile, in which Lord De Saumarez took so distinguished a part. I am much obliged to General De Saumarez for the kind manner in which he mentioned the name and connection of my family who took part in that glorious battle. You, sir, have so well and fully depicted the high seaman-like virtues and the noble qualities for which Lord De Saumarez was distinguished that I can do no more in justice to the subject than say that I justly concur to all you have attested.

Even from where we stand we can see the scene of one of Lord De Saumarez's most daring feats, when he escaped from the enemy's ships by passing between the rocks.

I can need no thanks for officiating on the present occasion. On the contrary, I take it as an honour to be assigned a part in this most interesting ceremony.

The more important portion of the day's proceedings now commenced. V.W. the P.D.P. Grand Master, Bro. Gallienne, advanced to His Excellency with a Master Mason's apron, and clothing him therewith, said:—

"Your Excellency,—I have now the pleasure of investing you with the distinguishing badge of a Master Mason, and of placing in your hands the implements of architecture, to enable you to lay the foundation stone of a monument to the memory of one of Guernsey's noblest sons, the late Lord De Saumarez, in which ceremony your Excellency will be assisted by the Worshipful Masters of our lodges, to whom full power and authority have been granted by command of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, Most Illustrious Grand Master. And I beg to assure your Excellency that we, members of the ancient fraternity of Accepted Masons here present, feel especially gratified in having the privilege of assisting you in the performance of the prominent part which has been properly and rightfully assigned to your Excellency."

The trowel was then placed in the hands of His Excellency.

The stone was then raised with a skillful silence, which surprised the assembly, and the following prayer was read by P.M. Armstrong (acting Chaplain), a Mason of 61 years' standing:—

Almighty and Eternal God! Architect and Ruler of the Universe, cause of all existence, at whose creative fiat the pillars of the sky were raised and its beauteous arches formed. We are assembled in Thy great name to acknowledge Thy power, Thy wisdom, and Thy goodness. We implore Thee to bless this our present undertaking, and grant as we raise a memorial to one whom this island is proud to honour as one of her most distinguished sons, we may so emulate all that is good and virtuous, as to be living monuments of Thy love and mercy, and finally be found among that glorious company who shall raise an everlasting memorial to Thy Holy name. "So mote it be."

The various coins were handed to the Lieut.-Governor

by P.M. Strickland, and these being deposited by His Excellency in the compartment beneath the stone, P.M. J. B. Gardner presented to His Excellency a brass plate bearing the following inscription:—

"The foundation-stone of this obelisk, erected to commemorate the great public services of the late Admiral James Lord De Saumarez, G.C.B., &c., &c., and the esteem and love in which his name has ever been held by his countrymen in Guernsey, was laid on the 1st August, 1876, by His Excellency Major-General the Hon. St. G. G. Toley, C.B., Lieutenant-Governor."

This inscription was engraved by Messrs. Bolt and Browne, of the Pollet.

His Excellency having read this aloud deposited it over the compartment containing the coins. Mr. Le Page, the contractor, having spread the cement, His Excellency completed the work in a skilful manner with a silver trowel. The stone was next lowered to its position, the band playing the Old Hundredth Hymn. A plumb rule, level, and square were presented to the Lieutenant-Governor by W.M.'s Richard Wilkins and Smythson, and His Excellency tested the foundation-stone with each instrument and declared it to be truly plumb, level, and square. A mallet was next handed to His Excellency by R.W.G.F. La Serre, and His Excellency having struck the stone three times, declared it to be the foundation-stone of the obelisk to be erected in honour of Admiral Lord de Saumarez and to be well and truly laid. P.W.M. Martin then handed to His Excellency the plan and elevation of the memorial, which, after being duly inspected, was handed over to the contractor, Mr. James Le Page. The Militia Artillery then fired a salute of seventeen guns in honour of the event, and then the Very Reverend the Dean offered up prayer.

The Lord's Prayer then followed, in which the assembly joined with due reverence.

Capt. Collas, a veteran friend of the late gallant admiral, now bordering on ninety years of age, then stepped forward, and said he felt proud at being present to join this large and influential gathering, united in the object of laying the foundation stone of a memorial of our illustrious countryman, the Lord De Saumarez, who had so nobly distinguished himself during his naval career in the service of his king and country. The memory of so great a man deserved to be placed on a level with that of the illustrious Lord Nelson. The deceased had also enshrined himself in the hearts of his countrymen and conferred the greatest honour on his native place.

The Rev. W. T. Collins then thanked the Lieut.-Governor for the prominent part he had taken in the day's ceremony, and three hearty cheers were given for His Excellency and a salute of nineteen guns by the Militia Artillery, and the National Anthem played by the band brought the proceedings to a close.

Before leaving the spot General De Saumarez thanked the Worshipful Masters of the respective lodges for the active and valuable assistance they had rendered on the occasion. The vast crowd numbering several thousands, which was most orderly throughout, gradually dispersed; and the Freemasons returned in procession to their hall, where the lodge having been closed in due form, they were dismissed.

Lieut.-Col. McCrea directed the whole proceedings on the ground with consummate tact and judgment, assisted by the General Committee, and Bro. Clarke acted as Director of Ceremonies for the Freemasons.

PALESTINE EXPLORATION FUND.—The Committee of this Society have received from the Foreign Office a copy of a vizierial letter, in which the Governor-General of Syria is directed to recover from the people of Sated the whole of the amount claimed by Mr. Consul Moore on account of damages and expenses caused to the fund by the attack on Lieutenant Conder's party last year. The survey party are now working at the Royal Albert Hall on the map. Lieutenant Conder giving his attention chiefly to the preparation of the voluminous memoirs which will accompany it. In examining his notes he has made a large number of discoveries in addition to those already published in the society's periodical. Among the latest may be mentioned a new site proposed for Emmaus, hitherto a much disputed spot. He finds the name preserved in a corrupt Arabic form, at the exact distance, "about three score furlongs," from Jerusalem. Ancient ruins are observed there, and it lies close to an old Roman road. Another disputed site is that of Ramathaim Zophim, the birthplace of Samuel. Lieutenant Conder suggests a place for which he argues on the three grounds for identifications which he has always observed, viz., the preservation of the ancient name, the nature of the surrounding country, and the order observed in the enumeration of Biblical names. He thinks he has found the three sites of Ebenezer, the "Stone of Help," and the Mizpah of Samuel.

"CANADIAN MASONIC NEWS."—Dear Sir and Brother,—For the present I have found it necessary to suspend the publication of the "News." Whilst I was willing to give time and labour gratuitously for a year or two, with the view of establishing a permanent Masonic journal in the province, I am neither able nor willing to incur a loss beyond that, and as the experience of the past year does not hold out a prospect of meeting its expenses for the next, I have concluded not to commence another volume, but may at some future day, should sufficient inducement offer, re-enter the field of Masonic literature. In the meantime I am no longer entitled to your valuable and interesting exchange, which I shall miss with regret. Thanking you for your past courtesies, and wishing you continued success, I am, yours fraternally, E. M. MYERS.

Gas superseded in day time, and daylight reflected in dark rooms. Health, comfort, and economy promoted by adopting Chappuis' Patent Daylight Reflectors. Manufactory, 69, Fleet-street, London.

RE-OPENING OF CHESTER CATHEDRAL.

After having, through a course of neglect extending over two centuries, been allowed to fall into a state of almost absolute ruin, and after having been partially closed (for restoration) for over eight years, the old Cathedral of Saints Werburg and Oswald, at Chester, was reopened for Divine service on Tuesday last, amid the rejoicings of the citizens of Chester and the inhabitants of the diocese generally. The work of restoration has been of the most thorough description, comprehending both the interior and the exterior of the building. The main fabric was composed of local sandstone, of a very unendurable nature, and owing to this and defective workmanship in previous restorations (if the patchings which have from time to time been done are worthy of such a title), the whole edifice was in a state of decay, and when the restoration was commenced it was evident that without some speedy repairs a serious condition of ruin was imminent. About this time Dr. Howson had succeeded Dr. Anson in the Deanery of Chester, and one of the first tasks which he set himself was the entire restoration of the noble building of which he and the other members of the Chapter had the charge. When appealed to, the Ecclesiastical Commissioners contributed liberally to the proposed work, and private benefactors, headed by the present Duke of Westminster and his predecessor in the marquise, gave largely. Sir Gilbert G. Scott was the selected architect for the restoration, and his plans showed how thoroughly he had succeeded in obtaining a clear general insight into the original style and character of the building. These works have taken over eight years in execution, and have cost over £80,000. The bulk of this has been provided by public subscription and, in addition, there have been many private gifts. The Duke of Westminster has presented a magnificent organ screen composed of pillars of Corinthian marble; the Freemasons of Cheshire, a carved oak pulpit of elaborate design; the Freemasons of Lancashire a beautiful sedilla for the choir; and all the stalls have been provided by the liberality of private persons or parishes. The architect gave a fine brass corona or candelabrum, containing 365 lights, and weighing two tons and a half. The old church of St. Oswald has been thrown into the cathedral, increasing its internal accommodation, which was previously very inadequate.

Prior to the opening yesterday, the Mayor of Chester entertained a number of guests at luncheon in the Town Hall. Among the guests were the Duke and Duchess of Westminster and family, Mr. and Mrs. Gladstone, the Rev. S. Gladstone and family, the Bishops of Chester and Rochester, the canons and diocesan clergy, the magistrates, aldermen, and council of the city, and others. After the luncheon a procession marched from the Town Hall to the Cathedral, where, at three o'clock, the opening service, in which several Cathedral choirs from a distance took part, commenced. The music was splendidly rendered, and an eloquent and practical sermon preached by the Bishop of Rochester from the words "Establish Thou the work of our hands upon us, yea the work of our hands establish Thou it." His lordship commented strongly on the boastfulness of the present age as to its generosity in the work of church building and church restoration, and said that the money thus spent, large as it truly was, was very small compared with that spent in selfish gratification and love of appearance and show. The building was densely crowded. To-morrow (Wednesday) evening the Dettingen Te Deum is to be performed by a choir 200 strong, and the reopening services are to be continued for nearly a fortnight, with special preachers and choirs.

ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

The Committee of this institution met on Wednesday last at Freemasons' Hall. Bro. Lieut.-Col. J. Creaton, P.G.D., presided, and there were also present Bros. Benj. Head, S. Rawson, Raynham W. Stewart, Hyde Pullen, J. A. Farnfield, Erasmus Wilson, H. Browse, Thos. W. White, John G. Stevens, R. Hervé Giraud, William Stephens, Louis Stean, Thomas Cubitt, John Bellerby, Frederick Adlard, and A. H. Tattershall.

Minutes of last meeting were read and verified. Cheques were drawn for the payment of next quarter's annuities.

Petition was read from the widow of Bro. Sumner for half of her late husband's annuity, which was granted.

Four male and two widows' petitions were read and placed on the list of candidates for the next election.

On Wednesday the Queen received a visit at Osborne from the Prince and Princess of Wales and the Grand Duke of Mecklenburg-Strelitz. On Saturday Her Majesty, with the Princess Beatrice and Prince Christian Victor of Schleswig-Holstein, attended divine service at Osborne. The Rev. George Prothero officiated. During the week the Countess of Gainsborough, the Hon. Mrs. Hardinge, Lord Suffield, Sir Thomas Biddulph, Mr. Morier (Minister at Lisbon), Miss Morier, Sir John and Lady Cecil, Maria, Marchioness of Ailesbury, and Lord and Lady Colville have dined with the Royal Family.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.—Dangerous diseases would not present themselves very often if timely attention were bestowed on the first feelings which betray a departure from health. How many life-long maladies spring from neglecting trifling symptoms? The pimple readily curable in the nursery becomes, through carelessness, the immediate torment of after life. With a knowledge of the curative powers of Holloway's Ointment and Pills, and the facility and safety of their application, those who fail to use them for expelling the first seeds of hereditary ailments will have to bear the punishment resulting from their folly. Holloway's remedy will remove eruptions of the skin, scorbutic disease, and acrofula, and heal every description of ulcer, sore, wound, or abrasion.—ADVT.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

The General Committee of the Boys' School was held on Saturday, the 5th instant, at the Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, when there were present Bros. Major S. H. Clerke, Hyde Pullen, G. M. J. Snow, C. J. Martin, S. B. Ellis, Jessie Turner, H. Browse, Benjamin Head, W. F. C. Moutrie, Frederick Adlard, J. M. P. Montagu, G. J. Palmer, J. F. Dussell, and Frederick Binckes, Secretary.

Bro. Benjamin Head having been unanimously voted into the chair, the Secretary read the minutes of the General Committee held on the 1st July; the minutes of the Quarterly Court held on the 12th July; the minutes of the House Committee held on the 21st July, all of which were confirmed.

The report of the Audit Committee was then read and adopted, and a recommendation from the said committee that a sum of £3000 be invested in 3 per cent. Consols was considered, and the Treasurer was authorised to purchase the said stock.

The Secretary presented a petition for the admission to the school of James Morgan, aged nine years and seven months, by purchase, whereupon it was moved and seconded that the petition be accepted and referred to the House Committee to see whether the child can be received. An outfit vote of £5 was passed in favour of W. G. Fabian, now serving his apprenticeship.

Bro. C. F. Matier gave notice that at the next meeting of the committee he should move that the Secretary's salary be increased £100 a year.

METROPOLITAN MASONIC MEETINGS.

For the Week ending Friday, August 18, 1876.

The Editor will be glad to receive notice from Secretaries of Craft Lodges, Royal Arch Chapters, Mark Lodges, Preceptories, Conclaves, &c., of any change in place or time of meeting.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 12.

Lodge 1361, United Service, Greyhound Hot., Richmond.

" 1423, Era, King's Arms Hot., Hampton-court.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Lily, Greyhound, Richmond.

Manchester, 77, London-st., Fitzroy-square.

Star, Marquis of Granby, New Cross-rd.

MONDAY, AUGUST 14.

Chap. 720, Panmure, Horns Tav., Kennington.

" 1319, Asaph, F.M.H.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Prince Leopold, Lord Stanley Tav., Kingsland.

Strong Man, Jerusalem Tav., St. John's Gate.

Sincerity, Railway Tav., Fenchurch-st. Station.

Camden, Stanhope Arms, Up. James-st., Camden To.

Eastern, Royal Hot., Mile-end-road.

St. James's Union, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.

Wellington, White Swan, Deptford.

Perfect Ashlar, Victoria Tav., Lower-rd., Rotherhithe.

Sydney, White Hart Ho., Church-rd., Upper Norwood.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 15.

Board of General Purposes, at 4.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Metropolitan, 269, Pentonville-rd.

Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney.

Domestic, Surrey M.H., Camberwell New-road.

Faith, 2, Westminster Chambers, Victoria-st.

Prince Fredk. Wm., Lord's Hot., St. John's Wood.

Dalhousie, King Edward, Triangle, Hackney.

Prosperity, 1, Camomile-st., Bishopsgate.

St. Marylebone, British Stores Tav., St. John's Wood.

Constitutional, Wheatheaf Hot., Hand-court, Holborn.

Israel, Rising Sun Tav., Globe Road.

Royal Arthur, Prince's Head, York-road, Battersea.

Beacontree, Red Lion, Leytonstone.

Metropolitan Chapter, Jamaica Coffee Ho., Cornhill.

Excelsior, Commercial Dock Tav., Rotherhithe.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 16.

Lodge 619, Beadon, Greyhound Tav., Dulwich.

" 1044, Wandsworth, Spread Eagle Hot., Wndswth.

" 1382, Corinthian, George Inn, Cubitt Town.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Confidence, M.H., Basinghall-st.

Mt. Lebanon, Windsor Castle Tav., Southwark-bdg.-rd.

Pythagorean, Prince of Orange, Greenwich.

New Concord, Rosemary Branch Tav., Hoxton.

Royal Union, Horse and Groom, Winsley-st., Oxford-st.

Peckham, Maismore Arms, Park-road, Peckham.

Stanhope, Thicket Hot., Anerley.

Finsbury Park, Finsbury Park Tav., Seven Sisters'-rd.

Southwark, Southwark Park Tav., Southwark Park.

Duke of Connaught, Havelock Tav., Dalston, E.

United Strength, Grafton Arms, Kentish-town.

Islington, Crown and Cushion, London Wall.

Whittington, Black Bull Tav., Holborn.

Lewis, King's Arms Hot., Wood Green.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 17.

Lodge 1227, Upton, Spotted Dog Tav., Upton.

" 1320, Blackheath, Crown Hot., Blackheath.

" 1339, Stockwell, Half Moon Tav., Herne Hill.

Chap. 742, Crystal Palace, Clarendon Hot., Anerley.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Egyptian, Hercules Tav., Leadenhall-st.

Fidelity, Yorkshire Grey, London-st., W.

Finsbury, Jolly Anglers' Tav., Bath-st., City-road.

Temperance in the East, Catherine-st., Poplar.

Ebury, 12, Ponsonby-st., Milbank.

Highgate, Bull and Gate, Kentish-town.

The Great City, 111, Cheapside.

High Cross, Coach & Horses, High-road, Tottenham.

Salisbury, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.

Marquis of Ripon, Albion Tav., Albany-rd., Dalston.

Prince Frederick William Chapter, St. John's Wood.

Southern Star, Crown Hot., Blackfriars-rd.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 18.

House Com., Boys' School, at 4.

Lodge 975, Rose of Denmark, White Hart Hot., Barnes.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Union Waterloo, Thomas-st., Woolwich.

Robert Burns, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.

Belgrave, Lyceum Tav., 354, Strand.

Unions Emulation (for M.M.'s), F.M.H.

Temperance, Victoria Tav., Victoria-road, Deptford.

Clapton, White Hart, Clapton.

Metropolitan, Portugal Hot., Fleet-st.

Westbourne, Horse & Groom, Winsley-st., Oxford-st.

United Pilgrims, Surrey M.H., Camberwell New-road.

St. James's, New Tanners' Arms, Grange-rd., Bermondsey.

Duke of Edinburgh, Silver Lion, Penny-fields, Poplar.

Doric, Earl Grey Tav., Mile-end-road.

Burgoyne, Grafton Arms, Prince of Wales's-road, N.W.

St. Luke's, White Hart, King's-rd., Chelsea.

Chigwell, Bald-faced Stag Hot., Buckhurst-hill.

Burdett Coutts, Approach Tav., Victoria Park.

Royal Standard, Finsbury Park Tav., Holloway.

Ranelagh, Clarendon Hot., Hammersmith.

Pythagorean Chapter, Prince of Orange, Greenwich-rd.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN WEST LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE.

For the Week ending Saturday August 19, 1876.

MONDAY, AUGUST 14.

Lodge 314, Peace and Unity, Militia Mess R., Preston.

" 1021, Hartington, H.M., C.H.B., B.-in-Furness.

" 1350, Fernor Hesketh, M.H., Liverpool.

" 1398, Baldwin Castle, Dalton-in-Furness.

" 1496, Trafford, Northumberland Hot., Old Trafford.

Derby L. of I., 724, M.H., Liverpool.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 15.

Lodge 667, Alliance, M.H., Liverpool.

" 1225, Hindpool, Hartington Hot., Barrow.

" 1276, Warren, Stanley Arms Hot., Seacombe.

" 1325, Stanley, M.H., Kirkdale, Liverpool.

" 1570, Prince Arthur, 80, N. Hill-st., Liverpool.

Chap. 605, De Tabley, Seacombe Hot., Seacombe.

Lodge of I., 241, M.H., Liverpool.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 16.

Lodge 823, Everton, M.H., Liverpool.

" 1086, Walton, St. Lawrence's School, Liverpool.

" 1345, Victoria, Cross Keys Hot., Eccles.

" 1353, Duke of Lancaster, Athenæum, Lancaster.

De Grey and Ripon L. of I., 80, N. Hill-st., Liverpool.

Harmonic L. of I., Mona Hot., Jamaica-st., Liverpool.

Downshire L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 17.

Lodge 203, Ancient Union, M.H., Liverpool.

" 343, Concord, Militia Mess R., Preston.

" 425, Cestrian, M.H., Chester.

" 605, Combermere, Seacombe Hot., Seacombe.

" 1299, Pembroke, Rawlinson's Hot., West Derby.

St. John's L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 18.

Duke of Edinburgh, L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN GLASGOW AND WEST OF SCOTLAND.

For the Week ending Saturday, August 19, 1876.

All the Meetings take place at Eight o'clock.

MONDAY, AUGUST 14.

Lodge 102, St. Mark, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.

" 204, St. Paul, George Inn, Ayr.

" 205, Garthland St. Winnoch, Eagle, Lochwinnoch.

" 219, Star, 12, Tron-gate, Glasgow.

" 307, Union and Crown, M.H., Barrhead.

" 362, St. Clair, 25, Robertson-st., Glasgow.

" 384, Athole, Washington Hot., Kirkinulloch.

" 593, St. George, M.H., Helensburgh.

" 541, Marie Stuart, M.H., Crosshill.

Chap. 76, Abbey, 8, High-st., Paisley.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 15.

Lodge 437, Govandale, Portland Buildings, Govan.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 16.

Lodge 117, St. Mary, M.H., Douglas-st., Partick.

" 571, Dramatic, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.

Chap. 150, Shettleston, M.H., Shettleston.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 17.

Lodge 27, St. Mungo, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.

" 31, St. Mary's Coltness, Com. Hot., Wishaw.

" 321, St. Andrew, R.A., Public Hall, Alexandria.

" 471, St. John, Stane Inn, Shots.

" 496, St. Munn, Ardnadam, Kilmun.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 19.

Lodge 512, Thorntree, School House, Thornliebank.

" 524, St. Andrew, M.H., East Kilbride.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN EDINBURGH AND VICINITY.

For the Week ending Saturday, August 19, 1876.

MONDAY, AUGUST 14.

Lodge 145, St. Stephen, St. James's Hall, Writers' Court.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 15.

Lodge 36, St. David, Ship Hot., East Register-st.

" 405, Rifle, F.M.H., 98, George-st.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 16.

Lodge 160, Roman Eagle, 62, Nicholson-st.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 17.

Lodge 48, St. Andrew, F.M.H., 98, George-st.

" 226, Portobello, Town Hall, Portobello.

Chap. 152, Perseverance, 86, Constitution-st.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 18.

Chap. 83, St. Andrew, F.M.H., 98, George-st.

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REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS.

Craft Masonry.

MARQUESS OF RIPON LODGE (No. 1489).—A regular meeting of this flourishing lodge was held on Friday week at the Metropolitan Societies Asylum, Balls Pond, Dalston. Bro. Wm. Stephens (in the unavoidable absence of the W.M., Bro. Murlis) opened the lodge. There were also present Bros. Jessett, S.W.; E. J. Wallford, J.W.; Jones, Sec.; High, S.D.; Dr. Symonds, J.D.; H. Miller, I.G.; Glaskin, D.C.; and William Grist, Steward. The visitors were Bros. Easton, of the United States; Bingemann, P.M. 55 and W.M. 1599; Stansfield, 526 and 594; and Stiles, 1507. Bro. Stephens then solicited Bro. Jones, P.M. 445, to perform the ceremony of raising, three of the candidates being Bro. Jones's intimate friends. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed, and Bros. Haynes, Brewster, Clayson, and Brandon raised to the degree of a M.M. in a most impressive manner. Bro. Murlis then arrived and finished the work, initiating Mr. B. G. Poulton into the mysteries of the Craft. This being the annual period of election, the S.W. was unanimously chosen W.M. for the ensuing year, showing the excellent feeling existing in the lodge towards the senior officer. The Treasurer and Tyler were also unanimously re-elected, and a P.M.'s jewel of the value of 7½ guineas voted by the brethren to the retiring W.M. The lodge was then closed, and adjourned to Friday, the 6th of October. Cold collation followed, and on the removal of the cloth the usual loyal and Masonic toasts proposed and duly honoured. Bros. Coard, Grist, and Jessett contributed to the harmony of the evening, which was of a most pleasurable character.

COLCHESTER.—Angel Lodge (No. 51).—The annual meeting of the members of this lodge took place on the 10th inst. It was anticipated that the ceremony of installing Bro. G. Gard Pye (W.M. Star in the East, Harwich, and P.P.G.S. of "W.") would have been performed by Bro. F. A. Philbrick, G.C., P.J.G.W., but in consequence of a domestic bereavement he was unable to be present, and in his stead Bro. F. Binckes, P.G.S., officiated in a very impressive manner. The Worshipful Master then highly complimented his predecessor, Bro. Alfred Welch, P.J.G.W., for his efficient management of the lodge in the past year, and appointed him I.P.M. The other appointments were as follows:—Bros. S. W. Crookes, S.W.; T. T. Balling, J.W.; W. S. Sprent, P.P.G. Swd, Br., Sec.; A. Cobb, P.M., Treas.; Harris, S.D.; J. Hanly, J.D.; W. Brightwell, I.G.; Gunner, Tyler; G. Mercer, and W. H. Abilt, Stds. A large party of brethren afterwards dined at the Three Cups Hotel, under the presidency of the W.M., Bro. Pye. In the course of the evening "The Health of the Newly-appointed W.M." was proposed by Bro. Carr, P.G.S., and was duly honoured. "The Health of the Installing Master" having been proposed, Bro. Binckes, in reply, remarked that Bro. Pye must be gifted with unusually high qualifications to merit the honour of being three times elected within the year to fill the highest position in two lodges, namely, Worshipful Master of the Star in the East, Harwich, W.M. of Angel Lodge, and within the present week re-elected as W.M. of the Harwich Lodge. The other toasts included "The Most Worshipful the Grand Master, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales;" "The Pro Grand Master, Lord Carnarvon, the Deputy G.M., Lord Skelmersdale, and the Grand Officers, Past and Present," responded to by Bro. Binckes; "The Provincial Grand Master for Essex, the Right Worshipful Bro. R. J. Bagshaw;" the Deputy Past Grand Master, Bro. M. E. Clark, and the P.G. Officers," responded to by Bro. John Wright Carr, Provincial Grand Secretary, &c. A well arranged programme of music was admirably carried out by Bros. T. M. Bear, S. Chaplain, A. R. Staines, and J. J. C. Turner. Bros. C. Winterbon and J. J. C. Turner alternately presided at the pianoforte. Amongst those also present during the day's proceedings were the following:—Past Masters and Visitors A. E. Church, A. Cobb, Thomas Rix, C. Cobb, R. Richie, W. P. Lewis, and F. A. Cole; J. H. Staddon, W.M. Perfect Friendship; W. Bobby, W.M. British Union; N. Tracy, P.M., P.P.G.J.W. Suffolk; G. N. Godwin, British Union; R. Ellidson, P.P.G.R. Essex; J. E. Wiseman, P.M. 433; A. Aldous, S.W. 433; J. Richardson, P.M. 433; R. C. Athill; G. Harvey, S.D.; John Dean, W.M.; John Rowland, P.M.; F. Wiseman, P.M.; E. Crate, P.M.; United, &c.

MIDDLETON.—Imperial George Lodge (No. 78).—On Saturday afternoon, 5th inst., the cere-

mony of laying the corner-stone of the St. Thomas School Church, Bowlee, near Middleton, took place with full Masonic honours. Bro. George Mellor, the Right Worshipful Deputy Provincial Grand Master of East Lancashire, assisted by his officers, performed the ceremony. The brethren assembled at All Saints' School, Rhodes, where a lodge was opened for the occasion, under the warrant of the Imperial George Lodge (78), at 1.50 p.m., by the Worshipful Master, Bro. David Reid, after which the Provincial Grand Officers were announced, and were received in the lodge with grand honours, and having been inducted to their respective positions, Bro. George Mellor, R.W.D.P.G.M. of the province, adjourned the lodge, after which the brethren were marshalled by Bro. J. H. Sillitoe, A.P.G.D.C., assisted by Bro. John Wood, P.M., D.C. 78. The cortege was headed by the congregation and school children of Bowlee and of All Saints', Rhodes, accompanied by two bands, then followed the choir and clergy, the Masonic body completing the procession. Wending their way to the site of the new school church, the choir sang the hymn: "Onward Christian Soldiers," and on nearing the site the brethren having opened out and faced inwards, the R.W.D.P.G.M. and others who were to assist in the ceremony, preceded by the Volume of the Sacred Law, carried by four Lewises, walked through to the platform prepared for them. The choir then sang that heart-stirring hymn "All people that on earth do dwell," after which Bro. Alfred Salts, LL.D., P.G.C. of East Lancashire, offered prayer; which was followed by the anthem "Oh, how amiable are Thy dwellings." Bro. the Rev. Theodore M. Owen, Vicar of Rhodes, and late Chaplain of 78, then in a very applicable address on behalf of the subscribers, presented to the R.W.D.P.G.M., Bro. Mellor, a silver trowel. During the time occupied in lowering the stone to its appointed place, the anthem "Lord of all power and might" was sung. The plumb rule, level, and square were next applied, and the R.W.D.P.G.M. having tested the stone with his mallet, pronounced it well and truly laid. The choir then sang the anthem "I will lift up mine eyes to the hills." The plans of the building were then presented and approved. Corn, wine, and oil were then poured upon the stone, the Provincial Grand Chaplain reading a passage of Scripture dealing with the application of each. Bro. Mellor, R.W.D.P.G.M., next addressed the assembly, in language appropriate, after which the last anthem was sung, "Behold how good and joyful a thing it is for brethren to dwell together in unity." The Masonic body, together with the public, then contributed to the building fund, and the P.G.C. having pronounced a blessing, the brethren again formed in procession and returned to All Saints' School, Rhodes, where the lodge was closed by the R.W.D.P.G.M. The brethren then retired to a cold collation, the R.W.D.P.G.M. presiding. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and enthusiastically received. Speeches were made by the D.P.G.M. and several of his officers; also by two officers of the Imperial George, viz., Bros. David Reid, W.M., and Harvey Heywood, P.M. and Treas. The toast of "The Visitors" was ably acknowledged by Bro. Councillor Ben Brierley, the editor of "Ben Brierley's Journal." After a few remarks by Bro. the Rev. T. M. Owen, and others, the assembly separated, all apparently satisfied with the good work done—"another corner stone." The brethren present at the ceremony were as follows:—Bros. George Mellor, R.W.D.P.G.M.; S. D. Lees, M.D., P.P.S.G.W.; J. G. Smith, P.P.G.J.W.; Alfred Salts, LL.D., P.G.C.; T. J. Hooper, P.G.T.; S. G. Cheetham, P.P.G.T.; J. Tunnah, P.G. Sec.; T. J. Lancashire, P.P.G.S.D.; J. Holmes, P.P.G.J.D.; J. H. Sillitoe, A.P.G.D.C.; Wm. Greatrix, P.P.G.P.; Wm. Roberts, P.P.G.P.; David Reid, W.M. 78; Geo. Bradbury, S.W. 78; J. W. Percival, J.W. 78; H. Heywood, P.M. and Treas.; Jno. Wood, P.M., D.C.; Jno. Dyson, P.M.; Jno. Garlick, P.M.; S. H. Cheetham, P.M.; Samuel Lawton, S.D.; W. S. Clark, M.M.; W. Grimshaw, M.M.; J. B. Howard, M.M.; Wm. Jones, M.M.; C. W. Mills, M.M.; D. Ridley, M.M.; J. W. Lees, M.M.; J. E. Iliff, M.M.; John Kent, Tyler. Visitors: Bros. Rev. T. M. Owen, P.C. 78; R. T. Bowden, P.G.S. of Works, Cheshire; Joseph Sneyd, M.M. 29; R. Gorton, P.M. 266; J. Hardman, P.M. 266; J. Burrows, Sec. 268; John Turner, S.W. 287; J. Kershaw, W.M. 300; J. Peak, J.W. 300; J. C. Bowman, S.D. 300; J. Kinsey, M.M. 324; J. K. Oldham, M.M. 324; Henry Hayes, M.M. 1000; Ben, Brierley, 1077; Robt. Davies, Sec. 1387; E. J. Butterworth, M.M. A brief descriptive account of the school church will doubtless be interesting. It will consist of one large room, for church and school purposes; the interior of which will be 35 feet by 21 feet. There will be a small chancel and an east window of coloured glass, a class-room 15 feet by 13 feet, and a cloak-room and lavatory. The land was presented by the Earl of Wilton, together with a handsome donation towards the cost of the erection of the building, which will be about £700, of which amount £550 has been subscribed. The building is expected to seat about 120 persons.

BOLTON.—St. John's Lodge (No. 221).—The second fete champetre of the members of this lodge with their friends took place on Thursday, the 2nd inst., when a large party assembled at the London and North-Western Railway Station at Bolton, en route to Huyton Station, thence conveyed by waggons to Knowsley Hall, the seat of the Earl of Derby, who had generously placed the grounds at the disposal of the brethren for the day, and also given permission to view the magnificent library and inspect the rare and valuable historic pictures which adorn this princely mansion. The Bolton brethren felt much interest in many of the portraits, more so in that of James, seventh Earl, whose death on the scaffold at Bolton in 1651 forms a melancholy epoch in the history of that period. The portrait of the courageous Condé who defended Lathom House whilst her husband was supporting the for-

tunes of his monarch was also the subject of considerable interest. The brethren were most courteously received by Mr. Moults, the steward to the Earl, and were much indebted for his kindness in assisting in every way to make the visit agreeable and enjoyable. Luncheon was served at the Hall, as the weather appeared threatening to be stormy, and having done justice to the viands and expressed gratitude to the noble owner of the mansion for his kindness. The party proceeded to promenade the grounds, and inspect the various places of importance. The gardens, the extensive stabling, and array of carriages, &c., were minutely examined, and the vast cellarage with its contents of nut brown ale, enough to satisfy the cravings of a moderately sized city, were carefully looked through and their contents critically tested. The party being now pretty nearly ready for the return journey the vehicles were again brought into requisition, and driven into the Royal Hotel, Prescott, where the fostering hands of the W.M. and D.C. had directed the preparation of suitable provision for the wants of the brethren and ladies. Music after tea enlivened the proceedings. Some brethren adjourned to the bowling green and others to visit the church and cemetery grounds, from which place is obtained perhaps one of the most beautiful views of the country in this county. At about 6.30 p.m. the party were again driven to Huyton Station, from which place the train conveyed them so far as Kenyon Junction. The train was express from one roadside station to another, from Huyton and Kenyon, at which place it became very special, for at this most melancholy spot the unfortunate inmates of the carriages were shunted on to the Bolton line, and there left "to wither and decay," the rain falling heavily, the night dark, and not a habitation to be seen to enliven the gloom. The Chester train arriving at last, the homeward journey was again begun, and after some more express train running and an amusing shunting up and down somewhere in the locality of Chawthorn and Chequerbent, we finally espied Daubhill as a harbour of refuge, and having duly satisfied the ticket collectors, were again permitted to move and finally enter Bolton, dismally tired, hungry, and worn out. The admirable arrangements of the railway, which enabled us in the morning, when all was fine, to reach a station in an hour, and then at night, when all was dark and dreary (carriages without lamps, until strongly urged for at Kenyon), to enable us to return home in so short a period as three hours, is a surprising specimen of the skill and assiduity with which these caterers for the public constantly study their interests and comfort, and is another proof how wisely Parliament punished the audacity of conspirators and promoters of direct lines, or "junctions," who tried to injure existing companies' interest by pandering to the follies of people of obscure places like this, who expect to have privileges equal to those conferred on towns of the magnitude of Bury, and cities of equal importance. A relative of Mrs. Sarah Gamp, who was present with an offspring of her umbrella, has volunteered to walk at the next picnic, in order to save time, in preference to a L. and N.W. journey.

LANCASTER.—Lodge of Fortitude (No. 281).—The monthly meeting of this lodge was held in the Masonic Rooms, Athenæum, on the 9th inst., the chair of King Solomon being occupied by Bro. Thomas Atkinson, the W.M. The lodge was opened in the First Degree with solemn prayer, and the minutes of previous meeting read and confirmed. Bro. A. K. Allison was unanimously elected a re-joining member, and afterwards elected as Tyler in the room of Bro. Watson, deceased. There being no other business, the usual proclamations were made, which elicited hearty good wishes from the visiting brethren, and the lodge was then closed in peace, love, and harmony.

GRAHAMSTOWN (Cape of Good Hope).—Albany Lodge (No. 389).—The brethren of this ancient lodge met at their new temple on St. John's Day, 24th June, at five o'clock p.m., for the installation of the Worshipful Master. Bro. W. Wedderburn was installed as Worshipful Master for the ensuing term by Past Masters Bros. O. Lester, P. H. Solomon, and A. S. Dudley. The customary honours having been bestowed upon the newly-elected Master by the large number of brethren present, he proceeded to invest the following brethren as officers for 1876-77:—Bros. O. Lester, I.P.M.; J. R. Norton, S.W.; J. Quait, J.W.; Rev. Dr. Ross, Chaplain; W. A. Smith, Treasurer; J. Vialls, Secretary; A. Will, S.D.; C. R. Jones, J.D.; E. C. Goodwin and H. Richmond, Stewards; F. E. Orren, I.G.; G. Shaw, Tyler. Previous to the installation of officers, Bro. O. Lester, I.P.M., was presented with a magnificent Past Master's jewel, and also with an address, engrossed by Bro. J. Vialls, Secretary of the Albany Lodge.

GRAHAMSTOWN (Cape of Good Hope).—St. John's Lodge (No. 828).—On Saturday, 24th June (St. John's Day), the installation of officers for the ensuing Masonic year took place in their lodge-room at twelve o'clock, noon, the Installing Officers being Past Masters Bros. A. S. Dudley, W. Waller, R. Mundy, and P. H. Solomon, who duly invested the presiding Master elect, Bro. Dr. E. Atherstone, with the badge of his office. The brethren having saluted the chair in ancient form, the Worshipful Master invested the following brethren as officers for the ensuing year:—Bros. A. S. Dudley, I.P.M.; T. Middleton, S.W.; F. W. Hepburn, J.W.; P. H. Solomon, Treas.; C. W. Black, Sec.; Jas. Stanton, S.D.; B. E. Cawood, J.D.; Coe, I.G.; A. Will, Tyler; A. Winny, Organist; Rev. Dr. Ross, Chaplain.

LANCASTER.—Rowley Lodge (No. 1051).—An emergency meeting of this lodge was held on the 7th inst. in the Masonic Room, Athenæum, Bro. H. Longman, W.M., presiding. There was only a small attendance of members and visiting brethren on account of the day being a Bank Holiday. The lodge was opened in

the First Degree with solemn prayer. Bros. Chippendall and Jackson having shown proficiency as Entered Apprentices, retired, when the lodge was opened in the Second Degree. Bro. Chippendall was then re-admitted and passed to the degree of Fellow Craft, and afterwards Bro. Jackson was also passed to the same degree. This being all the business, the lodge was closed with the peculiarities of the Craft.

KOWIE (Cape of Good Hope).—Port Alfred Lodge (No. 1468).—The installation of officers for this lodge for the ensuing year was held in the lodge-room, Kowie West, on the 24th June, when the following were invested by Bro. A. N. Street, the W. Master, who was previously installed by Bro. P. M. Jarvis, and that veteran P. M. Bro. R. Currin, of the Albany Lodge, No. 389:—Bros. G. E. Jarvis, I. P. M.; R. Currin, jun., S. W.; Aitchinson, J. W.; Bezant, Treas.; Wagner, Sec.; Garde, S. D.; Taylor, J. D.; Higham, I. G.; Hoyle, Tyler. After saluting the chair according to ancient custom, the lodge was closed in due form.

HAMPTON.—Lebanon Lodge (No. 1326).—An emergency meeting of this prosperous lodge was held at the Red Lion Hotel, Hampton, on Thursday, August 10th. Bro. E. Gilbert, W. M., presided. He, in an able manner, passed Bros. W. T. Trehearne and W. Blakeley to the Second Degree. The ballot was unanimous in favour of the admission of all the candidates for initiation. There were present Bros. B. Sharp, P. M.; F. Walters, P. G. J. D. Middlesex, P. M., Sec.; J. W. Baldwin, P. M., I. G.; J. B. Shackleton, J. D.; J. J. Marsh, J. R. Croft, D. Steinhauer, J. T. Adams, G. Harrison, and others. The only visitor was Bro. E. Hopwood, P. M. 141, W. M. 1512. There was not any banquet or refreshment.

MORECAMBE.—Morecambe Lodge (No. 1561).—The monthly meeting of this lodge was held in the Masonic Room, Morecambe-street, on the 4th inst., Bro. H. Longman, W. M. 1051, occupying the chair of K. S. in the unavoidable absence of Bro. Capt. Garnett, W. M. The lodge having been opened in the First Degree with solemn prayer, Bro. Robert Wilkinson gave proof of his proficiency as an Entered Apprentice, and was entrusted and retired. The lodge having been opened in the Second Degree, Bro. Wilkinson was re-admitted and passed to the Degree of Fellow Craft. The lodge was then closed down to the First Degree, and the usual proclamations having been made, and hearty good wishes tendered by the visiting brethren, the lodge closed in peace, love, and harmony.

Royal Arch.

SOUTHEND.—Priory Chapter (No. 1000).—The regular convocation of this chapter was held at the Middleton Hotel, Southend, on Wednesday, the 9th inst. Present: Comps. Rev. S. R. Wigram, I. P. Z., G. 1st Assist. Soj., as Z.; A. Lucking, H.; J. C. Johnstone, P. Z. 20 (I. C.), as J.; (the M. E. Z., Dr. E. E. Phillips, and J. A. Wardell, J., being unavoidably absent); S. J. Weston, Treas.; W. Pissey, Scribe N.; Jas. Willing, jun., Prin. Soj.; F. Cahow, Thos. Williams, E. Judd, Hales, and E. Eltham. Visitor: Comp. Capt. De L. Anderson. The chapter having been opened, and the minutes of the previous meeting read and confirmed, the ballot was taken for several brethren for exaltation, of whom there were present Bros. W. B. Belliss and H. Sullivan, who were exalted by the acting M. E. Z. in his usual faultless style. Comp. A. Lucking delivered the lectures of the 2nd and 3rd chairs. Comp. A. Lucking then, pursuant to notice of motion, proposed that the days of meeting be altered from the 2nd to the 3rd Wednesday in the months of May, August, November and February, which being seconded, and put to the meeting, was carried unanimously. The chapter was then closed, and the companions adjourned to refreshment. The usual toasts were given and duly honoured, the Janitor's toast bringing the proceedings to a close.

HAMPTON.—Lebanon Chapter (No. 1326).—The regular meeting of this well-established chapter took place at the Red Lion Hotel, Hampton, on Thursday, August 10th. Comp. B. Sharp, P. Z., as M. E. Z.; F. Walters, P. Z., P. G. First A. S. Middlesex, as H.; and J. W. Baldwin, H. 73, as J., opened the chapter. The companions were admitted. The minutes of the last regular convocation were read and unanimously confirmed. A Board of Installed Principals was formed. Comp. F. Walters, P. Z., &c., installed Comp. E. Hopwood as J. The board was closed, and the companions were re-admitted. Comp. F. Walters, P. Z., proposed that the best thanks of the chapter were due and be given to Comp. Edwin Gilbert, S. N., for his liberality in presenting the chapter with a beautiful twenty-guinea sword of superb workmanship, a set of life lines, a magnificent trowel, a handsome chisel, and an expensively bound Bible, which Comp. E. Hopwood, J., seconded, and it was carried unanimously. Some candidates were proposed for initiation, and the chapter was closed. There were present also Comps. J. B. Shackleton, D. C.; J. R. Croft, and others. Visitor: J. W. Baldwin, H. 73, &c.

INSTRUCTION.

DOMATIC CHAPTER (No. 177).—A very enjoyable evening was spent by a large number of companions of this chapter on Wednesday week, at Air-street, Piccadilly, Comps. Wheeler filling the office of Z.; Bull, H.; Dicketts, T.; and Haslett, P. S. The usual ceremony was ably worked, after which Comp. John Boyd gave the explanation of the R. A. jewel, and the business of the evening was brought to a conclusion by the companions assisting Comp. Boyd to work a portion of the sections. We believe there was no member of the parent chapter present, but No. 145 was represented by no less than seven of its members.

Scotland.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Scotia (No. 178).—A meeting of this lodge was held on Wednesday evening, the 9th inst., in the Masonic Hall, 12, Trongate, Bro. Wm. Hart, W. M., presiding; Bros. J. Matheson, P. M.; W. Higgins, D. M.; J. Logan, S. M.; P. Hepburn, S. W.; A. Mercer, J. W.; W. King, sen., Treas.; H. Killin, Sec.; and others. Visitors: R. Prout, W. M. 4; G. Holmes, S. W. 4; John Morgan, W. M. 219; D. Ronald, W. M. 275; Dr. McInnes, S. W. 27; W. Ferguson, P. M. 543 ("Freemason"); G. Muir, P. D. M. 103; J. Henry, J. W. 581; R. Mathieson, Kingston, U. S. America; and others. On the lodge being opened M. J. Murray was initiated by the W. M., for Lodge Glasgow Kilwinning, No. 4. Bro. Prout, W. M. 4, returned thanks to the Master and members of Lodge Scotia for the obligation. Thereafter Bros. Dougan and Dunmoodie were passed Fellow Crafts by Bro. Matheson, P. M.

GLASGOW.—Lodge St. George (No. 333).—The usual monthly meeting of this lodge was held in St. Mark's Hall, on Wednesday evening, the 9th inst., Bro. A. Thomson, W. M., in the chair; Bros. John Winton, I. P. M.; James Findlay, S. M.; J. Tweedie, acting S. W.; J. B. Hardie, acting J. W.; A. McIntyre, Sec.; and others. The lodge having been opened on the E. A. Degree the Secretary read minutes of last meeting, which were approved. Mr. John Gibson was initiated into Freemasonry by Bro. James Findlay, S. W. There being no further business the lodge was closed in due form.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Athole (No. 413).—The monthly meeting of this lodge was held in St. Mark's Hall, 213, Buchanan-street, on Tuesday evening, 8th inst., Bro. J. Louttit, W. M., presiding; Daniel Leeds, S. W.; Andrew Holmes, J. W. The W. M. was supported on the dais by Bros. John Miller, P. M., P. G. Dir. of Mus.; W. Neilson, D. M.; J. Baikie, S. M.; Peter Agnew, Treas.; J. Booth, W. M. Lodge Thistle, 87; W. Ferguson, I. P. M. Lodge Royal Arch, 116; and W. Ferguson, I. P. M. Lodge St. John, 543. On the lodge being opened, the minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed. Bro. J. Craig was elected a joining member, and obligated by the W. M. Bro. T. S. Brown was passed by Bro. Louttit, W. M., on behalf of Lodge Clyde, No. 408, and afterwards a brother was raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason by Bro. Miller, P. M., P. G. Dir. of Mus.

GLASGOW.—Lodge St. Vincent (No. 553).—A meeting of this lodge was held in the hall, 162, Kent-road, on Thursday evening, the 10th inst., Bro. R. Macdougall, W. M., presiding; Best, J. W., acting S. W.; Paxton, acting J. W.; and a full attendance of members. The principal business before the meeting was to consider the advisability of removing to more commodious premises, in terms of a motion made at last meeting by Bro. M. Stark, P. D. M. On the motion being put it was carried unanimously, and a committee was then appointed to meet and make arrangements with Bro. Macdougall, the W. M., who has converted a tenement into a hall, opposite Kelvingrove-street, in Dumbarton-road, which will be one of the finest Masonic halls in the province, the side-room accommodation being everything that could be desired, all the seats and chairs being got up in the most elaborate and fashionable style. The lodge was then closed, when all were invited to inspect the new hall, which offer was accepted.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Plantation (No. 581).—A largely attended meeting of this young and prosperous lodge was held on Monday evening, the 7th inst., in the Masonic Hall, Craigiehall-street, Plantation, Bro. Thomas Stobo, W. M., in the chair; J. M. Oliver, S. W. 360, acting S. W.; J. Henry, J. W.; W. Ferguson, D. M.; Alex. Gow, S. M.; W. Taylor, Treas.; R. Allan, Sec.; A. Imrie, S. D.; T. Paterson, I. G.; and Cumming, Tyler. Bro. A. Lindsay was passed by Bro. Oliver, S. W. 360, in his usual careful manner. The lodge was then opened in the Third Degree, when Bros. Capt. D. Young, T. Lindsay, and James Smith were raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason by Bro. W. Ferguson, D. M., P. M. 543.

Multum in Parvo; or Masonic Notes and Queries.

BRANDT, THE INDIAN CHIEF, A FREEMASON.

In a foot-note to page 237 of "A Narrative of the Anti-Masonic Excitement in the Western Part of the State of New York, during the years 1826, '7, '8, and a Part of 1829," by Henry Brown, Esq., Counsellor at Law, Batavia, N. Y., Printed by Adams and McCleary, 1829, it is stated:—"At the battle of the Cedars, about thirty miles from Montreal, on the St. Lawrence, Capt. M'Kinstry, of Col. Patterson's regiment of Continental troops, was twice wounded, and taken prisoner by the Indians. His intrepidity as a partisan officer had excited the fears and unforgiving resentment of the savages, who determined to put him to death. Already had the victim been bound to the tree, and surrounded by the faggots intended for his immolation. Hope had fled, and in the agony of despair he uttered the last mystic appeal of a Mason, when, as if Heaven had interposed for his preservation, the warrior Brandt understood and saved him. Brandt had been educated in Europe, and was there made a Mason. Capt. M'Kinley died in June, 1822."—"Tweddell's Middlebrough Miscellany."

METROPOLITAN WORKING MEN'S CLUBS.—Lord Salisbury has consented, at the request of the Working Men's Club and Institute Union, to permit the London Workmen's Clubs affiliated to that society to hold their annual fête in Hatfield Park on Monday next, and inspect the art treasures of Hatfield House.

BRITISH ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION.—On the 14th inst. this association commenced its 33rd annual congress, under the patronage and presidency of the Prince of Wales and Bro. the Earl of Mount Edgumbe, who has been entertaining some of its leading members, Lord Houghton, the Marquis of Hertford, Mr. Planché, and others, during the last two or three days at Mount Edgumbe. The programme of the proceedings of the Congress has just been issued, and all that we can do today is to give an outline of the arrangements of the week. On Monday Lord Mount Edgumbe, as president, was to receive the members and other visitors at his ancient family seat of Cothel, whither they were to be conveyed at an early hour by steamer from their rallying point, Plymouth. The company having inspected the chief rooms of Cothel, were to assemble in the ancient hall, where Lord Mount Edgumbe would give a short account of Cothel and its historic monuments and associations, the architectural features of the house being described in detail by Mr. E. Brock, F. S. A., one of the honorary secretaries of the association. The company were then to visit the memorial chapel in the grounds (the scene of a romantic and well-known legend) and return in the steamer to Saltash for Bodmin, where they were to dine, the Mayor and Corporation receiving them in due form, and Lord Mount Edgumbe was to deliver his inaugural address, other papers being read by the Rev. W. Iago, B. A., "On the Antiquities of Bodmin," and by J. R. Planché ("Somerset Herald") "On the Ancient Earls of Cornwall." Tuesday is to be devoted to an expedition to Tintagel and Lanteglos; and Wednesday to another to Restormel, Llanhydrck, Lostwithiel, and St. Neot's. On Thursday the Association will visit Launceston, where they will be received by the Mayor, returning in the evening to Bodmin. On Friday the Association will go on by train to Truro, where they will be entertained by an exhibition of antiquities at the Royal Institution of Cornwall. Saturday is to be devoted to an excursion to Penzance, the Land's End, and St. Buryan's Church, with visits to sundry monoliths and underground structures in the neighbourhood. On each evening of the week there will be a conversazione either at Bodmin, Truro, or Penzance. For the following week the programme is not as yet quite settled; but in all probability the Monday and Tuesday will be fully occupied by expeditions to St. Just, Chywoone Castle, and St. Michael's Mount, where Sir John St. Aubyn, M. P., has promised to receive and entertain them. If the fine weather should continue, in all probability some other visits to the cromlechs, inscribed stones, and ancient churches of that district will be arranged. It is intended at each evening conversazione that at least one paper shall be read on a subject of local antiquarian interest, and ladies are especially invited to these meetings. Upwards of a hundred antiquarian gentlemen and ladies have already joined the Congress, so that the honorary secretaries have no lack of work before them. A programme is to be issued every day to each visitor, containing full and precise directions, in order to prevent the occurrence of mistakes. The Great Western and South-Western Railways have given every facility to those who join the Congress by allowing the holders of tourist tickets, on presenting their Congress ticket, also to break their journey at the various intermediate stations.

HISTORICAL FALLACIES.—Mr. J. Creagh writes to the "Times": "Mr. Ashley (as reported in the 'Times') is said to have stated in the House of Commons:—'The ruling Turk has not, in fact, changed since the time when the streets of Alexandria were strewn with the books of the Alexandria Library, and when the Caliph Omar exclaimed, 'If these books are in favour of the Koran they are unnecessary, and if they are contrary to the Koran they are mischievous; and so burn them all.' The Turk has not changed in his views of the Koran from that day to this. Such accusations against the founders and propagators of the Prophet's religion are, I represent, without historical foundation, and they are altogether contrary to the testimony of the most learned writers. The Library at Alexandria was destroyed by fanatic Christians nearly 330 years before the capture of that city by Amrou and the Arabs; while the only evidence for attributing this wanton destruction to the Moslem conquerors of Egypt is the report of a stranger who wrote 600 years after the event which he professes to describe. The Mussulman religion positively forbids the burning of any book containing even the name of God; and it permits all historical, scientific, or philosophical compositions, whether the work of Jews or Christians, to be applied to the service of useful investigation. Many profane treatises, including the celebrated Geography of Ptolemy, were translated into Arabic for the use of Mahomedans; and it is to the shamefully-traduced forerunners of these 'benighted Turks' that we are indebted for the application of those geometrical principles and astronomical observations displaying the figure and dimensions of the terrestrial globe, and 'which Europe (in the words of the Rev. Dr. Robertson) in more enlightened times, has been proud to adopt and to imitate.'"

The dignity of a Baronet of the United Kingdom to Sir Richard Temple, of The Nash, in the parish of Kempsey, in the county of Worcester, K. C. S. L., Lieutenant-Governor of the Bengal Provinces of Fort William, is gazetted.

The heat in Spain is fearful, and exceeds any recorded since 1800. In Madrid there are hundreds of persons sleeping on the roofs of houses and in balconies. In Seville people sleep in open streets. The temperature marks 101 in shady rooms. Madrid is wholly deserted and its streets are silent. A telegram adds that the heat in Andalusia has been at 113 Fahrenheit in the shade (!), and forty field labourers have died at Seville of sunstroke or apoplexy. The vines are falling owing to the scorching heat.

ROYAL KENSINGTON LODGE.

The consecration of the Royal Kensington Lodge took place at Freemasons' Hall, on Friday, the 11th inst., when both the ceremonies of consecration and installation were performed by V.W. Bro. Hyde Pullen, P.G.S.B., P.D.P. G.M., who had been appointed for the purpose by the M. W. Grand Master, assisted by W. Bro. H. G. Buss, Prov. G.J.W. Middlesex, as Director of Ceremonies, by the Rev. Bro. A. W. Hall, P.S.G.W. Surrey, as Chaplain, and other brethren. It is unnecessary to say that the ceremonies were performed in a most impressive manner, as Bro. Hyde Pullen, it is well-known, makes one of the ablest consecrating Masters. Suffice it is to say that after opening the lodge in the three degrees, the Presiding Master addressed a few impressive words to the brethren on the solemn nature of the meeting, and called on the Chaplain to give the prayer, after which the Secretary stated the wishes of the brethren who had petitioned and obtained a warrant for the new lodge, whereupon the Presiding Officer desired these brethren to stand forth while the Secretary read the petition and warrant. The brethren of the new lodge having, in reply to the President's inquiries, signified their approval of the officers appointed by the warrant, the Chaplain addressed the brethren. He said, that when King Solomon built his beautiful temple at Jerusalem strength and ability were typified in it. Freemasonry is founded on the same principles; since it was founded it has undergone no change, but many persecutions, but from those persecutions it has risen like the mythological bird of old, from its ashes, to shine more brightly than before. It has been carried down from then till now, when the noble Order seems to be at its highest pitch of prosperity. The noble sentiments we teach show that we are not a selfish body; they are sentiments of universal benevolence, charity, in its widest and most comprehensive sense, and that other virtue which is lasting as eternity. These three noble principles should make the pledge of a Mason inviolable, his heart tender and merciful, and the course of his life without guile. With these beautiful principles in view, you, brethren of the Royal Kensington Lodge, are about to launch your barque on the ocean of time, and may the Great Architect give you grace and wisdom, and may the Royal Kensington Lodge take its stand as one of the first lodges in this country. The speaker then called attention to the Scripture which tells us that when King Solomon and Hiram walked in the vale of Jordan, between Succoth and Zuthan, the king, observing the soft clay ground there, selected that place for casting the vessels of gold and silver and brass that were to decorate the Temple of the Lord, and there upon this ground did they cast those vessels which were destined for the Holy of Holies. These soft clay grounds, he said, represented our hearts, who are the temple of the living God; our hearts which must be devoted to good works, to be brought forth from time to time as they may be required for his service.

At the close of the oration the choir sang the anthem, "How good and joyful a thing it is for brethren to dwell together in unity."

After the dedication prayer and the invocation, the Chaplain read the first sixteen verses of II. Chron., Chap. I, which was succeeded by the uncovering of the lodge board and the dedication and constitution of the lodge, during which ceremony the choir sang the anthems,

"Glory be to God on high,
Peace on earth,
Good will towards men."

and "Glory to God in the highest;
Let all the brethren cry aloud
Praise ye the Lord.

For His merciful kindness is ever great towards us,
And the truth of the Lord endureth for ever.
Blessed be the name of the Lord from this time
forth for evermore."

The lodge was then resumed to the Second Degree, and Bro. Buss presented Bro. W. T. Raymond, W.M. designate, to the Presiding Master to receive at his hands the benefit of installation. Bro. Raymond having given his assent to the requirements of Grand Lodge, was obligated, after which a Board of Installed Masters was formed, to whom he was presented, and installed into the chair of K.S. The officers were appointed as follows:—Bro. C. E. Soppet, S.W.; W. E. G. Leith, J.W.; D. M. Dewar, Sec.; H. R. Gill, S.D.; B. F. Cramer, J.D.; H. M. Sydney, I.G.; Samuel Browne, W.S.; W. Steedman, Tyler.

The business of the meeting being now concluded, several propositions for initiates and joining members were made, and the thanks of the brethren were tendered to the Grand Officers and other visitors who had honoured the lodge with their presence, and V.W. Bro. Saml. Tomkins, G. Treas., acknowledged the compliment.

Bro. Dewar: W.M. and brethren,—I have a vote of thanks to propose to our V.W. Bro. Hyde Pullen, for acting as consecrating and installing Master to-day, and that he be made an honorary member of the Royal Kensington Lodge. I also propose the best thanks of the lodge to Bro. Buss for his valuable services as D.C.; also to our Rev. Bro. Hall, for his no less valuable services as Chap., and to Bro. Absalom and the other brethren who filled the Wardens' chairs, and formed the Board of Installed Masters. I propose that this vote of thanks be recorded on the lodge minutes. I am sure that all present must have been greatly edified by the beautiful and impressive manner in which the whole of the ceremonies have been conducted.

Bro. Hyde Pullen: W.M., in my own name, and in the name of my colleagues, I beg to return you our grateful thanks for the kind way in which you have mentioned what we have done. We wish you and the Royal Kensington Lodge every success.

The Chaplain and Bro. Buss also returned their acknowledgments.

The following brethren signed the attendance book:—Bros. Hyde Pullen, P.G.S.B.; A. W. Hall, P.M. 416, P.S.G.W. Surrey; H. Hall, Sir Isaac Newton Lodge; W. H. Absalom, Mount Lebanon, 34, P.M.; J. C. Dwarber, P.M. 55; Capt. N. G. Phillips, P.M. 1383; H. G. Buss, Burdett, 1203, Prov. J.G.W. Middx.; C. F. Matier, 645, P.G.W. Greece; C. S. Jekyll, W.M. Asaph, 1319; Jno. Bean, P.M. 720; C. H. Driver, P.M. 905, G. Sup. Wks., Surrey; J. P. Leith, 1118, P.G.D.; W. Hamilton, P.M. 34; B. Cramer, 108; C. Taylor, 1426; G. Cardwell, P.M. 3; Theo. Distin, Phoenix; Fredk. Binckes, G.S., Secretary Boys' School; J. R. Jekyll, 1319; J. Rand Bailly, P.M. 4; Benj. Browne, 503; W. S. Gordon Leith, 859; J. P. Robertson, W.M. 55; Robert Perkins, J.W. 34; Samuel Tomkins, G. Treas.; Walter T. Justling, P.M. 55; H. Massey ("Freemason").

After the closing of the lodge and its adjournment till the first Friday in October, the brethren present adjourned to the tavern, where a sumptuous banquet was provided, to which ample justice was done. When the cloth had been withdrawn, the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed and duly honoured. In proposing "The Health of Lord Skelmersdale, the Deputy Grand Master, with the rest of the Grand Officers, Present and Past," the W.M. coupled therewith the name of Bro. Parkinson, whom he requested to respond.

Bro. Parkinson: Worshipful Master and brethren,—Where there are few tasks more agreeable, there are many less difficult than returning thanks for the Grand Officers on the present occasion. The Grand Officers are always received at these meetings with so much cordiality and kindness that the task becomes more onerous each time one has to respond to the toast. It makes it the more difficult that one has only to respond to praises; there is nothing to defend. One feels inclined to wish for the presence of a devil's advocate, an institution in the Romish Church—where when a man is canonised and his virtues are spoken of, some one appears on the other side to point out his defects. I feel assured that it would be easier to me to find fault. Declining the Worshipful Master's hint, I shall express myself deeply grateful for the attention we have received. It is a matter of gratification for us all to witness the advent of this admirable lodge, which I have no doubt is destined to long life and prosperity. He concluded by wishing that it might always have youth at its helm and pleasure at its prow.

Bro. Hyde Pullen: The W.M. has given me his gavel and of course you will understand why. Now, I find myself in a very peculiar position at this moment, because I take upon myself, or rather the W.M. has imposed upon me, a task which is usually imposed upon an officer that does not exist in this lodge. I have the collar of the P.M. placed upon me to hold for a time, and I am now about to propose a toast that is given usually by the P.M., but I do offer it to you in my own peculiar sense, and I have great pleasure in presenting to you the toast of the evening, "The Master of the Lodge." We have embarked upon a voyage which has been spoken of to-night by Bro. Parkinson, and the barque that we have entered into and launched forth into the waves of futurity depends upon the capability of every one in and about it to carry it to success at a future time. I will place charity at its prow, hospitality at its helm, and prudence and care amidst its sails. I present to you "The Health of your Master." It is the first time that that toast has been proposed to you, but I trust that such a health will be proposed to you year by year with the expectation of excellence with which it is proposed by me at the present moment, now at its commencement. Brethren, it is something for the W.M. to-night to enter upon his duties for the first time, and it is not only the first time as the Master of a new lodge, but the first time in which he has been Master of any lodge. At such a time there are certain feelings he must have; he is being initiated, as it were, into duties which he never performed before. You will assist him to the utmost to enable him to perform his duties, so that when the time for a change comes round he will leave with honour to himself and glory to the lodge and advantage to the Craft in general. Brethren, with all earnestness I give you "The Health, Happiness, Capability of your Master, and to your willingness to aid and assist him in his year of office."

The W.M.: Brethren, I thank you most sincerely, most heartily for the manner in which you have received the toast proposed by Bro. Pullen. I thank him very much indeed for the kind way in which he has expressed himself, and I must only reiterate his wish that the officers and members and brethren in general will afford me their kind indulgence in every way in carrying on in my year of office my duties as Master of this lodge, and I hope with their assistance to give general satisfaction, and that when my year of office ends there may be no complaints. I thank you all.

Bro. J. Percy Leith, P.G.D.: Worshipful Sir and brethren,—I have been requested to propose the next toast. I am quite sure that it is one you will be pleased to hear, the health of our kind Bro. Hyde Pullen. Bro. Hyde Pullen this evening has performed the duty of Consecrating Officer to the lodge upstairs, and I am confident that there will be none to say that they ever heard the ceremony performed better than they have this evening. It is not the first time we have seen him carrying out this programme in the Craft; no one devotes more time to serving his fellow beings than Bro. Hyde Pullen. I have known Bro. Hyde Pullen for many years, and I have been received with the right hand of fellowship. I desire to couple with Bro. Hyde Pullen this toast—Bro. Hall, the Consecrating Chaplain, and to thank him for the very able manner in which he performed his part of the ceremony. I give you "The Health of Bro. Hyde Pullen and Bro. Hall."

The toast was acknowledged by Bro. Hyde Pullen and Bro. Hall, the latter observing that it did not fall to the

lot of many of his profession to consecrate often. He knew that he would never be a bishop, and if he had not consecrated a lodge that evening he might never have had the pleasure of consecrating anything. The bishops consecrated stately edifices built up unto the Lord, and he congratulated himself that he had consecrated a temple made up of a band of brethren, bound together to carry out in themselves, and to carry out in the world, those beautiful teachings, those excellent truths, which the bishops themselves only can teach. He had consecrated a Freemasons' lodge, following at a humble distance the bishops who consecrated temples to the Lord, and he concluded,—May the lodge which I have consecrated be blessed by the Great Architect of the Universe, so that the members may not only be deemed good men, but may be considered members of that science which is all that is good, all that is true, Bro. Hall resumed his seat, thanking the brethren for their reception of his health.

Bro. Absalom: W.M. and brethren,—Although at this moment I know myself to be on the right of the chair, that is to say, I stand in the position of a visitor, yet, believe me, when I look at the brother who occupies the chair, and some of these friendly faces I see around me, I scarcely deem myself a visitor. When once Socrates was asked by an admiring crowd which of the human race he considered nearest to the gods in point of happiness, he replied, "That man who is in want of the fewest things." He left it to be guessed by his auditory whether he intended that answer to imply amplitude of possessions or contraction of desires. If there is any truth in that I must feel myself in a very bad way, because, though my possessions may be limited, my desires are great. First of all, my desire is to stand well with you whom I speak to, certainly. Secondly, while all of those who have addressed you this evening, from the Grand Officer to Bro. Pullen, with thanks for the toasts you proposed, you will not be surprised that I desire much of you in the reception of the toast I am about to propose, for that toast is of great importance to this lodge, and perhaps to Freemasonry itself. I am about to propose "Success to the Royal Kensington Lodge." This toast has been entrusted to my care, and of course you will readily conceive that I must feel no ordinary amount of diffidence in advancing it to your attention, and with the earnest hope that it may meet with your approbation. There is no doubt that each one who attended the meeting upstairs, and had the privilege of hearing the addresses given in so impressive a manner by Bro. Pullen, was greatly benefited by what he heard. They could not have been given more impressively, they could not have been given with greater effect, and, seconded as they were by the eloquent address of our excellent Chaplain. I say all must have felt impressed with the ceremony, and acknowledge that they have received a lesson which will lead them on to greater efforts in the cause of Freemasonry, and to remember among their happiest moments their visit to the Royal Kensington Lodge. Your Master is well known to me. I have watched his advent to Masonry; I have seen the advance he has made; I have watched his attention to the ceremonies, and I have every hope that he will prove a worthy leader to your lodge. He trusted that their noble institutions would not be forgotten in the new lodge—institutions which he believed to be the backbone of Masonry, and that benevolence in its widest sense would be their study. He trusted that an entente cordiale would be established between his lodge (Mount Moriah) and the new lodge, and concluded by inviting the brethren to that lodge.

Several other toasts were proposed and received with the utmost cordiality, and speeches were spoken for which we have no space to spare. It must therefore suffice to say that everything that was done was well done, and that the whole meeting was a genuine success.

CONSECRATION OF THE EBORACUM LODGE,
No. 1611.

On Monday, 7th inst., a ceremony took place in the old city of York fraught with the greatest interest to all brethren of the Royal Art. This was nothing less than the consecration and constitution of a new Masonic lodge, a ceremony which had not been witnessed within the walls of York for ninety-nine years previously, the last occasion being the consecration of the York Lodge, No. 236, in the year 1777. York is in its history and associations very closely linked with Freemasonry. Traditionally it has been the scene of much that is interesting to the Order. It was, according to the cherished legends, in York that the Athelstane charter was granted, in the year 926; it was in the ancient crypt of York Cathedral that the ancient brethren met for the celebration of their rites and ceremonies, and from that time to the present the history of York has been more or less interwoven with that of Freemasonry. Several years ago the propriety of the promotion of a movement for a second lodge in York was discussed, but it was not until the commencement of the current year that a number of brethren, all deeply interested in the progress of Masonry and the welfare of the Craft, forwarded a petition to the Grand Lodge of England for a warrant for a second lodge in York, to be called the Eboracum Lodge. In due course the petition was granted and the warrant issued, the number of the lodge on the grand roll of England being 1611. The Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master, the Earl of Zetland, appointed Monday, the 7th August, as the day for the consecration ceremony, and accordingly every preparation was made by the brethren for the successful celebration of the event. We are happy to know that their efforts were crowned with success, and that the day passed off without a single drawback, the R.W.P.G. Master and his Deputy both expressing their great satisfaction at every thing connected with the ceremonial.

The lodge-room is attached to the Queen's Hotel, Micklegate, and is a very handsome apartment, eminently suited

or the purpose. It is lofty and spacious, and its decorations, which have been executed by Messrs. Hartley & Son, are tasteful in the extreme. The chairs and pedestals, which are remarkably handsome, and executed with minute correctness in the style of three principal orders of architecture, have been made from designs from the studio of Messrs. Knowles, of the Medieval Art Works, Stonegate. The collars, jewels, &c., have been supplied by Bro. Geo. Kenning, of London, and are both massive and chaste in execution. The carpet has been supplied by Mr. T. G. Turner, Parliament-street, and a very handsome pedestal in the form of a double cube, of old oak, together with the dais, are from the workshops of Messrs. Keswick & Sons. The candlesticks, which are of oak, and nearly five feet in height, from Bro. Kenning's, are beautiful specimens of carving.

At 2.30 p.m. the brethren assembled, and the members of the Provincial Grand Lodge having been formed into procession in an adjoining room, the lodge-room was entered, and Provincial Grand Lodge opened in ample form by the R. Worshipful Prov. G.M. In addition to the Earl of Zetland there were present, members of the Prov. Grand Lodge, Bros. J. P. Bell, D. Prov. G.M.; the Hon. W. T. Orde-Powlett, Prov. S.G.W.; W. Waller, P.G.J.W.; M. C. Peck, Prov. G. Sec.; Rev. W. Valentine, P. Prov. G. Chaplain and S.W. 236; Woodall (Scarbro'), P.P.S.G.W.; R. G. Smyth (Hull), Prov. G. Director of Ceremonies; C. H. Hunt, Prov. G. Organist; J. Todd, P. Prov. G.O. and Sec. 236; G. Bamford, P. Prov. G.O.; T. Sissons, P. Prov. G.R.; T. Cooper, P.P.G.S.W. and D.C. 236; J. Ward, Prov. G. Pursuivant; and many others. The ceremony of consecration was then proceeded with, the musical portion of the service being most ably performed by a choir of Masonic vocalists from Leeds and Bradford, under the direction of Bro. Thornton Wood, the music being the composition of Bro. Atkinson.

Bro. Thomas Cooper, P.M. 236, was then duly installed First Master of the Eboracum Lodge, and he appointed and invested his officers as follows:—Bros. T. B. Whytehead, 1338, and 236, Senior Warden; J. S. Cumberland, 178, Junior Warden; Geo. Balmford, P.M. 236, Treasurer; James Kay, 1010, Secretary; T. Tuke, 236, Senior Deacon; C. G. Padel, 236, Organist; Sellar, 236, Inner Guard; J. Redfear, Tyler, pro tem.

The Deputy Provincial Grand Master then gave a long and elaborate address, in the course of which he traced the history of Freemasonry in its connection with the city of York, and expressed his satisfaction at the very auspicious manner in which the Eboracum Lodge had come into existence, anticipating for it a very prosperous future. The W.M., Bro. Cooper, then proposed a vote of thanks to the R.W.P.G.M., the D.P.G.M., the Sec., and the P.G. Officers who had attended on the occasion, and announced the R.W.P.G.M., the Earl of Zetland, the D.P.G.M., Dr. Bell, the W.P.P.G.M. Bro. G. Marwood, and the P.G. Sec., Bro. Peck, had been elected honorary members of the lodge.

The lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to the De Grey Rooms, where a sumptuous banquet had been prepared by Mr. J. Toes, in his well-known style. The W.M. presided, and was supported by the Prov. G.M., the Dep. Prov. G.M., the Prov. G.S.W., the Prov. G. Sec., and others; and the following toasts were duly honoured:—"The Queen and the Craft;" "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M. of England, and the other members of the Royal Family;" "The Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon, M.W. Pro G. Master, with the Grand Officers;" "The Right Hon. the Earl of Zetland, R.W. Prov. G.M. of North and East Yorkshire;" "The W. Bro. J. P. Bell, Esq., M.D., J.P., Past Senior Grand Deacon of England, Dep. Prov. Grand M. of N. and E. Yorkshire;" "The W.M. of the Eboracum Lodge;" "The Visiting Brethren;" "The Masonic Charities;" "The Tyler's Toast;" "The York Lodge, 236;" "Prosperity to the City of York;" and others.

An object of great attraction to the brethren in the lodge-room was an interesting Masonic relic in the shape of an ancient Bible, bearing on its flyleaf the following inscription:—"This Bible belongs to the Freemasons meeting at Mr. Howard's, 1761." This valuable memento of the Craft and of a lodge now extinct has been generously presented to the Eboracum Lodge by Mr. Carter, of Stonegate, in whose possession it has remained for many years.

CONSECRATION OF THE ECCLESTON LODGE. No. 1624.

Another London lodge was consecrated on Wednesday evening, at the Grosvenor Hall, Ebury-st., Pimlico, by Bro. W. Hyde Pullen. The S.W. chair was occupied by Bro. John Verity, W.M., Ebury Lodge, No. 1348, and the J.W. chair was filled by Bro. John Coutts, P.G.P. The Secretary's post was conferred on Bro. W. Vincent. The Rev. Bro. Hall, Prov. G.S.W. Surrey, acted as Chaplain. The brethren who were present were:—

Members:—H. A. Hunt, Isaac Isaacs, J. G. Fisher, D. W. McLeod, J. C. Flattely, H. I. Johnson, Samuel Jones, Thomas Lamb, Thomas Webb, E. Powell, Joseph Hicks.

Visitors:—Bros. Hyde Pullen, P.G.S.B.; Capt. N. G. Phillips, 1383, P.M.; Rev. Ambrose W. Hall, Prov. S.G.W. Surrey; George M. Marshall, 1161, J.S.; Coulton, P.M. 382; J. Barney, 1567; Arthur G. Luard, 1537; J. H. Clutton, 1537; Thomas F. Shattock, 1537; Edward Coles, 1319; H. Massey, P.M. 619 ("Freemason"); H. Parker, P.G. Org. Middx., C. T. Carter, P.M. 145; T. Baxter, 145; Thos. F. Davis, 87; John Hordell, 1348; W. Carter, P.M. 141; Charles Golden, W.M. 1567; Morgan, 1385; Bourne, P.M. 1348; C. Pulman, P.M. 720; John Verity, W.M. 1348; John Elliott, S.W. 1348; W. M. Herbert, 625; G.H. Pownall, 142; J. R. Bainton,

209; Thos. Cox, 511; John Coutts, P.G.D.; A. J. Ireton, J.W. 1348; E. Hart; R. P. Hart; J. R. Lane; Stanhope; John C. Cox, P.M. 1257; W. Vincent, 1194; R. J. Steel, P.M. 1194; C. Simmons, 1194; Thos. Cross, 1194; Chas. Jewell, 511; Geo. Rose, 87; Frank Pownall, 145; A. Flattely, 805; Chas. B. Payne, P.M. 27; J. R. Vine, P.M. 173; Edw. Holland, 141; J. Thurlay Beale, 201; W. Gould, 1158; W. G. Shute, 51; H. T. Stewart, 142; A. Sheppard, 1158; John Hunt, 1348; J. J. Cattle, W.M. 1441; J. T. Woodstock, P.M. 740; Chas. Thomas, 77; Dr. Joseph L. Davies, 357.

The ceremony of opening in the three degrees having been first performed, the consecrating officer addressed the brethren and the usual observances took place. The musical arrangements being conducted under Bro. E. Coles, who was assisted by Bros. G. T. Carter, P.M. No. 382; Henry Parker (piano), T. Baxter, No. 145; and Thurlay Beale, No. 1319. Bro. Hyde Pullen, at the proper time, called upon the Rev. Bro. Hall, Prov. G.J.W. Surrey, to deliver the oration, which the Rev. Chaplain did as follows:—

Brethren, I have been asked to say a few words upon the nature and principles of our Order. It is usual for the Consecrating Chaplain to do this, so that at the dedication of a new lodge the brethren who are to form it may be reminded of the important duties and responsibilities that are about to devolve upon them that they may be the better enabled when their Masonic barque is fairly launched to carry out those sacred teachings to the benefit of the cause, the instruction of the brethren and the glory of the Great Architect. We are well aware that the principles of our Order are to be found in every grade of society in every country, in every clime, among men of every creed; and they are beloved by all; and why? Because they are principles of duty that command attention; they teach us the good and the right way; they teach us to take for our support the pillars of wisdom, strength and beauty, based upon a sure foundation; and I feel quite sure from what I know and what I have heard of the brethren who are about to be appointed to the lodge's offices, that those duties and those principles will be ably and fairly carried out to the best of their ability; and that this lodge will in its transit through the world shine brightly and emerge in the great lodge above to life eternal. I would now call your minds back to some thousands of years ago when there might have been seen a young man flying from his country and seeking in a distant land a shelter and hospitality, flying from a brother's anger; when he by deceit and fraud obtained that brother's birth right. That young man's name was Jacob; and when he lay down to rest at night, the earth his bed, a stone his pillow, and his covering the canopy of heaven, in his sleep a vision appeared to him; he saw a ladder reaching from earth to heaven, and on the ladder angels ascending to the Great Architect, and descending bringing down from Him messages of love and mercy for the benefit and comfort of man below. That ladder we take as one of the great emblems of our Order, as we see when the lodge board is uncovered, as the emblem of the great principles of our Order. And, brethren of the Eccleston Lodge, who are this day about to take the first step of that ladder which is based upon the sacred writings, you will soon ascend the other two which we in Masonry recognise, and go up and up till you reach those ethereal mansions which are above in the starry firmament. But a few words more; I must be brief. You know, in Masonry as well as in nature, when our lodge is opened the badge of innocence and the bond of friendship is shewn and the jewel of equality sparkles in the west; and then we are led up to the Third Degree, and we are taught that the time will come when death will have his prey, when sickness enters your chamber, and when the King of terrors comes through bolts and bars and claims his own. Then, the sprig of acacia is plucked from the spot where it has grown in love, plucked to decorate a departed brother's grave. These are the principles of our Order taught in the Third Degree, leading us by contemplation to the closing hour of our existence, and when they have led us through the intricate windings of this mortal state, finally instruct us how to die. Brethren of the Eccleston Lodge, may you, in whatever situation you are placed, whatever may be your lot in life, carry those duties with you always and perform them so fairly and so well that when the Great Architect comes to make up His jewels you may feel that you have performed your allotted task, so that your last hours may close in peace and love.

The ceremony of consecration was then proceeded with by Bro. Pullen, the musical portions being rendered by Bros. G. T. Carter, P.M. No. 382; Henry Parker, P.G. Organist Middlesex, at the piano; T. Baxter, No. 145; and J. Thurlay Beale, No. 1319; under the direction of Bro. E. Coles, No. 1319.

The whole of the ceremony of consecration was admirably performed, and when it was completed Bro. Hyde Pullen installed Bro. H. A. Hunt, No. 1537, as first W.M. of the new lodge.

After the usual congratulations, Bro. Hunt invested the following brethren:—D. H. McLeod, S.W.; J. C. Flattely, J.W.; Wm. Vincent, S.D.; Samuel Jones, J.D.; J. G. Fisher, I.G.; Isaacs, Treas.; A. W. Beckham, Sec.; Edwd. Powell, D.C.; Wm. Gould, W.S.; E. Coles, Org.; T. Woodstock, Tyler.

The addresses were delivered by Bro. Pullen, and a round of applause greeted him when he resumed his seat. The S.W. then proposed, and the J.W. seconded, the election of Bro. Hyde Pullen as an honorary member of the lodge, a motion which was unanimously adopted, and Bro. Hyde Pullen returned thanks for the compliment.

The W.M. proposed, and the S.W. seconded, a vote of thanks to Bro. the Rev. A. W. Hall, and the other brethren who had assisted in consecrating the lodge, and added to the motion that the names and services of these brethren should be recorded on the minutes.

This having been duly carried, the Rev. A. W. Hall, Bro. Verity, Bro. John Coutts, and Bro. Steward acknowledged the vote, and the lodge was closed after several propositions for initiation and joining had been made. The lodge was adjourned by the J.W. to the third Wednesday in September, and the brethren afterwards sat down to an elegant cold banquet, provided by the caterer of the Grosvenor Club. After partaking of this, the brethren again settled down to the business of the evening, and the door having been given once more in charge of the Tyler, the usual list of loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed.

Bro. John Coutts, P.G.P., was called upon as the representative of the Grand Officers, to respond to the toast proposed and drunk in their honour, and

Bro. Hyde Pullen proposed "The W.M.," in doing so he said it had been more than a pleasure to him to propose the toast of the W.M., feeling as he did the importance of having placed in the chair a brother who, he hoped and trusted, would fulfil all the duties of his high office as Master of such a lodge as the Eccleston Lodge was likely to become. He had also another gratification in proposing this toast—the W.M. was the brethren's own selection, although he had not gone through the usual necessary form observed in an already established lodge. The W.M. would do honour to their choice, and fully meet the hopes and expectations they entertained of him. He would perform all his duties well and establish a high reputation for the lodge, and the brethren would in their turn afford him every assistance in their power.

The W.M. replying, said his difficulty in replying to this toast was caused by the flattering expressions of Bro. Hyde Pullen, and by the fact of his (the W.M.) being a very young Mason. Being but a young Mason, he could hardly feel worthy of any flattering expressions. He had been called to a very high office, and he fully appreciated the great importance of it. It would be his endeavour to make the Eccleston Lodge second to none, and when the brethren next met to instal a W.M. he hoped they would shew as good a front as they had already. It would be his earnest endeavour so to conduct the business of the lodge that those who were presented as initiates should be inducted in the true spirit of Masonry and should come into the lodge with the idea that Masonry was an institution not to be taken in hand unadvisedly or lightly, that it might be a secret society, but it was one of those institutions that made up the whole duty of man. It was not for him then to enlarge more particularly on Masonry; it was more for him to speak of those who had come to consecrate the lodge, and who had done it in the most admirable manner, most feelingly, most impressively. These they must honour that evening, as well as those without whom they could not have had that lodge consecrated—the members of the Ebury Lodge, its Master, and Wardens, who fathered the Eccleston Lodge and took its promoters upon trust. By their help Grand Lodge accepted the Eccleston Lodge, which had now bloomed into a full lodge, and it was these brethren whom he now wished to honour, and he would therefore propose "The Ebury Lodge," and called upon its W.M., Bro. Verity, to acknowledge the toast.

Bro. Verity, in responding, said that he and all the brethren of the Ebury Lodge felt very great pleasure in supporting the W.M. on such an important occasion as the consecration of the lodge. For himself, he had taken a very small part in the ceremony, but he nevertheless felt much pleasure in doing even that. When the deputation of brethren wishing to start the Eccleston Lodge waited upon the Ebury Lodge for their recommendation they received the most earnest and warm support, and now that he looked round and saw the way in which the original design had been carried out, he could not help thinking it would reflect honour on the craft. What he had said for himself he said on behalf of all the "Eburyites," who wished the Lodge success, and the Master health and strength to carry out the duties of his high calling properly.

The W.M. then proposed "The Consecrating Master, Bro. Hyde Pullen," who had initiated him in Masonry. It was on that account that he (the W.M.) asked Bro. Hyde Pullen to consecrate the Lodge and to instal him as Master. When asked, Bro. Pullen readily consented to do so; he was always ready to do a good turn for everybody, and when Masonry was concerned in it he was doubly ready. It must have been a great inconvenience to him to attend, and as a slight recognition of his services the brethren would now drink a toast in his honour.

The toast having been most cordially accepted, Bro. Hyde Pullen replied, and said that, as he had said before, so he now repeated, that it had been a great pleasure and gratification to him to attend and consecrate the lodge, and instal its W.M., and now that the W.M. had told the brethren that he (Bro. Pullen) had initiated him in Masonry, they would the better understand how much the pleasure of attending that evening was enhanced by his having to instal him. Having brought him into Masonic existence he hoped that he would develop into manhood, and that the brethren would have the pleasure of seeing it. It was a great comfort to see one's children grow in strength and importance from day to day, and having himself many then round that table whom he had introduced into Masonry in various ways, it was an intense gratification to meet them, not only then, but at all times. He wished the lodge all the success and prosperity that its members themselves could wish for. It had been launched like a boat upon the billows, and he hoped it would prove a good ship, with charity at the prow, with hospitality at the helm, and with care and prudence as pilots who would guide it through all the shoals and quicksands, which were likely to meet it in its course, and steer it safely over the ocean of time, and bring it home to its haven 100 years hence, to celebrate its centenary. He could only hope that every member of the lodge would do his best, would use his most strenuous efforts to aid and assist

the W.M. in the discharge of his duties. The W.M. had told them he was a very young Mason, and under those circumstances he claimed their kind help and assistance more warmly and more earnestly than he would do if he were an old and practised Past Master. Pray make all the allowance they could in his favour; excuse him where they saw he might do a little better (but he did not think he would do badly); hold out to him forbearance for any little failings that might occur, and do all they could to render his year of office easy to himself, gratifying to them, the lodge a success in itself and an ornament to the Craft. He (Bro. Pullen) would have the greatest desire to know how well and successfully they steered their barque onwards, and he hoped he would have it in his power to come among the brethren and, if he could, to assist them in piloting their vessel and assisting in every way possible in making the lodge a success. (Hear, hear.)

Bro. the Rev. Ambrose W. Hall then rose, and said there devolved upon him that evening a task, which however, he would not call a task but a pleasure, although he felt some difficulty in fulfilling his duty properly, to propose, if not the most important the most interesting toast of the evening, "Success to the Eccleston Lodge." In asking the brethren, in a very few words, to drink it he trusted that they would not consider that what he said proceeded from those feelings which we were too apt to set down as after-dinner things when we had been hospitably entertained. The Eccleston Lodge started in a way which he was quite sure was an earnest of its future success. As he had said to them in lodge, there devolved upon the brethren responsible duties, and the officers of the lodge appointed that day he was sure those duties would be ably discharged. An old prophet had told them that a day was coming which was called a millennium, when the lion should lie down with the lamb, when the child should play on the hole of the asp, and the weaned child put his hand on the cockatrice den, that nothing should hurt or destroy in all the holy mountain of the Great Architect; but whenever that blessed time should come, the brethren, who supplemented the sacred writings which spoke to them of the blessed time, were in a position to do their little quota towards that happy end. He mentioned this merely to show brethren of this new lodge that they had to do many things, to support many principles high and sacred, which if they did not bring this millennium extended among men those grand principles of the Masonic Order, brotherly love, relief and truth, which carried them through the world, repeated by all, loved by the brethren, and they trusted, rewarded eventually by their God. Bro. Hyde Pullen had said that they had launched their Masonic barque on the tide of this world; let him add that they had to bear in that barque those precious things which it was their's to uphold and to keep from being sunk in the billows that they must meet with in passing through their Masonic life. To that barque they must have a banner nailed; "nailed," he said, because they must never take it down; and on that banner must be inscribed the Masonic words, "Excelsior: On and on: Little beginnings: Great ends." Time was so short that he must not go further in proposing what it gave him such great pleasure to speak about, and which might lead him away and made him dwell longer perhaps than their patience would allow; he would therefore only say that from his heart he wished to the Eccleston Lodge—and from the hearts of all the visitors to it that day he was quite sure they proceeded the same wish—a fund of success, and the blessing of the Great Architect of the Universe. (Hear, hear, and cheers.)

The W.M. proposed "The Musical Brethren," to which toast Bro. E. Coles, Organist, responded.

The S. and J.W. replied for "The Officers," and Bro. Morgan and H. Massey ("Freemason") for "The Press."

The Tyler's toast concluded the proceedings, which were enlivened by the vocal and instrumental efforts of the professional brethren before named, and Dr. Davies.

The Queen, accompanied by Princess Beatrice and Prince Leopold, reached Edinburgh at 8.30 on Wednesday morning. She was met at the station by the Duke of Connaught, now with his regiment at Edinburgh, and proceeded to Holyrood Palace. On Thursday the statue of the late Prince Consort was unveiled, and afterwards the Queen proceeded to Balmoral. Great preparations were made in Edinburgh on the occasion. We shall allude to the ceremony in our next.

The Council of the Hospital Sunday Fund has resolved to distribute £29,943 amongst sixty-nine general and special hospitals and four institutions; and to devote £2336 16s. 8d. to forty-five dispensaries.

The Prime Minister, who is now on a visit to Lord Bradford at Castle Bromwich, near Birmingham, paid an unexpected visit yesterday evening to Ashton Hall and Park. Mr. Disraeli, who was accompanied by Lady Bradford and two other ladies, drove in the first instance to the lower grounds, a public pleasure garden much resorted to by the Birmingham working classes for dancing and boating. After walking round the grounds, where the party were recognized and cheered on leaving, they proceeded through the park to Ashton Hall, over which they were conducted by Mr. Rodway, the Curator.

The National Gallery, with the additional rooms which have been added to it by Mr. Edward Barry has been thrown open to the public. The collection, which now numbers considerably over a thousand pictures, may be said to be separated roughly into two parts—the Old Masters, occupying the East and the Modern Painters the West wing. The division, however, is not absolute, for the terms of the Wynne Ellis bequest render it necessary for that gentleman's pictures to be kept together for ten years; and it was thought desirable to preserve the Peel collection in its completeness as representing the last of a great statesman.

SOME OF THE PECULIARITIES OF ANCIENT CRAFT MASONRY.

WEBB JUNIOR.

It has long been conceded that Freemasonry—an institution peculiar, nay, wonderful, in many respects—is a subject worthy of the attention of the moralist, the statesman and the philosopher.

Others, too, who are not entitled to these high designations, may study this oldest and strongest of human institutions with advantage.

There are some peculiarities of this Institution which will early attract the attention and awaken the interest of the Masonic student and which we may briefly consider.

Our attention may be first directed to the universality claimed for the Order. The Monitors say:

From East to West, and between North and South, Freemasonry extends, and in every clime are Masons to be found.

And the learned Dr. Mackey states that

Over the whole habitable globe are our lodges disseminated. Wherever the wandering steps of civilized man have left their foot-prints, there have our temples been established. The lessons of Masonic love have penetrated into the wilderness of the West, and the red man of our soil has shared with his more enlightened brother the mysteries of our science, while the arid sands of the African desert have more than once been the scene of Masonic greeting.

The claim of universality is, indeed, not an idle boast.

Reports of committee on foreign correspondence, foreign publications of the Order, statistics, the narrative of travellers, and other documents too numerous and elaborate to quote here, all bear testimony to the existence of Masonry in all parts of the world. And while the number of Masons in any one community, or district, may be, and usually is, small in proportion to the whole population of such district, yet there are few localities, indeed, of any considerable size where some members of the Order are not to be found.

Freemasonry, in its organization, principles, methods of teaching, and in its objects, has, and from the facts above stated, must have the elements necessary to a cosmopolitan institution. For example, it recognises no political systems of theories, save only the rights of man by the law of nature; knows nothing of religious creeds or sectarian dogmas as such, save a belief in God, the obligations of the moral law, and the immortality of the soul—fundamental truths about which all men may agree. An eloquent writer truthfully says:

It exists in Pagan, Jewish, Moslem and Papal countries. Some of its members worship the sun, and others the shekinah; some fall before the crescent, and others before the cross; but it has taught them all to respect and tolerate each other.

Its universality is a peculiar characteristic of Freemasonry. Every man belongs to some nationality by birth or adoption, and is an alien in all other lands than his own. Other societies, religious or secular, are, in the main, confined to certain localities or countries. But Freemasonry is a universal republican brotherhood, which knows no international boundaries, no race, no country, but has the whole earth for its territory. It is, essentially, the same institution wherever found, providing for certain wants of men, of all races, and in all conditions of life, and possessing a universal language of signs and symbols understood by its members in all countries.

For convenience, there are lodges, or places of assembly, in cities, villages, and other localities, and separate general and local jurisdictions; but he who becomes a member in one lodge, or jurisdiction, is a Mason, not only there, but everywhere. A Mason in one country is a Mason in all countries, and is recognised as a brother entitled to certain rights and privileges, by the mysterious language he speaks, in all lands. Have we not just cause to be proud of this peculiar feature of our Order.

Another peculiarity of Freemasonry is its elaborate and beautiful system of teaching by symbols, allegories, types and emblems, being the oldest method of imparting instruction known to the world. By this system a large class of important truths and principles are brought within the comprehension of even the most illiterate, and are impressed upon the mind in a manner unequalled by any other method of instruction, but now preserved only in Freemasonry, as a complete system, and in the Romish church, partially. It is a system the beauty and value of which becomes more and more apparent the better we study its history and philosophy.

Our attention is called also, to the system of government of our Order, by a Master and two Wardens, in Grand and subordinate lodges, and certain fundamental and unchangeable rules, known as landmarks, all forming a system of government, original and peculiar, and found nowhere else, except by adoption. It is a perfect and happy blending of absolute power, with representative democracy and the preservation of individual rights by immutable laws. And right here we meet another, and most valuable, peculiarity of Freemasonry,—that is its permanent, unchangeable character. In its system of government, in its landmarks, in its fundamental principles and objects, no changes or innovations are necessary to adapt it to the wants and conditions of men in all countries, and in all times; nor are any changes or innovations permitted. No power exists anywhere within or without the Order to make such changes. Here, indeed, is permanence. No perversion of purposes; no "shifting sands of doctrine." We know what we have. It is, indeed, gratifying to discover that amid the ever changing and ephemeral associations instituted by men, from time to time, for various purposes, there is, at least, one which is steadfast. Is it too much to say that Freemasonry is the only permanent

conservator amid the chances and changes of time, of those fundamental laws and principles of human rights and those moral obligations which are binding on all men?

A peculiar feature of Freemasonry is its silence and unobtrusiveness. A lodge may exist in our midst for years, and we hardly recognize the fact. It interferes with no person, sect, party, or opinion, and never asks any favours or special privileges from community, church, or state. It raises no disputes, argues no questions, and strives to live in quietness and peace with all men. Unlike other societies, it ever maintains its dignity and reserve. It seeks not the popular favour; it does not proselyte; it sends out no propagandists, and pays nothing to recruits; and while the worthy who knocks at its doors are seldom denied, they are never urged to seek admission.

The equality of all men before God and in natural right and in the lodge-room, as taught in Masonry, is peculiar to this institution. Other societies, secular and even religious, grant preferment and favours much according to social, pecuniary, and civil distinctions. But Masonic equality is real—not merely theoretical. The Ancient Charges declare that "all preferment among Masons is grounded upon real worth and merit only." The Order regards no man for his worldly worth or honours. Prince and peasant, plebeian and patrician meet upon the same level. The day labourer, the farmer, the mechanic, as has frequently been the fact, may be Master or Grand Master, while the rich man, the professional man or the highest civil or military functionary may be and often is, but a private member. And this is so because Masons assemble in a higher character, or upon a higher plane than that made by merely conventional distinctions,—they meet as men and brethren.

We may add, in conclusion, that, while Masonry knows nothing of political parties, yet in all countries and in all times the Order has taught its disciples the fundamental doctrines of Liberty, Fraternity, and Equality, and these principles Masonry taught before modern republics had existence. Liberty, regulated by law; obedience to established authority; the fatherhood of God; the brotherhood of man, and tolerance of private religious and political opinions, are of the very essence of Freemasonry.

And the thought comes to us here—should it not long since have come to the prejudiced and short-sighted opponents of Masonry—what other institution known among men presents, has always presented, such a powerful, such a successful bulwark to the insidious encroachments of ecclesiastical and political despotisms, which would re-instate and are labouring to re-instate the intellectual darkness, the intolerance and bigotry and the religious dogmas of the Middle Ages?

Despotic power in Church and State to-day, as for ages past, hates Freemasonry with an undying hate. What does it mean?

May not the friends of civil and religious liberty, of morality, of toleration, of fraternity, in all lands, ponder on the question how great and good a work has Freemasonry been, silent but surely, doing in the centuries gone by? What mission has this Order, so old, so strong, so peculiar in its character, to fulfil in the centuries to come?

MASONIC TEMPLE AT PHILADELPHIA.

The Masonic Temple in the city of Philadelphia is, probably, the finest and most magnificent structure, erected for the fraternity, in the world. It has four fronts, and is 150 by 245 feet, and rises from the pavement 95 feet. It is built of granite, and is a perfect specimen of Norman architecture, bold, elaborate, and unlike anything in Philadelphia. The Broad-street front displays two grand towers, 250 feet from the ground to the top of the turret. The Norman porch is very elaborate and is made up of three pairs of receding pillars, with arches, mouldings, and other decorations. The grand entrance is through doors seventeen feet high and seven feet wide. The main hall is laid in black and white tiles with ornate borders. There is a grand staircase of granite, finished in Corinthian style, which rises from the front. The central staircase approached from the Juniper-street front is in the Doric style. The Grand Lodge Library-room, 105 feet long, 51 feet wide and 50 feet high, is constructed and decorated after the Corinthian style. The Banquet Hall is 105 feet long, 50 feet wide and 30 feet high, is of the Composite order, and the tables will seat 500 persons. The Oriental Hall, occupied by subordinate lodges, is ornamented in the richest style of Moorish architecture. There are the Ionic, the Egyptian, the Norman, the Gothic, and the Renaissance Halls, the latter being 90 feet long, 50 feet wide, 50 feet high, and very richly decorated. The Knights Templar occupy the Gothic hall for their asylum. The grand Temple and enduring monument of Masonic taste and liberality, was erected at a cost of about one million three hundred thousand dollars.—"Masonic Journal."

On Thursday the marriage of the Earl of Gosford and Lady Louisa Montagu, second daughter of Bro. the Duke of Manchester, was solemnised at St. George's, Hanover-square, in the presence of a number of relatives and friends of both families. On the arrival of the bride she was received by the Duke of Manchester and her bridesmaids—namely, the Ladies Grace and Margaret Gordon, Lady Mabel Bridgeman, and Lady Alice Montagu (sister of the bride). The bride wore a dress of white poul de soie, trimmed with Brussels lace and bouquets of orange flowers, a couronne of the same flowers, over which was arranged a veil of Brussels lace. The ornaments were diamonds and pearls. The bridesmaids' toilettes were of pale crème poul de soie and cachmere; cuirasse bodices, with sleeves entirely composed of gold braid; and bonnets of crème cachmere, with bouquets of red rosebuds. The wedding presents which were very numerous, included a diamond and pearl cross from the Prince and Princess of Wales, and a pair of gold candlesticks from the Duke and Duchess of Teck.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

COLONIAL and FOREIGN SUBSCRIBERS are informed that acknowledgments of remittances received are published in the first number of every month.

It is very necessary for our readers to advise us of all money orders they remit, more especially those from the United States of America and India; otherwise we cannot tell where to credit them.

NEW POSTAL RATES.

Owing to a reduction in the Postal Rates, the publisher is now enabled to send the "Freemason" to the following parts abroad for One Year for Twelve Shillings (payable in advance):—Africa, Australia, Bombay, Canada, Cape of Good Hope, Ceylon, China, Constantinople, Demerara, France, Germany, Gibraltar, Jamaica, Malta, Newfoundland, New South Wales, New Zealand, Suez, Trinidad, United States of America, &c.

TO OUR READERS.

The *Freemason* is a sixteen-page weekly newspaper, price 2d. It is published every Friday morning, and contains the most important, interesting, and useful information relating to Freemasonry in every degree. Annual subscription in the United Kingdom, Post free, 10/- P.O.O.'s to be made payable at the chief office, London.

TO ADVERTISERS.

The *Freemason* has a large circulation in all parts of the Globe, its advantages as an advertising medium can therefore scarcely be overrated.

For terms, position, &c., apply to
GEORGE KENNING, 108, Fleet-st.

Answers to Correspondents.

All Communications, Advertisements, &c., intended for insertion in the Number of the following Saturday, must reach the Office not later than 12 o'clock on Wednesday morning.

JOHN VIALLS.—Will Bro. John Vialls favour the Editor with a copy of his communication of March last.

ADCOCK, THOS.—The "Freemason" has left the office regularly every week. If you will advise the dates of the copies you are short of, duplicates shall be sent you by return.

ENORACUR LOOE.—We are glad to publish elsewhere a printed slip sent us from York, with reference to the opening of a new lodge in that ancient town.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

[The charge is 2s. 6d for announcements, not exceeding four lines, under this heading.]

BIRTHS.

AITKEN.—On the 5th inst., at Crieff-villas, Beddington-corner, the wife of R. C. Aitken, of a daughter.

LEVICK.—On the 2nd inst., the wife of H. Levick, Esq., Suez, Egypt, of a son.

RUSSELL.—On the 12th inst., at Harley-street, W., the wife of C. Russell, Esq., Q.C., of a son.

SENIOR.—On the 12th inst., at Ebor Lodge, Stoke Newington, the wife of A. H. P. Senior, of a daughter.

SMITH.—On the 12th inst., at Knoll House, Cleethorne, Great Grimsby, the wife of Captain E. Smith, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

PYMAN—SUTCLIFFE.—10th, at Stallingboro' parish church, by the Rev. James Garvey, assisted by the Rev. J. H. Bacon, James, third son of Mr. Pyman, The Willows, Hartlepool, to Emily, third daughter of Bro. John Sutcliffe, Stallingboro' House, Lincolnshire.

ARCHER—GOOCH.—On the 12th inst., at St. Luke's, New Kentish Town, by the Rev. C. H. Andrews, Frederick John, only son of John Archer, late of Pitfield-street, London, to Alice Jane, eldest daughter of the late Edwd. Gooch, Spalding, Lincolnshire.

BERRY—BERRIDGE.—On the 10th inst., at St. Martin's, Leicester, Anthony Berry, of Wilberforce-road, N., to Kate, daughter of the late R. S. Berridge, M.R.C.S., of Melton Mowbray.

WORRELL—DUVAL.—On the 10th inst., at S. Gabriel's Church, Warwick-square, S.W., by the Rev. H. J. Fase, M.A., Bro. William Worrell, P.M., and P.Z. 766, of Brixton, and 18, Newgate-street, E.C., to Marie Duval, of the Royal Academy of Music.

DEATHS.

ASTON.—On the 10th inst., at Rothesay, William Smart Aston, aged 43.

BURGESS.—On the 7th inst., at Guernsey, Richard Rose Burgess, formerly of Stokesley, Yorkshire, aged 61.

CARTER.—On the 11th inst., at West-hill, Wandsworth, Edward Carter, aged 57. Interred at Barnes Cemetery, Aug. 16.

FRANCATELLI.—On the 10th inst., at Eastbourne, Charles Elmi Francatelli, aged 71, late manager of the Freemasons' Tavern.

SUMNER.—On the 14th inst., at 81, St. Thomas-road, South Hackney, E., Elizabeth Mary, the beloved wife of the Rev. Joseph Sumner, in the 43rd year of her age.

WILKINSON.—On the 11th inst., the Rev. T. Wilkinson, rector of Market Weston, Suffolk, aged 74.

The Freemason,

SATURDAY, AUGUST 19, 1876.

CHURCH RESTORATION.

The restoration of Chester Cathedral seems to have been good work, well done. A very considerable sum has been judiciously expended on vast and long needed repairs to that venerable structure, and all classes and all persons seem liberally to have aided and largely to have contributed towards the required extensive outlay. Our brethren, alike in the provinces of Cheshire and West Lancashire, have also made offerings of considerable value to the great common end, and have shown us to-day, we venture to think, alike a commendable love of ecclesiastical architecture, and a true conception of the real spirit in which Freemasons should view all such proper efforts of church restoration. For, curiously enough, it is a fact, which we should never forget, that the history of Freemasonry in this country is bound up with the building art, in connexion too with church architecture, and that the works of our operative forefathers are to be found on every old stone of Chester Cathedral itself, just as they are to be traced on those noble buildings in England, up and down the land, which tell of the piety and sacrifices of other generations, and record in unerring language the skill and the unity of design and labour which marked the mediæval Freemasons. Yet, curiously enough, to some of us this fact and this truth do not appear either welcome or agreeable. They will accept any theory rather than that which links on the Speculative Grand Lodge of 1717 to the operative guilds, they will put forward any suggestion rather than be compelled to accept such a conclusion. Political or religious, knightly or hermetic, the sublimation of moonshine or the reduction ad absurdum, it's all "ane to Dandie," and it is exactly the same to them. They will have something, as they think, higher, more respectable, more gentlemanly. They will even accept the "social theory," the most childish of all; but to be actually connected with those, who wore bonâ-fide leather aprons, carried the hod, chipped the stone, and laid on the mortar and cement, they cannot and will not tolerate. Yet the remorseless criticism of history, the irrepressible certainty of evidence, are both forcing upon all Masonic students this dilemma. "You have before your eyes the account of those Masonic guilds whose constitutions, whose legends are your own. You have indicia accumulating now rapidly of the existence of Freemasons long before 1717; either then you must accept the guild theory as the most probable and reasonable account of the history and progress of Freemasonry, or you must find another explanation of its life and doings on the simple law of cause and effect." And though some have boldly faced the dilemma, and substituted a theory of their own for that which reasonable argument would suggest, and distinct evidence would affirm, yet it is impossible to doubt that the "outcome" of contemporary study and criticism is, that to the guild theory we must look, and look alone, for the true explanation of the annals and acts of Freemasons and Freemasonry, those Freemasons and that Freemasonry represented to-day by the descendants of the Speculative Grand Lodge of 1717. Hence we must always feel a deep interest in those glorious fanes and those goodly buildings on which still linger, graven by the skilful chisel, the marks of the operative Freemasons of earlier and departed centuries; we must always feel proud of these traces of that loyal and laborious brotherhood which still attest north and south, and east and west, where lodges of Freemasons tarried, where guilds of Freemasons existed in the "limitt" or district. The creations of these skilled Master Masons, native or foreign, which still throw a grace around the "Houses of God in our land," and still appeal so forcibly to the eyes, and tastes, and feelings of the art student, of the reverent worshipper, will have for us all everything that æsthetic sympathies can profess, or a refined and cultivated judgment can avow. It was in no idle mood, with no vain feelings of dilettante art admiration,

that our distinguished Bro. John Havers appealed in Grand Lodge to the wise and Masonic examples of our provincial brethren in favour of that very principle he sought to commend to the calm discretion and unimpassioned decision of Grand Lodge. Had the argument used in Grand Lodge prevailed in the provinces, they could not tell to-day, as they happily do, of liberal aid offered, and kindly goodwill manifested, in the preservation and restoration of those very buildings which first were raised by the "cunning" hands of ancient Craftsmen. The truth is, that the arguments against the grant in Grand Lodge to St. Paul's and St. Alban's were simply "ad hominem," and could not then stand the test (pace the majority,) of serious considerations nor can they now face the criticism of stern and inexorable logic. But enough. We are among those who never have been and are not now ashamed of our legitimate operative connection; and we can only add in conclusion that, say what you will, explain it as you may, this consanguinity of operative and speculative Masonry, if one may so speak, the existence of Freemasonry quâ Freemasonry, alike as a guild and as a speculative brotherhood—in its exoteric organization, in its esoteric formulæ, in its secrecy, and in its success—is one of the most remarkable facts that we know of in the very history of the world, among the sodalities and movements, in the progress and the labours of mankind.

FIREMAN LEE.

We should hardly be doing our duty to our great Order, ever ready to admire heroism and commend meritorious self-sacrifice, if we did not shortly call attention to the death of Fireman Lee in the noble discharge of his duty. In another column we give an account from our contemporary, the "Times," of a quasi-public funeral which accompanied the remains of a genuine hero to his peaceful resting place in the Abney Park Cemetery on Thursday week. Large classes of our population, a strong muster of police, his comrades under their gallant chief, Captain Shaw, volunteer fire brigades, and the men of the salvage corps, all attended to do honour to the memory of one who had sacrificed his own life to save that of a helpless fellow creature, and who had died the noblest of all deaths, a soldier at the post of duty, quietly, calmly facing the great grim enemy, undaunted by his terrors and unnerved by his fell approach. It is quite affecting to read how, though the flames were circling up on every side of him, he, with a self-possession and determined courage perfectly marvellous, placed a poor woman in the fire escape, and though, as we are told, she stuck in her descent, he forced her down the shaft of the escape with all his power, at the very time that the flames were surrounding him, and his own destruction was inevitable. He never counted the cost to himself, but in the simple discharge of his duty, saved at the expense of his own life that of a helpless and trembling fellow creature. Well may Captain Shaw state publicly, that in his varied and great experience of daily deeds of zealous service and manly effort, (too often unnoticed and unrewarded), he never knew a more remarkable case of heroic devotion to duty; and the funeral of Thursday week was a proof how the popular feeling entirely endorses Captain Shaw's remarks. Nothing, in fact, can be said too much in heartfelt admiration of discipline and devotion like that to which we have alluded, and Captain Shaw and his little handful of brave firemen may indeed feel proud of that imperishable deed of gallantry and of chivalry which will be for ever linked with the name and memory of Fireman Lee. We who live in this great metropolis, and know the active labours, the hourly dangers, and often hear of the noble deaths of many in that small (far too small) body of firemen, are nevertheless perhaps hardly sufficiently alive to the incessant hazard incurred by that too limited corps, we repeat, of well-trained men over whom Captain Shaw so efficiently presides. And we feel strongly that with these our humble words of sympathetic admiration for the noble death of Fireman Lee we should not forget the perilous but invaluable services rendered every hour that passes over our heads

by the Metropolitan Fire Brigade, of which it is not too much to say that its equal can perhaps hardly be found in any portion of the civilized world. Its motto certainly is at any rate "Nulli Secundus." We by no means wish in saying this, to undervalue or forget the heroic exertions of other fire brigades in other capitals of Europe and the East, but we honestly feel, that Captain Shaw has a right to ask and expect from us that hearty commendation and that entire confidence which are his just due, after the many proofs hourly before our eyes of the admirable discipline and untiring zeal of his little handful of men, of the gallant exertions of that ever active Fire Brigade of which he is the energetic head.

A GRAVE SCANDAL.

We are among those who deeply feel the evil done by the nauseating evidence adduced during the inquiry of the mournful and horrible Bravo case. Anything more detrimental to morality, anything more susceptible of evil influences, anything more likely to cause widespread demoralization than the details of the evidence, humiliating and painful in themselves, we cannot well conceive or realise. And yet, when we have said all this, we cannot deny that the enquiry was absolutely needed, in the interests of justice and society, neither can we affirm that all this sifting of the lives of the dead and the living, this opening out of hidden sores and buried secrets, was improper or unfair. Far from it. We do not agree with the "Times" on this part of the case. If there was to be an enquiry, it must be thorough; if there was to be examination there must be cross-examination; and we confess that we do not see, if certain witnesses were put into the box, how they were to be exempted on any principle of law or equity from the inevitable process of cross-examination. Of the case itself, however unpleasant, however pressing, or however personal, we still must speak with proper reserve. Practically, it is yet "sub judice," and we do not think it right or becoming to express any public opinion, though we probably all have formed a private one, alike as to the different acts of the "dramatis personæ," and a possible solution of the mystery, a reasonable theory both of cause and effect, of the mournful history of this most dreadful crime. What the effect of the enquiry may be remains to be seen, but we shall be sincerely glad if those who have so assiduously perused for some time past, in all ranks of society, the daily details of this extraordinary enquiry, will turn their attention to something else better worth reading, and eschew for the future a literature baneful in itself for every class and condition amongst us, and directly tending to deprave the imagination, and to sap public and personal morality. What a sad spectacle is it for the thoughtful, the serious, and the God-fearing! What humiliating evidence it must remain of that under-current of social ill-living which seems to be surging upwards higher and higher amongst us, and which, unless timely checked, threatens to sweep away those barriers and restraints in social life which prudence and propriety, virtue and piety, decency and religion, have set up for the honour of God and the welfare of man!

Original Correspondence.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for, or even as approving of the opinions expressed by our correspondents, but we wish, in a spirit of fair play to all, to permit—within certain necessary limits—free discussion.—Ed.]

MASONIC PROFESSION AND PRACTICE.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

The letter signed Zaphon is a credit to the brother who wrote it, whoever he may be, and I will supplement his remarks upon the so-called hospitality of some lodges by expressing my surprise at the absence of that Masonic characteristic in most of the lodges in England which I have attended. In India after the lodge is closed it is the custom for the W.M. to invite all visiting brethren to the banquet, and I never heard of such a thing in that country as a visiting brother even from any local lodge having to pay for the hospitality shown him, or his being paid for by any individual brother. But in this country I find it is the practice, generally, to make the visiting brother, even though he be a foreigner, pay for all he eats and drinks. On two occasions (one of them being a Provincial Grand Lodge meeting) I have been obliged thus

to buy a ticket for the banquet, although I had on each occasion received an invitation to be present. I beg, therefore, to suggest to the rulers of the lodges where this sort of hospitality is in vogue that they should alter the toast of "The Visiting Brethren" to that of "The Brethren who don't belong to our lodge." I recollect belonging to a mess once as an honorary member, but when I found I had to contribute as much, and even more than the regular members, I always looked upon and called myself a "non-regimental member" and not an "honorary" one.

If a man cannot afford to entertain, the wisest plan for him to pursue is not to ask people to his house under the guise of showing hospitality.

AN INDIAN P.M.

12th August, 1876.

SISTER ALDORTH.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

There is a portrait and an account of the history of Elizabeth St. Ledger in the Royal Military Lodge, No. 1449, at Canterbury, which is certified by a brother (one of her descendants), who presented it to the lodge as being the only authentic portrait and history of her life.

If Bro. Blackburne should be ever at Canterbury he can see the portrait at any time in the lodge.

I am, dear Sir, yours faithfully,

W.M. 1449.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Several of our Leicester brethren being of opinion that the picnic party referred to in the enclosed report should not pass without special notice, I have to request that you will kindly oblige by inserting those few remarks in your next issue. In consequence of some misunderstanding the report has been delayed an unusual time.

I am, yours fraternally,

P.M., Mark Lodge, No. 19.

9th August, 1876.

[The report appears on page 364.]

A LITTLE FRIENDLY GOSSIP ON SOME OF THE TOPICS OF THE DAY.

BY PHILANTHROPOS.

(Written Especially for the "Freemason.")

No. 1.—EDUCATION.

It is very remarkable how men differ, and differ greatly on this apparently simple question.

On no subject are opinions so various, views so contrasted, discussions so vehement, or controversies so bitter. Why is it, why should it be so?

"A priori," we should have thought that the problem of education was one not so very difficult to solve.

The old saying would seem to be of universal application still, "educat nutrit, instituit pædagogus," and the "homo ingenuus et liberaliter educatus" would appear to be a proper representative of the genus man.

Indeed, the "educatus," the "Eκπαιδευτης," the truly educated person, might be taken to be a necessity alike for the happiness and well being of the individual, of the family, of the nation, of mankind. But, strange to say, more fallacies from the very first seem to have surrounded this apparently simple proposition than any other known matter of human discussion. Most strange it should be so, but that it is so is a proof, if proof indeed be ever needed by any of us at all, of the inborn weakness, perversity warped instincts, and marred sympathies of our race. The greatest enemy to man is man.

Is it not curious to note and to remember that in all ages of the world, at any rate during the historic ages, education has, so to say, been "in difficulties?" It has always encountered obstacles, met with antagonists, and has been alternately ridiculed and depreciated, slandered and suppressed, and still it has survived both the struggles of men and the lapse of time.

Teachers and taught, the "pædagogus" and his pupils, have all been the subject of fierce contests, many philippics, and blind anathemata, and that despite the "counter irritation," so to say, of the world and of men education has still held its own, is alike the most hopeful sign for humanity itself, and the most "remarkable outcome," perhaps, of the dead and buried ages of the past, of those mighty centuries which have rolled away from time, carrying with them the dreams and plans, the hopes and aspirations, the struggles and the logomachies, the wisdom and the folly of mankind. Yet, as we said at the outset, in itself the proposition is a very simple one in the abstract, and not more difficult, apparently, in the concrete.

To educate the youthful mind to draw out its latent powers, to train up its moral sense, to direct it in its yearnings after something tangible and truthful, to enlighten, to unfold, to develop, and to elevate, would appear a normal duty on the one hand, and an inherent right upon the other.

Whether we throw the blame on the parent, or the municipality, or the province, or the nation, there is blame attaching to some one, when any unit of the mighty aggregate grows up in ignorance of himself, and of others, in ignorance of the needful and improving realities of science, of the social duties he owes to his fellow citizens in blind, dull, crass, dead ignorance of all that constitutes both the intellectual and moral character of a sentient, intelligent, immortal being. We may surround the question with as many sophistries as we like, we may spin as many webs as we choose of the finest network around what is plain, simple, and straightforward, we may raise as many difficulties as we can, invent as many "burning questions," propound as many hopeless "cases of conscience,"

as fancy suggests, or a mistaken sense of duty seems to prompt, but the simple fact amidst all this remains clear and incontestable, that a great crime is committed against society and humanity, a great social wrong is perpetuated, when any little mind among us is allowed to run riot in ignorance, when undying "atoms" are permitted to grow up among living men, but little above in respect of education, the beasts that perish.

And in saying this we blame no one. We are all equally to blame in the matter. We have so accustomed ourselves either to the plausible utterances of the "schools," or the sophistical difficulties of the denomination, that we have at times lost sight seemingly of the great end of education namely, the education of the intelligent and immortal being.

We do not deny that there are some denominational difficulties which require careful consideration and respectful treatment; but we will allude to these later on, and in saying what we have just said, we must not be supposed to be at all insensible to the bona fide scruples of many excellent persons, or above all, to the lawful claims of religion in respect of this most important of subjects.

But what we are anxious to point out is simply this,—Education is both a duty and a right, and as such demands from all thinking persons, sympathy, approval, and support.

We have long outlived happily the time when ignorance was positively considered preferable to education for a very large portion of our fellow creatures.

But we have not quite got the better of that "hesitation" about education per se, which still seems to fill the minds of many with doubts, and fears, and colours so many depreciatory arguments and so many mournful vaticinations. We admit the value of education, the propriety of education, the utility of education, even the need of education, but we qualify our admission of these indubitable truths by the limits we seek to impose, and the controlling power we claim to exercise over the progress and "curriculum" of education itself.

We do not see, and apparently will not see that education to be education in its true meaning and interest, must be "thorough," that it cannot be offered in stinted measure, that it cannot be accommodated to suit preconceived opinions of what it ought to be, (and which are generally emphatically what it ought not to be), and least of all can it be as it were appropriated specifically to various classes and ranks of society amongst us.

There is no royal road to learning, or to education, we must all travel along the same pathway, at any rate for a certain distance, though some may go further than others and some may step short, and some may even lag behind. But the moment we seek to clip or carve the great foundation principles of education, so as to have, as it were, a graduated education for different classes amongst us, we do despite to the great and sound cause of education itself. For in our opinion, we cannot over-educate, we say it boldly, and we have attended carefully and closely to the subject for years.

All we can say is, that some make a better one of their education than others, that some pervert education, just as they misuse talents, and waste opportunities, but we prefer to have to deal with an educated rather than an uneducated person at all times, and so ere long will all classes amongst us, whether in manufacture or agriculture, in every lot and condition of life assuredly prefer also.

The difference between skilled and unskilled labour, for instance, is already infinite, as many of our readers know.

But again we do not wish to be misunderstood.

We may leave out here all sensational tales of over-education, because they lack, in our opinion the essential and important condition of verity; and though they may lend a zest to a dull speech, or afford a fair subject for innocent chaff, they cannot be made use of as a serious argument, on a most important and vital question.

But we admit, that of course in a national school, exempli gratia even of the best, we do not profess to give or seek to impart the education of our higher class schools for the richer portions of the community, nor do we, in any way compete, we will not say, with the "private venture schools," but at any rate with home instruction. But we do profess to give an elementary education, and we contend that we are to give the very best of elementary education, not merely in the three R's, but in geography, music, drawing, mental arithmetic, dictation, grammar, history, and all kinds of needlework for our girls.

And if to these be added, for our girls especially, needful instruction in the simpler and leading principles of cookery, and there is cultivated among our boys a taste for industrial occupations, and the various active branches of a technical instruction, we should certainly not err. Nay, we should act both wisely and well. After all we must always bear in mind that school education is a very little portion of the educational process, in us all, and acts only for a very short period. Self-education is the best, perhaps, of all education, and that must come from the intellectual tastes and well-used opportunities of after years, by the class, by the library, by the institute, by the social meeting, by mental thought, and, above all, by much hard individual study.

But to start all our young people in life, for we assume that elementary education is universal, we must give them a good elementary education, hoping and trusting that as years pass the great mass of our pleasant little ones will seek day by day to educate themselves, as young men and young women to fight the rough battle of life, or fill its marts, or occupy its laborious callings.

But we would not stop here.

In all schools some children are of more promise than others, more quick at learning, more ready of apprehension, more willing to acquire information, more happy in application, and these, when their elementary term of edu-

cation is over, should be drafted to a higher school, where their special talents may be attended to and carefully developed. This remark is meant to apply to girls, as well as to boys.

To say that we are simply to educate the children in our elementary schools, to be "browsers of wood and drawers of water" for successive generations, is both a folly and a wickedness, contrary to every law of nature, and of Providence, and directly antagonistic to the whole history of individual rise, of national growth, of actual progress, and of human life. But here we must stop for to-day. We will in our next paper consider another side of this question, a most important one, which may be not improperly termed the Denominational View of Education, as it cannot be ignored by any who wish fairly to consider the great subject of education, and, above all, because it deserves most attentive consideration from all true friends of Education.

Reviews.

"MISTRESS HASSELWODE," Two Vols. F. H. Moore Messrs. Remington, and Co., 5, Arundel-street, Strand.

We have received and read this new novel, or rather historical romance. It carries us back to the stirring days of King Edward, and we see before us a picture carefully limned, of eventful episodes and bustling "dramatis personæ." "Mistress Haselwode," is in fact a history of the rising of "King Ket," and a startling representation enough of the horrors and evils which ever follow the outbursts of an unbridled fanaticism, or the outbreak of the furious passions of intestine commotion. When to political animosity is added the savagery of a morbid and quasi-religious furore, "ill fares it," ever with any land so torn and convulsed, to "hastening ills a prey." There can be no doubt, we apprehend, that the story faithfully represents some of the main incidents in that stormy period, and some of the acts and results of unlicensed and irreligious ruffianism. Plunder seems to have been the object then under the mask of religion, just as plunder still is too often the real object of many, under the guise of hasty change, or with the pretext of religious reform. We thank the author for a sprightly and well written tale, and we are very glad indeed to commend it to the attention and perusal of our readers. At the same time we do not profess to admire the action or intolerance of Father Sykes, as, in our opinion, priors and parsons never appear so ill, after all, as when mixing themselves up in purely political matters, though we all often err in this respect. The contemplative layman may often say, "Diable, qu'allaît il faire dans cette galère."

"WITHIN BOHEMIA." By H. CURWEN.—Remington & Co.

We have taken up and put down this book with mingled feelings. We do not exactly see why the undoubtedly able writer has given the name of "Life in Bohemia" to his work, or much less, why he has added the alliteration of "Love in London." Whether the word "Bohemia" refers to London, or to some special class of society, we do not profess to understand, but we apprehend it is French and foreign, alike in its terminology and its application. His heroes are many of them interesting young men, but clearly living in "Short-street." His heroines—well! they are not the girls after our own heart, at least, some of them. And here it is where we think the writer has erred. If Bohemia and Bohemianism exist in London, all London is neither the one, nor do its inhabitants follow the proclivities of the other, and the stories, as stories, might be written of any place or portion of the United Kingdom, as well as of and in London. Some of the stories are pretty and interesting, if somewhat sketchy, while others are somewhat painful and depressing. There is abundance of vivacity of language, of elegance of style, and of facile use of words, which seem to show that the writer has not put forth all his powers, and is capable of closer studies, and perhaps more effective pictures of human life. We think it is a pity, in the present state of literature, of realistic utterances and sensational tales, to be talking of so much love, &c., to the young. That is a lesson they learn early enough, very often, so to say, self-taught, and they require neither strange teachers nor foreign interpreters. As it is we should prefer if our young people were told more of duty and decorum, more of right and truth, more of prudence and propriety, than the often fantastic legends of that little god of heathen mythology, who has done so much mischief, and led astray so many with misplaced sentiments of ecstatic weakness in this gregarious world of ours. We do not object to the influence of that most potent affection of humanity within due bounds, and at a proper season; but alas! it is vain to speak on such a subject to the young, the giddy, and the sentimental. Still, as of old, the youth of both sexes will say, "Hoc alterna fides, hoc simplex gratia donat."

"THE BIRMINGHAM EXAMINER."—J. Davis, Birmingham.

We have received No. 2 of Vol. 1 of this "monthly magazine of general literature," which certainly is a very good and, above all, cheap magazine at its price, 6d. Amid the crowd of monthlies competing for public patronage and claiming individual attention it is, of course, most difficult to say to our many subscribers, "read this or study that." Literature, like everything else, though it has no doubt, like everything else too, its "chic" and its "fashion," its time and its season, its popularity and its hour of success, must follow, we apprehend, the law of supply and demand, want and satisfying of want, merit and reward, effort and approval. It is in vain to cram literature down the throats of any, or to claim for it the support of the public when it does not meet a requirement or satisfy a craving. "Ceteris paribus," we can consci-

entiously say many sincere words of commendation and approval of the "Birmingham Examiner" as a candidate for public favour, and as a monthly serial alike interesting and well written.

"RHYMES AND SKETCHES TO ILLUSTRATE THE CLEVELAND DIALECT." By Mrs. G. M. TWEDDELL.

We have commended this little work before, and we commend it again to the kind patronage and perusal of our many readers to-day. It is a genuine little production, marked by truth and ability, by reality and humour, by sound teaching and a good moral; and we are very glad in these days of dubious literary productions, and hesitating utterances of a higher excellence, to claim for it the approval and encouragement of all who wish the literature of the hour to fulfil its true end, the intellectual amusement and the moral edification of all classes.

"THE MASONIC JOURNAL," LOUISVILLE, U.S.

This is a new candidate for Masonic support which hails from across the mighty waters of the Atlantic, or, as some sentimental persons call it the "heaving bosom of the mighty ocean." We heartily welcome its appearance, and wish it all possible success. It appears to be ably conducted and full of promise.

"THE PHILADELPHIA KEYSTONE."

The decennial period of this excellent American Masonic paper has been reached. We trust that it will arrive at its centennial, though two or three generations of Masonic writers, will by that time be sleeping in their graves. We know of no paper in the world which does more honour to the Masonic flag which it carries so bravely than our able and interesting contemporary, and we offer to our courteous and kindly confrere, Bro. Clifford P. McCalla, our heartfelt congratulations on the past and present of the "Keystone," and hearty good wishes for the future. It is conducted with rare ability, and deserves the support of all Anglo-Saxon Freemasons.

"THE ROSICRUCIAN AND MASONIC RECORD."—Geo. Kenning, 198, Fleet-street, E.C.

The April number of this quarterly serial is now out, and which has been delayed owing mainly, we understand, to the indisposition of one of its able editors, our esteemed Bro. R. W. Little. We hope that he is now better. The Magazine for April keeps up its character for variety and ability, and while it may be read by all Masons, especially commends itself to the patronage and perusal of those who take an active part in the "high grades," as they are called. All the articles well repay consideration, and the account of poor Bro. Dodd, once Grand Chaplain, though not containing anything novel is interesting. We wish the Rosicrucian all success.

EARNESTNESS IN THE PERFORMANCE OF MASONIC DUTIES.

In our observations last week on "The Social Influence of Freemasonry," we endeavoured to show how the usefulness of lodges might be crippled, and now we venture to suggest that the efforts of individual members would be rendered of more service not only to the Craft in general, their own lodge in particular, but to themselves, if that which constitutes one of the main elements of success in the ordinary affairs of life pervaded their Masonic duties.

He worships best who labours most, and every one who thus proves his allegiance to the G.A.O.T.U. knows unless zeal and earnestness of purpose give tone and character to the work he is called on to perform, success rarely attends his efforts. Whatever we have to do must be done "with all our might." We are enjoined to be "not slothful in business, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord."

A blessing always attends steady, persevering, zealous industry. Labour, if viewed aright, sweetens existence, alleviates sorrow, refreshes the weary spirit. It is not life's bitter, but its salt. But there must be heart in it.

Labour is the means designed to carry out the great law of progress. If listlessly performed, it may be likened to a mill wheel, ever revolving, ever stationary; if desire to excel characterize it, to the wheel of the charioteer, bearing him to the goal of his ardent desires. Is the regular attendance at lodge all that is needful? Does this illustrate the spirit of Freemasonry, which is to visit the fatherless and the widows in their affliction, and to keep unspotted from the world? Does this require no zeal, no earnestness of purpose, no buckling on of armour, no constant readiness to go where all have their due?

Mr. Gooddeasyman, in Bunyan's matchless allegory, would have been a very unworthy member of a lodge of zealous Freemasons!

Much so-called zeal is expended in working for office. If office is sought as a means to greater, better opportunities for doing good, the ambition so to serve the Master is worthily directed; but they also serve who only stand and wait, and if this was more felt, we should see less of that careless inaction and cool observance of duty which exclusion from office often leads to. All are not granted the gift of directing assemblages, of guiding others, and yet, because imagined ability so to do is not recognised, those to whom the position of leaders is given are compelled to use that energy in carrying out details which should be used in directing others.

On the principles that as "to the victors belong the spoils," so the brethren who are in positions of honour are expected to be soldiers as well as leaders. Positions of honour—the honours of Freemasonry! What are they? the mere insignia of office. The true honours of the Craft remain with those who honour it.

The G.A.O.T.U. demands of every brother that he must do his duty in whatever position he may be placed and whoso thus acts He will honour. We believe there is no higher position in life than that of a Master Mason, and he who as such conscientiously, earnestly and zealously

does his duty, commands the respect of all the brethren, and above all the approbation of their and his Master. It may seem amiss in us, in the capacity of journalists, to talk or rather write thus "ex cathedra." Our excuse must be that it is our earnest desire to see our lodges living monuments, not coldly observant of manual, but imbued with a longing, earnest, zealous devotion of the work given them to do. Let each in his place exalt it, and so enable himself, and the result will be that Freemasonry will be exalted and enabled, its opportunities for good increased, and its influence enlarged:—So mote it be.—"New York Square."

MAKING LODGE MEETINGS ATTRACTIVE.

Make your lodge meetings attractive and interesting. There are many who think that the only meetings worthy of their attention, and which will afford anything of interest, are those in which there is what is technically called work to be done; or, in other words, degrees to be conferred. You meet a brother on the street and inquire, "Will you be at the lodge to-night?" "Well," he replies, "I hardly know. Is there any work on hand?" "Yes," you say, "the Third Degree is to be conferred." "Oh, is it? Well, I think I must try and be there." But if you tell him there is nothing on hand but the regular routine of lodge business, you will often hear the reply: "Well, I should like much to be with you, but the fact is that I am so very busy that I do not see how I can spare the time." Now, it is possible to revolutionize this whole matter; and, by pursuing the proper course, make our ordinary communications—those in which degrees are not to be conferred—the most interesting and attractive of all. In order to do this, study to introduce variety into the exercises of the lodge. Cling to your ritual and to your regular routine of business, but do not rest satisfied with these. So arrange as to give plenty of time for other matters. The most beautiful ceremonies, when gone through with night after night, again and again, with nothing introduced or added to give variety, will, in time, become most terribly monotonous, and cease to afford either interest or instruction. Stop ever and anon, and enlarge upon the teachings of our ritual, and thus bring its beauties more prominently to view, and write its truths more indelibly upon the mind and heart. Do not attempt to do much in one evening, and thus unduly prolong your sessions until the brethren are wearied, and the good wife at once loses her patience as she sits up until the small hours of the night awaiting your return, and you, by virtue of your late hours, become unfitted for the labours of the following day. Let the most of your degree-work be done at special communications, and thus avoid the necessity of prolonged sessions, and obtain more time at your regular meetings for other matters. Nothing will more effectually deplete our ranks, kill all the interest in our meetings, and embitter the folks at home, than by pursuing the course against which we warn you. Again, banish all buckram and starch from your midst. While you guard against frivolity, and strive to maintain among the brethren a true Masonic dignity, aim at the same time to draw out and cultivate the spirit of free and easy interchange of opinions, introduce and allow to be introduced any and all topics that can consistently be discussed in a lodge-room. Occasionally bring forward themes, the consideration of which will require Masonic research, and thus put our brethren upon a course of Masonic reading that will eventually cause them to become well instructed in the philosophy, jurisprudence, and history of our Order, and make them intelligent, zealous, devoted Masons, and inspire them with an earnest love for the fraternity and the whole family. How many Masons there are who are hardly aware that Masonry has any literature at all beyond a few straggling periodicals; whereas it counts volumes by the thousand, and sends forth to the world its periodicals in which talent and ability are evinced inferior to none.

Masons need these books and periodicals, and no better work can be done for the fraternity than to send them out broadcast. Every organization is liable to abuse by its enemies just in proportion to the ignorance of its members. We need more reading Masons. In these days, when in many places we are bitterly and persistently assailed, it stands us in hand to be well informed with reference to everything pertaining to the Order. We are blessed with vast numbers who are intelligent, reading, thinking men, and yet, while conversant with almost every other subject, they are not intelligent in Masonry. When a brother has taken all the degrees, when he has become so thoroughly acquainted with the ritual that every word is at his tongue's end, so far is he from being a well-instructed Mason that he has but simply learned the Masonic alphabet; he is only placed upon good vantage ground for entering upon a course of Masonic research that will amply reward for all the labour he may bestow. Let us keep these facts constantly before the brethren, and thus spur them up to greater diligence in their efforts for more and further Masonic light.—Grand Master Griswold of Minnesota.

PROROGATION.—Tuesday's "Gazette" contained the following:—"It is this day ordered by Her Majesty in Council that the Parliament be prorogued on Tuesday, August 15th instant, to Tuesday, October 31st 1876; and that the Right Hon. the Lord High Chancellor of that part of the United Kingdom called Great Britain do cause a commission to be prepared and issued in the usual manner for proroguing the Parliament accordingly." A similar notification prorogues the Conventions of Canterbury and York till Wednesday, November 1.

DAYLIGHT reflected in dark rooms. Gas superseded in day time. Health, comfort, and economy promoted by adopting Chappuis' Patent Daylight Reflectors.—Manufactory, 69, Fleet-street, London.

LET US BE SOCIABLE.

During the now more than thirty years we have been the servant of the Craft, instant in season and out of season, to promote its best interest—for which we may remark in passing we have received more kicks than coppers—during all these years we repeat we have endeavoured to impress upon the Craftsmen that, while we are not to lose sight of the value of a proper, and as far as possible, uniform rendering of the ritual, a correct knowledge and application of our system of law and an energetic maintenance of our Masonic rights of jurisdiction, we ought not to forget that the amenities of the institution have a strong and a not too well acknowledged and cultivated claim upon our attention. It is not all of Masonry to occasionally attend a lodge meeting or to turn out strong at the annual election, or to be thoroughly posted in the work, so as to be able to repeat the same phrases from one year's end to another with a sameness as absolute as the ticking of a clock or that of a well regulated sewing machine. The precepts and intention of the institution ought also to claim a part of our time and devotion, and we should know, not as a mere empty phrase, signifying nothing, but as living realities the demands of our covenants and the practical realisation of brotherly love, relief and truth. In fact we must do so if we want the fraternity to maintain its present status, and hold fast the membership it has already acquired. "Man shall not live by bread alone," nor can reasonable health be maintained without an occasional change of diet. So in our lodges the mere repetition of a given formula will in the end pall upon the stoutest appetite, and the result is apathy first, and then total neglect.

This idea is well set forth in the following by Bro. Cummings, of Iowa:

"But while almost every volume of the proceedings before us brings us intelligence that harmony prevails and the Craft is prospering, they contain not a few complaints of the lack of interest, small attendance, and lukewarmness existing in many lodges. Several of the Grand Masters have expressed their opinions as to the cause. The Grand Master of Texas attributes it in part to a want of care in selection of officers. Doubtless there is much in this. The Grand Master of Colorado believes another reason is that there is too much labour and too little refreshment. We are losing sight of the fact that Masonry is a social institution." The Grand Master of Maryland puts it thus: Another source of lukewarmness is to be found in the almost universal neglect into which have fallen the festivals of the Order."

"It is evident that our meetings could be made more attractive if this dull routine—opening, reading the minutes, referring petitions, balloting, a matter of business, closing—were varied. It is hardly worth while to ride ten or a dozen miles for only this. The writer has found it to work well to confer a degree upon a candidate, whenever possible, at the regular communication. The effect has been to largely increase the attendance, especially of the country members.

"It is too true; we are losing sight of the social feature, and are drifting into a cold, formal business way. The ancient custom, amounting almost to the dignity of a landmark, was to serve refreshments after the close of the lodge. Let us return to the custom, even if we can afford no more than biscuits and cheese and a cup of cold water, seasoned well with wit and joke and brotherly greeting. We give credit to the Grand Master of Michigan for the cheese, biscuit, and water suggestions, and we endorse his recommendation that lodges should have at least quarterly social gatherings. We will go even further—we will second most emphatically the 'motion' of the Grand Master of Minnesota: 'Ever and anon call from labour to refreshment and open our doors and invite your wives, sisters, and daughters to participate with you in the enjoyment of the hour.'

"Give Masonry its olden social character; bring the brethren together more frequently to enjoy each other's society; bury the rivalries of business; forget the scramble for money, for success, and the pleasant smiles of our loved ones, and the charm of female companionship, and Masonry will be the better for it, and we will be better Masons. "All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy."

The tendency is altogether too much to business and dignity to the neglect of sociability. Let any one who doubts this observe the proceedings of the first lodge at the communication of which he may be present. The usual formalities are observed with a care amounting to absolute polish; order and decorum prevail to an extent that cannot be surpassed, all of which is most admirable and praiseworthy in itself, but when the business of the evening is completed, and there does not happen to be a candidate in waiting, there seems to be no other resource but to close and disperse. We note two causes for this state of affairs, one leading to the other, which are, that for many years past the tidal wave of prosperity on which the institution has been upborne has given the mere ritual an undue, but, under the circumstances, perhaps, unavoidable prominence. The whole energies of lodges and members individually have been directed to the attainment of correct method in conferring the several degrees, and these degrees with the necessary routine business, have consumed the time to such an extent as to shut out all other thoughts. The second cause above alluded to naturally arises from and follows this state of affairs, and is the rapid increase of membership, one of the most apparent and easily verified results of which is the fact that in almost every lodge one part of the membership is more or less acquainted with the other. It may be known that Jones belongs to our lodge, but that is all; whether he lives in a garret or cellar, whether the world moves as pleasantly in his case as it might if his fellow-members knew more about him and took more interest in his wel-

fare, is another matter, and the larger the lodge the more evident the fact here named. Now, we think that this ought to be corrected, and that if a man is deemed worthy to be admitted to membership in our lodge, he ought to be ipso facto worthy of our acquaintance and fellowship, and therefore it ought to be a part of our duty, when a candidate is received, to make a part of his Masonic education to consist of a hearty and fraternal welcome, not only to the formal privileges of membership, but of the friendship and interest of his immediate brethren. In theory, admission to membership is really taking a person into our Masonic family; but in practice it does not work altogether that way; but we again submit that it ought to, and we suggest that the cultivation of the amenities ought to be as much a part of our work as a correct knowledge of the ceremonial; a little less business, not quite so ardent devotion to crossing t's and dotting i's in the ritual—in short, a little more cordiality and more of the sociable feature of Freemasonry, will be to the advantage of the brethren and the true interests of the Craft. —"New York Dispatch."

ON THE WORD "ORDER."
(From the "Masonic Journal.")

With all due deference to the opinion of Dr. Mackey we shall maintain that Masonry is not an Order, and for the simple reason that Masonry knows no distinction between men, whether they be high or low, rich or poor, the only requirements being good repute before the world and a belief in an eternal, everlasting God. Can an Order be named where rank is not considered. And finally we add that the title of our institution is, The Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons,—"New York Square."

We dislike, indeed, to differ with our esteemed brethren of the "New York Square" on any subject connected with Masonry, or to stickle pertinaciously on what might seem to be a small subject, the mere use and meaning of a word. It sometimes, however, becomes necessary that we establish the meaning and propriety of the terms we use, and we virtually assumed the position that Freemasonry may be properly styled an Order, and quoted Dr. Mackey in support of that position, which authority was not deemed sufficient, we now propose to give other authorities and reasons. We believe it is an established principle that words possess no natural aptness to denote the particular things to which they are applied rather than others, but acquire this aptness by conventional usage, that custom fixes the meaning of words, and that they are to be generally used in the sense given to them by standard authors who are acknowledged to be familiar with the subject in which the words in controversy are used. Webster defines an Order to be "a group or division of men occupying the same social platform."

Dr. Robert Macoy, 33°, in his work of learned research entitled "General History and Dictionary of Freemasonry," and published by the Masonic Publishing Company of New York, says, on page 178: "An Order is a body whose character is known, its practices observable, its rules fixed, its purposes declared, and its utility proved." Having all these characteristics, "Freemasonry is therefore an Order." On page 548 he uses the words "the constitution of the Order," on page 590, "the moral philosophy of the Order," also, "let a man's religion or mode of worship be what it may he is not excluded from the Order," on page 592, "he who wishes to enter the Order of Freemasonry." In the General Ahiman Rezon and Mason's Guide, by Bro. Daniel Sickles, 33°, edition of 1869, and published by the Masonic Publishing Company, we find on page 23, in the form of a petition for an E.A., he is required to promise a cheerful conformity to the customs of the Order. On page 24 the words, the "sacred tenets of our Order," and in the charge to the lodge the "excellent principles of our Order," on page 54 the words, "induction of the Neophyte into the Order of Freemasonry." In the charge to the F.C. on page 158 are the words, "you will conform to the principles of the Order." In the charge to the Master of lodges at his installation the word Order is used twice as application to the body over which he is expected to preside. Preston says no Mason can be interred with the formalities of the Order unless at his own request. As appropriate uses of the term we have the words, Order of High Priesthood, Order of Eastern Star.

The Rev. Dr. George Oliver, one of the most learned and voluminous of Masonic writers, says, "The doctrines which distinguish the Order are obvious," and he uses the words, "The Landmarks of the Order," "The Constitution of the Order," advancement of the Order," "esteem for the Order," "principles of the Order," and "every attempt at exposure has added fresh laurels to the Order," and throughout his entire work he very frequently uses the word Order to designate Freemasonry, and as a title properly belonging to it. We might continue to multiply quotations from almost every Masonic work of prominence, but deem it unnecessary, as in view of all the facts, the usage of the word by learned Masonic writers and speakers, the definition and application of the term by Lexicographers to Masonry fully justify the use of the word by less educated members of the Craft. There is no more distinction made in the so-called Orders, between high and low, rich and poor, than there is in the society of Freemasonry. There is as much rank in the one as in the other, for the rank in neither is only official and prevails equally in both. We will admit that there is a marked distinction in the faith and requirements of the various branches of Masonry, but that difference is not sufficient to constitute one an Order and the other a mere fraternity. As we pass through the different degrees and branches our obligations become greater, more solemn and comprehensive, the objects of our care and attention multiplied, the sphere of our knowledge and usefulness much enlarged. We do not write this reply in a spirit of

hyper-criticism, which frequently prevails too much among brethren of the mystic tie, but with that spirit which would say, "come let us reason together," let us see who is right. If the word Order does not belong to Masonry proper let it be dropped, let it be expunged from our vocabulary, let our speakers cease to use in their anniversary addresses, let the right word be substituted in our lectures and charges, and let us assist in establishing a more appropriate nomenclature and purging our dialect of inappropriate words and phrases.

Our object in assuming the editorial chair was not to engage in controversy with our brethren, but for the purpose of defending the character and principles of our institution, imparting knowledge to those who may be less informed, dispensing light to those who may be groping their way in moral darkness, and eliciting instruction from those who are wiser and who are the great exponents of our Order.

[We see no objection to the word "Order" as applied to Freemasonry.—Ed.]

Obituary.

BRO. C. E. FRANCATELLI.

We regret to record the death of Bro. Charles E. Francatelli, which sad event took place on Thursday, the 10th inst., in the 71st year of his age. He was for many years manager of Freemasons' Tavern. By the death of that accomplished chef and amiable man, the culinary art has lost one of its most elegant professors, and also an authority in dietetics who, like his compeer, the late Alexis Soyer, generously utilised his great talents and experience not only in preparing banquets for the wealthy, but in giving plain and practical instruction in wholesome and nourishing cookery for the very poor.

THE FIREMAN LEE.—The heroic act of the fireman, George Lee, of the Metropolitan Fire Brigade, in sacrificing his life at the post of duty, was honoured on Thursday, the 10th inst., by a public funeral, and the immense populations of the north-east and east of London lined the long route from the Holborn district to Stamford Hill. The official account of the termination of Lee's life was given in the "Times" of that date, and his comrades of the Fire Brigade and the police of the division in which his death occurred—men, it may be observed, among whom such acts of devotion and bravery are of daily occurrence—united in paying this mark of respect to the memory of a man whose pure and unselfish heroism was the means of a terrible death. The procession started from the Whitecross-street fire station at mid-day, headed by the band of the G Division of police, playing the "Dead March" in "Saul." The warrant officer of St. Sepulchre's Holborn, bore the silver staff of the district, covered in crape, and the coffin was borne on a fire engine, with the Union Jack as a pall, on which the fireman's helmet, the burnt remains of the poor fellow's clothes, and a wreath of pretty flowers were conspicuous. One mourning coach, the dismal representative of conventional mourning, followed the coffin, and four members of the Metropolitan Board of Works represented the Governing Body of the Fire Brigade. Captain Shaw and the small army which has to be for ever battling against conflagrations in this huge metropolis marched four deep, and the brass helmets of the men, glittering in the sun, made a remarkable display. The men of the Salvage Corps and the fire engines and salvage carts attended and lengthened the long line; and, besides the engines and men of the paid service, were engines of volunteer brigades from districts where more protection from fire than the Metropolitan Board has afforded is given by the volunteer efforts of the residents. In addition there was yet a separate and distinct body, of whose existence the London public generally has but little knowledge—namely, the Auxiliary Brigade, composed of gentlemen who give to the Metropolitan Fire Brigade the same service which the Volunteers give to the country. The members of this auxiliary service were few on Thursday, but the need for their aid in every district is apparent when it is seen how small is the paid body which is afforded for the protection of life and property from fire in this extended city. A large division of police in fours brought up the rear. The procession marched down Barbican, through Long-lane, across Smithfield, up St. John-street, where the sad calamity occurred, then through the newly-improved Wild-man-row, down Old-street, and, by way of the Kingsland-road, to the Abney Park Cemetery, at the foot of Stamford Hill. The whole of the long way was gone over at the slow march, and nearly three hours were occupied, the band of the G Division playing very impressively sacred marches nearly the whole way. At the cemetery the band lined each side of the path, and the men of the brigade passed through, and then the other part of the procession. The crowd was so vast that the gates had to be closed before the whole of the procession had entered. The poor fellow was laid at no very great distance from the spot where poor Mr. Braidwood was buried; and to the memorial raised to that chief's memory many paid a visit, after adding to the earth the body of George Lee. The whole proceedings were satisfactory, and great praise is due to the police and people for the order observed on the route.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.—Dangerous diseases would not present themselves very often if timely attention were bestowed on the first feelings which betray a departure from health. How many life-long maladies spring from neglecting trifling symptoms? The pimple readily curable in the nursery becomes, through carelessness, the irremediable torment of after life. With a knowledge of the curative powers of Holloway's Ointment and Pills, and the facility and safety of their application, those who fail to use them for extirpating the first seeds of hereditary ailments will have to bear the punishment resulting from their folly. Holloway's remedy will remove eruptions of the skin, scrofulous disease, and acrecia, and heal every description of ulcer, sore, wound, or abrasion.—ADVT.

Masonic and General Tidings.

We understand that Bro. G. M. Tweddell is preparing for publication tales, poems, and Masonic papers, by Bro. Emma Holmes, with a memoir of the author. As Bro. Holmes kindly proposes to present any pecuniary profit that may be derived from the publication of the volume to a brother Mason who has been unexpectedly plunged in poverty in the declining years of his life, and as the price is only 2s. 6d., we can safely recommend it to the notice of our readers. The work will be put to press as soon as a sufficient number of subscribers are obtained, for which purpose names will be thankfully received by Tweddell & Sons, publishers, Stokesley, Yorkshire.

The first performance of "Rheingold" has just passed off with brilliant success, in presence of the German Emperor, the Emperor of Brazil, and other illustrious personages. The theatre was crowded, and the performance more than realized the expectations that had been formed. At the end of the opera the applause was uproarious, and the calls for Wagner were unanimous and prolonged. The composer however, did not come forward to respond to the enthusiasm of his admirers.

An important discovery has just been made at Pompeii. It consists of a number of objects of gold and silver, and close to them the carbonized skeletons of two men, who would seem to have been borne down in the storm of ashes while endeavouring to escape with their valuables or plunder. Among the things found are eight rings, six pieces of money, two pairs of earrings, one single earring, two large armlets, each ornamented with thirteen pairs of half globes, with little shells upon them, held together by chainwork, all of gold; a silver ring, 332 pieces of silver money, a casserole of the same material, broken in pieces, and three large bronze coins.

According to the "Political Correspondence" of Vienna, His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught will be present at the military manoeuvres to be held at Zisterdorf (Lower Austria) towards the end of the present month.

A reward of £250 has been offered by the Government for information leading to the conviction of the murderer or murderers of Mr. Bravo; and an offer of pardon is held out to any accomplice, not being the person who actually committed the murder, who shall give evidence leading to the same result.

NEW WORK OF TRAVEL AND DISCOVERY.—Dr. Robert Brown, the popular author of "The Races of Mankind," &c., has for some time past been engaged upon a new and comprehensive work, which will be published by Messrs. Cassell, Petter, & Galpin, in sevenpenny monthly parts, under the title of "The Countries of the World," and will embrace graphic sketches of travel over land and sea, according to the latest discoveries.

The Provincial Grand Master of Devon has decided to hold his next lodge at South Molton on Thursday, the 31st day of this month. It is now forty years since a Provincial Grand Lodge was held in this town. South Molton can boast of one of the prettiest and best furnished lodges in Devon.

Mr. F. Cavill attempted on Tuesday the feat of swimming across the Channel, but when within a few miles of the French coast he was obliged to relinquish his task. He took the water at forty-two minutes past one a.m., and left it after swimming for nearly 12 hours. He was much exhausted.

Bro. the Right Hon. George Ward Hunt, the First Lord of the Admiralty, has left for his seat near Oundle, Northampton.

We understand that with Friday's (the 11th inst.) issue the publication of the "Hour" newspaper was discontinued. The "Hour" was established in March, 1873, and has been from that time conducted with much energy and ability by Captain Hamber, formerly editor of the "Standard."

The postage on letters addressed to New-oundland has been reduced to 2½d. per half ounce, if prepaid.

We learn the talented artiste, Bro. Edgar Anderson, is meeting with very fair success at the assembly rooms, Great Yarmouth, and St. Andrew's Hall, Gorleston. Assisted by his drawing-room staff, the most prominent of whom is G. S. Graham, the celebrated organophonist, the amusements offered being most interesting. Bro. Anderson is a capital Shakesperian reciter.

THE LIVINGSTONE STATUE.—Yesterday the statue of the late Dr. Livingstone, erected in East Prince's-street Gardens, Edinburgh, was unveiled in presence of the members of the Corporation, and a large assemblage of the general public. Among those present were Mrs. Alexander L. Bruce and Miss Anne Mary Livingstone, the Rev. Dr. Moffatt, father-in-law, and Miss Moffatt, Mrs. Charles Livingstone, sister-in-law of Dr. Livingstone, and her son, Mr. Charles Livingstone, and two daughters, the Misses Livingstone, sisters of Dr. Livingstone, two grandsons of Dr. Moffatt, and Mr. A. L. Bruce, son-in-law of Dr. Livingstone. The Lord Provost presided on the occasion. Addresses were delivered by Josiah Livingstone, Dr. Moffatt, and Mr. Duncan McLaren, M.P. (who formally handed over the statue to the city). The Lord Provost then unveiled the statue amid loud cheers, and intimated the acceptance of it by the corporation. Mrs. Bruce and Miss Livingstone, daughters of Dr. Livingstone, placed two floral wreaths on the pedestal which was also festooned with evergreens by a number of young ladies. The figure of Livingstone, which was designed by Mrs. D. O. Hill, of Edinburgh, is in bronze. He is represented in travelling costume, his right hand holding out a Bible and his left resting on the handle of an axe.

CITY CHURCHES.—Another City church is about to be pulled down—that of All Hallows, Bread-street. It was built by Wren in 1680, on the site of one destroyed during the Great Fire, at a cost of £3348, and has a tower 86 ft. high. Of this church Strype says, "On the south side of the chancel, in a little part of this church, called the Salters' Chapel, is a very fair window, with the portraiture or figure of him that gave it, very curiously wrought upon it. This church, ruined in the Great Fire, is built up again without any pillars, but very decent, and is a lightsome church. . . . In the 22nd year of Henry VIII., the 17th of August, two priests of this church fell at variance, that the one drew blood of the other, wherefore the same church was suspended, and no service sung or said therein for the space of one month after; the priests were committed to prison, and the 15th of October, being enjoined penance, they went at the head of a general procession, barefooted and barelegged, before the children, with beads and books in their hands, from Paul's, through Cheap, Cornhill, &c." Among the epitaphs the following, given by Stow, is quaint:—"To the sacred memory of that worthy and faithful minister of Christ, Master Richard Stocke, who, after 32 yeeres spent in the ministry, wherein by his learned labours, joined with wisdom, and a most holy life, God's glory was much advanced, his Church edified, piety increased, and the true honour of the pastor's life maintained, deceased April 20, 1626. Some of his loving parishioners have consecrated this monument of their never-dying love, January 28, 1628." Milton, whose father was a scrivener in Bread-street, where the poet was born on the 9th of December, 1608, was baptized in the church of All Hallows. The materials and site of the church are to be sold, and part of the proceeds is to be devoted to building a new church on a site within the limits of the metropolis, to be approved by the Bishop of London. The new church is to be called All Hallows, and to be endowed with £120 a year for the incumbent. The remains of the dead under the church are to be removed to the City of London Cemetery at Little Ilford. A suitable monument is to be erected over them by the Commissioners of Sewers, who have the option of taking a portion of the site for the purpose of widening Watling-street.

The Admiralty have issued notices inviting tenders for the purchase of the ironclad ship Vanguard, which was sunk in the Irish Channel. The whole of the property found in the vessel is to belong to the purchaser with the exception of the anchors and cables. The Admiralty will purchase any of the guns recovered.

METROPOLITAN MASONIC MEETINGS.

For the Week ending Friday, August 25, 1876.

The Editor will be glad to receive notice from Secretaries of Craft Lodges, Royal Arch Chapters, Mark Lodges, Preceptories, Conclaves, &c., of any change in place or time of meeting.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 19.

Lodge 1326, Lebanon, Lion Hot., Lion-sq., Hampton.
" 1364, Earl of Zetland, Old Town Hall, Hackney.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Lily, Greyhound, Richmond.
Manchester, 77, London-st., Fitzroy-square.
Star, Marquis of Granby, New Cross-rd.

MONDAY, AUGUST 21.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Prince Leopold, Lord Stanley Tav., Kingsland.
Strong Man, Jerusalem Tav., St. John's Gate.
Sincerity, Railway Tav., Fenchurch-st. Station.
Camden, Stanhope Arms, Up. James-st., Camden To.
Eastern, Royal Hot., Mile-end-road.
St. James's Union, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Wellington, White Swan, Deptford.
Perfect Ashlar, Victoria Tav., Lower-rd., Rotherhithe.
Sydney, White Hart Ho., Church-rd., Upper Norwood.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 22.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Metropolitan, 269, Pentonville-rd.
Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney.
Domestic, Surrey M.H., Camberwell New-road.
Faith, 2, Westminster Chambers, Victoria-st.
Prince Fredk. Wm., Lord's Hot., St. John's Wood.
Dalhousie, King Edward, Triangle, Hackney.
Prosperity, 1, Camomile-st., Bishopsgate.
St. Marylebone, British Stores Tav., St. John's Wood.
Constitutional, Wheatshaf Hot., Hand-court, Holborn.
Israel, Rising Sun Tav., Globe Road.
Royal Arthur, Prince's Head, York-road, Battersea.
Beacontree, Red Lion, Leytonstone.
Metropolitan Chapter, Jamaica Coffee Ho., Cornhill.
Excelsior, Commercial Dock Tav., Rotherhithe.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 23.

Lodge 754, High Cross, Seven Sisters Tav., Tottenham.
" 778, Bard of Avon, Greyhound, Hampton Court.
" 1540, Chaucer, Bridge House Hot., London Bridge.
Chap. 13, Union of Waterloo, F.M.H., Woolwich.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Confidence, M.H., Basinghall-st.
Mt. Lebanon, Windsor Castle Tav., Southwark-bdg.-rd.
Pythagorean, Prince of Orange, Greenwich.
New Concord, Rosemary Branch Tav., Hoxton.
Royal Union, Horse and Groom, Winsley-st., Oxford-st.
Peckham, Maismore Arms, Park-road, Peckham.
Stanhope, Thicket Hot., Anerley.
Finsbury Park, Finsbury Park Tav., Seven Sisters-rd.
Southwark, Southwark Park Tav., Southwark Park.
Duke of Connaught, Havelock Tav., Dalston, E.
United Strength, Grafton Arms, Kentish-town.
Islington, Crown and Cushion, London Wall.

Whittington, Black Bull Tav., Holborn.
Lewis, King's Arms Hot., Wood Green.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 24.

House Com. Girls' School, at 4.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Egyptian, Hercules Tav., Leadenhall-st.
Fidelity, Yorkshire Grey, London-st., W.
Finsbury, Jolly Anglers' Tav., Bath-st., City-road.
Temperance in the East, Catherine-st., Poplar.
Ebury, 12, Ponsonby-st., Milbank.
Highgate, Bull and Gate, Kentish-town.
The Great City, 111, Cheapside.
High Cross, Coach & Horses, High-road, Tottenham.
Salisbury, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Marquis of Ripon, Albion Tav., Albany-rd., Dalston.
Prince Frederick William Chapter, St. John's Wood.
Southern Star, Crown Hot., Blackfriars-rd.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 25.

Chap. 134, Caledonian, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Union Waterloo, Thomas-st., Woolwich.
Robert Burns, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Belgrave, Lyceum Tav., 354, Strand.
Unions Emulation (for M.M.'s), F.M.H.
Temperance, Victoria Tav., Victoria-road, Deptford.
Clapton, White Hart, Clapton.
Metropolitan, Portugal Hot., Fleet-st.
Westbourne, Horse & Groom, Winsley-st., Oxford-st.
United Pilgrims, Surrey M.H., Camberwell New-road.
St. James's, New Tanners' Arms, Grange-rd., Bermondsey.
Duke of Edinburgh, Silver Lion, Penny-fields, Poplar.
Doric, Earl Grey Tav., Mile-end-road.
Burgoyne, Grafton Arms, Prince of Wales's-road, N.W.
St. Luke's, White Hart, King's-rd., Chelsea.
Chigwell, Bald-faced Stag Hot., Buckhurst-hill.
Burdett Coutts, Approach Tav., Victoria Park.
Royal Standard, Finsbury Park Tav., Holloway.
Ranelagh, Clarendon Hot., Hammersmith.
Pythagorean Chapter, Prince of Orange, Greenwich-rd.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN WEST LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE.

For the Week ending Saturday August 26, 1876.

MONDAY, AUGUST 21.

Lodge 721, Independence, M.R., Chester.
" 1502, Israel, M.H., Liverpool.
Chap. 1051, Rowley, M.R., Lancaster.
Everton L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 22.

Lodge 1393, Hamer, 22, Everton-rd., Liverpool.
" 1609, Dramatic, M.H., Liverpool.
Chap. 823, Everton, M.H., Liverpool.
Merchants' L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 23.

Lodge 220, Harmony, Garston Hot., Garston.
" 724, Derby, M.H., Liverpool.
Chap. 1052, Callender, P.H., Rusholme.
" 1356, De Grey and Ripon, M.H., Liverpool.
Neptune L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 24.

Lodge 594, Downshire, M.H., Liverpool.
Chap. 216, Sacred Delta, M.H., Liverpool.
" 1086, Walton, St. Lawrence's School, Liverpool.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 25.

Chap. 680, Sefton, M.H., Liverpool.
SATURDAY, AUGUST 26.
Chap. 178, Harmony, Royal Hot., Wigan.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN GLASGOW AND WEST OF SCOTLAND.

For the Week ending Saturday, August 26, 1876.
All the Meetings take place at Eight o'clock.

MONDAY, AUGUST 21.

Lodge 581, Plantation, Craigiehall-st., Glasgow.
Encampment St. Mungo, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 22.

Lodge 556, Clydesdale, 106, Rose-st., S.S., Glasgow.
" 579, St. Bryde, M.H., Uddingstone.
Chap. 67, Cathedral, 21, Stuthers-st., Glasgow.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 23.

Lodge 505, Burns St. Mary, Commercial Inn, Harlford.
" 510, Maryhill, M.H., Main-st.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 24.

Lodge 187, St. John, Black Bull Inn, Carluke.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 25.

Lodge 125, St. James, Masons' Arms, Newton Ayr.
" 153, Royal Arch, Cogan-st., Pollokshaws.
" 195, St. John R.A., Lennox Arms, Lennox Town.
" 199, St. Andrew, M.H., Cumbernauld.
" 244, Union, Black Bull Inn, Stonehouse.
" 347, St. John Operative, M.H., Rutherglen.
Chap. 79, Commercial, 30, Hope-st., Glasgow.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 26.

Lodge 28, St. John, Black Bull Inn, Kirkintilloch.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN EDINBURGH AND VICINITY.

For the Week ending Saturday, August 26, 1876.

MONDAY, AUGUST 21.

Lodge 44, St. Luke, F.M.H., George-st.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 22.

Lodge 151, Defensive Band, Alexandra H., Cockburn-st.
Chap. 40, Naval and Military, F.M.H., 98, George-st.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 23.

Lodge 112, St. John, Royal Hot., Musselburgh.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 24.

Lodge 392, Caledonian, F.M.H., 98, George-st.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 25.

Lodge 223, Trafalgar, 54, Bernard-st., Leith.

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REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS.

Craft Masonry.

HIGH CROSS LODGE (No. 754).—The annual meeting of this lodge for the installation of its Worshipful Master was held on Wednesday evening at the Seven Sisters Tavern, Page Green, Tottenham, a pleasant retired hostelry, with all the surroundings of a beautiful country. Bro. George Townsend, W.M., presided, and, assisted by his officers, who all attended, raised Bro. Foan to the Third Degree. When this ceremony was completed he installed Bro. Barham as W.M. of the lodge for the ensuing year, and the following brethren were honoured by appointment to office:—Bros. W. Dance, S.W.; H. Stephens, J.W.; David Roberts, P.M.; Treas.; T. Cunningham, P.M., Sec.; George Burford, S.D.; Johnson Farren, J.D.; W. T. Turner, I.G.; Peckham, Organist; Clements, D.C.; and W. Steedman, P.M., W.S.; Bro. Tegg, Asst. W.S.; and Bro. James Very, Tyler. The charges were delivered by Bro. George Townsend, I.P.M., and then the new W.M. commenced his year's work by initiating in excellent style Mr. James Garrod, Station Master, Bruce Grove, Tottenham. Lodge was then closed, and the banquet, of a very liberal and elegant description, was provided by Bro. Oddy, the proprietor of the hotel, in the magnificent room which he has built adjoining the house. During the sitting of the lodge Bro. Thompson, P.M., and Prov. G. S.B. Middlesex, was actively engaged in obtaining members of the Social Masonic Charitable Association, which is composed of brethren of Nos. 754 and 1237, and which has up to the present time paid no less a sum than £300 to the different Masonic institutions. Bro. Maller, P.M., was also active in making a collection on behalf of the sufferers by the late hailstorm in the neighbourhood of Tottenham, and succeeded in securing £5 11s. 6d. for that object. The banquet was vigorously attacked, and about 80 brethren sat down to it. Among them were the W.M., and Bros. G. Townsend, W. Steedman, P.M.; Thos. Jones, P.M.; J. Walker, P.M.; J. Linzell, Cunningham, Maller, Roberts. Visitors: Bros. F. A. Pullen, 1567; John Hooke, 463; F. Jacob, 1567; J. Roddar, 1288; John Green, W.M. 27; S. Watkins, 212; W. Gilbert, P.G.J.W. Herts; C. L. Brooks, 1237; Josh. Driscoll, P.M. 30; G. Collier, 1237; G. H. Jaffa, 1579; James W. Berrie, 1293 and 1185; F. W. Greenwood, W. Sweetland, 1460; A. J. Barbier, 22; W. T. Barham, 319; W. T. Howe, P.G.P. Middlesex; E. Hart Smith, P.M. 165; George Tegg, 1519; H. Massey, ("Freemason"); and J. Bennett, 27. When the banquet was concluded, the W.M. proceeded with the list of toasts, and very briefly introduced those of "The Queen," "The G.M.," and "The Grand Officers" to the brethren's notice. Bro. Townsend, in proposing "The Health of the W.M.," said he had the privilege for the first time of introducing this toast, and he had no doubt they would be very pleased to receive it. He could assure the brethren it afforded him a great deal of pleasure in getting out of the position he had held for twelve months to find such a brother as the W.M. taking the position he (Bro. Townsend) once occupied. The brethren of the lodge who had seen the working of the W.M. that evening must feel convinced that he was the right man in the right place. Since the W.M. had belonged to the High Cross Lodge he had never but once omitted attendance to his duties when called upon, and he had been of a great deal of assistance to him (Bro. Townsend) while he was W.M. If he continued in the same course there was no brother of the High Cross Lodge who would regret having voted for him as W.M. The W.M., in reply, said it was with a certain amount of diffidence he rose to return thanks for the kind way in which the toast had been proposed and accepted. He could assure the brethren that he felt the honour they had done him very much indeed. It had been his ambition ever since he joined the lodge to occupy that position, and he had endeavoured to merit it whether he had been in office or out of office. He thought he could safely say he had never missed attending the lodge but once, and on that occasion it was through illness. He should endeavour while in the position of W.M. to perform the duties of that position properly, and he would take care that the warrant placed in his hands that evening should lose none of its lustre. In anything he could do for the High Cross Lodge, he was the brethren's humble servant. The W.M. then proposed "The I.P.M."

It was a very pleasing duty, all the brethren would admit, that Bro. Townsend had been one of the best W.M.'s of the High Cross Lodge, he had always attended to his duties punctually, and had performed them well. When a man did this what more could be expected of him. He would now present him with a P.M.'s jewel, and he sincerely hoped that Bro. Townsend might live many years to wear it. He (the W.M.) was sure he would need Bro. Townsend's assistance during his year of office; but he was certain that in whatsoever he should require it, it would be most cheerfully given. In presenting the jewel to Bro. Townsend he was sure it must be very gratifying to him to know it had been unanimously voted by the members of the lodge. (Hear, hear). Bro. Townsend, in returning thanks, said he was happy to feel that the brethren thought he had deserved this jewel. It gave him a great deal of pleasure to receive such a compliment; but he could sincerely and conscientiously tell the brethren it was one of the highest pleasures that he had ever experienced in his life. This was a very large lodge, and if he had conducted to the comfort and pleasure of a large number, it must be gratifying to have that feeling at the end of one's year of office. It was a great pleasure to know, when going out of office, that you had the kind feelings of all the brethren. He had done what he could for the High Cross Lodge as regarded the working of it, and he was delighted to know that he had been assisted by the P.M. and officers of the lodge. He should ever feel grateful for the compliment the brethren had paid him by presenting him with the P.M.'s jewel he had just received. (Cheers.) The W.M. then proposed "The Initiate." Without new blood the Craft would soon stop. If they had not new blood they would die out and collapse. The brother they had that night initiated seemed a very likely member to work to the honourable position he (the W.M.) then held, and he would give it to him in terms of strong recommendation to attend the lodge regularly, and to put himself in a position to work zealously and he would soon get on. (Hear hear.) Bro. Garrod responded. For many years it had been his wish to join the Craft, and he thanked the officers of the lodge for the kindness which they exhibited in his initiation. He was fully impressed with the seriousness of the affair, and he hoped not to abuse any secrets that had been told him that night. He had always had a vague idea that there was some amount of impressiveness in the ceremony, which idea had been correct; and he had also always had an idea of vagueness that Freemasons were a jolly sort of people. That vagueness was, however, now dispelled. Comparatively speaking he was among strangers, although he might say he did not feel at all so. This was his first appearance, but he hoped it would not be his last, and he hoped to continue his visits till he became "up" in the world of Freemasonry, and able to do the work of the lodge as well as the W.M. himself. (Hear hear.) The W.M. afterwards proposed "The P.M.'s," who were a goodly array of brethren, who always came to the lodge when wanted to help the Master in the chair, and who came to see if they were wanted. The goodly array of P.M.'s showed the prosperity of the lodge, and it also showed that they were ready to assist the W.M. Without the P.M.'s he was afraid the W.M. would not be able to go on with his work. (Hear hear.) Bro. George Townsend, the P.M., was first to respond, and in doing so he said that although he was always ready to assist the W.M. he thought that as there were so many P.M.'s in the lodge he should find very little to do. Bro. Jones having also replied, Bro. T. Cunningham, Secretary, added a few words which proved the prosperity of the lodge. As Secretary he had to send out about ninety summonses, to receive the fees, and to answer an enormous number of letters. But although this entailed a great deal of work he was pleased to perform it, as the success of the High Cross Lodge was very dear to him. Bro. Steedman in his reply announced that it was eighteen years that day when he was initiated in the High Cross Lodge, and every year since then he had been present at the installation of the W.M. Bro. Roberts said he was very proud to be among the list of P.M.'s, and it gave him great pleasure year after year, as he and his brethren became older, to meet them in such friendly intercourse. This annual meeting was always a red letter day in his calendar, and if he did not always come on other occasions, he did on this. When he stopped away it was through business, and Freemasonry told them that they were to attend to business first and Freemasonry afterwards. (Hear, hear.) Bro. Linzell followed. Taking a retrospective glance of the various duties which the other brethren and himself as P.M.'s had fulfilled in their offices, he thought they might look with pride on the progress the lodge had made in past years. Greater credit for this was due to the other P.M.'s than himself for their energy in laying the foundation of this lodge, which at the present time occupied such a high standing amongst metropolitan lodges. A visitor at the lodge on one occasion of an installation banquet thought it decent to cry out while this toast was being responded to, "Why do you spend so much money on your banquets? Why don't you consider your Charities?" The brethren of the lodge did not think this very decorous, for they at least knew they had treated this brother liberally (perhaps that was the cause of his so speaking), but they had just before that time founded a Masonic Charitable Association, which a greater portion if not all of the members of the lodge, had joined. Since then—the lodge having at that time two or three life governors, of the charities in it—had got thirty to forty life governors, all having fully paid up; and there were now many others coming on. That seemed to him as if they were doing something for the cause of charity, and something for the High Cross Lodge to obtain a reputation by. During the last two or three years the lodge had sent up many stewards, and each of them had taken with him something like £100. That was not a bad list although the lodge was a metropolitan lodge. They were

pleased to obtain for it some amount of éclat, and they did not wish to spend all the money on themselves. If they did they knew they must soon die out, and they would never gain a reputation for being hospitable if they did not think of helping those who could not help themselves. (Hear hear.) Bro. Maller also replied and thanked the brethren for having contributed towards the relief of those persons who had suffered by the late hailstorm in the neighbourhood. Bro. Roberts, Treasurer, said the lodge would send a Steward their next year to the charities, and twenty guineas would be placed on his list to start with. The brother selected would most likely be the W.M. "The Visitors" was the next toast, for which Bro. W. T. Howe and Bro. Gilbert replied. The toast of "The Officers" followed, and having been replied to by each of those brethren seriatim, Bro. Cunningham proposed "The Press," for which Bro. Fowler and Bro. H. Massey ("Freemason"), responded, and the Tyler's toast concluded a most pleasant evening, which was rendered the more agreeable by some excellent singing by various brethren, and some good instrumental and vocal music by Bro. Peckham, Organist.

ROYAL OAK LODGE (No. 871).—An emergency meeting of this prosperous lodge was held on Thursday, 17th inst., at the White Swan Hotel, 217, High-street, Deptford, Bro. H. J. Tuson, W.M., presided. The ballots, taken separately, were declared to be unanimous in favour of Messrs. A. P. Blake, L. Michaels, W. White, and W. Abbott. The following candidates being in attendance were each introduced separately, and duly initiated into the mysteries and privileges of ancient Freemasonry, namely, Messrs. Walter Abbot, William White, and Lipman Michaels, Bro. G. Andrews, P.M., D.C., giving the charge to the newly-initiated brethren. The work was done well. In consequence of the large number of candidates for initiation and for the other ceremonies it was decided to hold another emergency meeting on Thursday, September 28th, at seven p.m. Business ended, the lodge was closed and adjourned. There were present besides those named Bros. J. J. Pakes, S.W.; J. Baxter Langley, (W.M. 1423), J.W.; F. Walters, P.G. J.D. Middx., P.M., Sec.; H. J. Fisher, Organist; J. G. Vohmann, I.G.; C. Williams, R. Cox, A. Macers, G. Eve, L. Lemon, F. H. Burr, J. Rennie, R. J. Stringer, W. Simmons, R. Mason, J. Woollett, and others whose names we were unable to learn. Amongst the large number of visitors we noticed Bros. J. R. Croft, 1326; E. W. Fisher, 700; E. A. H. Morley, 1178; and some others. There being no banquet or any refreshment the members and friends separated directly the lodge was closed.

HERVEY LODGE (No. 1260).—Favoured by one of the finest days of the year, the members of this popular lodge, with their friends (consisting of both ladies and gentlemen), assembled at Bro. Benningfield's, the Crown Hotel, Broxbourne, on Wednesday, the 16th inst., to celebrate their annual summer excursion and banquet, and through the unwearied exertions of the officers and brethren who constituted the committee, one of the most thoroughly enjoyable day and evening's entertainments ever provided was satisfactorily brought to a conclusion. Most of the company arrived at the beautiful grounds attached to the above well-known hostelry by train from Liverpool-street about midday, and after partaking of a light luncheon, some of the party dispersed to the different places of amusement, such as the river for fishing and rowing, the meadows for archery, Aunt Sally, &c., whilst others enjoyed themselves at the fascinating games of croquet, billiards, &c., until 3.30, when the bell rang for dinner, at which (as the principal event of the day) it is of course needless to say hearty justice was done. After the cloth was cleared and the dessert (supplied from Bro. Benningfield's own grounds) placed on the table, the W.M. Bro. G. Harrison, proposed the usual loyal and Masonic toasts, but prefaced his remarks by observing that in deference to the ladies he should make them as short as was consistent with the occasion, as he felt sure that it was not the length of a toast that ensured its approval, but the manner in which it was given and received. Suffice it to say that they were one and all heartily received, Bro. Dr. Egan, W.M. 858, and Bro. D. Davis, a distinguished Irish Mason, responding for the visitors. Before rising, the I.P.M., Bro. Dr. Jabez Hogg, begged permission to give a special toast to the renewed health of the worthy Secretary, Bro. G. King, jun., who has for some months been suffering from a fearful and dangerous illness, and in the course of his remarks observed that although he felt convinced that his toast would meet with the entire approbation of the company, yet, in consideration of the weak state in which Bro. King (although able to be present at the table) still is, he would not ask him to respond. The company then again dispersed over the grounds while the room was cleared for dancing, and after about two hours of this exhilarating exercise they caught the train for London, a special saloon carriage having been provided for them by the company, and this wound up a thoroughly enjoyable day.

DUKE OF CONNAUGHT LODGE (No. 1524).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held at the Sisters' Tavern, Pownall-road, on 27th ult. The lodge was opened by Bro. Lee, P.M., in the temporary absence of the W.M., who was travelling a long distance to attend the lodge. The minutes of the preceding meeting having been read and confirmed, Bro. Lee, P.M., proceeded to raise Bro. Ferrar and Bro. Broomfield, 188, to the degree of Master Mason. The W.M., Bro. Chapman, Prov. G. Steward Herts, having arrived, assumed the chair, and passed Bro. Dietrich to the degree of Fellow Craft. The officers present were Bros. Lister, S.W.; Shackleton, J.W.; Meyer, Treas.; Lee, P.M., Sec.; Brand, I.G.; Brasted, Harding, Smith, Philp, and others. The lodge having been closed, the brethren adjourned to a cold collation, after which the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured. The

proceedings were varied by some very excellent singing by Bros. Brasted, Ferrar, and Smyth. The Tyler's toast having been given, the brethren separated, after having spent a very pleasant evening. Visitors: Bros. L. Alexander, P.M. 188; Bromfield, 188; Pool, 764; Hallett, 781.

RADCLIFFE (Lancashire).—Lodge of Faith (No. 344).—The annual picnic in connection with the Lodge of Faith, No. 344, Radcliffe, of A. F. and A. Masons, took place on the 19th inst., when 33 of the brethren belonging to the lodge, including the W.M. and his principal officers, and their wives and friends, paid a visit to Bolton Abbey, near Skipton, Yorkshire. They started from Radcliffe by 10.26 a.m. train, and joined the Scotch mail at Bury, arriving at Skipton a little before noon. They partook of luncheon at the Black Horse Hotel, Skipton, and were then conveyed in waggons to Bolton Abbey, where they spent some hours wandering through the delightful scenery around the Abbey. A number of them went as far as "the Strid," a narrow passage between rocks, which takes its name from the fact of a person being able to stride across it, and see the waters rushing with great velocity through the aperture beneath. The party returned to the Black Horse Inn about six o'clock, and when dinner was partaken of they went to the railway station, and returned to their homes, arriving about ten o'clock the same night. The weather was everything that the most fastidious could desire, and the party thoroughly enjoyed the out.

DERBY.—Arboretum Lodge (No. 731).—The usual meeting of this lodge was held on Wednesday, the 9th inst., at the Masonic Hall, when the following members of the Craft were present:—Bros. R. Bennett, W.M.; J. C. Merry, I.P.M.; T. Cox, P.M.; F. Niffe, P.M.; Marsden, P.M.; Pipes, W.M. 1085; J. Brown, S.W.; T. Merry, J.W.; G. T. Wright, P.M., acting as S.D.; Whittaker, J.D.; Knight, D.C.; Fraser, I.G.; Day, Tyler; and other brethren. The lodge having been opened in the First and Second Degrees, Bro. Kimpton advanced to the pedestal, and having passed the usual examination, was raised to the Degree of a Master Mason by the W.M., assisted by the I.P.M., in ancient and solemn form. After the usual business of the lodge, a presentation was made to Bro. G. T. Wright, P.M., P.P.S.G.D. of West Yorkshire and of Derbyshire. Some little time ago the members of the lodge expressed a wish to show their appreciation of the many good qualities of Bro. Wright as a Mason, and this feeling took a practical turn in defraying the expense of making a slight addition to the usefulness and appearance of his residence in the shape of a bay window, to which was added an illuminated address signed by the following brethren:—T. Cox, P.M., P.P.S.G.W.; H. Hillam, P.M., P.P.S.G.W.; J. Smith, P.M., P.P.S.G.W.; H. Burn, P.M., P.P.S.G. of W.; R. Bennett, W.M.; J. C. Merry, P.M., P.P.S.G.D.C.; G. H. Sheffield, S.D., P.P.G.S. of W.; J. Worsnop, P.P.G.P.; Bewton, P.P.G.P.; J. Brown, S.W.; T. Merry, J.W.; Whittaker, J.D.; W. Fraser, I.G.; and twenty other brethren. Bro. R. Bennett, W.M., made the presentation, and in doing so alluded to the many valuable services Bro. Wright had rendered, not only to the Arboretum Lodge, but to the province of Derbyshire, in connection with the charities of the Craft, by taking active part in providing the beautiful hall in which they were now assembled, and in many other ways. His usefulness to the Arboretum Lodge was well known, and it would therefore be unnecessary to say more than that he was ready at all times to cheerfully assist by every means in his power, in the working of the lodge, and he had the greatest possible pleasure in presenting him with this token of the high respect entertained for him by his brethren of the lodge. He trusted that he would long be spared to meet with them, and when he had passed away to the Grand Lodge above his children would have before them the evidence of the affection and esteem in which their father was held by his brethren in Masonry. Bro. Wright, in responding, did so with considerable emotion. He had no idea until the W.M. got up that anything of the kind would take place that evening, which, with the very feeling manner in which he had spoken of him, had made him powerless to express himself as he would wish to do. He felt that he did not deserve such kindness. What he had done in connection with Masonry was done as a Mason, and from the purest of motives, and if he had earned the good wishes of his brethren, he was more than repaid for any little trouble he may have been put to. He could only say that it was one of the greatest pleasures of his life to meet the brethren of the Arboretum Lodge, and work with them in that harmonious manner which he was glad to say had always characterised their proceedings. He thanked them very much for their good wishes, and he hoped that they and he would live long to meet together and enjoy the friendship and brotherly love which had produced the feeling exhibited on the present occasion. The brethren afterwards adjourned to the banquetting-hall, where an enjoyable evening terminated.

BARNES.—Rose of Denmark Lodge (No. 975).—The ordinary meeting of this lodge was held at the White Hart Hotel, on Friday, the 18th inst. Bro. E. Warren Clarke, W.M., presided, assisted by Bros. W. H. Lee, P.M. 1524, S.W.; W. R. Phillips, J.W.; C. A. Smith, P.M., Treas.; Hinton, P.M.; Edmands, P.M.; Kennedy, P.M. 720; Wigglesworth, S.D.; Garner, J.D.; and a numerous assemblage of the brethren. Visitor: Bro. David Rose, P.M. 73, W.M. designate 1623. Bros. Revill and Masters were raised to the Third Degree, and Bro. Dennison passed to the F.C., after which the lodge was closed in due form. The brethren then adjourned to an excellent banquet, and after the cloth was removed the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured. Bro. Rose, P.M., responded for "The Visitors," and complimented the W.M. and officers on the excellence of the working. Bro. Edmands responded for "The P.M.'s," and Bro. Lee for "The Officers." The Tyler's toast was then given, and the brethren separated, having spent a very enjoyable evening.

HAMPTON.—Lebanon Lodge (No. 1326).—The last regular meeting of the year was held on Saturday, August 19th, at the Red Lion Hotel, Hampton. Bro. Edwin Gilbert, W.M., presided. There were also present Bros. J. T. Moss, P.P.G.R. Middlesex, P.M.; W. Hammond, P.P.G.D. Middlesex, P.M.; H. A. Dubois, P.G.S.D. Middlesex, P.M.; F. Walters, P.G.J.D. Middlesex, &c. Sec.; J. W. Baldwin, P.A.G.P. Middlesex, P.M., I.G.; W. Hammond, P.M., J.D.; B. Sharp, P.M.; H. Gloster, J.W.; David Smith, W. T. Trehearne, J. Hernaman, C. Cucop, W. R. Vassila, S. Page, W. Priddy, and many others. Amongst the visitors were Bros. W. Simmons, J.W. 1559; F. F. Beard, 1423, and others. The work done was initiating Messrs. W. F. Venn, S. Page, and W. Priddy into Freemasonry; passing Bros. D. Smith and F. F. Beard, 1423, to the Second Degree. In every case each candidate for the degree was initiated separately, which arrangement (although entailing extra work on the W.M.) caused the beautiful ceremonies to lose none of their impressiveness. All the work was done in an able manner. On the motion of Bro. Frederick Walters, P.G. J.D. Middlesex, P.M., Sec., ten pounds were voted from lodge funds to the Female Annuity Fund of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, in the name of the W.M. of the lodge for the time being, the amount to be placed on the list of Bro. J. B. Shackleton, J.D., who represents the lodge at the forthcoming festival to be held in 1877 as its Steward. He unfortunately was absent from lodge through unavoidable circumstances. Also Bro. Edwin Gilbert, W.M., was unanimously elected to serve as Steward to represent the lodge at the forthcoming festival of the Boys' School in 1877. Several candidates were proposed for initiation. The lodge was closed, and adjourned till May, 1877, emergencies being excepted. Banquet followed.

Royal Arch.

OXFORD.—Alfred Chapter (No. 340).—The regular and festival meeting of this the senior chapter of the province was held on Tuesday, August 15th, when there were present Comps. S. P. Spiers, P.Z., as Z., in the absence of the First Principal; G. T. Prior, H.; J. T. Morland, J.; R. J. Spiers, P.Z.; E. Bevers, P.Z.; H. D'Almaine, P.Z.; E. G. Brunton, P.Z.; and others. The chapter having been opened, and the minutes of the previous meeting read and confirmed, Comp. Bruton, P.Z., then took the first chair, and exalted Bro. Arthur Davies, who had been previously elected. The installation of the Principals then followed, the ceremony being performed by Comp. Bruton, P.Z., in his usual able and impressive manner. The newly-installed First Principal, Comp. G. T. Prior, Z., then invested his officers and closed the chapter. A banquet was afterwards attended. The usual loyal toasts, &c., being given, a pleasant evening was concluded with the Janitor's toast. The following are the new officers for the ensuing year:—Comps. G. T. Prior, Z.; J. Juggins, P.Z.; J. T. Morland, H.; Walter Thompson, J.; F. G. Brunton, P.Z., D.C.; E. Bevers, P.Z., Treas.; J. R. B. Prior, E.; Jas. Jenkin, N.; Jules Bue, P.S.; S. Harris and W. Park, Stewards; W. Stephens, Janitor, G. Norwood, A.J.

Red Cross of Constantine.

A General Grand Conclave of this illustrious Order was held on Monday, the 21st inst., in Freemasons' Hall, George-street, Edinburgh, for the purpose of inaugurating the Grand Imperial Council of Scotland, and enthroning Col. Francis Burdett, M. Em. Grand Viceroy of the Order in England, as the first Grand Sovereign of Scotland. The members of the Grand Council of England and other English Representatives present were V. Ill. Sir Knights R. Wentworth Little, P.G.S.G. Grand Treasurer; H. C. Levander, Grand H.C.; J. Boyd, Grand Architect; Thomas W. White, Grand Hist.; George Kenning, Grand Assist. Rec.; W. T. Howe, G.S.B.; Dicketts, G. Usher, and Cuthbert E. Peek, Hon. P.S. and M.P.S. elect, University Conclave, No. 128, Cambridge. There was a large attendance of the Sir Knights from the several conclaves in Scotland, including Em. Sir Knts. R. S. Brown, M.P.S., Edinburgh Conclave, No. 4; J. Macpherson, M.P.S., St. Giles's Conclave, No. 103; G. W. Wheeler, M.P.S., Glasgow Conclave, No. 114; H. J. Shields, M.P.S., Lily of the Valley Conclave, No. 127; Dr. Beveridge, M.P.S., Bon Accord Conclave, No. 133; J. B. Mercer, P.S. No. 4; Lieut. M. Tracey, (P.S. No. 8) No. 4; Capt. Hunter (P.S. No. 42) No. 4.

Prior to the meeting of the Grand Conclave Colonel Burdett was affiliated as a member of the Edinburgh Conclave, No. 4, now No. 1 of Scotland. The knights having assumed their several stalls, a procession consisting of the English knights, preceded by Sir Knt. J. B. Mercer as G. Herald, entered the conclave, under the Arch of Steel, the acting G. Organist playing a solemn march. Sir Knt. Little then, as acting G. Sovereign, opened the General Grand Conclave of Scotland, assisted by Sir Knt. Levander, as G. Viceroy, and the other knights from England.

The Presiding officer having explained the object of the assemblage, requested Sir Knts. Dicketts and Peek, for England, and Brown and Mercer for Scotland, to introduce Col. Burdett as the G. Sovereign elect.

The acting G. H. Prelate, Sir Knt. T. W. White, then asked the G. Sovereign elect if he accepted the office to which he had been elected, and on receiving a formal assent the acting Grand Sovereign proceeded with the enthronement ceremony.

Sir Knt. Levander administered the oath of fidelity, and then invested Col. Burdett with the robe of state; the acting G.H.P. handed him the sceptre, and Sir Knt. J. Boyd, acting G. Chamberlain, the Sword of State, an address being delivered with each presentation by the presiding officer.

The G. Sovereign then announced that Sir Knt. Major W. Hamilton Ramsay (Senior Grand Warden Scotland) would be the first G. Viceroy of Scotland. (Applause).

Sir Knt. Ramsay then advanced to the altar, took his vow, was invested, and conducted to his seat.

The following Knights were appointed members of the Grand Council, and also took their vows, viz., Col. Francis Burdett, Sovereign; Major W. H. Ramsay, Viceroy; R. Beveridge, M.D., Sen. Genl. H. J. Shields, Jun. Genl.; the Rev. J. H. Tait, Prelate; Capt. Charles Hunter, Orator; G. W. Wheeler, Chancellor; J. Crichton, Treasurer; R. S. Brown, Recorder; J. Macpherson; Architect; Lieut. M. Tracey, Marshal; A. W. Rennie, Chamberlain; The appointments of Sir Knts. R. Beveridge, M.D. (Aberdeen City), Captain C. Hunter (Aberdeen County), and D. Murray Lyon (Ayrshire) as Intendant Generals, together with Sir Knts. J. Crombie, Examiner; D. Baker, Prefect; T. L. Shaw, Vice Chancellor; J. Carmichael, M.D., Assist. Treasurer; H. Edwards, Assist. Recorder; A. M. Bruce, Sword Bearer; A. Dalgliesh; J. Ingles, Dir. of Music; J. A. Mooney, Organist; Capt. W. H. Brown, Assist. Marshal; A. N. Minola, Vice Chamberlain; W. McMurdo, Herald; J. Walker, Herald; J. Tweed, Aide-de-Camp, as Grand Senators, were then announced, each officer advancing for investment with the crimson sash of his rank.

The G. Herald proclaimed the Grand Sovereign by his style and titles, and the knights then marched past the throne with banners displayed and swords drawn, saluting as they passed; during this period the Grand Organist played appropriate music. The Rev. J. H. Tait, G.H. Prelate, pronounced a blessing, and the ceremony concluded with an anthem. Sir Knt. Col. Burdett then thanked the members of the Grand Conclave of Scotland for the honour they had conferred upon him by electing him as their chief, and expressed his sincere hope that the Order would flourish extensively throughout the length and breadth of the land.

A vote of thanks to the English deputation was then passed by acclamation, and the Grand Conclave was closed in imperial form, and with solemn prayer. The knights then adjourned to the Windsor Hotel, where the inauguration banquet was served, and an evening of perfect harmony and enjoyment was passed by all present. We hope to be able to give a report of the very interesting speeches made by several distinguished knights in our next number.

We must not omit to state that the English Deputation, accompanied by Sir Knt. R. S. Brown, G. Recorder of Scotland, drove to Clerkington House, Haddington, the seat of R. Houston, Esq., a brother Mason, son-in-law to Colonel Burdett, and received a most hospitable reception in the old Scottish style, and after inspecting the extensive grounds, which are noted for their beauty, they carried off the gallant colonel to Edinburgh, behind four greys, in time for the opening ceremony at Freemasons' Hall, the distance accomplished being nearly forty miles through one of the most charming districts in Scotland.

LODGE OF BENEVOLENCE.

The monthly meeting of the lodge of Benevolence was held on Wednesday evening. Bro. John M. Clabon, P.G.D., President of the Board, occupied the chair; Bro. Joshua Nunn, P.G.S.B., Senior Vice-President, occupied the S.W. Chair; and Bro. Col. A. Lowry Cole, P.G.C., took the chair of the Junior Vice-President. The other brethren present were Bros. S. Rawson, Dr. Hogg, John Hervey, E. P. Albert, S. G. Foxall, C. A. Cottebrune, Raynham W. Stewart, Hyle Pullen, J. Wright, John Emmens, H. Bartlett, W. Stephens, Joseph Smith, Chas. F. Hogard, E. S. Taylor, W.M. 11; R. F. Gould, W.M. 92; W. Ramsay, W.M. 1539; F. Pendred, W.M. 33; H. Massey ("Freemason"); Lieut.-Col. H. S. Burney, W.M. 1615; Thomas Butt, W.M. 700; the Rev. H. Adair Pickard, I.P.M. 357; Geo. Hockley, W.M. 173; Dr. Erasmus Wilson, W.M. 2; Alex. Pilbeam, W.M. 45; John Bingemann, W.M. 1599; Capt. N. G. Phillips, P.M. 1383; A. Durrant, W.M. 1385; R. Berridge, W.M. 21; James W. Gillard, W.M. 180; Thos. Dunkins, W.M. 72; G. Kelly King, W.M. 1541; D. Betts, W.M. 1351; Thomas Elsley, W.M. 742; Peter De L. Long, P.M. 114; G. D. Roe, W.M. 1604; Edmd. Coste, P.M. 1613; H. Potter, P.M. 261; J. H. Batty, P.M. 28; W. T. Wells, W.M. 174; Peter Wagner, W.M. 201; F. Egan, W.M. 858; Chas. Atkins, P.M. 27; W. A. Murlis, W.M. 1489; James Bateman, W.M. 820; C. B. Barnett, W.M. 1382; W. Waygood, W.M. 141; N. Cobham, I.P.M. 957; W. Dodd, P.M. 1194; H. G. Buss, P.M. 27; and C. B. Payne, G. Tyler.

Grants of £240, made at former lodge meetings, were confirmed; and the brethren then proceeded with the new cases, of which many were those of widows. Two grants of £50 each, one grant of £40, one of £30, two of £20, four of £10, one of £5, and one of £3 were made; and the consideration of two cases on the list was deferred. The total grants made were £258.

At the Board of Masters the paper of business for Wednesday week at Grand Lodge was settled. Bro. the Rev. R. J. Simpson, Past Grand Chaplain, gave notice of motion for the appointment of a committee to consider the subject of the thank offering for the Prince of Wales's safe return from India which was brought forward at last Grand Lodge; and he gave in the names of the proposed committee. In the event of his motion not being carried, he gives notice of an alternative motion for the gift of £6000 from Grand Lodge Funds for the purchase of three scholarships for the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys at Oxford, Cambridge, and London Universities. Bro. Jabez Hogg gave notice of an amendment to Bro. Simpson's original notice of motion to the same effect as Bro. Simpson's alternative resolution.

THE QUEEN AT EDINBURGH.

Though the Highlands are Her Majesty's favourite resort, the Scottish capital has not enjoyed an undue share of Royal visits. Since 1842, when the Queen stayed for some days at Dalkeith, the seat of the Duke of Buccleuch, Her Majesty has only on three occasions visited Edinburgh, and only on one of these occasions, the memorable Review of Scottish Volunteers in 1860, could the visit be looked upon as one of State. The citizens, therefore, by no means regard a Royal pageant as a thing of course, and the event of Thursday proves that it has for them a keen interest. They have welcomed their Sovereign with the same affectionate loyalty as is shown throughout the realm when the Queen comes among her people. The Magistrates had recommended a half holiday, thus preserving the frugal mind while bent on pleasure; but in the principal thoroughfares many of the shops were not opened at all, and Edinburgh, as a whole, seemed resolved to make a day of it. Unluckily, the day was not as the previous one, or as any other recent days of almost tropical brightness and brilliance. No ray of sunshine fell on the city the whole day long. Had this been the worst, sight-seers might have been thankful; but in place of scorching heat the day began with a fine penetrating rain, which continued for some hours. The Queen's habitual good fortune, however, awaited her. By 2 o'clock the mist, which hid the Old Town from the New, cleared well away. From Princes-street, and looking across the ravine, crag and tower, battlement and spire, could be seen once more, and from other points there came into view those near surroundings of sea and mountain which have made Edinburgh our ideal city.

The Memorial to the Prince Consort is erected in Charlotte-square, at the west end of George-street, a broad and handsome street running parallel with Prince's-street and just behind it. From Holyrood the Royal cortège entered George-street at St. Andrew's-square, which at the east end corresponds with Charlotte-square at the west end, forming a roadway in every way worthy of the city. In St. Andrew's-square is the monumental column built in honour of the first Lord Melville. Scotland is not chary of honours to her worthies. Edinburgh can point to some five and twenty statues; but it should be added that the statues are not entirely those of Scotchmen. The Melville column was gay with banners, and lines of streamers hanging from it were connected with tall Venetian masts in the gardens surrounding it. These masts, some of them 30 feet high, were repeated along the edge of the footway, and the street was as bright as it well could be made by banners, bannerets, shields, flowers, evergreens, and bands of crimson cloth, which form the simplest and also the most effective of house decorations. Down this fine street, too broad to need barricading, came the Royal party, driving in three open carriages, in time to reach the square punctually at four o'clock. The Queen looked in excellent health and spirits. In the carriage with her were Princess Beatrice and Prince Leopold, who was in Highland costume. Lord Elphinstone was the Lord-in-Waiting. The Home Secretary, Mr. Cross, was in one of the State carriages. The suite in attendance were the Dowager Lady Waterpark, the Hon. Horatio Stopford, Miss Bauer, Sir William Jenner, Major-General Ponsonby, Colonel Gardiner, and the Hon. A. Yorke. The Duke of Connaught was in command of the escort of the 7th Queen's Hussars, and rode by the side of his mother's carriage. At Holyrood a guard of honour was furnished by the 79th Highlanders, and the band of the 26th Cameronians played in front of the Palace. Before Her Majesty's departure part of the roadway was lined by Royal Artillerymen and 3000 Volunteers belonging to the Artillery Rifle Corps. Edinburgh possesses several smart and efficient corps, and those who turned out this day were most sturdy and soldierlike in look and bearing. A hundred blue jackets from Her Majesty's ship Favourite were stationed near Charlotte-square. George-street was lined by the 29th Cameronians, but the "thin red line" here and elsewhere was more than sufficient to restrain the crowd, who were as orderly and well-behaved as they were fervent in their loyalty. The chief pressure occurred at the entrance into Charlotte-square, where the Hussars with their well-trained horses were keeping back the crowd; but a well-arranged system of barriers prevented much of the usual surging and confusion. Before the Queen arrived the people had fallen or had been shaken into their places.

Inside the square is a green enclosure within iron railings, about half as large as Lincoln's-inn-fields. The trees are not high enough or numerous enough to hide the memorial, which is thus admirably placed on green sward, with ample space around it, as an equestrian should have. At one side of the square is a church—St. George's, and there are handsome public buildings and private residences at other sides. The site, therefore, is in every way a fitting one. Within the enclosure to-day some thousands of privileged spectators were admitted. Here, of course, the chief interest centred. The Body Guard of the Royal Company of Archers lined the entrance, standing at two paces interval, each man bow in hand, with three arrows in his quiver and a short gilt handed sword in his belt. The Duke of Buccleuch, who was in command, wore a handsome uniform of green and gold, with the blue riband of the Garter. Before the Archers were borne the old colours of the Corps, and among other officers who took command were the Duke of Roxburgh, Sir W. Gibson Craig, the Earls of Dalkeith and Stair, Sir J. S. Richardson, and the Earl of Rosebery. Soon after the Body Guard had been placed the members of the Edinburgh Town Council came in procession, headed by Lord Provost Falschaw, and preceded by four halberdiers in mediæval dresses, and by Mace and Sword-bearers. The Lord Provost was in scarlet and

ermine; the Bailies wore scarlet robes and ermine tips, the Town Councillors scarves only. This procession introduced a blaze of colour, the only objection to which was that when massed it hindered the view of several hundred somewhat indignant spectators in the rear. It is hardly possible to supply a list of the many distinguished persons who were present, but among them, either in uniform or Court dress, were the Lord Justice-General, the Lord Justice Clerk, and the Lord Advocate, in his Court wig and robes; the Earl of Lauderdale, Hereditary Standard Bearer, and the Earl of Selkirk, Keeper of the Great Seal; and Mr. Wedderburne, Hereditary Royal Standard Bearer. On Her Majesty's arrival she was met by members of the Executive Committee, the Duke of Buccleuch, Sir John McNeill, Sir W. Gibson Craig, and Dr. Lyon Playfair, M.P., and a procession was formed to the dais erected in front of the memorial. In this procession besides the noblemen and gentlemen already mentioned, the following took part:—The Marquis of Lothian, Lord Keeper of the Privy Seal; Sir H. J. Seton-Steuart, Hereditary Armour Bearer, Mr. Walker, of Bowland; Mr. J. Strell, the sculptor of the memorial; the Lord Provost and Sheriff Davidson.

Chairs of State had been prepared under the dais, but Her Majesty, with the Princess Beatrice and Prince Leopold, remained standing throughout the ceremony, and thus remained well in sight of most of the spectators. The formal proceedings then began. A prayer was offered by Dr. Milligan, one of the Deans of the Chapel Royal, who wore a black gown and bands, with a doctor's hood. At the conclusion of the prayer the band of the 79th Highlanders began the chorale "Gotha," composed by the late Prince Consort, and it was then sung by a choir of two hundred voices, led by Dr. Oakeley, Professor of Music in the University of Edinburgh. The piece was admirably given, and the Queen listened to it with the utmost interest. Mr. Cross then presented the members of the Executive Committee, and the Duke of Buccleuch, as their chairman, read the address to Her Majesty as follows:—

"The Executive Committee for the erection of the Scottish National Memorial to His Royal Highness the Prince Consort have to-day the high honour and gratification of presenting the Memorial in its completed form to your Majesty and to the people of Scotland. The subscribers to the Memorial numbered very many thousands of your Majesty's Scottish subjects. Contributions were received from every county and nearly every parish in Scotland. All classes of society, from the highest and wealthiest to the lowest and poorest, willingly combined according to their respective ability to render this Memorial a monument worthy of the occasion. It will be in your Majesty's recollection that the subscribers humbly submitted the design and the site to your Majesty's selection, and that the design furnished by Mr. John Steel (Royal Scottish Academician) and this site (which was loyally offered by the proprietors of Charlotte-square) received your Majesty's gracious approval. The labour intrusted to the Executive Committee is now concluded, and the finished work of the sculptor is before your Majesty. The Executive Committee trust and believe that it will be found to be a not unflattering tribute of a nation's affection and admiration of the Consort and an acceptable token of their love and loyalty to your Majesty's person and family. It is an auspicious coincidence that this day, the 17th of August, is the anniversary of the birth of Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent, your Majesty's beloved mother. The memory of Her Royal Highness will ever be revered by the people of this country for the conspicuous virtues of Her Royal Highness's life, and especially for her admirable nature of their future Sovereign. The Executive Committee humbly request your Majesty to be graciously pleased to unveil the Memorial in the sight of the present assembly.—Edinburgh, Aug. 17, 1876."

The Queen made the following gracious reply:—

"I receive with pleasure your loyal address. I am well aware of the feeling in Scotland which promoted the raising of this National Memorial, and I assure you that I heartily appreciate the affection and admiration manifested in this country for my dear husband, as well as the loyalty and attachment to me which has ever been the characteristic of my Scotch subjects. I thank you heartily for the allusion you have made to my beloved mother on this day, the anniversary of her birth. Her frequent residence in this Royal city and its neighbourhood proved how much she loved the Scottish nation."

Neither the address nor the reply could be heard, of course, even by people in the enclosure, much less by the thousands of people who lined the square or were crowding every and balcony house-top, but when Her Majesty, after handing her reply to the Duke of Buccleuch, spoke a few words to the Home Secretary, Mr. Cross, in his loudest voice, succeeded in making himself heard: "I have much pleasure in saying by Her Majesty's command that it is her desire the statue be now unveiled." The canvas covering which till now had concealed the statue was at once cleverly and quickly removed, amid cheers which were loud and long. The long delayed memorial was exposed to view, while the band played the "Coburg March," and a Royal salute, fired by signal from the Castle, proclaimed to all Edinburgh that the ceremony was complete. The choir here sang another chorale, the words of which were written by the Rev. Gregory Smith, Vicar of Malvern, the music being by Professor Oakeley. Finally the Queen walked round the statue upon a wooden platform carpeted with crimson cloth. Her Majesty, who was escorted by the Duke of Buccleuch and the Lord Provost, was thus able to see the statue from every point of view, and to whom she expressed her entire satisfaction with the work. It is, indeed, a worthy addition to the art memorials in which, as I have said, the city is already so rich, and many of which are the work of the same venerable sculptor.

On completing the circuit of the memorial the Queen was escorted to her carriage and returned to Holyrood. Along

the whole length of Princes-street the crowds were as numerous and as warm in their greetings as they had been in George-street, and the decorations were hardly less elaborate and effective, but in its beauty unadorned Princes-street stands in little need of decoration.

Later in the day Her Majesty drove through the Queen's Park by what is known as the Queen's Drive, and visited Craigmillar Castle. It is only just to the authorities of Edinburgh to add that the arrangements made for the comfort and safety of the spectators who thronged the city were excellent, and the day passed off without serious accident. Her Majesty has shown in a marked manner her appreciation of what has been done and her desire to honour her faithful city. It is understood that the Lord Provost has received an intimation that he will be created a baronet. At Holyrood, during the day, the chief sculptor of the memorial, Mr. J. Steel, and Professor Oakeley were knighted. Thus, as a popular spectacle and in the honour rendered to sculpture and music, the Queen's visit herewith long be remembered in the civic annals.

WAR VICTIMS.—The Rev. Henry Jones, Secretary to the Turkish Missions Aid Society, writes to us from 18, Adam-street, Strand:—"Should any of your readers prefer sending relief to the multitude of homeless families, as well as to the sick and wounded, through the medium of the American missionaries (to whom a letter from your correspondent at Widin in your Saturday's issue justly calls attention), the committee of this society, which is in direct communication with the missionaries in that unhappy region, would be glad to forward any contributions sent to its secretary, the Rev. Henry Jones, at the above address. The missionaries would, doubtless, be thankful for such means of doing good, and would administer the relief faithfully and judiciously." The National Aid Society has been amalgamated with the Eastern War Sick and Wounded Relief Fund. Mr. Lewis Farley has received a letter from Dr. Humphrey Sandwith, dated Belgrade, Aug. 19:—"In answer to your letter of the 9th inst., I can assure you that all bona fide surgeons who have hitherto arrived have been commissioned and sent to the front in uniform. I have lately returned from a mission to the enemy, with which I was entrusted by the Servian Government to arrange for the absolute neutrality of all hospital doctors, attendants, &c. I have received the fullest assurance in writing from Rifast Pasha, Governor of Widin, that all such will be treated with the greatest humanity, so I think that surgeons will have nothing to fear in future. The Turks have previously hanged Dr. Leah with the red cross on his arm. The hospitals in Belgrade are now in want of nothing, but those in the interior are yet in a deplorable condition—i.e., most of them. Some of them are very fair. The army in the West is in perfect health, and there are but few wounded there; the army in the East is sending hundreds of wounded to the rear almost daily, and there is the place where most is needed. This morning several English surgeons are gone to that army. Hare, Attwood, Hume, Boyd, Sandwith, MacKellar. They are all in uniform and commissioned, and are under the command of Inspector-General Baron Mundy, a first-rate man, under whom the service is being rapidly organized. The Medical Department is still in need of instruments, stores, surgeons, and dressers. I scarcely think ladies would do here; there are enough Russian ladies in (Belgrade, and the interior is too rough a place. Mr. MacCormac, principal surgeon during the Franco-German War, and Dr. Burnard Pitts, of St. Thomas's Hospital, have left London for the seat of war. The former, since his return to England, has been the senior surgeon at St. Thomas's Hospital. The Hyde Park Demonstration Committee formed for the purpose of expressing indignation at the atrocities perpetrated by the Turks in Bulgaria, have, in answer to invitations addressed by them to Mr. Edward A. Freeman and Mr. Samuel S. Marling, M.P., to attend a demonstration of working men, to be held in Hyde Park, received the following replies:—"The former, writing from Summerville, Wells, says,—"I am glad, indeed, to see any class of people, and especially working men, stirring in such a cause. A working men's meeting on the matter is one of the things which I most wish to see, but I greatly doubt whether a Hyde Park demonstration is the best form it can take." The latter gentleman, writing from Staney-park, Stroud, says as follows:—"I have left London and am unable to return to render any assistance to the demonstration. The atrocities perpetrated on the Bulgarians are an outrage on humanity, and I cannot but feel that our Government is much to blame for their indifference and want of care, because history might have taught them from the past conduct of the Turks that the utmost vigilance on their part was demanded to prevent outrages by the very circumstances of the case. I wish your meeting every success." Colonel Loyd Lindsay has left London for the seat of war in the East, taking surgical and medical appliances for the wounded Turks and Servians. Colonel Lindsay proceeds as Chief Commissioner of the National Society for Aid to the Sick and Wounded in War.

STONEHENGE.—"Druid" writes from Penzance:—"On the 14th inst. I visited Stonehenge, and was much surprised at the way in which that most interesting relic has been mutilated, the lower portions of the stones being much disfigured. Upon arriving I found a party of ladies and two gentlemen (?); the latter were busy with chisel and hammer detaching portions of the ruins to keep as specimens, and regretting their inability to obtain large pieces in consequence of their being provided with a carpenter's, instead of a geological, hammer. Surely some steps might be taken to preserve this national monument from such selfish barbarism. With what feelings of indignation would the public regard the chipping off of portions of any of our cathedrals to adorn the private collections of individuals, and yet we have many cathedrals, and could better spare portions of them than of our one Stonehenge."

FREEMASONRY IN THE UNITED STATES.

Franklin Lodge, No. 134, Philadelphia, carried out most successfully another part of its extended programme for the celebration of the one hundredth anniversary of American Independence. On Sunday morning the brethren, headed by their W.M., Bro. John C. Kelley, and other officers, turned out in large numbers for the purpose of attending Divine service at old Christ Church, of which one of its members, the Rev. Bro. E. A. Foggo, D.D., is rector. Franklin Lodge was, by invitation, joined on this occasion by the Grand Master of Masons of Pennsylvania, Bro. Robert Clark; Senior Grand Warden, Bro. Michael Nisbet; Grand Marshal, Bro. George W. Wood, and other Grand Officers, and also by Concordia Lodge, No. 67, headed by their W.M., Bro. Arthur Thacker. The entire assemblage of Freemasons was both a brilliant and a large one, and that in spite of the unusual heat of the day—the thermometer reaching as high as 98° in the shade. The brethren of Franklin Lodge met at the Masonic Temple, and marched down to the church, their only insignia being a narrow blue ribbon, worn on the lapel of their coats. The brethren of Concordia Lodge met in the parish building adjoining the church.

The religious services were conducted by the rector, Bro. E. A. Foggo, D.D., of Franklin Lodge; Bro. James W. Robins, D.D., of Union Lodge, and Bro. Wm. H. Odenheimer, D.D., LL.D., of Franklin Lodge. The sermon was delivered by the Right Rev. Bro. William H. Odenheimer, Bishop of the Diocese of Northern New Jersey, and was a masterpiece, whether considered in the light of either pulpit or Masonic oratory. The Bishop took for his text the words from the Great Light: "And all ye are brethren," and discoursed from them lessons of the greatest interest and practical value. The preacher is evidently both a bright and a whole-souled Mason, and he gave forth no uncertain sound.

At the conclusion of Divine service the brethren of Franklin Lodge proceeded to Bro. Benjamin Franklin's grave, in the graveyard of Christ Church, at Fourth and Arch streets, when Bro. Robert Clark, Grand Master of Pennsylvania, at the request of Bro. J. C. Kelley, W. Master of Franklin Lodge, deposited on the grave of the philosopher and Mason an elegant wreath of immortelles, encircling a square and compasses, and inscribed with the letters "Franklin Lodge, No. 134."—"Keystone."

FREEMASONRY IN THE WEST.

The growth of Masonry in the West, like the growth of the West itself, is something marvellous. Illinois has more Masons than Pennsylvania; and Michigan, that in 1870 ranked as the thirteenth State in population, is today, with over 26,000 Masons, the seventh, if not the sixth, of American Grand Lodges in Masonic strength. Amid the solitudes, the trials, and the struggles of a frontier life and a new country, where society is neither crystalized nor stratified, and where the various institutions and customs, in which Eastern social life finds relaxation and reliefs, are measurably absent or deficient, Masonry supplies a need of human nature which nothing else can furnish. The Masonic stranger finds in the lodge-room congenial associates and friends. His solitary single-handed combat with nature and the forest is cheered by the consciousness that he is not alone. In sickness or in health Masonic ministrations are essential help or blessed comfort. Offering all these advantages to the worthy, it is strange that the unworthy should seek to profit by them; or is it strange or un-Masonic in us if by "sharp decisions," or a new practice, we should sometimes defend with excessive vigour what to us is so valuable? And amid the wild lawlessness so often found in a border life and among its rude but noble-hearted men, is it strange that our jurisprudence should seemingly pass; by sudden and, to some, shocking transitions,

"From grave to gay—from lively to severe?"

One Mason of smooth, decorous exterior is known, by his lodge, to have a bad heart; such a one, if charged with any Masonic offence, is likely to have a "short shrift" and summary punishment; but if, on the contrary, one who is wild and rough and lawless, is known to have an heart of honour in a breast overflowing with "the milk of human kindness," much, very much, is "pardoned in a spirit of liberty," and lodge verdicts fall harmless at his feet. We have, or think we have, more heart knowledge of our brethren than can be found in the older States; and to this more than to charities or proof, are often due the verdicts of lodges that look so queer, on paper, to Eastern Masons. But we flatter ourselves that substantial justice, not to mention a wise and true charity, is quite as often triumphant before our rude tribunals as in the more decorous but custom-bound courts of an older Masonry. And so we reverently observe the "landmarks" of Masonry by seeking to make our field fruitful of that Faith, Hope, and Charity which all landmarks were established to preserve, and without which the Landmarks is as worthless as a solitary boulder on a sandy barren.—"Keystone."

THE EMPEROR OF AUSTRIA.—During his recent stay at Ischl the Emperor of Austria saved the child of a poor woman from a violent death. As he was passing through the Rottenbach Gorges, a boy of 4 years old fell over a precipice, and, his clothes having caught on a projecting branch, was suspended over a torrent some 50 feet below. The Emperor, whose proficiency in all athletic sports is well known, jumped across the precipice, freed the boy from his perilous position, and took him back to his mother.—"Eastern Budget."

Gas superseded in day time, and daylight reflected in dark rooms. Health, comfort, and economy promoted by adopting Chappuis' Patent Daylight Reflectors. Manufactory, 69, Fleet-street, London.

THE EMPRESS OF INDIA.

Saturday's Government "Gazette" contains the following Viceregal Proclamation:—

"I hereby publish for the information of the Governors, Administrators, Princes, chief nobles, and peoples of this Empire, the subjoined Act passed by the Imperial Parliament of Great Britain and Ireland, on the 27th of April, 1876, together with a Royal Proclamation, dated at the Court of Windsor, the 28th of April, 1876, in the 39th year of Her Majesty's reign, transmitted to this Government by the most Honourable the Secretary of State for India in his Lordship's despatch No. 70, of the 13th of July, 1876.

"Moreover, I now publicly notify under this my hand and seal that it is my intention to hold at Delhi on the 1st of January, 1877, an Imperial Assemblage, for the purpose of proclaiming to the Queen's subjects throughout India the gracious sentiments which have induced Her Majesty to make to her Sovereign style and titles an addition specially intended to mark Her Majesty's interest in this great dependency of her Crown, and her Royal confidence in the loyalty and affection of the peoples and Princes of India.

"To this Assemblage I propose to invite the Governors, Lieutenant-Governors, and heads of Administrations from all parts of the Queen's Indian dominions, as well as those princes, chiefs, and nobles in whose persons the antiquity of the past is associated with the prosperity of the future, and who so worthily contribute to the splendour and stability of this great Empire.

"I shall forthwith issue such Orders in Council as may be suitable to the historical importance of the occasion, and in conformity with the desire which will be felt by all Her Majesty's subjects in India to manifest the affection which they cherish for their august Sovereign by public rejoicings and appropriate demonstrations of loyalty.

"Aug. 18." "LYTTON."

The Viceroy will make a public entry into Delhi on the day after Christmas Day. All public offices will be closed for a week. About 15,000 European and Native troops, mostly regiments moving in the ordinary course of relief, will be present. It is reported that the assembly will be on a very grand scale, and will be held on the open plain. Around the Viceroy's throne will be grouped a series of daises, representing the various Provinces, in a great semi-circle. The troops will be drawn up behind the throne. Races, ceremonial visits, and other entertainments will occupy the Christmas week.

AN APPEAL FROM BAVARIA.

The following appears in our contemporary, "The Times":—

Sir,—It will be a charity if you can find a place in your columns for the following.

On the night of August 13 the town of Brückenau, about 20 English miles from Kissingen, was almost totally destroyed by fire—that is to say, out of 250 houses upwards of 200 are not; out of a population of 1600, 1200 are now roofless, five are dead, and two missing.

The houses were only insured for about a fourth of their value, furniture and clothing not at all. Unfortunately, the fire was so quick, that the people had to fly in their shirts, shoeless. The harvest, already cut and stored, was entirely consumed. The people are now huddled 18 in a room.

I shall never forget the scene that met my eyes on walking to the town the morning following. First, the telltale smoke, in sad contrast to the sunlit beauty of the verdant valley, then the hedges bung with bedding, then the carts and carriages, and the poor people themselves in groups in the adjoining meadows, the more fortunate guarding the wrecks of their property. The town itself was impassable from the fallen and still falling houses. I penetrated, however, far enough to see many despairing faces and streaming eyes.

From the above your readers may judge how widespread, how almost universal is the ruin, and as the people in these parts are very poor, how much they need help. We on the spot are doing what we can, and any money paid to the account of Sir John Kingston James, Marylebone branch, "Brückenau Fund," London and Westminster Bank, 4, Stratford-place, will be handed over by me to the Local Committee.

Anxiously hoping that this appeal may bring forth fruit, I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

J. KINGSTON JAMES.

Sinuthalhof, Brückenau, Bavaria, Aug. 16.

SOCIAL SCIENCE CONGRESS.—There is some doubt as to whether it will be possible to hold the Sanitary Exhibition in connexion with the Social Science Congress at Liverpool in October. Since the first Exhibition at the Leeds meeting in 1871, there has each year been greater interest taken in it, and its practical utility has been so recognized that each year the extent of the Exhibition has increased. Promises of objects for exhibition this year have been already numerous, but the difficulty is to find a place wherein the Exhibition can be held. The Assistant Secretary, who has been to Liverpool to make arrangements, reports that there is but one hall suitable, and that cannot be had. The extensive hall erected for Messrs. Moody and Sankey's services is well adapted, but it stands on Government ground, and the lease falls in on the 15th of September. It is intended to erect a new County Court on the site without delay, and by the time the Congress meets, which is October the 10th, the hall will probably be swept away. An application has been made to Her Majesty's Office of Works for the hall to stand till after the conference, and a formal refusal has been sent. We understand the Liverpool Corporation have taken the matter into consideration, and will probably memorialize Her Majesty's Office of Works.

HOLY GROUND.

"Our lodges are situated on Holy ground," consecrated and dedicated to a Holy God, and therefore should and must in every way be free from any influences tending to dishonour that holy name, and corrupt the Craft.

The holy to the holiest leads,
From thence our spirits rise,
And he that in God's statutes treads,
Shall meet Him in the skies.

Let us glance into the past, aided by that Holy Light, which must ever burn, shed its lustre, and adorn the Master's pedestal, a scene presents itself 3730 years since.

The fathers of the faithful and the friend of God met Abimelech with the chief captain of his host, was saluted by him. "God is with thee in all that thou dost;" and then called upon him to take a solemn obligation of friendship to him and his posterity, and "both" of them made a covenant, and we may imagine the scene at the well which Abraham digged. Beer Shaba, or the "well of the Oath," a consecrated spot here under the canopy of heaven, witnessed by the Most High above, and in the presence of the faithful servant of Abimelech. That Holy ground was consecrated by an act of brotherly love, and in passing I would say, "Let brotherly love continue."

Holy ground? Yes! and let no man taunt me when I adopt Freemasonry as my religion, and lay as a foundation stone to God, and love to my brother, with all my heart. To proceed.

These brethren separated, but Abraham having his property, the well restored to him, not only consecrated the spot by his fraternal bond to Abimelech, but we find him raising an evergreen monument to the everlasting God; as he plants the grove around the well, and makes it holy ground at Beer Shaba, giving all glory to the Most High.

Holy Ground! Now another scene, and we have before us a splendid subject for the poet and the orator—the venerable brother, upwards of one hundred years old, with his only son Isaac and his servants in attendance; the patriarch riding on an ass, the group wending its way towards Moriah, and now as they get in sight of the mountain, the old man dismounts from the beast and leaves it in charge of the servants, who are told that he and the lad are going to the mountain to worship, and then return again to them.

The venerable sire, with no ordinary fidelity to the Most High, and with the most endearing affection for a fond and obedient son, first lays the wood on Isaac's shoulders, then takes the knife in one hand, and the fire in the other, and they commence the ascent. The lad wonders and seeks from his father to know where the lamb is for the sacrifice, but is told that God will provide Himself a lamb for a burnt offering, and they again ascend together.

Let us follow them, but take our shoes from off our feet, we are now on holy ground.

The patriarch has selected a spot and laid aside the fire and knife, and the young man has laid down his wood, and they together build an altar, it is finished and the wood is laid in order, but where is the lamb? a moment's surprise, and now the dear old man takes the only son of his bosom, the obedient beloved son, binds him and lays him on the altar, then follows a scene, upon which the angelic host looked with interest, and heaven's King with approbation. The knife is raised, another moment and it is plunged in the heart of the dear youth, but his hand is stayed, a voice is heard, hurt not the lad, the will is taken for the deed; the lad is loosed, and who can imagine the feelings of the two as they bow down in the presence of the Most High, on that holy ground, Jehovah, Jireh. 22 Genesis.

Holy Ground! Now let us turn our attention to witness the sweet singer of Israel, when the anger of God was kindled, the pestilence is raging, and the King bows down before the Most High in humility, his prayer and supplication is heard and the plague is stayed.

Holy Ground! We remind our brethren at the installation of an event of surpassing grandeur to any thing on record, the completion, dedication and consecration of the Temple of Jerusalem to God's worship and service, the grandeur of the building, the solemnity of the ceremonies and above all the visible manifestation over the mercy seat between the cherubim, impressed the well informed mind, with

The sacred awe that does not mow,
And all the silent heaven of love.

Holy Ground! Brethren of the clergy especially, and all who would have God honoured and revered as it becomes Freemasons—we have an application to make to this subject.

If the lodge is holy, the ceremonies have reference to God and are holy. Would you for a moment countenance the service of the Church of England, or any other, in a public house? No! Then we shudder to think that the divine principles of Masonry are to such an extent made a convenience to those who do dishonour to God and the Craft.

Holy Ground! Let us not trifle with the Most High! I feel delighted that so many interested in the prosperity of the Craft endorse my views. There are thousands of brethren, of the highest religious and moral reputation and standing, who are the greatest ornaments to Masonry, who are driven from the lodges by the excesses practised.

Let the world witness that our lodges are on holy ground, and in spite of all opposition Masonry will do honour to monarch and peasant, and shall go forward bright as the sun, fair as the moon, and terrible as an army with banners.

Notwithstanding the great heat, the deaths registered in London last week were 107 below the average. The mean temperature was 72 deg., which was 10.5 deg. in excess of the corresponding week for sixty years.

EXPECTED VISIT OF THE PRINCE OF WALES TO GLASGOW.

The following correspondence between the Lord Provost and the Prince of Wales regarding the visit of His Royal Highness to Glasgow was read by the Lord Provost at the meeting of the Glasgow Police Board.

At the first meeting of the magistrates after the Lord Provost's return from America it was arranged that His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales should be asked to honour the city by laying the foundation-stone of the new Post Office. The Lord Provost accordingly addressed to General Sir W. Knollys the following letter:—

"City Chambers,

"Glasgow, 10th August, 1876.

"Lieutenant-General Sir Wm. Knollys, K.C.B., Marlborough House, London.

"Sir,—The Government have finally approved of the plans of a new Post Office for Glasgow, and the requisite funds have been voted for its erection. The building, it is believed, will be one worthy of the city, and the arrangements are so far in progress that the foundation-stone may be laid in a few weeks. It has occurred to my colleagues in the magistracy and myself, that if His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales is to be in Scotland during the autumn, and would be graciously pleased, either in going to or returning from the Highlands, to lay the foundation-stone, he would put the community under great obligation, and, if possible, intensify the feeling of loyalty towards her Majesty and to the Royal family. I may be permitted to say that I am emboldened to address you on this subject, and to beg the favour of your bringing the matter under the notice of His Royal Highness, by the consideration that one of the last, if not the latest official act of his illustrious father, the Prince Consort, was to lay the foundation stone of the Post Office in Edinburgh. That city is no doubt the political capital of Scotland, but I venture to hope that the claims of Glasgow, in respect of population, enterprise, and commercial and manufacturing position, are sufficiently known to His Royal Highness to induce him to give to a request on behalf of its citizens the most favourable consideration that his other engagements will admit of. It will afford the entire community very high gratification to see His Royal Highness after his return from his auspicious visit to India, and I need scarcely say that the gratification will be very greatly enhanced if Her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales shall be graciously pleased to accompany the Prince on the occasion. May I beg that you will do my brother magistrates and myself the favour of taking advantage of an early opportunity of bringing the matter under the notice of His Royal Highness, and letting me know the result.—I have the honour to be, Sir, your most obedient servant.

(Signed) "Jas. BAIN, Lord Provost."

To that communication the Lord Provost has received the following reply, which was submitted to the magistrates at their meeting:—

"Marlborough House,

"Pall Mall, S.W., August 16, 1876.

"My Lord Provost,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 10th inst., which I have submitted to the Prince of Wales, and received His Royal Highness's directions to inform you that it will afford His Royal Highness great satisfaction to be present at the ceremony of laying the foundation stone of the new proposed Post Office at Glasgow. The Prince's present engagements in the North render it impossible at present for His Royal Highness to say when he shall be able to attend to perform the prescribed duties on such an occasion, but it will probably be towards the end of the first fortnight in October.—I have the honour to remain, my Lord Provost, very faithfully yours.

(Signed) "W. KNOLLYS.

"The Lord Provost of Glasgow."

This announcement, we feel assured, will be received with the greatest possible gratification by our readers. It is to be hoped that the Princess of Wales may be able to accompany her husband on this occasion, and to receive with him a right Royal welcome.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

SCIENCE AND ART EXAMINATION.

MAGNETISM AND ELECTRICITY.—First Class Advanced, H. G. Shaw; First Class Elementary, R. Bryant, W. R. Parker, C. D. Green; Second Class Elementary, W. Beaumont, W. Jones.

DRAWING.—Full Certificates, W. R. Parker, H. G. Shaw; Prize of Instruments, W. R. Parker.

PAPERS ON PRACTICAL GEOMETRY.—Heeley, White, Rose, Newman, Croydon, Haskins, Bryant, Parker, and Shaw.

PASSED IN MODEL DRAWING.—Heeley, Parker, and Booser.

PASSED IN FREEHAND.—W. Pawley.

PASSED IN PERSPECTIVE.—Parker and Shaw.

THE COSMOPOLITAN MASONIC CALENDAR, DIARY, AND POCKET BOOK FOR 1877.

A form has been forwarded to every London Craft lodge and R.A. chapter, respectfully requesting that the name and number, place, day and months of meeting, might be filled in and returned as speedily as possible, in order that corrections, where needed, may be made in the Diary and Pocket Book for 1877. As many lodges do not re-assemble until late in the year, a large number of the applications will not unfortunately reach the W.M. until too late for the publication. The publisher will therefore be very thankful to any W.M. or other officer, or members, who will favour him by forwarding the above information as early as possible to the office, 198, Fleet-street, London. A regular form will be sent, when required, on receipt of name and address.

LIGHT.

How necessary is light in our earthly architecture. How much effect and beauty depend on the modulations, as I may call them, of natural light, or the skilful arrangements of artificial light. But in that heavenly architecture there shall be perfect light, the lustrous yet undazzling—the continual, yet unwearied light of God's presence.

The effort of all good people on earth is to bring earth nearer to Heaven, and to reflect Heaven's light on earth. As God said, "Let there be light, and there was light," so it is ours, my brethren, as good men and Masons, to say and to act, "Let there be light," that God's light may shine forth upon earth, and be kindled here, to be intensified and perfected there. To know God in His word and in His works, is to walk in the light; to help others to do this is to be spreading the true light; to educate the poor and ignorant, to relieve the distressed, and to have large and sympathetic thoughts towards all men, this is to lift the dark clouds of ignorance, prejudice, and meanness, and to be preparing the light of Heaven.

"There no clouds nor passing vapour,
Dim the brightness of the air;
Endless noonday, glorious noonday,
From the sun of suns is there."

REV. A. H. ETTY.

THE MOSELLE.—Trèves is, perhaps, the most interesting town in Germany. It has old houses enough, though not so many as Nuremberg, or Augsburg, or Hanover. You may live in that fine old inn, comfortable withal, the Rothe Haus, once the old town hall, and see opposite to you St Mary's Church, an exquisite bit of Gothic, somewhat dwarfed by the huge mass of the sternly Romanesque cathedral. But the chief glory of Trèves is its Roman remains, more perfect and more numerous than those of any other Transalpine town, Orange only excepted. Then its library is full of rare editions, and has (what is a wonder in Germany) most courteous and patient gentlemen for librarian and sub-librarian. Moreover, its people have a genial cheeriness of face and manner which may be due to the Gallic mixture (for the Treviri were as much Gauls as the people of Rheims, with whom they are always classed by Latin writers), but which, at any rate, one usually looks for in vain in more Northern Germany. But Trèves just now is hard to get out of. You can get into it easily enough, either by way of Luxembourg or from Cologne direct, by a line which runs through the grandest part of the Upper Eifel. Once there, however, you will be told you must stay unless you retrace your steps, or put up with German post-wagons (often starting at unearthly hours, and by day fearfully hot), or hire a carriage as far down the Moselle as Cochen, between which place and Coblenz the little local steamer still plies. Our advice is to do neither; your drive down as far as Alf would be a hot and uninteresting one, and from Cochen downwards you will have plenty of opportunity of judging whether the Moselle is really finer than the Rhine or not. Better put up with the inevitable alteration in your plans; or, rather (after this warning), shape your plans on the supposition that the Moselle water, being now *zu klein*, is likely so to continue for the next six weeks at least. Determine, therefore, to console yourselves by getting a good peep at the Upper Eifel. If you have already seen Gerolstein Castle (no connexion with the Grand Duchess—she hails, we suppose, from the place of the same name in the Black Forest) from the line from Cologne, take your ticket only from Trèves to Kyllburg. Thence make your way to Oberkail—a burying place of one or two grand old families; thence to Manderscheid, where are two castles close together, with a legend, of course, about a quarrel between two brothers. On your way thither you will have climbed the Mosenburg, a huge extinct volcano, with four craters—one still a maar or tarn. You will, moreover, be within easy reach of four or five more of the largest and best of the Eifel maars (extinct craters full of water), including the Pulvermaar, so beautifully embosomed in beech woods. Thence walk or drive down to lovely Bertrich—a real German bathing place, almost unvisited by the Britisher. Here trace, at the "Cheese cellar," a curious sort of diminutive Fingal's Cave, the end of a lava current; and then go on your way rejoicing to Alf. If the drive from thence to Cochen, through old villages and over glorious hills, does not please you, you must, indeed, be hard to satisfy. At Cochen (as we said) you will still find a Coblenz boat.—"Graphic."

Amongst the leaders of the Masonic fraternity and others who have already expressed their desire to become subscribers to the tales, poems, and Masonic papers by Bro. Emra Holmes, are the Earl of Carnarvon, Pro Grand Master, the Earl of Limerick, Great Prior of the Temple; the Earl of Stanhope; Lord Henniker; Lord Waverley, Prov. Grand Master, Suffolk; Sir Patrick Colquhoun, Q.C., LL.D.; and Sir Francis Doyle, Bart., Professor of Poetry, Oxford, &c. The work is dedicated by permission to Lord Stanhope. The book will be put to press as soon as a sufficient number of subscribers are obtained, for which purpose names will be thankfully received by Tweddell and Sons, publishers, Stokesley, Yorkshire, or at the Office of this paper.—"Woodbridge Reporter." [Bro. Kenning will also gladly receive names of subscribers at the "Freemason" Office, 198, Fleet-street.]

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.—Dangerous diseases would not present themselves very often if timely attention were bestowed on the first feelings which betray a departure from health. How many life-long maladies spring from neglecting trifling symptoms? The pimple readily curable in the nursery becomes, through carelessness, the irremediable torment of after life. With a knowledge of the curative powers of Holloway's Ointment and Pills, and the facility and safety of their application, those who fail to use them for extirpating the first seeds of hereditary ailments will have to bear the punishment resulting from their folly. Holloway's remedy will remove eruptions of the skin, scrofula, and acrofula, and heal every description of ulcer, sore, wound, or abrasion.—ADVT.

Masonic and General Tidings.

The Lord Mayor and the Lady Mayoress, with several of the younger members of their family, have left for Switzerland, under Messrs. Thomas Cook and Son's arrangements."

The "Morning Post" understands that Sir Alexander Milne will be raised to the peerage, and will also have a special pension bestowed upon him in recognition of his long and meritorious services at Whitehall as a Lord of the Admiralty under successive Administrations.

The Princess of Wales and children returned to Marlborough House on Wednesday from Osborn Cottage, Isle of Wight.

THE COURT IN SCOTLAND.—According to present arrangements, the Prince and Princess of Wales, with the royal children, will arrive at Abergeldie Castle on Monday next. In consequence of Her Majesty being a good deal fatigued after her journey from Edinburgh, she did not pay her usual round of visits amongst her tenants on Saturday. Her Majesty was not present at Craithie parish Church on Sunday, nor were any of the members of the Court. Service was conducted within the Castle.

The brethren of Pontefract and Castleford gave a banquet on Thursday week to Bro. Sheriff Bressit, at the Town Hall, Pontefract. The Mayor presided, supported by the Deputy Grand and Provincial Masters of Yorkshire, the Mayor of Wakefield and Barnsley, the Recorder of the Borough (Bro. R. N. Philipps), and a numerous body of brethren, who filled the ancient hall, which was gaily decorated for the occasion. The speeches of welcome to their worthy neighbour, the sheriff, were hearty and appropriate.

Messrs. Maskelyne and Cooke have resumed their entertainments at the Egyptian Hall, and, in spite of the heat and the holidays, are drawing good audiences—which, after all, is not to be wondered at when the quality of the performance is borne in mind.

Bro. H.R.H. Prince Leopold, R.W.P.G.M. Oxfordshire, has been elected President of the Royal Society of Literature in the room of the late Bishop Thirlwall.

The members of the Apollo Lodge, Oxford, with the sanction of H.R.H. Prince Leopold, Prov. G.M., are raising a subscription for the widow of the late Mr. Henry Kingsley, who is stated to have been left entirely unprovided for. Subscriptions will be received by Bro. J. E. C. Bodley, Danebank House, Congleton, Cheshire.

The Right Worshipful Bro. Charles H. Dallas, District Grand Master for Japan, has appointed Bro. William G. Sando, J.P.M., Rising Sun Lodge, No. 1401, who for several years was a member of the St. Mark's Lodge, No. 857, Deputy District Grand Master for Japan.

Lord Lytton had a narrow escape the other day. While riding to Mushobra, his horse shied and fell over the khud. Luckily the precipice is not very steep, but the Viceroy rolled about 100 feet down, though he escaped unhurt.

The "Athenæum" announces that Mr. J. H. Parker has two monographs in the press, one on the Forum Romanum and the Via Sacra, the other on the Colosseum. Both will be illustrated, the former having forty-five, the latter thirty-six plates. The work on the Colosseum will embody the results obtained through the recent excavations, which have thrown so much new light on the building. Mr. Parker, with a view to gaining further light on the subject, has visited Capua, Pozzuoli, and other places, and took S. Cicconetti with him to make sketches, which are reproduced in the book.

The petition for Hotspur Lodge having been granted, the consecration will take place in Freemasons' Hall, Maple-street, Newcastle-on-Tyne, on Thursday, 21st September.

CIVIC GIFT.—The Saddlers' Company, at their meeting on the 14th inst., gave a donation of £21 to the fund now being raised for the establishment of a Mission Hall, etc., for the benefit of the working classes residing in Old Ford, Bow, the East-end, &c.

The "Publishers' Circular" says the "Daily News" correspondent, whose statements about the Bulgarian atrocities have created so much discussion, is Mr. Pears, formerly Secretary of the Social Science Association. Mr. Pears is a lawyer, and is a member of an important firm established in Constantinople. Another gentleman is at present actually in Bulgaria carrying on the investigation on behalf of the "Daily News."

His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales arrived at Brussels on Tuesday, and in the afternoon visited the Exhibition in company with the Queen of the Belgians. He returned to London, via Woolwich, on Thursday.

A meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Dorsetshire will be held on Thursday, the 14th prox, at half-past one o'clock, in the Town Hall, Shaftesbury. The banquet will be held at 4 p.m.

It is reported that Bro. the Right Hon. and Rev. Lord Plunket, Grand Chaplain of Ireland, Precentor of St. Patrick's Cathedral, is likely to be elected to the vacant bishopric of Meath.

W. Bro. Wm. Bulkeley Hughes of Plás Cóch and Brynddu, &c., Anglesey, M.P. for the Carnarvon Boroughs, P.P.G.S. Warden for N. Wales and Shropshire, P.M. of 755, &c., has been appointed Deputy Provincial Grand Master of the province, in place of the late Lord Harlech.

Colonel Burdett, Provincial Grand Master for Middlesex, is now on a visit with his son-in-law, Bro. Davidson, D.P.G.M., Aberdeenshire, West.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

COLONIAL and FOREIGN SUBSCRIBERS are informed that acknowledgments of remittances received are published in the first number of every month.

It is very necessary for our readers to advise us of all money orders they remit, more especially those from the United States of America and India; otherwise we cannot tell where to credit them.

NEW POSTAL RATES.

Owing to a reduction in the Postal Rates, the publisher is now enabled to send the "Freemason" to the following parts abroad for One Year for Twelve Shillings (payable in advance):—Africa, Australia, Bombay, Canada, Cape of Good Hope, Ceylon, China, Constantinople, Demerara, France, Germany, Gibraltar, Jamaica, Malta, Newfoundland, New South Wales, New Zealand, Suez, Trinidad, United States of America, &c.

TO OUR READERS.

The *Freemason* is a sixteen-page weekly newspaper, price 2d. It is published every Friday morning, and contains the most important, interesting, and useful information relating to Freemasonry in every degree. Annual subscription in the United Kingdom, Post free, 10/- P.O.O.'s to be made payable at the chief office, London.

TO ADVERTISERS.

The *Freemason* has a large circulation in all parts of the Globe, its advantages as an advertising medium can therefore scarcely be overrated.

For terms, position, &c., apply to
GEORGE KENNING, 198, Fleet-st.

Answers to Correspondents.

All Communications, Advertisements, &c., intended for insertion in the Number of the following Saturday, must reach the Office not later than 12 o'clock on Wednesday morning.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

[The charge is 2s. 6d for announcements, not exceeding four lines, under this heading.]

BIRTHS.

BALDWIN.—On the 14th inst., at Walmley, the wife of Capt. F. C. Baldwin, of a daughter.
EDWARDS.—On the 14th inst., at Portsdown-gardens, W., the wife of C. H. Edwards, Esq., of a son.
PENFOLD.—On the 21st inst., at Harlesden-green, the wife of W. Penfold, of a son.
SCOTT.—On the 20th inst., at Graylands, Grove Park, Chiswick, Mrs. W. D. Scott, of a daughter.
SEYMOUR.—On the 18th inst., at Whitley, Coventry, the wife of A. Seymour, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

ALLEN—JAMIESON.—On the 17th inst., at St. Paul's, Aberdeen, Benjamin Allen, of Bristol, to Mary Jane, daughter of the late G. Jamieson, of Drumgarth, Aberdeenshire.
BARBER—RICKELTON.—On the 9th inst., by licence, W. Barber, Esq., to Margaret, eldest daughter of W. Rickelton, Esq., both of Newcastle-on-Tyne.
LANCASTER—WALLIS.—On the 17th inst., at St. Peter's Church, Brighton, Sussex, by the Rev. Cave Brown, John Lancaster, of Manchester, to Ellen Wallis, of London. No cards.

DEATHS.

ABBOTT.—On the 19th inst., at Grasmere, Torquay, John Samuel Abbott, of London, in his 71st year.
BROWN.—On the 19th inst., at Brighton, David Brown, of Larkhall-rise, Clapham, in his 61st year.
CAVE.—On the 17th inst., at Powis-square, Brighton, Sussex, Eliza Boheme, wife of Henry Cave, Esq., of Purneah, Bengal, aged 40. Indian papers please copy.
EDWARDS.—On the 20th inst., at Pye Nest, Henry Lee Priestley, infant son of L. P. Edwards, Esq.
LEWIS.—On the 15th inst., at Walton-on-Thames, John Frederick Lewis, R.A., aged 72.
SAUNDERSON.—On the 20th inst., Marian Bertha, aged 49, wife of C. Sanderson, Esq., of Kilburn.
SAVAGE.—On the 18th inst., at Penn, Wolverhampton, Benjamin Savage, in his 68th year.
SMITH.—On the 19th inst., at Ivy Lodge, Fulham, Charles Smith, Esq., aged 83.
WOODARD.—On the 3rd May, in India, Alfred, son of Mr. Woodard, of Spring-street, Sussex-gardens, W.

COSMOPOLITAN MASONIC CALENDAR.

W. Masters and Secretaries are earnestly requested to forward to the publisher, at the Offices, 198, Fleet-street, E.C., particulars of the place, days, and months, of meeting of their respective lodges, chapters, and other Masonic bodies, for insertion in the issue of the Calendar for 1877.

The Freemason,

SATURDAY, AUGUST 26, 1876.

THE QUEEN'S VISIT TO EDINBURGH.

Her Majesty the Queen has again favoured the loyal inhabitants of "Auld Reekie" with a Royal visit and a public ceremonial. The unveiling the statue to the lamented Prince Consort took place amid the most genial weather, and under the most auspicious circumstances. Everything went off well from first to last without a hitch, without a "contretemps," amid the loyalty of applauding thousands, and the gratification of a contented and industrious population. Edinburgh has received another happy work of art to adorn her classic streets and squares, and to point to some of the great characteristics of a remarkable nation, and we would fain hope that another link has been forged in that goodly chain of personal attachment and national devotion which will outlive the fleeting moments of time, and endure in full vigour and pristine sincerity to many, many generations. As Freemasons we rejoice to note all that tends to the promotion of loyal sympathy and patriotic cohesion, all that serves to extend the influences of good government and civilization, peace and order, law and civic contentment, all that would increase and confirm the real living national depth of personal attachment to the Sovereign of our native land, and bind all classes amongst us, the "most widely contrasted," in one firm array of trust and affection, of goodwill and well being. From the historic walls of Holyrood the Queen has sent through Mr. Cross, the Home Secretary, the following most complimentary letter to the Lord Provost of Edinburgh, a letter which will not only be perused with heartfelt pleasure by the inhabitants of the metropolis of North Britain, but by all classes of Her Majesty's subjects elsewhere:—

"Holyrood Palace, Aug. 18, 1876.

"My Lord Provost—I have the Queen's commands to express to your Lordship, and through your Lordship to the citizens of Edinburgh, how deeply Her Majesty values the welcome which she has just received in this city, and how fully she appreciates all the arrangements which have been made for her reception. The loyalty of her Scottish subjects, their affectionate remembrance of the Prince Consort, their love of order, and power of self-government, which have just been so clearly shown, are most gratifying to Her Majesty, and will, I can assure you, be ever remembered by her with feelings of the greatest satisfaction.

"I have the honour to be, my Lord Provost, your obedient servant,

"RICHARD ASSHETON CROSS.

"To the Right Hon. the Lord Provost of Edinburgh."

With this admirable letter, we feel that little more remains to be said by us. Years hence, when another generation takes our place, those who come after us may well remember, as they gaze on such memorials of the great and the good, such artistic souvenirs of all that was highest in rank, most developed in intellect, noblest in service, and pre-eminent in worth, that we of this now 'passing epoch were always loyal and unswervingly attached to the throne of our country, and the constitution of our forefathers. Let them recognise gladly that we have bequeathed to them the solemn duty of treasuring; and the unceasing obligation of gallantly defending that priceless inheritance of national greatness and individual freedom, of legality and order, of toleration and freedom of conscience, which we received from our forefathers, and have handed on, unsullied and unaltered, nay, strengthened and expanded to them, as well for the honour and glory of Almighty God as for the onward progress of peace and goodwill, of monarchical institutions, of incorruptible government, of civil and religious liberty, of peace, progress, and humanity, among the toiling masses of mankind. Still as of old the philosopher and the poet, and the statesman, the patriot, the citizen, and the Freemason may say, in the noble words of two of our historic worthies:

Una etinim in mediis gens

Libertate proba et justo libramine rerum
Securum faustis degit sub legibus ævum.
Antiquosque colit mores et jura parentum
Ordine firma sua, sanoque intacta vigore
Servat adhuc hominumque fidem curamque
Deorum.

One favoured nation, whose impartial laws
Of sober freedom vindicate the cause.
Her simple manners midst surrounding crimes,
Proclaim the genuine worth of ancient times.
True to herself unconquerably bold,
The rights her valour gained she dares uphold,
Still with pure faith her promise dares fulfil,
Still bows submissive to the Almighty's will.

THE PROROGATION.

Parliament is prorogued, and our legislators are scattered in all directions. The Palace of Westminster is deserted, and the Speaker's occupation's gone. For a few short favouring months, legislators and leaders, orators and orations, queries and quandaries, interrogations and interludes, all will be forgotten, and we shall not, when we open the "Times" be either edified by the remarks of the leader of H.M.'s opposition, or the confidences of the First Lord of H.M.'s Treasury. We shall deeply miss Mr. Cross's good sense and Sir W. Harcourt's Herodian eloquence, we shall not listen to Mr. Gladstone or Mr. Henley, to Mr. Hardy or Mr. Goschen, to Sir Stafford Northcote or to Mr. Dodson, Mr. Lowe's last sarcasm, or Mr. Newdegate's last discovery. And then "inter lunas minores," we shall be deprived of the ore rotundo of gallant Major O'Gorman, the vivacity of Mr. Dillwyn, the questions of Bro. Captain Pim, and the sagacity of Mr. Pell, the energy of Mr. Butt, and the placidity of Mr. Walpole, and then last, not least, we shall miss the irrepressible Whalley.

Let laws, and learning, commerce die,

But let us keep our own Whalley,

We admit that the rhyme is indifferent, but it will do for the occasion. But still the solemn and serious fact is before us, that our great "talking house" is silent for a season, and that we must now rely for some time to come on stump orators, and M.P.'s doing the amiable and the condescending to their constituents. Luckily this deprivation cannot last for ever, and like men and Britons and Masons, we will resign ourselves to the grave trial. But from another point of view we feel that without treading on the forbidden zone of politics, this prorogation has a special interest for us all. We are not going to descend into the region of party cries or party considerations, ours is not, never has been, never will be, as a political banner. We know nothing, as Freemasons, happily, within the peaceful enclosures of our lodge rooms, of the shibboleths of faction or the war cries of contending camps. But every now and then there are certain points in our national history, which have a broader bearing and a wider interest for us all as citizens of our common country, than even the rallying countersigns of political coteries, or the question of particular leaders. There are some facts which are before us in the great broad beaten pathway of public life, which have a general interest for us all, as citizens, patriots, Englishmen, and Freemasons. For though we know nothing perforce of politics quâ politics, we still have all of us the duties of citizens to perform and the sympathies of citizens to avow, and which we can never properly, or even Masonically, forget or ignore. One of the greatest orators of the House of Commons, on which ever side he might happen to be seated, passes from the assembly which for a quarter of a century he has so greatly adorned, into the Upper House. Her Majesty's Premier, the chief of her "servants," the Right Hon. Benjamin Disraeli, loses that name so well known to all Englishmen of all ranks and parties in the State, and will henceforth be hailed amongst us as the Earl of Beaconsfield. Like another Great Commoner, only let us hope under happier auspices, he leaves now the bustle and angry conflicts of the Commons House of Parliament for the comparative quietude and less stirring atmosphere of the House of Lords. We need not, as we cannot,

follow the speculations of others as to why this announcement, unforeseen in itself, has been made at the end of a laborious session. There is one good reason patent to all. Mr. Disraeli is no longer young, he is in his 72nd year, and all have noticed with regret how often the brilliant orator has had to absent himself of late through ill-health from those pleasant gatherings where English members speak face to face with a friendly audience, and where English citizens contentedly applaud. And surely he has earned his rest and his honours. No more hard-working man; no more self-made statesman, ever emerged from the trials, and troubles, and opposition, and difficulties of a gallant career, than the writer of "Vivian Grey," he who gave us "Sybil," who offered us "Tancred," the pleasant author of "Lothair." And it says a great deal for the keen discernment and the warm heart, and the sound, practical good sense of our English people that he has always found from us all alike so much and so deservedly of public good will and support. It is no duty of ours to go further into detail, we have but properly and Masonically sketched a dim outline, because we cannot dwell on a political career, without trespassing on our normal position of political neutrality and political abstention. But this we may fairly say; we can all admire the eloquence and the genius of the man who has won for himself the entire living sympathy and hearty confidence of all classes of English people, and who we trust still, in his new sphere of duty and honour, freed from the overpowering labours of the House of Commons, late divisions and early hours, will yet continue to render signal service to his Queen and to his country, to the peace and progress of the world, and to those interests ever dear to us as Freemasons, the onward march of civilization, and enlightenment, order and law, peace and humanity, religion and right, toleration and truth.

EXCURSION TRAINS AND POPULAR HOLIDAYS.

Just now the season of excursion trains is at its height and glory, greatly to the bewilderment of perspiring station masters, and the blessings of weary porters. This is a feature of our times, special and prevailing, of which our forefathers knew nothing, and at which many wiseacres still shake their heads. Charitable and intelligent beings! As if poor John Nokes, who has been toiling for long months in heated rooms at his unceasing labour, with no rest, and no relaxation, is not the better for a glimpse of the country side, for fresh air, for a pure atmosphere, for the sea breeze? Why to many a day's outing is a day of absolute delight, and we will add one of needful hygiene. Can any one grudge it them. Or just as if Mary Walker, with those children of hers, who has been pining in a close alley for long and dusty months, does not derive great good for herself and hers from the scent of the new made hay, or a stroll on the Sussex downs? If some affect to wonder why we pent up Londoners will run off in our excursion trains for a day in the country, though we spend ten or twelve of the twenty-four hours in a railway carriage, let them cease from their marvelling when we say that the fatigue and the inconvenience put together are worth the fresh air and the rural ride and the vivifying ozone. But is just possible that this state of affairs may change for the better, and that in time the fact may dawn on the minds of some good friends of ours that our poor excursionists are really a little better than "dumb driven cattle," and deserve better accommodation and greater consideration. The time may yet be, when the duration of the journey may be materially shortened, and Brown, Jones, and Robinson, Mrs. Brown, Mrs. Jones, and Mrs. Robinson, and the little Browns', Jones', and Robinsons', may have more hours of country scenery or sea breezes to repay them for a hot and dusty railway journey, for long delays, and over-crowded trains. That the excursionists are entirely given to liquoring up, or that it is a question with them merely of liquoring up, we utterly deny. Such an averment is as unfounded as it is unfeeling. And so too as regards the popular holiday. The vulgar theory that the Bank Holiday has in-

creased drinking is a simple fallacy, and most unjust to the laborious classes of our great community. All who saw the crowds of working men last Bank Holiday walking happily about with their wives and children, will we feel sure, agree with us in repudiating any such unamiable view of matters, any such absolutely ignorant appreciation of how the day was spent by the thousands who gladly availed themselves of the fine weather and the grateful rest. We are very sorry to perceive that such superficial views on a most important question and such unacquaintance alike with the facts of the case and of the real feelings and habits of our toiling multitudes still prevail in any portion of the public press. Each holiday as it passes will be better spent and more judiciously made use of than the preceding one, and we fancy that if a just balance was struck that there are a good many of the so called higher classes who spent their Bank Holiday a great deal worse than did the working and industrial thousands of our metropolis, who certainly did not look on the Bank Holiday as merely an opportunity of drinking to excess. Such a statement is as unfair as it is positively absurd and untrue.

THE WAR IN SERBIA, AND THE CRUELITIES IN BULGARIA.

The struggle continues, and the cruelties have not yet ceased,—this seem to be the burden of all reports from the East. The Turkish government have declined to carry out their own assent to the Geneva Convention, which refusal necessarily places all the "Red Cross Champions" of humanity and kindly aid, in a very delicate and difficult position. Indeed, according to Dr. Sandwith's account in another place, the Turks have hung Dr. Leah, a benevolent medical man, with the Red Cross on his arm. The English press, with but few exceptions, fully recognises the seriousness of the situation, and the horrors of this internecine strife. We do not envy the feelings, nor do we admire the taste of any confrère who allows his pages to be occupied by low wit and vulgar chaff on so very distressing a subject. As it has been well said, if one tithe of the actual barbarities hourly committed could be realized by our English people, there would be a universal demand that our Ambassador should be withdrawn from Constantinople. The Red Cross of England, and her goodly banner cannot be stained by the outrages of Bashî Bazouks and Circassians, and we feel that we represent the feelings of our entire fraternity when we reprobate sternly the turning into indecent jests and offensive scurrility the sufferings even of Bulgarian "peasants," and the honour and chastity of Bulgarian women.

THE INSTALLATION ENGRAVING.

We have seen the first portion of this engraving, containing nearly 480 portraits, and greatly approve of it. Three-fourths of the plate, Bro. Harty tells us, will be ready in a month, and he is making strenuous exertions to have the engraving ready for Christmas. Among the likenesses which are very conspicuous in the portion now completed are Bros. the Marquis of Hamilton, the late Lord Mayor, Albert, Wright, Morrell, the late Richard Spencer, Dr. Meadows, Lieut.-Col. Birchall, Lieut.-Col. Randolph, H. Day, A. S. Tomkins, Sir James Ramsden, I. M. P. Montague, Magnus Ohren, H. A. Dubois, J. J. Gossett, J. Robins, cum multis aliis. Bro. Harty informs us that there is still room for about 80 or 100 portraits, and we will add that it seems a great pity not to fill up the still vacant space in an engraving which promises both to be an historical picture in itself, and remarkable as a work of art, and of the greatest interest to Freemasonry, as a lasting and most effective souvenir of an event to be remembered day.

FRIENDLY SOCIETIES ACT, 1875.—Mr. William Sutton, of the London and Provincial Law Assurance Society and Fellow (by examination) of the Institute of Actuaries, has been appointed by the Treasury to the post of Actuary to the Friendly Societies' Registry. Mr. Sutton was formerly a Foundation Scholar of St. John's College, Cambridge, and graduated as a Wrangler in the Mathematical Tripos of 1865.

Original Correspondence.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for, or even as approving of the opinions expressed by our correspondents, but we wish, in a spirit of fair play to all, to permit—within certain necessary limits—free discussion.—Ed.]

MASONIC JURISPRUDENCE.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I would feel greatly obliged if you or any of your well informed correspondents could give me a satisfactory answer to the following enquiries:—

1. Has the I.P.M., of a lodge when acting in the chair in the absence of the R.W.M. the same power and prerogative as if the R.W.M. were himself presiding.
2. Has the I.P.M. when acting as R.W.M. the right to call upon any well qualified officer or brother to work any of the degrees when he feels indisposed to perform the duty himself.

My reason for making the latter query is in consequence of an occurrence which took place a few weeks ago at an emergency meeting of our lodge, convened for initiation and raising.

Our R.W.M. was absent, and the I.P.M. took the chair. He performed the ceremony of initiation, and afterwards requested the J.W. to work the Third Degree. On his making this request the S.W. rose, and protested against the I.P.M. asking the J.W. to work the degree when he (the S.W.) was present and able to perform the ceremony. He objected to have his feelings so wounded, and shortly thereafter refused to act in his office, and left the lodge during the working of the degree.

I have carefully perused the laws of the Grand Lodge of Scotland (to which constitution our lodge belongs) and our own bye-laws, and can find no rule which warrants our S.W. in behaving as he did. I have all along been under the impression (so far as the working of Scotch lodges is concerned) that the R.W.M., or his substitute in his absence, has the prerogative of asking whom he pleases to work the degree, and of its being entirely a matter of courtesy whether he asks a P.M., S.W., J.W., or, in fact, any officer or brother, to oblige him by performing the ceremony. Our S.W., however, questions the R.W.M.'s right to do so, laying the question of courtesy aside altogether.

It is more than likely that the occurrence which I have just related will form a subject of discussion at our next regular meeting, which takes place on 4th September, and as I am somewhat interested in the matter I would esteem it a favour to have an opinion on the subject before that time.

Soliciting an insertion of this in your first issue, I remain yours fraternally,
18th, August, 1876. PISCATOR.

A GREATER BLUNDER.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

"Aristarchus" writes to the "Guardian" with reference to an advertisement which he found in that paper last week, containing the word chaperone instead of chaperon. This is, he says, "a modern vulgarism, which arose from pretentious ignorance. It is bad grammar. Chaperon (which originally meant a hood) is never feminine in French. And it is bad spelling. The correct pronunciation of the last syllable is on, not one. And if chaperon had a feminine, the correct of such a term would have been chaperonne."

But "Aristarchus" has made a greater blunder. "Chaperon" is undoubtedly masculine, and originally meant a monarch's hood, a hood in falconry, the top of a wall, and several other things (see Boyer), and chaperonner meant to cap another heron. But to say that it ought to be pronounced "chaperoon" is too monstrous.

It is quite clear, that however well up "Aristarchus" may be in the "French of Stratford-atte-Bowe," the "French of Paris" is to him "unknown."

Yours obediently and fraternally,

INTERNATIONAL.

MASONIC PROFESSION AND PRACTICE.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

"An Indian P.M.," while applauding "Zaphon," seems to me to shew a great amount of ignorance as to visiting brethren: that term is more frequently than otherwise misunderstood and misappropriated, and I think most Masons of any experience will agree with me that lodge hospitality is greatly abused. Now, to explain my meaning clearly I must express an opinion, from which possibly many may dissent, and that is that the refreshments following the proceedings of lodge meetings are for members only, except when a visiting brother (or brethren), that is to say, one who has availed himself of the privileges to which he is entitled, is invited to the banquet or supper, as the case may be. Nothing is to my mind so beneath the dignity of a Mason as to see him sit down to the feast uninvited. For instance, a certain number is guaranteed the caterer for supper, say 20 or 25. In a small lodge the probable number is generally known, and also who may be expected to visit, and it would be unfair for eight or ten men to come from a neighbouring lodge and expect to be invited to the banquet when there is generally neither room nor food sufficient for more than the members and those invited by circular; but I am sorry to say I know of plenty of brethren who think that because they can claim admission to the lodge and hear our sublime ritual that they must of course be invited to the banquet, and who wait about until the W.M., if he happen to be of a goodnatured turn, possibly says he will be happy to see all the brethren present at refreshment. But should he not feel disposed to accord to all this invitation, surely he should not be called inhospitable. Thus I think the

fee to which "An Indian P.M." alludes is quite fair in such a case. The members pay a subscription which is supposed to cover all expenses (alas! frequently too little), and if non-members are permitted to partake gratis whenever they choose to stay for the Fourth Degree it is manifestly unfair to the members. This brings me to the point where I think "An Indian P.M." at fault, when he says he finds it is the practice in this country to make the visiting brother, who though he be a foreigner, pay for what he eats and drinks. If not invited such may be the case as mentioned above, and quite right too, but for an invited visitor to pay is, I feel sure, very rarely the case, unless through the blundering of a Steward. The treatment which "An Indian P.M." received on the two occasions named was very shabby, let us also hope rare, but his suggestion as to the alteration of the toast of "The Visiting Brethren" to that of "The Brethren who don't belong to our Lodge" would never do, being too comprehensive, and more like the Tyler's toast than any other. I should feel "distressed" were I a visitor under such circumstances.

I should like to make a few remarks on the letter from "Zaphon" (in your number of the 12th inst.), who as a young Mason has, I think, hit the nail on the head, and forcibly shewn how Masonry may be prostituted to gluttony, and how charity may consequently suffer. "Zaphon" seems to have benefitted by his experience, as his remarks on charity and temperance shewing a "dinner lodge" or "champagne banquet lodge" may no doubt be very wise, but it is nothing better than a select club of men who have taken their Masonic degrees. I have visited such lodges, but never yet found the working either carefully or solemnly performed. An undue haste and want of decorum characterised the proceedings, which have certainly been conducted peacefully and concluded harmoniously enough, but the real business of the evening had yet to come.

Surely you, sir, can bear out "Zaphon" in most of the well deserved satire on the Masonry he has seen, and exhort your readers to uphold that which tends to elevate the Order, and to censure all that causes "that most excellent virtue" to be forgotten in late hours, dissipation, and extravagance.

Yours fraternally,

E.F.

A LITTLE FRIENDLY GOSSIP ON SOME OF THE TOPICS OF THE DAY.

BY PHILANTHROPOS.

(Written Especially for the "Freemason.")

No. 2.—EDUCATION.—Continued.

We have to deal to-day with the Denominational view, both what it is, and how it treats, and would treat, the educational question.

The Denominational view is, then, simply this, put into a few clear words, stripped of periphrase and paraphrase, divested of exaggeration and extravagance of thought and language.

A feature of the duty of the Christian commonwealth—the Church—is to educate the lambs of the flock. And by education is not merely to be understood the technical instruction or the intellectual culture of the young alone, but the development of the moral intelligence, the training of the undying portion of mortality for the higher truths and the noblest ends, for eternity as well as for time, for God as well as for man. Hence a religious instruction is also necessary as well as secular, because secular instruction by itself is partial, incomplete, unsound, inasmuch as it only affects and educates one portion of the complex being man, namely the intellectual, and leaves the sentimental, the psychological, the moral feeling untouched and untaught. In order to render this religious teaching effectual and complete, suited to the wants and destiny of man, mortal and immortal, at the same time, the Bible must form the basis of all true religious instruction, and then upon this good and sure foundation is raised a superstructure of catechetical and doctrinal teaching in respect of the abstract truths of religion, the practical duties of personal piety, the concurrent creeds of the Church, and the exposition of the claims and articles of the Denomination. The great majority of schools in England is denominational, the Church of England holding about seven-tenths of the education of the people in her hands, and until the creation of the School Boards, in which all distinctive doctrinal teaching is absolutely forbidden, there was a difficulty to contend with, as regards the conscientious scruples of the parents of those who were not Anglicans. But that case was met by what is called the "conscience clause," a formula of religious liberty and religious conviction which practically has always, except by the fanatic and wrongheaded, been gladly conceded and honestly upheld.

We speak with an experience of over a quarter of a century, and we can say this, that though it was openly avowed and deliberately practised long before it was officially formulated, in a large school, with which we are most familiar, it never was once invoked, and all Nonconformist and Church children peaceably learnt and carefully repeated the words of the Church Catechism.

The denominational system with a conscience clause is that which is now carried on by different bodies of religionists in this country side by side with the Board School system.

Of course, with such views and on such principles as I have above stated, very concisely of course, the School Board "regime" could not be acceptable to those who prefer the denominational system, and it may appear to them, as it does appear to them seemingly, on these grounds subjectively an irreligious system, and if they like to use a hard word, as people too often hastily do in such matters, a "godless system." Subjectively it may so appear to them, but as I doubt whether it is

really so, at any rate rightly objectively, I will dwell a little longer on this point.

Admitting, if you will, that the Church or the religious body has a bona-fide moral right to educate the young of its flock, and that on the principles of religious liberty and the sanctity of the conscience such free course of action should be sanctioned and protected by the State, yet it does not follow, as some seem to think, that the State has not a right also to see that none of its subjects grow up in ignorance, to provide, if it so deems well, a remunerative or even gratuitous course of instruction also for all who will accept it. Nay, in our opinion, the State may go farther and say, "I stand in loco parentis to the 'wastrel,' the orphan, the destitute. I am bound to provide that none within my influence advance to maturity untaught and ignorant, and therefore I will compel all within the school age and under the half-time system in the great circles of labour to go to school."

Who can deny the abstract and concrete right of the state to say so?

It is in vain to appeal, as some do, to the parental authority. The parental authority is good and most sacred as far as it goes, but are there no cases where the State might interfere even with that, and where it does interfere even now?

If a parent cruelly neglects a child, or injures a child, or forgets the first duty of a parent towards a child, we know that there are wise provisions of our legislature by which the local, or municipal, or general authority of the State, as the case may be, steps in to coerce, to compel the recalcitrant parent to do his duty, and punishes him for disobedience to the law.

So if the parent absolutely neglects the education of a child, lets him run in riot and rags, and live in idleness and vice in the streets, takes no heed either of his intellectual or moral improvement, the State has a distinct right, for the safety of the State itself, for the welfare of society, and for the good both of the parent and the child, to step in and say, "That child ought to go somewhere to school, and shall go to school." Hence it is in vain for the objector to anything that tends to ameliorate and elevate to appeal to this supposed invasion of parental rights, the argument rests on a complete fallacy altogether, inasmuch as the State nowhere proposes to interfere with the high and solemn economy of parental authority, but only proposes to intervene where the welfare of the child is concerned, where the safety of the State is impaired, to correct an abuse, not to attack a privilege, to remedy a wrong, not to challenge a right.

In fact, let us conceive what a State would be, composed of purely ignorant people, which, if the parental-right upholder is correct, must be the case if the State does wrong, when the parent is drunken or degraded, ignorant or selfish, weak or wicked, in stepping in and firmly declaring "that poor, neglected, ill-used child shall be sent to school."

Neither can any one safely appeal to the denominational right in respect of education. Though the Church, as any body of Christians, or, as some claim, any section of "religionists," has a moral right to educate, it has not an exclusive right, inasmuch as the State which gives the laws and enforces them, which governs, and directs, and controls the social wants and the political existence of the people has a right to say, "salus populi suprema lex," and we lay it down that no child in the commonwealth shall grow up in ignorance."

If on denominational and religious grounds the right be not so direct as it is according to the denominational view, in the church or religious body, it is an absolute, though again not an exclusive right, arising from the actual authority of the state itself, whether as representing the ruler, as supreme in the State, or the ruler who delegate to others the duty of legislating for the entire community.

And here let me speak plainly. Just as I hold that there is a moral right in the church or denomination to educate its young, absolute but not exclusive, so I contend that the same law of duty and authority applies equally to the State. Any State that says, "I will alone educate, I forbid all religious bodies to found schools, appoint schoolmasters, instruct children, I will alone undertake this duty," any such State so acting does so, I venture to believe, in direct defiance of the individual conscience, assails the first principles of religious liberty, pave the way for the most deplorable of all conflicts as between the laws of a State and the conscience of the man, and despotically takes away from religion, above all, its noblest mission and its most conscientious duties.

In such a case the "religionist" has a cause of deep complaint, and has a sacred right of audience. For in such a dilemma every principle of individual, of parental, of denominational, of conscientious right is violated, as the fiercest of all struggles is initiated, and no State which so forgets the fundamental principles of all public peace, property, right, and safety, can long maintain such a prohibition, inasmuch as in the passage of time, conscience when truly complaining, when really injured, always, sooner or later, somehow or other, gets the better of the dogmata of politicians and the decrees of legislators.

The objection that the State cannot teach religion is perfectly true, inasmuch as the State has clearly no spiritual authority, and we do not exactly understand why any of us should expect the State to teach religion.

But in England the State leaves the matter of abstract and positive religious teaching to the locality as regards the Board Schools, only stating that as all classes are taxed to keep on these common schools they cannot allow distinctive doctrines to be taught in them. No doubt if such were the only system in operation all religionists would have a right to complain. But such a position of affairs is happily counterbalanced by the full play and entire liberty of denominational schools, covered by a conscience clause,

and I confess that, in my humble opinion, the grievance is infinitesimal; it is, in fact, making a "mountain out of a molehill."

But I will continue my considerations and lucubrations on this most interesting subject in another paper.

Reviews.

"Loge Francaise et Ecossaise de la Clemente Amitié. Fête anniversaire de la Reception de Frère Littré." Paris, 1876.

By the fraternal courtesy of the W.M. of "La Clemente Amitié" we have received the interesting account of its "fête de famille," held on the 9th of July, when about 800 Freemasons apparently assembled to do honour to the anniversary of Frère Littré, an eminent French litterateur and scientist (to use a new word), into Freemasonry, at an advanced period of his life, about 12 months ago.

The assembly may fairly be considered a good representative gathering of French Freemasons, as it included many able writers, senators, deputies, the distinguished Frère St. Jean, Caubert, and a large number of the leading French Freemasons. Bro. Littré was not able to be present, through illness, but sent his address, and Bros. Wyrobuuff and Jules Ferry delivered two orations, the latter improvised for the occasion, and all the addresses were warmly received, and drew down the vigorous applause of the audience. We have perused them to-day, and we wish honestly and manfully to point out the impression produced on our mind by these animated expositions of a system of teaching which seems just now to dominate many minds in France as well as Freemasonry in that country. We confess that the impression left upon us by their "paroles brûlantes," especially of Bro. Ferry, is alike somewhat painful and depressing. We should not be honest if we did not say what we really think. We should not be true to Freemasonry and to ourselves if we did not humbly but earnestly seek to speak the truth, to avow what we sincerely hold without partiality and without flattery, without fear and without hesitation.

There is a great tendency in the world just now to say rather what will please others than what we ourselves believe, "ex animo," but Freemasons, of all men in the world, whose whole system is based equally upon a love of truth and a love of toleration, ought always, in our humble opinion, though, of course, moderately, temperately, and with proper consideration for others, to "say what they mean," and, above all, to "mean what they say." Far be from us that despicable cowardice, that characteristic of little minds and of grovelling ideas, which, biased either by desire of public applause, or alarmed by fear of popular disapproval, ever conceals the faith it professes, or the opinion it holds, and tries to accommodate itself to each passing chimera, or each ephemeral delusion. The great defect of the public teaching of the hour is its want of heartfelt sincerity, that tendency to exalt a so-called erroneous and vulgar public opinion for that which truth would avow, honour uphold, and freedom of thought and conscience proclaim to mankind.

We said this at the outset that we have perused the official account of the proceedings and professions of memorable fête with somewhat of depression and pain. We repeat the statement. From an English point of view many of our able brethren in France, alike in Freemasonry and out of it, seem to us to be losing their way in the dreary marshes, so to speak, and the misty fogs of a hopeless rationalism of a deceptive positivism, of a melancholy "morale indépendante." Sorry we are to say so, but we must say so if we are to speak at all. We have read over Bro. Littré and Bro. Ferry's addresses, and we see at once where such intellectual brethren are tending, we may observe that Bro. Wyrobuuff mainly directed his remarks to the educational controversy in France, though he too is evidently in accord with the philosophical tenets of his eloquent confreres. Amid a beauty of word-painting, amid a flow of eloquence, amid much that is very true, and more that is most touching, amid a clearness of expression which is most attractive, a charm of language which is most effective, we yet cannot shut our eyes to the inevitable conclusion that the result at which they arrive is practical negativism, the denial of all supernaturalism, and the assertion of a pure humanitarianism without a Divine revelation, and without, as far as we see, any other belief than that in an "Anima mundi."

We are not willing in the slightest degree to appear even to exaggerate or misconstrue the words and theories of such able brethren, but we cannot understand them otherwise but as boldly asserting the utter independence of man in respect of his need of all those religious hopes and doctrines, and consolations, and promises, that present grace and future blessedness, which have so emancipated, so ennobled and consoled the generations which have come and gone, and which nevertheless believed in the one true Triune God, eternal, living, and unchanging.

We do not deny that the excesses of Ultramontanism may have led, as we see in France, to this state of scientific opposition, of moral shrinking back, of intellectual nihilism—we do not, for instance, fail to appreciate the fact that such teaching as pretentious miracles and pseudo apparitions, Marie Alacoque, and a rampant dogmatism, may probably have sapped the positive belief of thousands, and that such a state of affairs and irritation may, and will result in a depreciation and ridicule of all dogmatic declarations, and of all credence in supernatural truths. Such is the inevitable consequence of untruth, of hyper-mysticism, of the "fraus pia," of the lying miracle, of the false prophet, in this world of ours, always prone rather to mock than to credit, to reject than to accept.

We do not, however, wish to rest too much on this point, as the Ultramontanes may fairly say, "Well, contends a

you like amid non-Roman Catholic countries, amid so-called Protestant bodies, in the very midst of your refined and reformed Anglicanism, rationalism, and scepticism, doubt and disbelief, the axioms of the unorthodox sciolist and the arraignment of the illogical adversary are just as prevalent as in the most Roman Catholic countries, in what you politely term the hotbed of Ultramontanism." We do not deny the fact, but two causes, we believe, have led to this state of things: the excesses of Ultramontanism, and the violence of ultra-Calvinism (we are now speaking purely historically and uncontroversially), which have thrown many minds back in fear and doubt, in hesitation and dismay, too often only to land themselves on the bleak and dismal shore of positive unbelief, of a destructive negativism, of that substitution of humanity for religion, and of philosophy for truth, by which so many able intellects are captivated and enthralled.

At this very hour amongst us, when Bro. Ferry talks of a "dechainement de surnatural grossier et stupide," amid a salvo of applause, he may simply mean the excesses of those who have been urging on the faith and conscience of man the development of incredible and fictitious miracles, but when he adds, a little later, that "Le mysticisme et le théologisme contemporain répondent par l'embrigadement général de la sottise humaine," amid equally vivacious applause, we cannot possibly accept his word, without much qualification.

In all the eloquence, then, of those able brethren who spoke so fully at the fête of the "Clemente Amici," we clearly discern, as we said before, the avowal, as we believe, of principles, however seemingly favourable to humanity, and progress, and enlightenment, and mental development, in our humble opinion really most antagonistic to the peace and happiness of mankind. No realm that we are aware of has ever long prospered which openly avowed a rejection of religion and of the Divine government of the world and of men, and simply sought to repose on "humanitarianism," whatever that may be.

There is no possibility for human laws to rest safely on purely social sanctions, and which are not built up as on a foundation-stone, sure and steadfast, namely, the divine moral law. There is no teaching which can tend really and truly to the personal elevation and present well-being and future happiness of man, his spiritual salvation, renewal, and final restoration, which is not in accordance with Divine and inspired revelation. To hold that humanity can suffice or intellect can purify us, to content that philosophy can elevate and social morality can restrain, (there is no social morality possible which is not founded on the divine), to disavow dogma and ridicule supernaturalism, may indeed be a proof of acuteness of intellect and the criticism of scepticism, but they must end by relegating men to the heathenism of the Greeks and the Romans, and to the eventual oblivion of those untold blessings which Divine Providence and Christianity have ushered in for our suffering and toiling and dying race.

With all due deference to our able brethren in France, we in England from a practical and religious point of view, especially as Freemasons, cannot concur in a teaching which, as we regard it, is fraught with untold dangers to society, to civilisation, and to mankind, and which would apparently ridicule and reject, condemn and contradict, all that we have been taught to revere as essential—actually essential—for the welfare of individuals and nations, for the preservation of the family, the country, the altar, and most conducive the present amelioration and eventual happiness of us all, alike poor citizens of the world.

If we have in any degree ascribed to the teaching of this modern thought and action more than it will fairly bear—if we have in any way misapprehended the drift of the remarks, or misapplied the illustrations of those facile orators—we shall gladly be told so, but we fear that the humble view we have offered of a striking pamphlet is quite correct, and that we have in this another proof of the great conflict going on as between faith and intellect, between dogma and doubt, between authority and assertion, between religion and philosophy, with which we, as English Freemasons, have happily nothing to do, and from which we shall rigorously keep ourselves aloof.—W.F.A.

THE BRUSSELS EXHIBITION.

We are indebted to our contemporary, the "Times," for the following animated letter from Brussels:—

Our Royal Grand Master, the Prince of Wales, the Honorary President of the British Committee of the Exhibition, paid on Tuesday his promised visit to the Exhibition. His Royal Highness arrived from Paris on Monday afternoon, and became the King's guest at the Royal Palace opposite the Exhibition. The King came in from Laeken this morning, but was after all unable to accompany his Royal guest to the Exhibition in consequence of severe rheumatism in his knee. The King's strength was reserved for the task of presiding at a State dinner on Tuesday given in honour of His Royal Highness. The Prince drove over to the Exhibition soon after half-past two in the afternoon, and entered the building with the Queen of the Belgians upon his arm. There was a considerable gathering of the public, and among them a large proportion of English. The Comtesse De Namur and Captain Douny, Officier d'Ordonnance, were in attendance; Bro. Lord Suffield, Mr. Christopher Sykes, M.P., and Bro. F. Knollys were in the Prince's suite. The Royal party were received at the Exhibition by General Renard, Aide-de-Camp to the King, by M. Warocque, President of the Exhibition, and M. Eyraud, a member of the Administration; Mr. Saville Lumley, Her Majesty's Envoy, and Mr. John Lumley, Attaché, were in attendance. These gentlemen immediately conducted the Royal party to the British Section, through the Royal apartments and a little grove where a simple machine for escape from fire—the inven-

tion of a Belgian named Leysen—attracted attention. His Royal Highness's interest in the saving of life and property from fire is well known, and it was no slight compliment that the Prince paid to the representative of the inventor. At the entrance to the British Section the Queen of the Belgians and the Prince of Wales were received by Lieutenant-Colonel Loyd Lindsay and Mr. Polydore De Keyser, members of the British Committee. Cheers were raised as the Royal party came in.

Colonel Lindsay, on his way to the Serbian war as the trustee of the National Aid Society, with £20,000 at his disposal for the relief of the sick and wounded, arrived at Brussels in the morning and stayed one day, not only to receive His Royal Highness, but to study the unparalleled collection of ambulances and appliances for the relief of the wounded, which are to be seen here. Colonel Loyd Lindsay and his party go on to-night at eleven o'clock to Vienna, where their purchases of material will be largely guided by experience gained here. The ambulance of Mr. Emil Meyer, of Hanover, has been particularly suggestive to them. Mr. MacCormac, Surgeon-General to the fund, was presented to His Royal Highness, who then proceeded through the British Section. The lighthouse of Messrs. Chance was the first thing to attract notice, and then there were passed in rapid review Dr. Porter's splints, the Admiralty, Board of Trade, and Trinity House marine apparatus, the splendid boat of the Royal National Lifeboat Institution, the cumbersome and comparatively inconvenient ambulance waggon of our own War Department, the Royal Humane Society's apparatus, and the fire-escape of the National Society.

The Exhibition is particularly rich in contrivances for safety on railways, and two of these detained His Royal Highness longer than anything else. One is Saxby and Farmer's well-known set of signals, with which the Prince of Wales was already familiar. His Royal Highness, however, was gratified to learn that they are as much appreciated in Belgium as in our own country. A map of the Belgian railways exhibited is studded with little flags, showing where this system is in operation. An invention less known, but which deserves the attentive consideration of railway engineers, is Mr. Brocklebank's automatic coupling apparatus. This very simple contrivance may be set by a handle in the carriages themselves without the dangerous work of a man between the carriages. When it is set one push from the engine is enough to couple all the coaches or trucks of a train without jolting. The large number of accidents which happen to railway servants in coupling make this model a most important one; and if the system it illustrates can be practically carried out on a large scale, the attention which His Royal Highness's notice will have drawn to Mr. Brocklebank's invention will be valuable in results.

The Royal party passed into the larger grove, or "Le Grand Bosquet," as this lawn, shaded by tall elms, is called. Here the rain, which had been threatening all day, came on, and a specimen roof, exhibited by a Belgian firm, gave opportu- nity to the party. Soon after they had returned to the building, Siemens and Halske's railway signals were explained to his Royal Highness in German, and an ingenious safety lift for mines raised by a little bucket and a long rope was explained in French. M. Gothek, the Austrian Minister, described the complete organization for the wounded of the Maltese and Teuton Knights of the Red Cross. The Prince congratulated M. Warocque upon his man-engine for mines. M. Erregé, the Italian Consul General, showed the Milanese apparatus for cremation; M. Guenther and M. Alphonse Oppenheim explained the canalization of Dantzic, accomplished by a firm of Englishmen, Messrs. Aird. The Russian models for sanitary education were fully illustrated; they are most interesting, and will merit a fuller description. The Prince admired some of the foreign fire engines, and here it is painful to say that all the Liège fire engines have been bought up for the city of Moscow, so famous in the history of public fires. There is no doubt that English makers can beat the manufacturers of Liège, but they thought fit not to compete here and so lose a valuable connection.

The awards of the juries are not yet out, though all are understood to be decided except in the maritime class. The Prince left the Exhibition after nearly two hours' stay; and after repeatedly manifesting a warm interest in what he saw, His Royal Highness on leaving said to General Renard that the Exhibition as a whole was most successful, and that it could not have been better. As to the British Section His Royal Highness himself is President of the British Committee. He is understood to have said that he was well pleased with the exertions of the Executive in bringing about so creditable a representation of this country. The Prince left this city on Wednesday for Spa, and after one day goes to Ostend, whence the yacht Osborne is to convey him to Woolwich.

Mulum in Parbo; or Masonic Notes and Queries.

"HERODIAN" OR "RHODIAN."

A correspondent of the "Pall Mall Gazette" writes as follows:—"Mr. Freeman must have forgot his 'Hamlet,' or he would not ask why Mr. Disraeli spoke of Sir W. Harcourt's overwrought invectives against the Turks as Herodian eloquence. Did not Hamlet tell the players with what scorn he had heard 'a rebusious periwig-pated fellow tear a passion to tatters'—adding, 'Oh! it outdoes Termagant, it out-Herods Herod'?" So far our correspondent. The truth is however, that what Mr. Disraeli said was not "Herodian," but "Rhodian eloquence." That Mr. Freeman would have understood perfectly well. Sir William Harcourt's long-drawn and profusely ornate peroration would have delighted an orator of the Rhodian school, and might even have pleased Cicero himself before he was taught better things at Athens.

BRITISH ARCHÆOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, the 14th, the proceedings of the Congress of the British Archæological Association in Cornwall were formally opened by a visit paid by its members to Cothelie, the ancient seat of the Edgcombe family, on the river Tamar, between Saltash and Calstock. Bro. Lord Mount-Edgcombe and several members of his family accompanied the party up the river from Plymouth, and on arriving at Cothelie and having welcomed the Association to Cornish ground and to his own property, his lordship read a short paper on the historical associations of the place, showing how it was first acquired by one of the Edgcombes nearly five centuries ago by his marriage with the heiress of the Cothelies, and had been enlarged and remodelled by Sir Richard Edgcombe, a celebrated Lancastrian in the early period of Henry VII.'s reign. Lord Mount-Edgcombe traced the subsequent connexion of his family with the place down to a time subsequent to the building of Mount Edgcombe, when Cothelie came gradually to be less and less inhabited. Still in the last century, as well as in the present, it has been honoured by Royal visits, and there was a tradition, though, perhaps, a doubtful one, that it had given shelter for a night to King Charles. Of late years one side of the quadrangle has been restored and refitted, and it is now the residence of the Dowager Lady Mount-Edgcombe. His lordship was followed by Mr. E. Loftus Brock, F.S.A., who read an essay on the architectural features of the house, in which he described its general character as exhibiting a sort of transition from the fortified castle of the Middle Ages to the Elizabethan mansion, at the same time pointing out those parts which were of earlier date and rougher materials. The old chapel, the halls, the Ladies' Chamber, the Priests' Room, and the old retainers' yard were then visited by the company, who also inspected the pictures, the tapestry, the old china, and ancient plate belonging to the house, as well as the collection of arms of various ages and countries which hung as trophies of the war or of the chase on the walls of the hall. Among these were some bull's hide shields, some exquisite Spanish rapiers, and some large Irish horns of brass, which it is supposed were used by chieftains in the sister island to terrify opponents. The timber roof of the hall and of other rooms were much admired, and also were sundry specimens of ancient lace, and the trappings of the horse ridden by one of the Edgcombe ladies, when a Maid of Honour to the "Virgin" Queen. A handsome luncheon in the old hall, to which about 100 guests sat down, and a hurried visit to the chapel built by Sir Richard Edgcombe by the river side as a thank-offering for his escape from the Yorkist party, were all that time and tide allowed before the trumpet summoned them to start on the return voyage down the river to Saltash, where the whole party took the train for Bodmin, reaching that town about seven o'clock. Dinner over, the Association was received by the Mayor and Corporation at the Guildhall, where Lord Mount-Edgcombe delivered his inaugural address as President. He dwelt on the contrast of Cornish scenery, Cornish legends, and early Cornish antiquity to those of the rest of England; and after warning his hearers against the fault of too hasty generalization, explained at some length the programme of the week, and the reason why Launceston, Tintagel, Lostwithiel, Restormel, Penzance, and St. Michael's Mount respectively were interesting to the antiquary, and concluded by paying a tribute of gratitude to late Poet Laureate and the late Rev. R. S. Hawker for the interest in the ancient history of Cornwall, and especially of King Arthur, which they had evoked by their poems. A vote of thanks to Lord Mount-Edgcombe for his address, as well as for his hospitality at Cothelie, was passed with acclamation. A paper, by the Rev. William Jago, on the pre-historic and ecclesiastical antiquities of Bodmin, including its Priory of St. Petrock, its friary, its lazaret-house, and its noble parish church, brought the proceedings of the day to a conclusion.

The fine weather with which this year's Congress was inaugurated on the 14th, at Cothelie, has lasted till now, and the sun shone, if the truth must be told, even a little too hotly and brilliantly on our expedition of Tuesday to Tintagel and Camelford. Under the guidance of the secretaries, Mr. Loftus Brock and Mr. George Bright, the members started on Tuesday morning, at nine, a party nearly a hundred strong, in omnibuses, breaks, and open carriages, for the headquarters of Arthurian romance—a locality which few, if any, had visited before. In the way thither they quitted the beaten tourists' track along the Cornish high road, in order to pass, by special invitation of Lady Molesworth, through her charming park of Penarrow, where they were able to bestow only a passing glance at the triple vallum and fosse, which is crossed by her carriage drive. At about noon they reached Llan-teglos, where they inspected the parish church, under the guidance of the rector, the Rev. J. J. Wilkinson, and also two curious Cornish monoliths, of a Saxon, or, rather, perhaps a Celtic type, in the rectory garden, the inscriptions on which were interpreted by the Rev. William Jago. The whole party were then entertained at lunch by Mr. and Mrs. Wilkinson, under a marquee in the rectory grounds. Lunch being over, and the health of the Queen and of the Prince of Wales (as Duke of Cornwall) having been drunk with all honours, the bugle was sounded, and the party were off to Tintagel, or (as it is here always called) "Dandagel." At Tintagel Prebendary Kinsman was ready to explain the architecture and history of his church, parts of which, including the font, the northern doorway, and the southern transept, he claimed as of "Saxon, or at all events, pre-Norman architecture;" but his views were stoutly combated by at least one member of the Congress, who declared that he could see in their details nothing but early and rude Norman work. A lively discussion ensued, but the matter was left sub judice, and will probably be considered by the Congress more leisurely at one of its subsequent sittings. From the church

the party repaired, under the guidance of Messrs. Kinsman and Wilkinson, to

"Wild Dundagel by the Cornish sea."

—where the remains of the fortress were explored by the more adventurous of the number, including the ruined keep and fortifications, part natural and part artificial, which, if the local tradition be true, were the scene of the birth, childhood, and manhood of King Arthur, the noble and heroic Prince of the West, who for so many years withstood the progress of the Saxon arms within the Cornish peninsula. There was here also, as in the church, a strong difference of opinion as to whether the walls on the double headland are those of one or of two separate castles. A few weeks ago some excavations were made by permission of the authorities of the Duchy of Cornwall in order to settle this question, but they were subsequently obliged to be abandoned owing to difficulties in situ.

Carriages were in waiting to take the party to Camel-ford, where they were to be received by the Mayor and Corporation, and where we knew that refreshments awaited us. This quaint little town, or rather village, for it is scarcely more, though it returned two members to Parliament until placed in Schedule A by the first Reform Act, has a charter dating from the days of Richard, King of the Romans, and a silver mace and punch-bowl dating from the reign of Charles II. One of the aldermen having addressed to the company a few words of greeting, and having recounted some of the old recollections of a borough which has been represented in Parliament by a Pitt, by Henry Brougham, and by "Ossian" Macpherson, they remounted the carriages, and all returned to Bodmin in time to be present at the evening sitting at the Guild-hall, when papers were read by the Rev. Dr. Margoliouth, "On the etymology of certain words in the now obsolete language of Cornwall," and by Mr. T. Kerslake, of Bristol upon "The Early Saints of Cornwall." The chair, in the absence of Lord Mount Edgumbe, was occupied by Mr. George Godwin, F.S.A.

The meeting of the Royal Archaeological Institute at Colchester has just closed. The attendance of members was not equal to that of the Canterbury meeting last year, as was only to be expected; but the antiquarian work done seems to have been fully up to the mark, especially in drawing out the local authorities, among whom we find many new names. Colchester itself, both in its history and in the architectural remains with which it is plentifully supplied, offered a subject of wide interest, and papers were read by Mr. Freeman on the history; by Mr. Lodge on Eudo Dapifer, the founder of St. John's Abbey; and by Mr. Acland on the Royal Grammar School; while the objects of interest in the neighbourhood were represented by Mr. Tucker's notes on the arms of the Petre family, by Mr. Hayward's paper on the Nunnery of Layer Marney; and by Mr. Chancellor on the Chapter of St. Peter at Bradwell. Castle Hedingham, the ancient seat of the Veres, and one of the finest Norman keeps in England, was visited on Wednesday, when Mr. Majendie, M.P., the present owner, himself described it to the members of the institute, and subsequently entertained them at luncheon in the great hall. On Thursday Colchester was perambulated, the Roman walls, with the successive reparations in the wars of the Middle Ages and of the Stuarts, forming the chief subject of interest. On Friday Layer Marney, with its beautiful brick manor house, and Maldon, with its triangular church tower, were the objects of an excursion. On Saturday Wivenhoe and St. Osyth were visited.

Colchester stands alone among English towns if we identify it with the Roman Camalodunum. Its walls are older than those of London, or at least they bound an older site, for both London and Colchester still stand where the Romans placed them, and in this respect are peculiar among our modern cities. But while London has far overflown the Roman boundaries, Colchester has shrunk, and the walls fit but loosely to the attenuated streets and diminutive churches. Mr. Freeman is reported to have said that these walls existed in the time of Boadicea, and that, unlike York, Lincoln, and Chester, they still surround the inhabited town.

MUSICAL FESTIVALS.—The Birmingham Triennial Musical Festival will be held on Tuesday, the 29th inst., and the three following days. A new cantata, by Mr. F. H. Cowen, entitled "The Corsair," will be performed on the opening day; a new oratorio, by Professor Macfarren, entitled "The Resurrection," on Wednesday morning; and a new sacred cantata, by Gade, entitled "Zion," on Wednesday evening; all the above having been composed expressly for this Festival. The programme also includes "The Holy Supper" (Friday), Wagner, the first time of performance in England; "Elijah;" Hummel's "Alma Virgo;" Mendelssohn's "Hear my Prayer;" Gade's cantata, "The Crusaders;" Spohr's "The Last Judgment;" Beethoven's "Mass, No. 1 (in C)"; and "St. Paul;" besides various miscellaneous selections, including a "Symphony," by Mozart, the Overture to "William Tell," &c. The Marquis of Hertford is the President, and Bro. Sir Michael Costa will conduct. The principal vocalists will be Mdlle. Titiens, Madame Lemmens-Sherrington, Mdlle. Albani, Madame Patey, and Madame Trebelli-Bettini; Mr. Vernon Rigby, Signor Foli, Mr. Edward Lloyd, Mr. Santley, and Mr. Cecil Tovey. Mr. Stimpson will preside at the organ. We may add that the net proceeds of the Festival will be added to the funds of the Birmingham General Hospital. The Hereford Musical Festival will be held at the Cathedral and Shire-hall on the 12th, 13th, 14th, and 15th of September. The following artistes have already been engaged:—Mdlle. Titiens, Madame Edith Wynne, Madame Trebelli-Bettini, Miss Enriquez, and Miss Bertha Griffiths; Mr. Sims Reeves, Mr. W. H. Cummings, Mr. Lewis Thomas, and Mr. Maybrick. The conductor will be Mr. Townshend Smith.

WASTE AND WANT.—Francatelli used to say that he could feed a thousand families on the waste of London; and doubtless he was no way beyond the mark, especially if we regard the wicked, wanton destruction of food in our markets for lack of some means of rapid distribution. We were remarking last week on the aims and powers of the City Guilds, and here would certainly be a splendid opening for one or two of the great companies which are associated with the provisioning of London. Recently the Duke of Edinburgh was eulogizing the Fishmongers' Company for weekly destroying tons and tons of fish which are said to be unfit for food. How far more excellent would be the praise which could point out how a great City Guild had, by wholesome regulations and an effective organization, preserved and distributed to the people, who are in greatest need, tons of wholesome and delicious provision which would but for this timely interposition have been lost altogether? Not a week, not a day passes that we do not hear of quantities of fish, meat and vegetables, fruit and pastry, wasted, and only utilized for making manure; and the original waste and destruction at the markets are followed by almost equally wanton extravagance at hotels, clubs, and private houses. There is a soup kitchen not far from Leicester-square where the clean sacks full of broken bread which come from two West-end clubs are eagerly received and appreciated by the hungry applicants, who sniff from afar the odour of that great cauldron of stock made from the bones and ends of joints—the unconsidered trifles of the larder and the kitchen. In the matter of some of the cheaper kinds of vegetables and of fruit the costermongers continue to carry them through those poor outlying neighbourhoods where they find ready customers, but there is little chance of meat, fish, or poultry being distributed in a similar way. Even if they could be, there are people all round London who seldom know what it is to have a full meal, and there are scores of children who scarcely know the taste of wholesome meat at all.—"City Press."

METROPOLITAN MASONIC MEETINGS.

For the Week ending Friday, September 1, 1876.

The Editor will be glad to receive notice from Secretaries of Craft Lodges, Royal Arch Chapters, Mark Lodges, Preceptories, Conclaves, &c., of any change in place or time of meeting.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 26.

Lodge 1541, Alexandra Palace, Alexandra Palace, N.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Lily, Greyhound, Richmond.

Manchester, 77, London-st., Fitzroy-square.

Star, Marquis of Granby, New Cross-rd.

MONDAY, AUGUST 28.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Prince Leopold, Lord Stanley Tav., Kingsland.

Strong Man, Jerusalem Tav., St. John's Gate.

Sincerity, Railway Tav., Fenchurch-st. Station.

Camden, Stanhope Arms, Up. James-st., Camden To.

Eastern, Royal Hot., Mile-end-road.

St. James's Union, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.

Wellington, White Swan, Deptford.

Perfect Ashlar, Victoria Tav., Lower-rd., Rotherhithe.

Sydney, White Hart Ho., Church-rd., Upper Norwood.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 29.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Metropolitan, 269, Pentonville-rd.

Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney.

Domestic, Surrey M.H., Camberwell New-road.

Faith, 2, Westminster Chambers, Victoria-st.

Prince Fredk. Wm., Lord's Hot., St. John's Wood.

Dalhousie, King Edward, Triangle, Hackney.

Prosperity, 1, Camomile-st., Bishopsgate.

St. Marylebone, British Stores Tav., St. John's Wood.

Constitutional, Wheatsheaf Hot., Hand-court, Holborn.

Israel, Rising Sun Tav., Globe Road.

Royal Arthur, Prince's Head, York-road, Battersea.

Beacontree, Red Lion, Leytonstone.

Metropolitan Chapter, Jamaica Coffee Ho., Cornhill.

Excelsior, Commercial Dock Tav., Rotherhithe.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 30.

Lodge 898, Temperance-in-the-East, Newby-pl., Poplar.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Confidence, M.H., Basinghall-st.

Mt. Lebanon, Windsor Castle Tav., Southwark-bdg.-rd.

Pythagorean, Prince of Orange, Greenwich.

New Concord, Rosemary Branch Tav., Hoxton.

Royal Union, Horse and Groom, Winsley-st., Oxford-st.

Peckham, Maismore Arms, Park-road, Peckham.

Stanhope, Thicket Hot., Anerley.

Finsbury Park, Finsbury Park Tav., Seven Sisters'-rd.

Southwark, Southwark Park Tav., Southwark Park.

Duke of Connaught, Havelock Tav., Dalston, E.

United Strength, Grafton Arms, Kentish-town.

Islington, Crown and Cushion, London Wall.

Whittington, Black Bull Tav., Holborn.

Lewis, King's Arms Hot., Wood Green.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 31.

Gen. Com. Girls' School, at 4.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Egyptian, Hercules Tav., Leadenhall-st.

Fidelity, Yorkshire Grey, London-st., W.

Finsbury, Jolly Anglers' Tav., Bath-st., City-road.

Temperance in the East, Catherine-st., Poplar.

Ebury, 12, Ponsonby-st., Milbank.

Highgate, Bull and Gate, Kentish-town.

The Great City, 111, Cheapside.

High Cross, Coach & Horses, High-road, Tottenham.

Salisbury, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.

Marquis of Ripon, Albion Tav., Albany-rd., Dalston.

Prince Frederick William Chapter, St. John's Wood.

Southern Star, Crown Hot., Blackfriars-rd.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 1.

Lodge 1275, Star, Ship Hot., Greenwich.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Union Waterloo, Thomas-st., Woolwich.

Robert Burns, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.

Belgrave, Lyceum Tav., 354, Strand.

Unions Emulation (for M.M.'s), F.M.H.

Temperance, Victoria Tav., Victoria-road, Deptford.

Clapton, White Hart, Clapton.

Metropolitan, Portugal Hot., Fleet-st.

Westbourne, Horse & Groom, Winsley-st., Oxford-st.

United Pilgrims, Surrey M.H., Camberwell New-road.

St. James's, New Tanners' Arms, Grange-rd., Bermondsey.

Duke of Edinburgh, Silver Lion, Penny-fields, Poplar.

Doric, Earl Grey Tav., Mile-end-road.

Burgoyne, Grafton Arms, Prince of Wales's-road, N.W.

St. Luke's, White Hart, King's-rd., Chelsea.

Chigwell, Bald-faced Stag Hot., Buckhurst-hill.

Burdett Courts, Approach Tav., Victoria Park.

Royal Standard, Finsbury Park Tav., Holloway.

Ranelagh, Clarendon Hot., Hammersmith.

Pythagorean Chapter, Prince of Orange, Greenwich-rd.

Stability, Guildhall Tav., Gresham-st.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN WEST LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE.

For the Week ending Saturday September 2, 1876.

MONDAY, AUGUST 28.

Lodge 148, Lights, M. Rooms, Warrington.

" 613, Unity, Palatine Buildings, Southport.

" 703, Clifton, Clifton Hot., Blackpool.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 29.

Lodge 897, Loyalty, Fleece Inn, St. Helen's.

" 986, Hesketh, Grapes Inn, Croston.

Chap. 721, Grosvenor, M.R., Chester.

Merchants' L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 30.

Lodge 86, Loyalty, M.H., Prescott.

" 484, Faith, Gerard's Arms, Ashton-in-Makerfield.

" 580, Harmony, Wheatsheaf, Ormskirk.

" 758, Ellesmere, M.H., Runcorn.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 31.

Lodge 950, Hesketh, Royal Hot., Fleetwood.

" 1032, Townley Parker, Howard's A., White-le-Wds.

" 1070, Starkie, Black Horse Hot., Kirkham.

" 1313, Fernor, M.H., Southport.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 1.

Lodge 680, Sefton, Adelphi Hot., Liverpool.

" 1375, Architect, Didsbury Hot., Didsbury.

" 1387, Chorlton, M.R., Chorlton-cum-Hardy.

" 1505, Emulation, M.H., Liverpool.

Duke of Edinburgh L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN GLASGOW AND WEST OF SCOTLAND.

For the Week ending Saturday, September 2, 1876.

All the Meetings take place at Eight o'clock.

MONDAY, AUGUST 28.

Lodge 103, Union & Crown, 30, Hope-st., Glasgow.

" 292, St. John, Bishop-st., Rothesay.

Chap. 122, Thetis, 35, St. James-st., S.S., Glasgow.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 30.

Chap. 73, Caledonian of Unity, 213, Buchanan-st.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 31.

Lodge 167, Free Operative, M.H., Biggar.

" 570, Kenmuir, Balgray Hall, Springburn.

Chap. 117, Govan, Portland Buildings, Govan.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 1.

Lodge 7, Hamilton Kilwinning, M.H., Hamilton.

" 114, Royal Arch, M.H., Cambuslang.

" 116, Royal Arch, Council Hall, Rutherglen.

" 135, St. James, Crown Inn, Tarbolton.

" 175, St. John, St. John's Hall, Greenock.

" 217, Cumberland, Kilwinning, Port Glasgow.

" 242, Houston, Cross Keys Hot., Johnstone.

" 275, Shamrock & Thistle, 22, Struthers-st., Glsgw.

" 335, Argyle, Drill Hall, Dunoon.

" 360, Commercial, 30, Hope-street, Glasgow.

" 408, Clyde, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.

" 459, Kelburne, Cumbrae Hot., Millport.

" 512, Thorntree, School House, Thornliebank.

" 551, Clydesdale, Royal Hot., Lanark.

Chap. 112, Paisley, St. Mirren's Hall, Paisley.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 2.

Lodge 458, St. John, Wilson's Hall, Busby.

" 544, St. Andrew, M.H., Coatbridge.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN EDINBURGH AND VICINITY.

For the Week ending Saturday, September 2, 1876.

MONDAY, AUGUST 28.

Lodge 349, St. Clair, F.M.H., 98, George-st.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 1.

Lodge 291, Celtic, Ship Hot., E. Register-st.

YOUNG GENTLEMEN'S ACADEMY, QUAI DU LEMAN, GENEVA.

(Founded in 1843 by Mr. Diederichs, for the last five years under the direction of Bro. V. Wisard.)

A School of long standing and high reputation. Beautiful and healthy situation. Complete education. Special studies for modern languages. Advantageous terms for the sons of Masonic brethren. Highest Masonic and Commercial references.

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REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS.

Craft Masonry.

SOUTHALL.—Acacia Lodge (No. 1309).—The installation meeting was held on Tuesday, 22nd August, at the Prince Alfred Hotel, Southall. Bro. C. Horsley, P.P.G.R. Middlesex, P.M., W.M., opened the lodge. He raised the Rev. J. Fothergill to the Third Degree, passed Bro. C. Wareham and C. L. Smiles to the Second Degree. Bro. F. Walters, P.G.J.D. Middlesex, P.M., Treas., installed Bro. C. G. Rushworth, W.M., who selected for his officers Bro. J. W. George, S.W.; C. G. C. Staley, J.W.; F. Walters, P.G.J.D., P.M., Treas. (re-invested); the Rev. T. W. Cave, L.L.D., Sec.; the Rev. J. Fothergill, Chaplain; R. P. Tebb, S.D.; J. Scott, J.D.; J. Davies, I.G.; J. Sutcliffe, D.C.; Smiles, W.S.; W. Y. Laing, P.M., Tyler. The W.M. initiated Messrs. W. J. C. Cave, D. Tremere, and G. Wente into Freemasonry. On behalf of the lodge he presented Bro. C. Horsley, P.P.G.R. Middlesex, I.P.M., with a ten-guinea Past Master's jewel, which had been unanimously voted to him from the lodge funds. An important notice of motion was unanimously agreed to. The whole of the work was done well. Some candidates were proposed for initiation. Banquet and dessert followed. Visitors: Bros. J. Robins, P.P.G.D. Surrey; Siegert, P.M. 548.

CHAUCER LODGE (No. 1540) met on Wednesday, August 23rd, at the Bridge House Hotel, Southwark. Bro. T. J. Sabine, W.M., presided. He passed Bro. E. Coleman, and initiated Messrs. T. H. K. Harding, W. M. Phillips, and C. Winstanley. Bro. F. Walters, P.G.J.D. Middlesex, P.M., Sec., passed Bro. G. Newman. The work was done well. Bro. G. W. Frodsham, late 256; and T. Wilkinson, 141, were unanimously elected joining members. The initiation fee was raised from seven to ten guineas. The elections were unanimously in favour of Bro. J. C. Mason, S.W. for W.M.; T. J. Sabine, W.M., Treasurer; W. Y. Laing, P.M., re-elected Tyler. The audit committee was formed. Some gentlemen were proposed for initiation. The lodge was closed. Supper followed. There were present besides those named Bros. T. J. H. Wilkins, I.P.M.; G. H. Wright, P.M.; W. J. Kemp, S.D.; C. W. Hudson, J.D.; H. Faija, I.G.; A. J. Hawkes, D.C.; J. Hutt, R. C. Harrison, R. H. Willats, C. Graham, G. H. Mason, H. Levy, W. Klingenstein, and others. The visitors were Bros. E. H. Thielay, P.G.S.B. Middlesex, W.M. 145; C. G. Rushworth, W.M. 1309; T. W. Adams, 765; G. Müller, 73; Pincer, Admirateurs de l'Univers, Paris.

GREAT STANMORE.—Abercorn Lodge (No. 1549).—The fourth regular meeting of this summer lodge was held at the Abercorn Hotel on Tuesday, August 1st, present, Bros. J. W. Garrod, W.M.; Helsdon, I.P.M. (now Grand Pursuivant for Middlesex), and the rest of the officers; Bro. J. Nunn, P.G.S.B., and many of the lodge members. The lodge was opened with solemn prayer in the First Degree at 3.15 by the W.M., and after the minutes of last meeting were duly confirmed, the ballot was taken unanimously for Messrs. Buck, Darby, and Johnson, as candidates for initiation, and they, with Mr. Fradelle, who was previously elected, were fully enlightened into the beauties of the First Degree in Freemasonry. Bro. Meek was also passed to the Second Degree, and Bro. Peach raised to the sublime Third Degree, the whole of the three ceremonies being most ably performed by the I.P.M. The W.M. having authorised a lodge of Emergency for September 5th, and the usual formalities disposed of, the lodge was closed in perfect harmony at 7 p.m. The usual banquet followed with the assistance of the musical brethren, and the evening closed with general satisfaction.

LIVERPOOL.—The Dramatic Lodge (No. 1609).—The usual monthly assembly of the brethren belonging to this promising lodge was held on Tuesday, the 22nd ult., at the Masonic Hall, Hope-street, where there was a good gathering of members and visitors. The chair of K.S. was worthily occupied by Bro. J. Bell, W.M., who was well supported by Bros. B. B. Marson, P.M.; W. J. Chapman, S.W.; Lindo Courtenay, J.W.; A. Woolrich, Treas. (acting as Secretary); W. W. Sandbrook, J.D.; J. Atkinson, I.G.; A. Collinson, S.; and W. H. Ball, Tyler. The minutes of the previous meeting having been confirmed, Messrs. J. Cowdall, J. H. Stringer, P. Shrapnell, and Peacock were initiated into the mysteries and privileges

of ancient Freemasonry. The work was very admirably done, Bro. C. Leighton, P.M. 1325, presiding at the harmonium. Bros. Cotton, Stafford, and Meers were subsequently raised to the sublime degree of M.M.'s. A set of bye-laws for the regulation of the lodge was read by Bro. P.M. Marson, and the brethren adopted the proposed bye-laws without discussion. After labour, refreshments were served, and a very pleasant evening was spent, harmony and recitations being contributed by Bros. R. Brown, Braithwaite, Chapman, Courtenay, Woolrich, Capell, and others.

INSTRUCTION.

VICTORIA METROPOLITAN LODGE OF INSTRUCTION.—On Friday 25th ult., notwithstanding that it is seaside time, a good muster of the brethren of this energetic lodge held a meeting at the Portugal Hotel, Fleet-street, to hear Bro. Crutch, the W.M. of the Burdett Courts Lodge, work the installation ceremony, a work which he has to do in real earnest at the next meeting of his own lodge. Bro. Stacey, the Preceptor, and many P.M.'s were present, and they were all greatly pleased at the manner in which the Master did his work. Bro. Bingemann was the Master installed. As a compliment for the work the brethren elected Bro. Crutch an honorary member of the lodge. We are glad to say that the Benevolence Club, to make brethren life subscribers of the charities, is flourishing under the energetic management of Bros. Stacey and W. W. Snelling.

Scotland.

EDINBURGH.—St. David's Lodge (No. 36).—A special meeting of this lodge was held at the Ship Hotel, East Register-st., Edinburgh, on Saturday, the 26th August, for the purpose of affiliating several English brethren prior to their leaving Scotland. The lodge was opened by the R.W.M., Bro. Lieut. M. Tracey, Royal Artillery, assisted by Bro. A. W. Edwards, S.W.; J. Inglis, J.W.; S. Webb, S.D.; E. Webb, J.D.; J. Fleming, Chap.; G. S. Fernie, Sec.; Dr. J. Carmichael, P.M. 48; R. S. Brown, P.M. 145; J. Maclean, 1; T. G. Plummer, 2; J. Cameron and W. Henry, 145; J. B. Mercer, 252; H. J. Shields, 275; W. M. Bryce, 291; A. M. Bruce, Treas. 349; T. Webb, sen.; and A. Robertson, Tyler. The object of the meeting having been explained by the W.M., the Deacons withdrew, and conducted into the lodge for affiliation the following brethren, viz.: Bros. John Boyd, P.G. Purs. and Grand Steward of England, P.M. 145, 534; R. Wentworth Little, P.P.S.G.W., and Prov. G. Sec. Middlesex, P.M. 975 and 1293; H. C. Levander, P.P.G.D. Wiltshire, P.M. 730 and 928; and G. Kenning, P.P.G.D. Middlesex, P.M. 192. The affiliation ceremony was then proceeded with, and at its conclusion the new members were greeted with loud applause, and warmly congratulated by all present. The W.M. then expressed the high satisfaction which he had experienced in enrolling four such members of the Grand Lodge of England as affiliated "brothers" of "Auld St. David's" he might especially mention Bro. Little, whom he had known for 8 or 9 years, and whose presence he gladly welcomed that evening, and he was sure that the other brethren were equally worthy of the compliment which St. David's Lodge so freely bestowed upon them. Bro. Boyd, in reply, thanked the brethren for their kindness, and assured them that neither himself nor his colleagues would ever forget the honourable distinction conferred, or the fraternal reception accorded by the brethren of St. David's. The lodge was then closed, and the company sat down to refreshment. The W.M. proposed the usual loyal and Masonic toasts, and in giving "The Grand Master and the Grand Lodge of England" referred in eulogistic terms to the working of Freemasonry in England, and as an English Mason himself he felt especially pleased to be enabled to greet such worthy brethren from "t'other side o' the Tweed." Bro. Boyd returned thanks for the Grand Lodge of England. Several toasts and songs followed, and then Bro. Little, having obtained permission from the chair, called upon the brethren to drink "The Health of the W.M., Lieut.-Tracey," whose friendship he was proud to claim and to reciprocate. The toast was received with the utmost enthusiasm, and elicited a capital response from the Presiding Officer. Bro. Levander proposed "Prosperity to St. David's Lodge," Bro. Carmichael, M.D., replied for "The P.M.'s," Bro. Edwards for "The Officers." Bro. Mercer in returning thanks for "The Visitors" expatiated in glowing language on the past history of No. 36, especially alluding to the fact that Sir Walter Scott first saw the light of Freemasonry in Lodge St. David's, and the most distinguished brethren in the Craft might be proud to belong to such a lodge, which was now A 1 for working in the Scottish metropolis. After the final toast the brethren separated.

GLASGOW.—Cathedral Chapter (No. 67).—A regular monthly meeting of this chapter was held in the Masonic Hall, 22, Struthers-street, Calton, on Tuesday, 22nd August. A lodge of Mark Masters being opened, Bro. Duthie, W.M., in the chair, Bro. Mercer, of 87 Chapter, Senior Warden, Bro. Perston, of 87, acting Junior Warden. A competent number of Mark Masters were present, two brethren being in waiting for admission into the Order. They were taken into the open lodge and received this degree; also the lodge was raised to the Excellent Master degree, and afterwards the candidates received instructions in this degree. The lodge was closed and a chapter was constituted and opened, Comp. Duthie, Z., in the chair, Comps. Ronald, H.; Russell, J.; Bisland, First Soj.; and a full meeting of companions present. The candidates were taken into the open chapter and received this degree by Comps. Duthie, Z., and Bisland, at his post as First Soj. Comp. Duthie thanked the companions for the assistance given during the past four years he had occupied the chair in the Cathedral, and informed the companions present to look out for a

successor to him, as he would vacate holding any office after the 23rd of September, but although out of office it would at all times be a pleasure to him to assist in the work of the Cathedral, or to try and forward Royal Arch Masonry in any way when in his power to do so, and hoped the Cathedral Chapter would go on prospering, and succeed better than ever. He mentioned that Saturday being the 23rd of September this year, the meeting for election of new office-bearers would be held on that night about 5 p.m., when a goodly attendance was expected. Comp. Bisland proposed, and Comp. Ronald seconded, that on some night previous the Scribe E. call a meeting of present office-bearers to be held in 67, London-street. Comps. W. H. Jackson and John Laird were appointed to audit the books. Afterwards the new companions made some remarks as to being admitted into the Order, and the chapter was closed in due and ancient form by Comps. Duthie, Z.; Mercer, H.; Ronald, J., all companions standing to order.

CONSECRATION OF THE TREDEGAR LODGE, No. 1625.

Another new London lodge was consecrated on Wednesday evening last in that stronghold of Freemasonry, the East End. Numerous though the Masonic lodges are in that neighbourhood, and vigorously as they are supported it has yet been found that there is room for others, indeed, that it is absolutely necessary that there should be others in order to give intending initiates an opportunity of entering the Order in lodges where the numerical strength is not too great. The increase in the number of all lodges has been very rapid of late years, and at the present time it is going on with even greater rapidity than at any known period of Masonic annals; but still the cry is for more lodges, and in the metropolis the cry is becoming very urgent. According to the agenda paper of Grand Lodge for next Wednesday, out of a list of nineteen new warrants granted for lodges since the last Quarterly Communication, no less than seven are for lodges within the metropolitan area. Some of these have already been consecrated; but there yet remain a few others, and the latest addition to the consecrations was that of the Tredegar Lodge, No. 1625, which was consecrated on Wednesday last at the Royal Hotel, Mile End Road, by Bro. John Hervey, Grand Secretary of England.

The brethren assembled early in the afternoon, when they had an opportunity of viewing the lodge-room before the ceremony of consecration took place. This was found to be a handsome apartment having a northerly frontage to the Mile End Road, and an eastern frontage to the Burdett Road. The Tylers had arranged the lodge, whose furniture was all of solid oak, and made in the very best style of workmanship under the superintendence of the brethren who had got up the lodge.

The ceremony of consecration was commenced about four o'clock, when Bro. John Hervey took the chair and appointed Bros. H. G. Buss, Prov. G.J.W. Middlesex, S.W.; F. Binckes, P.G.S., J.W.; E. Mortlock, D.C.; the Rev. B. Kingsford, Rector of Shadwell, as Chaplain; and C. B. Payne, Tyler.

Bro. Seymour Smith presided at the harmonium, and was assisted by Bros. G. T. Carter and T. Baxter.

The complete list of brethren present comprised the following:—Bros. John Hervey, Charles Lacey, George Huggett, George Hollington, Brencley Kingsford, G. Ward Verry, James Wood, John Marve, B. Caudick, S.W. 1421; W. Morgan, 1357; James Allen W.M. 114; Henry Williams, P.M. 227; W. Lusty, W.M. 1259; E. F. Dix, 1421; C. B. Payne, G.T.; W. R. Marsh, P.M. 9 and 933; H. Massey ("Freemason"); F. Baylis, 554; S. M. Lazarus, P.P.G.W. Wilts; M. Joseph, P.M. 182; W. J. Crutch, W.M. 1278; E. Gothiel, P.M. 185; H. W. Chadwick, P.M. 754; W. L. Livermore, 554; Samuel Moss, 212; James Ventres, 554; Thomas Moore, 733; J. Myerscough, 780; A. Hayward, 781; Wm. Davies, 1259; J. Newton, P.M. 174; H. J. Dickson, 711; J. W. Dunstan, 174; W. J. J. Medland, 781; J. B. Hogarth, 1107; E. J. Anning, 1564; Thomas Baxter, 145; Thomas Battis, 554; J. J. W. Job, 1076; George James, 174; Joseph J. Ashburner, P.M. 1278; G. T. Carter, P.M. 382; Seymour Smith, 742; E. T. Read, P.M. 781 and 1343; George Brooth, W.M. 92; J. T. Berry, W.M. 554; Hugh Catty, S.W. 554; J. Taylor, S.D. 1421, and I.G. 554; John G. Stevens, P.M. 554; G. W. T. Mugliston, P.M. 1421; and R. G. Harrison, 206.

The lodge having been formed and business commenced with the customary routine, Bro. Hervey, in opening the proceedings of the day, said that at that period of the ceremony it was usual for the presiding officer to address the brethren shortly upon the nature of the meeting, but as he had not the assistance of a professed Chaplain, his friend on his left (Bro. Kingsford) would only assist him in a degree. He would not detain them further than by saying that it had afforded him great pleasure to come down that day to aid in the foundation of a new lodge and to place a brother in the chair who he was sure was well fitted for the position. Freemasons were vastly increasing in their number of lodges, as they around that room were well aware, and he trusted that although the number of lodges was swelling in a very great degree, yet that it was not swelling too rapidly, that the lodges would all prosper and further the interests which all Freemasons had at heart. He was delighted to think that all the lodges as far as he knew were at present flourishing, and he trusted that would be the case with this lodge as well as with those which had immediately preceded it. He would reserve the few further observations he had to make to a later period, for by some accident it so happened that he did not get the programme of the proceedings till that

morning, and he then found that he should not have the advantage as they frequently and generally had, of having a Chaplain. He (Bro. Hervey) had not come prepared with any oration, but he would when the time came say a few words to them as to the nature and precepts of the Craft.

The other formalities having then been observed, Bro. Hervey said: Brethren, I stated to you just now that we (I may say "we," because I speak for my good friend on my left (Bro. Kingsford) and myself at the same time) are not prepared with an oration to address to you on the present occasion; therefore I will make my remarks very brief, as I am sure you will bear with me because I did not expect to be called upon to address you in what is technically termed an oration, which on this occasion will simply resolve itself into a few remarks. Brethren, the ceremony of consecration is eminently one which I think impresses itself, and ought to impress itself upon the memory of all those who are present when it is performed, because it inculcates, I may say, first, a reverence to the Great Architect of the Universe; secondly, it calls to our attention that kindness and brotherly feeling which ought to pervade the whole Craft; and thirdly, it impresses upon us the necessity of living in charity with all mankind. On the first of these points, brethren, I think I may almost be silent, because every one of the ceremonies of the Order have a direct reference to the Great Architect of the Universe, to whom we all owe our being, and by whose favor we are permitted here to assemble. It is especially, however, inculcated in the ceremony of consecration, because a lodge (every lodge) is dedicated to the Great Architect of the Universe, and is supposed to be opened in His name. Therefore the ceremony of consecration is not one to be looked upon lightly, but one that we ought to look to as a guide in some respects for our proceedings, as a support to us in the day of difficulty, and as something to look to in the day of account. With regard to our love for each other, it is strongly inculcated in all the psalms and hymns, and anthems, which are usually sung upon these occasions; and I think if we would look more especially with regard to our love for each other to the desire that every man ought to have to benefit his fellow creatures, which is most strongly inculcated in Freemasonry to act to each other as we would be done to, then we should go through the world in a much better fashion than we do now; we should hear of no dissent in lodges; we should hear of nothing but that harmony which is impressed upon us in every ceremony of the Order, and which ought to pervade every act of our lives. With regard to charity to all mankind, brethren, that again is inculcated in the prayers that you will hear to-day from my rev. friend to my left; and we as Masons ought to be especially careful in shewing to the world that we not only have a fraternal feeling to each other, but that our lives and characters are swayed by the principles we profess. And, brethren, I have on more than one occasion repeated to you the necessity, when I have consecrated a lodge I have hinted to the brethren of the new lodge the necessity of being careful whom they introduce into their ranks; because it not only is incumbent upon them that they should have good men in their own lodges, but it is also incumbent upon them that they should not permit to enter the Order those who are not fitted for us, and so encumber the Craft generally with men who ought never to have entered Masonry. And I must recur once more to a subject which I dare say more than one in this room have heard me mention before, and that is the principle of blackballing, which I am sorry to say is not done away with in the bodies of the Craft. I do not mean to say that if an unworthy man presents himself to a lodge the black ball should not be used (because that is what is ordained for us), but it is that principle that when a brother thinks his merits are overlooked, when he fancies when he is made J.D. he ought to be made J.W., and that he judges himself from a partial point of view, and not from the view by which he is judged by his brethren, he says, "My merits are overlooked; I will blackball every body proposed in the lodge; nobody shall enter the lodge when the present W.M. is in the chair; this is the principle I speak against; and I ask you, is that principle charity. Is it Masonry; or is it not the principle which we are told is so contrary to the spirit of our Order? But, brethren, that such may never be the case in this lodge I sincerely pray; but if a brother thinks that he is overlooked for one year let him wait for another year, and if he is a worthy brother; if he works; if he endeavours to make himself agreeable to the lodge generally, in time his merits will be acknowledged, and he will then be promoted to the highest offices in the lodge. Brethren, as I said before I did not come down here with any intention to make what is termed an oration to you, because of that I am not capable; and especially when I am called down suddenly to address a body of the brethren without any sort of preparation; but I know that you will accept a few practical hints from me from the position in which I am placed. I do not think I have said anything to you [which you will think out of place. I am quite satisfied that what I have said to you if it stops one black ball going into the box improperly then what I have said will have done good service; and I do trust that if any of the brethren round this room think that they have an objection to a man who is proposed, and it is a reasonable objection they ought to ask the brother who has proposed him to withdraw his name; and if he will not do it, then he must subject his friend to the disagreeable position of being blackballed. I do not think any man ought to be forced into any lodge against the wishes of its members; but at the same time don't let one—as I have known in some country lodges, and I could name two or three at the present moment—prosperous lodges, one being destroyed because one man has taken an objection to his not being brought forward, and he says very quietly, "Well the Master told me so and so; you shall not have any work during your year of office," and

he has carried it out. Now, I think it is a system which we ought to do our utmost to put an end to; and I trust that those who are around this room will endeavour to assist the authorities in so doing. Then they will do good service to the Craft and do good service to the lodge of which they are members. (Applause.)

The ceremony was afterwards proceeded with, and the lodge was duly constituted, consecrated, and dedicated, an excellent service of music accompanying the established form of procedure.

At the completion of this ceremony, Bro. Thomas Mortlock, D.C., by direction of Bro. Hervey, presented to him Bro. Charles Lacey, P.M. of No. 174 and several other lodges, as the W.M. designate for installation, and Bro. Hervey according to ancient custom placed him in the chair of King Solomon.

After the formal congratulations and salutations Bro. Lacey, W.M., invested the following brethren as his officers, Bro. Rawley being elected Treasurer and Bro. Steedman, Tyler:—Bros. George Huggett, S.W.; George Hollington, J.W.; George Ward Verry, Sec.; G. J. Anning, S.D.; Dunstan, J.D.; Kendall, I.G. J. Wood, D.C.; and Maud, W.S.

Bro. Hervey delivered the addresses, and subsequently on the motion of the W.M., seconded by the S.W., he was unanimously elected an honorary member of the lodge.

Bro. Hervey having thanked the brethren for the compliment, Bro. Verry read out a list of names of gentlemen proposed for initiation and of brethren for joining.

The Treasurer proposed, and the J.W. seconded, a vote of thanks to Bros. Buss and Binckes for assisting, and also that they should be elected honorary members of the lodge; and this having been likewise carried nem. con., both these brethren acknowledged the vote, and the lodge was then formally closed.

Banquet was subsequently provided, and after the brethren had thoroughly enjoyed the excellent repast, which was provided in capital style by the proprietor of the Royal Hotel, the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed.

Bro. John Hervey, in reply for "The Grand Officers," thanked the lodge for their recognition of the services of these brethren, and then said he would give a toast which the brethren at the table would receive, if possible, with more enthusiasm than they had received the toast of the Grand Officers. He was sure that if there was a toast which justified enthusiasm it was that which he was about to propose. He had asked the W.M. in a semi sort of way whether he might do so, and as the W.M. did not say no, he took that non-negative for an affirmative. The brethren, one and all, more especially the members of that lodge, would agree that they had a W.M. who they thought fitted for the position which he was called upon to occupy for the next thirteen months; and they had chosen him because they liked him, and thought he was the right man in the right place, who could perform his duties not only to their satisfaction, but to that of the Craft in general. He was sure that the members of the lodge weighed well their choice before they submitted their petition to the M.W.G.M., and he was satisfied that when they had submitted that petition they did not regret that they had done so. To-day they had seen their wishes consummated, and the Master of their choice placed in the chair to which he (Bro. Hervey) was sure he would be an ornament, and which he was so capable of filling. Coming down into that part of the world (it was a different part of the world to the West-end; it was a different part of the world to the still further eastern portion of London), they found that in that locality Bro. Lacey was well known and well respected; and from the position which he filled that evening it was evident he was not only well respected, but well beloved by his brother Masons. (Hear, hear.) What more could he say about Bro. Lacey? He thought, nothing. He could only say, as far as he was concerned, he wished him every good wish which men could frame one for another during the ensuing year. He trusted that he would have good health to perform the duties which would devolve upon him, and that he would be supported by his brethren in the manner in which he deserved to be supported. When he retired from the chair no doubt it would be found that he had earned the good-will and satisfaction of all the brethren. (Cheers.)

The W.M. said he could scarcely find words to convey his gratitude for Bro. Hervey's kind expressions; but he would pledge himself to this, that in the Tredegar Lodge he would do his utmost to promote its welfare; and as the brethren had thought fit to entrust him with the responsibilities of his exalted position as first W.M. of the lodge he trusted he would do justice to their confidence. At least he would do the best he could; and when the time arrived for some other brother to take his position he hoped that his own occupancy of the chair would not cause any brother to regret the choice he had made. He thanked them one and all, but more especially Bro. Hervey for his kind expressions with regard to the W.M.

The W.M. next proposed "The Consecrating Officer," Bro. Hervey on his left, because that brother had discharged very important duties that evening, viz., the consecration of the lodge. It was fortunate for the brethren that they had a brother who was so well distinguished in Freemasonry to come down to the east end of London to set them as it were upon their legs. He (the W.M.) had been greatly pleased to have such an eminent Freemason as Bro. Hervey to come down to the extreme east. When Bro. Hervey had seen what the brethren's intentions were, he hoped he would soon come down again, and it would be a great gratification to all the brethren of the lodge to have such an eminent member of the lodge once more among them. He was sure that Bro. Hervey appreciated the compliment they had paid him in enrolling him as one of their members. Bro. Hervey was so well known that it was quite unnecessary for him (the W.M.) to say more; but he wished that Bro. Hervey might be

spared to a good old age and enjoy all the blessings which might be showered upon him. (Cheers.)

Bro. Hervey said he knew when he returned thanks for "The Grand Officers" that there was another which he might say, unfortunately for himself and for the brethren, he would have to reply to, and which would come more home to his feelings than that of the Grand Officers. He felt that the present toast had been given and responded to by the brethren in his favour, not as a Grand Officer, but as one of themselves, as one who partook of their labours, who was glad to mix with them whenever the opportunity offered of doing any service to the Craft, and as one who hoped and believed that he was well and cordially affected by his fellow Masons. In that position he then found himself, and he thanked the W.M. and the brethren of the lodge for the kind reception they had given him. An observation had been made about his coming into the east of London, from which it would almost appear that that was his first appearance beyond the Royal Exchange. He assured them that such was not the case. Some years ago he consecrated the Beacontree Lodge, of which he had the honour of being an honorary member, and if circumstances would permit he trusted he should see his good friend on his left in a prominent position in that lodge before many weeks were over. He also had the honour of consecrating the Langthorne Lodge, of which the W.M. (Bro. Lacey) was the first Master. He also consecrated the Burdett Coutts Lodge; and therefore he did not think they could fairly say that this was his first voyage to the east. He had come down that day with very great pleasure to consecrate the Tredegar Lodge, for in that neighbourhood this was the third appearance of Bro. Lacey in the character of first W.M. He (Bro. Hervey) was proud to say he was an honorary member of all the lodges he had named, and whenever the opportunity arose for him to visit them he was always well received. In conclusion he could only thank the brethren for the compliment they had paid him, and he thanked them also for the kindness with which he was received, and which in the Beacontree, the Burdett Coutts, and the Langthorne he always experienced. (Applause.)

The W.M. proposed "The Masonic Institutions" for one of which—the Aged—Bro. Verry, will represent this lodge as Steward at the next festival.

Bro. G. W. Verry, Secretary, responded. His name had been associated with these Institutions for years past, and he hoped it would be as long as his life was spared. He should be very proud to be the first Steward of this lodge in February next, and he felt convinced that with the assistance of the W.M. and the brethren he would be enabled to take up a very good list. He had now £50 to start with, and he knew he would be able to get "three figures," if he could not get more. Rest assured, as long as he had been known to Bro. John G. Stevens, and the other "Masonic beggars" at the East End of London, he was proud to be connected with them, and they would all be proud to keep up their reputation of being "the Masonic beggars of the East End of London." (Great cheering.)

The other toasts were disposed of, and the brethren then separated, having made a most successful debut as a new lodge.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.

The monthly meeting of the General Committee of this Institution was held on Thursday at Freemasons' Hall. Bro. Lieut.-Colonel Creaton, V.P., presided, and there were likewise present Bros. A. H. Tattershall, W. Stephens, F. G. Baker, Robert B. Webster, Jesse Turner, Henry Browne, Thomas W. White, H. Massey ("Freemason"), Thomas Massa, H. A. Dubois, F. Binckes, Major Finney, and R. W. Little (Secretary).

Three petitions were received, and one was deferred for further information from the lodge of which petitioner's father was a member.

The Chairman said that it was quite time now that they thought of the laundry at the institution. The other work was going on very well, and it was now the proper time to move for getting the sanction of a Court of Governors and subscribers to the building of the laundry, or they would drive the work into the winter. For the information of the brethren he might say that he had given notice to the Secretary to convene a Special Court at the earliest convenient opportunity to take the subject into consideration.

Bro. Browne asked if the drawings were ready.

The Chairman said they had a rough drawing of the intended works.

Bro. Massa said the design was ready but the proper drawings would have to be prepared.

Bro. Jesse Turner asked whether the new buildings could be fitted with the latest improvements in machinery.

The Chairman replied that everything would be done in the best way.

Bro. Binckes asked whether a Special Court was required. Although himself not generally accused of having economical ideas, he was averse to expense, and he knew the expense of convening the special meetings.

The Chairman observed that it was necessary to have a special meeting on account of the time, and at the October Quarterly Court the brethren would have plenty to do without having the subject of the laundry to consider.

It was then arranged to call the special meeting for Saturday, the 9th inst., at twelve o'clock noon.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman closed the proceedings.

COMMISSION ON MONEY ORDERS.—A sum of £22,669 os. 9d. was produced in the last financial year by commission on money orders.

ARCHÆOLOGY.

We have recorded in our last two impressions portions of the proceedings of various Archæological Societies, and we should have been glad if our space permitted us to give these reports more in detail. For we feel that, despite sometimes the apparently trivial intent of some tedious papers of some good friends of ours, there is no study which has after all a greater charm for the educated and intelligent, no greater claim on the good will and gratitude even of mankind. For, as the late Bishop of Winchester so well said at Winchester in 1845 (he was then Bishop of Oxford) in words which we shall probably have forgotten, and it may do us good to be reminded that what archæology and archæologists "profess to be is neither small nor unimportant." On the contrary, let us take first of all his striking exposition of this goodly study and pursuit:—

"Assuredly the first idea of our pursuit is noble: we profess to believe in the fellowship which, for all the generations of men, runs through all times. We know that we now are what all those bygone ages have made us to be; and we will not be fooled by the visible intrusive present, into believing that we, and our objects, and our days, are all, or the greatest things. We see that we are a link in the golden chain which reaches from the beginning to the end. We protest against the old reproach, which likens Time to the beggar 'putting good deeds, as alms, into the wallet at his back for mere oblivion.' We declare that to 'have done' shall no more be 'to hang quite out of fashion, like rusty mail in monumental mockery.' We know that there was a life—a true-acting life—in those old times, showing itself forth in those old deeds; and what that life was, we desire earnestly to know. We wish to see it in its own lights and shades; not with the bird's-eye view which may be caught from some distant eminence; but even as it really was,—with its strength and its weakness,—with its beauties and its defects; and for this we know that we must look at it with a loving earnestness;—with love, for to nothing but love will that veiled past reveal its reverend features,—and with earnestness, for it is only by the careful study of its every lineament that we can fashion forth its mysterious countenance. This is our purpose,—to reproduce before our eyes those old times: and therefore is it that we would watch with such a brooding care over every relique, be its outward circumstance in itself beautiful or deformed; for, so that it be not tampered with, and taught a new tale, it is a witness of that which was, and is not,—of that which we would fain recal; and therefore do we pore into its dust; not as if that dust was precious in itself, but precious for the witness which it bears,—precious as the coat of down upon the virgin and unhandled fruit; telling us, that so indeed Time left it, with this cunning overlaying which should bear silent but undoubted record of any stolen visits of the artfullest intruder.

"And therein is the true value of these ancient reliques; and it is for their lack of such particulars and epitomes and compendiums are noted by the sagacious Bacon, as 'the corruption and moths that have fretted and corroded many sound and excellent bodies of history, and reduced them to base and unprofitable dregs.' For by the ministry of such soft, unobtrusive, and often unregarded voices is borne, if any where, to watching ears the message of the Past; that strain of power and mystery and beauty to which the fool is deaf, but which sounds so sweetly to the wise of heart, and which sounds and enlightens its wisdom within her secret cells. Therefore is it that with curious eyes we would scrutinize every trace of the manners of those who went before us,—that we have dared with no irreverent familiarity to open their mysterious barrows,—that we peer into their dust,—that every common vessel which they used, every coin, every monument, and every ancient grave has a charm for us, because in these lingers for us something of their household words and household deeds;—of the thoughts which they were thinking, and the acts they wrought; because in them the men, as they were, revive before us, and help us by stronger spells than those of fancy, to reconstruct, out of its wasted ashes, the busy active past."

We think that words can hardly be found better to express both the value and the need of archæology, and they deserve to be affectionately remembered and carefully thought over by us all, by us who once heard them, or know them well, by those by whom up to the present time they were altogether unknown. And nowhere is the enforcement of the practical result of archæology more clearly set forth than in the eloquent words of the Bishop, which follow. We cannot, unfortunately, do full justice to his entire argument, but we give a portion.

"The record of the past is the bond of the present—one language, one faith, one history, one ancient birth-place, one common, mysterious, unsearched original—these are the strong sinews which hold together, in a living unity, the many separate articulations jointed to each other to form a people and a nation. And in such an age as this, any pursuit which tends to strengthen these ties, cannot surely be without its practical importance. But there is more than a security for love of country in this living on of the past into the present; for, without an accurate knowledge of the past, all attempts to improve and raise the present must be, to a great degree, shallow and empirical. Whether we know it or not, the past and present are indeed thus linked together. We are the present phase of that great past which our forefathers were; it lives in us. There, in seed, and bud, there, in fore-act and beginning, are our virtues and our vices—there are the promises of which we are the fulfilment or the falsifying;—then were drawn in honourable faith those bills on coming time which we are in such peril of dishonouring. In our institutions, in our manners, in our language, that old past is still with us. And if we would mend the present around us, we must see from what its errors and defects have arisen; we must know our fathers' lives and their habits of thought, to understand their plan, and without this knowledge we cannot carry on their counsels, or perfect meetly what they have well begun; or supply by our long experience whatever of weakness or confusion crept through human infirmity into their strong schemes; or take up, before it be too late, any threads which they have suffered carelessly, or unawares, to slip. And this knowledge cannot possibly be too observant and particular; without such particularity and closeness we shall act like children, turning hoarded diamonds into counters for their play, or like the degenerate Chinese, handling with blank stupidity the philosophical machinery their fathers framed for cunning use. The want of this knowledge makes men innovators who would be improvers, and turns into destroyers those who would restore. So that they who are most apt to remind us of the undoubted truth that "the old age and length of days of the world should be accounted antiquity; and ought to be attributed to our own times, not to the youth of the world which it enjoyed amongst the ancients: for that age, though, with respect to us, ancient and greater, yet with regard to the world was new and less;"—they who most enforce this truth upon us have the most need to pay to these before us their due regard; for their own claims to be the true ancients is that they have succeeded to the wisdom which has gone before them; their own hope of overlooking common barriers comes from this, that they are mounted upon other men's shoulders, and have a higher range of view—but to put forward that claim with truth they must at least be on those shoulders; they must have entered 'into other men's experience. In truth, these two, the past and future, are correlatives each to the other—and, as we may see plainly marked in infancy, no man has a future unless he have a past. Infancy and early childhood hath no past and it hath also no future. To its unformed eye and untaught power of judgment, all is present time; it must get to itself a past, and in getting that it opens to itself a future; and so, more or less, it must be with all men. It is on the mouldering monuments of earlier days that we learn to decypher the mystic characters in which alone the lay of the future is written for our searching out. So important for a reasonable patriotism, so essential to an instinctive love of country, and so truly the foundation of all

rational improvement and renewal, is that full and accurate acquaintance with earlier times of which it is indeed our great object to study and preserve the records. And as the Bishop puts it so do we to-day take up the study of archæology.

"Into that old past we love to look, because in it was life; into it we dare to look, because that life is now in us—and that same gift we do believe we may pass to those beyond us. We, too, may and shall be ancients, and matter for history. Let us yield ourselves with what freedom we may to the working of the power within us, and our deeds will harmonize with those wrought by the same power, through the noble spirits who have been before us. Let us only use them as examples and incentives, and not feebly and blindly copy them as models. Let us visit the scenes of their departed greatness, not to array ourselves idly out in their worn-out customs, but that, having ears to gather up the whispers of their oracular advices, we may, by our own skill in art, by boldness in execution, fashion for ourselves the outward circumstances we need."

Feeling, ourselves, deeply the value and importance of archæology generally, on the principles, too, so well laid down by that lamented and able prelate, Samuel Wilberforce, we propose in our next to consider the need and practical good of Masonic archæology.

BRITISH ARCHÆOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION.

Sunday, of course, was a dies non, so far as concerns the sittings of the congress proper; and fortunately so, for it rained heavily till the early part of the forenoon. A considerable number of the party, however, had been invited by the guide on Saturday, Mr. W. C. Borlase, the nephew and successor to Dr. Borlase, the Cornish antiquary, to pay him an afternoon visit at his seat of Castle Horneck, about a mile from the western extremity of the town. Here an agreeable surprise awaited them, for, on reaching his hospitable doors, they found that he had turned his dining-room into a temporary museum, where he had laid out in exquisite order, and had carefully labelled and ticketed, one of the best and largest private collections of antiquities to be found in the kingdom—a fitting compliment to his work on Cornwall, "Nenia Cornubiensis," which he published not very long after coming of age, to say nothing of lesser works in the same direction. He acted as interpreter on Saturday at the Boscaen circle, and at Rosemodres. It would be impossible here to give even an approximate list of the many articles of interest, ranging from the Cornubia of "prehistoric" times down to modern curiosities brought back lately from Japan in Her Majesty's ship Challenger, which were either hung on his walls or laid out upon the tables and sideboard. First, for the special delectation of ladies of antiquarian tastes, was a selection of foreign and English lace, including several specimens taken from the robes of French ecclesiastics, and some English lace of the 15th century, which represented Adam and Eve in Paradise. Here, too, was a delicate lace cap worn by Margaret of Anjou, and given by her as a token of gratitude for services rendered to her in distress to a maternal ancestor of the Borlase family. Then there was a magnificently carved trousseau chest of formidable size from Holland, dated about 1620, and capable of holding all the clothes of even two young ladies of the present day. Its three panels were "charged," as the heralds would say, with a representation of scenes from the story of Esther and Mordecai, in bold relief. Then the party were shown a variety of cinerary urns and other sepulchral and domestic furniture, celts and flint weapons, mostly taken from barrows dug up and excavated by the host in the far west of Cornwall (though some few came from Oxfordshire and elsewhere); blocks of tin from the Jews' House near Marazion; roughly modelled lamps used by Cornish miners about the reign of King John, stone jars containing coins of Constantius, supposed by Mr. Borlase to belong to the third century (though Mr. Bloxam, it is only fair to say, dissented from this opinion); specimens of Roman, Samian, and Etruscan pottery, iron spear-heads, hammer heads of stone, certainly anterior to the Saxon times, stone lacrymatories or tear-bottles, Roman lamps, scarabæi, necklaces, bracelets, clasps, and other articles for the fastening of female apparel, &c. With these were several ecclesiastical antiquities, the most interesting of which, perhaps, was a small wooden crucifix, roughly and rudely carved, which is said to have belonged to the Prior of Lewes in the time of the Conqueror, and is thought by Mr. Bloxam to be as early as the 11th century in date. We were also shown a piece of human skin, probably that of a sacrilegious Dane, which had been nailed, some eight or ten centuries ago, on a church door in Essex. We say nothing of the miscellaneous assortment of iron spear-heads, and of flint instruments of war, of the chase, and of agriculture, but will only add that the gem of the whole collection seemed, by general consent, to be a magnificent vase of Etruscan workmanship—far larger than any specimen in the British museum—adorned with pictures of animals. It is of very ancient date, and is supposed to be unique, or almost so. Mr. Borlase showed us, also, at least one jar or urn containing coins of the early Emperors, taken from one of the neighbouring hut villages—a fact which, as one of the party remarked, would almost seem to warrant the supposition that the dwellers in these rude subterranean cavities

in Cornwall were not only civilised, but possibly even antiquaries.

Among the literary treasures of Castle Horneck were displayed five or six volumes of MSS., collections of Dr. Borlase, including two autograph letters of Pope relating to Cornish spars, contributed by the Doctor in order to adorn the poet's grotto at Twickenham; a fine copy of the "Romance of the Rose," with Horace Walpole's Strawberry-hill book plate; a Cornish translation of the miracle play of "The Creation of the World" (1698); a very early edition—possibly the editio princeps—of "Jack the Giant Killer;" sundry early Missals and Horæ; and a rough manuscript note-book of the Herald who made the visitation of Cornwall in 1620, illustrated with the bearings of most of the "County Families" of that date.

Monday was devoted to an excursion to St. Just, in the neighbourhood of the Land's End. In their way thither they stopped to examine the celebrated Castle and Cromlech of Chywoone, here universally known among the natives by the abbreviated name of Choone or Chûn. As these lay at a considerable distance off the high road, and as the tracks across the moors in these parts are scarcely suited to vehicles, the party were obliged to leave their carriages and trust to their feet to take them to their destination. But they were well repaid for their labour in the ascent, the view on all sides being a perfect panorama, and the castle being almost an unique specimen of the transition from the rude cliff-castles which so commonly fortify and isolate the bold headlands of this and other coasts to the earlier structures introduced by the Normans. Although it was constructed entirely of rude stones, put together without any mortar or cement, and has probably crowned the height on which it stands for the best part of 2000 years, yet its plan and outline are still quite distinctly traceable. It forms almost a complete circle, being about 180 yards long by 170 broad, and is surrounded by a double line of circumvallation and a fosse. The entrances to the outer and the inner circles are both perfect, the stones which flanked them being still in situ. The inner gateway, however, does not face the outer—an arrangement which must have added to the strength with which it could resist assailants. In the inner circle, the divisions of the huts—either for the warders, or more probably for the cattle driven into them in times of danger—are still distinctly traceable, and the well which supplied the castle with water can be made out. A hundred years or more ago, when Dr. Borlase wrote, its inner walls were 7 ft. or 8 ft. high, and its outer walls nearly double that height; the fosse, too, was deeper than now. But the effects of wind and storm, and the visits of thoughtless holiday-makers, and the depredations of neighbouring cottagers and farmers have largely reduced the walls in bulk. It is to be hoped, however, that an end will be put to this wanton desecration of what "Murray" still calls "by far the best example of a hill-castle remaining in the West," by placing it in the schedule of antiquities to be protected by Sir John Lubbock's Bill. "In the erection of this curious and singular structure," Mr. J. T. Blight writes, "stones of great size were used, carefully huilt together, and at some parts tall uprights were placed at tolerably regular distances; then large blocks were laid horizontally between them, and on these again courses of smaller stone." He adds that other specimens of the same style of building may be found at Bosulow, close by, and on the Downs of Zennor; but neither of these can bear comparison for a moment with the magnificent castle to which the party were introduced on Monday by their guide and interpreter, Mr. William C. Borlase. Distant from it about a quarter of a mile stands a very perfect, though not very large cromlech, called also the Chywoone or Chûn Cromlech. The party walked to it across the moor while luncheon was being prepared, and were enabled to inspect it at their leisure. Mr. Borlase said that he had cleared out the interior of the cromlech, and had dug to the depth of a few feet below it, and had found so many cinerary traces that he had no doubt whatever of its having been intended as a sepulchral monument. He considered it probable that it was nearly coeval with the castle, an opinion which appeared to find general acceptance. He informed them also that it was originally embedded in the soil, being covered over with earth, which had gradually been worn away and had left its huge stones bare in consequence. This cromlech is nearly 12 ft. square and about 6 ft. high. The huge stone which covered it and its four supporters all remain in their original position, one of the latter being largely out of the perpendicular. That it is in so good a state of preservation may possibly be the effect of a circular causeway of lesser stones which surrounds it, rendering the earth firm and solid on every side. Besides Mr. Borlase's vivâ voce descriptions of these two relics of antiquity, there was read a paper on "The Cornish Megaliths," by the Rev. W. C. Lukis, for which the thanks of the Association were voted, though some of his conclusions were questioned by individual members.

Having lunched upon the open moor, in a tent, the party made their way back to their carriages and pressed on for St. Just, where it was originally intended that they should have partaken of their midday meal. While their horses were baited, they were conducted behind the inn to a curious amphitheatre, nearly circular, and about 125 ft. across, which Dr. Borlase and other writers of the last century mention as having been nearly perfect in their day. Being appropriated to the local wrestling matches which are held here at Easter and Whitsuntide, its distinctive features are now being sadly worn away, and it is feared that unless something is done soon to preserve the site, it will be lost beyond recovery. There are now no remains of the six tiers of stone steps which were there in 1760; and the raised terrace which surrounds it, instead of rising 10 ft or 12 ft. above the level of the adjoining ground, is now reduced to barely 3 ft. Nevertheless, this very amphitheatre was the place in which the chief Cornish miracle plays were performed in the pre-Reformation

times, just as the "Passion Play" is now performed at Ober-Ammergau. As Mr. Norris writes in his work on the "Ancient Cornish Drama," "The bare granite plain of St. Just, in view of Cape Cornwall and of the transparent sea which beats upon the magnificent headland, would be a fit theatre for the exhibition of what in those days of simplicity would appear to be a serious representation of the general history of the Creation, the Fall, and the Redemption of Man, however it might be marred occasionally by passages of a light or even of a ludicrous character. The mighty gathering of the people from many miles around, hardly showing like a crowd in that extended region, where nothing grows up to limit the view on any side, with their booths and tents, so absolutely necessary when so many people had to remain for three days upon the spot, would give to the assembly a character probably more like what we hear of in the so-called religious revivals in America than of anything witnessed in more sober Europe." This account tallies exactly with what the party were told upon the spot by the Rev. Mr. Lachsmymra, who stated that within the last few years there had been brought to light a real Cornish miracle play, legendary rather than scriptural in character, and which had been printed with the stage directions, just as it doubtless was performed some four centuries ago in that very amphitheatre. As the rough miners, their wives, and their children crowded round eagerly to hear the reverend gentleman's explanations, it was not difficult to conjure up mentally a picture of the scene which that same spot must have presented in days when miracle-plays were among the recognized methods of religious instruction for the unlettered multitude, when parochial and Board schools were not in existence. From the amphitheatre the party crossed to the church, named, as "Murray" and the other guide-books tell us, after St. Just, one of the followers of St. Augustine, but, if we may trust Mr. Lachsmymra, probably after a Saxon Saint of the same name. The church itself is a handsome perpendicular building of three aisles, remarkable for having once had a double, or, possibly, a triple, rood-loft, and for two curious relics of an early date embedded in its walls. The one of these is a portion of a cross, with ornamentation, of a pattern often found in the Isle of Man, and for which the vicar of the parish claimed a very high antiquity; the other is a slab of granite, now at the north of the Communion table, inscribed with the legend "Silus ic jacet," and adorned with a pastoral staff and a cross. This is probably the monument of some Cornish Bishop of the early Saxon times, when Bishops were migratory, not local magnates and dignitaries. The flamboyant east windows of the aisles and the finely carved capitals of the pillars in the nave also attracted considerable attention; and the details of the church elicited a discussion which was only brought to an end by the sounding of the horn which summoned the party on to the cave dwellings and barrow at Chapel Fyny, their next halting place. There they were again obliged to quit their carriages and find their way over rough boulders of granite and broken stones, scattered amid the heather, to these celebrated subterranean abodes. These, which have lately been cleaned out by the care of Mr. Borlase, all the original features, however, as far as possible being preserved, are about 3 ft. in length, and consists of one large chamber and another circular one about 10 ft. across, which is constructed of rude stone masonry, almost in the shape of a beehive. The two or three top layers, consisting of the largest stones, are alone wanting to its completeness.

After returning home the Congress held an evening sitting in St. John's-hall, where papers were read by Dr. Phene, on "The Dragon of Cornwall;" by Mr. J. R. Planché, on "The Earls of Cornwall;" by Mr. Tucker, (Rouge Croix), on "The Ancient Dukes and Duchy of Cornwall;" and by Mr. Morgan, on "The Navies of Ancient Britain, especially in Cornish waters."

To the report in the "Times" of Monday it might be added that at the upper part of John's-hall there was a table, on which were set out specimens of various antiquities of a very early date, illustrative of the paper on ancient Baalistic worship, read by the Rev. S. Mayhew, F.S.A. These, however, were mostly found, not in Cornwall, but at various depths in the London soil. Among them were "A Druid's Egg" (an object of worship), with the twin serpents, dug up in Clerkenwell; an ivory carving of a calf, dug up in Thames-street; a piece of Phœnician glass and a charm in the shape of a date, an armlet of glass adorned with white enamelling, and a bronze armlet in the form of a snake, both found in Thames-street; and two ingots of Celtic bronze, about 13 in. in length, both of which were said to have been found at some distance below the surface in the neighbourhood of Bishopsgate.

MEDALS FOR INDIA.—The Prince of Wales' medals, intended for presentation to the Native Princes and Chiefs, which have lately arrived from England, have been made over by the Foreign Department to the Calcutta Mint, for the purpose of having the names of the recipients engraved upon them. They are about 64 in number—namely, 16 of pure standard gold, each weighing about 8 sicca weights, and 45 medals of pure silver. On one side of the medal is the Prince's image, and on the other his Royal Highness's plumes, with the date of his arrival in India. The gold medals are intended for the Nizam of Hyderabad, Sir Salar Jung, Sir Jung Bahadoor, Maharajahs of Jey-pore, Gwalior, Indore, Benares, Jodhpore, Punnah, Rewah, Vizianagram, Oodeypore, and others. The silver medals, we believe, are to be presented to the several petty chiefs and sirdars of Oude and the North-Western Provinces, as well as to a native gentleman of Calcutta.—"Times of India."

DAYLIGHT reflected in dark rooms. Gas superseded in day time. Health, comfort, and economy promoted by adopting Chappuis' Patent Daylight Reflectors.—Manufactory, 69, Fleet-street, London.

THE CONGRESSES AT BRUSSELS.—Besides the Congress of Public Health and Safety to be opened at Brussels on September 27th under the presidency of M. Verwoort, a Geographical Congress has been summoned, under the auspices of the King of the Belgians, chiefly to discuss questions connected with South Africa, and with a view to take such practical measures as may be thought advisable at the congress. Sir Rutherford Alcock, President of the Royal Geographical Society, and Sir Henry Rawlinson, past President, have been requested by the Council of the Society to attend as delegates. Lieutenant Cameron is also expected to be present, in acceptance of an invitation to the Congress. About the 12th of next month is the date of the opening of the Congress, which is, as at present arranged, to be held in the Royal Palace. A Netherlands Congress, a kind of Flemish and Dutch Eisteddfod, being concerned with the literature, music, and language of those who speak the Gothic dialects in Holland and Belgium, is at present being held at Brussels. It was opened on Sunday by an address from M. Anspach, the Burgomaster of Brussels, who apologized for having to speak in French, and a concert was yesterday given in connexion with the Congress at the Ducal Palace in the presence of the Royal family. Meetings of school-teachers and of political economists are also arranged to be held this autumn at Brussels. It is announced that the Duc d'Audiffret-Pasquier will take part in the Congress on Health and Safety, which will be held in connexion with the Exhibition. The Belgian papers discuss the chance of their neutral and conveniently-placed city becoming the seat of a yet more interesting Congress—namely, that which may possibly be convened to discuss the conditions of peace in Eastern Europe.

AID TO THE SICK AND WOUNDED IN SERBIA.—The following medical men left London with tents and medical supplies for the sick and wounded Turks and Servians:—Dr. Armand Leslie, Mr. E. M. Little (St. George's Hospital), Mr. Brock, M.R.C.S., Mr. White, M.R.C.S., Mr. Bernard Pitts, and Mr. F. Barker (St. Thomas's Hospital). Mr. Lewis Farley, Secretary of the League in Aid of Christians of Turkey, 12, Great Winchester-street, E.C., has sent the following letter received from Miss Pearson:—"Schabatz, August 19.—Dear Mr. Farley,—Lieutenant Gordon has asked me to write to you to say that we arrived here, and found Dr. Thomas working with about 60 patients. We are appointed to the army of the Prince, and came here with General Alempits, its commander. He has ordered Lieutenant Gordon and myself to go to his head quarters at Badavinsky (the front line) to inspect the temporary hospital there and arrange for the transport of the wounded back on some central point, possibly Schabatz. He left his Aide-de-Camp, Colonel Alexovitch, to escort me. The correspondents of the "Standard" and "Manchester Guardian" go up with us. We shall see the Turks from thence. Colonel Alexovitch says there are 3000 wounded scattered about in the valley of the Drina in a wretched state, who require collecting and bringing in. Fighting is expected on the line of the Drina. Lieutenant Gordon will write to you from the front. We continue to like him very much. He is all you represented him to be. 9.30 p.m.—Just seen Gordon. More good doctors wanted and transport officers. Stores can be brought here. Send no nurses, unless thoroughly trained and over 30, speaking French and German. In great haste. A bodyguard of 100 men is placed at our disposition. With kindest regards from us all, believe me, yours most sincerely,—EMMA M. PEARSON." Her Majesty's Government have decided to send aid to the sick and wounded in the war at present raging in the East. 16 packages, weighing 2000 lb., marked with the Red Cross of Geneva, were dispatched from the Royal Arsenal at Woolwich, by the South Eastern Railway, for conveyance to the seat of war. The stores consisted of hospital tents and distinguishing flags. The tent hospitals are of the size of a large room, with accommodation for beds, chairs, &c., an outer tent enclosing an inner one, so as to exclude the strong rays of the sun, rain, and effects of variations of temperature; and altogether they form most comfortable hospitals for the sick and wounded. Each tent will be surmounted by hospital flags, at which no combatant troops must fire.

MUSEUM OF ARMS.—Another valuable gift was made to the town of Birmingham on Thursday by the transfer to the Corporation of the Museum of Arms established some two years ago by the Guardians of the Birmingham Proof-house in illustration of the history of the gun trade. The nucleus of the collection was formed by an Italian gentleman, the Cavaliere Callandra, who spent twenty years in collecting specimens in all parts of the world, and on his death it passed into the hands of an English gentleman, from whom it was ultimately purchased by the Guardians of the Birmingham Proof-house. Since that important additions have been made to it, and it is now regarded as the most valuable historical collection of small arms extant, furnishing a complete illustration of the gun manufacture from the first invention of firearms in the fifteenth century down to the present time. The Proof-house Guardians made a small charge for admission to the Museum, which operated against its public usefulness. The Birmingham Corporation, into whose possession it has now passed, will throw it open to the public free, and it is hoped that the many beautiful examples of old art metal work which it contains will beneficially influence other industries besides the gun trade. The presentation was formally made on Friday week by Mr. Buckley on behalf of the gun trade, and suitably acknowledged by the Mayor, Alderman Baker.

THE PASSAGE COURT, LIVERPOOL.—Mr. Thomas H. Baylis, Q.C., of the Northern Circuit, has been appointed to the post of Judge of the Passage Court, Liverpool, vacant by the death of Mr. Pickering, Q.C., Mr. Baylis was called to the Bar at the Inner Temple in 1856, and was made a Q.C. in 1875.

THE "MICHIGAN FREEMASON."

"Two more numbers only are necessary to complete the seventh volume of this journal, and it is quite time we draw our designs for future work. All things considered, the present year has been the most unpromising and unremunerative of any of the seven since the enterprise of publishing the Michigan "Freemason" was commenced. We remember, however, that it has been a year of great monetary depression, and many a business man who has laboured hard, lived economically, and managed with wonted shrewdness, finds himself without profits, while some have suffered loss, or been compelled to close business entirely. But a business cannot long be continued which does not yield a living compensation. And as this enterprise has not compensated either publisher or editor for the past two years, the grave question has forced itself upon us: shall the journal be continued? Never before, since it was issued, did we entertain for a single moment the idea of discontinuing it. Even when other Masonic journals of much merit were going to the wall, as for instance, "The Masonic Trowel," "The National Freemason," "The Masonic Mirror," "The American Freemason," "The Masonic Monthly," "The Mystic Star," "The Freemason," of St. Louis, "The New England Freemason," and "The Masonic News,"—all these, and others, have gone down since this journal was commenced; and yet, amidst such a mortality of Masonic publications, we have not entertained the thought of discontinuing ours, until the present unpropitious season. And even now we do not choose to entertain such a thought. Our most intelligent brethren say that such a step must not be taken—that "our 'Michigan Freemason' must be sustained at all hazards." The assurances of co-operation from such brethren give us courage, and we shall continue to battle for the journal, with the hope of better times at no great distance in the future. Within a short time we shall issue our prospectus for the eighth volume, with the hope that Masters of lodges will either take the matter of raising clubs in hand personally, or else see that reliable brothers are appointed agents, and that they have the needed co-operation. If proper efforts are put forth in the lodges, we have no doubt that a patronage may be obtained which will place this journal, not only on a living basis, but to give to its managers Masonic wages for their labour. We do not ask that a dollar be sent in for the eighth volume till the first number shall be issued and received by the subscribers. What we desire is this: Raise clubs and report them to us, if possible, by the last of September, so that we may know thus early about what number of subscribers we may rely on for the next volume. If possible continue the effort till twenty be obtained in each club. Of course all lodges cannot give us so large a club, but if we could have an average of twenty to each lodge we can greatly improve the journal, and expend 1000 dols. in the compensation of the best Masonic writers in Europe and America for acceptable original articles written expressly for the "Freemason." With such a patronage—and it amounts to less than one-quarter of the Masons in Michigan—with such a patronage we shall be enabled to send out a journal which would be second to none in the country. Brethren, is not an end so desirable, worthy of a zealous, persistent effort? We shall make one more effort on our part, and hope for success. But if a home Masonic journal is a thing desirable to have our brethren should support it without begging on our part. Much less should it be expected that the editor or publisher should be forced to enter the field and beseech the brotherhood for a support which should come promptly and voluntarily. The time of the editor should all be given to the work of his office, that his work may be done promptly and well."

[We have published the foregoing extract from our able contemporary, the "Michigan Freemason," on account of the facts it contains and the considerations it suggests. The progress of Masonic literature is in it cleverly depicted and forcibly illustrated. We trust that the manly appeal of our contemporary will be Masonically answered and warmly responded to. But we wish to call our readers' special attention, that amid a brotherhood 600,000 strong in round numbers, greater far than any we know here, are the fluctuations of Masonic literary prosperity and the ups and downs of Masonic literary efforts.—Ed.]

MY BROTHER.

The distinguishing practical feature of Freemasonry is that it is a true brotherhood. The endearing appellation of brother is bestowed upon the initiate the moment he is made a Mason, and it remains his throughout his Masonic life, until when the lamb-skin and evergreen are deposited in his grave, it is regretfully used for the last time. It expresses the very wholeness of Masonry. The word brother is as forceful in the Craft as the word mother is in the world—no other is so expressive. An eminent modern writer, Prof. Blackie, of the University of Edinburgh, has said: "'Honour all men' is one of the many texts of combined sanctity and wisdom with which the Holy Bible abounds; but this you cannot do unless you try to know all men; and you know no man till you have looked with the eye of a brother into the best that is in him."

"This is precisely what Freemasonry enables a man to do—it enlarges the circle of his acquaintance; it brings him into contact, not only with many men, but with individuals of different professions and occupations, thus widening the scope of his intellectual outlook and knowledge; and when in such companionship he scans every one with the gentle and considerate eye of a brother, constantly looking for the best that is in him."

Pliny truly said, "There is nothing more proud or paltry than a man." It is selfishness that thus belittles, and self-sacrifice that ennobles him. Freemasonry strikes

at the very foundation of selfishness, and seeks to root it out, and in its place to plant the noble seed of charity, thence to develop, until, like the wide-spreading light of heaven, it shall embrace both the Craft and the world. Whatever is paltry in a brother it seeks to eliminate, whatever in him is noble (of which it feels proud) it fosters. Many of the profane are generous; many Christians, Jews, and Mohammedans are benevolent; but only Freemasons are truly charitable—in thought, word and deed, not only willing, but anxious to rejoice with a brother in prosperity, and to help him in distress. The Freemason's life is a living sermon upon the text:

"Chief of the blessed three,
Heaven born Charity."

We are a band of brothers. In each other's society we are always at home, whether we be in an Arabian, an Indian, or an American Lodge. The fraternity spans all space and annihilates all distance. Avernethy, the eminent physician, was wont to say, that the two great killing powers in the world were stuff and fret. Masons will surely never be killed by fretting, for the social customs of the Craft are effectual in driving away dull care; and as for stuff, neither will it kill us, for now-a-days the Craft is not called off frequently enough from labour to refreshment—since we do not, as a rule, indulge in lodge suppers as an appendix to each meeting, but consider ourselves fortunate if we are regularly invited to an annual banquet.

The two continuing needs of a brother are more light and more charity. The great philosopher and Mason, Goethe, when dying, exclaimed, "More light!" and doubtless he received it as he was translated from earth to heaven. We need it on earth—and the lodge is a school of instruction where it is dispensed; but the lodge is not the only place of light. There is "more light" in the literature of the Craft. Every Masonic journal reflects the wisdom of the past and the best thoughts of the profoundest thinkers of the present, and bears its precious burthen of truth to the homes of the Craft. Those brethren who are not receiving this light are rejecting an inestimable source of enjoyment.

More charity! Much as we have of it, who does not need more? It makes the man, but more emphatically the brother, kind and genial in sympathy, and, in ever-increasing measure, will perpetually enrich our natures, here and hereafter. It is the corner-stone and cope-stone of Masonry. Without it, our moral architecture is a hideous ruin; with it, our spiritual temple is noble to behold,—a living edifice that shall endure through eternity as well as through time. Solomon's Temple and Herod's Temple are in dust, but the great souls of those that reverently reared them are now rejoicing in the presence of the Grand Master of the Universe. They were our brethren.

More "light" may be assuredly found by the Freemason in the first great Light in Masonry—the Holy Bible. It is not merely a book; it is a library. It has a galaxy of authors—the prophets and kings, the apostles and evangelists of the world—living, some of them, two thousand years apart, but all testifying to the truth. Their books are all bound in a single volume: if a brother be a man of but one book, and that book the Bible, he knows the best that is in all books. He has been illumined by the central Sun of the literary universe. He emphatically has "more light," which will unfailingly direct him amid "the eternal whirl of life" to the door of the Grand Lodge above.

My brother, physically, you are but dust—imitate it. The earth is charitable—it receives only to give. Sunlight and shower penetrate it, but not to be imprisoned. They feed the springs, and enrich the soil, that in turn produces the plenteous harvest.

According to the Stoics, the chief end of man is Spectare et imitari mundum—See to it that you imitate nature. The sun gives light—gives, mark you, not sells or trades. Be a sun yourself, to the fraternity and humanity. Oh, if you cannot be a sun, be a moon, reflecting the light of your brother Mason. Or, if neither sun nor moon, be a clod of earth, giving as well as receiving.—C. P. Mac Calla.

THE GERMAN ARMY.—The following manoeuvres and military practices of the German Army are to be held in the presence of the Emperor William:—September 1.—Grand Parade of the Corps of the Guard in the Tempelhofer Field, near Berlin. September 6.—Grand parade of the 12th (Royal Saxon) Army Corps in the plain of Pulgar, west of Röttha. September 7.—Corps manoeuvres of the same Army Corps near Magdeburg, on the Göselsbach. September 8.—Grand parade of the 4th Army Corps south of Morseburg, between Lower Beuna and the high road Morseburg, Weissenfels. September 9.—Corps manoeuvres of the same Army Corps to the south of Kötschau and Beuna. September 11, 12, and 13.—Field manoeuvres of the 4th and 12th (Royal Saxon) Army Corps in the district between Old Rannstädt, Morseburg, Quersurt, and Weissenfels. September 14.—Corps manoeuvres of the Corps of the Guard near Gross-Kreutz. September 15.—Grand Parade of the 3rd Army Corps in the Tempelhofer Field, near Berlin. September 16.—Corps manoeuvres of the same to the South of Berlin, in the neighbourhood of Mariendorf, Britz, and Buckow. September 18, 19, and 20.—Field manoeuvres of the Corps of the Guards and the 3rd Army Corps, to the south of Berlin. All arms will participate in these manoeuvres. One would imagine the Emperor feeling fatigued after all these exertions; but His Majesty proceeds next to Würtemberg to attend the manoeuvres of the Würtemberg Army Corps, and afterwards to Alsace for a like purpose.—"Whitehall Review."

ACTS OF PARLIAMENT.—From an official document it appears that in the late Session, 81 public, 234 local, and 3 private acts were passed. In the Session of 1875 the numbers were respectively 96, 215, and 7.

Obituary.

BRO. THOMAS HANDFORD, P.M. 742.

It is with feelings of the deepest regret, as well as of sympathy with his mourning relatives and friends, that we announce the death of Bro. Handford on Monday last at his residence, Crouch Hill, Hornsey, after a long and painful illness, borne with unflinching patience and resignation. Our lamented brother was initiated in the Beadon Lodge, and was one of the founders, and J.W. designate of the Crystal Palace Lodge, where he served the office of W.M. in 1860-61. His genial and benevolent disposition could not fail to endear him to a large circle of friends, in whose memories his warm-hearted amiability will long live.

Masonic and General Tidings.

The forthcoming volume of Mr. Emra Holmes' tales, poems, and Masonic papers appears likely to be very successful, judging by the large number of subscribers' names already received by the publishers. The price, 2s. 6d., no doubt, has a good deal to do with this, but the author is so well-known in Suffolk and Essex, and also in the North of England, where he resided for many years, that a collection of his miscellaneous papers would be sure to have a large sale. In addition to the names of distinguished noblemen mentioned in our paragraph last week, Earl Stanhope, to whom the book is dedicated, and who takes six copies, Lord Henniker, who takes two, the Earl of Carnarvon, and the Earl of Limerick, we hear that Lord Skelmersdale and Lord John Hervey subscribe for two copies each, Earl Nelson for four, and Lord Waveney, Sir Patrick Colquhoun, Q.C., LL.D. (late Chief Justice of the Ionian Islands), Sir Francis Doyle, Bart. (Commissioner of H.M. Customs and Professor of Poetry at Oxford), and other distinguished persons, express themselves as pleased to enrol their names as subscribers. Mr. Holmes derives no pecuniary benefit from the publication, having given the copyright to a literary brother Mason in distress.—"Woodbridge Reporter."

PRINTED BOOKS.—There has this year been a decrease in the weight and value of literature exported. The weight was 43,116 cwt., against 44,518, and the value £464,421, against £488,678.

CAPTURE OF A STURGEON.—The "Eastbourne Chronicle" reports that a large sturgeon was captured in a small tributary river of the Ouse, near Glynde, in about eighteen inches of water, by bargemen, who killed it with a barge hook. It was conveyed to Lewes and sold to a fishmonger. From snout to tip of tail it measures 5ft. 11in., and weighed 48lb. It must have got into shallow water during recent very high tides.

The Prince of Wales has presented a handsome gold watch and chain to Mr. John Nicholls, sen., pilot, of Southampton, who sailed the schooner Hildegard, His Royal Highness's yacht, when she won the Town Cup at Cowes.

Bro. H.R.H. Prince Leopold, R.W.P.G.M. Oxford, is to be at St. Andrew's during the competition week of the Royal and Ancient Golf Club.

Bro. His Grace the Duke of Abercorn, M.W. G.M., and Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland, with Lady Georgina Hamilton, visited the Royal Dublin Society's Horse Show on Wednesday.

Bro. Francis Knollys, Private Secretary to his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, has been appointed a Companion of the Order of the Bath.

The next meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of West Lancashire will probably be held in October at the Pomona Gardens, Manchester.

THE PRINCE OF WALES.—His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales will be the guest of Mr Christopher Sykes, M.P., at Brantinghamthorpe, Yorkshire, during Doncaster race week. It is understood that His Royal Highness will travel to Doncaster each day by special train, and drive to the course.

The session of the Stability Lodge of Instruction, held at the Guildhall Tavern, for 1876-7, commenced on Friday, the 1st inst., and will be continued every Friday evening, from 6 till 8 p.m., at the above address, till April, 1877.

H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M., has been pleased to grant a warrant for the constitution of the Stuart Lodge, No. 1632, to be held at the Surrey Masonic Hall. The date for the consecration ceremony has not yet been fixed, but it will take place on an early day. The officers designate are Bro. C. Stuart Barker, jun., W.M.; Bro. Walmsley, S.W.; and Bro. S. Brown, J.W.

Bro. Sir Gilbert Greenall, M.P., and Captain Egerton Wilbraham, M.P., assisted at the foundation-stone laying of a new church at Little Leigh, on Wednesday. Lady Leigh performed the duty of well and truly laying the stone, and Lord Leigh and the Hon. Miss Leigh were present.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.—Dangerous diseases would not present themselves very often if timely attention were bestowed on the first feelings which betray a departure from health. How many life-long maladies spring from neglecting trifling symptoms? The simple readily curable in the nursery becomes, through carelessness, the irremediable torment of after life. With a knowledge of the curative powers of Holloway's Ointment and Pills, and the facility and safety of their application, those who fail to use them for extirpating the first seeds of hereditary ailments will have to bear the punishment resulting from their folly. Holloway's remedy will remove eruptions of the skin, scrofulous disease, and acrofula, and heal every description of ulcer, sore, wound, or abrasion.—ADVT.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

COLONIAL and FOREIGN SUBSCRIBERS are informed that acknowledgments of remittances received are published in the first number of every month.

It is very necessary for our readers to advise us of all money orders they remit, more especially those from the United States of America and India; otherwise we cannot tell where to credit them.

NEW POSTAL RATES.

Owing to a reduction in the Postal Rates, the publisher is now enabled to send the "Freemason" to the following parts abroad for One Year for Twelve Shillings (payable in advance):—Africa, Australia, Bombay, Canada, Cape of Good Hope, Ceylon, China, Constantinople, Demerara, France, Germany, Gibraltar, Jamaica, Malta, Newfoundland, New South Wales, New Zealand, Suez, Trinidad, United States of America, &c.

TO OUR READERS.

The *Freemason* is a sixteen-page weekly newspaper, price 4d. It is published every Friday morning, and contains the most important, interesting, and useful information relating to Freemasonry in every degree. Annual subscription in the *United Kingdom*, Post free, 10/- P.O.O.'s to be made payable at the chief office, London.

TO ADVERTISERS.

The *Freemason* has a large circulation in all parts of the Globe, its advantages as an advertising medium can therefore scarcely be overrated.

For terms, position, &c., apply to
GEORGE KENNING, 198, Fleet-st.

Answers to Correspondents.

All Communications, Advertisements, &c., intended for insertion in the Number of the following Saturday, must reach the Office not later than 12 o'clock on Wednesday morning.

The "Freemason" of this week is printed on a better paper.

The report of the Provincial Grand Lodge of the North and East Riding of Yorkshire will appear in our next.

W.D.B.—We cannot answer your letter, we do not see why you have written to us.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

[The charge is 2s. 6d for announcements, not exceeding four lines, under this heading.]

BIRTHS.

ANDERSON.—On the 22nd ult., at Stanley House, Earley, Reading, the wife of Lieut.-Col. H. S. Anderson, of a son.

BULLEN.—On the 25th ult., at Chaucer House, Herne-hill, the wife of G. W. Bullen, of a daughter.

CLARENCE.—On the 28th ult., at Lindula, Ceylon, the wife of L. B. Clarence, Esq., of a daughter.

MATTHEWS.—On the 28th ult., at Penn-road Villas, N., the wife of L. Matthews, of a daughter.

MILBANK.—On the 28th ult., at The Grange, Bedale, Yorkshire, the wife of Powlett C. Milbank, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

ANDERSON—CLISBY.—On the 15th ult., at Sandbach, Cheshire, Julius, son of the late G. W. Anderson, of Hamilton-terrace, St. John's-wood, to Ellen Elizabeth, daughter of the late S. Clisby, of Sandbach.

SUTTON—LAWRENCE.—On the 26th ult., at the Church of St. George the Martyr, William T. Sutton, of Lawford-road, N., to Nellie Lawrence, of Queen-square, Bloomsbury.

TARN—BENNETT.—On the 16th ult., at Honolulu, John, son of the late W. Tarn, of Chislehurst, Kent, to Mary Gallett, daughter of the late O. Bennett, Judge of the Supreme Court of Michigan, U.S.

DEATHS.

BARKER.—On the 24th inst., at Hungerford, Charles Hemsted, son of R. H. Barker, Esq., aged 19.

BORMAN.—On the 27th ult., at 5, Bockstone-terrace, Southampton, James Borman, aged 64. Deeply regretted. Friends will kindly accept this intimation.

VIVIAN.—On the 29th ult., at Plymouth, the Hon. Robert C. Vivian, fourth surviving son of Lord Vivian, aged 22.

WAKEFIELD.—On the 26th ult., Herbert Wakefield, at 3, Mountford-road, Dalston, after a long and painful illness aged 30.

COSMOPOLITAN MASONIC CALENDAR.

W. Masters and Secretaries are earnestly requested to forward to the publisher, at the Offices, 198, Fleet-street, E.C., particulars of the place, days, and months, of meeting of their respective lodges, chapters, and other Masonic bodies, for insertion in the issue of the Calendar for 1877.

The Freemason,

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 1876.

THE NEXT QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION.

Many of our readers will have seen the agenda paper for the next Quarterly Communication, and there are some notices in it which seem to demand and deserve comment. Bro. R. J. Simpson, P.G.C., has given notice of a motion for the appointment of a committee, and also an alternative notice for the grant of £6000 for Scholarships to the Boys' School. Bro. Jabez Hogg curiously enough gives the same notice in almost the same wording, (peculiar in itself), and which we confess we do not understand. Bro. Simpson having carried a resolution for a committee, was bound, we think, to adhere to that, and not to commit Grand Lodge to a specific vote until after that committee had reported, if anything was to be done at all. We do not like, we feel bound to say, this system of alternative motions, which is not altogether respectful to Grand Lodge, and seems intended as a "sprat to catch a whale," and to obtain a vote of some kind at any price. It is a very serious amount which it is now proposed to give, and as far as we can see without conditions to the Boys' School. And to this we most decidedly object. If you like to found scholarships do so; but let the matter be gravely considered, and above all by those who know something about scholarships; but Grand Lodge must lay down the conditions on which such scholarships are to be founded and administered. The present propositions seems to us to be very haphazard and hasty, deficient in careful consideration of what is wanted by the School, of what is due to Grand Lodge, and the grant of so large a sum of money on such ill digested propositions (with every deference to our worthy Bros. Simpson and Hogg), does, we confess, not only startle us very much, but appears to us to be ill-suited to the dignity and business like dealings of Grand Lodge itself. We are among those who would have been glad if Grand Lodge had not incurred the charge of "Masonic selfishness," to which a grant to its own charities inevitably exposes it. It is, in fact, "robbing Peter to pay Paul," and we shall be sincerely rejoiced if the good sense and moderation of the members of Grand Lodge will extricate us from this dilemma by referring the whole matter to a competent committee, to be carefully and minutely considered as well for the original object of the motion which seems to be forgotten, to do honour to our Royal Grand Master, as to advance the interests of any particular institution, and the honour and character, and dignity of the Grand Lodge of English Freemasons.

MASONIC VULGARITY.

If there is one thing which ought to distinguish a Freemason more than another, it is that sense of gentlemanly feeling in all things, under all circumstances, which renders it impossible for him to forget what the French call so well the "bienséances" of society. A Freemason should always be elevated, so to say, above the petty, and jarring, and contemptible animosities of this life, should take a bold, free, generous, and high-minded view of men and things, and press on amid the opposing difficulties and often amazing contradictions of society in a self-supporting and serene spirit with a kind and unruffled disposition. It is idle to suppose that smooth seas and favouring gales are always to attend us on our journey through life. No, we have all to meet the unavoidable contingencies and conflicts of the way, and we shall all of us have to go through those numerous little vexations and worries which beset so thickly the high-road of the world, and which have often such a trying influence, and exercise such a heavy pressure on the feelings and temperaments of us all alike. It very often happens that here we are often headed in our path, so to say, by obstacles many and unwelcome. Our journey often becomes one of personal anxiety

and trouble, our motives are arraigned, our words travestied, our views derided, our efforts unappreciated, and we find very often, as we think, that ours are hard lines, in the feeling that often comes over us all alike at one time or another here, that we are misunderstood and ill-used. Then it is that molehills become mountains, and petty matters assume great proportions. It is not given to us all ways to command success, or see our own opinions prevail, and there are very few of us who have not from time to time to encounter, as we think, unjust opposition, unreasoning antagonists. It is a good thing for us all to bear this in mind, and to remember that Horace's advice, "servare mentem æquam," is as applicable to Freemasons now as it was for the Romans of his own generation, nay, as it is to all men really in all times. For it is here that the touchstone is applied to the true character of the Freemason, to that gentlemanliness of disposition, and word, and action which should always characterize us children of light. The vulgar-minded man (and we cannot suppose that Freemasonry, however privileged, is exempt from such an inflection), never learns to bear either rebuff or opposition patiently, peacefully. His is a limited mind, a narrow vision; obstinate prejudices, and a very high opinion of himself, and as a general rule the "petites miseres de la vie humaine," even its greater troubles, which pass by the elevated disposition, leave him complaining and angry, petulant and aggressive. Hence the usual "outcome" of all Masonic littleness is personality, vulgarity. It is sad that such a condition of things should exist at all among Freemasons, it is sadder often to note its effects on the lodge. We have to deplore every day that Freemasons so often exhibit much of personal feeling and angry animosity. We see them committing acts, we hear them using language, which is altogether unjustifiable and un-Masonic. Every now and then we have outbursts before us, so to say, of this Masonic vulgarity, which it is useful to note, in order to avoid and repudiate ourselves. Some pretentious youth, for instance, lectures an old P.M. on matters of which he is professedly ignorant. The old P.M. naturally resents the impertinence of sciolism, and the ignorance of inexperience, and this Masonic blossom has no other resource but personality. A Masonic writer whose style is of the very "feeble forcible" indeed, criticizes the arguments of some other writer, opposed to his peculiar theory, and as he has neither reason nor knowledge of the subject to back him up, at once resorts to personality. How many petty, narrow, vulgar sentences do we often read, all proceeding either from the writer's absolute ignorance, or his density, or his inaptitude, or his unconsciousness of logic, or his inability to appreciate bona fide convictions. Many persons, even brethren, hardly ever write without dipping their pen deep in the gall of personal virulence, of interested opposition, of that utter recklessness of scribbling which must cast a bit of mud at somebody. To many it seems to be impossible to hear two sides of a subject or to argue two sides of a question, and very often the slightest divergence of opinion is treated with an insolence which nothing can justify, and a vulgarity of utterance, whose only excuse is its utter weakness and worthlessness. And then again there are those who are always personal, and cannot help being personal. Everything with them is a personal question, and in vain you plead constitutional usage, in vain you suggest legal difficulties, all must either give way to the "sic volo sic jubeo," or "hey presto" you find yourself involved in a personal question. And we all know well what personal questions lead to in Freemasonry, how the breach widens, how the sore increases, until the normal conditions of these personal outbreaks seem to be violence and vulgarity. Nothing is so painful to the true Craftsman as to see Freemasons, like their outside antagonists, laughing to scorn the whole teaching of Freemasonry, and showing to the outer world what, no doubt, is ever true notwithstanding all things, that Freemasons are still at the best but weak and inconsistent mortals. We say all this because we believe firmly in our good old Order, in its true morality, its exalted professions, and its ennobling axioms, and because we sincerely deplore

any weaknesses, inconsistencies, and blunders or stumblings in its "alumni," which serve to blot its fair escutcheon, or to cast a doubt on the reality of its worth, and the truth of its claims to the good will and respect of mankind. Freemasons should ever seek to emancipate themselves from the false teaching and customs of the world. A Freemason should ever be kind and courteous, tolerant and patient, friendly and forbearing. If there be times, as times there are, when he is bound to assert his own dignity or to uphold his own self respect, let him do so calmly and consistently, but avoid carefully the exhibition of unseemly bitterness, or that Masonic vulgarity which is sometimes patent to all in the violence of some unhappy controversy, in the angry language of a vehement partizan, in the unseemly circulation of vindictive pamphlets, or in the agitated criticism of a vulgar personality.

THE VIOLENCE OF POLITICIANS.

Some of us may call to mind Beranger's famous "Plus de Politique," some of us may recollect Præd's happy adaptation, "No Politics To-day." And such a motto we feel is that which is ever appropriate to Freemasonry, inasmuch as it is an Order, great and numerous though it be too, utterly ignorant of political prepossessions and alien from political excitement. The memorable advice of our Royal Grand Master to keep clear of politics is advice which will commend itself to the good taste and right feelings of us all alike, whatever that "colour" may be which in the profane world is our "customary vanity." And as Freemasons we often gladly call to mind how well it is for us and ours that we know nothing of politics or politicians, quæ politics, quæ politicians. For at the best, for the most part, it is not, as we well know and clearly perceive, an ennobling pursuit, in itself, that of politics; rather it evokes too often the worst passions of humanity, develops some of the most grovelling proclivities which can either deaden the conscience or debase the weaker characteristics of man. That the study and pursuit of politics are necessary for us as citizens of a great country, quæ citizens, is perhaps true, but after all is said and done, in our opinion, those are the wisest who know the least of them, at least, in their absorbing claims on the time, on the purse, on the interest, on the ambition of us all. Parliamentary government cannot probably be carried on without the concurrent efforts of political partizans and coteries, but the tendency of all pure political enthusiasm is to exalt the individual and forget the many, to advance the interest of the clique, not the welfare of the nation—to give up, in fact, to "party what was meant for mankind." At the same time we say this, we are aware of the difficulty in a limited monarchy like ours, and under our free constitution, of any other "modus procedendi," except that of party combination, the "ins" and "outs," Government and Opposition; and however in the abstract we may see the evil of party politics, it is most difficult in the concrete to suggest a remedy or propose an amelioration. But to us as Freemasons all party politics are most distasteful and objectionable, in consequence of the violence they manifest and the personal diatribes they encourage. Freemasons are men of peace, tolerant, forbearing, sagacious, with professions of goodwill to all, and with a practice, let us trust, not altogether entirely antagonistic to their professions. Hence the tirades of party pamphlets, of the hybrid violence of stump orators or political windbags, of illogical partizans, are as ridiculous as they are detestable to Freemasons. We smile at the violent ravings of the political monomaniac, just as we are revolted by the vulgar personalities of the reckless partizan scribe. We abhor the insolence of party, just as we despise the venality of the hired maligner. And every now and then we see plainly to what lengths party will lead amiable men, and to what extremes the love of general or public notoriety will even induce the educated and refined to prostitute their talents and debase their antecedents in the unrestrained outpouring of personal virulence or party animosity. Those who are fair in everything else

here are most unfair when dealing with a political question, most unscrupulous in treating either of the motives or position of a political opponent. Let us take a very recent sad example of the unbridled licentiousness of party violence. Mr. Freeman is a writer well known to all architectural students. He is a person of great powers, much knowledge, and a great authority on ecclesiastical architecture and archæology. Mr. Freeman takes it in his head to enlighten the world and an admiring coterie on politics, and Mr. Freeman accordingly—as he was pretty sure to do—makes a "fiasco." Mr. Freeman might express his opinion, and we should listen cheerfully and confidently, whether as to the "Saxon Chronicle," or some moot point in ecclesiology, but the moment he began "ore rotundo," to mouth politics our motto becomes "hold hard." What business has Mr. Freeman to talk of two leading statesmen (be they who they may), in the tone he has thought proper to adopt to Lord Beaconsfield and Lord Derby, simply because he, Mr. Freeman, takes a special view of Eastern politics? Whence this unreasoning violence? this hopeless personality of utterance? What has Mr. Freeman written or done that we are to take his estimate politically of either, or of the situation as if he were alone infallible? When he calls Lord Derby the "Derby windbag," and says it "has burst," when he adds, "it is now lawful to speak freely of one of the dullest and most incapable of so-called statesmen," and when he declares that he is "dead to those parts of man's nature which lead to great and noble actions," all must feel, be we who we may, that this great authority violates every canon of truth, fairness, and propriety. When Mr. Freeman speaks of Lord Beaconsfield as one of whom it makes us "thankful that Englishmen have no part or lot in him, at all events that the commons of England have no part or lot in him," it becomes in truth the affectation of impertinent criticism, and the excess of personal vulgarity. How is Mr. Freeman qualified to pass such an opinion, and what is it worth? Does it not really represent the "unknown quantity," whether of political bluster or swagger, just as you like? So, as Freemasons, we must rejoice that we are saved from these amenities of political violence, and are happily at a distance from the plethora of political bitterness. We can admire all those statesmen, all the "Queen's Servants," be they who they may, of this party or that party, who do their duty manfully to their Sovereign and by their country, and we equally object to that unseemly violence of politicians which only sees good in some favoured leader, which will do neither justice to, nor have kindly consideration for, the motives, the toils, the conscientious convictions of others. Most strongly do we object to that enunciation of ex parte opinions and which on imperfect data ventures to make a personal attack on distinguished statesmen, and to put before us as an objective truth what is at the best only subjective, and that subjective, moreover, to the imperfect appreciation and highly-developed idiosyncrasy of the individual writer and speaker. All we are concerned for is a fair, reasoning, and a modest style of correspondence and utterance, "ex cathedra," in political matters, for in Mr. Freeman's case it simply assumes the appearance of unqualified opinions, and of personal and political violence, alike unreasoning and unfounded. We are among those who deeply sympathise with the "poor Bulgarians" especially, and are clearly alive to the harm of Turkish misrule and license. But surely such views and feelings do not require to be commended to the practical English mind by that unreasoning style of partizan incrimination which we have heard too much of lately, from those, too, who ought to know better, and, above all, by that excess of political violence, which in its hopeless personality is alike depressing to every thoughtful mind, and discreditable to the liberal sympathies and tolerant principles of Englishmen.

THE METROPOLITAN POLICE.

The annual report of the Metropolitan Police has just been presented to the Home Secretary,

and is a very interesting document. It seems that on the 31st December, 1875, the force under Col. Henderson's command consisted of 25 superintendants, 277 inspectors, 1080 sergeants, and 8875 constables. In all the force amounts to 10,227, but of these 674 are employed in the Royal dockyards and military labour, and 562 in various public departments, their services being paid for to the receiver of police. This body of men has to deal with a population of 3,266,987, and yearly increasing, and an area of 688.31 miles, apportioned into 31 divisions, including the Thames, from Walton-on-Thames to Erith. To shew how London is still expanding in all directions the report informs us that in 1875 10,023 new houses were built, 160 new streets and squares opened and handed over to police protection, covering a length of 29 miles 1475 yards, and that at the close of 1875, 3775 new houses were in course of construction. It must strike every one who reads these figures, that the number of the police force is clearly inadequate for its onerous duties, and we feel sure that it will add greatly to the protection of the public, and the efficiency of the body itself, if the number of men is ere long substantially increased. During 1875 72,606 persons were apprehended by the police, of whom 49,712 were summarily convicted, and 2343 were convicted after trial, leaving the large number of 17,544 we presume, discharged or acquitted. We call attention to this fact, for it is noteworthy for many reasons. Most of the crimes and offences shew a diminution. Burglaries decreased from 349 to 318, and simple larceny from 6674 to 6444. Attempts to rob increased from 6 to 21, and we may congratulate ourselves that there is less tendency to offences of this category, remembering the immense number of tickets of leave, unwisely in our opinion, let loose upon society, and that large class of persons who act as receivers of stolen property, who, in fact, afford the main encouragement to light-fingered gentlemen of all kinds, and who can often go on for years running riot in prosperous villainy, defying the police and braving detection. In a large town like London many are the temptations to appropriation. Some people like plate, some have a penchant for diamonds, some even carry off pictures, and in many cases recovery is difficult, and detection well nigh impossible. The assaults on the police we regret much to notice have increased from 2244 to 2633, while drunkenness, Col. Henderson tells us, is also much in excess of the previous year. The charges of drunk and disorderly increased from 12,099 to 14,226, and for simple drunkenness, or "drunk and incapable" from 14,056 to 16,050. Much of this increase no doubt has arisen from stricter surveillance of the police, and we would fain hope that another year may shew an improvement in this respect. During 1875 the police took out 11,775 summonses of which 1068 were dismissed, and 10,717 resulted in convictions. This is a very satisfactory result. 87 persons were killed in the streets, and 2704 were maimed or injured, in 1875, the light carts being mainly responsible for these accidents, and the special attention of the police has been called to them. The number of persons killed is less than in preceding years, but the injured shew an increase of 136 over 1874; 3724 vagrants were apprehended in 1875, 50 per cent. happily less than in 1874; and 18,809 stray dogs were stopped by the police, of which 1736 were owned, and 17,073 sent to the Dogs' Home. Since 1867 92,886 dogs have been taken possession of by the police. Nothing, we observe, is said about the cats, by whom, during the night time, the consumption of cold meat is enormous. During 1875, 10,609 persons were reported to the police to be missing, of whom 7804 were children under ten years of age, and 2805 adults. Of these 5225 children and 688 adults were found by the police and restored to their friends. 74 adults committed suicide, 7 children and 102 adults were not reported as found, but the remainder were found by their friends or returned home of their own accord. It is a remarkable fact, as showing the laxity of householders, male and female, that 23,209 windows and doors were reported as being found by the police as opened or unfastened at night. A careful inspection of cabs has been made, and some improvement, though not as much as could

be wished, is visible. We want still more reform, alike in the cabs, horses, and drivers. In 1869 lost articles restored were 1912; in 1875, 15,584; and Col. Henderson says the present system works well. During 1875, 9614 proprietors were licensed, and 16,306 drivers and conductors. There are now 1241 legalized common lodging houses in an area of 122 square miles, and accommodating about 27,000 persons, and these have been carefully surveyed in 1875, as well for police as for sanitary purposes, manifestly to the advantage of all concerned. During 1875, 220 men retired from the force on pensions, and 58 on gratuities, 66 resigned through ill-health, 109 resigned for other employment, 168 did not like the work, 187 were compelled to resign, and 177 were dismissed, while 57 died; 93 police officers were commended or received rewards from police magistrates, and 1202 were commended or rewarded by the commissioners. It may be well to state here that during the last 5 years 48 men have been granted pensions, amounting in all to £1752, for permanent injuries received in the execution of their duty. Col. Henderson adds that the supply of recruits for the force continues promising, and that the standard of character and efficiency is as good in the force as ever it has been. Remembering the difficulties of police duty, we shall all agree in this remark. As the "Times" well puts it, "the duties of a policeman, too, are of such a nature as to expose him to far more than the ordinary temptations. He is compelled to act, not only under the eye of his officers, but for the most part independently. If he has a weak point anywhere, there will be plenty on the watch ready to take advantage of it, and he may be quite sure than any want of temper or judgment on his part, to say nothing of more grave offences, will never be forgotten. Many of the faults for which members of the London Police Force have come under the unfavourable notice of their superiors must have been of a slight character, or, rather, of a character which in almost any other calling would have been considered slight." Too much praise cannot therefore be accorded to the force on the whole, and if people will only shut their windows and doors, and give the police all the aid they can, Col. Henderson, like old Changarnier in the *Chambre des Deputes* once upon a time at Paris, may say confidently to us timid Londoners, as night follows day, as the years flit by, "Mesdames et Messieurs, dormez en paix." We trust that another year will see a considerable increase in the force to cope with their overwhelming work, and a considerable decrease alike in the habits of our criminal population, and of the reckless, the ill-living, the foolish of all classes, with whom the police have every moment to deal.

THE DUBLIN MASONIC ORPHAN BOYS' SCHOOL AND THE FEMALE ORPHAN SCHOOL.

By the kind consideration of a worthy Irish brother these reports have been forwarded to us, and we will give an analysis of them in our next. We are always glad when permitted to give any report from Ireland, and above all to record the charitable efforts of our good brethren in the "sister country." We do not profess to understand why reports of Irish Grand Lodge proceedings, for instance appear in the "Freemason's Journal," a paper unfavourable to Freemasonry, and none can be submitted to the Craft through the "Freemason." But it is in vain to comment, or complain, we can only shrug our shoulders and hold our tongues.

PEACE OR WAR.

Rumours of mediation and of an armistice come from Belgrade, concurrently with accounts of much fighting, and some slight success on the part of the Servians. Another column tells of medical men and equipments still going to the seat of war, so that, though we hope for the sake of humanity that this war may come to an end, we are not very sanguine of peace in the present temper of the Servian people. Of the Montenegrins little is heard. We fear that the reports of barbarities in Bulgaria are too true, and we hope that Mr. Baring's report will be published

as soon as possible. The accounts in the "Daily News" are quite sickening if they are reliable and not the ebullitions of excitement and nervous agitation. We confess that we fear that they do represent the unofficial truth. Indeed, the latest accounts leave no room, we apprehend to doubt, that the account of atrocities is rather under the mark than over. After such a verification of the original statements, too badly received by Mr. H. Elliott, we shall never be surprised to hear that the Government has determined to recall him. The horrors at Bantok are simply sickening and revolting, too revolting to publish.

Original Correspondence.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for, or even as approving of the opinions expressed by our correspondents, but we wish, in a spirit of fair play to all, to permit—within certain necessary limits—free discussion.—Ed.]

MASONIC ARCHÆOLOGY.

To the Editor of the *Freemason*.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

In the recent reports of the British Archæological Association Mr. Jago is said, at Bodmin (if I remember rightly), to have exhibited several MSS. of guilds and fraternities, and to have read from them extracts of their building expenses, &c.

Is there any probability of any such extracts being published? and can any account be given of the guilds and fraternities themselves, what they were? Has Bro. W. J. Hugan's attention been called to this statement?

I am, dear Sir and Brother, yours fraternally,

A MASONIC ARCHÆOLOGIST.

MASONIC JURISPRUDENCE.

To the Editor of the *Freemason*.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

The letter of Piscator will doubtless have many replies. It will be best understood by a Scotch Mason, seeing that to an English Mason the letter presents some features of a remarkable, not to say comical character.

Assuming that in a Scotch lodge the R.W.M. is equivalent to our W.M., we should not think of disputing that an I.F.M. presiding in his stead would have, for the time being, all his prerogatives.

The notion of a Warden being called on to work an important ceremony is so foreign to all I have seen or heard of in this country or in others, so far as my own experience goes, that I should be glad to know if it is ever practised in lodges under the Grand Lodge of England, or if it is a common practice among our Scotch brethren.

Granted, however, that there was nothing irregular in so calling on a Warden, I cannot wonder at the S.W. feeling somewhat strongly on the point if he was as competent for the duty as the J.W. It would seem that the acting W.M. offered him a direct slight—a marked discourtesy. The question of legal right in the matter can only be answered by one conversant with the laws of Scotch Masonry.

As regards the conduct of the S.W. on the occasion, it seems to me that, however natural and justifiable he was in feeling hurt by the I.P.M.'s conduct, he (the S.W.) was by no means justified in immediately quitting his post, as by so doing he set an example of insubordination to others, instead of being a pattern of good order and regularity.

I am, dear Sir and Brother, yours fraternally,

1873.

THE INSTALLATION ENGRAVING.

To the Editor of the *Freemason*.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Allow me to again urge our brethren whose portraits would be in any way acceptable to the Craft, to at once forward the same to Bro. E. J. Harty, S.W. 1201, provided of course they attended the Grand Installation at the Albert Hall.

There are still several names absent from the list, which I would gladly see amongst the series of portraits, and I hope that your timely editorial of Saturday last will lead to their responding to Bro. Harty's fraternal invitation.

The picture will doubtless be one "for all time," and it is not at all likely that any future meeting, in our experience at least, will compare with the truly grand event which Bro. Harty and his confreres are determined to make worthy of the acceptance of the Craft universal. No lodge in Great Britain and Ireland should be without a copy, and we know also that many foreign lodges are anxious to obtain first impressions of such a work of art.

The delay of a few weeks now will end in disappointment to those who desire to co-operate, and I hope that nothing will occur to prevent the appearance of the grand Installation engraving at or before Christmas.

Fraternally yours, WILLIAM JAMES HUGAN, Truro, 28 Aug., 1876. P.G.D.

MASONIC PROFESSION AND PRACTICE.

To the Editor of the *Freemason*.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I am sorry "E. F." thinks I am guilty of ignorance as to the proper and courteous mode of treating visitors, but chacun a son gout. My complaint is that as an invited visitor I have had to pay for my dinner, and my idea is that this is not good form, but, of course, I may be wrong in thinking so.

They manage these things better in India, I repeat,

than they do in some places in England which I could name, but I am quite ready, nay, I have good reason, to believe that the spurious hospitality of which I complain, is more the exception than the rule.

Yours fraternally,

AN INDIAN P.M.

August 28th, 1876.

THE NEXT QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION.

To the Editor of the *Freemason*.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

As the proposition of the Rev. Bro. Simpson will again occupy the time of Grand Lodge at its next meeting, I hope the provincial brethren will attend to give him their support against the unbrotherly feeling which has been shown by many of your correspondents. His attempts to avoid a division in lodge having failed, it must be best to adopt some useful scheme to offer as a thank offering for the safe return of our Grand Master. Many brethren do not object to Bro. Havers's proposition on account of its being denominational, as they do to its not being the best scheme that might be thought of. I remember when the 1851 Exhibition was over, a very large sum, £130,000, I think, was the profit; and among other propositions, one was to gild the dome of St. Paul's. But a much better was thought of—to establish the Wellington College with it. Let us hope we may find some plan which in a small way may be equally useful.

Yours fraternally,

P.M.

[We are not aware of the "unbrotherly feeling," and we think P.M. has yet to learn the Masonic duty of charity in its widest sense.—Ed.]

A LETTER TO BRO. CAUBET.

Dear Bro. Caubet,—

An English paper, the "Globe," of August 15, in a Paris letter of the 14th, publishes a statement respecting the French Freemasons, which I believe to be utterly unfounded. I am anxious to call your attention to it, and shall be happy to receive and publish your high contradictions of it.

This allegation is founded, it seems, on the authority of M. Naquet, but I fancy that in this, as in other matters, such an expression of opinion from your countryman must be received with some hesitation.

I publish the passage "in extenso," that you may see what is asserted.—

"M. Naquet has taken up the cudgels in favour of divorce, and he is giving lectures throughout the quarter inhabited by the working men in favour of the question. It seems rather strange that he should have espoused the cause, as he was the author of a book, published under the Empire, which was seized as contrary to public morality, causing its author to be imprisoned for four months. Among the reforms which M. Naquet proposed in his book, entitled 'La Famille et l'Etat Social,' he advocated charms of free-love, demolishing the ceremony of marriage as a Pagan tradition not worthy of being observed by a free and enlightened people. He wanted everyone to adopt the system in vogue among the free-thinking community of the half-Masonic, half-Carbonari, lodges the ultra-Republicans have started under the ægis of the Grand Orient of France, where a man intending to cast in his lot with a woman has only to present her to his brethren in the lodge, make a solemn declaration that he takes her as his wife, with perhaps a mental reservation that the process of divorce may be equally summary."

Is not this statement an utter calumny? As I feel sure that it is, I venture to trouble you to-day, and am, dear Bro. Caubet,

Yours most fraternally,

THE EDITOR OF THE "FREEMASON."

Bro. Caubet, G.S., Grand Orient of France.

THE WAR IN THE EAST.

We take these two letters from the "Times" of Wednesday:—

Sir,—May I request you to be so good as to give place in your paper to the documents enclosed, which I have received from Philippopolis?

The signatures appended are those of persons of station and influence, officials from the United States, and most of the great nations of Europe.

Your obedient servant,

SHAFTESBURY.

Castle Wemyss, Wemyss Bay, N.B., Aug. 28.

"Philippopolis, le 10 Août, 1876.

"Mylord.—L'intérêt bien connu que vous portez au sort des Bulgares nous engage à vous transmettre ci-joint un appel à la charité publique en Europe.

"Nous sommes convaincus d'avance que votre Seigneurie voudra nous prêter son puissant concours pour sauver l'existence de milliers de femmes et d'enfants dont les misères méritent tous nos sympathies.

"Veuillez agréer Mylord, l'assurance de notre haute considération.

"Le Président, J. D'ISTRIA.

"S. E. le très honorable Comte Shaftesbury.

"Les événements en Bulgarie sont maintenant connus de tout le monde et ne nécessitent point de commentaires.

"A l'heure qu'il est des milliers de familles Bulgares sont sans gîte, sans vêtements, sans pain. La mortalité des enfants est énorme; des maladies se sont manifestées; l'hiver va aggraver cette situation.

"Le district de Philippopolis a eu le plus à souffrir. Aussi, emue par cet état de choses horribles, la Colonie Européenne de cette ville a nommé un Comité chargé de réunir et de distribuer des secours. Mais nos moyens sont trop limités et la misère trop grande pour que l'on puisse compter sur des ressources locales suffisantes.

"C'est donc à la charité Européenne que nous faisons appel. Elle ne nous fera pas défaut certes !

"Nous commencerons par nous occuper des veuves et des orphelins.

"Le Président, J. d'Istria.

"Philippopolis, le 8 Août, 1876.

"Le Comité est composé comme suit:—Président, M. J. d'Istria, Vice-Consul de France; Vice-Président, M. D. E. Tacchella, négociant Italien; membres, M. Schuyler, Secrétaire de Légation et Consul-Général des Etats Unis d'Amérique à Constantinople; le Prince Tzeretew, Secrétaire d'Ambassade chargé du Vice-Consulat de Russie; M. d'Adelbourg, Vice-Consul d'Autriche-Hongrie; M. A. Matala, Vice-Consul de Grèce. Secrétaire, M. Arghiritch, Drogman du Vice-Consulat d'Autriche-Hongrie; Caissier, la Maison Tachell et Vermazza.

"Les dons peuvent être adressés à Constantinople aux Consuls-Généraux de France, de Russie, d'Autriche-Hongrie, d'Italie, et des Etats Unis d'Amérique."

LOST ON WASTDALE.

The following letter has been addressed to the Editor of the "Times":—

Sir,—As I am now staying for a few days at the Wastdale Hotel and have been able to collect all that has been ascertained up to the present time relative to Mr. Barnard, it will probably interest his many anxious relatives and friends to know the results of a fortnight's unremitting search. Local opinion seems now to have settled down into the belief,—either (1) that he missed the track near this place or (2) that he missed it when in Ennerdale, and may have missed the stream-course that is nearly opposite the spectator when at the top of the Black Sail pass.

If the first supposition is taken, then it is thought probable that Mr. Barnard diverged from the path near the gate out of the first enclosure from this place, went up the Mosedale stream-course to the steep and rocky ground under what is called Windy Gap, and so crossed the ridge, and made for the low ground of Ennerdale either by the Eastern or Western flanks of the mountain called Steeple. Two young men actually made this mistake last Saturday afternoon, and went up the stream-course above-mentioned, but finding themselves enveloped in mist and on very rough ground prudently returned to Wastdale.

If the second supposition is taken, then it is thought that after Mr. Barnard went a certain way up the stream-course (opposite to Black Sail), he took a rough sort of turn to the left, passed a small tarn, and, after sighting Buttermere, attempted to descend by a precipitous descent under the Haystacks, down what is, I believe, locally called Black Beck.

A sandwich and a half, wrapped up in a portion of the "Newcastle Daily Chronicle" of August 10th, was found yesterday on the Eastern slope of Steeple, two-thirds of the way down. As Mr. Barnard was locally connected with Newcastle, this possible clue is being closely followed up.

This is all that has been ascertained after a fortnight's steady search. Our fears are now, either that Mr. Barnard sank exhausted in the rough ground between Steeple and the track from Black Sail or that he lies among the rocks of Black Beck.

I will only venture to add that, after several conversations with Mr. Barnard's cousin, Mr. James F. Barnard, I have come deliberately to the opinion that Mr. Barnard is still to be looked for on these mountains. Mr. James F. Barnard has been staying here for ten days and has been untiring in his efforts and in conducting and promoting the search.

Your obedient servant,

C. J. GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL.

Wastdale Head Hotel, August 28, 1876.

A LITTLE FRIENDLY GOSSIP ON SOME OF THE TOPICS OF THE DAY.

BY PHILANTHROPOS.

(Written Especially for the "Freemason.")

No. 3.—EDUCATION.—Continued.

I think we have arrived at this deduction from all that has been antecedently stated, that Elementary Education must be universal and compulsory by some means or other, but that it is by no means necessary or advisable to lay down any hard and fast line of a rigid uniformity, inasmuch as there is clearly room for two principles of education, the Board School and the Denominational. It would be highly unjust to endeavour to force down upon an unwilling people one so called comprehensive system, and in order to do so to compel the Denominational school to close, or to be transferred to a School Board.

It is quite clear that not only is there room for both systems, but that they are actually needful to the elasticity and freedom of our English national life and sympathies. So long as the denominational schools conform to the requirements of the State, so long as they take the public money, and submit to public inspection and the directing code of the Council of Education, so long as they are conducted efficiently and properly, so long have they a right on any ground of fair play and consideration to the tolerance and countenance of the State.

By several recent provisions, very wisely enacted in my opinion, the position of denominational schools will be rendered, I think, somewhat easier, and that inexorable conflict and rivalry which were rapidly rising up between Board Schools, erected and carried on by public rates, and national and denominational schools supported by voluntary subscriptions and a capitation grant will, I hope, be put a stop to. It is evident on the face of it that the Board School system cannot be carried on directly, (that is to say, of large schools maintained out of public rates alone), without one of two things happening, either

that the voluntary system goes down before the Board School system, or that the denominational schools are handed over to the School Board, inasmuch as those whose pockets have already had to contribute to the School rate, will hardly, even for conscience sake, pay twice over for the same thing.

In this way an unhealthy and unnatural competition is created as between the two sets of schools, and the average of expenses and of salaries being higher under the School Board system than under the denominational, it follows that wherever School Boards exist, the voluntary schools, to use a sporting phrase, are too heavily handicapped in the race.

Everything, therefore, that tends to give the denominational system free course, a fair field and no favour, is to be greatly desiderated in the interests of education. For let us be just in this matter, which, in the heat of party strife, and in the fervid declamation of the platform and the political caucus or for a set purpose in public, we very often are not. Let us remember gratefully what strides education has made in this country within the last quarter of a century, long before Board Schools existed, and entirely owing to the denominational system. Indeed, it is not too much to say that had the half-time system been applied to all trades and labour twenty years ago, education in this country would have made by this time a giant's progress.

As it is, we should never lose sight of the great and progressive improvement in the educational status of great Britain, which we ourselves have witnessed year by year, for the last twenty-five years. I know that some foolish persons, some perverse partizans, have averred that in all denominationalism has done it has only sought to perpetuate the influence of the denomination, not to educate the people, and that, therefore, we owe no thanks for what has been carried on, chiefly to promote the great end and the lasting principles of denominational selfishness. But I, for one, utterly deny that such proposition is in any sense true, and I utterly repudiate any such motives or views on the part of those who have so laboriously and so self-sacrificingly sought to give a religious education to our English people.

Neither do I think that it is fair to charge any religious body, much less the Church of England, with being hostile to education per se, and only tolerating it and trying to keep it in its own hands, for its own purposes. As Lord Sandon well and truly said in the House of Commons, persons do not voluntarily subscribe ten millions, for instance, for a purpose of which they do not approve, or which they are hostile to, or which they do not really care for, and are insincere about. And whatever stump orators may from time to time advance, the great mass of the working classes in this country is fully aware and convinced that none have worked harder or laboured more manfully, from the first, to extend education generally, than those poorly paid, and zealous and devoted men who make up the working clergy of the Church of England. Canon Mosely, long a Government Inspector of Schools, said, once upon a time, not so very long ago, that it was no exaggeration that, when he spoke, two-thirds of the education of the country was kept up by the personal influence and personal sacrifices of the clergy.

Let us hope that we have heard the last of these foolish charges, which seem principally to come from "iconoclasts" and agitators, but are never, as far as I am aware, and never will be endorsed, I may boldly aver, by the real working classes in this country. I have said all this because I am anxious to meet a popular theory, that for the sake of uniformity, &c., it would be better to have one system of elementary instruction all through England, and that had better be the Board School system. Now I entirely differ from this view on the grounds previously stated, and because I for one do not feel that confidence in the Board School system or administration which would justify me in depriving the denomination of its absolute and inherent claim to educate, in ignoring the conscientious objection of the parent or religious teacher, and in attempting by an unhealthy competition to close the denominational schools, and thus practically to confiscate their property, and deprive them arbitrarily both of a privilege, a liberty, and a right. Many of the proceedings of the Board Schools have not commended themselves to the English mind. The unwise persecution of the ragged schools doing a good work, the harshness shewn in many cases to the poor, the tendency to multiply schools unnecessarily, and to run them, so to say, in opposition to existing schools, the grave expenditure in general, and the high ratio of administrative charges in particular, all make thinking people hesitate before they aid in destroying a system which has done and is doing so well, and in setting up another of which the present position is hazy, and of which the future success is problematical.

I say all this with some reserve, as the statements are perhaps a little coloured, but on the position I have already laid down, I object to an enforced uniformity of system.

Admitted, if you like, that there was a necessity for the School Board per se, for schools for our educational centres, concede if you will, that it was most advisable to supplement existing deficiencies, and to develop available means, to revive, perhaps, what was languishing, and to throw fresh vigour into that which was dormant or decaying—in all this most, I think, will concur. But when it is seen that concessions have not satisfied the clamorous, and that changes have not appeased the lovers of change, but that what is really wanted and sought for is a substitution of a State elementary system for the denominational system, a very large section of us all will have welcomed the recent enactments of wise legislation, which have not encouraged such hopes or plans, but have, on the contrary, sought to solidify and to strengthen the great sys-

tem of denominational schools which like a network spreads all over the country.

The Boards of Guardians have been most properly made the judges as to the inability of parents to contribute to the education of their children, while the conscientious convictions of even such "poor people" have been as properly considered, by enabling Boards of Guardians to consult their legitimate wishes, or to the school to which their children should be sent. So that if in a given town or district a Methodist parent, or a Roman Catholic parent, or a Church of England parent, or a Baptist parent, receives aid from the rates, the child may be sent to the day school of which the parent conscientiously approves. And against this simple, English, thoroughly-fair, and manly proposal we have listened recently to objections made in the wildest language, and with the most illogical inconsistency.

There is one great gain which arises out of all these discussions, which is, that the attention of the public generally is drawn to this most vital of subjects, most important for us all alike, and that it is no longer to be left to the mercy of sciolists, to the passions of schools, to the vehemence of political perversity, to the burning animosities of the intolerant, or to the reckless unconcern of the uninterested, the sceptical, and the antagonistic.

The feeling of the great mass of Englishmen and Englishwomen of all classes alike undoubtedly is, "Education we will have, education if need be compulsorily, and we will no longer allow ignorance to stalk in our midst, or our children to grow up as 'wild arabs,' 'wastrels,' 'derelicts,' in the fulness of our contentedness and our civilization, our affluence and advance, our national plenty and our magnificent professions."

But one condition we will add—such education shall also be religious. And, therefore, as the tendency seems to be even to forbid the Bible to be read (strange result of all our tolerance and liberty of thought and conscience), in some Board schools, and it is quite clear that at any time a popular majority for some reason or other might enforce such a rule in any district where a School Board exists, we prefer to give fair play to that great system which seems to be founded on the religious sympathies of our true-hearted people, and which, subject to a conscience clause, securing the rights of all, and religious liberty and toleration for all, still offers in many thousand schools, a sound and economical, a useful and a religious education to an overwhelming majority of English children.

In my next I will give an analysis of the last report of the Committee of the Privy Council on Education, which I have already prepared, but which would make this letter too long.

UNITED GRAND LODGE.

The following is the agenda of business for the Quarterly Communication on Wednesday, 6th September, 1876:—

The minutes of the Quarterly Communication of the 7th of June for confirmation.

Report of the Lodge of Benevolence for the last quarter, in which are recommendations for the following grants, viz:—

	£	s.	d.
A brother of the St. George and Corner Stone Lodge, No. 5, London...	50	0	0
" " of the Crystal Palace Lodge, No. 742, London...	50	0	0
The five orphan children of a brother of the Lodge of Truth, No. 944, Bombay	50	0	0
The widow of a brother of the Lodge of Perfect Friendship, No. 376, Ipswich	50	0	0

Report of the Board of General Purposes to the United Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free, and Accepted Masons of England:—

"The Board of General Purposes beg to report that their attention having been directed to an application dated 24th May, 1876, from the Lodge of Love and Honour, No. 75, Falmouth, for the usual Grand Lodge Certificate for the Tyler, who was initiated so long ago as the 8th April, 1861, and to certain letters in which it was stated that the said brother was initiated without the necessary dispensation required by Article 9, page 87, Book of Constitutions. The Board, after due consideration, although none of the brethren then in office are now members of the lodge, felt that the lodge—as a lodge—must be held responsible for such a grave irregularity on the part of its former officers, but at the same time did not treat the offence with the severity which would under the circumstances have been extended to it. The Board therefore simply ordered that the lodge should pay a fine of one guinea, and that the Grand Secretary should be empowered to issue the certificate on payment thereof.

"The Board desire to especially direct the notice of the Masters and Secretaries of lodges to Art. 26, page 69, of the Book of Constitutions, attention to which would at once prevent annoyance to their successors, and the necessity of an appeal to the Executive of Grand Lodge.

(Signed) "PETER DE L. LONG,

"Vice-President of the Board."

To the report is subjoined a statement of the Grand Lodge accounts at the last meeting of the Finance Committee, held on Friday, the 11th day of August, showing a balance in the hands of the Grand Treasurer of £3228 16s. 5d.; and in the hands of the Grand Secretary, for petty cash, £75; and for servants' wages, £96 15s.

Proposed motions:—

1.—By V.W. Bro. the Rev. Robert James Simpson, P.G. Chaplain,—

That, in accordance with the resolution passed at the last Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge, the following brethren constitute a Special Committee to consider the best mode of perpetuating in some charitable form our thankfulness to Almighty God for the preservation and

safe return from India of our Most Worshipful Grand Master, His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, and report thereon to Grand Lodge:—Bros. Lord Skelmersdale, D.G.M.; Earl of Donoughmore, S.G.W.; the Hon. W. Warren Vernon, J.G.W.; Lord Leigh, Prov. G.M. Warwickshire; Lord Tenterden, P.G.W.; J. M. P. Montagu, D. Prov. G.M. Dorset; J. Havers, P.G.W.; Æneas J. McLartyre, Q.C., G. Registrar; Jabez Hogg, P.G.D.; Erasmus Wilson, Deputy M. No. 2; Octavius H. Pearson, W.M. 10; Hamon L. Estrange, P.M. 10; Nathan B. Headon, W.M. 1426; Baxter Langley, W.M. 1423; Macrae Moir, P.M. 66; Edwin March, W.M. Grand Stewards' Lodge; Rev. Robert J. Simpson, P.G. Chap; with power to add to their number.

That in the event of the above-named resolution being rejected or withdrawn the following resolutions shall be proposed:—

(1.) That, in order to perpetuate in some appropriate form our thankfulness to Almighty God for the preservation and safe return from India of our M.W. Grand Master, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, and with a view to promote the cultivation of useful learning, and to enable young men of pre-eminent ability to enter more successfully on the duties of life, this Grand Lodge resolves to vote from the Fund for General Purposes the sum of £6000, to be applied to the founding of three scholarships, to be called the "Prince's Scholarships," in connection with the Universities of Oxford, Cambridge, and London, and to be held by the sons of Masons educated at the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys.

(2.) That a Special Committee be appointed to consider and draw up a scheme for carrying out this object, and to confer thereon with the Committee of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys.

2.—By W. Bro. Jabez Hogg, P.G.D.—Will move as an amendment to Bro. Simpson's motion for the appointment of a committee,—

That, in order to perpetuate in some appropriate form our thankfulness to Almighty God for the preservation and safe return from India of our M.W. Grand Master, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, and with a view to promote the cultivation of useful knowledge, and to make young men of pre-eminent ability to enter more successfully on the duties of life, this Grand Lodge resolves to vote from the Fund of General Purposes the sum of £6000, to be applied to the foundation of Scholarships to be called the "Albert Edward Scholarships," in connection with the Universities of Oxford, Cambridge, and London, and to be held by the sons of Masons educated at the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys.

FIRTH PARK, SHEFFIELD.—Twelve months since the Prince and Princess of Wales visited Sheffield for the purpose of opening the public park given to the town by Mr. Mark Firth. Since then Mr. Firth has spent several thousand pounds in cutting roadways through the park, ornamenting it, and in building an entrance lodge. These works are now completed, and to celebrate the event there was a demonstration in the park yesterday. The weather was unfortunately very unfavourable. The Corporation visited the park in their official robes, and in the course of the afternoon the Mayor, Alderman Tasker, presented Mr. Firth with an illuminated copy of a vote of thanks passed to him by the Corporation at the meeting following the Royal visit. In the evening there was a grand display at Cutler's Hall, the dinner being given especially to Mr. Firth. The park is on a part of a town near to some of the largest ironworks, and will be much appreciated by the workmen.

METROPOLITAN MASONIC MEETINGS.

For the Week ending Friday, September 8, 1876.

The Editor will be glad to receive notice from Secretaries of Craft Lodges, Royal Arch Chapters, Mark Lodges, Preceptories, Conclaves, &c., of any change in place or time of meeting.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 2.

Gen. Com. Boys' School, at 4.
Lodge 1607, Lodge of Loyalty, Alexandra Palace.
Chap. 975, Rose of Denmark, Star & Garter, Kew-bdgc.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Lily, Greyhound, Richmond.
Manchester, 77, London-st., Fitzroy-square.
Star, Marquis of Granby, New Cross-rd.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 4.

Lodge 144, St. Luke's, M.H., Basinghall-st.
Mark Lodge, 139, Panmure, Balham Hot., Balham.
Red Cross Con. Premier, Regent M.H., Regent-st.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Prince Leopold, Lord Stanley Tav., Kingsland.
Strong Man, Jerusalem Tav., St. John's Gate.
Sincerity, Railway Tav., Fenchurch-st. Station.
Camden, Stanhope Arms, Up. James-st., Camden To.
Eastern, Royal Hot., Mile-end-road.
St. James's Union, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Wellington, White Swan, Deptford.
Perfect Ashlar, Victoria Tav., Lower-rd., Rotherhithe.
Sydney, White Hart Ho., Church-rd., Upper Norwood.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5.

Colonial Board, at 4.
Lodge 1383, Friends in Council, 33, Golden-sq.
" 1472, Henley, Three Crowns, High-st., Woolwich.
" 1506, White Horse of Kent, 33, Golden-sq.

Mark Lodge 1, St. Mark's, M.H., Masons' Avenue.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Metropolitan, 269, Pentonville-rd.
Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney.
Domestic, Surrey M.H., Camberwell New-road.
Faith, 2, Westminster Chambers, Victoria-st.
Prince Fredk. Wm., Lord's Hot., St. John's Wood.
Dalhousie, King Edward, Triangle, Hackney.
Prosperity, 1, Camomile-st., Bishopsgate.
St. Marylebone, British Stores Tav., St. John's Wood.

Constitutional, Wheatsheaf Hot., Hand-court, Holborn.
Israel, Rising Sun Tav., Globe Road.

Royal Arthur, Prince's Head, York-road, Battersea.

Beacontree, Red Lion, Leytonstone.

Metropolitan Chapter, Jamaica Coffee Ho., Cornhill.

Excelsior, Commercial Dock Tav., Rotherhithe.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6.

Quart. Com. Grand Lodge, at 6 for 7 p.m.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Confidence, M.H., Basinghall-st.
Mt. Lebanon, Windsor Castle Tav., Southwark-bdg.-rd.
Pythagorean, Prince of Orange, Greenwich.
New Concord, Rosemary Branch Tav., Hoxton.
Royal Union, Horse and Groom, Winsley-st., Oxford-st.
Peckham, Maismore Arms, Park-road, Peckham.
Stanhope, Thicket Hot., Anerley.
Finsbury Park, Finsbury Park Tav., Seven Sisters'-rd.
Southwark, Southwark Park Tav., Southwark Park.
Duke of Connaught, Havelock Tav., Dalston, E.
United Strength, Grafton Arms, Kentish-town.
Islington, Crown and Cushion, London Wall.
Whittington, Black Bull Tav., Holborn.
Lewis, King's Arms Hot., Wood Green.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 7.

Lodge 1155, Excelsior, Sydney Arms, Lewisham-rd.

" 1178, Perfect Ashlar, Bridge House Hot.

" 1360, Royal Arthur, Wimbledon Village Club.

" 1445, Prince Leopold, Lord Stanley Tav., E.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Egyptian, Hercules Tav., Leadenhall-st.
Fidelity, Yorkshire Grey, London-st., W.
Finsbury, Jolly Anglers' Tav., Bath-st., City-road.
Temperance in the East, Catherine-st., Poplar.
Ebony, 12, Ponsonby-st., Milbank.
Highgate, Bull and Gate, Kentish-town.
The Great City, 111, Cheapside.
High Cross, Coach & Horses, High-road, Tottenham.
Salisbury, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Marquis of Ripon, Albion Tav., Albany-rd., Dalston.
Prince Frederick William Chapter, St. John's Wood.
Southern Star, Crown Hot., Blackfriars-rd.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 8.

Lodge 1420, Earl Spencer, Northcote Hot., New Wandsworth.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Union Waterloo, Thomas-st., Woolwich.
Robert Burns, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Belgrave, Lyceum Tav., 354, Strand.
Unions Emulation (for M.M.'s), F.M.H.
Temperance, Victoria Tav., Victoria-road, Deptford.
Clapton, White Hart, Clapton.
Metropolitan, Portugal Hot., Fleet-st.
Westbourne, Horse & Groom, Winsley-st., Oxford-st.
United Pilgrims, Surrey M.H., Camberwell New-road.
St. James's, New Tanners' Arms, Grange-rd., Bermondsey.
Duke of Edinburgh, Silver Lion, Penny-fields, Poplar.
Doric, Earl Grey Tav., Mile-end-road.
Burgoyne, Grafton Arms, Prince of Wales's-road, N.W.
St. Luke's, White Hart, King's-rd., Chelsea.
Chigwell, Bald-faced Stag Hot., Buckhurst-hill.
Burdett Coutts, Approach Tav., Victoria Park.
Royal Standard, Finsbury Park Tav., Holloway.
Ranelagh, Clarendon Hot., Hammersmith.
Pythagorean Chapter, Prince of Orange, Greenwich-rd.
Stability, Guildhall Tav., Gresham-st.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN WEST LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE.

For the Week ending Saturday, September 9, 1876.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 4.

Lodge 113, Unanimity, Bull Hot., Church-st., Preston.

" 1045, Stamford, T.H., Altrincham.

" 1051, Rowley, M.R., Athenæum, Lancaster.

" 1264, Neptune, M.H., Liverpool.

" 1380, Skelmersdale, Queen's Hot., Waterloo.

Everton L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5.

Lodge 178, Antiquity, Royal Hot., Wigan.

" 673, St. John's, M.H., Liverpool.

" 995, Furness, M.T., Ulverstone.

" 1384, Equity, Walker's Com. Hot., Widnes.

" 1476, Blackpool, Clifton Arms Hot., Blackpool.

Chap. 203, St. John of Jerusalem, M.H., Liverpool.

Merchants' L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6.

Lodge 730, Ellesmere, Royal Oak Hot., Chorley.

" 1013, Royal Victoria, M.H., Liverpool.

" 1061, Triumph, M.H., Lytham.

" 1335, Lindsay, 20, King-st., Wigan.

" 1354, Marquis of Lorne, M.R., Leigh.

" 1403, W. Lancashire, Com. Hot., Ormskirk.

Mark Lodge 65, W. Lancashire, M.H., Liverpool.

De Grey and Ripon L. of I., N. Hill-st., Liverpool.

Downshire L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

Harmonic L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 7.

Lodge 249, Mariners, M.H., Liverpool.

" 1473, Bootle, Assembly Rooms, Bootle.

Chap. 758, Bridgewater, M.H., Runcorn.

St. John's L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 8.

Lodge 1289, Rock, Bedford House, Rock Ferry.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN GLASGOW AND WEST OF SCOTLAND.

For the Week ending Saturday, September 9, 1876.

All the Meetings take place at Eight o'clock.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 4.

Lodge 20, St. John, M.H., Lesmahagon.

" 124, Kilwinning, Union Tav., Ayr.

" 129, St. Mirren, 5, Moss-st., Paisley.

" 138, Operative, Blue Bell Hot., Ayr.

Lodge 237, St. John, Masonic Arms, Girvan.
" 332, Union, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
" 581, Plantation, Craigiehall-st., Glasgow.
Chap. 53, Dumbarton, Elephant Hot., Dumbarton.
" 119, Rosslyn, 25, Robertson-st., Glasgow.
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5.
Lodge 34, Glasgow, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
" 68, Doric, 44, Church-st., Port Glasgow.
" 73, Thistle and Rose, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
" 87, Thistle, 30, Hope-st., Glasgow.
" 173, St. John, M.H., Largs.
" 177, St. James's, M.H., Coatbridge.
" 406, St. John Dalziel, M.H., Motherwell.
" 433, St. Thomas, Eglington Hot., Dalmellington.
" 437, Govandale, Portland Buildings, Govan.
" 442, Neptune, M.H., Princes-lane, Ardrossan.
" 497, St. John's, Brewery Lesser Hall, Catrine.
" 556, Clydesdale, M.H., Rose-st., S.S., Glasgow.
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6.

Lodge 0, Mother Kilwinning, M.H., Kilwinning.
" 4, Glasgow Kilwinning, 162, Kent-rd., Glasgow.
" 21, Old St. John, M.H., Lanark.
" 86, Navigation, Arms Hot., Troon.
" 117, St. Mary, M.H., Douglas-st., Partick.
" 126, St. Andrew, George Hot., Kilmarnock.
" 128, St. John, M.H., Shettleston.
" 166, St. John, M.H., Airdrie.
" 198, Royal Arch, King's Arms Hot., Maybole.
" 202, St. Clement's, Com. Hot., Kilmarnock.
" 233, Hamilton, Spalding's Hot., Hamilton.
" 331, St. Peter's, Portland Arms, Galston.
" 354, Caledonian Railway, 30, Hope-st., Glasgow.
" 571, Dramatic, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow, 3 p.m.
Chap. 87, Shamrock and Thistle, 12, Trongate, Glasgow.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 7.

Lodge 11, St. John's, King's Arms Hot., Maybole.
" 22, St. John, Kilwinning.
" 27, St. Mungo, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
" 149, St. Andrew, Masons' Arms, Irvine.
" 157, St. John, M.H., Beith.
" 165, Royal Arch, King's Arms, Ayr.
" 290, Blair, White Hart Hot., Dalry.
" 320, St. John, M.H., Salcoats, Ardrossan.
" 370, Renfrew, 8, High-st., Paisley.
" 465, St. Andrew, 69, Garngad-rd. 7.30 p.m.
" 547, Stewart, M.H., Kilsyth.

Chap. 114, Baron of Renfrew, M.H., Renfrew.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 8.

Lodge 18, Dumbarton, Church-st., Dumbarton.
" 147, Cadder Argyle, M.H., Chryston.
" 153, Royal Arch, Cogan-st., Pollokshaws.
" 170, Leven St. John, Black Bull Inn, Renton.
" 427, St. Clair, M.H., Cambusnethan.
Chap. 144, St. Rollox, 69, Garngad-rd., Glasgow.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN EDINBURGH AND VICINITY.

For the Week ending Saturday, September 9, 1876.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 4.

Lodge 429, St. Kentigern, Royal Hot., Penicuik.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5.

Lodge 5, Canongate and Leith, 86, Constitution-st.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 7.

Lodge 97, St. James's, St. James's Hall, Writers' Court.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 8.

Chap. 56, Canongate Kilwinning, St. John-st.

MARKTBREIT-ON-THE-MAIN, Bavaria.

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UNITED GRAND LODGE.

The Quarterly Communication of United Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of England was held at Freemasons' Hall on Wednesday evening, the R. W. Colonel Burdett, Provincial Grand Master for Middlesex, as Grand Master; the R.W. the Right Hon. the Earl of Donoughmore, S.G. Warden; the R.W. the Hon. William Warren Vernon, J.G. Warden; the R.W. Richard Giddy, District Grand Master for Griqualand; the R.W. Samuel Rawson, Past District Grand Master for China; the R.W. Hugh D. Sandeman, Past District Grand Master for Bengal; the R.W. Henry Murray, District Grand Master for China; the R.W. John Havers, P.G.W.; the R.W. Capt. Wm. Platt, P.G.W.; R.W. Sir Albert Woods (Garter), G.D. of Ceremonies, P.G.W.; the V.W. Rev. S.R. Wigram; V.W. Rev. Charles John Martyn, P.G. Chaplain, as Grand Chaplain; the V.W. Charles Wm. Arnold, G. Chaplain; V.W. Rev. Sir John Warren Hayes, Bart.; V.W. Rev. Robert James Simpson, P.G.C.; V.W. Aeneas John McIntyre, Q.C., Grand Registrar; V.W. Samuel Tomkins, Grand Treasurer; the V.W. John Hervey, Grand Secretary; W. Lieut.-Colonel Thos. Birchall, S.G. Deacon; W. Thomas, William Boord, M.P., F.S.A., S.G. Deacon; W. E. J. Barron, J.G. Deacon; W. John March Case, J. G. Deacon; W. Lieut.-Col. John Creation, P.G.D.; Dr. Jabez Hogg, P.G.D.; W. Henry Browne, P.G.D.; W. Samuel Leith Tomkins, P.G.D.; W. Brackstone Baker, P.G.D.; W. J. E. Saunders, P.G.D.; W. Raynham W. Stewart, P.G.D.; W. Chas. Aug. Marton, P.G.D.; W. Richard Havers, P.G.D.; W. John Anthony Rucker, P.G.D.; W. J. Percy Leith, P.G.D.; W. Joseph Charles Parkinson, P.G.D.; W. Robert Grey, P.G.D.; W. Thomas Fenn, P.G.D.; W. F. A. Philbrick, Q.C., P.G.D.; W. Frederick Pepys Cockerell, G. Sup. Wks.; W. Wm. Rhys Williams, assist. G.D.C.; W. Richard J. Spiers, P.G.S.B.; W. Hyde Pullen, P.G.S.B.; W. James Mason, P.G.S.; W. Joshua Nunn, P.G.S.B.; W. Wilhelm Kube, G. Organist; W. Eleazer D'Albert, G.P.; W. Samuel G. Foxall, Assist. G. Pursd.; W. John Emmens, P.G.P.; W. William Ough, P.G.P.; W. John Coutts, P.G.P.; W. C. A. Cottebrune, P.G.P.; W. Thomas, Cubitt, P.G.P.; and W. John Wright, P.G.P., were also present, besides General Brownrigg, as D.G.M.; Major Finney, John Constable, Captain Philips, F. Adlard, Thomas W. White, F. Binckes, C. F. Hogard, George Kenning, H. A. Dubois, J. H. Wynne, Herbert Dicketts, B. H. Swallow, H. G. Buss, S. Rosenthal, W. J. Murlis, James Terry, W. Dodd, D. W. Pearce, Dr. J. E. Carpenter, Massey ("Freemason"), and about 300 other brethren.

Grand Lodge having been formally opened Grand Secretary read the minutes of the Quarterly Communication of 7th June, which were put by the Grand Master in the chair and confirmed.

Bro. Joshua Nunn moved, and Bro. McIntyre seconded that the report of the Lodge of Benevolence for the last quarter be received and entered on the minutes, and this having been adopted,

Bro. Joshua Nunn moved, and Bro. Raynham W. Stewart moved the adoption of the recommendation of the following grants:—

A brother of the St. George and Corner Stone Lodge, No. 5, London...	50	0	0
" " of the Crystal Palace Lodge, No. 742, London...	50	0	0
The five orphan children of a late brother of Lodge of Truth, No. 644, Bombay	50	0	0
The widow of a brother of the Lodge of Perfect Friendship, No. 376, Ipswich	50	0	0

These were all carried unanimously.

Bro. McIntyre, G.R., moved, and Bro. Raynham W. Stewart, P.G.D., seconded, that the Report of the Board of General Purposes, which had been printed and circulated, be taken as read. Bro. McIntyre said he moved it in the absence of the President of the Board (Bro. J. B. Monckton) from town. The motion having been adopted,

Bro. McIntyre said there was no substantive motion arising in the report, and he therefore moved, to be in proper form, that it be received and entered on the minutes.

Bro. Brackstone Baker seconded the motion, which was then put and carried. The report was as follows:—

Report of the Board of General Purposes, to the United Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of England:

The Board of General Purposes beg to report that their attention having been directed to an application dated 24th May, 1876, from the Lodge of Love and Honour, No. 75, Falmouth, for the usual Grand Lodge Certificate for

the Tyler, who was initiated so long ago as the 8th of April, 1861, and to certain letters in which it was stated that the said brother was initiated without the necessary dispensation required by article 9, page 86, Book of Constitutions. The board, after due consideration, although none of the brethren then in office are now members of the lodge, felt that the lodge—as a lodge—must be held responsible for such a grave irregularity on the part of its former officers, but at the same time did not treat the offence with the severity which would under the circumstances have been extended to it. The board therefore simply ordered that the lodge should pay a fine of one guinea, and that the Grand Secretary should be empowered to issue the certificate on payment thereof.

The board desired especially to direct the notice of the Masters and Secretaries of lodges to article 26, page, 69, of the Book of Constitutions, attention to which would at once prevent annoyance to their successors, and the necessity of an appeal to the executive of Grand Lodge.

(Signed)

PETER DE L. LONG,
Vice-President of the Board.

To the report is subjoined a statement of the Grand Lodge accounts at the last meeting of the Finance Committee, held on Friday, the 11th day of August instant, shewing a balance in the hands of the Grand Treasurer of £3328 16s. 5d.; and in the hands of the Grand Secretary, for petty cash, £75; and for servants' wages, £96 15s.

Bro. the Rev. R. J. Simpson, P.G.C., then rose to move "That in accordance with the resolution passed at the last Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge the following brethren constitute a Special Committee to consider the best mode of perpetuating in some charitable form our thankfulness to Almighty God for the preservation and safe return from India of our Most Worshipful Grand Master, His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, and report thereon to Grand Lodge:—Bros. Lord Skelmersdale, D.G.M.; Earl of Donoughmore, S.G.W.; the Hon. W. Warren Vernon, J.G.W.; Lord Leigh, Prov. G.M. Warwickshire; Lord Tenterden, P.G.W.; J. M. P. Montagu, D. Prov. G.M. Dorset; J. Havers, P.G.W.; Aeneas J. McIntyre, Q.C., Grand Registrar; Jabez Hogg, P.G.D.; Erasmus Wilson, Deputy M. No. 2; Octavius H. Pearson, W.M. No. 10; Nathan B. Headon, W.M. No. 1426; Baxter Langley, W.M. No. 1423; Macrae Moir, P.M. No. 66; Edwin March, W.M. Grand Steward's Lodge; Rev. Robert J. Simpson, P.G. Chaplain, with power to add to their number." In doing so he said: M.W. Acting Grand Master, and brethren, in laying the motion of which I have given notice—you have a copy in our notice paper before you—before Grand Lodge, I wish to lay down for myself three rules for my guidance, rules which I hope may be approved of by the brethren, and, if it be not impertinent, I may add, I hope, may be followed by other speakers. The rules are, first, that I shall be exceedingly brief in my speech (hear, hear) in the next place that I shall abstain from any allusion to persons or the press; and thirdly, that I shall as little as possible, even touch upon the transactions of the last Grand Lodge, save and except so far as they necessarily are connected with the motion which I am about to lay before you.

Mr. Frank Buckland remarked in a recent letter upon a very interesting subject, that heat and tranquillity were necessary for the cultivation of oysters. I am quite sure that there was on the last night of our meeting too much heat, and too little tranquillity. I trust to-night that we shall realise both these conditions, but rather in a different sense to the heat to which I have alluded. I trust the heat to night will be the warmth of brotherly love which will shape itself to the public good, and I trust that the tranquillity will mark our discussion which alone can lead to a calm and a just decision. (Hear hear and applause.) It will be in the recollection of Grand Lodge that the resolution was passed on our last night of meeting, to the effect that a committee should be appointed for an object specified in that motion. (Hear hear.) As a natural sequence to that resolution, and in order to keep upon the lines of business I now venture to lay before you the names which I have the honour to propose on that committee for your approval or otherwise. I am not at all sure, M.W.G.M., that it would not have been for the interests of Freemasonry, and of the great object which we have in view that no particular member of Grand Lodge, however experienced, however high in the Craft, or otherwise, should have proposed any definite scheme upon this subject, but that it would have been far more advisable, and consonant to the dignity of the subject, that in the beginning a committee should have been appointed to carry out this great object. (Hear, hear.) That was, unfortunately, not done. I am myself an offender, as well as others in this respect, and, therefore, I plead guilty, being a party to not having thus dealt with this subject. But I cannot conceal from myself that as the amendment which was proposed, and which eventually became a substantive motion, was drawn up on the spur of the moment, in the midst of the discussion, so it was immediately intended to ward off what many of us considered—whether rightly or wrongly—a great imminent danger. That object has been attained. Whether rightly or wrongly, thus it is; and it now, I understand, is the opinion of a great number of the members of this Grand Lodge, that it might be convenient not to proceed with the committee, but to take some more definite course. (No, no.) Of course it is quite open to this Grand Lodge to-night, if it pleases, to reject the motion which I have the honour to propose, and in any way to rescind the casual motion which was made upon the last night of meeting. (No, no: It had been carried.) Very good. If Grand Lodge, however, expresses itself to that effect, I myself will be prepared to bow respectfully to it. If not, then I venture to propose this committee as containing the names of brethren highly esteemed in the Craft, except it be one who "holds the wooden spoon" at the end of it, (laughter), and I think they are brethren also who, if they are to choose theirs, or to add to their number, will add brethren of the

Grand Lodge who will be likely to carry out the objects we have in view. I trust that if this committee is appointed it will come to an unanimous recommendation which will be at once worthy of the solemn and exalted object we have in view, and that they will be likely to confer a lasting benefit and true dignity upon our Order. I submit, M.W.G.M., without comment at present, the resolution which I propose. (Great cheering.)

Bro. Edward Cox, P.M. 657: M.W.G.M., I shall be most happy to second the resolution.

Bro. F. A. Philbrick, P.G.D.: M.W.G.M.,—On an occasion of this kind, with respect to the subject before Grand Lodge, I am sure we have one feeling—the unanimous feeling which was expressed at the last meeting of the Grand Lodge, namely, that whatever be the mode in which we may give an expression of our gratitude, the occasion was one which demanded a commemoration from the Craft. As to the method which that commemoration was to shape itself, that was settled by the resolution of the last Grand Lodge, which has been confirmed on the minutes to-night, by being referred to a Committee. That committee has now been nominated by our Bro. Simpson, and I venture, on an occasion of this kind, to say that I trust no remark I may make may interfere with the unanimity with which the Grand Lodge will proceed. In form I am compelled to move an amendment. In substance I believe I am bound to call attention to that which I am sure has been an unintentional omission, and which, I for one, should be very disappointed unless it be accepted by our Bro. Simpson, as a part of his resolution. There are certain great names omitted in the resolution. I will not criticise the names upon this Committee, because the names are those of brethren who may fairly represent the whole interests of the Craft, and who, both from their personal merits—but rather, I would put it, from their official position—are entitled, both by their position and experience to be on a committee of this kind. (Hear, hear, and cheers.) There is the Prov. Grand Master, Lord Carnarvon, a name, I am sure, as popular as any known Mason. I forbear to mention personal matters, but there is the Grand Treasurer, our respected and popular Grand Treasurer, who has borne office for many years. There is the President of the Board of General Purposes: there is the President of the Colonial Board, Bro. Rucker; there is the President of the Board of Benevolence, who, unfortunately is absent to-night from circumstances under which we all sympathise with him. I do not suppose there will be any difficulty at all about that. Holders of these great offices, the illustrious Masons whose names I have mentioned, should be added to this council to carry out the object which we all have at heart. I left out my excellent friend our Bro. Sir Albert Woods, but I beg now to suggest his name, and to move these additions as an amendment to our rev. brother's motion. (Hear, hear, and applause.)

Bro. Raynham W. Stewart, P.G.D.: I second the amendment; but I think there has been with our Bro. Philbrick a great omission, and I allege that if you were to carry out the last part of the resolution of our Bro. Simpson, there ought to be those who were connected with the charities: the House Committees ought to be added (No, no, and uproar.)

Bro. S. Rawson, P.D.G.M. for China: I rise to a point of order. (Confusion.)

Bro. Raynham Stewart: You should put those men on who for years have been tried by your brethren, and who know and can give the best advice as to the mode of carrying out the plan.

Bro. S. Rawson: I rise to a point of order.

Bro. Stewart: I will propose if this committee be carried—(Chair, cheering, and confusion.)

Bro. Rawson: I rise to a point of order. This is not an amendment at all. The original motion as proposed by our Bro. Simpson has power to add to their number. (Hear, hear, and applause.)

Bro. Simpson: May I be permitted to explain? I merely wish to say—I want only to make a single observation. In answer to Bro. Philbrick's observation, I wish to say that my great difficulty was in putting down the names of other brethren who were as worthy as, if not more worthy than, those on the list, and that I was anxious to leave to Grand Lodge itself to originate by such propositions as Bro. Philbrick's the full constitution of the committee. (Hear, hear.) I was anxious to put down as few names as possible only as a nucleus, and leave it to Grand Lodge rather than myself to put in others. (Hear, hear.) I accept these names at once.

Bro. Dr. Jabez Hogg, P.G.D., said he interposed with considerable diffidence, but it occurred to him from what fell from a number of speakers at the former meeting that there was a considerable number who disapproved of this committee of Bro. Simpson's altogether, he himself was not antagonistic, notwithstanding he had an amendment to his motion. By that amendment he really wished to bring about a good feeling in Grand Lodge. The brethren wished to commemorate their thankfulness in a way which would be worthy of this Grand Lodge. Feeling that there was a difference of opinion, he had ventured to submit a motion to his Bro. Simpson, but unfortunately being out of town and unable to communicate with him in time for the meeting of the Board of Masters, he placed his notice on the agenda paper that he might not be out of order that evening. It appeared to him that there would be a difference of opinion in the appointment of the committee. He agreed with Bro. Simpson's principle.

Bro. James Mason, P.G.S.B., rose to order, and was met with cries of "Sit down," and some confusion.

Dr. Hogg continued. He thought they might confirm a principle on which the committee was to sit and deliberate a principle that might be acceptable to Grand Lodge.

The Acting Grand Master said he must remind Dr. Hogg that Grand Lodge had already agreed to a committee. The only question now was of whom it should be composed.

Dr. Hogg would most readily and respectfully bow.

merely wished to explain that in putting his amendment on the paper he wished to restore a better feeling with regard to the committee, and thought it could be done by confirming the principle upon which it should be asked to sit and deliberate. He was happy to withdraw his amendment.

Bro. J. Wynne thought that before the committee was appointed they should give the brethren an opinion of what they intended to do. (Oh, oh, and laughter.)

The Acting Grand Master was in the course of putting the resolution to Grand Lodge, when

Bro. Baxter Langley rose and said that to some extent he believed that the feeling of Grand Lodge was that though the main feeling of the brethren would go with the general tenor of the motion, there yet was an anxiety widely expressed that the motion should have some more definite form, and that Grand Lodge should know previously, or form some idea of the direction in which that committee was to act. (Cries of no, no.) That feeling was deepened, he believed, by the fact that Bro. Simpson affixed to his motion an addendum, a sort of motion for retreat; if he (Bro. Baxter Langley) might call it so, in which he indicated distinctly his intention to propose a vote for the Boys' School.

The Acting Grand Master—That is not before the committee.

Bro. Baxter Langley quite agreed that that was not before Grand Lodge, but it was upon the agenda paper, and those who had read the agenda paper could not exclude it from their minds. He felt that whatever Grand Lodge did this committee should act with the same freedom of beneficence to all the Masonic Charities, and it was with that desire and with a sincere wish that he should not inflict a long speech upon the brethren that he ventured very respectfully to move the following as an amendment:—"That in order to perpetuate in some appropriate form—"

The Acting G.M.: I beg your pardon. The only amendment you can move is that the motion be rescinded. The motion for a committee is now passed, and the resolution is that these names form the committee. You can only move that it be rescinded; but if it is passed it will then be in your power to bring your present proposition before the committee, or to this Grand Lodge when the report of the committee comes up.

Bro. Baxter Langley suggested that his amendment should be added as a rider to the motion. In that sense it was an amendment.

Bro. Brackstone Baker, P.G.D., would venture to make an observation. He presumed that this Grand Lodge was governed by the ordinary rules of deliberative assemblies. When a motion was before a meeting and seconded they had to deliberate on that single motion, and no other than the substantive motion before them. If after that was adopted any other suggestion or addendum was proposed it was put as an "instruction." At present the only motion before this Grand Lodge was whether the committee be appointed with the names stated or not, with the addition. That was the only question before Grand Lodge.

Bro. Baxter Langley: It is an addition to the motion.

The acting G.M.: The names are proposed as an addition.

Bro. Baxter Langley: I propose an addition to the motion, then.

Bro. McIntyre, G.R.: The original motion was carried at last Grand Lodge. There is no original motion before this Grand Lodge except the nomination of the Committee. Grand Lodge on the last occasion decided that this should be considered and reported only a committee. Grand Lodge to night has confirmed that resolution of Grand Lodge, and therefore the committee is appointed now with full power to report to Grand Lodge. Everything that our worthy and excellent brother has said might well come up as an amendment on the report of the committee when the committee make their report; but at present everything is relegated to the committee to consider; to take any evidence they think proper, and take advantage of all knowledge which they possess, and then bring up a satisfactory report, I hope, with recommendations thereon. I hope, before the committee do that, they will take care that what they intend to report shall be submitted to the Board of Masters, and that it shall be known throughout the Craft, so that every opportunity shall be given to every brother to bring up a substantial resolution as an amendment to what the committee may recommend. But at present Grand Lodge having referred it to the committee, clearly you ought to have the result of their deliberations before you give an instruction on matters we know nothing about. (Hear, hear.)

Capt. J. E. Curteis: There is one important body of officers overlooked, and that is the representatives of the provinces. We cannot overlook the fact that the whole of the Masonic body is not confined within the limits of the City of London, or within the limits of those who are constantly in the habit of attending Grand Lodge. (Hear, hear, and cheers.) I beg, therefore, to propose that Provincial Grand Masters be added to the committee, and to report to Grand Lodge at next meeting.

The amendment having been seconded,

Bro. McIntyre said that for his own part he should have gone still further and added the Deputy Provincial Grand Masters. He thought provincial brethren deserved as much to be represented as the London brethren. (Great cheering.) Perhaps Bro. Simpson would accept the suggestion.

Bro. Simpson: M.W.G.M., I accept the proposition. The motion was then put and carried unanimously amidst vociferous cheering, and Grand Lodge was closed in due form and adjourned.

Gas superseded in day time, and daylight reflected in dark rooms. Health, comfort, and economy promoted by adopting Chappuis' Patent Daylight Reflector Manufactured, 69, Fleet-street, London.

REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS.

Craft Masonry.

STAR LODGE (No. 1275).—The installation meeting of this lodge was held at the Ship Hotel, Greenwich, on Friday, 1st inst. Bro. J. F. Limebeer, W.M., opened the lodge. The minutes of the meeting held in June were read and unanimously confirmed. The report of the Audit Committee was received and adopted. It showed, as usual, that a large sum was in hand. The ballot was unanimous in favour of the admission of Mr. Leonard Van Boole. The W.M. raised Bros. J. Turnbull and C. Bibra to the Third Degree. He installed Bro. H. J. Green, S.W. and W.M. elect, as W.M., the addresses being given by Bro. Joseph Smith, P.G.P., P.M. and Treas. The officers appointed are Bros. R. W. Williams, S.W.; C. W. Williams, J.W.; the Rev. G. R. P. Colles, Chaplain (reinvested fourth time); J. Smith, P.G.P., P.M. (the father of the lodge), Treas. (reinvested for seventh time); F. Walters, P.G.J.D. Middx, P.M., Sec. (reinvested for eighth time); W. B. Woodman (W.M. 1559), S.D.; W. Kipps, J.D.; E. W. Chetwynd, I.G.; A. Tisley, D.C.; S. Markitis, Steward; J. Gilbert, P.G. Tyler Middx, Tyler (reinvested eighth time). Bro. H. J. Green (P.M. 1538), the W.M., initiated Mr. Leonard Van Boole into Freemasonry. All the work was well done. Bro. L. Van Boole proposed his father, Bro. Mark Van Boole (late of the Mount Lebanon Lodge, Mass., U.S.A.), as a joining member. Bro. M. Van Boole is a Mason of 40 years' standing. It is always pleasurable to see fathers present when their sons are initiated into Freemasonry. Some candidates were proposed for initiation. The lodge was closed, and adjourned until Friday, Dec. 1st, at four p.m. Banquet followed. The usual toasts were given. Bro. J. J. Sinclair, I.P.M., had a Past Master's jewel of the usual value given to him. The musical arrangements were under Bro. W. Kipps, J.D., Organist to several lodges, and his successful efforts to please were well appreciated. There were present besides those named Bros. W. Ough, P.G.P., P.M.; E. J. Hogg, P.G.S., P.M.; H. Keeble, P.M.; W. E. Williams, W.M. 1538; J. S. Leaper, T. Gilloch, C. Marr, C. H. Dye, W. P. Tong, E. Searle, L. H. Williams, and others. Amongst a large number of visitors we noticed Bros. E. W. Hubback, P.G.S., P.M., &c.; J. G. Marsh, P.P.G.P. Middx, P.M.; F. R. Vine, P.M. 173; G. T. Fox, P.M. 73; T. Schmidt, P.M. 127; C. G. Rushworth, W.M. 1309; C. F. Poupard, W.M. 1446; W. Hilton, P.M. 780; E. W. Wise, P.M. 1158; T. Parker, P.M. 34; F. B. Williams, P.M. 780; C. W. Wise, P.M. 1158; T. Parker, P.M. 34; F. W. Williams, I.G. 162; T. Sutton, 102; W. Gibbs, 1538; F. Lewis, 188; H. M. Thomas, S.D. 134; J. Burford, 173; and several others whose names we were unable to ascertain.

PUNJAB.—The Ravee Lodge (No. 1215, E.C.)—This lodge held its usual monthly meeting on Monday, the 17th July, at the Masonic Hall, Lahore. Present: Bros. Warmington, W.M., D.G.P.; Chetham, I.P.M., Treas., D.G. Treas.; G. Davies, P.M., D.G. Sec.; Bull, S.W., P.D.G.P.; Donaghy, J.W., D.G. Stwd.; J. Davies, Sec.; Masson, S.D.; Jackson, J.D.; Rosamond, I.G., D.G. Stwd.; Reed, Tyler; Jessawalla, P.D.G.P.; Siddie, Gillon, and Pace. Visitors: Bros. Charde, 1394; Porter, 1483; Lemarchand, 1485; and Byramjee Ruttomjee. Lodge was opened at 8 p.m., and minutes of the June meeting confirmed. The report of the Permanent Committee was received and carried. Ballot was taken for initiation of Dr. Brij Lal Ghose, of the Mayo Hospital, which proving clear he was admitted into the mysteries of ancient Freemasonry by the W.M., the obligation being taken on those extracts from the "Veddas" which are in accordance with the tenets of the Brahma-Soomaj, the candidate being one of the elders of that body. The lecture was given by the Junior, and the charge by the Senior Warden. Bros. Hurst and Byramjee Ruttomjee were admitted as joining members. The W.M. requested the Secretary to read the resolution anent the I.P.M.'s photograph and jewel, carried at the January meeting, which having been done, the W.M. called the attention of the brethren to the result of Wor. Bro. Chetham's compliance with the first paragraph just read, which hung on the south wall, and congratulated them on having obtained so true a portrait to add to the Past Masters of Ravee. It now remained his pleasing duty on their behalf to carry out the other part of the resolution, and considered it one of the most agreeable duties he has yet been called upon to perform. He highly complimented Bro. Chetham in having been successful in obtaining the approval of the whole lodge while in the E. chair. Placing the jewel on the I.P.M.'s breast, the W.M. trusted he would look upon it as a slight acknowledgment of the good faith and ability he had shown whilst Master, and as an outward visible sign of that inward feeling of regard and esteem with which his name would ever be held in Ravee. Bro. Chetham, as the hour was somewhat advanced, said he would now only record his most sincere thanks, but should thank them more fully later in the evening. Bro. Brij Lal Ghose having given notice of his desire to be passed to the Second Degree at the next meeting, if found proficient, lodge was closed in P.H. and B.L. at 9.45 p.m. The brethren then adjourned to refreshment (not unneeded, considering the thermometer had been standing over 90° throughout the evening), and on the removal of the cloth the several toasts of obligation were given and duly honoured. The W.M. then proposed "The Health of the I.P.M., Bro. Chetham," in the warmest and most appreciative manner. The toast was received with a heartiness that showed the sentiments ex-

pressed found an echo in the feelings of every brother present. Bro. Chetham said: W. Sirs and Brethren,—In rising to return thanks for the toast which you have just drank, I must confess I did not anticipate such an ovation as you have been pleased to accord, and it is therefore the more welcome to me. When at the close of 1874 you did me the honour to elect me as your W.M. for the year 1875, I resolved to use my best endeavours to carry on the duties of the high and responsible office of the E.C. to the satisfaction of the lodge, and to do all in my power to maintain the high reputation which our lodge had attained under the respective Hiram of our several predecessors, and you can imagine how pleased I was when Wor. Bro. Warmington, shortly after assuming the chair as my successor, intimated to me that the lodge had unanimously voted me a Past Master's jewel, and my photo for the lodge, for this action on your part was an assurance to me that my services as a ruler in the Craft had met with your approbation. And now, Worshipful Sirs and brethren, I have only to thank you most heartily for the very handsome jewel just presented to me, and which you see on my left breast; and I need hardly add that I am proud to wear it, and it will ever (if such a thing be necessary) remind me of Ravee, my mother lodge, and its many members with whom I have been for so many years so happily associated; and before I end, brethren, I must not forget to thank you for the kind manner in which you responded to the toast of my health, and more especially Bro. Warmington, for the eulogistic terms in which my health has been proposed. "The Health of the Initiate" followed, the W.M. expressing his pleasure in being able to welcome among them so distinguished a member of social reform and the medical profession. In reply, the doctor, in a few words, thanked the lodge for the honour done in admitting him a member, and trusted he should prove a Mason worthy of their choice, by regulating his course of life in accordance with the beautiful precepts he that night had given him. The toast of "The Visitors," given by the W.M., was responded to by Bros. Rosamond and Charde. "The Health of the W.M. and Officers" was drunk. The evening closed with the Tyler's toast and the chorus, Happy to meet, sorry to part, happy to meet again—again; oh! happy to meet again.

INSTRUCTION.

LEWIS LODGE OF INSTRUCTION (No. 1185).—This new and rapidly increasing Lodge of Instruction has been enabled (in spite of removals and members visiting the sea-side) to hold on its way and add to its numbers. On each night of meeting there has been a good attendance of brethren. On the 12th ult. Bro. Turner, Worshipful Master elect of the mother lodge, presided, and on the 9th inst. Bro. Thomas Goodfellow, of the Domestic, 177, occupied the chair. In each case it was proposed, seconded, and carried unanimously, that a vote of thanks be presented to the Worshipful Master for the very efficient manner in which he had presided, and that the same be recorded on the minutes. Bro. J. W. Berrie occupied the chair on the 16th ult., and worked the Second Degree, Bro. Samuel Johnson acting as candidate. The last named brother has made great proficiency under the able preceptorship of Bro. Thomas Vesper, P.M., whose energy and zeal in pushing young men forward is worthy of the highest praise. Bro. Thomas Goodfellow having presented the Lewis Lodge of Instruction with a very handsome box of working tools (which were his own workmanship), it was proposed by Bro. J. W. Berrie, W.M., seconded by Bro. Samuel Johnson, and carried unanimously, that a vote of thanks be presented to him, and recorded on the minutes, for the handsome present he had made the lodge; it was also remarked that Bro. Thomas Goodfellow was calculated to make a very useful working member of the Craft. Bros. Tayler and Bone (promising officers of the mother lodge) were unanimously elected joining members of this Lodge of Instruction, and it was mutually regretted that they lived too far away to be constant attendants. On the 23rd ult. there was a very small attendance, there being only six present, but Bro. John Walker, of the Egyptian Lodge, No. 27, and Bro. H. B. Dunn, of the Sincerity, 174, and Finsbury Park, 1288, making their appearance casually, Bro. J. Walker was unanimously requested to take the chair, which he did, and in a most efficient manner performed the duties which devolved upon him to the entire satisfaction of the brethren present. This was testified by a vote of thanks, which was recorded on the minutes of the lodge. A notice was given by Bro. George Newman that on the next assembling he should move that the night of meeting of this Lodge of Instruction be changed from Wednesday to Thursday, so that it should not clash with that of the Finsbury Park Lodge of Instruction, and the brethren of the north of London might be enabled to support this Lodge of Instruction, which is the most northerly now

Mark Masonry

ST. MARK'S LODGE (No. 1).—The September meeting of the above lodge was held on Tuesday, the 29th ult., at the Masons' Hall Tavern, Bro. the Rev. P. H. Ernest Brette, B.D. Grand Chaplain, in the chair, supported by Bros. Charles Horsley, J.W., W.M. elect; H. C. Levander, H. A. Dubois, Stephens, Simmons, Cubitt, Wilkins, W. T. Howe, George Newman, Newton, E. Thiellay, and George Kenning. Visitor: Bro. Smith, 52. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. Bro. H. C. Levander, then installed Bro. Charles Horsley as W.M. for the ensuing year. Bro. Horsley appointed and invested his officers. The Treasurer read the report of the Audit Committee. The lodge being closed the brethren retired to dinner. The usual toasts being ably proposed by the W.M., and responded to in a most enthusiastic manner. A valuable gold jewel was

presented to Bro. Rev. P. H. E. Brette for his valuable services to the lodge. Bro. Brette replied in a very able and feeling speech. A jewel was also presented to Bro George Kenning for services rendered to the lodge.

Ancient and Accepted Rite.

TRURO.—Cornwall Rose Croix Chapter. —This chapter met at Truro on Tuesday week, and being the first Masonic assembly of any kind in the town since the decease of Bro. Solomon, P.M., &c. (who was a member of the chapter), the M.W.S. in the chair, Sir Frederick Martin Williams, Bart., M.P., 33°, very feelingly referred to the loss which Freemasonry had sustained in the death of their sincerely lamented friend and brother. To know Brother Solomon was to respect him, and his name was quite a "household word" in the province. His accurate tastes and opinions were sought after from all parts, for he was a man of no ordinary ability, and his judgment was especially sound and reliable. Had the funeral partaken of a Masonic character he would certainly have attended, without regard to his personal convenience, and so would some hundreds of brethren also, who would have been ready to shew their respect for the deceased by accompanying his remains to their "earthly resting place." In the absence of Colonel Peard, the M.W.S., he moved the following resolution, which on being seconded by Bro. Hughan, 30°, P.M.W.S., &c., was unanimously carried by the various representatives of the Province who were present:—"That it is with heartfelt sorrow that the Cornwall Rose Croix Chapter, Truro, receives the announcement of the decease of the Worshipful Bro. Thomas Solomon, J.P., P. Prov. S.G.W. of Cornwall, whose long and faithful attachment to the Craft ended only with his life. The members of the chapter, in the death of their distinguished brother, are called upon to mourn the loss of a man of uprightness and integrity, of more than ordinary ability, and a most useful citizen; whose firm affections for the fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons, steadfast adherence to its teachings and principles, and the dignity and fidelity with which he filled the high offices and discharged the important trusts committed to him deserve the most honourable mention and a lasting record." The minutes were read by Bro. Charles Truscott, 30°, who is a model Recorder, to whom the chapter is much indebted for its success. Three candidates were perfected by Bro. Sir F. M. Williams, Bart., M.P., 33° (who has never missed a meeting since the Chapter was formed) assisted by the well-known Bro. Hughan, the "friend in need" of the chapter. The attendance was fair, and amongst the members were Bros. E. D. Anderson, Second General; Rev. W. H. Bloxsome, M.A.; William Lake, D.C.; Rev. George Ross, M.A. (who had come many miles to be present); and W. Grey and T. J. Smith. The members passed a resolution to refrain from "perfecting" any candidates at the next meeting, as they hoped Bro. Hughan would favour them with a history of the Ancient and Accepted Rite for the information of all concerned, and especially for the instruction of the newly-admitted brethren.

Red Cross of Constantine.

ORIGINAL OR PREMIER CONCLAVE OF ENGLAND.—The September meeting of the above conclave was held on Monday, 4th inst., at the Café Royal, Regent-street, V.E. Sir Knt. Henry A. Dubois, G.A., Most Puissant Sovereign, Treasurer, in the chair, supported by Sir Knts. Rev. Philip H. Ernest Brette, Joshua Nunn, P. M. Holden, H. C. Levander, R. Wentworth Little, Colonel Peters, E. H. Thellay, W. H. Hubbard, George Kenning, J. Mason, J. G. Marsh, H. H. Shirley, and others. Visitor: Sir Knt. Smith. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. Sir Knt. Little informed the conclave of the very kind and hearty welcome accorded to the deputation from the Premier Conclave by the Edinburgh Conclave, No. 1, on the occasion of the enthronement of Sir Knt. Col. Burdett in Edinburgh on the 21st ult. Sir Knt. Little proposed, and Sir Knt. Levander seconded, that Sir Knts. Ramsey, Tracey, Mercer, and Brown, all of the Edinburgh Conclave, No. 1, should be elected honorary members of the Premier Conclave, No. 1, which on being put to the meeting was carried with acclamation.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF DEVON.

The annual Provincial Grand Lodge of Freemasons of Devon was held on Thursday, the 31st ult., at Southmolton, the Right Worshipful the Rev. John Huyshe, M.A., P.G.C., Provincial Grand Master, presiding. There was a very large gathering of brethren, the Three Towns being largely represented. The following Prov. Grand Officers were present:—L. P. Metham, P.G.D., D.P.G.M.; W. G. Rogers, P.G. Sec.; Rev. W. Whitley, G. Chap.; W. S. Pasmore, G. Treas.; W. H. Haycock, S.G.D.; S. Willoughby, G.S.B.; D. Attwood, G. Purst.; S. Jones, P.P.S.G.D.; V. Bird, P.P.G.T.; J. Brown, P.P. G.P.; H. M. Body, P.G.S.; J. Gould, P.G.D.C.; H. C. Diston, P.G.C.; J. Wood, P.P.A.G.D.C.; Rev. T. W. Lemon, P.P.G.C.; S. B. Colston, P.G.S.; S. Chapple, P.P.A.G.D.C.; J. Edwards, P.P.G.O.; C. Leigh, P.P.G. Sec.; T. B. Harvey, P.P.G.D.C.; J. B. Gover, P.P.C.D.C.; F. H. Woodforde, P.P.S.G.W. Somerset; J. Mills, P.P.G.O.; P. D. Michelmores, P.G.S.; W. H. Elphinstone, P.P.J.G.W.; J. G. Shanks, P.P. J.G.W.; J. Harper, G.G.S.; J. Tanner-Davey, P.S. G.W.; W. Cole, P.P.G.P.; J. Way, P.P.G. Tyler; D. Attwood, P.G.P.; W. R. Woodman, P.G.S.B. England; J. Edwards, P.P.G.O.; Rev. T. Russell, P.P.G.; C. Oxon, P.J.G.W.; C. J. Harland, P.P.J.G.D.; W. H. Barker, P.G.R.; J. Dand, P.P. G.S.B.; W. Oram, P.P.G.D.C.; B. Stark, P.P.G.O.;

J. H. Tonkin, P.G.S.; J. M. Hifley, P.P.G.A.D.C.; L. E. Westcott, P.P.G.S. Wks.; W. Browning, P.P. G.D.C. There were also present Immediate Past Masters R. G. Bird, Sec. 1550; J. Rendle, Sec. 1247; J. G. Johnson, 1402; T. Higgs, 106; J. Murch, 1099; W. E. Warren, 1358; Past Masters T. Goodall, 954; E. Roseveare, 1099; J. May, 223 and 159; D. Watson, 328; S. Loran, 1443; W. Knott, 372; G. T. Barry, 248; F. J. Pratt, 1396; W. T. Pilditch, 156; J. J. Drake, 1396; J. Hill, 251; J. Hancock, 251; C. Godtschalk, 1255; J. T. Shapland, 421; W. H. Gillman, 1099; H. Woodgate, 847; A. Lethbridge, 159; J. T. Widgery, 421; J. A. Kingdon, Treas. 421; J. F. Long, 59; J. E. Curteis, 189; R. B. Twose, 105 and 1550; R. Lake, 1135; W. J. List, 251; W. Britton, 251; T. Ebsworthy 251; R. H. Watson, 710; W. H. Brewer, 251; E. Furse, 421; W. F. Quicke, 49; G. Evans, 1181; A. Thomson, 39; W. Manning, 421; W. Haynes, 106; G. F. England, 1332; J. Orchard, 161; J. P. Phillips, 223; J. Baxter, 954; H. Cole, 1091. Worshipful Masters: J. L. Towner, 272; E. Hawke, 159; W. H. Terrell, 202; E. Tozer, 112; J. Gould, 1099; B. Barber, 1254; G. S. Richardson, 1212; S. G. Hearle, 1255; J. C. Fly, 1247; F. Day, 241; H. Stork, 1396; J. C. Edmunds, 444; W. H. Thomas, 70; J. Pigott, 328; W. E. Williams, 1125; D. Box, 156; J. H. Toms, 1091; J. Rowe, 1332; J. B. Royers, 1550; W. Harries, 1205. Senior Wardens: J. W. Avery, 156; J. H. Stephens, 159; H. Bailey, 202; H. Sharland, 1125; J. G. Bickle, 1212; W. S. Walter, 1099; W. H. Rickard, 954; W. Boyle, 251; J. Woodman, 444. Junior Wardens: T. Gibbons, 1205; J. Andrews, 159; R. Marshall, 202; J. Read, 847; H. H. Arnold, 1099; J. R. Dugdale, 954; R. P. Morrison, 251; B. J. Fisher, 444; J. Stocker, 39; W. G. Lacey, 106; W. Hearder, 105.

The lodge having been opened in due form, and the minutes of the previous lodge meetings having been read and confirmed, the Secretary, Bro. Rogers, P.P.G.S.W., read the report, which showed that there are forty-six lodges in Devon, with 2350 members. The report was very favourable, inasmuch as the whole of the lodges had made their annual returns, and £268 6s. 6d. had been received from these lodges.—The Treasurer, Bro. Pasmore, read the financial report, which showed the receipts for the year to be £473 14s. 1d. Out of the money received £52 10s. 0d. had been given to the Devon and Exeter Hospital, £105 5s. 0d. to the Portescue Annuity Fund, £26 5s. 0d. to the Masonic Boys' School, and 10 other gifts to relatives of deserving brethren, £61 0s. 0d. These amounts, with sundry expenses in working the province, left a balance of £170 14s. 3d. in the hands of the Treasurer. The Portescue Annuity Fund showed that £256 4s. 11d. had been received, and £261 2s. 5d. expended, leaving a balance due to the Treasurer of £5 17s. 6d.

Bro. Gover read the report of the Committee of Petitions, which presented the most favourable aspect yet shown.

Bro. J. E. Curteis proposed, and Bro. Godtschalk seconded a proposition that £100 should be given to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Fund. This was carried unanimously.

The following officers were appointed and invested for the following year:—

J. E. Curteis, 189	P.G.S.W.
J. Harper, 251	P.G.J.W.
Rev. H. Lansdale, 421	P.G. Chap.
Rev. Noel Plate	P.G. Chap.
J. J. Avery, 1550	P.G. Treas.
F. Day, 421	P.G. Reg.
W. G. Rogers, 112	P.G. Sec.
H. M. Body, 1332	P.G.S.D.
C. Godtschalk, 1255	P.G.J.D.
S. B. Colston, 248	P.G.S. Wks.
J. A. Orchard, 164	P.G.D.C.
J. H. Tonkin, 282	P.G.A.D.C.
P. D. Michelmores, 1138	P.G.S.B.
W. Quicke, 39	P.G.O.
W. Haynes, 106	P.G. Pur.

STEWARDS: D. Watson, 328; G. Evans, 1181; F. J. Pratt, 1396; J. T. Goodridge, 1358; J. P. Phillips, 223; C. Stribling, 70; J. May, 159.

At the request of the Provincial Grand Master, Bro. Metham delivered a very impressive oration to the brethren, which, we hope, will soon be printed and distributed in all the lodges of Devon.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF THE NORTH AND EAST RIDINGS OF YORKSHIRE.

A Provincial Grand Lodge was held by special appointment, in the Central Hall, Redcar, on the invitation of the Marwood Lodge, No. 1244, on Wednesday, the 2nd day of August, 1876. There were present the Right Hon. the Earl of Zetland, R.W. Provincial Grand Master, on the Throne; W. Bro. John Pearson Bell, Esq., M.D., J.P., Past Grand Deacon of England, 57, Deputy Provincial Grand Master; the Present Provincial Grand Officers many Past Provincial Grand Officers, the Worshipful Masters, Past Masters, and Wardens, of the various lodges in the province, and others.

The Provincial Grand Lodge having been opened in due form, and with solemn prayer, the Prov. Grand Secretary read the minutes of the last Provincial Grand Lodge, held at Hull, on the 6th October, 1875, which were confirmed.

Letters of apology for absence were received from W. Bro. Sir James Meek, P.P.S.G.W.; W. H. Porritt, P.J. G.W.; H. O. Piercy, P.P.J.G.W.; J. H. Handyside P.P.J.G.W.; J. Brooke, J.P.G.D.; and E. Mason P.P.J.G.D.

The Prov. Grand Secretary then read the report of the

Board of Benevolence, showing that the board had that day voted the sum of £10 to Bro. Thos. Shaw, of the Old Globe Lodge, No. 200. The report was unanimously confirmed.

The Prov. Grand Treasurer read his annual balance sheet, which, having been audited by the W. Masters of the Humber and Lennox Lodges and found correct, was unanimously adopted.

The W. Deputy Prov. Grand Master then, in accordance with notice given, moved: "That this Provincial Grand Lodge, with the view of affording increased and continuous support to the Masonic Charitable Institutions, strongly recommends, that every member of the Craft in this province do voluntarily agree to subscribe for that purpose the sum of sixpence per quarter. Such sum to be charged in, and paid with, his usual quarterly payments to the Secretary of the lodge to which he may belong, and to be used for the benefit of such of the central Masonic charities as the majority of the members of his lodge may, from time to time, determine." The resolution was seconded by W. Bro. J. W. Woodall, P.S.P.G.W. A long discussion followed, in which the Prov. Grand Secretary, W. Bro. Bro. Balmford, P.P.G.O., Dr. Walton, P.P.G.S.B., J. B. Thompson, P.M. 1244, P.P.G. Reg., Durham, and J. Thompson, P.G.S.B. Charity Representative, took part. The motion was carried unanimously.

The W. Prov. Grand Treasurer then, in accordance with notice given, moved: "That the best thanks of this Provincial Grand Lodge be tendered to the Investigation Committee, appointed by the Prov. Grand Lodge of West Yorkshire, for their excellent report on the financial condition and state of tuition in the Boys' School; and this Provincial Grand Lodge expresses a hope that their exertions will be continued." The Prov. Grand Treasurer disclaimed any intention of attacking Bro. Binckes, whom he believed to be a thoroughly efficient and valuable officer. The bad management complained of was the result of the negligence of the House Committee, who were quite incompetent to conduct the affairs of the school, &c. He then read a number of extracts from the published reports of the institution to establish the statements made in the report of the West Yorkshire Committee. The motion was seconded by W. Bro. Balmford, P.P.G.O., supported by W. Bro. Dr. Pyburn, P.M. 1010, and carried. The Prov. Grand Secretary was requested to notify the resolution to the Investigation Committee.

The various lodges in the province, all of which were represented, then communicated. The returns showed the total of 1599 subscribing members.

The R.W. Provincial Grand Master then appointed and invested the following brethren as Provincial Grand Officers for the ensuing year, (with the exception of the Prov. Grand Treasurer, who was re-elected by the Provincial Grand Lodge:—

Hon. W. T. Orde Powlett, W.M. 123	Prov. S.G.W.
William Waller, P.M. 1244	Prov. J.G.W.
Rev. Wm. Buswell, M.A. 1244	Prov. G. Chaplain.
James Pyburn, M.D., P.M. 1010	Prov. G. Reg.
Michael Charles Peck, P.M. 1040	Prov. G. Sec.
John Sutherst, W.M. 561	Prov. S.G.D.
Henry Preston, P.M. 57	Prov. J.G.D.
Thomas N. Marwood, P.M. 312	Prov. G.S. of Wks.
Richard Geo. Smith, P.M. 734	Prov. G. D. of Cer.
James S. Moss, W.M. 312	Prov. G. Swd.Br.
Charles H. Hunt, 250	Prov. G. Org.
John Ward, 236	Prov. G. Purst.
Thomas Crier, 57	Prov. G. Tyler.

Six Provincial Grand Stewards to be nominated by the Royal, Camalodunum, Londesborough, Kingston, Sykes, and Marwood Lodges.

The R.W. Provincial Grand Master then addressed the Provincial Grand Lodge, congratulating the province upon its prosperity and unanimity. He remarked with pleasure the great increase of the Craft in the Province: last year they had 1570 subscribing members, this year would doubtless exhibit a large accession of numbers, as warrants had been issued for the formation of three new lodges—the Handyside, No. 1618, at Saltburn, which would be constituted August 3rd, the Eboracum, No. 1611, at York, on the 7th inst., and the De la Pole, No. 1605, at Hull, on the 5th October. His lordship observed that he intended to constitute the two first-named personally, and invited the attendance of all then present. The R.W. Prov. Grand Master also stated that having received an invitation from the Lennox Lodge, he purposed holding the Provincial Grand Lodge next year at Richmond, when he trusted to be favoured with the company of a large assembly of the Craft.

The R.W. Provincial Grand Master then proposed a vote of thanks to the brethren of the Marwood Lodge, and especially to Bro. Waller, the I.P.M., for their excellent arrangements for the accommodation of Provincial Grand Lodge, which was seconded by the W. Dep. Prov. Grand Master, and suitably acknowledged by Bro. Waller, P.J.G. Warden.

The Provincial Grand Lodge was then closed in due form, and with solemn prayer.

A banquet, at which the R.W. Provincial Grand Master presided, was subsequently held at the Coatham Hotel when a very large number of brethren dined. Due honours to the Craft were observed, and a most enjoyable evening was passed.

The installation meeting of the Panmure Mark Lodge was held on Monday last, at the Balham Hotel, Balham, when Bro. Daniel Trusler was installed W.M. by Bro. Thomas Poore. A full report will appear in our next.

The foundation stone of the New Poor House and Lunatic Asylum, Greenock, and the New Harbour, Ayr, will be laid with Masonic honours by Bro. Sir Michael R. Shaw Stewart, Bart, Most Worshipful Grand Master Mason of Scotland. The former on the 12th inst., and the latter on the 19th inst.

MASONIC ARCHÆOLOGY.

The study of Masonic Archæology is one of the most interesting of pursuits. For in one sense it is still a "terra incognita" to most of us. The school of earlier Masonic students and writers which began with Anderson and closed with Oliver had their merits no doubt, but hardly come up to our ideal of what is requisite for the real unravelling of the twisted skeins of Masonic Archæology to-day. They were a little too hasty in induction and too easy in acceptance. They did not sufficiently dig and delve beneath the surface. They accepted ex parte statements, and listened too credulously to the traditional authority of the past. That is to say, they did not analyze or sift the conflicting legends of the Order, they did not subject to the crucial test of careful criticism statements and authorities they found, ready made to their hands. Anderson, and Preston, and Hutchinson were all writers of great merit and industry, and though Anderson and Preston accepted the Legend of the Guilds, they did so rather on the authority of the Guild tradition and Operative constitution than on that of any other explanation of their history. Hence their abiding value to us. They clearly knew of no knightly origin of Freemasonry, no hermetic grades. At least if they did, they are singularly silent on the subject. If Hermetic Masonry existed in their time it seems odd that they did not allude to it, and we are inclined to think that if evidence can be adduced of the actuality of Hermetic Masonry in 1721, for instance, it will rest on that Rosicrucian use of Masonry which has at times largely marked, more or less, the descendants of Rosencrantz. But the history of the guilds is after all, as our oldest writer puts it, the history of Freemasonry. Oliver who leant to that theory during the greater portion of his literary labours, in his old age became a quasi convert to the High Grade and Hermetic theory, and appeared to question the antiquity of Craft Masonry. Later studies and more recent students have, however, made it pretty plain, that at the present moment, three main views occupy the minds of Masonic students, though they actually are somewhat antagonistic to each other. The one is the pure guild theory, which goes back from the revival of 1717, to mediæval and early guilds, to Saxon guilds and Roman guilds, and then link on Freemasonry with Hebrew and Phœnician Sodalities, with Greek and Egyptian associations, and to some extent with the mysteries. Then there is the view of Lessing and others, including Nicholai, that our Freemasonry, is, so to say, Bateman, or Ashmolean, the product of an Hermetic Society, but absolutely separate from the operative Orders, and whose great era is the revival of 1717. Then there is the theory of Buchan and others, that Freemasonry is only the adaptation and revival of operative usages, and that its origin as a purely speculative Order dates only from 1717. There is a school of Masonic writers, which seems still to cling to an Hermetic origin, to that view partially adopted by some German writers, that there was an Hermetic Society, from which Masonry has come down to us, and that the true solution of Masonic history is, after all, to be found in the High Grades. We think we may dismiss from our consideration the knightly theory of the Chevalier Ramsay, as we are not aware that we have any writer now, English or foreign, who really believes in Templarism, as the explanation of Freemasonry. What the connection of the Templars with Freemasonry, if any, was, has got yet to be shown. We confess that we still hold that there was a connection, though, such as it was, in our opinion, it came from the Guilds to the Templars, not from the Templars to the Guilds. The idea once entertained that the Templars brought back Freemasonry from the secret sodalities of the East, we believe to be historically untenable, and opposed to the actual feelings and relations of those days. We see then what a field is opened out to the Masonic archæological student, how wide, how diversified, how interesting in itself, and though people like to laugh at "Dry-as-dusts," and criticize the discussions of antiquaries, and even doubt the value of such studies, we

feel sure that they are both innocent and elevating, useful and commendable. We all of us like to know the true history of what concerns us, at least if we are thinking, not merely ruminating, animals, and the history of Freemasonry has a peculiar charm for the Masonic student, inasmuch as it appears to him to be the history of an universal Order, takes him back through the lapse of ages, to link him on to mighty epochs, and wonderful centuries of the past, and to bring him into contact, so to say, with the actual progress of civilization, and the arts, of all that dignifies, all that lightens up the life and the struggles of man. The larger view of the pure guild history of Freemasonry naturally takes us back straight away to the past; our evidences are to be sought in the muniment rooms of the great, and the collections of cathedral chapters, in the archives of the British Museum, and in extant, but so far unknown and unedited MSS. What an amount of information may yet be lying, for instance, unknown of in those many hundred rolls, containing returns from the various guilds tempore Richard 2nd, of which Toulmin Smith has printed only a few, but those making us longing to see all printed. In respect of the guild theory, there is no limit to the amount of evidence yet to be unearthed and brought forward, as the patient enquirer turns up one old MS. after another, from some dusty corner, some long neglected receptacle, and the hidden evidence of years long since dead and gone, speaks to us in its simplicity and clearness, with irresistible power. And this work is yet in its infancy, remember. So far, for instance, the fabric rolls and expense rolls of only some half-dozen of our cathedrals have been brought out for publication, and even the Tanner MSS., in the Bodleian, which contain the expenses of St. Paul's, under Sir Christopher Wren, are practically unknown. Still the documents exist, and are decipherable, and time and patience may yet give us a perfect insight into that guild life, which played such an important part in the domestic and national history of England for so many years, and did so much for the noblest of all arts, Architecture, both for the glory of God and the good of man. But here begins the real difficulty of our whole enquiry, the one "Crux," so to say, in all the studies of Masonic archæologists and all the treatises of Masonic historians. Given all this in, so says Objector, what do you gain? Well, we cannot give an answer to-day, as it would be all too long, but we propose in our subsequent papers to consider critically the three various views, or perhaps after all four views of Masonic history, and to note the difficulties attendant on each. Not one of them all is free from objection, and even all the results of Masonic archæology, however true and trusty, will, we fear, at the utmost and the best, be only after all a realization of what is possible and probable, not of what is absolutely true or incontestably proved.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

OXFORD LOCAL EXAMINATION, MAY, 1876.

At the last Oxford Local Examination three boys were successful in passing the senior examination, and obtained the title of "Associate in Art," viz., W. Beaumont, aged 16, August 26th 1876; R. Bryant, aged 16, January 27th, 1877; W. R. Parker, aged 16, February 4th, 1878.

These boys passed in honours the Junior Cambridge Local at Christmas, 1875. They, therefore, did not begin to prepare for the Oxford examination until after the Christmas holidays, and had less than four months to work up the special subjects. These same lads also passed some of the science and art examinations.

All three examinations came within the first nine months of Dr. Morris' appointment to the head mastership.

The Phoenix Lodge, No. 914, at Port Royal, Jamaica, which was established specially for naval and military brethren on the station, has completed a new convenient Masonic Hall. A warrant for the formation of a Royal Arch Chapter has also lately been granted to it. Masonry is flourishing on the Island.

We hear on good authority that the price paid by the proprietors of "Lloyd's Weekly News" for the "Daily Chronicle and Clerkenwell News" was over £30,000. The transaction was conducted through the agency of Mr. W. D. B. Johnson (C. Mitchell and Co.), of Red Lion Court, Fleet-street.

THE PRINCE OF WALES' VISIT TO GLASGOW.

The Lord Provost, in moving the adoption of the minutes of the magistrates' committee, said all present would be highly gratified at the fact that the Prince of Wales had consented to come to Glasgow, somewhere about the middle of October, to lay the foundation stone of the New Post Office. His lordship had found in several quarters that it was believed the work in hand was the mere adding of a wing to the old buildings, whereas, the fact was the whole structure was to be taken down, and an erection both ornamental and commodious built. (Applause). The pillars in front would all be of polished granite, and he thought the Government were deserving of thanks for giving them such an elegant and useful Post Office, and in a style altogether which they could not get from any previous Government, however much they had fought for it. Regarding the Prince of Wales' visit he had the honour after the receipt of the correspondence contained in the minutes, to apply to his Royal Highness to ascertain if the Princess was to accompany him. He also wished to know if his Royal Highness desired to lay the foundation stone with Masonic honours, and suggested a review of the volunteers on the occasion, a proceeding which would gratify them very much. He offered in the event of the Prince remaining in Glasgow over the night to give up his house for his use. His lordship had since received in reply the following very gracious letter:—

"Marlborough House, Pall Mall, S.W.,

August 26, 1876.

"My Lord Provost,—Having laid your letter before the Prince of Wales, I am directed to acquaint you that the Princess of Wales will accompany His Royal Highness in his visit to Glasgow. (Loud applause.) In reply to your query, whether it would be agreeable to the Prince to have the ceremony of laying the foundation stone of the new Post Office conducted with Masonic honours, His Royal Highness considers that it is not desirable that the usages of the Masonic Institution should as a rule form part of the public ceremony on an occasion like the present, and would prefer that they should not be part of the programme you have submitted. It is most agreeable at all times, the Prince bids me say, for His Royal Highness to meet the volunteers, whether in England or in Scotland, but the assemblage of any considerable portion of them for a review necessarily involves some arrangement and inconvenience. His Royal Highness will therefore forego the gratification which a review of the volunteer forces in Scotland would otherwise have afforded him. His Royal Highness greatly appreciates your kind offer of placing your house and servants at the disposal of the Princess and himself, and had their Royal Highnesses remained at Glasgow a second day they would have gladly availed themselves of it. I have the honour to remain, my Lord Provost, your very faithful servant,

(Signed) "W. KNOLLYS."

A Glasgow paper says:—"We understand the Lord Provost, feeling that the citizens would be greatly disappointed should the Prince of Wales visit the city to lay the foundation stone of the new Post Office without Masonic honours, and without reviewing the Volunteer force, communicated with his Royal Highness on the subject, through Mr. Marwick, the Town Clerk. Mr. Marwick, and Mr. Carrick, the City Architect, had a personal interview with his Royal Highness at Abergeldie Castle, on Monday, the 4th inst., and made known the loyal desires of the citizens, and we are happy to state that the Prince has graciously expressed his willingness to lay the foundation stone with Masonic honours, and also to review the Volunteers on the occasion of his visit. His Royal Highness will be accompanied by the Princess of Wales, and several of the Royal children.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

On Monday, August 28th, the boys of the Royal Masonic School to the number of 175 went, by the kind invitation of Mr. T. B. Smithies, to his house at Earldam Road, Wood Green, where they were regaled with a very substantial tea provided for them, under Mrs. and Miss Smithies' hospitable arrangements.

As the evening turned out very wet the boys had to be kept under cover of a very spacious tent until the hour for them to return. The time, however, did not pall on their hands, nor did they lack amusement. Mr. Smithies who knows how to tell a good tale to boys, told some capital stories, entertaining and instructing his youthful audience for more than an hour.

Mr. Smithies takes an interest in short-hand writing, and advised the elder boys to devote a little time to its study. As an encouragement, he offered to give two prizes to be competed for annually.

Dr. and Mrs. Morris, and daughters, were present, together with Mr. Jenkinson and Mr. Brocklehurst.

Mr. Smithies is not a Mason, but he most kindly invited Bro. Durrant (the W.M. of the Wood Green Lodge) and his wife to meet his young guests.

Three hearty cheers were given by the boys to their host before leaving.

WEST SMITHFIELD LODGE, No. 1623.—The consecration of this lodge will take place on Thursday next at the New Market Hotel, King-street, Snow Hill, at half-past two o'clock punctual. The ceremonies will be performed by V.W. Bro. John Hervey, Grand Secretary, the officer appointed by the M.W.G.M., assisted by the W. Bro. Col. Creaton, P.G.D.; Bros. W. Ough, P.G.P.; H. G. Buss, P.M., P.G.J.W. Middx.; the Rev. P.M. Holden, P.G.C. Middx. Joseph Smith, P.G.P.; T. W. Adams; and G. S. Elliott are the principal officers designate. The indefatigable Bro. Frederick Walters, P.G.J.D. Middx., P.M., &c., is the Secretary pro tem.

THE BULGARIAN ATROCITIES.

At a meeting to protest against the Turkish atrocities in Bulgaria, at Nottingham, Mr. Saul Isaac, M.P., one of the members for the borough, moved a resolution, and read the following letter from Mr. Bourke, Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs:—

"Coaltown, Haddington, N.B., Aug. 27.

"My dear Sir,—I am not all surprised that your constituents should be shocked and indignant at the accounts which have recently reached England of the dreadful deeds which have been perpetrated in Bulgaria. You are aware that the Government have remonstrated in the strongest terms with the Porte upon the subject, and have told them that these events have had the effect of alienating the country from Turkey in a manner which may prove disastrous to the Ottoman Empire. For my own part I care not how serious the insurrection was, which was fomented by foreigners, or how sanguinary were the intentions and facts of the insurgent Christians. The carnage and devastation by which it was suppressed cannot be justified, and reflects shame upon the Government under which these events took place, and infamy upon the actors in the dreadful crimes which have been perpetrated. I believe that our Ambassador at Constantinople has never lost an opportunity of doing everything that diplomacy can do to arrest the bloodshed and to secure punishment for the guilty. But the Russian and Austrian Ambassadors, in common with Sir H. Elliott, were not informed of the atrocities which had taken place until the worst was over. You may be quite sure that the Prime Minister and Lord Derby feel as indignant at these events as any other two men in the country, and mean to act in accordance with those feelings; but heart-rending as the Bulgarian massacres have been, we must all recollect that English statesmen are not the rulers of Turkey, and cannot use physical force in the internal provinces of the Empire upon a few days' notice of the danger. The first duty of English statesmen is a regard for the interests of this country; but Turkey knows as well as you do that the Government of England will never support tyranny, oppression, or cruelty, wherever it may be found, and that, as the Queen of England treats her Mahomedan subjects with justice and mercy, we have a right to demand from the head of the Mahomedan faith similar treatment for the various Christian races who live in the territories of the Sultan.—Believe me, very faithfully yours, ROBERT BOURKE."

BUDGET OF THE COURT OF CHANCERY.—The accounts of the Paymaster-General of the Court of Chancery from the 1st of September, 1874, to the 31st of August, 1875, with the report of the Controller and Auditor General thereon, was a few days ago presented to Parliament. It is an exceedingly interesting document; from it we learn that the sums dealt with are enormous, and every year increasing. On the debtor side of the account we find £15,743,378 19s. 3d. as the amount of cash, and £71,508, 116 12s. 6d. the amount of the securities (exclusive of foreign currencies), or in round numbers over £87,000,000. On the creditor side a balance of £4,590,890 2s. 11d. cash, and £64,639,853 12s. 3d. securities (exclusive of foreign currencies), or about £69,000,000 in round numbers. It appears that the bulk (£46,732, 358 12s. 11d.) is invested in Consols, the remainder in Reduced Three per Cents., New Three per Cents., Bank stock, India stock, Metropolitan Consolidated stock, Exchange Bills, preference stock, and debentures of the leading railway companies, &c. American securities amount to 437,876 dols. 4c. and Indian to 37,20,638r. 4s. A statement of the boxes and other miscellaneous effects remaining in the Bank of England to the account of the Paymaster-General contains among other curious items the following:—A box containing small articles of jewellery; three chests (date 1867); a box containing documents of title, jewels, trinkets, watches, and personal ornaments; foreign bonds and securities belonging to the estate of a person of unsound mind; five chests and one box containing plate and jewellery to a like account; a box (dated 1868), with diamond necklace, coronet, and earrings; a bag of clipped money, &c. (date August 1776); a debenture dated 1799; a box marked "Securities for legacies," two assignments of five tallies, &c. Next follow the accounts of the National Debt Commissioners as to funds transferred to them under the Court of Chancery Funds Act, 1872. It appears that the Commissioners have dealt with large sums of cash and stock belonging to the suitors, and that a balance of £1,286,110 13s. 7d. remains in hand. The report of the Controller and Auditor General contains some observations or suggestions adopted since the last account was presented, and proceeds to give some statistics. The number of causes, &c. (32,687), shows an increase of 860 over the preceding year; number of draughts paid 46,005, against 45,625 last year; number of transactions by the deposit account, 13,883, or 2,482 less than last year. This is accounted for by the limit being fixed at £10 instead of £3; amount of money on deposit, £1,073,284, as against £883,886—a considerable increase. The report concludes with some general observations and suggestions, from which it appears that the Controller has been in communication with the Chancery Paymaster as to dormant accounts, a list of which ought long since to have been published in pursuance of the Rules under the Court of Chancery Funds Act; the reason assigned for the delay in making this list public is that the current business of the office is so heavy.

A Special General Court of the Governors and subscribers of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls will be held this day (Saturday), at twelve o'clock precisely, at the Freemasons' Hall. Further particulars may be found in the advertisement which appears on the front page.

THE ANTIQUITY AND OBJECTS OF FREEMASONRY.

The tendency to venerate ancient institutions is doubtless one of the chief attractions of Masonry. It is not a plant of yesterday, but a tree whose mossy trunk and giant growth speak to us of past ages. Kings have participated in its ceremonies, and men greater than kings have adorned its annals. If, however, its only merit was age, its destiny would be decay. Age alone contains no principle of its morality, and if Masonry had nothing but its ancient origin to recommend it there would be no sound reason to expect that it would survive, much less that it would grow. There are talismanic words implied in its organization—"liberty, equality, fraternity"—terms grossly abused, but in the Order of Free and Accepted Masons full of real and practical significance; because one of its first lessons is resistance to despotism, both ecclesiastical and civil, and the instinctive antagonism between Masonry and ecclesiasticism is the most emphatic testimony to the spirit of personal liberty, which is one of the distinguishing traits of the Order. Equality, not by lowering, but by elevating to a common platform, where all meet on the level, with equal rights and duties, and equal claims to mutual respect, if faithful to the obligations voluntarily assumed. Fraternity, in whose bonds the most ancient and inveterate prejudices are melted in the solvent of brotherly intercourse, the heirs of the most ancient civilization join hands with the missionaries of the youngest civilization, and Hebrews and Gentiles, Celt and Saxon, men of the most diverse origin and nationality, meet in the interchange of kindly offices and furnish some evidence of the possibility of the attainment of a true brotherhood of man.

These are grand lessons, imperatively taught by its origin and history; but they are all. It teaches the force of associated action, the inestimable value of union in a good cause, the superiority of harmony over discord, and the power of combined benevolence. It furnishes, too, a noble and inspiring lesson of the worth and dignity of labour, because in the toil of Operative Masonry, which reared in the Middle Ages some of the grandest edifices ever conceived by human genius, and in the migrations of architects and builders from place to place, where such works to be executed, the Order of Free and Accepted Masons had its growth and development, if not its origin, and the whole spirit of its precepts and ceremonies is to exalt and dignify that intelligent labour which has adorned all civilized lands with monuments of its skill, only less majestic and enduring than the granite monuments reared in the beginning by the hand of the Great Architect and Father of all—devout reverence for whose being, and filial trust in whose Providence is taught from first to last in every stage and degree of progress in the mysteries of the Order.

Like all human institutions, while it has these and other uses, it is not absolutely free from abuse. Its obligations do not release a man from his duties of citizenship, if properly regarded. Nor can they conflict with those duties to any extent whatever. A judge on the bench deciding cases; a jury in the jury-box, sworn to look only at the law and at the evidence; a witness on the witness-stand sworn to tell the truth—the whole truth, and nothing but the truth; a voter, bound upon his honour and conscience to cast his ballot for the most worthy candidate for his suffrage—will find no embarrassment in the discharge of these high duties from any Masonic obligation; nor will any intelligent Mason, of any creed, find in Masonry a substitute for religious faith. It is only in its perversion that these things could ever be found. Its true spirit is to incite to greater fidelity in the discharge of every duty—religious, political and social—and thereby to aid in establishing upon more lasting foundations that noble edifice of civil and religious liberty, reared by the toil and sacrifices of our fathers and which it devolves upon us to preserve and transmit to posterity.—Ex. Gov. Haight, Cal.

DEPOPULATION OF FRANCE.—A correspondent in "L'Explorateur" calls attention to some remarkable results of the slow rate of increase of the population of France. He refers to the statement of the Roman Catholic Bishop of Wellington, New Zealand, that British emigration to that colony is at present going on at the rate of at least 30,000 yearly, and to the fact that the population of the colony is now 300,000, exclusive of Maories. Had New Zealand been a French colony, as at one time it was nearly becoming, the European population would probably have been counted by hundreds instead of thousands. In support of his statement the writer refers to the Marquesas, to Mayotte with its admirable roadstead, to Nossi Bé, the gateway to Madagascar, and other French possessions. It has already become a question whether these islands, of which France took possession about 1840, must not be abandoned. The native population is becoming extinct, and no Frenchmen can be induced permanently to settle. "Our flag," the writer states, "will shelter only solitudes. This impotency of our race shows itself daily in many ways. We are stationary, while all surrounding nations are spreading themselves out and adding to their territory. Thus, it has been calculated, on the basis of the proportion of births and deaths, in what time the various European countries double their population, and the following is the result:—Norway, 51 years; Austria, 62; England, 63; Denmark, 73; Sweden, 89; Germany, 98; and France, 334 years! Moreover, this last figure, humiliating as it is, places us in a somewhat better light than we really deserve, for France receives yearly a certain number of immigrants, who, attracted by the pleasant climate and agreeable manners of the people, settle among us and become in time French families; they escape, as far as they can, at least, from the law which otherwise

prevails. It is, then, by the number of French youths to whom this law applies that we are able to form an estimate of the really national population. The following are the numbers of Frenchmen who in recent years have reached the age of 20 years.—In 1873, 303,810; in 1874, 296,204; in 1875, 283,768; in 1876 the number does not exceed 277,000. If our race is becoming degenerate and extinct, how can it stock the colonies? It is sought to explain this decrease by asserting that the years just mentioned correspond, so far as births are concerned, to the epoch of the Crimean War. Would to God it were so; but are the French in the habit of marrying at the age of twenty years? French journals insist sometimes, perhaps, more than is justifiable, on the emigration of the German population to escape the military régime to which the country is condemned. The fact is certain; but what is not less certain is that the population of the German Empire does not suffer any diminution. It is then an excess which goes off like a swarm of bees, and which carries over all the earth the language, the manners, and the interests of Germany. Our inferiority is thus clearly demonstrated, and the cause is a mystery to no one; it is an inevitable consequence of the compulsory subdivision of heritages. To those who doubt this, it will be sufficient to observe that the comparative sterility of marriages is in France an evil peculiar only to those who have possessions, and does not touch those who are without heritage. Artisans, workmen, all who live from day to day, do not dread having a family; the patrimonial inheritance suffers no injury, as it would do in the cases of well-to-do families. But the decline of the French population is not the only injurious result of the forced partition of heritages. There are other evil results, such as the indefinite parcelling out of landed property and the ruin of small heritages by law expenses. These evils have become so great that Government is beginning to think of a remedy. May the secondary facts not keep out of sight the main fact of all—the appalling sterility of the French."

ROYAL PORTRAITS.—The parisoners of Greenwich are very dissatisfied at the fate of four pictures formerly hung in the parish church of St. Alphege—portraits of Queen Elizabeth, Charles I., Queen Anne, and George I. Becoming in lapse of time dingy and faded, they were stowed away as lumber in the organ loft of the church, and ultimately sold by the churchwardens. The portrait of Queen Anne went to the Painted Hall, Greenwich, for the sum of £10, the permission of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty having been obtained to pay that sum for it. The portraits of Queen Elizabeth, Charles I., and George I. were sold to a general dealer named Dyer, living in New-cross, for £20 15s., and were subsequently sold by him at a profit of 50s. to Messrs. Pratt, of New Bond-street, who are restoring them. The portrait of King George represents the King in full coronation dress, the heavy ermine cloak being thrown back in front, revealing a rich close-fitting dress, while round the shoulders is a massive chain, from which is suspended the prancing horse of Hanover. On the table beside His Majesty are the crown and sceptre, the King's hand grasping the ball and cross. In the background is a view of the south end of Westminster Abbey. The value of this picture is stated to be over £500. The portrait of Charles I. was 10 feet square, and is supposed to be the work of Sir Peter Lely. The painting represents the King in a prayerful attitude, and is believed to be even more valuable than that of George I. How the paintings became the property of St. Alphege, Greenwich, is not known, but all the monarchs mentioned were associated with Greenwich. Queen Elizabeth made the Palace her favourite summer residence. Charles I. passed much of his time at the "House of Delight." Queen Anne built one of the wings of Greenwich Hospital, which still bears her name, while George I. landed at Greenwich on his arrival from Hanover. A committee appointed by the Vestry is investigating the subject, and trying to get the portraits back again. It is thought that there will be no difficulty in accomplishing this so far as regards the Admiralty, and the opinion of Dr. Spinks, Q.C., has been taken with regard to the other paintings, the question being raised as to whether, being church property, a sale could be negotiated without a special faculty from the bishop.

ROYAL GIFT.—The Prince of Wales has manifested his approbation of the admirable arrangements made for his journey from Portsmouth to London on the occasion of his return from India by presenting Mr. Knight, the manager of the London, Brighton, and South Coast Railway, with a full-sized portrait of himself and the Princess of Wales, accompanied by the following letter:—"Marlborough House, Pall Mall, S.W. Dear Mr. Knight,—The enclosed portraits are sent to you by desire of the Prince of Wales, which His Royal Highness hopes you will accept as a small souvenir of his long acquaintance with you; as also an expression of His Royal Highness's appreciation of your constant readiness to secure his comfort and punctuality, &c., whenever he has had occasion to travel on the railway in his charge. I am, yours sincerely, Arthur Ellis, Lieutenant-Colonel. To Mr. J. Knight, General Manager, London, Brighton, and South Coast Railway, London-bridge."

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.—Rheumatism and Rheumatic gout are the most dreaded of all diseases, because their victims know that they are safe at no season, and at no age; secure. Holloway's Ointment, after fomentation of the painful parts, gives greater relief than any other application; but it must be diligently used to obtain this desirable result. It has been highly commended by rheumatic subjects of all ages and of both sexes, for rendering their attacks less frequent and less vigorous, and for repressing the sour perspirations and soothing the nerves. In many cases, Holloway's Ointment and Pills have proved the greatest blessings in removing rheumatism and rheumatic gout which has assailed persons previously and at the prime of life.—Advr.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

COLONIAL and FOREIGN SUBSCRIBERS are informed that acknowledgments of remittances received are published in the first number of every month.

It is very necessary for our readers to advise us of all money orders they remit, more especially those from the United States of America and India; otherwise we cannot tell where to credit them.

NEW POSTAL RATES.

Owing to a reduction in the Postal Rates, the publisher is now enabled to send the "Freemason" to the following parts abroad for One Year for Twelve Shillings (payable in advance):—Africa, Australia, Bombay, Canada, Cape of Good Hope, Ceylon, China, Constantinople, Demerara, France, Germany, Gibraltar, Jamaica, Malta, Newfoundland, New South Wales, New Zealand, Suez, Trinidad, United States of America, &c.

TO OUR READERS.

The *Freemason* is a sixteen-page weekly newspaper, price 2d. It is published every Friday morning, and contains the most important, interesting, and useful information relating to Freemasonry in every degree. Annual subscription in the *United Kingdom*, Post free, 10/- P.O.O.'s to be made payable at the chief office, London.

TO ADVERTISERS.

The *Freemason* has a large circulation in all parts of the Globe, its advantages as an advertising medium can therefore scarcely be overrated.

For terms, position, &c., apply to

GEORGE KENNING, 198, Fleet-st.

Answers to Correspondents.

All Communications, Advertisements, &c., intended for insertion in the Number of the following Saturday, must reach the Office not later than 12 o'clock on Wednesday morning.

The following communications stand over:—"Rusticus Urbe," Reps. of Lodge of Truth, 1458, Newton Heath; Laying the Corner Stone of Holy Trinity Church, Ashton-under-Lyne.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

[The charge is 2s. 6d for announcements, not exceeding four lines, under this heading.]

BIRTHS.

BOURNE.—On the 1st inst., at Bellefield, Limerick, the Lady Marion Bourne, prematurely, of a son, stillborn.

CUMMINS.—On the 27th ult., at Larherne, near St. Columb, Cornwall, the wife of Captain Turner Cummins, 4th Cavalry, Hyderabad Contingent, of a son.

ISAAC.—On the 2nd inst., at Gloucester-place, Portman-square, the wife of Frederick S. Isaac, Esq., of a son.

MARSHALL.—On the 30th ult., at Oak Bank, Lamberhurst, Kent, the wife of John J. Marshall, L.R.C.S., of a son.

MORROW.—August 29th, at 5, Walmer-terrace, Victoria-Road, Great Crosby, the wife of Bro. I. G. Morrow, Lodge 1380, of a son.

SHRAPNELL.—August 28th, at 171, Canning-street, Liverpool, the wife of Bro. P. Shrapnell, Lodge 1609, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

BAGGE—ODELL.—On the 2nd inst., at St. Michael's and All Angels, Notting-hill, John Henry Bagge, of Ardmore House, High Sheriff for the County Waterford, Ireland, to Harriette Isabel Maria, younger daughter of the late E. Odell, Esq., of Carriglea, county Waterford.

BISHOP—DAVIS.—On the 2nd inst., at the British Consulate, Leghorn, George Bishop, Esq., of Meadow-bank, Twickenham, to Caroline Félicité, second daughter of Dr. Davis, LL.D., of Florence and Tunis.

MARKHAM—PECKHAM.—On the 2nd inst., at Tottenham, William Markham, of Canonbury, to Alice, daughter of Robert Peckham, of Tottenham and Doctors'-commons, solicitor.

DEATHS.

BROWN.—On the 1st inst., suddenly, at Tenby, Edwin Brown, manager of the Union Bank, Burton-on-Trent, aged 57.

CORRY.—On the 1st inst., at Shardeloes-road, New-cross, London, James Robert, infant son of William Longman Corry, aged 3 months.

DAVIES.—On the 3rd inst., at Llanwrtyd Wells, the Rev. Edward Reed Davies, rector of Cathedine, Breconshire.

DIXON.—On the 4th inst., at London Hospital, Mr. Perry B. Dixon.

HALFORD.—On the 1st inst., at Kensington, Ellen Halford, third daughter of the late George Halford, Esq.

COSMOPOLITAN MASONIC CALENDAR.

W. Masters and Secretaries are earnestly requested to forward to the publisher, at the Offices, 198, Fleet-street, E.C., particulars of the place, days, and months, of meeting of their respective lodges, chapters, and other Masonic bodies, for insertion in the issue of the Calendar for 1877.

The Freemason,

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 1876.

THE FLUCTUATIONS OF MASONIC LITERATURE.

In an article from a Transatlantic contemporary which we transferred to our pages last week, we had to listen to a melancholy tale of Masonic literary failures. Serial upon serial had appeared and vanished, we were told, and for some great or grand reason, the apathy of the Craft in America, as regards Masonic journalism, is, to say the least of it, very remarkable and very inexplicable. But so it apparently is, and it is hopeless for us on this side of the "little duck pond," to try and explain the cause and "raison d'être" of a state of things, no doubt most deplorable in itself, and which is permitted to exist among 600,000 Freemasons, but of which no American contemporary has so far, we believe, offered any satisfactory explanation. It is so because it is so, seems to be the only solution offered of what appears to us in England to be a Masonic riddle. We trust that better days are in store for Masonic literature in the United States, and that a fair return may yet be made to the efforts of the literary aspirant, and the laborious endeavours of the Masonic editor, though the history of English Masonic literature is not on the whole a prosperous one, and many have been its fluctuations in past years, the "Freemason" has no cause to complain of either the apathy of the Craft, or the lukewarmness of its friends. From first to last it has been cheered by the active sympathy and support of a constantly increasing circle of subscribers, and though in the best interests of Masonic literature we might wish that a larger proportion of our numerous Order favoured us with their kind patronage, we feel how much we gratefully owe to a support which has never wavered, and to a friendly feeling which has never grown cold. At this moment ours is a weekly increase, alike of direct subscribers and of public patronage, and we have every reason to believe and to know, that we represent in all we say week by week the bona-fide sentiments of a large portion of our educated and cultivated fraternity. We always seek to speak plainly, and to uphold the leading principles of Freemasonry, to which a long apprenticeship has endeared us, and with which some Masonic services have bound us with enduring ties of affection and interest. To suppose that we can please every-one is impossible, but as we seek to be straightforward and sincere, considerate and courteous to all, we have never appealed, and we never shall appeal, we know, in vain to the fraternal feelings of a large circle of readers, to credit us with honest intentions, and to believe in the reality of our public professions. We are pleased to note how often our leaders are reproduced in the Transatlantic Masonic papers and magazines, and as we always write to Freemasons, and for Freemasons alone, and we have the satisfaction of possessing the confident assurance, that the views we venture to express from time to time commend themselves alike to the sympathies of the most thoughtful, and the approval of the most intelligent amongst us. Never at any time, we have reason to know, did the "Freemason" stand higher in the opinions of reading Masons, of Masonic students and archaeologists at home and abroad, and we shall endeavour to keep it up to its high mark as a Masonic paper of true Masonic teaching and fair literary merit. No efforts on our part will be spared to make it worthy of the support and approval of our ancient and honourable Craft, and, judging from its past history and its present success, our labours will not be difficult, since the generous confidence of an Order makes every duty light, and all responsibility a pleasure. Our worthy publisher has a right to feel not a little proud, both of his own sacrifices, and the growth of the "Freemason." A good deal of the success of the "Freemason" is owing to the singularly straightforward way in which he has conducted it, from its origin to this hour. It is his own paper, remember, paid for by his own purse, dependent on no committee,

subsidized by no real or suppositious company. Its shares have all been taken up, as they are all held by himself alone. From the first, he has opened the pages of the "Freemason" to free discussion, to archaeological research, to earnest communications and honourable criticism! A "fair field and no favour," he has advocated for himself and for all alike. But one thing the "Freemason" has been remarkable for, the absence of that detestable system of vulgar personality which is a disgrace to any public paper, but above all to a Masonic journal. The "Freemason" has always held itself above those grovelling considerations of personal enmity, which so debase and so destroy the true character of every Freemason, and never has, and never will, allow its pages to be prostituted to the purposes of faction, the baneful scurrility of open personal attack or cowardly innuendo. It is most sad to note at times into what abysses of twaddle, sheer twaddle, bad grammar, low abuse, and too evident vulgarity of tone, temper, and sentiment, the hateful and un-Masonic tendency to personality will lead some writers, especially those who are unable to pen anything really worth reading. Personality is always a proof of weakness and of a bad cause, not unfrequently of a base disposition and a vulgar mind. No good end that we can see has ever yet been gained, nor do we believe will be gained, by personality, because, as a general rule, it is the "refuge of the destitute," and only resorted to either when things are looking desperate, or when some personal feelings or private concerns have stirred up the hidden malignancy of humanity. From all such debasements of journalism the "Freemason" will studiously in the future as in the past and present hold itself aloof. Commercially speaking, we feel sure that no paper or periodical can be successful which is carried on, whether for trade purposes or individual animosity, and whose only aim appears to be blatantly stupid and vulgarly personal. No doubt still as of old, as in Mr. Slurk's days, the "ungrammatical twaddler" is to the fore, and it is a painful infliction on the human patience and the human intellect to have sometimes the mournful necessity imposed on it of wading through a composition which is characterized from first to last by everything which is offensive to good taste, to grammatical construction, and common courtesy, to say nothing of the higher considerations of good feeling, morality, and truth. But we do not wish to prolong these remarks, as we are only anxious to point out that the "Freemason" will always be free from such gross blemishes in respect of the true character of Masonic journalism, and such a violent burlesque on the principles of Freemasonry. We do not believe in the profession of the man whose practice is the very reverse of his profession. Why should we believe in that of the Freemason who outrages in the full swing of his vindictive violence, every principle of Masonic justice, fairness, decency, and duty. The "Freemason" never has condescended to take notice, and never will, of the open assailant, just as it disregards and despises the surreptitious traducer. It goes on its way regardless whether it pleases or displeases, is popular or unpopular, is agreeable or disagreeable, inasmuch as it seeks to "do the right and speak the true," it asks for no consideration, and deprecates no criticism, but simply commends itself to the public opinion of the Order, and relies on the consistent and conscientious support of its great fraternity and its many friendly readers.

THE IRISH MASONIC ORPHAN INSTITUTIONS.

We have received and read with pleasure the reports of the "Masonic Female Orphan School, Dublin," and of the "Masonic Orphan Boys' School, Dublin." On the principle of "place aux dames" always, we will begin with the former of these two most useful and well managed institutions. The Female Orphan School has now 44 inmates, who appear to be progressing very well indeed in all the departments of a good, sound, useful, and valuable education. The financial position of the school is very satisfac-

tory. It has in round numbers from dividends, £390; official and individual annual subscriptions, £1016 17s. 6d.; life donations £668; annuity from Grand Lodge, £100; receipts of annual meeting, £360 18s. 4d.; Masonic Ball, £50; and small items £56 18s. 8d; in all, including balance of previous year, £1158 5s. 11d., £3800 1s. 1d. The expenditure is as follows:—Salaries and wages, £209 14s. 3d.; furnishing, &c., £367 14s. 8d.; visiting teachers, £237 4s. 0d.; provisions, £579 6s. 0d.; clothing and repairs, £182 1s. 5d.; books, &c., £101 18s. 0d.; coals, gas, and chandlery, £75 4s. 1d.; apprentice and outfit fees, £55 10s. 8d.; medicines, &c., £29 5s. 2d.; small expenses, about another £100; investments, £1005 5s. 0d.; and balance at bankers, £825 12s. 2d. The funded stock of the school now consists of £9682 2s. 1d. This report is highly satisfactory, and we can say the same as regards the Masonic Orphan Boys' School. That has now 23 inmates, who also educationally seem to be in thorough efficiency. Its financial report is also encouraging, especially when we remember that it was only established in 1868. It began the year with a cash balance of £896 16s. 9d. It has received £253 10s. 0d. donations; annual subscriptions, £507 2s. 7d.; dividends, £436 8s. 2d.; and small sums, £5 16s. 6d.; in all £1801 4s. 0d. It has, per contra, paid for maintenance, education, and clothing of pupils £903 6s. 8d.; outfits and fees, £30 11s. 5d.; salary of Assistant Secretary, £60; small sums, £7 17s. 4d.; and, having invested £323 12s. 6d., has an available balance of £476 16s. 1d. It has now £8059 12s. 1d. invested capital, and has before it a good promise of utility and activity. We almost wonder that our good brethren in Ireland do not have an annual festival on behalf of this most useful institution. We think, that had they, as we have, an annual festival for the Boys' School they might gain a great accession of income, and increase the benefits of this needful institution. Still, it is only in its youth, and it will reach, let us hope, a hale maturity and a green old age.

NORTH AND EAST YORKSHIRE.

We have perused a printed report of the proceedings of the Provincial Grand Lodge of North and East Yorkshire, which we publish elsewhere, with mingled feelings of astonishment and amusement, and to say the truth, no little indignation. As a general rule, it is not the custom in the provinces to print the report of the proceedings of the last Provincial Grand Lodge until the next is summoned; at least, such is not the normal habit of Provincial Grand Secretaries, though of course we admit there are, and may be, exceptions to the rule. And of course we freely admit also, that what is the custom of one province may not be that of another. In West Yorkshire, for instance, the agenda paper of the approaching quarterly meeting contains the minutes of the previous assembly. And this, we think, is by far the best course. There is, probably, some reason for this hasty and unusual publication, and we fancy it may be found in the very unwise resolution moved by P.G. Treasurer Hollon, and carried, apparently, without one voice of dissent by our good brethren at Redcar. We are deeply sorry for such erratic proceedings in the cause alike of Masonic truth and honour, fair play, and constitutional principles of Freemasonry. In the first place, the motion is founded on the report of the Investigation Committee of West Yorkshire. We have pointed out more than once that such report is unreliable for many reasons, the chief being its *ex parte* character. We say distinctly, and we challenge contradiction, that no one brother was examined who knew anything at all about the school except Bro. Winn, and he is avowedly a pure partizan of the dismissed head master. Bro. Tew knew nothing about the school confessedly, and as for Bro. Pegler's statistical calculations, and the tabular statements drawn up according to the "suppressed pamphlet," by Bro. Booth, of Halifax, they are, in our opinion, utterly valueless in respect of the controversy. Bro. Pegler's opinion of the cost rests upon no acquaintance with such schools as the Boys' School, and are all through

coloured by a fallacy, that because a given school anywhere educates for so much, therefore the Boys' School is to do it for so much. All who have had to do with education know well, that no lower, unsound, retrograde view of the requirement of education can be evinced by any one, except indeed by those who are utterly ignorant of the subject, or uphold a mistaken theory respecting that great duty of education about which they talk so pretentiously. We would ask, who else was examined by the so-called Investigation Committee who could throw any light upon the subject? We pause for a reply; and we shall be really glad to know who did really give evidence, as we have often asked the question before, and no one has condescended to reply to it. No minutes of evidence have been printed, as far as we know, and unless the suppressed pamphlet is as untruthful in fact as it was un-Masonic in its libels, the Investigation Committee based their reports on the pamphlets formerly distributed broadcast, the evidence of Bros. Tew and Winn, the tabular statements of Bro. Booth, and the invaluable statistics of Bro. Pegler. So much as to the report itself. In respect of the evidence of the printed reports alluded to by Bro. Hollon, we cannot profess to understand to what he alludes. It seems very perverse in 1875 to raise a question as to expenditure which had been incurred without any animadversion, five years at the least previously, and about which no complaint had ever been made, and anything more thoroughly unjustifiable than to start a "hare" of undue expenditure after the accounts have been closed and settled, we have never heard of. As regards the incriminations of unusual and extravagant expenditure, they are out of place, as such complaints ought to be made in the legal courts of the Boys' School, not in Provincial Grand Lodge meetings, which are constitutionally incompetent to entertain such questions. We recommend the General Committee of the Boys' School to treat all such expressions of opinion as utterly "ultra vires," and simply appeal to and trust in the good sense and Masonic principles of the Craft at large. But we are deeply concerned for the honesty of our common character as Freemasons to note the Jesuitical charge of "venue," and of attack. The whole proceedings arose out of a personal attack on Bro. Binckes, in connection with Bro. Perrott's removal; now it is stated forsooth, it is not Bro. Binckes, but the House Committee which is blamed. We beg to protest, in the name of many brethren in all provinces, against this unseemly and unjust attack on the House Committee. It is really too bad. If any complaints exist as to the expenditure of the Boys' School generally, some brother should manfully bring forward a motion on the subject at the Quarterly Court. If any honest feeling exists as to the general administration of the School, let it be expressed in a regular and befitting way. But we object to these random statements, and this meaningless agitation in the best interests of the Boys' School. But we repeat, if any one has a real complaint let him openly make it. But during the recent un-Masonic agitation, reckless charge and general vituperation could hardly further go. Whether any grounds exist for any of the extraordinary allegations which have been made openly and surreptitiously, we cannot tell until they are honestly placed before a competent court. But they will prove to be, we fancy, more or less, the product of a heated imagination. In the suppressed pamphlet it was insinuated that either Bro. Binckes or this very Committee, the "powers that be," had appropriated a few shillings of a savings' bank account; and now we are gravely assured by a brother whose right and qualifications to express such an opinion we both deny and doubt, that the House Committee is utterly incompetent to perform its duty. All this is wrong, most discreditable, dirty and un-Masonic, and shows how the agitation fostered and by whom these incriminations are continued against the Boys' School. Nevertheless, we feel sure, that these questionable proceedings will be condemned at once by the great good sense of our fraternity, and meet both as they well deserve in some form or other, the outspoken condemnation and reprobation of our honourable and highminded Craft.

A CHARGE AGAINST THE FRENCH FREEMASONS.

We thought it only fair to our brethren in France to call the attention of our esteemed Bro. Caubet, the Grand Secretary of the Grand Orient, to a charge made against the French Freemasons on the alleged somewhat questionable authority of a certain well-known M. Naquet of encouraging "free love" and illegal marriages. We believe that it is an entire calumny, and we shall await with interest Bro. Caubet's reply to our friendly and fraternal enquiry.

AN INSULT TO FREEMASONRY.

We take the following from the "Thanet Guardian" of September 2nd. We shall allude to it next week:—"On Thursday afternoon the Watch Committee of the Borough of Margate met for the purpose of appointing a Superintendent of Police in succession to Mr. Compton. There were six applicants; and we understand that the choice of the committee fell upon Sergeant Romanis, who has had twelve years' experience in the City police. We have been informed that each candidate was asked whether he was a Freemason, and that on one answering in the affirmative, the Mayor stated that the answer was fatal to his candidature. Of course we are merely quoting information that has been communicated to us, the meeting being private, but we can scarcely understand why the fact of being a Freemason should of itself be a disqualification."

THE LAST QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION.

We reserve all remarks upon this meeting until our next, as owing to the time we go to press on Thursdays it is not possible for us to do more than give the proper report of the proceedings by our own reporter, which is always accurate, and can always be depended upon. All the Craft will read with pleasure the admirable suggestion of our worthy Bro. the Grand Registrar, happily carried, as only fair to the provincial brethren.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.

A full report of the proceedings at the ceremony of laying the foundation-stone of the new North-east Wing, Large Hall, &c., at the Institution, Battersea Rise, will appear in our SECOND EDITION, which will be ready early Saturday morning.

Original Correspondence.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for, or even as approving of the opinions expressed by our correspondents, but we wish, in a spirit of fair play to all, to permit—within certain necessary limits—free discussion.—Ed.]

THE MASONIC PRESS.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Much controversy seems to be going on about the "why and wherefore" of the apathy of the Masonic reading public, and the non-support of the Masonic press. I will therefore venture to point out to you to-day what, in my humble opinion, are the real causes of the apathy and indifference of the Craft in this respect. In my humble opinion, one of the great hindrances to a general support of the press by the Craft is the "personality," often bitter, always disgraceful, which characterizes so many Masonic writers. I do not think that the "Freemason" can fairly be accused of yielding to this vicious influence, as I know you, Sir, have declared war, so to say, against all personality. But still in past times, and at the present time, (and in saying this I know I speak the sentiments of many good brethren), the personality of Masonic writers indisposes many brethren from taking much interest in Masonic literature. It is curious that it should be so, and yet none are so personal as Freemasons when they once begin to write.

I have perused, very often with astonishment, mingled with regret, the lucubrations of Masonic journalists, and the "barbed arrows" of Masonic correspondents. Nothing more derogatory to Freemasonry, or more discreditable even to humanity, has ever been put forward in print than some of the so-called essays and elaborate attacks on others, which may sometimes be seen by the curious in Masonic Journalism. Indeed, it is not too much to say, that some Masonic writers seem to wish to convince the world

that they can be, if they like, the most uncharitable, the most untruthful, and the most malignant of mortals.

Nothing is too bad for them to say or to insinuate against a brother, for any or no cause at all.

And when to this personal malignity, and violence of utterance, you add the grossest impertinence, or the most grotesque "cheek," one feels one has said enough to point out why Freemasons say, "Oh! I won't take or read that paper, because there is nothing in it but gross personality and vulgar violence."

It is sad to think what a lasting injury is inflicted on Freemasonry by the thoroughly unkind and uncourteous language, and even detestable personality, of those who call themselves "brethren."

Indeed, it makes many believe that "Freemasonry" is a system both of idle profession and hypocritical pretence. Certainly the Freemasonry of such persons is a "mockery, a delusion, and a snare." But as the poet sang of old, "jam satis est" on this disagreeable topic. Another cause of Masonic holding back in respect of Masonic journalism is the obvious incapacity often of editors. It is not enough because a man says he will be an "editor" that, therefore he is fit for the post. It requires some knowledge of men and books, some reading, some observation, some little common sense, and above all a fair and tolerant spirit, to enable any one to fill such a post satisfactorily. In Masonic literature this is especially so. To take any one, say a new-fledged Mason, and set him to write about Freemasonry is as absurd as if you were to make a youth fresh from the university the editor of one of the leading papers in the metropolis. Or if you select a person who is not up to his work, ere long the result is too plain in "blunders and botheration," as the Irishman said. The history and teaching of Freemasonry can only be written upon by those who have studied the subject, *bonâ fide*, and originally. Ask Bro. Hughan, and he will say, I venture to think and assert confidently, that to suppose you can edit a Masonic journal with cribbed details or second hand information, obtained from cheap handbooks and the like, is the very height of absurdity. The history and archaeology and dogmata of Freemasonry, to be fully explained and dilated upon, require an accurate acquaintance with the leading principles, and the actual facts, above all, of Masonic archaeology and history. Such cannot be acquired by "cramming," but demand their clear and full realization, both by original research, and personal investigation. And another cause of Masonic indifference is the absolute bathos and twaddle of the weekly dose served out to us, "usque ad nauseam." It is a painful trial for the human intellect, it is a grave strain on editorial patience, as well as on Masonic forbearance, to have to wade through the hopeless ineptitudes, and childish follies, of some pseudo-journalists. The English is rowdy, the grammar is defective, opposed to every rule of Lindley Murray, and when you get to the end of the paragraph or article, you rub your eyes, like one of the "sleepers awakened;" you want to know what it all means, you are dazed and bewildered by this plethora of rubbish and this farrago of twaddle, unmitigated twaddle, sheer nonsense, without coherence, meaning, or object, and lucky for you if it is no worse even than twaddle. And then there is this further infliction. You have to deal with a literary opponent is a pure open controversy. You state your case carefully, manfully, fairly—all in vain. Argument is not his "forte," so you have to meet abuse, the vulgar insinuation, the unscrupulous Jesuitism, and the directly personal abuse of the incompetent and the "ignoramus." Who, then, can afford to waste the time devoted to literature in conning over such balderdash? Life is really altogether too short to permit any one to give up its golden moments to the perusal of dreary disquisitions, ungrammatical sentences, drivelling ignorance, and unconscionable impudence. I have written strongly, because we have a great and a growing evil to remedy, and because I feel sure that as there is, they say, a cause for everything here, I have hit, in my humble opinion, on the real cause of that holding back of so many persons in respect of "Masonic literature" per se. I may be wrong, but if so, I shall be glad to be set right, and in the meantime am,

Yours fraternally,

A VETERAN.

A LITTLE FRIENDLY GOSSIP ON SOME OF THE TOPICS OF THE DAY.

BY PHILANTHROPOS.
(Written Especially for the "Freemason.")

No. 4.—EDUCATION.—Continued.

The opportune publication of the Privy Council of Education enables me to place some figures before my readers, which I think will be neither tedious nor uninteresting.

The Report for 1875 is a very striking one in many particulars. One of these, not the least so, being the fact that it gives us an idea of what work has been done within a limited space of time, by the School Boards, and also points out fairly and truly what the denominational system has really effected.

It is well to remember here, as the Report properly points out, "that what had been done by the 31st of August, 1875, was mainly effected by voluntary effort, but since that date School Boards have made considerable additions to the School supply of this country."

What, then, do these official statistics tell us in 1875, of the status of education in England and Wales in respect of elementary schools? In the year ending August 31, 1875, the inspectors had visited 13,217 day schools in England and Wales, containing 19,245 departments under separate teachers, and containing accommodation at eight square feet of superficial area per child, for 3,146,424 scholars. There were on the school register the names of 2,744,300 children, of whom 983,993 were under seven

years of age, 1,668,054 were between seven and thirteen, and 92,251 above thirteen.

Of these scholars, 2,221,745 were present on the day of inspection, while 1,837,180 were on an average in daily attendance throughout the year. Of these children 613,215 having made the requisite number of attendances were qualified to bring grants to their schools—471,323 without individual examination, and 1,141,892 on passing a satisfactory examination in reading, writing, and arithmetic; 975,583 were actually presented for such examination, and 572,781 passed the prescribed test without failure in any of the three subjects.

There were also a large number of schools examined by the inspectors, who received no Parliamentary grants, and in which 57,196 scholars were present on the day of inspection. The night schools examined during the year were 1,392 in number; 48,392 scholars above twelve years of age were, on an average, in attendance each night; 43,734 scholars were qualified for examination by having made the required number of attendances during the night school session. Of these, 35,353 were actually examined, and out of every 100 scholars so examined, 87.95 passed in reading, 70.55 in writing, and 59.21 in arithmetic. To this estimate, be it noted, no allowance is made for "private venture" elementary schools, of which many exist, or independent "dame schools."

It appears that there was on the 31st August, 1875, accommodation for 3,146,424 scholars.

The Registrar-General, in his report on the Census of 1871 (Vol. IV., p. xii), states "the number of children of the school age, 3 and under 13, as defined by the Education Act, is of boys 2,687,631, of girls 2,686,670; the numbers of the two sexes are nearly equal, and they comprise 5,374,301, or 23 per cent, nearly one-fourth of the population." If we deduct one-seventh as being the children of a class above that commonly found in public elementary schools (Report of Education Department for 1869-70, p. xiv.), the remainder, 4,606,544, is the number of children, from 3 to 13, for whom elementary education fails to be provided in our schools; but if we assume that each child goes to school for only 7 years out of the 10 of its proper school life, there ought to be 3,224,580 children under daily instruction in efficient schools.

There does not then seem to be that great want of accommodation which some educational empirics have loudly asserted to exist, and if we could only fill the old schools, and the new schools now in the process of erection, the "supply" would really equal the "demand."

"We find" the Report continues, "that the schools in England and Wales, visited by the inspectors, for the purpose of annual grants, which provided in 1869 for 1,765,944 scholars, or for 8.34 per cent. of the whole population, were in 1875 sufficient for 3,146,424 scholars, or 13.13 per cent. of the estimated population. An addition of room, in aided schools, for 1,380 480 children in six years is satisfactory, and shows that accommodation in efficient schools is increasing in a much more rapid ratio than the population of the country. But much remains to be done before the three millions and a quarter of children who ought to be daily under instruction can be provided for in schools whose efficiency is tested by the yearly visit of one of your Majesty's Inspectors."

"The increased accommodation to which we allude has been supplied in several ways. 1. In the five years ending on the 31st of December, 1875, building grants to the amount of £286,597 have been paid by the Education Department, on the completion of 1,011 schools affording new or improved accommodation for 255,037 scholars. These grants have been met by voluntary contributions to the amount of £1,190 40s. "Of the 3,342 cases in which building grants were sought in 1870 1,726 applications had been approved by the 1st of April, 1876; 378 had been rejected; 1,323 had been withdrawn, and 15 are still in progress towards approval. In 1910 cases grants have been awarded, of which 1,463 have been paid. It is estimated that about 300,000 additional children will be efficiently provided for when our last grants to these new or enlarged schools have been paid. As these schools must be conducted as public elementary schools, they will all come under inspection, and must be placed under the charge of certificated teachers. "2. In the case of a large number of schools which have been enlarged or improved, without Government aid, certificated teachers have been appointed, and annual grants applied for on their behalf. No fewer than 1,538 acting teachers attended the examination for certificates held at Christmas, 1875, and the success of 1,359 of these teachers will bring annual grants, annual inspection, and we trust increased efficiency to their schools."

And inasmuch as in 1875 accommodation was provided by 1136 Board Schools for 336,400 scholars, and 227,285 were in average attendance, the increase in the accommodation in voluntary schools since 1859 has therefore amounted to 993,080 places (or 56.3 per cent.), while the average attendance has increased by 546,896 (or 51.4 per cent.).

Whatever then may be said against "denominationalism," it seems to be doing its duty manfully in the present as in the past in respect to education.

As regards the Board Schools, the following is the official statement:—In the year ending 31st of August, 1875, the number of Board Schools increased from 838 to 1,140; while the accommodation in these schools rose from 245,508 to 387,227, and the average attendance from 142,017 to 231,381.

"The Report of next year will probably show a still greater increase in the supply of schools provided by the School Boards, which have been established throughout the country, either (1) compulsorily, when we have ascertained the existence of a deficiency, which is not, and will not be, met without the aid of rates, or (2) voluntarily, in the case of districts which desire either to meet a deficiency which they acknowledge, or to enforce the attendance of

children at schools already at work, and sufficient for their respective wants.

"So that the addition to the school provision of the country, when the schools in course of erection and enlargement at Michaelmas last are completed, through the agency of School Boards, will have been 454,054 children, at a cost of £4,639,244, or £10 4s. 4d. per head.

As regards the effect of the compulsory clause of the Education Act the Report proceeds to tell us as follows:—

"BYE-LAWS.

"By the 1st of May, 1876, bye-laws for enforcing the attendance of children at school had been sanctioned by your Majesty, in accordance with the terms of the Act of 1870, on the application of the School Boards—1, London, with a population of 3,266,987; 2,103 municipal boroughs 5,342,753; 3,533 civil parishes 1,921,271—total 10,531,011.

"By this it appears that compulsory attendance at school is now the law for 46 per cent. of the whole population of England and Wales, and for about 82 per cent. of the whole borough population."

The provisions of the last Education Act will, we trust, both directly and indirectly, tend, by a gentle compulsion, to send many children to school who are now prematurely condemned to toil, or absent through the connivance and selfish indifference of their parents.

In respect of teachers the Inspectors found 20,940 certificated teachers at work in the aided schools which they visited, while the 40 training colleges, from which the supply of such teachers is mainly recruited, were attended in 1875 by 2,975 students. These students, with a few exceptions, and 1,538 acting teachers, were examined for certificates in December, 1875, and in the following week 3,194 candidates for admission to the 1579 vacancies declared in the training colleges were examined; of these, 2,347 were successful, and 1,530 are now in the first year of their residence, along with 1,477 students of the second year.

In 1869 there were only 12,017 certificated masters and mistresses in England and Wales, but up to August 31st, 1875, they were estimated, as we have seen, at an increase of 8,000 in round numbers, and by December 31st, 1875, it was estimated that their numbers would reach 21,952. Of course this increase is still going on.

From the statements of the report, it would seem as if the Council of Education was looking forward to a normal staff of 30,000 teachers, as necessary for the elementary schools in this country.

The points on which the Report speaks in a tone of dissatisfaction in respect of this grand array of elementary educational work are, 1. in want of regularity of attendance of the scholars; 2. the large number of absentees on the day of inspection; 3. the failure of such a large proportion of the examined—in the subjects and "standards" appointed; and 4. the non-appearance in school at all of large numbers who ought to be there.

But all these defects are remediable, and certainly not discernable; and the simple fact that we have well nigh accommodation for "ALL OUR CHILDREN WHO CAN ATTEND THE ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS" is in itself most cheering to all friends of education, and should be an answer to the exaggerations of alarmists, and the wild figures of those who have made, unhappily, education a battle field for party and for sect.

There is school accommodation being provided now which will actually exceed the many requirements of school accommodation for 3,224,580 children, and all that in respect of accommodation apparently remains to be done seems to be, by proper statistical calculations, to keep the needful accommodation up to the normal increase of population, so as never again to allow the school accommodation in our country to be behind the actual percentage of the school age. Here I stop to-day. I shall next week enter into the question of the prospects of education in the elementary schools generally, and I propose to conclude these remarks with some considerations as to the result of two apparently opposing systems of education going on "pari passu" amongst us.

Reviews.

A GRAPHIC AND POPULAR DESCRIPTION OF THE COUNTRIES OF THE WORLD. Illustrated by Robt Brown, M.A., &c.—Cassell, Petter, & Galpin.

We have received Part 1 of this new and interesting work, and we have perused it with much of pleasure and approval. It is, we think, likely to become very popular, and deserves, we venture to add, all of public patronage, for it is, in our opinion, an admirable commencement of a most useful and much needed work. Printed in a clear and very readable type, it is most effectively illustrated and we feel quite sure that the many admirable engravings will serve to commend this new "geography," so to say, to the attention of the young, and the appreciation of the old. There is, after all, no science much more charming in itself than geography, nor one, strange to say, so much neglected. Yet geography, is as we once remember hearing an old and valued friend of ours say, a "mine of interest and pleasure to the thoughtful mind." How true are his words. As Longfellow so beautifully pens it,—

I read what other bards have sung
Of lands beyond the sea;
And the bright days when I was young
Come thronging back to me.

In fancy I can hear again
The Alpine torrent's roar,
The mule bells on the hills of Spain,
The sea at Elisnore.

I see the convent's gleaming wall
Rise from its groves of pine,

And towers of old cathedrals tall,
And castles of the Rhine.
I journey on by park and spire,
Beneath centennial trees;
Through fields with poppies all on fire,
And gleams of distant seas.
I fear no more the dust and heat,
No more I feel fatigue,
While journeying with another's feet
O'er many a lengthening league.
From them I learn whatever lies
Beneath each changing zone,
And see when looking with their eyes
Better than with mine own.

Messrs. Cassell have evidently found out a "want" of many at the present day, and we trust that the "demand" for this new and interesting publication may equal the "supply." We can safely recommend it to the attention and perusal of our many readers.

A "MEMORIAL" edition of "Walbran's Guide to Ripon and Fountains Abbey."—A. Johnson and Co., Ripon; Simpkin, Marshall, and Co., London.

"This work is a fitting monument to one of the most zealous yet most retiring of modern archaeologists. To the late Mr. Walbran the romantic district which includes within its bounds the splendid remains of Fountains and of Bolton Priory, the quaint old city of Ripon, with its cathedral church of St. Peter and St. Wilfrid, the time-honoured Spa of Harrogate, the hall and monuments of bygone Marmions, Markenfelds, and Nortons, was holy ground whose history and remains he never wearied of exploring, to correct whose chronicle he would ransack entire muniment-rooms, or read, as he once did, word by word (to see that nothing had been overlooked), the catalogues of MSS. in the Museum and Bodleian Libraries. In the present edition of his most popular work—the 'Guide,' for which every visitor to Ripon or Harrogate owes him gratitude, carefully revised by the Rev. Canon Raine and Mr. Fowler Stephenson, and enriched with much additional matter, and a highly interesting memoir by Mr. E. Peacock—a host of brother antiquaries have lent their aid to make the volume as nearly perfect as may be. There are fresh papers on new features in the district, such as the church at Studley and the Vyrer Memorial Church at Skelton—additional notes on the results of further researches—e.g., the account of the Maison de Dieu Hospital at Ripon, the appendix on the Cathedral Library, the suggested corrections in the plan of Fountains Abbey, especially with reference to the respective quarters of the monks proper and the conversi, and a number of new illustrations, from various contributors, of sites and buildings and antiquarian remains. 'Guide,' in fact, is a term too modest for a book which for exactness, sober good taste, and resolute exclusion of everything exaggerated or superfluous, is quite a model of what a bit of county topography ought to be."

So speaks our contemporary, the "Graphic," and most fully do we endorse everything our contemporary has so well and properly said.

We, who knew Mr. Walbran very well indeed in "auld lang syne" and who were privileged to work a good deal with him and spent many pleasant days with him in congenial archaeological pursuits—we know better than most what was the extent of the knowledge of the student, and the unpretending nature of the man. In some matters, in many departments of archaeological research, he was quite "facile princeps," and we have often deeply admired and (as we say it, we regretfully recall his friendly acquaintanceship to-day,) that correctness as to minute details, that wonderful intuition and sagacity almost unerring, whether as to the age of a MS., or the meaning of an Archæism, which in him were very remarkable.

We are glad to note the kindly review of the "Graphic," and to be able to add our humble and personal testimony to its absolute correctness, and we commend the work, which we know well, and which is a thoroughly reliable one, to the notice and patronage of our brethren and the public.

HAND AND HEART.

This popular magazine continues its progress, and we are glad to hear, with much success. It is thoroughly recommendable, and is very pleasant reading indeed.

OUR YOUNG FOLKS.

This juvenile periodical, with its tales of wonder, and fascination, and awe, still keeps the prosperous tenour of its way, and, we have reason to believe, commends itself to that love of the wonderful and the weird which is such an ingredient of admiration and gratification to the enquiring mind of youth. Some people object to this pandering, as they say, to the love of the marvellous in youth, but, on the whole, we are inclined to think that for youth the tales which please youth are advisable, the more so, as with maturity the charms and tastes of youth must pass away.

A.F.A.

A few of the coins which were lately found near Jerusalem have been secured by Mr. John Lornie, F.S.S., Kirkcaldy. The find was a small one, and consisted of shekels, and half shekels of Judea, which was considered the most interesting of all ancient coins. They are silver of the Great High Priest, Simon Maccabæus, and have the cup of manna on one side, and on the other the budding rod, with the legends in Hebrew. The date is also in Hebrew—viz., year one, being the first year of the Pontificate of Prince Simon, or 144 years B.C. Notwithstanding their great age, the coins are in fine preservation, both sides being perfectly legible.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

The General Committee of this Institution held their monthly meeting on Saturday, the 2nd inst., Bro. Raynham W. Stewart, V.P., in the chair. There were also present Bros. Lieut.-Col. Creaton, Henry Norman, H. Browne, Joseph C. Parkinson, H. W. Hunt, Charles Coote, W. F. C. Moutrie, Jesse Turner, D. M. Dewar, Capt. Philips, S. Rosenthal, Robert Kenyon, Capt. J. Wordsworth, H. Browne, S. Rawson, Hyde Pullen, H. Massey ("Freemason"); C. F. Matier, Leopold Ruf, F. Adlard, H. Whitford, Major Shadwell H. Clerke, Dr. Ramsay, Wm. Roebuck, T. K. Kent, A. Durrant, Wm. T. Raymond, J. W. M. Dosell, D. W. Pearse, H. Young, and F. Binckes, Sec.

On the motion of Bro. R. Kenyon, seconded by Bro. H. Browne, a grant of £20 was made to an ex-pupil for his advancement, the circumstances in his case being exceptionally favourable for such a grant. Out of the £13,000 collected at last festival, when Lord Leigh presided, the sum of £5000 was ordered to be invested. The next and only other business to be transacted was the consideration of Bro. C. F. Matier's motion that Bro. Binckes' salary should be raised by £100 a year, whereupon Bro. F. Binckes withdrew from the room.

Bro. Matier said that in bringing on this motion he should not trouble the brethren with any lengthy comments, but would simply lay before them the reasons he had for introducing the subject. Looking at the immense increase of the Institution since 1861, when Bro. Binckes was entrusted with the Secretary's duties—considering that its income in that year was but £2477 9s. 2d., that in 1875 it was £12,246 16s. 5d., that it was larger still in 1876, and that there was a prospect of its being far more in 1877—as there had not been an increase in the Secretary's remuneration, he thought it incumbent on the brethren to recognise his labours. An increase in remuneration ought to accompany an increase in the results of those labours. His second reason for submitting this motion to the brethren was that under the original arrangement with Bro. Secretary he had £200 a year with the addition of a commission; and if that arrangement had been adhered to he would not have received simply the £200 (which was calculated on an income very much different from that of the Institution at the present time) but something like £550. His third and greatest reason which he believed would also be the weightiest with the brethren, was that by giving Bro. Binckes some tangible acknowledgment of his services in the way of increase in his salary they were at the same time passing a vote of confidence in him, and putting at rest what he would call, with the permission of the chairman, the atrocious attacks which had been made on the Institution, the House and Audit Committees, and the executive officers. By passing this resolution they would be giving the Institution their best support; they would be shewing the House and Audit Committees their unreserved confidence in them; and the Secretary would be receiving something tangible which would enable him to tell his traducers, who had accused him of robbery and theft, that the brethren had the greatest confidence in him. He concluded by moving in terms of his notice.

Bro. Robert Kenyon said he certainly agreed with Bro. Matier in a great many of the observations that he had made, but he must say he would rather that Bro. Matier should have confined himself to the merits, the abilities, and the worth of Bro. Binckes. He had read the report of the meeting when the subject above referred to was discussed, though he was not present on the occasion, and it was then anticipated, supposed, and hoped that there would have been an end of all the heartburnings between the different sections of the brethren. He (Bro. Kenyon) had hoped that Bro. Matier would only have spoken of the merits of Bro. Binckes alone. He might tell the brethren that he should support this motion; but he should support it on the merits of Bro. Binckes alone. He knew those merits well, for he had been acquainted with Bro. Binckes a great number of years, and had watched the progress that had been made in the Institution through him. He knew very well, and so did every brother round the table, that there were as good fish in the sea as ever came out of it; but the brethren had got in Bro. Binckes a fish out of the sea; they had a gentleman in Bro. Binckes, and they should place him beyond the reach of any temptation. He believed him to be a truthful, honest man, or he would not support this motion at all. But he would wish Bro. Matier to withdraw (and he believed he would withdraw) his remarks about the atrocious attacks, because he did not think they were consistent with the harmony of Masonry. Whether he withdrew them or not, he (Bro. Kenyon) would support Bro. Binckes in this motion. He thought he deserved this recognition of his services, and that the brethren ought to support a man who could place himself at the head of an institution and get £13,000 and more subscribed at one meeting. Bro. Binckes had done a great deal of good for the Boys' School, and this they all confessed; he deserved the support of all of them; and as far as he (Bro. Kenyon) was concerned, he should give him his unqualified support on this occasion. (Hear, hear.) He begged to second the motion.

Bro. Jesse Turner, as one of the oldest Auditors, had felt a great grief when Bro. Binckes and the Auditors were put before the world in a very unkind, ungracious, and un-Masonic position. Very prejudicial statements were made with respect to them. Men like himself, who had spent a life time in the City of London, valued character above all things. The remarks which had been made respecting Bro. Binckes and the Auditors were carried out and supported by observations which really went beyond the bounds of common parlance. It was something very alarming at the meeting which took place upstairs. Col. Ridgway, who was a very able man, went through the accounts, and when the meeting was held he produced his report, which showed that as far as the auditors, the House

Committee, and Bro. Binckes were concerned, theirs was a fair, clear, and honest statement. As far as the auditors and committee were concerned, and he (Bro. Jesse Turner) personally, they were absolved of any shortcomings, and they were not affected. But not so Bro. Binckes: his character was his daily bread. Taking away his character was like taking away the character from a clergyman or a doctor; it was their stock-in-trade. He thought that the brethren could not do better than manifest their confidence in Bro. Binckes in some form; the vote proposed a very good form; and he trusted it would be passed unanimously. (Cheers.)

Bro. C. F. Matier said he should be very glad, in deference to the wishes of Bro. Kenyon, to withdraw the words "atrocious attacks."

The Chairman said he rose with very great pleasure to endorse all that had been said on the subject under discussion. He would put the motion of Bro. Matier to the brethren, and he hoped they would come to a unanimous vote.

The motion was thereupon unanimously carried amidst loud and prolonged cheers.

Bro. Binckes was then admitted, and was received with renewed cheering.

The Chairman, addressing Bro. Binckes, said it was his pleasing duty to inform him that Bro. Matier's motion had been carried unanimously.

Bro. Binckes in reply said he assured the Chairman and brethren that on the last occasion when an increase was made in his remuneration he expressed his thanks as honestly and warmly as he could. He did not at that time expect any further increase would be made; but as some good, kind friends had taken into consideration what they believed to be service honestly rendered, and duties faithfully performed to the Institution, he was pleased to find himself again in the receipt of an addition to his remuneration. He need scarcely say how much that pleasure was enhanced by hearing from the Chairman that there was no difference of opinion among the brethren on the subject. He begged that no one present would gauge the amount of gratitude he (Bro. Binckes) felt by the poverty of his expression. He valued this vote not only for the increased means perhaps of enjoyment it might be the means of affording, but he looked upon it, and he could not help regarding it as in some respects and to some extent, at all events, a tangible, palpable expression of their continued confidence in him in answer to slanderous accusations that had been scattered broadcast throughout the Craft; because if the brethren had for one single instant credited or given belief to those statements he did not think any one of them sitting round that table could conscientiously have passed the vote which had just been come to. He, therefore, not only regarded it as a matter of personal feeling towards himself, but as he had just said a tangible method the committee had, who had had an opportunity of watching his career for sixteen years, of giving their answer to those accusations which he at one time thought might not only tend to ruin his own prospects but seriously to interfere with the interests of the Institution. He was glad to find that in no respect had they achieved the former, and he was more gratified to find that they had not—at all events, if they had at all, to a very small extent—interfered with the latter. He did hope that this would be taken as a mark of approval on the part of those best able and most competent to judge of the manner in which this Institution was conducted, whether by himself or by the committees. (Cheers.)

Bro. J. C. Parkinson proposed, and Capt. Wordsworth seconded, that the increase in Bro. Binckes's salary take effect from 1st January, 1876.

The motion having been carried unanimously, a vote of thanks to the Chairman was passed, and the chairman said he was very much pleased that it had fallen to his lot to see the motion in favour of Bro. Binckes carried unanimously.

The proceedings then terminated.

THE MODEL SUBSCRIBER.

"Good morning, sir; Mr. Editor, how are the folks to-day? I owe you for next year's paper, I thought, I'd come and pay. And Jones is a'goin' to take it, and this is his money here; I shut down lendin' it to him, and then coaxed him to try it a year.

And here's a few items that happened last week in our town.

I thought they'd look good for the paper, and so I just jotted them down.

And here's a bushel of russets my wife picked expressly for you;

A small bunch of flowers from Jennie, she tho't she must do something, too.

And now you are chuck full of business, and I won't be taking your time,

I've things of my own I must tend to—good day, sir, I believe I will climb."

The editor sat in his sanctum and brought down his fist with a thump,

"God bless the old farmer," he muttered, "he's a regular jolly old trump."

And 'tis thus with our noble profession, and thus it will ever be still;

There are some who appreciate its labour, and some who perhaps never will.

[The above little jeu d'esprit, we may observe, is purely American. We should not object to have many such zealous friends for the "Freemason." But we regret to have to state, that though we may have very excellent supporters and constant and consistent correspondents, such a model subscriber is so far not only "like angels" visits, few and far between," but we have never greeted him in the flesh. If he will only call at 198, Fleet-street, we can guarantee him a hearty welcome from the publisher, and an equal warm one from the Editor.]

Masonic and General Tidings.

Bro. the Rt. Hon. the Marquis of Hartington, M.P., R.W.P.G.M. for Derbyshire, has consented to take the chair at the 212th anniversary festival of the Scottish Corporation, of which H.R.H. the Prince of Wales and His Grace the Duke of Rothesay is president, on St. Andrew's Day, Nov. 30, respecting which his lordship says:—"I think there is now little doubt that I shall be in England on Nov. 30, and that I shall be able to attend the Scottish Corporation dinner on that day."

THE BULGARIAN PEASANT RELIEF FUND.—Mr. G. Rose Innes has given notice of the following motion for the next meeting of the Court of Common Council for the City of London:—"That a sum of two hundred guineas may be granted out of the City's cash to the Viscountess Strangford's Bulgarian Peasant Relief Fund."

AN EIGHTPENNY POSTAGE STAMP.—For the convenience of persons corresponding with India and Australia, via Brindisi, postage stamps of the value of 8d. will be issued. They can be obtained at post-offices throughout the country on and after the 11th inst.

A great fire has occurred at St. Hyacinthe, in Canada. Nearly six hundred buildings were destroyed, one hundred families are rendered homeless, and the loss is estimated at two millions of dollars.

Another lodge will be added to the already long list of those in West Lancashire by the consecration of the Marlborough Lodge, No. 1620, next Wednesday afternoon, the 13th inst., at Derby Hall, Tirebrook, Liverpool. Bro. W. Woods, P.M. 1182, is the W.M. designate, and there is every prospect that the latest addition to the long roll of lodges will prove both prosperous and honourable to the fraternity at large.

On Tuesday evening there was a presentation of a gold chain and badge of office to the Mayor and Corporation of Warrington by Lady Greenall, wife of Bro. Sir Gilbert Greenall, member for the borough. The chain is of most elegant description, of solid gold, bearing the arms of Lancashire and Cheshire and those of Sir Gilbert Greenall, together with arms and motto of the borough.

A handsome aquarium, which has just been completed by the Great Yarmouth Aquarium Society (Limited), was formally inaugurated on Tuesday last, at Great Yarmouth, by Bro. Lord Suffield. The aquarium has been erected near the Britannia Pier.

Bro. E. M. Adams, who has been secretary to the successive managements of Cremorne Gardens for the space of a generation, took his benefit at that establishment on Wednesday evening, having provided special attractions for the occasion.

THE DUKE OF CONNAUGHT.—At eleven o'clock on Thursday night H.R.H. the Prince Arthur left Edinburgh by the East Coast express for London en route for Austria. The duke was received at the station by his brother officers of the 7th Hussars, with whom he cordially shook hands before leaving. It is understood that on his return from Austria H.R.H. will proceed to take command of the Rifle Brigade, of which he has been appointed colonel.

The unfortunate gentleman, Bro. John Johnes, of Dalaucothy, Llandilo, who was recently murdered by his butler, formerly held the position of Provincial Grand Master for the Western Division of South Wales. He was succeeded after about ten years' service by Sir Pryse Pryse on the 12th of July, 1876.

The Provincial Grand Lodge of the Province of North Wales and Shropshire was held at Wrexham on the 5th inst., under the presidency of the R.W.P.G.M., Sir W. W. Wynn, Bart., M.P. The lodge was held in the new Masonic room of the local lodge, the Square and Compass, No. 1336, in the Public Hall. Several items of business were transacted, and the annual election of officers proceeded with. The post of R.W.P.G.M. was again conferred upon Sir Watkin; and in place of the late Lord Harlech, Bro. Bulkeley Hughes, M.P., was elected Deputy P.G.M. The members then proceeded in procession to the parish church, where Divine service was held, and a sermon preached by P.G. Chaplain, the Rev. A. L. Taylor.

The King of Sweden presented Madame Christine Nilsson with the Swedish civil order, "Pour le Mérite." The decoration consists of a gold medal, with the inscription, "In sui memoriam," surmounted by a Royal Crown richly set with brilliants.

The annual Provincial Grand Lodge for the Province of Somerset will be held in the Town Hall, Bridgwater, on Friday, the 22nd inst., at half-past 1 p.m.

Bro. Jas. Batchelder, Professor of Music, a few days ago, forwarded to H.R.H. Prince Leopold, R.W.P.G.M. Oxford, a copy of his new Masonic song, "Friendship, Love, and Truth." He has since received a letter from His Royal Highness, thanking him for the same.

The consecration of the Clive Lodge No. 1575 took place on Tuesday week, at Market Drayton in the presence of upwards of ninety brethren, including the R.W.P.G.M., Sir W. W. Wynn, Bart., M.P. An account of the proceedings is unavoidably crowded out.

At a special meeting of the Edinburgh Conclave, No. 1, held in Freemasons' Hall, George-street, Edinburgh, on Monday, the 31st ult. Bro. Lord Inverurie, M.M. Mary's Chapel, No. 1, was admitted and installed as a Knight of the Red Cross of Rome and Constantine, and at a meeting of the Grand Council, held immediately thereafter, his lordship was duly consecrated as a Viceroy, and afterwards enthroned as a Sovereign of this illustrious Order.

RECIPROCITY.—"Will you lend father your newspaper, sir? He only wants to read it?" "Yes, my boy, and ask him to lend me his dinner—I only just want eat it!"

METROPOLITAN MASONIC MEETINGS.
For the Week ending Friday, September 15, 1876.

The Editor will be glad to receive notice from Secretaries of Craft Lodges, Royal Arch Chapters, Mark Lodges, Preceptories, Conclaves, &c., of any change in place or time of meeting.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 9.

Lodge 1361, United Service, Greyhound, Richmond.
" 1423, Era, King's Arms Hot., Hampton Court.
" 1446, Mount Edgcombe, Swan Tav., Battersea.
Chap. 1293, Burdett, Mitre Hot., Hampton Court.
Mark Lodge 144, Grosvenor, Caledonian Hot., Adelphi.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Lily, Greyhound, Richmond.
Manchester, 77, London-st., Fitzroy-square.
Star, Marquis of Granby, New Cross-rd.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 11.

Lodge 1366, Highgate, Gatehouse Hot., Highgate.
Chap. 1319, Asaph, F.M.H.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Prince Leopold, Lord Stanley Tav., Kingsland.
Strong Man, Jerusalem Tav., St. John's Gate.
Sincerity, Railway Tav., Fenchurch-st. Station.
Camden, Stanhope Arms, Up. James-st., Camden To.
Eastern, Royal Hot., Mile-end-rd.
St. James's Union, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Wellington, White Swan, Deptford.
Perfect Ashlar, Victoria Tav., Lower-rd., Rotherhithe.
Sydney, White Hart Ho., Church-rd., Upper Norwood.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12.

Lodge 167, St. John's, Holly Bush Tav., Hampstead.
" 548, Wellington, White Swan Tav., Deptford.
" 1269, Stanhope, Thicket Hot., Anclify.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Metropolitan, 269, Pentonville-rd.
Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney.
Domestic, Surrey M.H., Caniswell New-road.
Faith, 2, Westminster Chambers, Victoria-st.
Prince Fredk. Wm., Lord's Hot., St. John's Wood.
Dalhousie, King Edward, Triangle, Hackney.
Prosperity, 1, Camomile-st., Bishopsgate.
St. Marylebone, British Stores Tav., St. John's Wood.
Constitutional, Wheatsheaf Hot., Hand-court, Holborn.
Israel, Rising Sun Tav., Globe Road.
Royal Arthur, Prince's Head, York-road, Battersea.
Beacontree, Red Lion, Leytonstone.
Metropolitan Chapter, Jamaica Coffee Ho., Cornhill.
Excelsior, Commercial Dock Tav., Rotherhithe.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13.

Com. R.M.B.I., at 3.
Lodge 13, Union Waterloo, M.H., Wm.-st., Woolwich.
" 87, Vitruvian, White Hart, College-st., Lambeth.
" 1228, Beacontree, Red Lion, Leytonstone.
" 1503, Francis Burdett, Albany Hot., Twickenham.
Chap. 1260, Hervey, F.M.H.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Confidence, M.H., Basinghall-st.
Mt. Lebanon, Windsor Castle Tav., Southwark-bdg.-rd.
Pythagorean, Prince of Orange, Greenwich.
New Concord, Rosemary Branch Tav., Hoxton.
Royal Union, Horse and Groom, Winsley-st., Oxford-st.
Peckham, Maismore Arms, Park-road, Peckham.
Stanhope, Thicket Hot., Anclify.
Finsbury Park, Finsbury Park Tav., Seven Sisters'-rd.
Southwark, Southwark Park Tav., Southwark Park.
Duke of Connaught, Havelock Tav., Dalston, E.
United Strength, Grafton Arms, Kentish-town.
Islington, Crown and Cushion, London Wall.
Whittington, Black Bull Tav., Holborn.
Lewis, King's Arms Hot., Wood Green.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 14.

Lodge 1076, Capper, Marine Hot., Victoria Docks.
" 1288, Finsbury Park, Finsbury Park Tav., N.
" 1321, Emblematic, Tulse Hill Hot., Tulse Hill.
" 1471, Islington, Cock Tav., Highbury.
" 1558, Duke of Connaught, Surrey M.H.
Chap. 72, Royal Jubilee, Horns Tav., Kennington.
" 619, Beadon, M.H., Masons' Avenue.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Egyptian, Hercules Tav., Leadenhall-st.
Fidelity, Yorkshire Grey, London-st., W.
Finsbury, Jolly Anglers' Tav., Bath-st., City-road.
Temperance in the East, Catherine-st., Poplar.
Ebony, 12, Ponsonby-st., Milbank.
Highgate, Bull and Gate, Kentish-town.
The Great City, 111, Cheapside.
High Cross, Coach & Horses, High-road, Tottenham.
Salisbury, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Marquis of Ripon, Albion Tav., Albion-rd., Dalston.
Prince Frederick William Chapter, St. John's Wood.
Southern Star, Crown Hot., Blackfriars-rd.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 15.

House Com. Boys' School, at 4.
Lodge 975, Rose of Denmark, White Hart Hot., Barnes.
K.T. Preceptory 6, St. George's, Albion Tav., City.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Union Waterloo, Thomas-st., Woolwich.
Robert Burns, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Belgrave, Lyceum Tav., 354, Strand.
Unions Emulation (for M.M.'s), F.M.H.
Temperance, Victoria Tav., Victoria-road, Deptford.
Clapton, White Hart, Clapton.
Metropolitan, Portugal Hot., Fleet-st.
Westbourne, Horse & Groom, Winsley-st., Oxford-st.
United Pilgrims, Surrey M.H., Camberwell New-road.
St. James's, New Tanners' Arms, Grange-rd., Bermondsey.
Duke of Edinburgh, Silver Lion, Penny-fields, Poplar.
Doric, Earl Grey Tav., Mile-end-rd.
Burgoyne, Grafton Arms, Prince of Wales's-road, N.W.
St. Luke's, White Hart, King's-rd., Chelsea.
Chigwell, Bald-faced Stag Hot., Buckhurst-hill.
Burdett Coutts, Approach Tav., Victoria Park.

Royal Standard, Finsbury Park Tav., Holloway.
Ranelagh, Clarendon Hot., Hammersmith.
Pythagorean Chapter, Prince of Orange, Greenwich-rd.
Stability, Guildhall Tav., Gresham-st.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN WEST LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE.

For the Week ending Saturday, September 16, 1876.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 11.

Lodge 314, Peace and Unity, Militia Mess R., Preston.
" 1021, Hartington, H.M., C.H.6, B.-in-Furness.
" 1350, Fermor Hesketh, M.H., Liverpool.
" 1398, Baldwin Castle, Dalton-in-Furness.
" 1496, Trafford, Northumberland Hot., Old Trafford.
Chap. 148, Elias Ashmole, C.R., Warrington.
Mark Lodge, 165, Egerton, Bedford House, Rock Ferry.
Derby L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12.

Lodge 178, Antiquity, Royal Hot., Wigan.
" 241, Merchants, M.H., Liverpool.
" 1250, Gilbert Greenall, M.R., Warrington.
Chap. 613, Bridson, M.H., Southport.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13.

Lodge 281, Fortitude, Athenaeum, Lancaster.
" 1052, Callender, P.H., Rusholme.
" 1094, Temple M.H., Liverpool.
" 1356, De Grey and Ripon, 80, N. Hill-st.
" 1547, Liverpool, M.H., Liverpool.
Chap. 1345, Victoria, Cross Keys Hot., Eccles.
Neptune L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 14.

Lodge 216, Harmonic, Adelphi Hot, Liverpool.
" 333, Royal Preston, Vic., Garrison Hot., Fulwood.
" 477, Mersey, M.R., Birkenhead.
" 1035, Prince of Wales, Kirkdale, Liverpool.
" 1182, Duke of Edinburgh, M.H., Liverpool.
" 1213, Bridgewater, Cross Keys Hot., Eccles.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 15.

Chap. 220, Harmony, Garston Hot., Garston.
Precep. Jacques de Molay, M.H., Liverpool.
Duke of Edinburgh L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN GLASGOW AND WEST OF SCOTLAND.

For the Week ending Saturday, September 16, 1876.

All the Meetings take place at Eight o'clock.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 11.

Lodge 102, St. Mark, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
" 204, St. Paul, George Inn, Ayr.
" 205, Garthland St. Winnoch, Eagle, Lochwinnoch.
" 219, Star, 12, Trongate, Glasgow.
" 307, Union and Crown, M.H., Barrhead.
" 362, St. Clair, 25, Robertson-st., Glasgow.
" 384, Athole, Washington Hot., Kirkinulloch.
" 503, St. George, Oddfellows' H., Helensburgh.
" 541, Marie Stuart, M.H., Crosshill.
Chap. 76, Abbey, 8, High-st., Paisley.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12.

Lodge 230, St. Barnabas, Black Bull Hot., Old Cumnock.
" 413, Athole, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
" 419, Neptune, 35, St. James-st., S.S., Glasgow.
" 426, Prince of Wales, M.H., Renfrew.
" 441, Glasgow, 22, Struthers-st., Glasgow.
" 543, St. John, M.H., Dalmuir.
" 579, St. Bryde, M.H., Uddingstone.
Chap. 17, Greenock, M.H., Cathcart-st.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13.

Lodge 178, Scotia, 12, Trongate, Glasgow.
" 333, St. George, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
" 510, Maryhill, M.H., Main-st., Maryhill.
Chap. 113, Partick, M.H., Douglas-st., Partick.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 14.

" 88, New Monkland Montrose, T.H., Airdrie.
" 109, St. Marnock, Crown Hot., Kilmarnock.
" 203, St. John Operative, Olive H., Airdrie.
" 334, St. John's, Castle Inn, New Cumnock.
" 557, Blantyre Kilwinning, C.H., High Blantyre.
" 570, Kenmuir, Balgray Hall, Springburn.
Chap. 50, Glasgow, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 15.

Lodge 31, St. Mary's Coltness, Com. Hot., Wishaw.
" 306, St. Thomas, 90, Wellgate-st., Larkhall.
" 321, St. Andrew, R.A., Public Hall, Alexandria.
" 360, Commercial, 30, Hope-street, Glasgow.
" 408, Clyde, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
" 471, St. John, Stane Inn, Shotts.
" 496, St. Munn, Ardnadam, Kilmun.
" 551, Clydesdale, Royal Hot., Larkhall.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 16.

Lodge 512, Thorntree, School House, Thornliebank.
" 524, St. Andrew, M.H., East Kilbride.
" 544, St. Andrew, M.H., Coatbridge.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN EDINBURGH AND VICINITY.

For the Week ending Saturday, September 16, 1876.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 11.

Lodge 145, St. Stephen, St. James's Hall, Writers' Court

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12.

Lodge 1, Edinburgh, Mary's Chapel, Waterloo-pl.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13.

Lodge 2, Canongate Kilwinning, St. John's Chapel.

Chap. 1, Edinburgh, F.M.H., St. John's-st.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 14.

Lodge 8, Journeymen, M.H., Blackfriars-st.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 15.

Chap. 83, St. Andrew, F.M.H., 98, George-st.

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REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS.
Craft Masonry.

DERBY.—HARTINGTON LODGE (No. 1085).—The monthly meeting of this lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, Gower-street, on Wednesday, 6th inst. The brethren present were Bros. S. Pipes, W.M.; J. Worsnop, P.M.; W. Heathcote, S.W.; T. Gadsby, J.W.; M. H. Bobart, Treas.; Geo. Pipes, Sec.; Theo. Hills, S.D.; J. Heathcote, J.D.; J. H. Biggs, I.G.; Josh. Shaw, D.C.; G. F. Edwards, Organist; T. Slinn, Tyler; Hepworth, Manton, Butterfield, Johnson. Visitors: Bros. W. F. Cox, P.M. 1021; E. Woolf, 1474, W.M.; Geo. Cay, 731; Baldwin, 802. The lodge was opened at 7.15 p.m. The first business was to read the circular, after which the minutes of the last regular lodge, and likewise the lodge of emergency, were read and confirmed. The ballot was then taken for Mr. J. H. Pragnell, who was duly elected. Bros. Lane and Hill were next tested in the questions leading from the Second to the Third Degree, which being answered in an efficient manner, they retired for preparation. The lodge was opened in the Third Degree. Bros. Lane and Hill were then raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Masons in ancient and solemn form by the W.M. The lodge being resumed in the First Degree, Bros. Gore and Pragnell were initiated into the mysteries and privileges of ancient Freemasonry by the W.M. Bro. S. Pipes was congratulated much for the very efficient manner in which he performed the whole of the ceremonies, it being rather an unusually lengthy programme for four ceremonies to be fully worked in the course of one lodge night. After the W.M. had received the hearty good wishes from the visiting brethren, the lodge was closed with prayer in perfect harmony and brotherly love. The brethren then adjourned to the banqueting-room, where a most substantial supper awaited them, after which the usual Masonic toasts were given, and most heartily received. The evening was enlivened with appropriate songs from the brethren. The Tyler's toast being given, the evening was brought to a close, general satisfaction being manifested by all the brethren present.

LANCASTER.—Rowley Lodge (No. 1105).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held in the Masonic Rooms, Atheneum. The W.M., Bro. H. Longman, presided, and there was a good attendance of members, including several visiting brethren. The lodge having been opened in the First Degree with solemn prayer, the minutes of last regular meeting, and of emergency meetings, were read and confirmed. Bro. Thomas Bell having given proof of his proficiency as an Entered Apprentice, was entrusted, and retired, and the lodge having been opened in the Second Degree, he was re-admitted, and passed to the degree of Fellow Craft, the working tools being presented by the S.W. (Bro. T. Jackson). Bro. John Thomas Jackson was raised to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason, the working being effectively and solemnly gone through by the W.M., who also presented the working tools. The lodge having closed down, the usual proclamations were made, which elicited hearty responses from the visiting brethren, after which the lodge was closed with the peculiarities of the Craft.

MANCHESTER.—Lodge of Truth (No. 1458).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held on Saturday, September 2nd, at private rooms, Newton Heath. The minutes of last regular and emergency meetings were read and confirmed. The ballot for Mr. Duckworth proved favourable. Bro. Goodchilde was passed to the Second Degree by Bro. Caldwell, P.M. A letter was read from one of the members tendering his resignation, which was accepted. After the lodge was closed the brethren and visitors sat down to a substantial tea. The new Masonic song, "Friendship, Love, and Truth," composed by Bro. Batchelder, S.W., and dedicated to the Worshipful Master, Bro. Kent, and the members of the lodge, was sung by Bro. Nicholson with great success, and to the delight of the brethren, who are much pleased with their Senior Warden's composition. A pleasant and harmonious evening was spent, and the brethren separated about 9.30 p.m.

HALLIFORD.—Thames Valley Lodge (No. 1460).—This thriving and very excellent lodge met on Saturday, 2nd inst., being its last gathering for this year, emergencies excepted. Many of the brethren were absent, either being on the moors or abroad. President, Bro. J.

Llewellyn Jones, W.M.; W. T. Howe, S.W., P.M., &c.; T. Burdett Yeoman, J.W.; Sweetland, S.D.; Alcock, J.D.; D. Gowan, I.G. The lodge was opened in due form, and business was at once proceeded with. Bro. Thomas was raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason, and Bro. Beaumont was passed. It is but a poor compliment to pay to the W.M., whose working is really and truly of a very superior character; not a blurr or slip marks his utterance of the whole ritual. In the experience of the writer of 15 years I have never heard the beautiful lectures and the whole of the three degrees worked with such precision and pointed enunciation. The W.M. positively entrances one; to say so is not adulation. The following lodge brethren were present:—Bros. Colonel Peters, P.M. and Founder; Dr. Brette, P.M. 1460, Treas.; Paas, P.M., Sec.; J. G. Marsh, P.M.; Stone, the host; Dunn, P.M.; Townsend, P.M.; Hislop, Visitors: Bros. the Hon. O. G. Lambert, Southend; Leigh, Canonbury; Green, Star; and another brother whose name is forgotten, which he will please to pardon. Towards the closing of the lodge Bro. T. W. Howe, S.W., was unanimously elected to fill the chair as W.M. for the ensuing year, amidst hearty greetings. The W.M. paid the W.M. elect a fine tribute of praise by saying he did not know a brother who was more able to fill the chair he was about to vacate than Bro. Howe. He felt himself covered with honour by such a brother following upon his shadow. He was bound to compliment the brethren upon their choice. Bro. Howe replied briefly by saying his best thanks, and that he should be perfectly satisfied to follow in the footsteps of their W.M., whom he only wished to emulate—surpass was impossible. As a matter of right, that most excellent man and Mason, Bro. Paas, was re-elected Treasurer, who said so long as the brethren kept him in funds he should never complain, and that they would find he should always do his duty to them so long as they supplied him with the means. At present he had no complaint to lay against them from straitened circumstances. He thanked them for re-electing him and their sterling contributions. Bro. Woodcock was re-elected Tyler. The lodge was then formally closed. At the banquet, which followed immediately, grace was graciously said by the W.M.. Credit was done to the well laden and groaning tables, with viands and wines of the choicest. Bro. Stone is a first-class host, and pays every attention to the wants and wishes of the brethren. The Ship at Halliford bears a good name, and worthily. The routine of toasts was given, and "The G.M." with enthusiasm. There was a significant and marked feeling of respect paid to the toast and health of the R.W.P.G.M., Col. F. Burdett. It is truly delightful to see, at all times, how the mention of his name is a sign for applause. Bro. Colonel Peters, in whose hands was placed this toast said that he did not think any Mason lived so fondly in the hearts of the brethren as did their R.W.P.G.M., and he assured the brethren that from expressions he had heard fall from his lips, that they were truly fatherly, having no favourites, but if you were true to your obligation all had his equal regard and respect, and for himself he believed that was the cause why the Province of Middlesex was so prosperous. (Hear hear, and that's true.) And let me say that I also feel proud to think that I was the founder and father of this most excellent lodge. Bro. Rev. Dr. Brette in proposing "The Health of the W.M.," paid him compliments of encomium, which are not often heard, and to which every brother present chanted, So mote it be. He had gained the highest respect of all present, and lived in their hearts, and if the lodge had been founded by Colonel P.M. Peters, no doubt its consolidation was owing to the chair being so admirably filled by the present W.M. In proposing that a Past Master's jewel (in open lodge) be presented to Bro. J. Jones, he could not find words sufficiently expressive of admiration towards him. In reply to the observation of Bro. P.M. Brette, the W.M. said it was very flattering to hear one's-self thus spoken of, but from their observations he heard that he, like a good soldier had done his duty. Upon the toast of "P.M." being proposed, Bro. Dr. Brette, in a very humorous and brief speech, set the brethren in roars of laughter, from the tone of voice in which he spoke. He said that it was all through his being a Past Master, and being put down along with the 'old' ones. He then drew the attention of the brethren to the charities, and who would be Stewards; there was no lack of brethren ready to fill these parts. At once the W.M. agreed, W.M. Elect Howe agreed, and P.M. Brette agreed. Thus the three charities are represented by Stewardships, and in less than five minutes the Worshipful Master announced that over one hundred guineas had been subscribed. There were but seventeen brethren present. This speaks well for this lodge; it is beyond praise. The Tyler's toast brought the proceedings to a close.

MORECAMBE.—Morecambe Lodge (No. 1561).—The monthly meeting of this lodge was held in the Masonic Room, Morecambe-street, on the 1st inst., Bro. Captain Garnett, the W.M., presided, and there was a good attendance of members and visiting brethren. The lodge was opened with solemn prayer in the First Degree, and the minutes of previous meeting having been confirmed the ballot was taken for Bro. T. H. Tidswell, 469, who was unanimously elected a joining member. The ballot was also taken for Mr. N. J. Wane, which was unanimous, but owing to his being unavoidably absent his initiation was deferred to next meeting. The lodge was then opened in the Second Degree, and Bro. T. Williams having given proficiency as a Fellow Craftsman was entrusted and retired. The lodge was then opened in the Third Degree, and Bro. Wilkinson having been re-admitted he was raised to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason, the working tools being presented by Bro. Longman, W.M. 1051. The lodge was subsequently resumed in the First Degree, when the usual procla-

mations were made, which elicited the hearty good wishes of visiting brethren, and the lodge closed in peace, love and harmony.

Royal Arch.

LANCASTER.—Rowley Chapter (No. 1051).—The regular meeting of this chapter was held on the 21st ult., in the Masonic Rooms, Atheneum. There were present Comps. E. Airey, M.E.Z.; Heald, H.; E. Simpson, P.G.S.B., as J.; Dr. Moore, P.G.S.B. of E., as E.; H. Longman, S.N.; W. Hall, P.S.; J. Ellenshaw, First Asst. Soj.; J. J. Crookell, Second Asst. Soj.; P. Dickinson, and others. The ballot having been taken for Bro. K. A. Stansfeld, he was unanimously elected, and being present was, with Bro. R. Wolfenden, who had been elected at a previous meeting, duly installed to the degree of R.A. by the M.E.Z., the mystic and histrionic lectures being delivered by Comp. Dr. Moore, and the symbolical by Comp. Heald.

Knights Templar.

PRESTON.—Preston Preceptory.—An emergency meeting of this preceptory was held in the Masonic Rooms, at the Bull Hotel, on the 29th ult. Bro. W. W. Cottam, the Eminent Preceptor, presided, and the other officers present were Sir Knts. Airey and Harding, as Croupier and Marshal, and Capt. White as Esquerry. There were also present P.E.M.'s Galloway and Worsley, Sir Knights Barnes and Helme, and others. The eminent Sub-Prior, Sir Knt. Beswick Royds, was also present, and conferred the degree on Bro. Capt. Sykes. Comp. Bro. Lieut. Fletcher (84th Regt.) having been ballotted for was unanimously elected and duly installed a Knight of the illustrious Order. The preceptory was afterwards closed with all the formalities of the Order, and the brethren subsequently banquetted together. We understand that this Order is in a very flourishing and prosperous condition in this district.

Mark Masonry

PANMURE LODGE (No. 139).—The installation meeting of this lodge was held at the Balham Hotel, Balham, on Monday, September 4th, 1876. There were present Bros. C. Pulman, W.M., in the chair; Thos. Poore, I.P.M., P.P.G.S.; John Read, P.G. Org.; Plot, P.M.; George Silby, P.M. and Treas.; Daniel Trusley, S.W. and W.M. elect; M. S. Larham, J.W.; Wm. Poore, M.O.; M. Speigal, S.O.; John Wolmsley, J.O.; James J. Joseph, R. of M.; C. P. McKay, Sec.; John Thos. Gibson, S.D.; William Ackland, J.D.; Wm. McMurray, I.G.; Hardcastle, Steward. There were also present the following brethren:—W. S. Gaskett, W. Mitchell, J. S. Sinclair, Girder, Joshua Taylor, T. J. Baker, Wm. B. Miller, J. Barney, and Bro. Thos. Baysan, visitor. The lodge was opened by Bro. Charles Pulman, W.M., who was ably assisted by Bro. Read, P.G. Org., and by the much respected I.P.M., Thos. Poore, P.P.G.S. The minutes of the previous lodge were clearly read by Bro. Charles P. McKay, Secretary, who gave an interesting and prosperous account of this flourishing M.M.M. Lodge from its foundation to the present date. Bro. S. B. Harvey, of Royal Jubilee Lodge, 72, and Bro. Herman Plotner, of Lodge 1226, being candidates for the honourable Degree of Mark Masters, were duly ballotted, and unanimously elected and regularly passed, the ceremony being ably performed by the retiring W.M. A Board of Installed Mark Masters was then formed, and Bro. Daniel Trusley was duly installed into the chair by Bro. P.M. Thomas Poore in a very pleasing, perfect, and impressive manner. The brethren being re-admitted, the ceremony of salutation was beautifully carried out under the direction of Bro. Installing Master, Thos. Poore, P.P.G.S. The W.M. having received the congratulations of the brethren, immediately proceeded to invest his officers as follows:—Bro. Mark Samuel Larham, S.W.; William Poore, J.W.; Manna Speigal, M.O.; John Wolmsley, S.O.; John Thos. Gibson, J.W.; Chas. Palmer McKay, Secretary; James John Joseph, Reg. of Marks, William Ackland, S.D.; William McMurray, J.D.; W. B. Miller, D. of C.; Steven Hardcastle, I.G.; P.M. John Read, Organist; Walter Mitchell, Wine Steward; J. Sinclair, Steward; Grant, Tyler. Bro. P.M. Poore having addressed the W.M., officers, and brethren in the most perfect and impressive manner, the lodge was then closed, and according to ancient custom the brethren adjourned to the banqueting-room, where an excellent repast had been provided by the worthy host and respective P.M. George Lilley. On the removal of the cloth, Bro. Daniel Trusley, who seemed to grace the chair with perfect ease, gave the usual loyal Mark Masters toasts, and a very pleasant evening was spent.

Scotland.

KILBARCHAN.—Lodge St. Barchan (No. 156).—The usual quarterly meeting of this lodge was held in the lodge-room on the evening of Friday, the 1st inst., The W.M., Bro. William Lewis, M.D., presided, and was supported by Bros. Daniel Cunningham, I.P.M.; Andrew Buchanan, D.M. and P.M.; Robert Craig, S.W.; John Orr, J.W.; J. Wylie, S.D.; J. Stevenson, J.D.; D. Scrymgeour, S.M.; Andrew Grant, Sec.; Wm. Kirkland, Treas.; and others. The lodge having been opened in due form, the minutes of meetings during the past quarter were read, and after being fully discussed were unanimously adopted. From these it appeared that during the quarter there had been four initiations, four brethren passed the Fellow Craft Degree, and

one brother raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason. After some other routine business the lodge was closed in regular form.

On the evening of Tuesday, the 5th inst., an emergency meeting of the lodge was held to consider a communication from the Grand Lodge of Scotland inviting the brethren to assist in laying the foundation stone of the Poor House and Asylum at Greenock on the 12th inst., and of the new Harbour at Ayr, on the 19th inst. The W.M., Bro. Dr. William Lewis, presided, and was supported by most of the office-bearers of the lodge. After a lengthened discussion, it was unanimously agreed to send an influential deputation to Greenock. At the same time it was agreed that, although the lodge did not see its way to send an official deputation to Ayr, yet it would be satisfactory that if any of the brethren of the lodge could conveniently attend at Ayr, they should represent the lodge upon the occasion. There being no other business, the lodge was afterwards closed in due form.

CONSECRATION OF THE CLIVE LODGE, No. 1575, AT MARKET DRAYTON.

Viewed in its moral bearing and influence on society, Freemasonry exercises a potent power wherever its principles are practised; but when there is also taken into account the large amount of good annually resulting from its charitable institutions for decayed brethren, their widows, and for boys and girls, it assumes a position worthy of emulation. "Brotherly love, relief, and truth" has ever been its motto, and even under the most adverse circumstances it has held on its way, permeating society, and uniting, where its principles are adopted, in one indissoluble bond the rich and the poor, the monarch and the subject. The installation of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales as its Most Worshipful Grand Master has tended to increase the popularity of Freemasonry, and since the last Grand Lodge, warrants for 19 new lodges have been granted. In no province, perhaps, has there been a larger increase than in North Wales and Shropshire, for within a few weeks the Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master, Bro. Sir W. Williams-Wynn, Bart., M.P., has consecrated four lodges—at Bridgnorth, Llanidloes, Newtown, and at Market Drayton. The ceremonial incident to the consecration and opening of a Mason's lodge is one of an impressive character, and on Tuesday nearly 90 brethren assembled at Market Drayton to offer their "heartly good wishes" to the officers, and to witness and take part in the formula of consecrating "The Clive Lodge, No. 1575."

The brethren included the R.W.P. Grand Master, Sir W. W. Wynn, Bart., M.P.; John Peters, P.G.S.W. 587; W. Blakeway, P.G.J.W. 262; W. H. Spruall, P.G. Sec. 1124; T. Wood, P.G.D.C., 1124; J. B. J. Goldsbro', P.G.A.D.C.; P. H. Evans, P.G.A.D.C.; James Salmon, P.G. Sword Bearer 1427; J. D. Boucher, P.G. Organist; Rowland Millington, P.M., P.P.G.S.B., 601; Henry Shepard, P.M., P.P.G.P., 601; Bulkeley Hughes, P.M., M.P. for Carnarvon; J. L. Warren, P.M. 726 and 887, P.P.G. Registrar Staffordshire; George Gordon Warren, P.M. 726, P.P.G.S.B. Staffordshire; J. Bodenham, P.M. 726 and 751, P.G.T. Staffordshire, and P.P.G.R. Herefordshire; J. Beaumont Percy, 418, P.P.G.S. of Works Staffordshire; George Spilsbury, 726, P.P.G.J.W. Staffordshire; Thos. Hawkins, P.M. 468 and 938, P.P.G.D.C. Warwickshire; Thomas H. Smith, P.M. 468 and 938, P.P.G.J.D. Warwickshire; C. Marsh, 460, P.P.G.S.W. Staffordshire; J. S. Crapper, 418, P.P.G.A.D.C. Staffordshire; W. Eardley, 979, P.G.D.C. Cheshire; A. E. Cockayne, P.M. and W.M. Cheshire; J. B. Hide, P.M. 262, 317, 826, P.G. Tyler; W. D. Newnes, 117, P.G. Assist. Tyler; T. S. Cundy, 509; John Blackhurst, S.W. 979; R. B. Mowbray, 979; T. Bolshaw, J.D. 979; T. Heath, jun., 979; T. Bought Jones, 293 and 726; E. T. Thompson, 728; Dublin: F. Butterworth, 293; W. C. Lisle, P.M. 293; A. Jackson, 293; V. K. Deardon, 293; J. H. Belyse, 301 and 293; T. D. Firth, 267; G. E. Smith, 163; J. T. Cox, 726; T. Wood, Secretary, 726; E. C. Griffiths, 726; F. W. Smith, 726; H. T. Smith, 726; S. Bennion, S.W. 293 and 1575; James Hockenull, 293; J. B. Unsworth, 1061; E. R. Heath, 292; J. G. Jacob, 935; Wexford C. Brown, 98; R. Hilditch, 98; T. Salter, 201; J. Bates, P.M. 601; J. Adams, W.M. 601; J. Brooke, J.W. 601; R. Acton, 601; Edward Lea, 117; Edward Lawrence, P.M. 1120; John Machin, 1120; Thos. T. Chubb, 333; Geo. C. Matthews, 610; C. A. Cordingley, 372; George Wycherley, 217; J. H. Kemp, 1575; J. D. Wilkinson, 1575; Dr. Thompson, 1575; Dr. Harding, 1575; S. Heath, 1575; J. Cornes, 1575; John Judge, Tyler 1575, and others.

The brethren assembled in the lodge-room at the Corbet Arms Hotel about one o'clock, when the lodge was opened in the three degrees, the presiding officer being Bro. J. Loxdale Warren, who appointed Bro. A. E. Cockayne as Senior Warden, and Bro. J. B. Percy, Junior Warden pro tem. After the lapse of half an hour, the Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master, Sir W. W. Wynn, M.P., was announced, and, preceded by several provincial officers, entered the lodge. Bro. Warren then vacated the chair, and presented his gavel to the R.W.P.G. Master, who took the presidency of the lodge, and was Masonically saluted. The Senior Warden's and Junior Warden's chairs were also occupied by provincial officers.

The R.W.P.G.M., addressing the brethren, observed that they were assembled on that occasion to open the Clive Lodge, No. 1575. It was a matter of regret to him that the ceremony had not been performed before; in the first place, ill-health had prevented him from being present, and the death of one near and dear to him had further delayed the ceremony, which had been previously fixed to take place in May. He might have asked his Deputy Grand

Master to have done it, but at that time his health also was so impaired that he was unable to be present, and, as they knew, it subsequently got worse, and he was now no more amongst them. He trusted the lodge would not suffer from his shortcomings; he was happy to see so many present, and he hoped the lodge would become very prosperous. They were situated on the borders of other provinces where Masonry was conducted as well as it was in any part of the kingdom—he referred to Cheshire, Staffordshire, and Warwickshire. He was glad to see so many representatives present from those provinces, and he hoped that the Clive Lodge would not in any way be second to any other. During the time he had the honour of presiding over them several lodges had been opened, and he thought it was evident that Masonry was progressing favourably throughout the province.

The R.W.P.G.M. then requested the P.G. Secretary to read the petition for the new lodge and the warrant of constitution, which is granted by the Prince of Wales as G.M. of England, and signed by Lord Skelmersdale, the M.W.D.G.M. It names George Gordon Warren, W.M., John Tayleur, S.W., and John Bodenham, J.W. The lodge board, which was placed in the centre of the room, was then unveiled, and during the consecration prayer corn was scattered on it by the Consecrating Officer, the V.W. Bro. T. W. J. Golsbro' P.P.G.S.W.; afterwards, wine by the P.S.W., Bro. Peters, and subsequently, oil, by the P.G.W., Bro. Blakeway. The R.W. Grand Master then declared "That, as Prov. G. Master, he constituted the Clive Lodge into a regular lodge by the rites and ceremonies of their ancient fraternity," adding, "may the Supreme Architect of the Universe prosper all your duties." The musical portion of the consecration ceremony was rendered in an impressive manner by Bro. Boucher, P.G. Organist.

At the close of the ceremony the installation of Bro. George Gordon Warren took place as Worshipful Master of the lodge. At the close of the ceremony the W.M. appointed his officers, and invested them with their several insignia, as follows:—John Tayleur, S.W.; John Bodenham, P.P.G.R., J.W.; T. Rought Jones, Treas.; S. Bennion, Sec.; J. B. Unsworth, S.D.; T. Rought Jones, J.D.; F. W. Smith, I.G.; J. Judge, Tyler. After receiving the usual salutations and greetings from those present, the lodge was duly closed, and a procession was formed to church under the direction of Bro. Wood, P.G.D.C., in the following order:—The Tyler, with drawn sword, carrying also a handsome banner, with name and number of the lodge inscribed thereon (a gift, we understand, in remembrance of a departed brother); the brethren of the lodge, the officers, the visiting brethren, members of the Provincial Grand Lodge, and then, a very pleasant feature, four boys (sons of Master Masons) carrying on a velvet cushion the Bible, opened at the 10th chapter of Numbers; after them the officers of the Provincial Grand Lodge, the procession closing with the R.W.P.G.M., Sir W. W. Wynn, Bart., M.P., who was preceded and followed by Sword Bearers. Arrived at the church, where a large congregation had assembled, an opening voluntary was very finely rendered. Special psalms and appropriate lessons were read, and a short but pithy and well-chosen sermon was preached by Bro. the Rev. J. G. Jacob, county Wexford, from the text "Let brotherly love continue"—Hebrews xiii. 1. The hymns were—273, 298, and 364 (A. & M. revised edition); these, as well as the whole of the musical portion of the service, were given with really good taste and fine effect.

At the close a collection was made in aid of the North Wales and Shropshire Charitable Masonic Association and a local charity, amounting to £9 18s. 2½d. The procession re-formed and returned to their lodge, where the brethren of the newly-formed Clive Lodge commenced their duties. Feeling allusion was made to the late Bro. F. C. Cockayne, and a motion that the lodge should go into mourning for a month was unanimously carried. Several applications for membership were received, as well as propositions for joining members.

The banquet was served in the ball-room of the hotel. The menu embraced every delicacy of the season, the waiting was unexceptionable, and the whole reflected great credit on Mr. and Mrs. Wycherley, the host and hostess. The newly-installed W.M. presided, supported by the Right Worshipful the Provincial Grand Master and other officers, and the vice-presidents were Bros. Loxdale, Warren, and John Bodenham.

After the toast of "The Queen and the Craft" had been honoured, the W.M. proposed "The Prince of Wales, Most Worshipful Grand Master of England, and the Princess of Wales." He hoped their Grand Master would long live to wield his Masonic sceptre over a free and united brotherhood. (Applause.) He could only refer to his recent visit to India, but he had no doubt that one of its results would be a large accession to Masonry in the Indian empire. With the name of their Grand Master he associated that of his illustrious lady, the Princess of Wales, who in her everyday life exercised and exhibited the virtues which characterised Freemasonry. (Loud applause.)

The next toast was "The Earl of Carnarvon, the R.W. Pro G.M., Lord Skelmersdale, the M.W.D.G.M., and Officers of the Grand Lodge of England."

The W.M. again rose, and said that the toast he now had the honour to propose was one that had a more personal interest attaching to it than any of the preceding—he referred to the R.W.P.G.M. of North Wales and Shropshire, Sir Watkin William Wynn, Bart. He considered that Freemasonry must of necessity flourish when it was encouraged by brethren of rank and position in the country, and more especially when those brethren took an interest in the affairs of the province. They had heard with great pleasure that their Provincial Grand Master had recruited his health and strength whilst he had been absent from the country, and he felt sure that nothing could have given him greater pleasure than the consecra-

tion of another lodge in his province. The toast was drunk with Masonic honours.

The R.W.P.G. Master very cordially acknowledged the kind manner in which his name had been received. He had told them before in the lodge that for a great part of last year he was unable to attend to Masonic duties, and he did not wish their lodge to be consecrated without himself being present. For several years he had known, in another capacity, many whom he saw before him; and then, in addition, his maternal family almost entirely sprang from their parish. He hoped, therefore, that the Clive Lodge would be exceedingly prosperous. (Applause.) He had had the pleasure of recently opening four lodges, and for the kindness which he received at all times and under all circumstances during the time he had presided over the province he very sincerely thanked them.

The next toast, given by the W.M., was "The P.D.G.M. and Prov. Grand Officers, Past and Present," which was acknowledged by P.P.G.S.W. Bro. John Peters.

The R.W.P.G.M. again rose to propose what he considered the toast of the evening—"The Health of the Worshipful Master." (Applause.) He recollected that his maternal ancestors were born within sight of the house where they were assembled, one of whom rose to be the founder of the great Indian empire. He did not hope that the Clive Lodge would grow into such gigantic proportions as the Indian empire, but he did hope that the lodge would be as prosperous as it had been. He had known their Worshipful Master many years, and he hoped that they would all esteem him as he did, and assist him in the management of the lodge. (Drunk with three times three.)

The W.M. said that he felt it to be an extremely difficult task to thank them for the honour of receiving the toast of the newly consecrated lodge, and himself as its first Master; but he did so heartily, conscientiously, and cordially. He hoped that the infant whom they had that day assisted to christen would attain to manhood, and live to a green old age, and when the brethren from a distance looked back on the events of the past, he trusted they would not have to regret what they had done that day. He would ask those who had been selected to work the new lodge to assist him in rearing the edifice—they would have trials to undergo and difficulties to meet before they could place on that edifice of Masonry the top-stone; but they would try to do that, and to leave behind them a development of the grand principles and characteristics of Freemasonry. (Applause.)

The toast of "The Masonic Charities" was next drunk, and responded to by P.P.G.T. John Bodenham with his accustomed earnestness and ability.

Bro. T. Rought Jones, J.D., proposed the toast of "The Visiting Brethren," associating with it the name of Bro. J. G. Jacob, the Acting Chaplain.

Bro. the Rev. J. G. Jacob, in acknowledging the toast, said there was nothing which he could do to benefit the Masonic Craft which he did not look on as a labour of love. He had heard with very great pleasure during the few days he had been in England that Masonry in the province was a real existence, and possessed a real spirit, and was not merely Masonry in name; and it afforded him still further pleasure to hear in the lodge that Masonry was progressing. He was glad to say that it was also increasing in Ireland, and he believed that the more it increased the better would it be for the country at large. (Applause.)

The W.M. regretted that the Consecrating Officer had been obliged to leave them; but he would propose "The Health of the Installing Officer, Bro. J. Loxdale Warren."

Bro. Loxdale Warren expressed the pleasure he felt in seeing a lodge established in his native town. He had for twenty years been a Freemason, but until lately he had never even anticipated the pleasure which the opening of the lodge had afforded him. He had been further gratified by having to instal his brother in blood as its first Master. He had sat under him, and presided over him in lodges, and he knew that he was well qualified to discharge the duties to which he had that day been installed. (Applause.) Before sitting down, he wished to propose "The Officers of the Lodge." They all knew that no lodge could be properly worked without the Worshipful Master was assisted by his officers. It was utterly impossible for a lodge to be efficiently conducted without the assistance especially of the Wardens, and, in fact, of all its officers, thoroughly discharging their respective duties. He believed they all would shew their zeal for Masonry, and unitedly make the Clive Lodge perfect in its working.

The toast was drunk, and responded to by Bro. Bodenham, J.W., who said that his hoped the officers would unite to work together under one of the best Masters that ever ruled a lodge. He had had the pleasure before of working under him, and he knew that he could do the work if he was thoroughly assisted.

Other toasts followed, and the brethren separated about eleven o'clock.

LAYING THE CORNER STONE OF HOLY TRINITY CHURCH, ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.

On the 2nd inst., a demonstration, under the auspices of the P.G. Lodge of East Lancashire, took place on the occasion of laying the north-east corner stone of Holy Trinity Church, by Bro. George Mellor, Worshipful Dep. Provincial Grand Master of East Lancashire, and Mayor of Ashton-under-Lyne. A lodge was opened at the Town Hall by the W.M. of Lodge Minerva at three o'clock, and after the usual routine of business it was adjourned. The brethren to the number of 200, including 37 Past and Present Provincial Officers, were formed into a procession, and marshalled by Bros. C. M. Jones, P.G.D.C., and J. H. Sillitoe, A. P.G.D.C., headed by the Hurst village band, proceeded to the site of the new church. Previous to the laying of the corner stone, the foundation stone was laid by T. Heginbottom, Esq., J.P. (nephew of the founder), who was ac-

accompanied by about 5000 school children and clergy, and some little delay was caused by having to wait for the completion of this ceremony, at the conclusion of which Bro. Mellor, with the assistance of his brethren, laid the corner stone according to the customs of Ancient Freemasonry. The prayers were rehearsed by Bro. Dr. Salts, P.G. Chaplain, assisted by Bro. S. Y. B. Bradshaw, Assistant P.G. Chaplain, whilst suitable hymns and anthems were rendered by a select choir.

At the conclusion Bro. Mellor addressed the assembly, and stated that as a member of a Christian community, without reference to sects or parties, it was very gratifying to him to join in every effort which tended to human progress, but the pleasure was increased when he, together with his brethren, aided to raise another temple for that Church which walked in the lines marked out by the history of the ancient Church, founded on the apostles' doctrine and fellowship. The church whose corner stone he had laid would echo the truths contained in the Book of Common Prayer. They, as Masons, were always glad to come forward to give their sanction, by their own peculiar rites and ceremonies, to the building of Christian temples. He was old enough to recollect the time when the parish church of Ashton was the only place of ecclesiastical worship in the town. There were formerly three chapels, but as the town grew, through the development of the cotton trade, the necessity arose for increased church accommodation, and that was supplied at intervals by the building of St. Peter's, Christ Church, St. John's, and St. James's, and St. George's, at Audenshaw. And they had that day added to the list of Christian efforts the church whose corner stone he had laid. Every new church built, and every new parish formed, became fresh centres of religious activity and material monuments of Christian progress. (Applause.)

The procession was then re-formed, and returned to the Town Hall, where the lodge was duly closed.

In the evening about 120 brethren sat down to a sumptuous banquet at the Commercial Hotel.

The chair was taken by Bro. George Mellor, the Worshipful Deputy Prov. G.M. for East Lancashire; the vice-chairs were filled by Bro. Kershaw, W.M. Minerva Lodge, and Bro. Whitehead, W.M. Union Lodge. Amongst those present were Bros. J. L. Hine, P. Prov. G.S.W.; Dr. Lees, P. Prov. G.S.W.; J. Gibb Smith, P. Prov. G.J.W.; Rev. Dr. Salts, Prov. G. Chaplain; J. Tunnah, Prov. G. Sec.; T. J. Hooper, Prov. G. Treasurer; J. Holmes, P. Prov. G.D.; C. M. Jones, Prov. G.D.C.; J. H. Sillitoe, Assistant Prov. G.D.C.; A. Wolstenholme, Prov. G.J.D.; J. Holroyd, P. Prov. G.S.B.; J. Benn, Prov. G. Supt.; W. W. H. Cunliffe, Prov. G. Purst.; James Hall, P. Prov. G. Purst.; J. Burrows, Hon. Secretary to the General Committee; Thomas Bowers, P. Prov. G.D.C. Cheshire; T. Wainwright, P. Prov. G.S.D. Cheshire; C. Goddard, P. Prov. G.S.D.; R. Sykes, Prov. G. Purst. Cheshire. After the banquet the Chairman proposed "The Queen and the Craft," "The Prince and Princess of Wales, and the rest of the Royal Family," "His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, K.G., Most Worshipful Grand Master of Masons of England," the whole of the toasts being duly honoured.

Bro. Holmes then proposed "The Earl of Carnarvon, Most Worshipful Pro Grand Master," whose eminence and skill, both as a statesman and a Mason, was known to them all.

Bro. Smith then gave "The Health of Lord Skelmersdale, Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master." He said a more expert Craftsman than Lord Skelmersdale he never met, and when they found men of such distinguished rank in social life taking a leading part in Freemasonry, they ought to feel proud of their Order. (Applause.)

Bro. Hine then proposed "The Health of Lieutenant-Colonel Le Gendre Nicholas Starkie, Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master for East Lancashire." He said Bro. Starkie was always first and foremost in furthering the interests of charitable institutions connected with Freemasonry, and they had always reason to be proud of him for the manner in which he devoted himself to and conducted the business of Masonry in his province. (Applause.)

Bro. Lees said he was called upon to discharge a most pleasing duty. It was now 20 years since he joined the Masonic body. That period had been one of great prosperity amongst them, but it was one also in which they had witnessed many changes. During that time the office of Deputy Provincial Grand Master had been filled by Bro. Blair, Bro. Royds, Bro. Newhall, and Bro. Callender, the last of whom had been removed from among them by a dispensation of Providence. It was a difficult matter to fill the place occupied by men so distinguished in Masonry, more especially Bro. Callender, who possessed the greatest skill in all the offices and ceremonies of Masonry, but he considered that their Prov. G.M., Bro. Starkie, had exercised a wise and prudent judgment in appointing Bro. George Mellor. (Applause.) He had known him for nearly 40 years, and when he looked at the public services he had rendered, and the efficient manner in which he discharged the highest municipal duties, he felt sure that when his term of office as Mayor of the borough came to a close he would devote himself with the like energy and ability to Masonry. (Cheers.) He considered that a wise selection had been made in the appointment of Bro. Mellor as Deputy Provincial Grand Master for East Lancashire—a province equal to any in the kingdom, in fact he did not know its superior in point of numbers—for he believed that he would devote himself to the promotion of those interests they all had at heart. He gave "The Health of Bro. George Mellor."

Bro. John Ashworth, P.M. of Lodge Waverley, 1322, then rose, and said: Worshipful Sir,—The duty I have to perform this evening is of a very pleasing description.

It would certainly have been more in accordance with my own feelings if some older and more worthy brother had been appointed to this honour. However, I know that Bro. Mellor will not the less esteem the work though it should come from a young man, because it does not come from me, but from the brethren of the town of Ashton. (Applause.) The duty I have to perform is to present to the Worshipful Deputy Grand Master of this province (the Mayor) with a humble address from the lodges of this town. (Cheers.) I may say, brethren, that the lodges have selected a very opportune time for making the presentation. It was no doubt their duty to congratulate Bro. Mellor when he was first raised to that dignified position. And when an opportunity like this one presented itself to us, the brethren ran as it were with haste to present to Bro. Mellor their congratulations. It is a fitting occasion, because it has given Bro. Mellor another opportunity of manifesting one of the highest qualities of Masonry, which is charity. (Applause.) He has told us today that he respected all denominations, and he, I believe, is charitable not only to the denominations with which he is immediately connected, but to every denomination which has for its object the welfare of mankind. (Hear, hear.) The presentation which I have the honour to make is not of intrinsic value. It is not of silver or gold. Bro. Mellor needs none of these. God has given him plenty. It is of more value than silver or gold. It will be there when both the donors and receivers shall be no more, and will be looked upon by Bro. Mellor's children and his children's children, generation after generation. And whenever they behold that testimonial they will revere the memory of their sire. (Applause.) I may say, sir, when you were appointed to the dignified position of Deputy Provincial Grand Master, an appointment which you never sought, it gladdened the hearts of every Mason in Ashton-under-Lyne. (Cheers.) They knew that though they had lost such an excellent brother as Bro. W. Romaine Callender, who had been taken to the Grand Lodge above, yet in the appointment the Provincial Grand Master was pleased to make he had selected an able successor to Bro. Callender. (Applause.) You, sir, have won by your conduct in this town unvarying respect, especially amongst Masons. Yours has not been a fast, showy, or pushing Masonic life, but it has been far more interesting to us. I hope, sir, you will accept this token of our esteem, and you will long live to look upon it, and when you behold it, it may be a satisfaction to you, that it has not proceeded from any motive other than of pure love and respect for yourself. (Cheers.) Amongst those who have presented it are men of different political opinions to yourself, men of different religious faith, but one and all aim hereafter to join you in the Grand Lodge above. (Applause.)

Bro. Ashworth then read the address, which had been beautifully engrossed by Bro. Hine as follows:—
"To Geo. Mellor, Esq., J.P., Worshipful Deputy Prov. Grand Master of Freemasons for the division of East Lancashire, Mayor of Ashton-under-Lyne.—Worshipful Sir,—We, the undersigned brethren, representing Lodges Minerva, 300, Union, 268, Milton, 1144, and Waverley, 1322, Ashton-under-Lyne, hereby offer our hearty congratulations on your appointment to the high position of Deputy Grand Master of this province, and beg to assure you of our cordial appreciation of the selection made by the Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master, Bro. Le Gendre Nicholas Starkie. Your unvarying courtesy and benevolence during a long and honourable connection with Freemasonry, extending over a period of thirty-three years, have gained the respect and esteem not only of the brethren of this town, but of the province generally, whilst the satisfactory manner in which you have discharged the various duties of the distinguished offices you have previously held indicates to us that you are eminently fitted for that most extensive and devoted sphere of usefulness which your recent appointment has opened. The special ceremony of to-day affords us the additional pleasure of having to congratulate you on laying the north-east corner stone of Holy Trinity Church in this borough, with the ancient, appropriate, and impressive rites of our Order, and we sincerely hope that the sacred edifice thus auspiciously commenced may, when completed, be the means of improving the moral and religious character of the district, and thus tend to promote the honour and glory of the Most High. We fervently pray that the Great Architect of the Universe may continue to you the blessings of health and prosperity, and that you may live for many years to be an ornament of our institution, a pattern of every moral and social virtue." The address was signed by the officers of the various lodges.

The Chairman thanked the meeting for the compliment they had paid him, and for the address they had presented to him. For 33 years he had been a member of the Craft, and he had never regretted the step he took at his initiation. (Applause.) In whatever position he held it had always been his desire to do his duty, and if his efforts met with the appreciation of his fellow townsmen he was thankful. (Loud applause.)

Bro. Kershaw, W.M. of Minerva Lodge, No. 300, proposed "The Provincial Grand Officers for East Lancashire, Past and Present."

Bro. J. H. Sillitoe, Prov. G.D.C., responded, and said the Freemasons had that day fulfilled one of their great missions, viz., laying the corner stone of a building wherein the name of the Great Architect of the Universe would be worshipped, and they had added one more link to the chain which bound them as Freemasons to the reverence of the Most High. Ancient Masonic history shewed them the interest taken by our ancestors in building temples for religious purposes, many of which had been entirely built by their body, and although their ranks were not now confined to operative Craftsmen they still cherished those old tenets on which the Institution was founded and maintained in integrity the watchwords of

brotherly love, relief, and truth, and their lodges to the best of their ability exercised the great virtue of charity.

Bro. Hooper proposed "The Provincial Grand Masters and Officers of the Neighbouring Provinces, Past and Present," to which the Chairman responded, and he concluded by proposing "The Worshipful Masters of Lodges Minerva, Union, Milton, and Waverley," which Bro. J. Kershaw, W.M. of Minerva, acknowledged.

Bro. Dr. Lees said the manner in which the proceedings of that day had been carried out reflected the highest credit on the Masonic committee, whose healths he proposed, coupling with the toast the names of Bros. Siddall and Burrows.

Bros. Siddall and Burrows acknowledged the compliment, and the giving of the toast "To all poor and distressed Masons," brought the proceedings to a close.

The following is a list of the committee who carried out the arrangements:—Bros. James Kershaw, W.M. (Chairman); W. T. Wilde, S.W.; Thomas Peak, J.W.; Joseph Burton, P.M.; William Ogden, P.S.W.; George Dalgleish, I.G. of the Minerva Lodge; J. C. Whitehead, W.M. (vice-chairman); J. Turner, S.W.; James Andrew, J.W.; James Holmes, P.M.; S. H. Smith, P.M.; A. W. Siddall, P.M. of the Union Lodge; James Devaney, W.M.; Abraham Hill, S.W.; Alfred Clayton, J.W.; James Pollitt, P.M.; David Benjamin Radcliffe, P.M.; W. H. Holt, P.M. of the Milton Lodge; Richard Greaves, W.M.; James P. Willis, S.W.; Alfred Wilkinson, J.W.; John Ashworth, P.M.; Walter Newton, P.M.; Thomas Lees, P.M. of the Waverley Lodge; A. W. Siddall, Hon. Treasurer; John Burrows, Lodge Union, Hon. Secretary.

Masonic and General Tidings.

GRAND ORIENT OF EGYPT.—The Grand Lodge of England has recognized the Grand Orient of Egypt since July 12th.

The Marquess of Ripon Lodge of Instruction, No. 1489, now meets every Monday evening at seven o'clock, at the Pembury Tavern, Amhurst Road, Hackney. Bro. Wm. Stephens, P.M. 1365 and 1489, is the Preceptor, and Bro. James Hanney, the Treasurer.

The Annual Court of the Governors of the West Lancashire Masonic Educational Institution will be held at the Masonic Hall, Hope-street, Liverpool, on Wednesday, the 4th prox., at 12 o'clock.

Our readers will see by our report of the laying of the corner stone of the new wing to the Girls' School at Battersea Rise that it is expected Her Royal Highness, the Princess of Wales will open the building in May next.

WEST SMITHFIELD LODGE, No. 1623.—The consecration of this lodge took place on Thursday last at the New Market Hotel, King-street, Smithfield. A full report of the interesting proceedings will appear in the SECOND EDITION of the "FREEMASON," which will be published early on Saturday morning.

GREAT CITY LODGE OF INSTRUCTION No. 1426.—The ceremony of installation will be worked on Thursday, September 28th, at 6.30 p.m., at No. 111, Cheapside, E.C., by Bro. J. Seax, P.M., W.M. elect of the Great City Lodge, No. 1426. Bro. James Stevens, P.M., P.Z., will deliver a lecture on the Tracing Board. Brethren are cordially invited to attend.

The Leopold Lodge of Instruction, No. 1571, resumed its meeting at the Woolpack Tavern, Bermondsey-street, on Monday, Sept. 4th, 1876, and had a numerous attendance of the brethren, when some good work was done under their able and respected Preceptor, Bro. David Rose, P.M. The lodge meets punctually at eight o'clock every Monday evening. Members of the Craft wishing to advance in Freemasonry, by attending this lodge of instruction will be sure to obtain their desired end.

A special lodge of emergency will be held by the Carnarvon Lodge, No. 804, on Monday next, the 18th inst., at three o'clock, at the lodge-rooms, Havant (near the railway station), when and where the R.W. Provincial Grand Master of Hants and the Isle of Wight, Bro. W.W. B. Beach, M.P., assisted by his Provincial Grand Officers, will dedicate the new lodge-room.

The ceremony of installation will be worked in the Southwark Lodge of Instruction, No. 879, Southwark Park Tavern, on Wednesday, the 27th inst. Brethren are respectfully invited.

Bro. Sir Edward Lechmere, the restorer of Tewkesbury Abbey, is now building a "chapter-house" at St. John's-gate, Clerkenwell, which well-known historic place he has acquired.

We are asked to state that, in accordance with a request of a committee which has been formed in Constantinople for the relief of the distress in Bulgaria, without distinction of nationality or religion, the London agency of the Imperial Ottoman Bank is prepared to receive subscriptions for that purpose.

We are very pleased to learn that Bro. the Rt. Hon. the Marquis of Tweeddale, Past Grand Master of Scotland, is progressing most favourably after his recent accident, and, notwithstanding his great age, no serious consequences are apprehended.

It is said that the last few years has witnessed a return of Jews to Palestine from all parts. The Hebrew population of Jerusalem is now probably double what it was ten years ago.

THE BIBLE IN GREECE.—The American Minister at Athens, General Meredith Read, has succeeded in obtaining from the Greek Government a revocation of the order forbidding the sale and circulation of the Bible and of the British and American Bible Societies' publications in Greece.—"Morning Post."

ARCHÆOLOGY.

The first theory to which I wish to call attention, and point out carefully its facts and its difficulties, is the guild theory. That a guild system existed is undoubted, and that it was a Roman institution, accepted and worked out by the Anglo-Saxons, is, I think, undoubted also, for several reasons. Toulmin Smith seems to lean to the idea that it was an Anglo-Saxon institution, but I think that he was quite wrong, and that Mr. Coote is quite right who derives the Anglo-Saxon "gild," or guild, from the "Collegia Privata" of the Romans. It would be far too long a narration to explain here in what this similarity between the two systems consisted, so as to prove that the Anglo-Saxon is the continuation of the Roman, and I hope to do it shortly in another place. But suffice it to say that a very great likeness exists, and that there can be little doubt that Mr. Coote is right in asserting the Roman origin of the guild system. As I said before, the guild system existed, but of it until lately we knew next to nothing. I am now talking of the Craft guilds, of which the Masons was one, especially, though even of the pure religious guilds not much more was known to us. There are still in the Record Office many hundred returns from guilds tempore Richard II., of which Toulmin Smith published a few, and there are probably also in the Prerogative Court many guild certificates, in which depository, a few years ago, Mr. Tyssen found the rules and ordinances of four London secular guilds, and two German religious guilds. Mr. Coote's view of the case may be best given in his own words,—"It is unnecessary to say that every guild was isolated, and independent of all others of the same description. This is traditionally said to have been the constitution of the guilds of Freemasons, now called lodges. (Mr. Coote is not, we believe, a Freemason.) Originally they were like other guilds, distinct communities, neither affiliated to nor dependent upon any other association of the same Craft. At the beginning of the present century (perhaps at the end of the last) through extraneous influences, a hierarchical system was introduced into Freemasonry, and all the independent lodges (or guilds) submitted themselves to one lodge in London as their chief, at the same time surrendering to the latter their Royal charters, or licences, and their ordinances. These were probably all destroyed by the central authority at the time of the surrender. Copies of the charters, however, will possibly be found in the Record Office amongst the returns under the 12th Richard II., and Mr. Tyssen's discovery shows it to be more than probable, that the rules and ordinances are registered in some of the ecclesiastical courts, where they will be discovered whenever a search shall be made for them. When they shall be found we may assure ourselves that Von Hammer's hypothesis of Bakhomet will not hold good, still less will Mithra's, another and a later theory, stand a chance of being accepted." The exact place where the returns 12th Richard II. are still extant, as we see, on referring to Toulmin Smith's guilds, where we find that these returns are known at the Record Office as "Miscellaneous Rolls Lower Records," and were sent up in 1399. They are called certificates of guilds in 1842, but they are probably only a part of the returns, and we may perhaps find copies of many more in local prerogative courts, and amid chapter and collegiate muniments. It is perhaps not generally known that by the 37th Henry VIII., c. 4 (1545), and by the 1st Edward VI., c. 14, the property of all the "brother hedds and guylde" were confiscated by the Crown, and all their records and the like seized. So that by the end of the 16th century the guild system may be said to have been dissolved. What, then, is the connexion as between our speculative Grand Lodge to-day, and this old guild system? Simply this, our speculative system is only a perpetuation of the guild system, of course with great and needful modifications. It is quite clear from Ashmole and from Plot's evidence, that towards the middle of the 17th century a Masonic Order existed, exactly akin to our own. This is even more clear from Plot's words than Ashmole's diary. The meeting in London, 1682, at which

Ashmole was present, was not that of the Mason's Company, nor was it of a pure operative Order, but was clearly of a fraternity, as at Warrington in 1646, partly operative, partly speculative. We must not lay too much stress on condensed statements and loose terminology; but evidence there is plenty to show, that the Freemasonry to which Plot alluded, and into which Ashmole was admitted, is practically identical in general with our own at this hour. In order to get out of the difficulty of this continuation of identical existence, the "social theory" has been put forward, making in fact a third system, but it will not, to use a common adage, "hold water." Neither is it a good answer to the guild theory to say that our present ceremonial is not that of the guilds, and is modern;—modern in the sense of the word it certainly is not, as many are its undoubted archaisms. But it is quite sufficient to point out on this head, that no doubt our present ceremonial, while it is an elaboration of the revived Grand Lodge of 1717, has kept the "landmarks" which were then in existence, as handed down by the brethren who formed part of the Old St. Paul's Lodge, and the other Masons who were congregated in speculative Grand Assembly in 1717. The evidence of Scotland has been adduced to prove the modernity of our present system, and its parentage from the pure speculative system. But I think too hastily. If the evidences of Scotland are carefully gone through seriatim, it will be found that there is some direct and a good deal of implied evidence in favour of distinct and well known severances and secrets of grades. That the records only allude to the First Degree is but natural, and it may be doubted if any minutes, until late in the last century, were kept of any but the First Degree. There were, for instance, many "Master's lodges" in the middle of the last century—where are their minutes now? Lessing stated, and his hasty words have been accepted by some as truth, that no evidence existed of the word Freemason being in use until the beginning of the 18th century, and two recent American writers have reproduced his words as if of undoubted authority, and as if they unsettled the question. But Lessing is most undoubtedly wrong. There is plenty of MS. and even printed evidence, to produce that Freemason was a well-known word in use before Ashmole's time. There is the MS. evidence of "Wm. Horwood, Freemason," who contracted to build Fotheringhay Chapel in 1436; there is a record of John Wood, Masoun, 13th Henry VI., 1439, who made a contract with the Abbot of St. Edmundsbury for the repairs and restoration of the great bell tower, "in all manner of things that longe to Freemasonry." Some have even said that William of Wykeham in his will nearly a hundred years before, when he talks of "et alios sufficientes discretos et in illa arte approbatos," alludes to the "accepted" Freemasons, but perhaps this is really and truly only "post hoc propter hoc," and is hardly reliable as evidence, though undoubtedly the words are peculiar and seem to have a special meaning. I know of none like them used elsewhere. The first use of "Freemason" in Scotland, Bro. D. Murray Lyon tells us, is in 1636 under the name "Frie Mesones," the Frieman Maissons" seems to be in use as early as 1600. From 1600, and indeed a little earlier, the name of "Freemason" is to be found in Registers of burials and the like continuously. Hence it is clear that Lessing's assertion is perfectly untenable. I do not say that the guild theory is free from difficulty, but in my opinion it is the most free in comparison with others, and after I have gone through the other three theories of Masonic history, I will sum up in a concluding communication the pros and cons for the Guild theory evidentially.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF WEST LANCASHIRE.—Owing to some difficulty in the way, the meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of the Western Division of Lancashire early next month will take place at the Masonic Hall, Liverpool, and not at the Pomona Gardens, Manchester. Owing to limited accommodation, it is said that only Masters and Wardens will be admitted on this occasion. This arrangement (which is very fortunately novel in Freemasonry) is sure to cause great dissatisfaction amongst other officers and private members, and it is to be hoped that even now some place should be secured where the whole of the lodges may be present if they desire to attend.

YORKSHIRE ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETY.—The Yorkshire Archæological and Topographical Society had their tenth annual excursion on Wednesday, Halifax being selected as the centre. Col. Akroyd, late member for Halifax, was president of the meeting. The excursion was under the direction of Mr. Fairless Barber, F.S.A., one of the hon. secretaries. The members and friends assembled in great numbers at Halifax parish church in the morning, where they were welcomed by the Rev. F. Pigou, M.A., the vicar, who hinted that he should like to see a restoration of the church by the removal of the galleries, throwing open the nave to the west door, and the removal of the pulpit from the midst of the nave to near the chancel. The pewing and galleries are of old date. Mr. Barber read a paper, prepared by himself and a Mr. E. J. Walker, of Halifax, on the antiquities and history of the church, which is of fine proportions and of great length. Though a church existed here in Norman times, he assigned to the oldest part of the present edifice—a part of the north wall of the nave aisle—no higher date than the 13th century, the windows there showing something of the transition from the early English to the Decorated. An eminent local antiquary, Mr. F. A. Leyland, has conjectured that this may be of Saxon origin. The rest of the church Mr. Barber believed to be wholly perpendicular, dating mostly from the 15th century. The east end, indeed, was completed in 1480, and there was documentary evidence showing that the tower was begun in 1450, and took 20 years in building. The Rokeby Chapel was added in 1521, and the Holdsworth Chapel in 1534. The pewing of the floor of the church, in black oak, was done in 1634. The chantries and altars, the registers and other interesting features were referred to at some length. Several ancient books from the library of the church were shown, as also the registers, which date from the early part of the 16th century. These last record the burial of many people in front of their own dwellings who died of the plague, of others who were beheaded under the Halifax Gibbet Law, and the baptism of Archbishop Tillotson, who was born in the parish at Haugh-end. The party next visited Shibden-hall, an old house, partly timber-built, which dated from early in the 15th century. An account of it was read by Mr. John Lister, the owner, and the quaint old dining-hall and bedrooms were inspected. Some ancient armorial glass in the windows is of great interest to local families. The party thence returned to Halifax, where luncheon was provided at the Assembly Rooms. There was an exhibition at the Museum, adjacent, of old deeds and manuscripts, principally local, together with drawings of the old mansions in the district, and a collection of tiles and pottery from the Roman station of Cadmalodunum. At the luncheon the secretary announced that the society contemplated the exploration of the site of Byland Abbey—a work which has never yet been undertaken, and towards this the Duke of Norfolk has promised a donation of £50. Leaving Halifax by train the party visited the extremely interesting church of St. Mary, at Elland, the greater part of which is perpendicular, but which has an early English chancel arch. Mr. Barber having pointed out some of the leading features of the church, Mr. James Fowler, F.S.A., read a paper on the east window. This was filled with stained glass at the latter end of the 15th century. It is five lights, and the subjects, arranged in panels, with explanatory inscriptions in Latin, are taken from the life of the Virgin Mary, in whose name the church is dedicated. Mr. Fowler extremely regretted that the window was "restored" 20 years ago, certain of the panels being filled with new glass. Strange to say, the whole character of the subject was mistaken, and the new panels portray incidents in the life of our Lord. The visit to Elland Church closed the meeting, which was one of great interest, but was somewhat marred by the rain which fell in the latter part of the day.

ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

The monthly meeting of the Committee of this Institution was held on Wednesday last, Col. Creaton in the chair, J. Smith, J. M. Stedwell, A. H. Tattershall, John G. Stevens, C. A. Cottebrune, R. Wentworth Little, James Brett, W. Hilton, H. G. Warren, Wm. Stephens, S. Rawson, Benj. Head, Dr. Jabez Hogg, Thos. Cubitt, W. Hale, F. Adlard, John Constable, H. Massey ("Freemason"), and Jas. Terry, Sec.

The Secretary communicated the information to the Committee of the death of four annuitants.

The Warden's report informed the committee of the reception of one annuitant into the Institution, and the death of one widow. It also conveyed the intelligence of the good health of all the inmates of the asylum, and that they were much gratified at the entertainment lately given to them with such great success. The report also conveys to the brethren who gave the entertainment their best thanks for the same.

Authority was afterwards given to the Chairman to sign cheques; and

Two petitions were received from poor brethren.

Bro. Terry then read a letter from Bro. J. Norris, Warden of the asylum, thanking the committee in the name of himself and the other inmates, for the increase in the annuity lately made.

Bro. Terry also read a letter from the son of the late Mr. Walkley thanking the brethren for the kindness his late mother had received whilst an inmate of the asylum.

The Committee then adjourned.

HOLLOWAY'S REMEDIES are much used in various inflammatory states of the system, and the very greatest advantage is derived from their use when the blood has become impoverished from the excess of any kind, and the general health debilitated from the same cause. It is needless to specify the numerous ill effects, persons suffer from, who have overtaxed their powers; they are sufficiently obvious to all, and these effects are both physical and mental. No one, however, need despond about himself, for, by attacking the source of the evil with a fixed resolution to conquer it, the battle is half won. Holloway's remedies properly and judiciously used impart nutrition to the blood, and restore to the nerve cells their natural tone.—ADV.

[The following appeared in our Second Edition of last week.]

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.

LAYING THE CORNER STONE OF THE NEW WING.

On Thursday afternoon the first or corner stone of the new wing to the school building at Battersea Rise was placed in position by Bro. Lieut.-Col. Creaton, V.P., in the presence of the children, the governesses, the matron, the servants, the committees and office-bearers, and the representatives of the other Masonic charities. There was no great display, but everything was arranged to be in a quiet unostentatious way, the brethren relying for their reward more on the practical good they were doing than on any amount of praise they might receive for a successful and attractive ceremony. The growing want of the Order for a larger building for the reception of more pupils having, as our readers will have noticed from time to time by our reports, engaged the attention of the committees the matter was taken in hand during the present year, and a resolution was come to that the number of children to be admitted into the Institution should be increased. As the building was already full this could not be accomplished, though the funds at the disposal of the brethren were ample. Numerous suggestions were made as to what was advisable to be done, and schemes were invited as to the plan to be pursued. Some brethren suggested that another and larger building should be erected elsewhere, and others that the nucleus of a future large school in the shape of a separate establishment for the younger children should be built a long distance from town, where land was cheap and plentiful. But the scheme which was adopted was that of Col. Creaton, who proposed that a wing should be added to the present building, capable of receiving several additional children. It was proposed that this should be built at the north east corner of the existing structure where some ground could be spared from the garden, and where the proposed addition could be built of such a size as to give room for a large hall, numerous offices, and several dormitories. The plans of Bro. Thomas Massa, Architect, were accepted, as were also the tenders of Bro. C. Fish, the builder, and the building was at once proceeded with. Considerable progress has been made with the new building, and by Thursday last it had arrived at the stage where the corner stone, which will perpetuate the date of building, could be set. Punctually at four o'clock everything was in readiness, and a procession was formed in the exercise-room, which marched, while two of the pupils played on the piano, to the platform erected for the purposes of the ceremony in the following order:—The porter; the women servants; assistant governess, Miss Davis; the matron, Miss Jarwood, and her assistant; the collector; the Secretary, Bro. Little (with documents to place in the cavity of the stone); Hon. Officers; the Treasurer, Bro. Tomkins (with bottle for coins and documents; Chaplain, Bro. the Rev. J. W. Mills Ellison; the Secretaries of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, Bro. Binckes, and the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, Bro. Terry; Audit Committee; Building Committee; the senior member of House Committee, Bro. B. Head (with inscribed plate); the Chairman of Building Committee, Col. Creaton, as M.M. to lay the stone; the Clerk (in attendance on Chairman).

The brethren then present were Bros. Colonel Creaton, Samuel Tomkins, Benj. Head, Joshua Nunn, John Boyd, Thomas W. White, J. A. Rucker, H. A. Dubois, H. Browne, Colonel Burdett, A. H. Tattershall, Dr. Eady, E. M. Hubbock, S. Rosenthal, J. A. Farnfield, R. B. Webster, W. Hyde Pullen, R. W. Evans, W. F. Collard Moutrie, F. Binckes, Capt. J. Wordsworth, James Terry, H. C. Levander, H. Muggeridge, Morgan, jun., H. Massey ("Freemason"), and R. W. Little (Secretary), besides Bros. Massa and Fish, the architect and builder.

Bro. Samuel Tomkins, as the Senior Trustee present, first addressed Col. Creaton as the Chairman of the building Committee to act as Master Mason in performing the ceremony of laying the chief corner stone. Having assented to the request, Col. Creaton prepared to do the work by taking his position as Master Mason, assuming his apron and collar of Past Grand Deacon of England. This was the only Masonic regalia worn throughout the ceremony. All things being now in readiness, Bro. Massa, addressing the Colonel, said:—

Following the time-honoured custom of our ancient brethren, we have made preparation for you to lay the chief corner-stone of the intended structure at the N.E. corner of the Large Hall, in order that the earliest rays of the morning sun may shed benign influence on our work. Does the place so selected, and our motive, meet with your approval and sanction?

Col. Creaton replied: It does! The wisdom and ancient customs of our forefathers deserve our respect, and should not be lightly disregarded or departed from. We sanction and approve both the place and the motive for adopting it.

He then requested Bro. Little to read the document to be deposited in the cavity of the stone. Bro. Little did so, as follows:—

"Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, St. John's Hill, Battersea Rise, S.W. This, the foundation-stone of the buildings to be erected in extension of the above institution was laid by the Chairman of the Building Committee, W. Bro. Lieutenant-Colonel John Creaton, P.G.D., Vice Patron and Trustee, on Tuesday, the 7th September, 1876, in the presence of the Committees of the School, Bro. Thomas Massa, architect, Bro. Charles Fish, builder, Building Committee; the Treasurer and Trustees, Bro. John Boyd, J.G.P.; Henry Browne, P.G.D.; Henry A. Dubois, Benjamin Head, P.G.D.; Peter De Lande Long, Joshua Nunn, P.G.S.B.; Lieut.-Col. James Peters, John A. Rucker, P.G.D.; Griffiths Smith, P.G. Steward; Alfred H. Tattershall, Rev.

Joseph M. Vaughan, Thomas W. White, P.G. Steward; R. Wentworth Little, Secretary."

Accompanying this was the same inscription rendered into Latin by Bro. H. C. Levander, M.A., a member of the Audit Committee, and which Bro. Little also read as follows:—"Hunc Lapidem fundamentum novum aedificii adjuncti scholae pro filiabus Latomorum institutae solemniter posuit coram aedum curatoribus praeses Fratrum ad hoc opus conficiendum delectorum Johannes Creaton, Praefectus Militaris, hujus collegii propatorus et Fiduciarius, Die Jovis A.D. VII. Idus Septembris Anno Salutis MDCCCLXXVI Praesentibus etiam Thoma Massa, Architecto, Carolo Fish, Redemptore, Roberto Wentworth Little, Scriba, Aliisque Fratribus delectis."

Bro. Little delivered this document to Bro. Samuel Tomkins, who placed it in the bottle containing coins, and gave to the solicitor to seal. This having been done, it was deposited in the cavity of the bed stone. Bro. Benj. Head read the inscription on the plate which was to cover the cavity, and having read it he placed it over the cavity, pronouncing the words, "May this record long remain undisturbed for the information of future generations," though it is not very clear how future generations are to get the information from this plate, unless the corner stone is removed, which, to say the least, would be undesirable. The next step in the proceedings was for Colonel Creaton to rise and advance to the stone, which he did, saying, "Bro. Architect and Operative Masons, we are ready to assist you in your labours." To this Bro. Massa replied:—"We are grateful for your aid, and shall derive encouragement from your example. We beg you will accept this trowel with which, having executed the work, we hope may afterwards be a pleasant memento of to-day's labour, and a token of the honour and esteem you are held in by all connected with this Institution. May the cement you will now spread with it be an emblem of that pure bond of union which connects Freemasonry with all good works."

Bro. Massa then presented a handsome silver trowel to Colonel Creaton.

Col. Creaton receiving the trowel spread the cement on the bed of the understone, and then turning to the East said, "Let the blessing of Heaven be supplicated on our present work."

The Chaplain offered up prayer for a blessing; the brethren responded "so mote it be."

Col. Creaton raised his trowel as a signal, and the children sang the anthem

"Thine, O Lord, is the greatness."

The stone was gradually lowered by three distinct motions at the words "Power," "Glory," and "Victory," and Col. Creaton guiding it to its proper base with the handle of the trowel, which he then delivered to the builder.

Bro. Massa presented him with the setting maul, saying, "The stone being at rest we pray you to assume the setting maul and test its stability in the name of the four cardinal virtues."

Col. Creaton receiving the setting maul struck the stone on the four corners, saying, "With Temperance, Fortitude, Prudence, and Justice let our work be founded."

The square was then presented to the M.M. by the Foreman of the Works; and Bro. Massa asked "Is our ashlar square?"

Col. Creaton proved it, and answered, "It is square, and set at a right angle with the work." He then handed the square to the Builder.

The Level was likewise so presented. Bro. Massa asked, "Is it also set level?" Col. Creaton proved it, and answered, "It is so, and firmly bedded equal East, West, North, and South," and handed the level to the Builder.

The Plumb Rule was likewise so presented; and Bro. Massa asked, "Is it adjusted plumb?"

Col. Creaton proved it and answered: "It is plumb; a perfect ashlar, truly adjusted, upright on its proper base," and handed the plumb rule to the builder.

Bro. Massa said: "This chief corner stone being square, level, and good, I pray you, M.M., certify the work and declare it good."

Col. Creaton took the setting maul in his right hand, and gave three knocks on the stone with the words, "Ask, and ye shall have," "Seek and ye shall find," "Knock and it shall be opened," adding "By the power in me vested, and in the name of the Great Architect of the Universe, I declare this stone well and truly laid." Handing the setting maul to the builder, he said, "May the work thus begun in order be conducted in peace and completed in harmony."

Bro. Massa presented the drawings, saying "Deign, Master Mason, to inspect and sanction the whole design," to which

Col. Creaton answered: "I will do so with pleasure," and then handed them to the builder, saying, "With the tools you have already received, and these instructions, may you raise a superstructure perfect in its parts and honourable to the builder."

The brethren responded, "So mote it be," and Colonel Creaton resuming his seat, said: "With the gifts of the Great Architect of the Universe, let this memorial be blessed and consecrated." Bro. Joshua Nunn scattered the stone with corn, Bro. J. A. Rucker sprinkled wine on it, and Bro. H. Browne dropped oil.

The Treasurer advanced to the stone, and placed some money on it for the workmen, saying—"It is written, 'Thou shalt not muzzle the ox that treadeth out the corn.' To the Foreman—"Let refreshment sweeten the labour of the Craftsmen."

Col. Creaton rose and said: "Let the blessing of heaven be invoked on the future operations," and the Chaplain pronounced the invocation. All the children then sang a hymn.

And this concluded the ceremony.

The procession reversed in order, then left the platform and proceeded to the building. Later on in the eve-

ning, a small but elegant banquet was partaken of, which was followed by the usual toasts. Col. Creaton presided, and after the toast of "The Queen" had been honoured, the Chairman in giving that of "The Prince and Princess of Wales," said he hoped that in May next, when the building would be finished Her Royal Highness would perform the ceremony of opening.

The Chairman in proposing "Success to the Masonic Institution" said that all the brethren would be pleased that Bro. Little was back again, though he was sorry to say he was not even now enjoying very good health. He was, however, very much better, and he hoped the improvement would be lasting. The Girls' School was fortunate in having so good a Secretary, and one who did his work so well. He (the Chairman) was sure on the day when Bro. Little was elected that he would turn out a trump, and his prediction had been verified. The Secretaries of the other Institutions had been obliged to leave early on account of other engagements, but there were representatives of those Institutions in the room who would respond on their behalf.

Bro. Little said that it had fallen to his lot to return thanks for this toast at the meetings of the House Committee, but it had rarely been his duty to speak before such a representative assembly as the present. Not only the executive officers of this institution, but of the other institutions were present. His best interests and his most heartfelt wishes were bound up with the welfare of the Girls' School. Nothing but the blow which had fallen upon him within the last few months, of his health being indifferent, could lessen his exertions on behalf of the institution. His exertions for the school would be nothing if the liberality of the Craft did not second it. This liberality had been widening of late years, and he congratulated the Craft generally and the friends of the institution upon the noble work that had been commenced that day. He was quite sure it would produce many benefits for those who would come after us, and they would all feel pleasure in the reflection that they had done something that day for the children of Freemasons.

Bro. Samuel Tomkins proposed "The Health of the Chairman." The noble Masonic Charities could not be supported unless some brethren could bestow time and attention upon them. Many brethren did this, but Colonel Creaton had distinguished himself by the thoughtful habitual attention he gave to the institution. All the brethren appreciated his efforts fully. Many of them would like to do as much, but their avocations deprived them of the power of doing so; and if they had not those brethren who at considerable personal sacrifice came forward, the institutions would not be in the position which they now occupied, or effect the good they did. The day had been a very interesting one in the history of the charity. They had seen the institution in the course of years proceeding from one point of progress to another. In 1873 a wing was built. Afterwards they had seen the infirmary built, and now the increasing demands of the Craft required an additional building. The first step had been taken satisfactorily, and he believed in the whole process Col. Creaton had taken a great interest. That day must be to Colonel Creaton one of personal triumph, he having been most anxious for the prosperity of the charity, and that the building should do justice to the Craft. It would afford a noble hall, and additional sleeping accommodation, which would enable the Institution to take in a much larger number of girls than at present. It must be to Col. Creaton highly gratifying, and it was gratifying to all the brethren to be present. For himself he (Bro. Tomkins) could only say with some degree of shame that though he was ex-officio member of the committees, his many avocations, and some degree of indifferent health, had prevented him from attending. But it had been a great pleasure to him to be present at that pleasant friendly meeting, and to have the gratification of proposing "The Health of Col. Creaton."

The Chairman said: Bro. Tomkins, I thank you very much for speaking of me so kindly in proposing my health, and I thank you, brethren, for endorsing so cordially what Bro. Tomkins has said. I assure you that it is a great satisfaction to me to-day to know that we have commenced that building which I have thought of so long; in fact, I will not conceal it from you, I have had that building on my brain for the last six months, and I am very glad we have now got so far that it has been commenced in earnest. I am quite sure that when it is completed, and perhaps when many of us have passed away, it will be appreciated; and it will be said by those who follow us that it was the right thing to do. Most of the Building Committee are aware that Mr. Whiting, who is the proprietor of the land adjoining, has lent it to us for the use of the children for a playground. It is extremely kind of him, and we are all of us very much obliged to him for it. I am gratified beyond measure that we have laid the foundation-stone of this new building to-day. I hope it will be a success, and I feel confident that it will. (Cheers.)

The toast of "The Architect" followed, and Bro. Massa responded, and said that although the ceremony of the day had been done in a corner it was a corner of great influence, like the representatives who were present. That influence would be diffused over the whole building, and he hoped when it became a perfect ashlar and a perfect cube it would meet with the satisfaction of the brethren. (Hear, hear.)

Bro. Head proposed "The Ladies," referring particularly to those who had charge of the establishment and had brought it to such a state of perfection and discipline, Miss Davis and Miss Jarwood especially.

Bro. Boyd replied.

Bro. Joshua Nunn proposed "The Sister Institutions," for which Capt. Wordsworth, Bro. Hyde Pullen, and Bro. J. A. Farnfield responded. "The Health of Bro. Muggeridge," and his reply brought the speeches to a close, after which the visitors witnessed the amusements of the girls, and returned to town about ten o'clock.

COSMOPOLITAN MASONIC
CALENDAR.

W. Masters and Secretaries are earnestly requested to forward to the publisher, at the Offices, 198, Fleet-street, E.C., particulars of the place, days, and months of meeting of their respective lodges, chapters, and other Masonic bodies, for insertion in the issue of the Calendar for 1877.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

COLONIAL and FOREIGN SUBSCRIBERS are informed that acknowledgments of remittances received are published in the first number of every month.

It is very necessary for our readers to advise us of all money orders they remit, more especially those from the United States of America and India; otherwise we cannot tell where to credit them.

NEW POSTAL RATES.

Owing to a reduction in the Postal Rates, the publisher is now enabled to send the "Freemason" to the following parts abroad for One Year for Twelve Shillings (payable in advance):—Africa, Australia, Bombay, Canada, Cape of Good Hope, Ceylon, China, Constantinople, Demerara, France, Germany, Gibraltar, Jamaica, Malta, Newfoundland, New South Wales, New Zealand, Suez, Trinidad, United States of America, &c.

TO OUR READERS.

The *Freemason* is a sixteen-page weekly newspaper, price 2d. It is published every Friday morning, and contains the most important, interesting, and useful information relating to Freemasonry in every degree. Annual subscription in the United Kingdom, Post free, 10/- P.O.O.'s to be made payable at the chief office, London.

TO ADVERTISERS.

The *Freemason* has a large circulation in all parts of the Globe, its advantages as an advertising medium can therefore scarcely be overrated.

For terms, position, &c., apply to

GEORGE KENNING, 198, Fleet-st.

Answers to Correspondents.

All Communications, Advertisements, &c., intended for insertion in the Number of the following Saturday, must reach the Office not later than 12 o'clock on Wednesday morning.

P.M. CRAFT AND MARK, AND A P.P.G.O.—Letter received, but unaccompanied with name of sender. This must be given before letter can appear.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

[The charge is 2s. 6d for announcements, not exceeding four lines, under this heading.]

BIRTHS.

- BENBOW.—On the 9th inst., at Paignton, Devon, the wife of V. Benbow, Esq., of a son.
CHATTERTON.—On the 7th inst., at Teesdale Lodge, Brixton-hill, the wife of H. W. Chatterton, of a daughter.
COLE.—On the 10th inst., at Arlington-street, Viscountess Cole, of a son.
DAVIES.—On the 6th inst., at Little Blake Hall, Wanstead, the wife of H. D. Davies, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

- BOUREE—VANDELEUR.—On the 7th inst., at CastleConnell Church, co. Limerick, John Ulick, son of R. Bourke, of Thornfields, D.L., to Elizabeth Agnes, daughter of the late Col. J. Vandeleur (10th Hussars).
BURNETT—CURTIS.—On the 6th inst., at the parish church of St. Nicholas, Sevenoaks, Lindsay Robert Burnett, Esq., adjutant 95th Regt., to Agnes Henrietta, daughter of the late Rev. C. T. Curtis.
CRABTREE—CRANE.—On the 7th inst., at St. John's Church, Hackney, Frederick Crabtree, son of J. H. Crabtree, to Alice Elizabeth, daughter of Stephen Crane, all of Hackney.
HOGARD—WESTON.—On the 9th inst., at St. Clement Danes, Bro. C. F. Hogard, to Elizabeth Weston.

DEATHS.

- AUGER.—On the 6th inst., William Auger, of Burnham, Essex, aged 52.
HAYWARD.—On the 4th inst., at Bridge-road, Battersea, Wm. Hayward, aged 70.
HOGG.—On the 7th inst., at West Cliff, Preston, James Hogg, Esq., aged 64.
JACKSON.—On the 9th inst., at Windmill-road, Croydon, Elizabeth, wife of Mr. F. Jackson.
ROBERTS.—On the 1st inst., at Hastings, John Roberts, Esq., M.A., Fellow of Magdalen College, Cambridge.
ROBERTSON.—On the 24th of June, at her residence, Bunalbo, Clarence River, New South Wales, after a week's illness, Jane, relict of the late William Robertson, aged 63 years. Friends will please accept this intimation.
WALKER.—On the 7th inst., at Dorset-gardens, Brighton, Capt. Leven Walker, R.N., aged 74.
WARD.—On the 26th ult., at Malta, Elizabeth Annie, widow of the late Dr. A. V. Ward, aged 42.

The Freemason,

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 1876.

THE LAST QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION.

We quite rejoice to have to comment on so satisfactory a meeting of Grand Lodge, in the month of September. At that time, generally, its attendance is of the thinnest and the business merely routine. On the present occasion over 300 brethren assembled to consider and discuss the important notices of motion on the agenda paper. We are glad to record that the appointment of an enlarged committee was carried, and that on the reasonable proposal of Bro. Curteis, and the wise suggestion of Bro. McIntyre, the Grand Registrar, the provincial brethren were fully represented on the committee. We trust that we shall have a good report from it and that a reasonable proposal may be made which will command the sympathies of all. Grand Lodge has decided to perpetuate its Royal Grand Master's safe return by some donation, some memorial, and therefore the object ought to be, to try and discover a solution of the whole question, which will be acceptable to all. The committee has a large mission and full powers, and we hope, that in the discharge of its important duty to the Craft, it will, as we feel sure it will, ever keep before it, clearly and consistently, this one great end, the honour of our Grand Master, and the true interest of our Order. It is not a question, happily, into which our party spirit can enter, or on which antagonistic issues need be raised. We do not think that it would be becoming in us to attempt to discuss, as one or two brethren unwisely did in Grand Lodge, what the committee is likely to report, and what should be, so to say, the line it ought to take. It would be neither in good taste nor Masonic form for us to do so, now that the consideration of the subject matter is relegated to an independent committee to deal with and report upon. But we think we may say this; that if any of the Masonic Institutions are to be the channels through which this testimony of the gratitude of Grand Lodge is to be manifested to the public and the Craft, then all should, we venture to think, in some way or other, be put, so to say, on an equality. We make this remark in all deference, but we know that, thus expressing our humble opinion, we are also expressing the opinion of a good many zealous members of the Craft. And here we leave the matter to day, if not "sub-judice," "sub-committee," with every good wish for wise counsels, and a judicious and happy proposal, when in due time that Committee makes its report to Grand Lodge. After the expressed opinion of Grand Lodge it seems very difficult to suggest any other appropriation but a purely Masonic one of some kind or another. Grand Lodge having so decided we bow to its authority, though we could have wished that a larger view had been taken of the matter altogether. One brother has written to us as if there had been "unbrotherly feeling" displayed in the discussions which have arisen out of our worthy brother, the Past Grand Chaplain's original proposal. We are not aware of it, and it is impossible to suppose, that for a brotherhood like ours, so independent and so educated, differences of opinion will not arise. It would be very bad for us all if they did not. But we are "brethren," and having manfully spoken our minds on any subject, if need be, we must harmoniously "agree to differ."

PREJUDICES AGAINST FREEMASONS.

We gave last week from the "Thanet Guardian" the account of a curious episode at Margate, to which our attention was called at once by more than one correspondent. We confess we do not understand why the Watch Committee of the borough of Margate should make the profession of Freemasonry a disqualification for the office of the chief of the police in that good town. Perhaps some brother can throw some light on so extraordinary a proceeding, and we shall be glad if he will give our readers the

benefit of his remarks in the pages of the "Freemason." In the meantime we will only say that such regulations of a municipal body are very absurd, and such prejudices very perverse. Freemasons are among the most orderly, loyal, well-principled of mortals, friends always to discipline and decorum, and habitual supporters of the law. What then, and who then, is the cause of such a ridiculous objection? When and by whom was such an instruction to the Watch Committee given, or is it the luminous idea of that intelligent body of citizens? We feel, that in the interests of many members of the police service who are Freemasons, we have a right to ask for an investigation into the matter, and for a reply to these questions. Such difficulties might be raised by an Ultramontane Town Council, or by those who take a hostile view of Freemasonry and Freemasons, but we do not, we confess, understand them when they emanate from an ordinary English municipal body, and we shall hope to hear that there is some mistake in the matter.

THE DETECTION OF CRIME.

The report of the Metropolitan Police, which we commented upon last week suggests several considerations to those who inhabit the metropolis, and are specially interested in the preservation and protection of their persons and property. Indeed, all are interested in the matter more or less, as the efficient working of our police system, alike in repression and in detection, is of paramount importance to the order and well-being of society, the peace and prosperity, and comfort of of us all alike. Nothing so much tends to detract from the progress of civilization, the true liberty of the subject, the conveniences of material affluence, and the simple tranquillity of domestic life, as a state of anarchy or lawlessness, a disposition to riot, outrage, or plunder, which things, as we well know, seriously affect the value of property, and weaken the just prescription of ancient laws and good government. Some of us may remember parts of the country which, before the introduction of the rural police, for instance, were very uncomfortable places to live in, and where quiet people, and timid people, were positively at the mercy of the "area sneak" by day, the crouching burglar by night, in which it was not always safe, for young women especially, to go out after dark, and where personal and general robberies were of daily occurrence. Some of us, we say, can recall in our memories to a similar state of things. Now all these happy amenities of ruffianism are things of the past, and we trust, under the auspices of a well organized urban and rural police, will never again occur. Why, as we write, we can even now recall an old familiar spot where henroosts were regularly robbed the moment there was poultry enough to make the "job" worth anything, where at Michaelmas, the farmers' geese and turkeys invariably disappeared "en masse," where sheepstealing was not unfrequent, and where the plundered were consoled with such a specimen as this of the facetious poetry of thiefdom:—

"You are rich, and we are poor,

When this is done, we'll come for more."

And ours are facts, not fictions—stern realities, which happened before our very eyes, not so many long years ago after all—not the creation merely of a facile and ornate imagination. From Col. Henderson's report it is apparent, we think, that detection follows crime, as a general rule, in the majority of the current crimes of civilization, and that we may fairly assert that the metropolis is well protected, alike at the West-end, as by the effective City police under Col. Fraser, from those offences which would gravely interfere with the happiness and social security of us all alike, and which jeopardize the preservation of property, or menace the public order, peace, and safety. But it seems to us that, notwithstanding this so far satisfactory state of things, there is a defect in our existing system which requires amendment and alteration. We allude to what we may term the "higher detection of crime and criminality." In our free country, and under our good old Constitution, we cannot have, as in other countries, a secret police, and

much of the English jealousy on the subject is the fear, no doubt, that a high class body of detectives might be used for political purposes. Though we believe such an idea is a chimera, yet it is one which is characteristically English, and deserves to be treated with respect. That love for the Constitution, and that reverence for law and liberty combined, are, as it were, the clue to the real greatness of the English character, and the permanency and solidity of English institutions. As long as we hold to them fast and firm we are, humanly and politically speaking, safe. But though this be so, there is no reason why we should run into the other extreme and prevent our detective officers carefully and perfectly fulfilling their important "metier." We are all of us aware from time to time of many remarkable robberies, acts of violence, murders, crimes of special nature, which seem to defy detection, and evade the retributive punishment of a stern but tranquil justice. Why should this be so? Of course in all things and all organizations of this earth imperfection and incompleteness are to be found. Nothing is absolutely perfect here, free from actual flaw or possible failure. But still the defect of proper detection is so great a blow to social welfare, and so great a reflection on the administration of the law, and so undesirable on every account, that we should always make the greatest efforts, to use a common expression, to put everything into "ship shape," to tighten up all the links which go to compose the encircling chain of police supervision and detection, as against that "classe dangereuse" which preys, so to say, on the very "vitals of society." We doubt very much whether we do enough to encourage the "esprit de corps" of the detective police. In our humble opinion, detectives should be purely detectives, judiciously and carefully selected from the divisions, and employed solely for detective purposes. A policeman who is acting as a detective to-day, and may be standing at a crossing to-morrow, looking after the light carts and timid old ladies, loses that interest in his special work, which is absolutely essential for the very purpose of detection, and in order to encourage a class of "skilled detectives," we would give higher pay, and special allowances for emergencies, and for clothing, "coloured clothes," as the old soldier's term was, with occasional rewards, and good superannuation pensions. And we feel sure that the expense thus incurred, however it might startle some would-be economists, would not be thrown away, but would save in the long run a large amount of the property of the public, would raise the character of "Scotland Yard," and materially augment the safety of the metropolis. In all this we are not complaining of the detective system now in vogue. What it does do, it does well, it does very well, but we venture to think it might yet do better. There is in London, as elsewhere, in all large towns, and even in rural districts, a class of sleek but ill-conditioned scoundrels, male and female, (and the females are the worst—ask the police), who act as the "fences" of multitudinous light-fingered gentry and femininity. Without their aid and countenance, and "cheek," and skilled criminality, our pickpockets, and housebreakers, would be nowhere. It is this most dangerous class of all, with which only skilled detection can successfully cope, and until it does so, society must be alarmed, and social security impaired by those sadder and startling crimes of humanity which take away our breath for the moment, which apparently are undiscoverable by the police, and only serve to make the fortune of the secret receiver of stolen property, who battens on the plunder of a suffering public.

Original Correspondence.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for, or even as approving of, the opinions expressed by our correspondents, but we wish, in a spirit of fair play to all, to permit—within certain necessary limits—free discussion.—Ed.]

INSTRUCTION.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I am a provincial brother, staying for a short time in London, and eagerly availing myself of every opportunity to witness the working of Metropolitan Masonry. Influenced by this motive, I visited the Emulation Lodge

of Improvement with the most sanguine anticipations, from the high reputation which that lodge enjoys for the precision and accuracy of its working. I retired from the lodge a sadder, though not a wiser man. The Master "gabbled" the ceremony of the Third Degree with considerable fluency and tolerable correctness, but without any attempt at emphasis or impressiveness. The Wardens "bungled," as Wardens will, but did not deem it necessary to repeat correctly the parts in which they had blundered. The Deacons stood not "upon the order of their going," but stumbled, now against each other, now against the candidate, with charming "insouciance." The candidate evidently regarded the whole thing as a bore, and quite succeeded in communicating his feelings to one brother. The Instructor enunciated his corrections in a contemptuous tone of superb pococurantism, without troubling himself in the slightest degree to see them carried out. And this was the Emulation Lodge of "Improvement." Save the mark! In my little country town we should call it a "slovenly rehearsal."

I am, Sir and Brother, yours fraternally,

RUSTICUS IN URBE.

THE WIDOW OF THE LATE BRO. FARNFIELD.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I have been asked so many questions with respect to Bro. Henry Greene's motion to grant an annuity to my mother, that I think it only fair to state through the medium of your paper, that the notice of motion was given without any previous communication with my mother, brothers, or myself, and, therefore, of course, without our sanction. The notice was not renewed at my earnest request, as I am both able and willing to supplement the income left by my late father so as amply to provide for my mother and sisters.

Bro. Greene knows, and it is, therefore, almost unnecessary to state here, that we are deeply sensible of the good feeling which prompted him to act as he has done in the matter.

By inserting this letter you will greatly oblige, yours fraternally,

J. A. FARNFIELD.

[We publish this letter at the special request of our esteemed Bro. J. A. Farnfield.]

THE "FREEMASON."

Dear Bro. Editor,—

A few days back I accidentally called upon a brother Mason. It was towards the eventide, and the first thing that caught my eye after the formal salutations had subsided was the "Freemason." I took it up, but in so doing the—"there's nothing in it, as usual," was the observation. I put it down again, made no comment, but silently said, I shall get my own on reaching home. I very eagerly enquired, "has my 'Freemason' arrived yet?" The reply was "Yes; I devoured it at the same time I did my dinner, and certainly it helped to digest my solid menu." These are the remarks I wrote round the margin of the paper:—"I don't remember that I have ever read with such pleasure and delight the varied articles that appear in this week's issue; they are really full of intrinsic value, and show the thoughtfulness of the writers and the appreciative worth of the editor. Some of the following particularly drew forth marks of approval on the writer's part, viz.: 'Earnestness in the performance of Masonic duties'; 'Making Lodge Meetings attractive'; 'Let us be Sociable'; 'Some of the Peculiarities,' etc. All these short papers had a charm for me, and I came to the conclusion that there was something 'in it' worth reading and thinking about. More, I am inclined to think that if we Freemasons were more in 'the spirit' we should get at the core and inner part of the essence of our Order's power; but remarks depreciatory, made abstractedly, like the 'nothing in it,' are calculated to lower the blue Standard. I believe in ever raising it high up and above all others, so that our detractors may see rays of light emanate from it; and short papers, such as those mentioned, will soon draw down 'hearty good wishes' for the 'Freemason.'"

AUGEN MASS HABEN.

HISTORY OF THE CRAFT.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I am a young Mason and naturally wish to know something of the history of the Craft. Would you, or one of your numerous subscribers kindly inform me of any book that bears on the subject. A reply will greatly oblige, yours fraternally,

[Obtain Findel's History, from Bro. Kenning, 198, Fleet-street.]

BRO. SIMPSON'S MOTION IN GRAND LODGE.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

May I ask why Durham, the University of the north, has been omitted in the motion proposed by the Rev. R. J. Simpson, Grand Chaplain?

If the project mentioned by him be accepted I certainly think north country Masons will feel very much chagrined that no notice is taken of their claims. As a member of the University of Durham, and an officer of Provincial Grand Lodge, I take the earliest opportunity of pointing out the great injustice of confining the scholarships to the older universities. There are as many old and influential Masons in the north, who, while anxious that the project brought forward by the Grand Chaplain should succeed, would still feel injured if their claims were not also considered.

I trust you will kindly give this letter a place in your valuable columns, and oblige

Very faithfully yours,

W. LEEMAN,

Prov. G. Chaplain of Durham.

A LITTLE FRIENDLY GOSSIP ON SOME OF THE TOPICS OF THE DAY.

BY PHILANTHROPOS.

(Written Especially for the "Freemason.")

No. 5.—EDUCATION.—Continued.

As I am writing these papers for the purpose of information more than discussion, and am stating, I hope inoffensively, my humble views on the subject, having studied it, and practically attended to it for many years, I propose in this paper simply to deal with the matter from its purely scholastic aspect.

It is, I think, happily evident that we have, or soon shall have, sufficient accommodation in our elementary schools for all of school age who can attend them, but it is one thing to have the schools, it is quite another thing to fill them. Unfortunately, the difficulty of attendance is still a grievous difficulty for the schoolmaster. Of the 2,744,300 children on the registers, 2,221,745 were present on the day of inspection, and the average of the yearly attendance was 1,813,800. On both these points considerable improvement must be made, and though we cannot hope that the next report will testify that all the improvement we look for has been arrived at, yet we may fairly trust to a larger average attendance, and to an increased number present on the day of inspection. It will be a happy time for all true friends of education when they are told, that in one way or other the whole school age available for the elementary school is alike on the registers, and even in partial attendance, inasmuch as then our generation will have done its duty, of not allowing any little atom of the aggregate knowledge to grow up in utter ignorance in its very midst. It is to this end that all our efforts should be directed without party zeal or sectarian bias, to extend the area of education, and to increase the roll of the educated. And here there comes in a most important question, "You have the schools, and the children you are rapidly getting in. What about the education given?"

The report very properly complains that the actual education of a large number of the children is still imperfect, and this we must at once concede. But then we feel bound to say this. Education may be said to be partly in a transition state, and the numerous changes of the last four years have rather interfered with the unexcited discharge of the schoolmaster's duties. We are hardly yet settled down to our work, and we must not be too impatient for results, but must leave a good deal to time and toil.

In the meantime we may be satisfied of this, that the general tone and scope of education are rising amongst us, some think are already too high. I do not, for this reason mainly, that those who have had most to do with education know well the shortness of time in which we can educate the children in the elementary schools, and that if children wish to be fully educated they must build on elementary education, an after education of their own, whether in night schools, or Sunday schools or classes, or libraries, or lectures, and the like. I will defy any one (to lay down a minimum of education for a school without doing serious damage, alike to education and the child; and the aim of the true teacher is to impart as much as he or she can in a short time, in a thoroughly sound and lasting manner. I quite admit that the argument at first sight is a formidable one, "do not over educate the child of a working man, for instance, and simply give him the rudiments of a fair education, for if you do you may unfit for him his work." But when you come to look clearly into such an averment, you soon find out its fallacy and its unsoundness.

The child is sent to school to be taught the elementary portion of education, its rudiments, but with a view also, do not forget, to after improvement and self education. No one can seriously venture to contend that school education is all for the child. And what right, moral or individual, have you or I, to fix an arbitrary standard of elementary education, and say to A, B, C, D, "You are the sons and daughters of working people, and, therefore, I will only give you a certain amount of teaching, because if I inspire you with higher tastes, or put you in the way of acquiring higher branches of human learning, you will be rendered unfit for your station in life, and that calling which, humanly speaking, is to be yours?" No one has a right or warrant, so to speak, or so to act; and it is quite clear that those good folks who still advocate educating people to fill their proper places alone, who think the minimum is preferable to the maximum for a large class of our children, have no confidence in education per se.

Remember here, by education, I mean good, sound, useful, religious education, and that I would give liberally and loyally, and unstintingly to all. It is no valid objection to say, as some do, that some may make a bad use of education. So may some people do with anything here, without any exception. Does it belong to us to forecast the future, or limit the onward progress of events? Certainly not! We have no authority and no call to say "a little learning is a dangerous thing," and then build our theory of education on the application of this axiom to the poor little atom by an infinitesimal process of education.

No, we are to do our duty in our time and generation, we are to educate all who ought to be educated, and we are to leave the result confidently in the hands of a higher power than man. Hence, I would give to every child a thorough grounding in reading, writing, and arithmetic up to practice, in dictation, grammar, and history, in music, drawing, geography, and the use of the globes, and last, not least, book-keeping, double entry and English composition. It is impossible in an elementary school, it appears to me, to teach foreign languages, or the higher branches of arithmetic or mathematics. I believe a good deal of harm is done by cramming the children, for instance,

with "vulgar fractions," decimals, and the like. I remember seeing years ago a beautifully written "Arithmetic Book, in which some most elaborate sums were entered in a most correct running hand." So I called the boy, and said to him "John Jones, do me this sum on your slate"—divide £10 15s. 6d. (or something to that effect) by 12. The boy looked bothered, glanced at the master, and the master said "You know how to do it, John." I took the slate, and wrote the "dividend," and said "Now, write down the 'Divisor' in its proper place, and do it. The poor boy was quite fast. When next I went to the school the master said to me "I have made John Jones begin from compound multiplication over again." He had done it all mechanically, without understanding it. Hence I am not for too much elaborate work in our schools, and certainly not for show or cram work at all, but for sound, simple, steady grounding in elementary knowledge. The higher work must come afterwards, out of school, or in a middle class school. For I venture to think that all boys should be carefully watched; those who manifest decided aptitude and parts of any kind should be drafted, through exhibitions and the like, to a higher class school, as a preparation for a still better education. Some say such an education as I have sketched out would unfit a boy for work. I do not believe it. Indeed, I know it is not the case. Even if it be so, and as there is no positive good without a probable evil in this world, we have no right to measure our gift or limit our work for fear of either being turned to evil rather than to good.

We are to try to educate elementarily, in the best way we can, for the present and permanent welfare of the child. I do not see why our boys should not have some technical education, though their time is limited, and some think even now we take up too many subjects. As regards the girls, I would add to the existing "curriculum," to use a fine word, the inestimable instruction of cookery. In nothing are our rural lasses, and no doubt our town girls, so deficient, and through no fault of their own.

How many a married couple would fare better, and make their money go much farther, if the wife was up to the first principles of cooking, and knew how to stew, and roast, and boil well, and to make the most of everything, and could turn her hands to many little dishes which would add a great deal to the working man's dinner, and to his children's health. As a rule, in a part of England where I have lived the best years of my life our girls knew how to fry ham, "collops" of bacon, and to make bread, and one or two other usual dishes, but that is all—and we teach them nothing at school about cooking. To stew meat with vegetables, or to make broth, the working classes positively do not know how, and there is enough wasted innocently amongst our hardworking people to make the food of many.

Hence every girl should be taught the elements of cookery, and apt scholars they soon would be. As it is they are so much ahead of the men that this and the next generation will, if they are to be lifted up out of that "slough of despond" which bad habits and bad training have brought many of us into, as often happens in the history of man, to the woman will owe it.

I for one do not disapprove of the girls attending to what is called "fine work" and the like, which some affect to think almost sinful in our schools. So long as the girls can mark, and hem, and sew, and knit well, they are quite right, it appears to me, for many reasons too long to dilate upon now, to take up the finer kind of worsted, tapestry, and crochet work.

On the whole I believe that education is progressing more rapidly than we sometimes think, and since I first began to turn my attention to the subject, alas! now a long while ago, what an improvement in all classes has been going on amongst us happily on every side.

So let us take heart; things are not so bad, I fancy, as they seem, and as I am a believer in a good, sound, religious education, I yet look forward to a time, perhaps when we of this generation are all in our graves, when an educated and God-fearing people shall manifest not only their continuance, alike in loyalty and patriotism to their Sovereign and country, but their great advance in self-restraint of conduct, and in general sobriety of manners, in peace and goodwill one with another, and when an educated person shall be the rule and an uneducated person the exception.

GRAND LODGE.—A SKETCH. COMMUNICATED BY OUR V.P.C.*

"If there's a hole in a' your coats
I rede you tent it:
A chiel's amang you taking notes,
And, faith, he'll prent it."

"And can I really go into Grand Lodge?" exclaimed I the other night, when at the close of a somewhat long day's business, finding that I could not return home till the morrow, I called upon one of my London brethren by way of killing a little of that (alas! often) too spare time. "To be sure you can, old fellow," said he; "just borrow a collar and jewel from our jolly old Tyler, sign your name in a book, get your bone, and there you are!"

I must confess to some little trepidation as I followed my courageous friend through the portals of the dread precincts, especially as at the very threshold I observed a Janitor who would doubtless bar my further progress; to him I addressed myself apologetically, "A young man from the country, but very desirous. . . . Hope I don't intrude; my uncle the late Paul P. Liston used—" "Here! come on," said my friend, "or we shan't get a seat," and without further delay I ascended the noble flight of steps, which (as nobody particular was expected, I suppose) was carpetless. At the top my friend left me for

awhile, and I found myself, after clothing in my borrowed plumes, in the presence of the dreaded scrutineers.

"Your name, brother, and number of your lodge?"—"Smith, of No.—let me see—Um? ah, well, I'm exceedingly sorry, but I really forget."

"That's rather a pity, brother, as I'm afraid we shall not readily find you. But, perhaps, you have it on your case?"

Happy thought; so diving once more into the crowd of brethren at the sort of cloak-room provided for their accommodation, I sought my property. After a tremendous struggle with my various pockets I found my ticket, and recovering my missing number, I announced myself as Bro. Paul Pry Smith, of Lodge of Observation, No. 10,002, Mudford-on-Spree."

Having received my pass-check, I found my friend waiting, and passing through the porch, entered Grand Lodge, and beheld one of the finest sights I ever witnessed, but which I need not now describe. Very soon the noble strains of the fine-toned organ burst upon my ear, the procession entered, and a brother of firm but genial aspect took his place before the throne. Grand Lodge having been opened, and our revered Grand Secretary having read the minutes, I was struck with the eager cordiality with which the various gifts were voted to our distressed brethren. Then came a pause before entering upon what was evidently the attractive business of the evening—the giving a thank offering, honouring our Grand Master, and doing ourselves a capital turn by transferring a good round sum from one breeches-pocket to the other, all in one.

Then rose a worthy brother of genial mien, and whose "nostril scented battle from afar." With very "ore rotundo" he began—

"Mr. Frank Buckland recently, in speaking of oysters"—oh! delicious vision. At last, thought I, our very worshipful brother has discovered a splendid mode of carrying out our desire—the very ne plus ultra of selfishness—he is going to propose a vote to the cultivation of our delicious morsel. But think of my disappointment when I found that the oyster was a mere delusive illustration, intended only to "point a moral," and not "adorn a tale" (of oysters), for he only went on to say that Mr. Frank Buckland declared the necessity of heat for their production. Somehow he made out that we didn't want heat, at least, not such heat as was exhibited at the last Grand Lodge, which nipped in the bud the glow of eloquence in which I was going to propose, in the most self-denying manner, to give our very worshipful brother to the cause as a capital generator of the article in question.

To my great disappointment we heard no more of oysters, not even what they had to do with the subject in question, and so after extracting a little kindly mirth from the innocent suggestion of a dear old brother, that some future member of the committee shortly to be elected should first furnish us with a definite idea of what that committee in nubibus meant to do, and helping to put another genial brother in a glorious minority of one, I was fain, after Grand Lodge was over, to solace myself with a few natives in esse which substantial fact, perhaps, accounted for visions of the unveiling of a monument made of oyster shells to Mr. Buckland by a very worshipful brother, the proceedings being enlivened by fitful hammings of a refrain running somewhat thus:

"O wadsome pow'r the giftie gie us,
To see ourselves as others see us;
It wad frae monie a blunder free us;
And foolish notion!"

[* We hope that we are not the victims of a "provincial" joke, but we trust to the guarantee of our V.P.C.'s neatly-printed card.—ED.]

* Our Very Provincial Correspondent.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF NORTH WALES AND SHROPSHIRE.

The annual meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of North Wales and Shropshire, over which Bro. Sir Watkin Williams Wynn, Bart., M.P., surnamed "The Prince in Wales," presides as the Provincial Grand Master, was held at the Public Hall, Wrexham, on Tuesday, the 5th inst. There was a very large gathering of the fraternity, thus demonstrating that Freemasonry has obtained a strong hold on those resident in the principality. The meeting was held under the banner of the Square and Compass Lodge, No. 1336, which was consecrated in 1871. The gathering was an important epoch in the history of the lodge, marking the date of the first Provincial Grand Lodge meeting in Wrexham, and the opening of a new lodge room at the Public Hall, elegantly and fittingly appointed, gave additional eclat to the meeting. The unusual assembly caused quite a flutter of excitement amongst the "natives," and the greatest interest appeared to be felt in the whole of the day's proceedings, especially in the procession to church, which took place at the close of lodge business. The arrangements made by the brethren of the "Square and Compass" were eminently satisfactory, and were generally approved by the visitors.

Bro. Sir W. W. Wynn, R.W.P.G.M., whose Masonic zeal is so well known throughout Wales, was present, and amongst the more distinguished brethren who supported him were Bros. J. S. Brownrigg, Prov. Grand Master of Surrey, and Past G.W. of England; T. Davison, P.S. G.W. Middlesex; C. Dutton, P.P.S.G.W. Cheshire; W. Bulkeley Hughes, M.P., P.P.S.G.W.; J. Peters, P.P.S.G.W.; W. Blakeway, P.J.G.W.; J. D. White, P.G. Treas.; W. H. Spaul, P.G. Sec.; R. J. Sisson, P.G.S.; A. Walker, P.G.S. of W.; R. Wood, P.G. D.C.; P. H. Evans, P.G.A.D.C.; J. Salmon, P.G. S.B.; J. B. Boucher, P.G. Organist; F. Parmeter, P.G. Pur.; W. Collender, P.G.S.; T. C. Roden, P.P. J.G.W.; Dr. Goldborough P.G.S.; E. H. Hankey,

P.P.G. Reg.; J. B. Hide, P.G. Tyler; W. B. Newnes, P.G.A. Tyler; J. Bodenham, P.G. Pur. Staffordshire, and others. The private members of the lodges in attendance numbered upward of 100, there being no fewer than 35 from the Square and Compass Lodge, and ten from that which bears the P.G.M.'s name at Mold.

The brethren assembled in the lodge-room at 1.30 p.m. for the transaction of some ordinary business, and after this had been disposed of a procession of the Provincial Grand Lodge was afterwards formed, and entered the room, headed by the P.G.M., who was received with tremendous cheering, which, if not strictly Masonic, was at least an evidence of his popularity with the brethren of his province.

After the Provincial Grand Lodge had been received and opened according to ancient form, the Prov. G. Secretary (Bro. Spaul) read the minutes of the meetings held at Bangor, Llandiloes, Newtown, Market Drayton, and Bridgenorth, the four last-named being for the purpose of consecrating new lodges. The minutes were unanimously confirmed. The Prov. G. Secretary read a telegram which he had received from Bro. Banks, Prov. G. St.B., stating that he could not cross from the island of Anglesea in consequence of a storm which was raging.

The roll of lodges was next called by the Prov. G. Sec., when it appeared that, with only two or three exceptions, the whole of the twenty-three lodges within the province were represented. The roll of Prov. G. Officers was also called, and it appeared that there were merely two absent.

The next business was to elect a Treasurer. Bro. J. D. White, anticipating his re-election, expressed a desire to retire from the position which he had held for many years, on account of the pressure of business. The brethren present, however, expressed a hope that he would continue in office, and on the motion of Bro. W. Bulkeley Hughes, P.P.S.G.W., seconded by Bro. W. Blakeway, P.G.J.W., Bro. White was unanimously re-elected. He submitted the balance sheet for the past year, stating that previous to the audit of January, 1875, there was a balance in favour of the Treasurer of £34 5s. 9d.; but he was happy to state that the account was now the other way, as there was a balance in favour of the Provincial Grand Lodge of £80 2s. 4d. Besides this sum in the Treasurer's hands, there was upwards of £200 in the bank, so that they were now in a very prosperous state.

The Prov. G. Secretary moved that, in future, copies of the books of bye-laws should be furnished by the Provincial Grand Lodge, instead of being supplied at the expense of private lodges. The motion was seconded by Bro. Hankey, P.P.G. Reg., and carried unanimously.

On the motion of Bro. Dr. Roden, P.P.G.J.W., seconded by Bro. Lewis, P.P.G.S.W., and supported by Bro. W. Bulkeley Hughes, M.P., P.P.G.S.W., it was resolved to vote the sum of twenty guineas from the Provincial Grand Lodge funds to aid the widow of the late Bro. Humphreys, formerly connected with the Segontium Lodge, No. 606, Carnarvon.

Bro. J. Salmon, P.G.S.B., moved that, in recognition of the four years' services as honorary Secretary performed by Bro. Spaul, the sum of 30 guineas be voted to him, in order that he might constitute himself a life governor of each of the three great Masonic charitable institutions in London. He remarked that it was very desirous that they should seek to increase the voting power of that province in connection with their charities, so that it might stand second to none in the country.—Bro. Peters, P.P.G.S.W., seconded the motion, which was carried by acclamation, and the compliment was acknowledged by Bro. Spaul, who signified his intention of devoting the whole sum to the charities in London.

Bro. D. P. Owen, P.M. 998, moved, "That any bye-laws of the Prov. Grand Lodge of North Wales and Shropshire, which purport to have a power over the funds of the private lodges of the province (except registration and benevolence), but more especially that in which the various lodges are compelled to purchase a copy of the bye-laws for each member of the lodges, should be rescinded, and the bye-laws (if any), wherein lodges are fined for non-attendance at Prov. Grand Lodge." Bro. Owen pointed out the occasional difficulty which many brethren had in attending the Provincial Grand Lodge meetings, and hoped the bye-law with respect to fines for non-attendance would be rescinded. The motion was not seconded, and therefore it fell to the ground.

The P.G. Master said that when he first presided over that province the lodges were not so numerous as they were now, and it was then thought advisable to make the appointments of P.G. Officers for two years, owing to the difficulty of finding brethren for promotion. Now, however, the number of Freemasons had so enormously increased, and the number of lodges as well, that he thought it possible to alter the plan of promotion. Although he was not going to alter it at that time, he thought it was well worth considering whether the same plan should not be adopted as that existing in private lodges—viz., to make the appointments of P.G. lodge officers only for one year. (Applause.)

The R.W.P.G.M. then appointed Bro. W. Bulkeley Hughes, M.P. for the district boroughs of Carnarvonshire, the R.W. Deputy Provincial Grand Master for the province of North Wales and Shropshire, and he was duly installed in his place.

The following brethren were appointed officers by the P.G.M., and also installed in their respective offices:—
G. Owen..... Prov. G.S.W.
J. Salmon..... Prov. G.J.W.
Rev. A. L. Taylor..... Prov. G. Chaplain.
Rev. T. Lloyd Kyffen..... Prov. A.P.G. Chap.
J. D. White..... Prov. G. Treas.
R. J. Sisson..... Prov. G. Reg.
W. H. Spaul..... Prov. G. Sec.
F. Parmeter..... Prov. G.S.D.
R. de la Poer Beraford..... Prov. G.J.D.

W. L. Banks	Prov. G.S. of W.
E. Wood	Prov. G.D.C.
W. Collender	Prov. G.A.D.C.
J. B. Bagnall	Prov. G. Swd. Br.
J. B. Boucher	Prov. G.O.
R. Lloyd Williams	Prov. G. Purst.
J. Thomas, W. Britton, W. Low, and J. Stokes	Prov. G. Stewards.
J. B. Hide	Prov. G. Tyler.
O. Newnes	Prov. G.A. Tyler.

Hearty congratulations having been given to Sir Watkin by representatives from the provinces of Surrey, Middlesex, Cheshire, and Staffordshire, the business of the Provincial Grand Lodge was brought to a close.

The brethren subsequently formed in procession, and proceeded to St. Giles's Church, Wrexham, in the usual order.

On arriving at the door of the church the procession halted. The brethren opened to the right and left, face inwards, so as to leave room for the P.G. Master to pass up the centre, he being preceded by his Standard and Sword Bearers; the P.G. Officers and brethren following in succession from the rear, so as to invert the order of procession. On leaving the church the brethren observed this order of procession by forming as they were on halting at the door of the church.

The service was full choral and was exceedingly well rendered by the choir of the parish church. Bro. J. F. Edisbury, Organist and Treas. 1336, was the Organist during the service, and Bro. Boucher, P.G.O., played the voluntaries, one of which was his own composition. The chants were by Elvey, Rimbault, and Farrant, and the selected hymns were from the "Hymns Ancient and Modern." The Psalms, which were also selected, were chanted.

The prayers were read by the Rev. M. H. C. Shelton, and the lessons by the vicar.

The sermon was preached by the [Rev. A. L. Taylor, P.G. Chaplain, who selected for his text Acts 20th chapter and 35th verse: "Ye ought to support the weak, and to remember the words of the Lord Jesus how He said, It is more blessed to give than to receive." Having shown how this precept was illustrated in the life of St. Paul, who addressed these words to the Church of Miletus shortly before his last journey to Jerusalem, the rev. gentleman said: Such is what we learn from the text; and if we are really convinced of its truth we shall be glad of the opportunity to manifest it by our offerings this day. It is, I am sure, needless for me to enter into particulars connected with the two important objects in whose behalf I am privileged to make an earnest appeal to you. To the heart of every one of my brethren the education and advancement in life of the [children of distressed or deceased Freemasons must commend itself most warmly, and I would, in language that is well known to every member of the Craft, remind them of that virtue which may justly be denominated the distinguishing feature of Freemasonry—I mean charity. I need not here dilate on its excellences. Doubtless it has often been felt and practised by you; it has the approbation of heaven and earth, and like its sister, mercy, it blesseth him who gives and him who receives. In a society so widely spread as that of Freemasonry, whose branches are spread over the four quarters of the globe, it cannot be denied that we have many brethren of rank and opulence among us; neither can it be concealed that among the thousands who range under its banners there are many who from circumstances of unforeseen misfortune or calamity are reduced to the lowest state of poverty and distress. It is in behalf, then, of the children of those who through age, sickness, infirmity, or any other unforeseen accident in life, may be reduced to want, and whose situation it is much more easy to conceive of than to express, that I do with all earnestness entreat for your liberal and bounteous aid this day, so that we may confirm the propriety of the title we bear, and show that brotherhood among Masons is something more than a mere name. And with respect to the other object in support of which a portion of the offerings this day are to be devoted, there is no need to show that the Wrexham Infirmary is a cause that plainly falls under the exhortation of the text, "Ye ought to support the weak." In caring for those who are unable to care for themselves to the extent their need requires, and at a time when for the sake of others the greatest care is indispensable, the Wrexham Infirmary has proved a true Samaritan and house of Bethesda; and we may show our appreciation of the benefits it has conferred, as well as enable it to continue its work of mercy, by making it, as I have said, one of the objects of your offerings this day. My brethren, it is the glory of our country that such provision for those who are unable to provide it for themselves is the rule and not the exception; that the advantages of medicine, skill, and care are extended to them during the time of sickness; and that they are nursed with the same unvaried care as the wealthiest and noblest in the land. It is not unfrequently happens that they return home not only healed in body but in the way of finding health for their souls. Such is the appeal to us. Let us respond to it as those who do understand in some measure the blessedness of which the text speaks. If we really love and serve Christ, we shall give because of the blessing by and by, because we shall be glad to minister to whatever helps to alleviate human suffering and misery. We shall give as those who see and feel the meaning of the words, "Christ loved me, and gave Himself for me," and thus give from a conviction that derives its principal satisfaction from a remembrance and realisation of the greatest of all God's gifts to us, even His own Son, which in its blessedness knows no end. Given in perishable money, it is written in books that will outlive the world. It will be returned a hundredfold in heaven. Works, we know, can save no man's soul, yet without works, the result of faith, there is no evidence of faith being saving, and, therefore, no

guarantee of the soul's salvation. Brother in Christ, "be merciful after thy power. If thou hast much, give plentifully; if thou hast little, do thy diligence gladly, and give of that little, so gatherest thou thyself a good reward in the day of necessity."

Hymn 373, "Lord of Glory, who has bought us," was then sung, and a collection amounting to over £21 was made in aid of the North Wales and Shropshire Masonic Charitable Association, and the Wrexham Infirmary.

Bro. J. B. Boucher, P.G.O., then played a voluntary, and the procession left the church, proceeding down High-street to the Wynnstay Arms Hotel.

The banquet was served at this hotel by Bro. J. B. Murless, and about 120 brethren sat down under the presidency of Bro. Sir W. W. Wynn, Bart., M.P., R.W. P.G.M., being supported on his right by Bro. Lieut.-Gen. Brownrigg, C.B., P.G.M. of Surrey; Bro. W. Bulkeley Hughes, M.P., D.G.M. of North Wales and Shropshire; and on his left by Bro. W. Low, W.M. of the Square and Compass Lodge, No. 1336, and the officers of the Provincial Grand Lodge. The general company also included the following visiting brethren:—Bros. J. B. Murless, S.D.; E. B. Smith, I.P.M. 1432; W. Jones, 1488; R. Woodcock, W.M. 1369; T. Rymer, 86; Prescott; H. Lloyd, S.; Coxhead, D. Thomas, 721; J. Rae, J. Dutton, J. Williams, J.W.; R. C. Griffiths, J. Corbett, W.M.; J. D. Rowland, J.D.; W. Roberts, I.G.; A. J. Brereton, G. H. Adams, J. Ratcliffe, J. Vickers, 1477; G. B. Griffith, W.M.; W. P. Elliott, S.D. 597; T. R. Morris, W.M.; G. Brown, S.W.; D. P. Owen, P.M. 988; T. B. Humphreys, 1509; R. Roberts, 1369; J. Lloyd Kyffin, Bagnall, W.M. 17; J. Bodenham, J.W. 1575; J. Thomas, W.M. 1124; J. Smith, 201; J. B. Hide, P.M. 217; and others. The members of the Square and Compass Lodge, 1336, present were Bros. W. Low, W.M.; E. Smith, S.W.; J. C. Owen, J.W.; T. Bury, Sec.; W. S. Wilson, S.D.; Howel Davies, J.W.; J. F. Edisbury, Organist and Treasurer; J. W. M. Smith, Isaac Shone, E. Lovatt, and N. R. Griffith, Stwds.; C. K. Benson, Evan Morris, T. Eytton-Jones, J. Williams, R. Lloyd, G. Bradley, W. Garratt-Jones, R. W. J. Evans, J. W. A. Cooper, J. James, C. Bayley, J. Bradshaw, W. Turner, R. Barber, R. J. Williams, C. O. Williams, T. Manley, F. W. Mawer, T. Heywood, J. Milligan, W. Daniels, J. H. Kidd, J. Edwards, W. Pierce, G. Thomas, T. Jackson, E. Evans.

Dinner being over, grace [was said by the Prov. Grand Chaplain.

Bro. Sir W. W. Wynn, in proposing the toast of "The Queen and the Craft," remarked that the association was justified, inasmuch as Masons were amongst the most loyal of Her Majesty's subjects (applause), and had the highest respect for their gracious Sovereign. (Applause.) The toast was honoured in a right loyal manner.

The R.W.P.G.M. said they had honoured Her Majesty's health, and he would ask them to drink to the health of the ruler of the Craft (applause), the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M. of England. He much regretted that His Royal Highness was not able to attend their Eisteddvdod (hear, hear), but he believed he was advised not to make any arrangements on his return from India. He (Sir Watkin) had done his utmost to obtain a Royal visit to the town, but he was not successful. Under the circumstances, they must take the will for the deed. (Applause.) He hoped, however, that on some future occasion the Prince would come to North Wales, and if he did, he would find the Masons of North Wales and Shropshire were by no means the least loyal of Her Majesty's subjects. (Loud applause.) He would ask them to drink to the toast he had proposed (drunk with Masonic honours).

The R.W.P.G.M. next proposed "The Health of Lord Carnarvon, the Provincial Grand Master of England," who, he remarked, might be associated with North Wales, being the Constable of Carnarvon Castle. (Applause.)

The R.W.P.G.M. proposed, in suitable terms, "The Health of Lord Skelmersdale, the M.W.D.G.M., and the Officers of the Grand Lodge of England," coupling with the toast the name of Bro. J. S. Brownrigg, R.W.P.G.M. Surrey.

Bro. Brownrigg, who was most cordially received, in responding, said it afforded him great pleasure to visit that Provincial Grand Lodge, and to see Masonry flourishing so well in the provinces. He had the honour of attending a Grand Lodge in Shrewsbury some twenty-three years ago, and it afforded him great pleasure to be with them that evening, and to see Sir Watkin in the chair. (Applause.) He congratulated them on the advances Masonry was making. It was thought when the Marquis of Ripon retired from the Craft that Masonry would suffer. But what honour could have been greater than that the heir to the throne should succeed to the office? (Loud applause.) If they looked to Ireland they found an equally satisfactory state of things. Upon the death of the Duke of Leinster, the Viceroy—the Queen's representative in the Sister Isle (applause)—became the Grand Master of the Irish Masons. (Applause.) There was therefore cause for much satisfaction at the strides Freemasonry had made. He sincerely trusted that as it advanced in quantity so also would it advance in quality. (Applause.) The speaker concluded by giving some sound advice on Masonry, and wished long life and prosperity to the Provincial Grand Lodge.

Bro. Low, W.M. 1336, rose to propose "The Health of Bro. Sir W. W. Wynn." He said: I have now the honour of proposing to you what may be fairly called the toast of the evening (applause), which, in accordance with the well-known Spanish adage, that "God wine needs no bush," recommends itself to the hearts of all present quite independent of any remarks I may make. (Applause.) It will be sufficient for me to say that our most cordial thanks are due to our Grand Master, Sir W. W. Wynn, for his kindness in holding the Provincial Grand Lodge at Wrexham (loud applause), and for being present and presiding at our banquet this evening. (Renewed

applause.) This is the first time since the consecration of the Square and Compass Lodge—some five-and-a-half years ago—that the brethren have had the opportunity of showing how they look up to him with that esteem, respect, and admiration which is founded upon an intimate acquaintance of many years (applause); and that he may long continue amongst us, in renewed health and strength, is, I am confident, the sincere heartfelt wish of every brother here this evening. (Loud applause.) I could say much of the generous, hospitable, and noble qualities of our Provincial Grand Master, but his presence forbids me doing so. This is, however, the less requisite, for which of you present does not know better than I can state the true worth of our "Prince in Wales?" (Loud and continued applause.) We often give our esteem and admiration where we cannot give our love, but in Sir W. W. Wynn we have a Provincial Grand Master whom to know is to love. (Applause.) May the blessing of the Great Architect of the Universe ever rest upon him, and the rays of heaven shed their benign influence over him. (Hear hear.) I need not add to these Masonic words, and must ask you to join heartily in drinking "The Health of Bro. Sir W. W. Wynn," and with Masonic honours. (The toast was most enthusiastically received with salute and running fire.)

Bro. Sir W. W. Wynn, in responding, was received with a round of applause. He thanked them for the honour done him, and the most kind way in which his health was drunk. He was exceedingly glad to see so many Masons in Wrexham, for he had been associated with the town from his earlier days. (Applause.) The first election he was at was at Wrexham (laughter), the first race he saw was at Wrexham (renewed laughter), and the first soldiers he saw were in Wrexham (laughter and applause). He was afraid he had, during the past year, unduly taxed the officers of the Grand Lodge. They had had to consecrate several new lodges, and through his illness to do the work of one or two years in three months. He thanked them, therefore, for their attendance, and trusted the new officers would not find their duties so onerous. There were many difficulties in the selection of the officers, and if he made a mistake in the choice they must forgive him (loud applause). The province had so grown that the difficulties were now greater than formerly. He heartily thanked the brethren for their attendance at the lodge and for the great kindness they had shown him during the many years he had presided over it. (Applause.) He hoped that when he was taken away from them his successor would find the lodge continue to prosper. Since he first presided over it it had doubled, and he hoped that Masonry in that province would continue to flourish and to excel not only in quantity but in quality too. (Loud applause.)

Bro. T. Eytton-Jones (Mayor of Wrexham) proposed "The Health of Bro. W. B. Hughes, M.P., the D. Prov. G.M., and the Provincial Grand Officers, Past and Present." He remarked that in the D.P.G.M. they had one who had the interests of Masonry at heart, and who was highly respected throughout the province. Referring to Past Provincial Grand Officers, he said in the death of Lord Harlech they had lost a valuable officer, as also they did in the decease of Mr. Dymock, a Mason from this neighbourhood. The Past Officers had been animated with a desire to do their duty to Masonry and were much esteemed in North Wales. (Applause.) He hoped some of the honours would on a future occasion fall to the Square and Compass Lodge. (Applause.)

Bro. Hughes, M.P., responded. He expressed his great obligations to the R.W.P.G.M. for conferring upon him the distinguished position of Deputy Grand Master. He did not express any desire for it, but having the appointment he meant to do his duty on all occasions. He felt thoroughly satisfied the appointment would give general satisfaction, not through any merits of his own, but because Sir Watkin had given the office to some one residing in the Principality. (Applause.) Having feelingly referred to the death of Lord Harlech, he concluded by stating that he should frequently visit the various lodges and assist in the performance of their Masonic duties. (Applause.)

Bro. Owen (Oswestry) proposed "The W.M.'s of the Province."

Bro. Low (Wrexham), responded, humorously remarking, that although he was the oldest-looking Mason, he was the youngest W.M. in the room.

Bro. Burton proposed "The Visiting Brethren," remarking that Lodge 1336 always accorded a most hearty welcome to those brethren who visited it.

Bro. Davidson, P.P.G.S.W. Middlesex, replied, and returned thanks to the R.W.P.G.M. for his invitation to the lodge that day. He was happy to say that that was not the first time he had attended it. Sixteen years ago he met the brethren on a similar occasion at Ludlow, and he could not forget the hospitable reception they all had at Wynnstay (applause), at a Grand Lodge meeting. To London Masons it was a real treat to visit the provinces and to see how well Masonry was flourishing. (Applause.)

Bro. White in giving "The Masonic Charities," said it was useless for him to enlarge on them after the striking sermon they had heard that day. The way in which the subject was introduced into the rev. gentleman's remarks must have made and undoubtedly did make a good impression upon them all. (Applause.) He hoped they would increase their subscriptions and their names and fame in connection with the charities. (Cheers.)

Bro. J. C. Owen, in a humorous speech, proposed "The Ladies," and Bro. White responded for the fair sex.

The Tyler's toast having been given, the company separated.

The musical arrangements were under the direction of Bros. J. F. Edisbury, and J. B. Boucher, and Bro. E. Wood, Shrewsbury, was the Prov. Grand Director of Ceremonies.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.

A Special General Court of the governors and subscribers of this Institution was held on Saturday last, at Freemasons' Hall, to authorise the Building Committee to convert the present laundry to other purposes, and to erect a new laundry in the grounds adapted to the increased requirements of the Institution. Col. Creaton was called to the chair. The other brethren present at the meeting were Bros. H. A. Dubois, Thos. W. White, Thos. Massa, Capt. J. Wordsworth, John Boyd, Joseph Smith, James Terry, S. Rawson, H. Massey ("Freemason"), and R. W. Little, Secretary.

The Chairman said that the object of calling the meeting was simply that the work of erecting the new laundry, and converting the old one should go on simultaneously with the new building, which were being proceeded with. If they had waited till the Quarterly Court in October for authority to do this they would have been thrown back a month in their operations. If the brethren decided now to give the Building Committee authority to carry out the proposed works. Bro. Massa, the architect, would have instructions to prepare the plans. It was not necessary for him to go more into detail. It would be necessary to have a new laundry when an additional number of children were taken into the school, and it was better to have all the works done at the same time. He, therefore, moved in terms of the advertisement calling the meeting, but he might tell the brethren that the estimate cost of building the new laundry was £1400, and of converting the old laundry £1400. He could promise that the Building Committee would take care that the cost did not exceed those amounts.

Bro. Capt. J. Wordsworth seconded the motion.

In answer to Bro. Joseph Smith the Chairman said it was intended to convert the present laundry into class rooms, and Bro. Little said it would also provide for eleven additional girls.

Bro. H. A. Dubois said he supposed they would not require tenders from other builders, but that the work would be done by the builder at present on the premises at scheduled prices.

The Chairman said yes. It would be inconvenient to have two separate builders on the premises at the same time. The architect would see to the plans, and he (the Chairman) would guarantee that the price should not exceed £2800.

The motion was then put and carried unanimously.

The Chairman asked Bro. Massa how long it would be before his plans would be ready.

Bro. Massa said in about three weeks, and they would be in accordance with the Chairman's modified plans.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman concluded the proceedings.

THE MARGATE WATCH COMMITTEE AND FREEMASONRY.

A cynical philosopher has declared that the world is full of fools, and that he who would not wish to see one, must not only shut himself up alone, but must also break his looking-glass. There are, however, degrees in folly. Some men are always fools; they are ridiculous, or they are nothing, and never seem able to acquire the common sense of knowing when to preserve a judicious reticence, or to abstain from acts that reveal their innate vulgarity and consummate ignorance. We have a few choice specimens of this incorrigible class among our town councillors, as their recent conduct in reference to the appointment of a new Superintendent of Police clearly shows. We hear that these wiseacres enquired of each whether he was a Freemason? and on being answered in the affirmative, at once put the luckless Mason out of the competition. It would have been just as pertinent to have asked whether the candidate was a believer in the "thirty-nine articles," or had a weakness for Stilton? and as rational to have condemned him accordingly. All who know anything of Freemasonry will be justly indignant at such a paltry, contemptible, and in every sense of the word, mean attempt to affix a stigma on a noble and entirely inoffensive fraternity; distinguished only for its works of mercy and love.—"Kentish County News."

Bro. Lord Skelmersdale, Deputy Grand Master, P.G.M. for West Lancashire, occupied the chair at the dinner in connection with the annual show of the Royal Manchester, Liverpool, and North Lancashire Agricultural Society at Southport last week. His lordship is president for the year, and delivered a homely practical speech in proposing "Prosperity to the Society." He remarked that the prize offered to agricultural labourers who had been the longest time in one situation was limited to the labourers of tenant farmers, which, he thought, was a great mistake. For instance, he had in his employment a number of labourers who were unable to compete, which was very hard. He hoped that in future years an alteration would be made in this matter. He was that year the president of the Royal Agricultural Society, whose show for 1877 was to be held in Liverpool. He was happy to say that the Liverpool people had taken the subject of the meeting up warmly; and he hoped the society under whose auspices they had met that day would support it. He noticed that at the meeting of the council the other day there was some little opposition to the matter, but he hoped it would be withdrawn. He was a great advocate of agricultural shows, but he thought they should be large shows. Such shows were of the greatest benefit to the country.

A SECOND EDITION of the "FREEMASON" will be issued early Saturday morning.

DAYLIGHT reflected in dark rooms. Gas superseded in day time. Health, comfort, and economy promoted by adopting Chappuis' Patent Daylight Reflectors.—Manufactory, 69, Fleet-street, London.

Reviews.

INSTALLATION MARCH.—This piece of music, composed by Bro. Seymour Smith, and dedicated to his friend, Bro. Brett, which has recently been published, is already very popular, and is likely to become still more so, we venture to prognosticate. It is composed, of course, to commemorate the installation of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, and on that account, apart from its own merits, should be purchased by all Freemasons.

"MASONIC POINTS."—This little work will be found of considerable assistance, consisting as it does of a series of cues, for the guidance of officers and brethren in the working of the degrees of Craft and Royal Arch Masonry. A large number have already been sold, and we are informed that H.R.H. the M.W.G.M. has consented to receive a copy from the compiler.

"THE DAILY TELEGRAPH."—The "Bookseller" says: It may not be generally known that a Royal Edition of this paper is issued daily. On the death of the Prince Consort Her Majesty the Queen accidentally saw the "Telegraph," and was so touched by the loyalty exhibited in its obituary notice that she ordered a copy to be sent daily to each of the Royal palaces. Ever since then twenty-five copies have been especially printed on the finest, thickest, and whitest paper, and duly forwarded, pressed and folded, in accordance with the Queen's command. We have in our possession a copy of this Royal edition, and we must say that, in the matter of paper and print, it is really a remarkable specimen of a London daily newspaper.

METROPOLITAN MASONIC MEETINGS.

For the Week ending Friday, September 22, 1876.

The Editor will be glad to receive notice from Secretaries of Craft Lodges, Royal Arch Chapters, Mark Lodges, Preceptories, Conclaves, &c., of any change in place or time of meeting.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 16.

Lodge 1329, Sphinx, Bridge House Hot., London Bridge.
" 1364, Earl of Zetland, Old Town Hall, Hackney.
Chap. 1326, Lebanon, Red Lion Hot., Hampton.
R.C.C., 9, Villiers, Northumberland Arms Hot., Isleworth.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Lily, Greyhound, Richmond.
Manchester, 77, London-st., Fitzroy-square.
Star, Marquis of Granby, New Cross-rd.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 18.

Lodge 720, Panmure, Horns Tav., Kennington.
" 901, City of London

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Prince Leopold, Lord Stanley Tav., Kingsland.
Strong Man, Jerusalem Tav., St. John's Gate.
Sincerity, Railway Tav., Fenchurch-st. Station.
Camden, Stanhope Arms, Up. James-st., Camden To.
Eastern, Royal Hot., Mile-end-road.
St. James's Union, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Wellington, White Swan, Deptford.
Perfect Ashlar, Victoria Tav., Lower-rd., Rotherhithe.
Sydney, White Hart Ho., Church-rd., Upper Norwood.
Marquis of Ripon, Pembury Tav., Amherst-rd., Hackney.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19.

Board of General Purposes, at 3.
Lodge 704, Camden, Bull and Gate, Kentish Town.
Chap. 933, Doric, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-street.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Metropolitan, 269, Pentonville-rd.
Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney.
Domestic, Surrey M.H., Camberwell New-road.
Faith, 2, Westminster Chambers, Victoria-st.
Prince Fredk. Wm., Lord's Hot., St. John's Wood.
Dalhousie, King Edward, Triangle, Hackney.
Prosperity, 1, Camomile-st., Bishopsgate.
St. Marylebone, British Stores Tav., St. John's Wood.
Constitutional, Wheatheaf Hot., Hand-court, Holborn.
Israel, Rising Sun Tav., Globe Road.
Royal Arthur, Prince's Head, York-road, Battersea.
Beacontree, Red Lion, Leytonstone.
Metropolitan Chapter, Jamaica Coffee Ho., Cornhill.
Excelsior, Commercial Dock Tav., Rotherhithe.
St. John of Wapping, Gun Hot., High-st., Wapping.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20.

Lodge 700, Nelson, M.H., William-st., Woolwich.
" 1044, Wandsworth, Spread Eagle Ho., Wandsworth.
" 1382, Corinthian, George Inn, Cubitt Town.
Chap. 10, Westminster and Keystone, F.M.H.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Confidence, M.H., Basinghall-st.
Mt. Lebanon, Windsor Castle Tav., Southwark-bdg.-rd.
Pythagorean, Prince of Orange, Greenwich.
New Concord, Rosemary Branch Tav., Hoxton.
Royal Union, Horse and Groom, Winsley-st., Oxford-st.
Peckham, Maimore Arms, Park-road, Peckham.
Stanhope, Thicket Hot., Anerley.
Finsbury Park, Finsbury Park Tav., Seven Sisters'-rd.
Southwark, Southwark Park Tav., Southwark Park.
Duke of Connaught, Havelock Tav., Dalston, E.
United Strength, Grafton Arms, Kentish-town.
Islington, Crown and Cushion, London Wall.
Whittington, Black Bull Tav., Holborn.
Lewis, King's Arms Hot., Wood Green.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 21.

House Com. Girls, at 4.
Lodge 217, Stability, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
" 1227, Upton, Spotted Dog Tav., Upton.
" 1278, Burdett Courts, Approach Tav., Approach-rd.
" 1320, Blackheath, Crown Hot., Blackheath.
Chap. 1365, Clapton, White Hart Tav., Clapton.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Egyptian, Hercules Tav., Leadenhall-st.
Fidelity, Yorkshire Grey, London-st., W.

Finsbury, Jolly Anglers' Tav., Bath-st., City-road.
Temperance in the East, Catherine-st., Poplar.
Ebury, 12, Ponsonby-st., Milbank.
Highgate, Bull and Gate, Kentish-town.
The Great City, 111, Cheapside.
High Cross, Coach & Horses, High-road, Tottenham.
Salisbury, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Prince Frederick William Chapter, St. John's Wood.
Southern Star, Crown Hot., Blackfriars-rd.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 22.

Lodge 780, Royal Alfred, Star and Garter, Kew Bridge.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Union Waterloo, Thomas-st., Woolwich.
Robert Burns, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Belgrave, Lyceum Tav., 354, Strand.
Unions Emulation (for M.M.'s), F.M.H.
Temperance, Victoria Tav., Victoria-road, Deptford.
Clapton, White Hart, Clapton.
Metropolitan, Portugal Hot., Fleet-st.
Westbourne, Horse & Groom, Winsley-st., Oxford-st.
United Pilgrims, Surrey M.H., Camberwell New-road.
St. James's, New Tanners' Arms, Grange-rd., Bermondsey.
Duke of Edinburgh, Silver Lion, Penny-fields, Poplar.
Doric, Earl Grey Tav., Mile-end-road.
Burgoyne, Grafton Arms, Prince of Wales's-road, N.W.
St. Luke's, White Hart, King's-rd., Chelsea.
Chigwell, Bald-faced Stag Hot., Buckhurst-hill.
Burdett Courts, Approach Tav., Victoria Park.
Royal Standard, Finsbury Park Tav., Holloway.
Ranelagh, Clarendon Hot., Hammersmith.
Pythagorean Chapter, Prince of Orange, Greenwich-rd.
Stability, Guildhall Tav., Gresham-st.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN WEST LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE.

For the Week ending Saturday, September 23, 1876.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 18.

Lodge 721, Independence, M.R., Chester.
" 1502, Israel, M.H., Liverpool.

Everton L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19.

Lodge 667, Alliance, M.H., Liverpool.
" 1225, Hindpool, Hartington Hot., Barrow.
" 1276, Warren, Stanley Arms Hot., Seacombe.
" 1325, Stanley, M.H., Kirkdale, Liverpool.
" 1570, Prince Arthur, 80, N. Hill-st., Liverpool.
Chap. 605, De' Tabley, Seacombe Hot., Seacombe.
Lodge of I., 241, M.H., Liverpool.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20.

Lodge 537, Zetland, M.C., Birkenhead.
" 823, Everton, M.H., Liverpool.
" 1086, Walton, St. Lawrence's School, Liverpool.
" 1345, Victoria, Cross Keys Hot., Eccles.
" 1353, Duke of Lancaster, Athenæum, Lancaster.
Chap. 580, Unity, Wheat Sheaf Inn, Ormskirk.
Mark Lodge 31, Fidelity, Norfolk Arms Hot., Hyde.
De Grey and Ripon L. of I., 80, N. Hill-st., Liverpool.
Harmonic L. of I., Mona Hot., James-st., Liverpool.
Downshire L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 21.

Lodge 203, Ancient Union, M.H., Liverpool.
" 343, Concord, Militia Mess R., Preston.
" 425, Cestrian, M.H., Chester.
" 605, Combermere, Seacombe Hot., Seacombe.
" 1299, Pembroke, Rawlinson's Hot., West Derby.
Chap. 240, Mariners' M.H., Liverpool.
Preceptory Wm. de la More, M.H., Prescot.
St. John's L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN GLASGOW AND WEST OF SCOTLAND.

For the Week ending Saturday, September 23, 1876.

All the Meetings take place at Eight o'clock.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 18.

Lodge 129, St. Mirren, 5, Moss-st., Paisley.
" 332, Union, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
" 581, Plantation, Craigiehall-st., S.S., Glasgow.
Encampment St. Mungo, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19.

Lodge 38, St. John, 213, Buchanan-st. Glasgow.
" 73, Thistle and Rose, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
" 87, Thistle, 30, Hope-st., Glasgow.
" 437, Govandale, Portland Buildings, Govan.
" 556, Clydesdale, M.H., Rose-st., S.S., Glasgow.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20.

Lodge 117, St. Mary, M.H., Douglas-st., Partick.
" 571, Dramatic, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow, 3 p.m.
Chap. 150, Shettleston, M.H., Shettleston.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 21.

Lodge 27, St. Mungo, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
" 370, Renfrew, 8, High-st., Paisley.
" 465, St. Andrew, 69, Garragad-rd., Glasgow.
" 547, Stewart, M.H., Kilsyth.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN EDINBURGH AND VICINITY.

For the Week ending Saturday, September 23, 1876.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 18.

Lodge 44, St. Luke, F.M.H., George-st.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19.

Lodge 36, St. David, Ship Hot., East Register-st.
" 405, Rifle, F.M.H., 98, George-st.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20.

Lodge 160, Roman Eagle, 62, Nicholson-st.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 21.

Lodge 48, St. Andrew, F.M.H., 98, George-st.
" 226, Portobello, Town Hall, Portobello.
Cnap. 152, Perseverance, 86, Constitution-st., Leith.

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REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS.

Craft Masonry.

DERBY.—Arboretum Lodge (No. 731).—The ordinary monthly meeting of this lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, Gower-street, on Wednesday, the 13th inst. The following brethren were present:—Bros. Bennett, W.M.; John Smith, P.M.; G. T. Wright, P.M.; T. R. Gee, P.M., Treas.; J. C. Merry, I.P.M.; Brown, S.W.; T. Merry, J.W.; Sheffield, S.D.; Whittaker, J.D.; Holbrook, Org.; Fraser, I.G. Burton Day, Tyler; T. Smith, King, Holloway, Humber, A. Smith, and Bennett. Visitors: Bros. Boden, 353, and Heathcote, 1085. The lodge having been opened, and the minutes of the last lodge read and confirmed, the ballot was taken for Bro. Joseph Bland, of the Commercial Lodge, Leicester, 1091, as a joining member, and he was unanimously elected. Mr. Cawthorne Webster, who had been elected at the previous lodge, was duly initiated into the mysteries and privileges of ancient Freemasonry by the W.M., the charge being given by the J.W. The usual questions having been asked, the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to the banqueting hall, where a comfortable supper awaited them; afterwards the usual Masonic toasts were given, with suitable songs, and a very pleasant evening was brought to a conclusion by the Tyler's toast.

WALTHAM.—King Harold Lodge (No. 1327).—The monthly meeting of the above lodge took place at the Britannia Hotel, Waltham New Town, Herts, on Tuesday, the 19th inst. The brethren present were Bros. W. Gilbert, W.M., P.G.J.W. Herts, in the chair; Thomas Reilly, S.W., P.G.P. Herts; Parker, P.M., P.P. G.P. Herts; J. K. Young, P.P.G.A.D.C. Herts; Chas. Lacey, P.M. 174, 1327, &c., &c., W.M. Tredegar Lodge, P.P.G.S.D. Herts; A. Malcolm, Sec. 1327, P.G.S. Herts; Sheldon, P.P.G.S. Herts; W. Bradstock, acting J.W.; J. Knight, D.C.; Fisher, I.G.; Creed, W.S.; Robinson, A. Clements, Bull, Newman, W. F. Cox, Eversfield, John Gilbert, Brown, Goggs, and others. Visitors: Bro. Osgathorp, and others. The business before the lodge was to pass Bro. John Gilbert; to elect the W.M., Treasurer, and Tyler for the ensuing year. The W.M., Bro. Gilbert, in an impressive manner, passed his brother (in a twofold degree), Bro. John Gilbert being his brother both in relationship and Masonry. Bro. Thomas Reilly, S.W., P.G.P. Herts, was unanimously elected the W.M. for the ensuing year, Bro. West, P.M. 1067, 1327, &c., and P.P.G.J.D. Herts, was unanimously re-elected as Treasurer, and Bro. Steedman, P.M., was re-elected Tyler. It was proposed, seconded, and carried unanimously, that a Past Master's jewel be presented to Bro. Gilbert, the W.M., in recognition of the valuable services he rendered to the King Harold Lodge during his year of office. In seconding this motion, Bro. Charles Lacey, P.M., adverted in appropriate terms to the honour which the R.W. the P.G.M. of Hertfordshire, Bro. T. F. Halsey, M.P., had conferred on the King Harold Lodge in appointing its W.M. to the office of P.J.G. Warden. The lodge was closed, and the brethren retired for refreshment, spending a pleasant evening, which was enlivened by some excellent harmony.

NORTH WOOLWICH.—Henley Lodge (No. 1472).—The second monthly meeting since the new W.M., Bro. J. Ives, has filled the chair, took place on Tuesday, the 5th inst., at Bro. West's, the Three Crowns, and was well attended. The business before the lodge consisted of the raising of Bros. Vance and Day and the passing of Bro. Crampton to their several degrees, which was happily effected, the W.M. working the degrees in most excellent style. The following officers were present beside the W.M.:—W. Steele, S.W.; T. Geller, Treas.; J. Henderson, P.M. and Sec.; A. J. Manning, S.D.; W. T. Turner, J.D.; N. Stanford, I.G.; J. Plume, D.C.; J. A. Elder, W.S.; and P.M. Steadman, Tyler. The lodge having been closed, the brethren adjourned to supper, the visitors being cordially invited, and upon returning to the lodge-room the W.M. gave the usual loyal and Masonic toasts, receiving at the hands of P.M. Henderson a well merited eulogium for the manner in which he carried out the duties of his responsible position, to which he returned a suitable reply, and the Tyler's toast concluded the business of the evening. Among the visitors were T. G. Day, W.M. 1076; W. Robinson, 1076; Shultz, 13; H. Green, 1076; G. Masters, 13; S. Smith, 1530; C. Jolly, 913; and others.

HAMPTON.—Hemming Lodge (No. 1512).—An emergency meeting of this prosperous lodge was held at the Lion Hotel, on Thursday, the 31st ult. There were present Bros. E. Hopwood, P.M. 141, W.M.; W. Hammond, P.P.J.G.D. of Middlesex, &c., I.P.M.; S. Hill, P.M. Canonbury, &c., S.W.; Hurst, J.W. and W.M. elect; J. Hammond, P.M. Jordan, Sec.; Walls, acting S.D.; Ockenden, D.C., acting J.D.; Jessett, I.G. The W.M., with the assistance of his officers, initiated Messrs. T. Phillips, T. Errington, C. Finch, and H. C. T. Murphy into the mysteries of the Craft. The I.P.M., by the permission of the W.M., passed Bro. Dr. C. H. Hill as a F.C., and the W.M. having resumed his position, raised Bros. C. V. J. De Fernex and E. Andrews to the degree of M.M. The visitors were Bros. G. W. Martin, P.P.G.O. of Herts, &c.; B. Sharp, P.M. 84, &c.; Güterbock, 173; R. Martin, 201; Pitt, Hyatt, Brooklyn, U.S. Previously to the lodge being closed, Bro. Sharp was elected a joining member, and several propositions were taken. Notwithstanding the numerous lodges in this division of Middlesex, this lodge, which was only consecrated in the autumn of 1874, has already its full complement of members at the present scale of fees, which scale, in future, in compliance with a by-law to that effect, will be increased. Upon the completion of the business, the brethren adjourned to an excellent collation, well catered for by Bro. Murphy. This being an emergency meeting, there was no regular programme of toasts, but the W.M. briefly gave "The Queen and the Craft," and "The Initiates." Bro. Murphy, in the absence of the other newly-elected brethren, responded. The proceedings were enlivened by the vocal and prose contributions of Bros. Martin, Jessett, Ockenden, Hurst, Walls, and De Fernex. Previously to the Tyler's toast, the I.P.M. proposed "The Health of the W.M.," in a few well chosen words, which toast having been heartily honoured, was briefly acknowledged by the W.M. The next regular meeting of this lodge will be held on the third Thursday in October.

Royal Arch.

BEDFORD.—Stuart Chapter (No. 540).—This chapter is still rapidly growing, and from the evident pains bestowed upon its working it is not likely to lose strength as it proceeds. The usual meeting was held at the Swan Hotel, Bedford, on Tuesday evening, when the following officers were present with many companions:—Col. Stuart, Z.; J. R. Bull, H.; A. Cookson, J.; J. M. Cuthbert, P.S.; Capt. Colburne, E.; and Capt. Green, 1st A.S. There was also present Comp. Barfield, P.Z. Mt. Sinai, No. 12, whose unremitting kindness in visiting the chapter and assisting the officers at all times cannot be too much praised. Two companions were exalted, the working having rather improved than otherwise since the last meeting—Bro. John Allan, Stuart Lodge, 540, Bedford, and Bro. Henry Hitchman, S.W. Lodge of Perseverance, 453, Kettering. The companions next elected the Audit Committee, appointing to it the officers of the chapter. The officers for the ensuing year were next elected as follows, Comp. Col. Stuart becoming, of course, the first P.Z. of the chapter:—Comps. J. R. Bull, H.; M.E.Z.; A. Cookson, J. H.; J. M. Cuthbert, P.S.; J. Rev. W. Tebbis, Chaplain, P.S.; Capt. Colburne, E., E.; W. J. Nash, N.; J. Trapp, re-elected Treas.; G. Reynolds, re-elected Janitor. There being no further business the chapter was closed, after which seventeen of the companions did their duty, when called to refreshment, as well and as willingly as when they had been called to labour.

Mark Masonry

TRURO.—Fortitude Lodge (No. 78).—At the regular meeting of this lodge, held at the Masonic Hall, Truro, on Tuesday, the 12th September, A.D. 1876, A.L. 5876, it was proposed by the R.W. Bro. William James Hughan, P.M. 78, Past Grand Mark Warden of England, &c., &c., seconded by W. Bro. James Charles Rodd Crewes, P.M. 78, Prov. G.S. of W. for Cornwall, and carried unanimously, "That in appreciation of his zealous and valuable services on behalf of Craft Masonry, and of his membership of the Centenary Lodge of Fortitude, No. 131, Truro, the R.W. Bro. James Homer Neilson, P.M. 620, Dublin, &c., Past Grand Warden of Egypt, P. Prov. G.M. of Venezuela, Grand Steward, &c., &c., be elected an honorary member of this Mark Lodge."

Ancient and Accepted Rite.

In pursuance of a charter from the Grand Orient of Egypt, bearing date about the 25th day of October, 1875, and a subsequent decree, bearing date the 20th March, 1876, the Supreme Grand Council of the Valley of New Zealand of the 33° of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite was, on the 9th day of June, 1876, opened at Dunedin with the grand honours of Masonry, by William Caldwell, John Hyde Harris, and Louis Court, Sovereign Grand Inspectors-General, the whole number of Inspectors-General being with one exception complete. The following is a list of the members of the Grand Council:—Wm. Caldwell, 33°, M.P.S.G. Com.; Honble. J. Hyde Harris, 33°, V.P.L.G. Com.; Wm. Hunter Reynolds, 33°, Ill. G.G. Sec., H.E.; Capt. Henry Kitchener, 84th Regt., 33°, Ill. G.T., H.E.; F. W. Thile, 33°, Ill. G.O., H.E.; Lewis Court, 33°, Ill. G. Marshal, H.E.; Thomas Sherlock Graham, 33°, Ill. G.C.G., H.E.; Wm. Byers Sealey, 33°, Ill. G.S.B., H.E.; Malcolm Niccol, 33°, Ill. G.S.B., H.E.

Scotland.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Caledonian Railway (No. 354).—The last of the series of special Masonic meetings held in connection with the visit of the British Association to Glasgow, now concluded, was that arranged by Lodge 354, and which took place in the Masonic Hall, at No. 30, Hope street, on Wednesday, the 13th inst. The attendance was agreeably, and at the same time, considering the size of the room, at times uncomfortably numerous, about one hundred brethren having signed the Tyler's book. Bro. Adam B. Ferguson, W.M. of the lodge, presided, and there were supporting him on the dais Bros. Alex. Bain, P.G.B.B.; James Balfour, P.G. Master of Ceremonies; David Reid, P.G.I.G. and I.P.M. Lodge St. Andrews No. 465; William Ferguson, D.M. Lodge Plantation; Dr. James Skirving, &c. The lodge being called to refreshment, the toasts of "The Queen and the Craft," "The Three Grand Lodges," and "The Provincial Grand Lodge of Glasgow" were given successively by the Chairman, and duly honoured. The latter was coupled with the name of Bro. A. Bain, P.G. Bible Bearer, who, in acknowledging the compliment, said that, as they were all aware, the P.G.L. of Glasgow was in a very healthy and good working condition, and as all the lodges within the province were similarly situated it made the work of the P.G.L. much easier than once on a time it used to be. He hoped it would long continue to be so. The toast of "The British Association" was also given by the Chairman, and enthusiastically responded to; as was also that of "The Visiting Brethren," proposed by Bro. Colin McKenzie, J.W., and responded to by Bro. Dr. Freer, Govan, and John A. Mann (No. 27). A number of other toasts were also given and honoured in the course of the evening; the musical element being well represented by Bro. Hardy, pianist, James Houston, and a host of able amateur brethren.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Commercial (No. 360).—The second of the series of special Masonic meetings in connection with the visit of the British Association was given under the auspices of this lodge within their hall, at No. 30, Hope street, on Tuesday evening, the 12th inst., and turned out to be an exceptionally agreeable and successful occasion. The W.M. of the lodge (Bro. John Monro) presided, and was supported on the dais by Bros. Thomas Kingston, W.M. Lodge Whittington, London (No. 862, E.C.); D. M. Nelson, W.M. St. John, No. 34; James Mackie, W.M., and Colin Spalding, D.M. No. 7 (Lodge Hamilton Kilwinning); S. N. Morrison, P.M. No. 69, St. John, Alloa; David Murray, W.M. No. 103, Union and Crown; and Thomas Stobo, W.M. No. 581, Lodge Plantation. In the body of the hall were Bros. Adam B. Ferguson, W.M. No. 354, Caledonian Railway; David Reid, P.G.I.G. and I.P.M. No. 465, St. Andrews; John W. Browne, No. 219, Chicago, U.S., and a numerous gathering of office-bearers and brethren from various lodges within and without the province. On the lodge being called from labour to refreshment, the Chairman intimated that he had received notes of apology for absence from two English brethren, namely, Bro. George Bussey, of London, and Bro. Professor Sewill, F.R.G.S., F.G.S., &c., of Ilkley College, Yorkshire. He had to intimate further, that the latter brother had also forwarded to him a piece of Masonic music, his own composition, of which he begged the lodge's acceptance, and copies of which he had also sent for presentation to Lodges Union and Crown and Caledonian Railway respectively. The announcement was received with a hearty round of applause. Thereafter, the Chairman proposed the customary loyal and Masonic toasts, which were pledged with becoming enthusiasm. In proposing that of "The Provincial Grand Lodge of Glasgow," for the benefit of the strangers present, he went into some little detail as to the extent and importance of the province of Glasgow, mentioning, inter alia, that from it was drawn one-fifth of the total revenue of the Grand Lodge of Scotland. In the temporary absence of Bro. David Reid, P.G. I.G., the toast was coupled with the name of Bro. D.M. Nelson, W.M. of the senior lodge in the province, who in the course of a characteristic reply gave it as his opinion that, whatever might have been recent short-comings in the working of the P.G.L., and to which he had not been afraid to call attention, there was within the province of Glasgow material for the formation of a Provincial Grand Lodge second to none in the world. The toast of the evening, "Brethren of the Craft presently in Glasgow with the British Association," given in markedly appropriate and effective style by the Chairman, met with the heartiest reception. It was coupled with the name of Bro. Kingston (Lodge 862, E.C.), who in graceful and unaffected terms returned thanks for the compliment, and declared his inability to express how he felt the kindness and hospitality he had met with, not only within the lodge but generally during his brief visit to Glasgow. Other toasts followed, amongst which were "Lodge Commercial," by Bro. Spalding, coupled with the name of Bro. Monro, W. M., who replied; "The S. & J. Wardens," by Bro. D. M. Nelson, acknowledged by Bros. Oliver, and Graham; "The Press," which was replied to by Bro. W. H. Bickerton on behalf of the "Freemason." A most enjoyable feature of the evening was the presence of an unusual wealth of musical and histrionic talent, the songs, duets, and instrumental performances of Bros. Pentland and Peterkin, and some rarely humorous recitations of the old school by Bro. Fitzroy, filling up the frequent intervals to admiration.

Ireland.

The quarterly meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Armagh, which embraces the counties of Armagh, Louth, and Monaghan, was held on the 30th ult., at the Masonic Hall, Francis-street, Dundalk, the Right Worshipful the Provincial Grand Master, Bro. Maxwell Close, M.P., presiding; supported by Bro. John G.

Winder, J.P., Deputy Provincial Grand Master. The various lodges of the province were well represented:—Bros. Thos. A. Young, V.W.S.W.; James Whitla, V.W.J.W.; Robert Turner, W.S.D.; E. G. Fitzgerald, I.G.; acted for Bro. H. Handcock as Treas.; and Bro. F. E. Clarke as I.G., with Bro. J. J. Hesse as the Venerable Secretary of the Provincial Grand Lodge.

The report of the committee who were appointed to draw up a new code of rules for the government of the Provincial Lodge of Armagh was read by Bro. G. H. Smith, and the rules submitted, which, with one or two verbal alterations, were carried unanimously.

The election of officers for the ensuing year was then proceeded with. The local Board of General Purposes in several instances submitted two candidates for each office, but such was the enthusiastic spirit of harmony that prevailed in the Grand Lodge that all opposition was withdrawn, and the officers unanimously elected as follows:—Bros. G. H. Smith, 199, Armagh, V.W.G.S.W.; William Shimeld, 384, Louth, W.G.J.W.; A. K. Young, 223, Monaghan, W.G.S.D.; A. Murchie, 24, Armagh, W.G.J.D.; F. E. Clarke, 411, Louth, W.G.I.G. Very Worshipful Bros. H. H. Handcock, J. J. Hesse, Rev. Augustus Young, and Arthur Nelson, were severally elected as Treasurer, Secretary, Chaplain, and Organist to the Provincial Grand Lodge.

Bros. Richard Harvey, 85, and Hugh Leonard, 384, were elected as representatives of the province on the Board of General Purposes at the Grand Lodge of Ireland; and Bros. Arthur Nelson, Past Provincial G.S.W., and J. J. Hesse, Grand Secretary, as representatives of the Board of Instruction.

Bro. Smith read the report of the Banquet Committee, at which 175 brethren attended, after which the lodge closed, and the brethren retired to the Queen's Arms Hotel, where they dined, under the presidency of the Worshipful Master, Maxwell Close, M.P., whose health was drank with the customary Masonic honours, given with great enthusiasm.

A SPIRIT MEDIUM.

We take the following letters from the "Times" of Saturday, as they constitute, in our opinion, an admirable exposure of one of the latest and boldest attempts of charlatanism and imposture on the credulity of the present age. The matter has indeed become amusingly ridiculous.

To the Editor of the "Times."

Sir,—I trust that you will find space for a brief account of an interview with "Dr." Slade from which I have just returned. In consequence of the more than questionable action of Mr. Alfred Wallace, the discussions of the British Association have been degraded by the introduction of the subject of spiritualism, and the public has learnt—perhaps it is time they should—that "men of science" are not exempt as a body from astounding credulity which prevails in this country and in America. It is therefore, incumbent upon those who consider such credulity deplorable to do all in their power to arrest its development.

My friend Mr. Serjeant Cox having begged me to go and see the medium Slade, and having informed me that so distinguished a man of science as Dr. Carpenter had confessed himself "very much shaken" by what he has witnessed in Slade's presence, I wrote to that person and obtained an appointment for last Monday morning. Slade's chief "manifestation" is of this kind:—"I witness and Slade being alone in an ordinary well-lit sitting room, Slade produces a common slate and a small piece of slate pencil, which are laid on the simple four-legged table, at one corner of which the witness and Slade are seated. Slade then shows the witness that there is no writing on either side of the slate. He then places the slate horizontally close against the table, and below it, pressing the slate against the table, the little piece of slate pencil being supposed to be between the slate and the flat under surface of the table. The slate is so closely applied to the table that no hand or finger could possibly get between them in order to write. A noise as of writing is now heard proceeding from the slate, which is held by Slade or by the witness—the spirit is supposed to be at work. The slate is then removed, and a message is found written either on the under surface of the slate or on the surface which was facing the lower surface of the table. I watched Slade very closely during these proceedings, which were repeated several times during my interview last Monday, paying no attention to the raps, gentle kicks, and movements of the table, of which I will say nothing further than that they were all such as could be readily produced by the medium's legs and feet. I simulated considerable agitation and an ardent belief in the mysterious nature of what I saw and heard. At the same time I was utterly astounded to find the strongest reason to believe that, with the exception of the first message, which was written by Slade underneath the slate with (I believe) one finger of the hand which was holding the slate, the rest of the messages, which were longer and better written, were coolly indited on the slate by Slade while it was resting on his knee, concealed from my view by the edge of the table, and that the slate was subsequently placed by him in the position where the spirit-writing was to take place with the message already written upon it. I was led to form this hypothesis by noting the delay which always occurred between my being shown the slate with both sides clean and the placing of the slate against the table or over my head for the purpose of receiving the spirit-writing, which was then heard proceeding with the usual sound of scratching on a slate. This delay did not occur when Slade wrote with the finger of the hand by which he held the slate. During the delay Slade made various excuses; took up the little piece of pencil and bit it, and, also, invariably made a peculiar grating noise by

clearing his throat. At the same time I heard distinctly on three occasions a low but perfectly recognizable sound of a pencil traversing a slate, and twice on looking quickly at Slade's right arm, the elbow of which was visible, while the rest was hidden by the table and purporting to be holding the slate, I saw movements from right to left and left to right which accorded with my hypothesis that he was using his hand in writing.

I left Slade with a promise to return to-day (Friday), and at once wrote to Mr. Serjeant Cox to tell him my explanation of the manner in which the thing was accomplished, and offering to put my hypothesis to the test by seizing the slate from Slade's hand when he professed it to be devoid of writing, and at the moment when the "spirit writing" was about to commence.

This morning I went with my friend Dr. H. B. Donkin, of Queen's College, Oxford, to test my hypothesis by this crucial experiment:—I had determined to seize the slate at the critical moment—at the moment when Slade professed that it was entirely untouched—and if the writing were already on the slate before the spirits were supposed to have begun their work I considered that I should have a demonstration of the truth of my hypothesis, which would be convincing to persons not already lost to reason. I explained to Dr. Donkin my hypothesis and my intention, and the result has completely justified my anticipation. As on last Monday, so to-day, Slade allowed me to hold the slate against the table in order to receive the spirit writing, saying that the spirit would probably write more distinctly for me than for him. The slate had been cleaned and was now declared by Slade to be devoid of writing, but writing was to appear on it in the usual way, accompanied by the scratching noise of the pencil. There had been the usual delay and fumbling on Slade's part when I put out my hand and immediately seized the slate away, saying:—"You have already written on the slate. I have watched you doing it each time." And there, sure enough, was the message already written, as I anticipated. My friend, Dr. Donkin, will give you a more detailed account of the events which occurred in his presence.

I am, Sir, faithfully yours,

E. RAY LANKESTER, F.R.S.,
Fellow of Exeter College, Oxford, and Professor of Zoology in University College, London.
Sept. 15.

To the Editor of the "Times."

Sir,—At the request of my friend Professor Lankester, I accompanied him in his visit to Slade the medium, in order to watch carefully what might happen, and to be able to corroborate or not the opinion he had formed as to the means employed.

A spirit message was soon written, the slate being held in opposition to the under surface of the table, the thumb alone of the medium's right hand being on the table. During the alleged writing a scratching was plainly heard, and at the same time a slight to-and-fro movement of the arm with some contraction of flexor tendons on the wrist was visible. The writing was imperfect and distorted, requiring the interpretation of an expert, and appeared on the surface of the slate, which faced downwards.

The result was in accordance with the theory of the agency of a minute piece of slate-pencil probably held under the nail of the middle finger.

The next communication was partly quite legible and in a straightforward, undisguised hand, but this time it appeared on the upper surface of the slate. Bearing in mind the hypothesis that this was really written before the spirit got to work under the table, I carefully watched Slade during a considerable interval before he replaced the slate. Whilst he was clearing his throat and making short remarks, I saw his right arm, now at some distance from the table, moving exactly as though he were writing on something placed on his knee. Owing to my position at the table, opposite him, I could not see his hand. Simultaneously I heard the scratching of the pencil, hardly at all obscured by the noises I allude to. After the replacement of the slate the spirit-scratching (this time as a ruse) was heard as before.

Before the next communication the spirits were asked if they could write for Professor Lankester. They agreed to do so. I observed the medium go through the same sort of manoeuvres as before, although even more deliberately, very little effort being made to hide a loud scratching while the slate was away from the table. After some little time Slade put the slate under the table, holding it as before, with his right hand, Professor Lankester being about to hold it with his left in a similar manner. Here let especial notice be given to the fact that at this moment the slate was said to be free from writing. Before any time was allowed for spirit-scratching to be heard, my friend, as agreed upon, sharply withdrew the slate, and in accordance with the prophecy displayed the message already written.

To make this exposure still more perfect I may add that the first of the two later messages referred to consisted of two words read by the medium as "Samuel Lankester" in answer to the question as to what spirits were present. The "Samuel" being very indistinct my friend suggested it might be "Edwin," which the medium said was quite possible. The last message was an answer to the same question, and the suggestion being adopted, the words "Edwin Lankester" were perfectly clear.

To any one not pre-disposed to believe in spirit agency at all hazards, the result of this séance is sufficient.

I am, Sir, yours faithfully,

HORATIO B. DONKIN, M.B., Oxon,
Assist. Physician to the Westminster Hospital.
September 15, 1876.

Owing to the extraordinary low tide in the Thames on Thursday, navigation in some parts was put a stop to. The tide has not been known to run so low for the past six years.

SLANDER.

Masonry teaches us to support a brother's character when he is absent, and consequently unable to defend himself from the tainted breath of defamation. It forbids us to retail slanders derogatory to our brother's reputation, which is a sacred deposit; and if once wounded, ten thousand words in vindication will scarcely be sufficient to repair the mischief which ten words have occasioned.

Masonry teaches this lesson in every part and point of every degree, aware that the evil consequences of slander are innumerable, whether by giving false testimony in a public cause or by injuring our brother by private defamation. This practice is the vilest of all robberies.

Injure his property, and you may make him reparation wound his body, and the physician may heal the wound but if his sacred reputation be touched, if his good name be taken away, it can never be restored, but may pursue his offspring after death; may descend to his children's children, and blast their prospects to the latest posterity.

Defamation is always wicked; the defamer is always despised. And what gratification can be found in a practice which elicits universal contempt? Can it be found in the lust of evil speaking, and cutting up reputations as with a sharp razor? Can any gratification proceed from the practice of private scandal at the expense of another's character and honest name? Does such a practice add to the slanderer's peace of mind or importance among his acquaintance? Does it confer a dignity not to be procured by other and more innocent means?

A negative answer may be safely given to these inquiries; and it is rather to be feared that every honest and upright man will regard him with the scrutinizing eye of a jealous suspicion, and shun him as a public nuisance. His deeds are baser than those of the assassin, in proportion as a man's unsullied fame is dearer to him than life.

The assassin kills the body of his enemy, and there the mischief ends; but the slanderer attacks the immortal part of man, and inflicts a stab in the hope of blighting his fame for ever. None can be safe where he finds admittance. The virtues wither around him, and fade and die before his baneful touch. His practices are made up of fraud and artful treachery. He dares not to bring the bold and open accusation, but looks and whispers death. To misconstrue motives; to place trifling incidents in contemptible points of view; to insinuate by mysterious signs and broken sentences that "more is meant than meets the ear," are his study and delight. They become, by force of habit, as necessary as the food which affords him nourishment, and this for no other purpose than the selfish aim of depriving his acquaintance of that estimation from which he can derive no benefit, and which can scarcely be restored by all the united efforts of charity and benevolence; for evil reports spread with unaccountable facility, and extend to distant parts where the evidence of their falsehood will never be heard, and thus the record is handed to posterity in all the decoration of unrefuted truth.

But it must be observed, on the other hand, that we are not to applaud the character and conduct of bad men merely to avoid the imputation of illiberality. If the actions of a brother betray baseness of heart, though it may not be commendable to magnify his vices, or make them a perpetual topic of conversation, yet it would be equally injudicious to praise him, or bear testimony to virtues which he does not possess. "None but a good man deserves to be loved or praised by any one." The course to be adopted under these circumstances is faithfully prescribed in those lectures which form the subject of discussion at all our meetings. "Always speak of a brother as well in his absence as in his presence; and even more particularly so, because when present he has an opportunity of defending himself. Never defame him yourself, nor suffer him to be defamed by others if in your power to prevent it, and if his conduct be so dishonourable that you unfortunately cannot speak well of him, adopt the distinguishing virtue of our science—silence or secrecy."

If a brother be calumniated falsely, it becomes a paramount duty to defend him in the face of the world. He who stands boldly forward to rebut a deliberate slander upon another's reputation I regard in the light of something more than a common friend; he reduces to practice the dignified theories of Masonry; his benevolence is pure and unsullied by human passion, and he richly merits the obligations of gratitude in this world, as he is in the hope of receiving the approbation of his Judge in the world to come.

Speak then no evil of your brother. If he have virtues (and surely all have some) let them be the theme of your discourse; if he have faults (and who is free from them?) mention them not; but in all your commerce with the world, "supply the wants and relieve the necessities of your brethren to the utmost of your power and ability; on no account wrong them, or see them wronged, but timely apprise them of approaching danger, and view their interests as inseparable from your own."—"Oliver's Antiquities."

An emergency meeting of the Brownrigg Lodge, No. 1638 (consecrated last Wednesday), will be held on the 28th.

Saturday week will be the last day for the exhibition of the Indian collection of the Prince of Wales at the South Kensington Museum. They will then be removed to the Bethnal-green Museum, in order that the inhabitants of the East-end may view them; and His Royal Highness has signified his intention of sending them over to the Paris Exhibition in 1878.

The Worshipful Company of Mercers have recently voted the sum of £150 to the managers of the Colet National Schools (St. Thomas, Arbour Square, Stepney, E.), for the erection of an entrance porch for girls and infants in Arbour-street, West.

MASONIC ARCHÆOLOGY.

There is a theory of Masonic history which is purely German in its origin, though it has a few supporters in Anglo-Saxon Freemasonry. It is, in fact, that which Lessing and Nicolai, and others stated, that Freemasonry is "Baconian," or rather, that it is the product of an Hermetic society, of which Bacon and Ashmole, and others, were members, and that it has nothing to do with the operative guilds. In fact, it brings Masonry out of some Hermetical meetings in the latter part of the 17th century. Unfortunately for this view, however ingenious, there is no real evidence, that I am aware of, in favour of it. A good deal is made to hinge on the "Nova Atlantis," which because it deals allegorically with Solomon's Temple, and a brotherhood of sages or philosophers, &c., &c., is supposed to be Masonic. I have read the Nova Atlantis; I cannot discern its Freemasonry. I am not aware, except as a general statement, that there is any actual evidence that Bacon was a member of a Hermetic society, though his studies were very abstruse; but assuming that there is, I am not aware again that he and Ashmole are ever brought together. I have read Ashmole's diary carefully, and it is very remarkable that his acquaintanceship with Hermeticism begins after that he was made a Freemason at Warrington, October 16th, 1646. His acquaintance with Lilly only began on the 25th October the same year, and the first "astrologers" feast which he attended was August 1st, 1648. He was present at a mathematical feast, it is true, at the White Hart, Old Bailey, probably the forerunner of the other, February 14th, 1647. He names, no doubt, many known writers on Hermeticism and Rosicrucianism, and the like, as the two Backhouses Sir John Heydon, Mr. John Booker, the Rev. Mr. Butler, Mr. Lilly, Mr. Moxon, Mr. Saunders, Mr. Vaughan, Rice Evans, Sir Edward Deering, and the then town clerk of London, and probably also Mr. Peter Arnold, Dr. Curren, Lord Ruthen, Mr. Smith, Mr. Melbourn, Mr. Jonas Moore, Dr. Ardie, Dr. Paget, Sir Robert Murry, and others, whom he names as "ingenious persons" or great chemists, all belonged to the same confraternity. He nowhere gives the full names of those present at the astrologer's feast, but, with the exception of Sir John Heydon, his acquaintance with all the "astrologers" commenced after his reception into Freemasonry. When we mention the meeting in 1682, March 10th, it is as something quite distinct from the astrologer's meeting. Indeed, in 1682 the astrologer's feast, which had not been held since November 2nd, 1657, was revived, it is said, by Mr. Moxon. None of the names of those who were present at the lodge in 1682 were in any way mixed up with the Hermetics; they were mostly members of the Masons' Company, though the meeting was not the meeting of the Masons' Company that year, neither was Ashmole a member of the Masons' Company. The theory, therefore, that Freemasonry was a product of Hermeticism at Ashmole's time is, in my opinion, utterly untenable. Ashmole knew nothing of the astrologers' practices when he was made a Freemason in 1646, and it is quite clear that Ashmole, with his love of the occult and the archæological, sought Freemasonry as an ancient institution then. His record now clearly demonstrates that the lodge was partly an operative lodge, admitting speculative members. So far, I believe, no one has been able to trace out anything of Mr. Richard Penket Warden, Mr. James Collier, Mr. Richard Sankey, Henry Littler, John Ellam, and Hugh Brewer, all of whom he specially names. Probably a search in the Register Books of the parish church at Warrington might tell us something about these old and worthy brethren. The Baconian and Ashmolean theory is, it is therefore quite clear, a chimera, based on no evidential authority, and utterly opposed to all the known facts of the case. That there may have been a connection between Hermeticism and Freemasonry I do not deny, but that Freemasonry emanated from an Hermetic association in the 17th century I certainly do. The further theory, that it was political, or in the interest of King Charles II., &c., is too absurd to dilate upon, the only apparent foundation for it being the

fact that Ashmole served on the King's side in the civil wars. It is, on the contrary, as distinct as anything can be, that Freemasonry and Hermeticism were independent associations then, as I believe they have always been, and, however, perhaps either may have borrowed from the other, whether of formulæ or mystical teaching, which is a bare possibility, they were always self-existent and entirely different from each other. Historical criticism and evidential accuracy must, in my opinion, utterly savour and reject the Baconian or Ashmolean theory of Masonic origin and history.

CONSECRATION OF THE MARLBOROUGH LODGE, No. 1620.

Tuebrook, a pleasant suburb of busy Liverpool, was quite lively on Wednesday week, the 13th inst., on the occasion of the consecration of the Marlborough Lodge, No. 1620, which is started under the most promising auspices. The bells of the neighbouring church of St. John the Baptist rang out a merry peal at intervals during the day in honour of the specially interesting event, and the suburbanites of Tuebrook were quite in a flutter of excitement at the starting of a Masonic lodge in their midst. The need of a lodge in the neighbourhood has long been realised, and the petition for the setting up of the Marlborough was very cordially supported by a large number of brethren who have been long recognised as a felt power in the Order in this part of West Lancashire. The petitioning brethren are also well known in connection with the Craft, and give a guarantee of the strictly legitimate manner in which the business of the lodge will be carried on. The ceremony of consecration took place at the Derby Hall, Tuebrook, where the regular meetings will be held (a place admirably adapted for Masonic purposes), and between sixty and seventy brethren were present to witness the impressive and interesting ceremony. These included a goodly sprinkling of Provincial Grand Lodge officers, an excellent muster of Masters and officers, and a fair representation of "full privates." Amongst the brethren present were Bros. H. S. Alpess, P.G. Sec.; Dr. J. Kellett Smith, P.G. Reg.; T. Armstrong, P.G. Treas.; R. Wylie, P.P.G.S.D.; J. R. Goepel, P.P.G.D.C.; W. Doyle, P.P.J.G.D.; S. E. Ibbs, P.P.G.S.B.; J. Skeaf, P.G.O.; J. Pemberton, P.G.S.; P. Ball, P.G. Tyler; T. A. Collinson, P.G.S.; W. Pughe, P.M. 1182; J. E. Jackson, W.M. 667; J. Wood, Treas. 1094, 249 ("Freemason"); A. C. Wylie, J.D. 1264; S. Oxton, 1264; Dr. E. M. Sheldon, P.M. 1094; Dr. D. D. Costine, J.D. 216; W. Brown, 1229; R. Leason, Sec. 1393; G. Lunt, C. Tyrer, W. S. Bennett, 1299; L. Bagnall, 823; W. L. Lunt, P.M. 823; W. Woods, P.M. 1182, W.M. designate of the new lodge; J. Hayes, P.M. 249; J. Boyle; J. P. Bryan, 1035; R. R. Forshaw, jun., Sec. 1035; G. Robertson, 513; A. C. Forshaw, 1035; A. Hodgkins, 241; A. Woolrich, Sec. 1356, Treas. 1609; J. C. Robinson, J.W. 249; W. P. Jennings, J.D. 249; J. T. Aston, J.W. 203; J. Busfield, 216; E. Dutch, 1393; R. H. Evans, W.M. 292, P.M. 1393; G. J. Jones, 241; R. Reader, I.G. 292; D. Jones, P.M. 155; D. Gandon, 1305; T. J. Hughes, 216; C. Haswell, 203; J. Holme, J.D. 1299; S. Millikin, 823; G. Turner, P.M. 823; H. Hindle, H. Jackson, P.M. 1393; and others.

The position of presiding Consecrating Officer was assigned to Bro. Dr. J. Kellett Smith, P.G. Registrar, who took the chair at the commencement of the proceedings, the S.W.'s chair being occupied by Bro. W. Doyle, P.P.G. J.D., and the J.W.'s by Bro. J. Lunt, P.G.D.C. Bro. Dr. Smith was assisted in a generally impressive ceremony by Bros. H. S. Alpess, P.G. Sec.; R. Wylie, P.P.G. S.D.; J. R. Goepel, P.P.G.D.C.; S. E. Ibbs, P.P.G. S.B.; T. Armstrong, P.G. Treas.; Dr. E. M. Sheldon, P.M. 1094 (acting Chaplain); R. H. Evans, W.M. 292; and others. Bro. J. Skeaf, P.G.O., presided at the harmonium; and the exquisitely arranged musical service for the consecration by the talented P.G.O. was splendidly rendered by Bros. J. Busfield, 216; D. Jones, P.M. 155; G. J. Hughes, 216; C. Haswell, 203; and J. P. Bryon, Org. 1035.

At the conclusion of the consecration ceremony Bro. Dr. Smith, P.G. Reg., immediately proceeded to instal Bro. William Woods, the W.M. designate, in the chair of K.S., the presentation for this honour being made by Bros. H. S. Alpess, P.G. Sec., and R. Wylie, P.P.G. S.D. The first W.M. of the "Marlborough" subsequently invested the following brethren as the first staff of officers:—Bros. W. Pughe, S.W.; G. Lunt, J.W.; L. Bagnall, Treas.; H. Hindle, Sec.; S. Millikin, S.D.; C. Tyrer, J.D.; R. Leason, I.G.; J. R. Goepel, P.M.; P.P.G.D.C., D.C.; and M. Williamson, Tyler. On the motion of the W.M., seconded by the S.W., a cordial vote of thanks was ordered to be recorded on the minutes to the presiding Consecrating and Installing Officer (Bro. Dr. J. K. Smith) and the other brethren who assisted him in the ceremony, in recognition of the admirable manner in which the work had been done throughout. After upwards of a dozen propositions for joining and initiation had been made, the business proceedings were successfully brought to a close.

The brethren subsequently sat down to a *récherché* banquet, provided in the large room by Bro. W. Vines, P.M. 220 and 1299, of the Canton Hotel, Liverpool, whose catering, as usual, was of the best class. The W.M. (Bro. W. Woods) presided at the banquet, supported by the majority of the P.G. Officers who had been present at the consecration and installation. The W.M.

proposed the toast of "The Queen;" Bro. Dr. Smith, P.G.R., "The M.W.G.M., Bro. H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, the Princess of Wales, and the rest of the Royal Family;" Bro. R. Wylie, P.P.G.S.D., "The M.W. Pro G.M., Bro. the Rt. Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon;" and the W.M., "The R.W.D.G.M. and P.G.M. W.L., Bro. the Rt. Hon. Lord Skelmersdale, and the Officers of the P.G. Lodge, Past and Present," which was acknowledged by Bro. H. S. Alpess, P.G. Sec. "The Consecrating Officer and Installing Master" was next proposed and most felicitously responded to by Bro. Dr. Smith. "The Worshipful Master" was honoured with much enthusiasm, and "The Officers," "The Visitors," and "Poor and Distressed Masons" were the other toasts on a discreetly short list. Some excellent and appropriate harmony was given by the musical brethren already named, and special praise in due to Bro. J. Busfield, 216, whose artistic vocalisation elicited the heartiest approbation. Bro. Skeaf, P.G.O., was at the piano, and again proved "the right man in the right place."

Masonic and General Tidings.

The regular annual meeting of the Prov. G. Lodge of the Western Division of Lancashire will be held in the Masonic Hall, Hope-street, Liverpool, on Wednesday, the 4th prox., at 12 o'clock. Banquet at the Adelphi Hotel at 4 p.m.

The Installation ceremony will be rehearsed by Bro. M. S. Larham, P.M. 1539, W.M. 1216, at the United Pilgrims Lodge of Instruction, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, on Friday, the 29th inst., at 7.30 p.m.

The Kent Dale Lodge of Mark Masters, No. 195, will be consecrated on Tuesday next, by the V.W. Bro. F. Binckes, assisted by Bro. Col. Whitwell, M.P., and the V.W. Bro. J. Daniel Moore, 31. The W.M. designate is Bro. George J. McKay, and the Wardens, Bros. Robt. Godfrey and Wm. Cranston.

It is now understood that their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales will be the guests of Bro. Colonel Campbell, M.P., of Blythwood, on the day preceding their visit to Glasgow for the laying of the foundation of the New Post Office with Masonic honours, and that they will remain at Blythwood House overnight, driving up to Glasgow the following morning. A hearty welcome will doubtless be accorded them by the inhabitants of Renfrew, and it should not lose in enthusiasm when it is remembered that the Prince has special claims upon them, one of his titles being coupled with the name of that ancient and Royal borough.

On and after the 29th inst., the meetings of the Belgrave Lodge of Instruction will be held at the Constitution, Bedford-street, Covent Garden. We understand Bro. Pulsford, the well-known and popular Preceptor, will work the fifteen sections on Friday next, the 29th inst.

The special lodge of emergency, as announced in our last, was held on Monday last, the 18th inst., at the lodge-rooms, Havant, when and where the R.W. Provincial Grand Master of Hants and the Isle of Wight, Bro. W. W. B. Beach, M.P., dedicated the new lodge-room. There was a very large attendance of the brethren. A report of the proceedings will appear in our next.

It is estimated that the aggregate yearly transactions in oysters in the city of New York is over 10,000,000 dols.

The Provincial Grand Lodge for the Province of Cheshire was held on Wednesday last, in the Market Hall, under the presidency of the Right Hon. the Lord De Tabley, R.W. Provincial Grand Master. After the business of the lodge had been transacted the brethren of a large number of lodges walked in procession to St. John's Church, where the sermon was preached by the P.G. Chaplain. The volume of the Sacred Law was borne by four Master Masons' sons, opened at the 10th chapter of Numbers. On leaving the church, the procession, numbering over 200, proceeded to the banquet, which was served at the Royal George Hotel, Lord de Tabley presiding. A full report will appear in our next.

A GOOD EXAMPLE.—Bro. S. B. Ellis, Hon. Secretary of the Sheffield Masonic Library, has voluntarily procured subscribers for fifty copies of Bro. Emma Holmes' forthcoming "Tales, Poems, and Masonic Papers," and forwarded them to Bro. George Markham Tweddell, of Stokesley. It has been suggested that if the Secretaries of lodges would generally give a fraternal hand a thousand subscribers might easily be obtained, and certainly the Craft ought to secure double that number.

P.G. LODGE OF WEST LANCASHIRE.—The privilege of admission, it should have been stated last week, to the forthcoming P.G.L. of West Lancashire in Liverpool will be extended to "all invested officers." The banquet will be held at the Adelphi Hotel.

The Emperor of Austria has conferred the following decorations upon the military members of His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught's suite who attended His Royal Highness on the occasion of the recent Austrian manoeuvres. Bro. Major Pickard has received the Cross of a Knight of the Order of Leopold; Brigadier-General Seymour, the Cross of a Commander of the Francis Joseph Order, together with the Star of the same Order; and Captain Lee, the Cross of the Francis Joseph Order.

A severe shock of earthquake, lasting thirty seconds, was felt in Sicily on Wednesday week. There was considerable panic at Messina, but no lives were lost nor any damage done to the buildings of the city. Some houses are stated to have been damaged at Reggio.

CONSECRATION OF THE BROWNRIGG LODGE,
No. 1638.

This new lodge was consecrated on Wednesday evening last, at the Swan Hotel, Thames Ditton, by the Provincial Grand Master for Surrey, Lieut. Genl. Brownrigg, C.B. The new lodge commenced its career by practising a virtue, which if followed up throughout its future career will alone merit success. Punctuality to the time appointed in the summonses for the lodges to open, is too rarely observed not to be noticed when it does occur; and this lodge, with commendable exactness, having been arranged for opening at three o'clock, marshalled its brethren some short time before that hour, and at the time appointed the Prov. Grand Master ascended the chair and placed the Rev. Ambrose W. Hall, his Prov. G. Chaplain, in the S.W. chair, and Bro. Thomas Long, his Prov. G.P., in the J.W. chair. The Rev. C. W. Arnold, G. Chaplain of England, acted as Chaplain, and Bro. George Porter, as I.G.

The complete list of brethren present comprised the names of Bros. Lieut.-Genl. Brownrigg, Charles Harris, George Porter, Arthur Stone, H. W. Linton, Colonel Burdett, Prov. G.M. Middlesex; Rev. Ambrose W. Hall, Prov. G. Chaplain Surrey; C. A. Greenwood, Prov. G. Sec. Surrey; Chas. Cathrow, P.P.G.S.B. Surrey; Cleaveland Phillips, 820; Henry Harris, 1515; Thos. S. Lamb, 820; T. Baker, 889; Bernard Sharp, 168 and 84 (Guernsey); Charles Jackson, P.M. 180 and 1420; G. Dixon, 66; E. H. Rogers (Cadogan); T. Hardy, 889; John Bond, 889; A. Nuthall, 889; Thomas Long, 889; Frederick Hunt, 889; William Hammond, P.H.D. Middlesex; C. W. Arnold, P.M. 1395; H. Massey ("Freemason"); and T. H. Byer, P.M. 889.

After the opening of the lodge, the Prov. G.M. immediately proceeded to constitute the lodge, and the following oration was delivered by the Rev. C. W. Arnold:—

Before the consecration of a lodge it is customary to make a few remarks on the nature and principles of Freemasonry; and in accordance with this custom I shall now briefly address to you. There are three great virtues that ought to be the characteristics of every Mason—Sincerity, Truth, and Brotherly Love. Without the two former the latter cannot exist. The love of Masons must be pure and unalloyed; their friendship sincere and genuine; their cordiality without hypocrisy. In fact, the true Mason will not live for himself but rather for those around him, despising selfishness. What a different aspect would this world wear if all men were but truly actuated by the principles of Masonry! No longer would our hearts shudder at the horrors of war; peace with her olive wand would descend from heaven; succour would come to the distressed; comfort to the afflicted; everywhere would be heard the voice of joy and gladness, and no complaining in our streets. What are the jewels which sparkle on your breasts but emblems of the virtues which ought to shine beneath, like the medals of the soldiers which tell of noble and heroic deeds. Small may be their intrinsic value, yet great are the truths they symbolize. We must contradict by our lives the statements of those who assert that trifles are the objects of our ambition and that our meetings are but an excuse for conviviality. God teaches us, and we are reminded by Masonry, that we came into the world poor and penniless; under the fostering care of the Great Architect of the Universe we have passed through the dangers of childhood and arrived at man's estate; we pass on by regular steps across the chequered flooring of the world, learning lessons as we go, looking up from nature to nature's God; in the Third Degree yet more knowledge is given to us, as we behold the emblems of mortality everywhere around and the star above whose bright light pierces even through the darkness of the tomb. Thus in every step in Masonry great lessons are inculcated and the best instruction given—how man must live on earth—how die—how rest in heaven, when he has ascended to those immortal mansions whence all goodness emanates. Just as King Solomon in that glorious building he erected in every ornament he used conveyed a message to his people, so the Mason is taught a lesson by everything around him which he sees and handles. But let us remember that these symbols are only useful as long as they inculcate and keep in view some *truth*, some *vital principle*. Above all Masonry directs us to the Volume of the Sacred Law to guide our actions and govern our faith. Thus is Masonry the handmaid of Religion, echoing the apostle's advice that "denying all ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in this present world," and that now we see through a glass darkly, but the time is drawing near when Masonry and all other human institutions will have passed away, and we shall see the Most High as he is, in His temple not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. May He in His mercy grant that when that great day comes, our work may be done and we may be ready.

The ceremony of consecration was then concluded, and the Prov. G.M., assisted by the Rev. Chaplain, installed Bro. Wm. David May as W.M. The officers invested were Bros. F. Buckland, F.M. 205, S.W.; Edwin Wells, J.W.; George Porter, Sec.; Linton, S.D.; Stone, J.D.; and W. Lane, Tyler.

Seven propositions for joining and five for initiation were given in, and after the W.M. had stated that he would hold a lodge of emergency next Thursday, he closed the lodge, and with the same punctuality as that observed in opening the lodge the brethren sat down to their banquet. This was served in splendid style by Bro. C. Harris, the proprietor of the hotel, and won the warmest commendation of every brother present.

The toasts after banquet were proposed in due order, and after those of "The Queen" and "The Grand Master" had been honoured, Col. Burdett responded for "The Pro

Grand Master," &c. Having done this in a few words, he complimented the lodge on having the ceremony of consecration and that of installation so well performed by the Prov. G.M. and the Grand Chaplain. Referring next to Freemasonry particularly, he observed that the Order has flourished very greatly during the last few years, and the general idea had been that during the present year fifty lodges would be added to the roll. We had, however, only reached three quarters of the year, and already sixty-four lodges had been added. The Brownrigg was the 64th, and he felt confident that it would not be unequal to all the others, but that it would set a good example to all those lodges which would follow it.

The W.M. proposed "The Provincial Grand Master." The brethren ought to feel highly honoured by his having attended to consecrate their new lodge. This ought to induce the brethren—young members of the Masonic Order compared with their Provincial Grand Master—to try if they could not equal in their working the grand way in which he did the working that evening. He would particularly remark to them that the General had many other matters to occupy his mind, and yet he could devote some portion of his time to showing the brethren with what ability Masonic work could be transacted when a little attention and a real love of Masonry were brought to bear upon it.

Genl. Brownrigg responded for the toast of "The Prov. G.M. and Prov. G. Officers," which the W.M. proposed in concluding his speech. Nothing but severe domestic affliction, or being himself in articulo mortis, would have prevented his being there that day, and in his happy Province of Surrey, consecrating the new lodge. The province had been increasing in numbers happily during the five years he had held the honour of holding the position of Prov. G.M. Five new lodges had been added, and he did not wish the increase to be at a greater rate than that. That was going on quite fast enough. He begged the brethren to bear one thing in mind, that as Masonry increased in quantity, so let them improve it in quality. Let them be careful of those they admitted into their ranks. He said this especially to the brethren as a young lodge; and he had felt it his duty to say the same thing lately at a very large Masonic meeting at the Provincial Grand Lodge of North Wales and Shropshire. He felt bound to say it again, for Masonry was very popular and fashionable at the present time. It was natural that it should be so, owing to the circumstances of the Marquis of Ripon, the late Grand Master's resignation, and the accession to the Grand Master's Throne of the Heir apparent of Great Britain. He would give the brethren some advice. There was no reason why, because a man was what was called a good fellow, or was a genial companion, they should make him a Freemason; there were other qualities than these necessary for a good Freemason; and in the Province of Surrey these other qualities were considered. Do not admit a man they could not thoroughly trust; do not admit him, merely because he was a good fellow. The more Masonry was extended the more would be expected of Freemasons. He was afraid that the brethren would almost think he was preaching them a sermon; but such was not his intention. He was an old man, and an old Mason, and he spoke from old experience, and it was with a sincere desire for the good of Masonry that he addressed the brethren in these terms.

The Rev. C. W. Arnold, who was also called upon to reply, said he had hoped to escape from this duty, as the Prov. G.M. had said everything thoroughly which he could have said. He must, however, correct a little mistake into which General Brownrigg had fallen. Instead of five new Surrey lodges having been added to the roll since General Brownrigg came to preside over the province there were six. One was the lodge at Woking, and then there were five in which he (the Rev. C. W. Arnold) had had the pleasure of assisting the Prov. Grand Master in consecrating since then. Therefore Masonry in the province had extended a good deal more than General Brownrigg led them to suppose, and consequently there was more cause for the brethren to think over what he had said. He hoped they would do so thoroughly and sincerely. He was very much pleased to come to this lodge and see so many Masons of the province gathered together. He might add that the working of a lodge, or the good working of a lodge, was not the only thing to be observed in Masonry. It was very essential; but the charities of Masonry had to be studied as well. Masons ought to improve in their work, and the more they met in lodge, the more mutual improvement there would be among the brethren. He hoped that the Brownrigg Lodge would be a good working lodge.

General Brownrigg proposed "Success and Prosperity to the Brownrigg Lodge." It would be worse than affectation, it would be absolute ingratitude on his part, if he did not express how very sincerely he felt the honour that had been done himself in the name given to this lodge. It proved to him that his poor efforts in the province had been appreciated, and that alone was very satisfactory to him. But had he been aware of the day on which it was intended to consecrate the lodge, he would have liked to ask that it should have another name given to it. Many of the brethren might not remember, but it was very vividly in his own memory, that on that day twenty-two years ago there was an action performed which, after a peace of very many years, he thought must have confirmed the confidence and the esteem that all Englishmen had in their army. That day was the anniversary of the battle of the Alma, and he should have been glad if the lodge had received that name instead of his own. He was present at the battle of the Alma, and the lovely day they now had was a counterpart of the lovely day on which that battle was fought. The valley of the Thames in which this lodge was being held put him in mind of the beautiful valley the English army crossed on the 20th September,

1854. They went through gardens in which melons and grapes were profuse, and with which the soldiers were very glad to quench their thirst. If it had not been for the results, the losing of many dear friends and comrades, it would have been a very beautiful field day; a more magnificent day he never saw. It was on this account he would have liked the lodge called Alma, as it was a lodge of his own province. However, he could not help feeling the honour of having his own name associated with it. He would desire that this youngest of the flock in his Surrey fold should emulate the others that were already in it. He could not help mentioning to them the kind reception he always met with in his province; there was but a single drawback to it, one little difficulty which the brethren had not forgotten. He wished all the brethren health and prosperity, and the lodge all the success which had attended its elder sisters.

The W.M. replied, and said he had always tried to be a good working Mason, and he should always endeavour so to be; and he would ask all the brethren to follow his example.

The W.M. afterwards gave "The Visitors" and "The Officers," for the last of which Bro. Buckland and Bro. Porter replied.

"The Press" followed, and Bro. Massey ("Freemason") whose name was specially associated with it, having responded, the brethren drank the Tyler's toast, and brought a most agreeable evening to a close.

EXTRACT FROM AN OLD MINUTE BOOK.

"Proceedings of the Grand Communication, March 4th, 1778. Grand Officers present. The several lodge dues paid. James Mackree, P.M. of 193, preferred complaint against John Robertson, a member of said lodge, for aspersing the character of Laurence Dermott, Esq., which charges were only proved in part, and the said John Robertson was ordered to declare in open lodge that he had not any intention of depreciating the character of the late R.W.D.G. Master, L. Dermott, Esq., which was done and adjusted. John Dover, P.M. of No. 8, preferred a complaint against Philip Thomas, Esq., late of No. 193, when the R.W.D.G. Master, thinking the charge of such trifling consequence as not to be heard, refused to entertain it. Proposed to Dine on St. John's Day with the Grand Officers—confirmed. Proposed that the Tickets be Half Guinea each—agreed to same nem. con. The several lodges to send the names of such brothers, Master Masons, to officiate as Stewards, to the Grand Secretary. To be laid before the next Quarterly Communication. It was agreed upon that Lodge No. 152, now held at Madras, in the East Indies, should have power by their present Master, a Past Master, to act as a Provincial Grand Lodge till a proper person, and full authority, be given to establish a Provincial Grand Lodge at Madras. Bro. Jas. Mackree, P.M. of No. 193 Lodge, was censured by the Grand Officers for exhibiting against John Robertson of said Lodge, the charge of forging the Duke of Athol's name by Laurence Dermott, Esq., and not fully proving the same."

LODGE OF BENEVOLENCE.

The monthly meeting of the Lodge of Benevolence was held on Wednesday evening at Freemasons' Hall, Bro. Joshua Nunn, P.G.S.B., Senior Vice-President, President, Bro. James Brett, P.G.P., Junior Vice-President, occupied the chair of S.W.; and Bro. C. A. Cottebrune, P.G.P., took the chair of J.W. The other members of the Lodge of Benevolence present were Bros. H. Bartlett, W. Stephens, W. H. Myers, S. Rawson, Past Dist. G.M. for China; S. G. Foxall, A.G.P.; Joseph Smith, P.G.P.; W. T. Howe, and W. Hilton. Bro. H. G. Bass filled the position of Bro. John Hervey, G.S., in his absence. The other brethren who attended were Bros. J. Bingham, W.M. 1599; James Dawbarn, P.M. 213; Thomas Charles Chapman, W.M. 1524; G. W. Smith, W.M. 183; John Kelway, P.M. 446; T. Winterford, W.M. 1321; H. Somerville Burney, W.M. 1615; H. R. Cooper, Smith, W.M. 1523; Peter Le Page, jun., P.M. 143; W. J. Murless, W.M. 1489; T. W. Whitmarsh, W.M. 1150; B. W. Swallow, W.M. 1563; John Green, W.M. 27; H. W. Hemsworth, P.M. 1173; and Charles B. Payne, G.T., P.M. 27.

Grants of £110 made at last meeting were confirmed. The list of new cases number 17. One of these was discussed, and three were deferred. Grants were made to the amount of £285. Two were for £50 each, two for £25, three for £20, two for £15, four for £10, and one for £5.

The lodge was then closed.

Last week a rumour was in circulation in Dublin that Lord Chief Justice Whiteside was about to retire with a peerage, and that Vice-Chancellor Chatterton would be Chief Justice in his room. Mr. Whiteside's health has of late been feeble.

At Boulogne on Monday morning four young Englishmen were bathing at low tide opposite the Hôtel du Pavillon, when two of them fell into a hole, and being caught by an under current were drowned. The names of the two unfortunate gentlemen are W. Vinicombe, of Forest Hill, aged 25, and Mr. Herrold, aged 23.

Some disturbances recently occurred in Amsterdam in consequence of the abolition of the annual kermis, or fair. Bands of the lowest class of the populace paraded the streets and broke windows. The troops were called out to assist the police, and several rioters were wounded.

[The following appeared in our Second Edition of last week.]

CONSECRATION OF THE WEST SMITHFIELD LODGE, No. 1623.

On Thursday last this new lodge was consecrated at the new Market Hotel, King-street, Snow-hill. It has been started for the convenience of brethren (of whom there are many) in the ward of Aldersgate.

The brethren who took part in the ceremony were Bros. Joseph Smith, Thomas W. Adams, Frederick Walters, Alfred Black, H. J. Green, W.M. 1275; A. Tisley, Sec. 1538; A. Beasley, P.M. 780; C. W. Williams, J.W. 1275; F. H. Harvey, 1423; W. E. Williams, W.M. 1538; W. Platt, P.M. 23; J. W. Baldwin, P.M. 1423; W. Jones, P.M. 765; G. T. Wintle, P.M. 548; J. Taylor, W.M. 933; H. Bartlett, P.M. 147; J. T. Briggs, P.M. 157; C. Legg, W.M. 861; C. W. Wise, W.M. 1158; Capt. Reginald Williams, P.G.O. Middlesex, S.W. 1275; Col. J. Creaton, P.G. D.; H. Massey, P.M. 619 ("Freemason"); J. Terry, Sec. Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution; Chas. B. Payne, P.M. 27, G.T.; James Willing, P.M. 1507; G. Mallett, J.W. 141; J. L. Waygood, W.M. 141; W. Hale, P.M. 135; W. Hilton, P.M. 780 and 1351; Edward Smiles, 1491; W. Sugg, P.M. 452; Wright, Meanwell, P.M. 861; G. Allison, 1298, Wm. Ough, P.G.P.; Michael Underwood, D.C. 1423; J. Johnson, 1423; G. Wallace, 95; F. Thurston, 72; Lieutenant Walter Cole, 1423; Hugh Cotter, W. C. Lovegrove, 554; R. Schroder, 217; H. J. Westmore, 217; C. J. Hogg, P.M. 58, P.G.S.; T. R. Bull, 228; H. Walford, 228; Bockett, 228; H. Keeble, P.M. 1275; J. Chambers Rowe, W.M. 780; A. G. Dodson, W.M. 188; G. Rumball, 141; J. Harries, 879; W. Stuart, P.M. 141; and E. W. Mackney, P.M. 194.

The ceremony of consecration was performed by Bro. John Hervey, Grand Secretary, who appointed Lieut.-Col. Creaton, P.G.D., as S.W.; W. Ough, P.G.P., J.W.; the Rev. P.M. Holden, Prov. G.C. Middlesex, as Chaplain; Green, I.G.; H. G. Buss, Prov. G.J.W. Middlesex, D.C.; Jas. Terry, Prov. G.D.C. Herts, D.C.; F. Walters, Sec., and Williams, Organist.

After the lodge had been opened in the three degrees Bro. John Hervey said,

Brethren,—It is customary, as you are all aware, on these occasions for the presiding officer to address some few observations to the lodge; but I can assure you I feel under considerable disadvantage, because as it has fallen to my lot to consecrate a great many lodges I find it perfectly impossible to discover anything new to say to every new lodge that I undertake to consecrate; but there is one thing I will venture to do on the present occasion, and that is to congratulate the W.M. designate and the members of the lodge which we are about now to consecrate upon having succeeded in the attainment of their wishes, that of getting a new warrant; and I hope as this lodge is to be a lodge, I may almost say, for the convenience of this neighbourhood, that it will be so supported by the brethren who live round about, and by those whom they introduce into the Order, as to merit the confidence of the Craft. Having a brother at the head of this new lodge so experienced as Bro. Smith, of course we cannot but expect a good deal from this new lodge, because when a brother has had much experience in the Craft he must of necessity be better able to govern than one who probably has never filled a Warden's chair, or gone through the chair of the Master; and under those circumstances we need not anticipate that there will be much difficulty in carrying the lodge through in a proper and gratifying spirit so far as the Craft is concerned. I, brethren, as you know, always, and I believe with good reason, impress upon the brethren the necessity of not admitting to the Craft candidates who are not fit to be introduced into the order; and although our good friend Bro. Joseph Smith is so experienced, yet those who are about to serve with him in this new lodge may not be so experienced as himself, and may be induced on very slight acquaintance, or not knowing who they are recommending to the lodge, to propose men who hereafter they will be sorry to see in the Craft. I may, though it is an oft-told tale with me, once more venture to impress it on the minds of those who are present that the whole existence of the Craft, one may almost say, depends upon its members being of that class who will preserve unity in the lodge, and who will not for the sake of the joining fee or the initiation fee, introduce brethren. It cannot matter to the members of a lodge whether in the first year they number twenty or thirty; it cannot matter certainly to them whether they are a small lodge or a large one; and I am sure it will be the experience of all those round this room that the smaller a lodge is the more manageable it is; the more comfortable it is; and I might almost go further and say, the more respectable it is. Now I do not wish to throw any discredit on large lodges where properly conducted, and where the members will pull together in one train; but in a large lodge the members cannot be so much under the control of the Master as in a small one; they will break out into or associate themselves into little coteries, and make more noise than desirable; and hence, I say, a small lodge is more comfortable than a large one. Now, brethren, there is another point I have insisted upon on two or three occasions, and once more I will allude to it, and that is the absurd and uncharitable system of blackballing for no other reason than that a brother is disappointed in a lodge. Nothing can be more uncharitable or un-Masonic; and I am bound to run the risk of being told that I have again told the same tale, and, that I am delivering a prosy address when I warn the brethren against what must be the destruction of every lodge in which it prevails, that of systematic blackballing without any object. A respectable man is put up as a candidate for membership to the lodge; here can be nothing said against him; he is everything you could desire or wish for; and yet when the ballot box is

carried round the room the W.M. declares him not elected. What can be more humiliating to the lodge generally, or to the W.M. in particular? Brethren, I will not trouble you by any further observation of mine. I know presently you will have a beautiful discourse from the rev. brother on my left; and I shall leave him to give his advice to the lodge, and he will, I am sure, agree with me that the observations I have made are not out of place, although they may often have been reiterated from the Master's chair.

After this the ceremony was proceeded with as far as the delivery of the Chaplain's oration, when Bro. Hervey called upon the Rev. P. M. Holden to perform that office, whereupon,

The Rev. P.M. Holden said,—W. Sir, and brethren all, although the art or science of Freemasonry dates from the creation of man, the great subject of it, I might almost say, from the creation itself, yet the building of King Solomon's Temple is the great and all important era from whence is derived most of the Freemasonry, as it exists among us at the present day, and to the wise and glorious King of Israel, we are indebted for many of its mystic forms and hieroglyphic ceremonies. Now this Temple of King Solomon was erected in imitation of the Tabernacle of Moses, and the Court thereof from a design which his father, King David received in a vision from the Great Architect of the Universe, but far exceeding the tabernacle in grandeur and magnificence. King Solomon dedicated this temple to the Most High by assembling all the people, by bringing thither the ark of the covenant and the holy things, by devout prayer, by music and praises, by a feast of seven days, and a vast multitude of sacrifices. Every part of the temple had a symbolic meaning; its porch, its courts, its pillars, its altars, its decorations and vessels. The services, moreover, were of a typical and symbolic character, and most admirably calculated to impress the minds of the most ignorant among the worshippers with feelings of the deepest respect, awe and reverence to the Great Creator. The highest acts of adoration were accompanied with the sounds of many instruments, with the swelling chorus of a trained multitude of singers; whilst the prayers of the faithful ascended to the Great Architect amidst the perfume of incense which flowed from golden censers. Symbolic worship has ever been used from the very earliest times by all nations in their religious rites and ceremonies; but nothing so imposing and gorgeous has ever been seen or heard of in the world's history as the celebrated temple worship at Jerusalem. Now, brethren, a Freemason's lodge is neither more nor less than a very humble representation of King Solomon's Temple; and however feeble an imitation it may be, it enjoins by its symbolic teaching such estimable tenets and principles that if Masons will only strive to the utmost to make themselves acquainted with its ceremonies and mysteries they must become better fitted for the society of their brethren of the Craft, and certainly better members of the popular world at large. So full of meaning are the simple but beautiful symbols constantly before our eyes that the very poorest memory can retain their significance and practise the principles they represent in daily life and conduct. To carry the illustration further, the human body, I need scarcely remind you, has been described as "The Temple of the Most High," and as our "earthly tabernacle;" and the peculiar system of Freemasonry is such that by it we are enabled to build up body and soul "perfect in its parts," and full of "wisdom, strength, and beauty." Moreover, supported by fortitude, chastened by temperance, and guided in all our actions by faith and justice, we shall be able rightly and properly to maintain the fabric of this our earthly temple until time for us shall be no more. Then may we hope to obtain the passport to eternal life, and so at last gain admittance into the glorious lodge of our Supreme Grand Master above. The outside world, I am aware, sometimes brings the charge against us that Freemasonry is inconsistent with true religion, or, indeed, with any form of religion—a most unjust, cruel, and wicked charge; for in the ceremonial of Freemasonry, and more especially in the consecration ceremony, religion is always prominently, emphatically, and impressively brought forth. Now, the volume of the Sacred Law, which always lies open in the lodge, contains the unmistakable command of the Great Architect himself that His name should not be taken in vain; and while we therefore in our ceremonies invariably invoke His Name and implore a Divine blessing upon all our endeavours, it must be a very great hypocrisy on our part, and hypocrisy of the very blackest description, if we do not act under the feeling of religion with a desire to please God. Freemasonry must be one thing or the other; it must either be what I firmly believe it to be, a grand system of morality, or else a form of hypocrisy of which we, as honest men, should be thoroughly and heartily ashamed. It is also with infinite pride and satisfaction that we can all bear witness and acknowledge that Freemasonry, though ranging under its banners men of every variety of creed, is wholly and entirely free from any religious controversy or bitterness. Those who are not Masons sometimes think it is a kind of religion of our own; but it is not so, for this simple reason that Freemasonry never touches on the mode or manner of the worship of God; it simply inculcates and enforces as strongly as it possibly can the one thing which must form a part of every true religion, that we should do to our neighbours as we would our neighbours should do to us, and act honourably, honestly, and unselfishly in all our dealings with mankind, not merely from the idea of doing them good, still less for the idea of getting credit to ourselves; but for the highest and grandest motive of all, to please the Most High God. I do not for one moment consider that Freemasonry is a higher principle or a loftier inducement to right action than religion. It is not a substitute for religion in this respect, and God forbid that I should say so; but at any rate Freemasonry unquestionably does this: my brethren, it includes those men

who perhaps have hardly any one thing in common, whose profession, whose business, and whose position in life would naturally always keep them entirely apart; and it enables them, I say, to meet together, to know one another, to esteem and respect one another, to love one another, and above all, to speak upon questions which probably they would never touch upon otherwise—questions as to what is right and what is wrong, as to what is noble and what is mean; and in fact, that which is the sum total of religion is the subject about which Masons can openly talk in lodge, and which they would never think of doing without that feeling of shyness and reserve which exists in a greater or lesser degree in every man's mind and bosom where there is not this open communion which Freemasons so thoroughly enjoy and appreciate. In this way I am positive that Freemasonry does an incalculable amount of good. I mention this at the establishment of a new lodge because it is of the greatest importance that these points should be more or less made known to new members before they are initiated. I say advisedly "before they are initiated," for although a candidate comes into Freemasonry blind with regard to our secrets and mysteries and our ceremonies, he should at any rate, I think, be acquainted with the grand principle upon which the ancient Order is founded, and as to what will be expected of him should he become a member of the Craft. May I venture to add Worshipful Sir, and I am sure, from what you have said, you will bear me out in the expression of this opinion, and also other distinguished Freemasons present, that the greatest care, I feel, should be taken in the admission of candidates, and I am sure this should be strictly attended to, as I feel positive, with you, sir, that upon it depends the future prosperity and success of this lodge. It only remains for me, Worshipful Sir, to thank you and all the brethren present, for the very kind manner in which they have been pleased to listen to this very imperfect address, I admit, and which, perhaps, I cannot better conclude than, with your permission, sir, reciting the following lines, which were delivered at the installation meeting of an American Lodge:—

"When, ages back, the Temple rose,
Majestic 'neath the rising sun,
The Sacred Scroll was then unrolled,
The glorious Brotherhood begun.
And proudly down the tide of years,
Amid the rocks that frowning lay,
The vessel with Masonic flag,
Has kept its safe and steady way.
The crew are pledged to noble deeds,
To battle bravely for the right,
To hold truth's standard ever up,
To scatter darkness by the light,
To help a fallen brother rise,
To feed the poor, assist the weak,
To drive with tender pitying hand,
The tear from off the widow's cheek.
Base slander, serpent-like, and foul,
Shall die beneath Masonic heel,
The sword shall from its scabbard leap,
When woman's honour makes appeal.
When raging heat on battle field,
Strives every battered pulse to smother,
The feeble foe with sinking strength,
Gives mystic sign that makes him brother.
On land or sea, in every clime,
Where'er the tongue of man is spoken,
Is found the pure and spotless square,
The Masons' ever honoured token.
Their creed holds all that's good and true,
No Christian teaching can be surer
The prayer we list at mother's knee
In spirit is not better, purer.
Curs'd be the man who falsely takes
The sacred oath for selfish gain,
Who stains his armour casitiff like,
And brings reproach upon the name.
But blessed shall the brother be
Who purely wears the signet given
Till God, the Great High Priest, shall call
The sacred lodge above in Heaven.

The Rev. brother was much applauded as he resumed his seat on the termination of the above address. The lodge ceremony was then performed, and Bro. Joseph Smith was installed first W.M. of the lodge. Bro. Adams was invested as S.W., and Bro. Frederick Walters as Secretary, with many complimentary remarks by the W.M. On the motion of the W.M., seconded by Bro. F. Walters, the thanks of the lodge were unanimously voted to the Consecrating Master, and all the officers who had assisted him, and they were elected honorary members of the lodge. Bros. Hervey and Holden responded for the honour; and a vote of thanks was afterwards passed to Bro. Williams for the musical portion of the ceremony. Propositions for joining and initiation were then given in, and the lodge was closed. A very nice banquet, supplied by Bro. Butt, followed, and the usual toasts were proposed. Afterwards Bro. Hervey responded for the "Grand Officers," and proposed "The W.M.'s Health and Prosperity to the West Smithfield Lodge," for which the W.M. replied.

Bros. Buss, Terry, and Hogg responded for "The Provincial Grand Officers," and Bro. A. Beasley for "The Visitors."

Bro. Adams replied for "The Officers," and Bro. F. Walters for "The Secretary."

Bro. H. Massey responded for "The Press," and Bro. Butt to a special toast proposed by the W.M. for the landlord of the house, who had provided an excellent banquet and had been so punctual that the dinner having been ordered for five o'clock, all the brethren were sitting down enjoying it by five minutes after that hour.

Bros. E. W. Mackney and W. Platt amused the brethren with some pleasant singing, and Bro. Holden gave several recitations.

The next meeting of the lodge will be held on 18th

COSMOPOLITAN MASONIC
CALENDAR.

W. Masters and Secretaries are earnestly requested to forward to the publisher, at the Offices, 198, Fleet-street, E.C., particulars of the place, days, and months of meeting of their respective lodges, chapters, and other Masonic bodies, for insertion in the issue of the Calendar for 1877.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

COLONIAL and FOREIGN SUBSCRIBERS are informed that acknowledgments of remittances received are published in the first number of every month.

It is very necessary for our readers to advise us of all money orders they remit, more especially those from the United States of America and India; otherwise we cannot tell where to credit them.

NEW POSTAL RATES.

Owing to a reduction in the Postal Rates, the publisher is now enabled to send the "Freemason" to the following parts abroad for One Year for Twelve Shillings (payable in advance):—Africa, Australia, Bombay, Canada, Cape of Good Hope, Ceylon, China, Constantinople, Demerara, France, Germany, Gibraltar, Jamaica, Malta, Newfoundland, New South Wales, New Zealand, Suez, Trinidad, United States of America, &c.

TO OUR READERS.

The *Freemason* is a sixteen-page weekly newspaper, price 2d. It is published every Friday morning, and contains the most important, interesting, and useful information relating to Freemasonry in every degree. Annual subscription in the *United Kingdom*, Post free, 10/- P.O.O.'s to be made payable at the chief office, London.

TO ADVERTISERS.

The *Freemason* has a large circulation in all parts of the Globe, its advantages as an advertising medium can therefore scarcely be overrated.

For terms, position, &c., apply to
GEORGE KENNING, 198, Fleet-st.

Answers to Correspondents.

All Communications, Advertisements, &c., intended for insertion in the Number of the following Saturday, must reach the Office not later than 12 o'clock on Wednesday morning.

We do not undertake to return rejected communications. Will Bro. C. Van Dalen, of Berlin, kindly forward his address to the Editor.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

[The charge is 2s. 6d for announcements, not exceeding four lines, under this heading.]

BIRTHS.

ASHTON.—On the 17th inst., at 142, Hemingford-road, Barnsbury Park, N., the wife of Robert Ashton, of a son.
BINNEY.—On the 16th inst., at Hamilton-road, the wife of J. R. Binney, Esq., of a son.
FRY.—On the 18th inst., at Woodburn, Darlington, the wife of T. Fry, Esq., of a daughter.
GRANT.—On the 16th inst., at the Hall, Headcorn, Kent, the wife of J. H. Grant, Esq., of a son.
HARRIS.—On the 17th inst., at Long Parish House, Hants, the wife of H. Harris, of twin daughters.
SAMPSON.—On the 15th inst., at Blenheim-crescent, Kensington Park, the wife of R. Sampson, of a son.
SMITH.—On the 18th inst., at Avenue-road, Regent's Park, the wife of C. Smith, Esq., jun., of a son.

MARRIAGES.

BROGDEN—RUDGARD.—On the 18th inst., at Holy Trinity, Bridlington Quay, Thomas Skilbeck, son of the late R. Brogden, of Tockwith, near York, Esq., to Margaret, widow of the late J. R. Rudgard, Esq.
DODD—ANDERSON.—On the 19th ult., at the Cathedral, Bombay, Charles A. Dodd, Captain Bengal Staff Corps, to Margaretta, daughter of A. Anderson, Esq., M.D., C.B.
DRAY—COOK.—On the 19th inst., at the parish church, Eynesford, by the Rev. Wm. Brewer, Thomas, second son of William Dray, Esq., of Farningham, Kent, to Amy, youngest daughter of Samuel Cook, Esq., of The Priory, Eynesford, Kent.

DEATHS.

ALDIS.—On the 30th ult., at Isleworth, Emily Arabella Brome, widow of C. J. B. Aldis, Esq.
AVELING.—On the 2nd inst., at St. Catharine's, Canada, in his 31st year, William Arthur, third son of the Rev. Dr. Aveling.
LAMB.—On the 17th inst., at Baddow-road, Chelmsford, Stephana Lamb, aged 69.
LAMTOW.—On the 16th inst., at Lansdowne-place, Brighton, Hedworth Lambton, Esq., aged 79.
MAITLAND.—On the 14th inst., at Mount Wise, Devonport, Frances Lorne Mary, wife of Major J. H. Maitland, R.E.

The Freemason,

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 1876.

A MODERN LADY FREEMASON.

A curious case has occurred in Hungary, where a Countess Hädick has been received as a Freemason in an Hungarian Lodge, under the Grand Orient of Hungary. She is described as "a highly educated lady, and well versed in Masonic literature" especially. Having studied Masonic history and ritualism, "she applied for initiation;" we are further told she was "balloted for and regularly initiated." On the fact coming to the knowledge of the Grand Orient of Hungary it "declared the initiation null and void" on the ground that a woman was "incapable of being a Freemason." So the case stands at present; but a question has arisen, whether, as she has been actually initiated, she can be refused admission into a Freemasons' Lodge. When we consider the case carefully, two main points present themselves, namely, the theoretical and the practical side of the question. Theoretically, we apprehend the act of the lodge and of the members was ipso facto illegal, no woman being capable of admission properly, and the rules and laws of Freemasonry only contemplating and dealing with men. But a question comes in here, almost necessarily—has the G. Orient of Hungary taken altogether the right view of the case, and dealt with it entirely "jure latomico"? Much of course must depend on the laws of the Grand Orient itself, but we are inclined to think that a doubt may fairly arise as to the actual power of the Grand Orient to declare the initiation "null and void." It is one thing to condemn a W.M. and a lodge for an act of illegality per se, it is quite another thing, to declare an act, even if illegally committed, "null and void." And especially is this the case as regards an initiation. "Once a Mason always a Mason" is an old Masonic adage, and we confess that we do not exactly understand how the countess's initiation, performed in open lodge, can be declared "null and void," or how having been formally, (if illegally), made a Mason, she can be unmade by any "ex post facto" decision. The Grand Orient of Hungary could, we apprehend, order the initiation to be repeated, but can it declare it "null and void." In England we sometimes repeat ceremonies on account of informalities, or technical defects, but we are not aware of any decision declaring an initiation and the like "null and void" on any ground. In fact, we do not see how that can be said or done. It is competent for the Grand Lodge to refuse a certificate on the ground of an improper reception, without which Countess Hädick could not gain admission into a regular lodge, but she then continues a "Mason unattached." The whole blame, of course, lies on the W.M. and the lodge, as they must have known that they were acting in defiance of the unchanging Masonic law on the subject. No one could, we feel strongly, have found fault with any decision which the Grand Orient of Hungary could have come to, as to the actual wrongdoing of the Master and brethren of the offending lodge. But there come in here further and wider questions. Is Countess Hädick, by the decision of the Grand Orient, precluded from all Masonic membership with any lodge? Is the original wrong of this admission so great that nothing can repair it? Does the sentence of the Grand Orient of Hungary so annul Countess Hädick's initiation, that she must still be considered as a profane? On the strict letter of the law she was inadmissible for initiation, but having been duly (though improperly) initiated, what then? Our readers will see what a nice point of Masonic jurisprudence crops up. Now, we venture to say, looking at the matter fairly, broadly, and liberally, that we are inclined to think the best course for the Grand Orient of Hungary will be to make an exceptional case of it, to recognise the "fait accompli," though with the distinct declaration that the act, being absolutely illegal per se, would entail exemplary punishment on any lodge and Master so offending again, and, if need be, to enact a special law on the subject. Such a course of proceeding

would be better, we think, than the declaration that the act is "null and void" per se, as in that case much may be advanced by Masonic casuists, we apprehend, which may give rise to many and somewhat difficult questions. At the same time this initiation of a lady is a curious fact in itself, at the present time, and deserves to be brought before the knowledge and attention of our many intelligent readers, and we shall be glad to hear the opinions of any of our brethren on the subject.

THE REACTION.

We have been from the very first persuaded that the follies of the Ultramontanists would react upon themselves, and that they would eventually be condemned and disavowed by the sober-minded members of the Roman Catholic Church. This view of ours is very much confirmed by a paragraph contained in the "Times" of Saturday last, and which is to this effect under the head of "Malta:" "Among the British residents, and especially among the military and youth of Malta, unabated indignation continues to prevail against the Roman Catholic Bishop for excommunicating the Maltese journal 'Fenice' for upholding Freemasonry." Surely the excommunication of a newspaper for simply being friendly to Freemasonry is a very "strong order" indeed. We beg at once, in the name of our brotherhood, to tender to the publisher and editor of the "Fenice" our sincere sympathy against this latest exhibition of Ultramontane folly. Some of our readers may remember how in olden days, another Roman Catholic Archbishop of Malta distinguished himself by one of the most intolerant missives ever penned by mortal man, and how he drew down upon himself the eloquent and indignant remarks of our good old Bro. Dr. Oliver. But that is a thing of other days and certainly not worth reading now, except as a literary curiosity contained in that great museum and collection of human absurdity and rancour—the Past. That in 1876 another Roman Catholic Archbishop should repeat the old stage trick and surround it with the rockets and red lights of Ultramontane violence is not surprising, though very saddening. As we have often asked before, will not Roman Catholics themselves try to put a stop to and stamp out this bitter and ruthless intolerance, worthy of the darkest days and the foulest crimes of the Inquisition? What the Roman Curia can hope for by the countenance and continuance of this system of persecution we cannot profess to understand or even to imagine. This fury of Ultramontanism, this unwise and perverse alarm, this unceasing illiberalism, and this monstrous parody on every profession of a religion of peace and love and reconciliation, is, we have every reason to believe, not only looked upon with great distrust and disapproval by a large section of the Roman Catholic clergy and laity, but is also, we feel persuaded, most adverse to the religious claims, and most detrimental to the spiritual character of the Church of Rome itself. A great deal of the hostility which the Romish Church conjures up against itself, is directed not against the Romish Church so much, quâ the Romish Church, as against its absurd pretensions, and its unreasonable hostility, both to the peace and progress, the liberty, and the conscience of mankind!

THE BOYS' SCHOOL.

At this time of the year we think it well to call the attention of our readers to some educational tests which the Boys' School has passed through during the twelve months which have elapsed since Dr. Morris's accession to power, and which reflect equal credit on the teachers and the taught. We congratulate Dr. Morris on this undeniable proof of careful teaching and scholastic progress. We are anxious to do so, as many erroneous statements have been circulated on the subject, and so much party feeling has been improperly thrown into all the questions of the Boys' School management, that we deem it only fair to those who seek efficiently to conduct this most important institution to state what

are the official facts of the case. Since Dr. Morris assumed the Head Mastership, three examinations have been attended by pupils from the Boys' School.

First of all came the Cambridge Local Examination, Christmas, 1875, with the following result:—

I.—CAMBRIDGE LOCAL EXAMINATION, CHRISTMAS, 1875.

JUNIORS.—Honours—First Class:—W. Beaumont (distinguished in English and Divinity); R. Bryant (examined for the first time, distinguished in English and Mathematics); H. G. Shaw (the only three in the first class at the London main centre). Second Class:—W. R. Parker. Third Class:—W. H. Sutton. Satisfied the Examiner:—C. D. Green, F. Harvey, F. E. Ladd; F. D. Lane, F. Lond, E. E. Oates, W. H. Packwood, E. G. Sweet, and C. R. H. Uwias.

II.—SCIENCE AND ARTS EXAMINATIONS, MAY, 1876.

The following boys were passed:—

- (1.) Theoretical Mechanics:—R. Bryant, and H. G. Shaw.
- (2.) Inorganic Chemistry:—R. Bryant and H. G. Shaw.
- (3.) Mathematics:—1st Class, 2nd Stage, R. Bryant; 1st Class, 1st Stage, W. Beaumont, G. Shaw, C. D. Green; 2nd Class, 1st Stage, W. R. Parker, A. J. Walkington, W. H. Packwood, F. E. Ladd, F. Lond.
- (4.) Physical Geography:—Passed Advanced Stage, W. R. Parker; 1st Class, 1st Stage, H. G. Shaw; 2nd Class, 1st Stage, W. Beaumont, W. H. White, H. Godsmark, C. D. Green, G. S. Croydon, W. Sparkes, F. Lond.
- (5.) Magnetism and Electricity:—1st Class advanced, H. G. Shaw; 1st Class, elementary, R. Bryant, C. D. Green, W. R. Parker; 2nd Class, elementary, W. Beaumont, W. Jones, F. Lond.
- (6.) Drawing:—(a) Full certificate, W. R. Parker and H. G. Parker (prize). (b) Practical Geometry, Heeley, White, Rose, Newman, Croydon, Haskins, Bryant, Parker, Shaw. (c) Model Drawing, Heeley, Parker, Booser. (d) Free-hand, Pawley. (e) Perspective, Parker, Shaw.

Thirdly, The Oxford Local Examination, June, 1876, gives us for the first time the satisfactory assurance that the education of our boys is progressing very satisfactorily.

III. OXFORD LOCAL EXAMINATION, JUNE, 1876.

Seniors who obtained the degree of "Associate in Arts" (the school never gained this distinction before this year) were:—R. Bryant (mentioned in the Second Class Mathematical list), W. Beaumont, W. R. Parker.

These facts have all been separately mentioned in our pages, but we think it well, for many reasons, that our readers may see at one comprehensive glance what have been the results of the last twelve months so far. As we said before, we feel that great credit is due to Dr. Morris for his zealous labours, and his evident endeavour to elevate the whole tone of the School in all things, and we beg to tender to him our hearty good wishes, alike for the continuance and success of his valuable efforts, as well as for the utility, progress, and prosperity of our Royal Masonic Institution for Boys.

FRENCH FREEMASONRY.

The following appeared in the "Times" of Monday. The "Temple" says:—"The annual French Masonic Congress has just completed its labours, after five long sittings. The Congress considered Article 1 of the Masonic Constitution relative to philosophic dogmas, and containing a declaration in favour of the 'Great Architect of the Universe.' The discussion was very long and animated. After deliberation it was decided by 110 to 65 that there was ground for revising it and harmonizing it with another article which recognizes absolute liberty of conscience. All the lodges in France will, therefore, be invited to consider the question of a revision, and to send the result of their deliberations to the next year's Congress." We most deeply regret such a decision on the part of the French Grand Orient, not only in the best interests of Freemasonry, but because we are sure it will tend

to make the chasm now existing as between English and French Freemasonry wider, and impossible to bridge over. But we shall recur to the subject shortly.

THE CONCORDIA INSTITUTE.

We are glad in another column to call attention to a Communiqué from Switzerland, with respect to this Institution, conducted by our esteemed brother and correspondent, Dr. Bertsch Sailer. We recommend it to the careful perusal of our many readers, on every ground of Masonic fair play and toleration.

HERMETIC MASONRY.

We have been requested to announce that in the "Masonic Magazine" for October will appear a republication of the first printed allusion to the Grand Lodges of England and Ireland, and Speculative Freemasonry. This reprint is exceedingly interesting to the High Grades, inasmuch as in it Hermetic Masonry is stated to exist in 1721, and members of the Speculative Grand Lodge are asserted to be members of the same. Anticipating a large sale of this Masonic archaeological treatise, we recommend all those who wish to make sure of early receipt of the October magazine to apply at once to The Publisher, 198, Fleet-street.

Original Correspondence.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for, or even as approving of the opinions expressed by our correspondents, but we wish, in a spirit of fair play to all, to permit—within certain necessary limits—free discussion.—Ed.]

A MASONIC REFORMATION.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I hope yourself and your numerous circle of readers will not be alarmed at the revolutionary character of the heading of this communication, nor at the suggestions which I am about to make, which, I must admit, if acted upon, would cause what our French neighbours would term a "bouleversement" of all the present rules and regulations for the government of the Order in the dominions of her Britannic Majesty.

As my suggestions (should you admit them into your columns), will, no doubt, give rise to considerable discussion, I will arrange them under different heads, as follows:

First. To establish a General (or really United) Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free, and Accepted Masons of Great Britain and Ireland, and the colonies and dependencies of the British Crown—the jurisdiction of which should be paramount and supreme over all Freemasons and bodies professing to be Masonic in the British Dominions. The constitutions of the General (or United) Grand Lodge should provide laws for the general government of the Craft, so as to assimilate on main points the government and work of Freemasonry, leaving minor arrangements to be made by the subordinate Grand Lodges, suitable to local conditions and circumstances.

Secondly. To place the Grand Lodges of England, Ireland, and Scotland under the jurisdiction of the General (or United) Grand Lodge, at the same time retaining the power of electing their Grand Masters, and to establish (or continue) Grand Lodges for India, Canada, Australia, South Africa, and other colonies in which Masons exist in sufficient numbers to justify such a course, all of which shall owe allegiance to, and be under the jurisdiction of, the General (or United) Grand Lodge, and having exclusive jurisdiction over their respective territories, and which shall have the power of making laws to govern the Craft according to the local requirements, but in accordance with the constitutions of the General Grand Lodge.

Thirdly. The territories of the various Grand Lodges, when expedient, shall be divided into District or Provincial Grand Lodges, to be presided over by District or Provincial Grand Masters as at present.

Fourthly. To place every order which claims to be Masonic (and whose claims to be connected with Masonry can be sustained) under the jurisdiction and control of the General Grand Lodge, the Supreme Grand Master whereof shall be, ex officio, the head of all such Orders, and shall be represented by a Deputy appointed by him.

Fifthly. That all quasi-Masonic orders which cannot prove their claim to be considered as Masonic shall be suppressed, and that all regular Masons shall be forbidden to have any connection with any bodies or orders professing to be Masonic which are not recognized and governed by the General Grand Lodge and its Supreme Grand Master.

I have no doubt, from the well-known loyalty of British Freemasons, that the brethren in all parts of the British dominions would hail with delight the opportunity of ranging themselves under the banner of the Heir to the Throne—the more so as no loss of dignity would be sustained by the officers of the present Grand Lodges, whose

Grand Masters should remain elective as at present, and on the members of which would devolve the election of the Supreme Grand Master of the General Grand Lodge. Moreover, my scheme would open up additional honours to be awarded as rewards of merit and recognition of distinguished services to the Craft.

I merely throw out the crude suggestions as they have occurred to my mind, and leave to abler hands than mine the task of filling in the details and the work of bringing crude matter into due form.

Should my ideas find favour, I should be glad if some influential brethren would take the initiative, and bring the matter into notice in the proper quarter, being myself only,

Yours faithfully and fraternally,

A MASTER MASON.

[We insert this letter, as we are always favourable to discussion and free opinion, but we confess we do not exactly see at what our worthy brother is driving, or what it is he wants to do. This proposal appears simply impracticable.—Ed.]

THE SWEDENBORGIAN RITE.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I received under enclosure last week a very interesting letter from Bro. Samuel Beswick, who is now residing in Canada. Those who take an interest in high-grade Masonry will not, I am sure, be displeased, if I send extracts for your acceptance. Personally I disagree with that portion of Bro. Beswick's letter which attributes the modification of York Masonry to the Swedenborgian Rite, unless its Sixth Degree led to the establishment of the Degree of Ark Mariners. I think the rite's universal acceptance of the three York Degrees proves its more recent date.

Yours truly and fraternally,

JOHN YARKER,

W.M. of Emanuel Lodge and Temple.

Chorlton Road,
Manchester, Sept. 16, 1876.

Bro. Beswick, after alluding to his labours as a C.E. and writer upon the rite of Solomon's Temple, says:

I am glad to see you are getting along with the Primitive Rite. The English has bothered us to death most, but we have always refused. Our men seem to desire to keep it exclusively American. Give my respects to Bro. Yarker of England; tell him I am a native of Manchester.

The Swedenborgian Rite never had six degrees. It always recognised three prevailing degrees now known as the York Rite of the three degrees, but which was a very different thing in Germany and Sweden to what it has become since the revision in 1717. The York Rite was originally a very simple and meagre thing, without the lectures, &c., which now form part of the ritual. When it formed part of the old guilds, &c., the ritual was very simple and short. The Swedenborgian Rite always recognised these three first degrees, and its advocates had a great deal to do with influencing the revision of the York Rite in 1717 and afterwards. Hence the Swedenborgian Rite never really had six degrees; its first three degrees were always the three recognised, symbolic degrees of the country, no matter what its form might be. It never regarded these three first degrees as essential to itself, and hence it accepted the members of the three symbolic degrees as duly qualified for initiation without actually working them as part of its own degrees. This is the reason why Masonic writers differ so much in describing the degrees of the Swedenborgian Rite, because the German, French, and English three blue degrees differed after the revision of 1717 in England, and yet all writers agree in naming six degrees of the Rite.

Thus Dr. Oliver in his "Landmarks" (Vol. II.) says: Swedenborg admitted only six degrees:

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|-----------|-----------------------------|
| 1. E.A.P. | 4. Enlightened Theosophist. |
| 2. F.C. | 5. Blue Brother. |
| 3. M.M. | 6. Red Brother. |

The first three are really the common three degrees of the York Rite. Swedenborg followed the common usage of his day. The Swedish system of thirteen degrees also reckoned its first class to consist of the three symbolic degrees of the York Rite of that day and place.

The first three degrees named by Mackay in the Swedenborgian Rite are also the three symbolic blue degrees of the York Rite, and his Fourth Degree of Illuminated Theosophite is the same as Oliver's Fourth Degree of Enlightened. They have simply translated the name differently, that is all. The Swedish Rite was gotten up by Zinnendorf for the Grand Lodge at Stockholm, and was constructed from points taken mainly from the Swedenborgian Rite—a spurious outbirth. So was the Illuminés of Avignon by Perneti in France, so was Chartannier's seven degrees, and had nearly the same titles. Chartannier was a member of the Swedenborgian Church in London, and also a member of the Rite. So you see the Swedenborgian Rite never had six degrees, and it has never lost any. The true names of the Swedenborgian Rite is green, blue, and red; the rest was added at different times and places.

If you will look at my work, "Swedenborg and Freemasonry" (p. 167), you will see that the degrees are given and called:

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| 4. Enlightened Freemason or Green Brother. |
| 5. Sublime " or Blue " |
| 6. Perfect " or Red " |

We worked for a long time under these names, but gradually agreed to adopt those we have now in use. Oliver's description and Mackay's description are correct for the Fourth Degree, but they have lost the true name of the Fifth and Sixth Degrees—namely, 5 Sublime and 6 Perfect; they got hold of the blue and red part of the name only.

I got the degrees in England from those who originally

got them from Chartannier, member of the Swedenborgian Rite, and one of the men who began the first Swedenborgian Religious Society in England. It was held in London, and the Religious Society was called the Theosophical Society of the New Jerusalem. You will see in this name the same as that of the Fourth Degree of the Swedenborgian Rite, called Fourth Illuminated (or Enlightened) Theosophist. Along with Chartannier were Springer (Swedish Consul), C. F. and Aug. Nordenskjöld, and others. These gentlemen were all Swedes—fellow countrymen of Swedenborg—excepting Chartannier, who was a Frenchman. The two brothers Nordenskjöld were also members of the Swedenborgian religious first society in London above named, but subsequently went back to Sweden. The Swedenborgian Rite in England was always worked in private—the members were never organized into lodges. This was the case in Sweden and Europe generally; the lodges worked without charters, there being no Grand Lodge to give charters until the revival in 1717. The Rite was worked in Sweden and Berlin, Prussia. It was there where Abbé Pernetti and Zimmerman got the degrees so as to enable them to fabricate their spurious Swedish degrees—see my work. Whether it is now working there or not I cannot tell; it was hunted down in Germany and Sweden for awhile, and in Sweden at last was confined to the aristocracy. I have no doubt it is there now, but confined as an aristocratic rite to a few. My work supplies all the necessary information; but the name Rose Croix, as applied to Swedenborg, should be substituted for the name Scotch Rite. I did not use the name; in its modern form, which implies other degrees also, now included in the A. and A. Rite of 33°, which is really modern.

Dr. Oliver says in his "Landmarks" (vol. II., p. 50): "In 1767 Chartannier made an attempt to introduce the system of Swedenborg, or rather a modification and extension of it, into this country (England) without success." Some of his degrees were:—1, 2, 3, as before (3. Blue York Rite Degrees); 4, Apprentice Theosophist; 5, Fellow Craft Theosophist; 6, Master Theosophist; 7, Sublime Scotch Degree, Celestial Jerusalem; 8, Enlightened Theosophist; 9, Red Brother Theosophist.

You well know that Chartannier manufactured these degrees out of the Swedenborgian Rite, taking the plan and even the names.

A WORTHY AND DISTRESSING CASE.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Bro. Nicholas Donnithorne, who was born at Marazion, Cornwall, July, 1789, and was initiated in the Royal Cornwall Militia Lodge, No. 618 (now 330, "One and All," Bodmin), on the 10 April, 1812, is now suffering from paralysis, and is subsisting entirely on the free-will offerings of his brethren. He has outlived all his relatives, and depends upon the Craft for support. Bro. John Coombe, P.M. 450, P.S.G.D., Hayle (where our aged brother now resides) has been the Almoner of the Cornubian Lodge for some years, and has been most generous in his attention to the wants of this aged brother, who has been nearly sixty-five years a Mason. He has, in fact, been in receipt of a weekly sum collected through Bro. Coombe's instrumentality, and we understand the lodge has appealed for assistance from the Grand Lodge Fund of Benevolence. His case certainly is a most deserving one, and Bro. Donnithorne comes from a Masonic stock, his father having been a member of the Craft for many years, and on his death in 1803, the officers and members of his regiment (in which he was sergeant-major) erected a tablet to his memory.

Yours fraternally, W. J. HUGHAN.

THE FLUCTUATIONS OF MASONIC LITERATURE.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I do not often send you a specimen of my writing, but I am impelled by a sense of my duty as a Past Master of eight years' standing (having filled the chair of an ancient lodge during the year 1868) to thank you in the interests of Freemasonry (which I dearly love) for your wisely and judiciously written article, "The Fluctuations of Masonic Literature," which, with gratification intense, I read in the "Freemasonry" of this day's date. Your leader has not appeared one day too soon; it must commend itself to the consciences of all brethren who think, and I hope it will also to those "whose practice is the very reverse of their profession." Many times, after perusing the "Original Correspondence" in the "Freemason," I have mentally asked myself whether such and such a letter can possibly have been written by a brother who still remembers the answer to the question, "What are the principles upon which it (Freemasonry) is founded?"—letters—full of sarcasm, not "brotherly love"—innuendoes, suggesting on the part of other brethren anything but "truth." Why this should be so I cannot explain; this I know, that if a brother must be reproved through the pages of a publication, open to the eyes of the "cowan" as well as to the eyes of the Craft, such reproof should be conveyed in the terms of our "profession" as laid down in the "principles" of our noble Order. Let me then, as one in authority, recommend, urge, nay, insist upon a greater regard being shown to our assumption of being a loving, relieving, truthful association of brethren, by abstaining from the use of pens dipped in gall; for, take it as you will, my brother, let it be known by these presents to all the world, that any man, although he is a member of a lodge, and nominally a Freemason, is really not one unless he is a man of uprightness, a man of sound judgment, and a man of strict morals. A name to live by is not sufficient for us.

Yours faithfully,

P.M. CRAFT AND MARK, AND A P.P.G.O.
Sept. 9, 1876.

INSTRUCTION AND "RUSTICUS IN URBE."

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I am sorry to see the letter by a brother "from the country" respecting the "Emulation Lodge of Improvement."

My experience as a member for several years, and an occasional attendant, has been the very reverse of his, and having been the means of inducing many to attend its meetings, all of whom have been delighted with the "working," the account that our Bro. "Rusticus" gives is to me all the more remarkable.

Of course, I know that the "Masonic season" has not yet commenced, and that as the meetings are held weekly, sometimes a "rusty" brother may be put in the chair, and his officers may not be "bright;" but even then we must not forget that the object of the assembly is to secure improvement, and to suppose that possible suggests a want of complete perfection in the members occupying the chief chairs.

Our brother's experience must be vastly different to mine—unless, indeed, the meeting in question formed an exception to the general rule—if the work of the Emulation Lodge of Improvement at any time can truly be termed a "slovenly rehearsal," or such as to justify the inappreciative remarks of "Rusticus in Urbe."

As I think attacks of the character in question should not be anonymous, I am all the more anxious to place on record my testimony in opposition to the statement of our brother.

Yours faithfully,

WILLIAM JAMES HUGHAN, P.G.D.

Truro, 16th September, 1876.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I should be obliged if you, or any of your numerous readers, will kindly refer me to that portion of our Book of Constitutions which will enable Grand, or Provincial Grand Lodges, to vote away its money to any charities other than those connected with Freemasonry.

Yours very fraternally,

AN OLD P.M., ONE, &c.

THE WIDOW OF THE LATE BRO. WILLIAM FARNFIELD.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I trust you will kindly insert the accompanying letter in reply to the communication of Bro. J. A. Farnfield which appeared in your issue of the 16th inst.

I confess, from a feeling of delicacy, I did not personally consult Bro. Farnfield with regard to my proposed motion, although I had several interviews with his brother-in-law, Bro. R. R. Davis, who supplied me with all necessary data; I was simply actuated by a desire to render a service to the family of my old friend the late Assistant Grand Secretary and I think it would have been far more courteous in Bro. Farnfield to have conveyed to me before the June meeting his desire that the motion should not be proceeded with.

I am, dear Sir and Brother, yours fraternally,

H. GREENE.

Greville Lodge,
18, Greville-place, Kilburn Priory,
Sept. 20th, 1876.

Greville Lodge,
18, Greville-place, Kilburn Priory,
Sept. 18th, 1876.

Dear Bro. J. A. Farnfield,—

I think it would have been but courteous to have communicated with me before sending your letter to the "Freemason," as had you done so, probably we might have arranged something that would have satisfied enquiring brethren as to why my motion respecting a proposed annuity for your mother was dropped out of the paper, without making me to appear as an officious meddler in what did not concern me, by giving my notice of motion "without having in any way" communicated with your mother, your brother, or yourself. I have before me a number of letters from Bro. R. R. Davis (your brother-in-law), all expressive of thankfulness for the step about to be taken, and one of them encloses in your handwriting a memo. of your late father's estate. Another of Bro. Davis's letters refers to an interview with your brother Herbert, from whom (as you were absent) he obtained particulars of your father's government pension. For obvious reasons of delicacy your mother was not informed of the contemplated proceedings, and the same motive prevented me from applying direct to yourself, but as it was impossible to obtain the necessary data to go before Grand Lodge without applying to you, Bro. Davis undertook to do so.

Your statement to the "Freemason" that no communication was made to any of your family, and, therefore, the notice of motion was given without your sanction, is not consistent with the facts I have related. I think, in justice to myself, I must send a copy of this letter to the "Freemason," but before doing so I wish to apprise you of my intention.

Yours fraternally,

H. GREENE.

J. A. Farnfield, Esq., 90, Lower Thames-street.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS are the medicine most in repute for curing the multifarious maladies which beset mankind when dry, sultry weather suddenly gives place to chilly, drenching days. In fact, these Pills offer relief even if they fail of proving an absolute remedy in all the disturbances of digestion, circulation, and nervous tone which occasionally oppress a vast portion of the population. Under the genial, purifying, and strengthening powers exerted by this excellent medicine the tongue becomes clear, the appetite improves, digestion is quickened and assimilation is rendered perfect. These Pills possess the highly estimable property of cleansing the entire mass of blood; which, in its renovated condition, carries purity, strength, and vigour to every tissue of the body.—ADVT.

A LITTLE FRIENDLY GOSSIP ON SOME OF THE TOPICS OF THE DAY.

BY PHILANTHROPOS.

(Written Especially for the "Freemason.")

No. 6—EDUCATION.—Continued.

In this, my last paper on the subject, for the present, I wish to point out what I believe to be the undoubted truth, that the two systems—the denominational, with Government grant or without, and the Board School, with a rate in aid—can co-exist, and that there is plenty of room and work for both.

In the first place, it is clear that, for a long time to come, the denominational system, to use a common expression of the day, has the pull in numbers. At present these numbers stand as 13,217 schools, against about 1500 in round numbers, and the number of children on the registers, 2,744,000, as against 450,054, that is to say, under Government inspection. Of course this latter number is gradually increasing by many schools not under Government inspection, but we must bear in mind that even this large number does not by a long way represent the full numerical proportion of the voluntary system.

The National Society, for instance, to which the Corporation of London have recently, upon the motion of Alderman Sir Robert Carden, voted the sum of £525 in aid of its funds, has a direct or indirect relation with a large number of the voluntary schools. That society, it may be stated, was founded in 1811, and since then has expended nearly a million in building and enlarging schools, erecting and maintaining colleges for training teachers, inspecting and organising schools, and supplying the best school-books and apparatus at the lowest possible cost. The society's grants have produced contributions from other quarters of at least £12,000,000. The society has founded or assisted in founding, and now helps to maintain, 25 training colleges, which send forth annually nearly 1000 teachers, whose qualifications are certified by the Education Department. Mainly owing to the pecuniary help, advice, and encouragement given by the society, there are, at present, 9499 schools, which give a sound secular as well as religious training. Those schools have on their rolls 1,735,985 children, of whom 1,175,289 are in average attendance. It has also contributed £43,190 towards the building of schools in Middlesex, of which £33,202 has been paid to schools in the City of London and its vicinity, and £9900 to the districts of London south of the Thames. At present the society directs its efforts to build and enlarge schools and protect the 14,000 schools in union with the society.

When, then, we have subtracted from the actual number of children under inspection in schools, with Government grants, this last number of children and have added to them the children inspected in schools without grants, itself containing 57,196 scholars, we arrive at the large number of 1,057,196 children in round numbers also under the denominational voluntary system, and this calculation makes no allowance for dames' schools, private venture elementary schools, which are almost purely denominational. For the 14000 schools in connection with the National Society do not represent the real number of denominational schools, and indeed, we apprehend that the exact proportion just now is about 15,000 denominational schools, as against 1500 Board Schools, a very great margin indeed. On the whole these figures are very striking and very suggestive. They demonstrate unmistakably to all who have ever looked into the subject, or carefully studied it, the happy advance of education amongst us, and they encourage the hope that in the good Providence of God we may yet, in a few years, overtake the real educational want of our people, and make up for the apathy and ignorance on the subject. And we also, it appears to me, have got to this, that it is most unwise on the one hand to attempt to enforce one system of education, and most wrong on the other to keep up a spirit of hostile criticism and angry complaint as between the two opposing systems. The systems are not necessarily opposed to each other, nor are they, nor need they be, in any sense, questions for the secular politician or for the religious partisan. The legislature has, in my opinion, very wisely decided to set up a Board School where there is a proved deficiency of educational means, and which no voluntary body or denomination can supply; and agreeing, as we all do, in the absolute need and unfailing blessing of education, per se, for man, we surely cannot be so selfish or so sectarian, that because we cannot have our own ideas carried out, we will either oppose all Board School schemes of labour and extension on the one hand, or all denominational work on the other. It will have been seen from the remarks I have made that I am personally most favourable to the denominational system, but, as a good patriot, freeman, and philanthropist I accept the decision of the superior legislature, loyally, the more so, as it tends, in my humble opinion, greatly to promote the spread and improvement of education amongst us. Let us hope that we have heard the last of the outcries of the alarmist, or the theories of the politician, let us trust that the good work of education will go on and prosper, and for my part, I at once say, that if the Board Schools can give a better education than elementary teaching they have a right to win in the race. In fact, the whole question becomes one of demand and supply and of actual merit, reality, and performance. In the long run the working classes will send their children where they can get the best education. If the religious schools give the best education they will assuredly send them there, for on the whole they are in favour of a religious education, let the stump orators say what they like. But if the Board Schools give a better education than the denominational schools they will attract the children of our labor-

ous classes, who are hourly alive to the value and importance of a good sound education for their children. Whatever the result of this friendly contest may be, though it will take some little time to shew, probably when another generation has taken our places, let us confidently assume that education will be the gainer by this honest and useful rivalry, and dismissing that dreadful incubus on all social improvement amongst us, the clamour of the unthinking, the complaints of the polemical, and the appreciation of the "partially educated," let us welcome all efforts, whether denominational or School Board, which aid to plough up the great heavy fallow field of ignorance and give to thousands of immortal beings the inestimable culture of instruction, the real and abiding blessings of a sound and useful education.

Multum in Parbo; or Masonic Notes and Queries.

THE GRAND MISTRESS AND FREEMASONRY.

My attention has been directed to Dr. Swift's Miscellanies of 1751 (Vol. 14, 2nd edit.) by Bro. W. R. Bainbridge, P.M. 721 and 1276, who has kindly forwarded the portion referred to.

Bro. Bainbridge has several times thus kindly obliged me. The MS. sent, however, is not quite suitable for publication at the present time, some of the language being very choice in its character, but it is of sufficient importance as a Masonic curiosity to be placed in the department of Notes and Queries.

It is entitled "A Letter from the Grand Mistress of the Female Freemasons to George Faulkner, Printer."

According to this letter Mr. Faulkner was selected as the printer of the supposed female Freemasons, and the writer proceeds to inform him that "our female lodge has the whole mystery as well as any lodge in Europe, with proper instructions in writing; and, what will seem more strange to you, without the least taint of perjury." A gentleman of this lady's acquaintance, it appears, was initiated one evening in a regular lodge, the members of which neglected to take a pledge from him of secrecy, but agreed to do so the next day, when the candidate was to attend, but he had decamped and revealed the whole of the ceremony to the favoured ladies, who there and then formed a "female lodge." What those secrets are the lady proceeds to communicate, and certainly the account is most trustworthy and correct in every particular as may be supposed. What matters it, if the report differs from what we know of Freemasonry? The anti-Masons have long ago settled the matter by virtually deciding that they, not we, are the judges.

The signs are most amusing, and the words (esoteric of course) are equally so. The grips too, are valuable for the uninitiated. The importance of the contribution may be gathered from the statement that "a Bee has, in all ages and nations, been the Grand Hieroglyphic of Masonry." . . . "What moderns Masons call a lodge was, for the above reasons, by antiquity called a Hive of Freemasons." When a new lodge is formed "for the same reason it is called Swarming."

The Guardian (a male evidently) of the female lodge is frequently referred to in terms of respect and even of awe, and the post of Deputy Guardian was at that time vacant. Whether it has since been filled or not we cannot say. The lady tells us that the "Freemasons' song" ("Come let us prepare," &c.) "was written by one Anderson, as our Guardian tells us," which will be news to many.

The letter is signed by Thalestris.

W. J. HUGHAK.

A MASONIC HERO.

Nearly all the papers in the colony have noticed in some shape or other the Masonic installation of Sir Donald M'Lean, which took place in Wellington last month, and each more or less complimented the Installing Master, Bro. J. Lazar, of Hokitika. It has fallen to the special correspondent of the "Hawke's Bay Herald," however, to enlarge upon the subject beyond the measure of others. He has been more than pleased, even captivated, with the "grey beard and glittering eye" of Westland's worthy representative on the occasion. The following is what he says of Westland's District Grand Master:—"Among the districts, however, which share the honours of the day, Westland bears the pre-eminence. She sent us one Mason, her District Grand Master, Mr. Lazar, who was more than a host in himself. To him were entrusted the lofty duties of Installing Officer, and it is hardly too much to say that if the civilised world had been ransacked it would not have been possible to find one to whom they could have been entrusted more worthily. It is no derogation to the honours accorded to Sir Donald M'Lean to say that Mr. Lazar, and not he, was the true hero of the day's proceedings. Mr. Lazar is the sort of Grand Master that we dream about, but hardly expect to see the like of in these modern days. Those who remember their first impressions on reading Coleridge's marvellous conception of the Ancient Mariner, with his grey beard and glittering eyes, can form some idea of Mr. Lazar's appearance. A man who would be striking any where, in the Grand Lodge, with all its imposing surroundings, his appearance of extreme old age—he is between 70 and 80—together with his gaunt and powerful frame, and his energy of voice and action, gave him the aspect rather of the presiding genius of the ancient Craft than of an ordinary mortal.

After the installation about an hour elapsed, and then came the banquet. Most of those who had been at the former also attended the latter. The two long tables extending the whole length of the Oddfellows' Hall, together with one across it at the top, were completely filled.

Donald M'Lean occupied the chair, supported on his

right by Mr. Lazar, and on the left by Dr. Donald, Mr. Rolleston, Major Atkinson, Messrs. Stout, Bastings, Kentish M'Lean, Reynolds, and others of only local or only Masonic eminence, occupied the seats adjoining. The dinner was cold, and the price charged for it, £2. 2s. per head, was at any rate adequate; however, no one who was present, I feel sure, would willingly miss it if it were to come over again. Mr. Lazar was again better worth hearing and seeing than everything else put together. We then beheld our venerable guide and instructor throw aside his severity and enter more heartily than the youngest of us into the convivial festivities of the evening. The songs which he sang, and there were two or three of them (comic), brought the whole audience to their legs to shout their enthusiastic applause with waving glasses and deafening cheers. Vocal talent of no mean order was displayed by several of the brethren. The songs sung by Bro. Bastings, M.H.R., next to those of Mr. Lazar, attracted most admiration.—"West Coast Times."

THE PLATFORM OF FREEMASONRY.

The cardinal virtues of Masonry are Temperance, Fortitude, Prudence, and Justice. Each one of these constitutes a plank of equal importance in the Masonic platform. Securely dovetailed together after the plan of a wise architect and builder, and strengthened with the cement of love and unity, they form a structure not only strong, but enduring. With its four corners resting upon four imperishable stones, brotherly love, relief, truth, and charity, firmly planted upon the solid rock of fatherhood of God and brotherhood of man, it forms a foundation for the institution of Freemasonry that has stood the test of many centuries past, and that will endure till time shall be no more. It has needed no repairs in the past, does not need any in the present, and will never need any in the future.

Time but adds to its strength, and years to its durability. The waves of fanaticism break harmlessly over it, the winds of bigotry cannot shake it, nor the fires of intolerance destroy it. All these elements of discord and dissolution are powerless to accomplish its destruction.

Freemasonry has nothing to fear from its enemies without, so long as Masons are true to the noble principles which constitute its foundation, and which are found in every stone in this beautiful mystic temple, even up to the cap-stone itself. To be true to them, they must have a thorough knowledge of their import, and this information is essential to a proper discharge of their duties as Masons. In Operative Masonry no one can become a skilful workman who does not apply himself diligently during the term of his apprenticeship; and the same is equally true in Speculative Masonry. Masons must learn Masonry before they properly practice it themselves or teach it to others. This can not be done in a day, a month, or a year, but years of study are necessary. Some learn the ritual quickly, and think that is all there is of it. Others go through without learning anything at all. A few only ever become well-informed Masons. In this lack of Masonic knowledge among so large a portion of the membership lies the greatest danger to the institution itself. They are in a position to do it much greater harm than those who assail it from without. Once inside, they become an element of weakness, for they are just as liable to go wrong as right. They have never learned how to observe the cardinal virtues of Masonry, or to practise the tenets of their profession. They are apt to think the platform needs some changes or repairs, and imagine themselves competent to furnish the plans. Some seem to think the temperance plank of more importance than all the rest, and are ready to sacrifice prudence and justice in their efforts to enlarge its dimensions. Brotherly love and charity are rolled out from under it, leaving it to topple and break to pieces. The beautiful structure, contrived by wisdom, constructed by strength, and adorned by beauty, in their hands becomes a shapeless mass, with scarcely a trace of its former grandeur.

A NOVELTY IN EVENING ENTERTAINMENTS.

Probably in no section of any Masonic division in the United Kingdom do entertainments in the shape of picnics, garden parties, balls, concerts, &c., exist more largely than in the Liverpool portion of West Lancashire, and in connection with these fêtes there are several worthy brethren who specially distinguish themselves in connection with arrangements, organisation, and successful carrying out. The ladies of these Masonic "lords" have observed their proceedings, discovered weaknesses and flaws in the working out of the pleasure-making schemes, and recently they determined to show their stronger-minded partners and friends "how the thing ought to be done." The ladies figuratively put their heads together, and after this combination of all that is "great and good" they appointed an excellent executive committee from amongst their own number, elected a Chairwoman, Vice-Chairwoman, Secretary, Treasurer, Mistress of Ceremonies, and vigorously set about getting up "our ladies' first annual garden party and bal al-fresco." After many anxious meetings of the fair ones, considerable cogitation, and the display of super-excellent generalship, the result of their efforts was experienced on Wednesday evening, the 13th inst., at Durham Hall, Bootle, near Liverpool, the residence of Bro. R. Brown, the much valued Honorary Secretary of the West Lancashire Masonic Educational Institution, who kindly threw his house and grounds open for the special occasion. The result of the ladies' efforts was eminently satisfactory. No better place for the purpose could have been selected, and all the male guests (the great majority of whom were Masons and "veterans" in getting up entertainments) were loud in their praises of the ingenuity and originality shown in connection with "Our Ladies' first Garden Party. Inside the hall the splendid suite of rooms was utilised to the

greatest advantage, there being supper, lounging, dancing, cards, smoking, and nearly every variety of rooms, some gaily festooned with flags, enlivened with evergreens, and generally decorated in the best taste. Outside the hall there was a perfect fairy scene. Myriads of many-coloured Chinese lanterns were hung amongst the trees and round the balconies, while flags floated bravely in the breeze, and the whole of the striking picture was lit up with more than noon-tide brilliancy by means of the lime-light; when the dancers, in their gay dresses, moved blithesomely in the mazy dance on the green, under trees, and amid the many-coloured lanterns, the lime-light in the meantime being brought to bear on the picture, the ensemble was of the most picturesque and charming description. Nor were "our ladies" unmindful of the necessary "creature comforts." The party began to arrive about four o'clock, and at five tea was served on the lawn. Then there were dancing and amusements till eleven o'clock, when a magnificent supper was served under the direction of Mrs. Eve, one of the executive, whose husband (Bro. Eve) is so well known as a public caterer of first rank. Mrs. Brown (wife of Bro. Brown), as chairwoman, presided at the head of the table, and delivered a very neat and pointed speech in proposing the toasts to "The Gentlemen and Ladies." Bro. W. Doyle, P.P.G.S.D.; Bro. W. Coates, 1356 and 1609; and Bro. G. Hutchin, W.M., 241, were called upon to respond for the toast of "The Gentlemen." "The Ladies," was responded to by Mrs. Barton; and then Mrs. Brown gave "The Ladies' Committee," affording Mrs. Eve, Mrs. Firth, Mrs. Douglas, and Mrs. Morrison an opportunity of displaying the natural grace and eloquence with which Nature has endowed them. Thus the hours passed pleasantly away, the gentlemen thoroughly enjoying the extremely pithy and pointed speeches of their "better halves." Then there were more dancing and kindred amusements, soup at a later hour, and busses conveyed the jolly party to town at an early hour. The whole entertainment proved a great success, and "our ladies" clearly demonstrated that they are quite equal to the "lords of creation" in carrying out garden parties and al-fresco balls.

WEST YORKSHIRE.

The following notice has been issued in Leeds:—

"Leeds, September 15th, 1876.—Dear Sir and Brother,—You are respectfully requested to attend a meeting of the Masters, Past Masters, and Wardens of the Leeds lodges, to be held at the Masonic Hall, Great George's-street, on Tuesday, the 19th inst., at seven o'clock in the evening, to take into consideration the desirability of forming a 'Charity Fund,' similar to those in existence in East and West Lancashire. Bro. Hardon, who has taken an active interest in the formation of the Lancashire Funds, has kindly promised to attend and give any information and explanation that may be required.—James Walker, W.M. 289; James Bedford, W.M. 304; J. C. Malcolm, W.M. 306; C. G. Cooper, W.M. 1042; Wm. Fleming, W.M. 1211; Wm. Glover, W.M. 1221; Rd. Akroyd, W.M. 1331."

BRO. EMRA HOLMES' NEW BOOK OF TALES, POEMS, AND MASONIC PAPERS.—One or two of our London contemporaries, notably the "Civilian," the special and clever representative of the Civil Service, the "Freemason," "Masonic Magazine," &c., and several of the leading provincial papers at Sunderland, Hartlepool, Lowestoft, Bristol, Ipswich, Colchester, and Boston, and, we believe, also at Peterborough, Durham, Scarborough, Birmingham, Harwich, Darlington, Seaham, Stockton, Middlesbrough, and other places, have favourably noticed the proposed publication of Bro. Emra Holmes' new book. The "Bristol Times" of the 29th ult., in welcoming the work, states that Bro. Holmes is the son of the late Mr. Marcus Holmes, a very well-known Bristol artist, and his mother is still remembered as the authoress of "Scenes in our Parish." Bro. Markham Tweddell, who edits the work, is author of "Shakespeare and his Times," "The Bards and Authors of Cleveland and South Durham," "The History of the Stockton and Darlington Railway," "The People's History of Cleveland," and other well-known antiquarian tomes and works of practical utility. Amongst the latest subscribers to the little book are Lord Leigh, the Marquis of Bristol, and Lord Cottesloe, better known as Sir Thomas Freemantle, the late respected chairman of the Board of Customs. The price to subscribers only will be 2s. 6d.—"Woodbridge Reporter."

The Mayor of Margate has, let us hope, been maligned. The "Thanet Guardian" contains a statement which seems incredible, accustomed as we are to magisterial eccentricities. The Watch Committee met to appoint a Superintendent of Police. There were six applicants, and, says the "Guardian," "We have been informed that each candidate was asked whether he was a Freemason, and that, on one answering in the affirmative, the Mayor stated that the answer was fatal to his candidature." Can this be true? Is it possible that even if the Mayor could be bad enough to act in such a fashion, there was no man on the Watch Committee with the courage to protest against such an outrage? If it is true, one would be curious to know how far the Mayor of Margate carries his silly prejudice against a noble, philanthropic Order? Would he regard the fact of the Prince of Wales being Grand Master as fatal to his righteous claims to the Crown?—"Funny Folks."

The fees paid on the registration of trade marks were £1957 3s. in the year ended the 31st of March last.

Gas superseded in day time, and daylight reflected in dark rooms. Health, comfort, and economy promoted by adopting Chappuis' Patent Daylight Reflectors. Manufactory, 69, Fleet-street, London.

SOUTH AFRICAN INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION, 1877.—An International Exhibition will be held in Cape Town in 1877, in a building to be erected for the purpose, by consent of the Colonial Government. It will include manufactures of all kinds. The date fixed for the opening is Feb. 15, and everything intended for the Exhibition must be shipped from London not later than during the first week in December, 1876. Intending exhibitors should communicate immediately with Mr. Edmund Johnson, Commissaire Délégué, at the European Central Offices of the Exhibition, 3, Castle Street, Holborn, London. The Exhibition will be arranged in the following classes:—Class 1.—Alimentation. Class 2.—Chemicals, perfumery, medicines, and surgical appliances. Class 3.—Furniture. Class 4.—Fabrics, clothing, watches, jewellery, ornaments, precious stones. Class 5.—Means of transport, travelling equipments, harness, saddlery, &c. Class 6.—Hardware, edge tools, cutlery, metal work of all kinds. Class 7.—Machinery, materials, and construction. Class 8.—Agricultural, &c. Class 9.—Science and education. Class 10.—Miscellaneous.

METROPOLITAN MASONIC MEETINGS.

For the Week ending Friday, September 29, 1876.

The Editor will be glad to receive notice from Secretaries of Craft Lodges, Royal Arch Chapters, Mark Lodges, Preceptories, Conclaves, &c., of any change in place or time of meeting.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 23.

Lodge 1541, Alexandra Palace, A.P., Muswell Hill.

LODGE OF INSTRUCTION.

Lily, Greyhound, Richmond.
Manchester, 77, London-st., Fitzroy-square.
Star, Marquis of Granby, New Cross-rd.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 25.

Lodge 79, Pythagorean, Ship Hot., Greenwich.

LODGE OF INSTRUCTION.

Prince Leopold, Lord Stanley Tav., Kingsland.
Strong Man, Jerusalem Tav., St. John's Gate.
Sincerity, Railway Tav., Fenchurch-st. Station.
Camden, Stanhope Arms, Up. James-st., Camden To.
Eastern, Royal Hot., Mile-end-road.
St. James's Union, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Wellington, White Swan, Deptford.
Perfect Ashlar, Victoria Tav., Lower-rd., Rotherhithe.
Sydney, White Hart Ho., Church-rd., Upper Norwood.
Marquis of Ripon, Pembury Tav., Amherst-rd., Hackney.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26.

Lodge 141, Faith, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
" 186, Industry, M.H., Masons' Avenue.
" 1158, Southern Star, Montpelier Tav., Walworth.
" 1441, Ivy, Surrey M.H.

LODGE OF INSTRUCTION.

Metropolitan, 269, Pentonville-rd.
Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney.
Domestic, Surrey M.H., Camberwell New-road.
Faith, 2, Westminster Chambers, Victoria-st.
Prince Fredk. Wm., Lord's Hot., St. John's Wood.
Dalhousie, King Edward, Triangle, Hackney.
Prosperity, 1, Camomile-st., Bishopsgate.
St. Marylebone, British Stores Tav., St. John's Wood.
Constitutional, Wheatheaf Hot., Hand-court, Holborn.
Israel, Rising Sun Tav., Globe Road.
Royal Arthur, Prince's Head, York-road, Battersea.
Beacontree, Red Lion, Leytonstone.
Metropolitan Chapter, Jamaica Coffee Ho., Cornhill.
Excelsior, Commercial Dock Tav., Rotherhithe.
St. John of Wapping, Gun Hot., High-st., Wapping.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27.

Lodge 507, United Pilgrims, Surrey M.H., Camberwell.
" 753, Prince Fredk. Wm., 7, Queen's Ter., N.W.
" 754, High Cross, Seven Sisters' Tav., Tottenham.
" 898, Temperance in the East, Newby-pl., Poplar.
" 1056, Victoria, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
Chap. 820, Lily of Richmond, Greyhound, Richmond.
" 907, Royal Albert, White Hart, Abchurch-lane.
R.C.C., St. Andrews, Regent M.S., 68, Regent-st., W.

LODGE OF INSTRUCTION.

Confidence, M.H., Basinghall-st.
Mt. Lebanon, Windsor Castle Tav., Southwark-bdg.-rd.
Pythagorean, Prince of Orange, Greenwich.
New Concord, Rosemary Branch Tav., Hoxton.
Royal Union, Horse and Groom, Winsley-st., Oxford-st.
Peckham, Maismore Arms, Park-road, Peckham.
Stanhope, Thicket Hot., Anclery.
Finsbury Park, Finsbury Park Tav., Seven Sisters'-rd.
Southwark, Southwark Park Tav., Southwark Park.
Duke of Connaught, Havelock Tav., Dalston, E.
United Strength, Grafton Arms, Kentish-town.
Islington, Crown and Cushion, London Wall.
Whittington, Black Bull Tav., Holborn.
Lewis, King's Arms Hot., Wood Green.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 28.

Gen. Com. Girls' School, at 4.
Lodge 65, Prosperity, Guildhall Tav., Gresham-st.
" 141, Faith, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
" 766, William Preston, Terminus Hot., Cannon-st.
" 1421, Langthorne, Swan Hot., Stratford.
" 1524, Duke of Connaught, Pownall-rd., Haggerston.
Mark Lodge 18, Northumberland.

LODGE OF INSTRUCTION.

Egyptian, Hercules Tav., Leadenhall-st.
Fidelity, Yorkshire Grey, London-st., W.
Finsbury, Jolly Anglers' Tav., Bath-st., City-road.
Temperance in the East, Catherine-st., Poplar.
Ebony, 12, Ponsonby-st., Milbank.
Highgate, Bull and Gate, Kentish-town.
The Great City, 111, Cheapside.
High Cross, Coach & Horses, High-road, Tottenham.
Salisbury, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Prince Frederick William Chapter, St. John's Wood.
Northern Star, Crown Hot., Blackfriars-rd.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 29.

LODGE OF INSTRUCTION.

Union Waterloo, Thomas-st., Woolwich.
Robert Burns, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Belgrave, Lyceum Tav., 354, Strand.
Unions Emulation (for M.M.'s), F.M.H.
Temperance, Victoria Tav., Victoria-road, Deptford.
Clapton, White Hart, Clapton.
Metropolitan, Portugal Hot., Fleet-st.
Westbourne, Horse & Groom, Winsley-st., Oxford-st.
United Pilgrims, Surrey M.H., Camberwell New-road.
St. James's, New Tanners' Arms, Grange-rd., Bermondsey.
Duke of Edinburgh, Silver Lion, Penny-fields, Poplar.
Doric, Earl Grey Tav., Mile-end-road.
Burgoyne, Grafton Arms, Prince of Wales's-road, N.W.
St. Luke's, White Hart, King's-rd., Chelsea.
Chigwell, Bald-faced Stag Hot., Buckhurst-hill.
Burdett Courts, Approach Tav., Victoria Park.
Royal Standard, Finsbury Park Tav., Holloway.
Ranelagh, Clarendon Hot., Hammersmith.
Pythagorean Chapter, Prince of Orange, Greenwich-rd.
Stability, Guildhall Tav., Gresham-st.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN WEST LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE.

For the Week ending Saturday, September 30, 1876.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 25.

Lodge 148, Lights, M. Rooms, Warrington.

Derby L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26.

Lodge 1393, Hamer, M.H., Liverpool.

" 1629, Dramatic, M.H., Liverpool.

Chap. 721, Grosvenor M.R., Liverpool.

" 1094, Temple, M.H., Liverpool.

Merchants' L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

Mark Lodge 11, Joppa, M.R., Berkenhead.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27.

Lodge 32, St. George's, Adelphi Hot., Liverpool.

" 86, Loyalty, M.H., Prescot.

" 220, Harmony, Garston Hot., Garston.

" 484, Faith, Gerard's Arms, Ashton-in-Makerfield.

" 580, Harmony, Wheatheaf, Ormskirk.

" 724, Derby, M.H., Liverpool.

" 758, Ellesmere, M.H., Runcorn.

Neptune L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

Chap. 1052, Callender, Pub. H., Rusholme.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 28.

Lodge 594, Downshire, M.H., Liverpool.

" 950, Hesketh, Royal Hot., Fleetwood.

" 1032, Townley Parker, Howard's A., Whit-le-Sprung.

" 1070, Starkie, Black Horse Hot., Kirkham.

" 1393, Fermor, M.H., Southport.

Chap. 292, Liverpool, M.H., Liverpool.

" 1086, Walton, St. Lawrence's School, Kirkdale.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN GLASGOW AND WEST OF SCOTLAND.

For the Week ending Saturday, September 30, 1876.

All the Meetings take place at Eight o'clock.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 25.

Lodge 103, Union & Crown, 30, Hope-st., Glasgow.

" 219, Star, 12, Trongate, Glasgow.

" 292, St. John, Bishop-st., Rothsay.

" 362, St. Clair, 25, Robertson-st., Glasgow.

" 541, Marie Stuart, M.H., Crosshill.

Chap. 122, Thetis, 35, St. James-st., S.S., Glasgow.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26.

Lodge 413, Athole, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.

" 419, Neptune, 35, St. James-st., S.S., Glasgow.

" 426, Prince of Wales, M.H., Renfrew.

" 543, St. John, M.H., Dalmuir.

" 579, St. Bryde, M.H., Uddingstone.

Chap. 67, Cathedral, 22, Struthers-st., Glasgow.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27.

Lodge 505, Burns St. Mary, Commercial Inn, Hurlford.

" 510, Maryhill, M.H., Main-st., Maryhill.

Chap. 73, Caledonian of Unity, 213, Buchanan-st.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 28.

Lodge 167, Free Operative, M.H., Biggar.

" 570, Kenmuir, Balgray Hall, Springburn.

Chap. 117, Govan, Portland Buildings, Govan.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 29.

Lodge 51, London Kilwinning, Com. Hot, Newmilns.

" 118, St. Bride, M.H., Douglas.

" 125, St. James, Masons' Arms, Newton Ayr.

" 153, Royal Arch, Cogan-st., Pollokshaws.

" 195, St. John R.A., Lemnox Arms, Campsie.

" 199, St. Andrew, M.H., Cambarnauld.

" 236, St. John, Wilsontown Iron Works, M.H., Forth.

" 244, Union, Black Bull Inn, Stonehouse.

" 347, St. John Operative, M.H., Rutherglen.

Chap. 79, Commercial, 30, Hope-st., Glasgow.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 30.

Lodge 28, St. John, Black Bull Inn, Kirkintilloch.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN EDINBURGH AND VICINITY.

For the Week ending Saturday, September 30, 1876.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 25.

Lodge 349, St. Clair, F.M.H., 98, George-st.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26.

Lodge 151, Defensive Band, Alexandra Hall, Cockburn-st.

Chap. 40, Naval and Military, F.M.H., 98, George-st.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27.

Lodge 112, St. John, Royal Hot., Musselburgh.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 28.

Lodge 392, Caledonian, F.M.H., 98, George-st.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 29.

Lodge 223, Trafalgar, 54, Bernard-st., Leith.

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ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR

BOYS.—The Votes and Interest of the Governors and Subscribers are respectfully solicited on behalf of

GORDON ROGERS (Aged 9 Years), Son of the late Bro. Wm. Friday Rogers, P.M., who was initiated into the Lodge of Confidence, No. 193, in 1858, served the Office of W.M. 1864, and was appointed Secretary in January, 1866, on the death of his Father, who held that office over thirty years.

He was a subscribing member from the date of his initiation until his death in April last. He has left a Widow and Seven Children (one of which was elected into the Masonic School for Girls last year) quite unprovided for, and who are unable to render her any assistance. She, therefore, urgently appeals to the Governors and Subscribers for their Votes and Interest on behalf of her Son.

The case is strongly recommended by: Bro. Alderman and Sheriff H. Hadley, Vice-President, P.M. 55

M.E.Z. 3, P.P.G.D.C. 1, Upper Thames-street, E.C.

" F. Bonney, W.M. 193; 1, Horselydown Lane.

" H. T. Reed, S.W. 193; 16, Tottenham Court Road.

" E. W. Fithian, J.W. 193; 8, Fairfield Grove, Kennington Lane.

" G. S. F. Warne, P.M. and Treas. 193; 9, Gresham-street, E.C.

" J. Shackell, P.M. and Sec. 193; 298, Goswell Road.

" S. Webb, P.M. and Dir. of Ceremonies 193, 434, Oxford-street.

" J. Burch, P.M. 193; 30, St. Mary Axe.

" B. D. Kershaw, P.M. 193; New River Head.

" F. H. Clemow, 193; Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street.

" W. Harding, 193; 3, Ave Maria Lane, E.C.

" J. Roberts, 193; 195, Shoreditch.

" R. J. Hutton, 193; 240, City Road.

" J. Coutts, P.G.P., P.M. 27, 1310, 1346, 1537; P.Z. 177, 382;

" M.E.Z. 1548; 30, James-street, Covent Garden.

" J. E. Walford, P.M. 177, and P.Z. 145.

" J. F. Weatherhead, 193; 2, Claremont Villas, Kew Bridge.

" H. Lea, J.D. 193; 552, Oxford-street.

" G. Lamb, V.P., P.S.A. and P.M. 198 and 504; P.Z. 7

and 24; R. T. 31; P.P.S.G. Warden, Hertis, 12; Coventry-street.

" J. Shepherd, P.M. 21 and 201; Holland-street, Clapham, Road.

" R. Griffiths, 193; 7, Highbury Grange, Islington.

By whom Proxies will be gratefully received, and also by Mrs. Rogers, 115, Central-street, St. Luke's, E.C.

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REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS.

Craft Masonry.

CLAPTON LODGE (No. 1365).—The installation meeting of this successful lodge was held on the 21st inst., at the White Hart Hotel, Clapton. The brethren present on the occasion were very numerous, and among the visitors were several well-known members of the Craft. The W.M., Bro. Richard Wyatt, presided, having Bro. Wm. Stephens, P.M., in the S.W. chair, and Bro. George R. Soper, W.M. elect, in that of the J.W. Of the other brethren present were Bros. Vine, P.M. 173; W. Murlis, W.M. 1489; Somers, W.M. 1602; Cusworth, S.W. 813; Hobbs, S.W. 749; Felton, S.W. 1613; H. J. Felton, Herold, and Cockrane, 1056; Papmaugh, 9; Withers, 299; Verdon, 188; Allen, 733; Keast, 813; Green, 861; Perrin, 765; Glaskin, 569 and 1489; Humphreys, 1364; Hawthorn, 1489; and Collier, 1314. After the opening of the lodge, the confirmation of the minutes of the previous meeting, and the disposal of some other lodge business, the W.M. elect, Bro. Geo. R. Soper, J.W., was presented to Bro. Wyatt, who formally installed him as Master of the lodge. The ceremony was very impressively rendered by the retiring W.M. The brethren appointed and invested as officers were Bros. J. Bodkin, S.W.; Cogan, J.W.; Murlis, Treas.; W. Lutwyche, Sec.; Simms, S.D.; A. McMillan, J.D.; Finch, I.G.; and Verry, Sec. The brethren afterwards closed down, and adjourned to banquet, which was admirably served, and after the cloth was cleared the usual toasts were given and honoured with the greatest enthusiasm. "The Health of the W.M." was cordially drunk and eloquently responded to. Bro. Wyatt, P.M., experienced the gratification of being the recipient of an elegant Past Master's jewel, a gift which was feelingly acknowledged by him. Bro. Wm. Stephens, P.M., responded for the toast of "The Masonic Charities." All the visitors replied in turn for the toast of "The Visitors." The gathering was a most happy and successful one, and will be long remembered by all who had the opportunity and pleasure of being present.

CHAUCER LODGE (No. 1540).—An emergency meeting of this prosperous lodge was held on Friday, 22nd September, at the Bridge House Hotel, Southwark. Bro. T. J. Sabine, P.P.G.S.B., Middlesex, P.M., W.M., presided. He raised Bro. G. Newman to the Third Degree, passed Bros. Paul Levy, W. N. Phillips, T. Harding, and C. Winstanley to the Second Degree. Bro. T. J. Hooper Wilkins, P.M., initiated his friends Messrs. Charles Stephen Hodges and William Carter into the mysteries and privileges of ancient Freemasonry. All the work was well done. Agreeably to the notice of motion given by Bro. T. J. Hooper Wilkins, the sum of twenty guineas was unanimously voted from the lodge funds towards the testimonial to be presented to Bro. T. J. Sabine, in recognition of his services as the first W.M. and one of its founders, it being understood the vote of the lodge funds would be supplemented by private donations of the members. Business being ended the lodge was closed and adjourned to Saturday, October 21st, to meet early in the afternoon. There were present besides those named Bros. J. C. Mason, S.W., and W.M. elect; E. S. Stidolph, J.W.; Rev. H. J. Hatch, Chaplain; F. Walters, P.G. J.D. Middlesex, P.M., Secretary; G. H. Wright, P.M., as S.D.; C. W. Hudson, J.D.; H. Faija, C.E., I.G.; A. J. Hawkes, D.C.; C. T. Sparks, W. Klingenstein, C. Graham, H. Levy, H. Blackwell, R. C. Harrison, R. H. Willats, and others. The visitors were Bros. Leonard Van Bollen, 1275; L. Beck, S.D., 1559; L. Alexander, P.M. 188; C. H. McKay, 97; P. Branly, 20; Walter Downing, P.M. 20; Joseph Blenn, W.M. 1017; C. G. Rushworth, W.M. 1309; W. T. Lover, J.W. and W.M. elect 1178; Mark Van Bollen, Mount Lebanon, American Constitution; and others whose names we regret we could not ascertain.

LANCASTER.—Lodge of Fortitude (No. 281).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held in the Masonic rooms, at the Athenæum, on the 13th inst. Bro. Thomas Atkinson, the W.M., occupied the chair of K.S. There was a numerous attendance of members and visiting brethren. The lodge was opened with solemn prayer in the First Degree, after which the minutes of previous meeting were read and confirmed. There being no special business before the lodge, Bro. Dr. Moore, P.G.S.B. of E., at the request of the W.M. kindly gave an address on "How to prove a Mason," and in the course of his re-

marks the worthy and eminent brother forcibly urged upon his younger brethren in the Craft the necessity of never allowing the person whom they were proving to learn anything from them, but to let the stranger give the initiative in the signs, &c. He said further, that though a person might by chance give a correct answer to some of the questions that would necessarily be put to him, they should not be satisfied with that, but proceed further, till it was proved beyond any doubt that the person was a Mason before being admitted to a lodge. The address was listened to with much attention by those present, and was rendered additionally interesting by Bro. Moore relating several instances that had come under his own personal observation, showing the necessity for adopting the course which he advocated. A cordial vote of thanks was unanimously accorded to Bro. Dr. Moore at the conclusion of his remarks, and the usual proclamations having been made, the lodge was closed with the formalities of the Craft.

DEPTFORD.—Royal Oak Lodge (No. 871).—An emergency meeting of this prosperous lodge was held on Thursday, 21st September, at the White Swan Hotel, 217, High-street, Deptford. Bro. H. J. Tuson, W.M., assisted by Bros. F. Walters, P.G.J.D. Middlesex, P.M., Sec.; G. Andrews, P.M., D.C.; J. J. Pakes, S.W.; H. J. Fisher, Org.; J. G. Vohmann, I.G.; H. W. F. Fellows, F. H. Burr, W. O. Lockhead, W. Simmons, E. James, R. Mason, W. H. Truelove, J. G. Thomas, W. Abbott, W. White, A. Macers, G. Eve, L. Michaels, and others. The visitors were Bros. G. H. Kitson, 548; David Smith, 1326; and some more, whose names we were unable to ascertain. The work done was passing Bros. L. Michaels, W. White, and W. Abbott to the Second Degree, initiating Messrs. Gustav Wildermuth, John Buchele, and Joel Davis into Freemasonry. Bro. G. Andrews, in an admirable manner, gave the Lecture on the Tracing Board in the Second Degree, also the charge to the newly-initiated members. All business being ended, the lodge was closed, and adjourned until Thursday, October 26th, to meet at five o'clock p.m. As there was not any banquet or refreshment, the brethren separated directly the lodge was closed, and adjourned.

PLUMSTEAD.—United Military (No. 1536). The regular monthly meeting of this large and prosperous lodge took place on Friday last, the 8th inst., at Bro. Plaisted's fine Hall on Angelsea Hill, a great number of the brethren of the lodge as well as visitors being present. Bro. W. Weston, the W.M., presided, supported by the following officers: G. Spinkes, S.W.; Picken, J.W.; W. Murphy, Treas.; T. Cooper, Sec.; H. Shaw, S.D.; J. McCaffery, J.D.; D. Deeves, D.C.; Harding, Org.; Ritchie, I.G.; and J. Lackland, Tyler. The P.M.'s present were Bro. F. G. Pownall and Bro. R. Croisdale. The lodge being duly opened two brethren were passed to the Second Degree and three received the benefit of the Third degree. The lodge was then resumed and the W.M. presented Bro. Cooper, the Secretary, with a very handsome Secretary's jewel, as a mark of respect from the lodge and as a recognition of the valuable services rendered to it by him since its formation. Bro. Cooper returned thanks, and assured the W.M. and lodge of his intention, if possible, of doing still more for the prosperity of it, and thanked them cordially for their splendid present. The lodge was then closed, and refreshments partaken of, the usual toasts being duly honoured. The visitors included T. Butt, W.M. 700; T. Ward, P.M. 700; T. D. Hayes, J.W. 913; A. Jessup, Treas. 913; A. Wallis, 913; J. W. Virgo, 702; C. Morton, 700; E. T. Robertson, 398; J. Brewster, 398; G. Shultz, 13; G. H. Baker, 13; W. McDaniel, 13; W. Osborne, 1428; A. Brookson, 1424; G. Fraser, 700; W. G. Douglass, 1463; B. Norman, 13; C. Jolly, 913; and others.

HATFIELD.—Cranbourne Lodge (No. 1580).—The first season of this lodge came to a termination on Tuesday, 19th inst., when the brethren met at the Red Lion, Hatfield, to select a Master, elect a Treasurer, and, as Hertfordshire summer Masons, to close their lodge until the flowers next May again welcome them to Hatfield. The weather last Tuesday was all that could be desired for a country ramble, but the brethren resisted all temptations, and opened lodge in the old coaching inn which stands near the Hatfield Station. The brethren welcomed back to his chair Bro. Bowyer, who is still suffering from the effects of an accident, which had necessitated his absence at the previous meeting, and the Senior Warden's chair was filled by Bro. Mather, P.M. of the Upton Lodge, Bro. Bonsor occupying the J.W.'s chair. There were also present Bro. E. Massey, Prov. G.S. of Herts, as P.M.; Bro. J. Terry, as Sec. Bro. P.M. Cook, as Treas.; Bro. Cox, S.D.; Bro. Halford, J.D.; and Bro. Killich, as I.G., Bro. Hillier being absent through illness. The first business was the balloting for a joining member, Bro. Crutch, W.M. of the Burdett-Coutts Lodge, and the ballot being clear the elected brother acknowledged the kindness shown him, while the lodge congratulated itself upon having won to its ranks another good man and brother equal to its high standard; for all, or nearly all, in it can at least work the three degrees, while not a few can also instal. The election then proceeded for the Master for the ensuing year, and Bro. Mather was unanimously elected to that high position. Bro. Cook was then re-elected Treasurer, and Bro. Steadman again chosen Tyler. The business of adopting a set of bye-laws was discharged under the advice of the able and experienced Secretary, and the lodge then closed in the usual manner. The brethren were indulged with the time for a short walk, and then sat down to a pleasant dinner. The Chief of the State was with all loyalty toasted, and the chiefs of the Craft received the honours ever accorded to them by the brethren, not forgetting the provincial dignitaries in the Craft, Bro. Murray responding. The W. Master and the W.M. elect had their high merits acknowledged, and responded to the toasts of their health. The hospitality of the lodge

was spoken to by the visitors—Bro. J. White ("Freemason"), P.M. of 228; Bro. Dobson, of Newstead, No. 47 (Nottingham); and Bro. Burdors, J.D. of the Highgate Lodge. During the evening Bro. Bedell, Bro. Matthews, Bro. Briggs, and others gave some interesting selections of music and poetry, and so passed the time pleasantly until the trains for London were nearly due, when the brethren left the red-brick town behind them.

STAINES.—Musgrave Lodge (No. 1597).—A meeting of this promising lodge was held on Saturday, the 16th inst., at the Angel and Crown, Staines. Present: Bros. J. M. Levick, W.M.; F. Keily, Prov. G. Treas. Middlesex, S.W.; E. Amphlett, J.W.; T. H. Edmonds, P.G.S., S.D.; R. Sindall, acting J.D.; J. Dunn, I.G.; Gillard; Wilson, P.M.; E. Fairlie, and several other brethren. The business consisted of the passing of Bro. H. F. Bing, the initiation of Messrs. A. Paterson and R. G. Jewell, which ceremonies were rendered in that excellent manner for which the brethren of this young lodge are gaining so high a reputation in the Province of Middlesex. The next business was to consider the bye-laws, which were submitted, and after one or two trifling alterations were adopted. The period having arrived for the election of the W.M., Treasurer, and Tyler for 1877, the ballots proved unanimous in favour of the following brethren:—Bros. F. Keily, as W.M.; J. M. Levick, as Treas.; and Gilbert, Tyler. A Past Master's jewel was voted to the W.M. on his retiring from the chair; also that a recommendation should be forwarded to the Prov. Grand Master for Middlesex for the same brother's advancement to Provincial Grand Lodge. Other Masonic business having been brought before the lodge, it was closed in due form, and the brethren adjourned to an excellent banquet under the presidency of the W.M. The usual Masonic and loyal toasts having been duly honoured, the London brethren returned to town at an early hour.

HERVEY LODGE OF INSTRUCTION.—The members of the above lodge met in large numbers at the Clifton Arms, Fulham-road on Thursday evening, Sept. 21, in response to a circular inviting their attendance to consider the proposition (of the Secretary and Preceptor of the lodge, Bro. G. King, jun.) that the lodge should be removed to a more central position, as the attendance for many months past had materially decreased, and greatly impeded the object for which the lodge was formed—viz., to afford members of the mother lodge (1260) an opportunity of acquiring a thorough knowledge of the workings of the degrees, and fit themselves to fill any office they might be appointed to. The lodge was opened at eight p.m., and on being resumed to the Third Degree, the W.M. (Bro. G. Harrison, W.M. 1260) rehearsed the ceremony of raising, Bro. Cox kindly volunteering as a candidate. On resuming the lodge to the First Degree, and the W.M. rising for the third time, Bro. King rose to lay before the brethren his proposition that the lodge be removed to a more central position, and informed the brethren that Bro. Beeton, of the Punch Tavern, Fleet-street, had offered to accommodate them with a room that was in every way suitable for the purpose, and as the majority of the brethren of the Hervey Lodge resided in localities to which the present lodge-room was a long distance removed, he felt confident that if his proposition was carried it would be for the comfort and convenience of all the members connected with it. There was also another consideration, and that was an intimation from Mr. Gordon, the landlord of the Clifton Arms, that as the attendance had been so small he would have to make a charge for the room, to recoup himself for the cost of gas, firing, &c. The proposition was seconded by Bro. Spalding, and after some remarks from Bros. Ward, Bigwood, and King (senior P.M.) the W.M. put it to the lodge, and it was carried unanimously. Bro. King, jun., begged to thank the brethren for their unanimity of opinion, and before the matter was done with would propose that the nights of meeting be altered from Thursday to Friday, that alteration to take place on removing to the new lodge quarters. This proposition having been seconded by Bro. Burley, was put and carried unanimously. Bro. Withers then rose to propose that, as an inducement for the members of the lodge to attend in large numbers, the Fifteen Sections should be worked on a convenient day, and, after some desultory remarks, it was eventually decided that Bro. G. King, jun., be invited to work them on the last Friday in October. The Secretary having informed the brethren that an opening supper would take place in October at Bro. Beeton's, and he would be glad to take the names of those brethren who intended to be present. This ending the business for the evening, the lodge was closed in due form. Among the brethren present were Bros. King, sen., P.M. 1260; G. King, jun., P.M. 1260; Harrison, W.M. 1260; Goodane, as S.W.; Portway, as J.W.; Withers, S.D.; Ward, I.G.; and Bros. Salmon, Steward, Cox, Gonier, Spalding, Burley, Bigwood, Butter, Ballard, Alexander, and others.

Royal Arch.

TORQUAY.—St. John's Chapter (No. 328).—The quarterly meeting was held at the Masonic Hall, on Tuesday, September 19th, at 5 p.m. The principal chairs were taken by Ex. Comps. Perry, Z.; Murray, H.; Warren, J. There were also present Ex. Comps. Rev. R. Bowden, Dr. Hopkins, Harland, P.Z.'s; Comps. Bradnee, E.; Hurrell, N.; Pigott, Pr. Suj.; Fullwood, S. Soj.; Morgan, as J. Soj.; and several others. The Board of Installed Principals having been opened, the companions were admitted, and the chapter was opened. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. A ballot was taken for the following as candidates for exaltation, which proved unanimous in their favour: Bros. G.

Perry, W. Taylor, C. Johns, W. A. Goss, jun., of whom all were present except the first, who was stated by the M.E.Z. to have expressed regret at his unavoidable absence. All due preparations having been made, the candidates were admitted and exalted to the rank of R.A. Companion, the ceremony being performed by the newly-appointed officers, except that Scribe E. very satisfactorily took the most arduous part of the duties of Pr. Soj. At the close of the symbolical lecture from the second chair, the M.E.Z. stated that as he had now worked the ceremony for the first time, he was equally prepared to give the mystical lecture, but he thought the companions would like to hear it from the lips of an esteemed P.Z. and honorary member, who, having left the district and gone to reside at a great distance, could but seldom visit the chapter, and whose finished style and excellent working always conveyed instruction to his juniors and pleasure to those of the same standing. He, therefore, called upon Ex. Comp. Dr. Hopkins, P.Z., to perform the duty, who of course complied. On the proposition of the M.E.Z., seconded by Ex. Comp. Rev. R. Bowden, P.Z., Ex. Comp. T. Lidstone, P.Z. of No. 106, was elected an honorary member. Ex. Comp. Murray, H., announced to the chapter that since the last meeting a circumstance had occurred of a very gratifying nature; first, because by it a high compliment was paid to one who had merited it by a long series of eminent services rendered with great skill and ability, in every department of Freemasonry, as well as by his independence and modesty in never seeking honours, but rather patiently submitting to see them bestowed on others when he might fairly have claimed them—no other than their highly esteemed M.E.Z.; and secondly, because it afforded proof that at last the successful labours of Freemasons at Torquay were beginning to be appreciated by the Most Ex. Prov. Grand Superintendent, though previously they had been but scantily recognized. The companions would therefore be pleased to hear that their esteemed chief in the first chair had been offered and had accepted provincial honours. This announcement was received with applause, which was suitably acknowledged by the M.E.Z. No other business offering, the well conducted and successful meeting terminated, and the chapter was closed in ample form at 7.30.

Scotland.

DUNDEE.—Lodge Ancient (No. 49).—Owing to the improvement of the Murraygate, the members of this lodge had to vacate the premises in which their meetings were held; but they have now had built for them a fine new hall, the consecration of which was arranged to take place on the afternoon of Friday, the 29th inst., by the Provincial Grand Master, Bro. Lord Ramsay. The building is situated near the top of the Murraygate, and consists of two storeys. The upper portion will be used as the principal hall for Masonic purposes. It is about 32 feet long by 18 feet in breadth, and has a very cheerful and comfortable appearance. During the day it is lighted by glass in the roof, while at night two chandeliers, having numerous burners, serve this purpose. At the north end there is an orchestral gallery, and behind that w.c. and lavatory accommodation. The hall has been painted very beautifully, and at the south end there are transparencies of the patron saints, St. Andrew and St. John. There are also two terpsichorean figures, and around the walls are hung paintings in oil of several brethren who have held the position of R.W.M. The lower hall is of similar construction, and access may be had to the upper hall through it, although there is a separate entrance. There are a number of ante-rooms, and the convenience of the members has evidently been studied in the details.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Thistle (No. 87).—Unusual interest attached to the regular meeting of this lodge on Tuesday, the 19th inst., by reason that, for the first time, the brethren assembled in their own new hall—being another added to the not very great number of Masonic halls in Glasgow. For a considerable time Lodge 87 held their meetings in the hall of the Star Lodge, 219, at No. 12, Tron-gate, but about a year ago they removed westward, and became tenants of Lodge Commercial, 360, at No. 30, Hope-street. Soon, however, a very general desire for a change arose among the members, and that they should have a hall of their own; and this, as we have stated, is now carried out. The new premises are situated at No. 30, Cathedral-street; and in addition to the lodge hall proper, which is 40 feet in length by 17½ feet wide, include all the requisite "adjacent" accommodation in convenient arrangement, and on an ample scale. The decorations of the hall, not yet quite completed, are befittingly chaste and quiet. The ceiling is covered light blue and the walls medium blue—the latter panelled with light blue styles, the two tints being separated by a neat border running between them. The lower portion of the walls, that is for five feet upwards from the floor, is in oak colour, with a suitable border dividing it from the blue. The dais, elevated a couple of steps above the floor of the hall, is unenclosed. The meeting on Tuesday evening was naturally a numerous one, including not a few visiting brethren who came up to see the Thistle in their new quarters. The W.M., Bro. James Booth, presided, and office-bearers and past office-bearers of the lodge present on this opening occasion were Bros. James W. Burns, I.P.M., John Miller, and John Fraser, Past Masters; J. G. Ritchie, S.M.; Walter Stewart, S.W.; Robert Barr, J.W.; Thomas Paton, Treasurer; William Wilson, Secretary; and John McLachlan, S.D. The lodge, having been opened, the Chairman said that before beginning business he had simply to welcome them all into their own new home, and he hoped as long as they remained in it they would be prosperous. The Secretary (Bro. Wilson) then read the minutes of last meeting, which were passed nem. con., and thereafter the Chairman

intimated that the following gentlemen had made application for admission into the Order and into Lodge Thistle, and each had been duly proposed and seconded, viz:—Messrs. John M'Nee, And. Myles, Charles Bone, Jas. S. Wills, Walter Walker, Henry Noble, and Robert Graeme, reporter. There being no objections, the candidates having been prepared were brought in, and received the E.A. Degree at the hands of the W. Master. Prior to the ceremony of initiation, the following were duly affiliated as members of Lodge 87, viz:—Bros. Robert Kennedy, of Lodge Cadder Argyle, Chryston, No. 147; and James M'Allan, of Lodge St. John's Operative, Rutherglen, No. 347. There was no other business of importance before the lodge, which was thereafter closed in due and ancient form.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Plantation (No. 581).—A very influential and largely-attended meeting of this prosperous lodge was held on Monday, the 18th inst., in the Masonic Hall, Craigiehall-street, Plantation; Bro. Thos. Stobo, W.M., in the chair, with Bro. Joseph Henry, acting S.W., and Bro. Andrew Imrie, as J.W. On the lodge being opened, and minutes of last meeting read and confirmed, it was unanimously agreed to, that a large deputation be present to take part in the ceremony of laying the foundation stone of the Post Office in Glasgow on the 17th of next month. Applications were then read and sustained from eight gentlemen seeking admission into the Order, and were duly initiated into the E.A. Degree. Thereafter four E.A.'s were passed to the F.C. Degree, both ceremonies being performed by Bro. Wm. Ferguson, D.M. Other business of an agreeable nature was disposed of, and the lodge was then closed in due and ancient form.

GLASGOW.—St. Mungo Encampment.—A special meeting of this encampment was held in St. Mark's Hall, Buchanan-street, for the annual election and installation of office-bearers, who were appointed as follows:—William F. Shaw, Eminent Commander; Robert Bell, Past Eminent Commander; Thomas Clanachan, Deputy Commander; James O. Park, Captain-General; David Reid, Recorder; John A. Ferguson, Treas.; John Kay, Marshal; John Tweed, First Aide-de-Camp; Thos. W. Brownlie, Second Aide-de-Camp; James McLeish, First Warder; Peter Douglass, Second Warder; Rednie Currie, First Captain; Robert Grange, Second Captain; James Louttit, Third Captain; James Chalmers, Standard Bearer; Danl. Baker, Drill-Instructor; G. W. Wheeler, Prelate; James B. Hardie, Sentinel.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF CHESHIRE.

The annual meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of the highly important division of Cheshire, of which Bro. the Right Hon. Lord De Tabley is the universally popular head, was held in the Market Hall, Knutsford, on Wednesday afternoon, the 20th inst. The rapid growth of the fraternity in the Province of Cheshire was never more clearly illustrated, as, notwithstanding the fact that the place of meeting was very much out of the way and particularly difficult of access from nearly every part of the division, there was the largest gathering of Masons which has ever yet been witnessed under the De Tabley banner. Moreover, the assembly was not only the most numerous, but by far the most influential of recent years, and the ensemble as witnessed in the Market Hall was of the most brilliant description. The weather was delightfully fine, and as the brethren gathered from all points of the compass, the "natives" gathered to witness the sight with unusual interest, while the village church bells rang a merry peal. The whole of the thirty-nine lodges in the province were represented, with but one exception—the Mersey Lodge, No. 477, Birkenhead, which was at Knutsford, but not present in the Provincial Grand Lodge owing to some private reason which did not transpire. Some of the lodges gathered in strong force (the Stamford Lodge, 1045, Altrincham, of which Bro. Captain Hardy, P.M., was the acting W.M., having no fewer than thirty-one officers and brethren in the room), and the grand total of the distinguished assembly could not have numbered less than 400. The great room in the Market Hall was admirably adapted for the meeting, and all the arrangements here—carried out by the brethren of the De Tabley Lodge, No. 941, Knutsford (under whose Masonic banner the Provincial Grand Lodge meeting was held)—must have given complete satisfaction to all who were at the meeting.

Bro. the Right Hon. Lord De Tabley, R.W.P.G.M., was present and presided, and amongst his brilliant staff of Provincial Grand Lodge Officers and distinguished visitors on the dais with him were the following:—Bros. G. Cornwall Legh, D.P.G.M.; the Hon. Wilbraham Egerton, M.P., P.P.G.J.W.; Aeneas J. M'Intyre, Q.C., Grand Reg.; J. Hervey, Grand Sec.; H. S. Alpass, Prov. G. Sec. West Lancashire; Horatio Lloyd, P.G.S.W.; J. Wood, P.G. Reg.; E. H. Griffiths, P.G. Sec.; C. Dutton, P.P.G.S.W.; J. Hampson, P.P.G.J.D.; Wilmot Eardley, P.G.D.C.; J. A. Birch, P.P.G.S.D.; S. Gilbert, P.P.G.P.; J. Salmon, P.P.G.S.D.; J. Beresford, P.P.G.S.D.; T. Wainwright, P.P.G.S.D.; J. E. Williams, P.G.S.D.; M. H. Bradley, P.G.S.; the Rev. J. W. N. Tanner, P.P.G.C.; R. Sykes, P.G.P.; J. Lonax, P.P.G.C.; R. T. Bowden, P.G.S. of W.; T. Bowers, P.P.G.A.D.C.; J. Tomlinson, P.P.G.S.B.; G. Burrows, P.P.G.J.D.; W. Fair, P.P.G.S.B.; Rev. R. Hodgson, P.G.C.; J. Travis, P.G.O.; E. G. Simpson, P.P.G.J.D.; H. Howard, P.P.G.J.D.; J. P. Platt, P.P.G.J.W.; R. Mellor, P.P.G.J.D.; R. Newhouse, P.P.G.A.D.C.; T. H. Kirk, P.P.G.O.; W. Blackshaw, P.P.G.S. of W.; W. Berry, P.G.S.; J. Turner, P.G.S.; J. Hibbert, P.P.G.J.D.; W. Greatrix, P.P.G.P.; J. C. Cheetham, P.P.G.S.B.; S. Wilkinson, P.P.G.S.D.; R. Beales, P.P.G.J.W.; H. Bulley, P.P.G.J.W.; Rev. J. S. Darvell, P.G.C.; G. Barlow, P. Prov. G.O.; F. Jackson, jun., Prov. Grand

Treas.; J. W. Arrowsmith, P.P.G.S.B.; and others. Amongst the other brethren present from the district were Bros. W. Nicholls, P.M.; J. Siddley, P.M.; J. Hodgkinson, P.M.; J. Burgess, P.M.; D. Kinsey, I.G.; C. Sherwin, C. R. Walton, S.D.; J. McHattie, W.M.; John J. Cannah, W.M.; J. E. Williams, P.M.; W. C. Hunt, P.M.; T. M. Lockwood, J.W.; S. M. Ramsden, N. McNemie, W.M. 605; R. B. Nicholls, W.M.; R. Kenyon, J. B. Cutter, P.M.; J. W. McGill, P.M.; J. Hulme, P.M.; J. Leach, Llewellyn Makin, S.W.; S. Carter, J. Twiss, P.P.G.O.; T. Arden, W.M.; Thomas Walton, I.G.; J. Wakefield, R. Finlow, W. R. Bainbridge, P.M. 721 and 1276; E. Furnivall, Thomas Brown, 941, 1546; G. Richardson, 1055, 1565; J. H. Evans, J.D.; G. Barber, 1565, 1588; Rev. E. Bagot, LL.B.; Rev. W. N. Truss, J. Cavannah, W.M.; J. E. Coates, C. P. Murray, J.W.; James Crook, S.W.; H. W. Smith, I.G.; W. R. Watson, J. Bott, J. Jennison, John Hardy, P.M., acting W.M. 1045; J. L. Owen, 1045, 1565; W. Gibson, W.M.; Renshaw, J.W.; T. Kent, J. Harrison, J. Hamilton, I.G.; J. Worthington, Tyler 1045; M. Alcock, Tyler 941; W. Taberer, 1045, 941; H. Douglas, E. Herd, W. Wood, J. Blackhurst, S.W.; T. Bolshaw, J.D.; W. Lowe; J. Watson, P.M.; J. Knott; R. Robson; C. C. Imison, P.M.; E. Aston, W.M.; John Fothergill, P.M.; T. Gregson; J. Collier, jun.; R. Rigby, I.P.M.; W. R. Wass, J.W.; C. Rigby; C. Gerrard, 1,844, 758, S.D.; G. Moss; W. Lyon, Tyler 758; T. Kingston; J. C. Waterworth; W. Mellor, I.G.; G. Coxhill, J.D.; W. Matthews, S.W.; John Dennis, P.M.; J. Holland, Sec. 428; T. Davies, P.P. J.G.D., and W.M. 428; H. Brant; H. Claude Lisle, P.M.; E. Butterworth, and others.

The Prov. Grand Lodge was received in due form by the assembled brethren, the prayer at the opening being offered by Bro. the Rev. R. Hodgson, P.G.C. Letters of apology were read from Bros. G. W. Latham, P.P.G.J.W.; Captain Bennett, P.G.J.W.; Captain Cope, P.P.G.S.W.; Rev. C. W. Spencer Stanhope, P.P.G.C.; and R. Baker. The roll of the P.G.L. Officers was read by the P.G. Sec., and showed a more than usually large attendance. The minutes of last P.G.L. meeting at Hyde, and special meetings held at Chester, Crewe, Parkgate, and Newton Moor were read.

Bro. Lord De Tabley then said that in rising to address the Prov. Grand Lodge, as was his custom on the occasion of their annual meeting, he must endeavour to express the very great satisfaction he felt in being enabled to meet his brethren of the P.G. Lodge once more in Knutsford. By meeting them there that day he was reminded of the last time in which they assembled in the same town, in the year 1865. He could never forget the proud moment when, on that occasion, he was installed in the chair of Provincial Grand Master by the Marquis of Ripon, who was then the Deputy Grand Master of England; and when he (Lord De Tabley) looked back on his eleven years of office, he could not but be grateful to the Great Architect of the Universe for the fruits of plenty and prosperity with which He had blessed the growth of Masonry in the Province of Cheshire. (Applause.) At that time there were only 26 lodges in their division, but now they numbered 39. (Hear hear.) At that period they had scarcely a vote for any of the charities which were the pride of the Order, but now, by the liberality of this P.G. Lodge, he was a Vice-Patron of the three great Masonic institutions in London, and the D.P.G. Master also occupied the same proud position. By the singular munificence of the brethren Bro. Dutton was a perpetual Vice-President of the Boys' School, and Bro. Howard was also a Vice-President of the Girls' School. Moreover, there was scarcely a Master in the province who was not a life governor of some of the charities. He did not say this in any spirit of boasting or self-glorification, but to show those illustrious brethren of the Grand Lodge who had honoured them with their presence that day that the light of Freemasonry was burning brightly in the Province of Cheshire, as it was in every province in the great dominions of their M.W. Grand Master. To what was this owing? It was due to the zeal, harmony, and brotherly love exhibited by all the members of their lodges, and by their constant endeavour to act together and promulgate the great principles of the fraternity. (Applause.) Everywhere he went he found the existence of these truly Masonic principles. Only on two occasions he had had to deal with irregularities which had crept into lodges—two instances of offences against the spirit of Masonry; and in one especially the spirit of disunion had prevailed so largely that, on the report of a committee, he had had to suspend it for twelve months. He could only pray that the spirit of love would be restored amongst the members, and that at the end of the year this lodge would again take its place amongst others in the province. Referring once more to what had been done by the brethren, his lordship said a pulpit had been presented to the cathedral at Chester as the result of individual contributions. It was thought that the funds of the Prov. G. Lodge should not be devoted to a gift for any one particular place, but the brethren of that province, devoted as they largely were to the Established Church, came forward with that liberality which is so prevalent amongst them, and presented a pulpit worth £470. (Applause.) Then, last of all, they had from the funds of the P.G.L., and by private subscriptions, purchased a perpetual presentation to the Boys' School in London. Under these circumstances they could not but feel that they had endeavoured to carry out the duties devolving upon them in connection with their charities. (Hear hear.) He was glad to see the influential gathering that day, and he was certain that in the fulfilment of his duties he would have their sympathies and support. He hoped to meet them next year at Seacombe, where he intended to hold his next Provincial Grand Lodge meeting. (Loud Applause.)

The P.G. Treasurer submitted his financial statement, from which it appeared that £414 5s. 10d. was invested on account of the P.G. Lodge, £470 14s. 9d. for the Fund of Benevolence, and £1250 had been paid for the perpetual presentation to the Boys' School. To raise 500 guineas, £398 had to be borrowed from the bank, but towards that he had received £213, and, with certain sums received, the debt to the bank had been reduced to nearly £250, which he hoped would be paid off by next year. The P.G. Treasurer concluded by pointing out the necessity for Secretaries of lodges sending in the returns without delay.

On the motion of the P.G.M., seconded by Bro. G. Cornwall Legh, the accounts were passed, and Bro. F. Jackson was re-elected the P.G. Treasurer.

Bro. Wood, P.G. Reg., moved, and Bro. the Hon. Wilbraham Egerton seconded, a motion to the effect that a silken banner, emblazoned with appropriate Masonic emblems, should be provided for the use of the Provincial Grand Lodge, at a cost not exceeding £20.—The P.G.M.: You will all remember how our banner came to an untimely end while battling with the breezes on Newton Moor. (Laughter.) The motion was carried unanimously.

The P.G.M. then invested Bros. H. Lloyd, Marwood, Sutton, J. P. Platt, and J. Hanson with charity jewels, as they had served the office of Steward to one or other of the charities.

Bro. Lord De Tabley next invested the following as his officers for the ensuing year:—

The Hon. Wilbraham Egerton, M.P.	Prov. G.S.W.
T. Marwood	Prov. G.J.W.
Rev. E. R. Parr	Prov. G. Chaplain.
J. Wood	Prov. G. Reg.
E. H. Griffiths	Prov. G. Sec.
E. Simpson	Prov. G.S.D.
John Siddeley	Prov. G.J.D.
F. Smith	Prov. G.S. of W.
R. Baker	Prov. G.D.C.
J. McGill	Prov. G.A.D.C.
S. F. Gosling	Prov. G.S.B.
J. Beech	Prov. G.P.
J. Travis	Prov. G.O.
J. Burgess, W. Nicholls, J. Hodgkinson, D. Kinsey, C. Sherwin, and J. Whitlow	Prov. G. Stewards.

On the motion of the P.G.M., Bro. Captain Cope was re-appointed the Chairman of the Fund of Benevolence, and the proceedings were brought to a close, votes of thanks being subsequently passed to Lord Egerton for the use of the hall, and to the Rev. H. Barnacle, vicar, for the church accommodation.

A procession was formed, and nearly the whole of the brethren proceeded to St. John's Church, where an excellent sermon was preached by Bro. the Rev. E. R. Parr, P.G.C., from Philippians iv., 8: "Whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things." The musical service was under the direction of Bro. J. Travis, P.G.O., assisted by Miss Travis, Mrs. Hilton, Bros. Stafford, Dumville, Roscoe, Throop, and other vocalists. The collection, amounting to £17 10s. 3d., was on behalf of the Provincial Fund of Benevolence.

A banquet was subsequently served at the Royal George Hotel, but there the arrangements were not quite so satisfactory as could have been desired. The tables were inconveniently crowded, and a number of brethren had to retire without dinner. Bro. Lord De Tabley presided, supported by Bro. Aeneas McIntyre, Q.C., G. Reg.; Bro. J. Hervey, G. Sec.; Bro. G. Cornwall Legh, D.P.G.M.; Bro. the Hon. Wilbraham Egerton, M.P., P.G.S.W.; and a host of other distinguished brethren. After giving the toasts of "The Queen," and "The M.W.G.M. the Prince of Wales, and the rest of the Royal Family," Bro. Lord De Tabley submitted "The Prov. G.M., the D.G.M., and the other Officers of Grand Lodge." In doing so, he said he had that day been honoured with the presence of two Grand Officers, one of whom—Bro. McIntyre—they might reckon as one of themselves, and most glad were they to see him on all occasions; and the other was their most distinguished brother in the Craft, Bro. John Hervey, who had kindly come down from London to be present on that occasion. Both of these distinguished officers were well-known in the Craft, and he gave the toast of their health with the greatest heartiness.

Bro. McIntyre, whose name was coupled with the toast, in the course of an eloquent speech, said he considered it indeed a great privilege to return thanks on that occasion for the Officers of the G.L., and he was quite certain that Cheshire, which was so strong in Masonry, would fully appreciate the services rendered by the brethren whom he then represented. After referring to the excellent qualities possessed by the Earl of Carnarvon and Lord Skelmersdale, Bro. McIntyre said it was in the province of Cheshire that he put his foot on the first rung of the Masonic ladder, and he would never forget the kindness shown to him when he was the ruler of the Cestrian Lodge. He concluded by proposing "The Health of the P.G.M.," to whom the province owed its present proud position in connection with the charities, and also with reference to the numerical strength and position of all the lodges.

Lord De Tabley, in responding, said it was with feelings of profound gratitude to the Great Architect of the Universe that he found himself presiding over that province. Not alone through his efforts, but principally through the efforts of those who had supported him, had Masonry in that province been raised to the present proud position, he was glad to say, which it held amongst the other provinces in England. He could only pray that the lodges under his control would continue to work with that love and harmony which he desired so much to see. The great hindrance to this was over zeal in some cases. Lodges got over-energetic and over-wild, as it were,

thus tending to cut them up into sections. His lordship concluded by cautioning them against these dangers, and strongly advising the brethren to cultivate the true spirit of Masonry.

Bro. G. Cornwall Legh responded for "The D.G.M. and the other Prov. Grand Officers;" Bro. H. S. Alpess, P.G. Sec. W. Lancashire, and Bro. Bodley, P.G. Sec. Oxfordshire, for "The Visiting P.G. Officers;" and Bro. Wilbraham Egerton, M.P., P.G.S.W., for "The W.M. of the De Tabley Lodge," "The Visiting Brethren," "The P.G. Stewards," and "All Poor and Distressed Masons," were the remaining toasts.

CONTINENTAL FREEMASONRY.

The following appeared in the "Glasgow News":—

Monsignor Nardi, in his description last winter of Lord Ripon's reception at the Vatican, was naturally led to refer to British Freemasonry, and he was careful to explain to his Roman readers that this was a very different thing from Continental Masonry. It consisted, he said, in eating and drinking, which was sometimes too freely indulged in to be conducive to health, but it was comparatively a harmless institution; and although Lord Ripon on joining the Roman Catholic Church necessarily resigned the presidency of it, no reproach could be cast on him for his long connection with it. Indeed, the fact of his willingness to abandon Masonry, as a sacrifice called for by the Church, redounded to his credit, and made his conversion the more noteworthy. This semi-apology for British Masonry naturally attracted notice, contrasting as it did so strongly with the unmeasured denunciations habitually lavished by Roman Catholic authorities on the Craft in general. It was refreshing to find that, even on Roman Catholic testimony, all Masons were not revolutionists and atheists, and that some were only venial offenders, blameable for belonging to a secret society, but not chargeable with grave delinquency.

It is sometimes alleged that the Pope himself was formerly a Mason, and that this accounts for his animosity against the Craft. A more pointed retort would be that the Roman Catholic Church has not always set its face so rigidly against secret societies. During the reign of the First Napoleon such organisations were formed—some of them designed to rescue the Pope from captivity at Fontainebleau, others to bring back the Bourbons—and they continued to exist under the Restoration. We do not say that they were sanctioned by the Vatican, but it is certain that its censure would have led to their dissolution, and that that censure was withheld. M. de Carne relates that on visiting a high official of the French Foreign Office in 1825 his hand was shaken in a very peculiar manner, his friend interlacing his fingers with his own, and evidently expecting some corresponding word or gesture. He was afterwards told that he had lost a chance of political advancement by not being posted up in this Legitimist grip.

Even now there are rumours of an Ultramontane secret organisation in the South of France, entitled the King Jesus Society, and Republican papers have urged Government to proceed against this alleged conspiracy. Without discussing these recriminations, however, we are bound to say that Continental Freemasons appear fully to reciprocate the ill-will cherished towards them by the Roman Catholic Church. It is notorious, indeed, that they are anti-Roman Catholic, and, almost without exception, anti-Conservative. It is needless to discuss whether they spontaneously adopted this attitude, or whether it was forced upon them by their opponents. It is sufficient to take things as we find them, and to remark that while a loyal Roman Catholic could not join the Masonic lodge, a stray Conservative who happened to do so would find himself a fish out of water. French Masonry in particular is a Radical body. Just twelve months ago M. Littré, the disciple and successor of Comte, was admitted into its ranks in the presence of M. Gambetta and other leading Radicals. He had a subject allotted him on which to read a paper, and with significant irony the subject thus chosen was "Man's Duty towards God." M. Littré, of course, affirmed that the existence of a God was problematical, and that man could have no duties towards a hypothetical being. In a few days the annual Congress of French Masons resolved, by 110 to 65, that the recognition in their First Article of a Great Architect of the Universe ought to be expunged. The resolution does not take effect until it has been considered by all the lodges in the country, but it will very probably be ratified; and in any case it indicates the temper of a large section of the Craft towards not merely Romanism, but all religious belief. Thus, so far from disguising their scepticism, they openly avow it.

The moral of all this is, that from whichever quarter the hostility originated, Roman Catholics and Masons on the Continent are at daggers drawn, and that many at least of the latter are not only anti-Romanists but Materialists. British Masonry, therefore, Mgr. Nardi is quite right in saying, is sui generis. It is not revolutionary, and it is not irreligious. It embraces men of all parties and creeds, and men of almost all classes, including clergymen. Its aims are not merely harmless, but laudable. It is in no way responsible for the tenets or objects of Continental Masonry. The only pity is that two bodies of such different complexions should have one common name and a semblance of identity.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.—Good Digestion.—With the weather alarmingly changeable, and foul miasmas penetrating to the very sources of life, the skin will become inactive, and the digestion impaired, unless corrected by suitable means. Holloway's Pills are universally acknowledged to be the safest, speediest, and best corrective of impurity. Loss of appetite, acidity, flatulency, and nausea are a few of the inconveniences which are remedied with ease by these purifying Pills. They strike at the root of all abdominal ailments; they excite in the stomach a proper secretion of gastric juice, and regulate the action of the liver, promoting in that organ a copious supply of pure, wholesome bile, absolutely necessary for digestion. These Pills remove all distention and obstruction.—ADVT.

VALUABLE PRESENTATION TO AN ESTEEMED BROTHER.

One of the distinguishing features of Freemasonry is that its adherents rarely forget valuable services; and the brethren connected with the Everton Lodge, No. 823, fully exemplified the article of Masonic faith at their usual monthly meeting at the Masonic Hall, Hope-street, Liverpool, on Wednesday evening, the 20th inst. The Everton is one of the most numerous lodges in the province of West Lancashire, and while great credit is due to all the Masters who have filled the chairs, special praise is due to Bro. William John Lunt, P.M. and Treasurer, who has most effectually contributed by his efforts to the present material prosperity and standing of the lodge. While in the chair he distinguished himself as a Mason of a high order, and during the last ten years he has fulfilled the onerous duties of Treasurer in a manner which has gained for him the universal esteem of the entire membership. This esteem took a practical form at the last meeting, when Bro. Lunt received a testimonial which was valuable and appropriate. Bro. W. Wilson, W.M., was in his place, supported by Bros. J. Houlding, S.W.; H. Ashmore, J.W.; J. Holland, P.M.; a large gathering of the "Everton" members, and about thirty visitors, including a number of the members of Boards of Guardians, Bro. Lunt belonging to the West Derby Union.

After the usual lodge business, Bro. W. Wilson, W.M., on behalf of the officers and members of the lodge, presented Bro. W. J. Lunt, P.M., Treasurer, with a most beautifully chased silver salver and skeleton time-piece (supplied by Wordley and Co., Lord-street), as a token of their great appreciation of his services to the lodge. Bro. Wilson's remarks were most suitable to the occasion, and in the course of an excellent speech he complimented Bro. Lunt on his consistency as a member of the fraternity, practising out of the lodge those principles which he was taught within it. Bros. J. Houlding, S.W., and J. R. Goepel, P.P.G.D.C., P.M. 823, also bore testimony to the many admirable qualities shown by Bro. Lunt in every portion of his public, private, and Masonic relations and duties.

Bro. Lunt acknowledged the gift in a neat and concise speech, remarking that ascertaining there was a desire on the part of the brethren to show him some mark of respect he would have preferred it had assumed a form in which the members generally could have participated—say a scholarship or something of that nature; but as the brethren had preferred it should be personal to himself, he had no alternative but to submit to the "stern will" of those who sought to do him this honour. In the course of his remarks Bro. Lunt pointedly and happily referred to the prominent principles of Freemasonry, and the various watchwords of the Craft, stating that the liberty of conscience, natural equality, and mutual dependence of its members, the non-political, unsectarian rules which were fostered within the walls of every Masonic lodge, tended to show that there was something more in Freemasonry than that which pedantry and bigotry gave it credit for; in fine, that their guiding principles had made the Order what it was—a bond of unity which brought peace on earth and good will among men. Bro. Lunt then referred to his early connection with the lodge, the way in which it had been conducted, and the progress it had made; and concluded by cordially thanking the brethren for their very handsome gift.

After voting five guineas for the Masonic gift to Chester Cathedral from the lodges in West Lancashire, the brethren retired to the barqueting-room, where a merry meeting of the most enjoyable kind was held. Amongst Bro. Lunt's guardian and ex-guardian colleagues, and other friends present, were Bros. J. Jones, P.M. 216; G. Fowler, 216; H. Pearson, P.M. 249; Major Turner, P.M. 823, Lancaster; H. Gillmore, 216; Bevan; J. Lunt, P.G. D.C., &c.

LAYING FOUNDATION STONE OF NEW DOCKS AT AYR.

With weather such as would have satisfied even the most fastidious; with all the pomp and ceremony of the Craft, and in presence of a vast assemblage of persons, the foundation or memorial stone of the new dock at Ayr was laid on Tuesday with due solemnity by Sir James Fergusson, Bart., of Kilkerran, Past Provincial Grand Master Mason of Scotland.

Not for a considerable number of years has an event occurred in the quaint town of Ayr which has caused so much commotion, and scarcely ever has any ceremony been performed which has been looked forward to with a greater degree of interest by the inhabitants. The fact of the Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master having kindly consented to lay the stone with what is known as full Masonic honours, was naturally the means of causing numbers of the members of the secret Craft from all parts of the West of Scotland to wend their way to Ayr. So large was the contingent from Glasgow that it was found necessary to bring a special train into requisition to convey the Freemasons to their destination. Before proceeding further, it may be interesting to give a brief description of the dock, to advert to the causes which led to its construction, and to refer to the progress of the operations. In the first place it may be mentioned that the present harbour is faulty in many, if not every respect—its area is too limited, the water is too shallow, and it is, in short, totally unsuitable for the rapidly increasing trade of the port of Ayr. In a district like that of Ayrshire where, in the interior of the county, the coal trade is making such terrible strides and is considered capable of being more extensively developed, increased facilities for shipment were absolutely necessary if the town desired to maintain their connection with the shipment of that

industry. The present docks could not be said either to be sufficiently large or commodious to admit of a development of this branch of trade, and, consequently, the Police Commissioners resolved to take measures for an enlargement of the harbour by the construction of an additional dock. Grave, and, in fact, insurmountable difficulties at first presented themselves to the carrying out of such a scheme; but the Commissioners did not remain long in a quandary until Mr. James Baird, of Cumbusdoon, with that liberality for which he was so much admired, came forward and generously offered to advance the sum of £120,000 to the Harbour Trustees. Following up this, the Glasgow and South Western Railway Company gave £10,000, and the remainder of the money required having been provided from other sources, contracts for the erection of the dock were solicited. Plans were prepared by Mr. Meik, C.E.; and the contract was given to Mr. Walter Scott, Newcastle. In June, 1874, operations were commenced, but about a year was spent in the construction of a coffer dam, and in shutting the sea back from the base of the work. In November last year the first block of masonry was deposited in its place in presence of a few gentlemen, and since that time rapid progress has been made with the works.

The whole works will, it is expected, be completed by November, 1877.

With regard to the proceedings we now describe, although one o'clock was fixed as the hour at which the procession would be formed, it was nearly two before the Freemasons, volunteers, halberdiers, and others got into proper order. At the latter hour the bell of the Town Hall commenced to toll, sending forth a funeral tone, and this acted as the signal for the procession to start.

The Grand Lodge was composed of Sir James Fergusson, Bart., Past Provincial Grand Master of Ayrshire, acting Most Worshipful Grand Master; Bro. Charles Dalrymple, M.P., acting Deputy Grand Master; Wm. Mann, Substitute Grand Master; Wm. Hay, S.G.W.; Rev. Inglis, acting G. Chap.; John Laurie, G.S.; R. Wylie, G. Treas.; Roger Montgomery, M.P., S.G.D.; R. W. Cochrane Patrick, J.G.D.; D. Murray Lyon, P. Prov. G.M. for West Indies; J. T. Middleton, G.A.; Capt. G. F. Cult, of Gartsherrie, S.B.; C. W. M. Miller, G.D. of Music and Representative of Saxony; R. Davidson, G.O.; A. T. Apthorp, G.M.; Robert Morrison, President of the Board of Stewards; R. S. Brown, F. S. Law, H. H. W. Finlay, and J. Taylor, G. Stds.; and W. M. Bryce, G.T. The lodges represented were—366, Daily; 565, Patna; 519, Kilwinning Stranraer; 505, Burns, St. Mary, Hurlford; 498, St. John, Catrine; 442, Neptune, Ardrossan; 334, St. John, New Cumnock; 250, Union, Dunfermline; 242, Houston, St. Johnstone; 230, St. Barnabas, Old Cumnock; 204, St. Paul, Ayr; 198, Royal Arch, Maybole; St. Mungo, Mauchline; 178, Scotia, Glasgow; 169, Thistle and Rose, Stevenston; 165, Royal Arch; 155, St. Barchan, Kilharchan; 149, St. Andrew, Irvine; 138, Operative, Ayr; 135, St. James, Tarrbolton; 129, St. Mirren, Paisley; 126, St. Andrew, Kilmarnock; 125, St. James, Newton-on-Ayr; 124, Kilwinning, Ayr; 86, Navigation, Troon; 68, Doric Kilwinning, Port-Glasgow; 51, Loudoun Newmilne, Kilwinning; 22, St. John's, Kilmarnock; 18, Dumbarton, Kilwinning; 8, Journeyman, Edinburgh; 5, Canongate, Leith.

A detachment of the local volunteers and Artillery Brigade, as also a contingent of the 26th Fusiliers from Glasgow, and the band of the latter regiment, also took part in the procession. All along the route crowds of people were stationed, and every window and house top from which a view of the procession could be got was occupied. Flags, banners, and decorations of almost every conceivable kind floated from the various public and private buildings; the ships in the harbour were decked in their gayest bunting, and even the itinerant showmen (who, by the way, have taken full possession of the street which skirts the river) exhibited what stock of cloth they possessed so as to complete the "general effect." Arrived at the dock, the procession was drawn up, and the Right Worshipful Masters who were to take a prominent part in the proceedings were accommodated with places in front of the foundation stone. Rev. Bro. Inglis, Kilmaurs, having offered up prayer, the usual Masonic ceremony was gone through—Masonic implements were applied to the stone, corn and wine and oil poured on it, and after the customary few knocks with the mallet, the stone was declared to be duly laid. The band, which had frequently struck up when not required, immediately after this played the Masons' Anthem, and the fact of the ceremony having been completed was heralded by the firing of a number of shots from the big guns situated on the shore. The loud cheering which prevailed having ceased,

Bro. Sir James Fergusson said: Right Worshipful Officers of the Grand Lodge, Brethren, the Provost of Ayr, Ladies and Gentlemen,—Having completed the appropriate ceremony of laying the foundation stone of this grand work, I have now in words of my own, in the first place, to express the gratification which I feel in being privileged to perform this interesting ceremony. I must allude, in the first place, to one to whom I bear much respect and regard—the Grand Master Mason of Scotland, deeply regretting that he is prevented, by severe illness, from performing his duty to-day; but I am not the less highly honoured by being privileged to do his duty. I would congratulate the Provost and Magistrates of this ancient burgh the trustees of the harbour, and all concerned in the work on this event, which is not only the laying of the foundation stone, but the placing, as I may say, of the chief corner stone of the great dock of Ayr. (Cheers.) For this block of granite brought from the most distant part of the kingdom—the mines of Cornwall—is destined to bear the great gates of the dock through which we trust commerce in abundance in future years may pass. (Loud cheers.) Let me say one word upon the ceremony which

has just been performed. The Grand Lodge, on the invitation of the Harbour Trustees, have come here to lend to this opening ceremony all the importance which it is in their power to confer. It is for them to bring to the practical part of the work their contribution of symbolical ceremony; which, let me tell you, is no idle form, for if the ministration of justice in the kingdom is surrounded with certain features of majesty, so ought the great industrial triumphs of peace, to be surrounded by fit ceremonies of respect. (Applause.) Our friends are here engaged in a work which has called forth the highest enterprise, that could not have been undertaken without acts of public munificence and great enterprise, and it was fitting that the Grand Lodge of Scotland should come here to wish success to the work, and to lend all the importance their presence can confer. I regret this day that one is not by our side who through his life did so much for the encouragement of works of value to his fellow citizens. (Applause.) But for James Baird's public spirit we could not have hoped that the great work could have been undertaken. (Applause.) Although we may hope that in the future the commerce of Ayr will be amply sufficient to pay for the construction of works of even larger grandeur than the present undertaking, still, at this moment, it would have been difficult and onerous to the town to have found the funds, had it not been that the great man who has passed from amongst us came forth with his open and generous hand. Not to all is it given to see in his lifetime the success and completion of works of usefulness, and though it is an example for those who can do something in their lifetime for the permanent advantage of their fellow countrymen so to do and though the author of the work has passed away, he has secured to his fellow citizens, for the future, the means of completing it, and in this, as many other works, his monument stands and will stand for ages as an example to Scotchmen if they succeed in life to dedicate the good things of this world that came to them not only to founding a family, which I trust will long endure, but to works of usefulness which will be for the good of their children's children in ages to come. (Cheers.) In conclusion, Sir James wished an abundant measure of success to this grand work, so honourable to those who had undertaken it, and, he would add to the country at large. (Cheers.)

Mr. Weir—On behalf of Mr. Whitelaw, who unfortunately, like the Grand Master, is prevented from being here to-day through illness, and on behalf of this great assemblage and of the town of Ayr, I beg to propose a vote of thanks to Sir James Fergusson and his brother Freemasons, for attending here to-day and laying this stone in a proper manner and with full Masonic honours. (Cheers.)

Mr. Scott in a few appropriate remarks presented the trowel to Sir James Fergusson, who replied.

Provost Goudie—It is a matter of great regret to the Harbour Trustees of Ayr, and, I am sure, to the whole community, that Mr. Whitelaw should have been prevented by illness from being present on an occasion like this, fraught with so much importance to the burgh and town of Ayr. I have the honour and pleasure of presenting to Mr. Weir, on behalf of Mr. Whitelaw, this beautiful silver trowel, and I ask him to have the goodness to present it to Mr. Whitelaw with the best wishes of the Harbour Trustees for his renewed health and vigour, and as a fitting memorial of the interesting ceremony and proceedings of this day. (Cheers.)

Bro. Weir, in acknowledging receipt of the trowel, spoke as follows:—I have great pleasure in taking possession of this trowel for Bro. Whitelaw, and I may say that I will take the first opportunity of presenting it to him. He is quite conscious of the high honour which has been paid to him to-day, not so much on his own account but on account of the position he has taken in the management of the affairs of the late Bro. Baird, who took such a great and practical interest in the success of this dock, and which has been so handsomely acknowledged by Bro. Sir James Fergusson and the Provost. I know Bro. Whitelaw is very much disappointed at not being present to-day; and I need scarcely say that this beautiful trowel will be held as an heirloom by him, and that he will look upon it as a tribute of respect to him, paid to the memory of the late Bro. Baird. (Cheers.)

Bro. Walter Scott, Newcastle-on-Tyne, contractor for the works, presented the silver trowel to the Grand Master for presentation to Bro. Sir Michael Shaw Stewart, and in doing so said he was sorry Bro. Sir Michael was not present himself. He hoped that the undertaking would be a success, and that the contractor would leave Ayr with more capital than he brought into it.

A large and influential company assembled in the Assembly Rooms at four o'clock, when a elegant *recherche* dinner was partaken of.

MASONIC DEMONSTRATION AT GRANGEMOUTH. LAYING FOUNDATION OF INSTITUTE AND OPENING WATERWORKS

On the 19th inst. Grangemouth held high holiday, the occasion being the laying of the memorial stone of the Public Institute by the Earl of Zetland, and of the opening of the waterworks by the Countess of Zetland.

Early in the morning the town was astir making preparations for the grand event, which promised to be very successful. Shortly before 10 o'clock numerous bodies arrived in the town to take part in the double ceremony, and at 10.30 these assembled at the railway station, along with the local bodies and a detachment of the 1st S.A.V., under the command of Lieut. McKay, for the purpose of meeting a number of delegates from the Freemasons of Leith, Falkirk, &c.

The Earl and Countess having joined the procession in their carriage, the great bulk of the processionists marched

to the Public Institute, while the Masonic body went to their lodge room, where the Earl was affiliated. He was then conveyed to the institute, where a number of gentlemen had assembled to witness the ceremony, and among them Sir Wm. Edmonstone, Bart., M.P.; Sheriff Bell, Provost Russel, Falkirk; T. D. Brodie, S.S.C., Edinburgh; F. Anderson, Inchyra, Grange; Rev. Dr. Ogilvie, Falkirk; Rev. Messrs. Holden, Sinclair, and Lambie, Grangemouth Messrs. Wilkie and J. Fairlie, Grangemouth, &c. Mr. Finlay Anderson having presented a silver trowel to the Earl from the Grangemouth Young Men's Christian Association, the stone was laid in its place, and the usual masonic ceremonies gone through. The Earl of Zetland returned thanks for the hearty manner in which the Countess and himself had been received on this their first public visit to Grangemouth. The day's proceedings were to him of an interesting character, for he believed that it was now a century since the foundation stone of the town buildings had been laid by his ancestor, Sir Lawrence Dundas. He believed that Grangemouth was advancing rapidly, and to show this compared the present shipping trade with that of 1840. He spoke of the good that might be done by means of the institute, and again expressed the pleasure he had in being present. The procession, having been reformed in its original order, walked to a field, about half a mile distant from town, on the Bu'ness Road, where a fountain has been erected.

Here Miss Mackay presented a beautiful bouquet to the Countess, who turned on the tap in connection with the fountain, and declared the works open. Mr. J. S. Mackay, Chief Commissioner of the burgh, presented her ladyship with a silver cup from the Commissioners of the burgh, on the occasion of the opening of the new waterworks by her ladyship. The Earl returned thanks on behalf of her ladyship, after which the large assemblage dispersed.

The institute is of a very plain but substantial character, and consists of two flats. The front of it faces Bridge Street, which street is the principal entrance. The ground flat is to be devoted chiefly to the inner comforts of man. After passing through a lobby, the dining room, 20ft. 9in. by 26ft. 8in., and which will accommodate between 70 and 80 people at dinner, is entered, while on either side of it is a coffee room and smoking room. The dimensions of the former are 19ft. 6in. by 15ft.; it will accommodate about 40 persons at a time. On the right hand side of the entrance lobby is a room which may be fitted up as a smoking room. The second flat, which is entered from the front by a staircase, consists mainly of a large hall, 41ft. by 37ft. 6in., which will accommodate from 400 to 450. The building is to be crowned with a spire, the height of which from the ground is 62ft., and in which is to be placed a clock and bell. Messrs. A. & W. Black, Falkirk, were the architects. It is estimated to cost £2100, of which £1450 has been subscribed.

PROPOSED CENTRAL MASONIC HALL FOR GLASGOW.

In pursuance of an idea which he has for a long time entertained, the Provincial Grand Master of Glasgow, Bro. Walter Montgomerie Neilson, of Queenhill, has at length put before the brethren of the province a project for the acquisition of a Central Masonic Hall. It is much to be regretted, he says, that in Glasgow Freemasonry is only known by the outer world as lodging in inaccessible chambers in obscure localities. Almost everywhere else, even in small towns, Freemasonry has a location, a Masonic building worthy of the order; and he holds it is as a discredit to the second city of the Empire, and a disgrace to the Craft that, in a province containing 26 working lodges, it has not proper premises for the meetings of its Provincial Assembly, and suitable offices for the transaction of its business. With a view to remedy this state of matters he has had purchased, in Berkley Street, a building which is now held at the disposal of the brethren of the province, at the price paid for it. It will give accommodation for the meetings of the Prov. Grand Lodge, and any other lodges that may choose to use it, in a hall 44ft. by 22ft., with organ and choir annex of 22ft. by 14ft.; a suitable reception room 21ft. 7in. by 14ft. 10in., and a clothing room in the street floor; a small lodge room, or Prov. Grand Committee room, Master's room, Secretary's room, large lavatory and W.C. on the first floor; smoking room, W.C., and two living rooms for keeper on the attic; and an excellent kitchen, with an ample cellar and store rooms in sunk floor. He would have preferred, he says, a situation not quite so far west, but the position has many advantages and nothing at a reasonable price could be got nearer to the present place of meeting of the Prov. G. Lodge in Buchanan Street. Berkley Street is a fine wide thoroughfare close to the Public Halls, within tramway access from all quarters; and from the rapid increase of the city westwards, will soon be in its centre. The cost of the building as it stands is about £1500; and it could be altered, decorated, and put into possession of the Prov. Grand Lodge for about £3000. The P.G. Master proposes to raise this sum, first, by subscriptions from the wealthy members of the Craft in two forms—by donations and investments—the investors agreeing to forego interest, and to hold the property redeemable by the Craft as they may accumulate funds; second, by every lodge forming a building fund committee, and engaging to raise a sum according to its ability within a given time, say five years; and third, by every candidate for admission to Freemasonry paying a small sum to the building fund in addition to the ordinary fees. For his own part, the P.G. M. intends to subscribe £200 to the investment and £100 to the donation fund, and he will endeavour, he says, to obtain a subscription of every gentleman in Glasgow who is a Freemason. He deprecates, however, being left to work single-handed, and asks and expects all brethren who

have any heart in Freemasonry to come forward and put their hands to the work, in the formation of a central committee, and to write to him direct that he may be able at once to make the necessary arrangements. If the brethren decline to adopt the scheme, the property referred to will be sold, the P.G. Master bearing any loss that may result from the transaction; and, with great regret, he says he will be obliged to abandon all hopes of his fond expectations being realised — of seeing Freemasonry in Glasgow elevated to the honourable position it holds elsewhere. On receipt of the communication embodying the scheme of which the above is an outline, a special meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge was summoned for its consideration, the result being the formation of a committee for the furtherance of the object, said committee consisting of all the Masters of lodges within the province, together with the Prov. Grand Depute and Substitute Masters, P.G. Senior and Junior Wardens, and the P.G. Secretary, Bro. John Baird, P.G.S.M., being appointed convener. Meantime the committee have instructed the Masters of the various lodges in the province to bring the matter at once before the members, and endeavour to obtain an expression of their feeling on the subject, so that the same may be fully reported at the next meeting of the committee.

ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE VISIT OF THE PRINCE OF WALES TO GLASGOW.

A meeting of the Lord Provost and Magistrates was held on the 26th inst. in the City Chambers for the purpose of making final arrangements for the visit of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales. The meeting was private, but we understand that a complete scheme of the arrangements was agreed to. As no communication has been received from His Royal Highness to the contrary, it was taken for granted that the date of the visit would be Tuesday, the 17th October. On the previous evening the Prince and Princess, with two of the Royal children, will be the guests of Bro. Col. Campbell, M.P., at Blythswood. Leaving Blythswood on Tuesday morning, their Royal Highnesses will come by train to St. Enoch Station of the Union Railway, arriving there at a quarter-past ten o'clock. Previous to that time St. Enoch-square, and the approach to it from Argyle-street, will be lined by the Hussars and the 26th Cameronians. Their Royal Highnesses will be received at the station by the Lord Provost and Sir Edward Colebrooke, Lord-Lieutenant of the county, along with Sheriff Dickson. The Lord Provost and Magistrates will wear their official robes, and his Lordship will present the Magistrates to their Royal Highnesses. The Prince of Wales's charger is to be brought from London to bear his Royal Highness, but we understand it will be suggested to the Prince that he should enter the Royal carriage at the station with the Princess and their children, and drive to the Green, where the review of the Volunteers will immediately take place, His Royal Highness, in the dress of a Field-Marshal, there mounting his charger, and reviewing the troops, while the Princess will, it is expected, be accommodated on a portion of a grand stand to be erected, where seats will also be provided for a select company. After the review their Royal Highnesses, accompanied by their suite and the Lord Provost, will proceed along Argyle-street, Main-street, Anderston, and Elderslie-street to the residence of the Lord Provost, where they will partake of luncheon. In the meantime the Grand Lodge of Freemasons will open the lodge in Burnbank Hall, and dressed in the regalia of the Order, will proceed to his lordship's residence and accompany the Prince and Princess of Wales and suite and the Lord Provost along Woodside Crescent, Sauchiehall-street, and St. George's Square. Entering the square by St. Vincent Place, the Royal party will then proceed along Queen-street and George-street, to the north-east corner of the square. From this point a platform covered with an awning, and having a stand on either side for spectators, will run along the whole east side of the square to that part of the new Post Office where the foundation stone is to be laid. At the George-street end of the platform, His Royal Highness will be received by the Lord Provost, and conducted along the covered way to the Post Office, where the Freemasons will already have taken up their position, it having been arranged that they shall leave the procession at the corner of St. Vincent-place and Queen-street, and march along St. Vincent-street to the Post Office. Immediately on the Prince's arrival there, he will be presented by the Lord Provost, in name of the Corporation, with a loyal and dutiful address, and thereafter His Royal Highness will lay the foundation stone with Masonic honours. The Princess and Princess and suite will afterwards return to the residence of the Lord Provost, where they will be entertained to dinner along with a select party who are to receive invitations. The Lord Provost and Magistrates have agreed to recommend the inhabitants of the locality adjoining his lordship's residence, as well as the University authorities, to illuminate their buildings in the evening, while their Royal Highnesses take their departure to the train by which they will leave the city.

The Lord Provost and Magistrates also agree to recommend the citizens to observe the day as a general holiday.

The annual banquet of the Duke of Connaught Lodge of Instruction, No. 1524, will be held at the Havelock Tavern, Albion-road, Dalston, on Wednesday, 4th October, at seven p.m. Bro. T. C. Chapman, P.G. Stwd. Herts, W.M. 1524, will preside.

A Grand Council of the Illustrious Knights K.H. 30° will be held at the Masonic Hall, 33, Golden Square at 4.45 p.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 11th.

Bro. Wm. Toye was installed, on Thursday week, W.M. of the Burdett Coutts Lodge, No. 1278.

Obituary.

BRO. FREDERICK GOODYER, P.P.G.S.W. LEICESTERSHIRE.

The sad and unexpected intelligence of the death of Frederick Goodyer, Esq., the Chief Constable of Leicestershire, on Tuesday, the 12th instant, from disease of the heart, was received throughout the county with a feeling of regret at once deep and wide-spread. Only a few weeks have elapsed since this gentleman, who was so well-known and deservedly respected, tendered to the county magistrates his resignation of that responsible and important position, which he had filled for nearly forty years with such conspicuous ability; and intimated his intention to retire from his public duties, in order to gain that rest he had so well earned; but before he had been permitted to relieve himself from the labours and cares inseparable from his high official position it pleased the G.A.O.T.U. to call him to the Grand Lodge above, with a suddenness quite startling. Our deceased brother was in his sixty-eighth year. Bro. Goodyer was of an ancient and respectable family, long seated in the south of England; his great grandfather, Mr. John Goodyer, having been Mayor of Guildford, in Surrey, about the year 1729. Bro. Goodyer's grandfather served as a captain in the British army during the American war. This gentleman "got through" much of the family property. His son, Mr. Landera Goodyer (the late Bro. Goodyer's father), held a responsible post in the Phoenix Fire Office. He was the father of a large family, his youngest son being the subject of this notice; the eldest held a commission in the Spanish Legion, and died, in active service, in Spain. The eldest daughter became the second wife of Benjamin Hick, Esq., of Bolton, whose son, John Hick, Esq., now sits as one of the members for that town in the House of Commons. The only surviving issue of Bro. Goodyer's parents is Mrs. Godfrey, wife of John Godfrey, Esq., of Northampton. No male descendant now remains of the once numerous family of Mr. Landera Goodyer. Our deceased brother was for many years an active and esteemed member of the Craft. Bro. Goodyer was initiated into Masonry (together with five other candidates, one of them being the present Clerk of the Peace for the county, Bro. W. Napier Reeve) on the 26th March, 1846, at the first meeting (under dispensation) of the John of Gaunt Lodge, then No. 766, now 523, under the Mastership of Bro. Kelly, now P.P.G. Master. After passing through subordinate offices and the Wardens' chairs, Bro. Goodyer was elected W.M. of his lodge in the year 1854, and performed his duties with zeal and ability. He had also held several offices in the Provincial Grand Lodge. In 1854 he succeeded Bro. Kelly in the Prov. Grand Secretaryship, and after discharging the duties most carefully and efficiently for three years, he was promoted to the rank of P.G.S.W. in 1859. After being exalted in the Chapter of St. Augustine, formerly attached to the John of Gaunt Lodge, on the removal of the warrant to the lodge at Ashby de-la-Zouch he joined the Chapter of Fortitude, No. 279, in which, in the year 1866, he filled the office of Second Principal, but did not proceed to the first chair. In Mark Masonry he was one of the founders of the Fowke Lodge, No. 19, having, with a few other Leicester brethren, been advanced in the old Newstead Mark Lodge, at Nottingham, early in 1858, and was nominated in the warrant as Senior Warden of the Fowke Lodge, the W.M. being Bro. Kelly, the Provincial Grand Master of that degree for Leicestershire. Bro. Goodyer was also one of the founders of St. Peter's (Craft) Lodge, No. 1330, at Market Harborough, and a few months ago he joined the Albert Edward Lodge, No. 1560, lately established at Leicester, but had not been able to be present at any of its meetings. We believe his last attendance in Masonry was at the installation of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales as G.M. at the Albert Hall. The remains of our lamented brother were interred in the Leicester Cemetery on Monday, the 18th inst., a large number of spectators being present both along the streets through which the procession passed, and at the cemetery. The funeral arrangements were simple and unostentatious in character, the mourners wearing neither hat-bands nor scarves. At the head of the cortege marched seventy-six members of the County Constabulary, four abreast, followed by Deputy Chief Constable Bail, and five superintendents. After the mourning coach containing the chief mourners came a carriage containing four superannuated superintendents of the police force. At the principal entrance to the cemetery, which was reached in the midst of a drenching downpour of rain, the procession was joined by a considerable number of members of the Order, headed by the Past Prov. Grand Master, Bro. Kelly, by whom, as before mentioned, the deceased was, thirty years ago, initiated into Masonry. Among many others present were Bros. Toller, P.P.G.S.W.; Partridge, P.G. Sec.; Rev. J. Owen Pictor, B.A. (rector of Desford), P.P.G. Chaplain, by whom the funeral service was performed; Major Freer, P.P.G.S.B. (who, together with his colleague, T. T. Paget, Esq., chairman of the Leicester Bench, attended as representing the county magistrates); Rev. C. H. Wood, W. Napier Reeve (Clerk of the Peace for the county); Dr. Buck, P.P.G. J.W.; Charles Morris, P.P.G.S.W. (clerk to the Leicester Bench); Joseph Haines, P.P.G.T.; Edwin Clephan, P.P.G.J.W.; and others; also Richard Toller, Esq., Clerk of the Peace for the borough; G. Harrison, Esq., Borough Coroner; many members of the Town Council, and other leading inhabitants both, of the town and county. After the ceremony in the chapel, the solemn service was completed at the grave in the midst of brilliant sunshine, and a last sad farewell was then taken by his sorrowing relatives, brethren, and friends (including the numerous body of police, who had lost in him a kind and considerate chief) of the earthly remains of the departed. The inscription on the coffin was, "Frederick Goodyer, born 17th March, 1808, died 12th September, 1876." Peace to his remains.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.

The General Committee of Subscribers to the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls met on Thursday afternoon at Freemasons' Hall, when there were present Bros. H. A. Dubois (in the chair), Lieut.-Col. Creaton, John Boyd, Herbert Dicketts, R. B. Webster, Raynham W. Stewart, Thos. Massa, Henry Venn, F. G. Baker, Hyde Pullen, H. Massey ("Freemason"), Peter De L. Long, and R. Wentworth Little, Sec.

Colonel Creaton gave notice of motion for the next Quarterly Court that the Chairman of the Building Committee should sign cheques for the works in progress at the school. This arose out of the circumstance that the House Committee had lately signed a cheque for £1000 for the builder, and the House Committee has no power to deal with the funds of the institution except for servants' wages.

A third Assistant Governess was then appointed, on account of the increased number of the children in the school.

Col. Creaton moved that Bro. Muggeridge, who has resigned his office of collector to the institution, should receive a pension of £150 a year from the 1st January next.

Bro. Raynham W. Stewart seconded the motion, which was put and carried unanimously.

Bro. Raynham W. Stewart gave notice of motion for next Quarterly Court that the office of collector be abolished and an additional clerk be appointed in the Secretary's office. He also gave notice of motion for next General Committee that the salary of the Secretary be increased by £100 a year.

The brethren then proceeded to consider the petitions of candidates for election, and placed two cases on the list.

Authority was given to the Chairman to sign cheques for salaries, &c., to the amount of £354.

The House Committee was appointed as the committee to enquire into the office and duties of collector, and a vote of thanks to the Chairman closed the proceedings.

Masonic and General Tidings.

PRINCE LEOPOLD'S VISIT TO ST. ANDREWS.

—Bro. H.R.H. Prince Leopold arrived on Tuesday at Mount Melville, near St. Andrews, the residence of Bro. John Whyte Melville. The Prince, who since Monday has been the guest of Mr. W. B. Skene, of Pitlour, journeyed by way of Cupar in a carriage and four, with two postilions. The day was observed as a holiday, and the Royal visitor was accorded a cordial welcome. The streets were lined by the Volunteers and Fife Light-Horse while His Royal Highness was passing through.

The annual banquet of the Constitutional Lodge of Instruction, No. 55, will be held at the Wheat-sheaf Hotel, Hand-court, Holborn, on Tuesday, 3rd Oct., at seven p.m. Bro. A. J. Melhuish, S.W. of the mother lodge, will preside.

Bro. the Right Hon. the Earl of Zetland, R.W.P.G.M. North and East Riding, of Yorkshire, laid the memorial stone of the Public Institute at Grangemouth on Tuesday last.

We learn that the Earl of Limerick, M.W.G. M.M.M., has fixed to hold a movable meeting of the Grand Lodge of Mark Masters (for the second time) at Leicester, on Wednesday, October 25th, on which occasion a new Mark Lodge, the Simon de Montford, No. 194, will be consecrated, and the Mayor of Leicester, Bro. Barfoot, installed as the first W.M. The R.W. Prov. G. Mark Master, Bro. Kelly, summoned a meeting of the Provincial Grand Mark Lodge for the 28th inst., to make the necessary arrangements.

The ceremony of consecration will be rehearsed on Monday evening, Oct. 9th, by Bro. Terry, at seven o'clock, at the Marquis of Ripon Lodge of Instruction, Pembury Tavern, Amburst Road, Hackney. Bro. Wm. Stephens, P.M., will perform the Installation ceremony on this occasion. Brethren are requested to appear in full Masonic clothing.

Bro. S. C. Hall, in a preface to a new edition of his "Book of Memories," states that he is occupied in preparing a volume of "Recollections of a Long Life." He published a book so long ago as 1820, was intimately acquainted with Ireland so far back as 1816; and commenced the "Art Journal" in 1839; having been an editor upwards of 53 years.

THE VATICAN.—The "Berlin Post" states that the Pope has determined to solemnize the anniversary of the humiliating punishment inflicted centuries ago upon the German Emperor Henry IV. at Canossa.

The "Masonic Magazine," containing the dedication to "Long Livers," and a reference to some Hermetic Grades, is out, and can be obtained at 198, Fleet-street.

RE-OPENING OF THE ABERDEEN MASONIC HALL.—The decorations of the Aberdeen Masonic Institute, in Exchange-street, for which a considerable sum was raised by means of a bazaar some months ago, is now completed and the re-opening of the rooms for the use of the brethren of the Craft for club and meeting purposes, was inaugurated last evening by an appropriate ceremony, in which the several city lodges took part. A report of the proceedings will appear next week.

The students of the Islington School of Science and Art on Wednesday evening received the Queen's prizes at the hands of Bro. Sir John Bennett.

DAYLIGHT reflected in dark rooms. Gas superseded in day time. Health, comfort, and economy promoted by adopting Chappuis' Patent Daylight Reflectors.—Manufactory, 69, Fleet-street, London.

COSMOPOLITAN MASONIC
CALENDAR.

W. Masters and Secretaries are earnestly requested to forward to the publisher, at the Offices, 198, Fleet-street, E.C., particulars of the place, days, and months of meeting of their respective lodges, chapters, and other Masonic bodies, for insertion in the issue of the Calendar for 1877.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

COLONIAL AND FOREIGN SUBSCRIBERS are informed that acknowledgments of remittances received are published in the first number of every month.

It is very necessary for our readers to advise us of all money orders they remit, more especially those from the United States of America and India; otherwise we cannot tell where to credit them.

TO OUR READERS.

The *Freemason* is a sixteen-page weekly newspaper, price 2d. It is published every Friday morning, and contains the most important, interesting, and useful information relating to Freemasonry in every degree. Annual subscription in the United Kingdom, Post free, 10/- P.O.O.'s to be made payable at the chief office, London.

TO ADVERTISERS.

The *Freemason* has a large circulation in all parts of the Globe, its advantages as an advertising medium can therefore scarcely be overrated.

For terms, position, &c., apply to
GEORGE KENNING, 198, Fleet-st.

Answers to Correspondents.

All Communications, Advertisements, &c., intended for insertion in the Number of the following Saturday, must reach the Office not later than 12 o'clock on Wednesday morning.

We do not undertake to return rejected communications.

The following stand over:—Cestrian Lodge, Chester, 425; Lodge of Lights, Warrington, 148; Caledonian of Unity; Royal Arch Chapter, 73; Prov. G. Lodge of Somersetshire; Renfrewshire East Prov. G. Lodge; St. Andrew, Royal Arch, No. 321.

BOOKS &c. RECEIVED:—"Masonic Eclectic;" "The Chosen People of Israel and England;" "La Chaine d'Union;" "Cassell's Popular Educator;" "The Philadelphia Keystone;" "New York Square."

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

[The charge is 2s. 6d for announcements, not exceeding four lines, under this heading.]

BIRTHS.

BLADON.—On the 22nd inst., at Vealdens-road, New Wandsworth, the wife of C. E. Bladon, of a daughter.

BURTT.—On the 24th inst., at Villa-road, Brixton, the wife of E. W. Burtt, of a son.

BURT.—On the 22nd inst., at The Hatch, Redhill, Surrey, the wife of Mr. T. W. Burt, of a son.

CHARLTON.—On the 22nd inst., at Lime-tree-villas, the wife of T. Charlton, prematurely, of a daughter.

CORBETT.—On the 22nd inst., at Berne, the Hon. Mrs. Corbett, of a son.

MELLOR.—On the 20th inst., at Otterhead, Honiton, the wife of A. Mellor, Esq., of a daughter.

MONEY.—On the 25th inst., at Summerfield, Weybridge, the wife of the Rev. G. E. Money, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

HARDING—SCOTT.—On the 21st inst., at St. John's, Cheltenham, John Harding, of Rockfield, Monmouthshire, to Caroline Mary, daughter of the late H. E. Scott, C.E.

LOWNDES—CHESTER.—On the 19th inst., at the parish church, Chicheley, Charles W. Selby Lowndes, Capt. 93rd Highlanders, to Fanny Maria, daughter of Col. C. M. Chester.

MASSA—DIXON.—On the 23rd inst., at Neuchatel, Switzerland, Bro. Thomas Massa (P.M. 59), of Plaistow, Essex, to Emily Jane, daughter of the late J. Dixon.

DEATHS.

COBET.—On the 20th inst., at 2, Clarence-road, Croydon, 1vo Leo Anthony Cobet, aged 44, late of the firm of Hofman, Schedk, and Co., Vine-street, Minorities.

BENNETT.—On the 23rd inst., John Leighton Wade Bennett, Esq., of Woodmancote-place, aged 74.

DUTTON.—On the 23rd inst., at Cheshunt, Herts, in his 42nd year, Joseph Fitzpatrick Dutton, Esq.

LAWRENCE.—On the 23rd inst., at George-street, Edinburgh, George Alfred Lawrence, Esq.

LEACH.—On the 19th inst., at Ramsgate, Rose, wife of Edwyn Evans Leach, of Laurel Brook, Perry-hill, Lower Sydenham.

RAARSBERG.—On the 12th inst., at the residence of Bro. W. H. Edwards, 3, Falmouth-road, London, Bro. Sophus Raarsberg, of St. Nicholas Lodge, No. 93, and St. George's Royal Arch Chapter, No. 21, Scotch Constitution.

The Freemason,

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 1876.

PAPAL UTTERANCES.

The good old Pope seems very hard put to it for something to say to the pious who flock to him at Rome in sympathy and devotion. We need, therefore, make allowance for many of his *epea pteroenta*, for little acerbities of utterance, and pathetic outpouring of the "vials of wrath," for denunciations which are meaningless, and prophecies which do not turn out to be true. No doubt the kindly and facetious old gentleman is rather "hard-up," to use a profane expression, just now, both for a grievance and "gravamen." He is not in any way uncomfortable, his captivity is a myth. He is, as the French say, "bien logé, bien nourri," in the finest palace in the world, and when he becomes morbid and melancholy, and thinks himself peculiarly ill-used, he has nothing to do but to step into that glorious building, in which true-hearted piety might indeed find a home, and religion might exercise its soothing influence over the complaints of the oppressed, or the sufferings of the sorrowing. But the good old man prefers, not to "wash his dirty linen at home," but to take all the world into open council with him, as he unfolds to them the sad recital of his wrongs and injuries, of his annoyances and worries, of his "hard lines," of his diminished dignity. It is impossible, of course, to hide from any one that a great change has come over the Eternal City in many ways. Without going into the old question of the pontifical sovereignty, (about which a great deal on pure grounds of political consideration may be said, doubtless, on both sides of the question), we all must feel that it is not, perhaps, unnatural for one who has been the actual earthly ruler, to feel a little chagrined that he is no longer No. 1, in "Roma la Santa," and that practically he has to pay obedience to the Supreme Civil Power. Hence this "kicking against the pricks," this resistance to a "fait accompli," to the inevitable march of affairs, to the altered circumstances of the age, and of human opinion. After all, in his Spiritual Sovereignty, the Pope is but reverting to the earlier, and some may think the purer and happier days, of the Roman Primacy. Though some may deem that the Chief Bishop of Rome should be independent of all earthly power or sovereign, so to say supreme "suo jure," yet he must be a very careless reader of history who is not also aware that it is this very theory of earthly supremacy which has encouraged the worst pretensions and led to the most detestable acts of the see of Rome. And looking at the question religiously, it seems very doubtful, per se, whether such can be a true or befitting condition at any time, of the Church of Him who said, "my kingdom is not of this world." The admixture of the spiritual and civil power in the Pope of Rome has often been gravely arraigned, and solemnly condemned. Perhaps, few ever except on the ground of the good old rule, "Stare super via antiquas," would wish to see the existence amongst us of a spiritual and temporal power combined. The teaching of the day, and the sympathies of us all, point rather to temporal things for temporal rulers, to spiritual things for spiritual rulers, and the subordination of all persons, lay or clerical, to the supreme ruling power of the State, in all matters that are of earthly politics, of social arrangement, and of normal regulation. While, then, we do not altogether condemn Pio Nono for his "larmoyante" tone, as regards his own position, and that of his communion, we cannot say that we either much pity him or sympathize with him. On the contrary, we think that he shows, in his constant attacks on the tendencies of the age, a want of self control, a lack of moral dignity, and an ignorance of what the progress of society and the necessities of the hour imperatively demand. His best "rôle" would be, as the French would say, in our hum-

ble opinion, to "make the best of a bad bargain," not to "cry over spilt milk," or combat the unavoidable and the irrevocable, but while maintaining firmly his own principles of dogma and duty, to seek to tighten up the bonds of discipline, and strengthen the outworks of his own Church. The Church of Rome must always have a great influence, necessarily alike on the destinies of nations, and the progress of the world, and if her influence could be exercised for the peace and welfare of the human race, it seems a "thousand pities," and even a cruel unkindness, to pervert it to increase the contests, and deepen the animosities of mankind. One of the good old Pope's bugbears just now is the Masonic Order. This seems to be his "bête noir" and as he is the centre of the Romish system, all the "lunæ minores" take their cue from him. Nothing is too bad or too wicked to lay to the charge of this "pernicious sect," these "children of Antichrist." Now, these are hard words, and foolish words, and untrue words, utterly undeserved by the Freemasons, and we regret to see them form the staple of the daily invectives of the benevolent Pontiff, or making up the jeremiades of cardinals, and the normal utterances of Roman Catholic dignitaries everywhere. According to them the Freemasons are at the bottom of all the opposition to the Church of Rome just now. This is an absurd invention of the Roman Curia, and a gross blunder; no grosser was ever committed, amid those many which often make the thinking doubt alike the astuteness and intelligence with which it has been generally credited. Freemasonry cares nothing and knows nothing about the Papacy or Roman Catholicism per se, except when they attack the principles, or impinge on the circle in which Freemasonry habitually moves and acts. Indeed if the Church of Rome would leave the Freemasons alone, and cease to denounce them, and arraign them, and excommunicate them, Freemasons would take no further notice of Roman Catholicism or Ultramontanism. It is only because the Roman Catholic authorities lose no opportunity just now of assailing the character, and impugning the motives of Freemasons, their words and acts, their principles, and their professions, that Freemasonry seems to be thrown into active collision with the Church of Rome. Romish teaching is not ours, certainly; but with that we have nothing to do. We do ask, however, as we have a right to ask, for liberty of thought and action, the sanctity of the conscientious opinion, toleration, charity, peace and justice. The good old Pope is not responsible, let us hope and believe, for all the nonsense which the Roman Curia puts into his mouth. But then what comes of his personal infallibility? Having pointed out these facts for the appreciation of our readers, as we are bound to do, we are glad to add that the benevolent Pontiff himself is still in excellent health and extreme vivacity.

SPIRITUALISM.

We are deeply sorry to note that this absurd monomania is again venturing to obtrude itself on public attention, and to claim even the commentaries of scientificists, and the approval of learned professors of something or other. In our humble opinion no greater audacity of charlatanism was ever publicly put forth for the deception or debasement of mankind. It constitutes in itself a burlesque on all the laws of evidence, a parody on all the "outcome" of right reason, and is, we venture to conceive, an insult alike to the intelligence of the age, and the general progress of general or scientific education amongst us. In some recent correspondence which has appeared in our pages, it is clear to us, despite the grave averments of those who evidently are very easy of belief, and very much disposed to be partizans, that the position of Dr. Lankester and Mr. Donkin is unshaken. The manifestations they behold can only be produced somehow by "legerdemain," by skilful manipulations of one kind or another. How they are performed matters nothing in the argument, neither does it really concern us to know; it is sufficient for us that they are "illusions" of the senses, and certainly utterly unworthy of the name of "spiritualism," too ridiculous to be in any way connected with the

world unseen. To believe that such a ridiculous, and we will add, contemptible, act per se, as writing on a slate—the hand on or under table—is an act of a disembodied spirit, or manifestation of the great spirit world, is not only an outrage on the common sense of humanity, but is, we believe, a great dishonour to religion. It is, in fact, nothing more or less than a revival in this our age of that theory of the "fraus pia," of the "lying miracle," of the "unveracious legend," which has done in the past, and still is doing at this very hour, so much harm in this world of ours, sapping the faith of thousands and making all religion to many a "mockery, a delusion, and a snare." It is a grave reflection on scientific study amongst us, when at any rate we are supposed to have mastered both the reality and the laws of "cause and effect," to be gravely told that such "conjuring tricks" are manifestations and emanations from the "spirit world." The subject is a very serious one, and we will add, a very sad one, in these its most recent ebullitions and exhibitions. That educated men can write as they do write, and seriously propound the theory, that because they do not understand how Mr. Slade has certain words scratched by a slate pencil on a slate, therefore they are to assume that they are supernaturally written, is to us, we confess, one of the most alarming amid the many chapters in the grave history of human delusions. On the arguments of some of these hasty inductionists, events which they cannot understand or explain, and which are marvellous, per se, become "spiritual," or "supernatural," and we can at once see, to what lengths such a "petitio principii" may lead some of us, and what a hopeless fallacy is involved in such false grounded premises! All that can be said by those who dissent from Dr. Lankester and Mr. Donkin's reasonable explanation of the whole matter is, that they do not understand what they see, and cannot explain it! Admitted! But they can go no further. Such is a state of mind not unnatural and not uncommon after some many of the clever "coups" of the professors of the "necromantic art," or "digitation," or whatever you like to term it. At times such clever illusions baffle the closest scrutiny of the most observant, and defy the explanation of the most understanding. But were we to attribute them to "spiritualism," or "supernaturalism," or the like, we should be properly laughed at for our pains, and not unreasonably classed either among the most credulous or the most gullible of mortals. And why should we treat a falsely called "spiritualism" in any other way, or consider the acts and movements and manifestations of alleged spiritualists (we object to the term altogether), on any other principle, either of induction or deduction, of observation or explanation? That these tricks may be skilfully performed we do not dispute, and difficult to explain we do not doubt, but that they have a right to be called "spiritual," or "supernatural," in any sense whatever, we do utterly deny! We consider such an allegation as a perverse misuse of words, a distinct violation of the great canon of "cause and effect," a simple defiance alike of all the laws of evidence as we previously pointed out, and a distinct rejection of the first principles of scientific study amongst us. As an illustration of what we have said, the following letter appears in the "Times" of Thursday last, an amusing commentary on the value and reality of these mountebank tricks, aping the name of spiritualism. "A friend of mine who has just returned from America tells me that he a short time since attended a séance, at which the medium obtained messages from several celebrities of both ancient and modern times, and, among others, one (at the request of my friend), from Bucephalus, who condescended to inform the company that he 'still took great interest in literary pursuits, particularly in connection with education.'"

ULTRAMONTANE VIOLENCE.

We should not recur to this subject, (for it is a very wearisome and painful one), were it not that hardly a day passes without some fresh outrage, as Moliere so well says, on "tout ce qu'

on revere." Indeed, the violence of the Ultramontanes just now is quite unaccountable, just as this unscrupulousness of word and action on their part is both alarming and saddening in the highest degree. Let us try and realize the following in the "Times" of Saturday:—"Manuel, Bishop of Minorca," issued instantly two tremendous "Pastorals," from which, as they lie before me on the table, I extract the following to show their tone, tenour, and animus. Pastoral I. :—"Putrid members must not touch sane members, neither must Protestants approach Catholics. . . . We will excommunicate, to the third generation, all Protestants and Freemasons!" Then, another "Pastoral" said "Lord Ripon, chief of the Freemasons, and a son of Gladstone (un hijo de Gladstone) have embraced Catholicism; and we shall soon chant a joyous Te Deum for the disappearance of all this leprosy of heresy (lepra de heresia)." The Bishop gave a practical turn to the theories and ideas hinted at in his "Pastoral," for, in his capacity of "visitor" of the Roman Catholic Public Schools of Mahon, he openly turned out of the school, and forbade instruction to the son, aged 12 years, of Mr. Robinson, a gentleman of high respectability, ex-American Consul. Later on in August the following little incident occurred :—A few Custom-house employés, and quay and dock labourers, and loiterers attended Mr. Binion's school, and dared to offer up a prayer to God, in his newly purchased church. Down went the Sub-Governor, D. Antonio Castaneira, the Jefe, or Chief of the Custom-house, and said, "Give your employés to understand that they run a chance of losing their place if they attend such school and place of worship." The Spanish Protestants in the whole Island of Minorca only number about three hundred professed and enrolled members. What can any Freemason or lover of toleration think of the following :—"The culminating act of intolerance on the part of the Sub-Governor of Mahon was committed on the night of the 30th of August, an act which every paper, or nearly every paper, whether in Madrid or the provincial towns, has stigmatized as 'illegal and wicked.' It was this,—I will state it as briefly as possible. On the 30th of August the Methodists (Spaniards) had their usual 8 p.m. meeting for prayer and song. At 9 p.m. they commenced their usual sonorous hymn; suddenly, the Sub-Governor entered the chapel, and, advancing to the platform, denounced the 'singing' as an act of 'public manifestation,' and, therefore, contrary to the wording of Article XI., and said, that 'this was the last time he should speak; henceforth, he must act.' The hymn was stopped; the rough voices died away; one short prayer was offered up, and the congregation of 'Spanish Protestants' dispersed to their humble homes and cottages. The above narrative is strictly true in every particular. I have summarized it from authentic MS. copies and printed letters and pastorals. Most of the Spaniards of Mahon are free-thinkers; what a pity it seems that the few who would meet together for prayer should be thus interrupted, and their worship denied them or curtailed." Now what the Roman Catholics hope to gain, as we point out in another leader to-day, by this cruel and violent utterance we cannot conceive. In our humble opinion it can only lead to a wide reaction, and such a reaction will, we also believe, aid to extend happily the more tolerant principles and teachings of Freemasonry. And if the intolerance of the Ultramontanes is simply awful to every thoughtful and well-regulated mind, be the religion of the individual what it may, what can we say of their unscrupulousness? It is in our opinion equally fearful, for acts are done in the name of religion which are purely immoral per se, and then defended with a virulence of denominational eloquence, an unconscionable impudence, and a rowdy vulgarity, of which we know no parallel, even in the darker ages of the world's history. Civilization and progress, culture and refinement, seem only to have increased the ardour of the intolerant, and the defiance of the unscrupulous. Let us also ponder over the last public effusion of a R.C. bishop, and his manly and straightforward manner of dealing with a complaint of a poor mother, that her boy, not yet arrived at "years of discretion," had

been perverted to the Roman Catholic persuasion, "auspice," the Bishop himself. Let all those who affect to doubt that Rome is "semper eadem," bring home to themselves what this meek "Bishop and Pastor of the Flock" so humanely and so modestly declares :—"The Roman Catholic Bishop of Nottingham, Dr. Bagshawe, a fortnight ago baptized a gentleman of 15, named Drake, without the consent or knowledge of his mother, and notwithstanding the boy has no father. On being remonstrated with by Mrs. Drake the Bishop sent the following letter :—"The Cathedral, Nottingham, September 10, 1876.—My dear Madam,—Your son is of age and intelligence quite sufficient to make him fully responsible to God for that which is a man's most solemn duty—the choice of his religion. In this one must obey God rather than man. When, therefore, your son applied to me for religious instruction and aid it was not lawful for me to deny his request, or to refuse him any ministrations; neither could I refer him to any other authority than his own conscience for the choice which he had to make. Allow me to say that I did not re-baptize your son. I performed a ceremony conditional only, as there is reason to fear that in the Church of England the Sacrament of Baptism is sometimes administered incorrectly and invalidly. Regretting the pain which your son's reception may have caused you, I remain, my dear Madam, yours truly, EDWARD, Bishop of Nottingham." Here is Ultramontaniam setting at nought parental authority, mocking the religious scruples of the poor widow with unholy sneers, just as it denies the liberty of conscience, advocates the persecution of all non-Roman Catholic, and is even not averse to outrage the graves of the departed, to punish the living, and to insult the dead. We confess that we deeply mourn over this mockery of, and parody on, all true religion.

THE GIRLS' SCHOOL ELECTION IN OCTOBER.

Thirty-six candidates are on the voting papers for the next election of the Girls' School; of these fifteen are from London, and twenty-one from the provinces. It may be interesting to note now from what classes our orphans come, as it demonstrates in a remarkable manner the contrasted claims on our great charities. Officers, 2; scholars, 2; surgeons, 1; merchants and manufacturers, 5; officials, 1; traders, 12; clerks and agents, 4; non-commissioned officers, 1; licensed victuallers, 5; miscellaneous, 3; total 36. Surely in this case, as in many more, comment is needless. "Verbum sit sapienti."

THE CONCORDIA INSTITUTE.

By some unaccountable blunder of the printer, the Communiqué with reference to this institution did not appear last week, as it ought to have done. We print it this week immediately after the leaders.

THE "PHILADELPHIA KEYSTONE."

In our impression of August 19th we were glad to say some friendly words with reference to this very useful and valuable Masonic journal. In the impression of the "Keystone" of September 9th we find the following words as regards ourselves, which we reproduce here, even at the risk of being charged, among other high crimes and misdemeanors, with being egotistical :—"The handsome tribute just received from the London "Freemason" (which stands at the head of the Masonic press of Great Britain and Ireland, and indeed of the English-speaking world) we value higher than any that has ever been awarded us, and it shall stimulate us to increased efforts to produce a Masonic newspaper that shall contain the news of the world in a readable shape, together with original articles upon leading topics of interest to the Anglo-Saxon Craft."

THE CONCORDIA INSTITUTE. (COMMUNIQUE.)

At St. Gall there exists an international establishment of education and instruction called the "Concordia," founded and directed by Bro. J. Bertsch-Sailer. The M. of Lodge "Concordia," Bro. Scherrer Engler, has warmly recommended this establishment by writing to several lodges, after other brothers had convinced themselves of its being in every way worthy of recommendation.

Such a document has also fallen (in what way or by what means we will not examine here) into the hands of the Ultramontanes. It is true that this establishment has long since been a thorn in the side of this party, because its principal dares to accept Protestants and "even Jews" among his scholars, and to teach religion in a tolerant spirit contemporaneously to the members of various denominations, but always in the most considerate and objective manner, and without touching upon those points wherein the different denominations deviate. But as they could not get hold of either the Principal or his school, the indisputable fact of his being a brother offered them a welcome opportunity for carrying on after their wily and jesuitical fashion a war of destruction against the Institute "Concordia."

The said letter has appeared in several Ultramontane journals of Switzerland, accompanied by violent and passionate marginal notes, in which the fathers of families are distinctly warned not to send their sons to be educated at the Concordia. Furthermore, a kind of lampoon in folio was extensively published and sent to the "spiritual fathers," that they might use it for their own purposes, and many copies were even directly or indirectly put into the hands of the parents of some of the Concordia scholars. Where these means were found inadequate, the priests and their abettors called on the parents of the scholars in order to caution them against this bad establishment. The whole plan was well organized, for they attacked the "Concordia" almost unanimously in Switzerland, in France, and in Italy.

And what reproaches are cast against this establishment in these interminable articles? On what grounds does this public admonition against the Institute "Concordia" in St. Gall stand? Dr. Bertsch-Sailer is a Freemason and recommended by Freemasons, consequently his school is a danger to morality and religion. That is the quintessence of Ultramontane indignation for which they have wasted so much printing-ink; this is the crime with which, in a truly priestly spirit, they charge Bro. Dr. Bertsch-Sailer, and propped up by which the Ultramontanes do not scruple to undermine the scholastic credit of a school which, as is clearly proven by numerous facts, takes the education of youth not merely as regards instruction but also in matters of religion and high moral principles, very seriously.

That the newspaper articles in question are written especially against Masonry and the assaults directed against the Institute "Concordia" as quite secondary, and but the means to this end, will be evident to any one who has read them. To be sure a by-end is attained; the most zealous propaganda being made in favour of a jesuitical college or an Ultramontane paper. Unfortunately it cannot be disputed that this priestly manoeuvre has seriously injured the numbers of the Institute "Concordia." Let us hope however, that fathers will soon come to the conviction that the Freemasons do as much good to humanity as their antipodes, the Jesuits, do harm. As soon as the public become aware of this truth, and the prejudices against the Masonic orders have lost ground, an establishment conducted on Masonic, that is to say on humane and enlightened principles, will be preferred to any other, and especially to one with more or less strongly pronounced jesuitical tendencies.

Our brethren require no further explanation here, for every Freemason knows that our union is neither dangerous to religion nor to morality, on the contrary that our duty makes us of necessity show the greatest tolerance to every individual.

But the "Concordia" recommends itself the most on account of the many religious, moral, and good principled Swiss, Italian, French, Spanish, and American youths, who have left the establishment thoroughly fitted to enter upon various professions. We submit it to the judgment of all unbiased people who know this institute, whether the jesuitical establishments have so clear a conscience in this respect as Brother Dr. Bertsch-Sailer, principal of the "Concordia" in St. Gall, and we trust that the future will show the capability of this institute, conducted on Masonic principles, to hold its own against the innumerable clerical establishments, though they are overfilled with pupils. The fidelity of their convictions, the noble aspiration, the indomitable courage, and the firm union of the Freemasons vouch for this result. These attributes of our old and numerous brotherhood, which have manifested themselves so often and in so brilliant a manner, will also on this occasion prevent our enemies from blazoning forth a nefarious triumph.

THE "SATURDAY REVIEW."

The "Saturday Review" is never flattering to Freemasons, and the following critique on "Masonic Portraits by J.G." is quite in keeping with its usual tone. We think it well to give it in extenso:—"The general composition of the Freemasons' Society shows that it is quite possible to be a Freemason without being a fool, but it is obvious enough that there is a considerable proportion of fools among the body. 'J.G.' is one of those undesirable members who discredit the brotherhood by a kind of drivelling absurdity which seems to be the natural effect of lodge meetings operating on a weak temperament. 'J.G.' informs us that he 'would not have ventured to publish his

sketches' of distinguished Masons 'in a permanent form if his own inclination had been consulted,' but they have been 'favourably received by the Masonic world,' when they appeared in one of the organs of Freemasonry, and he has been 'constrained' by the pressure of friends to republish them. He adds that they are 'freed from those blemishes which are inseparable from periodical writing.' We do not know how far the original style of these sketches has undergone a change, but as they now stand they are certainly marked by the blemishes of the lowest penny-alining. The work is, in fact, a curious mixture of impudent familiarity and fulsome adulation, and we should imagine that such of the persons here described as have any sense of self-respect must be anything but pleased at finding themselves held up to public view in such a ridiculous light."

Original Correspondence.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for, or even as approving of the opinions expressed by our correspondents, but we wish, in a spirit of fair play to all, to permit—within certain necessary limits—free discussion.—Ed.]

FREEMASONRY IN VENEZUELA.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I happen to be a member of a committee that takes a deep interest in the progress of South America. One of our representatives there, in writing to announce that the President and Congress of the United States of Venezuela had decided on asserting the independence of the Church of Venezuela, and throwing off the yoke of the Roman Church, writes thus in reference to the remarkable man who is President:—"I consider the President, Guzman Blanco, is a man of great talent and ruling power, and has kept the country in comparative peace during the last six years. He has suppressed all the monasteries and convents in the country, and turned their houses into useful institutions. The other day he inaugurated a magnificent Masonic temple, built at the expense of the State. He is improving the city and country wonderfully, and establishing schools throughout; and last, not least as regards England, he is making arrangements to pay interest on the National Debt."

Such are some of the things this extraordinary man is doing, and the future of this very beautiful and fertile country seems hopeful. Hitherto it was in a state of chronic revolution.

I think it will be interesting to find Bro. President Blanco and his brother Masons doing such truly Masonic work, and making Masonry a blessing and a praise upon earth.

Yours fraternally,

R. J. SIMPSON.

THE WIDOW OF THE LATE BRO. FARNFIELD.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Will you be kind enough to insert the enclosed letter addressed by me to Bro. H. Green, in reply to his communication of the 18th inst., which appeared in the "Freemason" on Saturday last. You will see that I requested Bro. Greene to forward my letter to you for publication with his, as it was my wish that the two should both appear in the same number of your paper, but I presume, owing to my being absent from town, Bro. Greene did not receive it early enough to publish with his on Saturday last.

Yours faithfully,
The White Hart Hotel, Margate.

J. A. FARNFIELD.

Sept. 27, 1876.

Dear Bro. Greene,—

Your letter of the 18th inst. has been forwarded to me here, and as Bro. Davis is at present also staying in Margate, I have taken the opportunity of seeing him before replying to you, and knowing that you were actuated by the kindest motives, I cannot but regret that you feel annoyed at my letter to the "Freemason;" but when I was told from more than one source that my brother's and my own incomes had been published in order to show that there was no need for the application, and to ground opposition, I thought it quite in order that I should disavow any hand in the motion. Soon after my father's death Bro. Davis told me that you purposed appealing to Grand Lodge on behalf of my mother, and I at once stated I did not wish it, although I am bound to say his views throughout have differed from my own excepting as to the terms in which the notice of motion was couched. I heard nothing further, and concluded the subject had dropped until I saw that notice of motion had been given, and Bro. Davis called upon me, as from you, to know what my father had left. As you had proceeded with your notice, I thought the better way was to give the information which I did, and again repeated to him that I regretted the step about to be taken. With respect to my brother Herbert, it appears that Bro. Davis met him on the steamboat, and casually asked him if he knew what my father's pension from the Government was, and he, having the papers in his pocket (being on the way to the War Office) shewed them to him; but the whole of this took place after the notice of motion was given and made public. The two interviews I have mentioned are all I heard of the matter, and I leave it to you to say if I am not strictly accurate in my statement to the "Freemason." If you decide on publishing your letter, I must ask you will do the same by this my reply,

Believe me, dear Bro. Greene, yours sincerely,

J. A. FARNFIELD.

The White Hart Hotel, Margate,
Sept. 20th, 1876.

DEDICATION OF A MASONIC HALL AT HAVANT.

Monday, September 18, was appointed for the dedication by the R.W. the Prov. G.M. of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight (Bro. W. Wither Bramston Beach, M.P.), of the Carnarvon Lodge, No. 804, which has been erected in the vicinity of the railway-station at Havant. The flourishing condition of the lodge induced the members to provide a building to be set apart for the purpose of Freemasonry, and so recently as the 10th April last the Prov. Grand Master attended at Havant to lay the foundation stone, the ceremony being performed according to the ancient customs of the Craft. The weather was unpropitious, and the result was that the attendance of brethren on that occasion was somewhat limited. Since then the work has been pushed on with considerable vigour, under the superintendence of Bro. H. R. Trigg, architect, of Hayling Island, a P.M. of the Carnarvon Lodge, and Past Prov. Grand Superintendent of Works. The building consists of a lofty lodge-room, with retiring-room for the W.M. adjoining, a committee-room and Tyler's room at the entrance, and the usual offices. The contract for its construction was entrusted to Bro. G. Barnes, of North-End, who has carried on the work in the most satisfactory manner. The building of the lodge having been completed nothing remained but to have it properly dedicated, in order that the Freemasons of Havant may regularly assemble within its walls.

Shortly after three o'clock the lodge was "close tyled," and the Provincial Grand Master, accompanied by the Provincial Officers, entered and was received with the customary tokens of respect by the brethren. Bro. W. W. B. Beach, M.P., the Provincial Grand Master, was supported by the following officers of P.G. Lodge:—

Bros. J. E. LeFeuvre, P.G. Sec., as D.P.G.M.; H. Abraham, S.G.W.; F. Pineo, J.C.W.; M. E. Frost, G. Treas.; E. G. Holbrook, G. Reg.; S. S. Pearce, G.S.D.; J. B. Atkinson (Lymington), G.J.D.; Puntis (Basingstoke), G. Dir. Cir.; E. Groves, G.A.D.C.; J. R. Willson, G. Pur.; G. Sherman and G. R. Johnson, G. Stewards; J. W. Pillow, G. Org.; J. Exell, G. Tyler—with the exception of some of the Stewards nearly all the Provincial Officers appointed recently being in attendance. Among the Past Provincial Officers were Bros. H. Ford, P.S.G.W.; J. T. Kirkman and H. Cawte, P.J.G.W.; Capt. E. V. Haldane, P.G.S.D. (Monmouthshire); J. Parkes, P.G.D.S.B.; J. Maltby, P.P.G.S.B.; R. Osborne, P.P.G. Org.; also J. Weeks, W.M. Carnarvon Lodge, and the following P.M.'s, officers, and members of that lodge (which was strongly represented):—Bros. J. N. Hillman, J. Purnell, Thos. Francis, Harrison, and H. R. Trigg, P.M.'s; J. Clay, S.W.; T. P. Hall, J.W.; G. Carter, S.D.; C. H. Liddle, J.D. and Org.; W. Bull, I.G.; W. King, G. Barnes, J. Southwood, R. W. Green, Walter Sims, F. Spurgeon, George Woodman, G. T. Gourd, C. A. Gourd, F. Gourd, C. H. Burr, H. Robins, and Harry Kimber. Among the visitors were Bros. J. Whale, W.M. 309; L. A. B. Cole, W.M. 208; W. Edgeler, I.P.M. 928; Eugene E. Street, J.D. 56; O. N. Wyatt, S.W. 38 (Chichester); J. Grant, P.M. 151; Joseph Cole, S.W.; Henry Pierson, J.D.; and F. C. Masters, I.G., all of 928 (Petersfield); J. R. Hayman, 257; H. J. Dowse, 257; F. Feltham, 257; S. Gamblen, S.D. 309; F. J. Dennis, S.D. 694; J. Leggett, J.W. 1428; W. Bolton, S.D. 777 (Guilford); Thacker, (Minerva Lodge, Hull); S. R. Ellis, P.M.; H. J. Guy, S.W.; W. Payne, J.W.; W. D. Parkhouse, C. G. Adames, Bacigalupo, E. Smith, A. Yearworth, E. Bastable, J. L. Edwards, and W. H. Speering, all of the Royal Sussex Lodge, Portsea; George Bond, S.W.; W. Lenanton, George Arney, T. B. Palsgrave, F. White, and G. L. Greer, of the Portsmouth Lodge, No. 487; Joseph Hill, 1425; J. Gieve, 1069; C. B. Whitcomb, P.M.; John Liddle, G. Foster, W. Scott, M. Dowd, and R. Dwyer, of Gosport Lodge, No. 903.

The Grand Master intimated that the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, Bro. W. Hickman, was absent in consequence of indisposition, and he asked the Prov. G. Secretary, Bro. J. E. Le Feuvre, to act as his substitute. It was then announced that the Grand Master, assisted by his Grand Officers, would dedicate the lodge to virtue, Masonry, and universal benevolence. The opening solo and chorale, composed by Bro. C. H. Liddell, organist of the lodge, was effectively rendered by Bros. Carter, Liddell, Blackmore, and Sperring, Bro. Pillow presiding at the harmonium.

The Grand Master then called upon Bro. Henry Ford, P.P.G.S.W., to offer some observations upon Freemasonry.

Bro. Ford said that if it were not his duty to obey the Grand Master's command, he should still have felt it a pleasure to take part in the proceedings of the day. It was no ordinary occasion that brought them together. They were met to consecrate for futurity a building in which he hoped the principles of Freemasonry, without any admixture, would never cease to be taught. He believed that upon such an occasion it was usual to enter into a dissertation upon Freemasonry, but upon the present occasion he thought he should ill discharge the duty imposed upon him were he to occupy their time for more than a few moments on the subject that was entrusted to his keeping. He could not say that it was difficult to speak on any Masonic question, or for any one to give a reason for the hope that was within him, for he believed they had, he was about to say, divine principles. But on the present occasion he should content himself with very little more than a cursory allusion to the characteristics that ought to mark Freemasonry wherever it was found. It taught loyalty to the throne, it taught them to obey the institutions of the country in which they lived, to reverence be laws, and to respect the obligations imposed upon them, living, as they did, under free institutions and in a

free country. Need they wonder at the persecution to which Freemasonry was exposed in other countries which were governed by a constitution very dissimilar from theirs? Freemasonry, besides, taught them, as one of their first obligations, to reverence the Volume of the Sacred Law. Otherwise, why was it that when they assembled on an occasion like the present, or at their ordinary meetings, they had the Sacred Volume open before them, showing them that within its pages they discovered the principles which animated their Order and bound them together? It had struck him that they were not sufficiently careful to look to the pages of that volume for a justification of the practices Masonry enjoined, and the conduct they endeavoured to obtain from every member of their Order. In both books of the Sacred Volume they found many and many a justification, "Let brotherly love continue." "Be kindly affectioned one to another, in honour preferring one another." It struck him that in those few words they had a summary which embraced almost every principle of their Order, and these certainly were the principles which they were disposed to present to their neighbours as the leading characteristics of their faith. Oh, if they acted more upon those principles, if they permeated their conduct and lives in every step they took, how different the tone of Masonic society would be, how much better all of them would be as citizens, how much more would they give effect to the principles that governed and guided their Order! Besides a reverence for the Sacred Law they ought to remember that they had a duty to one another as individuals, which ought to be discharged whether they were Freemasons or whether they were not, but which Freemasonry intensified—he referred to the Divine principle of doing unto your neighbour as you would desire him to do unto yourself. This was what Freemasonry taught them to do. Oh, that they acted more and more upon those principles, and so enabled the outer world to say, "Lo, how these Masons love one another." If they could only effect this they would be doing much in the interests of their Order. There was no principle of morality which was not inculcated by Freemasonry. They were taught their duties as citizens and as individuals. But they had other duties to perform amongst themselves, which every Mason would immediately recognise when he alluded to those principles which were inculcated upon them, and which were intended to regulate their private life. They undertook the solemn obligation, when they entered the walls of a Freemason's lodge, not to forget that they had obligations to live sober, steady lives, and to present themselves an example to their fellow creatures and to their fellow Masons. They were to show by their moderation, in every action of their lives, that they were governed by a desire to promote virtue and advance science. Permit him to say how rejoiced they ought to be to find themselves in a little town like this, assembled on such an interesting and important occasion. Let them hope that those principles to which he had cursorily and imperfectly referred would animate the breast of every member of Lodge Camarvon and permeate society at Havant, and that the members of the lodge might never forget that their fellow-townsmen looked up to them to prove that they were Masons and that there was something real and consistent about their Order. He hoped they would never forget the day on which they assembled to dedicate a building which was worthy of their Order, and which reflected the greatest possible credit upon them. He hoped that it would remain for many years a monument of their devotion to the principles of the Craft. He congratulated them upon having arrived at the accomplishment of their object, and he offered an earnest prayer not only that the building might be permanent, but that the principles of Freemasonry might be, not merely co-existent, but last far beyond it, and that every member, now and in the future, might be blessed with health, wealth, and prosperity. (Loud applause.)

"The Glorious Majesty of the Lord" having been sung, Bro. Trigg said that having been entrusted with the superintendence and management of the workmen in the construction of the edifice, and having now completed his charge, he begged leave humbly to thank the Grand Master for the honour bestowed upon him by the appointment, and also to return to him the implements which were entrusted to him at the laying of the foundation stone, and he expressed a hope that the work so far completed might be crowned with his (the Grand Master's) approval, and that of the brethren. (Applause.)

The Provincial Grand Master said it was very gratifying to him, having so very recently attended to lay the foundation stone of the building, and having entrusted its management to his (Bro. Trigg's) intelligence and skill, to see the result which had attended his labours. He must certainly congratulate him, not only upon the ability he had shown, but upon the management he must have evinced to have caused the building to have been erected in such a speedy and expeditious manner. He thought, as Bro. Ford had said, that every credit was due to the Masons of this lodge for having carried into execution such a building as this. But they must not forget that it was to him (Bro. Trigg) they were indebted for having given effect to their resolutions and their endeavours, and he was certain that all would join with him in approval of his skill, and in thanking him for this testimony of his ability. (Applause.)

"Hail, Masonry Divine," was then sung, after which The Acting Deputy Prov. G. Master, Bro. Le Feuvre, said it was some months since he had the great gratification of attending with the Grand Master, and assisting in laying the foundation stone of the building in which they were now assembled. Since that time the building had made rapid progress, and now approached completion. Complete it was not, for one act yet remained to be accomplished. Addressing the P.G.M., the Acting D.P.G.M. said: In every hope and confidence that on the foundation stone has been erected a superstructure which will receive your

approval, perfect in all its parts, honourable to the builder, and worthy of the brethren of this lodge and neighbourhood, and in the name of the Carnarvon Lodge, I have the extreme gratification of asking you to consecrate it for the purposes of Freemasonry.

The P.G.M. expressed the great pleasure he should have in acceding to the request, and with the assistance of the P.G. Wardens proceeded to perform the ceremony in due Masonic form, the vessels for the corn, wine, and oil used on the occasion having been lent by Bros. H. W. Emanuel and Sons, of Ordnance-row, Portsea. At the conclusion of the impressive ceremony,

Bro. G. R. Johnson (of the Theological Training College, Chichester), who, in the absence of the P.G. Chaplain, officiated as Chaplain, offered the following prayer:

Great Architect of the Universe, look down and bless this hall, which has been this day solemnly dedicated to Masonry, Virtue, and Universal Benevolence, guide those who shall govern and rule here, so that the true principles of Masonry alone may be taught, pure and unsullied, and our labours being now ended grant that we may separate in unity and brotherly love.

The Provincial Grand Master, addressing the brethren, said it was unnecessary for him to detain them with any lengthened address upon Freemasonry, considering that the time was rather limited, and that Bro. Ford had given them such an able and excellent address upon the subject. But still he could not allow this ceremony to conclude without addressing a few words of congratulation to them. He thought it must be a subject of great satisfaction to the members of the Carnarvon Lodge that they had seen their labours crowned with such success. Certainly, when he and others attended on the occasion of laying the foundation-stone the elements were not propitious, and they had great difficulties to contend with. To lay a foundation-stone in a pouring rain was by no means an agreeable occupation (laughter); but at the same time the brethren were undaunted by that inauspicious commencement, and by the skill of the architect and the energy of the contractor they had been able to carry it to an auspicious end. It was a great gratification to the brethren of any lodge to have a building in which they could assemble and worthily celebrate their mysteries, because it showed, in the first place, that they must have a high appreciation of the Order into which they had entered, or they would not have thought it worth while to take the trouble to provide such a building. But the purposes of Freemasonry were so high and inspiring that they might well lead any Freemason to make great exertions in the cause. He addressed many who had been Freemasons for many years; he addressed others who had recently entered into the Order, but he was sure that one and all were imbued with the right principles of their Order, and were resolved to do their best to carry them out. They should remember certain principles on which their ancient brethren proceeded. What were the great principles which directed them in the erection of those stately and superb edifices of old, which did honour to their skill and taste? Wisdom, strength, beauty—skill to design, strength to carry out the work, and beauty to embellish it. These were the principles on which many edifices were in former days erected. It was not possible, in the present day, to emulate those edifices, but they could do their best to emulate the virtues of their ancestors and to try to carry out those principles which actuated them in executing those magnificent works. To erect a building alone would be little, unless the brethren who were assembled therein were resolved to carry on the purposes of Freemasonry to their fullest extent, and certainly if they did their best, as Bro. Ford had said, in their generation, to show to the outer world that they had entered into Freemasonry for no private gratification of their own, but simply to carry out its grand and magnificent principles, they would do something to show their appreciation of the Order which they had entered. Universal benevolence was one of its leading principles, and they should show it not only to their brethren within these walls, but to others in the outer world with whom they might be brought in contact. And, as Bro. Ford had said, Freemasonry should have a great influence upon their lives, and prove to others with whom they were brought into connection that it had an ameliorating influence upon them. He did think there was something in Freemasonry which softened the asperities of the outer world, and had an ameliorating influence upon their minds. He really thought that if they mused awhile upon its principles there was something which had a beneficial effect upon their conduct in life. As Bro. Ford had said, the volume of the Sacred Law lay open before them, to regulate their actions in the paths of virtue and peace. What more ennobling influence could be exercised on the human mind than was exercised by that Sacred Volume? Let them remember that it was one of the great lights of Freemasonry, and that every Freemason ought to act according to its principles. Let them, then, do their best to act as faithful and true Freemasons, and so long as the brethren in that lodge chose to emulate the example which had been set them by their predecessors of old, and by the many excellent Freemasons whom they had known in life, so long would Freemasonry flourish in that building, and so long would they have reason to congratulate themselves upon the work which they had inaugurated that day. (Loud applause.)

After the lodge had been closed the brethren adjourned to the Town Hall, where about 80 sat down to a banquet, which was served by Bro. J. Purnell, of the "Dolphin" Hotel. The P.G.M. having been compelled by another engagement to leave at the close of the banquet, the chair was occupied by Bro. Weeks, W.M. of the Carnarvon Lodge, and under his genial presidency the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed and responded to, and an agreeable evening was spent.

METROPOLITAN MASONIC MEETINGS.

For the Week ending Friday, October 6, 1876.

The Editor will be glad to receive notice from Secretaries of Craft Lodges, Royal Arch Chapters, Mark Lodges, Preceptories, Conclaves, &c., of any change in place or time of meeting.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 30.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Lily, Greyhound, Richmond.
Manchester, 77, London-st., Fitzroy-square.
Star, Marquis of Granby, New Cross-rd.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 2.

Lodge 12, Fortitude and Old Chland., Ship and Turtle.
" 25, Robert Burns, F.M.H.
" 69, Unity,
" 144, St. Luke's, M.H., Basinghall-st.
" 188, Joppa, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
Chap. 28, Old King's Arms, F.M.H.
" 91, Regularity, F.M.H.
" 1056, Victoria, Masons' Hall, Basinghall-st.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Prince Leopold, Lord Stanley Tav., Kingsland.
Strong Man, Jerusalem Tav., St. John's Gate.
Sincerity, Railway Tav., Fenchurch-st. Station.
Camden, Stanhope Arms, Up. James-st., Camden To.
Eastern, Royal Hot., Mile-end-road.
St. James's Union, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Wellington, White Swan, Deptford.
Perfect Ashlar, Victoria Tav., Lower-rd., Rotherhithe.
Sydney, White Hart Ho., Church-rd., Upper Norwood.
Marquis of Ripon, Pembury Tav., Amherst-rd., Hackney.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 3.

Colonial Board at 3.
Lodge 7, R. York of Perseverance, F.M.H.
" 101, Temple, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.
" 172, Old Concord, F.M.H.
" 217, Stability, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
" 742, Crystal Palace, Star and Garter, Kew Bridge.
" 765, St. James's, Bridge House Hot.
" 1257, Grosvenor, Caledonian Hot., Adelphi.
" 1259, Duke of Edinburgh, C. of G.H. Tav., E.
" 1298, Royal Standard, Wellington Club, N.
" 1381, Kennington, Surrey Tav., Kennington Oval.
" 1397, Anerley, Thicket Hot., Anerley.
" 1472, Henley, Three Crowns, High-st., Woolwich.
" 1549, Abercorn, Abercorn Hot., Great Stanmore.
Chap. 169, Temperance, White Swan, Deptford.
" 1269, Stanhope, Thicket Hot., Anerley.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Metropolitan, 269, Pentonville-rd.
Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney.
Domestic, Surrey M.H., Camberwell New-road.
Faith, 2, Westminster Chambers, Victoria-st.
Prince Fredk. Wm., Lord's Hot., St. John's Wood.
Dalhousie, King Edward, Triangle, Hackney.
Prosperity, 1, Camomile-st., Bishopsgate.
St. Marylebone, British Stores Tav., St. John's Wood.
Constitutional, Wheatsheaf Hot., Hand-court, Holborn.
Israel, Rising Sun Tav., Globe Road.
Royal Arthur, Prince's Head, York-road, Battersea.
Beacontree, Red Lion, Leytonstone.
Metropolitan Chapter, Jamaica Coffee Ho., Cornhill.
Excelsior, Commercial Dock Tav., Rotherhithe.
St. John of Wapping, Gun Hot., High-st., Wapping.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 4.

Lodge 511, Zealand, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
" 1491, Athenæum, Athenæum, Camden-road, N.W.
Chap. 55, Constitutional, Private Rooms, Leytonstone.
Precep. 129, Holy Palestine, Masonic Hall, Regent-st.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Confidence, M.H., Basinghall-st.
Mt. Lebanon, Windsor Castle Tav., Southwark-bdg.-rd.
Pythagorean, Prince of Orange, Greenwich.
New Concord, Rosemary Branch Tav., Hoxton.
Royal Union, Horse and Groom, Winsley-st., Oxford-st.
Peckham, Maismore Arms, Park-road, Peckham.
Stanhope, Thicket Hot., Anerley.
Finsbury Park, Finsbury Park Tav., Seven Sisters'-rd.
Southwark, Southwark Park Tav., Southwark Park.
Duke of Connaught, Haydock Tav., Dalston, E.
United Strength, Grafton Arms, Kentish-town.
Islington, Crown and Cushion, London Wall.
Whittington, Black Bull Tav., Holborn.
Lewis, King's Arms Hot., Wood Green.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 5.

Lodge 27, Egyptian, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
" 45, Strong Man, Masons' Hall, Masons' Avenue.
" 192, Lion and Lamb, Cannon-st. Hot.
" 227, Ionic, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.
" 554, Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney.
" 1178, Perfect Ashlar, Bridge House Hot.
" 1351, St. Clements Dane, 265, Strand.
" 1445, Prince Leopold, Lord Stanley Tav., E.
Chap. 174, Sincerity, Cheshire Cheese, Crutched Friars.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Egyptian, Hercules Tav., Leadenhall-st.
Fidelity, Yorkshire Grey, London-st., W.
Finsbury, Jolly Anglers' Tav., Bath-st., City-road.
Temperance in the East, Catherine-st., Poplar.
Ebony, 12, Ponsonby-st., Milbank.
Highgate, Bull and Gate, Kentish-town.
The Great City, 111, Cheapside.
High Cross, Coach & Horses, High-road, Tottenham.
Salisbury, Union, Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Prince Frederick William Chapter, St. John's Wood.
Southern Star, Crown Hot., Blackfriars-rd.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 6.

Lodge 706, Florence Nightingale, M.H., Woolwich.
" 890, Hornsey, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
" 1489, Marquis of Ripon, Balls Pond-road, N.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Union Waterloo, Thomas-st., Woolwich.
Robert Burns, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.

Belgrave, Lyceum Tav., 354, Strand.
 Unions Emulation (for M.M.'s), F.M.H.
 Temperance, Victoria Tav., Victoria-road, Deptford.
 Clapton, White Hart, Clapton.
 Metropolitan, Portugal Hot., Fleet-st.
 Westbourne, Horse & Groom, Winsley-st., Oxford-st.
 United Pilgrims, Surrey M.H., Camberwell New-road.
 St. James's, New Tanners' Arms, Grange-rd., Bermondsey.
 Duke of Edinburgh, Silver Lion, Penny-fields, Poplar.
 Doric, Earl Grey Tav., Mile-end-road.
 Burgoyne, Grafton Arms, Prince of Wales's-road, N.W.
 St. Luke's, White Hart, King's-rd., Chelsea.
 Chigwell, Bald-faced Stag Hot., Buckhurst-hill.
 Burdett Courts, Approach Tav., Victoria Park.
 Royal Standard, Finsbury Park Tav., Holloway.
 Ranelagh, Clarendon Hot., Hammersmith.
 Pythagorean Chapter, Prince of Orange, Greenwich-rd.
 Stability, Guildhall Tav., Gresham-st.
 St. George's, Globe Tav., Greenwich.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN WEST LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE.

For the Week ending Saturday, October 7, 1876.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 2.

Lodge 113, Unanimity, Bull Hot., Church-st., Preston.
 " 613, Unity, Palatine Buildings, Southport.
 " 703, Clifton, Clifton Arms, Blackpool.
 " 1045, Stamford, T.H., Altrincham.
 " 1051, Rowley, M.R., Athenæum, Lancaster.
 " 1264, Neptune, M.H., Liverpool.
 " 1380, Skelmersdale, Queen's Hot., Waterloo.
 Everton L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.
 Skelmersdale Red Cross Conclave, M.H., Liverpool.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 3.

Lodge 673, St. John's M.H., Liverpool.
 " 897, Loyalty, Fleece Inn, St. Helen's.
 " 995, Furness, M.T., Ulverston.
 " 986, Hesketh, Grapes Inn, Croston.
 " 1256, Fidelity, Bull Hot., Poulton-le-Fylde.
 " 1384, Equity, Walker's Com. Hot., Widnes.
 " 1476, Blackpool, Clifton Arms Hot., Blackpool.
 Chap. 203, St. John of Jerusalem, M.H., Liverpool.
 Mark Lodge 161, Walton, St. Lawrence Schools, Liverpl.
 Merchants' L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 4.

Lodge 730, Ellesmere, Royal Oak Hot., Chorley.
 " 1013, Royal Victoria, M.H., Liverpool.
 " 1061, Triumph, M.H., Lytham.
 " 1335, Lindsay, 20, King-st., Wigan.
 " 1354, Marquis of Lorne, M.R., Leigh.
 " 1203, W. Lancashire, Com. Hot., Ormskirk.
 Chap. 86, Lebanon, M.H., Prescott.
 " 477, Fidelity, 55, Argyle-st., Birkenhead.
 De Grey and Ripon L. of I., N. Hill-st., Liverpool.
 Downshire L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.
 Harmonic L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 5.

Lodge 249, Mariners, M.H., Liverpool.
 " 1473, Bootle, Assembly Rooms, Bootle.
 Chap. 758, Bridgewater, M.H., Runcorn.
 Alpass Preceptory, M.H., Liverpool.
 St. John's L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 6.

Lodge 680, Sefton, Adelphi Hot., Liverpool.
 " 1375, Architect, Didsbury Hot., Didsbury.
 " 1387, Chorlton, M.R., Chorlton-cum-Hardy.
 " 1505, Emulation, M.H., Liverpool.
 Duke of Edinburgh L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN GLASGOW AND WEST OF SCOTLAND.

For the Week ending Saturday, October 7, 1876.

All the Meetings take place at Eight o'clock.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 2.

Lodge 124, Kilwinning, Union Tav., Ayr.
 " 129, St. Mirren, 5, Moss-st., Paisley.
 " 138, Operative, Blue Bell Hot., Ayr.
 " 237, St. John, Masonic Arms, Girvan.
 " 332, Union, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
 " 581, Plantation, Craigiehall-st., S.S., Glasgow.
 Chap. 53, Dumbarton, Elephant Hot., Dumbarton.
 " 119, Rosslyn, 25, Robertson-st., Glasgow.
 " 173, St. John, M.H., Largs.
 " 177, St. James's, M.H., Coatbridge.
 " 406, St. John Dalziel, M.H., Motherwell.
 " 433, St. Thomas, Eglington Hot., Dalmeilington.
 " 437, Govandale, Portland Buildings, Govan.
 " 442, Neptune, M.H., Princes-lane, Ardrossan.
 " 497, St. John's, Brewery Lesser Hall, Catrine.
 " 556, Clydesdale, M.H., Rose-st., S.S., Glasgow.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 3.

Lodge 0, Mother Kilwinning, M.H., Kilwinning.
 " 4, Glasgow Kilwinning, 162, Kent-rd., Glasgow.
 " 21, Old St. John, M.H., Lanark.
 " 86, Navigation, Navigation Arms Hot., Troon.
 " 117, St. Mary, M.H., Douglas-st., Partick.
 " 126, St. Andrew, George Hot., Kilmarnock.
 " 128, St. John, M.H., Shettleston.
 " 166, St. John, M.H., Airdrie.
 " 198, Royal Arch, King's Arms Hot., Maybole.
 " 202, St. Clement's, Com. Hot., Kilmarnock.
 " 233, Hamilton, Spalding's Hot., Hamilton.
 " 331, St. Peter's, Portland Arms, Galston.
 " 354, Caledonian Itinerary, 30, Hope-st., Glasgow.
 " 571, Dramatic, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow, 3 p.m.
 Chap. 87, Shamrock and Thistle, 12, Trongate, Glasgow.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 5.

Lodge 11, St. John's, King's Arms Hot., Maybole.
 " 22, St. John, George Hot., Kilmarnock.
 " 27, St. Mungo, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
 " 149, St. Andrew, Masons' Arms, Irvine.
 " 157, St. John, M.H., Beith.
 " 165, Royal Arch, King's Arms, Ayr.
 " 290, Blair, White Hart Hot., Dalry.
 " 320, St. John, R.A., M.H., Ardrossan.
 " 370, Renfrew, 8, High-st., Paisley.
 " 465, St. Andrew, 69, Garngad-rd., Glasgow.
 " 547, Stewart, M.H., Kilsyth.

Chap. 114, Baron of Renfrew, M.H., Renfrew.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 6.

Lodge 7, Hamilton Kilwinning, M.H., Hamilton.
 " 114, Royal Arch, M.H., Cambuslang.
 " 116, Royal Arch, Council Hall, Rutherglen.
 " 135, St. James, Crown Inn, Tarbolton.
 " 156, St. Barchan, Masonic Arms Inn, Kilbarcan.
 " 175, St. John, St. John's Hall, Greenock.
 " 215, St. Andrew, M.H., Strathaven.
 " 217, Cumberland, Kilwinning, Port Glasgow.
 " 242, Houston, Cross Keys Hot., Johnstone.
 " 275, Shamrock & Thistle, 22, Struthers-st., Glsgw.
 " 335, Argyle, Drill Hall, Dunoon.
 " 360, Commercial, 30, Hope-st., Glasgow.
 " 408, Clyde, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
 " 459, Kelburne, Cumbræ Hot., Millport.
 " 512, Thornetree, School House, Thornliebank.
 " 551, Clydesdale, Royal Hot., Lanark.
 Chap. 112, Paisley, St. Mirren's Hall, Paisley.
 " 458, St. John, Wilson's Hall, Busby.
 " 544, St. Andrew, M.H., Coatbridge.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN EDINBURGH AND VICINITY.

For the Week ending Saturday, October 7, 1876.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 2.

Lodge 429, St. Kentigern, Royal Hot., Penicuik.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 3.

Lodge 5, Canongate and Leith, 86, Constitution-st.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 5.

Lodge 97, St. James's, St. James's Hall, Writers' Court.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 6.

Lodge 291, Celtic, of E. and L., Ship Hot., [E. Register-st.

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ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

—The Votes and Interest of the Governors and Subscribers are respectfully solicited on behalf of **GORDON ROGERS** (Aged 9 Years), Son of the late Bro. Wm. Friday Rogers, P.M., who was initiated into the Lodge of Confidence, No. 193, in 1858, served the Office of W.M. 1864, and was appointed Secretary in January, 1866, on the death of his Father, who held that office over thirty years. He was a subscribing member from the date of his initiation until his death in April last. He has left a Widow and Seven Children (one of which was elected into the Masonic School for Girls last year) quite unprovided for, and who are unable to render her any assistance. She, therefore, urgently appeals to the Governors and Subscribers for their Votes and Interest on behalf of her Son.

The case is strongly recommended by:

Bro. Alderman and Sheriff H. Hadley, Vice-President, P.M. 55 M.E.Z. 3, P.P.G.D.C.; 1, Upper Thames-street, E.C.
 F. Bonney, W.M. 193; 7, Horsleydown Lane.
 H. T. Reed, S.W. 193; 16, Tottenham Court Road.
 E. W. Fithian, J.W. 193; 6, Fairford Grove, Kennington Lane.
 G. S. F. Warne, P.M. and Treas. 193; 9, Gresham-street, E.C.
 J. Shackell, P.M. and Sec. 193; 298, Goswell Road.
 S. Webb, P.M. and Dir. of Ceremonies 193, 434, Oxford Street.
 J. Burch, P.M. 193; 30, St. Mary Axe.
 B. D. Kershaw, P.M. 193; New River Head.
 F. H. Clemow, 193; 3, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street.
 W. Harding, 193; 3, Ave Maria Lane, E.C.
 J. Roberts, 193; 195, Shoreditch.
 R. J. Hutton, 193; 240, City Road.
 J. Coultas, P.G.P., P.M. 27, 1310, 1348, 1357; P.Z. 177, 582 M.E.Z. 1348; 30, James-street, Covent Garden.
 J. E. Walford, P.M. 177, and P.Z. 145.
 J. F. Weatherhead, 193; 3, Claremont Villas, Kew Bridge.
 H. Lea, J.D. 193; 552, Oxford-street.
 G. Lam, W.P., P.S.A. and P.M. 198 and 504; P.Z. 7 and 21; K.T. 31; P.S.S.G. Warden, Herts, 12; Coventry-street.
 J. Shepherd, P.M. 21 and 201; Holland-street, Clapham, Road.
 R. Griffiths, 193; 7, Highbury Grange, Islington.
 By whom Proxies will be gratefully received, and also by Mrs. Rogers, 115, Central-street, St. Luke's, E.C.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

—October Election, 1876.—The Votes and Interest of the Governors and Subscribers are earnestly solicited on behalf of **WILLIAM BECK**.

Son of the late Bro. David Davison Beck, of Greenwich, P.M. 186 and 1306. The Father was a Contractor, but owing to losses in trade and illness, left a Widow and Five Young Children totally unprovided for, the Creditors taking everything.

The case is strongly recommended by the following brethren:—

Bro. James Brett, P.G.P., 14, Sidney-road, Homerton.
 C. A. Cotterburne, P.G.P., 29, Dean-street, Soho.
 John Boyd, P.G.P., Jermyn-street, St. James's.
 George Kelly, P.G.S., P.M., 46 and 63, King-street, Westminster.
 E. J. Page, V.P., P.G.S., P.M., 23, 800, and 1387, 188, Kennington Park Road.
 W. L. Holt, P.G.S., W.M. No. 5, 9, Victoria Chambers, Victoria-street, S.W.
 J. R. Stacey, P.M. 180, 181, Gibson-square, N.
 James Lewis Thomas, P.M. 142, 493, 1328, and 1415, 26, Gloucester-street, Pimlico, S.W.
 Edward Clark, P.M. 1194 and 1329, 19, Buckingham-street, Strand.
 H. A. Collington, P.M. 79, 140, 871, 1320, 1, Edward-street, Greenwich.
 A. J. Brown, late 79, 55, Trafalgar Road, Greenwich.
 S. Webb, P.M., 198 and 1387, Oxford-street.
 W. Battlett, P.M. 186 and 1306, 6, Tottenham Court Road.
 J. E. Wylie, P.M. 186, 33, Chapel-street, Grosvenor Square.
 W. Mann, V.P., P.M. 144, 188, 1306 and 1381, 5, Broad Sanctuary, Westminster, S.W.
 T. S. Mortlock, P.M. 186, "Tredgar Arms," Lichfield-street, Bow Road.
 C. W. Noehmer, P.M. 186, 138, Blue Anchor Road, S.E.
 J. Seck, P.M. 186, S.W. 1428, 132, Grange Road, Bermondsey.
 N. B. Headon, P.M. 1428, 62, Friday-street, E.C.
 William Stephens, P.M. 1365 and 1460, "Stag Tavern," Brooksbury's Walk, Homerton, E.
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REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS.

Craft Masonry.

THE GREAT CITY LODGE (No. 1426).—An emergency meeting of the Great City Lodge was held on Saturday, Sept. 30th, at the City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street, for the purpose of clearing off some of the business in relief of the installation meeting, which will take place a fortnight hence, and considering that the usual autumnal holidays have scarcely concluded, there was a fair attendance of members. Bro. J. Hamilton Townend, W.M., presided; Bro. Seex (W.M. elect), S.W.; and Bro. Stanley, J.W.; and most of the other officers were in attendance. The lodge having been duly opened, the first business was to pass Bros. Stephens and Styles to the Second Degree, which was ably done by the W.M. The lodge was resumed to the First Degree, when a ballot took place for four candidates in addition to one favourably balloted for at the last lodge. The ballot being successful, the following gentlemen were severally initiated into the mysteries and privileges of Freemasonry, viz., Mr. Oppenheimer, Mr. Samuel Dorman, Mr. William Shaw, Mr. George Frederick Luticke, and Mr. John Peacock Turner. The ceremonies were performed by the W.M. with his usual care and ability. In the absence of Bro. Brown, who had given notice of motion "That a Past Master's jewel of the value of ten guineas be presented to J. H. Townend on the termination of his year of office," Bro. Thompson ("Free-mason"), said that he should have much pleasure in submitting the motion in the absence of the brother in whose name it stood on the paper, for he believed that when they remembered the courteous, kind, and genial manner with which their W.M. had discharged his duties during his year of office, he thought that they would all agree with him that this was a compliment he had fairly earned, and one that he well deserved. He would not occupy their time in descending upon his many good qualities as they knew them as well as he did, but would simply confine himself to moving, in the terms of the motion, "That a Past Master's jewel of the value of ten guineas be presented to Bro. J. H. Townend on the termination of his year of office." Bro. Moody, P.M. and Secretary, seconded the motion, which was put and carried unanimously. Some other business was disposed of, and the lodge was closed in due form and with solemn prayer. The members afterwards re-assembled. Very slight refreshments and the loyal toasts having been disposed of, Bro. Headon, I.P.M., said he rose to propose "The Health of their W.M.," and although that was the last time he should have an opportunity of doing so, he found it almost impossible to vary the terms in which he had so many times spoken of him. They all knew his worth, and he should therefore ask them to drink with all cordiality the health of their W.M. The W.M., in responding to the toast, said he need hardly say that he was not going to make a speech, although that was the last opportunity he had of rising to thank Past Master Headon for the very kind manner in which he had proposed the toast. He would, however, take that opportunity of thanking the officers of the lodge and the brethren generally for the indulgent way in which they had received any shortcomings on his part on account of the difference of his ritual to that of the lodge, but he could assure them that their kindness would never be obliterated from his memory. He had received very substantial assistance from Bro. Headon, and he really did not know what he should have done without him. He thanked them for the kindness and cordiality he had received from every member of the lodge, and he should not quit the chair with regret but with pleasure, as he believed that Bro. Seex, his successor, would be able to carry out the duties of the lodge more ably than it had been in his power to do. He had, as he said, been greatly indebted to his predecessor, Bro. Headon, for during his year there had not been a single hitch in his working, and he had carried out his duties to his (the W.M.'s) admiration, and he believed to that of every member of the lodge. He proposed "The Health of Bro. Headon, their Immediate Past Master." Bro. Headon thanked the brethren for the very cordial manner in which the toast had been received, and, as it was a compliment he had been in the habit of receiving, he should defer making a speech until the next occasion. The W.M. then referred to the addition of five new members, who were one and all known to some members of the lodge, and he believed were men of the right sort, and would do credit to them. He proposed their healths. The

newly-initiated members severally returned thanks. The W.M. said that whatever they had to offer to their visitors, whether it was only bread and cheese, or anything else, they always gave them a hearty welcome and the right hand of fellowship. They were honoured that night with the presence of Bro. Constantine, from Jamaica, and he hoped when he returned he would be able to say that the Great City Lodge had given him a hearty welcome, and he asked the brethren to cordially drink his health. Bro. Constantine briefly thanked the brethren for the kindness with which he had been received. The W.M. next gave "The Officers of the Lodge," for which they severally responded, and the Tyler's toast brought a very agreeable evening to a close.

DUKE OF CONNAUGHT LODGE (No. 1524).—The September meeting of this lodge was held on Thursday week, and was attended by a goodly number of both members and visitors. The following officers were present: Bros. Chapman, Prov. G. Stwd. Herts., W.M.; J. B. Shackleton, J.W.; W. H. Lee, P.M., Sec.; J. Symes, S.D.; N. Green, J.D.; H. S. Meyer, J.D.C.; W. H. Brand, I.G.; and Gilchrist, Tyler. Members: Bros. H. G. Buss, Prov. G. J. W. Middx.; F. Brasted, C. Johnson, E. Harding, H. G. Moon, John Varney, C. W. Smyth, E. Dignam, A. Ferrar, and F. A. Kelly. Visitors: Bros. Jas. Pinder, G. Young, 820; Oscar Dietrich, W. E. Gompertz, P.M. 869; and W. Morgan, 1385. The business before the W.M. was the raising of Bro. Dietrich, the passing of Bro. Lorkin, and initiation of Messrs. Polak, Hill, Stokes, and Stevenson, the whole of the ceremonies being performed by the W.M. in a very creditable manner. Bro. J. L. Payne (nephew of the Grand Tyler) was successfully balloted for and duly elected. After the ceremonies were over, Bro. W. H. Lee rose and informed the brethren of the loss they had all sustained by the death of Bros. Henry Lister and James Alford, which sad intelligence was received with the greatest regret by all present. Bro. Lee proposed, and Bro. Shackleton seconded, a vote of condolence with the family of Bro. Lister, the W.M. following with a few remarks, in which he stated how great was his regret at the loss of so dear a friend and brother. A similar vote was proposed for the relatives of Bro. Alford by Bro. Symes, and seconded by Bro. C. Johnson. Both propositions were carried unanimously. The vacancy caused by the lamented death of Bro. Lister was filled by the W.M. appointing Bro. Shackleton, S.W.; Jas. Symes, J.W.; Neville Green, S.D.; W. Brand, J.D.; H. Meyer, I.G.; and C. Johnson, Steward. The lodge was then closed, and the brethren shortly afterwards sat down to supper; at the termination of which the usual toasts were given and duly responded to.

WEST SMITHFIELD LODGE (No. 1623).—An emergency meeting of this lodge was held at the New Market Hotel, Snow-hill, on Wednesday, 30th ult. Bro. J. Smith, P.G.P., P.M., W.M., presided. There were present Bros. F. Walters, P.G.J.D. Middlesex, P.M., Sec., who acted as I.P.M.; T. W. Adams, S.W.; G. S. Elliott, J.W.; J. Howes, P.M., S.D.; J. Johnson, J.D.; T. Butt, as I.G.; E. Mallett, Assistant Sec.; and others. Amongst the large number of visitors we noticed Bros. E. B. Grabham, P.S.G.W. Middlesex, W.M. 19; H. Potter, P.M. 11; A. Stevens, I.G. 1298; E. Mallett, J.W. 141; Leonard Van Boole, 1275; David Smith, 1326; T. Tremere, 1309; and some whose names we could not ascertain. Bro. D. Smith was raised to the Third Degree; Bro. L. Van Boole passed to the Second Degree; Messrs. T. M. Butt (a Lewis, son of the host), W. Snow, and W. B. Delafons were initiated into Freemasonry. All the work was done well. Apologies were received from the absent candidates. It was announced the Secretary had induced the J.D., Bro. J. Johnson, to become Steward to represent this lodge at the forthcoming anniversary of the Boys' School festival, to be held in 1877. Bro. Joseph Smith, P.G.P., P.M., W.M., presented the lodge with a handsomely bound volume of the Sacred Law. It was accepted with pleasure, and, on motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously resolved that the best thanks of the lodge be given him for his welcome present, and the same be entered in the lodge minute book. The lodge was closed and adjourned to Thursday, Oct. 19, at 2 o'clock p.m. Banquet and dessert followed.

WARRINGTON.—Lodge of Lights (No. 148).—The regular monthly meeting of this old lodge was held on Monday evening, the 25th ult., at the Masonic Rooms. The W.M., Bro. W. H. Robinson, was supported by Bros. Thos. Tunstall, S.W.; Joseph Pickthall, J.W.; and a large number of members and visitors. The lodge was opened in form, when the minutes were read and declared to be correctly recorded. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree, when Bro. Ferguson claimed preferment, and having sustained his claim was entrusted and retired. The lodge was opened in the Third Degree, and Bro. Ferguson re-admitted and raised to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason in ample form by the W.M. On the lodge being closed down, Bro. John Armstrong, S.W. 1250, and Treasurer of No. 148, rose to propose a vote of congratulation to two brethren who had and were about to have high Masonic distinction bestowed upon them. They all felt that the lodge was complimented by these appointments. Bro. Bowes had done much for Masonry in Warrington, but his able services were not confined to West Lancashire, for he was well-known in the Northern Province of Cumberland and Westmorland as in Warrington. He (Bro. Armstrong) had it on the best authority that Bro. Bowes had for many years ever been ready to afford help in the north whenever needed, and Lord Bective, M.P., the R.W. Prov. G.M., acknowledged the obligations of the province when he appointed Bro. Bowes Junior Grand Warden at the great meeting at Kirby Lonsdale a few weeks since. They one and all congratulated Bro. Bowes on the well-merited honour which had been bestowed upon him. Bro. Sharp, P.M., &c., was the other worthy brother upon whom the

Right Hon. Lord Skelmersdale was about to confer a similar honour. Bro. Sharp while he occupied the chair of K.S. rendered their beautiful ceremonies in a manner they all appreciated, and they congratulated him most sincerely. Bro. Tunstall, S.W., seconded the motion, which was carried by acclamation. Bros. Bowes and Sharp acknowledged the compliment in suitable terms. Bro. Bowes proposed a vote of congratulation to Bro. James Paterson, I.G., on the occasion of his marriage; this was seconded by Bro. J. R. Young, S.D., and carried unanimously. The Prov. Grand Lodge circular having been read, and there being no further business, the lodge was closed with the usual solemnities, and the brethren separated in harmony.

CHESTER.—Cestrian Lodge (No. 425).—This popular and influential lodge met for the first time after the summer vacation on Thursday evening, the 21st ult., at the Grosvenor Hotel. There were present Bros. J. McHattie, W.M.; Robinson, I.P.M.; Dr. Taylor, S.W.; T. M. Lockwood, J.W.; Knox, S.D.; Smith, J.D.; F. A. Dickson, I.G.; Cuzner, Organist; W. C. Hunt, P.M., Sec.; Minspall, Treas.; W. Mathews, S.W. of the Lodge of Independence, and a large number of the brethren, among whom were Bros. C. Dutton, P.P.G.S.W.; J. E. Williams, P.G.S.D.; J. Salmon, P.P.G.S.D.; and F. Smith, P.G.S. of W. The business included the passing of Bro. Marples and the raising of Bro. Oldreive, both ceremonies being impressively rendered by the W.M. The brethren were then called to refreshment, which was served in a room adjoining the lodge. The W.M. presided, and, at the conclusion of the repast, proposed the usual loyal and Masonic toasts, which were enthusiastically received. In responding to the toast of his health, which was proposed in flattering terms by the I.P.M., the W.M., after expressing the pleasure it gave him to meet the brethren once more, proceeded to review the position of the lodge. The Cestrian, he was happy to say, was in a most flourishing condition, greater than it had ever been in before, and in point of voting power was the most influential lodge in the province. He had supplemented the amount voted to him as Steward for the Masonic Boys' School with a sum which he had collected among the brethren of the lodge; and this had enabled him to hand over at the recent festival £113 to the funds of that deserving institution, thus constituting the Master and Wardens of the lodge a Vice-Patron and Vice-Presidents of the school in perpetuity—a position, he believed, unique among the private lodges in the country. The lodge had now 162 votes per annum in respect to the Masonic Charities, which, with the 100 votes in possession of private members of the lodge, and the co-operation of other lodges in the province, would enable them to carry any candidate whose cause they might espouse. It was possible that some alteration might be made in the present mode of voting, but even that, he felt sure, would not affect the influential position of the lodge. The W.M. then advocated the claims of the Cheshire Masonic Educational Institution. It was not a building, as some erroneously supposed, for the reception of children, but a fund which provided for the education of the children of deceased or indigent Cheshire Masons. They all knew that brethren sometimes fell from affluence to poverty, and consequently became unable to give their children that education which they intended them to have. In such cases the fund came to the aid of the embarrassed parent, and defrayed the cost of the child's schooling. They all knew the value of a good education in these days, and would therefore appreciate the beneficial operations of the fund. The brethren, too, had subscribed liberally to the Freemasons' pulpit which had been placed in Chester Cathedral, that noble pile which had been rescued from decay by the zeal and energy of Dr. Howson, and he trusted that the doctrines preached from that pulpit would always coincide with those bright and glorious principles on which the Craft was founded. Freemasonry was growing in power and influence every day; the fact that the brethren in England and Wales had subscribed upwards of £30,000 to the Masonic charities last year was a telling proof of its vitality; and its Divine teachings were being conveyed into the remotest corners of the earth. After one or two other toasts had been proposed the brethren were called to labour, and the lodge was closed in due form.

BEDFORD.—Stuart Lodge (No. 540).—This lodge held its first meeting after the summer recess on Wednesday evening, September 27th, when there were present Bros. Capt. Green, W.M.; Col. Stuart, P.G.S.W., &c., &c., S.W.; A. Cookson, P.M., acting J.W.; Rev. C. Breerton, Chaplain; Capt. Colburne, S.D.; Billson, P.M., acting J.D.; Coombes, I.G.; Dr. Prior, P.M., Sec.; Sergeant, P.M., Treas.; Piper, Org.; and J. R. Bull, P.M., Steward. Amongst the many brethren present were Capt. Polhill-Turner, M.P., P.M.; Whyley, P.M.; Stafford, Thompson, Leslie, Harris, and others. Bro. Kilpin was raised to the Third Degree, the W.M. and officers performing the ceremony in a very effective manner, Dr. Prior giving the traditional history. Twenty-two brethren sat down to an excellent supper provided by Bro. Wicks, of the Swan Hotel. As this was the last occasion of his catering for the wants of the brethren his health was drunk with "hearty good wishes" for his enjoyment of a well-earned retirement, which kindly expressions of brotherly feeling having been suitably acknowledged by him, the brethren separated after a very enjoyable evening.

SOUTHEND.—Priory Lodge (No. 1000).—The first meeting of this lodge after the recess was held at the Middleton Hotel, Southend, on the 28th ult., the W.M., Bro. Dr. E. E. Phillips, P.M. 379, Prov. J.G.D., presided. There were also present Bros. A. Lucking, P.M. 160, Prov. A.G.D.C.; I.P.M.; F. Grayson, acting S.W.; G. Glasscock, acting J.W.; F. Wood, P.M., P.P.S. G.W., Treas.; J. A. Wardell, P.M. 160 and 1000, P.P.G.D., Sec.; J. R. Hemmann, P.M. P.P.G.D., Org.;

Rev. H. J. Hatch, W.M. 160, P.P.G.C., acting Chaplain; W. Chaplin, S.D.; W. P. Belliss, J.D.; Thos. Hales, S.W., acting I.G.; Rev. T. W. Herbert, P.M., P.P.G.C.; H. Hicks, W. Wallis, F. V. Jillings, S.W. 260; P. Benton, jun., H. Hassall, G. F. Wood. Visitors: Bros. W. Pisse, P.M. 160, P.P.J.G.W.; D. Nash, jun., 160; B. J. Abbott, 25. After the usual preliminary business Bro. W. H. Norman was passed to the Second Degree. The ballot having proved favourable Mr. H. Smith was initiated into the mysteries of the Craft, the work being well done. Two gentlemen having been proposed for initiation the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to refreshment. The Tyler's toast brought a very successful meeting to a close.

LANCASTER.—Rowley Lodge (No. 1051).—The usual monthly meeting of this lodge was held in the Masonic Rooms, Atheneum, on the 2nd inst. Bro. H. Longman, the W.M., occupied the chair of K.S. There was a fair attendance of members and visiting brethren. The lodge was opened in the First Degree with solemn prayer, and the minutes of previous meeting read and confirmed. The lodge was then opened in the Second Degree, and Bros. T. Bell and G. H. Chippindall having given proficiency as Craftsmen, were entrusted, and retired. The lodge was then raised to the Third Degree, and Bro. Bell having been re-admitted was raised to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason, the working being gone through by Bro. John Hatch, P.M. 281. Bro. Chippindall was then re-admitted and raised to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason by Bro. Longman, the W.M., the working tools being presented by Bro. T. Atkinson, W.M. 281. The lodge was then closed down to the First Degree, and the usual proclamations having been made, which elicited hearty responses from the visiting brethren, the lodge was closed in due form.

WESTERHAM.—Amherst Lodge (No. 1223).—On Thursday, the 28th ult., this lodge was well attended, a number of London brethren having honoured the W.M., Bro. R. Durnell, with a visit. At the banquet which followed, Bro. Hadley (the new host, an old P.M.) catered most royally. The visiting brethren expressed themselves much pleased with their reception, and the pleasures of the evening were much enhanced by the excellent singing of Bro. T. Mortlock, P.M., Bro. Wood, P.M., and Bros. Weldon and Gosden.

LIVERPOOL.—Dramatic Lodge (No. 1609).—The monthly meeting of this promising and excellently-worked lodge was held on Tuesday, the 26th ult., at the Masonic Hall, Liverpool, where there was a numerous gathering of the brethren, and several distinguished visitors, amongst whom was Bro. H. S. Alpass, P.G. Sec. West Lancashire. Bro. Joseph Bell, W.M., occupied his place in the E., and amongst his chief and subordinate officers present were Bros. W. J. Chapman, S.W.; L. Courtenay, J.W.; J. Skeaf, P.G.O., Org.; A. Woolrich, Treas.; H. J. Loveday, Sec.; J. Atkinson, I.G.; and Bro. G. Hutchin, W.M. 241, previously elected a joining member, acted as P.M. Mr. J. H. Walton was initiated into the Order, and five brethren were passed to the Second Degree by the W.M., whose working, along with that of his admirable Wardens, elicited general commendation. The bye-laws for the lodge were submitted, and after the month of installation had been altered from June to September, to suit the convenience of another lodge, they were passed unanimously. The sum of three guineas was voted from the funds of the lodge for the relief of a brother from another lodge, who was in distress, and it was resolved that the "Dramatic" should be represented at the meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge by the W.M. and his two Wardens. After several propositions for joining and initiation had been made, the lodge was closed according to ancient form, and the brethren adjourned to refreshment in the Old Hall. During the evening capital songs and recitations were given by Bros. D. Saunders, L. Courtenay, W. J. Chapman, R. J. Cotton, R. Brough, W. Hildyard, &c., and the proceedings terminated soon after seven o'clock.

MOLD.—Sir Watkin Lodge (No. 1477).—This lodge held its first meeting for the winter session on Monday, the 18th ult., in the magnificent Masonic Hall, Mold, when upwards of sixty brethren were present, among them being Bro. J. Salmon, P.J.G.W. of the province, and Bro. Horatio Lloyd, P.G.S.D. Cheshire. Although, comparatively speaking, the Sir Watkin Lodge is yet in its infancy, it has already attained a popularity second to none in the Province of North Wales and Salop, within whose jurisdiction the lodge is held. It has already on its books over 100 subscribing members, including the R.W. P.G.M. of the province, Sir Watkin Williams Wynn, Bart., M.P., whose name the lodge, by special permission, bears, besides some six or seven honorary members. On Monday night Bros. Haverfield and Lloyd were raised to the Third Degree, the ceremony being effectively rendered by Bro. J. Salmon, who takes a deep interest in the success of the lodge.

INSTRUCTION.

DEPTFORD.—Wellington Lodge (No. 458).—Of late there has been a very marked increase in the attendance at this lodge of industry, held at the White Swan, High-street, Deptford, under the ministrations of Bro. Past Master Griffin, the popular Preceptor, whose assiduity to the onerous duties entailed by his important post has been instrumental in rendering many young Masons capable of working a ceremony within a few months of their initiation. As a Preceptor Bro. Griffin has a wide-spread popularity, perhaps not enjoyed by all those who hold similar offices, for there are sometimes circumstances that render the position of Preceptor a somewhat unenviable one, and his working and ruling now and again are criticised in a manner not always strictly Masonical, but Bro. Griffin has a happy method of pleasing all, and this we can plainly see has all to do with his popularity. On Monday evening last there was the now usual numerous attendance to hear Bro. Ernest Smith, 1559, work the

initiation ceremony for the second time in this lodge, the W.M. having for his officers Bros. Bridgland, 933, S.W.; Church, J.W. 147, J.W.; H. Gloster, J.W. 1531, S.D.; Milburn, 13, J.D.; and Nevins, I.G.; Bro. Gibson impersonating the candidate. Among the brethren present we noticed Bros. West, P.M. 548; and Dr. Chittenden, W.M. 548. The first four sections were worked by Bros. Church, Marketis, and Shaw, and on the second rising of the W.M. it was resolved that certain new furniture be purchased, Bros. Chittenden and Gibson at the same time promising a portion of the same. The White Swan is becoming quite a temple of the Craft, and is to S.E.E. Masons what the Masonic Hall is to those further north. The lodge-room proper is second to none in the metropolis, and the room in which the instruction is given is sufficiently spacious to accommodate a hundred. We wish the Wellington Lodge of Instruction the success it deserves. We learn that the Fifteen Sections will be worked at the Star Lodge, Marquis of Granby, New Cross, on the 4th Saturday in October, Bro. Shaw, Preceptor, Pythagorean Lodge.

UNITED PILGRIMS' LODGE (No. 705).—A very full meeting of the members of this lodge was held on Friday evening, the 29th ult., at the Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell New Road, for the purpose of being present at the rehearsal of the ceremony of installation by Bro. M. S. Larham, P.M. of the Surrey Masonic Hall Lodge, and W.M. of the Macdonald Lodge. This beautiful ceremony was ably rendered by Bro. Larham, and when the brethren below the chair were requested to retire it was found that there were eight Past Masters present, showing the interest that was felt by old members of the Craft to witness the proceedings. At the close of the business it was unanimously agreed to that a cordial vote of thanks should be recorded on the minutes to Bro. Larham for the very able manner in which he had performed the duties of Installing Master, to which he made a very brief and pithy reply. Sections of the First Degree were then worked, and the lodge was closed in due form, and with solemn prayer.

BELGRAVE LODGE (No. 749).—There is, perhaps, in Masonry nothing better calculated to test the sincerity, and gauge a brother's appreciation for the beautiful rituals and ancient traditions of our Craft, than an observance as to his attendance at Lodges of Instruction, which are so plentifully (yet none too plentifully) scattered over the face of our great metropolis as to eradicate what was once a common excuse on the part of the backward, "I have no Lodge of Instruction near me." Again, we live in an age when brethren of vast Masonic experience, letter perfect in the ceremonies, beyond reproach in the rendering of our Fifteen Sections of intellectuality, and masters of the ancient charges and traditional histories of the Craft of crafts, voluntarily afford instruction and tuition to those brethren who come in search of it. Such a one as this is our esteemed Bro. T. Pulsford, P.M. 1158, and Preceptor of the Belgrave and Southern Star Lodges of Instruction, whose name is a household word to a vast body of Freemasons in the south-eastern, as well as in the west-end districts. His efforts have long been, are, and, we trust, long may be, appreciated and recognised by all who know him, and that "it cannot be said that he has laboured in vain" was practically demonstrated on Friday evening 29th ult., when several of his pupils distinguished themselves in the working of the Fifteen Sections in the Belgrave Lodge. Such an occasion as the one under notice is to the hardworking and industrious Mason a "fête day," and is looked upon much in the same light as is the annual Speech Day by the Westminster scholars. The surest test of the popularity of the Preceptor in charge will be found in the number of visitors who troop to hear his "working," and do him honour on his own territory; and the large attendance at the opening of the lodge, subsequent and continuous arrival of new comers throughout the evening, amply testified to the general popularity and high esteem in which Bro. P.M. Pulsford is held, both as a Preceptor and in private life. Friday was the first occasion of the lodge having met at the Constitution, Bedford-street, Covent Garden, and we would here remark that the inauguration of the new lodge-room was marked by new furniture, ornaments, and jewels, as well as the aprons and collars being worn and used, a circumstance that speaks well for the flourishing condition of the lodge funds. Precisely at 7 p.m. Bro. Pulsford, P.M. 1158, assumed the chair of K.S.; and appointed as his officers Bros. Mander, P.M. 1021, S.W.; Tolmie, 861, J.W.; Wise, I.P.M. 1158, P.M.; Lowe, 1582, S.D.; Spink, 117, J.D.; Leaper, 1275, I.G.; Beavis, 1158, Sec. Lodge having been in due form and with solemn prayer opened for the business of the evening, and the minutes of the last meeting read and confirmed, the First Lecture was worked as follows:—

FIRST LECTURE.

1st Section by Bro. Wise, P.M. 1158.
2nd " " Spink, 177.
3rd " " Ernest Smith, 1559.
4th " " Hurdell, 1348.
5th " " Farwig, I.G. 180.
6th " " Tolmie, 861.
7th " " Cull, 1446.

Lodge having been opened in the Second Degree, the Lecture was worked as follows:—

SECOND LECTURE.

1st Section by Bro. Mott, J.D. 87.
2nd " " Stewart, I.G. 1158.
3rd " " Mander, P.M. 1201.
4th " " Beavis, 1158.
5th " " Bentley, P.M. 193.

The lodge having been opened in the Sublime Degree, the following brethren assisted the W.M. in working the

THIRD LECTURE.

1st Section by Bro. Saul, S.D. 1201
2nd " " Plenderleith, 177.
3rd " " Sadler.

Lodge was then resumed to the First Degree, and the W.M. rose for the first time, whereupon Bros. Taylor, 144; Woods, 145; Brown, 862; Kent 879; Bevan, 1158; Wray, 1257; and Boswell, 1339, having been duly proposed and seconded were elected joining members. Dues collected with exactitude. The W.M. having risen for the second and third times, Bro. P.M. Wise proposed and Bro. Mander, S.W., seconded, that a vote of thanks be recorded on the minutes for the very able manner in which the W.M. had worked the Fifteen Sections. It is needless to say that this was carried with acclamation, and the W.M. enthusiastically received when he rose and replied. He concluded by proposing a vote of thanks to the brethren who had assisted him in his work. This having been seconded it was put and carried, Bro. Mander returning thanks on behalf of himself and fellow workers. Bro. Beavis, Secretary, having read a letter from Bro. Batty, W.M. Belgrave Lodge, 749, sanctioning the removal of the lodge from the Lyceum Tavern to its present quarters, and all Masonic business being now at an end, the lodge was closed in due form, and with solemn prayer. We were pleased to see that no brother was called upon to work more than one section, which points to the proficiency of the brethren connected with this lodge, and we fully believe had it been necessary a second fifteen could have been selected from the remainder of the brethren to go through the same work. In addition to those brethren taking part in the proceedings, and enumerated above, we noticed Bros. Batty, W.M. 749; Watts, W.M. 1201; Ball, 144; Goddard, 168; Vine, 173; Jones and Jennings, 178; Belgrave, 179; Greenwall, 128; Pike, 299; Jeffery, 452; Block, Rositter, Holloway, 1158; Vine, 1260; Limebeer, 1275; Arnold, 1319; Mitchell, 1360; Burr and Morphew, 1446; and one or two more whose names we were unable to obtain owing to their early departure. We cannot conclude our notice without tendering our warm congratulations to Bro. P.M. Pulsford on the well-established success of his endeavours, and trust that upon many future occasions we may see the Belgrave Lodge of Instruction as well attended on its Fifteen Section night as it was on the present celebration.

WHITTINGTON LODGE (No. 862).—This Lodge of Instruction held its weekly meeting on Wednesday last, at the Black Bull, Holborn. Bro. Marston, W.M. Regan, S.W.; Horne, J.W.; Kohler, S.D.; Tate, J.D.; Higgins, I.G.; Bingemann, P.M. The lodge was opened in the three degrees. Bro. H. Higgins was raised to the degree of Master Mason. The lodge was resumed to the First Degree. Bro. Regan was elected W.M. for the ensuing week. On the proposition of Bro. Bingemann, seconded by Bro. Marston, Bro. William Long, P.M. 435, P.Z. 1056, was unanimously elected Preceptor. This Lodge of Instruction meets at the above place every Wednesday evening at eight o'clock.

STAR LODGE (No. 1275).—At the weekly meeting of this flourishing Lodge of Instruction held on Saturday, the 31st ult., at the Marquis of Granby, New Cross, after Bro. Speight, jun., S.W. 147, had ably worked the ceremony of installation the following officers were unanimously elected for the ensuing year:—Bros. Govan Macdonald, W.M. 1158, Preceptor; C. J. Hogg, P.M. 1275 and P.G.S. Treas.; H. Keeble, P.M. 1275, Sec., 1559, &c. Church, J.W. 147, Assist. Sec.; Bros. H. Green, W.M. 1275, P.M. 1538 J.W. 1559; H. Jenkins, and Ernest Smith, 1559, Auditors. A report of the seventh anniversary banquet of this lodge, held on Thursday evening, must stand over until our next.

THE GREAT CITY LODGE (No. 1426).—The members of this important lodge of instruction met at 111, Cheapside, on Thursday, the 28th ult., at 6.30 p.m. The lodge having been opened, a Board of Installed Masters was formed, and Bro. Seex, W.M. elect of The Great City Lodge, proceeded with the ceremony of installation, and inducted Bro. James Stevens, P.M. 1426, into the chair of K.S. It need hardly be stated that Bro. Seex performed his difficult task with great ability, and in a manner alike creditable to himself and to the distinguished lodge over which he is called upon to reign during the next twelve months. Bro. Stevens then invested his officers:—S. Browne, S.W.; A. Goodman, J.W.; W. Parker, S.D.; W. H. C. Wiltshire, J.D.; J. K. Pitt, I.G.; J. W. Colmer, Treas. In accordance with previous announcement, Bro. Stevens gave a complete explanation of the Tracing Board of the First Degree, to the great edification and delight of the brethren present. On the motion of Bro. Taylor, W.M. of the Doric, 933, a cordial vote of thanks was accorded to Bro. Seex. Bro. Seex, in response, said he felt he had been highly honoured in having been called upon to work the ceremony he had performed in such an important lodge as this. A vote of thanks to Bro. Stevens, proposed by Bro. Poore, Preceptor, and seconded by Bro. Colmer, Treas., was carried with acclamation. Bro. Stevens, in reply, said he considered it a duty to impart what knowledge he possessed, and in doing so it always afforded him the greatest pleasure. No greater compliment could be paid to him at any time by members of the Craft than by requesting his services. Bro. Taylor, W.M. 933, was elected a joining member. Among the brethren present were the following:—Bros. Constable, Blackie, Morgan, jun., Noehmer, McMurray, and others.

Scotland.

RENFREWSHIRE EAST PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE. A meeting of the Renfrewshire East Provincial Grand Lodge was held on Saturday, 23rd ult., in the hall of Lodge Paisley St. Mirren, No. 129, for the purpose of considering in what way the members of the lodge would assist in welcoming his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales to Glasgow on the occasion of his forthcoming visit to lay the foundation stone of the new Post Office there. Bro. Col. Campbell, M.P., of Blytheswood, P.G.M., presided, and was supported by Bro. James Caldwell, Craigielea, Substitute Master. Bro. James Gilmore, No. 129, officiate

as Senior Warden, and Bro. J. Peters, No. 153, as Junior Warden. There was a large attendance. The P.G. Master stated that he had had an interview with the authorities in Glasgow, and had ascertained the arrangements so far as made for the Prince of Wales's visit. The Masonic brethren would assemble very likely at Burnbank, where they would be joined by Grand Lodge. A procession would be formed, and the brethren would proceed by way of the Lord Provost's house, when, after the Grand Lodge had passed, they would be followed by His Royal Highness and the Princess of Wales and Royal party. It would be impossible to accommodate the whole Masonic body at the place of ceremony in George Square, and as the general public would have largely to share in the proceeding, it had been decided that on the arrival of the brethren at the square they would open up on either side of the road and along the route, and remain there till after the ceremony, when the Royal party would return to the Lord Provost's house by the way they came. He suggested that a committee be appointed to communicate with the Grand Lodge, and also with the Provincial Grand Lodge of Glasgow, and thereafter on learning the definite arrangements send information to all the lodges in the province. This was agreed to, and the following appointed:—Bros. Col. Campbell, M.P., James Caldwell, James Gilmour, J. Peters, A. Macpherson, ex-Bailie Fisher, A. Wallace, and J. Carswell. Bro. H. S. Edmunds suggested that if the Masons were to line the sides of the streets it was but fair that the senior lodges should proceed first in the procession instead of as in the usual way, and thus they would be arranged, as they were entitled to be, nearest the place of ceremony. It was agreed to forward this suggestion to the Grand Lodge.

GLASGOW.—Caledonian Chapter of Unity (No. 27).—The annual convocation of this flourishing, highly recommended, and well-conducted chapter took place in their chapter-rooms, 213, Buchanan-street, on Monday evening, the 25th ult. The minutes of previous meetings were read and approved of. Comp. Wheeler, First Principal of the chapter, then read a letter received from Mr. Wm. Johnstone, purser on board the steam ship Nova Scotian, accompanied by a newspaper from Baltimore, announcing the sad death of Comp. William Strathern, a member of the chapter, in the following terms:—"Died among strangers.—Chief engineer Wm. Strathern, of the steam ship Nova Scotian, who was severely injured on Wednesday last, whilst the steamer was making a landing at Locust Point, died at the Maryland University Hospital on Sunday afternoon from the effects of his injuries. The body was taken in charge [by Messrs. Hughes and Co., undertakers, by direction of the agents of the company, Messrs. Schumacher and Co. The officers and seamen of the vessel, to the number of nearly one hundred, and the members of Warren Lodge, No. 51, of A.F. and A.M. Worshipful Master Aldershaw, assembled at the Masonic Temple, and paid the last sad rites to the memory of the deceased. The body was encased in a handsome rose-wood casket, heavily ornamented with silver, and profusely covered with flowers, the gift of the officers of the ship. The services at the grave were impressive, and conducted by the Rev. Mr. Gardner, of the Castren Avenue M.C. Church. The procession formed [and proceeded to Baltimore Cemetery, where the final interment took place, with Masonic honours. Mr. Strathern was a native of Glasgow, aged 37 years, and has been married only 6 months. He was held in high estimation by the officers of the Nova Scotian, and was one of the most faithful and efficient officers in the service of the company. The mournful occurrence has cast a gloom over the officers and men of the vessel and his numerous friends in Baltimore, and much sympathy is expressed for his young wife, who is yet in ignorance of her husband's sad death in a foreign land."—Baltimore "American and Commercial Advertiser," Aug. 16th, 1876.—Comp. Jas. Balfour (who had known Comp. Strathern personally) and others gave expression to their feelings, and spoke in high praise of the honesty and integrity of the deceased companion. Comp. Wheeler then read a letter which he had prepared for the Worshipful Master, officers, and members of the Warren Lodge, No. 51, Baltimore, thanking them for their kindness shown in performing the last sad rites to the memory of their deceased friend and companion, Wm. Strathern. Thereafter a brother, who had received the Mark Degree at last meeting, received the degrees of Most Excellent Master and Holy Royal Arch respectively. The election and installation of office-bearers were then proceeded with, when they were duly installed into their respective offices by Comp. James Guthrie, Z. of Chapter No. 67, in a very able and efficient manner, viz.: Comps. George Wm. Wheeler, P.Z.; George McDonald, P.P.Z.; John Kinnaird, P.H.; Walter Gunn, P.J.; James Balfour, Scribe E.; Thos. Yule, N.; John Bannerman, Treas.; William Hay, 1st Soj.; Frederick Jenkinson, 2nd Soj.; David Broadfoot, 3rd Soj.; Angus Nicholson, Capt. of the Vails; Wm. Jamieson, Janitor: and at the same time and place the office-bearers of Glasgow Chapter No. 50, were installed by the same companion. A Board of Installed Principals was afterwards formed, when the Principals belonging to the above chapters were installed and placed into their respective chairs, and saluted by the companions present. Thereafter the companions of both chapters adjourned to the banqueting room, Comp. Wheeler in the chair, when toast, song, and sentiment prevailed, and the last toast of the evening brought this happy and harmonious meeting to a close.

At the quarterly court of the Scottish Corporation held at the hall in Crane-court, Sir John Heron Maxwell, Bart., presiding, it was announced that Bro. the Marquis of Hartington, R.W.P.G.M. Derbyshire, would occupy the chair on the occasion of the 21st anniversary festival, which will take place on St. Andrew's Day, November 30.

THE CANT OF MASONRY.

The following appeared in the "Hampshire Post" of the 22nd ult.:

A new Masonic lodge has been dedicated at Havant during the present week. The fact itself would scarcely be worth recording were it not for the other fact, that the lawyers, tailors, butchers, and tradesmen of all sorts, who usurp the name of "Masons," and who are vain enough to think that they inherit in some mysterious way the honour and glory of having erected Westminster Abbey, Solomon's Temple, the Pyramids of Egypt, and the Tower of Babel, appear to think that they have really achieved something extraordinary. Havant is not a large place, and we suspect that the new lodge, about which so much fuss has been made, would not strike one by its size. It contains, as we are given to understand, a lodge-room, a retiring-room for the use of the W.M., a committee-room, a Tyler's room, and the usual offices, by which is probably implied a supper-room, a kitchen, and a wine cellar. Though limited in extent, we trust the construction of the new lodge does fuller justice to the architectural genius of the Craft than some lodges nearer home. Above all things, we hope that it is water-tight; for notwithstanding their adoration of the ancient Craftsmen, the Havant Masons fought shy when the foundation stone was laid, because of the wetness of the day, and even the Provincial Grand Master himself was obliged to confess that laying a foundation stone in a pouring rain was by no means an agreeable occupation. Many of the edifices of former times, Mr. Beach remarked, were erected on the principles of wisdom, strength, and beauty, and it was not possible to emulate them in the present day. This is scarcely flattering to the skill of modern Masons; but if Mr. Beach's notions of architecture are derived from the style and character of the buildings in which the Order are accustomed to assemble, he is to be pardoned. On the principle that those who drive fat oxen should themselves be fat, it might naturally be supposed that the descendants of the old builders would have been enthusiastic patrons of art, and that they would have held their periodical symposia in lodges of perfect design and workmanship. With all their pseudo reverence for the ancient Craftsmen, however, we know that their lodges have no architectural pretensions whatever;—that while some few of them combine composite columns of a nameless order with stucco walls, the vast majority hide themselves away down blind alleys and narrow "culs de sac." If, then, the fraternity refuse to follow their exemplars in a matter of placing one stone above another what ground is there for thinking that they will copy them in the supposed divine consecration of their lives? The idea that architecture reached its culmination in the days of cathedral building is an assumption merely, and one which can only have the effect of making the self-styled "Masons" entertain false and humiliating notions of the capabilities of modern art. The great difficulty now is to raise money, not alone for the service of God, but for any transcendent purpose whatsoever. Were the Freemasons to raise the funds, we doubt not there are many men among us capable of erecting a cathedral. It is not the want of skill which leads the Methodist to rest content with his barn-like chapel, or which prompts the Nonconformist to build places of worship without curve or embellishment of any kind. When the old cathedrals were built, land and labour were cheap, and they were raised by a Church which represented the undivided religious aspirations of the country.

Despairing of being able to emulate the noble edifices of former days, Mr. Beach advised the brethren to emulate the virtues of their ancestors, and to endeavour to carry out those principles which actuated them to execute the noble works which they achieved. The advice would be admirable if we were only convinced that the principles referred to were excellent. The virtues of our ancestors is a very wide term; and if the truth were known we should find that the motives of the old stonemasons did not greatly differ from those of other men. Our ancestors were for the most part unmitigated ruffians. The artificer who assisted one day in creating the long-drawn aisle and fretted vault was probably engaged the next in shaping a dungeon. The noble baron who enriched an abbey, or gave away his land to the Church, did so in many cases as a sort of expiation for an offence for which he richly deserved hanging. If Mr. Beach means that the men who built our cathedrals and minsters did so as a practical act of worship, and that by such works they are to be judged, we think him mistaken; at the same time, any truth which his remarks contain must equally apply to the painter, or the singer, or the composer. And they must apply with still greater force to the monks. Indeed, it is utterly impossible to justify this exclusive admiration of the old Masons. In the language of Josh Billings, "The more we think on it, the more we can't tell. As near as we can recollect now, we think we don't know. Much mite be ced both ways, and neether wa be rite." There can be little doubt that the first members of the fraternity were really Masons, and we should not be surprised to learn that the Order was originally a Trade Union, the purpose of which was to reduce the hours of labour and to practice benevolence in the way of demanding higher wages. Surely if exemplars were wanted it is not necessary to go farther than Christ and His disciples and apostles.

This brings us to the consideration: Are Christianity and Masonry consonant in principle? Mr. Henry Ford, who occupied a conspicuous position at the dedication of the Havant Lodge, says they are. If this be true, then, surely Masonry is superfluous. If they are not so, then Masonry must be mischievous. Mr. Henry Ford is a great master of rhodomontade, and in his defence of Masonry he appears to have surpassed himself. He expounded Scripture, lamented the depravity of modern Masons, put himself forward as the apostle of sobriety, and performed a number of other astonishing transformations. Some of

his observations are particularly suggestive. "They undertook," he remarked, "the solemn obligations when they entered the walls of a Freemasons' lodge, not to forget that they had obligations to live sober, steady lives, and to present themselves an example to their fellow creatures and their fellow Masons." We are afraid Freemasons have often treacherous memories. Possibly, however, Mr. Ford wished it to be implied that it was only within their lodges that the obligation held good. Certainly, it is not easy to distinguish by the superior morality of the lives of Masons the efficacy of the "Divine principles." In fact, in this sense, as in other senses, the pretensions of Masonry are all moonshine. The Order, however, has its political as well as its religious and moral aspect; and here, again, we find the deliverances of Mr. Ford by no means satisfactory. Mr. Ford is, as many may know, a Conservative, and just in the same way that he finds the principles of Masonry founded upon the Sacred Volume (which is open at all lodge meetings), he appears to find the principles of Conservatism embodied in Masonry. Ergo, there is a direct connection between Conservatism and Christ. This is the case, we must observe, in England. In less privileged countries it is possible that Masonry may be found on the side of Revolution. Hence it is probable, that had Mr. Ford been a Spaniard or a subject of the Pope, he would have blossomed into a full-flavoured demagogue by virtue of the true Masonic principle which he holds. Masonry, he observed, "taught loyalty to the throne, it taught them to obey the institutions of the country in which they lived, to reverence the laws, and to respect the obligations imposed upon them." But as it is sometimes a virtue in a citizen to resist and depose a Prince, and to defy, instead of reverence, the laws of his country, Mr. Ford was careful to state that his optimism was qualified by the circumstance that they were living under free institutions and in a free country. In other countries, in which to preach Conservatism would be tantamount to asking the road to be content with his position under the harrow, the Freemasons, it appears, are subjected to great persecutions, and Mr. Ford does not wonder at it. Thus it happens that the political principles of Masonry are different in different countries. In Turkey, for instance, a P.P.G.S.W. might be justified in tracing the "Divine principles" to the Koran, and impressing upon the assembled brethren the solemn duty of abstaining from wine, resisting the brutal ferocity of the institutions under which they lived, and of encompassing by all possible means the deposition of another Sultan.

The Havant Lodge, it will be observed, was dedicated to "Masonry, Virtue, and Universal Benevolence." Masonry, in fact, was placed before both virtue and benevolence, and it is notorious that many Masons attach more importance to their Masonry than to all the virtues in the world. Of all the shams of the Order the assumption of Universal Benevolence is the greatest and most preposterous. What the mysteries of the fraternity consist in we know not, but we imagine that the brethren must never hear the words without putting their tongues in their cheeks. To talk of mysteries, and signs, and tokens in connection with a principle of such transcendent importance to humanity seems to us little short of criminal! Were a body of men to possess a panacea for the evils of society, so far from keeping the secret close tyed and known only to the initiated, they would preach it from the house-tops. This duty would be, in fact, so imperative and morally binding upon them, and the reason why the Masons do not reveal their secret is no doubt that they have none to reveal. And this surmise is farther strengthened by the fact, which is in itself not insignificant, that the tenour of their lives—as compared with those of men who have only the principles of Christianity to guide them—affords no proof that the practice of their great moral prescription produces any visible result. On public grounds, indeed, it is not hard to believe that the operations of Masonry as a secret society are actually pernicious. Even its vaunted virtues give a colourable support to the conviction. It is related that when the passage of the Alle was forced by Plottoff at the head of his Cossacks, the French officer owed his life to the fortunate incident of his giving the Russian Commander the Freemason's sign just as his lance was about to pierce his breast. The circumstance is recorded by Sir Robert Wilson, but was disputed by the "Edinburgh Review," whereupon Sir Archibald Alison remarked that a similar act saved the life of his father-in-law, Lieutenant Colonel Tyler, during the American War. In both these cases, we apprehend, everything turns upon the point whether the deaths of the officers were necessary, and the clemency exercised will appear virtuous or vicious in accordance as we answer the question. If their deaths were not necessary, killing them would have been murder; if necessary, the duty of a soldier was clear. In either case favouritism was culpable; and were it extensively followed a State would be driven to the alternative of making the practice of Masonry a treasonable offence in time of war. The duty of a soldier to his country is not unlike that of a constable to the community, and the one who protects a dangerous enemy because of his Craft, is just as culpable as the other who allows a thief to escape for the same reason. It is this favouritism which makes modern Masonry the power which it is. To a professional man his Craft is sometimes worth more than his skill in the way of custom. To a candidate for an office, for a contract, or for anything else which a public body can give, it means influence and votes. And as we are far from thinking that all virtue, skill, ability, and conscience are associated with the mystic tie, it is possible that the practice of Masonry may sometimes shut out virtue, skill, ability, and conscience from all public employment and offices of trust, whereby the community at large undoubtedly suffers.

The manager of the "Graphic" has received a telegram stating that two medals have been awarded to that paper, for its exhibit at the Philadelphia Exhibition,

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF SOMERSET.

On Friday week a large and influential meeting of Freemasons took place in Bridgwater, which was this year selected for the holding of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Somerset, under the banner of the Lodge of Perpetual Friendship (No. 135), the head quarters of which are established at the Royal Clarence Hotel. The Town Hall was handsomely and elaborately fitted up as a lodge-room, chiefly under the direction of the W.M. (Brother J. C. Hunt) and I.P.M. (Bro. G. Ricks), of the above-named lodge. The services of Messrs. Davis and Son, Fore-street, Mr. Willis, St. Mary-street, who erected a fountain in the centre of the hall, and Mr. S. Dyer, nurseryman, who lent a large number of shrubs, ferns, &c., and other tradesmen, were called into requisition, and their contributions and workmanship, combined with the use of the Masonic shields belonging to the Bridgwater Lodge, and the banners of the respective lodges in the province, served to make the decorations very pretty and effective. At the rear of the platform were a splendid portrait of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, the M.W. Grand Master of England, and beautiful views of the Royal Masonic Institutions for Boys and Girls. In anticipation of the visit of the M.W. the Right Hon. Earl of Carnarvon, Pro Grand Master of England (Provincial Grand Master), there was a large muster, and most of the distinguished brethren in the province, including the present as well as the past P.G. Officers, were present. To the great disappointment of the brethren, however, his lordship did not attend the meeting, Lord Donoughmore, the Senior Grand Warden of England, being the bearer of a letter expressive of the deep regret experienced by his lordship at his inability to be present, a pressure of his official engagements preventing it. The lodge was opened at half past one o'clock under the able presidency of Brother R. C. Else, the V.W.D.P.G.M., who was supported on his right by Lord Donoughmore, the S.G.W. of England, and Bro. S. Geo. Homfray, the D.P.G.M. of Monmouthshire. The whole of the seats in the body of the hall, as well as on the temporary platform which had been constructed, were occupied, the brethren of the various lodges being ranged under their respective banners.

The present officers of the P.G. Lodge in attendance were Bros. S. W. Preston (Bath), P.G.S.W.; A. Perkins (Wells), P.G.J.W.; Robert C. Bailey, P.G. Chaplain; E. Turner Payne (Bath), P.G. Treasurer; W. Cox, P.G. Registrar; F. R. Prideaux (Bridgwater), P.M. 291, P.G. Secretary; W. H. May, P.M. 135 (Bridgwater), P.G.S.D.; J. A. Bright, P.G.S. Works; R. Baker, P.G. Dir. Cer.; P. S. Saunders, P. Assist. G.D.C.; W. Long, P.G.S.B.; Albert Down, P.G.O.; W. Channing (Taunton), P.G. Pursuivant; W. Woodward (Burnham), P. G. Tyler; A. J. Salter, P. Assist. G. Tyler; George Ricks and R. Treiving (Bridgwater); H. J. Tayler, and A. W. Butley, P.G. Stwds.

The other brethren present included representatives of the following lodges:—Royal Cumberland, Bath, No. 41; Royal Sussex, Bath, No. 53; Perpetual Friendship, Bridgwater, No. 135; Unanimity and Sincerity, Taunton, No. 261; Love and Honour, Shepton Mallet, No. 285; Rural Philanthropic, Highbridge, No. 291; Brotherly Love, Yeovil, No. 329; Lodge of Honour, Bath, No. 379; Lodge of Science, Wincanton, No. 437; Benevolent Lodge, Wells, No. 446; Pilgrims, Glastonbury, No. 772; Parret and Axe, Crewkerne, No. 814; Royal Albert Edward, Weston, No. 906; Royal Somerset, Frome, No. 973; Royal Clarence, Bruton, No. 976; Nyanza, Ilminster, No. 1107; Lodge of Agriculture, Congresbury, No. 1199; St. Kew, Weston-Super-Mare, No. 1222; Vale of Bridlington, No. 1296.

Amongst the brethren present, who attended as visitors, not belonging to any lodge in the province, were Bros. Rev. George Knowling, P.M. 189, P.G. Chaplain (Devon); George T. Pain, P.J.G.D. No. 410; J. McGowan, Nova Scotia; Alexander Bailly, jun., No. 444; Percy P. Hunt, 493; and A. Pratt, P.M. No. 22.

A choral party, under the conductorship of Brother C. Lucette (choir master of St. Mary's, Bridgwater), took up a position upon the platform, behind the seat of the P.G.S.W., and was composed of the following brethren:—Bros Drayton (vicar's choral at Wells Cathedral), Dr. Winterbotham, H. W. Batten, J. Parker, J. Treiving, W. L. Leng and G. Bond (Bridgwater), J. Hutson (East Brent), and Jas. Turlie, Taunton. Brother W. Bayley Marshall, of Bridgwater, Organist of "the Rural Philanthropic," No. 291, presided at his own harmonium with great ability, and the anthems, &c., (in which Brother Drayton took part of bass solo), were effectively rendered.

Brother Else, the V.W.D.P.G.M., in opening the lodge, expressed the regret he was sure they all experienced that the Earl of Carnarvon, M.W. Provincial Grand Master of Somerset, had been prevented from attending, and read the letter just received from his lordship, who stated that it was with the greatest regret he was unable to be present, and that public business of an important nature detained him in London, but that he indulged the hope that he might have an opportunity, later in the year, of visiting his brethren in the province.

Lord Donoughmore, having been introduced by the D.P.G.M., explained that he had been requested by the Earl of Carnarvon to attend for the purpose of further expressing the sincere regret felt by his lordship in being unexpectedly, at the last moment, detained in town; and remarked that he could readily understand the disappointment they all felt in consequence.

The lodge having been duly opened,

Brother F. R. Prideaux, P.G. Secretary, called over the roll of the lodges in the province, nineteen in number, and found they were all represented.

The Prov. G. Secretary next read the minutes of the Prov. G. Lodge held at Wells, on the 6th September, last year, and they were confirmed and signed.

Brother E. T. Payne (P. G. Treasurer) next read a statement of accounts for the past year, showing a balance in hand amounting to £170 15 10d.

The correctness of these accounts having been certified by Bro. Perkins, P.G.J.W., who, with other brethren, had audited them, they were received and adopted on the proposition of Brother Inskip, seconded by Brother Wm. Cox.

Bro. Bartrum (Bath) suggested that the P.G. Lodge should pay the expenses of its meetings, instead of these being thrown upon the lodge established in the town they met in. The matter was briefly discussed, and attention drawn to the fact that it could not be entertained, inasmuch as no notice had been given of it on the agenda paper. Bro. Stothert (Bath) said his experience was that all lodges esteemed it a high honour that the P.G. Lodge should be held under their banner. (Hear hear.) The subject then dropped.

On the motion of Bro. Perkins, P.G.J.W., seconded by Bro. Meyler (Taunton), it was resolved that such a sum as might be necessary to increase the funded property of the province to the sum of £450 should be devoted out of the balance in the Treasurer's hands.

On the motion of Bro. Perkins, seconded by Bro. Payne, it was also resolved that the sum of ten guineas be entrusted to the hands of such brethren as would serve the province in the office of Stewards in the three Masonic charities during the ensuing year, as a donation from the Provincial Grand Lodge.

The D.P.G.M. having declared all offices vacant, Bro. Inskip proposed, and Bro. Dr. Woodforde seconded, the re-election of Bro. E. T. Payne as Prov. G. Treasurer. They both expressed the indebtedness of the lodge to Bro. Payne for the valuable services he had rendered in that capacity for so many years, and the D.P.G.M. in submitting the resolution, said it would be perfectly impossible to elect any brother more competent to discharge the arduous and responsible duties than their highly-esteemed Bro. Payne, whose re-election was agreed to with acclamation.

Bro. Payne, in acknowledging the compliment, said he had been elected unanimously to the office for seventeen years. They had now 867 Masons under the banners of the nineteen lodges in the Province of Somerset, and of these seventy-two were initiated and forty-four had joined from other lodges during the past year. He entertained no doubt, in fact he confidently believed, that not only an increase of numbers but quality had been looked after, and that the greatest possible care had been exercised in all the lodges with regard to the selection of good and upright men for initiation. Such an accession would add strength to the Order, and their Treasurer knew it also added to the funds. He thought, therefore, he was justified in congratulating those assembled in the Prov. Grand Lodge upon the extremely satisfactory position of affairs generally.

The D. Prov. G.M. then said it became his pleasant duty to invest those officers who had already been appointed for the ensuing year, and whose names had been submitted to and approved of by the M.W. Prov. G.M., the Earl of Carnarvon.

The list of newly-appointed officers, who were invested, is as follows:—

Dr. Samuel Bryant, P.M. 1096	Prov. G.S.W.
George Ricks, P.M. 135	Prov. G.J.W.
Rev. T. L. Challen, 973	Prov. G. Chap.
Rev. Francis Reed, 261	Prov. G. Chap.
E. T. Payne, P.M. 53	Prov. G. Treas.
H. A. Simmons, P.M. 53	Prov. G. Reg.
F. R. Prideaux, P.M. 291	Prov. G. Sec.
Edward Bath, P.M. 772	Prov. G.S.D.
C. L. F. Edwards, P.M. 1199	Prov. G.J.D.
W. M. Forty, P.M. 291	Prov. G.S. of W.
W. Clarke, P.M. 285	Prov. G.D. of C.
S. Jones, P.M. 1222	Prov. G. Asst. D.C.
George H. Cook, W.M. 379	Prov. G.S.B.
Thomas J. Leaman, P.M. 1197	Prov. G. Org.
John Milborne, P.M. 329	Prov. G. Purst.
John Fry, P.M. 437	Prov. G. Ast. Purst.
A. Villar, W.M. 261, John T. Dunsford, Sec. 291, F. Wilkinson, S.W. 41, J. C. Hunt, W.M. 135, W. Hickman, J.W. 135, John Hughes, 814	Prov. G. Stewards.
W. Woodward, 291	Prov. G. Tyler.
A. J. Carter	Prov. G. Ast. Tyler.

The Prov. Grand Secretary next read the report of the Charity Organisation Committee of Somerset for the past year, the same being approved of and adopted on the motion of Bro. Reeves (Weston-super-Mare), seconded by Bro. Rev. W. W. Martin.

Bro. Payne moved, "That the thanks of the Prov. G. Lodge are eminently due, and are hereby accorded, to our esteemed V.W.D.P.G.M. (Bro. Else), for the care, kindness, and attention he has bestowed in carrying out the work of the Charity Organisation Committee."

Bro. Ashley seconded the proposition, which was submitted to the meeting by Lord Donoughmore and agreed to by acclamation.

Bro. Else, in acknowledging the vote of thanks, expressed the pleasure it afforded him to assist in carrying out the work in question, which he thought to be the very essence of Masonry. He then proposed a vote of thanks to the eminent Masons who had that day attended the lodge. They were especially indebted to Lord Donoughmore, who had come there by the special invitation of Lord Carnarvon to represent the reasons which had prevented his lordship from honouring them with his presence, and also to Bro. Homfray, the D.P.G.M. of Monmouthshire, who had also come from a distance, and he moved that the thanks of the Prov. Lodge be presented to them, and that the vote be entered on the minutes of that day's proceedings.

Bro. Inskip seconded the motion, which was agreed to.

Bro. Lord Donoughmore, in acknowledging the compliment, said that as it had been the means of bringing

him amongst them he was, perhaps, the one who should feel the least regret at the absence of the Earl of Carnarvon. He should not fail to convey to his lordship the deep regret which he knew was experienced by them all, and which he was certain was fully shared by his lordship, at his unavoidable absence, caused entirely by the pressure of his official work. He (Lord Donoughmore) should not forget to mention the extreme kindness and cordiality with which he had been received, and for which he returned them his very sincere thanks. It afforded him great pleasure to come there, for two reasons—in the first place, because it had given him the opportunity, he hoped, of rendering some slight service to the noble brother who presided over that province; and secondly, because it had afforded him the opportunity of attending the Provincial Grand Lodge of Somerset, and meeting there so large a muster of his brethren. It was very gratifying to him to think that his name was to be recorded on the minutes of such a lodge.

Bro. Homfray, D.P.G.M. of Monmouthshire, also returned thanks for the kindness with which he had been received on that, as on previous occasions, in the Provincial Grand Lodge of Somerset. If any of the brethren of the province would care to visit the one which he represented they might, he said, rely upon it that the right hand of fellowship would be held out to them.

Bro. E. T. Payne, Prov. G. Treasurer, proposed that the sum of ten guineas be given from the alms fund to the trustees of the Bridgwater Infirmary.

Bro. Prideaux, Prov. G. Secretary, seconded the proposition, which he said had been suggested by him as being connected with the infirmary, and it was unanimously agreed to.

The lodge was then closed.

The banquet, which immediately afterwards took place in the Royal Clarence Hotel Assembly Room, was attended by about one hundred brethren, including nearly the whole of the Past and Present P.G. Officers. The V.W.D. Prov. G.M., Bro. R. C. Else, occupied the chair, being supported by Lord Donoughmore and Bro. Homfray, the D. Prov. G.M. of Monmouthshire; the Vice-Presidents being the P.G.S.W., Bro. Dr. Bryant, and the P.G.J.W., Bro. Ricks.

The D. Prov. G.M. having proposed the first toast, "The Queen and the Craft," which was loyally responded to,

Bro. Lord Donoughmore proposed "The M.W. Grand Master, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales." His lordship remarked that when they remembered the exalted station of H.R.H., his excellent social qualities, and the manner in which he had endeared himself to all with whom he came into contact, they ought to feel thankful that he had accepted the proud position he now held in Masonry. No allusion appeared as yet to have been made in this province to the very successful foreign tour which H.R.H. recently completed, but he was perfectly certain that the feeling of Somersetshire men was the same as in other parts of the nation, namely, one of great satisfaction at the success which attended his visit to India, and of gratitude for his safe return to this country. (Applause.)

The D. Prov. G.M. next proposed "The M.W. Pro Grand Master of England; the M.W.D.C.M. Lord Skelmersdale, and the Officers of the Grand Lodge, Past and Present." He remarked upon the importance of having at the head of such a lodge a staff of officers who were thoroughly efficient, and said he was perfectly satisfied that in their Pro or acting Grand Master (the Earl of Carnarvon) they had the very best officer that could be selected throughout the length and breadth of the land, for in him they had an eminent statesman, a distinguished nobleman, and a faithful and true Mason. In the Deputy Grand Master they had also the right man in the right place. With regard to the officers of the Grand Lodge, their visits to this province were like those of the angels, being few and far between; but what, on this occasion, they lacked in quantity they had in quality. Reserving for a special toast the name of Lord Donoughmore, he should couple with this one the names of their estimable P.G. Treasurer, Bro. Payne, and his excellent friend from Newport, Bro. Homfray, the D. Prov. G.M. of Monmouthshire.

Bro. Payne, in responding, alluded to the attention that was being given by the Grand Lodge to the manner in which they should commemorate the prosperous journey of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales to India, which had, he believed, cemented more firmly the bonds of union between her people and those of England. Some difficulty had been experienced in dealing with this question, not that there was the least hesitation as to the money which should be expended, but simply as to the mode in which it should be expended, some being in favour of a great national edifice being erected, and others thinking that it should take the form of education. The matter was still sub-judice, and he had no doubt it would be well considered, and that in due time a report would be brought up in which there would be pointed out a very proper and appropriate method of indicating their feeling of thankfulness, and showing to future generations the manner in which they regarded their present Grand Master. (Applause.)

Bro. Homfray having also acknowledged the last toast,

The D. Prov. G.M. said in consequence of the unfortunately enforced absence of the Provincial Grand Master, they were favoured with the company of Lord Donoughmore. (Applause.) He (the speaker) was perfectly satisfied that he was uttering the sentiments of all the brethren present when he said they felt very thankful indeed to his lordship for having travelled so many miles to come there and to tell them personally how much Lord Carnarvon regretted his inability to attend, and that they considered it an additional honour when they remembered that Lord Donoughmore at the present moment occupied the position of Senior Warden of England. Addressing his lordship, Bro. Else remarked that Somersetshire men had strong

hands and warm hearts, and that though they might have a rather funny way of expressing themselves, they gladly welcomed him amongst them, and sincerely hoped that this would not be the last occasion on which he would favour their Provincial Grand Lodge with his presence. In conclusion Bro. Else proposed "The Health of Lord Donoughmore," which was responded to with enthusiasm.

Lord Donoughmore, in responding, said he knew, in coming to Bridgwater, that the mission he had to fulfil was a disagreeable one, but he trusted to their kindness and forbearance. He was bound to say, however, that he never expected anything like so kind and cordial a reception as had been given to him. He could not agree with his friend the D.P.G.M., that the manner of expressing themselves was at all odd, but it certainly was very warm, very kind, and very much more than he deserved. As to the kind invitation to come there again they might rest assured if it was ever in his power to avail himself of it he would gladly do so. They would all understand how much, in these critical times, the attention of their Provincial Grand Master (the Earl of Carnarvon) was occupied. Not only were the Turks disagreeable (laughter), but the Fijians, the Kaffirs, and other foreigners were disquieted, and he was sure that Lord Carnarvon must sometimes, and especially on such occasions as the present, wish them all at the bottom of the sea. He hoped that the next time he (Lord Donoughmore) came amongst them, if again privileged to do so, it might be with Lord Carnarvon, whose humble representative he then was.

The D. Prov. G.M. next proposed, in eulogistic terms, "The Health of the R.W. the Provincial Grand Master of Somerset, the Earl of Carnarvon," whose unfortunate but unavoidable absence they all so much regretted.

The toast was very cordially responded to, and acknowledged by

Lord Donoughmore, who spoke of the very efficient substitute for Lord Carnarvon which Brother Else, the D. Prov. G.M., had proved himself to be. As a stranger, it was with some diffidence that he took upon himself to propose the health of their D. Prov. G.M., though he must add that he did so with a great deal of pleasure. He was the more encouraged to do so by the kindly reference to him in the toast-list (referring to the quotation from Henry IV., "A braver place in our heart's love hath no man"), by the cordiality with which the mention of Bro. Else's name had been received that evening, and also because he knew how greatly his services were appreciated and valued by the Masons of Somersetshire generally.

The toast was very warmly received.

Bro. Else, D. Prov. G.M., who was applauded on rising to respond, said as time was rolling away so very rapidly, and many of the distinguished brethren had to leave by an early train, he would not inflict a lengthy speech upon them, more especially as he was sure they must be almost tired of hearing his voice. (Cries of "No" and "Never.") He would, therefore, only briefly, but most heartily and most cordially thank, first of all, the Senior Warden of England (Lord Donoughmore) for the more than flattering and too kind manner in which his lordship had been pleased to propose his health; and next, he would thank them all for the very enthusiastic manner they had been good enough to respond to it. Before sitting down he desired to thank every brother with whom he had come into contact since he had had the honour of holding that collar for their uniform kindness. He hoped that for many years to come he might have the honour, and the privilege, at these Provincial Grand Lodge meetings, of sitting at the right of the R.W. Prov. Grand Master, the Earl of Carnarvon.

The remaining toasts on the list included "The Provincial Grand Officers," "The Visitors," "The W.M., Officers, and Brethren of the Receiving Lodge," responded to by Brother J. C. Hunt, W.M. No. 135; "The other Lodges of the Province," and "The Host and Hostess," the D.P.G.M. paying a well-deserved compliment to Brother Leaker, who suitably responded.

NEW MASONIC HALL AT REDRUTH.

The "Architect" recently contained an illustration of the new Masonic Hall at Redruth, with the following description:—"Of late years there has been a strongly-expressed desire on the part of the Freemasons in the Province of Cornwall to possess lodge-rooms entirely unconnected with hotels; and the movement under the leadership of the Provincial Grand Master, the Earl of Mount Edgumbe, has been so far successful that nineteen out of the twenty-six lodges in the province now possess suitable premises of their own. 'The Druids' Lodge, Redruth, contains, with one exception, the largest number of members of any lodge in Cornwall, and their new building is also amongst the largest and most important Masonic buildings in the country. It contains on the ground floor banquet hall, 35 feet by 25 feet, retiring room, residence for the Tyler, &c. On the first floor are the large room, 45 by 25 feet, and 21 feet high in the centre; robing-room, candidates' room, &c. The lodge room has a circular ceiling of plaster prepared for decorations, and is divided into panels by moulded ribs. The building will be heated by hot water. The front is constructed of local Evan stone of warm grey colour, and Box-ground Bath stone dressings. The dressings were prepared at Box from the architect's details, and delivered at Redruth without the slightest mishap. The carving was done by Mr. Harris Hems. The figure over entrance is supposed to represent a Druid. The contractors are Messrs Gray and Tamblin, of Redruth. The total cost of the building, including gas fittings, hot water pipes, &c., is about £1200. Mr. James Hicks, of Redruth, is the architect, from whose drawing, exhibited this year at the Royal Academy, our illustration is taken."

RE-OPENING OF THE ABERDEEN MASONIC HALL.

The decorations, which were entered into under competitive designs, are of a very superior kind. They are being done with a view to being specially effective under gaslight, and care has been taken to give them as much of a symbolical character as is consistent with artistic unity of effect. The principal hall, which is 50 feet in length, 32 in breadth, and 24 in height, claims the first notice. It is on the first floor, and is lighted by three windows at one end, which look into Imperial Place. These, which were put in when the buildings were erected, are filled with stained glass, with appropriate emblematic devices. In the decorations just finished, the feature of the hall has been duly respected, both in regard of tone and details. The ceiling is divided into three circular panels, and in the largest of which—the centre one—are painted the signs of the Zodiac, and in the smaller two, figures representing the seasons—all upon a blue ground. These of the ceiling are formed by means of a red band of a simple yet effective character; and the spaces between the three circles are filled in with a diaper pattern on a soft green ground, the whole being enclosed by a border of a zig zag pattern on a dark green ground, heightened with gold. Round this border runs a coloured frieze, which is broken up by six medallions containing representations of Masonic insignia. Within the moulding separating the cove from the ceiling, runs a blue and orange golphish ornament, cove itself forming a soft band of olive green, ornamented with conventionalised Scotch thistle. The general tone of the cornice is a buff colour, some of the members being relieved by gilding, and red and blue lines. The walls are divided about equally into two parts—the upper part consists of a series of arches of the early Gothic order, filled in with a device of conventionalised flowers, the spandrels being decorated with red shields on a blue ground, emblazoned with the compasses, square, &c., in gold. The frieze, which forms a prominent feature of the wall decoration, is executed in various rich colours, and within it, corresponding with the position of the arches, are a series of quatrefoil medallions containing the Masonic jewels, in rich colours on a gold ground. The frieze runs in line with the foot of an orchestra balcony at the end of the hall. The lower part of the wall or surbase, above the dado, is painted to represent drapery in olive green, which hangs in folds from the medallions on the frieze. This part of the decorations is highly artistic in its conception and execution. The folds of the drapery are suggested by simple lines, which produce a much more artistic effect than a more realistic or imitative treatment. The dado consists of wood, panelled and painted in imitation of antique oak. The decorations speaking generally, are a combination of Roman and early Gothic.

The same taste and skill have been brought to bear in the decoration of the ante-rooms. The wardrobes are remarkable for a novel treatment of the panels. These are painted pale blue with ornamental device in a darker shade of the same colour, while the stiles are painted a rich chocolate, the effect of this striking contrast being to make the panels stand out like embossed glass. The club-room is painted in a not less artistic manner, and with even greater elaboration of detail. The principal feature of this room is a frieze consisting of six medallions containing fruit and flowers, and joined together by a festoon of vine leaves—all hand painted. The staircase is painted in two soft shades of green, relieved with an effective border. The harmony of colours throughout is perfect, and the designs pleasing and suggestive. They are finely coated with a soluble varnish, which possesses this great advantage that when the decorations are cleaned it comes off and can be renewed again, leaving the painting unimpaired by the process. The whole work has been done under contract by Messrs. Dobbie and Sons, George-street, Edinburgh. The design, selected from a large number sent in for competition, was by Mr. Louis Söden, decorative artist, Edinburgh, under whose personal superintendence the work has been executed. The ventilation was carried out under the direction of Mr. James Matthews, architect of the building.

The formal opening of the institute took place on the 19th ult., in the hall, in presence of a large number of the brethren of the Provincial Grand Lodge of the city. Bro. Dr. Beveridge, R.W.P.G.M., presided, and the other office-bearers present were Bros. James Rettie, Depute P.G.M.; George Milne, Senior P.G. Warden; John Crombie, Junior P.G. Warden; Dr. Robert White, P.G. Sec. and Clerk; A. Yeats, P.G. Treas.; A. I. M'Conochie, Senior P.G.D.; W. M'Kenzie, Junior P.G.D.; G. Shackle, jun., P.G. Jeweller; John Adlington, P.G. Director of Music; Robert Milne, P.G. Librarian; A. Dakers, P.G. Bible-Bearer; Archd. Rennie, P.G. Auditor; John Laing, P.G. Inner Guard; and D. Campbell, P.G. Tyler.

The Right Worshipful Master gave a narrative of the steps which led to the erection of the institute, which cost £3000, raised by shares on the joint-stock principle. The decorations, he intimated, had cost about £500, this sum having been raised by means of a bazaar, and entertainments of various kinds. He congratulated the body on the success with which the decorations had been carried out, and remarked that they could now boast of having, without exception, the finest lodge-room in Scotland.—"Aberdeen Journal."

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.—Preventible Diseases.—Many are the maladies, which at all seasons and in all districts silently work their way into the human system, through miasma, noxious vapours, and deteriorated air, which could all be disposed of by a few doses of the so admirable PILLS. The vitiated gases enter the lungs as we breathe, and contaminate the blood, which will convey the poisonous particles throughout the body, unless some purifier such as these PILLS be taken to cleanse it. Let the poison lurk where it will, thither will it be followed and confronted by this never failing antidote. Holloway's Pills expel all harmful matters from the circulation, and cleanse the solids likewise from all treacherous impurities tending to induce disease.—ADVT.

Masonic and General Tidings.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF WEST LANCASHIRE.—The annual meeting of this large and important province was held on Wednesday last, the 4th inst. at the Masonic Hall, Hope-street, to which all W.M.'s, P.M.'s, and invested officers were invited. A full report of the meeting will appear in our next publication.

At the recent sale of the effects of Mr. Chas. Watkins, the well-known Photographer of Parliament-street, we learn that the negative, with copyright, of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales in Grand Masonic Regalia, was knocked down, after eager competition, to Messrs. Marion and Co., of Soho-square, at the handsome price of £185, the largest sum, we believe, ever paid for any single plate of this genre.—"Figaro."

The annual festival of the Emulation Lodge of Improvement, No. 256, will take place at Freemasons' Hall on Friday, Nov. 24th, on which occasion the Rt. Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon, M.W. Pro Grand Master, has kindly consented to preside.

Bro. John Hervey, Grand Secretary, who has entered on his thirtieth year of office as Treasurer to the Emulation Lodge of Improvement, will take the chair at the festival which is to be held on the 24th prox.

The quarterly meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of West Yorkshire will be held on Wednesday next in the New Promenade Room, Harrogate, at one o'clock p.m., under the banner of Lodge 1001.

We are authorized to state, that, to the great regret of the Provincial Grand Master and brethren of Surrey, Bro. Wm. Frederick Harrison has resigned the office of Deputy Provincial Grand Master, and that he will be succeeded by the R.W. Bro. Rev. C. W. Arnold, Grand Chaplain.

The Rose Lodge, No. 1622, will be consecrated this (Saturday) afternoon, at four o'clock, at the Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell New Road. The ceremonies will be performed by the V.W. Bro. John Hervey, Grand Secretary, assisted by Bros. Buss and Terry. The officers designate are Bros. David Rose, P.M. 73, W.M.; Jas. Garner, J.D. 975, S.W.; and Alfred Allworth, W.M. 1261, J.W.

The quarterly convocation of the Metropolitan College of the Rosicrucian Society will take place at the Royal Masonic Hall, 8, Air-street, Regent-street, on Thursday, the 12th October, at 5.30 p.m. A banquet will be provided, at seven o'clock.

THE QUEEN AND THE LIVERPOOL CORPORATION.—At a recent meeting of the Liverpool Corporation a letter was read from the Home Secretary on behalf of the Queen, stating that Her Majesty had received the address of the Council on the occasion of the return of the Prince of Wales from India, and had expressed admiration of the tasteful manner in which it was illuminated. A letter was read from Sir W. Knollys on behalf of the Prince of Wales, thanking the Council for their congratulations to His Royal Highness, and expressing the earnest wish of himself and the Princess for the welfare of the borough of Liverpool.

Bro. William-Simmonds Hammond having been appointed District Grand Master for Tasmania, has been pleased to appoint Bro. Charles Toby, of Hobart Town, as District Grand Secretary.

FREEMASONS' TAVERN COMPANY.—At the annual meeting of this company, held on Saturday (Mr. F. Bennoch presiding), it was stated that the directors had remodelled the organisation of the tavern, pending negotiations for the disposal of the business. Mr. E. Dawkins who had considerable experience with the late Mr. Francatelli, had succeeded him as manager. The year's trading had unfortunately resulted in a deficiency. Mr. A. M. Walls was re-elected a director, and the auditors, Mr. H. Chatteris and Mr. B. Baker, were re-appointed.—"City Press."

A contemporary says:—"The new Masonic lodge to be held at the Queen's Arms, Kilburn-gate, will be opened next month with all the form and ceremony usually indulged in by the Craft on such occasions. The lodge, which is essentially a winter one, will meet once a month during October, November, December, January, and February. It was found that when the lodge was first proposed that so many persons were willing to join that, as the accommodation is limited, some restrictions had to be put upon its members, and finally it was decided to make the initiation fee £10 10s., and to limit the number of members of the lodge to fifty. The fittings of the room and other accessories are said to be of the finest workmanship, being in oak and silver and gold, and it is anticipated that the Kilburn Lodge will be as select and stylish a lodge as any in London. Bro. Bartley has spared no expense in rendering his premises worthy of the great brotherhood, a contingent of which will meet at his house in future."

A NUT FOR FREEMASONS.—A lady—the Countess Hädicke—has been received in a Hungarian lodge. The Grand Orient of Hungary declares the election null and void. But then comes in the maxim, "Once a Mason, always a Mason." Masonic casuists are asking, "What is to be done—how long will the Masonic secret be kept now?"—Glasgow Paper.]

The Duke of Cambridge has sent a donation of £10 in aid of the Pension Fund of the Universal Beneficent Society, 15, Soho-square.

Gas superseded in day time, and daylight reflected in dark rooms. Health, comfort, and economy promoted by adopting Chappuis' Patent Daylight Reflectors, Manufactory, 69, Fleet-street, London.

COSMOPOLITAN MASONIC
CALENDAR.

W. Masters and Secretaries are earnestly requested to forward to the publisher, at the Offices, 198, Fleet-street, E.C., particulars of the place, days, and months of meeting of their respective lodges, chapters, and other Masonic bodies, for insertion in the issue of the Calendar for 1877.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

COLONIAL and FOREIGN SUBSCRIBERS are informed that acknowledgments of remittances received are published in the first number of every month.

It is very necessary for our readers to advise us of all money orders they remit, more especially those from the United States of America and India; otherwise we cannot tell where to credit them.

TO OUR READERS.

The *Freemason* is a sixteen-page weekly newspaper, price 2d. It is published every Friday morning, and contains the most important, interesting, and useful information relating to Freemasonry in every degree. Annual subscription in the *United Kingdom*, Post free, 10/- P.O.O.'s to be made payable at the chief office, London.

Answers to Correspondents.

All Communications, Advertisements, &c., intended for insertion in the Number of the following Saturday, must reach the Office not later than 12 o'clock on Wednesday morning.

We do not undertake to return rejected communications.

The following stand over:—Memorial to the late Bro. Wescoe; Reports of Lodges, 893, Millbrook; 332, Hadley; 321, Bonill; Chapter 111, Ardrossan; Mark Lodge, 146, Lancaster; Prov. G. Mark Lodge of Somerset; Red Cross Conclave, 33, Portsmouth.

REMITTANCES RECEIVED.

	£	s.	d.
Adcock, Thos., Montreal (P.O.O.).....	1	4	0
Bate, O. H., The Cape (P.O.O.).....	0	6	0
Brady, H. S., St. Helena (P.O.O.).....	0	7	0
Brady, J., Bermuda (per Admiralty, Cash)	0	9	0
Clayton, Capt., India (P.O.O.)	0	17	0
Cruft, C., Indiana (P.O.O.).....	1	1	0
Cunningham, J., Gibraltar (P.O.O.)	2	0	0
Dantes, S. Africa (P.O.O.).....	0	14	1
Dowling, R., St. Helena (P.O.O.).....	0	13	9
Eichbaum, U.S.A. (B. of E.)	1	4	0
Hayward, F. A., Victoria (Cash)	1	0	0
Laurie, G., Constantinople (Cash).....	0	12	0
Meyer, C. E., U.S.A. (Cheque)	0	12	0
Peake, H. H., Ballarat (P.O.O.)	0	12	0
Pickthall, T. W., S. Africa (P.O.O.)	1	4	0
Simpson, W. H., New Zealand (P.O.O.)	5	0	0
Stuart, D., Peru (Draft)	1	4	0
Sutton, Gen., U.S.A. (B. of E.).....	3	0	0
Toby, C., Tasmania (P.O.O.)	2	0	0

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

[The charge is 2s. 6d for announcements, not exceeding four lines, under this heading.]

BIRTHS.

APPLETON.—On the 29th ult., at Dan-y-Graig, Forest-hill, Mrs. Walter P. Appleton, of a daughter.

ARMSTRONG.—On the 28th Aug., at Meean Meer, Punjab, the wife of the Rev. W. F. Armstrong, of a daughter.

BROWN.—On the 25th ult., at Penn-fields, Wolverhampton, the wife of W. A. Brown, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

LANG—M'LELLAN.—On the 21th ult., at Blairvaddick, Row, Dumbartonshire, R. Hamilton Lang, Imperial Ottoman Bank, Bucharest, to Margaret, daughter of W. M'Leilan, Esq.

OVERTON—SANDERS.—On the 25th ult., at St. Peter's Church, Brighton, by the Rev. R. E. H. Raines, Arthur, third son of Mr. J. T. Overton, of Sutton Lodge, Surrey, to Caroline Harriet, youngest daughter of the late Mr. W. S. Saunders, of Burstow Lodge, Surrey.

DEATHS.

ALLEN.—On the 30th ult., at Newport, I.W., John Allen, Esq., aged 73.

BONCEY.—On the 24th ult., Bro. C. Boncey, Life Subscriber to the Licensed Victuallers' Institution, and Steward of the "Albert Edward" Saloon Steamer, aged 56.

CLARIDGE.—On the 23rd ult., at 231, Queen's-Road, Peckham, John Joseph Claridge, late of the Old Kent-road, in his 61st year.

DUFF.—On the 29th ult., at St. George's-Road, S.W., aged 65, Eleanor, widow of the late A. Duff, Esq.

EADIE.—On the 22nd ult., Francis John Eadie, of 6, Fleet-lane, Farringdon-street, aged 31.

EDMONDS.—On the 1st inst., at Hunter-street, Brunswick square, Harry Tarrant, son of Bro. T. W. Edmunds, aged five years.

The Freemason.

SATURDAY, OCT. 7, 1876.

THE CANT OF MASONRY.

Such is the polite reading which the "Hampshire Post," of September 22nd, gives to its solitary and singular leader, which we print in another column for the information of our brethren. We shall all feel at once how polite it is and how true. It seems that the actual cause of this intemperate and silly ebullition of a weak pen, and a weaker understanding, was the dedication of a new lodge at Havant, on the 1st ult., by our distinguished Bro. P.G.M. W. Beach, M.P., and "notamment," as the French say, a speech delivered by Bro. Henry Ford. An account of the proceedings and speeches appeared in our last impression, and we cannot, for the life of us, see what can possibly have aroused the indignation of our irate and unreasoning contemporary. We do not perceive that in anything which Bro. Beach, according to his wont, well said, or Bro. Ford addressed to his brethren, there is any ground for faultfinding, or complaint. We, of course, are never bound by the "dicta" of individual speakers, and had Bro. Ford (he seems to be the chief offender in our contemporary's "jaundiced eye") proclaimed anything contrary to Masonic tenets, we should not have defended his utterances, simply because he was a Freemason. But we confess that we are at a loss to understand what it is which our contemporary has really to animadvert upon. He may not like Freemasons, he may not approve of Freemasonry. Some do not; but at any rate he may be civil in his epithets and reasonable in his remarks. We do not quite gather, after more than one perusal, what it is even which he is pleased to term the "Cant of Masonry." Is it Bro. Beach's truthful declaration that we were once an operative body, and are now a speculative body? Or is it Bro. Ford's assertion that we are loyal, peaceable, and patriotic, tolerant, truthful, and benevolent? The writer of this childish article seems to have got into his noddle, (not, we fancy, a very strong one, by this specimen of his writing), that somehow or other Freemasonry is used by Freemasons for the purpose of private advantage, or personal advancement, and that by its secret organization Freemasons are enabled to favour one another at the expense alike of the public purse, and individual merit. Greater nonsense never was penned, a grosser delusion per se never was fostered, or propagated by any one. After a long experience of Freemasonry we can safely assert that we have never known an instance where Freemasonry has been used for any other purposes than for those purely Masonic in themselves. Such a perversion of our system and teaching is forbidden by the first principles of our Order, and to state publicly that such is the "way" of the Masonic "world," is alike contrary to truth, and a direct calumny on a very upright, conscientious, and patriotic body of men. Bro. Ford nowhere, that we see, claims for Freemasons any alleged superiority over other men. Neither does he, as the "Hampshire Post," appears to fancy, assert for Freemasonry the "status" or influence of a "religion." He may possibly point out that Freemasonry inculcates loyalty to the sovereign and obedience to the laws of the state where Freemasons happen to be, that Freemasons are good citizens and true patriots, and that the unchanging teaching of Freemasonry is a pure morality, the morality of the Bible, that morality without which the noisiest professions are worthless, and the most abstract speculations a snare. Why is Bro. Ford to be blamed for such views and statements, true in themselves and very well expressed? We pause for a reply? Is it that this foolish "accuser" of our "brethren" is so opposed to Freemasonry that he can neither afford to be fair, nor is willing to be just? Is it that disbelieving Freemasons, he does not shut his eyes to the fact, that such an exposition

of Masonic principles is likely to find many admirers, and, therefore, as one sang of old:

"Vixque tenet lachrymas
Quia nil lachrymabile cernit?"

And having said this we will make a little confession. It is perfectly true that Freemasons like other mortal beings are sometimes inconsistent. If we all acted up to our professions here, what a very different world this would soon be, but it is "old as the hills" that profession and practice, preaching and performance, do not always go hand in hand now. While the world lasts we shall ever have before our eyes this patent proof of the great infirmity of humanity, and as Freemasons are only human like any one else, they cannot and do not claim any exemption whatever from those many weaknesses which betray our common origin, those many shortcomings which mark ever on earth the best and the wisest of us all. That in Freemasonry, as in everything else of this lower world, we may find many flaws, many incongruities, many errors, we do not for a moment deny, and that we do not all act up to the goodly precepts of Freemasonry is undoubtedly and undeniably true. But such, we may well also bear in mind, is the unchanging condition of our race. We do not deny either that Freemasons, like everybody else, do not always mean what they say, or say what they mean; as in every brotherhood of earth, there are those who bring no credit on its fair name, but we distinctly deny that there is, or need be, any "Cant in Freemasonry," inasmuch as its professions are always truthful, and its actions are ever real. That Freemasonry does not benefit society and the age in which we live is a perverse paradox, worthy of the superficial Ultramontane or the sneering Jesuit. No society can fail to have utility and blessing for man and for the world, which loudly proclaims, with no views of self-interest or egotistical self-laudation, the ever needful truths of toleration, liberality, respect for law and order, and the fervid maintenance of the sacred rights of personal liberty, independence, and the individual conscience of the homo. Freemasonry, as a friendly brotherhood, seeks to enrol all men in its peaceful army, who neither atheists nor libertines, and leaving the defence of dogmatic and doctrinal teaching, to the religious body or church, can agree in recognising the fatherhood of God, and the brotherhood of man. Surely if Freemasons can unite men of various beliefs, in deeds of charity and sympathy, it does a good act, it represents a true thing; and we feel persuaded that if Freemasonry is only sincere in upholding its own great principles of thought and action, it has before it both a goodly mission and a noble work.

MASONIC ARCHÆOLOGY.

[In consequence of press of matter we continue these papers here, instead of in a separate column as an individual communication. The "we" has taken the place of the "I," that is all the difference.]

There is a theory of Masonic Archæology which has now to be considered, namely, that the real History of Freemasonry begins from the Revival of 1717. There is no doubt a very great difficulty by historical or documentary evidence in linking on Freemasonry, for instance, to the Guild System, but that was to be expected from the nature of the case! No one contends that we are aware of, that our Masonic ritual today, by way of illustration, is "totidem verbis," the same as that of the guilds, for that would be an absurdity. In the history of all human associations, the beginnings are simple and unornate, it is only in their maturity and development, that they become systematized and artificial, if we may so write. No doubt in 1717 the then existing ritual was enlarged and elaborated adhering to the leading principles and landmarks, and it is just possible that in early days, the local lodges only admitted to the degree of Fellow craft, and that the Grand Lodge or Grand assembly as a specially convened Master's Lodge gave alone the Third Degree. This would explain Dermott's evidence, which though not altogether reliable, is not to be absolutely despised or re-

jected! But because we have some difficulties to contend with (there are difficulties in everything) are we to jump to the conclusion that in 1717 a few speculative Masons adopted and adapted the terminology and ritual of the operative guilds to their own purposes, or that of a purely social, benevolent, didactic, festive club? We feel persuaded that such a theory is most unsound, in itself, critically indefensible, and historically untenable. We believe "au contraire," that our own accounts are substantially true, and that for some time previous to the beginning of the eighteenth century the operative guilds had been opening wide their portals to speculative members. It is quite clear, we think for instance, that in 1746 among the Freemasons at Warrington, when two speculative Masons were admitted, Elias Ashmole, and Col. Henry Mainwaring, while Mr. Richard Penket Warden, Mr. James Collier, and Mr. Richard Sankey, were either gentlemen "generosi" or speculative Masons, Henry Littler, John Eliam and Hugh Brewer, were in all probability operative Masons, but all members of the same lodge. Those who met in 1717 were clearly not all operative Masons, though some one has foolishly said so, and in fact they well represent the twofold character of Masonic lodges or guilds then. That they then endeavoured to revive an old association, not to found a new one, we are perfectly persuaded also, and they did what all ever do in such circumstances. They no doubt made some changes and modifications in the original system, which time and altered circumstances rendered absolutely needful. We see all this, we think, clearly, in the early regulations of Grand Lodge of 1721, they were altering an old institution, adapting it as best they could, not starting a new one, and we note how very carefully they handled all the traditions and precepts of the past. Anderson in 1723 went back simply to the guild legends, deriving all his history and the like from them, one could have wished, with freer criticism, and with a greater power of rejection. We mean, as regards the actual history of Freemasonry. But it is not right to blame Anderson for what he could not do; what he did do he did well. Probably any bolder treatment of the subject would not have been acceptable to the Grand Lodge of that day. He did what he was told to do, and we are not disposed to quarrel much with him because he so strenuously adhered to the old guild legends, and gave them to the Craft, he being an educated man, "quantum valeant." Anderson has latterly been very hastily condemned and unduly deprecated, but we are bound, it appears here, to do him justice, as the first who sought to put in a simple readable form, the confuse chronology, the doubtful declarations, and the quaint legends of the old operative guilds. We must reject, then, any theory of Masonic history which starts with the assumption that all the years previous to 1717 are "prehistoric" as far as Freemasonry is concerned. We not only do not believe anything of the kind, but as we have said before, we feel convinced that such a view of our history is as delusive and uncritical as well can be. It is one thing to admit a difficulty in the matter, it is quite another thing to propound a theory of one's own, which ruthlessly sweeps away, and on grounds utterly indefensible, a fair and reasonable explanation of our true Masonic history. To suppose that all our old ceremonial dates only from 1717 is positively puerile, to assert that we have no evidence of any earlier Freemasonry than the 18th century, because the oldest MS. ritual only dates from the third decade about the 17th century, is to mistake entirely the value and bearing of evidence. We have often said that rituals like minute books are valuable portions of evidence, but they are not all, or the most important. They do not prove a great deal, because if they assume to prove the exact date of Freemasonry, they can only be used, properly, as to their exact date, and can legitimately be made to go no further back. But such an argument is, as we know, untenable. There is plenty of evidence to prove for instance that before 1700 Freemasonry existed in this country, had a ritual and secrets of its own, and we have MS. evidence of a ritual or portion of Catechetical teaching, (if Mr. Wallbran was correct,) as early as the middle of the 17th century

Even those who fix the date of the hand writing of the Sloane MS., 3329, at the first fifteen years of the 18th century, do not deny that the verbiage and archaisms are the middle of 17th century; at least, Mr. Sims, of the British Museum, does not; and we, therefore, have always felt, and feel still, on this and on many other grounds, needless to recapitulate here, that the theory of the 1717 origin, is, as we have often put it, a critical mistake, and an unsound proposition.

"WE WILL NOT GO TO CANOSSA."

We have often said that as Freemasons we are not politicians, and therefore have no right to mix ourselves up with the strife of parties, or the war cries of faction. We repeat the assertion to-day; and amid many of its distinguishing features not one is more remarkable in the weekly pages of the "Freemason" than its entire abstinence from anything like political prepossessions, or party utterances. It is impossible, indeed, in a journal like this, of great circulation and of increasing influence, which is perused and appreciated, as we know, wherever the English language is spoken and Anglo-Saxon Masons love to congregate, (to say nothing of many kind foreign readers)—it is impossible, we repeat, not sometimes to dwell upon the passing incidents of the great world of politics all around us, and which act and re-act on Freemasonry. But when we do so we speak as Masonic philosophers, utterly indifferent to the success of this or that party, merely looking at things and men in the great broad light of abstract truth and practical common sense, and especially from a pure Masonic point of view, in respect of those unchanging principles of our Order, of which time has attested the lasting worth, and of which, as a fraternity we may be all justly proud. When, then, we take up Prince Bismarck's famous words to-day, it might seem to the hasty inductionist that we were contradicting our own statements, and trespassing on forbidden ground. But such would be a great fallacy and a greater mistake. We, as Freemasons, have been taught from our entrance into Freemasonry to acknowledge the central and civil Government of any State as supreme, as an authority to which the peaceable, loyal, and patriotic will always pay lawful obedience and ready respect, the fidelity of patriotic citizens or the fealty of devoted subjects. When, then, we are told to-day that an Ultramontane party in the Church of Rome is urging on a kind but weak old man to revive one of the worst acts of a spiritual despotism, our sympathies as Freemasons and patriots, for we are both, naturally are roused in admiration of the seasonable words of a distinguished statesman, and the rightful aspirations of a great people. Though the subject is not directly Masonic, it is indirectly so, inasmuch as the Church of Rome claims, by virtue of an absolute and spiritual sovereignty, to excommunicate all Freemasons, even where they meet as peaceable citizens, permitted so to do by the laws of the land. The Ultramontane organs openly avow that the object of this foolish and perverse commemoration is to represent to all the superiority of the spiritual over the temporal power, the subjection of the Princes of this world to the supreme and infallible Sovereign Pontiff. This is, in truth, the great struggle which Germany has been going through recently, the claim of a spiritual power to override, overrule, and dispense with the laws of a temporal power, and which Prince Bismarck sought to repudiate in the name of the German people by these now historic words. But here we stop, as if we advance much more we shall find ourselves in the midst of political contests and "burning questions," from which, as Freemasons, we wisely keep aloof. But this we may say. Such an idea and such a proposal are alike childish and senseless, a direct challenge to a remarkable people, both numerous and proud, and deeply humiliated by the memory of such an act of hyper-spiritualism, such an invasion of the rights of temporal sovereignty. One of the gravest wrong-doings of the Church of Rome has been that in its invidious policy it has too often sought to make both vassals and

puppets of earthly sovereigns and of temporal rulers, has subjected them to personal humiliation and degradation in the eyes of their subjects, who have never forgotten the scandal, and never pardoned the disgrace. What the Romish Church hopes to gain as regards Germany by this unpolitic and silly act we cannot venture to conceive. By the last census, the population of Germany has risen to 42,726,844 souls, being an increase of 1,703,749 in four years. This census, which was taken December 1, 1875, proves that Germany is increasing at the rate of above 400,000 a year, and though it has been stated that Germany lost about 250,000 men in the war with France (an estimate we fancy far too large) the present growth of Germany is alike most rapid and wonderful. In this mighty empire, in 1871, there were found to be 25,579,700. Protestants of all bodies, 594,313 persons of other persuasions, including Hebrews, and 14,867,463 Roman Catholics. It is believed that in 1878 the returns, when complete, will show a large increase of the Protestant population over the Roman Catholic, and we feel persuaded, from what we remember of the German people, that this foolish proceeding about Canossa will shake the faith of thousands of the German Roman Catholics. As Freemasons, we must deeply sympathise with our German cousins in their struggle to uphold the independence of their temporal sovereignty, as against an encroaching spiritual power, much as we regret that any embittered conflict ever should arise as between the State on the one hand and a religious body on the other. But after all, from the date of Hildebrand's outrageous humiliation imposed on Henry IV. at Canossa we may really date that struggle as between the temporal and spiritual powers which soon after led to bloody wars, and imposed great miseries on the German people. This strife has continued ever since more or less, and has culminated in the recent open warfare as between the State and Roman Catholic Church. Why then revive these hateful memories? We trust that the Pope's advisers may think better of so absurd a proposal in the interest of peace and goodwill, and that the hidden advisers of an infallible Papacy may carefully avoid the perpetration of such a gross and stupid blunder in the best interests of the Roman Catholic Church itself. Its only effect can be to make the contest in Germany more embittered and reconciliation less possible. Let the Church of Rome give up these ridiculous claims of infallible absurdity, and devote herself to the spiritual enlightenment, the moral education, the religious care of those many millions who claim her as their spiritual mother, but whom the folly and violence of Ultramontanism will undoubtedly otherwise, ere long, rend from her fold, at a time, let us remember, when the usurpation of a so-called spiritual authority in temporal matters is undoubtedly repugnant not only to the sympathies and sentiments of the age, but to countless Roman Catholics themselves.

NEXT BOYS' SCHOOL ELECTION.

Of the candidates for the next Boys' School election, 21 come from the metropolis, 36 from the Provinces. The contrasted classes which send these orphans to the Masonic Boys' School are as follows, and let our readers carefully note them:—Traders, 25; medical practitioners, 1; solicitors, 2; licensed victuallers, 2; hotel manager, 1; official, 1; clerks, 6; commercial travellers, 5; schoolmaster, 1; architects, 1; bank manager, 1; civil engineer, 1; contractors, 1; merchants, 4; manufacturer, 1; master mariners, 11; miscellaneous, 4; in all, 37. Who can venture to say that our Boys' School is not needed with such a list of applicants? or who can lay down arbitrarily and dogmatically what the maximum or the minimum of an education can be or should be when carried on for so many contrasted classes of our community? With such a long list before us, and with the noble return of 1876 always present to our memories, we regret that the authorities of the Boys' School have not seen their way to a permanent increase in the number of inmates. 21

HERMETIC MASONRY.

Much interest has been attracted to the "Dedication to Long Livers" printed in extenso in the October "Masonic Magazine." We have read it ourselves with much attention, and its statements require a good deal of thought, and careful consideration. If its assertions are correct, and there seems no reason to doubt them, Hermetic Masonry of some kind was known to the Craft in 1721. We are informed that to our worthy Bro. W. J. Hughan, of Truro, well-known for his zeal in Masonic Archæology, the editor is indebted for the loan of this somewhat scarce work. Bro. Albert Mackey called attention to the same work in the "Voice of Masonry" a short time back, and we understand that Bro. W. J. Hughan mentioned the existence of the book originally to Bro. Albert Pike, a distinguished member of the American High Grades, and that he gave Bro. Mackey the information about it, which led to the publication of it, first of all in the "Voice of Masonry." It was at Bro. W. J. Hughan's suggestion that the "Dedication" was printed in the "Masonic Magazine."

EMULATION LODGE OF IMPROVEMENT.

We call attention to the advertisement in another page of the annual festival of this distinguished and most important lodge. It appears that at the meeting this year our very distinguished Bro. the Earl of Carnarvon, Pro Grand Master, will preside, and that our worthy and able Bro. G. S. John Hervey, who has been Treasurer for thirty years, will take the chair of the lodge. Thirty-six Present and Past Grand Officers have consented to act as Stewards, and among those who will work the "Sections" we find the names of some of our most distinguished brethren and Masonic workers. It will, therefore, be a treat of a very high order for metropolitan and provincial Masons. A handsome silver inkstand, designed by the eminent architect, Bro. J. Gibson, Deputy Master of the Prince of Wales Lodge, will be presented to our much esteemed and excellent Bro. John Hervey, in commemoration of the occasion. We shall recur to this very interesting anniversary.

Original Correspondence.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for, or even as approving of the opinions expressed by our correspondents, but we wish, in a spirit of fair play to all, to permit—within certain necessary limits—free discussion.—Ed.]

ULTRAMONTANE VIOLENCE.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Allow me, as a Mason of some year's standing, to express my disapprobation of the interference in religious questions which has for some time marked the columns of the "Freemason." Some of the opinions advanced have been most offensive to myself and others, as I know from private correspondence.

If Freemasonry is a religion, or pretends to be so, it is false, and all the attacks of the Roman Church upon it are fully justified. If, as I always have been taught, it is simply "a system of morality" from which religious and political controversy is on principle carefully excluded, then it is a system which all men, Romanists included, may fairly join, without either betraying their own faith or having their religious or political feelings wounded.

The way to meet the attacks of the Romanist is to show that they are unmerited. But to attack the Roman Church for its conduct towards non-Masonic Protestants is to justify their charge that we are politico religious revolutionists.

What on earth have we Masons got to do with the Bishop of Minorca and the Spanish Protestants, any more than with the Protestant and infidel persecution of the Roman Church in Prussia?

Such questions would never be allowed to be discussed in lodge, and I venture to think that the same rule should apply to Masonic periodicals.

Your fraternally,

A P.M. OF 30 YEARS' STANDING.

[In reply to a Mason of thirty years' standing, the Editor, as a Mason of thirty-four years' standing, hopes that he does not require to be taught by any one, what Freemasonry forbids or allows in free, fair discussion. He openly denies the allegation that the pages of the "Freemason" are in any way sectarian or political, and above all, that any attacks are made on Roman Catholics qua Roman Catholics, or that there ever has been any interference in religious matters in the pages of the "Freemason." The attacks of the Roman Catholic authorities, or rather the Ultramontane party, on Freemasonry have been so many and so virulent, that it is the duty of all good Freemasons openly to protest against them and repudiate them. The story of the Spanish Protestants at Minorca, is not in itself and by itself a Masonic question,

but in this particular it is one of several acts, which go to make up a bright specimen of Roman Catholic intolerance. When a Christian Bishop gives to Protestants and Freemasons the epithet of "putrid" he lays himself open to the just animadversions of all Masonic writers. The "Freemason" has always advocated openly the just rights of Roman Catholics, as our correspondent must well know, and always will advocate them; and no one paper has so manfully upheld the great principle of toleration as the "Freemason." But the violence of Ultramontanism just now is undeniable, and must be resisted openly. If the tolerant and Masonic views of the "Freemason" are not realized by a "Mason of thirty years' standing," the fault does not belong either to the editor or the publisher. We are a little amused to note that our good correspondent, who blames us for saying anything, actually takes a distinct and not very moderate part himself in the great German contest.—EDITOR "FREEMASON."]

PROV. G. MASTERS.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Private lodges elect their Masters yearly, Grand Lodge elects its Master yearly, Provincial Grand Mark Lodges elect their Masters every three years, and Prov. G. Craft Lodges are not allowed to elect their Masters at all—he is elected by the Grand Master, and not yearly, but for life, and the members of the lodge have no voice in the matter. Can this be right? If Grand Lodge elects its Master yearly, why should not the members of Provincial Grand Lodge have the same privilege? I should be glad if some brother could tell me.

Yours very fraternally,

AN OLD P.M., ONE, &c.

FREEMASONRY IN VENEZUELA.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Bro. R. J. Simpson's letter in your last suggests many considerations, political, historical, and Masonic, if I may use such a word.

With the political we have in the "Freemason" nothing to do, and you would not allow me to dilate upon them. I will therefore confine myself to the historical and Masonic.

I am a little inclined to think that our good brother the Provincial Grand Chaplain has allowed the fervour of his "cloth" to dilate a little too much on the purely controversial question in respect of the See of Rome, as a claim to Masonic admiration. President Blanco's acts must of course be judged by the circumstances and necessities of the case, and can hardly be fitly commented upon by us at this great distance from the scene of action. But abstractedly, the "suppression" of "monasteries" and "convents," and even the quasi "independence" of the Church of Rome, do not in themselves necessarily constitute a claim to Masonic admiration. With all such matters Freemasonry proper has nothing to do, and ought not to be associated with, pro. or con., as Freemasons in all such questions are, very properly, neutral. All I think that can be fairly said is, that they are praiseworthy if a protest, so to say, against overweening intolerance, if they lead to a diffusion among a Roman Catholic population of the blessed principles of toleration. For it is one thing, bear in mind, simply to suppress "monasteries" and "nunneries," and "religious foundations" from a desire for "confiscation," "plunder," and the like, to add to the income of a State, it is quite another and a very proper thing to say to a religious body like the Church of Rome, "You are forming an 'Imperium in Imperio,' you have no patriotic interest in the well being of the community, and are only careful of the behests of an alien power, and therefore 'pro bono publico,' we affix a minimum to your numerous establishments on the one great principle of self defence and the safety of the State." But religious bodies of all kinds have a right to have brotherhoods and sisterhoods if they think fit, and it is a denial of general religious freedom, entirely or arbitrarily to suppress them. Masonically, President Blanco's inauguration of a Masonic temple is highly commendable, (though I could have wished it to be independent of the State), and his anxiety to consider the interests of the bondholders is greatly to be lauded commercially. So let us hope (keeping, however, first principles always before us, not secondary ones), that this "enlightened" ruler will happily progress in a cause of evenhanded justice and legality, and pave the way for a pleasant future of peace, order, and religious liberty among the turbulent republics and suffering populations of South America.

I am, yours fraternally,

TOLERATION.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

There is hardly a Mason, I feel sure, that will fail to rejoice with Bro. Simpson in the improvements, moral and social, carried out in the distant state of Venezuela, but I deem it a duty, in the interests of that Freemasonry to which he ascribes these and other actions of President Blanco, to take most serious exception to a portion of the letter, which I think fraught with mischief to the Craft as well as calculated to mislead those who, though not of us, are still I hope not against us.

Let me, to prevent misconception, state once for all that I write in no captious spirit, and that I am actuated by no partiality to either party in question, for I am ignorant of the merits of the case, but that I must protest against any action taken against any body of religionists as being such religionists, in the name of Freemasonry, or against any action of the kind being wrongly ascribed to it, as may be the case here.

It may be that our worthy Bro. Simpson has inadvertently

obscured his true meaning by mingling actions prompted by different motives, such as inaugurating the Masonic Temple and freeing the Church together, and so have made both come under the heading of "Freemasonry in Venezuela," in which case the sooner a correction is made the better; or it may be that President Blanco, stung by the onslaughts of Ultramontanism upon Freemasonry, have ascribed his actions to a wrong motive, namely, to his Freemasonry, and thus, whilst following out a course of procedure perfectly legitimate and proper in itself, have placed Freemasonry in that position which it never has held, and never can hold—an opponent to a religious system.

It is quite possible that President Blanco may have found the Romish authority in Venezuela opposed to the march of modern progress, quite as possible that he may have considered the monasteries and convents as so many abuses needing suppression, and with this view he may have suppressed them. Even further than this, he may have deeply resented the attitude of the Roman Church towards Freemasonry, and in its name have proceeded to extremities of retaliation, but here Freemasonry must be held to have given no consent to such a use to its name. Freemasonry may be wrongfully blamed, and will clear itself. Freemasonry may be attacked and ward off the blow; but an aggressor, or even avenger, in such a contest as this Freemasonry can never be. There is but one strife in which Freemasonry can ever engage, and that is in warring against ignorance and vice. Freemasonry is a system of morality, but not (although the embodiment of the vital principle of all true religion) a form of religion; so far, therefore, from interfering with any man's creed, it carefully respects (and herein lies its strength), every man's religious belief provided it acknowledge the Almighty Father of all.

Hence, whilst Freemasonry may support and rejoice in the peace-working rule of President Blanco, so soon as he embarks in a crusade against any religious system whatever, Freemasonry stands aloof, as having no interest in the issue, let the motives of the contest be ever so good in themselves and ever so urgent for the welfare of the state.

Pray pardon the length to which this vindication of Freemasonry has extended, and believe me, dear Sir and Brother, with fraternal greetings,

Faithfully yours,

W. T.

A NEW LADY FREEMASON.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Sir,—

Although I do not come under the class termed brethren, yet as I am a brother's wife I hold a slight claim on the society, and venture to give my opinion on the subject of the initiation of the Countess Hädick. I consider that the W.M. and the Lodge of Hungary have set such a good example to England which would be well for all Freemasons to follow. You, as a body of men, pretend to give all honour to women. You may in word, you do not in deed! This lady is described as being highly educated, and well versed in Masonic literature especially. Now, where on earth lies the objection to her being a Freemason? No man ever governed a country as does our Queen, and a woman is as capable of keeping a secret as any man. For my own part, I respect Freemasonry in all things except its secrecy, and the way the women are treated, such as being termed blind, profane, and not fit to be trusted with a secret. How much better would it be, and more conducive to real happiness, if a man and his wife could converse freely on such a good subject, help and aid one another in Freemasonry as in all other things. I do not say a woman should attend lodge meetings; no, her place is at home; but when her husband attends the meeting he would, were there no secrets between them, feel more light-hearted, and have a better conscience were he to confide in his wife, and hasten home to tell her how well they were prospering; and every Freemason that has a good wife knows he would then meet with her most hearty approval. Trusting you will acknowledge this,

I remain, yours most respectfully,

A FREEMASON'S WIFE.

THE FUNDS OF GRAND LODGE.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

"Is it not lawful for me to do what I will with mine own?" applies as well to the "United Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of England" as to any individual member of that same kingdom. This being the case, we need no more expect to find it make a law that it may spend its money at any future time in any specific way it chooses than to find the British legislature solemnly putting upon the statute-book that Parliament shall hereafter have the power to dispose of the public money in such a way as shall seem to it desirable.

The only restrictions we find in the Book of Constitutions are (1) that the Board of General Purposes, which has "charge of the finances of the lodge," shall not "incur any extraordinary expense without the previous sanction of the Grand Lodge," ("Board of General Purposes," 10 and 19); and (2) that "no motion for a grant of money . . . shall be made until communicated to the General Committee . . . nor until it shall have been handed up in writing to the Grand Master. After having been perused and found by him not to contain anything contrary to the ancient landmarks of the Order, the motion may be proposed, and, on being seconded, the question shall be put thereon. If carried and confirmed at the next ensuing meeting of Grand Lodge, it becomes law," ("Grand Lodge," 8.)

The purposes which come within the "ancient landmarks" are evidently here not confined to "charity," to which a special fund is devoted ("Fund of Benevolence" 1).

Provincial Grand Lodge may form a fund "for charitable and other Masonic purposes," and "may make such regulations as they may deem necessary for the application of this fund" ("Prov. G. Lodge," 4).

The way in which Grand Lodge and Provincial Grand Lodges have understood these regulations may be seen from the numerous occasions on which the former has voted sums of money to the Masonic Charities, at one time to their general funds, at another to their buildings; to the erection of a statue in Grand Lodge itself, and recently, and perhaps best example of an extraneous object, to the "Palestine Exploration Fund;" whilst the latter have assisted in the restoration of various cathedrals and churches. On more than one occasion "lodges," as well as individual "brethren," have presented jewels, plate, &c., to illustrious brethren ("Remarkable Occurrences in Freemasonry"—"Freemason's Calendar and Pocket Book"). Many private lodges follow the same course with respect to Past Masters' jewels, &c., as well as contributing out of lodge funds, to hospitals and other local charities.

It seems, then, quite clear that Grand Lodge can devote its funds to any purpose whatever that the Grand Lodge may deem not inconsistent with "the ancient landmarks of the Order."

Faithfully and fraternally yours,

MONETA.

THE SISTER SYSTEMS: MASONRY AND CHRISTIANITY.

At the meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Cheshire, recently held at Knutsford (fully reported in last week's "Freemason"), a sermon was delivered by the Rev. E. R. Parr, the newly-appointed P.G. Chaplain, in the old Church of St. John, which deserves to be given in extenso, as embracing many excellent points which ought to be of interest, especially to our Christian brethren. We, therefore, give the full text of the sermon this week.

Bro. Parr took his text from Philippians iv. 8: "Whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things." The rev. gentleman said:—"This is one of the numberless texts in the volume of the Sacred Law which inculcates the active principles and duties which are alike common to Christianity and to Masonry. And because it is so, I have chosen it as the text from which I wish to-day to address a few thoughts to you, my brother Christians and brother Masons. And here, let me say, by way of preface, that the connection between Christianity and Masonry is much more close and intimate than many suppose. In all ages of the world's history, whether sacred or profane, there have been many systems of morality and legislature devised which had in view the amelioration and improvement of mankind. But of all those systems, ancient or modern, none seems to have effected so much good, reached so far, or laid the same hold on the affections and will of their followers as the sister systems of religion and morality, Christianity and Masonry, have done. I call them deliberately sister systems, for they are both founded on the same book—the volume of the Sacred Law; they both inculcate the same grand principles—brotherly love, relief, and truth: and they both teach us how, "in every pursuit, to have eternity in view," an eternity in which both inspire in us the hope that we shall "ascend to those immortal mansions where the just will most assuredly meet their reward." Such being the case, is it to be wondered that wherever one of these systems has won her way, that there the other has been sure to follow? And that wherever the lamp of one system has burned brightly and clearly, just in proportion has the other been prosperous, happy, and successful. Taking them as systems, undoubtedly Masonry is historically the older of the two, inasmuch as the building of King Solomon's temple, and many other events recorded in Masonic history, took place long before the birth of Jesus. But though Masonry is thus old, and though the careful student can trace many and distinct evidences of its continued existence all down the stream of time, especially in the history of religious nations, still there are few Masons who will not readily admit that speculative Masonry, as it is now known and practised by the brotherhood, is a system which has found its full development in a much more recent date; and that, while some of its records go back to, and are lost in, the mists and obscurity of the dark ages; still, as the healthy and vigorous tree we all see it now to be, gathering under its branches the good of all nations, its renewed growth must be allowed to be of more recent centuries. And, what is very strange—and yet not strange—to say, its growth has been most vigorous in those countries where Christianity is professed in its purest and least corrupted form. In proof of this, just let me remind you of the relative states of Masonry in the Southern States of Europe, where, as far as it dare, the religion of those countries ignore the Craft, and would, if it could, persecute the brethren even unto death. For example, take Malta, where only last week the Roman Catholic Archbishop of the island anathematized the Craft and all who practise it. But, on the contrary, turn your eyes to Northern Europe, where undoubtedly the people, as a rule, profess a purer system of Christianity, and what do you find is the state of Masonry there? Why, in words well known to Masons, we may say, among these nations "generals and statesmen, and even monarchs themselves, are promoters of the art, have not thought it derogatory to their dignity to exchange the sceptre for the trowel, have patronised our mysteries, and joined in our assemblies." And, conversely, by a very strange dispensation of Providence, those nations are well known to be much more happy and prosperous where pure Christianity and Masonry are cultivated and joined hand in hand, than are those nations

where both are ignored and persecuted. Consider the state—the wretched and unhappy state—of many of the countries and provinces of South and South-Eastern Europe at the present moment, where Christianity is professed, but in an impure form, and where Masonry is almost unknown, and then compare with their wretched state that of our own happy, prosperous, and religious England, where both systems march along often hand in hand, certainly never warring one against the other! And as it is in the present, so it seems to have been in the past. It was about seven years ago—I remember it well—before I was made a Mason myself, I was one day walking in Chester Cathedral with one whose memory will long live in the grateful and affectionate remembrance of English, and especially of Cheshire Freemasons—I allude to the late Edward Gardner Willoughby—when, calling my attention to what I had always before considered but an ornament of church architecture, an ornament which, let me say in passing, is found in the architecture of many of our cathedrals and ancient parish churches, he said, "This is a Masonic emblem, and wherever you see it, either here or elsewhere, it is the work of a Mason. A Mason either made the plans or helped to carry them out in the building." And, though Masonry is every year developing out more and more into what we call "free or speculative Masonry," yet I am happy to think that the brethren prove that they are still willing to acknowledge the connection that I have been trying to show which exists between Christianity and the Craft; and, at the same time, to maintain our ancient traditions by contributing, as they have done, some particular work of art to most of the restored cathedrals in England. And this, you know, brethren, has been notably the case in our provincial Cathedral of Chester, where two bright gems in that beautifully restored edifice, the pulpit and the sedilia, are the gifts of the brethren of this and the neighbouring province. Bright gems they are in themselves, and worthy of those who gave them; but it is not for this, as a Mason and a Christian minister, I prize them most—for, had it seemed right and necessary to our governors we could have given gifts ten times the value—but it is because that in those two gifts there are signs and emblems which will show our children's children that Masonry and Christianity went hand in hand in this 19th century of grace in the restoration of that sacred pile. It is for reasons such as these, among many others, that I, as a Christian minister of the Established Church of this country, am thankful to be able to address you all, as brother Christians and brother Masons, from this the pulpit of one of our parish churches. It is for reasons such as these that we, as loyal subjects and as good Masons (and where is the Mason that is not a loyal subject), are all thankful to the Great Architect of the Universe that the Heir Apparent to the Crown of this great country is at once a believer in the truths of Christianity, and, at the same time, the Grand Master of English Freemasons. So much for the external features of Christianity and Masonry, for which I claim a strong similarity and strange concordance. But when we come to examine into the inward principles on which both systems are founded, we find the lines of agreement are still stronger and more striking. My text is one which we are proud to make our motto, whether as Christians or as Masons. I have read you the words as given in our authorised version, words, simple, beautiful, and full of meaning, but the meaning may perhaps be brought out more fully, and the translation will be quite as literal, perhaps more so, were we to read it as follows:—"Finally, brethren, whatsoever is true, whatsoever is venerable, whatsoever is just, whatsoever is pure, whatsoever is endearing, whatsoever is of good report—if there be any virtue, if there be any praise, let such things be your treasure"—lit., "reckon those things of most account" (Conybeare and Howson). And I ask you, brethren, are not Christianity and Masonry entirely consonant in such a statement as this? Certainly they are! Thank God, the principles of Christianity are world-wide and world-known. They are stated too often from the Christian pulpit; they are published too often by the Christian press; they may be read even by the child; so frequently from this the volume of the Sacred Law, and I need not now detain you to show you what the world knows, that the principles of Christianity are pure, lovely, and heavenly. These principles are many and varied, countless almost in number, and extending to every duty of this life. But, though they are so, they may be all summed up in the golden rule of our great Master and Teacher, Jesus Christ, "that we must love the Lord our God with all our heart, and with all our mind, and with all our soul, and with all our strength, and our neighbour as ourself." And, more than this, that in doing the latter, loving our neighbour as ourself, we are often thereby doing most the will of our God and Heavenly Father, and showing most our love to Him! Some of you have heard the Arabic legend, so beautifully rendered into English verse by Leigh Hunt, that you will pardon me if I introduce it here, as an example of what I am now trying to press upon you. It is known as the legend of "Abon Ben Adhem and the Angel," and runs as follows:—

Abon Ben Adhem (may his tribe increase)
Awoke one night from a deep dream of peace,
And saw, within the moonlight, in his room,
Making it rich, and like a lily in bloom,
An angel writing in a book of gold;—
Exceeding peace had made Ben Adhem bold,
And to the presence in the room he said,
"What writest thou?" The vision rais'd its head,
And, with a look made of all sweet accord,
Answered, "The names of those who love the Lord."
"And is mine one?" said Abon. Nay, not so,"
Replied the angel. Abon spoke more low,
But cheerily still, and said, "I pray thee then,
Write me as one who loves his fellow men."

The Angel wrote and vanish'd. The next night
It came again with a great wakening light,
And show'd the names whom love of God had bless'd,
And lo! Ben Adhem's name led all the rest.

We need not have, however, to turn to the story of an Arabic legend for the greatest and highest teaching on such a subject. No! The whole tenor of the inspired word is a continual insisting on such principles as these, and the life of Jesus—the Great Master—is but one bright and prolonged instance of their being put forth into practice; while the teaching of "the beloved Apostle" is so full of it, that I shall here content myself by one quotation, where this duty—of shewing our love to God by our love to our fellow men—is more strongly insisted on than in any other place I know—"He that loveth not his brother whom he hath seen, how can he love God whom he hath not seen?" This, I say, represents the truest Christianity when carried out fully into practice in our lives; this represents the truest Masonry also. It is not the saying, but the doing. "He who doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven" is the best Christian and the best Mason. I need not detain you now, brethren, to show you what you are shown in every lodge when you assemble, or inculcate duties upon you which it is the study of every good Mason ever to practise, or vindicate principles which every true Mason holds as dear as his own life. Standing in this pulpit to-day, I would simply remind you ever to act worthy of those principles, and thus forcibly impress upon the outside world "the dignity and high value of Freemasonry." For if you do, then I am sure that we shall all show forth "that when a man is said to be a Mason, the world will know that he is one to whom the burdened heart may pour forth his sorrows and find consolation, to whom the distressed may pour forth his suit and find relief; that he is one whose hand is guided by justice, and whose heart is expanded by benevolence." Brethren, I had a great deal more to say to you to-day—a great deal more than I had prepared to say—but the duties of this day have been so long and arduous, and, as those duties are yet far from finished, I prefer ending what I have said to you with this word "Benevolence." For, while it reminds us of many good and estimable qualities, it also reminds us of that "Fund of Benevolence" of ours, which is at this moment impoverished by our having contributed such a magnificent sum as we have done towards the Boys' School in London. You know what has been done, and how Cheshire is now in the proud position of being able to have a permanent appointment of a deceased brother's child in that fine school. Further words of mine, I feel sure, are not needed to draw forth an expression of your sympathy in behalf of this fund. And, in appealing to you to-day to contribute to it, as good Christians and good Masons, I know I shall not be appealing in vain! Amen.

CONSECRATION OF THE KENT DALE LODGE OF MARK MASTER MASONS, No. 195.

The lodge was opened at 4.30 p.m. on Tuesday, the 26th ult., by the V.W. Bro. F. Binckes, Grand Secretary G.L.M.M.M., who appointed the V.W. Bro. J. Daniel Moore, M.D., P.P.G.W.M. Lancashire, as S.W.; Wor. Bro. E. Simpson, W.M. Moore Lodge, 146, as J.W.; and the Rev. W. Beeby, P.G.C. Cumberland and Westmorland, as Chaplain; Bros. George Potter, 60, M.O.; W. Hall, 146, S.O.; R. Godfrey, J.O.; Geo. McKay, Secretary pro tem. and D.C.; Jos. Crookill, 146, S.D.; and others. After the lodge was opened, the R.W.D.P.G.M. M.M. of Cumberland and Westmorland, and P.G.W. of England, Bro. Col. Whitwell, entered, and was saluted according to ancient custom. There being six candidates for advancement to the honourable degree of M.M.M., the V.W. Bro. F. Binckes proceeded with this beautiful ceremony in his usual careful and impressive manner, to enable the candidates to be present at the consecration, the lodge being already constituted by the warrant issued by the M.W.G.M.M., Bro. the Earl of Limerick.

The consecration ceremony was then performed by the V.W. Bro. F. Binckes, assisted by the R.W.D.P.G.M.M.M., Bro. Col. Whitwell, M.P., and the V.W. Bro. J. Daniel Moore, M.D., P.P.G.W.M.M.M. Lancashire, the oration being delivered in an effective and very impressive manner by the Installing Officer, Bro. F. Binckes.

The lodge being duly dedicated and constituted, Bro. Binckes proceeded with the installation of Bro. George J. McKay, who was presented to the Installing Master by Bro. Col. Whitwell, M.P., and duly installed into the chair of A. All the brethren under the Degree of I.M. having entered the lodge, the usual salutations were made, and the following brethren invested by the newly-installed W.M.:—Bros. Robert Godfrey, S.W.; W. Cranston, J.W.; Jas. Gooding, M.O., by proxy; A. J. Nelson, S.O.; R. B. Hunter, J.O.; Jas. Pickthall, Treasurer; W. F. Robson, Registrar; F. W. Watson, Secretary; O. G. Grayson, S.D.; and others.

The V.W. Bro. F. Binckes, V.W. Bro. J. Daniel Moore, and Wor. Bro. E. Simpson were elected honorary members. A hearty vote of thanks having been expressed to the consecrating officers, several brethren proposed for advancement, and the usual proclamations having been made, the lodge was duly and solemnly closed with prayer by the P.G. Chaplain, when the brethren adjourned to the Commercial Hotel, where a very recherché banquet awaited them, provided by the worthy host and hostess, Mr. and Mrs. Barrow.

Ample justice having been done to the good things provided, the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were heartily given and responded to, and the brethren separated at an early hour, having given three cheers to nine worthy brethren, who had to drive a distance of seventeen miles to Lancaster.

THE MASONIC MAGAZINE.—We take the following from the "Philadelphia Keystone":—"The London 'Masonic Magazine' for September contains a number of interesting and valuable Masonic papers. Brother Hughan furnishes an exact copy of the 'Rawlinson MS.,' from a transcript made about A.D. 1730. Bro. Woodford, the editor, gives a review of the 'Domesday Book,' together with a fac-simile page of the original Latin from the Book, which makes a handsome frontispiece to this number of the Magazine. Our recent editorial article in 'The Keystone' on 'The Goose and Gridiron' is also reproduced, together with the illustration accompanying it. In connection with it the editor kindly remarks:—"We note that 'The Keystone' has just reached its decennial anniversary, and we beg to offer the editor and publishers our fraternal good wishes and hearty sympathies. A better conducted paper we do not know." Thanks, Bro. Woodford. Praise from 'Sir Hubert' is praise indeed.

A NEW INTELLIGENCE DEPARTMENT.—It appears that the minds of the people about Dinapore, Patna, and the neighbourhood have lately been seized with the belief that the British soldiers have orders to decapitate all natives abroad after sunset, or found in secluded places. The heads are deposited in the Masonic Lodges, and thence distributed over foreign countries, and by their means the Sarkar is accounted able to gain intelligence of all political intrigues. So implicitly is all this nonsense believed that no native servant will stir abroad after dark, and even "respectable men of business" are said to accept the general delusion. This delusion is said to represent a well-known ancient superstition, and there have been times when such terrors on the part of the people were not quite so imaginary as they are now. But the fact that even now they readily do believe such things of us is very significant. It is said, too, that equally such rumours have found credence even in Calcutta, and that quite recently.—"Allen's Indian Mail."

METROPOLITAN MASONIC MEETINGS. For the Week ending Friday, October 12, 1876.

The Editor will be glad to receive notice from Secretaries of Craft Lodges, Royal Arch Chapters, Mark Lodges, Preceptories, Conclaves, &c., of any change in place or time of meeting.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 7.

- Gen. Com. Boys' School, at 4.
Lodge 1194, Villiers, Grotto Hot., Twickenham.
" 1572, Carnarvon, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
" 1607, Loyalty, Alexandra Palace, N.
" 1622, Rose, Surrey M.H., Consecration.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

- Lily, Greyhound, Richmond.
Manchester, 77, London-st., Fitzroy-square.
Star, Marquis of Granby, New Cross-rd.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 10.

- Lodge 59, Royal Naval, F.M.H.
" 193, Confidence, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
" 957, Leigh, F.M.H.
" 1571, Leopold, Woolpack Tav., Bermondsey, S.E.
Chap. 22, Mount Zion, Guildhall Tav., Gresham-st.
" 1319, Asaph, F.M.H.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

- Prince Leopold, Lord Stanley Tav., Kingsland.
Strong Man, Jerusalem Tav., St. John's Gate.
Sincerity, Railway Tav., Fenchurch-st. Station.
Camden, Stanhope Arms, Up. James-st., Camden To.
Eastern, Royal Hot., Mile-end-road.
St. James's Union, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Wellington, White Swan, Deptford.
Perfect Ashlar, Victoria Tav., Lower-rd., Rotherhithe.
Sydney, White Hart Ho., Church-rd., Upper Norwood.
Marquis of Ripon, Pembury Tav., Amherst-rd., Hackney.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 3.

- Lodge 167, St. John's, Holly Bush Tav., Hampstead.
" 180, St. James's Union, F.M.H.
" 198, Percy, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.
" 211, St. Michael, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
" 228, United Strength, Old Jerusalem Tav.
" 548, Wellington, White Swan Tav., Deptford.
" 917, Cosmopolitan, Cannon-st. Hot.
" 933, Doric, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
" 1269, Stanhope, Thicket Hot., Anrley.
" 1538, St. Martin's-le-Grand, M.H., Masons' Avenue.
" 1604, Wanderers, F.M.H.
Chap. 185, Jerusalem, F.M.H.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

- Metropolitan, 269, Pentonville-rd.
Yarborough, Green Dragon, Steyne.
Domestic, Surrey M.H., Camberwell New-road.
Faith, 2, Westminster Chambers, Victoria-st.
Prince Fredk. Wm., Lord's Hot., St. John's Wood.
Dalhousie, King Edward, Triangle, Hackney.
Prosperity, 1, Camomile-st., Bishopsgate.
St. Marylebone, British Stores Tav., St. John's Wood.
Constitutional, Wheatheaf Hot., Hand-court, Holborn.
Israel, Rising Sun Tav., Globe Road.
Royal Arthur, Prince's Head, York-road, Battersea.
Beacontree, Red Lion, Leytonstone.
Metropolitan Chapter, Jamaica Coffee Ho., Cornhill.
Excelsior, Commercial Dock Tav., Rotherhithe.
St. John of Wapping, Gun Hot., High-st., Wapping.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 11.

- Com. R.M.B.I., at 3.
Lodge 3, Fidelity, F.M.H.
" 9, Albion, Regent M.H., W.
" 13, Union Waterloo M.H., Wm.-st., Woolwich.
" 15, Kent, F.M.H.
" 87, Vitruvian, White Hart, College-st., Lambeth.
" 147, Justice, White Swan, High-st., Deptford.
" 238, Pilgrim, 101, Queen Victoria-st.
" 749, Belgrave, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
" 781, Merchant Navy, Silver Tav., Burdett-rd., E.

- Lodge 1017, Montefiore, F.M.H.
" 1260, Hervey, F.M.H.
" 1305, St. Marylebone, Eyre Arms, St. John's Wood.
" 1306, St. John of Wapping, Gun Hot., High-st.
" 1503, Francis Burdett, Albany Hot., Twickenham.
" 1523, St. Mary Magdalen, Star Hot., Greenwich.
Grand Council Ill. Knights K.H. 30°, 33, Golden-sq.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

- Confidence, M.H., Basinghall-st.
Mt. Lebanon, Windsor Castle Tav., Southwark-bdg.-rd.
Pythagorean, Prince of Orange, Greenwich.
New Concord, Rosemary Branch Tav., Hoxton.
Royal Union, Horse and Groom, Winsley-st., Oxford-st.
Peckham, Maismore Arms, Park-road, Peckham.
Stanhope, Thicket Hot., Anerley.
Finsbury Park, Finsbury Park Tav., Seven Sisters'-rd.
Southwark, Southwark Park Tav., Southwark Park.
Duke of Connaught, Havelock Tav., Dalston, E.
United Strength, Grafton Arms, Kentish-town.
Islington, Crown and Cushion, London Wall.
Whittington, Black Bull Tav., Holborn.
Lewis, King's Arms Hot., Wood Green.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 12.

- Lodge 19, R. Athelstan, Cannon-st. Hot.
" 206, Friendship, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.
" 860, Dalhousie, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
" 879, Southwark, Southwark Park Tav.
" 1076, Capper, Marine Hot., Victoria Docks.
" 1216, Macdonald, Hd.-qtrs. 1st. Surrey Rifles, S.E.
" 1457, Bagshaw, Bald-faced Stag, Buckhurst Hill.
" 1471, Islington, Cock Tav., Highbury.
" 1558, Duke of Connaught, Surrey M.H.
" 1599, Skelmersdale, M.H., Masons' Avenue.
Chap. 73, Mount Lebanon, Bridge House Hot.
" 140, St. George's, Globe, Royal Hill, Greenwich.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

- Egyptian, Hercules Tav., Leadenhall-st.
Fidelity, Yorkshire Grey, London-st., W.
Finsbury, Jolly Anglers' Tav., Bath-st., City-road.
Temperance in the East, Catherine-st., Poplar.
Ebony, 12, Ponsonby-st., Milbank.
Highgate, Bull and Gate, Kentish-town.
The Great City, 111, Cheapside.
High Cross, Coach & Horses, High-road, Tottenham.
Salisbury, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Prince Frederick William Chapter, St. John's Wood.
Southern Star, Crown Hot., Blackfriars-rd.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 6.

- Lodge 177, Domestic, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
" 1420, Earl Spencer, Northcote Hot., Wandsworth.
Chap. 33, Briannic, F.M.H.
Precep. D., Mount Calvary.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

- Union Waterloo, Thomas-st., Woolwich.
Robert Burns, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Belgrave, Constitution, Bedford-st., Covent Garden.
Unions Emulation (for M.M.'s), F.M.H.
Temperance, Victoria Tav., Victoria-road, Deptford.
Clapton, White Hart, Clapton.
Metropolitan, Portugal Hot., Fleet-st.
Westbourne, Horse & Groom, Winsley-st., Oxford-st.
United Pilgrims, Surrey M.H., Camberwell New-road.
St. James's, New Tanners' Arms, Grange-rd., Bermondsey.
Duke of Edinburgh, Silver Lion, Penny-fields, Poplar.
Doric, Earl Grey Tav., Mile-end-road.
Burgoyne, Grafton Arms, Prince of Wales's-road, N.W.
St. Luke's, White Hart, King's-rd., Chelsea.
Chigwell, Bald-faced Stag Hot., Buckhurst-hill.
Burdett Courts, Approach Tav., Victoria Park.
Royal Standard, Finsbury Park Tav., Holloway.
Ranelagh, Clarendon Hot., Hammersmith.
Pythagorean Chapter, Prince of Orange, Greenwich-rd.
Stability, Guildhall Tav., Gresham-st.
St. George's, Globe Tav., Greenwich.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN WEST LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE.

For the Week ending Saturday, October 14, 1876.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 9.

- Lodge 314, Peace and Unity, Militia Mess R., Preston.
" 1021, Hartington, H.M., C.H.B., B-in-Furness.
" 1350, Fermor Hesketh, M.H., Liverpool.
" 1398, Baldwin Castle, Dalton-in-Furness.
" 1496, Trafford, Northumberland Hot., Old Trafford.
Derby L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.
Mark Lodge 165, Egerton, Bedford House, Rock Ferry.
Red Cross Conclave of I., M.H., Liverpool.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 10.

- Lodge 178, Antiquity, Royal Hot., Wigan.
" 241, Merchants, M.H., Liverpool.
" 1250, Gilbert Greenall, M.R., Warrington.
Chap. 537, Zion, M. Chambers, Birkenhead.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 11.

- Lodge 281, Fortitude, Athenæum, Lancaster.
" 1052, Callender, P.H., Rusholme.
" 1094, Temple, M.H., Liverpool.
" 1356, De Grey and Ripon, 80, N. Hill-st.
" 1547, Liverpool, M.H., Liverpool.
Chap. 673, St. John's, M.H., Liverpool.
" 1345, Victoria, Cross Keys Hot., Eccles.
Neptune L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 12.

- Lodge 216, Harmonic, Adelphi Hot., Liverpool.
" 333, Royal Preston, Vic., Garrison Hot. Fulwood.
" 477, Mersey, M.R., Birkenhead.
" 786, Croxteth United Service, M.H., Liverpool.
" 1035, Prince of Wales, Kirkdale, Liverpool.
" 1182, Duke of Edinburgh, M.H., Liverpool.
" 1213, Bridgwater, Cross Keys Hot., Eccles.
Mariners L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 13.

- Lodge 185, Perseverance, M.H., Liverpool.
" 1289, Rock, Bedford House, Rock Ferry.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN GLASGOW AND WEST OF SCOTLAND.

For the Week ending Saturday, October 14, 1876.

All the Meetings take place at Eight o'clock.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 9.

- Lodge 102, St. Mark, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
" 204, St. Paul, George Inn, Ayr.
" 205, Garthland St. Winnoch, Eagle, Lochwinnoch.
" 219, Star, 12, Trongate, Glasgow.
" 307, Union and Crown, M.H., Barrhead.
" 362, St. Clair, 25, Robertson-st., Glasgow.
" 384, Athole, Washington Hot., Kirkintilloch.
" 503, St. George, Oddfellows' H., Helensburgh.
" 541, Marie Stuart, M.H., Crosshill.
Chap. 76, Abbey, 8, High-st., Paisley.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 10.

- Lodge 230, St. Barnabas, Black Bull Hot., Old Cumnock.
" 413, Athole, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
" 419, Neptune, 35, St. James-st., S.S., Glasgow.
" 426, Prince of Wales, M.H., Renfrew.
" 441, Glasgow, 22, Struthers-st., Glasgow.
" 543, St. John, M.H., Dalmuir.
" 579, St. Bryde, M.H., Uddingston.
Chap. 17, Greenock, M.H., Cathcart-st.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 11.

- Lodge 178, Scotia, 12, Trongate, Glasgow.
" 333, St. George, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
" 510, Maryhill, M.H., Main-st., Maryhill.
Chap. 113, Partick, M.H., Douglas-st., Partick.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 12.

- Lodge 88, New Monkland Montrose, T.H., Airdrie.
" 109, St. Marnock, Crown Hot., Kilmarnock.
" 203, St. John Operative, Olive H., Airdrie.
" 334, St. John's, Castle Inn, New Cumnock.
" 557, Blantyre Kilwinning, C.H., High Blantyre.
" 570, Kenmuir, Balgray Hall, Springburn.
Chap. 50, Glasgow, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 13.

- Lodge 18, Dumbarton, Church-st., Dumbarton.
" 147, Cadder Argyle, M.H., Chryston.
" 153, R.A., M.H., Pollokshaws, Cogan-st.
" 170, Leven St. John, Black Bull Inn, Renton.
" 427, St. Clair, M.H., Cambusnethan.
Chap. 144, St. Rollox, 69, Garngad-rd., Glasgow.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN EDINBURGH AND VICINITY.

For the Week ending Saturday, October 14, 1876.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 9.

- Lodge 145, St. Stephen, St. James's Hall, Writers' Court.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 10.

- Lodge 1, Edinburgh, Mary's Chapel, Waterloo-pl.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 11.

- Lodge 2, Canongate Kilwinning, St. John's-st.

- Chap. 1, Edinburgh, F.M.H., 98, George-st.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 12.

- Lodge 8, Journeyman, Blackfriars-st.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 13.

- Chap. 56, Canongate Kilwinning, St. John-st.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

Second Application—October Election, 1876.

The Votes and Interest of the Governors and Subscribers are earnestly solicited on behalf of

JAMES HENRY BATELY,

Orphan, aged 10 years.

The Father, Bro. James Batley, P.M., formerly a Chemist, of the Triangle, Kennington, was initiated in the Fortitude and Old Cumberland Lodge, No. 12, in November, 1852; joined the United Pilgrims' Lodge, No. 507, in March 1854, and continued a Subscribing Member till February, 1866; was Steward for R.M. I.B. in 1862. He died in 1866, leaving five children, the present Candidate being then but a fortnight old. The case is specially recommended by the following Brethren, by whom Proxies will be thankfully received; also by the Petitioner, Mrs. Elizabeth Prince, of 213, King's Road, Chelsea, who, through reverse, and being again a Widow, is compelled to apply for her son's admission to this valuable Institution:

Bro. Raynham W. Stewart, P.G.D., P.D.G.M. for Middlesex, 11, Abchurch Lane.

Leopold Ruf, P.M. and Treas., P.Z. No. 12, Lowther Arcade.

J. Nunn, P.M. No. 72, P.Z. 72 and 720, 376, Kennington Road, S.E.

W. H. Pannel, C.C., 1, Guildhall Chambers, E.C. Lodge No. 180.

Henry Smith, P.M. Royal Arthur Lodge, No. 1360, 36, Buckingham Palace Road.

W. Carter, P.M. and Treas. No. 141, 96, Pimlico Road.

E. J. Page, Vice-President, P.G.S., No. 23, 188, Kennington Park Road.

George Kenning, Vice-President P.M., P.Z., P.G.D. Middlesex, Upper Sydenham.

H. M. Collier, 12, Canonbury Square, Islington.

J. Funge, P.M. No. 69, 19, Sloane Street, Chelsea.

R. Shingleton, St. Luke's Lodge, No. 144, 118, King's Road, Chelsea.

C. L. Marshall, P.M. Neptune Lodge, No. 22, "Palmerston Tavern," Camberwell.

Innos, 50, Beaufort Street, Chelsea.

FREEMASONRY.

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REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS.

Craft Masonry.

FAITH LODGE (No. 141).—The first meeting of this thriving and old established lodge was held at Anderson's Hotel, Fleet-street, on Tuesday, the 26th ult. There were present the following officers: Bros. Kennett, I.P.M., acting W.M.; Davis, S.W.; Mallett, J.W.; Dailey, J.D., acting S.D.; Walls, acting J.D.; Bye, I.G.; Rumbald, W.S.; Whitley, D.C.; Past Masters Carter (Treas.), Stuart (Sec.), Hopwood, Taylor, Green, and Themans. The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, Bro. Kennett raised Bro. Smith to the Third Degree most impressively. The W.M., Bro. Waygood, having arrived, and assumed his position, passed Bro. Barrett, and initiated Mr. Henry Stokes into Craft mysteries. The election of W.M. for the ensuing year then took place, and Bro. Davis, S.W., was almost unanimously elected to the chair of K.S., and that brother made an excellent reply for the great honour accorded to him. Bro. Carter, P.M., was unanimously re-elected Treasurer, and Bro. Longstaffe re-appointed Tyler. The members elected to audit the annual accounts were Bros. Whitley, Heapley, Walls, Clark, and F. Browning, and the third Tuesday in October was the night appointed for the purpose. The Committee of the Benevolent Fund was re-appointed, and Bro. Morrison added to their number. Upon the motion of Bro. Taylor, P.M., Bro. Carter, P.M., the Treasurer to the lodge, was unanimously elected an honorary member, as a slight recognition of the great service rendered by him to the brethren. Previously to the lodge being closed, Bro. Kennett, I.P.M., proposed, in a very neat speech, that the customary Past Master's jewel should be voted to their W.M., Bro. Waygood, which motion having been seconded, was unanimously carried. The brethren and visitors, to the number of sixty-three, then adjourned to the banquet, which was well served in the Pillar Room, under the superintendence of Bro. Smith. [The visitors were Bros. Clement, I.G. 1310; Bennett, 177; Foster, late 1105; Moss, 1185; Wray, 1257. Upon the removal of the cloth the W.M. gave the usual royal and Craft toasts, which were duly honoured. "The Health of the W.M." was proposed by the I.P.M., and briefly responded to by Bro. Waygood. Bro. Stokes, the initiate, having been toasted, made an able reply. "The Visitors," and other toasts, followed in quick succession. In the intervals, Bros. Robinson, Walls, Mallett, and others contributed some harmony, and the Tyler's toast having been given, the brethren adjourned until the last Tuesday in October, when Bro. Davis, W.M. elect, will be duly installed.]

ST. JOHN'S LODGE (No. 167).—On Tuesday evening the annual meeting of the members of this ancient lodge for the installation of the W.M. was held at the usual quarters, the Holy Bush, Hampstead. The lodge was opened by Bro. T. M. Jackson, W.M., who was supported during the evening by the following brethren:—Bros. H. Hollis, P.M.; Ralph Firbank, P.M.; W. W. Alexander, P.M.; J. Ware, P.M.; T. A. Adams, P.M.; E. Barge, P.M.; John Stanage, S.W.; J. F. Rowe, J.W.; H. Cornick, Treas.; J. R. Thompson, Sec.; John Yeomans, S.D.; C. Muller, J.D.; W. Keil, I.G.; F. Adlard, P.M., M.C. There were also seventeen other members of the lodge present, and the following visitors:—Bros. G. J. Turner, J.D. 157; Joseph Piget, W.M. 753; H. Burn, P.M. 731; W. Butterfield, W.M. 1085; J. Lane, P.M. 1085; H. May, I.P.M. 212; Jas. Hopkinson, 432; J. S. Gallilee, J.W. 178; Robert Berridge, W.M. 21; Thos. H. Howenden, 21; J. F. Wirest, 753; Wm. Paxon, 167; C. Koester, P.M. 435; James Burford, 173; Thomas Claiser, 23; R. Clouser, 23; P. Dickenson, S.W. 1298; J. Forwood, 1288; D. Pitney, 72; and H. Massey ("Freemason"), P.M. 619. There was one raising to be performed, and for this purpose Bro. H. Hollis, P.M., ascended the chair, and in due form imparted the secrets of the Third Degree to Bro. J. G. Humphreys. Bro. Firbank, P.M., afterwards took the post of W.M., and installed Bro. John Eldridge as Master of the lodge. Bro. Eldridge appointed as his officers Bros. J. F. Rowe, S.W.; John Yeomans, J.W.; H. Cornick, Treas.; J. R. Thompson, Sec.; C. Muller, S.D.; W. Keil, J.D.; Davis, I.G.; F. Adlard, D.C.; H. Hollis, P.M., W.S.; and Bro. Steedman, T. When the ceremony was completed, the W.M. commenced his year of work by initiating Mr. Bellamy into the Order, and gave ample proofs of his ability to preside over the lodge in the capacity of Master. The lodge was afterwards closed, and the

brethren adjourned to a banquet which was well supplied by Bro. H. Baker, the proprietor of the Holy Bush. As it was late in the evening when the time came round for the proposing of the various toasts, the speeches in which this was done were made very brief, none of them occupying more than a couple of minutes in delivery. Bro. Robert Berridge, W.M. 21, and Grand Steward, was called upon to reply on behalf of the Grand Officers, Bro. T. A. Adams, P.G.P., having been obliged to leave early on account of his advanced age. Bro. Berridge replying more for the other Grand Officers than for himself, said that the Grand Officers as a body were very useful brethren, and they managed Grand Lodge affairs so thoroughly and so well that he was sure they deserved well of the whole of the Craft. The W.M. in the course of proposing "The Health of the Visitors," said that the St. John's Lodge was always glad to receive them. It was a very old established lodge and there were many old members belonging to it. It had always been a great pleasure to them to see old faces among them, and a great many of those then present he had frequently seen before from his young years in Masonry. Bro. G. J. Turner replying, said: he must express his most unqualified recognition of the lodge's hospitality. He visited a good many London lodges, although he was not a very old man, he was a Mason of twenty years standing, but still in the blue, yet he had never seen greater hospitality exhibited than he had experienced that evening. Bro. Berridge also replied, saying that he could not let that opportunity pass by without expressing his great pleasure with the working of the lodge. It had given all the brethren very much pleasure indeed to see how well not only the W.M., but the P.M.'s and officers had worked the different ceremonies, particularly Bro. Firbank, P.M., in the ceremony of installation. In proposing the toast of "The Initiate," the W.M. reminded the brethren of the careful and ready way in which Bro. Bellamy had answered all the questions put to him. Bro. Bellamy said he had to thank the brethren for accepting him as a brother Mason in that most honourable and ancient lodge. He must also thank Bro. Fry for having proposed him, and he hoped that his Masonic career would not disgrace his proposer. He should try and attend all the meetings of the lodge, so as to learn as much of his duties as would render him an efficient Freemason, and enable him to perform the work which was expected of every brother. Bro. Fairbank, P.M., who was chosen to reply to the toast of "The P.M.'s," addressing the officers of St. John's Lodge, said the W.M. wished him to attempt to express his feelings. He thought that if even the St. John's Lodge had a good and efficient set of officers it had them now. The W.M. had known the lodge many years; he had gone through all the offices, and was thoroughly conversant with the duties of each; he had seen the officers working upward from the lowest point, and from the highest down to the lowest he had satisfied himself that all his officers were able to perform their duties. He was quite sure that his duties during his year would be very much lightened by the efficiency of his officers. The Treasurer and Secretary were the best known officers of the lodge, having filled their respective offices for a long time. The Treasurer certainly knew how to take care of the funds, and the Secretary was very active in getting them in. The S.W., in reply, said that all the officers would do their best in working the lodge efficiently; and the J.W. added that emulation was his motto, and he should endeavour to surpass, if possible, his predecessors in office. The Treasurer, in his reply, advocated success to the charities, and the Secretary acknowledged the compliment which had been paid to him by the observations of Bro. Firbank. The Tyler's toast brought a very pleasant evening to a close, and the brethren afterwards returned to town.

LION AND LAMB LODGE (No. 192).—The first meeting of the session of the above lodge was held on Thursday, the 5th inst., at the Cannon-street Hotel, Cannon-street. Present: Bros. Cohu, W.M.; Arkell, S.W.; Jones, J.W.; Kenning, Treas.; Marsh, Sec.; Legg, S.D.; Fellowes, J.D.; Rickwood, I.G., and about fifty other brethren. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed; Bros. Geo. Statham and J. Pinder were raised; Bros. R. J. Sutherland and H. Carter were passed; Messrs. C. Gale Sparrow, James Cook, Richard James Dart, and J. Darnell were initiated. Bro. Chas. Arkell proposed that the lodge be removed from the City Terminus Hotel, which, on being duly seconded and put, was lost by a large majority. Some other routine business having been done the brethren dined together, when the usual toasts were given and acknowledged. The W.M., Bro. Thomas Cohu, most ably presided, both in the lodge and at the banquet.

THE WILLIAM PRESTON LODGE (No. 706).—The first meeting of this lodge for the coming season was held at the City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street, on Thursday, the 28th ult., when the following brethren were present:—Bros. John Pringle, W.M.; Mansfield Newton, S.W.; W. E. Newton, J.W.; Captain Kain, P.M. and Treasurer; W. Worrell, P.M., and Secretary; S. D. Ewins, S.D.; Dr. Cutmore, J.D.; E. Kidman, I.G.; A. Brown, P.M.; B. Abbott, P.M.; G. Newman, P.M.; W. Jerrett Miller, P.M.; also Bros. R. Lyon, B. G. Austin, G. Paull, W. Drake, P. Steinmann, Dr. Atwood, W. F. Smart, J. R. Williams, A. Grant, G. Castle, G. Smithers, jun., W. B. Broomhall, W. J. Collins, W. Johnston, R. Seaman, W. W. Brierley, F. Juer, F. G. Barnes, J. F. Honey, H. F. Partridge, R. Gunner, L. G. Reindhardt. Visitors: Bros. E. Paull, 1586; H. Paull, 1586; John A. Moss, 227; R. Harvey Bastow, 3; J. C. Dorosing, late 108; H. Garrod, P.M. 749; L. B. Pillin, J.W. 180; W. Hopekirk, P.M. 179. The business of the evening consisted of the passing of Bros. Brierley and Castle, the raising of Bro. Dr. Atwood. The report of the Audit Committee was received and adopted, and the Secretary congratulated the brethren on

the financial position of the lodge. Bro. W. E. Newton, J.W., was elected as the W.M. for the ensuing year, and Bro. Capt. Kain was again most unanimously elected Treasurer, and Bro. Grant, Tyler. All business being then ended the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to an excellent dinner, presided over by the W.M., Bro. John Pringle. On the cloth being removed the W.M. proposed the usual loyal toasts, but on rising to propose the toast of the Past Masters, he said he did it on this occasion with great feelings of sorrow, as the brethren were all aware they had recently lost their much respected brother, the late lamented Dr. Whiteman, the father of the lodge, and his good qualities were so well known to all the members of the lodge, that he, the W.M., felt he could not speak all that he intended to say, so he would therefore call upon Bro. Capt. Kain to respond to the toast and make a few observations on their recent bereavement. In responding to the usual toast of the P.M.'s, Bro. Capt. Kain as Senior P.M. said: I rise with very solemn feelings on this occasion, to return thanks for my health having been drank as one of the P.M.'s. Some of the visitors who have favoured us with their company for the first time this evening will have discovered that this is a "Banner" Lodge, of which there are but few, and they may observe that as usual the W.M. and each P.M. is sitting under his own banner, they will also see that a banner in the background behind me is draped with black, that, brethren all, is the banner of our lamented brother, Dr. Richard Harland Whiteman, P.M., the so-called father of this lodge, and I may observe that he is only the second P.M. who has died since the consecration of the lodge, now nearly twenty years ago. The motto under his coat of arms is, "Absque Devusse spero," which being herald's latin may be freely translated as meaning "I am called a Whiteman and I hope I am without stain." Brethren, the motto, though covering as you will observe a pun, was most appropriate, his character was stainless. For nearly those twenty years at our meetings has his portly presence and his benign and venerable face been seen under that banner, and who, brethren, ever saw a frown or even a shade over that benevolent countenance and when, which was seldom, there was the slightest ruffle on the surface of this lodge caused by differences of opinion, who does not remember his calm and measured tones and persuasive voice successfully pouring oil on the temporarily troubled waters; and at the banquet how well we remember and how much we shall miss his genial and humorous speeches. For nearly twenty years, as I have said, he has at our meetings sat under that banner, and was only absent when required by his professional duties as a distinguished accoucher, and which absence he would pleasantly term, assisting at an initiation. As I have also said, he was called the father of the lodge, a title of which he was proud, brethren, that title I have now the honour of claiming at your hands; he is taken, I am left; his mantle has fallen on my shoulders, and I pray for Divine assistance to bear it as worthily as he did; but it cannot be for long. I am his senior in age, and am therefore fast approaching the end of the time allotted for man. The time may not be far distant when my place here will be vacant, when my banner will be draped with black, when my punning motto, "Si je puis"—"if I am able"—will be commented on, and when I hope some P.M. will have a kindly word for my memory. But the fall of a brother in the race of life cannot stop us in our social, domestic, and business avocations; we shed a tear over the fallen and pass onward to our duties in this life till it is our turn to fall. This is fully exemplified in the profession to which I have the honour to belong. When a soldier dies he is borne solemnly to his grave by his comrades with arms reversed, marching with measured steps and slow to the melancholy strains of the "Dead March in Saul." If a cavalry soldier, his charger is led fully mounted as if for war, but with a vacant saddle, the stirrups occupied with the warrior's vacant boots, heels to the front. The awe-inspiring burial service is read, and the heart and the ear throbs with those three solemn sentences,—earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust—each sentence accompanied by the thud of falling earth resounding on the coffin. Who that has witnessed a burial has not been moved at the scene, and may have shed a tear, and felt a rising in the throat? But to the soldier the sharp words of command are given, "Attention!" "Front turn!" "Quick march!" the band strikes up a merry tune, generally "The Lass I left behind me," and so they merrily march back to their duties. So, brethren, must it be with us. We have in spirit followed our lamented brother to his last home; we have in imagination heard the solemn service read over him, and with moistened eyes and beating hearts, have heard those sounding thuds. But like soldiers, we must be up and doing; we must close our ranks, fill up the vacant place, and march onwards to our duties in the battle of life, its victories, and its defeats, its joys and its sorrows, till at length the time comes when one by one we are called by the Great Commander-in-Chief to share with our departed brother the reward prepared for those who like him, have done their duty, and have fought and fallen in the good fight. Brethren, let us in solemn silence drink to his memory.

PERFECT ASHLAR LODGE (No. 1178).—The installation meeting of this lodge, held at the Bridge House Hotel, Southwark, on Thursday, 6th inst., Bro. J. A. Smith, W.M., opened the lodge punctually at half-past four o'clock. There were present Bros. F. H. Ebsworth, P.M., Treas.; G. J. Grace, P.M., W.S.; C. Deakin, P.M.; J. H. Hainsworth, P.M.; Dr. Dixon, P.M.; F. Walters, P.G.J.D. M. J. Essex, P.M., Sec.; W. Batchelor, S.W.; W. T. Le J.W. and W.M. elect; F. Garbett, S.D.; J. St. J.D.; J. Wootton, I.G.; and forty others. Among the visitors we noticed Bros. Hooper, 879; Rogers, 463; Lenner, 879; Plummer, 177; Edwards, 619; Beddoe, 548; Smith, 1257; P. Magee, 548; Hogarth,

1107; Groen, 73; T. J. Sabine, P.P.G.S.B. Middlesex, W.M. 1540; T. J. H. Wilkins, P.M. 73; Mott, 1391; Kent, W.M. 1571; Ashton, 1571; Ringwood, 834; J. W. Sutton, 73; Farrer, 1462; J. Stephens, 73; Buck, 1196; Willett, 1571; Bowen, 1571; Hawkes, 65; Nicholson, 101; Rutherford, 188; Percy, 228; Cook, 177; and some others whose names we would not learn. The work, done in an able manner, was initiated Mr. F. T. Bayley into Freemasonry, and installing Bro. W. T. Lover, W.M., who appointed as his officers Bros. W. Batchelor, S.W.; F. Garbett, J.W.; J. A. Smith, I.P.M.; F. H. Ebsworth, P.M., Treas. (re-invested for 7th time); Frederick Walters, P.G.J.D. Middlesex, P.M. Sec. (re-invested for 9th time); J. Stock, S.D.; J. Porter, J.D.; T. Simpson, I.G.; J. H. Harmsworth, P.M., D.C.; G. J. Grace, P.M., W.S. (re-invested for 3rd time); W. Y. Laing, P.M., Tyler (re-invested for 9th time). A vote of thanks was given to Bro. J. A. Smith for his doing the ceremony of installation, the same to be entered on the lodge minute book. Afterwards at the banquet table a five-guinea Past Master's jewel was given him, which had been unanimously voted to him from the lodge funds. An important notice of motion was unanimously agreed to. The report of the Audit Committee was received, adopted, and ordered to be entered on lodge minute book. Some candidates were proposed for initiation. The lodge was closed and adjourned until Thursday, December 7th. Banquet and dessert followed. The usual toasts were given and responded to. An agreeable evening was happily spent.

KENNINGTON LODGE (No. 1381).—The opening night after the recess of this lodge was held at the Surrey Club House, Kennington Oval, on the 3rd instant. The lodge was opened at 4.30 in the afternoon by the W.M., Bro. Everett, P.M. Domestic, assisted by Bros. Higgins, S.W.; Reeves, J.W.; Walls, S.D.; Kohler, J.D.; Speedy, I.G.; Marsden, W.S.; Gardner, I.P.M.; Page, P.M., &c., Treas. & Stuart, Sec.; Mann, P.M., &c.; Koch, P.M.; Drysdale, P.M. The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the W.M. raised Bro. King, passed Bro. Wardley, and initiated Messrs. W. G. Webster and H. J. Fischel into the Craft. The three arduous ceremonies were most excellently carried out by the W.M., and their impressiveness was greatly enhanced by the accompaniments of Bro. Ellis, jun., Org. Previously to the closing of the lodge, the W.M. rose and stated that he took that opportunity of expressing his thanks to those brethren of the lodge who had supported his Stewardship at the last festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys. He said that, as they were aware, Bro. Page, their esteemed Treasurer, had been appointed by the lodge to act as Steward, but that brother very kindly gave way, and he (the W.M.) was enabled to take up a list of nearly £60, which was, he thought, a very respectable sum considering the age and strength of the lodge. Several propositions having been taken, the lodge was closed in ancient form, and the brethren adjourned to an excellent banquet. The visitors were Bros. Littell, P.M. 866, late 1381; Palmer, J.W. Domestic; Dr. Jones; Field, 177; Scott, 1558. The cloth having been removed, the W.M. stated that it was not his intention on that occasion to bore them with long speeches, but as they knew there were certain regular toasts to propose, he must crave their indulgence while he gave a short preface to each. The first toast, he said, required but little introduction, because as Englishmen they were proud to live under the benign rule of their Royal lady Victoria, and as Freemasons they were bound to honour their ancient institution on all occasions. He therefore called upon them to drink to "The Queen and the Craft." In proposing "The M.W.G.M.," the W.M. said that at their last meeting H.R.H. was in the distant East, and it must be very gratifying to them to think in the interim that he had returned home safe and in good health, and that many beneficial results, arising from his visit, were already apparent in India. This toast was received with excellent fire. "The Health of the Pro G.M., Deputy Grand Master, and the rest of the Grand Officers, Past and Present," followed. The W.M., in introducing this toast, said the Craft were to be congratulated upon possessing two noblemen who carried out the duties of their high Masonic station so well as the Earl of Carnarvon and Lord Skelmersdale. The latter in particular was a most enthusiastic Mason, and never missed an opportunity of honouring, and aiding by his presence every great Craft gathering. He was sorry that the Kennington Lodge had not a member possessing Grand Lodge honours, but he hoped that that would not be always the case. In conclusion he expressed an opinion that whilst Freemasonry was supported by the prominent members of the English aristocracy it must ever flourish. The I.P.M., in giving the toast of "The W.M.," said that he was glad that the pleasing duty had devolved upon him of proposing the health of their W.M., for the manner in which Bro. Everett had discharged the arduous duties of the chair since his election was a proof that the lodge had elected the right man in the right place. He personally considered it an honour to serve under their W.M., and he (the I.P.M.) would endeavour to assist him in every way during the remainder of his year of office. Previously to this toast being drunk, Bro. Mann, P.M., having obtained the permission of the I.P.M., stated that he wished the brethren to know that their W.M. had very handsomely presented the lodge with a valuable harmonium, which, as they were aware, would greatly heighten the impressiveness of the various ceremonies. He was sorry that the matter had not been mentioned in the lodge, but at the next meeting a vote of thanks would be moved to the W.M. for his liberal and considerate addition to the lodge furniture. The W.M., in his reply, expressed his thanks to the I.P.M. for proposing his health, and the brethren for responding to it so warmly. He assured the brethren that he was proud of holding the position of W.M. in the Kennington Lodge, and he was pleased to

think that his humble efforts to promote its interests were so ably seconded by his officers. With respect to the harmonium which he had presented, he wished to say a few words. The summer festival in connection with the lodge, had out of consideration for the great loss he had sustained by the death of his mother and two sisters been most kindly put off by the brethren, and as it had been his intention to have been personally at some expense in order to have increased the comforts of the brethren on the occasion he thought that the best thing he could do, as the outing did not take place, and also to commemorate his year of office, was to present the brethren with an instrument, that the solemnity of the lodge working might be increased. He then proposed "The Initiates," which toast having been drunk, Bros. Webster and Fischel responded very neatly. They stated that they had long desired to join the Craft, and they expressed their thanks to their proposers for having given them that opportunity, and in conclusion that they were profoundly impressed with the ceremony of their initiation, and that they hoped some day to fill the proud position so ably occupied by the W.M. In proposing "The Health of the Visitors," the W.M. gave as his opinion that the interchange of lodge courtesies was one of the principal supports of the Craft. By visiting different lodges the brethren had opportunities of studying the various workings, and of making new and cementing old friendships. In conclusion, he called upon Bro. Dr. Jones to reply to the toast. That brother, in the course of a very long and eloquent speech, said that he was proud at having his name coupled so prominently with the toast. He was reminded forcibly of the words in Dante's "Inferno," "Abandon hope, all who enter here;" but that inscription could not be used in connection with the Kennington Lodge, for when he entered its portals he found unbounded hospitality, charming geniality, and perfect harmony prevailing. He had visited nearly every city and town in England and many places abroad, and he had always found that a Freemason had a sure passport and an introduction to every society. He desired the newly initiated brethren to bear in mind that they had that day entered an institution which, notwithstanding the denunciations of Pope and Kaiser, had stood for ages, and would stand until time should be no more. When they came to consider the vast hold that Freemasonry had taken throughout the habitable globe and the great benefits it conferred, it was astonishing that men could be found weak enough to sneer at its virtues, its philanthropy, and above all to impugn the divine principles of religion that it eliminated. In conclusion, he wished to assure the brethren that even after forty years' experience of the Craft he was as proud of it as on the day when he first saw the "light." "The Past Masters' Toast" followed, and was responded to by Bros. Gardner, Mann, and Koch. In giving "The Health of the Treasurer and Secretary," the W.M. expressed the great obligations he was under to those popular and worthy brethren. Without the hearty and valuable co-operation of those important officers, no W.M., he said, could hope to carry out the duties of his position with satisfaction to himself and to the approval of the brethren. This toast having been duly honoured, Bros. Page, Treasurer, and Stuart, Secretary, responded. In the course of their respective replies they said that the majority of the members were such good paymasters that their duties were rendered comparatively easy, and they were, as old Masons, delighted with the great progress that the Kennington Lodge had made, both as regards numbers and the status of its members. They were also gratified that their respective duties had been so warmly recognised by the W.M. in the proposing and the brethren in receiving the toast. The toast of "The Officers" followed, and was responded to by Bros. Higgins, Reeves, Walls, and Marsden. The Tyler's toast, at eleven, terminated the proceedings.

MARQUESS OF RIPON LODGE (No. 1489).—Yesterday week the installation meeting of this young lodge was held in the hall of the Metropolitan Societies' Asylum, Balls Pond-road, when Bro. W. H. Murlis, W.M., opened the lodge. After some formal business had been transacted, Bro. Wm. Stephens, P.M., ascended the chair, and installed Bro. T. E. Jessett as W.M. for the year. The W.M. then invested the following brethren with their collars and jewels of office:—Bros. Walford, S.W.; Dr. Symonds, J.W.; W. Stephens, Treas.; W. H. Murlis, Sec.; John High, S.D.; Hastings Miller, J.D.; Glaskin, I.G.; W. Grist, D.C.; Chas. Smith, W.S.; and Gilchrist, Tyler. The installation was the only ceremonial business before the lodge, all other work having been wisely cleared off at a former meeting, and the brethren thereby spared the necessity of sitting in a warm room for an excessive number of hours. After the installation ceremony was perfected, the W.M. decorated Bro. Murlis with a handsome Past Master's jewel; and subsequently a vote of thanks was passed, and ordered to be recorded on the lodge minutes, to Bro. Stephens for performing the installation. Lodge was closed at an early hour, and the brethren afterwards partook of a choice banquet, supplied by Bro. W. Grist. When this had been done ample justice to, the usual toasts were proposed and honoured, and Bro. E. P. Albert, G.P., was called upon to respond for the G. Officers. This having been done, Bro. Murlis, I.P.M., proposed "The Health of the W.M.," and Bro. Jessett, in the course of his reply to the toast, said he should endeavour to fulfil the expectations that the brethren were kind enough to entertain of his work. Before sitting down he proposed "The Health of the I.P.M.," and, referring to the jewel which had already been presented to Bro. Murlis, said that brother had thoroughly deserved it by the faithful discharge of his various duties while in the chair of the lodge. Bro. Murlis responded, and said that although the brethren had been pleased to consider him as advancing the interests of the lodge, he thought that Bro. Wm. Stephens should have been associated with the toast, that brother having exerted himself very much to bring the lodge to a state of great efficiency. Bro. Binckes's name having been asso-

ciated with "The Visitors," he in the course of his reply referred to the high name which the Marquess of Ripon Lodge had already secured for itself in the Craft, and said he was sure that the name would never be tarnished in any shape or way, but that it would be handed down to those who succeeded to its Mastership, to emulate the good deeds of those who had gone before them. Although he had been called upon to reply as a visitor he took that opportunity of thanking the brethren for what they had done for the Institution with which he was more immediately connected and he did no more particularly because he had been frequently invited to the lodge, but had not previously been able to attend. When proposing "The Masonic Institutions" the W.M. announced that the first year of the lodge's existence, when Bro. W. Stephens was W.M., he acted as one of the Stewards for the lodge, and in the course of that year £300 was subscribed on the lists for the Institutions. This year a similar sum was collected. Bro. James Terry, Secretary of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, replied to the toast, and after acknowledging the healthy support which was given by the whole of the Craft to the Institutions of the Order gave, an account of the rapid increase which of late years had been made in the benefits these charities had conferred on the Craft to meet its increasing requirements. The other toasts were afterwards given, and the brethren separated after enjoying a delightful evening, in which music and singing were plentifully introduced.

PUTNEY.—The Royal Commemoration Lodge (No. 1585).—The meeting of the members of the above lodge took place on Wednesday, the 4th inst., at the Star and Garter Hotel, Putney, when the W.M., Bro. Joseph Wright, who was supported by the whole of his officers, had a full compliment of work before him. The lodge was duly opened, and the minutes of the first regular meeting, held in April, and the emergency held in June, were read and confirmed. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree and the examination having been undergone Bros. Mansell, Cook, Harrison and Russell were afterwards raised to the Third Degree in the usual careful manner of the W.M., who also gave the traditional history. Bros. Hatfield, Eykyn and Weston, were passed to the Second Degree, having been found duly qualified. Ballot was taken for Mr. Matthews and Mr. Foghill. The former being a Lewis, he with Messrs. Easton, Pardoe, Maryon and Williams were duly initiated by the W.M. in the ancient mysteries. Whilst the candidates were being prepared, the first and second sections were worked with the kind assistance of Bro. Collings, the D.C. Such a happy idea as this, in so young a lodge, speaks well for those who have the privilege, we may so term it, of belonging to a body of Masons, who thus use the spare moments to such good advantage. The W.M. on rising as usual, had three candidates proposed, there being the same number for admittance will again exceed the compliment allowed, so that this young lodge at present bids fair to become as popular as any going. This having brought the business to a close, the meeting was adjourned to November. At the banquet that followed, the usual toasts were given, and in reply to that of "The Visitors," P.M. Bro. Wise responded, and thanking the W.M. and brethren in his own name and for the other brethren for the kind way they had been received, and the pleasure they had experienced. P.M. H. Smith, the Secretary, in a very humorous speech proposed "The Health of the W.M.," who rose to reply. On the completion of Bro. Cook's song "The Health of the Initiates" was the next toast (the E.A. song being given by a lay brother); they returned thanks in a very brief manner. The other toasts that followed were, "The Treasurer and Secretary," "The Officers" and "The Lay Members," all of which were duly responded to. This pleasant evening, both in and out of the lodge, was brought to a close in the usual manner by Bro. Stead, the Tyler.

THE WANDERER'S LODGE (No. 1604).—This vigorous young lodge met on Tuesday evening at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, where the W.M., Bro. Geo. D. Roe, (P.P.G.S. Western Division South Wales), presided. In the absence of the Senior Warden the W.M. was assisted by Bro. Alfred Brookson, S.D., as his principal officer, and Bro. D. Evans, J.W., being obliged by urgent business to retire immediately after the opening of the lodge, another brother had to be deputed to fill his place. The other brethren present were Bros. Halpin, Chaplain; Meredith, Acting I.P.M.; F. J. Wray, J.D.; G. Boulton, I.G.; C. Fuller, Geo. Cox, Stewards, and the following brethren: Geo. Saunders, F. Newman, J. Harper, Keen, J. Wade, J. Brown, W. Duncan, E. Hornblower, H. Bennett, G. Collins, W. Gordon, W. S. Parsons, W. Sheffield, C. A. Cotebrune, P.G.P.; J. Huds-peth, B. Barton, A. J. Hardy, G. Morrison, S. Corbett, L. Marchant, John Guy. Amongst the visitors were: Bros. F. C. Pratt, 957; C. Cooke, 913; E. C. Massey, 1297 ("Freemason"); H. Dowdney, 145; G. Schultz, 13; G. Gillem, 192; H. S. Cooper, 228; R. J. Clapham, 398; W. Leeman, P.P.G. Chap. West Yorks, and P.G. Chap. Durham. The lodge having been opened in due form the following candidates were balloted for and approved, Mr. Geo. S. Reilly, Quartermaster Sergeant Royal Engineer Horse Guards, War Office, S.W., proposed by Bro. Young and seconded by Bro. Scott, Secretary, and Mr. George D. Head, late Sergeant-Major Tailor 5th Regiment, Examiner Royal Army Clothing Factory, Pimlico, S.W., proposed by Bro. Young and seconded by Bro. Harper. The ceremony of initiation was performed separately for each of these candidates, after which Bros. W. Sheffield, W. Keen, R. Ball, and J. Wade were passed, and Bro. George Saunders was raised to the Sublime Degree of M.M. We cannot too highly praise the working of Bro. Roe, which for impressiveness is rarely equalled, and considering that both his principal officers were absent the precision with which the ceremonies were

performed reflects great credit on the assistant officers, particularly on Bro. Brookson and Bro. Wray. After the performance of the ceremonies was concluded, and six or seven initiates and joining members had been proposed by the W.M. and others, the lodge was closed in due form and adjourned, and the brethren retired for refreshment, consisting of a good supper, in the adjoining tavern.

After the removal of the cloth, the customary loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed and responded to by the brethren, Bro. Cottebrune, P.G.P., returning thanks for "The Grand Officers." In proposing "The Health of the Initiates," which toast was made to include all candidates since June, the W.M. said that he would wish to impress upon them that Freemasonry was not a thing which can be learned in a day, a month, or a year, but that it was a worthy structure formed in wisdom, constituted in strength, and adorned by beauty, and that its lessons afforded pleasure, recreation, and profit. It was in that light he wished the brethren to regard Freemasonry. Bro. Meredith, as I.P.M., proposed "The Health of the W.M.," in doing which he referred to the energy and able working of Bro. Roe, and attributed to his exertions, and the interest he took in it, the prosperity of the lodge. In returning thanks, the W.M. disclaimed all right to be considered the cause of the success of the lodge, which he said was due rather to those who had assisted him. He acknowledged himself very proud of this six months' old lodge, and particularly of the attention that was made to the sound of the Master's gavel, and of the interest which the brethren took in the working of the ceremonies. The assistance he thus received rendered his work as Master comparatively easy, and very much a labour of love. After proposing "The Health of the Visitors," the W.M. gave the toast of "The Press." They had present among them a representative of the "Freemason," a publication to which the Craft was greatly indebted for the fair and impartial manner in which it recorded proceedings like the present, and for the benefits it conferred on the Craft generally by spreading abroad a knowledge of matters that were interesting to Masons. He coupled the toast with the name of Bro. Massey. Bro. Massey returned thanks, expressing the pleasure it gave him to be in the position to do so, and to attend these meetings, especially when he had the gratification of sending the "Freemason" a favourable report of the working of the lodge, and added that he had seldom seen the ceremonies worked in a more impressive manner than he had at the Wanderers' Lodge. W.M.: Another toast, brethren, and rather a painful one. One of the founders of this lodge is going to cause the first gap in it. Bro. Guy, I am sorry to say, is going away to Spain. Some of us might be going to Egypt soon, and might see him. All of you know him well, and know his natural characteristics are so exceptional, that I need hardly say a half a dozen words to cause you to drink his health most heartily. I am sure you will be sorry to lose him, and will wish him health, happiness, and prosperity, and a safe return to England. The toast was received with much cordiality, and Bro. Guy returned thanks, after which the Tyler's toast concluded the proceedings of a pleasant evening.

BATH.—Royal Cumberland Lodge (No. 41).—The first meeting after the summer vacation was held at the Masonic Hall on Thursday, Oct. 5th. The lodge was opened at quarter to eight by Bro. Brown, W.M., supported by Bros. Clark, I.P.M.; Capt. Peel Floyd, Cooper, Moutrie, Rubie, P.M.'s of 41; Dr. Hopkins, P.M. 43 and 958; Reeves, P.M. 906; and the following officers:—F. Wilkinson, S.W.; Carey, P.M., as J.W.; Ashley, P.M., Treas.; C. Wilkinson, Sec.; Braham, S.D.; Robinson, as J.D.; Hunt, as I.G.; Radway, Steward; Bigwood, Tyler; and several members. The minutes of the last regular and also of an emergency meeting were read and confirmed. On the proposition of the I.P.M., seconded by the J.W., the Secretary was directed to write to Bro. Davis to express the pleasure with which the members heard of his progress towards convalescence after long and severe illness, and to offer their congratulations and sincere wishes for his complete recovery. Mr. Yeomans, previously balloted for, was admitted properly prepared, and duly initiated by the W.M. Bro. Cooper, P.M., gave the charge with his wonted care and impressiveness, and the symbolism of the working tools was explained by the S.W. Bro. Hunt read the report of the Library Committee, from which it appeared that the books have been arranged in the book-case in the ante-room and catalogued; that the old documents, charter, and minutes from 1733 are deposited in an iron chest in the custody of the Treasurer. The proposed rules for the management of the library were read and agreed to. On the proposition of Bro. Rubie, seconded by Bro. Carey, a vote of thanks was passed to the Library Committee for their efficient services, and they were requested to direct their attention to some valuable documents and pictures, which were mentioned by the W.M. as suffering from damp, and to take measures for preventing further mischief. In the absence of the Director of Ceremonies Bro. Clark brought forward his proposition to change the hour of meeting from 7.30 to 8. A discussion ensued, in which the W.M., Wardens, Treasurer, and Dr. Hopkins took part in opposition to it. When put to the vote, the proposition was negatived, and in consequence of the remarks made in favour of early hours, the W.M. promised during the remainder of his term of office to open punctually at the time named in the summons. A letter from Bro. Tudor Trevor was read, chiefly in reference to the subscriptions of non-resident members, the result of which was notice of motion by Bro. Ashley on the subject. The Worshipful Master represented to the brethren that at a recent provincial meeting the several lodges were specially directed to attend with banners, but, as the Cumberland Lodge does not possess one, he could not comply with the request; he therefore suggested a consideration of the matter with a view to supply the deficiency before

the period of another provincial meeting, considering that it is specially incumbent on No. 41 to set a good example, as being the oldest lodge in the province. The S.W. announced that Bro. Mealyard was present in the lodge for the last time previous to his departure for New Zealand, which led to a cordial expression of good wishes for his success in his new position, and the hope that he might there find many who would hail him as a brother, and afford him practical proof of the beneficial results of connection with the Order, of which he is as yet but a young member. A candidate for joining was proposed by the acting J.W., and seconded by the Secretary. The lodge was closed at 10.15.

WINDSOR.—Etonian Lodge of St. John (No. 209).—The first meeting of the season was held at the Masonic Hall, on Tuesday, the 3rd inst., the W.M., Bro. W. R. Denne, presided, supported by Bros. Wilson, P.M., Treas., acting S.W.; Hume, J.W.; Carter, I.P.M., P.G.D.D., Sec.; Roberts, S.D.; Schiemann, J.D.; Nicholls, I.G.; Strange, P.M., P.P.G.S.D., D.C.; Dixon, P.P.G.D.C., P.M.; McIlwham, P.M.; Stedwell, P.M.; Mitchiner, Cousins, Andrews, Legg, Evans, Waterson, Scollery, and others. Visitors: Bros. Tolley, P.M. 771, P.P.G.J.D.; Bingham, P.M. 771; Powell, P.M. 771; Willett, 771; Chorley, W.M. 865; Cantrell, W.M. 1501; Whittaker, 73 I.G.; and others. Three gentlemen underwent the ordeal of the ballot, and were all unanimously elected, two, however, Messrs. Pitts and Miller, were not present; the other (Mr. Dick Radclyffe) was initiated into Freemasonry by the W.M., who also passed Bro. Mitchiner to the Second Degree. Two propositions for joining members having been received, the lodge was closed in due form. There is every appearance of a continuance of the success which has characterised the lodge during the last few years.

HADLEIGH.—Virtue and Silence Lodge (No. 332).—We had the great pleasure of attending the regular meeting of this lodge, held at White Lion, Hadleigh, Suffolk, on Thursday, the 28th ult., and seldom have we seen better working than upon that occasion. Amongst those present were Bros. A. J. Grimwaile, W.M.; W. Gardiner, P.P.G.P., P. Acting S.W.; J. King, J.W.; W. Hart, P.M., P.P.J.G.D., S.D.; S. Cooper, J.D.; H. Nolding, P.M., P.P.G.P.; J. S. Muriel, P.M.; E. B. Powell, P.M., P.P.G.S. of W.; F. Grimwaile, Sec.; C. J. Grimwaile, E. W. Archer, H. W. Hitchcock, Org.; and others. Visitors: Bros. William, W.M. Stour Valley, No. 1224; J. Hills, P.M., P.P.J.G.W. 1224; Emra Holmes, P.M., P.P.G.R., and P.P.G.D. Pixley, P.M. 98. The lodge having been duly opened, Bro. C. J. Grimwaile, was raised to the sublime degree of a M.M., the ceremony being performed in an admirable manner by the W.M., who was ably assisted by his Wardens and other officers. Mr. H. Jones was subsequently initiated into Masonry, and we could not but remark on the faultless elocution of the W.M. in conducting both ceremonies. After the lodge was closed the brethren adjourned to the supper-room, where a substantial repast was done ample justice to, and mine host of the White Lion catered well for his guests. The cloth being removed, the usual toasts were proposed from the chair and duly responded to. The W.M. coupled "The Past and Present P.G. Officers" with the name of Bro. Hills, who, in returning thanks, remarked on the perfect way in which the ceremonies had been gone through by the W.M., and paid a very high compliment to the working of the Lodge. The W.M., in proposing "The Visitors," coupled the toast with the name of his old friend Bro. Emra Holmes, and alluded to the publication of his new volume of tales and Masonic papers, stating that he hoped a good many of the brethren would get the work, as he intended to have a copy which he would not lend to anyone. A brother might otherwise say, "Oh yes, the tales are very good, but as I have read them I don't want to lend a copy. So he gave them fair notice that he should not his copy. Bro. Holmes, in responding, thanked the brethren for the cordial way in which they had received him. He could not but bear his testimony to the admirably impressive manner in which the W.M. had conducted the ceremonies that evening, and it gave him real pleasure to see a lodge so well worked as he had done that night. With regard to Bro. Grimwaile's allusion to the book he was bringing out, he could only say that he hoped his Masonic brethren generally would help him in an effort to render assistance to a literary brother in distress. He had no pecuniary interest in the work, but he did hope to see it successful for the sake of the friend to whom he had given the copyright. Other toasts, including "The W.M.," proposed by the acting S.W., and modestly responded to by Bro. Grimwaile, followed. Bro. Hitchcock, the owner of a beautiful tenor voice, and other brethren, contributed to the harmony of the evening, and a most agreeable meeting was brought to a close by the advent of Bruce's witching hour of eleven.

MILLBROOK.—Lodge Meridian (No. 893).—At a regular meeting of this lodge, holden in the School Rooms, Millbrook, on Monday evening, 2nd inst., a presentation was made to the Right Hon. the Earl of Mount Edgumbe, I.P.M. of the lodge, and G.M. of the Province of Cornwall. The ceremony of opening the lodge was duly performed, with Bros. W. Cawse, W.M.; W. H. Clark, P.M., S.W.; T. W. Hutchens, J.W.; W. Henwood, P.M., Sec.; W. H. Bickford, P.M., P.P.G.S.D., S.D.; W. Harris, P.M., J.D.; J. R. Richards, I.G.; and a large number of brethren and visitors, among whom we noticed P.M.'s W. Veale, J. R. Worth, Rev. P. Newnham, Filmer, and J. D. J. Moysey. The Earl arrived, and was received with grand honours. Having taken his seat as I.P.M. by the request of the W.M., Past Master J. R. Worth in appropriate and feeling terms presented to his lordship, in the name and on behalf of the Past Masters, officers and members of the lodge, a Past Master's gold jewel, accompanied by an address (beautifully illuminated on vellum by Bro. Trethewey, P.M. 159),

thanking his lordship for the active interest he has taken in the lodge since its formation. In reply, the Earl, after eulogising the workmanship of the jewel, and also the artistic illumination of the address, stated that it fell to his lot to propose "The Prosperity of Lodge Meridian" at the banquet immediately subsequent to the consecration of the lodge, and that he had used his best endeavours to promote and maintain that prosperity. He also expressed his great satisfaction that the lodge, now numbering 75 members, was holding its meetings in a private building, instead of, as formerly, in a house of public resort. After thanking them for the practical proof just given of their esteem and recognition of his services in the past, his lordship promised, as far as his time would permit—and the demands upon it were heavy—he was still at the service of the lodge, either to advise or to assist with his presence, or in a practical and tangible manner should it ever be needed. The inscription on the jewel was, "Presented by the brethren of Lodge Meridian, No. 893, to the R.W. Bro. the Earl of Mount Edgumbe, P.G.M. of Cornwall, in recognition of the honour conferred on the lodge by his service in the office of Worshipful Master therein for the year 1875-6. His lordship then retired, and the other business of the evening was proceeded with.

Mark Masonry.

LANCASTER.—Moore Lodge (No. 146).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held in the Masonic Rooms, Athenaeum, on the 25th ult., Bro. E. Simpson, R.W.M., occupying the chair of King Solomon. The following brethren were balloted for and advanced:—Bros. John Tilly, William Curtis Edmonds, John Thomas Jackson, and Bro. James Aldous. There were several visiting brethren present, amongst whom we noticed Bros. Binckes, G.S., M.M.M.; G. J. McKay (W.M. designate 196), W. Cranston, and others. The lodge closed with the usual formalities.

Red Cross of Constantine.

PORTSMOUTH.—Naval and Military Conclave (No. 35).—The quarterly meeting was held at the Masonic Hall, Sept. 26th, 1876. The throne was occupied by the Int. Gen. of Hants, Sir Knt. Dr. C. Knott, assisted and supported by his Deputy, Sir Knt. J. Clark; W. Sharp, M.P.S.; C. Groom, V.E.; Ja. Harrison, Sen. Gen.; B. Simister, Jun. Gen.; J. Clay, P.S., as H.P.; A. R. Robinson, Rec.; J. W. D. Pillow, P.P.Org., Org.; G. Rose Johnson, as Prefect; W. Tuck, S.B.; C. G. Adames, as Herald; W. Crofton, J. Skeens, E. Smith, and J. Collins; with G. Copus, Sentinel. The minutes of previous meeting were read and confirmed. The ballot was taken for the following candidates for installation: Bros. A. Nance, jun., W. H. Sperring, T. R. Crook, and Lieut. S. G. T. Bourke, R.N., W.M. 1428, and being favourable, they were (with the exception of Bro. Crook, who was absent from severe indisposition) duly admitted, installed and proclaimed. The Historical Oration was then delivered by the acting H.P. in his usual impressive manner. This being the evening for election of M.P.S., Viceroy, and Treasurer for coming year, the members unanimously elected the highly respected Viceroy, C. Groom, as their ruler for 1877, the Sen. Gen., Jn. Harrison, Viceroy; and Josiah Clay, P.S. and Treas., was again re-elected by acclamation, he having worthily occupied that position with credit to himself and the great benefit of the conclave from its commencement in December, 1870. There being no further business the conclave was closed in ample and solemn form by the Int. Gen.

The usual meeting of Mount Olivet Commandery St. John the Evangelist, was held the same day, when Sir Knts. B. Simister and G. R. Johnson were duly received into that exalted degree, the Traditional Oration being delivered by Bro. Knt. A. R. Robinson, P. Com. St. John, &c. Bro. Knt. John Clark, the present P.P., and M.E.C., was re-elected to that office for the coming year, and the commandery was sealed and closed in due form.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

The monthly meeting of the General Committee of the Governors and Subscribers of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys was held on Saturday afternoon last, at Freemasons' Hall, when there was an average attendance of the brethren. The chair was occupied by Bro. Benjamin Head, who was voted thereto unanimously. The other brethren who attended were Bros. John Symonds, Jesse Turner, A. H. Tattershall, Wm. Mann, Alfred H. Diaper, W. F. C. Moutrie, A. Durrant, John Boyd, H. C. Levander, Hyde Pullen, R. B. Webster, S. B. Ellis, S. Rosenthal, J. G. Chancellor, Richd. Tyrrell, James Winter, H. Massey ("Freemason"), and Frederick Binckes, Secretary.

One petition was received, and one was deferred for additional information. Outfits were granted to two of the ex-pupils of the school.

Three vacancies were declared for the election of next Monday in addition to the 12 already on the list, thus making 15 candidates to be admitted to the school out of an approved list of 57 boys.

The brethren afterwards adjourned.

A supplement of four pages will be issued gratis to our subscribers next week, and will contain, among other interesting matter, a full report of the proceedings at the Masonic demonstration in Glasgow on the 17th inst.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF WEST LANCASHIRE.

By command of Bro. the Right Hon. Lord Skelmersdale, M.W.D.G.M. of England, and R.W. Prov. G.M. of West Lancashire, the annual meeting of the Freemasons of the western division of Lancashire was held on Wednesday, the 4th inst., in the Masonic Hall, Hope-street, for the transaction of the annual business of the province. In consequence of the limited accommodation at the hall in Hope-street, the attendance for the first time was confined to the Prov. Grand Officers (past and present), W.M.'s, P.M.'s, Wardens, and officers of lodges in the division, and even with this limitation the lodge-room was crowded to its utmost extent, and as the brethren appeared in their collars and jewels of office the picture was exceedingly striking. Bro. Lord Skelmersdale, P.G.M., occupied his place on the throne, and he was supported by Bros. the Right Hon. Lord Lindsay, P.G.M. Aberdeenshire, W.; the Hon. F. Stanley, D.P.G.M.; C. Fryer, P.G.S.W.; W. C. Deeley, P.G.J.W.; Rev. J. M. Morgan, P.G.C.; T. Armstrong, P.G. Treas.; Dr. J. Kellett Smith, P.G. Reg.; H. S. Alpass, P.G. Sec.; J. C. Gillman, P.G. S.D.; J. Lunt, P.G.D.C.; W. Bowden, P.G.S.B.; J. Skeaf, P.G.O.; J. Pemberton, P.G.S.; T. A. Collinson, P.G.S.; G. Cornfield, P.G.S.; J. F. Roberts, P.G.S.; P. Macmurdow, P.G.S.; W. Laidlaw, P.G.S. of W.; W. Doyle, P.P.G.J.D.; Colonel Thos. Birchall, G.S.D., and P.P.G.S.W.; R. Wylie, P.P.G.S.D.; J. B. Lambert, P.P.G.S.D.; E. Friend, P.P.G.J.D. Cheshire; R. C. Mellor, P.P.G.J.D.; J. W. J. Fowler, P.P.G.D.C.; S. E. Ibbis, P.P.G.S.B.; G. Remington, P.P.G.J.W.; W. J. Sly, P.G. Purst.; E. Mocatta, P.P.G.S.B.; C. Sherlock, P.G.P. Reg.; J. R. Goepel, P.P.G.D.C.; Reuben Pearson, P.P.G.R.; J. Bowes, P.P.G.J.W. Cumberland and Westmorland; R. Wilson, P.P.G.S.D.; J. Prescott, P.P.G.J.W.; J. W. Turley, P.P.G.J.D.; Rev. H. G. Vernon, P.P.G.C.; F. Binckes, Past G.S. (Secretary of the Boys' School, London); J. Terry, P.G.D.C. Herts (Secretary of the Benevolent Institution); J. P. Platt, P.P.G.J.W. Cheshire; T. Marwood, P.G.I.W.; H. Bulley, Past G.S.B.; T. A. Lowe, P.P.G.S.B.; J. Baxendale, P.P.G.S. of W.; G. Broadbridge, P.P.G.D.C.; T. Wylie, P.P.G.J.W.; B. W. Rawson, P.P.G.S. of W.; R. Martin, jun., W.M. 1182; J. Bell, W.M. 1609; R. Brown, P.M. 241 (Hon. Secretary West Lancashire Masonic Educational Institution); F. Knight, W.M. 1325; J. W. Burgess, S.W. 1325; J. H. Bradshaw, J.W. 1325; H. Nelson, P.M. 1505; J. T. Callow, W.M. 1505; T. Roberts, W.M. 673; W. T. May, P.M. 673; R. Pearson, P.M. 673; Clark, P.M. 673; H. Burrows, S.W. 673; D. Jackson, J.W. 673; S. Tickle, S.W. 220; D. S. Davies, S.W. 216; W. J. Chapman, S.W. 1609; L. Courtenay, J.W.; T. Horne, W.M. 1356; B. B. Marson, P.M. 1356; Hugh Williams, P.M. 1264; J. Winsor, W.M. 203; J. E. Jackson, W.M. 667; G. Hutchin, W.M. 241; W. L. Lunt, P.M. 823; H. Hunt, P.M. 594; R. Ing, P.M. 594; J. Harding, P.M. 148; J. W. Williams, J.W. 1356; J. Lloyd, W.M. 249; G. Musker, Sec. 1182; H. Ashmore, P.M. 1325; H. Pearson, P.M. 249; C. Leatham, P.M. 220; Rev. T. W. Richardson, S.W. 1380; P. R. Thorn, P.M. 1182; A. J. Henchberg, W.M. 1502; P. B. Gee, P.M. 1264; A. C. Wylie, J.D. 5264; J. Hocken, P.M. 673; H. Jackson, P.M. 1393; J. Wood, Treas. 1094 ("Freemason"); R. R. Martin, P.M. 1094; J. Beesley, P.M. 216; J. McKune, P.M. 216; G. Morgan, P.M. 1035; J. Hayes, P.M. 249; T. Evans, P.M. 1356; W. Woods, W.M. 1620; W. Pughe, S.W. 1620; G. Lunt, J.W. 1620; M. Corless, P.M. 673; P. M. Larsen, P.M. 594; W. Vaughan, W.M. 724; J. S. Dixon, P.M. 1264; J. Lecomber, S.W. 594; Capt. T. Berry, W.M. 155; J. A. Edginton, P.M. 1182; J. Davison, P.M. 724; A. Morrison, J.W. 1570; P. W. Oglesby, S.D. 823; R. P. France, W.M. 594; W. Wilson, W.M. 823; J. L. Houghton, J.W. 594; J. Thornton, P.M. 1182; W. S. Vines, P.M. 220; W. Archer, P.M. 1086; W. Cottrell, P.M. 823; W. Shortis, P.M. 724; Rev. J. Rees Jenkins, Sec. 216; H. Firth, Sec. 667; F. Bell, W. 1398; H. Johns, P.M. 1473; J. Ellis, J.W. 667; T. Buxton, W.M. 1345; J. W. C. Browne Cave, Sec. 1547; J. Parkin, J.W. 1547; C. Heden, Treas. 1325; T. Molyneux, S.D. 897; and others.

The Craft lodge was duly opened by the Masters of the oldest lodges in the province, Nos. 32, 86, 249, and others, and the Prov. Grand Lodge was afterwards received in the usual manner.

The P.G. Secretary read the roll of lodges in the province, when it appeared that every one in the large division was represented, with one exception, this absence being caused by the illness of the W.M. The minutes of the previous annual meeting, held at Preston last October, and a special Provincial Grand Lodge in Liverpool in April, were also read and confirmed unanimously.

The P.G. Treasurer, Bro. T. Armstrong, submitted the financial accounts of the P.G. Lodge, the Fund of Benevolence, and with reference to the money payable to the charitable fund, from which it appeared that the receipts for the year 1875-6 from the Provincial Grand Lodge fees amounted to £679 11s. 5d.; for the Fund of Benevolence, £1616 8s. 11d.; and for the Charity Fund, £199 11s. 6d. The balances were as follow:—Charity Fund, £180 13s. 6d.; P.G. Lodge fees, £297 2s. 7d.; and the Fund of Benevolence, £1484 16s. 7d.; total £1962 12s. 8d. Bro. Armstrong added that there were now only three lodges in arrears, whereas there were ten the previous year.

Bro. R. Wylie, P.P.G.S.D., moved the reappointment of Bro. Armstrong as the Prov. Grand Treasurer, stating that they could not have a better man for the position.

The motion was seconded by Bro. G. Broadbridge, P.P.G.D.C.

Bro. W. J. Lunt, P.M. 823, said no doubt it was neces-

sary, as far as possible, that the brother elected to this office should secure it by the unanimous vote of the brethren; and although he had not one word to say against Bro. Armstrong (than whom a worthier brother could not be found, and who had fulfilled his duties with the greatest advantage to the Craft), yet it was desirable, especially in a large province like West Lancashire, where honours could not be scattered broadcast, that the honours should be divided at times amongst the brethren. He therefore proposed that Bro. Major George Turner, P.M. 823, should be appointed to the office of P.G. Treasurer, and referred to him in complimentary terms as a Mason, and the high position occupied by the lodge with which he was connected.

Bro. W. Cottrell, P.M. 823, seconded the motion, and as this was the only honour in Provincial Grand Lodge which the brethren had the power of voting he thought they should exercise their privilege and change this officer occasionally.

After some remarks from Bro. J. R. Goepel, P.P.G.D.C.; Bro. H. S. Alpass, P.G. Sec.; and Bro. W. Shortis, P.M. 724, the P.G.M. put the matter to the brethren, when 117 voted for Bro. Turner and 76 for Bro. Armstrong. Bro. G. Turner was accordingly declared elected, and as he was absent at Buxton he was invested by proxy with the collar and jewel of the office, Bro. W. J. Lunt being his representative.

The P.G.M. then appointed and invested the following as his officers for the ensuing year:—

The Hon. F. Stanley, M.P.	Prov. D.G.M.
W. Horner, 32	Prov. G.S.W.
W. Sharp, 148	Prov. G.J.W.
The Rev. H. Bethell Jones, 1387	Prov. G. Chaplain.
G. D. Pochin, 1375	Prov. G. Reg.
H. S. Alpass, 155	Prov. G. Sec.
E. B. Harding, 1496	Prov. G.S.D.
W. J. Sly, 1051	Prov. G.J.D.
J. Pemberton, 1264	Prov. G.S. of W.
T. A. Collinson, 1350	Prov. G.D.C.
Joseph Roberts, 1313	Prov. G.A.D.C.
G. Cornfield, 1225	Prov. G.S.B.
J. Skeaf, 216	Prov. G. Org.
P. Macmurdow, 1499	Prov. G. Purst.
H. W. Johnstone, 113, H. Jackson, 1393, B. B. Marson, 1356 and 1609, W. Vines, 220, J. McKune, 216, and T. W. Sergeant, 203	Prov. G. Stewards.
P. Ball (re-elected)	Prov. G. Tyler.
W. H. Ball	Prov. G. Ast. Tyler.

The sum of £65 was voted for the relief of various widows and distressed brethren from the funds of the Provincial Grand Lodge.

Bro. H. S. Alpass, P.G. Sec., then submitted his annual report as follows:—

Since the last annual meeting of Provincial Grand Lodge the following lodges have been consecrated:—The Morecambe Lodge, No. 1561; the Prince Leopold Lodge, No. 1588; the Liverpool Dramatic Lodge, No. 1609; the Marlborough Lodge, No. 1620. The condition of the lodges in the province is generally satisfactory. Several of the lodges have raised the amount of their initiation and joining fees, with the view of preventing unfit persons being proposed for initiation. I am informed that the sedilia in Chester Cathedral, provided by the Masons in West Lancashire, is put up, and that it is very much admired, and also that Masonic emblems are introduced with good effect. Fifty years have just elapsed since the county of Lancaster was divided into two provinces. There were then in the western division 23 lodges with 467 subscribing members; we have now 75 lodges with nearly 5000 members. (Loud applause.) The Egerton Lodge, No. 1030, which formerly met in a house in the eastern division, has removed to Heaton Norris in the western division, and although I have made the usual application for a return of their members, I have not received it. It will be necessary, I think, to take further proceedings in this matter, on which I shall be glad to receive instructions.

Several brethren suggested that a special effort should be made to raise the sum which was still due for the sedilia, and donations of five and ten guineas were given by several brethren.

The P.G.M. instructed the P.G. Sec. to write to the Master of the Egerton Lodge, calling his attention to the omissions which had been made, and requesting an immediate return of the number of members. Failing this, steps would at once be taken to bring the lodge under some punishment for neglect.

Bro. R. Wylie, P.P.G.S.D.; Hon. Secretary to the Hamer Benevolent Fund, presented the following third annual report of that charity:—

Your Committee have much pleasure in presenting the Third Annual Report, and heartily thank the lodges and brethren for the increased support given to the fund during the year, and for the desire evinced by so many brethren to promote its best interests.

One petition has been presented during the year, and your committee unanimously recommended that brother to be placed on the fund, but before their recommendation could be confirmed by the Provincial Grand Lodge, as required by the bye-laws, the brother died, and this brought before the committee the desirability of modifying the laws, so as to obviate the necessity of an applicant having to wait perhaps many months before receiving the assistance which he so much needed.

After due consideration the following resolution was passed by your committee, and they hope it will meet with your approval.

That in the event of there being no Provincial Grand Lodge meeting within two months of the date of any recommendation of the committee, a special meeting of the vice-presidents and life governors shall be called, to consider the recommendation, and, if necessary, empower the Treasurer to pay to the applicant the amount recommended.

The report was adopted, the committee appointed for the ensuing year, and it was resolved to invest the further sum of £270 in Mersey Dock bonds.

Bro. J. R. Goepel, P.P.G.D.C., moved—
That a sum of not less than 100 guineas be paid from the charity fund to the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls.

The motion was seconded by Bro. R. Wylie, and carried unanimously.

On the motion of Bro. R. Wylie, seconded by Bro. Goepel, the following motion was also agreed to:—

That the sum of 50 guineas be voted out of the charity fund, in the name of the R.W. Prov. G.M., to the West Lancashire Masonic Educational Institution.

Bro. Broadbridge, P.P.G.D.C., next moved—

That the P.G. Secretary summon a meeting of the committee of the Mott memorial fund during the month of October, in order to obtain a report and close the same, and thus carry out the object for which the fund was formed.

It was incidentally stated that the fund had reached £700, and it was highly desirable it should now be closed.—The motion was seconded by Bro. R. Wylie, and, after some discussion, was agreed to.

Bro. Armstrong, P.P.G. Treasurer, presented the jewel of his former office to the P.G. Lodge, and on the motion of Bro. Broadbridge, seconded by Bro. W. J. Lunt, a cordial vote of thanks was given to Bro. Armstrong for his valuable three years' services, and it was also agreed that he should be presented with a P.P.G. Treasurer's jewel.

The annual court of governors of the West Lancashire Masonic Educational Institution was then held, and the reports of Bro. R. Brown, P.M. 241, the excellent Honorary Secretary of the institution, were adopted. The annual report for the past year, after expressing satisfaction with the growing prosperity of the charity and the increased usefulness of the institution as shown in the addition of a large number of children on the foundation, further stated—

A reference to the accounts will show that the income for the year, including donations and subscriptions from the brethren and from lodges, proceeds of the annual ball, and fees from the Provincial Grand Lodge, &c., amounts to £636 18s. 6d.; whilst the income from invested funds amounts to £515 12s. 7d.; and, after making all necessary payments, there has been added to the invested funds of the institution, and available for a continuance, and, if necessary, an extension of its usefulness, the sum of £868 16s. 4d., making a total invested fund of £12,683 17s. 8d. It will also be seen on reference to the report that a sum of £430 9s. 11d. has during the year been expended for the education and advancement of children, being an increase of £141 14s. 4d. over the payment in 1874. These results cannot but be gratifying to the officers and brethren of the province; and whilst the prosperous state of the finances evokes expressions of thankfulness and pleasure, the increasing demands on the funds of the institution call for continued exertion on the part of the Masons of West Lancashire, inasmuch as it will be seen that whereas there were in 1874 on the funds 48 children, the number in the present report is 61; and at the date of the issuing of this report there are applications for the election of 23 additional children. Your committee cannot close this report without referring to the noble and generous example shown by the brethren of the Lodge of Harmony, Ormskirk (580), in having, in addition to the former contributions of the lodge, subscribed the handsome sum of £63, thus constituting the principal officers of the lodge and almost every member life-governors of the institution. Your committee also remark with pleasure the fact that most of the newly-constituted lodges in the province have inaugurated the commencement of their labours by placing on record their generosity, showing thus early in their career that they are not unmindful of the great principles of Freemasonry. It is the earnest desire of the committee that their charity and their prosperity may go hand in hand, and that they and all the brethren who have so liberally supported this great institution may here and hereafter reap the reward of good deeds well done.

The committee for the coming year was appointed, thanks were voted to the officers for their services of the past year, and the Provincial Grand Lodge resumed.

Bro. Dr. J. K. Smith, P.P.G. Reg., gave notice that at the next meeting of the P.G. Lodge he would move that in future every primary application to the fund of benevolence be relieved in a sum not exceeding £15, and that every subsequent application be relieved by a sum not exceeding £10; and further, that a sum of £1000 be invested in bonds of the Mersey Dock Board at 4½ per cent., and that the sum accruing therefrom be devoted to the Masonic charities.

The business proceedings were then brought to a close, and the P.G.L. and Craft lodge were closed in due form.

Upwards of 100 brethren subsequently dined at four o'clock at the Adelphi Hotel, under the presidency of Bro. the Right Hon. Lord Skelmersdale, who was supported by a large number of Grand Officers and Provincial Grand Officers. The banquet, supplied under the direction of Bro. Ludlow, manager of the hotel, gave satisfaction.

The P.G.M., after giving the toast of "The Queen," proposed "The M.W.G.M. the Prince of Wales, the Princess of Wales, and the other members of the Royal Family." His lordship said they drank this toast in two senses—first, as the future King; and secondly, as their Grand Master. He now spoke of him in the latter capacity, and he was quite sure they all felt proud of the heir to the Throne ruling over them, and especially when His Royal Highness did so with the full intention of ruling to the best of his ability, as every one could see. He (Lord Skelmersdale) knew the deep interest the Prince took in Masonry; and although his numerous engagements kept

him from being always present at Grand Lodge, yet he always did so when it was possible. He was afraid the Masonic Order never claim the Duke of Edinburgh as one of its number (and that was not his fault), but they had two other members of the Royal family who were their brethren; and he thought it was a fact of which they ought to be proud that three out of the four Princes of the Royal House belonged to Freemasonry. (Loud applause.)

Lord Skelmersdale, P.G.M., next gave "The Earl of Carnarvon, M.W. Pro G.M., and the other Officers of the Grand Lodge," remarking that in their Pro G.M. they had one of the best working Masons in the country. He knew his work most thoroughly, and could go into a lodge and work it all through its degrees without the smallest difficulty. He had a most wonderful memory, and was well fitted for the work which he was called on to perform. (Loud cheers.)

Bro. Colonel Birchall, P.S.D., responded, and said that during the period he had occupied a position in the Grand Lodge he observed that all who had been invested were actuated with a desire to perform the duties with zeal and a due regard to the benefits of the Order. He was quite sure that every Grand Officer who had been appointed felt most deeply the honour which had been conferred upon him, as no greater privilege could be conferred on any Mason than to become a member of the Grand Lodge. Bro. Birchall then referred to the benign influence exercised by Lord Skelmersdale, D.G.M., over the large and important Province of West Lancashire. For a long time this province had been in the cold shade of forgetfulness in high quarters, but now they had their P.G.M. the Deputy G.M., who had secured Grand Lodge honours almost on the first opportunity for brethren in his division—honours for which the brethren generally felt very grateful. (Hear, hear, and applause.)

Bro. Sir Gilbert Greenall, M.P., Past G.S.W., also replied, and said it had been his privilege and honour to be associated with the Grand Lodge through the kindness of Lord Zetland. He had always felt proud of being possessed of those functions, not so much from personal feeling, but because they reflected honour upon the province with which he was connected. He had always found that the value and the cardinal principles of the Grand Lodge were recognised in their assemblies, which had invariably shown their loyalty to those principles and those associations which bound them together, and he also found that their lodges looked up with reverence, affection, and respect to the corner stone of the Grand Masonic Lodge. (Applause.) Sir Gilbert thanked the brethren cordially for the manner in which the toast had been received, and said he had had special pleasure in being present that day to see an old and valued friend receive P.G. honours at the hands of Lord Skelmersdale.

Bro. Col. Birchall, G.S.D., next submitted what he called the toast of the evening, viz., "The Right Hon. Lord Skelmersdale, M.W.D.G.M., and R.W.P.G.M. West Lancashire." Since the advent of his lordship to the chair Freemasonry had progressed with redoubled success, and they ought to be proud of their Masonic head.

The toast was received with immense enthusiasm. Lord Skelmersdale: Bro. Birchall and brethren,—I thank you most heartily for the proposal and reception given to this toast. I feel your kindness most deeply, and also the appreciation shown of any little thing I do in this province. There is no encouragement like a knowledge of the fact that those with whom you associate appreciate your works. That appreciation I have found in this province in an eminent degree, and I do hope it will continue. (Loud cheers.) Bro. Birchall has flattered me too much. (Cries of "No, no.") Brethren, will you allow me to say I am the best judge of that—(laughter)—and I do say he has. I have, however, tried to do my best, and will try to do so as we go on. Brethren, as you know, this is a very large province; it is, I believe, the second largest province in the kingdom, containing as it does no fewer than 75 lodges; and with this magnitude of our Masonic borders it is difficult to please every one. With respect to the division of the purple, you will see the difficulty here when I say it takes nine years to go round the lodges, and when this can only be given to one in even the largest lodge the division is all the more difficult. I wish I had four times the number of offices to give away, as there are plenty of good brethren in the province. I say this now, because I saw to-day there was a sort of feeling that the office of P.G. Treasurer had not been given to the lodge for several years. The last time I had the pleasure of addressing you I spoke of the restoration of Chester Cathedral, with its far famed style; but I do hope every member of the lodge will understand I never meant to ask one single individual to help that fund against his conscience, nor for one single second did I ever intend the contributions should be put as a tax upon the lodges. (Hear hear, and applause.) Here was a great work going on in the diocese, and I thought that those of them who were churchmen should show their appreciation of the restoration by helping on that work. I hope there will be no difficulty in completing our share of the work. I see no difficulty, but once for all I must say I never intended to tax you in any way, but to be a purely voluntary gift. I was extremely sorry we were obliged to restrict the attendance at Provincial Grand Lodge to-day to the officers of our lodges, but circumstances would not allow any other arrangement. If we could find a place large enough to seat the whole 5000 Masons in this province I should be delighted to allow every one the privilege of being present; but next year, when we meet, I hope some arrangement will be made by which the majority of the brethren will be able to attend. Brethren, I thank you, and must apologise for leaving you now, as I have a houseful of guests at home. The P.G.M. left at this stage amid cordial cheering, and his position was then taken by

Bro. Colonel Birchall, G.S.D., who proposed "The Hon. F. Stanley, W.D.P.G.M., and the P.G. Wardens." Bro. Horner, P.G.S.W., and Bro. Sharpe, P.G.J.W., responded to the toast.

Bro. Birchall also gave "The Provincial Grand Masters of the Adjoining Provinces," which was acknowledged by Bro. Bowes, P.G.J.W.

"The Provincial Grand Officers, Past and Present," given by Col. Birchall, was coupled with the name of Bro. Mocatta, P.P.G.S.B., who said he was not only the oldest member of the P.G. Lodge, but probably also the oldest member of the Craft in the province, having been a Mason since the year 1819, a period of fifty-seven years. (Cheers.) He need not speak to them of the value of Freemasonry, but if they referred to the Masonic journals of 1843 and 1844 they would there find how much benefit Masonry had been to him in connection with his life and property. He felt great pride as an old Mason that the Craft was not deteriorating, but, on the contrary, making great progress; and he was equally proud to find that an old friend and brother had that day been honoured with office by the P.G.M. Bro. Mocatta advised all young men who travelled to join the Order, as it would be of great advantage to them; and he concluded by stating that he was particularly happy in having both a son and a grandson belonging to the Craft, one being a P.M., and the other Chaplain of the lodge to which he belonged.

The P.G. Chaplain (Bro. the Rev. Bethell Jones) also responded, and stated that his ambition had that day been fully gratified. He was only five years old as a Mason, and it was doubtless owing to the fact that he was connected with the Established Church that he occupied the position in which he had been placed that day. He had set his heart upon being P.G.C., but he had said nothing about this determination until he had received the letter from the P.G. Sec., telling him of the choice of the P.G.M.

Bro. H. S. Alpess, P.G. Sec., said that "from time immemorial it has been customary" to put the "Worshipful Masters of the Province" in the hands of the P.G. Sec., and the wisdom of this arrangement would be apparent to every brother, as he (the P.G. Sec.) was supposed to know more about them than any other. With one exception he had received returns from the 75 lodges, but he must complain about the occasional delay in taking notice of his "communications," and when he visited the offending lodges they seemed to be aggrieved at this course of personal visitation about the neglect. (Cries of "No, no," and laughter.) It gave him great pleasure to propose this toast, because he knew the W.M.'s were very carefully selected by the brethren, and they did their duties very conscientiously. He had also great pleasure in referring to the attention paid to the ritual, the admirable working in the lodges, and the exceedingly small amount of disagreement which prevailed.

Bro. Tyrer, W.M. 86, acknowledged the toast.

Bro. Col. Birchall: The toast of the charities will be proposed by Bro. Binckes, the Secretary to the Boys' School, London, whose seductive eloquence had been able to open the hearts and purses of brethren in every province in England. (Applause.)

Bro. Binckes said he did not know he ever rose with greater pleasure than on that occasion to propose so noble a toast as "The Charities of the Province." He had been for years the official representative of one of the great London charities; Bro. Terry was there as representing the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution; and but for ill-health Bro. Little would also have been there as the representative of the Girls' School. These London institutions belonged to the whole Craft (hear hear); every one had an equal claim upon them; it simply happened that these institutions were centred in the metropolitan district, but that fact did not confine their working. Some time ago it was considered that district institutions would interfere with the interests of the great central institution—that there would be a rivalry—but he had lived to see that this fear was without foundation, and he for one most heartily and cordially welcomed the establishment of these relief institutions in the various provinces which were large enough to support them. The fact that there was now an invested capital of upwards of £13,000 in connection with the institution in West Lancashire showed how greatly they had prospered, but he was sure that no one would neglect the great central institutions on account of this.

Bro. Wilson, Hon. Treasurer, responded, and said he hoped the brethren would take care that the successful enthusiasm they had shown in connection with their institution would not give place to coolness, then to indifference, and subsequently to total neglect. He said that the larger claims which were now being made on the fund ought to lead to greater liberality on the part of the brethren.

Bro. Alpess, P.G. Sec., proposed "The Ladies," which was acknowledged by Bros. J. R. Goepel, P.P.G.D.C., and R. Wilson.

A charming selection of choice music was capitally given during the evening by Madame Bosanneck, Mrs. Skeaf, Bros. D. Saunders, J. Barfield, C. Haswell, A. Child, J. Queen, T. J. Hughes, and H. Ashmore. Bro. J. Skeaf had charge of the musical arrangements, and presided at the piano.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.—Health's Defences.—None save the strongest can with impunity pass through the sudden transitions from wet to dry, from cold to muggy weather so prevalent during the late autumn and early winter months. Influenza, bronchitis, cough, sore throat, diphtheria, or quinsy will attack those most vulnerable of their health; but they can readily arrest any of these complaints by rubbing Holloway's Ointment twice a day upon the skin adjacent to the affected part, and by assisting its corrective action with appropriate doses of his Pills. This well-known, safe, and easy mode of treatment efficiently protects the invalid both from present and future danger without weakening or even depressing the system in the slightest degree.—ADVT

CONSECRATION OF THE BAYARD CHAPTER ROSE CROIX.

On Monday afternoon this new chapter of the Rose Croix Degree was consecrated at the Masonic Hall, 33, Golden-square. The ceremony of consecration was performed by Capt. Philips in the unavoidable absence of the Earl of Carnarvon. Capt. Philips, P.M., S.G.C. 33°, was assisted by the other members of the Council, consisting of Genl. Clerk, F.R.S. 33°; Dr. Hamilton, 33°; Major Shadwell Clerk, 33°; Col. Adair, 33°; Hugh D. Sandeman, 33°; Raphael Costa, 33°; S. Rawson, 33°; W. Hyde Pullen, 33°; R. W. H. Giddy, 33°; Col. Hutton, 33°, of Canada; Thos. Jowitt, 32°; John Hervey, 32°; Gen. Brownrigg, C.B., 31°; Chas. Grillon, 31°; Capt. Perkins, 31°; Geo. Lambert, 31°; A. F. Godson, 31°; J. Keene, M.D., 30°; H. R. Cooper Smith, 30°; John Read, 30°; J. L. Thomas, 18°; Geo. Powell, 18°; Donald M. Dewar, 18°; Rev. Ambrose Hall, 18°; T. L. Fox, 18°; John Hodges, 18°; Jas. Stevens, 18°; Rev. H. G. Morse, 18°; Col. Douglas, 18°; and R. De Lacy, 18°.

The brethren having assembled in the hall and formed the Arch of Steel, the Supreme Council, 33°, entered in order, the organ playing the March from Eli.

The procession then passed three times round the hall, and the M.P.S.G. Commander assumed his seat and addressed the chapter.

After the Grand Chaplain had offered prayer, the Grand Marshal addressed the M.P.S.G. Commander, and the M.P.S.G. Commander called on the Grand Marshal to read the warrant. This having been done, the M.P.S.G. Commander gave declaration of constitution, and a short voluntary was performed on the organ.

The Grand Treasurer General passed round the chapter sprinkling corn, the choristers chanting, "May the Almighty giver of all good things shower down upon it His best blessing."

Then the Grand Chancellor passed round the chapter pouring out wine, the choristers chanting, "May the Almighty give us thankful hearts and grant that we may be ever ready to relieve the wants of others."

Afterwards the Grand Secretary General passed round the chapter pouring out oil, while the musical brethren chanted "May He, whose Name is Love, grant that the brethren meeting in this chapter be ever of one heart and one mind, and may they always do unto others as they would it should be done unto them."

The Grand Chaplain then passed round the chapter with the censer of incense. The altar was lighted; there was more music; roses were sprinkled, and the M.P.S.G. Commander gave consecration and dedication. The stone was opened, and the Anthem, "I have surely built thee an House," was chanted; then the Grand Marshal proclaimed that the chapter had been consecrated, and the proceedings were closed with a flourish of trumpets.

The following candidates were then perfected:—Bros. Sir Thomas Dyer, Bart., J.P., Bayard Lodge, 1615; Robt. Fyers, Bayard Lodge, 1615; Captain W. S. Gilbert, Bayard Lodge, 1615; Captain Arthur Palliser, D.L., J.P., Royal Body Guard, 1383; Richard Joyes Emerson, P.M. 1206, P. Pro G.J. Warden for Kent; James Walter Waldron, 1383; Henry William Green, 108; John Sandilands Ward, 172; William Leyland Fielden, late of 13th Lt. Dragoons, Bayard Lodge, 1615 and Captain Kilner A. A. Brasier Creagh, J.P., late Military Train, 1067. Afterwards Ill. Bro. Lieut.-Col. Burney, 31°, P.M. 697, P. Prov. S.G.D. Essex, P.P.G. Commander Essex, was installed Most Wise Sovereign by Ill. Bro. Major Shadwell Clerk, M.W.S. 33°, G.A.S.C., and the following brethren were appointed to office:—High Prelate, Rev. C. J. Ridgeway, 18°; 1st General, F. Richardson, 30°; 2nd Genl. the Chevalier Habieth, 30°; G. Marshal, E. Henslowe Bedford, 18°; Raphael, Capt. Leeson, 18°; Herald, Capt. W. S. Gilbert, 18°; Captain of the Guard, Robert Fyers, 18°; Recorder, Capt. W. F. Portlocke Dadson, 32°; Treasurer, Capt. Compton, 30°; Almoner, Sir Thos. Dyer, Bart., 18°; and Dir. Cers., J. Sandilands Ward, 18°.

Votes of thanks were afterwards passed to the Consecrating Officer and the Installing Officer, and to Col. Hutton, 33°, Supreme Council of Canada, for his attendance.

A banquet followed at the Café Royal, Regent-street, and the customary toasts were duly honoured.

A meeting of the Supreme Council was held at the Masonic Hall, 33, Golden Square, on Wednesday last, when Bro. the Right Hon. Lord Skelmersdale, M.W. Pro Grand Master, was advanced to the 33°. Many influential members of the Craft were present. A full report will appear in the Second Edition, which will be published early Saturday morning.

H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M., will install the Rt. Hon. Lord Suffield, as R.W. Provincial Grand Master for Norwich, on the 20th proximo. His Royal Highness will first attend a public meeting on behalf of the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital. Immediately after the installation the Prince will proceed to Gunton Hall, the seat of Lord Suffield. There will be no banquet. Further particulars will appear in due course.

A meeting of the members of the London Masonic Club was held on the 11th inst. A report of the same will appear in our second edition.

The Fifteen Sections will be worked in the Royal Arthur Lodge of Instruction, No. 1363, held at the Princess Head, York Road, Battersea, on Tuesday next, at 7 p.m.

Bro. Henry A. Dubois, Prov. S.G.D. Middlesex, Secretary Surrey Masonic Hall Co., has removed his offices from 2, Gresham Buildings, Basinghall-street, to 115, Chancery Lane. ■

COSMOPOLITAN MASONIC
CALENDAR.

W. Masters and Secretaries are earnestly requested to forward to the publisher, at the Offices, 198, Fleet-street, E.C., particulars of the place, days, and months of meeting of their respective lodges, chapters, and other Masonic bodies, for insertion in the issue of the Calendar for 1877.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

COLONIAL and FOREIGN SUBSCRIBERS are informed that acknowledgments of remittances received are published in the first number of every month.

It is very necessary for our readers to advise us of all money orders they remit, more especially those from the United States of America and India; otherwise we cannot tell where to credit them.

TO OUR READERS.

The *Freemason* is a sixteen-page weekly newspaper, price 2d. It is published every Friday morning, and contains the most important, interesting, and useful information relating to Freemasonry in every degree. Annual subscription in the United Kingdom, Post free, 10/-

P.O.O.'s to be made payable at the chief office, London.

NEW POSTAL RATES.

Owing to a reduction in the Postal Rates, the publisher is now enabled to send the "*Freemason*" to the following parts abroad for One Year for Twelve Shillings (payable in advance):—Africa, Australia, Bombay, Canada, Cape of Good Hope, Ceylon, China, Constantinople, Demerara, France, Germany, Gibraltar, Jamaica, Malta, Newfoundland, New South Wales, New Zealand, Suez, Trinidad, United States of America, &c.

Answers to Correspondents.

All Communications, Advertisements, &c., intended for insertion in the Number of the following Saturday, must reach the Office not later than 12 o'clock on Wednesday morning.

We do not undertake to return rejected communications.

BOOKS, &c., RECEIVED:—"Hand and Heart;" "New York Dispatch;" "Philadelphia Keystone;" "North British Daily Mail;" "Nuova Era Maconica," Palermo;" "The British and Foreign Paper Trades' Review;" "The Craftsman;" "Masonic Herald;" "Proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Royal and Select Masters of the State of Ohio."

The following stand over:—

Harmony Lodge, No. 438; Hartington, No. 1085; Greymouth, No. 1233; Emulation, No. 1505; Star Lodge of Instruction, No. 1275; Fernor Hesketh, No. 1350; Napthali, No. 266; Shamrock and Thistle and Cathedral Chapters, Glasgow; Fortescue Mark Lodge, No. 9; Provincial Grand Mark Lodge of Leicestershire; "the Cant of Freemasonry." (letter)

Bro. Burn's letter received, and will be attended to.

A letter from the editor of the "*Masonic Magazine*" relative to "Long Livers" will appear in our next.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

[The charge is 2s. 6d for announcements, not exceeding four lines, under this heading.]

BIRTHS.

ARNOTT.—On the 9th inst., at Chichester, the wife of H. Arnott, of a daughter.

BLIND.—On the 5th inst., at Albert-road, N.W., the wife of R. Blind, Esq., of a son.

BOYS.—On the 4th inst., at Deal, the wife of Commander H. H. Boys, R.N., of a daughter.

BROMLEY.—On the 10th inst., at Bath, the wife of J. M. Bromley, Esq., M.A., of a son, stillborn.

MARRIAGES.

COATES—SOWERBY.—On the 5th inst., at Beelsby, Lincolnshire, Thomas, son of T. Coates, of Beelsby, to Mary Elizabeth, daughter of J. Sowerby, jun.

M'LELLAN—TOMKINS.—On the 26th ult., at Woolville, King's County, Nova Scotia, David M'Leilan, Esq., to Jane Harrison, daughter of F. J. Tomkins, Esq., of London.

STRONACH—LYALL.—On the 3rd inst., at Peterhead, Aberdeenshire, John Stronach, Esq., of Dimbula, Ceylon, to E. Grace, daughter of the late J. Lyall, A.M.

DEATHS.

AUSTIN.—On the 10th inst., Elizabeth Ann, wife of J. J. Austin, of Great Percy-street, aged 38.

CAPPER.—On the 8th inst., at Albion-terrace, Southampton, Mabel, daughter of the late M. Capper, Esq., aged 17.

CLARK.—On the 7th inst., at Dundarach, Aberfoyle, Perthshire, Thomas Clark, Esq., A.R.S.A.

CLOSE.—On the 6th inst., at Springfield, Pembroke, Katherine Richmond, infant daughter of D. R. Close, Esq.

TWEDDALE.—On the 10th inst., at Yester House, Haddingtonshire, Bro. the Right Hon. George, Marquis of Tweddale, aged 90.

The Freemason,

SATURDAY, OCT. 14, 1876.

THE DIFFICULTIES OF THE MASONIC
PRESS.

The position of the Masonic Press and the rôle of a Masonic editor are not ever a "bed of roses." There are difficulties attendant on all journalism, on all editorial labours, but the Masonic press is very heavily weighted for the race. Owing, in the first place, to the peculiar teaching and aspects of Freemasonry, the normal difficulties of all journalism are increased a hundred fold. For Freemasonry, be it remembered, assumes a position of absolute neutrality in all matters purely political and religious, that is to say, it passes no opinion on those questions which divide mankind in the two great "zones" which are respectively marked—"religion" and "politics," and hence the serious difficulty of a Masonic editor. It is a most arduous labour, requiring great care and greater skill to avoid in treating on the current subjects of the hour, whether entirely or only quasi-Masonic, impinging on one side or the other, and touching, however gently, those neutral sections of thought, teaching, and discussion. We had flattered ourselves that we had done so. We had hoped that our abstinence from all political or denominational preferences was as clear as it was avowed by us, was as distinct as we believed it to be consistently Masonic on all occasions. It appears, however, that we have been in error all this time, self-satisfied deceivers. A correspondent of thirty years' Masonic standing informs us that our remarks upon "Ultramontaniam" have been for some time exceedingly "offensive" to him and to others. We are exceedingly sorry for the announcement, and regret the use of so hard a word, as we had reason to believe that our language was not unacceptable to a very large circle of readers. For we have, in our own opinion, been alike most careful, moderate, discreet, and fair. We have not said even half what we might have said, or a third of what we felt on the facts submitted to us. We have, from the first, endeavoured to point out to our brethren that the habitual violence and unseemly language of the Ultramontane press, and of many high Roman Catholic authorities, were one thing, the rights and feelings of our Roman Catholic brethren, quite another. While we have endeavoured openly, as we always shall, (pace our correspondent), to maintain intact the undoubted rights of Roman Catholic Freemasons, we shall always denounce that bigotry which refused the rites of the Roman Catholic Church to Bro. Armourer-Serjeant Johnson; that brutality which in a distant country disturbed the body of a poor departed Freemason, and used the sacred symbol of the Cross as if to hallow a deed of sinful violence and wrong. From time to time we have to read the outrageous language of the Ultramontane advisers of the Pope, of Cardinals, Archbishops, and Bishops of the Roman Catholic persuasion, of lesser lights and petty imitators; and what are we to do? Are we to leave them all unnoticed? Are we to pass by them in silence or in contempt? Is it not, on the contrary, our bounden duty to enlighten our readers as to attacks which are daily and hourly made, and which impose often on the weak-minded and the ignorant, and are yet as mendacious as they are unmerited? We think so; and we feel sure that on this point we shall have the warm approval of our much-maligned and insulted Craft, alike as to the propriety of the course we have pursued and the moderation of the language that we have employed. For, be it remembered always, alike to the praise and credit of the "*Freemason*," that it has never condescended to join in any partizan clap-trap or intolerant language against Roman Catholics quâ Roman Catholics. We have, on the contrary, often been discreetly silent when others have been loquaciously open mouthed; we have restrained the barbed arrows of invective when others have been loud in heated denunciations of the Church of Rome as a religious institution

per se. We have always advocated freedom of conscience, and "liberty of prophesying," as well for Roman Catholics as for any one else, and we defy the most captious critic, and the most hasty assailant, to point out a single passage in which we have done despite to the great principle of absolute and Masonic toleration. Certain unwise words and unseemly acts of the Roman Catholic authorities have come before us, and we have dealt with them practically, and treated them conscientiously, and we must beg to tell our worthy correspondent that we shall continue to do the same, whenever in our humble opinion the paramount interests of Freemasonry require such notice, or demand such animadversions in respect of Ultramontane tactics, or ignorant "accusers" of our "brethren." Our correspondent has seized with great adroitness on a little incident in respect of some humble Protestants at Minorca, which we transferred to our pages, and demands, somewhat excitedly, "what has this to do with Freemasonry?" We never said that it had, but we used it as a fair and passing illustration of the rabid temper of Ultramontaniam just now, which seems to spare neither friend nor foe, and which seeks, by a violence of language and of action, to recall to the thoughtful the worst days and the gravest horrors of an inquisitorial regime. As advocates of the right of unlimited toleration per se, of the sanctity of the human conscience, of freedom of worship, we are bound, as it appears to us, to protest in our humble pages, from time to time, when as it would seem intolerance runs riot, and bigotry becomes rampant in our very midst. The classing by the Bishop of Minorca of Freemasons and Protestants together, and declaring that "putrid members must not touch sane members," is a gross insult not only against all religion and common sense, but to the whole of the Masonic fraternity, and deserves to be noticed and branded as such before our entire Order. If we are wrong in our view of the situation, we are at any rate in very good company. We can remember a speech addressed to Grand Lodge by our most distinguished Pro Grand Master, the Earl of Carnarvon, in which he denounced the intolerance and persecution of Roman Catholicism as respects Freemasons everywhere, and if his remarks were justified then, ours are a "hundred fold pertinent to the occasion, and befitting now. His eloquent address at that period was supported warmly by several brethren, and though the Grand Lodge, probably most rightly, did not think well to set a precedent of any sort of condemnation of any religious body, yet there was a general concurrence of opinion that such remarks were fully borne out in themselves by the known facts of the case. But it is one thing to admit a fact, another to establish a precedent, especially for our English Grand Lodge, which has always manfully and nobly avowed distinct and absolute toleration. We admit that circumstances change with times, but never in our recollection has the Ultramontane School betrayed so much childish fear or so much unreasoning intolerance of Freemasonry as now. And under such circumstances we repeat, are we to sit still, "dumb dogs," under most violent anathemata, public excommunications, and shameful incriminations? In our opinion, it is neither our duty, nor will it be our resolution, to submit to unparalleled outrages of so-called religious language, and these direct insults of Ultramontaniam. Why it is not a few months ago that one of the Spanish Bishops called our G. Master, H. R. H. the Prince of Wales, "the arch heretic" (herejote), simply because he was a Freemason, and are we Freemasons to go on "mealy mouthed" and with "bated breath," talk of such things, and simply protest by our moral teaching and action against them, for such a course of action is unworthy of us all? We say certainly not; we have, thank God, liberty of speech, and liberty of the press as Englishmen and Freemasons, and we shall continue to use the one and the other, in the future as in the past, with moderation and calmness, and above all with fairness and truth.

A Second Edition of the "*Freemason*" will be issued on Saturday morning. Copies may be obtained direct from the office by forwarding to the publisher 2d. in stamps.

THE EMULATION LODGE OF IMPROVEMENT.

The Emulation Lodge of Improvement commenced its regular season last Friday evening with the ceremony of installation, which was very ably performed in the presence of a large assemblage of the brethren by Bro. C. A. Murton, P.G.D., and formerly Secretary of the lodge. The annual festival of the lodge will be held on the 24th November. Bro. John Hervey, Grand Secretary, having entered on his 30th year of office as Treasurer of the lodge, the committee are desirous of making this the occasion of testifying to Bro. Hervey the sincere esteem entertained towards him by those who, during his long period of his office, have profited by the teaching of the lodge, and their high appreciation of his services. The Earl of Carnarvon, M.W. Pro Grand Master, has kindly consented to preside at the banquet. Bro. Hervey will take the chair of the lodge, which will be held in the Grand Lodge Hall, and eight sections of the lectures will be worked by Past Grand Officers, who in former years were active working members. A handsome silver inkstand has been expressly designed for the occasion by the eminent architect, Bro. John Gibson, Deputy Master of the Prince of Wales's Lodge, to be presented by the Stewards to Bro. Hervey. Seventy brethren, among whom are forty Grand Officers, have volunteered to act as Stewards.

A short account of the origin of this celebrated lodge may be interesting to our readers. At the union of the lodges in 1813 the working of the ceremonies was found to differ very widely. A resolution was therefore passed at the lodge of reconciliation that the ceremonies of opening and closing, and of the three degrees should be worked in the same manner in all lodges under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of England. To carry out this resolution the Grand Master requested Bro. Dr. Samuel Hemming to gather together the scattered elements of the work, and to arrange them into a system which might receive the approval of Grand Lodge, and be generally adopted. Bro. Hemming undertook the task, but after a delay of some years, he became imbecile, and was unable to complete it. Bro. Dr. Williams was then nominated by the Grand Master to carry out the work which had been intrusted to Dr. Hemming. Bro. Williams undertook the duty on the understanding that he should not be required to complete the labours of Bro. Hemming, but should be permitted to reconstruct the ritual from the original elements. On the completed system of Bro. Dr. Williams, the Emulation Lodge of Improvement was first worked under the Preceptorship of the famous Peter Gilkes, who was a contemporary of Dr. Williams. He was succeeded by his friend and pupil, the late Bro. Stephen Barton Wilson, whose work is rigidly adhered to by the present committee, several of whom had the benefit of his personal instruction. The uncompleted work of Dr. Hemming was followed by Bro. Peter Thomson, and is still taught in several lodges of Instruction. We shall recur to the subject a little later, as the time for this interesting anniversary of the lodge draws near.

FEMALE FREEMASONRY.

A lady correspondent, who terms herself a brother's wife, as our readers will remember, in our last issue, advocates, if we understand her words aright, the admission of her sex generally to Freemasonry. She does not apparently see her way to Androgyne Masonry, that is, the meeting of the two sexes on equal terms in the lodge-room, but she appears to wish to have a sort of feminine initiation. Well, we have read her letter with great care, and, with every wish to please, we think it right, for fear of any mistake on the subject, to say at once that, in our humble opinion, not only will the subject itself not bear ventilation in any way, but that such a proposition, is not only impossible on every Masonic principle, and is absolutely condemned "ab initio" by the very facts and nature of the case. To admit ladies to Freemasonry is in itself, as we contended just now, so hopeless a proposition in our opinion, that we must decline to discuss it in our pages, in the best interests,

we feel sure, of Freemasonry. We can only look upon it as an impracticable proposal, as a chimerical aspiration. We make these remarks in all good feeling and respect to our fair correspondent, whose motives we fully appreciate, but whose suggestions we certainly reject. Such a proposition is at variance with every rule and ancient canon of Freemasonry, and would, we feel assured, be at once rejected by the good sense and deliberate opinion of our entire fraternity. At proper times, indeed, and under safe guarantees, we welcome the presence of the gentler sex amongst us, and we are inclined to encourage their pleasant associations, and kindly smiles, at many of those festive occasions when the brilliancy of the gathering is enhanced and the overflowing gaiety of our brethren is properly restrained by the attractive influences of female companionship. Perhaps, too, we hardly utilize the female element in our open meetings so much as we might fairly and fitly do. But for the present the door of the lodge-room is barred against them, and must continue to be so, and we cannot hold out any hopes that, as Freemasons, we shall either change our deliberate opinion in this respect, or even permit a discussion of so unpractical a subject in our crowded columns. For the ladies themselves, our fair and friendly sisters, we entertain the highest sentiments of sympathy and respect. We are glad to think that their gentle natures approve and their warm hearts appreciate our Masonic system, secret though it be to them, and we are always gratified to know and to find that, despite this male exclusiveness of ours, they can associate themselves in all of true and kindly interest, alike with our mysterious reunions, our public assemblies, and our meritorious charities. To them we shall always offer, as we do to-day, the homage which is their just due, which their virtues and graces emphatically demand from all men, but especially Freemasons. But we can go no further, and say no more; and to their earnest and vicarious request for admission within the guarded door of the lodge-room our only possible reply can be, if with much of sympathetic regret, "Non possumus." With respect to Countess Hâdick's reception, that is, as we look at it, a purely exceptional case, and must continue to be so, and is certainly not to be used as a precedent, or proposed for imitation. Ungallant as it may appear at the first blush to say so, and harsh as it may seem to some to close the iron portals of Masonic lodges rigorously against the wives, and sisters, and daughters, and sweethearts of Freemasons, still it must be done, as all precedent teaches and bids, and we must, unmoved by smiles or tears, without fear and without hesitation, nerve ourselves to our duty, as men, as Britons, and as Freemasons. Having said this we will add, that perhaps occasions may be found or "improvised," when ladies may be admitted to meetings in the lodge-room, but not of course during lodge hours, or in the midst of Masonic work. That we hold to be both a grave impropriety, and an utter impossibility. We quite agree with the admirable remarks of "Another Freemason's Wife" in our issue of to-day.

A RECENT MASONIC SERMON.

In our last impression a sermon by our reverend Bro. E. R. Parr, P.G.C., for Cheshire, appeared. In order to avoid any possible misapprehension, we feel bound to remind our readers that though the views therein expressed are not ours, yet, that there is, and always has been, and probably always will be, a very influential school of Christian Masons amongst us, those, for instance, who, like Dr. Oliver, like to find Christian symbolism in Freemasonry. And we have always felt that this symbolism may exist, especially if our theory of guild continuation be correct, as the guild teaching was undoubtedly Christian. We, however, hold, as our readers know, that Freemasonry is universal, as our formularies teach, and therefore Bro. Parr's sermon, though eloquent and ingenious, can only be taken as the expression of the individual opinion of an able brother. Some foreign writers hold Freemasonry to be pure "humanitarianism," others an "eclectic

philosophy," others Deism, or Theism, and some, as our good Bro. Parr, a Christian system, apparently a sister to Christianity. Now all these views we conceive to be ultra-Masonic, and cannot be laid down and asserted dogmatically, though we do not wish to dispute the right of Freemasons to hold such views subjectively, so long, that is, as they do not seek to force them upon us objectively as absolute Masonic teaching. All that we can properly say, it seems to us, ex cathedra is, that Freemasonry is a "system of morality based on allegory, and illustrated by symbols," excellent, most excellent, in itself, inasmuch as its morality is the morality of the Word of God, but that it is not a system of religion, and never was intended as a "religio" to any one. We have thought it well to make this last explanation, as we always object to "non-naturalism" in every shape, and we desire to mould and base all our Masonic teaching simply and honestly on the acknowledged and official statements of our great Order. Bro. Parr's sermon is a very able one, and deserves perusal, and will, no doubt, find favour with many.

Original Correspondence.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for, or even as approving of the opinions expressed by our correspondents, but we wish, in a spirit of fair play to all, to permit—within certain necessary limits—free discussion.—Ed.]

THE FUNDS OF GRAND LODGE.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I have read with attention the letter of "Moneta" in your last number, and in reply beg to say, that it is not always "lawful for me to do what I will with my own," and Grand Lodge before it can do as it likes with its own must make a law to enable it to do so.

That great judge, Blackstone, is reported to have said that Parliament can do anything, except it be to make a man into a woman, or a woman into a man. I suppose "Moneta" thinks with the learned judge that Grand Lodge can do the same.

The quotations given by "Moneta" do not serve him. Yours, very fraternally,

AN OLD P.M., ONE, &c.

FEMALE FREEMASONRY.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I read with considerable interest the letter from a Freemason's wife in your journal of Friday, although I cannot agree with her opinion respecting women being Masons, and I consider the W.M. of the Hungary Lodge very unwise to initiate one, even if she were a countess, and well versed in Masonic literature. I do not think it a woman's province; her place (as your correspondent admits) is "at home."

I respect Freemasonry in the highest degree, also its secrets, and in my opinion there is not a Mason living who would style women blind, profane, and not to be trusted with a secret—unless to his misfortune he had met with such a one; but God forbid we should all be classed under such a lowering demonstration.

As a rule I think we are held in the highest estimation by the brethren, and they are never happier than when surrounded by us at the festive board, and why a man should feel lighter hearted, and have a better conscience, by divulging the secrets of the Order to his wife I cannot imagine, unless there was shame attached to it instead of being an institution founded on the best and purest principles of religion (this is no secret). I honour it for my husband's sake, he having entered heart and soul into it, and am proud to say it was through my earnest solicitations he joined the mystic Order, and I feel the greatest interest in everything connected with Masonry, and we can, and do converse freely upon the subject although I am not a participator in the secrets; and what true wives with a kind, good husband, would begrudge him attending his Masonic meetings, after the toil and harass of business, because she was not enlightened into its secrets?

I am afraid your correspondent's letter will cause many of the brethren to say (slightly altering the text), "Curiosity," "thy name is woman."

Apologising for trespassing on your valuable space, Believe me, yours faithfully,

ANOTHER FREEMASON'S WIFE.

HERMETIC MASONRY; OR, "LONG LIVERS."

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I feel sure that you will not refuse me a few lines of explanation in regard to the work entitled "Long Livers," to which I see, with much pleasure, that you are giving prominence. This book has been known to a few Masonic students for some years. Bro. Matthew Cooke, about six years ago, furnished me with some extracts from it, which I published in 1872 in my work upon "Speculative Freemasonry" (page 113). This I did with the consent of Bro. Cooke, provided the name of the book was not given. Finding, however, accidentally, that the work formed a part of the library of Bro. F. G. Irwin, of Bristol, I gave further prominence to the same in the pages of a

contemporary, which published my letter on the 24th July, 1875, as you will see by the enclosed printed slip, which I have sent to many brethren both at home and abroad. I scarcely feel sure that I agree with you when you say that it is a description of certain Hermetic grades; I consider the language to refer to the Royal Arch degree in Alchemical jargon, at the same time I feel assured, from much undoubted evidence, that all degrees above the three first originated in the Hermetic knowledge of certain Speculative Freemasons, and if this is also your meaning, I am at one with you. My only object in writing to you is to do full justice to other brethren in their prior knowledge of the existence of this valuable work, and I feel sure that the well-known candour of your able editor will excuse my taking up your space with this explanation. I always find that Bro. Hughan is ready to give credit where it is due, but I find also that there are a many who palm off the discoveries of others as their own.

I remain, dear Sir and Brother, yours fraternally,
JOHN YARKER.

Manchester, Oct. 7th, 1876.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

My friend, Commander C. Scott, R.N., J.P. (P. Prov. G.W. of Devon, &c., &c.) has fraternally reminded me of a fact I had lost sight of, and which you evidently also have done in your appreciative notice of the reprint of the introduction to "Long Livers" of 1722, by Eugenius Philalethes, the whole of which is to be found in the current number of the "Masonic Magazine."

The first allusion to this scarce and curious work is to be found in Bro. Yarker's "Speculative Freemasonry," and it appears, Bro. Matthew Cooke had then a copy of the work, which he intended to reprint. Copies of this strange little book of 1722 are to be found in the private libraries of Bros. Carson, of Cincinnati; Bower, of Keokuk; Irwin, of Bristol; and others, and in the Masonic libraries of Pennsylvania (Philadelphia), and Sheffield (Yorkshire), and probably some others.

Its peculiar Masonic value, however, apparently has been quite overlooked from its issue until the present decade of this century.

WILLIAM JAMES HUGHAN.

Truro, 10th Oct., 1876.

ULTRAMONTANE VIOLENCE.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Permit me to say a few words in refutation of an attack made upon you by "A P.M. of 30 Years' Standing" in your last. You have no reader, I believe, more assiduous than myself, and therefore none more conversant with the line of argument you have consistently adopted about this subject at issue, whence I feel sufficiently presumptuous to add a line even to your own editorial note.

You have long observed the intolerant attitude of Ultramontanism towards Freemasonry; you have further observed that this attitude has been professedly based upon charges known to be false; you have therefore set yourself to defend Freemasonry by proving these charges to be groundless, and at the same time by drawing attention to the reckless manner in which such charges are made, not only upon Freemasonry, but upon every other system that Ultramontanism supposes itself opposed to; you have also drawn attention to the numerous acts of persecution (notably those in Minorca) of which Ultramontanism has been guilty, in order to show what would be the character of its dealings, if only its power were equal to its will, with Freemasonry as a system and Freemasons as individuals. But in all this defence of yours not one word has there been of counter attack or even of vengeful reprisal, still less of any disapproval of the Roman Catholic religion, nothing more than a simple refutation of slander, and slander of such a nature that if left unanswered the outside world would have been fully justified in regarding the Ultramontane condemnation of Freemasonry as righteous and urgently called for.

Such being the case, P.M.'s letter declares your refutation to be wrong, and therefore (if he has well considered his subject, and I will not insult him by imagining that he would make such a charge without due forethought), leaves him only a choice of one of these positions: either supposing that Ultramontanism has wrongfully slandered and abused Freemasonry, then he would have it that it is the duty of every Freemason to bear the reproach without any attempt at refuting it, and so leave the outside world suppose us really the "leprosy of heresy" that Ultramontanism pronounces us to be; or, supposing that Ultramontanism has not wrongfully slandered and abused Freemasonry, then he acknowledges at once that Ultramontanism is right, and that we are therefore all that it describes us.

Perhaps our worshipful brother will kindly inform us upon which horn of this dilemma he would find the more comfortable seat; as for me, I prefer, Sir, to second your refutation of all such slanders, and so rest clear, not in our own eyes only, but in those of all the world.

I remain, dear Sir and Brother, faithfully and fraternally yours,

A MORE MODERN P.M.

CONSECRATION OF THE ROSE LODGE, No. 1622.

On Saturday last, the 7th inst., the consecration of the Rose Lodge (1622) was celebrated at the Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell New-road, when a large number of the members of the Craft assembled to do honour to the occasion. Our V.W. Bro. John Hervey, P.G.D., G. Sec., was the officer appointed by the Grand Master to perform the ceremony, in which he was assisted by Bro. H. G. Buss, Prov. G.J.W. Middlesex, and Bro. James Terry, Prov. G.D.C. Herts. Among those present were Bros. T. E. Webb, 503; F. Cozens, 907; Vockins, 1429;

R. Challoner, 1178; W. R. Ramsay, 1539; G. S. Edwards, 975; Robt. Vorse, 1329; Kitson, 548; C. Sims, 1558; W. W. Mason, 1185; Charles Denton, 169; S. P. Harvey, 1539; E. H. Bayley, H. Bartlett, 147; W. H. Lee, 1524; M. S. Latham, 1559; Hodges, 795; Webster, 174; Chaplin Henry, 201; A. R. Cranch, 1216; J. Harris, 657; J. A. Lyon, 162; Godfrey, 1261; J. Claus, 1539; Thompson, 1158; W. C. Canton, 1475; Gammon, 795; D. A. Ashford, 1441; G. T. Carter, Stephens, Dobson, Palmer, Cockett, J. N. Kirby, J. Gornar, Alfred Allworth, J. A. Burgan, A. W. W. Stead, W. W. Pritchett, W. C. Thue, G. P. Coltar, and E. C. Massey ("Freemason").

The brethren having been marshalled in due order by Bro. Buss, who acted as Director of Ceremonies, entered the lodge-room in procession, and Bro. Hervey, the Presiding Officer, took the chair, and appointed his Wardens pro tem., after which the lodge was opened in due form in the three degrees.

Bro. J. Hervey then addressed the lodge as follows:—Brethren, you are all perfectly well aware of the object we have in view in meeting here to-day—namely, to add another link to the chain—another lodge to the long roll of lodges under the English Grand Lodge. I am sure that it is a matter of great gratification to all round this room, as it is to the Craft in general that we find lodges increasing and multiplying; and we hope and believe that the materials of which they are composed are not only increasing in number, but also improving in quality. Brethren, without such improvement I should be sorry to see the members of the Craft multiplying as they are now doing, because we must all desire that with increasing numbers there may also be found an improvement in the standard of education among Masons. I do not mean of position in life, because I do not think it necessary to be in a high position to be either a good man or a good Mason. We all of us ought to have one desire in view—to do our duty in the station that it has pleased God to call us to. If we do that, if we follow the precepts handed down in the Craft, worldly position does not matter, we are worthy of being made Masons; but if a man does not apply to his ordinary domestic life something of the precepts which he hears in his lodge, those precepts are thrown away, and I do not think that that man is altogether a worthy member of the Craft. Brethren, I have so often dilated, when I have had an opportunity of pointing it out, upon the necessity or caution, that I will not on the present occasion again impress upon your minds those ideas that are ever uppermost in mine. I will only say that unless a man is one whom you know as a good man, who carries out the ordinary duties of life worthily, I hold that you ought not to introduce him into your lodge. Any one whom we would not introduce to our own families we should hesitate to introduce into our lodges. If a man is one whom you can with confidence introduce to your family, then he is a proper person to be made a Mason. I have also impressed another thing very much upon the Craft lately, and that is a very objectionable course that is often taken in a lodge by a disappointed member, of blackballing every member who is presented for candidature. I cannot stigmatise such a course sufficiently. A man who will do such an act is covertly staining the character of another, of whom he probably knows nothing, merely to vent his own spleen. Worshipful Master designate, I hope that no such course will be taken in your lodge, and I hope too, that if it is, no step will be left untried to rid the Craft of such an objectionable character. I will not detain you longer, as we have a lengthy ceremony to go through, upon such points as these. As to the nature of a Freemason's lodge Bro. Terry will probably have something to say. I will only add that I came here to-day to consecrate this lodge with great pleasure. I have consecrated a great many in my time, and I can say that I scarcely know of one that I have consecrated that has not prospered, and I trust that the Rose Lodge, No. 1622, will not be an exception to the number.

Bro. Terry, as Chaplain, delivered the opening prayer, at the conclusion of which the acting Secretary, Bro. J. A. Burgan, addressing the Presiding Officer, informed him that certain brethren had petitioned Grand Lodge to grant a warrant for a lodge to be called the Rose Lodge, and that the M.W. Grand Master had been graciously pleased to grant them such warrant, and he requested the presiding officer in accordance with the warrant to form and consecrate the new lodge.

The presiding officer replied, directing that the brethren who had signed the petition should be placed in order on either side of the covered lodge board. This having been accomplished by the Director of Ceremonies, the acting Secretary was called upon to read both the petition and the warrant of constitution, which he did. The presiding officer then inquired of the brethren whether they approved of the officers named in the petition and warrant, which they answered in the affirmative in due Masonic form.

Bro. Terry then as Chaplain delivered an oration on the nature of Freemasonry and upon the formation and functions of Masonic lodges. This masterly composition was delivered in so able a manner by Bro. Terry that those present could not fail to be deeply impressed by it.

At the conclusion of this address the Anthem (133rd Psalm) was sung by the professional brethren present, Bro. G. T. Carter, Bro. Chaplin Henry, and Bro. Symons, under the direction of Bro. F. Cozens, who presided at the harmonium.

The first portion of the dedication prayer was then repeated by the presiding officer, followed by the invocation, after which the scripture lesson appointed for the occasion was read by Bro. Terry, and after the singing of a hymn the lodge board was uncovered, and the presiding officer, assisted by the Wardens pro tem., proceeded to consecrate the lodge with the emblems of plenty, happiness and unity, the choir singing the while

When once of old in Israel,
Our early brethren wrought with toil,

Jehovah's blessing on them fell;
In showers of corn, and wine and oil.

When there a shrine to Him alone
They built, with worship, sin to foil;
On threshold and on corner-stone,
They poured out corn, and wine and oil.

And we have come, fraternal bands,
With joy, and pride, and prosperous spoil;
To honour him by votive hands,
With streams of corn, and wine and oil.

The Presiding Officer then dedicated the lodge, and delivered the second portion of the dedication prayer, and the ceremony concluded with the Vesper hymn, "Guide me, oh thou Great Jehovah."

The Presiding Officer then constituted the lodge, which was afterwards resumed to the Second Degree.

Bro. David Rose, P.M. 73, W.M. designate, was then vouched for and presented by Bro. Buss for installation, and a Board of Installed Masters having been formed he was presented and installed into the chair of K.S., and proclaimed and saluted in due form. The W.M. then invested his two principal officers as designated in the warrant, viz., Bros. James Garnar, J.D. 975, as S.W.; Alfred Allworth, W.M. 1261, as J.W.

It was proposed and seconded that Bro. T. E. Webb be the Treasurer of the lodge, which was carried unanimously, and Bro. Webb was thereupon invested by the W.M., who then proceeded to appoint and invest his assistant officers as follows:—Bros. J. A. Burgan, Secretary; W. C. Thue, S.D.; A. W. Stead, J.D.; W. W. Pritchett, Prov. Grand Org. Herts, I.G.; G. P. Coltar, D.C.; W. Hamlyn, W.S.; and Bro. Church having been elected by a show of hands, was summoned and invested as Tyler of the lodge.

The oration having been delivered by Bro. Terry, the W.M. rose for the first time and made the usual inquiries, and before resuming his seat, proposed the names of three brethren as joining members. The S.W., in response to the inquiry, proposed an initiate, the J.W. proposed four initiates and one joining member, the J.D. proposed one initiate, the S.D. proposed one joining member and two initiates, and the Secretary proposed one initiate, a total of fourteen proposed members.

The W.M.: Brethren, there is a duty that should have taken precedence of this business. I have to propose a vote of thanks to Bro. John Hervey for his kindness in coming forward this evening to consecrate our lodge, and I beg to propose that he become an honorary member of the lodge; also that Bro. Terry and Bro. Buss be made honorary members and participate in the vote of thanks.

The proposition was seconded by the S.W. and carried unanimously.

Bro. Hervey: W.M. and brethren, when I say that if our exertions this evening have been gratifying to you and satisfactory to the brethren, I am sure it will be ample reward for what we have done. The performance of this ceremony is in most cases a labour of love, and I am satisfied that the two brethren who stand up with me would have felt the vote of thanks which you have been good enough to propose that we should receive would have been ample recompense for the service. As, however, you have proposed to make us honorary members, we accept it with thanks. I do not think that we can have all the functions of full members, as suggested by our Bro. J.W., in putting the motion, as it is contrary to the Book of Constitutions, which prescribes that honorary members shall not have the privilege of voting, &c., &c. (J.W.: I was speaking out of the fullness of my heart.) However, sir, I am sure we are gratified if our services have been acceptable to the brethren, and thank you for the compliment you have paid us.

The lodge was then closed in due form, after which the brethren adjourned to the banqueting hall where an elegant repast was served à la Russe. Between forty and fifty brethren sat down to dinner.

After dinner the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed, and some very good singing from the musical brethren enlivened the intervals between the speeches.

Bro. J. Hervey having responded for "The Grand Officers" went on to say W. Master, you have said a good deal about me in the lodge-room, and about the brethren who assisted me in the ceremonies, and you cannot say anything more to the purpose at the banquet table. Allow me, therefore, before I sit down to return thanks for the Consecrating Officers, not but the brethren will regret the loss of the speech which they would have heard from you, but they will rejoice at not seeing me get up again to speak. Bro. Hervey proceeded to make some flattering comments on the constitution of the lodge, and the efficiency of its Master, and concluded by proposing "The Health of Bro. Rose," and "Success to the Rose Lodge."

Bro. Rose: Brother officers and brethren, I thank you very sincerely for the very kind manner in which Bro. Hervey has put this toast, and to you for the manner in which you have received it. I should certainly have liked very much to introduce myself the vote of thanks to the Consecrating Officers for the simple reason that I had reserved for the banquet table the bulk of my remarks, but we must also consider his comfort, as he has already had a great deal of exertion, and feel bound to consider his wishes as to the curtailment of this stage of the business of the evening. In thanking Bro. Hervey I echo his wishes for the prosperity of the lodge, and trust that I shall never be found wanting in the performance of the important duties of that post which has this day been entrusted to me.

The toast of "The Officers of the Lodge," "The Masonic Charitable Institutions" (to which Bro. Terry responded), and the Tyler's toast were also duly honoured, and brought to a close a highly successful meeting.

PROVINCIAL GRAND MARK LODGE OF CUMBERLAND.

The Provincial Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons was held on the 27th ult., at Maryport, under the auspices of the Whitwell Lodge, 151, of which Bro. J. Gardiner is W.M. Prov. Grand Lodge was opened and presided over by the Right Hon. the Earl of Bective, R.W.P.G.M.M.M., assisted by Colonel Whitwell, M.P., W.D.P.G.M.M.M., and Bro. F. Binckes, G.S.M.M.M., London. The usual business of the lodge having been transacted, the P.G.M. appointed his Provincial Officers as follows:—Colonel Whitwell, D.P.G.M.M.M.; J. Nicholson, P.G.S.W.; W. Pratchit, P.G.J.W.; M'Kay, M.O.; Cooke, S.O.; Henry, J.O.; Beeby, C.; Wheatley, P.G.T.; Pe de B. Collin, P.G.R.M. and P.G.S.; J. R. Tickle, P.G.S.D.; J. Barr, P.G.J.D.; W. B. Gibson, P.G.S.B.; Potter, P.G.D.C.; J. Smith, P.G.O.; J. Gardner, P.G.J.W.; E. Tyson, P.G.I.G. The brethren subsequently sat down to a sumptuous banquet, prepared by Miss A. Banks.

The lodge having been duly opened, the following brethren were advanced to the honourable Degree of M.M.M., viz.—Bros. J. Gooding, R. B. Hunter, Pickthall, Robson, Watson and Grayson.

The ceremony of consecration was then proceeded with in a most able manner by the Consecrating Officer. A board of Installed M.M.M. was then formed, and Bro. McKay was duly installed, the ritual being given in a very impressive manner. On the re-admission of the brethren the Newly-Installed Master received the usual salutations, which were given under the direction of the Installing Master. The W.M. then proceeded to install his officers as follows:—Bros. Godfrey, S.W.; Cranston, J.W.; J. Gooding, M.O.; W. Hall, S.O., pro Nelson; Hunter, J.O.; J. Pickthall, Treas.; Robson, Reg.; Watson, Sec.; Grayson, S.D.; Stanton, J.D.; pro Lisson; J. Crokell, I.G., pro Thoniber. The Installing Officer having addressed the brethren in a most impressive manner, it was unanimously resolved, on the motion of the W.M., seconded by Bro. Godfrey, that Bros. Binckes, Dr. Moore, and E. Simpson, be made honorary members. The usual proclamations were then made, and the lodge closed according to ancient custom. The brethren then adjourned to the Commercial Hotel, and sat down to a sumptuous banquet, provided by the newly-installed officers. The usual toasts consequent on such a gathering were given, and a very pleasant evening was spent.

ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

The monthly meeting of the Committee of this institution was held on Wednesday afternoon in the library, Freemasons Hall, Col. Creation in the chair. There were also present Bros. S. Rawson, Benj. Head, H. G. Warren, Joseph Smith, W. Hale, Thos. W. White, J. Newton, M. Levy, C. A. Cottebrune, James Brett, A. H. Tattersall, R. Wentworth Little, C. F. Hogard, Raynham W. Stewart, H. Massey ("Freemason"), W. Hilton, Dr. Jabez Hogg, and James Terry, Secretary.

The Secretary read the report, and afterwards authority was given to sign cheques which had been recommended by the committee's report. In the report there was a recommendation for an increase of £20 a year in the salary of the clerk in the Secretary's service. The petitions of four males and five females were then received, and the petitioners were placed on the list for next election, after which Col. Creation gave notice of motion to come on at the next meeting of the Committee that the Secretary's salary be increased £100, to commence from December next.

The Committee then adjourned.

Obituary.

THE RT. HON. GEORGE, MARQUIS OF TWEEDDALE.

It is our painful duty to record the death of Bro. the Rt. Hon. the Marquis of Tweeddale, Past Grand Master of Scotland, which sad event took place on Tuesday last, at his residence, Yester House, Haddingtonshire. The deceased peer, who was in his 90th year, had been ill for some time, and recently he was severely burned by falling into the fire in his dressing room at Oxenford Castle, as noticed in our columns a short time back. He was the eighth marquis in the peerage of Scotland and a representative peer for Scotland, having, as the result of a long military career, attained the distinction of Field-Marshal, Knight of the Thistle, and the Grand Cross of the Bath.

LORD MAYOR'S DAY.—Subjoined is the official route of the forthcoming civic pageant on the 9th of November, on the occasion of the Lord Mayor elect, Sir Thomas White, going from the Guildhall to Westminster, to be presented to the Barons of the Exchequer. The cortege will leave the Guildhall about one o'clock, and proceed by way of King Street, Cheapside, St. Martin's le Grand, Aldersgate Street, Jewin Street, Fore Street, London wall East, Wormwood Street, Houndsditch, Minories, Postern Row, Tower Hill, Great Tower Street, Eastcheap, Cannon Street, St. Paul's Churchyard, Ludgate Hill, Fleet Street, Strand, Charing Cross, and Parliament Street. The return journey will be by the Thames Embankment, Queen Victoria Street, Queen Street, and King Street to Guildhall.

A report of the annual banquet of the Star Lodge of Instruction, No. 1275, is unavoidably crowded out, but will appear in the issue for the 21st.

HEALTH, comfort, and economy promoted. Gas superseded by day time, and daylight reflected in dark rooms by adopting Chappuis' Patent Daylight Reflectors. Manufactory, 69, Fleet-street, London.

THE VISIT OF THE PRINCE AND PRINCESS OF WALES TO GLASGOW.

The arrangements at Renfrew for the reception of the Prince and Princess of Wales on the 16th inst., are now taking a somewhat definite shape, and there is every probability that the Royal burgh will for the time present a gayer appearance than on any previous occasion within its ancient history. From the railway station to the new municipal buildings the road will be lined with the 2nd Battalion Renfrewshire Rifle Volunteers. At a point on the route will be erected two platforms at the expense of Colonel and the Hon. Mrs Campbell, for the convenience of the tenantry of the Blythswood estate, and the children attending the Blythswood Sunday school. The address, which is to be presented to the Royal visitors in front of the new municipal buildings, has been drawn out by Professor Robertson, assisted by Mr Herron (town clerk), and Mr W. M. Wilson, writer, and it has been forwarded to the Prince of Wales for his approval. The municipal authorities of Renfrew intend on the occasion to depart from the usual stereotyped rule of presenting the address in either a gold or silver casket. They have been kindly furnished by Lady Anne Speirs, of Elderslie, with a piece of the timber of the "Wallace Oak," which grew at Elderslie, and from this they have arranged to have manufactured a handsome casket, which will bear the armorial crests of the burgh and a suitable inscription. For the purpose of permitting as many of the community as possible to witness the ceremony of presenting this address, a platform to hold about 2000 persons will be erected in front of the Town Hall. On the same evening, a grand invitation ball will be held in the Town Hall, at which it is expected there will be a gay and fashionable assemblage, but it is not anticipated that either of the Royal visitors will attend it. The town will be elaborately illuminated. A select party of distinguished ladies and gentlemen are to have the honour of dining with the Prince and Princess of Wales at Blythswood House in the evening, amongst whom will be the Duke of Buccleuch and Lady Mary Scott, Earl and Countess of Bredalbane, Earl of Dunmore, Lord and Lady Colville of Culross, Lord Carington, Sir Michael and Lady Octavia Shaw Stewart, Lord Provost of Glasgow, and Miss Bain, Mr Sykes, M.P., Mr. Andrew Cockerell, Miss Knollys, lady-in-waiting on the Princess of Wales, Mr. Knollys, Private secretary, and Col. Teesdale, equerry-in-waiting.

THE OFFICIAL PROGRAMME.

The official programme of the order of proceedings to be observed by the members of the Grand Lodge of Scotland, the Masters of Lodges, and the brethren generally upon the occasion of the demonstration of Tuesday, the 17th inst., at the laying of the memorial stone of the new Post Office buildings in George Square by His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, has just been issued by Bro. John Laurie, Grand Secretary, under order of the Most Worshipful the Grand Master Mason of Scotland, Sir Michael Robert Shaw Stewart, Bart. It announces that the members of Grand Lodge will assemble in the Albany Academy, 44, West Cumberland Street, at 1.30 p.m. precisely, when and where Grand Lodge will be opened, and thereafter adjourned for the ceremonial of the day. The daughter lodges will muster in Burnbank Grounds, Great Western Road, at half-past twelve o'clock noon, the lodges being enjoined to enter by the north-east gate, where they will be received by the assistant Marshals and conducted to their respective divisions. Any lodges arriving after 1.30 p.m. will have to take the junior position in the procession; and after the leading column has marched off no lodge will be allowed to join in. The Grand Lodge having been adjourned, the members thereof will put themselves under the immediate direction of the Grand Director of Ceremonies. The daughter lodges will be under the entire control of the Grand Marshals, and will be arranged according to seniority on the roll. Upon a given signal the procession will move off in the following order, viz.:—Band of music, office-bearers and members of daughter lodges, four abreast, the senior lodge in front, the commissioned officers of Provincial Grand Lodges, according to the seniority of their provinces on the roll; the office-bearers of the Grand Lodge. The route of the procession will be by Woodlands Road, Lynedoch Street, Park Street East, Park Circus, Park Street West, Park Terrace, Kelvingrove Park, Park Gardens, Claremont Terrace, Woodside Terrace, Woodside Crescent, Sauchiehall Street, West Nile Street, St. Vincent Street, a nd St. Vincent Place. When the procession has reached the triumphal arch at George Square it will halt, take open order, and the whole of the lodges in the rear will follow the like example, so that Grand Lodge may pass through the ranks to the platform. The whole line of brethren will "stand fast" in their rank until His Royal Highness returns down the same, en route to the residence of the Lord Provost. The ceremony being over, the Grand Lodge will proceed by the north side of George Square, George Street, and John Street, to the City Chambers in Ingram Street, where Grand Lodge will be closed. The brethren will then disperse. Full Masonic costume is enjoined on the occasion, viz.,—Black, with white gloves and white tie. Bands of music brought by lodges are to consist of not less than eight performers, and all must be under the complete control of the Grand Director of Music as to their place in the procession. We may add that the major portion of the lodges in the province are exhibiting their anxiety to make as creditable a show as possible on the auspicious occasion, and we think it only wants the element of favourable weather to render the day a memorable one in the annals of the Craft in Glasgow.

FREEMASONRY IN CANADA.

GREAT PRIORY OF CANADA.

The first meeting of this body held under the warrant issued by H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, was held in the City of Montreal on Thursday, the 10th August, Col. W. J. McLeod Moore presided. The patent of this appointment as Great Prior of the Dominion of Canada was presented and read, after which he was duly presented and installed in accordance with the rites of the Order. After the reading of his address, the election of officers was proceeded with, and the following is a list for the present year:—Col. W. J. McLeod Moore, Supreme Great Prior; S. B. Harman, Great Sub-Prior; Daniel Spry, Toronto, Chancellor; F. J. Menet, Toronto, Constable; J. Greenfield, Kingston, Marshal; Edson Kemp, Montreal, Registrar; J. R. Kerr, Toronto, Provincial Prior, Central Ontario; James Seymour, St. Catharines, Provincial Prior, Western Ontario.

The annual excursion and picnic of the Barrie Masonic fraternity being fixed to come off yesterday August 9th, on board the Steamer Lady of the Lakes, to and at Longford, great preparations were previously made for a pleasant and agreeable time, and when the auspicious morning arrived, the brethren and friends, with their wives, families and other social connections, turned out in such numbers as to fill both the lower and upper decks of the well trimmed and capacious Craft, Lady of the Lakes, as she cast loose from her moorings at the Northern Railway Wharf, on the morning of August the 9th. The party was accompanied by excellent brass and quadrille bands, and the trip to Longford was thoroughly enjoyable. On reaching the secluded but lovely spot selected for the picnic, the scene that presented itself to the view was really grand. Little groups were here and there scattered on the green sward, screened from old Sol's scorching glances by the umbrageous foliage of convenient trees, to the number of at least 300 people—all enjoying the luxuries which their well-filled baskets afforded. After their appetites had been thus satisfied, the band struck up exhilarating music, and soon a merry crowd were exercising themselves to its measured time, in the mazes of the dance, on a large platform erected for that purpose. Under the management of the committee the arrangements were all well carried out, and gave general satisfaction. Everybody seemed well pleased with the day's amusement.—"Barrie Examiner."

At the meeting of Holy Land Conclave, of the Order of Red Cross of Rome and Constantine, held in the Masonic Hall, Toronto-street, Toronto, the following were elected officers for the ensuing year:—Bros. J. B. Nixon, 18°, Sov.; R. J. Howenden, 32°, V.S.; Wm. Brydon, 32° 1st G.; John McKee, and G.; F. J. Menet, 32°, Treasurer; J. Ross Robertson, 18°, Recorder; A. S. Irving, 18°, Herald; Joseph Purvis, 18°, Prelate; George Watson 18° Prefect; J. L. Dixon, Sentinel. The officers were duly installed by the M.P.S., Bro. Daniel Spry, 32°. The Order of Red Cross has been organized and in working order in this city for some years, and is in a flourishing condition. This is the oldest of the outside orders of Masonry, its establishment dating back to A.D. 313. Its ritual is beautiful and impressive, and year after year the order increases in efficiency and numerical strength. The Order bids fair to become eventually the leading as it is believed to be the most valuable Order of Knighthood in existence, not only on account of its sublime teachings and beautiful ceremonies, but because of its undisputed ancient origin.—"Toronto Telegram."

A NEW INTELLIGENCE DEPARTMENT.

The following letter appeared in the "Times" of October 6th, and alludes to a paragraph which we published last week:—

SIR,—In the interesting little note of your issue of today headed "A New Intelligence Department," taken from "Allen's Indian Mail," it would appear that the natives about Dinapore, Patna, and neighbourhood have lately been seized with the belief that the British soldiers have orders to decapitate all natives found abroad after sunset or found in secluded places, the heads being deposited in the Masonic lodges, and by their means intelligence can be gained of any political intrigues. How like one Asiatic people are to another, to believe such childish nonsense, is seen from the fact that some years ago, when I resided in the city of Batavia, gas was introduced there, and while the streets were all opened preparatory to laying the pipes and the gasworks were being erected, the natives got an idea into their heads that under each gasometer two barrels full of children's eyes were to be put; a sort of ghost called a "choelik" going abroad at night and scooping them out of the children's heads; and this impression was so general that like the natives of Patna and Dinapore, the Malays of Batavia would not issue from their homes at night. The Dutch authorities at last got tired of this folly, which really seized the immense native population of Batavia like a mania, and severely punished one or two of the natives, who ought to have known better, and possibly did, and after this the nuisance abated. "Allen's Indian Mail" says that the fact that the natives can believe such things of our soldiers is very significant, but it is only significant to any thoughtful mind how very unfit such people are to rule themselves. Just one word more about Masonic lodges. The Universal name for them among the Malays is "Roema Sétan"—Devil's Houses.

I remain, your obedient servant,
Thatched House Club, St. James's-street.
October 5th.

JOHN PEEB.

Masonic and General Tidings.

THE EMULATION LODGE OF IMPROVEMENT (under the sanction of the Lodge of Unions), No. 256.—The annual festival of this famous lodge will take place at Freemasons' Hall, on Friday evening, November 24th, on which occasion Bro. the Rt. Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon, M.W., Pro Grand Master, has kindly consented to preside. Bro. John Hervey, Grand Secretary, who has entered on his thirtieth year of office as Treasurer, will take the chair of the lodge, which will be opened in the Grand Hall, at six o'clock precisely. The following sections will be worked by Past Grand Officers, viz.:

FIRST LECTURE.

- 4th Section by W. Bro. J. C. Parkinson, P.G.D.
 5th " " C. A. Murton, P.G.D.
 6th " " C. C. Dumas, P.A.G.D.C.
 7th " " J. A. Rucker, P.G.D.
- SECOND LECTURE.
 2nd " W. Bro. R. Grey, P.G.D.
 3rd " " H. J. P. Dumas, P.G.D.
 4th " " Hyde Pullen, P.G.S.B.
 5th " " T. Fenn, P.G.D.

Among the many Stewards for the evening, we hear, are the following:—V. W. Bros. the Right Hon. the Earl of Donoughmore, S.G.W.; the Hon. Wm. Warren Vernon, J.G.W.; Sir Albert W. Woods, P.J.G.W.; J. B. Monckton, President of the Board of General Purposes; W. Bros. C. A. Murton, P.G.D.; H. J. P. Dumas, P.G.D.; J. A. Rucker, P.G.D.; J. C. Parkinson, P.G.D.; R. Grey, P.G.D.; T. Fenn, P.G.D.; C. C. Dumas, P.A.G.D.C.; Hyde Pullen, P.G.S.B.

The Friends in Council Chapter, No. 1383, of the Holy Royal Arch, was consecrated on Thursday last by Most Excellent Comp. Lord Skelmersdale, Grand H. of England. A Second Edition of the "Freemason" will be issued early on Saturday morning, in which a full report of the proceedings, both at the ceremonies of consecration and at the banquet, will appear.

Bro. Ex-Sheriff Sir Fredk. Perkins, M.P., has been elected Master of the Loriners' Company for the ensuing year.

On Thursday week Mr. Kent, C.C., invited a few friends to an elegant luncheon at the Albion. The immediate object of the gathering was to welcome the Mayor of Hull, on a contemplated visit to London. He was, however, unable to be present, owing to ill-health. There were a few toasts drunk, and, in proposing one of them, the host explained that the reunion was attributable to a kind reception he had met with in Hull during a recent visit to that town. Mr. Charles E. Lewis, M.P., replied for the Houses of Parliament, and Mr. McGeorge, C.C., to the commerce of the City. Amongst those present was Mr. Gresham, chief clerk at the Mansion House justice room, who previously occupied a similar position at Hull.—"City Press."

Bro. Sir George Elliot, Bart., M.P., has been elected Master of the Needle Makers Company for the ensuing year.

We are pleased to hear that Bro. Wordley, the eminent chronometer maker and jeweller, of 84, Cannon-street, has just secured a large contract to supply the South India Railway with their clocks and watches. The order consists of 112 station clocks and 64 watches for the use of the guards. These are all made to suit the climate of India, and we believe this is the largest order that has been executed by the trade for some time, and was only secured after very sharp competition with several of the oldest firms in the City. We believe that Bro. Wordley, although but a young Mason, is working hard, hoping soon to take up a prominent position in the Craft.

The Mount Edgcumbe Lodge of Instruction, No. 1446, was re-opened on Wednesday week, and will meet at 19, Jermyn-street, St. James's, every Wednesday evening at 8 p.m.

The Upper Norwood Lodge of Instruction (previously named the "Sydney") meets every Monday evening, during the winter months, at the White Hart Hotel, Church-road, Upper Norwood.

Bros. Dr. Ramsey and Æ. J. McIntyre, Q.C., have been elected Wardens of the Needle Makers Company for the ensuing year.

Warwick has just expended £25,003 securing a good water supply, and the works were formally opened on Wednesday by the Mayor. The supply of water, it is stated, will be more than sufficient for the requirements of the town. It has been obtained from a bed of sand, and is supposed to be practically inexhaustible.

Bro. Sir Frederick M. Williams, M.P., R.W. D.P.G.M. for Cornwall, has subscribed £500 to the Cornish Bishopric Fund. This sum, with the £2000 which the Episcopate Committee have agreed to transfer to the Cornish Bishopric Fund as announced by the Earl of Devon at Plymouth, will secure Lady Rolle's gift of £40,000.

METROPOLITAN MASONIC MEETINGS.

For the Week ending Friday, October 20, 1876.

The Editor will be glad to receive notice from Secretaries of Craft Lodges, Royal Arch Chapters, Mark Lodges, Preceptories, Conclaves, &c., of any change in place or time of meeting.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14.

- Quart. Gen. Court Girls' School, at 12.
 Lodge 176, Caveac, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
 " 1361, United Service, Greyhound Hot., Richmond.
 " 1423, Era, King's Arms Hot., Hampton-st.
 " 1426, The Great City, Cannon-st. Hot.
 " 1612, West Middlesex, The Institute, Ealing.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

- Lily, Greyhound, Richmond.
 Manchester, 77, London-st., Fitzroy-square.
 Star, Marquis of Granby, New Cross-rd.
 MONDAY, OCTOBER 16.
 Quarterly Gen. Court Boys' School, at 12.—See Advt.
 Lodge 21, Emulation, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
 " 58, Felicity,
 " 720, Panmure, Balham Hot., Balham.
 " 862, Whittington, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
 " 901, City of London, Guildhall Tav., Gresham-st.
 " 907, Royal Alfred, F.M.H.
 " 1201, Eclectic, F.M.H.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

- Prince Leopold, Lord Stanley Tav., Kingsland.
 Strong Man, Jerusalem Tav., St. John's Gate.
 Sincerity, Railway Tav., Fenchurch-st. Station.
 Camden, Stanhope Arms, Up. James-st., Camden To.
 Eastern, Royal Hot., Mile-end-road.
 St. James's Union, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
 Wellington, White Swan, Deptford.
 Perfect Ashlar, Victoria Tav., Lower-rd., Rotherhithe.
 Upper Norwood, White Hart Ho., Church-rd.,
 Marquis of Ripon, Pembury Tav., Amherst-rd., Hackney.
 TUESDAY, OCTOBER 17.

- Board of Gen. Purposes, at 3.
 Lodge 30, United Mariners, Guildhall Tav., City.
 " 73, Mount Lebanon, Bridge House Hot.
 " 733, Westbourne, Lord's Hot., St. John's Wood.
 Chap. 11, Enoch, F.M.H.
 " 19, Mount Sinai, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
 " 186, Industry, F.M.H.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

- Metropolitan, 269, Pentonville-rd.
 Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney.
 Domestic, Surrey M.H., Camberwell New-road.
 Faith, 2, Westminster Chambers, Victoria-st.
 Prince Fredk. Wm., Lord's Hot., St. John's Wood.
 Dalhousie, King Edward, Triangle, Hackney.
 Prosperity, 1, Camomile-st., Bishopsgate.
 St. Marylebone, British Stores Tav., St. John's Wood.
 Constitutional, Wheatheaf Hot., Hand-court, Holborn.
 Israel, Rising Sun Tav., Globe Road.
 Royal Arthur, Prince's Head, York-road, Battersea.
 Beacontree, Red Lion, Leytonstone.
 Metropolitan Chapter, Jamaica Coffee Ho., Cornhill.
 Excelsior, Commercial Dock Tav., Rotherhithe.
 St. John of Wapping, Gun Hot., High-st., Wapping.
 WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 18.

- Gen. Com. Grand Chapter, at 3.
 Lodge of Benevolence, at 6.
 " 140, St. George's, Trafalgar Hot., Greenwich.
 " 619, Beadon, Greyhound Tav., Dulwich.
 " 700, Nelson, M.H., William-st., Woolwich.
 " 1044, Wandsworth, Spread Eagle, Wandsworth.
 " 1349, Friars, Cheshire Cheese, Crutched Friars.
 " 1382, Corinthian, George, Glengall-rd., Millwall.
 Chap. 192, Lion and Lamb, Terminus Hot., Cannon-st.
 " 857, St. Mark's, Surrey Masonic Hall.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

- Confidence, M.H., Basinghall-st.
 Mt. Lebanon, Windsor Castle Tav., Southwark-bdg.-rd.
 Pythagorean, Prince of Orange, Greenwich.
 New Concord, Rosemary Branch Tav., Hoxton.
 Royal Union, Horse and Groom, Winsley-st., Oxford-st.
 Mount Edgcumbe, 19, Jermyn-st., St. James's.
 Peckham, Maismore Arms, Park-road, Peckham.
 Stanhope, Thicket Hot., Anclery.
 Finsbury Park, Finsbury Park Tav., Seven Sisters'-rd.
 Southwark, Southwark Park Tav., Southwark Park.
 Duke of Connaught, Havelock Tav., Dalston, E.
 United Strength, Grafton Arms, Kentish-town.
 Islington, Crown and Cushion, London Wall.
 Whittington, Black Bull Tav., Holborn.
 Lewis, King's Arms Hot., Wood Green.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19.

- House Com. Girls' School, at 4.
 Lodge 49, Gibon, Guildhall Tav., Gresham-st.
 " 55, Constitutional, Inns of Court Hot.
 " 169, Temperance, White Swan, High-st., Deptford.
 " 174, Sincerity, Guildhall Tav., Gresham-st.
 " 179, Manchester, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
 " 181, Universal, F.M.H.
 " 813, New Concord, Rosemary Branch, Hoxton.
 " 1139, South Norwood, Public Hall, South Norwood.
 " 1287, Great Northern, F.M.H.
 " 1339, Stockwell, Tulse Hill Hot., Tulse Hill.
 " 1425, Hyde Park, 1, Craven-rd., W.
 " 1475, Peckham, Surrey M.H.
 " 1507, Metropolitan, 269, Pentonville-rd.
 " 1512, Hemming, Lion Hot., Hampton.
 Chap. 79, Pythagorean, Ship Hot., Greenwich.
 Mark Lodge, Bon Accord, 2, Red Lion-sq.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

- Egyptian, Hercules Tav., Leadenhall-st.
 Fidelity, Yorkshire Grey, London-st., W.
 Finsbury, Jolly Anglers' Tav., Bath-st., City-road.
 Temperance in the East, Catherine-st., Poplar.
 Ebury, 12, Ponsonby-st., Milbank.
 Highgate, Bull and Gate, Kentish-town.
 The Great City, 111, Cheapside.
 High Cross, Coach & Horses, High-road, Tottenham.
 Salisbury, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
 Prince Frederick William Chapter, St. John's Wood.
 Southern Star, Crown Hot., Blackfriars-rd.
 FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20.

- House Com. Boys' School, at 4.
 Lodge 1589, St. Dunstan's, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
 Rose Croix, Invicta, 33, Golden-sq.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

- Union Waterloo, Thomas-st., Woolwich.
 Robert Burns, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
 Belgrave, Constitution, Bedford st., Covent Gard

- Unions Emulation (for M.M.'s), F.M.H.
 Temperance, Victoria Tav., Victoria-road, Deptford.
 Clapton, White Hart, Clapton.
 Metropolitan, Portugal Hot., Fleet-st.
 Westbourne, Horse & Groom, Winsley-st., Oxford-st.
 United Pilgrims, Surrey M.H., Camberwell New-road.
 St. James's, New Tanners' Arms, Grange-rd., Bermondsey.
 Duke of Edinburgh, Silver Lion, Penny-fields, Poplar.
 Doric, Earl Grey Tav., Mile-end-road.
 Burgoyne, Grafton Arms, Prince of Wales's-road, N.W.
 St. Luke's, White Hart, King's-rd., Chelsea.
 Chigwell, Bald-faced Stag Hot., Buckhurst-hill.
 Burdett Coutts, Approach Tav., Victoria Park.
 Royal Standard, Finsbury Park Tav., Holloway.
 Ranelagh, Clarendon Hot., Hammersmith.
 Pythagorean Chapter, Prince of Orange, Greenwich-rd.
 Stability, Guildhall Tav., Gresham-st.
 St. George's, Globe Tav., Greenwich.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN WEST LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE.

For the Week ending Saturday, October 21, 1876.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 16.

- Lodge 721, Independence, M.R., Chester.
 " 1502, Israel, M.H., Liverpool.
 Chap. 32, Jerusalem, M.H., Liverpool.
 " 995, Furness, M.H., Ulverston.
 Everton L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 17.

- Lodge 667, Alliance, M.H., Liverpool.
 " 1225, Hindpool, Hartington Hot., Barrow.
 " 1276, Warren, Stanley Arms Hot., Seacombe.
 " 1325, Stanley, M.H., Kirkdale, Liverpool.
 " 1570, Prince Arthur, 80, N. Hill-st., Liverpool.
 Chap. 605, De Tabley, Seacombe Hot., Seacombe.
 Lodge of I., 241, M.H., Liverpool.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 18.

- Lodge 537, Zetland, M.C., Birkenhead.
 " 823, Everton, M.H., Liverpool.
 " 1086, Walton, St. Lawrence's School, Liverpool.
 " 1345, Victoria, Cross Keys Hot., Eccles.
 " 1353, Duke of Lancaster, Athenæum, Lancaster.
 Mark Lodge 31, Fidelity, Norfolk Arms Hot., Hyde.
 De Grey and Ripon L. of I., 80, N. Hill-st., Liverpool.
 Harmonic L. of I., Mona Hot., James-st., Liverpool.
 Downshire L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19.

- Lodge 203, Ancient Union, M.H., Liverpool.
 " 343, Concord, Militia Mess R., Preston.
 " 425, Cestrian, M.H., Chester.
 " 605, Combermere, Seacombe Hot., Seacombe.
 " 1299, Pembroke, Rawlinson's Hot., West Derby.
 St. John's L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20.

- Duke of Edinburgh L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN GLASGOW AND WEST OF SCOTLAND.

For the Week ending Saturday, October 21, 1876.

All the Meetings take place at Eight o'clock.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 16.

- Lodge 129, St. Mirren, 5, Moss-st., Paisley.
 " 332, Union, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
 " 581, Plantation, Craigiehall-st., S.S., Glasgow.
 Encampment St. Mungo, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 17.

- Lodge 33, St. John, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
 " 73, Thistle and Rose, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
 " 87, Thistle, 30, Cathedral-st., Glasgow.
 " 437, Govandale, Portland Buildings, Govan.
 " 556, Clydesdale, 106, Rose-st., S.S., Glasgow.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 18.

- Lodge 117, St. Mary, M.H., Douglas-st., Partick.
 " 354, Caledonian Railway, 30, Hope-st., Glasgow.
 " 571, Dramatic, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
 Chap. 150, Shettleston, M.H., Shettleston.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19.

- Lodge 27, St. Mungo, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
 " 370, Renfrew, 8, High-st., Paisley.
 " 465, St. Andrew, 69, Garrad-rd., Glasgow.
 " 547, Stewart, M.H., Kilsyth.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20.

- Lodge 31, St. Mary Coltness, Com. Hot., Wishaw.
 " 306, St. Thomas, 90, Wellgate-st., Larkhall.
 " 321, St. Andrew, R.A., Public Hall, Alexandria.
 " 360, Commercial, 30, Hope-street, Glasgow.
 " 408, Clyde, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
 " 471, St. John, Stane Inn, Shotts.
 " 496, St. Munn, Arcnadam, Kilmun.
 " 551, Clydesdale, Royal Hot., Larkhall.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21.

- Lodge 512, Thorntree, School House, Thornliebank.
 " 524, St. Andrew, M.H., East Kilbride.
 " 544, St. Andrew, M.H., Coatbridge.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN EDINBURGH AND VICINITY.

For the Week ending Saturday, October 21, 1876.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 16.

- Lodge 44, St. Luke, F.M.H., 98, George-st.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 17.

- Lodge 36, St. David, Ship Hot., East Register-st.
 " 405, Rifle, F.M.H., 98, George-st.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 18.

- Lodge 160, Roman Eagle, Iona Hot., 62, Nicholson-st.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19.

- Lodge 48, St. Andrew, F.M.H., 98, George-st.
 " 226, Portobello, Town Hall, Portobello.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20.

- Chap. 152, Perseverance, 86, Constitution-st., Leith.
 Chap. 83, St. Andrew, F.M.H., 98, George-st.

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REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS.

Craft Masonry.

LODGE OF UNITED STRENGTH. (No. 128).

—The first meeting of this old lodge was held on the 10th inst., at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, the Old Gate of St. John of Jerusalem, St. John's-lane, Smithfield, being at this time in the hands of operative Masons. The work of amending and renovating the Old Gate and its meeting rooms have occupied Messieurs les Ouvriers so long that the members of the lodge were in hopes of taking their ease in their accustomed quarters; but the lodge had proposed one thing while the working man, what with strikes and his love of taking his ease in his inn, had disposed of matters in another way, converting the "Gate A Hoy!" of Shakespeare, the loved resting place of Dr. Johnson, the birthplace of newspaper literature, and the venerated sojourning spot of "all sorts and conditions of men," to say nothing of the thousand and one historic associations going back into the very mist of time—into a sort of builders' workshop, in all but one particular—that the workmen are not so ready to leave it as they are the places where they are supposed to labour. The W.M., Bro. Robert Griggs, provided for the emergency by arranging that his lodge should meet in Great Queen-street, and upwards of 60 brethren and visitors attended the summons. In support of Bro. Griggs were P.M.'s John While ("Freemason"), Cooper, Crump, Winsland, Bottrill, James Terry, P.G.D.C. of Herts, Davis, Robards, and Hillhouse. Among the visitors were many from Bedfordshire, the list including Bro. Hazelgrove, I.P.M., 475 (Luton), and Bro. W. Phillips, W.M. of the same lodge; Bro. J.C. G. Hill, W.M. of the Highgate Lodge, 1366, and J. W. Parker, an E.A. of the same lodge; Bro. Timothy, of 87; W. Crow, of the Chilton Lodge; T. Goode, of 1888; F. Howell, W.M. of 1470; W. Randall, J.W. of 1470; H. Blackwell, of 1540; R. Leach, P.M. 861; and Bro. Rosier, of 188, Joppa. The S.W.'s chair was occupied by Bro. Hill, the J.W.'s by Bro. Square; Bro. Halford, S.D.; Bro. Killick, J.D.; Todd, I.G.; and the other officers were in their places, but Bro. Harty, the Organist, unfortunately had an enforced holiday, being divorced from the instrument he loves through the want of a key. The W.M., on the opening of the lodge, explained the circumstances which had necessitated the meeting being held where the lodge had now assembled, and the members at once voted a suspension of the bye-laws. The five brethren who were initiated at the previous meeting of the lodge were then presented, with Bro. Parker, of the Highgate Lodge, and having passed a satisfactory examination were entrusted. The ceremony was repeated again and again by the W.M., whose I.P.M. had a perfect sinecure, the Master's memory and work needing no correction even in the tiring reiteration of the ritual. The ballot was then taken for the admission of Mr. M. Mousley, and the result being unanimous, the candidate was admitted and initiated in due form. In the course of the other business it was announced that the Treasurer, P.M. Winsland, had given three guineas, in the name of the lodge, to the fund for the relief of the sufferers by the fire in Clerkenwell, and the lodge confirmed the action of the Treasurer, with thanks for his promptitude. The lodge having closed with reverent thanks to the Most High, the brethren sat down to an excellent banquet, provided in a style worthy of the reputation of the best days of the tavern, a reputation, we have reason to hope, will rise again to its lustre of former days. The W.M. proposed the usual toasts connecting the loyalty of the Craft with loyalty to the State, and spoke in his usual happy style. The initiate was welcomed among his new brethren with all honours, and made a most favourable impression. "The Health of the W.M." was proposed by the I.P.M., who expressed his thankfulness that the lodge had a Master so fitted as their Bro. Griggs. The toast was accepted with all honours, and was duly acknowledged. "The Visitors" were toasted, and the brethren had the opportunity of listening to some very excellent speeches in reply, and Bro. Howell gave an especially pleasant discourse on Masonic principles, and in the course of his remarks expressed his regret that the heavy work in a London lodge often rendered it impossible for the additional ceremonies which are promised "if time permit," as he thought that much

was taught by these parts. "The Past Masters" were then toasted, and their several merits were descanted upon. "The Officers" were toasted, and Bro. Terry, in his reply as the Steward of the lodge, made an exceedingly clever and witty speech, "roasting" one of his brother Past Masters in good-tempered fashion. The Tyler's toast ended the evening's pleasant re-union.

ST. CLEMENT DANES LODGE (No. 1351).—The first meeting of this lodge for the present season was held at 265, Strand, on Thursday, 5th inst., and as this was the occasion of the installation of the W.M., there was a good muster of the brethren as well as visitors, amongst whom were Bros. John Hervey, G.S.; Joseph Smith, P.G.P.; Edwin Lott, P.P.G.J.W. Jersey; R. Tynell, P.M. 179; Clemow, St. Dunstan's Lodge; T. Wingham, J.W. 25; W. F. Tubby, P.M. 11; J. W. Attwell, S.W. 334; H. Potter, P.M. 11; T. M. Lockwood, J.W. 425; and others. The lodge being opened in due form, the minutes of the last meeting and the report of the Audit Committee were read and confirmed. The W.M., Bro. Steward, then passed Bro. Osborne to the Degree of Fellow Craft. Bro. Franklin was elected a joining member. Bro. Charles J. Livett was then installed in the chair of K.S., and saluted by the brethren. Bro. Betts, P.M., was the Installing Master, and elicited the applause of the brethren for the eloquent and impressive manner in which he delivered the charges. The W.M. then invested Bros. G. Wilson, as S.W.; H. Porter, as J.W.; T. Parker, Treas.; Wm. Hilton, Sec.; J. Wigg, S.D.; Butler, J.D.; J. Perryman, I.G.; E. Barnes, D.C. The W.M. then initiated Mr. Joseph Wheeler into the mysteries and secrets of ancient Freemasonry, and other business being concluded, the lodge was closed in due form, and with solemn prayer, and adjourned. The brethren then partook of a very handsome banquet, and the cloth being removed, the W.M. gave "The Queen and the Craft," "The M.W.G. Master," "The Earl of Carnarvon, D.G.M., and other officers of Grand Lodge, Past and Present" Bros. John Hervey, G.S., and J. Smith, P.G.P., replied, and in the course of their remarks congratulated the W.M. "upon the really excellent style of his working, which had been a great Masonic treat." In giving the toast of "The P.M.'s" the W.M. took the opportunity of presenting Bro. Steward, the I.P.M., with a magnificent P.M.'s jewel, unanimously voted him out of the funds of the lodge. The other toasts were duly given and honoured, and the Tyler's toast concluded the list. During the evening Bros. Lott and Wingham (R.A.M.) enchanted the brethren with some brilliant pianoforte performances, while the W.M. and some of his officers contributed some songs and glees, which added greatly to the enjoyment of the evening. It is, perhaps, worthy of remark that although this lodge is now only commencing its sixth year, the present W.M., and the Installing Master were both initiated in it.

THE GREAT CITY LODGE (No. 1426).—The anniversary and installation meeting of The Great City Lodge, No. 1426, was held on Saturday, Oct. 14th, at the Cannon-street Hotel, and was most numerously attended. Bro. J. Hamilton Townend, W.M., presided; Bro. Seax (W.M. elect), S.W.; Stannay, J.W., and all the other officers were present, together with the following array of visitors:—Bros. T. Fenn, P.G.D., Prince of Wales Lodge, 259; John Hervey, G. Sec.; Dr. Cox, P.G. Chap.; Peacock, Loyalty, 1607; Wooton, P.M. Union and P.G.D.C. Kent; Light, Prince of Wales, 959; Field, I.P.M. Burgoyne, 902; Guggenheim, Concordia, Switzerland; T. Poore, P.M. Panmure, 720; Driscoll, P.M. United Mariners, 30; Taylor, W.M. Doric, 933; Beattie, Buckingham, 591; Nunn, Dobie, 889; Marcus, Kennington, 1381; Raymond, Royal Kensington, 1627; Partridge, W.M. Neptune, 22; Lancaster, Polish National, 534; Medwin, Lion and Lamb, 192; Reed, 1601; Kitson, Wellington, 548; Dyer, Old Union, 46; Walter, Egyptian, 27; Saul, Eclectic, 1201; Carruthers, P.M. (Mayor of Reigate), Surrey, 416; Smith, P.P.G.S.W. (ex-Mayor of Reigate), Surrey, 416; Soppett, Constitutional, 55; Hawksley, Urban, 119; Dixon, P.M. Mount Lebanon, 73; Cottebrune, P.G. Purs. City of Westminster; Swallow, W.M., and Scott, Sec., City of Westminster; Steward, P.M. Chislehurst, 1351; Groom, Friars, 1349; Mann, P.M. 186; Oliver, P.M. Prince of Wales, 959; Noehmer, P.M. Industry, 186; Spencer, Mount Lebanon, 73; Gilbert, Industry, 186; Jonas and Birdseye, Panmure, 715; Huntley, Mount Lebanon; White and Turner, City of Westminster; Morgan, Gladsmuir, 1385; Cargill, W.M. Gihon, 49; Addriott, Marylebone, 1305; Dakin, P.M. Harmony, 580; Dyer, W.M. Industry. The lodge having been opened and the minutes of former meetings read and confirmed, the W.M. proceeded to initiate Mr. Christopher Linner Cartwright and Mr. Lughen Constantine Libersart into the mysteries and privileges of ancient Freemasonry. This having been concluded, the next business was the installation of Bro. Seax as Worshipful Master. Having been duly presented and certain matters proceeded with all the brethren below the degree of Installed Master were requested to retire. A Board of Installed Masters, thirty in number, was then formed, and Bro. Seax, the W.M. elect, in due form installed as W.M. for the ensuing year. The brethren below the chair having been admitted, the new W.M. received the customary salutes, and he then appointed his officers as follows:—Bros. Stannay, S.W.; Freeman, J.W.; the Rev. R. J. Simpson, Chaplain; Headon, Treas.; Moody, P.M. Sec.; Blackie, S.D.; Catchpole, J.D.; Hamer, I.G.; Taylor, D.C.; H. Jenkins, Org.; Keble and Hook, Stewards; and Steedman, P.M., Tyler. Bro. Townend, the retiring and Installing Master, then delivered the customary addresses, and at the conclusion was warmly applauded. The report of the Audit Committee was then received and adopted. Bro. Headon, P.M., moved "That a jewel of the value of five guineas be presented to Bro. James Freeman, with the thanks of the brethren, on his resignation of the office of Treasurer,

which he has held since the establishment of the lodge." Bro. H. Thompson, P.M. ("Freemason"), seconded the motion, which was put, and carried. Several propositions having been made, the lodge was closed in due form and with solemn prayer, and the brethren adjourned to the large hall for the banquet that was to follow. About 200 sat down, the W.M. presiding, supported by the Grand Officers and the newly-initiated brethren, of whom seven were present, some of them having been admitted at a lodge of emergency held a fortnight ago. At the termination of Deacon. The toast was most cordially received. Bro. the Rev. Dr. J. E. Cox, P.G. Chaplain, said: The Worshipful Master, Wardens, and Brethren of the Great City Lodge, and those other brethren who are here present, will receive from myself, as the representative to-night of Grand Lodge, I am assured, my warmest thanks for the manner, in which they have taken notice of the toast of our esteemed Deputy Grand Master, Lord Skelmersdale, and the rest of the Officers of Grand Lodge. It is always a satisfaction to myself to have to return thanks for this toast, because, when received as it has been to-night with so many demonstrations of satisfaction, and with so much enthusiasm, it is an assurance to my mind that the Officers, Past and Present, of Grand Lodge live in your esteem, and that you are disposed by every means in your power to strengthen their hands in their efforts to promote the usefulness and the welfare of our noble and venerable Order. (Hear, hear.) I believe, amongst newly made Masons—and I may call the Deputy Grand Master a newly made Mason in comparison with myself—there is no brother in the Craft who desires more earnestly to promote its welfare, or to support its grand and benevolent purposes, and the more I see of those who are associated with him as leading members of that assembly, the more am I persuaded that the great principles of Masonry are advancing, and that they are becoming of more and more value as time goes by. (Hear, hear.) It is a great satisfaction to myself to mark the peaceful relations which at the present time exist in Grand Lodge. At the time when I first became a member of the Craft there was much division, and I regret to say, much un-Masonic feeling demonstrated therein; but those times happily have passed away, and with the peace of the present time we have also the augmentation of those great benefits which Masonry stands foremost to promote and confirm—I mean the noblest principles for the development of charity—(Hear, hear.)—not only charity in the matter of giving of that substance, with which the Great Architect of the Universe has blessed us, but in the manifestation of that noble feeling which suffereth long, and is kind, which envieth not, and which seeks to promote the welfare not only of the brethren themselves, but of society at large. (Hear, hear.) And my mind is more peculiarly directed at this moment to the matter of charity, because at this season two important events are being carried forward. On this day an election has taken place of candidates for the Girls' School, and on Monday next fifteen boys will be admitted into the kindred Institution; and with reference to the first and foremost—as it always will be in the estimation of the brethren—the Girls' School, I have been charmed to-day to see an engraving in the "Builder" newspaper, showing what is the intention for the enlargement of that Institution, and for the increase of benefit to the youthful female children of our decayed and deceased brethren; and then next I turn my attention to the Boys' School, in which my heart has been always deeply interested, and with which, without boasting—I am sure you will pardon me for saying it—I have taken an earnest and a continual interest. (Hear, hear.) At the present time, especially, I rejoice to know that a subject, which has had my consideration for at least a quarter of a century is very near its fulfilment. My esteemed and worthy brother on my left hand (Bro. the Rev. R. J. Simpson, P.G.C.), has in some degree stolen my thunder; but for that I heartily forgive him. He has had more opportunity of assisting the working out of this most important subject than I have had, but I am with him, as you are, I am sure, heart and soul in the promotion of his scheme for the establishing of exhibitions in our Universities, which shall be the means of giving that completed form of education to those children of higher intellect, who, had their parents been spared to them, or had their prosperity increased, would have had the opportunity of finishing its course by means of the highest educational privileges this land can afford. Although it has not been my province to carry out that which I so much desired myself, yet it will be my happiness to assist my worthy brother and others in the promotion of that great object, and when it shall please the Great Architect of the Universe to call me hence, nothing will be looked back upon by myself with greater satisfaction than that in my position as a Past Grand Chaplain of England, and as a Minister of the Truths of the Great Architect of the Universe, I had been enabled in some way to do something for the alleviation of the suffering of mankind. (Hear, hear.) I will not detain you at much greater length, because I have said almost as much as you can bear to hear, (No, no), and as much as I have to say; but there is one subject—of which I have been reminded by an observation of your Worshipful Master—which has quite gone home to my heart. In mentioning my name he stated that I was the Father of Grand Lodge. I cannot lay claim myself to that position, for there is one brother, and a brother clergyman also, older than myself, (Bro. the Rev. Sir J. W. Haycs), who is the Father of Grand Lodge; but I stand next to him, for I have been a member of that Grand Lodge for thirty years. (Hear, hear.) And in those thirty years you may suppose how many I have seen depart hence, whose memory is treasured in our regard, and whose works for the benefit of Masonry and mankind are registered in the Grand Lodge above. (Hear, hear.) It cannot be in God's Providence that I shall remain much longer in this sublunary

the banquet grace was well sung by Miss Jessie Royd and Messrs. Bernard, Daniel, Morgan, and Bamford. The W.M. said the first toast he had to bring under the notice of the brethren was that of "The Queen." Masonry and loyalty had ever gone hand in hand, and to show their attachment to the Queen he coupled her name with the Craft. This was followed by the National Anthem, the solo parts by Miss Jessie Royd, and it was enthusiastically applauded. The W.M. next gave "The Most Worshipful Grand Master, His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales," whose renown as a Mason was known and acknowledged by all. This toast needed no explanation from him, and he was sure that it would meet with a hearty response. The toast was cordially received, followed by the solo and chorus, "God bless the Prince of Wales," with the following new verse by Bro. Hook, the Organist of the lodge:—

"True Masons greet, with one accord,
Our Master once again!
And thank the World's Great Architect,
Our prayers were not in vain.
Again our Prince amongst us,
Each loving heart now hails,
From danger now, as in the past,
God shield our Prince of Wales."

This new verse was loudly applauded. The W. Master said the next toast to which he wished to call the attention of the brethren was that of "The Right Worshipful Pro. Grand Master, the Earl of Carnarvon," and said he believed that his services were unequalled by any member of the Craft. Holding such a high position he was entitled to their respect and esteem, and he trusted that his health would be drunk in proper form, and with all due enthusiasm. The toast was duly honoured. The W. Master said the next toast he had to propose was a very comprehensive one, as it was "The Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master, Lord Skelmersdale, and the rest of the Grand Officers, Past and Present." It was superfluous on his part to remark that the Grand Lodge was the ruling body of the Craft, and was formed of those members who had obtained distinction in it, and there was a further distinction to those who had become Grand Officers. It was composed of Past and Present Grand Officers, and they had both amongst them in the lodge that evening. He believed that there were present the oldest members of Grand Lodge, Bros. Dr. Cox, the Rev. R. J. Simpson (a member of their own lodge), Bro. Hervey, the Grand Secretary; Bro. Fenn, P.G.D.; and Bro. Cottebrune, P.G. Purs. He was proud to see them present, and he gave them all a hearty welcome. He connected with the toast the names of Dr. Cox, P. Grand Chaplain; and Bro. T. Fenn, Provincial Grand state; but so long as I am spared I will work for Masonry, as I have endeavoured to do during the years I have been a member of the Craft, and it will be, I repeat, a satisfaction to myself when I go hence and be no more seen to die with the conviction that my name will live amongst those members of mankind, who have striven to promote the welfare and the increase of Masonry, to shew that it is the mother of civilisation, and to prove that it is the great benefactress of the human race. (Hear hear.) Bro. T. Fenn, P.G.D., said—It is rather an awkward thing at this period of the evening to be called upon to respond second to a toast, when one has to speak after so exhaustive and excellent a speaker as our excellent Bro. Cox. There is, however, one subject which he has left untouched, as probably it has not come under his immediate knowledge. The Grand Officers would be undeserving of the honour, which has been conferred on them, and of the compliment which your Worshipful Master has paid them, were they not desirous on all occasions to do all in their power, and to avail themselves of every opportunity to advance the interests of the Craft. I cannot better, perhaps, illustrate the desire which the Grand Officers appear to me always to have in that direction than by mentioning to you that on the 24th of November the annual festival of the Emulation Lodge will take place. On that occasion eight sections will be worked by eight Past Grand Officers, and the Earl of Carnarvon, our Pro. Grand Master, will take the chair. The chair in the lodge will be filled by our very excellent and worthy brother Hervey. The Stewards will be also forty Grand Officers. That may be illustration enough to shew the interest which they take in the working of Freemasonry, and I am sure to a lodge which claims to have a Lodge of Instruction of its own, this must be very interesting information, and I hope to yourselves, brethren, it is equally gratifying. I feel bound to admit that perhaps it is not exactly alone love for the Emulation Lodge of Improvement that that lodge is so mixed up and so bound up with my Masonic life. I wish I could but think so; there is something else at the bottom of it. I don't know why I should not be prepared even to admit it, because I am sure you will all yourselves join in the same feeling which has predominated in myself. Our Bro. Hervey enters on his 30th year of Treasurership, and it is out of respect for him that this great meeting is about to take place. I will not detain you longer, Worshipful Master, but I cannot sit down without congratulating you on the progress you are making, and on the excellent manner in which you keep up the working of this lodge. It has afforded me, I assure you, great pleasure to be present to-night, and I hope when on any future occasion I may be asked to attend this lodge I may observe the same strict adherence to good working, with the same advance and prosperity, which I have the pleasure of congratulating you upon to-night. (Hear, hear.) Bro. Townend, I.P.M., said the toast he had the honour to submit he felt sure would be received with acclamation when he told them that it was "The Health of Bro. John Seex, W.M. of the Great City Lodge." He had always found him most excellent in working the ritual of the lodge, and he had endeared himself to all by his genial disposition during the

time he had held the different offices since the consecration of the lodge, and the manner in which he had performed his duties must be satisfactory to every member. He felt assured that the lodge would never suffer while he filled the chair, and he hoped he might have as happy a year in it as he (Bro. Townend) had. He asked them to drink to "The Health of their W.M." The W.M. said he felt obliged to them for their compliment, and nothing should be wanting on his part to render him worthy of the position in which, by their kindness, he had been placed, for there was a great responsibility in being placed at the head of one of the most important lodges in the City of London. In proportion to the fame and renown of the lodge, so concurrently were the difficulties and responsibilities of the W.M. He thanked them for the kindly feelings and the joyful congratulation which one and all had tendered to him. The W.M. said the next toast he had to propose was one that was always received with great enthusiasm in The Great City Lodge. They had rarely met without having one or more initiates, and on many occasions they had five. They had had two that evening, and five at a lodge of emergency held only a fortnight ago, and he believed that they would all prove true and good members. He gave "The Health of the Initiates," for which they severally returned thanks. The W.M. next gave "The Visitors," bidding them welcome, and, having read the list of them, said it would be invidious on his part to call upon any one in particular to respond to the toast. Bro. Cottebrune, P.G. Purs., Bro. Swallow, W.M. of the City of Westminster Lodge, and Bro. Dyer, W.M. of the Industry Lodge, severally returned thanks. The W.M., in giving "The Health of Bro. Townend, I.P.M. and I.M.," said the manner in which he had conducted the duties of the chair had secured for him the esteem of the brethren, and he had then the honour of presenting him with a substantial mark of their gratitude, by placing on his breast the jewel which had been voted to him, and long might he live to wear it with pleasure, as it was the jewel of the Great City Lodge. He then attached the jewel amidst cheering. Bro. Townend, I.P.M., said he rose with mingled feelings of regret and pleasure, regret because he ceased to be the Master of one of the greatest lodges in the City of London, and with pleasure because he knew he left the chair with the good will of the brethren, and particularly so as he had received every assistance from the present W.M. of the lodge. In that lodge they worked the Emulation Lodge ritual, whilst he was brought up in the Stability, and he wished that the two modes of working could be brought together, as he believed that they might advantageously adopt a portion of each ceremony and omit the rest. He saw that he had to return thanks as I.P.M. and I.M., and most heartily did he thank them for their kindness, and for the jewel they had unanimously voted to him. He could not say that it was the proudest moment of his life, as he gave a preference to his mother lodge, in which he had worked up to every office, from that of Inner Guard, and when he went home after quitting the chair in that lodge he thought he was in the proudest position and the greatest man in Masonry (a laugh). The next toast was "The P.M.'s," for which Bros. Headon and Stevens returned thanks. Bro. Hervey, G. Sec., in proposing "Prosperity to The Great City Lodge," said he well recollected that it was three years ago when he had the gratification, with two other brethren, of performing the ceremony of consecration and installation, when more than 200 members were assembled. On that occasion he was supported by two Wardens, one of whom was Bro. Fenn, then present, and one who was now no more, Bro. Savage, who was second to none in the Craft, and whose loss had been severely felt. With what he had seen of the working of the lodge that evening he was well satisfied, and therefore he thought there was no one better qualified to propose the toast that had been entrusted to him. He was gratified to see the prosperity of the lodge, and, therefore, he need not wish prosperity to it, as that had been already achieved, and he would add one word to the toast he had to propose, and that was "Continued Prosperity to the Great City Lodge, and might its prosperity in the future be greater than it had been in the past." The toast was heartily responded to. Some other toasts were given, and the business of the evening, harmonious throughout, was brought to a close.

DUKE OF CONNAUGHT LODGE (No. 1558).

—The installation meeting of this lodge was held on Thursday week, at the Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell. There was a large amount of business on the agenda paper, which with discussions upon the minutes and the report of the Audit Committee caused the evening's proceedings to be very much protracted. Upon the reading of the minutes the W.M., Bro. William Snowden, proposed that so far as related to the election of Bro. W. S. Cackett to be W.M. for the ensuing year, said minutes should not be confirmed, and the proposition having been seconded, a discussion ensued upon certain matters of which the W.M. complained, which, however, ended in the confirmation of the minutes. In like manner a discussion ensued on the presentation of the Auditor's report upon the accounts for the past year, which ended in a resolution not to confirm same until presented in a different form, in which they were to be printed for the use of the members. The ceremony of raising was then proceeded with, Bro. James Dann, Secretary of the lodge, being the presiding officer, who raised Bros. F. Slater, G. E. Brace, and T. C. Corfe to the Sublime Degree of a M.M. Bro. Horace Kember was passed to the degree of F.C. The next business on the paper was the installation of Bro. W. S. Cackett, S.W., the W.M. elect, who was presented to the Installing Master by his predecessor, Bro. Snowden, and having given his assent to the various requirements prescribed by the Book of Constitutions was obligated, and a Board of Installed Masters having been formed he was presented, and formally installed into the

chair of K.S. Having been proclaimed and saluted in the customary form, Bro. Cackett proceeded to appoint his officers as follows:—Bros. Thos. Sleep, S.W.; Walter Mitchell, J.W.; Snowden, P.M., Treasurer; James Dann, P.M., Secretary; Runnaces, S.D.; Chalk, J.D.; Boyton, I.G.; Power, D.C.; Taylor, W.S. When the usual orations had been delivered by Bro. Mann, who deserves the highest praise for the admirable working of all the foregoing ceremonies, and who, we understand, has worked all the ceremonies during the past year, the W.M., Bro. Cackett, resumed the lodge to the First Degree, and the ballot was taken for the following candidates for installation, viz.:—Mr. G. Le Touzel, Mr. William Allen, and Mr. J. Wallace, which being declared in their favour they were admitted and initiated into the mysteries of the First Degree by the W.M., who performed the ceremony with skill and ability. The W.M. then rose and said that he had a very pleasing duty to perform, which was to present to the I.P.M. the Past Master's jewel that had been voted him by the lodge, which he proceeded to place on his breast with a few words of congratulation and good wishes as to the future. Bro. Snowden having acknowledged the compliment, the W.M. again rose and said that he had another pleasing duty to perform, and that was to present to their worthy Secretary, Bro. Dann, a jewel which had been subscribed for by some of the brethren as some slight recognition of the obligations they were under to Bro. Dann for the services he had rendered during the past year, and the efficient manner in which he had performed the duties of his office, and other duties that did not appertain to that office. He then proceeded to attach the jewel (which was of peculiar construction combining the characteristics of a Past Master's and a Secretary's jewel) to Bro. Dann's breast, an act that was greeted with hearty applause by the brethren. There was also exhibited a handsome portrait album, which was presented to the lodge by the outgoing W.M. for the proper preservation of the photographs of the members of the lodge. Before the closing of the lodge Bro. Penrith proposed that a vote of thanks to the I.P.M. be recorded on the minutes for the handsome album with which he had presented the lodge, which was seconded by Bro. Simms, and carried. The S.D., Bro. Runnaces, proposed that an illuminated testimonial on vellum framed and glazed, should be presented to Bro. Snowden for his conduct throughout his year of office, which was seconded in three places at once, and a committee, including the names of Bro. Walter Mitchell, J.W., and about half-a-dozen other brethren, was appointed to see the resolution properly carried into effect. One initiate was proposed by the I.P.M., and after some little conversation the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to banquet. Among the members present were Bro. Snowden, Bro. Cackett, Bro. Thos. Sleep, Bro. Dann, Bro. Walter Mitchell, Bro. Chalk, Bro. E. W. Boyton, Bro. C. E. Power, Bro. Scott, Bro. T. C. Cape, Bro. J. Dixon, Bro. F. Taylor, Bro. W. Bott, Bro. J. E. Pentridge, Bro. J. Emms, Bro. Chas. Sims, Bro. C. McIlvoy, Bro. Peach, Bro. F. Slater, Bro. F. R. Smith, Bro. Harold Kember, Bro. John Laram, Bro. John Kemp, Bro. W. Rowlands. Visitors: Bro. Geo. Adamson, P.M., 199 and 1208, P.G.D.C. Kent; Bro. Larham, P.M., 1539; Bro. C. F. T. Starke, 72; Bro. B. Cooke, 1207; Bro. Massey ("Freemason"), 7; Bro. Ramsay, 1539; Bro. P. Doyson, 382; Bro. B. R. Bryant, 1329; and Bro. John Read, P.M., 88. At the conclusion of the banquet, the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed by the W.M., in very few words, and were all cordially responded to. The I.P.M. proposed "The Health of the W.M.," who returned thanks and proposed that of "Bro. P. M. Dann," the Secretary of the Lodge, who in returning thanks commented on the success the lodge enjoyed during its first year, and expressed his hopes that its prosperity might continue. He also again referred to the handsome jewel that had been bestowed on him by some of the members of the lodge, for which he again thanked them. The intervals between the toasts were pleasantly enlivened with some very good vocal music from Bro. R. De Lacy (of St. Paul's Cathedral), assisted by Bro. J. Hodges (gentleman of H.M. Chapel Royal), Bro. J. Thornton (principal tenor, St. Paul's Cathedral), and Bro. Edwin Moss, also of St. Paul's. Bro. J. Read presided at the piano.

HEYWOOD.—Lodge Naphtali (No. 266).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held in the Masonic Hall, on the 5th inst., Bro. S. Partington, W.M., presided. The lodge was opened with solemn prayer in the First Degree, after which the minutes of previous meeting were read and confirmed. Mr. A. Eastwood was balloted for, and initiated by the W.M. Bro. J. Fitton was examined, and entrusted. The lodge was then opened in the Second Degree, and Bro. J. Fitton was passed by the W.M. Bro. W. Hamilton was examined and entrusted. The lodge was then opened in the Third Degree, and Bro. W. Hamilton was raised to the sublime degree of a M.M. by the W.M., assisted by Bro. A. Wolstenholme, P.M., P.S.G.D., and the lecture by Bro. John Cass, P.M. The lodge was closed in form, and with solemn prayer, at 8.45 p.m. This lodge has taken rapid but sure strides within the last few years, it is now comfortably fixed in the new Masonic Hall rooms, within the recollection of present members it could not open and close without assistance from some other lodge; at the present time there is no ceremony but can be worked now by its own members, and the lodge stands second to none in East Lancashire for efficiency in the ritual and working of Masonry, as a knowledge by several of the prominent Provincial Officers.

DERBY.—Arboretum Lodge (No. 731).—The ordinary meeting of this lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, on Wednesday, the 11th inst., when the following brethren were present:—Bros. Bennett, W.M.; Jno. Smith, P.M.; T. Roe, jun., P.M.; G. T. Wright, P.M.; F. Iliffe, P.M.; T. R. Gee, P.M.; Treas.; J. C. Merry,

Scotland.

INSTALLATION OF THE P.G.M. OF LINLITHGOW.—On the 13th inst. Bro. the Hon. Peter M'Lagan, Esq., M.P., was installed as Provincial Grand Master of the county of Linlithgow by Bro. Henry Inglis of Torsonce, assisted by a deputation from the Grand Lodge of Scotland, consisting of William Officer, S.G.W.; David Kinnear, J.G.W.; John Laurie, G.S.; John Davidson, S.G.D.; P. Sinclair, J.G.D.; A. Dott, G.S.; Rev. William Bennie, Bathgate, Chaplain. A procession was formed and marched from the lodge to the Royal Hotel. Deputations were present from several lodges in the neighbourhood, and all assembled in the hall of the Working Men's Club. The lodge having been opened in Apprentice Degree, the ceremony of installation was duly performed. Bro. Inglis complimented Bro. M'Lagan on the high position he had attained, and had no doubt Masonry would benefit from having such a member. Bro. M'Lagan replied, and hoped to do his duty in a Masonic point of view as well as he had done, not only as a citizen, but as a member of the legislature of this great empire. After the installation a banquet took place. Bro. M'Lagan presided.

CONSECRATION OF A MASONIC HALL IN DUNDEE.

On Friday week a meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Forfarshire was held in Dundee, for the purpose of consecrating the new hall of the Lodge Ancient, No. 49. The Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master, Lord Ramsay, presided, and amongst those present were Bros. Lord Inverurie; Sir John Ogilvy, Bart., R.W.P.D.M.; the Rev. Crabb Brechin, the Chaplain; James Yeaman, M.P.; Colonel Guthrie, of Carlogie; David Small, Bailie Drummond, William M'Donald, Alexander Kelt, and others. The charter of the lodge was read, and it may be mentioned that it dates as far back as the time of William the Lion. A cake and wine banquet was subsequently held, at which Bro. Lord Ramsay occupied the chair. A number of toasts were drunk, and a very pleasant afternoon was spent.

POLLOKSHAW.—Royal Arch Lodge (No. 153).—On Friday, the 6th inst., the Royal Arch Lodge received its annual visitation from the Provincial Grand Lodge, Renfrewshire East. The Provincial Lodge was headed, in the absence of Bro. Colonel Campbell of Blythswood, P.G.M., by Bro. ex-Bailie Caldwell, Paisley, P.P. Substitute Master, who was accompanied by Bro. James Gilmour, P.S.W.; Bro. J. Peters, P.G.W.; Bro. Andrew Wallace, P.S.D.; Bro. Alex. M'Pherson, P.G. Treasurer, and Bro. J. Carswell, P.G. Marshal. The lodge having been duly opened by Bro. Peters, R.W.M., a careful examination of the books, &c., took place. The P.G. Substitute Master thereafter expressed the great gratification it afforded to the deputation to find such accuracy displayed in the keeping of the records of the lodge's transactions. The working of the lodge, too, he stated, was everything that could be desired. The business having been finished, the lodge was called from labour to refreshment, and a social and happy hour was spent.

GLASGOW.—Cathedral Chapter (No. 67).—By authority of dispensation from the Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Scotland, this chapter met in the Masonic Hall, 22, Struthers-street, Calton, on Tuesday, October 3rd, 1876. The chapter being constituted, Comp. James Duthie, Z., in the chair, Comp. G. Pridie, H.; Comp. D. Ronald, J.; Comp. J. Forrest, Acting Scribe N.; Comp. S. Bisland, 1st Sojourner; Comp. Mercer, of 87, and Sojourner; Comp. J. Negal, 3rd Sojourner, and a number of companions present. The Holy Royal Arch Chapter was opened by the three Principals, all companions standing to order. The dispensation being read by the M.E.Z., the election of new office-bearers was proceeded with, when the following were duly elected for the year: Comps. David Ronald, Principal Z.; George Pridie, Principal H.; Samuel Bisland, Principal J.; John Mason, Scribe E.; William Hamilton, Scribe N.; James Wood, Treas.; Robert Trainer, 1st Sojourner; John Booth, 2nd Sojourner, John Negal, 3rd Sojourner; Andrew Crawford, Janitor. The only election contested was that of the Janitor by Comp. Hamilton proposing a very old member of the chapter in opposition to Comp. Crawford, who, he said, did not attend to the duties of the office himself, as he ought, but allowed his servants or assistants to do the work which he himself ought to do. Comp. Ronald spoke in support of Comp. Crawford retaining the office, and said that the companion proposed to oppose him had never been attending the chapter since he (D. Ronald) became a member. The First Principal, Comp. Duthie, said that it made no difference to the chapter whether the Janitor or his servant did the work, so long as the work was done, and that the Janitor was responsible, and that the chapter only came into contact with him, and not with his servants. The M.E.Z., after taking the votes of the chapter, declared Comp. Crawford duly elected as Janitor by a majority of four votes. There being no further business, the chapter was closed by the Three Principals, all companions standing to order.

GLASGOW.—St. Andrew's Chapter (No. 69).—This chapter met on the 10th inst. The following companions from other chapters were present, namely:—M.E.P.P.Z. James Duthie, Cathedral, No. 67; M.E.P.Z. G. W. Wheeler, Caledonian of Unity, 73; M.E.P.P.Z. James O. Park, Thetis, 122; M.E.P.P.Z. J. Shields, Robert Burns, 143. The chapter was opened by Companion Thomas M. Campbell, Z.M.S.E.R.A.C. of S., when the following office-bearers were installed:—Thomas M. Campbell, M.E.P.Z.; William Harper, M.E.P.H.; Robert B. Prout, M.E.P.J.; J. H. Lash, E.S.E.; William Thomas, E.S.N.; James Blackwood, E. Treasurer; John McInnes, First Sojourner; William H. Stark, Second Sojourner; Adam Collie, Third Sojourner; William Bilsland, Superintendent of Works; John G. Allen, Captain

of First Vail; William Pascoe, Captain of Second Vail; Robert Brand, Captain of Third Vail; David Ramsay, Janitor. The ceremony was performed by the M.E.P.Z., assisted by M.E.P.Z.'s Duthie and Wheeler. The auditor's report, which was read, showed the chapter to be in a flourishing condition. A vote of thanks was passed to the visiting companions. The chapter then adjourned to refreshment. After the usual loyal and patriotic toasts, the toast of "the S.G.R.A. Chapter of Scotland" was given, and "the Provincial Grand R.A.C. for Lanarkshire," replied to by Companions Duthie and Wheeler; Thetis Chapter, and Companion Park, who replied; Robert Burns Chapter, and Companion Shields, and replied to. Companion Duthie proposed a special toast viz., "to the Prosperity of the St. Andrew's Royal Arch Chapter, 69, and the Health of Companion Campbell, its much respected Principal," and passed a high eulogium on him for his known ability as a Royal Arch Mason, being well-known to be the best demonstrator of that degree in Glasgow, if not in Scotland. He had always found him willing and able to instruct any one, as well as assist any chapter requiring his services, and this very chapter was a proof. When the meeting had been called for the purpose of ascertaining whether the chapter was to be declared dormant, he at once came forward, and, although at a great disadvantage to himself, accepted the office of Principal. This was in the month of April last. Since then he had added eleven members to the roll, and at present there are six applications for exaltation, and without saying anything more, he had much pleasure in proposing the toast, which was drunk with true Royal Arch honours. Comp. Campbell replied in a short but instructive speech, impressing on the companions the beauties of the Royal Arch, their duties in the chapter and to each other, stating that this degree was the zenith of Masonry; every one should strive to attain it and study its sublime secrets; and he was happy to state that he had fourteen candidates for the Royal Ark Mariners and Red Cross Degrees, which were the completion of the Royal Arch. The toasts of "Comps. Harper, P.M.," proposed by Comp. Park, and "McInnes, First Soj.," by Comp. Wheeler, "A. Purdie, Past S.E.," by Comp. Campbell, "The Visiting Companions," and "M.E.Z. Shields" having been given and replied to, the toast of the evening was given, and the chapter was closed in due and ancient form. The companions separated, after enjoying a very pleasant as well as instructive evening.

ARDROSSAN.—Neptune Kilwinning Chapter (No. 111).—This chapter continues to enjoy marked prosperity, under the able direction of its originator and present Z., Comp. James Robertson, whose zeal and accomplishment as a worker and ruler cannot be surpassed. The office-bearers for the year 1876-77 are as follows:—James Robertson, P.Z.; Francis Goodwin, P.P.Z.; David Goodwin, P.H.; Peter Sharp, P.J.; Thomas M'Nider, S.E.; John Robertson, S.N.; Wm. Ross, Treasurer; Charles Adair, 1st Soj.; John Kelly, 2nd Soj.; Caldwell Anderson, 3rd Soj.; Wm. Marshall, 1st Standard Bearer; Alexander Ritchie, 2nd Standard Bearer; Henry Barr, Janitor. The auditors gave in their financial report, which was highly satisfactory.

Masonic and General Tidings.

SOUTHWARK LODGE OF INSTRUCTION (No. 879).—At this flourishing South London lodge, held at Bro. G. Freeland's, the Southwark Park Tavern, Southwark Park, the Fifteen Sections are announced to be worked on Wednesday evening next, at 7 p.m., by Bro. C. W. Kent, P.M., the Preceptor of the lodge. A treat is in store for all who care to enter an appearance.

BELGRAVE LODGE (No. 749).—Bro. Watts W.M. 1201, will work the installation ceremony at this lodge on Friday next, at 8 p.m. The lodge meets at the "Constitution," Bedford-st., W.C., under Bro. Pulsford's Preceptorship.

At the meeting of the Norwich Town Council on Tuesday last, it was officially announced that H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M., had signified his intention of visiting Norwich on the 20th prox., in order to instal Lord Suffield as Provincial Grand Master for Norfolk, and further, in order to be present at a meeting for advocating the claims of the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital. Bros. A. M. F. Morgan, P.D.G.M.; H. Barwell, P.G.S.; and Col. L'Estrange, P.S.G.W., have been deputed to make the necessary arrangements. The hospital has appointed the Rev. Canon Neville and Sir William Foster as a reception committee. The Town Council has resolved to appoint a committee, consisting of the Mayor and four councillors, to co-operate with the committees appointed by the fraternity and the hospital, to make arrangements for the reception of the Prince.

Bro. Sir Edward Lechmere, M.P., who has taken a prominent part in the alleviation of the sufferings of the wounded, is about to visit the seat of war in the East.

The Imperial Hotel, Holborn Viaduct, has been let to Messrs. H. J. and W. J. Roberts, sons of Mr. Roberts (Bertram and Roberts), and will be opened as soon as the furnishing of the premises has been completed.—"City Press."

A Bill-y is rather smart in defining as "The people's champion" Willing, who is willing to stick up for anybody.—"Funny Folks."

Bro. J.E. Saunders, P.G.D., will preside at a public debate upon "The Permissive Bill," to be held at the Albion Hall, London-wall, on the 24th and 31st inst.

Japan has now officially entered the International Postal Union.

SURREY MASONIC HALL.—At a meeting of the Surrey Magistrates, held at the Sessions House, on Thursday, an application was made for a music and dancing licence, and upon hearing Bro. Edward Clark, Bro. H. A. Dubois, and Counsel, the Magistrates unanimously granted the licence.

Bro. the Right Hon. Lord Plunket, Grand Chaplain Grand Lodge of Ireland, has been elected Bishop of Meath by a large majority on a two-thirds vote of each other. The next in favour was Dean Daunt.

Bro. Alderman and Sheriff Hadley and his brother, Mr. Jonah Hadley, entertained the Lord Mayor Elect (Sir Thomas White) and Miss White at Cranbrook Park, Ilford, on Wednesday.

The "Glasgow Herald" reports that on Saturday, workmen laying pipes in connection with the New River Supply Works discovered, about four feet beneath the surface of the Green, a beautiful Roman bowl, in a perfect state of preservation.

Mr. Sims Reeves has, it is said, accepted an offer by telegram of an engagement to sing at 50 concerts in Australia for £15,000.

The London and North-Western Railway Company have just issued a new book of rules to their servants. One new rule provides that no company's servant shall enter a railway refreshment room for the purpose of taking drink whilst on duty, on pain of dismissal.

The "Sheffield Daily Telegraph" says Messrs John Brown and Co. have successfully rolled the thickest armour-plate yet produced. It is twenty-four inches thick.

While we British are suffering from an oyster famine, our Transatlantic cousins are rejoicing over the advent of the season for their beloved bivalve. To give an idea of the immense quantity of oysters consumed in the States, the "Albany Sunday Press" states that in New York City no fewer than 4,000,000,000 are eaten in one season, and the direct oyster trade in the United States employs some 200,000 men, the capital invested being estimated at £10,000,000. An oyster famine across the Atlantic would be a real calamity.

The display which is to be made at Delhi, when on the 1st of January, 1877, Queen Victoria is proclaimed Empress, will cost £50,000 sterling.

Her Majesty has contributed 100 guineas, and the Prince of Wales £25, to the fund for the relief of the persons who suffered loss by the recent whirlwind at Cowes.

The Brighton coach left London on Saturday morning for Brighton for the last time this season, having been running very successfully since the early part of June.

The Duke of Abercorn has resigned the office of Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland, and the Duke of Marlborough has been appointed his successor. The new Viceroy was born in 1822, and succeeded his father in the title in 1857. He was educated at Eton, and at Oriel College, Oxford. He represented Woodstock in the House of Commons during the years 1844-5, and subsequently from 1847 to his accession to the peerage. In 1866-7 he filled the office of Lord Steward of her Majesty's Household under the administration of the late Earl of Derby; and in 1868 he was Lord President of the Council, retiring with his colleagues in the Ministry upon the accession of Mr. Gladstone to power after the general election of that year. His Grace is a Knight of the Garter, Lord-Lieutenant and Custos Rotulorum of Oxfordshire, a trustee of Rugby School, and a governor of the Charterhouse. He married, in 1843, Lady Frances Anne Emily Vane, eldest daughter of the third Marquis of Londonderry. Their eldest son is the Marquis of Blandford, who married, in 1860, Lady Albertha Frances Anne Hamilton, daughter of the Duke of Abercorn.

Mr. Manisty, Q.C., has been appointed to the vacant Judgeship in the Queen's Bench division of the High Court of Judicature.

The marriage of the Hon. Miss Palmer, eldest daughter of Lord Selborne, to Dr. Ridding, Head Master of Winchester College, is to take place at Blackmoor on the 26th inst.

On Saturday evening the Duke of Edinburgh reached Malta in her Majesty's ship Sultan from Besika Bay, and on Sunday the Duchess arrived in a Russian yacht from Smyrna. On Monday afternoon their Royal Highnesses landed at Pinto Pier, where they were received by the Governor, the naval, military and civil authorities, and a guard of honour, and proceeded, followed by thirty-five carriages, through the Right Marina Gate, where the garrison saluted them, and through the Porto Reale, where a second salute was fired, to the Valetta Palace where another guard of honour was stationed. They lunched with the Governor and Lady Von Straubenzee, covers being laid for fifty, and afterwards proceeded to the Saint Antonio Palace, their future residence. The weather has lately been stormy, and on Sunday Night the flagstaff on Fort Saint Elmo was shattered to pieces.

The Duke of Connaught was present at the Exhibition Palace, Dublin, on Saturday evening, at an assault of arms given in aid of the Drummond Institution for the Orphan Daughters of Soldiers. There was a large and distinguished gathering, and His Royal Highness was received with much enthusiasm. The audience stood and cheered while the Prince entered and when he left the palace. He was received by the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress. He wore the undress uniform of his regiment, and was accompanied by several of his brother officers. He appeared to take much interest in the proceedings, and conversed very freely with those around him.

I.P.M.; Jno. Brown, S.W.; T. Merry, J.W.; W. Cooper, Sec.; Sheffield, S.D.; Whittaker, J.D.; Knight, D.C.; Fraser, I.G.; Day, Tyler; Burton, King, R. Bennett, Windover, Baldock, Fowkes, Holloway, Slater, Cay, Vincent, Bower, Humber, and Webster; also Bros. Pipes, sen., W.M. 1085; Pipes, jun., Sec. 1085; and other visiting brethren. The minutes of the last lodge having been read and confirmed, Bro. Webster advanced to the pedestal, and answered the questions leading from the First to the Second Degree satisfactorily. He then retired for preparation, and was afterwards passed to the Second Degree by the W.M. Bro. Humber having answered the test questions leading from the Second to the Third Degree, retired, when Bro. Humber was re-admitted, and was raised to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason by the W.M., assisted by Bro. Merry, I.P.M., in ancient and solemn form. The lodge was resumed in the First Degree, and two gentlemen were proposed for initiation. The W.M. received the congratulations of the brethren, and the lodge was then closed. The brethren afterwards sat down to a substantial supper in the lower hall, and spent a very pleasant evening, the usual Masonic toasts being duly honoured. The W.M. referred to the ceremony which would take place on the 25th inst., when the foundation stone of the New Library and Museum would be laid by Bro. M. T. Bass, M.P., and called upon the members of the lodge to be present on that occasion as numerous as possible.

DERBY.—Hartington Lodge (No. 1085).—The regular monthly meeting of this lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, Gower-street, on Wednesday evening, October 4th. The lodge was opened at 7.45 p.m. in the First Degree. The brethren present were—Bros. S. Pipes, W.M.; J. Worsnop, P.M.; W. Heathcote, S.W.; J. O. Manton, as J.W.; M. H. Bobart, Treas.; Geo. Pipes, Sec.; T. Hills, S.D.; Josh. Heathcote, J.D.; W. M. Butterfield, as I.G.; Thos. Slinn, Tyler; Hextall, Hill, Johnson, Russell, Steele. Visitors—Bros. John Smith, P.P.J.G.W.; Thos. Roe, P.M., 802; G. T. Wright, P.M. 731; Burton, 731; R. Bennett, 731; Whittaker, 731; T. Merry, 731; A. Frazer, 731; Witton, 731; M. K. Frith, Great City, 1426; A. W. Guthrie, 711, South Africa; Josh. Dee Chorlton Lodge, 1387; Stone, W.M. 787; W. F. Hawkins, S.W. 787; Loverock, 787; E. Marshall, 787; W. E. Webster, 787. The minutes of the last lodge being read and confirmed, the charge was delivered to Bros. Gore and Pragnell by the S.W. The examination in the test questions being gone through and answered in an efficient manner by these two brothers, they were passed to the Second or F.C. Degree, in ancient and solemn form, by the W.M. Grand Lodge certificates were presented to Bros. Johnson and Geo. Hill. The nomination of a gentleman as a candidate for Freemasonry brought the business to a close. The brethren adjourned to the banquetting-room, where an unusually excellent spread awaited them. Everything was done to render this meeting one of the best that could possibly be held, in consideration of a number of the brethren of the Beaureper Lodge, 787, paying this lodge a return visit, and to evince to them the cordial reception they received at the hands of the Beaureper brethren on the occasion of a visit to their lodge some few months ago. After the cloth was removed the usual Masonic toasts were given, and most heartily responded to. The evening was very much enlivened by suitable songs from the brethren, and brought to a close at an early hour, the whole of the brethren separating with the utmost good feeling and brotherly love.

LIVERPOOL.—Fermor Hesketh Lodge (No. 1350).—The monthly meeting of this lodge took place on the 9th inst., at the Masonic Hall, Hope-street, Bro. Richard Collinson, W.M., in the chair. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed, and the brethren at once proceeded to ballot for a candidate, which proving unanimous, he was properly prepared and duly initiated into the mysteries of ancient Freemasonry by the W.M. The lodge was then opened in the Second Degree, when the W.M. passed a brother to the degree of Fellow Craft. The lodge was then closed down to the First Degree, when a sum of money was voted towards the sedelia for Chester Cathedral. One of the officers then gave the following important notice of motion:—"That as a feeling for exclusiveness has arisen among the members, in order to keep the funds in a healthy state, that the initiation fees be raised from £6 6s. od., to £10 10s. od., and the subscription to £5 5s. od. per annum instead of £2 2s. od. Nothing further appearing, the lodge was closed in due form after solemn prayer by the W.M."

LIVERPOOL.—Emulation Lodge (No. 1505).—The annual installation meeting of this excellent lodge was held on Friday evening, the 6th inst., at the Masonic Hall, Hope-street, Liverpool. Bro. J. T. Callow, W.M., occupied the chair at the commencement of the proceedings, and he was supported by Bros. H. Nelson, I.P.M.; H. Morris, S.W. (W.M. elect); W. E. Quayle, J.W.; J. Hocken, P.M.; Treas.; W. H. Corbin, Sec.; T. Large, J.D.; J. Capell, I.G.; H. Coulson, J.S.; J. Skeaf, P.G. Org.; W. H. Ball, Tyler; Rev. H. G. Vernon, P.P.G.C.; J. Purvis, R. Foote, &c. The visitors included Bros. W. Doyle, P.P.G.J.D.; Councillor Forrest, W.M. 1547; J. Busfield, 216; H. Burrows, S.W. 673; Hugh Williams, P.M. 1264; J. Hughes, W.M. 220; T. Roberts, W.M. 673; R. H. Evans, W.M. 292; T. Clark, P.M. 673; J. Pemberton, P.G.S.; R. Martin, jun., W.M. 1182; R. R. Martin, P.M. 1094; W. T. May, P.M. 673, &c. Bro. Henry Morris was most effectively installed in the chair of W.M. by Bro. J. Hocken, P.M., Treas., and the following were invested officers of the lodge:—Bros. J. T. Callow, I.P.M.; H. Nelson, P.M., D.C.; W. E. Quayle, S.W.; W. H. Corbin, J.W.; J. Hocken, P.M., Treas.; J. Capell, Sec.; T. Large, S.D.; H. Coulson, J.D.; R. Foote, I.G.; A. McKenzie, S.; H. H. Smith, S.; and W. H. Ball, Tyler. The sum of ten guineas was voted from

the funds of the lodge towards the presentation of a testimonial to Bro. J. T. Callow, I.P.M. The brethren subsequently banqueted, and the musical programme was furnished by Bros. J. Busfield, H. J. Atkinson, J. Queen, A. Child, Hobart, and Skeaf, P.G.O.

INSTRUCTION.
WELLINGTON LODGE (No. 458).—Monday night's proceedings and attendance at the White Swan, High-street, Deptford, is a proof of what can be really done at short notice, and under pressure by an energetic Preceptor, who sets his mind on a thing worth doing, it is sure to be done well. The night in question was the "Fifteen Section" night, and through the enforced absence through illness of the esteemed Bro. Secretary, the announcement was not made to the lodge until less than a fortnight before, but Bro. Preceptor Griffin put his shoulder to the wheel, and his efforts bore good fruit, the issue being that at seven o'clock on Monday evening Bro. Shaw (the most obliging man and Mason, Preceptor or otherwise, we know of), Preceptor of the Pythagorean Lodge, assumed the chair, having as his S.W. Bro. Pulsford, P.M. 1158, &c., the other offices being filled as follows: Bros. Church (J.W. 147), J.W.; Hutchings, J.D.; Gibson, I.G. Lodge having been opened in the First Degree, the Lecture was worked as follows:—

FIRST LECTURE.

1st Section by Bro. Bridgland.
2nd " " Gibson.
3rd " " Ernest Smith.
4th " " Brown, P.M.
5th " " Cobley.
6th " " Pulsford, P.M.
7th " " Shaw.

Lodge was opened in the Second Degree, and the following was the working of the

SECOND LECTURE.

1st Section by Bro. Waterman.
2nd " " Hutchings.
3rd " " Church.
4th " " Beavis.
5th " " Musto.

The lodge having been opened in the Third Degree, the Sections were worked as follows:—

THIRD LECTURE.

1st Section by Bro. Griffir, P.M.
2nd " " Brown, P.M.
3rd " " Church.

With such a pair of nonpareil Preceptors as Bros. Shaw and Pulsford to rule, direct, and assist, it is almost superfluous to say that the work was got through expeditiously and well. The brethren assisting in the working were as nearly perfect as possible, each having been suited to his pet section, save in the instance of Bro. Brown, who at short notice did double duty, and right well did he acquit himself. Bros. Wells, Southern Star Lodge, 1158, Ford, and Dana, Chislehurst, 1531, were elected joining members, and the customary vote of thanks to the W.M., officers, and brethren assisting in the workings having been proposed, carried, and responded to, lodge was closed in due form. In addition to those brethren above enumerated we noticed Bros. West, P.M.; Batt, P.M.; Davies, P.M.; Pitt, H. Freeman, Caterson, Gambrill, Lenniker, Ford, Dana, Denn, W. Porter, H. Shaw, Upton, Nevins, Butler, Gloster, Williams, Thompson, Fieldson, Roper, Nell, Tewson.

HERVEY LODGE (No. 1260).—The members of the above lodge having unanimously decided to remove their lodge to so central a position as the Punch Tavern, Fleet-street, met there on Thursday, Oct. 5th, to inaugurate that event, and the opening of the winter season, by a supper, which was placed on the table in the well-known complete style of the host, Bro. F. Beeton, and after the brethren, numbering nearly twenty, had done hearty justice to it and the capital wines provided, the cloth was cleared, and the Chairman (Bro. G. Harrison, W.M. 1260) rose to propose the loyal toasts, and, prefacing his remarks with the observation that having met there on that occasion more for the purposes of conviviality and good fellowship, he should be brief. In a few well chosen words gave "The Queen and the Craft," and "The M.W.G.M. and the rest of the Grand Officers, Past and Present;" and it is needless to add that these toasts met with a hearty reception. The Vice-Chairman (Bro. Ward) then proposed "The Health of the W.M.," which was well received, and in responding to it Bro. Harrison assured the brethren that nothing had given him greater pleasure than being honoured with such a goodly attendance, which he felt sure augured increased prosperity to the lodge, and before sitting down would ask the brethren to drink "The Health of the Vice-Chairman," "than a better one" it would be a difficult task to find. Bro. Ward, in responding, concluded a capital speech by proposing the toast of the evening, "Success to the Hervey Lodge of Instruction," which was received and drunk in a manner worthy of the lodge. Bro. G. King, jun., P.M. and Sec., replied, and assured the members present that he felt very proud of the position the Hervey Lodge had attained in the Craft, as having been connected with it at its birth, and had a great deal to do with the rearing of it in its youthful days. He was confident that at the present time it was well able to stand alone, and not unlikely would be a support and help to other younger lodges. The W.M. then gave "The P.M.'s of the Hervey Lodge," and Bro. King, sen., P.M., responded in his usual terse and cheerful manner. The Vice-Chairman having proposed "The Officers," Bro. Southwood as S.W., was the first to reply, and thanking the brethren for expressions of sympathy to him during his late dangerous illness, was much pleased to find he was sufficiently strong to be among them that evening. And in a most eloquent manner he asked all the brethren there for their support and help in the forthcoming election for the Girls' School, when as most present were aware the little daughter of a late officer of the lodge (Bro. Kingcombe, I.G.) would stand

for election a second time, and as only 404 votes were polled last time, he need not inform the brethren that they would have to strain every nerve to obtain the number to ensure no further disappointment, and in response to the appeal, the brethren one and all assured him of their best support. Bros. J. Sandiland Ward and Goodacre having also responded, the W.M. proposed the toast of the visitors, and expressed his pleasure in seeing such distinguished brethren among them and drew the notice of the brethren to the special qualities of each. Bros. Baker, Withers, Radcliffe and Williams responded. The Vice-Chairman then rose to propose the next toast of the evening, that of "The Host," Bro. Beeton and his wife, Mrs. Beeton, and in the name of the brethren would express the satisfaction that was felt at the very genial way in which both had acted to ensure a pleasant meeting. Bro. Beeton responded, and expressed his thanks for the kind treatment he had received from the lodge, and added nothing in his power should be left undone to ensure the comfort and convenience of the brethren at all times. The Tyler's toast brought the proceedings to a close, and the brethren departed "each on his own way," expressing satisfaction and enjoyment at such a pleasant meeting. Among the brethren present were Bros. G. Harrison, Ward, G. King, jun., King, sen., Baker, J. H. Southwood, J. Sandilands Ward, Goodacre, Binley, Bigwood, Withers, Radcliffe, Salmon, Steward, Beeton, Williams Portway, and others.

MARQUESS OF RIPON LODGE (No. 1489).

—On Monday last the ceremony of consecration was ably rehearsed by Bro. Jas. Terry, and the installation by Bro. Wm. Stephens, the Preceptor. The meeting was fully attended, the members and visitors of the surrounding lodges appearing in full Craft clothing. Several handsome presents were made, the whole of the present furniture being the voluntary offerings of the members. We have no doubt, from the position of the lodge and the efficiency of many of its members, that it will continue to be well attended. This being the anniversary of its establishment, a very nice dinner was provided. Bro. Stephens presided, Bro. W. J. Murlis occupying the vice-chair. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts followed. Bro. Terry responded for "The Charities," giving an interesting account of the progress made, and the large increase annually accruing to the different funds of the Order; thanked the members of the lodge for their great liberality, hoping they would continue in the good work they had commenced, and that in future years their subscriptions would be, as heretofore, not less than three figures in the pounds' column. A vote of thanks to the chair and vice-chair brought this very successful meeting to a close.

Royal Arch.

BEADON CHAPTER (No. 619).—A convocation of this chapter was held on Thursday evening, Oct. 12th, at the Horns Tavern, Kennington; Comp. W. H. Green, M.E.Z., presiding. The business of the evening, after the confirmation of the minutes, was to elect, already balloted for, Bros. Henry Thompson, P.M. of 177 and 1158, and of 1426 ("Freemason"); John Welch, of the Fidelity Lodge, 3; and James John Chapman, of the Alexandria Lodge, 1541. After this an election took place for M.E.Z. for the ensuing year, and Comp. W. Seaman, the present H., was unanimously elected to that high office. Comp. Corke was elected as H., and Comp. Wier as J. A ballot took place for S.E., and the choice fell upon Comp. W. H. Green, the retiring M.E.Z. It was agreed unanimously that a jewel of the usual value should be presented to Comp. W. H. Green, the retiring M.E.Z., for the zeal and ability with which he had discharged that office during the last two years, and a compliment was agreed to be conferred upon Comp. Angres, for his services as S.E. Some other appointments having been made, the companions retired to the banquetting room, where many good things awaited them. On the withdrawal of the cloth, after the formal toasts had been given, the M.E.Z. said there was always a most important toast to be given on such occasions, and that was to drink the health of their newly-exalted companions. They hailed their coming amongst them, as it was always the desire of the Beadon Chapter to receive an infusion of new blood, as an evidence of their progress, and at the same time it gave stability to their proceedings. With all the Royal Arch honours, he proposed "The Health of their Newly exalted Companions, Thompson, Welch, and Chapman," feeling sure that they would become worthy members of their noble Order. This toast was warmly received, and on Comp. Thompson being requested to return thanks for the other newly-elected companions, he said he regretted that the task had fallen upon him, as he was then in much the same position as he was in the Craft lodge 20 years ago at his initiation, not knowing in what exact terms he should address them in acknowledging the high honour that had been conferred upon him in being admitted to that supreme degree of Freemasonry, and he believed he might say the same of his brother companions who had gone through the ceremony with him. He felt, as they did, impressed with its importance, and he hoped and trusted that they would not prove themselves unworthy members of the degree into which that night they had been received. Some other toasts having been given the proceedings terminated at 11 o'clock, in the true spirit of Freemasonry.

A gentleman, who withholds his name, has offered, through Messrs. Agnew, a marble copy of the Venus de Milo as a contribution to the Liverpool Art Gallery, and the offer has been accepted.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.

The Quarterly Court of the Governors and Subscribers of this Institution was held on Saturday last at the Freemasons' Hall, Bro. Lieut.-Col. J. Creaton, Vice-patron, in the chair. There were likewise present Bros. Geo. Jeffery, E. B. Grabham, Richard H. Forward, H. Browne, George Bolton, John Boyd, J. L. Hine, C. A. Cottebrune, Isaac Wilcox, Samuel Geo. Myers, John B. White, Thos. W. White, A. H. Tattershall, R. B. Webster, E. F. Storr, Thos. James, W. H. Radley, Edward Harris, Capt. John Wordsworth, W. H. B. Tomlinson, H. A. Dubois, Thos. H. Waterworth, Alfred Partridge, Edw. Spooner, H. S. Tyerman, E. H. Hewett, H. Hacker, J. Wordsworth, Joseph Clever, John Bodenham, Dr. Ramsay, Charles Godtschalk, Geo. Phythian, Hyde Pullen, George Kenning, J. L. Russell, F. R. Eames, J. J. Berry, Thos. Francis Peacock, Charles Lacey, W. Adamson, John Johnston, Wm. Roebuck, Thos. J. Sabine, V.P., T. Davies Sewell, W. Mann, W. Buck, Joseph Smith, William Hale, Geo. Wilson, H. M. Levy, F. W. R. Vine, James Terry, John G. Stevens, J. E. Walton, Wm. Lane, Jas. Horwood, John Vaughan, Heather Bigg, Wm. F. C. Moutrie, Dr. W. R. Woodman, T. Allen, Chas. Jardine, Henry Smith, J. Hamilton Townsend, Herbert Dicketts, F. G. Baker, W. Mason, George Neall, A. Weston, John Thompson, J. Jonas, B. H. Swallow, W. H. G. Rudderforth, Frederick Adlard, E. Ludworth, John Faulkner, Vincent Ambler, M.D., F. B. Dargave, Brackstone Baker, Edw. Cox, H. Massey ("Freemason"), John Read, R. W. Hedges, H. G. Warren, Benj. Head, H. Muggeridge, E. S. Snell, John Emmens, Capt. Phillips, F. Binckes, G. M. E. Snow, F. H. Ebsworth, Raynham W. Stewart, Alfred H. Diaper, H. Potter, D. Betts, Thos. Meggy, Chas. Greenwood, M. S. Larham, John Symonds, A. D. Loewenstark, L. Finch, Rev. A. F. A. Woodford, and R. Wentworth Little, Sec.

After the minutes had been read,

Col. Creaton said that the next business on the paper being a matter personal to himself, he would leave it to some other brother to move in it.

Bro. H. A. Dubois moved, "That instructions be given with reference to signing cheques in connection with the new buildings, and that Col. Creaton be authorised to sign such cheques as Chairman of the Building Committee."

Bro. Samuel Rawson seconded the motion.

A slight discussion, originated by Bro. J. Symonds, took place with reference to the Building Committee, which Bro. Symonds contended was only a portion of the House Committee, nominated by that body. The discussion, however, came to nothing, and

Col. Creaton said that there was no question as to there being a Building Committee, as it was resolved by the House Committee that there should be a Building Committee. At a meeting of that Committee, he (Col. Creaton) was elected permanent Chairman.

The motion was then put and carried.

Col. Creaton said the next business was the consideration of a motion, notice of which stood in his name. He believed it was well understood by all of the brethren that the Collector of the Institution, Bro. Muggeridge, had resigned his office in consequence of failing health. Bro. Muggeridge had held the office for a period of 20 years with very great credit to himself and also with very great satisfaction to the brethren. (Hear, hear, and cheers.) Now that he had become, he might say, older, and his health was failing, he (Col. Creaton) thought that the least the brethren could do was to give Bro. Muggeridge some substantial mark of their recognition of his past services. (Hear, hear.) It was quite unnecessary that he should say much to the brethren on the point, because they all knew Bro. Muggeridge as well as he did. He would therefore move, "That in consideration of the services rendered by Bro. H. Muggeridge, Collector, for upwards of 20 years, he be awarded a retiring pension of £150 per annum." (Cheers.)

Bro. Raynham W. Stewart seconded the motion, and in doing so said he had known Bro. Muggeridge's good qualities and his efficiency in the discharge of his duties. He had supported him in his election, and now felt great pleasure in seconding Bro. Col. Creaton's motion, for Bro. Muggeridge thoroughly deserved the proposed recognition of his efforts on behalf of the Institution. (Great cheering.)

The motion was carried unanimously amidst great applause.

Col. Creaton then proposed that the said pension should commence from 1st January next. (Applause.)

Bro. Muggeridge, who had left the room before the motion was brought on, was here called in, and was received with loud and long continued applause.

Col. Creaton, addressing Bro. Muggeridge, said he had very great pleasure, and he was sure every one in that room shared in that pleasure, in informing Bro. Muggeridge that the Court had unanimously carried the motion which he (Col. Creaton) had given notice of, that he (Bro. Muggeridge) should receive £150 a year for the remainder of his life as a retiring pension, and that it would commence from the 1st of January. He did not think it was necessary to ask Bro. Muggeridge to say anything.

Bro. Muggeridge, who was quite overcome with the loud cheering which followed this short address, was then assisted out of the room.

The next business was the consideration of Bro. Raynham W. Stewart's motion:

"That the office of Collector be not filled up, but that an additional clerk be appointed to assist the Secretary."

And to receive the Report of the Committee of Inquiry as to the Collectorship, if ready for presentation.

Bro. Hedges read the following report of the Committee appointed to consider the subject of the office of Collector to the Institution.

1st. That the office of Collector be abolished.

2nd. That the duties of Collector be discharged in the Secretary's office.

3rd. That a second clerk be appointed in the Secretary's office.

4th. That the salaries of the clerks in the Secretary's office be as follows:—Senior, £140; Junior, £50.

Bro. Raynham Stewart in bring on his motion said that the Committee had, without his knowing it, come to nearly the same conclusion as he had himself. He thought that the collection of the subscriptions should be managed in the office, and be under the control of the Secretary. For this purpose they should have additional assistance, because there was already a great deal of work in the office. But his great object in giving his notice of motion was that there were very many complaints that he heard from brethren of commission having to be paid on large sums of money which never passed through the hands of the Collector at all. Some £10,000 or £12,000 a year was paid in, and out of this only £2000 went through the Collector's hands. It was said upon that, by the brethren, why should they pay on the whole amount a sum as commission which might go for the benefit of the Institution? He thought that the Collector's place should not be filled up, but that additional clerks should be nominated. If £12,000 was paid into the Secretary's office there must be additional labour in making out the receipts, sending the voting papers, &c. He hoped the brethren would agree with him, and make an experiment of his plan. If it did not at the end of a twelvemonth turn out to their satisfaction, they could then alter it. (Hear, hear.)

Bro. H. A. Dubois seconded the motion.

Bro. Dr. Ramsay thought it desirable that the Secretary should tell them what the sums formerly paid into his office were. No doubt they had considerably increased. What also were the duties which would occupy the proposed additional clerk while he was not collecting.

Bro. Little said he thought one of the greatest proofs of the increase of the work in the office had just been stated. In the four years ending 1872 only £21,000 had been received, of which the Collector brought in two-thirds. During the subsequent 3½ years £33,000 had come in, and of this over £18,000 had passed direct through the Secretary's hands. He need scarcely say there was a vast amount of correspondence connected with the receipt of such a sum. The lists had to be made up, and frequently 100 receipts had to be given for the sums on one list. All this work had to be performed in the office. It had been his impression for some years past that if he were to ask Stewards to send moneys to him a large amount which was now received by the Collector would come to the office without the intervention of the Collector.

Bro. B. Head asked whether the Secretary would be kind enough to say how much he had paid for extra work last year.

Bro. Little replied that they paid for no extra work excepting for making out and sending the balloting papers, which cost £5. The other institutions, however, had the same expense.

Bro. Joseph Smith, P.G.P., thought that before they made this proposed great change they ought to know how it was made out that the salaries were to be paid to the additional clerk, how the change would work, and whether the same amount of money would be got in—whether the brethren would bring the money to the office which they were in the habit of paying the collector. For himself he did not think they would get half the money they did before. A Collector who had nothing else to depend upon but his commission was very vigilant, and would call upon brethren several times. Brethren who did not want him to wait on them would send a cheque. But if the newly-proposed official was paid a salary instead of commission he would not have the same inducement to be active. Where would all the taxes be if collectors were not employed, and how much would ever be paid if they depended on people taking them to the offices. Before he voted for Bro. Stewart's motion he wished to know what the clerk was to receive, and what were his proposed duties.

Bro. H. G. Warren thought the new step was suicidal. They had been informed that £18,000 had been paid into the office, and £14,000 to the Collector. The Collector should be paid on what he received only. If it was found that the commission on this would not pay the Collector, let it be raised to a small extent, and let all assistance be given to the office that could be given by having an extra clerk if it was necessary. This was better than doing away altogether with the Collector. Having a Collector would produce greater results than brethren were aware of. It frequently happened when a Collector called that the brother on whom he called would ask him if he knew Bro. So and So, and if he did not know him would tell him to call on such brother and mention his name to him, and ask him for a subscription because he knew he would subscribe. He (Bro. Warren) had had considerable experience in charities, and he had always seen that without a Collector they never got their money in well. For seven years he acted as honorary secretary of an institution which was started with nothing a year, and which now had £5000 a year. They employed a collector, and what was the result? He himself, as secretary, had to be out three or four mornings weekly, his mornings not being of any value to him; but that was not what they could ask the secretaries of any society to do, and especially the Secretary of a society of such magnitude as the Masonic Institutions. He believed nothing could be worse for institutions than not to have a collector. Give all the assistance in the office they liked; further, let them pay a commission to a Collector, and when the Secretary wanted additional assistance in the office, let him call off the Collector and pay him for the assistance he gave in the office. But let them not do away with the Collector. The very name on the front page of their books was an advantage, and of greater necessity than they thought for. Every one knew

the name of the Collector; but every man did not remember the name of the Secretary or the place to go to. The Collector's name came before a man three or four times in the course of the year, his card being left each time he called. Even his (Bro. Warren's) own subscriptions would not always be paid if he did not get gentle reminders, and he was not singular in that respect. He said he should conclude by opposing the motion.

Bro. the Rev. A. F. A. Woodford wished permission to say a few words on the other point which pressed upon other brethren in the same way as it did upon him. He was formerly connected with a large province which greatly supported the charities of the Order. Many of the brethren present would confirm him when he said that one of the great objections and complaints was, that where subscriptions were raised in the provinces, bona fide for the charities, a commission on them was paid to a collector in London, who had nothing whatever to do with the matter. Many brethren in the provinces gave great care and attention and spent much time in collecting money for our institutions; and after they had paid the money they were told that a commission on it was paid to the collector. (A Voice: That clearly is wrong.) If by any arrangement that could be made this (to use a vulgar expression) system of "sweating" the provincial returns could be stopped, a great deal might be said in favour of the appointment of a Collector. It appeared, however, to him, with due submission to Bro. Warren that the proposal of the Committee was good as a tentative measure. If it did not work, and the prognostications of Bro. Warren were found to be true, there would be no difficulty in going back to the old system. They might try it for twelve months. (Hear, hear, and cheers.)

Bro. John Symonds said it had been a complaint for a long time past that commission was paid on money sent direct to the office. If they would be sure of getting a Collector like Bro. Muggeridge, by all means let them have one. Bro. Muggeridge took to the collection from the interest he felt in the Institution, and the Institution benefitted by it. When he took to it the subscriptions were small, but Bro. Muggeridge never complained. Now there was a growing tendency to send the subscriptions direct to the office of the Secretary. What was the result of that if they said the Collector was to have no commission on it? Why, the Collector would have to go after all the single guineas, the difficult ones to collect, and while the Institution was increasing in prosperity, the Collector would have his emoluments diminishing. He would have all the trouble of calling three or four times to the East of London to collect a single guinea; after all, the guinea might be sent to the office, and the Collector would get nothing for it. He thought this might be remedied by the entire responsibility of the collection on the Secretary. It was not intended that the proposed additional clerk should be the Collector, but that he should be for the work of the office.

A Brother said it seemed an anomaly to pay commission to a Collector for work he had not done. Bro. Warren's proposition might be altered so as to make commission payable on London sums, but not on moneys sent to the office.

Bro. Warren's idea was that commission should be paid on the sums collected by the Collector, and for this purpose it would be better to give him 6 or 7½ per cent. than 5 per cent. on money with which he had nothing to do. If the Collector was done away with, in twelve months the Institution would lose £1000. There would be no real authority if any and every clerk was delegated to do the duties of Collector. Let it be one man, and there let it stand.

Bro. Thos. W. White said that the intention of the Committee was to recommend that the collection should be put in charge of the Secretary, who was to send a clerk out to collect; in other words, to arrange for the collection.

Bro. H. Smith (West Yorkshire) said his province sent up large sums, never less than a few hundreds. Was it right they should be taxed? Let the Collector who really collected the money have 5 or 10 per cent. for it. He was in favour of the motion as a tentative proposal.

In answer to the question, Bro. Little said the Collector now received commission on four different scales, and a great anomaly was created.

The Chairman said the question now was as to the abolition of the office. The commission to be paid could be settled afterwards.

Ultimately an amendment by Bro. Joseph Smith, seconded by Bro. Levy, was carried that a committee be appointed to go into the whole subject and report to a Special Court. Bros. Raynham W. Stewart, H. G. Warren, John Symonds, Joseph Smith, W. Hale, D. Betts, Dr. Ramsay, S. Rawson, and Col. Creaton were appointed as the committee.

Bro. the Rev. A. F. A. Woodford moved, and Bro. Raynham W. Stewart seconded, that the report be made to a Special Court, and this having been carried, the election of eight girls was proceeded with.

The Scrutineers appointed were Bros. A. H. Tattershall, R. B. Webster, Thos. W. White, Major Finney, Raynham W. Stewart, J. J. Berry, Dr. Woodman, Dr. Sewell, H. C. Levander, L. S. Tyerman, S. Rawson, J. Jardine, Hyde Pullen, Capt. Wordsworth, and John Boyd.

The names of the successful candidates will be found in our advertisement columns.

Votes of thanks to the Scrutineers and Chairman concluded the proceedings.

After the ceremony of the presentation of the Elcho Shield at Guildhall on Saturday, there was a banquet at the Mansion House Station Restaurant, at which Mr. Wells, M.P., presided. The toast of "The English Eight" was proposed by Captain Field, of the Hon Artillery Company.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

The Quarterly Court of Governors and Subscribers of this Institution was held on Monday at Freemasons' Hall. Bro. John Symonds, Vice-Patron, presided. Among the other brethren present were Bros. Col. Creaton; H. Hacker, Richard H. Townend, C. A. Cotterburne, Raynham W. Stewart, S. Rawson, Dr. F. W. Ramsay, H. Levy, H. A. Dubois, Charles Godtschalk, Alfred H. Diaper, H. Browne, George A. Taylor, Wm. Stephens, G. Bolton, Edward S. Snell, John Boyd, W. H. B. Tomlinson, Capt. John Wordsworth, Henry Smith, Prov. G. Sec. West Yorkshire; Wm. Mann, the Rev. A. F. A. Woodford, George Thompson, Henry C. Burt, Frederick Adler, H. Massey ("Freemason"); Edward Sewell, M.A.; G. R. Sherwill, Wm. F. C. Moutrie, Hyde Pullen, James Robins, Thomas W. White, W. H. Spaul, Wm. Lane, W. N. Lash, Henry W. Binckes, W. Hickman, D.P.G.M. Hants and Isle of Wight; Benjamin Head, John Vaughan, P.G.S.W. Warwick; Mathew Miles. John Wordsworth, 1019; James A. Birch, Isaac W. Petly, J. L. Hine, S. Rosenthal, John Sutcliffe, Henry Moore, James Terry, James Stevens, Fred. W. Smith, 58; James Waldram, H. Coward, John Read, Dr. F. J. Lilley, F. H. Ebsworth, Edward Harris, Thomas Meggy, George Newman, Major Finney, N. B. Headon, E. H. Thillay, W. Parsons, H. Garrod, Edward Cox, John G. Stevens, Edward Moody, and Frederick Binckes, Secretary.

Events having occurred to cause three vacancies since the balloting papers were sent out, the vacancies for three additional boys beyond the twelve announced on the voting papers were declared, making fifteen boys to be elected at this meeting. After the other formal business had been disposed of,

Bro. Raynham W. Stewart moved that Bro. Captain Wordsworth, of Leeds, be elected a Trustee of the Institution. Bro. Captain Wordsworth took great interest in the Institution, and among his acts it might be narrated that he came up from Leeds as many as twenty times in the course of the year at his own expense to attend the different meetings of the Boys' School. This alone shewed that he took great interest in the Institution, and he (Bro. Stewart) did not think the brethren could better testify their appreciation of his services than by electing the brother who was one of the working bees, as a Trustee. While mentioning this he might say he hoped that Captain Wordsworth might have health and strength to discharge his duties as Trustee for many years to come the same as he had his other offices in connection with the Institution. (Hear hear.)

Bro. Levy seconded the motion.

The Chairman, after the motion had been carried unanimously, informed Captain Wordsworth of his election, and welcomed him as one of the body of which he (the Chairman) was one.

Capt. Wordsworth, in acknowledging the compliment, said he hoped he should zealously discharge his duties in his new character, and that he should do in the future as much as it had been said he had done in the past. He had been many years on the House Committee, and he trusted he should still remain on it to discharge his duties. The Institution's work was not yet finished; indeed, it was a long way from finished; and he hoped the Institution would be so enlarged as to accommodate more boys. He had no objection next year to subscribe a hundred guineas as a special subscription towards building the new school for 50 or 100 young boys opposite the present school at Wood Green. (Cheers.) The site was already purchased, and it only remained to erect the building. (Applause.)

The election was then proceeded with, and at 5 o'clock the result was announced. The names of the successful candidates will appear in our next advertisement.

Votes of thanks to the Scrutineers and the Chairman brought the proceedings to a close.

ANNUAL BANQUET OF THE STAR LODGE OF INSTRUCTION.

It was on the 5th of October, 1869, that the first meeting of this lodge of instruction, held under the warrant of the Star Lodge, 1275, under the Preceptorship of Bro. Comb, took place at the Marquis of Granby, New Cross, where ever since it has from week to week afforded profitable and intellectual entertainment to the brethren, not only in its immediate neighbourhood, but to many from afar. On Thursday week the seventh anniversary of what has proved a vast school for Masonic learning was celebrated by the annual banquet, an event of no small moment to those at least who have from Saturday to Saturday, with diligence and perseverance, met to expatiate on all that is bright and glorious to the good and true Mason. To our mind the annual banquet of a lodge of instruction is a matter of importance, inasmuch as it serves to reward the assiduous and painstaking Mason for his twelve months' labour. It likewise offers to the brethren the opportunity of showing their regard and appreciation of the Preceptor by flocking round him and thanking him through the President for his kind care and instruction in the past; and finally, it is truly an occasion when it is well for brethren to dwell together.

There was a fairly numerous gathering of the members of the lodge and their friends, over whom Bro. C. J. Hogg, P.M. 1275, &c., P.G.S., presided, having as his Vice-Presidents Bros. H. Keeble, P.M. 1275, J.W. 73, Sec. 1559, and Hon. Sec. of the Star Lodge of Instruction; and H. Green, W.M. of the Mother Lodge, 1275, P.M. 1538, J.D. 1559. Glancing round the table we noticed the familiar faces of Bros. Govan Macdonald, W.M. 1158, Preceptor; C. G. Dilley, P.M. 147, 1155, Past Preceptor of the lodge; Jobson; Speight, jun., S.W.; Waterman, J.D.; Church, J.W. 147; W. Simmonds, J.W.; Ernest Smith; T. Grumant; Moss; Cowley, 1559; H. Gloster,

J.W. 1531; Schulze, 13; Hartnup, 933; Tong, 73; H. Shaw, H. Jenkins. The names of the others we were unable to obtain. Masonic grace having been offered, the lodge was duly declared open in the Fourth Degree. We have had the good fortune to attend a great number of banquets, Masonic and civic, among others; hence we flatter ourselves on a judgment second to none in the matter of discerning the appreciation of "feeders." Rarely have we witnessed a more appreciative assembly, willing to accommodate themselves to whatever reigned supreme in their immediate vicinity. Our esteemed President, supported right and left by Past and Present Preceptors Dilley and Macdonald, visited with sore affliction a mighty joint of beef; far away in the west the well-knit frame of Bro. Keeble towered behind a monstrous joint of "biled swarry," whilst firmly established in the south, in the very thick of the "appreciative," ever obliging Bro. Green divided his attention between the poultry yard and pigsty, his handling of the carving knife and fork as reflecting on the fowl, being a past master-piece of skill, and made, forsooth, the brethren in his vicinity forget the pangs of hunger in their admiration for the marvellous carving transacted beneath their gaze. Leg and wing, a quick succession, bade adieu to breast and body, falling gracefully right and left beneath the fell swoop of the Green-handled knife. From "feathered fowl to bristly swine," anon the nonpareil carver deftly whisked a slice of ham, in shape the acme of gentility, in thickness as near approaching transparency as makes no matter. "Oh! it was a sight to see how Bro. Green cut ham for me," remarked a certain brother to us later in the evening. Over the sweets Bros. Hogg, Keeble, Green, Jobson, and Smith found abundant if "light" employment, and after cheese and celery had been "trifled" with becoming languor, the cloth was drawn. Now came the moment for Bro. H. L. Jenkins to distinguish himself, which he did by dispensing the juicy grape with an open hand and an outstretched arm, both far and near, Bro. Green responding with the appetising walnut.

The President having proposed in succession the usual loyal and Masonic toasts, to which it is needless to say a full and hearty reception was given.

Bro. Hogg rose and gave the toast of the evening, "Prosperity to the Star Lodge of Instruction." In doing so he dwelt at considerable length on the importance of lodges of instruction in general as a means of teaching and perpetuating the esoteric ritual of the Order, more especially referred to the immense amount of good the Star Lodge in particular, had accomplished, not only in educating its members, but in the vast help it had extended towards those excellent institutions connected with Freemasonry by means of the charitable association connected with it. He would mention—and he did so with a large amount of pride as the Treasurer of that association, that at its winding up in a few months' time they would have contributed to the Benevolent Institutions very close upon one thousand pounds. (Cheers.) Was not this a proof of the hearty co-operation of all connected with the lodge, and ought they not to be proud of the result of their endeavours? This result has in a very great measure been produced by the assiduous and indefatigable exertions of the present Preceptor of the lodge, Bro. Macdonald, whose name it afforded him great pleasure to couple with the toast. They all knew how earnestly and zealously he had set himself to work for the welfare of the lodge, and he thought that they would one and all agree with him when he said that right well had their Preceptor acquitted himself of the duties attached to his onerous office. The brethren received the toast with loud cheers, and drank to it with the warmest enthusiasm, and Bro. Macdonald upon rising to respond was met with such an ovation as for the moment to prevent his proceeding. The popular Preceptor in thanking the brethren for the hearty manner in which they had received him assured the brethren that all he had done was not half what he would have liked to have done had perfect health and circumstances permitted. From the moment of his first connection with the Star Lodge of Instruction he had taken a deep and lively interest in its welfare, and he had striven as Secretary, alike as Preceptor, to advance its interests. Since he had been elected to fill the responsible position of Preceptor he had become more than ever anxious for the future success of the lodge. There was that in the position he filled that reminded him of the responsibility clinging to his actions, in the way he conducted the business of the lodge, and above all, the manner in which he worked the ritual. No doubt the brethren present would call to mind their first impressions of Masonry as engendered by the delivery of the ritual at their several initiations. To some he had little doubt but that the beauty was in a measure lost by the feeling of nervousness that, more or less, naturally assailed them, and they failed to understand and fully appreciate at that time the beauties of Freemasonry, but a very poor idea being then conveyed to them as to what Masonry really was by the quick succession of unfamiliar words and the unskillful manner in which the W.M. may have performed the ceremony. To eliminate from the working those obscure phrases and inграмmaticisms that render it impossible even for the most astute intellect to follow the ceremony was the object of every Preceptor, and while he endeavoured to fix on his pupils one particular line of working, would not have the brethren assume that this was "Macdonald's working." On the other hand, it was essentially "Star working." Thanks to Bro. Dilley, in whose footsteps he followed, he thought that under him the working in the Star Lodge of Instruction was second to none. He had under the kind tuition of Bro. Dilley accomplished what few hoped for, but as to attaining perfection it was indeed difficult to say when such a degree could be arrived at, seeing that every day something fresh was introduced in the general working of the rituals of the Craft. He trusted that they had a happy and prosperous year before them, and that, although a

Preceptor's berth was not a bed of roses, as he had to put up with so many different tempers, he hoped that should he speak somewhat harshly to them at any time they would remember that it was for their own good and the reputation of the lodge. Bro. "Mac" sat down amidst a storm of applause.

"The Health of the President" was then proposed by Bro. P.M. Dilley, who dwelt on the long and praiseworthy services he had rendered the lodge, having since its formation on the 5th October, 1869, constantly attended its meetings. The toast was drunk amidst great applause and Bro. Hogg briefly thanked the brethren for the manner they had received the toast, and assured them that while he had health and strength it would be his pride and pleasure to support the interests of the lodge. Before resuming his seat he would ask them to drink to the health of Bro. Secretary Keeble and his Assistant Secretary, Bro. Church. He had no doubt Bro. Keeble would be able to give them a good account of their last year's work. Bro. Keeble responded in his usual neat style, and gave the following very gratifying statistics of the work of the past year. There had been 52 meetings with a total attendance of 1167, giving an average of 22½, no fewer than 55 new members having been admitted. Starting with a balance of £1 12s. 2d., they had received during the past twelve months from dues £12 7s. 6d., making a total of £13 19s. 8d., of which sum they had expended £11 8s. 0d. in Masonic charity, while the expenses of the lodge were nil. This report was very favourably received by the brethren. "The Health of Bro. Dilley, the P. Preceptor of the Lodge," was proposed by Bro. Hogg in an eulogistic speech, and Bro. Dilley, in thanking the brethren for the toast, congratulated them on their continued prosperity. The Tyler's toast brought a very agreeable evening to a close.

We must not forget to mention that Bros. H. Shaw, Church, Moss, Gloster, and H. L. Jenkins entertained the company with some capital songs.

CONSECRATION OF THE KILBURN LODGE.

The ceremony of consecrating the new Masonic lodge in Kilburn took place on Tuesday week at the lodge-room, Bro. Hartley's, the Queen's Arms. The usual forms and ceremonies were observed, and everything passed off with the most unequivocal success. His Royal Highness the Worshipful Master deputed Bro. Terry, Prov. G.D.C. Herts, to consecrate the lodge, who has performed the ceremony on no fewer than sixty-two previous occasions. He stated that notwithstanding the number of consecrations he had attended, he had never attended at one where he had met with anything so happy, or at which the whole business had been more successfully gone through. The ceremony commenced at half-past three. Bro. Carter, from the Albert Hall, and a number of gentlemen from the Chapel Royal, went through the musical portion of the ceremony, which took about two and a-half hours. At the conclusion of the ceremony of consecration, the W.M. was installed and the officers were appointed. The following is a list:—Bros. George Killmark, P.M. 391, S.W.; Charles Brewer, J.W.; George Everett, W.M. 1311, Treas.; Samuel Brooks, Sec.; James W. Cuff, S.D.; George Fitchett, J.D.; George Goody, I.G.; Alfred H. Wilson, Stwd.; and Charles Thomas, Tyler.

The brethren then sat down to a most sumptuous dinner, consisting of six courses, supplied by Bro. Hartley in the best possible style. After dinner the following toasts were proposed:—"The Queen;" "The Most Worshipful Grand Master;" "The Most Worshipful Pro Grand Master;" "The Deputy Grand Master, and the rest of the Grand Officers;" "The Worshipful Master;" "The Consecrating Officer;" "The Visitors;" "The Masonic Charities;" and "The Officers." The musical portion of the proceedings was in the hands of Bros. Carter, Hodges, and Seymour Smith.

Within two minutes of the Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, is situated what is fairly designated "one of the sights and one of the comforts of London," The Holborn Restaurant, having under able management, now existing for some time, attained a world-wide reputation. To many of our town readers the proximity of the Holborn Restaurant to the Masonic Hall is well known, but to country and suburban friends it will serve as a landmark, to direct their footsteps to one of the first dining establishments in the metropolis, its central position by no means the least recommendation. At The Holborn every article served is of the best quality, the wines excellent, and the attendance good. Private dinners—and the establishment is equal to the serving of all and every luxury that may be desired—can be ordered, whilst the famed Table d'Hôte every evening from 6 to 8.30 offers all the attractions of the chief Parisian establishments, with the quiet and order essential to English customs. This Table d'Hôte can be enjoyed, accompanied by a selection of high class music, for the modest sum of three shillings and sixpence, and includes soups, fish, joints, entrees, &c., &c., with dessert, truly a marvel of cheapness. Luncheons are also provided at a nominal cost. There are also coffee, tea, chess, smoking and retiring rooms—in a word, all the appointments desirable for so complete an establishment. The numerous Metropolitan meetings of lodges, now commencing, cause brethren from all parts to congregate, and to many The Holborn will prove a boon, a comfort, and a delight. We would briefly add that in directing attention to 218, High Holborn, we feel assured that no visitor will regret the visit or leave disappointed.

Bro. William Sawyer, the well-known journalist, and Mrs. Sawyer, celebrated their silver wedding on Monday, when they entertained a select circle of friends to dinner at the Holborn Restaurant.

CONSECRATION OF THE FRIENDS IN COUNCIL
CHAPTER, No. 1383.

On Thursday evening this new chapter was consecrated at the rooms of the Supreme Council of the 33rd Degree, 33, Golden Square, by Lieut.-Genl. Brownrigg, Prov. G. Sup. Surrey, acting as Z; Comp. H. C. Vernon, P. Prov. G. Sup. Worcester, as H.; Comp. John Hervey, G.S.E., as J.; and Comp. Hyde Pullen, P.G.D.C., as S.E. The complete list of companions present on the occasion comprised the names of Comps. Lieutenant-General Studholme Brownrigg, C.B., the Earl of Limerick, Provincial Grand Superintendent, Bristol, H. C. Vernon, John Hervey, Dr. R. Hamilton, S. Rawson, H. D. Sandeman, General Doherty, General H. Clark, Hyde Pullen, the Hon. R. H. Giddy, Dist. G.M. Griqualand, Lieut.-Colonel, H. Somerville Burney, Capt. Philips, Major Shadwell Clerke, Major Barlow, Dr. Woodford, Lieut.-Colonel Randolph, Capt. Compton, Rev. — Ridgway, J. M. P. Montagu, D.P.G.M. Dorset, C. H. Godson, Charles Fendelow, Capt. W. F. Portlock Dadson, Christopher Atkinson, Rev. — Newnham, Capt. Leeson, and H. Massey ("Freemason"). At the termination of the ceremony of consecration, the installation of Principals of the Chapter was proceeded with, but as all the Principals were either Past or Present Grand Superintendents of provinces or districts, they were not entrusted again with the secrets of their respective chairs, but were simply placed in them. Comp. Dr. R. Hamilton, District G. Sup. Jamaica, was placed in the chair of M.E.Z.; Comp. S. Rawson, P.D. G. Sup. of China, H.; and Comp. Hugh D. Sandeman, P.D. G. Sup. Bengal, J.

The officers appointed were Comps. Hyde Pullen, S.E.; Colonel Adair, S.N.; Lieut.-Col. Burney, Treas.; Major Shadwell Clerke, P.S.; Major Barlow, First A.S.; and Lieut.-Col. Randolph, Second A.S. Several companions were proposed as joining members, and nine brethren were proposed for exaltation. Committees for the forming of the bye-laws, &c., were formed, and the resolution for the next meeting of the chapter was carried, when it was arranged that it should be held on Saturday, the 21st inst.

The chapter was then closed, and the companions adjourned to the Café Royal, Regent-street, to banquet. When this had been partaken of, the M.E.Z. proceeded with the toasts, and after giving that of "The Queen and Royal Arch Masonry," proposed with great warmth "His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, G.Z. of the Order."

Lieut.-Genl. Brownrigg in responding said he thought nothing could be more favourable at the commencement of this chapter than the fact that the three Principals who occupied the chairs were all Past Grand Officers, and with their experience he had no doubt that they would be able to lead this young chapter to prosperity. He would not dilate very much upon the subject which the M.E.Z. had been good enough to bring before them. They all knew it was an old story that all the matters were arranged in Grand Chapter as well as in Grand Lodge with great regularity. He was old enough to remember very stormy days indeed there, but thank God that was now all over. The last time he attended Grand Lodge he had the honour of filling the chair of First Principal. The chapter then assembled at seven o'clock, and he was enabled to catch the eight o'clock train from Waterloo. From this fact the companions might easily imagine how speedily the business of Grand Chapter was settled. (Cheers.)

Lieut.-Genl. Brownrigg next proposed the toast of "Success and Prosperity to the Friends in Council Chapter," coupling with it the name of the M.E.Z. He said that by the permission of the M.E.Z. he was allowed to propose this toast, and he hoped the companions would do justice to it. He was sure that all who had been present that day must have been struck with the singular beauty of the chapter, the decorations of which in all his Masonic life he had never seen equalled. He had been brought there that day by a lady who had been invited to inspect the temple before the companions began business, and the impression made on her mind was the most extraordinary she had ever known. Of course, with that vague idea which ladies had of the Masonic Order, he did not think she at all expected to see what she saw, and he was rather curious to know when he met her again what the full effect on her vision had been. With respect to the Chapter, he thought its very name promised a success; its constitutions certainly promised it a success which hardly any chapter could have. He would not say anything more. The hearts of the consecrating officers were all with the companions of the Chapter that day, and he was quite sure all of them would join with him in drinking "Prosperity and Success to the Friends in Council Chapter," in appreciation of the way in which the Chapter was officered. (Applause.)

Dr. Hamilton, M.E.Z., in replying, said that on behalf of the other Principals of the chapter and himself, he begged to return thanks for the manner in which their health had been proposed and drunk, as well as for the hearty way in which the prosperity of the Chapter itself had been received. All he would say was that the Principals and the officers would do their very best to give it that success which had been wished for it that evening. He said he had another toast to propose, "The Health of those companions who had so kindly assisted in the consecration of the Chapter." He was sorry to say there were but two or three present who were at the consecration. He would like to have seen Comp. Hervey, their esteemed friend, at the table that evening; but other duties had called him away. At the same time they might put it on record that his name was included in that of the officers who had consecrated the chapter. With the toast he begged to couple the name of Comp. H. C. Vernon.

Comp. Vernon, in responding, said it had been a great honour to him to have been permitted to be present at this consecration as one of the consecrating officers. He could

only say that he had been exceedingly pleased with everything that had taken place, and with the conduct of affairs that day. He had never seen a consecration more completely arranged or the work better done in the whole course of his experience of some 25 years. In returning his thanks for the toast, he wished prosperity to the chapter in every way.

Dr. Hamilton, M.E.Z., then proposed "The Principal Sojourner, Major Shadwell Clerke." It might not be known to companions who were present that in a great measure the trouble and worry of getting up the chapter had devolved upon Major Shadwell Clerke. He was amply seconded by their excellent companion Capt. Philips, but it was he who, to use the old Scriptural expression "bore the heat and burden of the day." It was to his good taste they were indebted for the excellence of the arrangements they had seen that evening. In all the Chapters he had been he had never witnessed a prettier display than that of the chapter over which he had the honour to preside. He would give "The Health of their Principal Sojourner, Major Shadwell Clerke," and he would add that he was "a jolly good fellow."

Major Shadwell Clerke, P.S., responded, and said that he assured the companions he had very great difficulty in replying to such flattering remarks. He felt that he was put in an invidious position, because there were other companions who could reply very much better than himself. The two Assistant Sojourners were brimfull of eloquence; but as his name had been coupled with the toast he was obliged to say a few words. It was a very great pleasure and gratification to him to have an opportunity of putting his shoulder to the wheel in starting this chapter. He had looked forward to it some years; it was a matter of mutual congratulation to all the companions, because it completed the circle of their Masonic duties at Golden-square. They ought all to be gratified at hearing from the lips of General Brownrigg and Captain Vernon that their small efforts had met with their approval; and it should be an incentive to them to go on and carry out their labours in the way in which those companions had been kind enough to say they had begun them. As far as the officers of the Chapter were concerned, he might be their mouthpiece, and say that their future efforts should not be wanting to bring the chapter to the position of a representative chapter in ritual. On behalf of the officers of the chapter he begged to thank them very much for the excessively nice way in which the toast had been proposed and received.

Col. Randolph said it had become quite natural to him to return thanks in many Masonic bodies, and with the most sincere feelings of gratification for himself he begged to return thanks for the toast.

Dr. Hamilton M.E.Z., then proposed "The Visitors," a toast which he said was everywhere received among Masons with the greatest cordiality, because Masons always had the strongest feeling of hospitality.

The Rev. — Ridgway responded, but felt that after having enjoyed himself very much, the being called upon to make a speech was very much like a black spot on a fair skin. He hoped, however, at some future time to be permitted to come to the chapter again and experience similar enjoyment to that which had been afforded him that evening.

Dr. Hamilton, M.E.Z., next proposed "The Masonic Press." They had already gone through all the hierarchy of Masonry, but had not yet drunk that fourth estate to which they were all so much indebted. Masonry had benefited very much by the press and the publicity which it had given to their proceedings. These proceedings had been most ably put before the world by the press generally, but by no portion of it more ably or with greater faithfulness than by the "Freemason." It was a great pleasure to him that the press was represented at that meeting by the companion whom he had frequently had the pleasure of meeting in many assemblies, and he might inform the companions that all the proceedings which that companion had recorded had been faithfully and honestly committed to the world.

Comp. H. Massey ("Freemason"), said that as the order of the evening was short speeches he could not better conform to the edict from the chair than by simply thanking the M.E.Z. for the very flattering observations he had made.

Dr. Hamilton, M.E.Z., next said that there was one toast more which however did not enter into the list of the formal toasts. They had among their officers in the chapter a most excellent companion, well known to every one in Royal Arch Masonry and in the Craft at large, a companion who had done more he thought than the majority of other companions. He alluded to their veteran companion, Hyde Pullen (hear hear), and he could not at a Royal Arch meeting let the evening pass over (although perhaps he might not have been able to bring him in the ordinary list of toasts) without doing himself the satisfaction, and doing also the satisfaction to every companion present, of drinking his good health. (Cheers.)

Comp. Hyde Pullen, in reply, said it was with some diffidence he ventured to reply to this toast, and for this reason, that it had come so late that if he had had an idea or thought at an earlier part of the evening about it, it would have flown away, and become obliterated by the kindly sentiments which were being expressed. But he would thank the Most Excellent for his considerate mention of him, and for the kind words which he had used in presenting his (Comp. Pullen's) character before the companions (which he felt he did not deserve). He believed he had striven as far as he possibly could to deserve what the M.E.Z. had said of him; and he would endeavour to continue to deserve those kind expressions. He was not sorry that the M.E.Z. had asked him to reply to this toast, because it had occurred to his mind that they were met that night upon the joyous occasion of the formation of a new chapter, the success of which he was sure they would

quite understand he earnestly and ardently prayed for. Not only did he pray for it, but feeling that while he prayed for it, that prayer would be granted he saw that success must attend its operations. There was another point which had forcibly struck him, that they were strangely and curiously governed, if he might so term it, by the three Principals of their chapter. The M.E.Z. represented the West India interests; the H. represented the great district of China; and the J. represented a third large portion of the earth in the quarter of Bengal. So that really that chapter comprised a very large share of the whole habitable globe, condensed as it were in that small compass. Those companions had exhibited themselves already as leading Masons in those vast dominions, and they had met with success in each and all. When these immense domains were represented in the one small chapter surely success must attend it. (Hear, hear.) Another point he would remark upon. The night previous they had met as a body representing the whole earth itself. There were on that evening members present from all parts of the world. It was a gathering they could never forget when they considered it in this light. They had among their brethren in their own immediate circle members who had power over all the earth; and he thought they could congratulate themselves upon having met together in the manner in which they had. But especially that evening he was most grateful to the M.E.Z. for his mention of his name. He augured nothing but the most unbounded success for the chapter on account of the three Principals being Masons who had met with success in their Masonic career over the three great parts of the globe he had mentioned. This chapter must be an example to all other chapters on account of having for its three Principals Masons so distinguished as Comps. Dr. Hamilton, Samuel Rawson, and Hugh D. Sandeman. (Cheers.)

This closed the proceedings of the evening, and the companions separated at an early hour.

[The above appeared in our Second Edition of last week.]

SUPREME COUNCIL, 33°.

A meeting of the Supreme Council, 33°, was held on Wednesday, at 33, Golden-square, Capt. Philips, P.M. P.S.G.C., 33°, presiding. The other members of the Council present were Gen. Clerk, F.R.S., Dr. Hamilton, Major Shadwell Clerke, Col. Adair, Hugh D. Sandeman, Raphael Costa, S. Rawson, W. Hyde Pullen, Hon. R. W. H. Giddy, Col. Hutton, of Canada, Major Barlow, C. J. Banister, Chas. Fendelow, and C. J. Vigne, P.M. P.S.G.C.

After the formal opening of the proceedings and discussion on the affairs of the degree, the Right Hon. Lord Skelmerdale was advanced to the 33rd Degree.

Afterwards a meeting of the 32nd Degree took place. Capt. Philips presided, and conferred the 32° upon Gen. Brownrigg, A. F. Godson, Capt. Thrale Perkins, and Chas. Horsley.

Subsequently there was a meeting of the 31st Degree, when Capt. Philips again presided, and advanced Lord Donoughmore, 30°.

A meeting of the 30th Degree was also held, and again Capt. Philips presided. The brethren on whom this degree was conferred were Capt. Walter Hylton Jolliffe, the Rev. Ambrose Hall, Col. C. W. Jolliffe, Chas. Compton, Col. J. N. Sargent, Frederick Jennings, E. H. Thiclay, W. Roebuck, H. H. Riach, Henry Greening, Samuel Jones, and R. Kalley Miller. There were present at the meeting of the 30° the brethren who attended and who were advanced in the superior degrees, whose names are given above, besides Colonel Thos. Goddard, C. H. Gregory, Dr. Woodford, Major Molineux C. A. Newnham, Colonel Hugh Somerville Burney, and John Lambert Sim, Francis Turner, Philip Montagu, J. D. Barnes, C. H. Driver, the Chevalier E. Habicht, John Chandler, James Keene, Thomason Harrison, John Boyd, C. Harding, W. Russell, C. Hammerton, Dr. John J. Griffith, John Kirke, C. E. Willing, who presided at the organ, John Read, Colonel Hutton, 33° Supreme Council, Canada, and D. E. Pierre, 32° of the Supreme Council of Colon Cuba, were present as visitors. A banquet was subsequently given at the Café Royal, at which Capt. Philips presided, and gave the usual toasts. Most of the brethren above-mentioned were present, the company numbering altogether about sixty brethren.

[The above appeared in our Second Edition of last week.]

Obituary.

MEMORIAL TO THE LATE BRO. WM. WESCOE.

Remembering as we do the many excellent traits of character possessed by our late friend Bro. William Wescoe secretary to the Heywood Waterworks Company it is with much pleasure that we state to our readers and the public generally that on Thursday, the 21st inst., the ceremony of unveiling a monument to his memory, lately placed in the Heywood cemetery by the brethren of the Heywood Lodge, of which he was a most active member for the space of twenty years. The ceremony, was performed by the present W.M., Bro. John Partington, in truly Masonic form, who spoke in high praise of the late brother's excellencies and force of character, who, he said, was held in much esteem, not only by the brethren of his lodge, but by all with whom he came in contact. He alluded in the most touching manner to his untimely death, which, as will be remembered by many, occurred under circumstances of a painful character. The monument is a very handsome piece of work, in the form of a Masonic pedestal, on which are carved several Masonic emblems, and surmounted by an open bible and terrestrial globe. The work has been executed by Mr. James Lord, a member of the Heywood Lodge, and is exceedingly creditable.

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Answers to Correspondents.

ERRATA.—In the letter from "Another Freemason's Wife," for lowering demonstration, read "denomination." Bro. JOHN CONSTABLE.—Declined with thanks.

The following reports, &c., stand over:—Mount Lebanon Lodge, 73; High Cross, 754; Blair, 815; Eclectic, 1301; Waldram, 1327; Era, 1423; Francis Burdett, 1503; Jerusalem Chapter, No. 185.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

[The charge is 2s. 6d for announcements, not exceeding four lines, under this heading.]

BIRTHS.

BAKER.—On the 12th inst., at Cheltenham, the wife of T. Y. Baker, of a son.
KENT.—On the 11th inst., at Trent Villa, Netherwood-road, West Kensington Park, W., the wife of John Kent, of a son.
STUBBS.—On the 13th inst., at Kettel Hall, Oxford, the wife of the Rev. W. Stubbs, M.A., of a son.
WILSON.—On the 1st inst., at Grove Hall, Knottingley, the wife of M. A. Wilson, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

BECKWITH—WADE.—On the 12th inst., at Evercreech, Somerset, H. J. Beckwith, Capt. 53rd Regt., to Kathleen, daughter of R. C. Wade, Esq., of Clonbraney, Co. Meath.
WOOD—COLENUTT.—On the 5th inst., W. Wood, jun., of Fishmongers' Hall, to Ruth, eldest surviving daughter of J. Colenutt.
WHITE—SMYTHE.—On the 10th inst., at All Saints, Maidstone, Alfred Starnes, son of A. White, of Nettlesed Court, to Adeline Rimmellou, daughter of J. Smythe, of Fairview, Maidstone.

The Freemason,

SATURDAY, OCT. 21, 1876.

OUR ROYAL GRAND MASTER'S VISIT
TO GLASGOW.

The reception which the loyal citizens of Glasgow have accorded to H.R.H. the Prince of Wales our illustrious Head, has been most warm and gratifying in every respect. We have always said, that in no portion of our Order, and under no Constitution, has the Grand Master of English Masonry Grand Patron of Scottish Masonry more zealous and devoted adherents than in North Britain, and we are rejoiced to know that never has the Prince of Wales and his amiable and charming Consort been more enthusiastically welcome than in Glasgow. With Baillie Nicol Jarvie, there are few of us who, having read the accounts of the public reception and the Masonic demonstration, will not say with that excellent personage, most warmly and sincerely, "Let Glasgow flourish." It has added to its previous high prestige, by the admirable and remarkable manner in which it has taken up and carried through all the necessarily complicated arrangements which go to make up a great public ceremonial of the kind. Nothing seems to have been wanting to the occasion, everything appears to have been in perfect order and harmony, no unseemly hitch of any kind marred the pleasantness and progress of the day's proceedings from first to last; and we trust, as we believe, that such an "Alba Dies" in the annals of that great and flourishing city will have left an ineffable souvenir in the warm hearts and friendly memories of thousands. The Masonic arrangements appear to have been very complete, and reflect great credit on all by whom they were compiled. 8000 Masons are said to have taken part in the procession and gathering, and the loyalty of Scottish Freemasonry has been gallantly shown forth in the presence of their fellow citizens, nay, we may say, of the world. We congratulate the Grand Lodge of Scotland both for its able programme and goodly muster, just as we warmly felicitate our brethren, in Glasgow especially, on the success which has attended all their zealous efforts, and the complete and entire harmony of action which has resulted from their thoroughly Masonic union and sympathies. We give an account of the day and its work elsewhere, and especially a resumé of the Masonic demonstration, which, while it is in itself most creditable to our Scottish brethren, will be warmly appreciated, we know, by all Anglo-Saxon Masons. We unfeignedly rejoice to note how well and how right Royally our august Chief responds to all the many claims made upon his time and interest, whether in the routine discharge of the duties of his exalted station, or in his sympathetic appearance in many public assemblies of Her Majesty's subjects; and we trust, as loyal Freemasons, that all of good and happiness may attend on his onward and important career, and on the private and public life of himself and his gracious and gentle Consort.

THE LAST QUARTERLY COURT OF
THE GIRLS' SCHOOL.

The results of the last Quarterly Court of this interesting and important Institution must have been most satisfactory to all friends of the School. Not only was there a large attendance of Governors, but the tone and temper of the meeting were very encouraging to all who wish, by careful and progressive improvements, to keep our great metropolitan institutions up to the level of the age, and in entire harmony with the wishes and feelings of the brethren. Our old friend and excellent Bro. Muggeridge, to whom we allude in a special article, received on his retirement from the onerous duties of Collector a very hearty greeting, and the expression of a very fraternal recognition of his many and meritorious services to the School and to Masonry, and his "Honorarium" for his lengthened "Collectorship" was cheerfully and unanimously accorded. The

main question of interest for the meeting was with respect to Bro. Raynham Stewart's motion, the appointment or non-appointment of a "Collector," on which moot point a great deal, no doubt, can be said on both sides of the question. There seemed to be a general wish to have the subject thoroughly looked into by the General Committee, and, on the motion of Bro. Joseph Smith, a very good committee of nine was appointed to report to a special general meeting of the Institution. We congratulate the Subscribers and the Order on this very judicious resolution, and we feel sure, that on the report of the committee in due time, a satisfactory conclusion will be arrived at. One point, which has always been a difficult one to deal with, owing partly to "vested interests," old arrangements, customary procedure, and, to say the truth, a little good Masonic "blue tape," was, we think, clearly decided by the meeting, and a very important point it is in our humble opinion. So complicated has been the system of "poundage," for instance, that, as Bro. Little stated in answer to a question of Bro. Joseph Smith, four systems of calculation have been employed, on which the Collector was finally paid. But it is manifestly absurd, and Masonically unfair, that the Collector, living in London, should receive a poundage, be it ever so small, on sums sent direct from any lodge, or Steward, or province, to the Secretary of the Institution. It has long been quite clear, that if any such poundage was to be allowed at all, it ought to be given to the Prov. Grand Secretaries, who have great trouble, and often great responsibility thrown upon them, or even the Stewards. But we object to such a system of "poundage" altogether; it is neither business-like nor fair, and has long been a standing complaint and pressing grievance. We do not enter into the question of whether a collector be needed for the metropolitan district or annual subscribers—it may be so; but all we wish to contend for is, that he shall only be remunerated on what he actually himself pays in, and that if the services of a trustworthy Collector cannot be procured on such terms, then, that he must be paid an increased per centage on what he does bring in, together with, if need be a small regular supplemental salary, to appear as such in the accounts of the Institution. It is a very unsatisfactory method in order to give any collector a good income, and make his post worth having, that a per centage should be paid to him on sums which do not pass through his hands at all, and about which he knows nothing. We, therefore, are glad to know that the general feeling of the large meeting on Saturday last was against a continuance of such a "make-shift" system, and in favour, whether through a "collector," or "collecting clerk" in the Secretary's office, of simple "payment for results," and that an end should be put to the previous objectionable arrangement. As the matter is now before a committee, we do not think it respectful to them to say anything more on the subject, as we feel sure that it is in good hands, and will be carefully considered and fully discussed.

MASONIC ARCHÆOLOGY.

There is a view of Masonic history which has some adherents, and which we will now consider. Some have said that Freemasonry is only the result of an Hermetic association, and that as we have it, it is really based on Hermeticism. We do not agree with such a view for the following reasons. That an Hermetic society has existed for many centuries is probably true, that those who practised Hermetic arts, and studied an occult lore, may have formed themselves into a fraternity or brotherhood, we think may be readily conceded. That the "Frater Rosæ Crucis" were in existence in the 17th century, is also, we think, incontestable. But the whole question hinges upon this, what had they to do? had they anything to do with Freemasonry proper? And this is a query very difficult indeed to answer. Some facts in the consideration of this problem crop up which are very curious in themselves, whatever their exact bearing may be on the point at issue. What is called the magical alphabet, for instance, has a very curious resemblance to many of the old Ma-

sons' marks, and many of the Masons' marks are exact facsimiles of the so-called magical letters. The well-known emblems of Freemasonry, the "Pentalpha," the "Hexapla," the "point within a circle," are well known to all readers of the Hermetic literature and no doubt many of the famous astrologers and Rosicrucians were great mathematical and geometrical scholars. But here we stop, we can go no further, and as for any direct connection we do not know how to prove it. Elias Ashmole, of whom so much has been made, as regards Hermeticism, by some German and English writers, was a "Freemason" before he became an attendant on the "Astrologers' Feast," at least we find in his diary previous to his initiation in 1646 no trace of any astrological fraternity. Hence, at the outside, the theory of a Hermetico-Masonic continuation is a very hazy one indeed. But another and still more serious question remains behind. Admitted that the Hermetic society existed, has that Hermetic society anything to do historically, positively, really, with what are termed the Theosophic or Hermetic High Grades? Are not all these High Grades an adaptation of Hermetic formulae, the appropriation of the terminology and symbolism of a dying or defunct sodality for special purposes, and with another end? Bro. Yarker seems to hold, if we understand his words aright, that all the grades above the three first are the product of Hermeticism, or rather founded upon it. He says this, we repeat, if we understand his argument rightly, though it is not quite clear to us whether he assumes that Hermeticism and High Grade Masonry are synonymous, "convertible terms," or whether they are essentially distinct, the latter being an adaptation and imitation of the former. We are ourselves quite clear as to one fact, that the "Hermeticism" of the Dedication to "Long-Livers" has nothing to do with the Royal Arch, whatever else it may refer to, and we are disposed, notwithstanding some difficulties, to accept frankly the statement that Hermeticism existed in 1721, and was known to the Craft Masons then. But even admitting this, though it proves something, it does not prove everything. The writer of that Dedication, whoever he was, may have been a Rosicrucian, and as such considered it a higher degree, and some of the Masons of 1717 may have been Rosicrucians too, but then we have yet to learn that Rosicrucians and "Chevaliers Rose Croix" have anything in common. Such names and grades are clever manipulations or arrangements of Ramsay, and others, for distinct purposes, of an old society then dying out, for whatever may have been the case in France, certain it is that in England we can find few traces of the Hermetic grades till about fifty years after 1721. Even in France all seems to proceed from Ramsay's famous oration in 1740, and we confess that we still await with the deepest interest the evidence of an active Hermeticism in the middle of the last century, though we admit its actual existence, if "Philaethes" is to be credited, in 1721. We believe that Bro. Yarker has published a statement of an existence of a list of chapters of H.D.M. in 1743, as of "time immemorial," but we shall be glad to know where that list exists, and whether printed or in MS. If certain Chapters were at work in 1743, that is a very important fact, per se, and we therefore stop here today, as, before we can speak decidedly on this important question, we shall like to know what is the actual evidence, if any, of an active Hermeticism, after 1721, and before, say 1770. As regards the evidence of old rituals, all such have to be looked at by "experts," because it is not necessarily a case of "sequitur," that because a document is said to be 200 years old, it is really so. But all such questions can now be treated dispassionately, and discussed calmly and archaeologically, and we need not throw any heat into such a simple archaeological discussion.

BRO. MUGGERIDGE.

We most of us know Bro. Muggeridge, and there are few of us, we believe, who have not a very warm and friendly feeling for so good a Mason and so worthy a man. Bro. Muggeridge,

who took farewell of the Quarterly Court of the Girls' School on Saturday last, as Collector, after a faithful and meritorious service of 20 years, has retired, owing to ill-health, on a well earned pension. The entire sympathy and "hearty good wishes" not only of a large meeting, but of all the subscribers to the Girls' School, and we will add, the entire Craft, go with our esteemed and venerable brother. Few more hard-working brethren probably have ever existed in English Masonry than that well-known and untiring individual termed by some "Old Mug." Not only as the zealous and indefatigable Collector of the Girls' School is he a "grata persona" wherever he appears, wherever his familiar face presents itself, but as a skilled instructor of the Order he has rendered many and valuable services, alike to lodges and chapters and individual brethren. His name has long been honourably identified with the well known "Stability" Lodge of Instruction, and we all of us are well aware of his zeal and energy, and efficiency as a Masonic instructor, and of the urbanity and readiness with which he is always glad to impart instruction to his brethren. As he left the room on Saturday we could not help saying to ourselves, "May your old age, honest and hard-working brother, be peaceful and serene, and may yours be a happy and gentle passage through your declining years, cheered and sweetened by the kindly goodwill of friends and brethren, and gladdened and exhilarated by the ever pleasant remembrance of duties well performed, of work truly done, as well for the great Order of which you have been so faithful a member, as for your brethren of whom you have been so friendly a companion, and so sincere a well wisher." We think that all will hope, that our old friend and kindly brother may, in the good Providence of the G.A.O.T.U., receive for many tranquil years the honorarium of faithful service and the assurances of our fraternal regard.

FRENCH FREEMASONRY.

We have received Bro. Caubet's reply in the "Monde Maconique" to the question we asked, relative to the statement of irregular marriages in French Lodges. We are happy to find that it is as we expected, a pure calumny. We shall publish Bro. Caubet's letter and allude to the matter next week, and we shall also take the opportunity of calling attention to one or two questions of importance, gravely affecting, in our opinion, the present interests and future position of French Freemasonry.

Original Correspondence.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for, or even as approving of the opinions expressed by our correspondents, but we wish, in a spirit of fair play to all, to permit—within certain necessary limits—free discussion.—Ed.]

THE CANT OF MASONRY.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

The writer of the article in the "Hampshire Post" under the above heading is scarcely worthy of the powder and shot with which you have annihilated him. I would not have troubled you with any remarks upon his silly and spiteful observations were it not for the description he gives to those who he chooses to say "usurp the name of Masons." He calls them "the lawyers, tailors, butchers, and tradesmen of all sorts." First of all, does the writer know the meaning of the word "usurp"? If he does he must be aware that he has made a misuse of it. But why this choice of vocations? Is it intended for a sneer, or is it written in ignorance of those who constitute the Masonic body? If it be a sneer, well, let it go for what it is worth. As Masons we look at a man's character, and not his calling, as the criterion of his excellence; and we do not think it derogatory in itself for a man to be a "lawyer, tailor, butcher, or any other sort of tradesman." If, however, this be the writer's ignorance, well, poor fellow, that he may not commit himself again let us inform him that kings, noblemen of all ranks, from dukes to country squires, great statesmen and other professional men besides lawyers are to be found amongst us; that H.R.H. the Prince of Wales is our present Grand Master, and that the worthy brother who presided at Havant the other day is neither a "lawyer, a tailor, a butcher, or any other sort of tradesman." In other words: here is a verse of an old song which our aristocratic (?) reviler probably never heard of,
"Great kings, dukes, and lords,
Have laid by their swords,
Our mysteries to put a good grace on,
And ne'er felt ashamed
To bear themselves named
As a Free and an Accepted Mason."

The sneering tone pervades the whole article, making palpable the animus of the writer, whilst the ignorance displayed in his notion of the class of individuals who are Masons is also shown in all that he puts forth respecting Freemasonry itself; in fact he writes of what he knows nothing about, and consequently he writes nonsense.

There is only one portion of the article which demands in any way to be treated seriously:

"Surely if exemplars were wanted it is not necessary to go further than Christ, and, disciples and apostles. This leads us to the consideration. Are Christianity and Freemasonry consonant in principle? If this be true, then surely Masonry is superfluous. If they are not so then Masonry must be mischievous."

This is one of those plausible and sweeping arguments which if sound would be irresistible. But it has too much of the "begging the question" about it. It savours too much of cant! If we were indeed followers of Christ, imbued with the spirit and the mind of Christ, we should have no need of external aids of any kind, churches, creeds, clergymen, or communions, to help us to a better life. But when we see Christianity, as exemplified by its professors, split up into rival sections, each fierce and bitter in its denunciation of the other, then surely there is room for a society, call it by what name you will, which professes no dogma, religious or political, save that of love to God and love to man, and whose action, being beneficent, is neither "superfluous nor mischievous."

Yours faithfully and fraternally,

A MASON BUT NOT AN "USURPER."

Oct. 10th, 1876.

LONG LIVERS.

Dear Bro. Kenning,—

Having read Bro. Hughan's and Bro. Yarker's letters in the last "Freemason," I think it well to send you the following few and friendly remarks.

Until I saw Bro. Mackey's paper in the "Voice of Masonry" I was not aware that Bro. Yarker had alluded to the work.

It is clear from his statement that he publicly, July 24th, 1875, mentioned "Long Livers," and gave an extract from the Dedication, and that therefore he is the first who brought the book formally and publicly to the notice of Masonic students.

It seems that the existence of the work was known some time previously to Bro. Matthew Cooke, who first mentioned it to Bro. Yarker, and from Bro. Capt. Irwin, of Bristol, Bro. Yarker received the collated extract which he made use of publicly in his book, though not mentioning the source.

The quotation in Bro. Yarker's work he appears to have obtained from Bro. Matthew Cooke.

I am free to confess, though my library is very large, and my collection of MSS. and references very extensive, yet I did not happen to know of the work, (as might well happen,) until I saw it first alluded to in the "Voice of Masonry." My studies, as you are aware, have been mainly devoted to works and MSS. on Craft Masonry, and, not being a High-Grade man myself, I have never gone out of my way to search for or acquire such High Grade works, though I have many in my possession for archaeological purposes.

But the moment I saw it, it appeared to me to be very important in two respects.

First, it shewed that the antiquity of the Hermetic connexion was greater than was often contended; and secondly, it seriously affected the current theories of Hermetic history, and for this reason. If this statement was correct, the generally received view that Hermetic Masonry was a development of Ramsay's movement in 1740 must be greatly shaken if not given up—at once—and such a fact opened out two other considerations very important for the Masonic historian.

1. What was the real connection between Freemasonry and Hermeticism? and secondly, what was the earliest trace of the existence of an Hermetic Masonry?

These points have yet to be elaborated and developed, and the matter itself has to be more closely looked into than has yet been the case.

But the Masonic history of Hermeticism will have to be re-written, as if it existed in 1721 it could not have been created after 1740.

Bro. Yarker, I note, states that in his opinion the allusions on the Dedication refer to the Royal Arch.

But such a theory is, I apprehend, utterly inadmissible for many reasons, and, like Bro. Hughan, I think the subject requires a good deal of careful consideration, and cannot be too hastily or dogmatically decided. I am much more inclined myself to believe that the terms, which are pure Hermetic jargon, like "King Pyropus," and many more, refer to a Rosicrucian confraternity, perhaps the actual "Fratres Rose Crucis," who did undoubtedly exist, but who are not the same as the Order of "Rose Croix."

I do not lay much store myself by the assertion of even in 1743 a list of six lodges of H.R.M., &c., existing then in London, "from time immemorial," and alluded to by Bro. Yarker, as the words, from "time immemorial," are of easy use and deceptive authority.

Would Bro. Yarker kindly tell us where that list is to be found, as just now Bro. Hughan is making a special study of the lists, and we may light upon some interesting facts.

It will be seen from what I have said, that I for one do not and cannot accept Bro. Yarker's theory of the Hermeticism alluded to, being that of the Royal Arch, and think that we have got to learn the actual connexion between Hermeticism and the High Grades. We have also, it appears to me, to learn how far what may be termed Hermetic Masonry, is actually a product of the old Rosicrucianism, or an adaptation by the mystical Masons of the later part of the last century, of the term-

inology, and vocabulary and name of a real Hermetic Society.

The subject is most interesting, and demands careful study and dispassionate consideration.

I am, dear Bro. Kenning, yours most fraternally.

THE EDITOR OF THE "MASONIC MAGAZINE."

INFORMATION THAT MAY BE USEFUL TO THE BRETHREN.

To the Editor of the *Freemason*.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Doubtless there are many of your readers who, either to enjoy a little rest and change, or for the sake of their children's education, are desirous of residing in Paris, but who find it extremely difficult to obtain reliable information as to the two great desiderata—comfort and economy.

As I should esteem it a privilege to be useful to my brethren, will you permit me to say that I shall be glad to forward to any of your readers, on application, the address of a Pension and a School (for Boys) in Paris, which from personal experience I can vouch to be excellent in every respect? The information that I desire to impart I had great difficulty in acquiring.

I am, dear Sir and Brother, fraternally yours,
J. KINGSTON, Chaplain, R.N.,
P. Prov. Grand Chaplain for Dorset, &c.
H.M.S. Cambridge, Devonport, Oct. 14th.

FEMALE FREEMASONRY.

To the Editor of the *Freemason*.

Dear Sir,—

It is not that I wish to carry on any further discussion, but I cannot refrain from trying to exonerate myself in the eyes of "Another Freemason's Wife," by stating that the very last thing I could wish would be to prevent or begrudge my husband a little recreation from the toil and harass of business, and I admit, as before, a lodge is no place for a modest woman, and I quite agree with you, Mr. Editor, that there would be very great impropriety in it; but the real force of my argument is this,—If women were to band themselves in a secret manner, say no men admitted, their husbands especially would deem they had a right to know what could occupy two or three hours of their time, and would give themselves no rest till they had unearthed such a society. I am aware women bear the name of curiosity, but in such a case as I allude to we should find the men were our equal, providing they loved us, otherwise it would be immaterial to them what their wives did or how they passed their time. As to the term profane, if your correspondent reads your article on the initiation of the Countess Hadick, she will there see she is termed profane, and the men are termed blind till they are enlightened in Freemasonry. I have my doubts about your correspondent being a woman; if so, she is one by herself, as all Freemasons' wives I have come in contact with, uphold my views, and how she can converse with her husband on a subject which he is bound to conceal by the most awful vows is beyond my comprehension.

Trusting you will pardon the liberty I take in troubling you again,

Yours very respectfully,

A FREEMASON'S WIFE.

To the Editor of the *Freemason*.

Dear Sir,—

Will you kindly grant me a space in your valuable columns to most sincerely thank the "Freemason's Wife" for her letter in your issue of the 7th inst., in which she has so well described the sorrowful feelings of many of her sex, and ably expressed the sentiments of a true "lady Mason." I presume that the brethren consider that their would be sisters are not sufficiently noble minded to "exchange the sceptre for the trowel," &c., &c., but, in my opinion, more might be given to charity were the real wives of real Freemasons able to assist their husbands in the holy and good work, as they (the would-be sisters) would not require any expensive adornments to induce them to work well, and work altogether in the cause of charity, for

"It builds our quiet, as it forms our lives."

A Freemason, if he be such in word and deed, which, as your correspondent says, is pretence, fully appreciates a brother's worth if he enters heart and soul into their mutual business. Now, they cannot converse on the subject in the presence of their wives because of their secret, or pretended secret, consequently they are left to mourn in solitude their husband's want of confidence in one whom they honour.

This, and this alone, in Freemasonry is calculated, in my opinion, to make a loving, trusting wife just the reverse. Who has a greater right to enter into and share your joys and sorrows than she? Home is most certainly a good wife's place, and where ought so much rest and peace to be found as one's own fireside, after an interesting meeting for the husband, to discuss the subject predominant in the hearts of both, viz., Freemasonry?

Why will not some good Freemason who has a good wife—one, I mean, who would do honour to the Craft, give the matter his attention, and do something towards bringing happiness to the homes of many of his brethren? Trusting you will acknowledge this in your next issue.

I am, Sir, yours truly,

ANOTHER FREEMASON'S WIFE.

Ramsgate, 16 Oct.

FREEMASONRY IN GERMANY.

To the Editor of the *Freemason*.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

If your space permits, I beg you to insert the following, as it may be interesting for some of your readers. On the 20th of May there was held in Berlin

a conference of all the daughter lodges which are under the headship of the National Grand Lodge. The Lodge "Wittkind," of Minden, proposed to abolish the well known S. 165, A 1 of the constitution, which is the sort called Jews' sec. There were present at that meeting 52 members of the Grand Lodge, and 93 Deputies of the daughter lodges. The enlightened G.M., Von Etzel, was for the abolition of that famous paragraph. However, at the taking of the votes 88 were found to be for, and 57 against the proposition, and as there was not the necessary two thirds majority the proposition was rejected. Out of the 52 members of the Grand Lodge present, 23 voted Yes, and 29 No, and out of the 93 deputies of the daughter lodges, 65 voted Yes, and 28 No. The correspondent of the "Bauphütte," who related this, regretted very much such an event, and I heard, during my presence in Germany, that in consequence the Worshipful Grand Master resigned. It is indeed a sad state of things, that in such an enlightened country as Germany there should exist such an intolerance amongst Freemasons, whose first principle is, as everybody, even the outsiders, know, that every honest man is capable of becoming a Freemason quite independent of his creed; in fact, Freemasonry boasts—and this with good reason, too—of being the only universal religion in which members of all creeds can unite. But, fortunately for Germany, this middle-aged state of things exists only in some parts of North Germany, while Hamburg and other parts of North Germany, as well as the South, do not know of such an intolerance, and I have visited several important cities and towns where honest Jews are not only admitted into the Craft, but hold high offices, too, in Provincial and Grand Lodges. These lodges are more conformable in their constitutions to English lodges. But it is to be hoped sincerely that even in Berlin, at another meeting, those brethren who were against it will have been enlightened. "So mote it be."

I am, yours fraternally,

J. STRAUSS,

Chaplain of the Lodge Harmony, 600.

Bradford, Oct., 1876.

FREEMASONRY IN SOUTH AMERICA.

To the Editor of the *Freemason*.

Dear Sir and Brother,

I have seen with pleasure in your issue of April 8th last a notice from a correspondent that a lodge had at last been formed in Bolivia, called "Trabajo y Honor," No. 17. As W.M., I take the liberty of sending one or two items respecting the lodge, as well as the names of the office-bearers for the present year.

The Republic of Bolivia has a population of two millions of inhabitants, but up to September of last year it had not a single lodge. The few brothers then residing in the port of Autogagasta solicited a charter from the Grand Orient of Peru, obtaining which, we commenced our labours under somewhat peculiar and interesting circumstances. On the night of the first session there were present the following nine brethren, representing nine distinct nations of the world:—Bros. Luis Lichtenstein, German; E. H. Neill, English; Emile Parjo, French; José Jordan, Spanish; Antonio Magallanes, Portuguese; Luis F. Pullma, Chilean; Manuel A. Tejada, Argentine; Escipion Vernaza, Columbian; Abdon S. Ondaiza, Bolivian; giving an incontestable proof of the universality of Masonry—no 12 members, with one exception all strangers to the country, hailing from parts widely separated, meeting to establish a new lodge.

Since then the lodge has prospered. We have 54 new members, all of whom are enthusiastic in the work, and we hope ere long to establish other lodges in the interior of the Republic.

The officers for the present year are Bros. E. H. Neill, W.M.; Hernan Puelma, S.W.; Manuel T. Alcaldi, J.W.; Apolinar Aramayo, Sec.; Pedro Latorre, Treas.; Franklin Alvarado, Orator; Ezekiel de la Pena, S.D.; Andres Cueto, J.D.

Believe me, dear Sir, yours fraternally,

E. H. NEILL.

Autogagasta, Bolivia, South America,

5th September, 1876.

THE FUNDS OF GRAND LODGE.

To the Editor of the *Freemason*.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

"An Old P.M., One, &c." is perfectly right in two particulars:—

1. "The quotations given by 'Moneta' do not serve him"—Quite true; but I hoped that they would serve "An Old P.M., One, &c." by affording the information that I believed he sought; surely it is not my fault if my quotations are all that the "Constitutions" have to say on the subject.

2. "Grand Lodge, before it can do as it likes with its own, must make a law to enable it to do so." Doubly true, and precisely what I said—namely, that, in the first place, Grand Lodge must legislate on every occasion that any money vote comes before it; and, in the second, that so legislating Grand Lodge acts on every such occasion precisely as seems to it to be the best.

Where, then, am I wrong, further, perhaps, than in having endeavoured to put the results of some years' study of our Constitutions at your correspondent's disposal, who seems for some inexplicable reason not to desire the information that he asked?

Faithfully and fraternally yours,

MONETA.

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GOLDEN WEDDING OF BRO. CORNELIUS MOORE AND THE "MASONIC REVIEW."

My good friend and Bro. Moore, of Cincinnati, Ohio, has just issued the last number of Vol. XLVIII. of the "Masonic Review," and provided the Craft rightly appreciates his valuable services on its behalf, he intends to continue the publication until the 50th volume is printed, and in the hands of the subscribers.

Bro. Thomas J. Mellish (associate editor) tells us in an introduction to the number for August, entitled "Resurgamus," that "the 'Masonic Review' claims the credit of being the oldest Masonic periodical now extant." I should like to add—True Bro. Mellish! The oldest, and as truly, one of the best ever circulated. I regret exceedingly that such an interesting publication is not meeting with the favour which its long career entitles it to expect, but I hope that the contemplated anniversary of the marriage of Bro. Moore with the "Masonic Review" will incite many a brother to subscribe, and that the members of the "mystic tie," in Ohio especially, will do their utmost not only to secure the celebration of the golden wedding, but also to place the well-known magazine on a sound financial basis. Already several Masonic periodicals in other quarters have said a few cheering words on its behalf, and in order to practically exhibit the favourable opinions so widely entertained, I should like to hear that the Grand Lodge of Ohio, and all the other Grand Bodies of that State, had decided to subscribe for a copy of Volume 50 to be sent to each of their constituent lodges, chapters, commanderies, &c., &c. Why not? It may be a novel proceeding, but surely a most justifiable one under the circumstances. To the "Masonic Review" the Masons of both hemispheres are considerably indebted, not only for the reprinting of many scarce pamphlets, but beyond all, for the publication (so far) of Bro. Enoch Terry Carson's catalogue of his great Masonic Library, an enterprise which I pray that Bros. Moore and Carson will live to complete, and be long spared to issue many subsequent additions to such a useful, valuable, and unique Bibliographical/Masonic work. Bro. Moore's independence, as an editor holds honourable rivalry with his varied Masonic knowledge, and his fairness, and evenhandedness are only equalled—not surpassed—by his great love and admiration of the principles of our ancient and honourable institution. I wish him every success and prosperity, and feel assured that my fraternal sympathy and appreciation are but the expression of many thousands of Craftsmen at home and abroad who admire the man and the Mason.

WILLIAM JAMES HUGHAN.

LONDON MASONIC CLUB.

A large and influential meeting of the members of this highly successful club was held on Wednesday last in the principal dining saloon, Bro. Langton, Chairman of the committee, presided, and stated that the meeting was called for the purpose of considering a communication which had been received from the directors of the London Masonic Club Company, Limited (the proprietors of the club). This communication was to the effect that the directors are about to issue some of the unallotted shares of the company. These shares, owing to the almost unlooked for success which has attended the undertaking will, in their opinion, form a safe and lucrative investment. Before offering these shares outside the club they wished to invite the members to subscribe for the same. A resolution to the following effect was then moved by Bro. Banbury, and seconded by Bro. Jarvis that, having heard the statement of the directors, and their invitation to subscribe for the shares intended to be issued it was the opinion of the meeting that such invitation should as far as possible be accepted by the members, in order that they, by thus before becoming proprietors of their own club, may have more control, and take more interest in the continued success of the club, and secure its being conducted on true Masonic principles.

It was then moved by Bro. Binckes, and seconded by Bro. Dobbing, and carried unanimously, "That the thanks of the meeting be given to the Board of Directors for their exertions in establishing this club, and bringing it to its present successful position."

Bro. T. J. Smith suitably responded.

This very pleasant, and in all respects, very satisfactory meeting was then brought to a close by a cordial vote of thanks to Bro. Langton for presiding on the occasion. [The above appeared in our Second Edition of last week.]

STAR LODGE (No. 1275).—The Fifteen Sections are to be worked at this lodge, holding its meetings at the Marquis of Granby, New Cross, under the able Preceptorship of Bro. Govan Macdonald, W.M. 1158, &c., &c., on Saturday next, the 28th inst., Bro. Shaw, the esteemed Preceptor of the Pythagorean Lodge, having consented to preside, and the chair of S.W. is likely to be filled by Bro. D. Rose, W.M. 1632, Preceptor of the Peckham Lodge. From the well-known efficiency of the Star brethren, an enjoyable evening's entertainment may be confidently anticipated. Lodge opens at 7 p.m. sharp.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.—Health's Defences.—None save the strongest can with impunity pass through the sudden transitions from wet to dry, from cold to muggy weather so prevalent during the late autumn and early winter months. Influenza, bronchitis, cough, sore throat, diphtheria, or quinsy will attack those most watchful of their health; but they can readily arrest any of these complaints by rubbing Holloway's Ointment twice a day upon the skin adjacent to the affected part, and by assisting its corrective action with appropriate doses of his Pills. This well-known, safe, and easy mode of treatment efficiently protects the invalid both from present and future danger without weakening or even depressing the system in the slightest degree.—ADV.

THE ROYAL VISIT TO GLASGOW.

We condense the following from the accounts contained in the "Times," "Daily Telegraph," "Standard," and "Glasgow Herald."

The commercial metropolis of Scotland—Glasgow—was en fête on Tuesday, and its large population, joined by tens of thousands from Paisley, Greenock, and all the towns of the busy West, united in giving a becoming reception to the Prince and Princess of Wales. Seldom has the sentiment of a loyal people been more heartily expressed; and not since his Royal Highness's return from India has his public appearance been marked by a more generous enthusiasm, linked to a deep-seated admiration and loyalty. The only unfortunate circumstance connected with a demonstration, which was as splendid as it was spontaneous, was the bad weather.

The occasion of the visit of the Prince was to lay the foundation stone of the new General Post Office in George-square, but the Volunteers of the West of Scotland took advantage of his presence to have a grand review. It was at one time intended to make this inspection a sort of national welcome to the Prince, but His Royal Highness had expressed a wish that there should be no such ceremonial. It was determined to make the review a local affair, and it was this military display which commenced one of the busiest holidays which Glasgow has ever experienced. The review took place in the King's Park. The troops to take part had been drawn up in column under the direction of Col. Spott, Assistant Adjutant-General, and Captain Phipps, of the North British Staff. The parade ground was on the eastern portion of the Green, where a spacious grand stand had been erected for the representatives of the public bodies of the city. A Royal gallery, with bay window, prettily furnished, occupied the central block of the stand. There could not have been fewer than 60,000 spectators outside the barrier in the park. Arriving about half-past eleven o'clock, the Prince of Wales alighted from his carriage and mounted a charger in readiness; he wore the uniform of Colonel of the Caithness and Sutherland Volunteers, and was accompanied by Prince John of Glucksburg, in the uniform of the Royal Danish Guards.

Preceded by the brilliant staff, the Prince of Wales and Prince John of Glucksburg rode down the line of battalions of Volunteers, followed by the Princess of Wales in her open carriage; after which the troops marched past in column of regiments in the following order, the whole being under the command of General Stuart, C.B.:—First Brigade, Colonel Taylor commanding—Forfar Light Horse, 1st Lanarkshire and Ayr (combined) Artillery, 1st Renfrewshire Artillery, Glasgow Engineers; total 1350. Second Brigade, Colonel Butt commanding—1st Lanarkshire R.V., 3rd Lanarkshire R.V., 4th Lanarkshire R.V., 16th Lanarkshire R.V.; total 2550. Third Brigade, Colonel Carey commanding—19th Lanarkshire R.V., 25th Lanarkshire R.V., 31st Lanarkshire R.V., 105th Lanarkshire R.V.; total 2150; grand total, 5050. The marching was remarkably well executed. The troops then broke into columns of companies and marched past again at quick time.

While this manoeuvre was proceeding the immense crowd broke through the batteries and came into the enclosure with a rush; men, women, and children were thrown down, and it appeared for a few moments as if there would be a serious accident. A halt was called by the crowd just as they pressed in on the marching troops. General Stuart sent an aide-de-camp to bring up a detachment of the 7th Hussars, and these heading the people, firmly, yet with good humour and patience, forced them back to the lines.

During the greater part of the time that the review lasted, rain fell in heavy showers, and there was no abatement in the downpour as the Royal carriages drove off from the King's Park to the residence of the Lord Provost, in Park-terrace. The streets were lined with the Volunteers, the 78th Highlanders from Edinburgh, Royal Marines, and 26th Cameronians, while detachments of Hussars, assisted by the police, kept the streets free. The

distance, which extended for nearly four miles, was thronged by an immense concourse of spectators, and it was calculated that 400,000 persons watched the Royal procession. The demonstration as the Royal cortège passed was of the most enthusiastic description.

After luncheon the Prince of Wales exchanged his uniform for morning dress and the magnificent insignia of the Grand Master Mason of England. Some 7500 members of the Craft congregated with banners, sashes, aprons, and other insignia. Marching by Woodlands-road and the West-end Park, the Freemasons proceeded to the house of the Lord Provost, at Park-terrace, and took an hour to defile past.

At five minutes past four the Prince and Princess, accompanied by Prince John of Glucksburg and the Lord Provost, and attended by their suite, took leave of Mrs. Bain, and entered their carriage.

The Freemasons closed in front of the Royal carriages, and marched towards George-square, which was reached a few minutes after five o'clock. This large open space, next to Charlotte-square in Edinburgh, contains equestrian statues of the Queen and Prince Consort by Baron Marochetti, and statues of Lord Clyde, Sir John Moore, &c.

The procession arrived at George-square at 5.45, the Freemasons, who had lined the thoroughfare and closed ranks as the cavalcade passed along, bringing up the rear. George-square was magnificently decorated with Venetian masts, flags, banners, and shields. The masts were trimmed alternately with crowns and plumes, and on the middle of each was a shield with badges or orders connected with the Prince of Wales, among them being the Star of India, St. George, St. Andrew, St. Patrick, Baron of Renfrew, Lord of the Isles, the Principality of Wales, the Duke of Cornwall, the Duke of Rothesay, the Earl of Dublin, the Earl of Carrick, &c. The various monuments in the square and the surrounding buildings were also appropriately ornamented for hours before the Royal party arrived. George-square was crowded, and though the weather was of the most depressing kind the people were remarkably patient and good-natured, occasionally varying the monotony of waiting by singing and making numerous remarks upon each other. It was almost four o'clock before the body of Freemasons came on the platform, and in a few minutes after their Royal Highnesses entered by the covered way which had been prepared for them. They were heartily cheered as they passed along, and the band struck up "God save the Queen," and afterwards "God bless the Prince of Wales."

The Royal party drove slowly into the place through the opened ranks of the Freemasons; the Prince and Princess alighted at the north end of the square, and passed thence to the covered dais, where the foundation-stone was to be laid. Having taken up a position on the dais, a few feet from the foundation-stone, the Grand Lodge of Scotland, headed by Sir Michael Shaw Stewart, Grand Master for Scotland, Lord Balfour of Burleigh, and the Earl of Mar and Kellie, as Deputy Grand Master and Senior Warden, with Bro. Laurie, Grand Secretary, drew up in rear of the stone, and facing the Royal dais, when the band of the 26th Cameronians played the National Anthem.

The brethren of the "mystic tie," who were to accompany their Royal Highnesses in procession from the Lord Provost's residence to George Square, assembled in great force in order that the foundation stone of the New Post Office should be laid with all necessary Masonic pomp and circumstance. It is seldom indeed that they turn out in such numbers and from all parts of the country; but the rain sadly interfered with the brilliancy of their sashes, banners, and flags. By previous arrangement, the different Masonic bodies who had intimated their intention of taking part in the proceedings of the day were appointed to meet in Burnbank grounds. About mid-day the brethren began to assemble, and the marshalling of the scattered lodges into a proper line of procession was a duty not easy of accomplishment, but in the course of time, through the indefatigable exertions of Bros. Apthorpe, Robb, and Cranston something like order was

obtained. Meanwhile the Grand Lodge was being opened in the Albany Academy, Cumberland Street, West Burnbank, by the Rt. Hon. the Earl of Mar and Kellie, R.W. Deputy Grand Master, who was supported on the occasion by Bro. John Whyte-Melville of Bennoch and Strathkinness, R.W. Past Grand Master; the Right Hon. Lord Balfour of Burleigh, R.W. Substitute Grand Master; Bro. Alex. Smollett of Bonhill, Provincial Grand Master of Dumbartonshire; Captain G. R. Harriott of Killimore, Provincial Grand Master of Wigtown and Kirkcudbright; Bro. F. A. Barrow, acting Prov. Grand Master Glasgow; the Right Hon. Lord Ramsay, Prov. Grand Master of Forfarshire; Colonel Campbell of Blythswood, Prov. Grand Master of Renfrewshire, East; Bro. Hector F. Maclean, Carnwath, Prov. Grand Master of the Upper Ward of Lanarkshire; Sir James E. Alexander of Westerton, Prov. Grand Master of Stirlingshire; Peter M'Lagan, of Pumphreston, M.P., Prov. G.M. of Linlithgowshire; Colonel Mure, of Caldwell, M.P., Prov. G.M.; Bros. D. Murray Lyon, Proxy G.M. of West Indies; J. H. Neilson, Proxy G.M. of Venezuela; W. Mann, acting R.W.S.G.D.; Hay, acting R.W.J.G.W.; David Kinnear, acting G. Treas.; John Laurie, G. Sec.; Rev. Dr. W. H. Gray and the Rev. A. Thomson Grant, G. Chaplains; W. Alexander, S.G.D.; R. F. Shaw Stewart, J.G.D.; W. Officer, P.G.D.; Robert Matheson, acting Architect, supported by Andrew Kerr and John Baird, assistants; Daniel Robertson, Grand Bible Bearer; John Coghill, Grand Conductor of Ceremonies; Capt. G. F. Colt, of Gartsherrie, G.S.B.; C. W. Maxwell Müller, Grand Conductor of Music; A. T. Apthorpe, G.Mar.; W. Bryce, G. Tyler; R. Wilson, acting President, Board of G. Stewards; Chas. Mackenzie, Vice-President. Among the other members of Grand Lodge as commissioned officers of provincial lodges present were—Bros. Col. Guthrie, of Carlogie; J. Wolfe Murray of Cringletie; R. Wylie, P. Prov. G.M. of Ayrshire; Robert Wylie, P.P. G.M. and P.G. Sec.; W. R. Patrick of Trearne, S.P.G.M.; Rev. A. Inglis, P.G. Chap. Ayrshire; Wolfe Murray, D.P.G.M. Peeblesshire; Charles M'Kenzie, of The Avenue, Grand Stationer; James Nicol, Oban, P.G. Treas. Argyll and the Isles; D. Small, P.G.S.M. and W. M'Donald, P.G. Sec., Forfarshire; John Annan, Town-Clerk, Lanark, P.G. Treas. Lanarkshire; J. Scott, Mollance, D.P.G.M. Dumfries; Will. M'Ilwraith, P.G.S.W. Wigtown and Kirkcudbright; Provost Forrest, Hamilton, D.P.G.M., Mid-Lanarkshire; A. Walker, P.G.L., North Wales and Shropshire.

The Grand Lodge having been formed—the Right Hon. the Earl of Kellie presiding, and Bros. W. Mann and Hay acting as Senior and Junior Wardens respectively—letters of apology for absence were read by the Grand Secretary from the Right Hon. the Earl of Rosslyn, P.G.M.; the Right Hon. Lord Kinnaird, K.T., P.G.M.; the Right Hon. Lord Rosehill, J.G.W.; Alex. Hay, G. Tyler; F. G. Melville, President of the Board of Grand Stewards; Captain Charles Hunter, P.G.M. of Aberdeenshire, East. The acting Grand Master then adjourned the Grand Lodge for the proceedings of the day.

In the interim, deputations from the daughter lodges throughout the country were marshalled on Burnbank Grounds by Bro. Apthorpe, the Grand Marshal, assisted by Bros. Robb and Cranston. The Provincial Grand Stewards of Glasgow, having placed their services at the disposal of the Grand Lodge, were deputed to act as assistants to the Grand Marshal for the day, and very materially contributed to the successful manner in which the arrangements were carried out.

About half-past two o'clock the procession started from Burnbank in the following order, the senior lodges being in front:—

No. 0, Mother Kilwinning; 1, Mary's Chapel, Edinburgh; 2, Canongate Kilwinning, Edinburgh; 3, Scone and Perth; 3½, Glasgow St. John's; 4, Glasgow Kilwinning; 5, Canongate and Leith; 6, Old Kilwinning, St. John's, Inverness; 7, Hamilton Kilwinning; 8, Journeymen, Edinburgh; 9, Dunblane; 10, Dalkeith Kilwinning; 11, St. John's Maybole; 12, Greenock Kilwinning; 13, Torphichen Kilwinning, Bath-

gate; 15, Montrose Kilwinning; 16, Falkirk; 17, Ancient Brazen, Linlithgow; 18, St. John's Kilwinning, Dumbarton; 19, St. John's, Caper-Fife; 20, St. John's, Lesmahagow; 21, Old St. John's, Lanark; 22, St. John's Kilwinning, Kilmarnock; 24, Peebles Kilwinning; 25, St. Andrew's, St. Andrews; 26, St. John's, Dunfermline; 27, St. Mungo, Glasgow; 28, St. John's Kilwinning, Kirkintilloch; 30, Ancient, Stirling; 31, St. Mary, Coltness; 32, St. John, Selkirk; 35, St. John, Falkland; 36, St. David, Edinburgh; 38, St. Michael, Crief; 39, Kilsyth; 40, St. Thomas, Arbroath; 41, St. Cuthbert, Kirkcudbright; 44, St. Luke, Edinburgh; 46, St. John, Auchtermuchty; 49, Ancient, Dundee; 50, St. John, Inverary; 51, Loudon Kilwinning, Newmills; 52, St. Andrew, Banff; 60, St. John, Inverkeithing; 62, Thistle, Dumfries; 68, Doric, Kilwinning, Port-Glasgow; 69, Alloa; 72, Kirkcaldy; 73, Thistle and Rose, Glasgow; 74, St. Andrew, Perth; 75, Dunbar Castle; 76, Royal Arch, Stirling; 77, St. Regulus, Cupar-Fife; 79, St. Andrew, Annan; 86, Navigation, Troon; 87, Thistle, Glasgow; 88, Montrose, New Monkland; 90, Forfar Kilwinning; 95, St. Ayle, Anstruther; 97, St. James' Operative, Edinburgh; 100, St. Magdalen, Lochmaben; 102, St. Mark, Glasgow; 103, Union and Crown, Glasgow; 105, St. John's Operative, Coupar-Angus; 106, Lindores, Newburgh; 107, Eskdale, Kilwinning, Langholm; 109, St. Marnock, Kilmarnock; 111, St. John, Hawick; 112, St. John, Fisherrow; 114, Royal Arch, Cambuslang; 116, Royal Arch, Rutherglen; 117, St. Mary, Partick; 118, St. Bride, Douglas; 122, Royal Arch, Perth; 124, Ayr Kilwinning; 125, St. James, Newton-on-Ayr; 126, St. Andrew, Kilmarnock; 127, Thistle, Stewarton; 128, St. John, Shettleston; 129, St. Mirren, Paisley; 132, St. Luke, Lauder; 135, St. James, Tarbolton; 137, St. John, Blairgowrie; 138, Operative, Ayr; 140, Operative, Dumfries; 145, St. Stephen, Edinburgh; 147, Cawdor Argyll, Chryston; 149, St. Andrew, Irvine; 151, Edinburgh Defensive Band; 153, Royal Arch, Pollockshaws; 156, St. Barchan, Kilbarchan; 157, St. John Kilwinning, Beith; 158, Thistle Operative, Dundee; 160, Roman Eagle; 162, St. John, New Abbey; 165, Royal Arch, Ayr; 166, St. John, Airdrie; 167, Free Operatives, Biggar; 169, Thistle and Rose, Livingstone; 170, St. John, Leven, Dumbarton; 173, St. John, Largs; 174, St. John, Dunning; 175, St. John, Greenock; 176, St. Andrew, Denny; 177, St. James, Old Monkland; 178, Scotia, Glasgow; 179, St. Mungo, Mauchline; 180, Commercial, Oban; 181, Hopeton, Bathgate; 182, Incorporated Kilwinning, Montrose; 187, St. John, Carlisle; 189, St. John, Castle Douglas; 192, St. John, Muthill; 193, St. John Operative, Rothes; 199, St. Andrew, Cumbernauld; 201, St. Thomas, Muirkirk; 202, St. Clement, Kilmarnock; 203, St. John Operative, Airdrie; 204, St. Paul, Ayr; 205, Garthland, St. Winnoch; 215, St. Andrew's, Strathavon; 216, Stowe; 219, Star, Glasgow; 223, Trafalgar, Leith; 225, Forfar and Kincarcine, Dundee; 230, St. Barnabas, Old Cumnock; 233, Hamilton; 237, St. John, Girvan; 242, Houston, St. Johnston; 244, Union, Stonehouse; 250, Union, Dunfermline; 252, St. John, Thornhill; 254, Caledonian, Dundee; 258, Quhytewoolen, Lockerbie; 261, Tweed, Kelso; 262, St. John, Galashiels; 270, Thistle, West Calder; 272, St. John, Mid Calder; 275, Shamrock and Thistle, Glasgow; 281, Charleston of Aboyne; 282, St. Andrew, Lochlee; 286, Airlie, Kirriemuir; 290, Blair, Dalry; 291, Edinburgh and Leith Celtic; 292, St. John, Rothesay; 299, Panmure, Arbroath; 304, King Robert the Bruce, Auchtermuchty; 305, St. John, Woodhall; 306, St. Thomas, Larkhall; 307, Union and Crown, Barrhead; 309, Louar, Forfar; 314, Royal Arch, West Kilbride; 317, Camperdown, Dundee; 320, St. John, Ardrossan; 321, St. Andrew Royal Arch, Alexandria; 326, Clydesdale, Lanark; 327, St. Serff, Kinross; 331, St. Peter, Galston; 332, Union, Glasgow; 333, St. George, Glasgow; 334, St. John, New Cumnock; 335, Argyll, Dunoon; 347, St. John Operative, Rutherglen; 349, St. Clair, Edinburgh; 354, Caledonian Railway, Glasgow; 360, Commercial, Glasgow; 362, St. Clair, Glasgow; 370, Renfrew County Kilwinning, Paisley; 374, St. John, Crofthead;

375, Neptune, Aberdeen; 380, St. Andrew, Daybridge; 384, Athole, Kirkintilloch; 391, Zetland, Grangemouth; 392, Caledonian, Edinburgh; 399, Royal Blues, Kilbirnie; 400, Dunearn, Burntisland; 405, Rifle, Edinburgh; 406, St. John, Dalzell, Motherwell; 408, Clyde, Glasgow; 409, Douglas, Bolness; 413, Athole, Glasgow; 419, Neptune, Glasgow; 426, Prince of Wales, Renfrew; 427, St. Clair, Cambusnethan; 433, St. Thomas Kilwinning, Dalmellington; 437, Govandale, Govan; 441, Glasgow, Glasgow; 442, Neptune Kilwinning, Ardrossan; 448, Albert, Lochee; 458, St. John, Busby; 459, Kelburne, Cumbræ; 465, St. Andrew, Glasgow; 468, Oswald of Dunnikier, Rirkcaldy; 481, St. John, Shotts; 482, Kirkliston, Maitland; 484, St. John, Slamannan; 497, St. John, Katrine; 503, St. George, Helensburgh; 505, Burns' St. Mary, Hurlford; 507, Hopeton, Leadhills; 510, Maryhill; 512, Thortree, Thornliebank; 519, Kilwinning, Stranraer; 520, St. Clair, Dysart; 524, St. Andrew, East Kilbride; 531, Abercrombie, Bridge of Allan; 532, Rothes, Leslie; 541, Marie Stuart, Crosshill; 542, Union St. Andrews; 543, St. John, Dalmaur; 544, St. Andrew, Coatbridge; 547, The Steuart, Kilsyth; 548, St. Margaret, South Queensferry; 551, Clydesdale, Larkhall; 552, Kildaton, Port Ellon, Islay; 553, St. Vincent, Sandyford, Glasgow; 556, Clydesdale, Glasgow; 557, Blantyre, Kilwinning; 565, Bonnie Doon, Patna; 566, Ferguson St. James, Dailly; 570, Kenmure, Springburn; 571, Dramatic, Glasgow; 573, Livingstone St. Andrew, Motherwell; 575, St. Ninian, Nairn; 579, St. Bryde, Uddingston; 581, Plantation, Glasgow; 588, The Callander, Glasgow; 592, Albert Edward, Polmadie, Glasgow.

It is computed that the Masons who took part in the demonstration numbered about 7730, and these, accompanied by a host of brass and fife bands, and displaying all the flags and paraphernalia of the Craft, and headed by the Mother Lodge, Kilwinning, No. 0, proceeded by Woodlands Road, Lynedoch Street, Park Street East, Park Circus, Park Street West, to Park Terrace, which was reached by the lodge in advance at 2.35, exactly 45 minutes after the Royal party entered the Lord Provost's residence. As the Masons passed his lordship's door they doffed their hats to the Royal visitors, who seemed to be both amused and interested by the proceedings. There can be no doubt that the procession contained the elements of much that was provocative of mirth when observed by those not initiated in the mysteries of the Craft. Many of the lodges were headed by bands specially engaged for the occasion. These votaries of Orpheus may all be of one mind as to the necessity for harmony in sound, but it is evident that they do not recognise the same law in regard to colour and costume. Dressed in uniforms not unlike that worn by the Hussars, or in clothing of a light shade, but which was sadly soaked by the falling rain, or it may be in uniforms which had been made when the tailor's art was not carried to such perfection as it is now - a - days, these bandsmen excited a good deal of interest and uncharitable comment. While the band of the 78th was discoursing sweetly in front of the Lord Provost's house, it not unfrequently happened that one of these local bands turned from Park Circus into Park Terrace blowing "wi' micht and main," "Hey the Bonnie Masons," and the result was a discord which grated upon the ear. The look of disgust which they exhibited when their vigorous performance was ordered to cease was amusing to the spectator. Each lodge was liberally provided with flags, banners, and devices. The tattered appearance of many of these showed their great age; some were small, and could be easily handled by one person, but others were of such magnitude that the united exertions of six and eight men could hardly keep them in an upright position. But all these attractions paled in presence of the Tyler, whose fantastic costume excited much amusement. Judging from the turn-out, it would seem as if the "oldest inhabitant" had been brought from every town in which a Masonic body assembles, decked out in a curious dress and forced to march at the head of the lodge. Some were

got up as Eastern potentates with turbans and flowing Oriental costumes, and others as spruce shepherds and trig sailors. Altogether they were the individuals who during the day divided the public attention with Royalty. From the time the first lodge arrived at the Lord Provost's door until the rear came up an hour elapsed.

It should here be stated that immediately after it had adjourned the Grand Lodge formed in order of procession. In front were the representatives of Provincial Grand Lodges, the brethren of No. 3½, who carried the working tools used in the ceremony of the day; and the office-bearers of Grand Lodge brought up the rear. Having waited at the south end of Cumberland Street till the daughter lodges marched past, Grand Lodge fell in at the extreme end of the line. In this order the vast procession moved along the route indicated, but when Grand Lodge reached Park Terrace they allowed the daughter lodges to go before while they waited for H.R.H. the Prince of Wales to join them. By the time he did so the lodges had taken up their stations, and lined the route from Woodlands Crescent to the west side of George Square. Grand Lodge moved past the Lord Provost's residence, and the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Sir Michael Shaw Stewart, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, and party having joined the cortege, the Grand Lodge walked along the route already indicated, and which was lined by the Masons and their bands. Brother Bryce, Grand Tyler, headed the procession of Grand Lodge, followed immediately by the representatives of the Dumfries and Galloway Provincial Lodges, and others in due order. As they advanced, the Grand Tyler was generally recognised by the Craftsmen, and at sight of him, walking bareheaded, as he did all the way, they uncovered and received the Grand Lodge and their Royal patron with loud cheers, while the bands struck up the "Merry Masons," and other airs.

Mr. Marwick, City Clerk, then read the following address from the City of Glasgow:—

"May it please your Royal Highness,—We, the Lord Provost and Magistrates and Council of the City of Glasgow, avail ourselves of the presence of your Royal Highness and the Princess of Wales to renew the expression of our loyalty and devotion to Her Majesty the Queen. It is our earnest prayer that Her Majesty may long be spared in health and strength to discharge her high duties, and to add fresh lustre to the Crown by her personal virtues, and by the benignity and beneficence of her reign. We desire, on behalf of the citizens, to offer to your Royal Highness, and your illustrious Consort our warmest welcome to Glasgow. On the occasion of your last visit you were pleased to lay on its new site the foundation-stone of our University, an institution which during the last four centuries has fostered the taste for learning in Scotland, and provided the means of cultivating it. To-day your Royal Highness marks with a graciousness of which we are deeply sensible, your interest in our postal and telegraphic system by which the modern activity and widely extended interests of this community are sustained and developed, the human sympathies most favourable to peace and goodwill among men maintained and fostered. The rapid increase of Glasgow during the last half century has been attended with a corresponding increase in the demands upon the Post Office establishment in the city, and successive enlargements of the old building were soon found to be wholly inadequate, even for the present requirements. Under these circumstances Her Majesty's Government has sanctioned the erection of an entirely new structure, according to plans and elevations which promise to be a credit to Glasgow. That your Royal Highness has graciously consented to lay the foundation-stone of this building is regarded by the citizens as an evidence of your interest and a mark of your favour, for which they are deeply grateful. We rejoice to find that your Royal Highness has returned in unimpaired health and vigour from your eventful journey. We venture to regard this as an evidence that your constitution has not suffered from the severe ordeal through which it passed during that illness which pressed so heavily on the national heart, and made the people realize,

as nothing else could have done, how closely their affections and hopes are entwined around the Royal Family. We offer our humble and hearty thanks to the Princess of Wales for so graciously accompanying your Royal Highness on this occasion. Nowhere, we venture to say, in her Majesty's dominions is her Royal Highness more beloved than she is in this city; and it is a special gratification to its many thousands to see her in their midst with her husband and children. It is our earnest prayer that your Royal Highness and your illustrious Consort may long be spared to each other and to the nation, and that in the sweetness and sanctity of family life which it has been the inestimable privilege of both of you from your earliest years to enjoy, you may find unfailing solace amid the cares and anxieties of your exalted position. Signed in name and by appointment of the Lord Provost, Magistrates and Council of the City of Glasgow and the seal of the said city appended hereto the 17th day of October, 1876."

The Prince of Wales, in reply, said: My Lord Provost and Gentlemen—The Princess joins with me in thanking you cordially for your address, and for the welcome we have received from the ancient city of Glasgow. I sincerely appreciate the terms in which you allude to the Queen, and as her son I am greatly touched by the expressions which you make use of when speaking of the virtues for which her Majesty is so conspicuous in her public and private capacity. On a former occasion, together with the Princess, I visited your town—the most important and populous in Scotland—for the purpose of laying the foundation-stone of your new University, and we now come to perform a similar duty for your Post-office. I am always glad when I find that circumstances permit me to manifest the interest which I experience in everything relating to the material prosperity of our great manufacturing and commercial centres, and I have had much pleasure, therefore, in accepting your invitation that I should take a principal part in the proceedings of the ceremony of to-day. My expedition to the East was undertaken with feelings of the greatest interest, but high as were my expectations as to what I should witness in that wonderful country, they fell far short of the reality. I trust that the result of my visit may prove to have been of service to the many millions of my fellow-creatures in that distant quarter of the globe, and to have united yet more firmly the ties which bind our Eastern possessions with Great Britain. I venture to express the belief that in this hope I have not been entirely disappointed. One of the most intelligent of the native princes has stated, in a letter recently received from him, that one of the results of my visit has been to interest India and England in each other, and to make them understand each other, and to daily increase England's confidence in India and India's hopes in England. You refer, in connection with the presence here this afternoon of the Princess of Wales and my sons, to the domestic happiness which exists among the members of the Royal family. This allusion comes especially home to me at present, when just a year ago I was separated from all those I hold most dear to commence a long journey to a distant land: and I can assure you, gentlemen, I shall not easily forget the ordeal through which I passed on that occasion. In wishing all success to your undertaking, let me not forget to mention the name of the distinguished founder of the penny postage system, Sir Rowland Hill, to whom we are all, rich and poor, so much indebted. (Loud cheers.)

The Rev. Dr. W. H. Gray, Edinburgh, Grand Chaplain, then offered up a prayer, after which the Grand Master and other officers having duly performed the other duties, the Prince completed the laying of the stone by giving three knocks on the stone with a gilt mallet, and saying, "May the Almighty Architect of the Universe look down with benignity upon our present undertaking, and crown the edifice of which we have now laid the foundation with every success."

The ceremony over, the Royal party left the square, and drove to St. Enoch Station, whence a special train conveyed them to Blythwood House, where Colonel Campbell had the honour

of entertaining the Prince and Princess of Wales, Prince John of Glucksburg, and a distinguished party to dinner. At half-past eight a special train conveyed the Royal party from Renfrew to Kilmarnock, where they joined the Pullman limited mail to London.

In the evening the principal streets of the city were brilliantly illuminated, and at Gilmour Hill in the west, and Alexandra Park in the east, there were brilliant displays of fireworks. The University on Gilmour Hill was finely illuminated; and Sir Wm. Thomson, the professor of natural philosophy, gave a display of eclipsing light for lighthouses from the windows of his class-room.

The new building, which has been begun under such auspicious circumstances, is likely to prove adequate for the necessities of Glasgow for many years to come. It will occupy the site of the present Post Office, and a large piece of ground immediately to the east of it, and will extend from Hanover-street to Frederick-street, thus forming one half of the south side of George-square. Of course the old building still stands, as the work of the postal department must be carried on there until the eastern portion of the new edifice is completed, when the staff will be removed to it, and the remainder of the plan carried out. Judged even by external appearance the present Post Office must long ago have fallen short of the requirements of a city like Glasgow, which, besides having its immense letter carrying and telegraph business, is the postal centre for a large portion of the West of Scotland. About as much money has, we believe, been spent on extensions and alterations as would have provided an entirely new structure, but governments are slow to move when large demands are made upon them, and it is due to Lord John Manners, as Postmaster General, and Lord Henry Lennox, as First Commissioner of Works, to say that if they were not the first to recognise the postal necessities of Glasgow, they were the first to admit them in a practical sense, and to set the machinery in motion for having them met. When completed the new Post Office will cover 2,500 yards. It is designed in the Italian style by Mr. Matheson, of Her Majesty's Board of Works, Edinburgh, and promises to be architecturally an ornament to the city. The principal elevation, facing George square, will have a height of 75 feet, consisting of four floors above the level of the street, and will be divided into central and flanking compartments, each pierced by an entrance in the form of arched openings, with coupled columns of Peterhead granite, supporting an entablature overhead. The external arrangements will be of the most complex kind. All the latest mechanical contrivances for the saving of time and labour will be introduced.

For the accommodation of those privileged to witness the Masonic ceremony the most extensive preparations had been made; and while it was ultimately found inexpedient to throw the enclosure of the square open to the general body of the public, as large a number of tickets were issued giving admission within its precincts as it was thought could with safety be allowed. The stone was laid at the north-east corner of the new building at the junction of South Frederick Street with the square; and around this spot a platform, measuring some 200ft. by 60ft., was laid down for the reception of the Masonic brethren and official dignitaries. On the centre of this platform a raised dais was erected for the accommodation during the ceremony of the Prince and the members of the Grand Lodge. Springing from the platform to the west, south, and east were three spacious galleries, affording sitting room for about 200 persons; while a fourth gallery erected in Cockrane Street was allotted to the members of the Choral Union, who were in attendance to sing the Masonic music.

A fund is being raised to enable an old pupil of the Masonic School, Silver Medallist and Maybury Prize-man there, and Associate and Divinity Prize-man of King's College, London, to complete his course of study prior to entering Holy Orders. He is recommended for ordination by the Rev. Charles Woodward, late Head Master and Chaplain of the Boys' School; the Rev. Dr. Barry, Principal of King's College, and the Rev. Dr. Plumtree, Professor of Divinity, King's College.

PEACE OR WAR.

The following paragraphs appeared in the "Times" of Thursday, but seems to be of doubtful authority:—

WAR RUMOURS (FROM THE CENTRAL NEWS).

The Government have called upon Lloyd's to supply instantly a list of all seagoing steamers capable of conveying troops, and contingent contracts for their hire will forthwith be entered into.

Lord Napier of Magdala has been ordered to hold himself in readiness at a convenient spot in the Mediterranean, from whence he may at any moment be directed to proceed with troops to Egypt.

We are in a position to state that Her Majesty's Government have determined in the present grave aspect of the Eastern Question to hold an autumnal Session of Parliament. It is understood that the non-acceptance by Russia and Servia of the proposed Armistice is the immediate cause of this decision of the Cabinet.

In view of the threatening aspects of affairs in the East, confidential orders have been given by the War Office to the Commander-in-Chief to have three Army Corps in readiness for immediate despatch to the Mediterranean.

It is stated that plans for the defence of Constantinople, prepared by the Royal Engineers and approved by the War Office, have been forwarded to the Admiral of the Fleet in Besika Bay.

THE MINISTRY.—Late on Tuesday evening summonses were issued for a Cabinet Council on Thursday afternoon at the Prime Minister's official residence in Downing Street. The Council was summoned for 3 o'clock. Telegrams were forwarded to the Duke of Richmond, at Gordon Castle, and the Lord Chancellor, at Berchin, and to Lord John Manners, the Minister in attendance on the Queen, requesting their attendance. The Earl of Beaconsfield was expected to arrive in town that afternoon from Hughenden Manor. Lord Derby has been in town some days. The First Lord of the Admiralty came to town on Wednesday from Hampshire; and the Home Secretary reached town the same night from his seat in Lancashire to attend the Council.

UNION WATERLOO LODGE OF INSTRUCTION.—We are asked to state that the Fifteen Sections will be worked at the above lodge on Friday evening next, the 27th inst., at 7 o'clock precisely, in the Masonic Hall, William-street, Woolwich. Bro. D. Rose, W.M. 1622, P.M. 73, &c., &c., will preside. Trains leave London Bridge 5.39, 6.11, 6.29; returning from Woolwich 10.15, 11.25.

The newly created Lord Sackville has been appointed an extra Lord in Waiting, and Captain Charles Edmund Phipps, 18th Regiment, to be one of the Grooms in Waiting in Ordinary, in the room of his lordship.

The "Morning Post" hears that Mr. Van Princep is commissioned to proceed to India to paint a great historical picture of the proclamation of the Empire at Delhi. It is said that the artist is to receive 5000l. for his work and 1000l. for his expenses.

The first regular meeting of the Friends in Council Royal Arch Chapter, No. 1383, consecrated on Thursday week, will be held at the Masonic Hall, Golden Square, this (Saturday) afternoon, at 3 o'clock.

CONFIDENCE LODGE OF INSTRUCTION, No. 193.—The Fifteen Sections will be worked in this Instruction Lodge on Wednesday next.

Bro. Captain Wordsworth was unanimously elected a Trustee of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys on Monday last.

On Sunday the Princess Helena and Prince Christian landed at Dover from Germany; and after lunching at the Lord Warden Hotel, left for Cumberland Lodge, Windsor, where their children had arrived from Osborne on the previous Thursday.

The members of the Marquess of Lorne Lodge, No. 1354, will celebrate the Festival of St. John on Wednesday, November 1st, at the Masonic Hall, Leigh, Lancashire. The W.M. Elect, Bro. Dr. Hall, will be installed by W. Bro. John Bowes, P.M., Prov. G.S.W. Cumberland and Westmoreland.

The Fifteen Sections will be worked at the Whittington Lodge of Instruction Black Bull, Holborn, on Wednesday next, October 25th, by the brethren of the Constitutional Lodge of Instruction, No. 55; Bro. John Bingham, P.M. 55, W.M. 1599, will preside. The lodge will be opened at seven o'clock precisely.

The annual meeting of the Sun, Square and Compass Chapter, No. 119, will be held at the Masonic Hall, Whitehaven, on Friday, October, 27th. The Principal Elect will be installed by E. Comp. John Bowes, P.Z., &c., Prov. G.J.W.

LODGE OF BENEVOLENCE.

The monthly meeting of the Lodge of Benevolence was held on Wednesday evening at Freemasons' Hall. Bro. J. M. Clabon, President of the Board, presided; Bro. Joshua Nunn, Senior Vice-President, and Bro. James Brett, Junior Vice-President. There were likewise present Bro. Henry Bartlett, P.M. 147; E. P. Albert, G.P.; C. A. Cottebrune, P.G.P.; Samuel Poynter, W. Maun, P.M. 186; S. G. Foxall, A.G.P.; S. Rawson, Prov. D.G.M. China; William Stephens, P.M.; Wm. H. Myers, P.M.; Chas. Fredk. Hogard, P.M.; Wm. Hilton, P.M.; W. Clifton Crick, P.M. 657; B. H. Swallow, W. H. Murlis, P.M. 1489; J. H. Weston, W.M. 1536; C. T. Winterflood, W.M. 1321; John Dyte, P.M. 25; Geo. Everett, W.M. 1381; T. Whitmarsh, W.M. 1150; Hy. H. Gilling, P.M. 238; John Bingemann, W.M. 1599; Henry, Smith, P.M. 302; Captain J. Wordsworth, P.M., W.M. 380; A. Durrant, W.M. 1185; T. Durkin, W.M. 72; F. Binckes, P.M. 60; John Vaughan, P.M. 74; J. L. Hine, P.M. 75; Ralph Firbank, P.M. 167; Geo. Tims, P.M. 177; John Green, W.M. 27; Wm. Speth, jun., W.M. 183; J. R. Foulger, W.M. 1613; W. H. Kempster, P.M. 1920; J. Chambers Roe, W.M. 780; W. Burmister, W.M. 538; R. P. Davies, W.M. 1288; Joseph Pigot, W.M. 753; Thos. S. Carter, I.P.M. 403; and H. Massey, P.M. 619 ("Freemason"). Bro. John Hervey, Grand Secretary; Bro. H. G. Buss, Bro. A. A. Pendlebury, and Bro. C. B. Payne, G. Tyler, were also present.

Grants made at last lodge to the amount of £150 were confirmed.

There were fifteen new petitions for grants on the printed paper, and to these the total sum of £335 was voted. One grant was for £100, one for £50, one for £30, one for £25, three for £20, four for £15, and one for £10. One case was dismissed, one deferred, and one petitioner had died since his petition was presented.

Lodge was then closed.

METROPOLITAN MASONIC MEETINGS.

For the Week ending Friday, October 27, 1876.

The Editor will be glad to receive notice from Secretaries of Craft Lodges, Royal Arch Chapters, Mark Lodges, Preceptories, Conclaves, &c., of any change in place or time of meeting.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21.

- Lodge 1185, Lewis, King's Arms, Wood Green, N.
 " 1364, Earl of Zetland, Old Town Hall, Hackney.
 " 1541, Alexandra Palace, Muswell Hill.
 Chap. 1383, Friends in Council, 33, Golden-sq.
 Mark Lodge, 104, Macdonald, M.H., Coleman-st.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

- Lily, Greyhound, Richmond.
 Manchester, 77, London-st., Fitzroy-square.
 Star, Marquis of Granby, New Cross-rd.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 23.

- Lodge 28, Old King's Arms, F.M.H.
 " 183, Unity.
 " 902, Burgoyne, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
 " 1632, Stuart, Surrey M.H.
 Chap. 25, Robert Burns, F.M.H.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

- Prince Leopold, Lord Stanley Tav., Kingsland.
 Strong Man, Jerusalem Tav., St. John's Gate.
 Sincerity, Railway Tav., Fenchurch-st. Station.
 Camden, Stanhope Arms, Up. James-st., Camden To.
 Eastern, Royal Hot., Mile-end-road.
 St. James's Union, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
 Wellington, White Swan, Deptford.
 Perfect Ashlar, Victoria Tav., Lower-rd., Rotherhithe.
 Upper Norwood, White Hart Ho., Church-rd.,
 Marquis of Ripon, Pembury Tav., Amherst-rd., Hackney.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 24.

- Audit Com. Girls' School, at 4.
 Lodge 14, Tuscan, F.M.H.
 " 92, Moira.
 " 145, Prudent Brethren, F.M.H.
 " 186, Industry, Masons' Hall, Masons' Avenue.
 " 205, Israel, Cannon-st., Hotel.
 " 1158, Southern Star, Montpelier Tav., Walworth.
 " 1196, Urban, Old Jerusalem Tav., Clerkenwell.
 " 1348, Ebury, 12, Ponsonby-st., Millbank.
 Chap. 7, Royal York of Perseverance, F.M.H.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

- Metropolitan, 269, Pentonville-rd.
 Yarborough, Green Dragon, Steyne.
 Domestic, Surrey M.H., Camberwell New-road.
 Faith, 2, Westminster Chambers, Victoria-st.
 Prince Fredk. Wm., Lord's Hot., St. John's Wood.
 Dalhousie, King Edward, Triangle, Hackney.
 Prosperity, 1, Camomile-st., Bishopsgate.
 St. Marylebone, British Stores Tav., St. John's Wood.
 Constitutional, Wheatheaf Hot., Hand-court, Holborn.
 Israel, Rising Sun Tav., Globe Road.
 Royal Arthur, Prince's Head, York-road, Battersea.
 Beacontree, Red Lion, Leytonstone.
 Metropolitan Chapter, Jamaica Coffee Ho., Cornhill.
 Excelsior, Commercial Dock Tav., Rotherhithe.
 St. John of Wapping, Gun Hot., High-st., Wapping.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 25.

- Lodge 212, Euphrates, Masons' Hall, Masons' Avenue.
 " 507, United Pilgrims, Surrey M.H.
 " 754, High Cross, Seven Sisters' Tav., Tottenham.
 " 898, Temperance in the East, 6, Newby-pl., Poplar.

- " 1056, Victoria, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
 " 1415, Campbell, Mitre Hot., Hampton-ct.
 " 1540, Chaucer, Bridge House Hot., Southwark.
 Chap. 13, Union Waterloo, M.H., Wm.-st., Woolwich.
 " 435, Salisbury, F.M.H.
 " 752, Prince Frederick William.
 " 857, St. Mark's, Surrey M.H.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

- Confidence, M.H., Basinghall-st.
 Mt. Lebanon, Win Isor Castle Tav., Southwark-bdg.-rd.
 Pythagorean, Prince of Orange, Greenwich.
 New Concord, Rosemary Branch Tav., Hoxton.
 Royal Union, Horse and Groom, Winsley-st., Oxford-st.
 Mount Edgcombe, 19, Jermyn-st., St. James's.
 Peckham, Maismore Arms, Park-road, Peckham.
 Stanhope, Thicket Hot., Anerley.
 Finsbury Park, Finsbury Park Tav., Seven Sisters'-rd.
 Southwark, Southwark Park Tav., Southwark Park.
 Duke of Connaught, Havelock Tav., Dalston, E.
 United Strength, Grafton Arms, Kentish-town.
 Islington, Crown and Cushion, London Wall.
 Whittington, Black Bull Tav., Holborn.
 Lewis, King's Arms Hot., Wood Green.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 26.

- Gen. Com. Girls' School, at 4.
 Lodge 34, Mount Moriah, F.M.H.
 " 60, Peace and Harmony.
 " 65, Prosperity, Guildhall Tav., Gresham-st.
 " 66, Grenadiers, F.M.H.
 " 871, Royal Oak, White Swan, High-st., Deptford.
 " 1421, Langthorne, Swan Hot., Stratford.
 Chap. 177, Domestic, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
 " 534, Polish National, F.M.H.
 " 766, Wm. Preston, Cannon-st. Hot.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

- Egyptian, Hercules Tav., Leadenhall-st.
 Fidelity, Yorkshire Grey, London-st., W.
 Finsbury, Jolly Anglers' Tav., Bath-st., City-road.
 Temperance in the East, Catherine-st., Poplar.
 Ebury, 12, Ponsonby-st., Millbank.
 Highgate, Bull and Gate, Kentish-town.
 The Great City, 111, Cheapside.
 High Cross, Coach & Horses, High-road, Tottenham.
 Salisbury, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
 Prince Frederick William Chapter, St. John's Wood.
 Southern Star, Crown Hot., Blackfriars-rd.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 27.

- Lodge 569, FitzRoy, Hd.-qtrs. Hon. Art. Com., City-rd.
 " 861, Finsbury, Rosemary Branch Tav., Hoxton.
 K.T. Precep. 74, Harcourt, Greyhound Hot., Richmond.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

- Union Waterloo, Thomas-st., Woolwich.
 Robert Burns, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
 Belgrave, Constitution, Bedford-st., Covent Garden.
 Unions Emulation (for M.M.'s), F.M.H.
 Temperance, Victoria Tav., Victoria-road, Deptford.
 Clapton, White Hart, Clapton.
 Metropolitan, Portugal Hot., Fleet-st.
 Westbourne, Horse & Groom, Winsley-st., Oxford-st.
 United Pilgrims, Surrey M.H., Camberwell New-road.
 St. James's, New Tanners' Arms, Grange-rd., Bermondsey.
 Duke of Edinburgh, Silver Lion, Penny-fields, Poplar.
 Doric, Earl Grey Tav., Mile-end-road.
 Burgoyne, Grafton Arms, Prince of Wales's-road, N.W.
 St. Luke's, White Hart, King's-rd., Chelsea.
 Chigwell, Bald-faced Stag Hot., Buckhurst-hill.
 Burdett Courts, Approach Tav., Victoria Park.
 Royal Standard, Finsbury Park Tav., Holloway.
 Ranelagh, Clarendon Hot., Hammersmith.
 Pythagorean Chapter, Prince of Orange, Greenwich-rd.
 Stability, Guildhall Tav., Gresham-st.
 St. George's, Globe Tav., Greenwich.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN WEST LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE.

For the Week ending Saturday, October 28, 1876.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 23.

- Chap. 241, Friendship, M.H., Liverpool.
 Derby L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 24.

- Lodge 1393, Hamer, M.H., Liverpool.
 " 1609, Dramatic, M.H., Liverpool.
 Chap. 823, Everton, M.H., Liverpool.
 Merchants' L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 25.

- Lodge 32, St. George's, Adelphi Hot., Liverpool.
 " 220, Harmony, Garston Hot., Garston.
 " 724, Derby, M.H., Liverpool.
 Chap. 1052, Callender, Pub. H., Rusholme.
 " 1356, De Grey and Ripon, M.H., Liverpool.
 Neptune L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 26.

- Lodge 594, Deshshire, M.H., Liverpool.
 " 950, Hesketh, Royal Hot., Fleetwood.
 " 1032, Townley Parker, Howard's A., Whit-le-Sprng.
 " 1070, Starkie, Black Horse Hot., Kirkham.
 " 1313, Fermor, M.H., Southport.
 Chap. 216, Sacred Delta, M.H., Liverpool.
 " 1086, Walton, St. Lawrence's School, Kirkdale.
 Mariners' L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 27.

- Chap. 680, Sefton, M.H., Liverpool.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN GLASGOW AND WEST OF SCOTLAND.

For the Week ending Saturday, October 28, 1876.

All the Meetings take place at Eight o'clock.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 23.

- Lodge 102, St. Mark, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
 " 219, Star, 12, Trongate, Glasgow.
 " 362, St. Clair, 25, Robertson-st., Glasgow.
 " 541, Marie Stuart, M.H., Crosshill.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 24.

- Lodge 413, Athole, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
 " 419, Neptune, 35, St. James-st., Kingston.
 " 426, Prince of Wales, High-st., Renfrew.
 " 543, St. John, M.H., Dalmeir.
 " 556, Clydesdale, 106, Rose-st., S.S., Glasgow.
 " 579, St. Bryde, M.H., Uddingston.
 Chap. 67, Cathedral, 22, Struthers-st., Glasgow.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 25.

- Lodge 505, Burns St. Mary, Commercial Inn, Hurlford.
 " 510, Maryhill, M.H., Main-st., Maryhill.
 Chap. 73, Caledonian of Unity, 213, Buchanan-st.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 26.

- Provincial Grand Lodge of Glasgow, 213, Buchanan-st.
 Lodge 167, Free Operative, M.H., Biggar.
 " 570, Kenmuir, Balgray Hall, Springburn.
 Chap. 117, Govan, Portland Buildings, Govan.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 27.

- Lodge 51, London Kilwinning, Com. Hot, Newmilns.
 " 118, St. Bride, M.H., Douglas.
 " 125, St. James, Masons' Arms, Newton Ayr.
 " 153, Royal Arch, Cogan-st., Pollokshaws.
 " 195, St. John R.A., Lennox Arms, Campsie.
 " 199, St. Andrew, M.H., Cumbernauld.
 " 236, St. John, Wilsontown Iron Works, M.H., Forth.
 " 244, Union, Black Bull Inn, Stonehouse.
 " 347, St. John Operative, M.H., Rutherglen.
 Chap. 79, Commercial, 30, Hope-st., Glasgow.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 28.

- Lodge 28, St. John, Black Bull Inn, Kirkintilloch.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN EDINBURGH AND VICINITY.

For the Week ending Saturday, October 28, 1876.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 28.

- Lodge 349, St. Clair, F.M.H., 98, George-st.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 24.

- Lodge 151, Defensive Band, Alexandra Hall.
 Chap. 40, Naval and Military, F.M.H., 98, George-st.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 25.

- Lodge 112, St. John, Royal Hot., Musselburgh.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 26.

- Lodge 392, Caledonian, F.M.H., 98, George-st.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 27.

- Lodge 223, Trafalgar, 54, Bernard-st., Leith.

LONDON

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The Club is now open for the use of Members.

Only a limited number of Members can be elected without Entrance Fee, and at the present rate of subscription. Lodges requiring accommodation should make immediate application to the Secretary.

For all particulars and forms of application, apply to the Secretary, at the offices—

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The Club House (No. 1, Regent-street, opposite the Junior United Service Club) comprises Library, Dining, Smoking, Reading, Card, and Billiard Rooms, also Chambers and Bed-rooms for the use of Members, is now undergoing extensive alterations and decorations, and is being refurnished throughout, and will be opened for the use of Members during the Month of October.

The Entrance Fee is Seven Guineas, and the Annual Subscription the like amount (payable in advance); Officers on Home Service, with the exception of those residing in London, and Country Members, Entrance Fee Four Guineas; Subscription Four Guineas, Members abroad One Guinea, until the Club (which now consists of upwards of 700 Members) numbers 1000, when the Entrance Fee will be Thirty Guineas.

The next Ballot for Election of Members will take place on the 10th October.

List of Committee, consisting of Noblemen and Gentlemen, with full particulars, may be had either on personal or written application to

Colonel W. A. M. BARNARD,
Hon. Sec. to Committee.

Or to ALGERNON LLOYD, Secretary.

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REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS.

Craft Masonry.

ECLECTIC LODGE (No. 1201).—The brethren of this lodge met in goodly numbers on the 16th inst., at the Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, being the first meeting for the season. The W.M., Bro. West, passed three brethren to the Second Degree, and in a most effective manner raised two brethren to the sublime degree of Master Mason. On being about to close the lodge the excellent Secretary introduced the subject of the death of Bro. Past Master Childs, who was present at the last meeting, but has gone to his rest since. Bro. Albert Driver having expressed the hope that the brethren would show their sympathy and assistance to the widow, made reference to Bro. P.M. Darley, who was present, and could speak as to the circumstances. Bro. W. Darley, on rising said that he had known Bro. Childs for the last twenty years, he knew of no man of his acquaintance who by his exemplary life, honourable career, and readiness at all times to do good, did greater honour to Masonry than did Bro. Childs; the very last act before he died was one of philanthropy, and an expression of deep solicitude for the welfare of a brother Mason. Bro. Darley expressed, also, his highest opinion of the widow of Bro. Childs, as most worthy of the sympathy and support of the brethren, and whose limited means entitled her to a claim on the funds for an annuity. The brethren at once, from the Worshipful Master down, showed the most generous and Masonic sympathy for the widow, which assumed a practical form, the brethren generally expressing their regret at not being aware of the time of the funeral of Bro. Childs, having a great desire to show respect to him. Bro. Barber, J.D., especially spoke in the most affectionate terms of Bro. Childs, and was followed by the Senior and Junior Wardens, and others. Bro. P.M. Darley, of Lodge 158, Sheerness, in presenting the hearty good wishes of his lodge, expressed his admiration for the practical Masonic feeling shown to the widow of Bro. Childs, expressed the hope that they would succeed in getting her an annuity, and prayed that God would bless them and their families for the love they had shewn that night. The circumstance of Bro. Childs's death would never be effaced from his memory. Bro. Childs shewed an affectionate regard for his dear son. Both were taken ill together, died within a short time of each other, and were buried within a short time of each other, and were interred but a short distance from each other.

HIGH CROSS LODGE (No. 754).—Bro. David Roberts, of Lower Tottenham, has closely identified himself with Freemasonry. He is a Past Master of the High Cross Lodge, held at Tottenham, and has been Treasurer for many years. He is a life governor of most, if not all, the Masonic institutions, and takes a lively interest in everything calculated to increase their usefulness. Recently it was suggested by a member of the High Cross Lodge that it would not be out of place to show Bro. Roberts what a firm hold he had upon the affections of the members by presenting him with a testimonial. No sooner said than done; the idea was taken up warmly, and many wondered it had not been proposed long before. Wednesday evening week was fixed for the presentation, and the splendid hall at the lodge house was crowded—so full, indeed, that several friends could not be accommodated with seats at the tables. The members of the lodge mustered strongly, and visiting brethren and friends outside the Craft (the company not being strictly confined to Masons) formed a numerous body. Most of the Past Masters of the lodge were present; all the officers were in their places; and various lodges were represented, particularly Enfield and Hertford, several members of each being in attendance. Many letters of congratulation to Bro. Roberts and regrets at compulsory absence were also received. The proceedings commenced with a dinner, served in Bro. Oddy's usual excellent style, and, under the directions of Bro. Linzell, P.M., everything passed off in an admirable manner from beginning to end. Bro. Barham, the W.M. of the High Cross Lodge, occupied the chair. After the usual loyal toasts had been given, Bro. Townshend, I.P.M., announced that a testimonial was about to be presented to a dear and worthy man—one whom it was a privilege to know. Bro. Roberts was one of the most genial, affable, social men that could be met with anywhere. He was a real friend, and never saw a person in distress without helping him. It was to be hoped he would be spared to his numerous friends in Tottenham and elsewhere for many

years to come. Bro. Cunningham, P.M. (Secretary of the High Cross Lodge), then read a magnificently-illuminated vellum, as follows:—"This testimonial, together with a gold watch, was presented to Bro. David Roberts, P.M., by members of the High Cross Lodge, No. 754, of Ancient, Free, and Accepted Masons, held at the Seven Sisters' Hotel, Page Green, Tottenham, as a mark of the respect and esteem in which he is held by the brethren, and in recognition of the valuable services rendered by him to the lodge as Treasurer for many years." Similar words were engraved on the dome of a splendid gold watch; and besides the framed "vote" and watch, a beautiful silver tea urn was handed to Bro. Roberts as a present from the lodge to his wife. The W.M. made the presentation. He said if others could express their thoughts better than he, no one could feel more sincerely than himself towards Bro. Roberts. It was one of the greatest pleasures he had ever experienced to preside on that occasion, and he should ever think of the proceedings with the utmost gratification. He trusted Bro. Roberts would be spared many years to wear the watch that had been given him, and to gaze upon the beautiful framed testimonial, which would always be a witness to the very high respect in which he was held by all who had the honour of his acquaintance. Bro. R. Peckham, followed, and spoke of Bro. Roberts as a man who never did a dishonourable action in his life, and nothing that the truest friend could blush at. Bro. Roberts, who was most cordially received, returned thanks, addressing the meeting as brother officers, friends and neighbours. After referring to the words of the address just read, he observed that he experienced considerable difficulty in finding language to adequately express how very deeply he felt the great honour which had been done him by the presentation. The value of the testimonial, although considerable, was second in importance to the knowledge which the gift conveyed—that he occupied a prominent position in the esteem of the givers. He had often received from many of those he saw around good wishes and thanks both in and out of the High Cross Lodge, and he need scarcely say that he had at all times appreciated the kindness which had been evinced towards him. Following favours already conferred came the beautiful presents now before him, and he regarded them as one of the highest compliments that could be paid to any man. He, therefore, felt justly proud of being connected with such an ancient institution as Freemasonry, and of being associated with individuals whose acts spoke louder than words. He would not encroach much upon the time of the meeting; but he felt proud to express his grateful feelings to those visiting friends who had attended to share with him the pleasure of receiving such a handsome testimonial. Some had travelled many miles to honour him with their presence, and it afforded him the greatest possible gratification to see them round the table. He sincerely hoped he and they might live long to enjoy each other's society. He thanked them most heartily for the trouble they had taken on his account. He also desired to thank those friends and neighbours who from business and other engagements had not been able to attend, but who had sent him their congratulations. He assured them that their kindly expressions towards him would ever be remembered with most pleasurable sensations. There was still one subject—a most interesting one—upon which he should like to say a few words; but as they had been favoured with the company of their esteemed Bro. James Terry, perhaps he could not do better than leave it in his hands. He might say, however, that he alluded to the Masonic Institutions. They were on all occasions the very essence of an assembly of Freemasons; and they would pardon him for briefly touching upon the position of the High Cross Lodge with respect to the charities. He had watched the progress of the lodge for some years, and he was rejoiced to be able to state, upon good authority, that the High Cross Lodge ranked second to none amongst the metropolitan lodges for its benevolence. When he joined the lodge he believed that there was scarcely a governor of any of the institutions amongst the members; now he was happy to say that the lodge had a very large number of life governors of them all upon its books; and he entertained no doubt that some of the younger members would follow the advice he would give them—"Go thou and do likewise." He could not sit down without once more expressing his obligations to the Worshipful Master and to those brothers who had so liberally, so handsomely, and so cordially subscribed to the testimonial. The "vote" so beautifully executed by Bro. Cunningham would speak for many years after the grateful recipient had thrown off this mortal coil. The W.M. gave "The Visitors" (always welcome at the High Cross Lodge), coupled with the names of Bros. Cunningham, E. Clarke, Mr. E. Maitland, and Bro. James Terry. Bro. Cunningham said he had travelled nearly a hundred miles to attend that meeting, which he regarded as one of the most splendid demonstrations of respect he had ever seen. He had visited the High Cross Lodge before, and had heard Bro. Roberts spoken of by the members as "our great friend," "the regenerator of the lodge," "the apostle of the charities;" and from what he (Bro. Cunningham) knew himself, he had no hesitation in saying that Bro. Roberts well deserved all the praise that could be bestowed upon him. He was really a true Mason, and it was to be hoped he would long be spared to his friends and neighbours. Bro. Clarke said he had known Bro. Roberts many years, and he was quite convinced he rightly deserved the honour which had been conferred upon him that evening. The spectacle presented by that noble hall being crowded by friends, neighbours, and members of the Craft, was most gratifying to all connected with the proceedings. Mr. Maitland said, although not a Mason, he had known Mr. Roberts long enough to esteem him most highly. He had many friends outside the ranks of Masonry, and he might be described as a man in whom there was no guile. Bro. Terry (who

received a very cordial welcome) said it had been his great pleasure and privilege to know Bro. Roberts for a great many years; and he was highly gratified to be able to call him his friend. He had won the respect, esteem, and admiration of all who knew him. That large gathering would never have taken place had Bro. Roberts been an unworthy recipient. He (Bro. Terry) had attended festive meetings presided over by princes of the land, but he had never seen an assembly so enthusiastic and sincere in purpose as the present. How was that to be accounted for? Because all were actuated by sincerity of heart to show honour, homage, and respect to one who was so worthy of their confidence. Bro. Roberts had identified himself with everything that was good and useful connected with Masonry, and had rendered most valuable services to the various charities. Bro. Terry proceeded, in eloquent terms, to describe the nature and scope of the different Masonic Institutions, and referred to the many acts of benevolence performed by Bro. Roberts in connection with them. He was quite certain the watch which had been presented to him could never beat over a truer heart. He could challenge every act of his life, and no one could say he had ever neglected his duty. The occasion was one of the greatest successes in the history of the High Cross Lodge, and the members had honoured themselves by doing honour to a right worthy and deservedly esteemed individual. Bro. Metcalf, P.M. Hertford Lodge, proposed, "Success to the High Cross Lodge," and on behalf of his own lodge, presented the High Cross with a silver square and compasses, as evidence of the respect in which the lodge was held at Hertford. Bro. Mailer, P.M., acknowledged the present in suitable terms, and after thanks had been voted to Bros. Linzell and Cunningham, for the time and trouble they had devoted to the business of the testimonial, the proceedings (which may be said to have been as successful as anything ever carried out in Tottenham) came to a close.

[We much regret the grave typographical error which appeared in the report of The Great City Lodge in our last impression. We now give the report in its correct form.]

THE GREAT CITY LODGE (No. 1426).—The anniversary and installation meeting of the Great City Lodge, No. 1426, was held on Saturday, October 14th, at the Cannon-street Hotel, and was most numerous attended. Bro. J. Hamilton Townend, W.M., presided; Bro. Seer (W.M. elect), S.W.; Stanway, J.W., and all the other officers were present, together with the following array of visitors:—Bros. T. Fenn, P.G.A.D.C., Prince of Wales Lodge, 259; John Hervey, G. Sec.; Dr. J. E. Cox, P.G. Chaplain; Peacock, 1607; Wootton, P.M. Union and P.G.D.C. Kent; Light, 959; Field, I.P.M. 902; Gugerheim, Concordia, Switzerland; T. Poore, P.M. 720; Driscoll, P.M. 30; Taylor, W.M. 933; Beattie, 591; Nunn, 889; Marcus, 1381; Raymond, 1627; Partridge, W.M. 22; Lancaster, 534; Medwin, 192; Reed, 1601; Kitson, 548; Dyer, 46; Walter, 27; Saul, 1201; Carruthers, P.M. (Mayor of Reigate) Surrey, 416; Smith, P.P.G.S.W. (ex-Mayor of Reigate), Surrey, 416; Soppett, 55; Hawksley, 1196; Dixon, P.M. 73; Cottebrune, P.G. Purs. 1563; Swallow, W.M.; and Scott, Sec. 1563; Steward, P.M. 1351; Groom, 1349; Mann, P.M. 186; Oliver, P.M. 959; Noehmer, P.M. 186; Spencer, 73; Gilbert, 186; Jonas and Birdseye, 715; Huntley, 73; White, J.W., and Turner, J.D. 1563; Morgan, 1385; Cargill, W.M. 49; Addriott, 1305; Dakin, P.M. 580; Dyer, W.M. 186. The lodge having been opened and the minutes of former meetings read and confirmed, the W.M. proceeded to initiate Mr. Christopher Linner Cartwright and Mr. Luglen Constantine Libbessart into the mysteries and privileges of ancient Freemasonry. This having been concluded, the next business was the installation of Bro. Seer as Worshipful Master. Having been duly presented and certain matters proceeded with all the brethren below the degree of Installed Master were requested to retire. A Board of Installed Masters, thirty in number, was then formed, and Bro. Seer was in due form installed as W.M. for the ensuing year. The brethren below the chair having been admitted, the new W.M. received the customary salutes, and he then appointed his officers as follows:—Bros. Stanway, S.W.; Freeman, J.W.; the Rev. R. J. Simpson, Chaplain; Headon, P.M. Treas.; Moody, P.M., Sec.; Blackie, S.D.; Catchpole, J.D.; Hamer, I.G.; Taylor, D.C.; H. Jenkins, Org.; Kibble and Hook, Stewards; and Steedman, P.M., Tyler. Bro. Townend, the retiring and Installing Master, then delivered the customary addresses, and at the conclusion was warmly applauded. The report of the Audit Committee was then received and adopted. Bro. Headon, P.M., moved "That a jewel of the value of five guineas be presented to Bro. James Freeman, with the thanks of the brethren, on his resignation of the office of Treasurer, which he has held since the establishment of the lodge. Bro. H. Thompson, P.M. ("Freemason"), seconded the motion, which was put, and carried. Several propositions having been made, the lodge was closed in due form and with solemn prayer, and the brethren adjourned to the large hall for the banquet that was to follow. About 150 sat down, the W.M. presiding, supported by the Grand Officers and the newly-initiated brethren, of whom seven were present, some of them having been admitted at a lodge of emergency held a fortnight ago. At the termination of the banquet grace was sung by Miss Jessie Royd and Messrs. Bernard, Daniel, Morgan, and Bamford. The W.M. said the first toast he had to bring under the notice of the brethren was that of "The Queen." Masonry and loyalty had ever gone hand in hand, and to show their attachment to the Queen he coupled her name with the Craft. This was followed by the National Anthem, the solo parts by Miss Jessie Royd, and it was enthusiastically applauded. The W.M. next gave "The

Most Worshipful Grand Master, His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales," whose renown as a Mason was known and acknowledged by all. This toast needed no explanation from him, and he was sure that it would meet with a hearty response. The toast was cordially received, followed by the solo and chorus, "God bless the Prince of Wales," with the following new verse by Bro. Hook, the Organist of the lodge:—

"True Masons greet, with one accord,
Our Master once again!
And thank the World's Great Architect,
Our prayers were not in vain.
Again our Prince amongst us,
Each loving heart now hails,
From danger now, as in the past,
God shield our Prince of Wales."

This new verse was loudly applauded. The W. Master said the next toast to which he wished to call the attention of the brethren was that of "The Right Worshipful Pro Grand Master, the Earl of Carnarvon," and said he believed that his services were unequalled by any member of the Craft. Holding such a high position he was entitled to their respect and esteem, and he trusted that his health would be drunk in proper form, and with all due enthusiasm. The toast was duly honoured. The W. Master said the next toast he had to propose was a very comprehensive one, as it was "The Right Worshipful the Deputy Grand Master, Lord Skelmersdale, and the rest of the Grand Officers, Past and Present." It was superfluous on his part to remark that the Grand Lodge was the ruling body of the Craft, and was formed of those members who had obtained distinction in it, and there was a further distinction to those who had become Grand Officers. It was composed of Past and Present Grand Officers, and they had both amongst them in the lodge that evening. He believed that there were present the oldest member of Grand Lodge, Bros. Dr. J. E. Cox; the Rev. R. J. Simpson, Jno. Hervey, the G. Secretary, members of their own lodge; Bro. Fenn, P.G.D.C.; and Bro. Cottebrune, P.G. Purst. He was proud to see them present, and he gave them all a hearty welcome. He connected with the toast the names of Dr. J. E. Cox, P. Grand Chaplain; and Bro. T. Fenn, Past Grand Assist. Dir. of Ceremonies. The toast was most cordially received. Bro. the Rev. Dr. J. E. Cox, P.G. Chaplain, said: The Worshipful Master, Wardens, and Brethren of The Great City Lodge, and those other brethren who are here present, will receive from myself, as the representative to-night of Grand Lodge, I am assured, my warmest thanks for the manner in which they have taken notice of the toast of our esteemed Deputy Grand Master, Lord Skelmersdale, and the rest of the Officers of Grand Lodge. It is always a satisfaction to myself to have to return thanks for this toast, because when received as it has been to-night with so many demonstrations of satisfaction, and with so much enthusiasm, it is an assurance to my mind that the Officers, Past and Present, of Grand Lodge live in your esteem, and that you are disposed by every means in your power to strengthen their hands in their efforts to promote the usefulness and the welfare of our noble and venerable Order. (Hear, hear.) I believe amongst newly made Masons—and I may call the Dep. Grand Master a newly made Mason in comparison with myself—there is no brother in the Craft who desires more earnestly to promote its welfare, or to support its grand and benevolent purposes, and the more I see of those who are associated with him as leading members of that assembly, the more am I persuaded that the great principles of Masonry are advancing, and that they are becoming of more and more value as time goes by. (Hear, hear.) It is a great satisfaction to myself to mark the peaceful relations, which at the present time exist in Grand Lodge. At the time when I first became a member of the Craft there was much division, and I regret to say, much un-Masonic feeling demonstrated therein; but those times happily have passed away, and with the peace of the present time we have also the augmentation of those great benefits which Masonry stands foremost to promote and confirm—I mean the noblest principles for the development of charity (Hear, hear), not only charity in the matter of giving of that substance with which the Great Architect of the Universe has blessed us, but in the manifestation of that noble feeling which suffereth long, and is kind, which envieth not, and which seeks to promote the welfare not only of the brethren themselves, but of society at large. (Hear, hear.) And my mind is more peculiarly directed at this moment to the matter of charity, because at this season two important events are being carried forward. On this day an election has taken place of candidates for the Girls' School, and on Monday next fifteen boys will be admitted into the kindred Institution; and with reference to the first and foremost—as it always will be in the estimation of the brethren—the Girls' School, I have been charmed to-day to see an engraving in the "Builder" newspaper, showing what is the intention for the enlargement of that Institution, and for the increase of benefit to the youthful female children of our decayed and deceased brethren; and then next I turn my attention to the Boys' School, in which my heart has been always deeply interested, and with which, without boasting—I am sure you will pardon me for saying it—I have taken an earnest and a continual interest. (Hear, hear.) At the present time, especially, I rejoice to know that a subject, which has had my consideration for at least a quarter of a century, is very near its fulfilment. My esteemed and worthy brother on my left hand (Bro. the Rev. R. J. Simpson, P.G.C.) has in some degree stolen my thunder; but for that I heartily forgive him. He has had more opportunity of assisting the working out of this most important subject than I have had, but I am with him, as you are, I am sure, heart and soul in the promotion of his scheme for the establishing of exhibitions in our Universities, which shall be the means of giving that completed form of education to those children of

higher intellect, who, had their parents been spared to them, or had their prosperity increased, would have had the opportunity of finishing its course by affording the highest educational privileges this land can afford. Although it has not been my province to carry out that which I so much desired myself, yet it will be my happiness to assist my worthy brother and others in the promotion of that great object, and when it shall please the Great Architect of the Universe to call me hence, nothing will be looked back upon by myself with greater satisfaction than that in my position as a Past Grand Chaplain of England, and as a Minister of the Truths of the Great Architect of the Universe, I had been enabled in some way to do something for the alleviation of the suffering of mankind. (Hear, hear.) I will not detain you at much greater length, because I have said almost as much as you can bear to hear (No, no), and as much as I have to say; but there is one subject—of which I have been reminded by an observation of your Worshipful Master—which has quite gone home to my heart. In mentioning my name he stated that I was the Father of Grand Lodge. I cannot lay claim myself to that position, for there is one brother, and a brother clergyman also, older than myself (Bro. the Rev. Sir J. W. Hayes), who is the Father of Grand Lodge; but I stand next to him, for I have been a member of that Grand Lodge for thirty years. (Hear, hear.) And in those thirty years you may suppose how many I have seen depart hence, whose memory is treasured in our regard, and whose works for the benefit of Masonry and mankind are registered in the Grand Lodge above. (Hear, hear.) It cannot be in God's Providence that I shall remain much longer in this sublunary state; but so long as I am spared I will work for Masonry, as I have endeavoured to do during the years I have been a member of the Craft, and it will be, I repeat, a satisfaction to myself, when I go hence and be no more seen, to die with the conviction that my name will live amongst those members of mankind who have striven to promote the welfare and the increase of Masonry, to show that it is the mother of civilisation, and to prove that it is the great benefactress of the human race. (Hear, hear.) Bro. T. Fenn, P.G. D.C., said: It is rather an awkward thing at this period of the evening to be called upon to respond second to a toast, when one has to speak after so exhaustive and ready a speaker as our excellent Bro. Cox. There is, however, one subject which he has left untouched, as probably it has not come under his immediate knowledge. The Grand Officers would be undeserving of the honour which has been conferred on them, and of the compliment which your Worshipful Master has paid them, were they not desirous on all occasions to do all in their power, and to avail themselves of every opportunity to advance the interests of the Craft. I cannot better, perhaps, illustrate the desire which the Grand Officers appear to me always to have in that direction than by mentioning to you that on the 24th of November the annual festival of the Emulation Lodge will take place. On that occasion eight sections will be worked by eight Past Grand Officers, and the Earl of Carnarvon, our Pro Grand Master, will take the chair. The chair in the lodge will be filled by our very excellent and worthy brother Hervey. The Stewards will be also forty Grand Officers. That may be illustration enough to show the interest which they take in the working of Freemasonry, and I am sure to a lodge which claims to have a Lodge of Instruction of its own, this must be very interesting information, and I hope to yourselves, brethren, it is equally gratifying. I feel bound to admit that perhaps it is not exactly love alone for the Emulation Lodge of Improvement that that lodge is so mixed up and so bound up with my Masonic life. I wish I could but think so; there is something else at the bottom of it. I don't know why I should not be prepared even to admit it, because I am sure you will all yourselves join in the same feeling which has predominated in myself. Our Bro. Hervey enters on his 30th year of Treasurership, and it is out of respect for him that this great meeting is about to take place. I will not detain you longer, Worshipful Master, but I cannot sit down without congratulating you on the progress you are making, and on the excellent manner in which you keep up the working of this lodge. It has afforded me, I assure you, great pleasure to be present to-night, and I hope when on any future occasion I may be asked to attend this lodge I may observe the same strict adherence to good working, with the same advance and prosperity, which I have the pleasure of congratulating you upon to-night. (Hear, hear.) Bro. Townend, I.P.M., said the toast he had the honour to submit he felt sure would be received with acclamation when he told them that it was "The Health of Bro. John Seax, W.M. of The Great City Lodge." He had always found him most perfect in working the ritual of the lodge, and he had endeared himself to all by his genial disposition during the time he had held the different offices since the consecration of the lodge, and the manner in which he had performed his duties must be satisfactory to every member. He felt assured that the lodge would never suffer while he filled the chair, and he hoped he might have as happy a year in it as he (Bro. Townend) had. He asked them to drink to "The Health of their W.M." The W.M. said he felt obliged to them for their compliment, and nothing should be wanting on his part to render him worthy of the position in which, by their kindness, he had been placed, for there was a great responsibility in being placed at the head of one of the most important lodges in the City of London. In proportion to the fame and renown of the lodge, so concurrently were the difficulties and responsibilities of the W.M. He thanked them for the kindly feelings and the joyful congratulation which one and all had tendered to him. The W.M. said the next toast he had to propose was one that was always received with great enthusiasm in The Great City Lodge. They had rarely met without having one or more initiates, and on many occasions they had five. They had had two that evening, and five at a

lodge of emergency held only a fortnight ago, and he believed that they would all prove true and good members. He gave "The Health of the Initiates," for which they severally returned thanks. The W.M. next gave "The Visitors," bidding them welcome, and, having read the list of them, said it would be invidious on his part to call upon any one in particular to respond to the toast. Bro. Cottebrune, P.G. Purst., Bro. Swallow, W.M. of the City of Westminster Lodge, and Bro. Dyer, W.M. of the Industry Lodge, severally returned thanks. The W.M. in giving "The Health of Bro. Townend, I.P.M., and I.M.," said the manner in which he had conducted the duties of the chair had secured for him the esteem of the brethren, and he had then the honour of presenting him with a substantial mark of their gratitude, by placing on his breast the jewel which had been voted to him, and long might he live to wear it with pleasure, as it was the jewel of The Great City Lodge. He then attached the jewel amidst cheering. Bro. Townend, I.P.M., said he rose with mingled feelings of regret and pleasure, regret because he ceased to be the Master of one of the greatest lodges in the City of London, and with pleasure because he knew he left the chair with the good will of the brethren, and particularly so as he had received every assistance from the present W.M. of the lodge. In that lodge they worked the Emulation Lodge ritual, whilst he was brought up in the Stability, and he wished that the two modes of working could be brought together, as he believed that they might advantageously adopt a portion of each ceremony and omit the rest. He saw that he had to return thanks as I.P.M. and I.M., and most heartily did he thank them for their kindness, and for the jewel they had unanimously voted to him. He could not say that it was the proudest moment of his life, as he gave a preference to his mother lodge, in which he had worked up to every office, from that of Inner Guard, and when he went home after quitting the chair in that lodge he thought he was in the proudest position and the greatest man in Masonry (a laugh). The next toast was "The P.M.'s," for which Bros. Headon and Stevens returned thanks. Bro. Hervey, G. Sec., in proposing "Prosperity to The Great City Lodge," said he well recollected that it was three years ago when he had the gratification, with two other brethren, of performing the ceremony of consecration and installation, when more than 200 members were assembled. On that occasion he was supported by two Wardens, one of whom was Bro. Fenn, then present, and one who was now no more, Bro. Savage, who was second to none in the Craft, and whose loss had been severely felt. With what he had seen of the working of the lodge that evening he was well satisfied, and therefore he thought there was no one better qualified to propose the toast that had been entrusted to him. He was gratified to see the prosperity of the lodge, and, therefore, he need not wish prosperity to it, as that had been already achieved, and he would add one word to the toast he had to propose, and that was "Continued Prosperity to The Great City Lodge, and might its prosperity in the future be as great as it had been in the past." The toast was heartily responded to. The W.M., in proposing "The Treasurer and Secretary," said he had a pleasing duty to perform, which was to present to Bro. Freeman, their late Treasurer, a jewel, which he hoped he would wear as a recognition by the brethren of the duties he had so willingly undertaken. Bro. Freeman suitably responded. The Secretary, the W.M. considered, was the most important officer in the lodge, and he had to thank Bro. Moody for what he had done, and to ask for his valuable assistance in the future. The I.P.M. took this opportunity of publicly thanking the Secretary for the assistance he had rendered during the past year, and hoped that future Masters would have him as a guide. Bro. Moody expressed himself very much gratified at the remarks of the W.M. and I.P.M. He found that the duties of Secretary to so large a lodge occupied a great deal of time, and if he did appear another year as Secretary, all he wanted was to meet with a reception such as had just been accorded to him, even though it might be as "Past" Secretary. Some other toasts were given, and the business of the evening, harmonious throughout, was brought to a close.

METROPOLITAN LODGE (No. 1507).—The installation of this lodge was held at the Metropolitan Club, 269, Pentonville-road, on the 19th inst. Bro. J. J. Michael, W.M., presided. There were present besides, Bros. T. Williams, S.W.; R. T. Kingham, J.W.; Willing, jun., I.P.M.; R. Rose, Treas.; Tims, Sec.; Douglass, S.D.; Scalls, J.D.; W. Side, I.G.; Daley, Tyler; Saintsbury, Colls, Cheek, Clarke, Cadett, Reed, Simona, Levi, Solomon, Brumell, and others. Visitors: J. Smith, P.G.P.; Adams, P.G.P.; Ferguson, P.M.; Tims, P.M.; Millis, P.M.; Sach, P.M.; Levi, P.M.; Everett, P.M.; Garrett, P.M.; Frost, P.M.; Rochester, P.M.; Wuest, P.M.; Morgan, I.G.; and Hudson, J.W.; and others. Bro. Booker was raised, and Bros. Wrigley, Knight, Tuck, Debeuf, and Lefebvre were passed. Bro. Michael installed Bro. T. Williams as W.M., who was presented by Bro. James Willing, jun. The brethren appointed to office were Bros. T. Williams, W.M.; R. T. Kingham, S.W.; J. Douglass, J.W.; R. Rose, Treas.; G. Tims, Sec.; C. Scalls, J.D.; W. Side, J.D.; W. M. Stiles, I.G.; Daley, Tyler. A committee was formed to consider the advisability of removing the lodge in consequence of increase in number of members. A testimonial on vellum was presented to Bro. James Willing, jun., P.M., in recognition of services rendered by him to the lodge. The testimonial was duly acknowledged, and the brethren, to the number of about 100, adjourned to an excellent banquet, after which there were the usual toasts, and some pleasant singing and recitations.

CHAUCER LODGE (No. 1540).—The installation meeting of this young and prosperous lodge was held on Wednesday evening at Bro. Joseph Spencer's, Bridge House Hotel, London Bridge. Twelve months ago the

lodge was consecrated by the Grand Secretary of England, and since that time it has had an almost unexampled career of success. The initiates have been numerous, and in every way members who are likely to do credit to the Order; while the joining members, who have also been numerous, have given proofs of their desire to raise the lodge to the highest point of excellence, and a foremost position in the roll of Grand Lodge. The gathering on Wednesday was an evidence of the high esteem in which the lodge is already held. Grand Secretary attended, as did also Bro. Hyde Pullen and Bro. James Terry, the company in all numbering some sixty brethren, among whom were Bros. Thomas J. Sabine, W.M.; J. C. Mason, S.W.; E. S. Stidolph, J.W.; Rev. H. J. Hatch, Ch.; F. Walters, Sec.; W. J. Kemp, S.D.; Charles Hudson, J.D.; H. Faija, I.G.; several lay members, and the following visitors:—Bros. W.T. Clarke, 315; E. P. Freeman, P. Prov. S.G.W. Sussex, W.M. 932; James Eborall, P.G.P. Sussex, P.M. 315; B. Bennett, Sec. 732; S. H. Soper, 732; Thomas Robinson, 753; S. Griffin, 554; P. Rayden, 73; Robert Griggs, 228; J. F. Wuest, 753; Hyde Pullen, P.G.S.B.; Thomas Kingston, W.M. 862; James Terry, Sec. Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution; Robert Jackson, 1362; T. B. Rosseter, W.M. 972; S. B. Ade, P.M.; W. F. Nell, 315; James Willing, jun., P.M. 1507, S.W. 177; J. A. Smith, P.M. 1178; and H. Massey ("Freemason"), Bro. J. Sabine performed the ceremony of installation, and placed Bro. James Cattle Mason, S.W. and W.M. elect, in the Master's chair. He was assisted in the saluting ceremonies by Bro. I. J. Hooper Wilkins, P.M., who took the place of Master of Ceremonies. Bro. Sabine presented the working tools. The brethren appointed to office were Bros. E. S. Stidolph, S.W.; Kemp, J.W.; Hatch, P.M., Chaplain; T. J. Sabine, I.P.M., Treas.; F. Walters, P.M., Sec.; C. Hudson, S.D.; Faija, J.D.; Hawkes, I.G.; I. J. Hooper Wilkins, P.M., M.C.; Hatch and Graham, Stewards; Harrison, Org.; and W. Y. Laing, Tyler. Bro. T. J. Sabine delivered the addresses, after which Bro. F. Walters, Secretary, proposed, and Bro. Stidolph, S.W., seconded, a vote of thanks to Bro. Sabine for performing the installation, which was carried unanimously, and Bro. Sabine having acknowledged the compliment, he then asked permission before the lodge was closed to thank the brethren who were his officers during his year of office. He said this not with any view to flattery, but merely on account of the fact. He believed there were few W.M.'s in London who were supported by such officers. A great deal of the success of the lodge was due to the manner in which he had been supported by every officer, from the lowest up to the highest. They had given him their best services by good work and constant attendance. (Cheers.) The lodge was afterwards closed, and the brethren adjourned to an excellent banquet. The W.M., at the conclusion of the banquet, proposed the customary toasts, and after disposing of that of "The Queen," gave the toast of "The M.W.G.M., the Prince of Wales." In speaking on the toast, he said that the Prince of Wales took a deep interest in Freemasonry, and as a proof of this he might refer to his laying the foundation stone of the new Post Office at Glasgow on Tuesday week, at which he (the W.M.) had intended to be present, but was prevented just at the time for performing the ceremony by business calls in another direction. "The Pro Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, and Grand Officers" followed, and Bro. John Hervey, G.S., replied. Having but little to say, he could only refer to the Earl of Carnarvon as a man who took high degrees at college, and in the political and literary world, as well as in any attainments which may be mentioned among men. The abilities he had displayed in early youth he had fully sustained in his more mature years, and he had shown himself in politics, literature, and Masonry, one whom we could all look up to. He then referred to Lord Skelmersdale, who, though a much younger man and Mason, was still making his mark in the world. These officers were all that could be desired by the Order. Bro. Pullen was one of the Past Grand Officers, a very "excellent young man" in his way, whom they all admired; but he well represented the Grand Officers, all of whom deserved well of the Craft. (Cheers.) Bro. Wright, P.M., proposed "The Visitors," and Bro. Pullen replied, and Bro. Sabine brought before the brethren the toast of "The W.M.," a Mason who had given proof that night of what he would do in the course of his year of office. The way in which he had invested his officers, he (Bro. Sabine) had not often seen equalled, and never exceeded, and he believed such a brother would conduce to the success of the lodge. The W.M. replied to the toast by saying that he could promise the brethren one thing, that he would fulfil the duties for the performance of which he had been elected as the head of the lodge. He was truly grateful for the honour which had been conferred on him, and he should endeavour to do honour to his appointment. (Hear, hear.) Bro. John Hervey, G.S., proposed "The Health of Bro. Sabine, I.P.M.," and passed a high eulogium on that brother for the great exertions which he had used in the first year of the lodge to bring the lodge to a position of excellence. He (Bro. Hervey) was consecrating officer of the lodge, and he had felt extreme pleasure in placing Bro. Sabine in the chair. His whole Masonic career had proved that he was a Mason in heart, and it was by such brethren that the Order achieved its high position. He then presented to Bro. Sabine, in the name of the lodge, a splendid epergne, with an inscription commemorating Bro. Sabine's services. (Cheers.) Bro. F. Walters, P.M., immediately rose and asked permission to present a P.M.'s jewel to Bro. Sabine, whom he had himself initiated in 1863, and since then he had watched his career as a Mason. He had worked hard for the Masonic charities, fulfilled all the offices in his lodge, and had thoroughly supported the institutions by taking the Stewardship for them over and over again. Bro. Sabine replied, and expressed his desire to do all he

could for the good of Freemasonry. The same principle had actuated him ever since he had joined the Order. He had certainly endeavoured to do something for the good of Freemasonry, and that was what actuated the brethren who with himself had started the Chaucer Lodge. They had done something already for charity; they had supported the Institutions, and on the evening on which the lodge room was consecrated twelve months ago there was an extemporised subscription made for the relief of the sufferers by the French inundations, which had happened shortly before that time. (Cheers.) He would, as he had hitherto, in the future continue to advocate the claims of the charities, and he hoped to be successful, and expected to be so. Bro. Hyde Pullen proposed "The Masonic Institutions," to which toast Bro. James Terry responded, and recapitulated the great benefits which those institutions had conferred. His own institution, the Masonic Benevolent Institution, was now paying annuities to 253 poor old men and women, and had lately increased the amount of the annuities paid to them. Bro. Sabine proposed "Mount Lebanon Lodge, No. 73," who had recommended the warrant for the Chaucer Lodge. Bro. Rayden, W.M., 73, replied. "The Officers of the Lodge," was the next toast proposed by the W.M., and Bro. Stidolph, S.W., responded. As far as he was concerned he thanked the brethren, and promised the most untiring exertions, and energy, and attendance, to prove the undeniably strong feeling of friendship which existed between the officers of the lodge and the W.M. It was a great gratification to him to find that they were represented by a brother who took the difficult position of W.M. after so efficient a Master as Bro. Sabine had proved himself to be. The officers would do their very best to prove that they were all bound together by one strong feeling, to do their best for the Chaucer Lodge. The brethren shortly afterwards separated, having enjoyed a delightful evening, which was enlivened by some capital singing by various brethren.

CAWNPORE (East Indies).—Lodge Harmony (No. 438).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held in the lodge room, on the 7th August, 1876. There were present Bros. I. G. Burbridge, W.M., in the Eastern chair; W. B. Eastaway, S.W.; W. N. Littlewood, J.W.; J. G. Cole, as S.; Lieut. H. Burton, S.D.; W. Ward, as J.D.; E. E. Hunter, as I.G.; and W. A. Corp, Tyler. Members: Bros. Bond, Beard, Maitland, Capt. Thomas, McDonough, Stewart, Walker, Alexander, Logie, and Haynes. Visitors: Bros. Harris, P.M., Whalley, Forbes, Murray, and De Castro. The lodge was opened in form at 6.30 p.m., when the minutes of last regular meeting were put and confirmed. Bro. Forbes signed and received his Grand Lodge certificate, after which Bros. Capt. Thomas and Haynes were admitted and passed to the Second Degree by the W.M., the lectures on the second Tracing Board being given by the J.W. Bros. Beard and King having been found worthy, were admitted and raised to the high and sublime degree by the W.M., in his usual accurate and impressive manner. A letter of acknowledgment and thanks was read from P.M. Bro. E. Bedford, for the jewel presented him by the lodge in recognition of his services extending over a period of nine years. The W.M. informed the lodge that he had relieved a distressed brother to the extent of 50 Rs., which payment was unanimously agreed to. An application from another brother in distress, was read, and brethren appointed to enquire as to whether it was a deserving case, and if so, to relieve. The W.M. here stated that it gave him great pleasure to unfurl a splendid new banner which had been made a present to the lodge by Bro. Cruickshank. The absence of that brother was regretted, but a cordial vote of thanks was unanimously agreed to, and ordered to be communicated to him. Several letters were read, after which the lodge was closed in peace and harmony at 9.30 p.m. The brethren then adjourned to the banqueting-hall, adjoining the lodge, where a pleasant evening was spent, enlivened with some good singing. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were done honour to.

CARNARVON.—Segontium Lodge (No. 606).—On Wednesday, the 25th inst., the brethren of the lodge mustered strongly in their beautiful Masonic Hall, within the ancient Castle of Carnarvon, to witness the installation of Bro. J. Sidney Boucher, as W.M. for the ensuing year. The ceremony was ably performed by Bro. J. B. Boucher, Shrewsbury, assisted by Bro. J. Salmon, Chester. The proceedings were graced by the presence of Bro. W. Bulkley Hughes, M.P., who was received with acclamation, and greeted right heartily on this his first Masonic appearance since his accession to the dignity of D.P.G.M., most worthily bestowed by the R.W.P.G.M., Sir W. Wynn, at the recent P.G. Lodge, held at Wrexham. Among the visitors were Bros. Major Lloyd Philipps, P.G.M. South Wales, Dr. Goldsboro, P.P.G.S.W.; J. Francis, P.P.J.W.; J. Ellis, P.M. 597; J. Hughes, W.M., and W. Jarvis, S.D. Bangor; and C. Davies, S.D. Portmadoc. The W.M. invested as his officers Bros. W. Harwood, S.W.; C. A. Jones, J.W.; W. E. Davies, Treas. and I.G.; D. W. Davies, Secretary; J. Wynne Jones, Chap.; L. Prothero, S.D.; T. Williams, J.D.; W. Hayden, Organist; O. Thomas and T. Bugbird, Stewards; and Sergeant Watkins, Tyler. The banquet was served in good style at the Sportsman Hotel, when the usual Masonic toasts were duly honoured, Bro. R. Davies, I.P.M., officiating as M.C. For Grand Lodge Bro. Lloyd Philipps responded in eloquent terms; and while thanking his northern brethren for their hearty welcome of him as an entire stranger from the south, expressed the pleasure he felt in seeing the entente cordiale so happily established between the several portions of the Principality, which must be largely attributable to the benign influence of Freemasonry, whose special function and glory it was to bridge over sectional chasms, soften down social asperities, diminish, if not remove, class prejudices, round off the sharp corners of religious and political variance, and unite opposing parties

by the sacred bond of the mystic tie, on the holy neutral ground of brotherly and universal benevolence. In speaking to the toast of "D.P.G.M.," Bro. W. B. Hughes, M.P., very feelingly acknowledged the warm and cheery greeting accorded to him, and announced, amid much applause, that while he had reserved his first visit for 606, he proposed to attend every lodge in turn throughout his province, and personally observe the working of them all. At eight o'clock the visitors departed, and the W.M. left the chair.

MANCHESTER.—Blair Lodge (No. 815).—The installation meeting of this lodge was held in the lodge rooms, Hulme Town Hall, on Friday, Oct. 13th. The lodge was opened at four p.m. by Bro. Henry Ellis, W.M. After the minutes of the last lodge meeting had been read and confirmed, Bro. Bertigans, P.M., P.P.G.D.C. of Derbyshire took the chair and opened the lodge in the Second Degree. Bro. S. Royle, P.M., presented in due form the W.M. elect, Bro. Geo. Cookson, to the Installing Master, who then proceeded with the ceremony up to the formation of the Board of Installed Masters. Bro. W. F. Fowle, P.M., then assumed the position of Installing Master, and completed the ceremony in his usual impressive and correct manner. After the brethren had been re-admitted, and the newly-installed W.M. had been saluted, the working tools were delivered to him in each degree by Bro. Newton, P.M. Bro. Fowle then invested the following officers, viz.: Bros. B. Kitchen, S.W.; J. Blum, J.W.; W. Norris, P.M., Treasurer; J. Almond, Secretary; J. O. Moore, S.D.; J. Pierce, J.D.; Fielding, Organist; Napier, I.G.; Sly, Tyler; and Hildeshiemer and Austin, Stewards. The address to the Worshipful Master was delivered by Bro. Bertigans, after which the choir (Bros. Miller, W. Dumville, N. Dumville, and Lister) sang the anthem, "Behold how good and joyful, &c." Bro. Newton, P.M., delivered the address to the Wardens, and Bro. Fowle, P.M., that to the brethren, at the conclusion of which the choir sang the solo and chorus "When the temple's first stone." Upwards of sixty brethren were present, and amongst the visitors were Bros. T. J. Hooper, P.M., P.G. Treas.; A. Wolstenholme, P.G.J.D.; J. H. Sillitoe, A.P.G.D.C.; W. Goodacre, P.P.G. Purst. Cheshire; Sykes, P.M. 204; J. E. Hall, P.M. 1459; John Ingham, P.M. 152; and others. The balance-sheet was read and approved. The W.M. commenced his duties by proposing that the sum of £50 be granted to the Girls' School, out of the balance of funds in hand, which proposition was seconded by Bro. Norris, P.M., and unanimously carried. After the lodge was closed the brethren sat down to a most sumptuous repast, under the presidency of Bro. Cookson, the W.M., which was served by Bro. Lang, in his well-known style, and consisted of every delicacy in season, and wines of the choicest vintages. The comfort of the brethren was very much enhanced by a judicious arrangement which was made during the time the brethren were in the banquet-room. The lodge-room had been prepared and the dessert laid therein and as soon as grace had been sung by the choir, the brethren retired thither. This very agreeable change from the hot dining-room was appreciated by all present. The W.M. proposed the usual loyal and Masonic toasts, which were duly honoured, and after each toast appropriate music was sung. The toast of "The Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master of East Lancashire, Lieut.-Col. Le Gendre Nicholas Starkie," was ably proposed by Bro. Blum, J.W.; and the next toast, "Bro. George Mellor, Deputy Provincial Grand Master, and the rest of the Provincial Grand Officers of this and other Provinces," was proposed by Bro. B. Kitchen, the S.W., who, during a very eulogistic speech, spoke of the services of Bro. Sillitoe, who had kindly performed the duties of Director of Ceremonies that day. The toast was responded to, on behalf of the neighbouring provinces, by Bro. Vertigans, P.P.G. D.C. of Derbyshire, and Bro. W. Goodacre, P.P.G. Purst. of Cheshire, who alluded to the very handsome donation to the Girls' School, and congratulated the W.M. on such a good beginning. Bro. J. H. Sillitoe, A.P.G.D.C. of East Lancashire, responded on behalf of that province, and said that besides having to thank the W.M. and brethren of the Blair Lodge for the very kind expressions which had been made use of, and the hospitable manner he and his colleagues had been entertained, he could not refrain from expressing his admiration of the able manner in which the ceremony of installation, as well as the investiture of the officers, had been performed. He considered those ceremonies to be not only the most beautiful, but also the most important in Freemasonry. The success of the lodge would mainly depend upon the work of that day, that is to say, upon the newly-installed W.M. and the officers he had appointed to work with him. Freemasonry is wisely calculated to suit all ranks and degrees of men—some are more able, some more eminent, and some more useful than others—all men are not blessed with the same powers and advantages. The nature of some men's business or profession will not admit of that leisure which is necessary to qualify them to become expert Freemasons, therefore in the interests of and for the future welfare of the lodge, it is essential that great care and discretion should be used in selecting such brethren for officers who possess the necessary qualifications, and are willing to discharge the duties of their respective stations. From what he had seen that evening he thought that a very wise selection had been made, as every officer seemed not only competent, but also anxious to perform his duty. He advised those brethren who had not been appointed to office not to be discouraged, but to bear in mind that although we are not all equally qualified to govern, yet every one in his sphere can prove advantageous to the fraternity at large; for let it ever be remembered that he who faithfully discharges his duty, even though it be in a private or subordinate station, is as justly entitled to our esteem and regard, as is he, who is endowed with supreme authority. Bro. Ellis, I.P.M., proposed "The Health of the Worshipful Master;" he

dwelt at some length upon the services Bro. Cookson had rendered to the lodge, and his attention to the duties of the different officers which he had held, and he called upon the brethren to drink his health in a bumper. The toast was most enthusiastically received, and Bro. W. Dumville sang "Here's to his Health in a Song," all the brethren standing to their glasses and joining in the chorus at the end of each of the three verses. The brethren also heartily responded to the call of the Director of Ceremonies for "Twenty and One," which was given with a warmth seldom if ever exceeded. Bro. Cookson on rising to respond was loudly cheered. He assured the brethren that he was not an adept at speechmaking at any time, but, however, able he might at other times, his feelings at that moment were too much overcome to admit of his saying more than expressing briefly his heartiest thanks for their kindness to him that day; but before resuming his seat he begged to propose "The Health of the Past Masters of the Lodge," to whom he should have to look for support and assistance in the discharge of his duties. Bros. Towle, Newton, Morris, and Vertigans, P.M.'s, responded. Other toasts were ably proposed, and songs and glees beautifully rendered by the choir, accompanied by Bro. Fielding, and the evening closed with the Tyler's toast at 11 o'clock p.m.

GREYMOUTH (New Zealand).—Grey-mouth Lodge (No. 1233).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, Greymouth, on July 11th, 1876. The lodge was opened in due form at 2.15 p.m., and the installation of the W.M. and his officers was then proceeded with. The ceremony of installing Bro. J. Sewell as W.M. was impressively performed by I.P.M. Bro. Revell with all the ceremonies established with long usage, and the following brethren were also invested with the badges of their respective offices:—Bros. Woods, S.W.; Watkin, Chaplain; Holder, S.D.; Hayden, I.G.; Tremayne and Dow, Stewards; Hardy, J.W.; Black, Treas.; Pownall, Sec.; Buckley, J.D. In the evening the brethren met down to a banquet in the hall. The usual loyal and customary toasts were given. The musical portion of the ceremony was conducted by Bro. Pownall, Organist.

WALTHAM.—King Harold Lodge (No. 1337).—The installation meeting of this lodge took place at the Britannia Hotel, Waltham New Town, Herts, on Tuesday, the 17th inst.; the W.M., Bro. Wm. Gilbert, presiding, supported by Bros. E. West, P.M., P.P.G.J.D. Herts, Treasurer 1337, the Installing Officer; Charles Lacey, P.M., P.P.G.S.D. Herts; E. Parker, P.M., P.P.G.P. Herts; J. K. Young, P.M., P.P.G.A.D.C. Herts; J. Tydeman, P.M., P.P.G.P. Essex; J. W. King Harold, 1337; Gaskell, P.M.; Thomas Reilly, S.W., W.M. elect, P.G.P. Herts; A. Malcolm, P.G.S. Herts, Sec.; S. Jacobs, J.D.; J. Knight, D.C.; J. Fisher, I.G.; J. Noyes and W. Creed, W. Stewards; W. O. Bull, W. Bradstock, W. C. Bradstock, Brown, Calvert, A. Clements, G. Clements, W. F. Cox, Church, Eversfield, Fuller, John Gilbert, Goodale, Goggs, F. Hodges, J. Kent, Levy, Lumsden, Newman, Price, Robinson, Ridley, Sheldon, C. Shepherd. Visitors: Bros. Driscoll, P.M. 754; Etherington, S.W. Gresham, 869; Day, W.M. Capper, 1076; Dorton, S.W. Capper, 1076 and W.M. elect; White, J.W. 1076; Maller, P.M. 754; Jones, P.M. 754; Wood, Nelson, 700; Wiggs, Pattmore, J.W. 1437; Heasman, 1437; D. Old, 1076; Leingstein, 212. The business before the lodge was to confirm the minutes of last meeting, to receive report of Audit Committee, to raise Bro. J. Gilbert, to ballot for a candidate for initiation, and also for a joining member. The W.M. raised Bro. Gilbert in a very able and impressive manner, and the other business having been disposed of, Bro. E. West, P.M., assumed the chair as Installing Officer, when Bro. J. K. Young, P.M., presented Bro. Thomas Reilly, the W.M. elect, for the benefit of installation, which ceremony was very beautifully rendered by Bro. West, assisted by Bro. C. Lacey, P.M. The W.M. then appointed his officers as follows:—(Bro. Lacey investing them with the collars of their respective offices):—Bros. W. Gilbert, P.G.J.W. Herts, I.P.M., J. Tydeman, P.M., P.P.G.P. Essex, S.W.; A. Malcolm, P.G.S. Herts, J.W.; E. West, P.M., P.P.G.J.D. Treas.; J. K. Young, P.M. 1337, P.P.G.A.D.C. Herts, Sec.; J. Jacobs, S.D.; J. Knight, J.D.; W. Pritchett, P.G. Org. Herts, Org.; J. Fisher, D.C.; J. Noyes, I.G.; John Robinson, W.S.; W. Bradstock, W.S.; and Steedman, P.M., Tyler. A vote of thanks was unanimously accorded to Bro. E. West, P.M., &c., Installing Officer, coupled with the name of Bro. C. Lacey, P.M., &c., for the very able and impressive manner in which the ceremony of the installation was rendered. A Past Master's jewel was presented to Bro. W. Gilbert, I.P.M., P.G.J.W., in recognition of his valuable services as W.M. of the King Harold Lodge during the past year. Bro. Jas. Knight, J.D., kindly consented to act as Steward at the next festival of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution. The business of the evening being ended, the lodge was closed, and the brethren retired to a splendid banquet, provided by Bro. Sheldon, the host, which was served in good style, and gave general satisfaction. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and duly honoured. The evening was enlivened by some very good harmony, and brought to a close at an early hour, the brethren expressing their satisfaction at having spent so pleasant an evening.

HAMPTON COURT.—Era Lodge (No. 1423).—The election meeting of this lodge was held at the King's Arms Hotel, Hampton Court, Middlesex, on Saturday, October 14th. A letter was read from Bro. John Baxter Langley, in which he expressed his regret and apologies that in consequence of urgent business he was detained in Liverpool and could not attend. Bro. J. W. Baldwin, P.A.G.P. Middlesex, P.M., opened the lodge

there being present during the evening Bros. E. H. Thielay, P.G.S.B. Middlesex, S.W., and W.M. elect; T. J. Sabine, P.P.G.S.B. Middlesex, P.M., J.W.; F. Walters, P.G.J.D. Middlesex, P.M., Sec.; B. Wright, Assistant Sec.; J. Mason, P.G. Steward Middlesex, Org.; E. W. Deveraux, S.D.; S. Wolff, J.D.; A. F. Loos, I.G.; J. Johnson, D.C.; W. Hammond, P.P.G.D. Middlesex, P.M.; E. Beckwith, J. H. Pearson, G. S. Elliott, J. S. Sweasey, and several more. Amongst the visitors we noticed Bros. T. Dand, P.P.G.S.B. Devon, P.M. 39, &c.; J. B. Shackleton, S.W. 1524, J.D. 1326, &c.; G. Dore, 376; B. Meyer, 1326; H. Meyer, I.G. 1524, &c.; and others. Apologies were received from all the absent candidates for the various degrees. The bye-laws were read by the Secretary. The result of the elections were unanimous in favour of Bros. E. H. Thielay, P.G.S.B. Middlesex, S.W., as W.M.; H. A. Dubois, P.G.S.D. Middlesex, P.M., Treasurer, re-elected Treasurer. On motion duly made and seconded, Bro. J. Gilbert, P.G. Tyler Middlesex, was re-elected Tyler; Bros. E. Beckwith, J. H. Pearson, and F. H. Harvey were elected Auditors. The Audit Committee meeting was appointed to be held on Saturday, January 20th. Some notices of motion were given to alter the bye-laws. Also that the usual twelve-guinea testimonial be given to Bro. J. B. Langley on his retirement from the chair. That ten pounds be given to the Female Annuity Fund in the name of the Secretary of the lodge for the time being. The ballot was unanimous in favour of a candidate for initiation. Some gentlemen were proposed for initiation. It was agreed to hold an emergency meeting on Saturday, December 9th, so as to complete all the work necessary to be done before the W.M. leaves the chair. It being resolved that at the installation meeting in February only the installation ceremony be done. The lodge was closed and adjourned to December 9th, at four o'clock p.m.

LIVERPOOL.—Lodge of Israel (No. 1502).—The monthly meeting of this lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, Hope Street, Liverpool, on Monday, October 16. There were present Bros. A. J. Henochsberg, W.M.; Ralph Robinson, I.P.M. 241; Maurice Hart, S.W.; Alexander Jones, J.W.; J. De Frece, Treas.; B. Levy, Sec.; S. Schönstadt, S.D.; B. Wolff, J.D.; S. Waring, J.S., acting I.G.; S. J. Henochsberg, A.S.; Rev. H. D. Marks, Rev. Dr. Stern, P. Barnett, A. Hart, J.W. 724; Prensau, Isaacs, S. Levy, W. Levy, Fraser, Tueski, Cohen, L. F. Levene, Parkes, Jacobs, I.G. 241; Lumb, Marcus, Silver, and others. As this was the annual election of W.M. and Treasurer, no degree were given. After the names of members eligible to serve as W.M. were read, Bro. Maurice Hart was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing year. Bro. J. De Frece was re-elected Treasurer (3rd time). Bro. M. Hart, Hon. Sec. to the Fund of Benevolence, then read the annual report of that fund, when he stated that they had accumulated the amount of £56 16s. during the past year; it being the first year of its existence. They were also very fortunate in having no call upon this excellent charity. We believe that this is the only lodge in Liverpool that possesses at present a Fund of Benevolence for the assistance of decayed members of the lodge, but several lodges intend following this excellent precept. Bros. R. Robinson, Dr. Lewis, and A. Lyons were elected Trustees, and Bros. Schönstadt, A. Jones, M. Aronsberg, A. J. Henochsberg, P. Barnett, and Rev. Dr. Stern as committee to manage the affairs of this fund. Bros. P. Barnett and A. Liebeschutz were elected Auditors of Treasurer's accounts. In accordance with notice of motion of Bro. R. Robinson, the sum of three guineas was voted towards the sedilia of Chester Cathedral. It was also unanimously resolved that a Past Master's jewel be presented by the lodge to Bro. A. J. Henochsberg, W.M., for his affability and courteous behaviour, and for the excellent working he has shown during the past year. After a gentleman had been proposed for initiation by the S.W., the lodge was duly closed in peace and harmony. Slight refreshment followed, after which the W.M. proposed congratulations to Bro. A. Jones, J.W., who is about to enter the marriage state previous to the next meeting the members drinking his health and that of "The Bride Elect" with enthusiasm. The annual installation will take place on Monday, November 20th; Bro. A. J. Henochsberg, the present W.M., acting as Installing Master.

TWICKENHAM.—Francis Burdett Lodge (No. 1503).—A meeting of this lodge was held on the 13th ult., at the Albany Hotel, Twickenham, when there were present Bros. Wigginton, P.M., P.P.G.D.C. of Worcestershire, P.G.S. of Works Middlesex; W. M. Birchill, P.M., &c., acting S.W.; Tomlinson, P.M., P.P.G.S.D. of Norfolk, J.W.; Artus, P.M., acting I.P.M.; Kennedy, P.M., acting I.G.; Court, Sec.; Palmer, W.S. The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, a letter from H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M., was read, acknowledging the receipt in very gracious terms of the Francis Burdett vote of congratulation upon H.R.H.'s safe arrival home India. This reply having been ordered to be entered on the minutes, and several other matters having been disposed of the brethren adjourned till Wednesday, the 11th inst., when there were present at the opening of the lodge, in addition to the above officers, Bros. Saunders, S.W.; Knaggs, S.D.; Taylor, J.D.; D. Orsey, Chaplain; Rogers, Sec.; Ashley, acting I.G. The minutes of the September meeting having been read and confirmed, the election of W.M. took place, when Bro. Saunders, S.W., was unanimously elected to that position, and who immediately returned thanks. Bro. Tomlinson, J.W., was unanimously elected Treasurer, and the Library Committee re-elected. Bro. Harrison was also re-elected Tyler. Upon the motion of the Senior and Junior Wardens, a jewel was voted to the retiring W.M. with a re-

quest that he would choose his own design. The brethren then adjourned to an excellent collation. Bro. Col. Maude, C.B.V.C., &c., No. 1., Ireland, was a visitor. The loyal and grand toasts having been given and duly honoured, the W.M. proposed "The Health of the R.W. P.G.M. of Middlesex, Bro. Col. Burdett." In introducing this toast the W.M. remarked upon the great progress the Craft had made in the province since the appointment of their gallant and esteemed P.G.M. He hoped that at the installation of Bro. Saunders in November next that No. 1503, which had the distinguished honour of bearing the name of Bro. Col. Francis Burdett would be favoured by his presence. In conclusion he assured them that the P.G.M. took a very lively interest in the fortunes and prosperity of No. 1503. This toast having been duly honoured, Bro. Birchill, P.M., gave "The Health of the W.M." In the course of his remarks he congratulated the lodge upon the great strides it had made, which happy state he said was principally if not mainly due to the exertions of the W.M., who had spared no time or trouble in the advancing of its interests. This toast having been drunk, the W.M. briefly replied. He stated whatever time he had expended in the foundation of the lodge was more than compensated by the gratifying result obtained, namely, its prosperity. In conclusion he said he would take that opportunity of thanking his Wardens and other officers for the great and valuable assistance they had rendered him on all occasions. The W.M. then gave his permission to the W.M. elect to propose "The Health of their only Visitor, Bro. Col. Maude, C.B.V.C., &c." Bro. Saunders said he felt exceedingly gratified in having the honour of proposing the health of one who had served his Queen and country in every part of the globe. He said he would expatiate upon those exploits not as they were doubtless known to them. Their distinguished brother had not taken any prominent part in the Craft because when not engaged in fighting the battles of his country he had been incessantly employed in discharging other military duties. This toast having been warmly received Bro. Col. Maude made an able reply in the course of which he gave the brethren some interesting details in connection with Freemasonry abroad. "The Health of the W.M. elect" followed. Bro. Saunders in his response stated that although he could not hope to discharge the duties of the position as well as their W.M. had done during his two years of office, yet he would endeavour to do his best, and trusted that his forthcoming year in the chair of K.S. would be a pleasant one. The remaining toasts, "The Treasurer, Secretary, Wardens and other Officers" followed in quick succession, and were severally responded to by the brethren named. The Tyler's toast at eleven terminated the proceedings, and the brethren separated until the second Wednesday in the ensuing month, when Bro. Saunders, S.W., P.G.S. of Surrey will be duly installed W.M.

INSTRUCTION.

THE GREAT CITY LODGE (No. 1426).—The usual weekly meeting of this instruction lodge was held on Tuesday evening, the 19th inst., at the London Warehousemen's Association, 111, Cheapside, E.C. Present: Bros. G. W. Blackie, W.M.; J. K. Pitt, S.W.; T. Brown, J.W.; A. Goodman, S.D.; Thomas Hamer, J.D.; James Freeman, I.G.; C. Stuart Barker, jun., Sec.; Poore, Preceptor; J. W. Colmer, Treas.; and the following brethren:—C. Taylor, Cadot, Wiltshire, F. W. Potter, G. Wale, McMurray, D. H. Feltham, and others. The lodge was opened in the First Degree, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree, and Bro. Keith Frith having offered himself as a candidate, was examined and entrusted. The W.M., Bro. Blackie, then rehearsed the ceremony of raising in a very impressive and efficient manner. The First Section of the First and Third Degrees having been worked, Bro. Pitt was elected W.M. for the ensuing week, and appointed his officers in rotation, after which the lodge was closed in due form and adjourned till Thursday next at 6.30 p.m.

Royal Arch.

MOUNT LEBANON CHAPTER (No. 73).—The regular meeting of this chapter was held on Thursday, October 12th, at the Bridge House Hotel, Southwark. Comps. H. A. Dubois, M.E.Z.; J. W. Baldwin, H.; John Mason, J.; F. Walters, P.Z., S.E., P.G.A. First S. Middlesex; E. Harris, P.Z.; and W. Smeed, P.Z., opened the chapter. The companions were admitted. The minutes of last meeting were read and unanimously confirmed. The ballots were unanimous in favour of all the candidates for exaltation. Apologies were received from all the absent candidates. Some important notices of motion were given. Comp. T. W. Clarke, 177, a visitor, was proposed as a joining member. Several brethren were proposed as candidates for exaltation. The chapter was closed and adjourned to Thursday, November 9th, at six o'clock. Banquet was partaken of.

JERUSALEM CHAPTER (No. 185).—This old established chapter held its first convocation of the season on Tuesday, the 10th inst. There were present at the opening Comps. Holbrook, P.Z., acting M.E.Z.; Elsam, H.; Wagner, J.; Davage, P.Z., S.E.; P. Robinson, N.; Mander, P.S.; B. Sharp, P.Z. 84, acting I.P.Z.; Harfeld, P.Z., Treas.; Moss, Walls, Pratt, Bentley, Janitor. The minutes of the previous convocation were read and confirmed. Two brethren for exaltation were on the agenda, but neither of them put in an appearance. Several propositions having been received, the convocation was closed, and the companions adjourned to an excellent banquet. Upon the removal of the cloth, the acting M.E.Z. proposed the customary loyal and Royal Arch toasts briefly but pertinently, and they were duly honoured by the companions. In introducing "The

Health of Comp. Hammond, M.E.Z." the acting First Principal deplored the circumstances that had prevented him from being present that evening—namely, having to attend a funeral. He said that the abilities of the M.E. were so well known to them, that it would be quite superfluous on his part were he to expatiate upon them. In conclusion he coupled the names of those two excellent and worthy companions, Elsam and Wagner, the Second and Third Principals, with the toast. Those companions, in reply, expressed their thanks for the kind manner in which their respective names had been mentioned by the M.E., and they hoped that when the time arrived for them to fill the First Principal's chair that they would be found equal to the requirements of the position. "The Health of the acting M.E., Comp. Harfeld, Treas.," was proposed by Comp. Holbrook in a few well-chosen words, and was duly honoured. "The Visitor, Comp. B. Sharp, P.Z., &c.," was then duly pledged. In introducing this toast, the M.E. said that from what he had heard from several companions, they were honoured by the presence amongst them that evening of a very excellent "worker" in the mysteries of the Royal Arch Degree, and he felt sorry that there had been no exaltation that day, because he should very much have liked to have shewn their worthy and talented visitor the "working" of the Jerusalem. This toast having been duly honoured, Comp. Sharp replied. In the course of his speech he stated that he came there that evening at the invitation of their M.E., Comp. Hammond. With regard to what the acting First Principal had stated respecting his knowledge of the Royal Arch Degree, he could only say that he had been connected with it for many years, and that he had been, and was a great admirer of its beautiful ritual. He came there that evening as a visitor, but he hoped at some early period to become a member, provided the chapter should deem him worthy of that privilege. The toast of "The P.Z.'s of the Chapter" followed, and was acknowledged by those zealous and energetic Comps. Holbrook and Davage. In proposing the next toast, that of "The S.E.," the M.E. congratulated the chapter upon possessing so useful and indefatigable a S.E. as Comp. Davage had proved himself to be. He was always at his post, and he appeared to spare no pains to render the companions comfortable at the banquet. He said that the thanks of the chapter were also due to the Second Principal, Comp. Elsam, who, previously to the appointment of Comp. Davage, had acted as S.E., and who had succeeded in putting the books of the chapter in good order, they having been left by the sudden death of their late S.E. in a very involved state. This toast having been responded to, "The Health of the Subordinate Officers" followed. The M.E., in introducing the toast, passed a very high compliment on the Royal Arch abilities of Comps. P. Robinson, N., and Mander, P.S. Those officers, in the absence of their assistants, briefly replied by thanking the M.E. for the kind way in which he had proposed the toast, and the companions for the warm manner in which they had received it. In the intervals Comps. Robinson, Walls, and Mander vocally entertained the companions, who shortly after ten o'clock separated until the second Tuesday in December next.

LION AND LAMB CHAPTER (No. 192).—The October meeting of this excellent chapter was held on the 18th inst., at Cannon-street Hotel; Comps. George Newman, M.E.Z.; F. W. R. Copestick, H.; H. Birdseye, J.; Geo. Kenning, P.Z., Treas.; King, P.Z.; Francis Fellows, S.E.; Jones, S.N.; Chas. Arkell, P.S.; Chapman, First Assistant S.; Abbott, Cohu, Potter, Carle, Cann, Kent, Gillam, Ewens, and others. Visitors: Comps. Forbes, Sincerity; W. Worrell, William Preston, 766; Jas. Forsyth, P.Z. Victoria; Thos. White, 22; F. Woodbridge Carnell, 1216. The chapter was opened in due form, and the following brethren balloted and elected unanimously:—Bros. J. Lorkin, Lion and Lamb Lodge, 192; Chambers, Robert Burns Lodge, 25. Bro. Chambers (who has been long connected with the Cannon-street Hotel, and given such attention and satisfaction to the brethren as to earn for himself the respect of the members of the Lion and Lamb Lodge) was (by desire of the companions in chapter) exalted to the Supreme Degree of H.R.A.M., the regalia being presented by the members present. The ceremony was very impressive, rendered particularly so by the fine working of the companions in office. It would be impossible for the three chairs to be filled by better workers than Comps. Newman, Copestick, and Birdseye. The following officers were elected for the ensuing year:—Comps. F. W. Copestick, M.E.Z.; H. Birdseye, H.; Chapman, J.; Geo. Kenning, P.Z., Treas.; Francis Fellows, S.E.; Chas. Arkell, S.N.; Geo. Phythian, P.S. The chapter was closed, and the companions adjourned to an excellent supper, and a happy evening was the result.

Ancient and Primitive Rite.

HAVANT.—Orion Council (No. 3).—The members of this council met on Tuesday, the 10th inst., for the purpose of dedicating the Carnarvon Lodge Rooms (recently dedicated to Craft Masonry) also to the purposes of A. and P. Masonry. A Grand Council of Sublime Masters of the Great Work, 30° was opened by Illustrious Bros. H. Trigg, S.D.; J. Clay, 1st Mystagogue, J. Harrison, 2nd Mystagogue; and J. Clarke, Grand Expert; and Illustrious Bro. J. N. Hillman, G.M. General of Ceremonies, 33°, 96°, as the Representative of the M.I.S., Bro. John Yarker, Grand Master General, 33°, 96°, dedicated the temple to the purposes of Sublime Masonry in Ancient and Primitive form.

It is understood that His Grace the Duke of Abercorn, M.W.G.M. Ireland, will relinquish the office of Lord Lieutenant of Ireland about the middle of next month, and that His Grace the Duke of Marlborough will immediately enter upon his duties as Lord Lieutenant.

Scotland.

ABERDEEN.—Lodge St. Nicholas (No. 93).—On Saturday evening, the 14th inst., a funeral lodge in memory of Bro. John Gordon, P.M., was held in the Masonic Hall, Exchange-street. The W.P.G.M. of the City Province (Dr. Beveridge) presided, and was assisted by the P.G. Chaplain, and the W.M. of the lodge. There was a large turn out of brethren from the different lodges, besides representatives of the Provincial Grand Lodge. The lodge having been opened on the Third Degree in due form, and prayer engaged in by the Chaplain, several anthems were sung, and the other formulæ incidental to this beautiful service gone through, after which the W.P.G.M. delivered an oration, in the course of which he passed a high eulogium on the character of the deceased, and referred to the many acts of kindness and genial disposition which had marked Bro. Gordon's intercourse with the brethren, and endeared him to the hearts of all with whom he had come in contact in the discharge of his duties. An anthem was then sung, and votes of thanks to Bro. Dr. Beveridge and the P.G. Chaplain, on the motion of the W.M. of the lodge, concluded the proceedings.

SUPREME GRAND CHAPTER.

The following is the Agenda of business for Wednesday, 1st November, 1876:—

The minutes of the last Quarterly Convocation to be read for confirmation.

Report of the Committee of General Purposes:—The Committee of General Purposes beg to report that they have examined the accounts from the 19th July to the 17th October, 1876, both inclusive, which they find to be as follows:—

To Balance Grand Chapter.....	£399	1	11
" " Unappropriated Account.....	178	7	11
" Subsequent Receipts	258	2	0
	£835	11	10

By Disbursements during the Quarter.....	£182	7	10
" Balance	475	11	1
" " in Unappropriated Account ...	177	12	11
	£835	11	10

which balances are in the hands of Messrs. Willis, Percival and Co., Bankers of the Grand Treasurer.

The committee have likewise to report that they have received the following petitions:—

1st. From Comps. Thomas John White, as Z.; the Rev William John Lyte Stradling, as H.; Thomas James, as J.; and seven others, for a chapter to be attached to the Cambrian Lodge, No. 464, Haverfordwest, to be called the "Hwlfordd Chapter," and to meet at the Masonic Hall, Haverfordwest, South Wales (Western Division).

2nd. From Comps. Edward Bremner Smith as Z., Robert De La Poer Beresford as H., Samuel Hazlitt as J., and six others, for a chapter to be attached to the Fitzalan Lodge, No. 1432, Oswestry, to be called the "Fitzalan Chapter," and to meet at the Wynnstay Arms Hotel, Oswestry, North Wales.

3rd. From Comps. George Hunter Wildie as Z., Wm. Williamson as H., John King as J., and six others, for a chapter to be attached to the St. John's Lodge, No. 1137, Timaru, to be called the "St. John's Chapter," and to meet at Timaru, Canterbury, New Zealand.

The foregoing petitions being in all respects regular, the committee recommend that the prayers thereof be respectively granted.

The Committee have further to report that a complaint was preferred by Companion Charles Horsley, the Z., of the Varborough Chapter, No. 811, Brighton, against the Scribe E., Comp. C. J. Smith, of the same Chapter. The various letters which had passed between the above-mentioned companions having disclosed a very serious absence of harmony among the members generally, the committee felt compelled to suspend the chapter. Having summoned the parties before them and fully investigated the case, the committee continued the suspension until the members of the chapter could arrive at a good understanding amongst themselves, and petition for its removal. This committee are happy to be able to report has been effected, the suspension has been removed, and the chapter authorized to resume its labours.

(Signed) JOHN CREATON, President.

EMULATION LODGE OF IMPROVEMENT.

The following is the corrected list of the Stewards for the anniversary festival of the Emulation Lodge of Improvement, Friday, November 24th, 1876:—

R.W. Bros. Lieut.-Col. Francis Burdett, Prov. G.M. Middlesex; the Right Hon. the Earl of Donoughmore, S.G.W.; the Hon. Wm. Warren Vernon, J.G.W.; Fredk. Pattison, P.G.W.; John Havers, P.G.W.; Capt. William Platt, P.G.W.; Sir Albert Woods, Garter, P.G.W.

V.W. Bros. the Rev. C. J. Martyn, P.G.C.; Samuel Tomkins, G. Treas.; A. J. McIntyre, G. Reg.; J. B. Monckton, Pres., B.G.P.; Ernest E. Wendt, G. Sec., G.C. Bros. Lieut.-Col. D. Birchall, S.G.D.; T. W. Boord, M.P., S.G.D.; E. J. Barron, J.G.D.; J. M. Case, J.G.D.; Lieut.-Col. J. Creaton, P.G.D.; Benjamin Head, P.G.D.; George Plancknett, P.G.D.; E. S. Snell, P.G.D.; Jabez Hogg, P.G.D.; Henry Grissell, P.G.D.; S. L. Tomkins, P.G.D.; J. Cooper Forster, P.G.D.; W. Brackstone Baker, P.G.D.; J. E. Saunders, P.G.D.; C. A. Merton, P.G.D.; H. J. P. Dumas, P.G.D.; F. A. Philbrick, P.G.D.; J. A. Rucker, P.G.D.; J. C. Parkinson, P.G.D.; C. W. Hutton, P.G.D.; T. Fenn, P.G.D.;

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ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.

The General Committee met at Freemasons' Hall, on Thursday afternoon, Bro. Col. J. Creaton, Trustee and Vice-Patron, in the chair. Among those present were Bros. Tattershall, White, Boyd, Dubois, Browne, Col. Peters, Rev. J. M. Vaughan, Stewart, Ramsay, Rucker, Kenning, Rev. P. M. Holden, Levander, Sabine, Massa, Finney, Rev. P. H. Ernest Brette, D.D.; Capt. Phillips, Capt. Wordsworth, Murlis. The minutes of the last General Committee were read and verified, and the minutes of several other meetings were read for information.

Three petitions were approved, and the chairman authorized to sign cheques for the accounts for the September quarter. The following motion by Bro. Raynham W. Stewart, seconded by Dr. Ramsay, and supported by several brethren, was carried unanimously:—"That the salary of the Secretary be increased £100 per annum, dating from 1st January last.

Masonic and General Tidings.

THE RED CROSS SOCIETY.—The following letter has been published by Colonel Loyd Lindsay:—"National Society for Aid to the Sick and Wounded, Turco-Servian Relief, October 23, 1876. Sir,—I have found so much concurrent testimony to the great service performed by the English surgeons of the Red Cross Society attached to the head-quarters of the Turkish army before Alexinatz that I am induced to ask you to mention their names, which are as follows:—Dr. Leslie, Mr. Pitts, Mr. Barker, and Mr. White. Dr. Leslie writes to me from Alexinatz that he and his colleagues have attended to more than 2,000 wounded during the three days' fighting at the beginning of the month; that they were engaged from Thursday till Sunday, day and night, with only short intervals of rest, and that the estimation in which they are held by all parties in the camp stands very high. He adds that the camp has proved a very healthy place. I am, &c., R. LOYD LINDSAY."

H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M., has been graciously pleased to grant a dispensation to the Imperial George Lodge, No. 78, by which the members are entitled to wear a centenary jewel.

Bro. James Willing, jun.'s Newspaper Advertising Office is now at 301, Strand, near the Opera Comique.

The Marquis of Hartington, R.W.P.G.M. Derbyshire, has arrived in London from his tour in Eastern Europe.

Preparations are being made at the Royal demesne, Sandringham, for the approaching visit of the Prince and Princess of Wales for the winter season. Their Royal Highnesses are expected here on the 3rd proximo, and after celebrating the Prince's birthday, will proceed to Norwich, for the installation of Lord Suffield as Provincial Grand Master of Norfolk.

We understand that the Foreign and Colonial Committee of the Grand Lodge of Scotland have agreed to recommend the recognition of the Grand Orient of Egypt, and in all probability the recommendation will be confirmed at the Grand Lodge to be held on the 6th prox. We believe that a similar proposition is shortly to be made in the Grand Lodge of Ireland, thus following the example of the Grand Lodge of England.

The Provincial Grand Mark Lodge of Cornwall is to be held in the Masonic Hall, New Public Rooms, Truro, on Tuesday, the 7th November, at 2 p.m. The R.W. Bro. Sir F. M. Williams, Bart., M.P., the Prov. G. M.M.M., is to preside, and reports from the six lodges in the province are all expected to be very favourable. Particulars of the meeting will appear in due course.

Bro. J. E. Saunders, P.G.D., has consented to come forward as a Liberal candidate for the London School Board at Greenwich, in conjunction with Mr. Henry Gover.

Bro. A. Oldroyd, of Leyton, has been appointed agent in England for the celebrated Algerian Cigars (awarded three prize medals), which have obtained such high reputation amongst connoisseurs, being in fact, superior to those imported from Havana at a much higher rate. These cigars are manufactured in and from tobacco grown in Algiers. They possess the great advantage of being manufactured from pure leaf tobacco, and contain all the aroma and fine flavour that can be obtained to give satisfaction. They are certainly worth a trial. The prices are given in our advertisement columns.

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VOLS. 1 & 2

OF THE

MASONIC MAGAZINE

198, FLEET-STREET, LONDON.

COSMOPOLITAN MASONIC
CALENDAR.

W. Masters and Secretaries are earnestly requested to forward to the publisher, at the Offices, 198, Fleet-street, E.C., particulars of the place, days, and months of meeting of their respective lodges, chapters, and other Masonic bodies, for insertion in the issue of the Calendar for 1877.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

COLONIAL and FOREIGN SUBSCRIBERS are informed that acknowledgments of remittances received are published in the first number of every month.

It is very necessary for our readers to advise us of all money orders they remit, more especially those from the United States of America and India; otherwise we cannot tell where to credit them.

TO OUR READERS.

The *Freemason* is a sixteen-page weekly newspaper, price 2d. It is published every Friday morning, and contains the most important, interesting, and useful information relating to Freemasonry in every degree. Annual subscription in the United Kingdom, Post free, 10/-.

P.O.O.'s to be made payable at the chief office, London.

NEW POSTAL RATES.

Owing to a reduction in the Postal Rates, the publisher is now enabled to send the "*Freemason*" to the following parts abroad for One Year for Twelve Shillings (payable in advance):—Africa, Australia, Bombay, Canada, Cape of Good Hope, Ceylon, China, Constantinople, Demerara, France, Germany, Gibraltar, Jamaica, Malta, Newfoundland, New South Wales, New Zealand, Suez, Trinidad, United States of America, &c.

TO ADVERTISERS.

The *Freemason* has a large circulation in all parts of the Globe, its advantages as an advertising medium can therefore scarcely be overrated.

For terms, position, &c., apply to

Answers to Correspondents.

Bro. Yarker, on Hermeticism, in our next, and we will send him a proof.

The following reports, &c., stand over:—Domestic Lodge, 177; Lewis Lodge, 1185; Lodge Fortitude, Lancaster, 281; Warren Lodge, Seacombe, 1276; Hemming Lodge, Hampton, 1512; Prov. G. Lodge of Mark Masters of Lancashire; Macdonald Lodge of Mark Masters, 104; Era Mark Lodge, 176; Whitwell Mark Lodge, Maryport, 157; Windsor Castle Chapter, 771.

Friendship Chapter, Great Yarmouth, in our next, arrived too late.

"Freemasonry in Germany," in our next.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

[The charge is 2s. 6d for announcements, not exceeding four lines, under this heading.]

BIRTHS.

ALABASTER.—On August 28th, at Amoy, China, the wife of C. Alabaster, H.B.M.'s Consul, of a son.
GODWIN.—On the 23rd inst., at Ladbroke-grove, the wife of H. Godwin, of a son.

WILKINSON.—On the 19th inst., at Belgrave-road, the wife of W. L. Wilkinson, of a daughter.

WOODCOCK.—On the 19th inst., at Auckland-hill, Lower Norwood, the wife of W. H. Woodcock, of a son.

DEATHS.

BARTR.—On the 3rd ult., near Simla, East India, Richard Travers Barter, sub-lieut. 73rd Regt., in his 21st year.

BELDAM.—On the 20th inst., at Banyers, Royston, Cambridgeshire, Edward Beldam, Esq., J.P., aged 65.

CRAWSHAW.—On the 18th inst., Simon Crawshaw, of Dewsbury, in his 72nd year.

GORDON.—On the 9th inst., at Saltash, South Devon, Thos. Gordon, Esq., aged 59.

HOLKER.—On Aug. 4, at Wallandool, Albury, N.S.W., Wilson, son of the late S. Holker, Esq.

KERSHAW.—On the 17th inst., at Bromley, Kent, John Evans Kershaw, Esq.

KING.—On the 20th inst., at Loughborough Park, Brixton, T. B. King, aged 35.

LATHAM.—On the 17th inst., at Erith, Henry Turner Latham, aged 68.

LOCKWOOD.—On the 20th inst., Bro. the Rev. E. J. Lockwood, aged 78.

The Freemason,

SATURDAY, OCT. 28, 1876.

FATHER FOY'S LAST ATTACK ON
FREEMASONRY.

Father Foy is a Roman Catholic preacher of some celebrity, it seems, who has lately been enlightening and astounding the pious Roman Catholics at Hastings with his revelations respecting secret societies in general and Freemasonry in particular. He has, we believe, before addressed his co-religionists on the same topic, but we must say that in his last oration, or whatever you like to term it, the reverend Father has excelled himself, if that be possible. To what particular Order the reverend orator belongs we are not told, and we do not know, but we should not be very much astonished to hear, that Father Foy is a stout and zealous affiliate of the Jesuit confraternity of Ignatius Loyola. So remarkable are his long addresses, that we can merely glance at them, as it were, to-day, but they will be published "in extenso" in the "*Masonic Magazines*" for December and January, and we recommend our many readers to peruse them carefully there. This kind assailant of Freemasonry objects to its "secrecy." Well, that is an "oft-told tale," and we cannot afford time or space to revert to it now. Suffice it to say, that at the very time Father Foy denounces a society because it is secret, he forgets the great secret Jesuit Association, and he is utterly oblivious of the early history of Christianity itself, and the famous "Disciplina Arcani." A secret society is only objectionable when forbidden by the laws of the land, as many very harmless societies, whether benevolent or social, like to throw around their gatherings the harmless conditions of secrecy and mystery. And then Father Foy goes on to inform his hearers of the real cause of Lord Ripon's resignation of the Grand Mastership of English Freemasons. It seems that our former noble and constitutional ruler was so alarmed by the aims of the secret societies of Europe, and especially of the Freemasons—that very Order over which in England he presided so happily—that he determined not only to become a Roman Catholic, but to disavow Freemasonry. We utterly disbelieve Father Foy, and we fancy he speaks with no authority on the subject. As we understand the matter, and we are open to correction, our late Grand Master, finding that he was about to join the Roman Catholic Communion, felt that after the Papal allocations he could not consistently remain the chief of English Freemasonry as a Roman Catholic, and therefore, though with deep personal regret, severed his connection with a fraternity to which he could not, in his opinion, any longer fitly or conscientiously belong. But that, our readers will see, is a very "different position of affairs" indeed from renouncing Freemasonry because, as Father Foy tells his confiding hearers, it was a secret society, with dangerous aims and revolutionary tendencies. No one knew better the real tone and temper, the professions and practice of English Freemasonry, than did Lord Ripon, and we will venture to add, from old knowledge of himself, that he is far too honest and high-minded to allow even his zeal for Roman Catholicism so far to sway his private opinions or his public declarations as to make him in any way unjust to his ancient brethren. He would, on the contrary, we feel assured, be ready at once to uphold the loyal character and unpolitical colouring of English Freemasonry, and to deprecate the far too common attacks upon it of ignorant assailants and contumelious combatants. Father Foy then proceeds to contend that Freemasonry is still "Illuminatism," and seeks to derive the proofs of his statements from the old and well-worn volumes of Barrall, &c., &c. We have nothing to do with the "Illuminati," and whatever in some portions of the continent Freemasons may have had to do with the dangerous schemes of the Illuminati in the latter part of the last century, we never knew anything of them in Great Britain, and Anglo-Saxon Freemasonry never has had anything to do with them even in the re-

motest degree. It always seems to us idle for Roman Catholic impugnors of Freemasonry to go back to such things in respect of the Freemasonry of the day. Illuminatism is a theory of the past, and we do not believe that at this moment either its principles or its practice are known or developed in any Masonic lodge. Our good Roman Catholic adversaries, if they wish to be both real and effective in their attacks on Freemasonry, must therefore deal with the present, not with the past, and we shall be always ready to meet them. Father Foy then seeks to trace a connection with the French Revolution and Freemasonry, and describes Freemasonry proper as the "fautor" of revolution everywhere. No greater mistake or unfounded untruth ever was persistently put forth. If here and there a French lodge was favourable to the dread principles of the Illuminati, or the turbid violence of Jacobins and Girondins, the effect of the French Revolution was to shut up the French lodges altogether, and to suspend the sittings of the Grand Orient of France. If there was that wonderful sympathy between Freemasonry and revolution which Father Foy asserts to have existed, how came about this indubitable historical fact? The truth is, that this grave error and this mendacious assertion are founded on the want of discrimination as between individuals and the general body. At all times, in all generations, individuals have done very foolish things, and spoken indefensible words, and too often the body has been blamed for the act of the person; but Freemasonry itself, as an institution, never was identified with revolutionary principles, and cannot be, because some of its great dogmata are, and ever will remain, peace and order, loyalty and obedience to civil Government, toleration and tranquillity, brotherly love and good will to man. The laws and teachings of Freemasonry itself are one thing, and the opinions and acts of individual Freemasons another, and often a very different thing indeed. Father Foy himself would not have the Roman Catholic Church condemned for all the cruel deeds and despicable words of individual Romanists, and Lord Ripon himself pointed out this fact in the history of the Roman Catholic Church in an able speech which he recently delivered, we think at Salford or Manchester. Freemasonry cannot, therefore, be condemned for the isolated speeches of individuals, or even the acts of separate lodges which never were sanctioned by the body politic of Freemasonry in any country. We say this because we are aware that some foreign Freemasons have laid themselves open to most severe animadversion by the very untrue character they have themselves given to the principles and the practice of their Order. What our opinion on this head is we point out carefully in another article to-day, and we need not repeat it here, the more so, as we, who belong to Anglo-Saxon Freemasonry, have always protested, and still do protest, against anything which seeks to affix either a political or anti-religious or revolutionary character to Freemasonry. That some of the proceedings of the French Freemasons, to whom Father Foy alludes, are not wise, and in our opinion are not Masonic, we have often said, and shall say again, but then Father Foy must bear in mind the hopelessly bitter and irreconcilable feelings which seem to actuate Ultramontanes and Freemasons in France and in other continental States. Much of this is, no doubt, owing to the indiscriminate censure cast upon Freemasons by hot-headed ecclesiastic functionaries, without discernment and without distinction. Even in Great Britain and Canada, and the United States, our loyal, and law-abiding, and peaceful and tolerant Order is nothing in their eyes but a secret political organization, actuated by the worst principles, and directed to the most unholy ends. It is against this wholesale system of Ultramontane lying that we Freemasons warmly object. Father Foy frightened all his readers by a description of the orgies of Masonic Lodges, a description, however suitable for the "respectable gentlemen and ladies" who are said to have attended his "high spiced" lecture—delivered, we observe, on the "altar steps," in a Roman Catholic Church, by the way—is far too foul for our pages. We recommend all our brethren and readers to study

carefully Father Foy's "ipsissima verba" in the "Masonic Magazine" for December, and they will agree with us, we feel sure, that no more ridiculous and yet untruthful description of Freemasonry and Freemasons was ever palmed off on the credulity of the most credulous, or offered to the swallow of the greatest of "gobemouches." We shall remind our readers of these very "sensational addresses" when our December Magazine appears, but we have thought well to advert to them now for the comfort and edification of many worthy brethren in Hastings and the vicinity.

THE PRESENT ASPECTS OF FRENCH FREEMASONRY.

We wish that we could conscientiously say that such were reassuring; alas! in our humble opinion, they are greatly the reverse. We have very warm feelings towards our French brethren, and we wish devoutly that historic truth did not compel us to point out in all of solemn sternness, the very uncomfortable impression the reports of the last meeting of the Grand Orient of France have left upon our minds. The Grand Orient of France has decided, by 110 votes to 65, to refer to the consideration of all the lodges Article II. of the Constitutional laws, which relates to the "existence of God and the immortality of the soul." After a very long discussion "and much divergency of opinion among the Bureaux," the Grand Orient divided on the report of the "Commission," which, principally in respect of the opportuneness of the discussion, proposed to pass to the "order of the day," or, as we should say, "the previous question," and so, for the moment, shelve a disagreeable discussion. But 110 votes as against 65, as we said just now, declined this proposition, and determined to bring the matter to a distinct conclusion one way or other, and we cannot say that in this they were actually wrong, though we are very sorry that any such question has been raised at all. We note that in the discussion Bros. Nicoulo, Baer, Mamark, and Marechal de Nancy, took what we should call the English view of the subject, regretting that such a discussion should arise at all, and pointing out its real sectarian character, while Bro. Massicault seems to have dwelt most upon the inopportuneness of the proposal. The arguments by which the Council of the Order, under the esteemed Bro. St. Jean, Bro. Caubet, the able G.S., and Bro. Wyrubouff, the eloquent Orator, have since practically defended the result of the division, have, we confess, filled our mind with regret and alarm; and we feel bound to say to those most distinguished brethren, in our humble opinion, that such arguments are radically wrong, and Masonically unsound. For what is the view they are now seeking to establish, the defence they put forward, for this act of unquietness and revolution? It is this, that in expunging the assertion of the belief in the "existence of God," and the "immortality of the soul," they are not negating dogmata, but affirming toleration, that as Freemasonry is essentially tolerant and universal it can express a belief in nothing, inasmuch as by affirming credence in anything you offend the consciences of those who don't believe in anything at all, and "par consequence," the only true position of Freemasonry is that which declares that its highest teaching is absolute negativism. Bro. Wyrubouff says that Freemasonry is bound to remain neuter on all points of politics and religion, and leaves to each individual his own faith. We agree with him in general, but not in particular. Our English position is a very different one, and, we think, a far better one. It asserts that a Freemason can neither be a "stupid atheist or an irreligious libertine," and it demands belief in the Great Architect of the Universe as a necessary condition of admission into Freemasonry. It declares, undoubtedly, in its teaching, ritually and otherwise, also in the immortality of the soul, in the resurrection of humanity, in the Fatherhood of God, and in the Brotherhood of Man, and there it stops, leaving at a distance all question of creeds, all other portions of individual belief. Our great objection then, to this movement in French Freemasonry is twofold, first as regards its own

position in France; and secondly, in respect of its relationships with other branches of the great Masonic family. In France the only effect will be to play into the hands of the Ultramontanes, and to give new weapons to the able assailant of Freemasonry, Monsignor Dupanloup. In his remarkable "Etude," unfair and illogical in part as we deemed it to be, owing to his confusion of individual acts with general principles, he himself pointed out what the logical necessity of the case must lead the French Freemasons to. And sure enough here we have his words already fulfilled in this inopportune and regrettable discussion of these most important truths. In the present temper of French Freemasons, we fear that there is but little hope of their maintaining the constitution of the Order, in "statu quo," and of resisting the "voice of that destructive charmer," which is luring them on to the "Caudine Forks" of hopeless isolation. Indeed, we should almost be inclined to think, remembering that our good friends the Jesuits have more than once tried their "prentice hand" on Masonic lodges and Masonic teaching, that such a movement might owe its origin to some concealed and unsuspected affiliate of that universal society. For we can see nothing but gain to the Ultramontane press and party, and grave consequences to the French Freemasons, by this hasty surrender of their outworks to the first attack of the enemy. French Freemasonry will henceforth be distinguished by one great characteristic, that it will possess within it the full luxury of unbelief, and that that great Order which has ever openly professed its manly adherence to the Great Creator and Ruler and Father and Friend of all, now openly abdicates its old position, declares that whether a Freemason be a believer in God or a pure atheist, matters nothing at all. Such a rôle for French Freemasonry is, we believe, alike dangerous and unworthy. It simply paves the way for spiritual and political despotism, as no real liberty can exist on the negation or non-avowal of positive belief, and it undermines the foundation on which all true Freemasonry rests, its religious, reverential, and tolerant character. It is a fallacy almost unworthy of notice, it is a subtlety too Jesuitical, it is a subterfuge only too patent, which would represent such a movement as an effort of toleration, not a destructive negativism; a conservative step, not a revolutionary proclivity; a concession to the tendencies of modern thought and teaching, not a surrender to the army of indifference or infidelity, the dealing with a dogma inconsistent with the universal and liberal genius of Masonry, not the erasure of a living truth, bound up indifferently with the very existence and true progress of Freemasonry. On the arguments of our worthy brethren, mistaken as we hold them, nothing positive or true can stand, the objective must give way to the subjective, "tout ce qu'on reveré," to the idle phantasies of the hour. Henceforth French Freemasonry will be described by its adversaries, as without belief at all, and who can gainsay their words? If such a decision is upheld and becomes part of French Masonic law, forbidding to French Freemasons any doctrine of external or public belief in God, and resolving its teaching into a bare and lifeless system of human morality, whether based on a "morale indépendante," or the destructive theories of a so-called "positivisme," which seems to leave everything in dilemma and obscurity, amid a chaos of contending passions, and the insoluble doubts of the finite intellect of man, it will be an evil day for French Freemasonry. In these our remarks we hope that our French brethren will not believe that we are actuated by any other than pure Masonic sentiments. We write freely and decidedly because we feel warmly, and because, above all, we like plain speaking, truthful declaration in all things, and greatly object to the mealy-mouthedness and insincere utterances of the hour. As regards Anglo-Saxon Freemasonry the decision of the French Grand Orient, if supported by the majority of French Masons, must render the chasm between French and Anglo-Saxon Freemasonry impassable, and must prevent Anglo-Saxon Freemasons entering a French Lodge. As some of the French brethren well put it in the debate, its only result can be

the isolation of French Freemasons, a result to be very deeply regretted. We Anglo-Saxon Freemasons cannot, and will not, give up our own ancient and distinguishing formulæ, and on our own principles we cannot conscientiously enter lodges in which the existence of God is not even admitted, but in which His sacred name is never used, which neither begin nor end with prayers, and from which the Bible has been almost contemptuously rejected. We await with great anxiety the appeal to the French Lodges, deeply as we deplore that any such step should be taken, though, as we said before, we cannot blame those who merely on the score of "inopportuneness" refused to accept the "ordre de jour." We confess that we have but little hope of a favourable response in our view of things, though, as we say, "when things are at their worst they sometimes mend," and "the stormy night is sometimes followed by a sunshiny morning." As it is impossible in a short article to do full justice to the arguments of Bros. Caubet and Wyrubouff we shall revert to them next week.

PEACE OR WAR.

The sensational paragraphs we published last week, and which the "Times" took from the "Central News," were, as we thought, pure "canards," symptomatic we are inclined to think of one or two "lame ducks" on the Stock Exchange. The Ministry has had a meeting and there are still hopes for European peace. All of us, and Freemasons especially, must wish for peace, not indeed peace at any price, not a dishonourable peace, not a peace procured by menace, or culminating in national disgrace, but peace, if possible, as preferable to the horror, and ruthless arbitrament of war. Some of us often talk in flippant tones and rowdy words of the possibilities of war, and seem to treat very lightly the great, the sacred blessings of peace. To all such we recommend the calm perusal of Dr. Johnson's famous, but forgotten words in his pamphlet on the "Falkland Islands," and which commend themselves equally to the understanding of the reflective and the sympathies of the Freemason, interested in the preservation of European peace, and the cessation of the cruelties and evils of war.—"As war is the last of remedies, cuncta prius tentanda, all lawful expedients must be used to avoid it. As war is the extremity of evil, it is surely the duty of those whose station entrusts them with the care of nations, to avert it from their charge. There are diseases of animal nature which nothing but amputation can remove; so there may, by the deprivation of human passions, be sometimes a gangrene in collective life for which fire and the sword are the necessary remedies; but in what can skill or caution be better shown than preventing such dreadful operations, while there is yet room for gentler methods? It is wonderful with what coolness and indifference the greater part of mankind see war commenced. Those that hear of it at a distance, or read of it in books, but have never presented its evils to their minds, consider it as little more than a splendid game, a proclamation, an army, a battle, and a triumph. Some indeed must perish in the most successful field, but they die upon the bed of honour, resign their lives amidst the joys of conquest, and filled with England's glory, smile in death. The life of a modern soldier is ill represented by heroic fiction. War has means of destruction more formidable than the cannon and the sword. Of the thousands and ten thousands that perished in our late contests with France and Spain, a very small part ever felt the stroke of an enemy; the rest languished in tents and ships, amidst damps and putrefaction; pale, torpid, spiritless, and helpless: gasping and groaning, unpitied among men, made obdurate by long continuance of hopeless misery; and were at last whelmed in pits, or heaved into the ocean, without notice and without remembrance. By inconmodious encampments and unwholesome stations, where courage is useless, and enterprise impracticable, fleets are silently dispeopled, and armies sluggishly melted away. Those who suffer their minds to dwell on these considerations will think it no great crime in the ministry that they have not snatched with eagerness the first opportunity

of rushing into the field, when they were able to obtain by quiet negotiation all the real good that victory could have brought us. Of victory indeed, every nation is confident before the sword is drawn; and this mutual confidence produces that wantonness of bloodshed that has so often disolated the world. But it is evident, that of contradictory opinions one must be wrong; and the history of mankind does not want examples that may teach caution to the daring, and moderation to the proud."

LETTER OF BRO. CAUBET TO THE EDITOR OF THE "FREEMASON."
TRANSLATED FROM THE "MONDE MAÇONNIQUE" OF OCTOBER.

Very dear Brother,—

You have had a thousand-fold reason for considering the assertions of the "Globe" newspaper calumnious. There never have existed under the obedience of the Grand Orient of France lodges belonging partly to Freemasonry and partly to Carbonarism.

The Masonic work and the work of the Carbonari have no resemblance in any manner. The first is a work of peace and fraternity among honest men of all beliefs.

*The second has been a special work of combat against a political party. The Grand Orient has no authority, and never has had any, but over Masonry.

Carbonarism had to direct it, a Vente Supreme (Supreme Vente), completely alien in all things from Masonic authority.

Never have the French lodges thought of substituting any sort of parody on the civil marriage, the only legal one in France.

The opinion of the immense majority of Masons would have protested against such a proceeding, and the Grand Orient would never have authorised it.

Mr. A. Naquet certainly wrote in 1869, a volume in which he lauded extremely Free Love. This book had for a title, Religion, Propriété, Famille, and not as the "Globe" says, "La Famille et L'Etat social."

I am ignorant if Mr. Naquet has changed his opinion. I am much disposed to believe it; but I do know this, that in his book he has made no allusion to Masonry, and especially to the pretended Masonic marriages of which the "Globe" speaks.

This matter of [the marriages is evidently a bad joke of the editor of that journal, or the reproduction of one of those "contes bleus," given forth by certain Ultramontane Roman Catholic writers, whose speciality is to calumniate our grand Institution.

Accept, dear brother, the assurance of my fraternal sentiments. CAUBET.

A POINT OF LAW.

Many Freemasons of eminence, probably alarmed at the late extraordinary spread of the craft, have left no opportunity unmissed of earnestly advising and imploring the founders of lodges which they have been called upon to consecrate, to be particular to the utmost degree in investigating the characters of the candidates proposed for admission into the Order. That this advice is required, and that it is high time that Grand Lodge should interfere in a manner strong enough to prevent the occurrence of another scandal of a similar nature, must be evident to the mind of every one who peruses the report of a case tried at the Westminster County Court, on Thursday, the 10th inst., before Mr Judge Bayley:—"The Hervey Lodge of Freemasons, No. 1260, versus Fielder." The plaintiffs sued the defendant, a gentleman residing at 10, Torrione Avenue, Camden Town, to recover the sum of £15, under somewhat peculiar circumstances.—Mr Stone, counsel for the plaintiffs, said the claim was for ten guineas initiation fees and five guineas subscription.—At this stage of the case the learned judge said that as the Freemasons were not a body corporate they could not sue, and that Freemasons in point of law were a nonentity.—Mr. Stone, on the other hand, said that, on reference to "Pollock's Law of Contracts," p. 775, all clubs could recover if by law established.—The Judge: In that case you assume to sue as a corporation.—Mr Stone: No; I assure your honour that, by the fifth order of the New County Courts Act, and on the eighth rule, all persons connected with any society are each and severally liable to sue.—The Judge: But here no person is named.—Mr. Stone then asked the learned judge to amend the particulars, and allow Mr King's (the Secretary of the lodge) name to be substituted on the part of the plaintiffs, and quoted the case of "Ruget v. Bishop," Law Reports, 733, where a similar case was decided in his favour; and again stated that Pollock on Contracts supported him at page 193, where one of many parties who had an interest in a club or society were individually entitled to sue. If his honour were adverse to him on this point perhaps leave would be given to appeal.—The Judge: You have no right to appeal, as the case cannot be supported, as no individual person was mentioned in the plaint.—Mr. Stone: But the text-books I have quoted are in opposition to your honour's views.—The Judge: I say you cannot support the claim, and I am not bound by Mr. Pollock's text-books or any others. I shall, therefore, nonsuit the plaintiffs and allow costs.—Judgment for the defendant with costs.—"Sunday Times."

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Original Correspondence.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for, or even as approving of the opinions expressed by our correspondents, but we wish, in a spirit of fair play to all, to permit—within certain necessary limits—free discussion.—Ed.]

FEMALE FREEMASONRY.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir,—

Once again I trespass on your valuable space, but this time in self defence, and to let "A Freemason's Wife" know that, whatever her doubts may be upon the subject, I am a woman, if one by myself, as she suggests. I expected to find many Masons' wives against me, knowing from experience the feeling existing upon the subject, but I trust some will be of my opinion. Your correspondent appears to think it such a remarkable occurrence that my husband and self can converse freely upon Masonic matters when he is bound by such awful oaths. This idea is simply absurd, as there are so many interesting subjects connected with Masonry—even the matter contained in your weekly journal is always food for conversation and argument—that she need wonder no longer on that score. She then admits the lodge is no place for modest women (how about immodest ones?)—this is not saying much for the Countess Hädick. However, my idea is this—let Freemasons' wives give over fretting and fuming for knowledge unattainable, and worrying their husbands in the matter, and rest contented. This would, I think, bring more real happiness between them than an enlightenment as to the mysteries of the Order, even were it possible.

I could say much more, but feel now I ought to apologise for occupying your time upon such a controversy. Before concluding, however, I must acknowledge being gratified with your editorial remarks, agreeing with my views upon the above subject, and trust others were the same.

Believe me, dear Sir, faithfully yours,

A FREEMASON'S WIFE.

ULTRAMONTANISM.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Pray give me space to draw the attention of our brethren to the subjoined extract from the "Times" of Thursday week:—

"RELIGIOUS SCANDAL.—A Roman Catholic scandal has occurred in Nottingham. A married lady worshipping at the Cathedral, unknown to her husband, consulted Bishop Bagshaw the other day as to the spiritual condition of a girl of 14 who lived with her. The girl having stated that her parents were Protestants, the Bishop said there was no hope for salvation without the pale of the Catholic Church, and he could not even allow her to leave that day without the bestowal of a baptismal blessing, and through fear she submitted. In reply to the husband's remonstrance, the Bishop contends that duty to the Church overrides duty to parents and husbands."

Far be it from me, if even you were to permit me to take such a course, to say one word either for or against Roman Catholicism, or indeed, any other religious belief or system whatever; but I must point out that this over-riding of all authority, human and Divine, this severing of the holiest of all ties, dear alike to God and man, is the action of those who calumniate us, slander us, revile us, excommunicate us, deprive us of the rites of sepulture, desecrate our very graves, and find no worthier epithets to bestow upon our inoffensive peacefulness than "putrid," on our charity than "leprosy of heresy."

I remain, dear Sir and Brother, faithfully and fraternally yours,

FAIR PLAY.

[We think that the correspondence on Ultramontanism had better now cease.—Ed.]

FATHER FOY ON FREEMASONRY.

The following correspondence relative to Father Foy's address appeared in the "Hastings Observer," October 21st:—

Sir,—In his lecture on Secret Societies reported in your last issue, Father Foy brandishes his spiritual shillelagh with great vigour about the heads of Freemasons. I trust he will accept my assurance that in his account of the frightful oath which he says is enforced on every free and accepted Mason, he has either been hoaxed, or has sought for his authority in the pages of a "penny dreadful" or one of the sham publications which innocent countrymen purchase in the delusion that they contain the secrets of Freemasonry. Father Foy must have a most high imagination if he believes that sensible men, in these days of police and sanitary inspectors, could talk of hanging bodies like the scarecrows magnified by distorted vision into Turkish impalements. I would also assure Father Foy that Masonry, unlike his own creed, inculcates a ready obedience to the laws of whatever country it may be practised in, and as an instance of its worth from a religious point of view, may mention that I have presided over a lodge where a high-taste Brahmin and a Mussulman joined with Catholics and Protestants regularly in praying to their common Father, "O Lord, who hast taught us that all our doings without charity are nothing worth; pour into our hearts that most excellent gift of charity, the bond of peace and of all virtues, without which whosoever is counted dead before Thee," a prayer which, both in word and spirit, I would recommend Father Foy to add to his daily devotions.

Yours obediently,

A FREEMASON.

St. Leonards Club, 17th October, 1876.

Sir,—As one perfectly unbiassed with regard to the subject on which the Rev. Mr. Foy is now lecturing, and with a view solely of gaining information, I have read

the discourse chronicled in your last week's number, and am obliged to confess my complete disappointment therewith.

The real question in my humble opinion appears to be this, "What is the relation between the Society known in England as Freemasons, and those on the Continent to which Mr. Foy attributes such 'atrocities?' " (that is, I believe, the popular word just at present.) Mr. Foy has said a great deal that has been said a thousand times before, perhaps not less forcibly than he has himself just said it; but with regard to what appears, in my humble opinion, at least to be the point on which information would be valuable, he has told us nothing, and I would therefore venture respectfully to suggest, that, unless this omission be supplied in the forthcoming lectures, it is more than possible, not only that they will be totally innoxious, so far as Masonry is concerned, but that like a celebrated personage of ancient times, he may find that he has "altogether blessed" where he intended to curse.

I am, Sir, your obedient Servant,

St. Leonards-on-Sea.

A NON-MASON.

Sir,—Having read in your paper of the 14th inst. the address on "Secret Societies" delivered by the Rev. Mr. Foy in the Roman Catholic Church of St. Thomas in your town, I beg to state, as an English Mason, that, so far as it was intended to apply to English Masonry, the discourse does not contain one word of truth, but, on the contrary, is a gross and wicked libel. I have very little knowledge of foreign Masonry, but I believe the same observation would equally apply to it.

I am, Sir, yours obediently,

JOHN CASTLE GANT.

Reigate, Oct. 17, 1876.

P.S.—I hope some members of the Craft at Hastings and St. Leonards will defend it against such a vile attack.

PROTESTANTISM IN SPAIN.

[The following appeared in the "Times" of Monday. We do not know to what Masonic procession Sir George Bowyer alludes.—Ed.]

Sir,—I regret the course taken in Spain on the 11th Article of the Constitution (if what we are told is correct), for intolerance, or even the appearance of intolerance and bigotry, is much to be deprecated on principle, as well as dangerous to religion and to public security. It is well that the English Government should give friendly and respectful advice on this subject. But some such action would be both becoming and useful elsewhere. I mean in Italy.

In Spain the dissenters from the national religion are not only a small minority, but a mere fraction, and some deference to the predominant opinions of the country may be expected from them. Italy is a Roman Catholic country, and the vast majority of the people are, or profess themselves, Roman Catholics. Yet the Roman Catholics of Italy are restricted in the same manner as the Protestants in Spain from any manifestation of their religion outside the churches. Thus, though religious processions are a national and historical institution in Italy, no public processions are allowed except those of the Freemasons and Liberi Pensatori. And a law is announced to take the property of all religious societies and associations, and another to compel all children to receive not only an education without religion, but what is called a "Progressist education," which is irreligious."

It is also worth while to point out that the other day a "Church Congress" at Bologna, presided over by the Cardinal Archbishop and the Duke Salviati, and including five Bishops and many laymen of high rank, and held in a church, was broken up by the Prefect because the police and the authorities allowed a mob to make a riot, a subscription having been collected to pay the rioters.

I may be asked how it is that in Italy the majority allow themselves to be domineered over by the minority. There are three answers to this question:—1st, the military discipline of the army; and, the secret societies; and 3rd, the fact that Italy is inhabited, not by Englishmen, but by Italians.

Requesting the publication of this letter, I remain, your obedient servant,

GEORGE BOWYER.

CHARITY ORGANISATION.

The following letter has appeared in the "Times":—
Sir,—Having seen in a recent paper a paragraph headed "Shocking Death from Starvation," I have been induced to address you and make known the following facts:—About eight months ago myself and son, who is twenty years of age, arrived in London. At that time we were tolerably well off as to money, &c. From that time to the present we have been most indefatigable in endeavouring to procure employment in fair copying or anything else next to menial, but have failed to succeed. Our last shilling being expended, and we being at the time in arrears for lodging and washing, we received notice to leave. Being compelled to do so, we had to wander the streets for two nights in succession. My son being in a very delicate state of health, is now considerably worse, owing, I have no doubt, to exposure and want of food. I am advanced in years and very feeble. Some eight or ten days ago, when going down St. James's-street I saw on the door of No. 21 a brass plate, on which are the following words:—"Metropolitan Visiting and Relief Fund, first floor." I went upstairs and had an interview with a gentleman who appeared highly respectable. My son waited my return in the street. I briefly stated our sad case, and that we had not tasted food of any description since the previous morning (this was three o'clock in the afternoon). My statement was true, to which he appeared to listen attentively. His reply was that no relief could be obtained there, that the only relief given was by the clergy, and they visited the persons on whom

it was bestowed. He then said, "You had better go to the 'Charity Organization,' in Buckingham-street, Strand" (which address he put on paper), "where, in all probability, you will get some relief." On our arrival I saw on a board in large letters the words above stated. I there had an audience with a gentleman, who desired me to be seated, and asked me numerous questions, the whole of which I answered correctly. He then asked who it was that recommended us there. I told him, when he said he knew no such place, but if there was it was out of their district. He then said "I cannot do anything for you," but gave me the name and address of a relieving officer whose residence was some three miles from there. I said "We at present are quite exhausted," and told him that we had not eaten anything since the previous morning; but every entreaty was in vain, and I left the office. My son, as in St. James's, remained at the door. A gentleman, seeing us leave, accosted us, and said, "You will excuse me—have you been endeavouring to procure relief?" I said "Yes." He asked, "Did you succeed?" The answer was "No." He said "Not likely," and that scores to his knowledge who were in a most distressed condition had made similar appeals there, but were rejected with the only redress of the name and address of the relieving officer. He commented on the conduct of some four or five who were in the same office (one of whom passed at the time) in the most bitter terms, and in language which I forbear making use of. He requested us to remain a short time, and on his return brought us some bread and butter, folded in a piece of newspaper, and gave us all the money he had—viz., threepence halfpenny. We then wended our way to St. James's Park, sat on a form there, and ate the bread and butter. We remained in and about the Park until 1 o'clock in the morning. A policeman came to us and said we were not allowed to remain there. I told him we were not bad characters, had nowhere to go, and were destitute. He was remarkably civil, but again said we could not remain there, and told us to go to Covent-garden, where we should be out of the rain. (It was slightly raining at the time.) We went there and saw some scores of men, women, and children lying in groups, and, it grieves me to say, making use of the most blasphemous and dreadful language. A most terrible night it was, and when day-light appeared we had nowhere to go to obtain a mouthful of food. We have had no assistance from any one in London ever since, but have lived most economically on small remittances sent from the country by some relatives, who, I am sorry to say, are in very indigent circumstances, and these are now, for want of means, discontinued. What to do I am quite at a loss to devise, and am much afraid the fate of the late poor Mr. Arthur French will be mine if no kind friend will come to the rescue in procuring us employment. We have lived in the same town for many years, and our character will bear the most strict investigation as to honesty, &c.; to corroborate which I beg to state that the Mayor and magistrates where we have so long resided will give ample testimony of the same.

I am, Sir, yours respectfully,
October 20, 1876.

VETA.

Reviews.

FAUST.—Illustrated by Frederick Bruckman, 17, Southampton-street, Strand.

This is a remarkable work. It is an edition of Goethe's Faust, with the translation of Theodore Martin, C.B., and illustrated by Professor Kreling, a pupil of Kaulbach's. The work is in folio size, and will contain 78 wood engravings, and 14 high-class permanent photographs. This is a very fine library volume, and the specimen submitted to us is alike most striking in typographic elegance and artistic excellence. We wish it every success. To all the admirers of Goethe it will be very welcome.

THE LIFE OF CHRIST. Part I., Illustrated. By F. W. FARRAR, D.D., Canon of Westminster.—Cassell, Petter, & Galpin.

We have received Part I. of this remarkable work, which we think will be a great boon to many readers.

We do not profess to review as a general rule religious works, but as the "Times" truly says, "apart from all theological prepossessions this work is 'sui generis,'" standing isolated on the great plateau of literature, from the teeming myriads of purely spiritual productions, whether in respect of dogma or of practice. It is in itself a great fact in the history of religious literature, it is a striking testimony of the writer's power, of the gift and grace of his effective style. And then what a history is set before us, so wonderful, so solemn, and so subduing.

We will defy any one to rise from the perusal of Dr. Farrar's "Life of Christ" without experiencing deep emotion, and being greatly affected by the sustained but thrilling narrative. Some of us may have read Renan's "Vie de Jesus," and may recall the mingled sense of sadness and sorrow, of fear and depression, of doubt and dismay, with which they closed, somewhat gladly, at last, melancholy pages, that mournful monument of perverted ingenuity, and unreliable criticism. But with Dr. Farrar's "Life of Christ," the effect is quite the contrary. There are passages in the work we are willing to read over and over again; and none of us can put the two volumes down of the original edition without a deep feeling of admiration for the writer, and a vivid memory of a very wonderful work. We do not intend to go into to-day the questions which always arise, especially if a book is successful, as to any defects, or doubts, which some have discovered or expressed concerning it. We are not aware of any work in past times or the present which has so seized on to the public mind, and so gained the public approval, and though both of these things so to say are not everything, yet they are and mean

great deal. But we may fairly say this, that we cannot enter into the narrowness of that intellect, or the pettiness of that criticism, which finds fault with Dr. Farrar's writing, because it is too much of "word painting," or because it appeals to the subjective sympathies of the age too much, in the opinion of the writer. We hold that all really great works are suited in the Providence of God to the age which witnesses their appearance, and that as each age has its own special tastes and tendencies, and habits of thought, nay, even its views of theology, so we are not to condemn a writer who honestly seeks to do good by skilfully availing himself even of the passing characteristics (if you like) of literature. We do not like, some of us, Lord Clarendon's style; we think it verbose, heavy, hazy, too ponderous, and dogmatic; but who can doubt that those who first read it thoroughly appreciated its "tangled periods," and somewhat pompous sentences, and even now it may be doubted whether we have a truer or better history of the period. In our opinion, those who find fault with Dr. Farrar's work because it is too "sensational," too full of striking contrasts, hardly understand their own criticism, and sure we are of this, that all who have once perused those often startling pages, will feel forcibly alike the faithful realism of the writer, and the distinctness of the truths and message he has sought to uphold and deliver. We congratulate Messrs. Cassell, Petter, & Galpin on this opportune offering of very high-class literature, on very reasonable terms, to that somewhat exorbitant body—the British Reading Public.

MUSIC.

"A SISTER'S FAREWELL." Music by H. ANDERSON; Words by ELIZA COOK.

"MY NELLY WALTZES." By HARRIET ANDERSON.

We have received these two "morceaux," and feel it to be our duty, for several reasons, to commend them earnestly to the support of the Craft. There are some touching incidents attending the publication of these two pieces of music, which appear to us to constitute a claim both on the attention and sympathy of Freemasons. Mr. Charles Williams, who was about to be initiated in The Great City Lodge, died on the very day on which he was to have been initiated, leaving a widow and five children unprovided for. Bro. Anderson is now publishing these two efforts of musical skill and power for the benefit of the widow and children of one who, though not a brother, intended to be one, had it so pleased T.G.A.O.T.U. Miss Eliza Cook, the well-known poetess, speaks in high and well-merited terms of the melody of the late Miss Anderson's compositions, and we feel sure that they will please alike amateurs and skilled musicians. We think that many of our brethren will be willing to lend Bro. Anderson a helping hand in his truly Masonic efforts, and whether charitably or artistically, we are convinced that their generous support will not be a subject of disappointment to them. We may add that David Walter Williams, aged 3 years, is seeking for admission to the Alexandra Orphanage for Infants, and that any votes will be gratefully received by Bro. W. Anderson, 47, New Kent-road, S.E.

Matum in Parbo; or Masonic Notes and Queries.

BRO. BOLLON.

In all old lodge minute books of 1866, to which I have called attention in the November "Masonic Magazine," a Bro. Bollon, in the list of members, is said to have "gone to America." Is anything known of that brother in the history of American Freemasonry? I ask the question because he seems to have been an active member of Lodge 194 (Antient Masons), and formerly its W.M. He was also a member of the Royal Arch.

EDITOR "MASONIC MAGAZINE."

Obituary.

DEATH OF THE DEPUTY PROVINCIAL GRAND MASTER OF SUFFOLK.

We regret to announce the death of the Rev. E. I. Lockwood, rector of Belstead, which took place at the rectory on Friday from an attack of gout. The deceased, who was 78 years of age, was a widower, and leaves four daughters to mourn their loss. He was educated at Jesus College, Cambridge, and took his degree of B.A. in 1820. He was created deacon in 1822, and received the degree of M.A., and was ordained a priest by the Bishop of Chester in 1823. In 1846 he entered upon the living of Belstead, which was in his own patronage, and had consequently at the time of his death been rector of the parish 30 years. The living is worth £370 per annum. He was initiated as a Freemason at the Stuart Lodge, Bedford, and became a member of the British Union Lodge, 114, Ipswich, in 1861. In 1863 and 1864 he filled the office of W.M. in that lodge with great credit to himself, and to the benefit of the lodge, and on vacating office was presented with a Past Master's jewel. Bro. Sir Alexander Shafto Adair (Lord Waveney) became a member in the same year, and on being made Prov. G.M. of Suffolk appointed Bro. Lockwood, Deputy, an office which he held up to the time of his death.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.—Old Sores, Wounds and Ulcers.—The readiness with which Holloway's unguent removes all obstructions in the circulation of the vessels and lymphatics, explains their irresistible influence in healing old sores, bad wounds, and indolent ulcers. To insure the desired effect the skin surrounding the diseased part should be fomented, dried, and immediately well rubbed with the Ointment. This will give purity to the foul blood, and strength to the weakened nerves, the only conditions necessary for the cure of all those ulcerations which render life almost intolerable. No sooner is this Ointment's protective powers exerted than the destructive process ceases and the constructive business begins—new healthy growth appears to fill up the lately painful excavated pit.—ADVT.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF WEST YORKSHIRE.

[We thank our distinguished brother for transmitting to us a copy of the following speech. It would have appeared last week, but was crowded out by the report of our Grand Master's visit to Glasgow.]

At the quarterly meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of West Yorkshire, held at Harrogate, Bro. Sir Henry Edwards, the Provincial Grand Master, gave the following address:—Worshipful Masters, Officers, and Brethren of this Provincial Grand Lodge,—The time has again arrived when it becomes my pleasing duty to address you as your Provincial Grand Master, and in so doing, I am sure I cannot gratify both yourselves and myself more than by inviting you all to participate in the pleasing duties of this Provincial Grand Lodge, assuring you that the matters in which we are about to be engaged could not well fail to give you unalloyed satisfaction. Receive, I beg of you, my warmest acknowledgments for the salutation with which you have greeted me in Harrogate, a place familiar to me for a long period in connection with my yeomanry command, and for the cordiality of the Masonic compliment you have rendered to the office I occupy amongst the brethren of West Yorkshire. We assemble to-day under the banner of a lodge established in one of the most popular inland watering places in Yorkshire, a place annually visited by about forty or fifty thousand persons from all countries, in search of health or of recreation, and celebrated for the hospitality of the brethren of the Claro Lodge, as well as for its baths, mineral springs, and hospitals. There was a period far back in the chronicle of time, when the whole of this neighbourhood was a thick forest, and when Harrogate was an almost inaccessible nook in the Wolds of Yorkshire. To-day, however, the town is approached by railway and other means of communication, and is replete with every convenience. We meet for our autumnal gathering in a lodge—the only one in this fashionable resort—which, although small in numbers, has twice entertained Provincial Grand Lodge since the date of its constitution. To the hospitality of the Worshipful Master we are indebted for the privilege of meeting here on the present occasion. Like some other lodges in this province, the "Harrogate and Claro" has had its difficulties to overcome, but it has conquered its vicissitudes, and is now, I am happy to believe, in a prosperous condition. It has been enabled to establish itself in rooms adapted to its requirements, and its treasury is carefully administered and protected. The late Deputy P.G.M. at Doncaster, on this subject said, on the 8th July, 1874, that he "desires to impress upon the brethren the fact that, excepting the Worshipful Masters of Lodges, there was no officer of more importance than the Treasurer, and he impressed upon those officers the desirability of calling upon members for their subscriptions before they got into arrear." I endorse his advice. The brethren, I hope, will have observed a paragraph which has appeared in several of the Provincial Grand Lodge quarterly summonses, relating to the safe custody of old lodge books, records, and papers. The notice runs thus: "The Provincial Grand Secretary is anxious to form a complete set of Provincial Grand Lodge summonses, and will take as a favour, if any old copies can be furnished." My deputy informs me that many of the lodges he has visited regret the loss of old minute and cash books, which destroys the links of history in the constitutions of the lodges between the present and the past, and thus the continuity of the history and progress of the lodges from their dates of constitution cannot now be traced. Let me firmly impress upon the Masters of Lodges that steps be taken in every lodge to provide proper boxes or safes for the better and certain custody of these invaluable documents. And I earnestly recommend that each lodge at once form a small committee, to not only search for these scattered records, but also to make an inventory of them. Whilst on this topic, I desire to add that our Provincial Grand Lodge archives, under the care of the Provincial Grand Secretary, are still short of a large number of previous Grand Lodge summonses from the year A.L. 5823, when the province of West Yorkshire was constituted. At our July meeting I mentioned that I and my deputy had determined to have the Huddersfield edition of our Provincial Grand Lodge bye-laws reprinted, and it would be desirable to add another bye-law to the list, as it is my earnest desire that Worshipful Masters should be better acquainted with these bye-laws, as well as with the Book of Constitutions. Our able Provincial Grand Registrar, who has done a great deal of work this year, has given notice of such a bye-law, with which I and my deputy perfectly coincide. In conclusion, I have only to remark that the province, I believe without exception, is in a prosperous condition, and the brethren, I trust, in perfect unity and harmony. And now that I have entered upon the more active season of the year, when the 61 lodges meet regularly, I trust there may be an earnest desire to study the principles upon which our ancient and time-honoured fraternity is founded, and to guard at the same time our portals from unworthy candidates, whose object is not merely to gratify a vain curiosity, but to join for the privilege of participating in convivial meetings; and to admit those novitiates only who enter of their own free will and accord to participate in the privileges of our Order, and who are likely to become esteemed and illustrious upholders of piety and virtue.

Col. Le Gendre N. Starkie has appointed Wednesday, the 22nd prox., as the day on which he will hold the Provincial Grand Lodge of Lancashire, Eastern Division. The Grand Lodge will be opened at one o'clock in the Commissioners' Rooms, Middleton, the banquet being held in the Co-operative Hall at four o'clock.

ARCHÆOLOGICAL SECTION OF THE FALCON LODGE, No. 1416, AT THIRSK.

On the 7th inst., the members, accompanied by the Vicar, the Rev. Bro. A. T. Atwood, M.A., Rural Dean visited Leake, and inspected the church and hall. Here many centuries ago stood a large village, which was destroyed under successive attacks by the Danes, the Normans, and the Scots, its existence and extent being yet partially traceable in the ridges and buried foundations found in the neighbouring fields. The church, dedicated to St. Mary stands in proximity to the hall, and is a venerable building, comprising nave, chancel, aisles, porch, and an interesting tower in the Anglo-Saxon style. The tower and nave are evidently the oldest parts of the structure, and without buttresses. The chancel has a buttress at each angle, and one in each side; the entrance door of the chancel being through one of the buttresses. The east window is of four lights, in the perpendicular style, and filled in principally with plain glass; those of the nave, clerestory, and chancel of two lights each. The roof is of low pitch, and covered with lead, and over the entrance of the porch is a sun dial inscribed "Labitur et Labetur."

The three arches dividing the north aisle from the nave are circular, as is also the arch opening from the nave into the basement of the tower; all the capitals differ, and are adorned with sculptured foliage. It is a matter for conjecture whether the south aisle may not be of later date, the arches being pointed. One of the capitals deserves special notice, being carved into a profusion of oak leaves and acorns. The existence of a piscina in the wall of the south aisle seems to indicate that at some time there had been a small chapel here. In 1854 the church was renovated, and several alterations made. The stalls throughout are of oak, and in excellent preservation; two panels inserted in the screen to the pulpit have originally belonged to the squire's pew, and show some singular ornamentation. Two of the stall ends removed to the chancel are beautiful specimens of carving in oak, although one of them has been partially mutilated, and bear figures of nondescript animals, symbols with brief legends, and the date of the work, 1519. The tablets in the chancel do not possess much interest; but in the middle aisle of the nave is a brass with male and female figures, and in excellent preservation. The largest bell in the tower was brought from Riveaux Abbey.

The parish registers commence in 1570. During the Protectorate, from 1648 to the Restoration in 1660, the Church of Leake appears to have been shut up, as no entry is made in the registers during the whole of those twelve years; and it seems as if not even a parliamentary sequestrator had been appointed, as no mention is made of the parish in the parliamentary surveys of 1649 and 1655. Kewick, in this parish, belonged to Lord Fauconberg, who married the third daughter of Cromwell.

Having crossed the churchyard, in which stone coffins have frequently been found, the party visited the "Danes' Lane," said to have been associated with the massacre of the Danes A.D. 1002, and Mr. Atwood read a remarkably interesting statement, taken from the lips of an old man to whom it had been handed down by oral tradition. Several years ago a great quantity of skeletons were discovered in that part of the churchyard adjoining the lane, apparently having been indiscriminately thrown together as into a pit, and indicating some great and terrible destruction of human life, as also many silver coins, principally of the coinage of Edward I., and minted at York.

Leake Hall, the only remaining house in the village, has been occupied for 200 years by the Morton family, and was formerly one of the residences of the Danbys and Scropes. It is an antique building, retaining many of the features of the manorial houses of the 16th century, a wide staircase of massive oak, and having its rooms wainscoted in panels. These, together with a curious old painting on oak, but in a very dilapidated condition, representing the events of our Lord's Passion, were very kindly shewn to the party, who soon afterwards left Leake, having been much interested by their visit, and highly gratified with the courtesy and generous hospitality of the Vicar and Mr. Matthew Morton.

[This would have appeared last week, but we could not find room for it.]

METROPOLITAN MASONIC MEETINGS.

For the Week ending Friday, November 3, 1876.

The Editor will be glad to receive notice from Secretaries of Craft Lodges, Royal Arch Chapters, Mark Lodges, Preceptories, Conclaves, &c., of any change in place or time of meeting.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 28.

Audit Com. Boys' School, at 3.
Lodge 1293, Burdett, Mitre Hot., Hampton-st.
Chap. 176, Caveac, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Lily, Greyhound, Richmond.
Manchdster, 77, London-st., Fitzroy-sq.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 30.

Lodge 79, Pythagorean, Ship Hot., Greenwich.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Prince Leopold, Lord Stanley Tav., Kingsland.
Strong Man, Jerusalem Tav., St. John's Gate.
Sincerity, Railway Tav., Fenchurch-st. Station.
Camden, Stanhope Arms, Up. James-st., Camden To.
Eastern, Royal Hot., Mile-end-road.

St. James's Union, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Wellington, White Swan, Deptford.

Perfect Ashlar, Victoria Tav., Lower-rd., Rotherhithe.
Upper Norwood, White Hart Ho., Church-rd.,
Marquis of Ripon, Pembury Tav., Amherst-rd., Hackney.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 31.

Lodge 141, Faith, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Metropolitan, 169, Pentonville-rd.
Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney.
Domestic, Surrey M.H., Camberwell New-road.
Faith, 2, Westminster Chambers, Victoria-st.
Prince Fredk. Wm., Lord's Hot., St. John's Wood.
Dalhousie, King Edward, Triangle, Hackney.
Prosperity, 1, Camomile-st., Bishopsgate.
St. Marylebone, British Stores Tav., St. John's Wood.
Constitutional, Wheatheaf Hot., Hand-court, Holborn.
Israel, Rising Sun Tav., Globe Road.
Royal Arthur, Prince's Head, York-road, Battersea.
Beacontree, Red Lion, Leytonstone.
Excelsior, Commercial Dock Tav., Rotherhithe.
St. John of Wapping, Gun Hot., High-st., Wapping.
Metropolitan Chapter, Jamaica Coffee Ho., Cornhill.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 1.

Grand Chapter, at 7.
Lodge 511, Zetland, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
" 1491, Athenaeum, Camden-rd., Holloway.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Confidence, M.H., Basinghall-st.
Mt. Lebanon, Windsor Castle Tav., Southwark-bdg.-rd.
Pythagorean, Prince of Orange, Greenwich.
New Concord, Rosemary Branch Tav., Hoxton.
Royal Union, Horse and Groom, Winsley-st., Oxford-st.
Mount Edgumbe, 19, Jermyn-st., St. James's.
Peckham, Maismore Arms, Park-road, Peckham.
Stanhope, Thicket Hot., Anerley.
Finsbury Park, Finsbury Park Tav., Seven Sisters-rd.
Southwark, Southwark Park Tav., Southwark Park.
Duke of Connaught, Havelock Tav., Dalston, E.
United Strength, Grafton Arms, Kentish-town.
Islington, Crown and Cushion, London Wall.
Whittington, Black Bull Tav., Holborn.
Lewis, King's Arms Hot., Wood Green.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 2.

Lodge 27, Egyptian, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
" 45, Strong Man, M.H., Masons' Avenue.
" 192, Lion and Lamb, Cannon-st. Hot.
" 227, Ionic, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.
" 231, St. Andrew's, F.M.H.
" 538, La Tolerance, F.M.H.
" 554, Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney.
" 822, Victoria Rifles, F.M.H.
" 1351, St. Clement Danes, 265, Strand.
" 1360, Royal Arthur, Wimbledon Village Club.
" 1445, Prince Leopold, Lord Stanley Tav.
" 1539, Surrey M.H., S.M.H.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Egyptian, Hercules Tav., Leadenhall-st.
Fidelity, Yorkshire Grey, London-st., W.
Finsbury, Jolly Anglers' Tav., Bath-st., City-road.
Temperance in the East, Catherine-st., Poplar.
Ebony, 12, Ponsonby-st., Milbank.
Highgate, Bull and Gate, Kentish-town.
The Great City, 111, Cheapside.
High Cross, Coach & Horse, High-road, Tottenham.
Salisbury, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Prince Frederick William Chapter, St. John's Wood.
Southern Star, Crown Hot., Blackfriars-rd.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 3.

Lodge 706, Florence Nightingale, M.H., Woolwich.
" 890, Hornsey, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
Chap. 3, Fidelity.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Union Waterloo, Thomas-st., Woolwich.
Robert Burns, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Belgrave, Constitution, Bedford-st., Covent Garden.
Unions Emulation (for M.M.'s), F.M.H.
Temperance, Victoria Tav., Victoria-road, Deptford.
Clapton, White Hart, Clapton.
Metropolitan, Portugal Hot., Fleet-st.
Westbourne, Horse & Groom, Winsley-st., Oxford-st.
United Pilgrims, Surrey M.H., Camberwell New-road.
St. James's, New Tanners' Arms, Grange-rd., Bermondsey.
Duke of Edinburgh, Silver Lion, Penny-fields, Poplar.
Doric, Earl Grey Tav., Mile-end-road.
Burgoyne, Grafton Arms, Prince of Wales's-road, N.W.
St. Luke's, White Hart, King's-rd., Chelsea.
Chigwell, Bald-faced Stag Hot., Buckhurst-hill.
Burdett Courts, Approach Tav., Victoria Park.
Royal Standard, Finsbury Park Tav., Holloway.
Ranelagh, Clarendon Hot., Hammersmith.
Stability, Guildhall Tav., Gresham-st.
St. George's, Globe Tav., Greenwich.
Pythagorean Chapter, Prince of Orange, Greenwich-rd.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN WEST LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE.

For the Week ending Saturday, November 4, 1876.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 30.

Lodge 148, Lights, M.R. Warrington.
" 613, Unity, Palatine Buildings, Southport.
" 703, Clifton, Clifton Arms Hot., Blackpool.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 31.

Lodge 897, Loyalty, Fleece Inn, St. Helen's.
" 986, Hesketh, Grapes Inn, Croston.
Chap. 721, Grosvenor, M.R., Chester.
Merchant's L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 1.

Lodge 86, Loyalty, M.H., Prescott.
" 484, Faith, Gerard's Arms, Ashton-in-Makerfield.
" 580, Harmony, Wheatheaf, Ormskirk.
" 730, Ellesmere, Royal Oak Hot., Chorley.
" 758, Ellesmere, M.H., Runcorn.
" 1313, Royal Victoria, M.H., Liverpool.
" 1335, Lindsay, 20, King-st., Wigan.
" 1354, Marquis of Lorne, M.R., Leigh.
Chap. 477, Fidelity, 55, Argyle-st., Birkenhead.
De Grey and Ripon L. of I., N. Hill-st., Liverpool.
Downshire L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.
Harmonic L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.
Mark Lodge 65, West Lancashire, M.H., Liverpool.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 2.

Lodge 249, Mariners, M.H., Liverpool.
" 1473, Bootle, Assembly Rooms, Bootle.
Chap. 758, Bridgewater, M.H., Runcorn.
St. John's L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 3.

Lodge 680, Sefton, Adelphi Hot., Liverpool.
" 1375, Architect, Didsbury Hot., Didsbury.
" 1387, Chorlton, M.R., Chorlton-cum-Hardy.
" 1505, Emulation, M.H., Liverpool.
Duke of Edinburgh L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN GLASGOW AND WEST OF SCOTLAND.

For the Week ending Saturday, November 4, 1876.

All the Meetings take place at Eight o'clock.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 30.

Lodge 103, Union and Crown, 30, Hope-st., Glasgow.
" 202, St. John, Bishop-st., Rothesay.

Chap. 122, Thetis, 35, St. James-st., Glasgow, S.S.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 31.

Chap. 73, Caledonian of Unity, 213, Buchanan-st.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 1.

Lodge 0, Mother Kilwinning, M.H., Kilwinning.
" 4, Glasgow Kilwinning, 162, Kent-rd., Glasgow.
" 21, Old St. John, M.H., Lanark.
" 86, Navigation, Navigation Arms Hot., Troon.
" 117, St. Mary, M.H., Douglas-st., Partick.
" 126, St. Andrew, George Hot., Kilmarnock.
" 128, St. John, M.H., Shettleston.
" 166, St. John, M.H., Airdrie.
" 198, Royal Arch, King's Arms Hot., Maybole.
" 202, St. Clement, Com. H., Croft-st., Kilmarnock.
" 233, Hamilton, Spalding's Hot., Hamilton.
" 331, St. Peter, Portland Arms, Galston.
" 354, Caledonian Railway, 30, Hope-st., Glasgow.
" 571, Dramatic, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
Chap. 87, Shamrock and Thistle, 12, Trongate, Glasgow.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 2.

Lodge 11, St. John, King's Arms Hot., Maybole.
" 22, St. John Kilwinning, George, Kilmarnock.
" 27, St. Mungo, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
" 149, St. Andrew, Masons' Arms, Irvine.
" 157, St. John Kilwinning, M.H., Beith.
" 165, Royal Arch, King's Arms, Ayr.
" 290, Blair, White Hart Hot., Dalry.
" 320, St. John, R.A., M.H., Saltcoats & Ardrossan.
" 370, Renfrew County Kilw., 8, High-st., Paisley.
" 465, St. Andrew, 69, Garngad-rd., Glasgow (7.30).
" 547, Stewart, M.H., Kilsyth.

Chap. 114, Baron of Renfrew, M.H., High-st., Renfrew.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 3.

Lodge 7, Hamilton Kilwinning, M.H., Hamilton.
" 114, Royal Arch, M.H., Cambuslang.
" 116, Royal Arch, Council Hall, Rutherglen.
" 135, St. James, Crown Inn, Tarbolton.
" 156, St. Barchan, Masons' Arms Inn, Kilbarchan.
" 175, St. John, St. John's Hall, Greenock.
" 217, Cumberland Kilw., Old T.H., Port Glasgow.
" 242, Houston St. Johnston, Cross Keys, Johnston.
" 275, Shamrock & Thistle, 22, Struthers-st., Glsgw.
" 335, Argyle, Drill Hall, Dunoon.
" 360, Commercial, 30, Hope-st., Glasgow.
" 408, Clyde, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
" 459, Kelburn, Cumbræ Hot., Millport.
" 512, Thorntree, School House, Thornliebank.
" 551, Clydesdale, Royal Hot., Larkhall.
Chap. 112, Paisley, St. Mirren's Hall, Paisley.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4.

Lodge 458, St. John, Wilson's Hall, Busby.
" 544, St. Andrews, M.H., Coatbridge.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN EDINBURGH AND VICINITY.

For the Week ending Saturday, November 4, 1876.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 2.

Lodge 97, St. James, M.H., Writers'-ct.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 3.

Lodge 291, Celtic, Ship Hot., E. Register-st.

NATIONAL SOCIETY

FOR

Aid to the Sick and Wounded in War.

TURCO-SERVIAN RELIEF.

Chairman—Lieut.-Col. LOYD LINDSAY, V.C., M.P.
Deputy Chairman—Sir E. A. H. LECHMER, Bart., M.P.
Chairman of Executive Committee—Captain DOUGLAS GALTON, C.B., F.R.S.

Messrs. Coutts and Co.—Bankers.

The following contributions have been received:—

NINTH LIST.			
	£	s.	d.
I. G.	5	0	0
Alexander Colvin, Esq.	2	0	0
J. C. A.	1	0	0
Barton Smith, Esq.	2	2	0

CHURCH COLLECTIONS:

At Tatham Chapel, per Rev. J. Marshall ...	1	0	0
At Kendall parish Church	9	5	6
At St. Bartholomew's, Chichester	3	9	0
At Ambleside, part offertory	15	12	2
At St. Luke's, Weaste	9	8	8
At All Saint's, Blackheath, additional	0	10	0
At St. Mark's, Lakenham, per Rev. J. W. Colvin ..	5	0	0
At Middleton, per Rev. George Hamilton ...	3	5	6
At St. Peter's, Guernmore, per Rev. Elisha White ..	1	16	0
At North Wooton, per Rev. W. W. Clarke ...	1	1	0

CHAS. J. BURGESS, Secretary.

No. 3, Craven-street, Strand, London, Oct. 20, 1876.

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REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS.

Craft Masonry.

DOMATIC LODGE (No. 177).—The first meeting after the recess of this old and prosperous lodge was held at Anderson's Hotel, on Friday, the 13th ult. There were present at the opening of the lodge Bros. G. Everett, I.P.M., W.M. 1281, acting for the W.M., Bro. Treadwell, who could not be present in consequence of his having met with a very severe accident; Willing, jun. S.W.; Palmer, J.W.; Smith, P.G.P., &c., Treas.; Williams, Sec.; Buscall, S.D.; Clark, J.D.; White, I.G.; Spink, D.C.; Maclean, A.S.; Adams, P.G.P., P.M.; Tims, P.M.; Walford, P.M.; Haydn, P.M.; Ferguson, P.M. The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the I.P.M. raised Bros. Killingback, Jewell, and Stevens, and initiated Mr. Hilden. The ceremonies were performed with Bro. Everett's usual ability. A petition to the Board of Benevolence from a distressed member of the lodge having been signed, the lodge was closed, and the brethren, to the number of nearly 100, adjourned to the banquet, which was well served in the Pillar-room under the management of Bro. Smith. Upon the removal of the cloth, the toast of "The Queen and Craft," "The M.W.G.M., and the Pro G.M., D.G.M., and the rest of the Grand Officers, Past and Present," were given by the I.P.M.—prefaced by a few pertinent remarks—and they were duly honoured. "The Health of the W.M." was proposed by Bro. Smith, P.M. In the course of his speech, he referred to the lamentable accident that had befallen Bro. Treadwell, but he said it was a pleasure to think that the duties of the lodge and convivial board had been so well discharged in the W.M.'s absence by the I.P.M., who, at a great sacrifice of time, had come many miles to preside over them. He should therefore couple the name of Bro. Everett with the toast. This pledge having been well received, the acting W.M. made an excellent reply, in which he feelingly alluded to the untoward accident that had befallen the W.M., but hoped that he (Bro. Treadwell) would be in his place at the next meeting. In proposing "The Health of the Initiate," the I.P.M. dwelt upon the good effects engendered by Freemasonry, which was one of the most ancient institutions in existence, and in conclusion he congratulated the initiate upon having entered the mysterious portals of the Craft, whose principles were Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth. The newly-admitted brother made a very brief reply, which was to the effect that he felt proud at having been initiated into this honourable society, that he was profoundly impressed with the ceremony, and that he hoped to obtain a better knowledge of its principles on a future occasion. The toast of "The Visitors" followed. In introducing this, the I.P.M. made some very amusing allusions. He stated that he had heard that the members of the Domatic were considered rather given to undue merriment at the convivial board, but if that were so, it was strange that there should be so many visitors at the lodge meetings, who always appeared pleased at the reception they received, and the cry was "still they come!" For his own part he preferred the free and easy behaviour of No. 177 to the starchiness that prevailed in some lodges he could name, and in conclusion, he stated that there were nearly 100 members present that evening, which spoke well for the vitality of the lodge, and on their behalf he offered the good right hand of fellowship to the visiting brethren, and assured them that they—the members of the Domatic—were heartily glad to see them. This toast was coupled with the names of Bros. Draper, W.M. Saint Marylebone; and Walls, S.D. Kennington, who briefly replied. Amongst the visitors also were Bros. Hollis, P.M. 197; Rowe, S.W. 167; Croaker, I.G. 185; Fowler, J.W. 1305. In proposing the toast of "The P.M.'s," the I.P.M. made a funny allusion to their being not only the "pillows" but the "pillars" of the lodge, and called attention to the venerable and substantial appearance they presented, and congratulated them upon possessing amongst their number those who held Past Grand honours. This toast having been well received, Bros. Walford and Ferguson made excellent responses. "The Health of the Father and Treasurer of the Lodge, Bro. Joseph Smith, P.G.P.," followed, and having been duly honoured, gave that worthy brother an opportunity of making one of his paternal and able replies. "The Secretary, Bro. Williams," was duly toasted, and he briefly returned thanks. In giving the toast of "The Officers of the Lodge," the I.P.M. paid a very high com-

pliment to the Wardens, Bros. Willing and Palmer, and their subordinates, for the great ability they displayed in the discharge of their respective duties. Bros. Willing and Palmer, in the course of their replies, expressed a hope that when the time arrived for them to solicit the suffrages of the brethren for the high distinction of W.M., that they would be successful, and in the event of their occupying the position that they would use their best endeavours to keep up the prestige of the lodge by following in the steps of the long and distinguished array of P.M.'s who had filled the chair of the Domatic with credit to themselves, and to the satisfaction of their brethren. Bros. Buscall, Clark, White, and Spink also replied. In the intervals Bros. Palmer, Walls, Butt and others, vocally entertained the brethren. The Tyler's toast, at half-past ten, terminated the proceedings, and the brethren separated until the second Friday in November.

LEWIS LODGE (No. 1185).—The installation meeting of this lodge was held on Saturday, the 21st October, at the King's Arms Hotel, Wood Green, and was numerously attended. Bro. Alfred Durrant, W.M., presided; Bro. Berrie, acting as S.W.; Bro. Thos. Holmes Turner (W.M. elect) J.W., and the other officers, all being present, together with the following visitors:—Bros. Vesper, Yarboro, 554; Davis, Zetland, 551; Cushion, Great Northern, 1287; Brooks-Fowler and Mendy, High Cross, 754; and A. McKenzie, Fitz Roy, 569. The lodge having been opened, and the minutes of the last meeting read and signed, the W.M. proceeded to initiate Messrs. Kennett Harris, George Powell, William George Kildreth, and John Thomas Chase into the mysteries and privileges of ancient Freemasonry. The next business was the installation of Bro. Thos. Howes Turner as W.M., and a Board of Installed Masters having been formed, Bro. Turner was in due form installed by the outgoing Master, Bro. Durrant. The W.M. having received the customary salutes, proceeded to invest his officers as follows:—Bro. Shipwright, S.W.; Laver, J.W.; W. Bro. May, P.M., Treas.; W. Bro. Leard, P.M., Sec.; Bro. Bone, S.D.; Bro. Berrie, J.D.; Bro. Hooper, I.G.; W. Bro. Row, P.M., D.C.; Bro. Meen, Org.; Bro. Conolly, Stwd.; and Bro. C. T. Speight, P.M., Tyler. Bro. Durrant, the retiring and installing Master, then delivered the customary addresses; and it must be remarked that though, comparatively speaking, a young Mason, he has worked well during his year of office, and having closed it with satisfaction to himself and the members of the lodge, he has well earned the handsome Past Master's jewel of the lodge, which was presented to him on his vacating the chair. The report of the Audit Committee was received and adopted. The other business of the evening having been disposed of, the lodge was closed in due form with solemn prayer.

MIDDLETON.—Imperial George Lodge (No. 78).—The above lodge held its monthly meeting on Thursday, the 22nd ult., at the Asheton Arms Hotel. Present: Bros. David Reid, W.M.; John Dyson, P.M., acting S.W.; S. H. Chatham, P.M., acting J.W.; F. Fothergill, Sec.; John Hutton, I.G.; John Kent, Tyler; Wilson, Fatton, Brant, Hewitt, Valentine, Newton, P. Lawton, Jones, Lees, Burtles, Beresford, and Howard. Visitors: Bros. Mackie, P.M. of the Architect and Integrity, and Ferndale. The lodge was opened at 6 p.m. when Bros. Brant, Valentine, and Beresford were raised to the Degree of Master Mason by the W.M., assisted by Bro. Mackie. The lodge being lowered to the E.A. Degree, the Secretary announced to the brethren that permission had been kindly given by the M.W.G.M. for the lodge to wear the Centenary jewel; also that the November meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of East Lancashire would be held under the auspices of the above lodge at Middleton. The lodge was then closed according to ancient custom, when the brethren sat down to a delicious repast, ably provided by the hostess, Mrs. Harrison. After the cloth was removed, the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and responded to, the Tyler's toast bringing the evening to a close.

LANCASTER.—Lodge of Fortitude (No. 281).—The regular monthly meeting of this lodge was held in the Masonic Rooms, Atheneum, Lancaster, on the 11th ult., Bro. T. Atkinson, the W.M., presiding. There was not a large attendance. The lodge was opened in the First Degree with solemn prayer, and the minutes of the previous meeting read and confirmed. There being no special business before the lodge, Bro. Dr. Moore, P.G.S.B. of E., gave an exposition of the "Masonic Institutions, past and present." At the close a hearty vote of thanks was accorded him. The usual proclamations having been made, the lodge closed in peace, love, and harmony, and with the formalities of the Craft.

BEDFORD.—Stuart Lodge (No. 540).—At the monthly meeting on Wednesday, the 25th ult., the W.M., Capt. Green, was, as usual, in his place; the I.P.M., Wardens, and Deacons, being unavoidably absent, some being out of England at the time, their places were filled as follows:—Bros. Rev. Faussett Ward, J. M. Cuthbert, P.M.; A. Cookson, P.M.; E. Billson, P.M.; and F. Thompson, jun. The Chaplain, Treasurer, Secretary, and I.G., Bros. Rev. C. Breton, Alderman Sergeant, Dr. Prior, and R. H. Coombs, were present, as was also Bro. Alderman J. R. Bull, Steward, and very many brethren; amongst whom we noticed Bros. W. J. Nash, P.M.; Harris, Roe, Tafford, Kilpin, Whittaker, Leslie Pick, and others. The minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed, the lodge unanimously voted the sum of £10 to the widow of a deceased P.M. New collars were ordered for the lodge. A vote of condolence was passed, and the Chaplain requested to convey the same to the family of the late Rev. E. J. Lockwood, D. Prov. Grand Master of Suffolk, of whom an Obituary notice appeared in the "Freemason" of October 28th. Bro. Lockwood, who was formerly of St. Mary's, Bedford, was one of the original members of the Stuart Lodge.

Afterwards the election of officers for the ensuing year took place with the following unanimous result:—W.M., Bro. Col. Wm. Stuart, P.G.S.W., S.W.; Treas., Bro. Alderman Sergeant; Tyler, Bro. George Reynolds. Lodge having been closed, about twenty brethren sat down to a very good supper, after which a very pleasant evening was spent.

FLEETWOOD.—Hesketh Lodge (No. 950).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held on the 19th ult., in the Masonic Rooms, Fleetwood. Bro. W. Stewardson, the W.M., presided. All the members appeared in mourning, as a mark of respect to the I.P.M., whose wife had died very suddenly since last meeting. During the evening the I.P.M. was presented with a Past Master's jewel, as a token of respect and esteem. The usual proclamations were made, and the lodge was closed with the customary formalities.

SOUTHEAST.—Priory Lodge (No. 1000).—The regular meeting of this flourishing lodge was held at the Middleton Hotel, Southend-on-Sea, on Thursday, the 26th ult. The W.M. Bro. Dr. E. E. Phillips, P.M. 379, Pro J.G.D. presided, supported by a good muster of brethren, amongst whom were the following:—Bros. A. Lucking, P.M. 160, Prov. A.G.D.C., I.P.M.; F. D. Grayson, acting S.W.; S. Cox, P.M. acting J.W.; F. Wood, P.M., P.P.S. G.W., Treas.; I. D. Wardell, P.M. 160 and 1000, P.P.G.D., Sec.; J. R. Hemmann, P.M., P.P.G.D. Organizer; J. E. Johnstone, P.M. 20, I.G., D.C.; Rev. H. Hayes, Chap.; W. Chignell, I.G.; A. F. Godward, W.S.; H. Rowley, P.M., P.P.G.D.; W. H. Looky, A. Briggs, G. F. Wood, English, Hassall, G. Berry, W. J. Bullen, jun., J.W. 160; G. F. Jones, H. Luker, W. D. Merritt, F. Canton, L. Warren, and W. R. Bishop. Visitors:—Bros. E. B. Grabham, W.M. 19, Prov. S.G.W. Middlesex; W. R. Marsh, P.M. 933, &c.; W. Fiassey, P.M. 160, P.P.G.W. Essex; and Sir Thos. Kirkpatrick, Bart., 237. After the usual preliminary business, the W.M. passed Bro. H. Smith to the Second Degree, and afterwards raised Bro. W. H. Norman to the sublime degree of a M.M. The ballot having proved favourable to Mr. R. Didden Lewis and Mr. Alex. Cole, and the latter being present he was duly initiated in the mysteries of the Craft. The three degrees were very ably performed. The lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to refreshment. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and well received, and the Tyler's toast brought a very enjoyable meeting to a close.

WESTERHAM.—Amherst Lodge (No. 1223).—The last meeting of the present season took place on Thursday, the 19th ult., when the lodge was opened in due form by the W.M., Bro. A. Durnell, and after the minutes were confirmed, Mr. Alfred Sidney Owen, the Principal of the Boys' Collegiate School, at Westerham, was initiated into the mysteries and privileges of the First Degree; the ceremony being performed, by permission of the W.M., by Bro. R. B. Newson, P.M., P.P.G.O. of Kent, in a most impressive manner, and at the banquet which followed, the table was served in a most recherché manner by the host, Bro. Hadley, P.M. 493. A most enjoyable evening was spent, and a vote of thanks unanimously accorded to P.M. Hadley, for the admirable way he had catered for the brethren during the short time he had been resident in Westerham.

SEACOMBE.—Warren Lodge (No. 1276).—The regular meeting of this flourishing lodge was held on Tuesday, 17th ult., at the Stanley Arms Hotel. Present: Bros. Jas. Ridehalgh, W.M.; W. R. Bainbridge, I.P.M. and P.M. 721; J. Taylor, S.W. (W.M. elect); Wm. Jones, J.W.; the other officers of the lodge, and 51 brethren. The lodge was opened in the First Degree, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed, when the ballot box was sent round for Mr. J. H. Cant, who was afterwards initiated by Bro. J. Ridehalgh, W.M. The lodge was then opened in the Second Degree, when the W.M. invited Bro. T. Marwood, V.W.P.J.G.W. Cheshire, to assume the chair, and instal his successor. Bro. J. Ridehalgh, W.M., and Bro. W. R. Bainbridge, P.M., then presented Bro. John Taylor, the W.M. elect, to the installing Master, and a Board of Installed Master having been formed he was presented, and formally installed into the chair of K.S. After having been proclaimed and saluted in the customary form, Bro. Taylor was then pleased to appoint the following brethren as his officers:—Bros. J. Ridehalgh, I.P.M.; Wm. Jones, S.W.; H. Skinner, J.W.; W. Price, Treas.; H. Matthews, Sec.; T. Yeates, S.D.; J. Hindley, J.D.; W. R. Bainbridge, P.M., D.C.; Henderson, I.G.; T. Gray and J. Looney, Stewards; and Gamble, Tyler. The lodge was then closed, when the brethren adjourned to the Seacombe Hotel for the banquet. The W.M. occupied the chair, supported by Bros. T. Marwood, V.W.P.J.G.W.; J. P. Platt, V.W.P.P.J.G.W. and Treas. of the C.E.M.I.; Hignett, P.P.D.C.; Holt, P.M.; Jas. Ridehalgh, I.P.M.; W. R. Bainbridge, P.M. and D.C.; R. C. Mellor, P.P.J.G.D. for North Wales; Vaughan, W.M.; McNeerney, W.M. 605; J. T. Lea, P.P. G.S. of W.; T. Shaw, S.W. 605; E. Jones, J.W. 605; D. F. Ranking, S.D. 959; and 45 other brethren sat down to the banquet. Grace having been said, the following loyal and Masonic toasts were given:—"The Queen and the Craft," "God Save the Queen," by Bro. Parker; "Our Royal Bro. Albert Edward Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M., the Prince of Wales, and the rest of the Royal Family," (Royal Honours), "The Earl of Carnarvon, M.W. Pro Grand Master," "The Rt. Hon. Lord De Tabley, R.W.P. G.M., and the Officers of the Provincial Grand Lodge. Bro. T. Marwood, V.W.P.J.G.W., returned thanks for having his name coupled with that of the R.W.P.G.M., the Lord De Tabley, and stated that the next Provincial Grand Lodge would be held in Seacombe, and trusted that the brethren of both lodges would work together to make it a successful meeting. Bro. J. P. Platt, V.W.P.P.J.G.W., and Bro. J. B. Hignett, P.P.D.C., returned thanks. Bro. J. Ridehalgh, I.P.M., then said it gave him great pleasure to propose "The Health of the W.M." Bro. John

Taylor, W.M., then said—Bro. Ridehalgh, P.G. Officers and brethren, I thank you for the very kind and handsome manner you have proposed my health, and also most cordially do I wish to thank the brethren for their equally hearty response, and while so doing I wish to observe that I am not insensible to the important and dignified position in which I have been placed. Every effort will be put forward on my part for the good and welfare of the Warren Lodge. I feel it my duty to appeal to the officers, and the brethren to give me their hearty co-operation, and with me to lift up their voices to the G.A.O.T.U. that peace, prosperity, and tranquillity, may through his wisdom and goodness be vouchsafed to us. Bro. P.M., I thank you again for your kindness, and equally so do I thank my brethren. The W.M. then proposed "The Health of the Past Masters." Bro. Holt briefly returned thanks. Bro. W. R. Bainbridge, P.M., and D.C., thanked the W.M., the P.G. Officers and brethren for the kind way the toast had been proposed, and received by the brethren, he especially thanked the W.M. for investing him as one of his officers; he could now say that he had been appointed an officer of the Craft for the fourteenth year. Bro. J. Ridehalgh, I.P.M., said it gave him great pleasure to inform the brethren that the last two years had been very successful, and that the brethren initiated would reflect honour on the Craft. The W.M. then said he had a pleasing duty to perform, which was to present the I.P.M. with a Past Master's jewel. It was of gold, bearing the following inscription:—"Presented to Bro. James Ridehalgh by the brethren of the Warren Lodge, No. 1276, as a token of their appreciation of his Masonic worth and usefulness, 17th October, 1876." He then again thanked the brethren for their kindness. The next toast was that of "The Officers of the Lodge." Bro. W. Jones, Skinner, and H. Matthew, Sec., returned thanks. The W.M. said the next toast was that of "The Cheshire Masonic Educational Institution," and he had very great pleasure in coupling the name of Bro. J. P. Platt, P.P.J.G. Warden, the Hon. Treas. Bro. J. P. Platt thanked the W.M. and brethren for the manner this toast was proposed and received by the brethren. He said Freemasonry was something, or it was nothing; without brotherly love, relief, and truth, it was nothing, and he hoped the brethren would not only support the Cheshire Masonic Educational Institution, but also the Masonic Institutions of London. The Secretary then announced that thirty brethren gave their names as subscribers. The next toast was that of "The Initiate." The next toast was that of "The Visitors." The W.M. said he felt highly honoured by having so many present, and had great pleasure in coupling the name of Bro. McNerney, W.M. of the Combermere Lodge. Bro. McNerney, in a first-class speech, thanked the W.M. and brethren of the Warren Lodge, and expressed a hope that both lodges would work with unanimity and concord, so that the next Provincial Grand Lodge meeting, which is to be held in Seacombe, should be a successful meeting. The other visitors returned thanks, after which the Tyler's toast brought the meeting to a close. The evening was spent very pleasantly, and the brethren separated highly pleased.

HAMPTON.—Hemming Lodge (No. 1512).—The third installation meeting since its foundation in 1874 of this thriving provincial lodge was held at the Lion Hotel, on Thursday, 19th ult. There were present at the opening of the lodge Bros. Hopwood, P.M. 141, W.M.; Hill, P.M. Canonbury, S.W.; Hurst, J.W., W.M. elect; Fox, J.D.; Jessett, I.G.; W. Hammond, P.P.J.G.D. of Middlesex, I.P.M.; B. Sharp, P.M.; Bond, W.M. Dobie. The visitors were Bros. Elsam, P.M. Dobie, S.W. Jordan, P.P.G.D.C. of Surrey; Wilson, P.M. Etonian; W. Fisher, S.W. Raleigh; Güterbock, Phoenix. The minutes of the meetings held in March, April, May, June, and August, having been read and confirmed, the W.M. passed Bros. Errington, Finch, and Murphy to the Degree of Fellow Craft. The ceremony of installing Bro. John Hurst, J.W., into the chair of K.S. then commenced, and was carried out up to a certain point by the retiring W.M. The M.M.'s having retired a Board of Installed Masters was opened in full Masonic form by the I.P.M., Bro. Wm. Hammond, who appointed Bros. Hopwood, B. Sharp, and Elsam respectively as S.W. and J.W. and I.G. The impressive ceremony of installation was then duly and fully proceeded with, at its conclusion the Board of Installed Masters was closed with the most complete formality. The remaining portion of the ceremony, including the charges to the W.M., Wardens, and brethren, was performed by Bro. Wilson, P.M. Etonian, in a highly satisfactory manner, the addresses being most forcibly and clearly delivered. The officers appointed for the ensuing year were Bros. J. Hammond, P.M. Jordan, S.W.; Hill, P.M. (Canonbury), J.W.; E. Hopwood, I.P.M., Treas.; W. Hammond, P.M., &c., Sec.; C. W. Fox, S.D.; J. C. Jessett, J.D.; T. W. Ockenden, I.G.; T. C. Walls, D.C.; Gutteridge, W.S.; Kent, A.W.S. The Auditor's report having been received and adopted, the interesting ceremony of presenting the I.P.M., Bro. Hopwood, with a handsome jewel, took place. The P.M.'s jewel of this lodge, out of compliment, as a distinction, bears the "coat armour" of the late distinguished scholar and Mason, Dr. Hemming. The lodge having been closed, the brethren adjourned to an excellent banquet, well catered for by Bro. H. C. T. Murphy, "mine host!" (the "Lion.") The toasts of "The Queen and the Craft," "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M.," "Lord Carnarvon, M.W. Pro G.M.," "Lord Skelmersdale, D.G.M. and the rest of the Grand Officers, Past and Present," and "The Prov. G.M., Col. Burdett," were given quickly, and with commendable brevity by the W.M., who stated at the commencement of the proceedings that it was not his intention during his year of office to bore his brethren with

long speeches. In proposing "The Health of the D.P. G.M. of Middlesex, and the rest of the Grand Officers, Past and Present," the W.M. made a few remarks upon the great honour the Hemming Lodge possessed in having a P.M. bearing the distinctive grade of P.J.G.D. of the Province, and he should, therefore, couple Bro. Wm. Hammond's name with the toast. That worthy brother in response greatly regretted the absence that evening of several prominent members of the Provincial Grand Lodge who had promised to attend. He also, in the course of his reply, stated that it had always been his endeavour to discharge every Masonic post that he held to the satisfaction of all, and he was pleased to say that his efforts in that direction had always been successful. In conclusion he said he was proud at holding past rank in so powerful and influential a Province as Middlesex, and, moreover, he hoped to be spared many years to bear, in addition to his Provincial Grand Lodge honours, the honourable appellation of Past Master of the Hemming Lodge. The I.P.M. proposed "The Health of the W.M." in fitting terms, and concluded by remarking, that if the W.M. went on discharging in the same able manner as he had commenced that evening the arduous duties of his position, he would be an ornament to the lodge. This toast having been received with excellent fire, the W.M. made a very neat reply, in the course of which he stated that he had arrived at the goal of Masonic ambition, namely, the chair of K.S., much sooner than he had anticipated. He hoped to carry out the duties of the position to their satisfaction, but at the same time he impressed upon the officers the necessity of supporting him upon all occasions, as otherwise it would be impossible for him to efficiently discharge the functions of the chair. In conclusion he stated that he hoped that the work of the lodge during his year would be carried out by the officers without having occasion to depend upon the efforts of the Past Masters to keep the ceremonies going. In giving "The Health of the Installing Officers" the W.M. complimented the brethren upon having had an opportunity of witnessing the installation ceremony so ably and fully performed as it had been that day by Bros. Hopwood, Hammond, Sharp, Bond, Elsam, and Wilson. This toast was responded to by all the brethren named, with the exception of Bro. Wilson, who had left. Bro. B. Sharp in speaking of the latter brother's impressive working, gave, as his opinion, that it had never been exceeded in any lodge for proficiency or style. "The Visitors" toast followed, and it was amusingly acknowledged by Bro. Elsam (Dobie and Jordan). In the progress of his reply, he stated that he had been present at the consecration of the lodge, and he was greatly surprised, that in the short space of two years, which had elapsed since that memorable event, that the members of the "Hemming" had deemed it necessary to close their list of members. He wished to assure them that he had spent a most enjoyable and instructive day, and that he, as a Mason of some years standing, fully endorsed the remarks of Bro. Sharp, that the charges and other details of the installation entrusted to Bro. Wilson, had been carried out in a manner that very few Past Masters could equal, much less exceed. "The Health of the Past Masters" was then given by the W.M., and having been most cordially received, Bros. Hopwood, Treas., and Hammond, Sec., replied. "The Officers of the Lodge" was the closing toast, with the exception of the Tyler's, and gave Bros. Hill, Jessett, Ockenden, Walls and Kent, an opportunity of thanking the W.M. for the kind remarks used by him in recognizing their past and present services to the lodge. During the evening vocal and other selections were given by Bros. Jessett, Ockenden, Walls, and others. The next meeting of the lodge will be held on the third Thursday in November.

MORECAMBE.—Morecambe Lodge (No. 1561).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held in the Masonic Rooms, Morecambe, on the 6th ult. Bro. Dr. Moore, P.G.S.B. of E., in the unavoidable absence of the W.M. (Bro. Capt. Garnett), occupied the chair of K.S., Bro. H. Longman, W.M. 281, occupying the I.P.M.'s chair. There was a good attendance of members and visiting brethren. The lodge was opened in the First Degree with solemn prayer, and the minutes of last meeting read and confirmed. The lodge was afterwards raised to the Second Degree, when Bro. R. Gregson having given evidence of his proficiency as a F.C., was entrusted and retired. The lodge was then opened in the Third Degree, and Bro. Gregson having been re-admitted, he was raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason by Bro. Moore, the working tools being presented by Bro. T. Atkinson, W.M. 281. The lodge was then closed down to the First Degree, when some conversation took place relative to occupying the new lodge, which is in course of erection in Edward-street. Bro. Moore announced that the W.M., (Bro. Capt. Garnett) had intimated his intention of presenting the lodge with a Master's chair, and he would present it with a I.P.M.'s chair, both on the model of those now in use in the Lodge of Fortitude. This announcement was received with much applause. It was subsequently proposed that chairs for the Senior and Junior Wardens should also be procured at the expense of the lodge, similar to those of the Fortitude. The usual proclamations were made, which elicited hearty responses from the visiting brethren, and the lodge was closed in peace, love, and harmony.

LIVERPOOL.—Dramatic Lodge (No. 1609).—The usual monthly meeting of the members of this lodge was held on Tuesday week at the Masonic Hall, Hope-street, Liverpool; Bro. Joseph Bell, W.M., presided, and he was supported by Bros. B. B. Marson, P.M.; W. J. Chapman, S.W.; L. Courtenay, J.W.; A. Woolrich, Treas.; W. Sandbrook, J.D.; J. Atkinson, I.G.; Collinson and Pyre, Stewards; and W. H. Ball, Tyler. There was a very large attendance of visitors, including several well-known and highly respected professional

brethren. Messrs. R. Burgess, L. F. Lablache, W. S. Cook, and John Dale were initiated into the mysteries and privileges of the Order, and Bros. F. Wilkinson, P. Shrapnell, and W. L. Peacock were raised to the Third Degree. Three guineas were voted for the relief of a brother's widow, and after hearty good wishes had been given from about a dozen lodges, the brethren adjourned to the banqueting room.

INSTRUCTION.

PRINCE FREDERICK WILLIAM LODGE (No. 753).—This lodge of instruction held its half-yearly meeting on Tuesday evening last at Lord's Hotel, St. John's Wood, when the Fifteen Sections were worked by Bro. F. G. Baker, the Preceptor, who was assisted by Bro. Rogers, S.W., Bro. Long, J.W., and nearly forty brethren. The working was admirably performed by the different brethren, who gave the answers; after which a vote of thanks was unanimously passed to Bro. Baker for the excellent way in which he had conducted the business of the evening. Bro. Baker closed the day's proceedings by delivering an eloquent address on the principles of Freemasonry and the duties of its members; exhorting the brethren to carry out into the world the practices they were taught in the lodge. Since the establishment of this lodge of instruction no less than fifty guineas have been subscribed from its funds to the Masonic Institutions.

WHITTINGTON LODGE OF INSTRUCTION (No. 862).—The Fifteen Sections were worked in the above lodge, on Wednesday, the 25th October, by the members of the Constitutional Lodge of Instruction, No. 55, at the Black Bull Hotel, Holborn, Bro. J. Bingemann, P.M. 55, and W.M. 1599, taking the chair of K.S., assisted by Bro. Long, P.M. 435, as S.W., and Bro. W. H. Lee, P.M. 1524, as J.W., and a very numerous company. The lodge having been opened in the three degrees, the sections were worked as follows:—

FIRST LECTURE.

- 1st Section, Bro. Woods, 145.
- 2nd " " Tate, 862.
- 3rd " " Abell, 55.
- 4th " " Brown, 862.
- 5th " " W. H. Lee, 1524.
- 6th " " Cull, 1441.
- 7th " " " "

SECOND LECTURE.

- 1st Section, Bro. Abell, 55.
- 2nd " " Marston, 55.
- 3rd " " Whitaker, 765.
- 4th " " Farwig, 180.
- 5th " " " "

THIRD LECTURE.

- 1st Section, Bro. Robertson, 55.
- 2nd " " Woods, 145.
- 3rd " " Long, 435.

The whole of the work was done in an admirable manner, and at its conclusion a proposition to make Bro. Bingemann an honorary member of the lodge, was carried enthusiastically. Bro. Bingemann then proposed a vote of thanks to those brethren who had assisted him in the work, which was also carried unanimously. Sixteen new members having been elected, the lodge was closed, and we trust this very successful meeting will inaugurate a new career of prosperity for the lodge which meets every Wednesday evening as above at 8 p.m.

HERVEY LODGE (No. 1260).—It has been frequently stated by disbelievers in the Craft, that it is a mistake to say that Freemasonry is a "progressive science," and that it stands in exactly the same condition as it did a century ago. A better answer to this erroneous statement could not be given than by calling attention to the numerous reports of the working of the brethren in the various lodges of instruction in the metropolis and provinces. And if a more convincing proof were required, the work done by the members of the above lodge, on Friday, the 27th ult., would furnish it. Briefly, the members met on that evening to work the fifteen sections of the lectures in the three degrees, and the very perfect working of each section did great credit to the able Preceptor. The lodge was opened at seven o'clock p.m., in due form with solemn prayer, the following being the officers present:—Bros. Baker, W.M.; Collings, S.W.; Southwood, J.W.; Spalding, S.D.; J. Sandilands, Ward, J.D.; Harrison, I.G.; King, P.M.; and King, jun., P.M., Sec., and Preceptor. After the minutes had been read and confirmed, the W.M. opened the lodge in the Second and Third Degrees, and then resumed to the First for the purpose of proceeding with the business. The following is a list of the brethren who respectively worked the Sections:—

FIRST LECTURE.

- 1st Section, Bro. J. Sandilands Ward.
- 2nd " " Ganbert.
- 3rd " " Harrison.
- 4th " " Spalding.
- 5th " " Baker.
- 6th " " Carlstrom.
- 7th " " Long.

SECOND LECTURE.

- 1st Section, Bro. Goodacre.
- 2nd " " King.
- 3rd " " King, jun.
- 4th " " Collings.
- 5th " " Carlstrom.

THIRD LECTURE.

- 1st Section, Bro. Southwood.
- 2nd " " Carlstrom.
- 3rd " " Collings.

The W.M. gave the introductory and closing charges in a manner that it would be very difficult to excel, and which, it is needless to add, received the approbation of all who had the pleasure of listening to them. On the W.M. rising for the first time, Bro. Carlstrom was proposed as a

joining member of the lodge, and was unanimously elected. On the rising for the second time, Bro. King, jun., proposed that a vote of thanks be recorded on the minutes to Bro. Baker for the efficient manner in which he had worked the sections, and on its being seconded and put by the S.W., the brethren fully expressed their appreciation by their conclusive assent. The W.M., in reply to the official announcement of the S.W., said that as a very old working Mason (having been preceptor of several lodges of instruction for many years), it was not the first time such an honour had been passed on him, nor was it for such that he so assiduously visited lodges on similar occasions. But that it was his wish at all times, when convenient, to afford to less able Masons the knowledge he himself had acquired during his long connection with the Craft, and in concluding a very able and telling speech would inform the brethren that he should work the sections at "Lord's," on Tuesday, October 31st, when he should like to see as many brethren present as possible. On rising for the third time, Bro. Collins was made an honorary member, and a vote of thanks passed to the visiting brethren for their assistance during the evening. The lodge was then closed, and the brethren dispersed to the different quarters of the metropolis, each expressing himself well satisfied at the very nice manner in which they had been entertained.

Royal Arch.

CAVEAC CHAPTER (No. 176).—The regular convocation of this prosperous chapter was held on Saturday, October 28th, at the Albion, Aldersgate-street, City. Chapter was opened by Comp. S. Wyman, M.E.Z.; G. H. Lemann, H.; J. B. Sorrell, J.; C. T. Dorey, P.Z. (Father of the chapter); F. Walters, P.G. 1st A.S.; Mill, P.Z. Treas.; and others. The companions were then admitted. The minutes of the previous convocation were read and unanimously confirmed. Bro. Dr. Charles Browne, P.M., D.C., being in attendance, was duly exalted into the mysteries of the Royal Arch, the ceremony, as is usual in the chapter, being given in an admirable manner. The usual Five Guinea jewel was voted from the chapter funds to the M.E.Z., Comp. W. S. Wyman (as a slight recognition of valuable services rendered to the chapter during his year of office.) Business being ended, the chapter was closed, and adjourned to the Installation meeting, which will commence its new year. There were present, besides the above-named companions, S. Pounceby, R. P. Tibb, J. B. Sorrell, jun., and others. There were not any visitors.

GREAT YARMOUTH.—Friendship Chapter (No. 100).—A convocation of this chapter was held on Tuesday evening, October 17th, at the Crown and Anchor Hotel; Comp. Burstal, M.E.Z., presiding, supported by Comps. James Bond, H.; F. J. Bonfellow, J.; J. Franklin, P.M., P.Z.; A. Hanlow, P.M., P.Z. (Scribe E.); R. W. Hubbard, 1st Soj.; Hudsforth, and Soj.; H. J. Mason, P.Z., 3rd Soj.; Jonell, Capt. Dods, French, Wright, Stanier, Martins, and G. B. Hammond. The list of visitors included Comps. James Mangan, D.D., LL.D., No. 3 Ireland, P.M. 133; H. J. Mason, P.Z.; James Dunsford, P.Z.; and Henry James Moxon, Doric Chapter, and S.W. Marquess of Dalhousie, 1159, a companion well-known in Metropolitan lodges for his unremitting exertions on behalf of our charitable institutions. The minutes having been confirmed, Bros. Capt Fisk (Capper), and J. A. Hayes (Prudence), were duly exalted, and at the termination of the ceremony, which was very ably performed, the companions adjourned to the banqueting room, where an unusually excellent spread awaited them. On the withdrawal of the cloth, and after the formal toasts had been given, the M.E.Z. said there was always an important toast before them, and that was to drink the health of their newly-exalted companions. They hailed their coming amongst them, as it was not only an evidence of their progress, but it gave stability to their proceedings. The toast was warmly received, and Comps. Fisk and Hayes suitably replied. The next toast was "The Health of the Visitors," and the companions had an opportunity of listening to an excellent speech in reply by Comp. Dunsford, P.Z., after which "The Health of the M.E.Z., Comp. Burstal," was proposed in an eulogistic speech by Comp. Bond, and Comp. Burstal in thanking the companions for the toast congratulated them on their continued prosperity, and said that he regretted that circumstances of a business nature had prevented him filling the Principal's Chair as he ought, and hoped in future to be more regular in his attendance. Before resuming his seat he would ask them to drink prosperity and welfare to the new lodge forming at Gorleston, coupled with the name of Comp. Youell, the W.M. designate. The toast was accepted with all honours, and Comp. Youell, who was heartily cheered, thanked the M.E.Z. for proposing the toast, and the companions for the enthusiastic manner in which they had received it. He felt that with respect to the new Lodge (St. Andrews), he had undertaken a very great task, although he fully intended, with the help of his friend Captain Dods, and the other brethren who had kindly offered their assistance, to make it all that was desired. The toast of "Comp. Franklin (Host), and Mrs. Franklin" was next proposed, the M.E.Z. expressing satisfaction at the very genial way in which both had acted to ensure a pleasant meeting. Comp. Franklin having replied, the Janitor's toast brought the proceedings to a close. The intervals between the toasts were pleasantly enlivened with some excellent songs by Comps. Fiske, Stanier, Moxon, and Franklin.

WINDSOR.—Windsor Castle Chapter (No. 771).—The installation meeting of this chapter was held in the Masonic Temple at Windsor on the 19th ult., when there were present the M.E. Comps. H. H. Hodges, Z.; J. H. Tolley, H.; E. Grisbrook, J.; J. Devereux, P.Z.; J. Stevens, P.Z.; John Read, P.Z.; G. W. Dixon, E.; G. H.

Powell, N.; F. Flock, P.S.; J. O. Carter, A.S.; Nowell, Janitor; North Ritherdon, Barton, Roberts, Bryett, and others; and visiting Comp. W. Johnson. The chapter having been opened by the Principals present, the companions below the chair were admitted, and the chapter was then opened in due form. After confirmation of the minutes of the previous meeting, Comp. John Read, P.Z., installed Comp. John H. Tolley as M.E.Z.; E. Grisbrook as H.; and G. W. Dixon as J., with full and perfect ceremony. The following officers were then invested, viz., Comps. Powell, S.E.; Flock, S.N.; Strange (by proxy), P.S.; Carter, 1st A.S.; Cantrell, and A.S.; North Ritherdon, D.C.; Barton, Roberts, and Bryett, Stewards; and Nowell, Janitor. Bro. Joseph Johnson, of the Windsor Castle Lodge, No. 771, was approved and exalted into the Supreme Degree, the newly-appointed officers working the entire ceremony in an extremely creditable manner. A P.Z. jewel was presented to the I.P.Z., Ex. Comp. H. H. Hodges, accompanied by highly-eulogistic remarks from the M.E.Z. A cordial vote of thanks to Ex. Comp. John Read, P.Z., as Installing First Principal, was recorded in the minutes, and the services of Ex. Comps. Devereux and Stevens, in assisting him, were acknowledged from the chair. Propositions having been taken, the chapter was closed, and the companions adjourned to the Castle Hotel, for necessary sustenance after arduous labour. The exigencies of the railway arrangements precluded a long sitting, but the loyal and principal Masonic toasts were duly honoured, and a pleasant hour spent by the members of this now well-established chapter.

WILLIAM PRESTON CHAPTER (No. 766).—A mournful meeting of this chapter was held on the 26th ult., at Cannon-street Hotel. Since the previous meeting in May, when the Principals were installed, the chapter had had the misfortune to lose its M.E.Z., the worthy Dr. Whiteman, who had risen to that high position, having been called to the Grand Chapter above, and all the companions appeared with their badges craped, the banner of the late M.E.Z. bearing also the like melancholy contrast on its brilliant emblazonment. The chapter was summoned by Comp. Captain G. J. Kain, P.Z., as acting M.E.Z.; Comp. George Newman, as H.; and Comp. Augustus Brann, as J. Unfortunately Comp. Newman had to be absent, and Comp. Garrod took the chair of M.E.Z., Comp. Kain, that of H., and Comp. Braun kept his own position. The other positions were thus filled, Dr. Kempster, as S.N., also assisting in the work; Wm. Worrell, P.Z., S.E.; E. Newton, sen., as P.S.; Dr. Cutmore, as First Assistant S.; J. T. Gibson, as Second Assistant S.; and there were also present Comps. Williams, Newton, jun., Steinmade, While ("Freemason"), Davidson, Partridge, Klench, Ince, Barnes, Rickwood, and Comp. Taylor, W.M. of the Doric Lodge, who, with another visitor, represented other chapters at work and board. The business was to take the ballot for five brothers for exaltation.—Bros. Arthur Southam, M.D., J.W.M. of the Earl Spencer, 1420; J. J. Joseph, J.D. of the same lodge; J. Sinclair, S. of 1420, J. T. Pilditch, of the same lodge, and I.G. of the Grosvenor; and Robt. Tynn, of the William Preston Lodge. The ballot was unanimous, and all but the last named being present, the ceremony was proceeded with in favour of those four. Comp. Gibson was particularly efficient in his working of a new office, and took the position of P.S. with great credit to himself and pleasure to the companions. Comp. Garrod was, unfortunately, not in the best of health, and had taken the chair of M.E.Z. at a moment's notice, yet he was ready and equal to the arduous labour of working the degree. Comp. Taylor also assisted in the addresses. After the work, when the M.E.Z. rose for the third time, Comp. Kempster stated that he was with the late Dr. Whiteman, in his last few hours, and knew that their late companion's latest thoughts were with his Masonic duties, his hopes being that he should be able to join his companions and brothers in lodge and chapter. Not speaking of the late M.E.Z. as a Mason, but as a lay member of the world, the speaker said he could truly say that Dr. Whiteman was held in the highest esteem by all classes with whom he had come into contact in his busy life. Some of the chapter, and some of his Masonic brethren paid the last tribute of respect to their companion and brother, and according to ancient custom they dropped a sprig of acacia into his last resting place. Comp. P.Z. Worrell said that if the companions and brethren had known of the loss earlier many more would have attended the funeral, and Comp. Dr. Kempster explained that it was necessary to inter the body soon after the death, and that it was impossible to make the death known. The chapter then proceeded to the consideration of the notice of motion to raise the exaltation fee after the next (Feb.) meeting, to take effect in May next. The motion was carried, as was another to raise the annual subscription to two guineas. Both were proposed by Dr. Kempster. The chapter was then closed, and the companions adjourned to the dining room, and partook of a pleasant repast. The M.E.Z. then in felicitous terms proposed "The Health of the Exaltees," to whose merits, as Masons, he paid a high tribute, and congratulated the chapter upon having received additions so worthy of the Craft, and the exaltees upon joining a chapter in which there were many working Masons. The exaltees severally replied, and expressed their gratification upon having acquired the R.A. grade under the pleasant circumstances of that evening. Comp. Taylor responded for "The Visitors" in a speech of more than ordinary merit, and then the acting M.E.Z. said that would be the time when he should have had to call upon the companions, to drink to "The Health of the M.E.Z.," but now that their M.E.Z. had been exalted to the Grand Chapter they would drink to his memory. Dr. Whiteman was scarcely ever absent from lodge or chapter, and at the last lodge meeting of the William Preston the speaker had addressed the brethren in a speech, which, for fear of repeating himself, he would now read. To the melancholy

pleasure of the companions, the acting M.E.Z. read the eloquent speech reported in the "Freemason" as having been delivered at the last meeting of the William Preston Lodge, and the companions drank to the memory of the late loved M.E.Z. in solemn silence. Comp. Worrell then proposed "The Acting M.E.Z.," and spoke of the great services Comp. Kain had rendered to the chapter in taking upon himself the duty of M.E.Z. for the rest of the year. The toast was drunk with enthusiasm, as was that of the P.Z., Comp. Worrell, who the M.E.Z. stated, came to the William Preston Lodge a mere beardless boy, and had won his honours by sheer hard work and merit. Regret was expressed at the absence of Comp. Newman, and then the officers were toasted, and Comps. Garrod, Braun, and Kempster spoke, the latter in a jesting speech drawing attention to the fact that their Comp. Worrell, with his usual perseverance, had gone through another ceremony since the last meeting, and, with his usual fidelity had kept the secrets. The ceremony was that of marriage, and Dr. Kempster congratulated Comp. Worrell upon the evident agreement of that state of life with him as shown in his good looks, and, amid the cheers of the companions expressed the warmest and best wishes for the welfare of the happy couple. The evening ended with the Janitor's toast.

Mark Masonry.

MACDONALD LODGE (No. 104).—A regular meeting of this lodge was held at Masons' Hall, Masons' Avenue, E.C., on Saturday last. The W. Bro. Thomas W. White, W.M., was supported by a goodly attendance of officers and brethren, amongst whom were the W. Bros. G. Ward Verry, P.P.G.D.C., as S.W.; North Ritherdon, P.G. Supt. of Works, J.W.; Edward Moody, P.P.G. Standard Bearer, M.O.; W. P. Collins, P.P.G. Sword Bearer, J.O.; the V.W. Bros. Thomas Meggy, P.G.S.O., P.M.; James Stevens, P.G.J.O., P.M.; the W. Bros. W. Worrell, P.G. Org., P.M.; M. C. Hale, P.G. Sword Bearer; T. K. Pitt, P.G.D.C.; Bros. Bastien, H. F. Partridge, W. Johnson, J. R. Williams, and others, and Bro. J. Rawles, acting for Bro. Grant, Tyler. The lodge was specially visited by the W. Bro. C. Pulman, Prov. G.S.O., and P.M. of the Panmure Mark Lodge, who had, whilst W.M. of that lodge, kindly advanced a brother to the degree for, and during the recess of, the Macdonald Mark Lodge. The lodge was duly opened, and minutes read. Ap. logies from several brethren "out of town" were received. Candidates for advancement being unable to attend on this occasion, for a like reason, no ceremony was performed, and ample time was therefore devoted to the discussion of an important notice of motion by Bro. Meggy for alteration of date of meeting. This, however, resulted in a further adjournment of the question. A very cordial vote of thanks to the late W.M. and Panmure Mark Lodge was ordered to be recorded on the minutes, and was responded to by the W. Bro. Pulman in highly appreciative terms. Candidates for next meeting were proposed, the lodge closed in due form, and the brethren adjourned to the Tomahawk Restaurant, in London Wall, where, under the provident care of the worthy Treasurer, Bro. Meggy, a very recherché repast had been provided. Excepting only the formal toasts, and "The Health of the Visitor," and "Success to the Panmure Mark Lodge," ceremony was dispensed with, and an enjoyable hour or two spent in harmony and social intercourse, the brethren separating about half-past eight for their respective homes.

ERA LODGE (No. 176).—On Friday, Oct. 13th, at the Bridge House Hotel, Southwark, this well established lodge held its meeting. In the unavoidable absence of Bro. John Baxter Langley, W.M., who was in Liverpool, the lodge was opened by Bro. H. A. Dubois, I.P.M., who was supported by Bros. the Rev. P. M. Holden, S.W. and Chaplain; T. Horton, J.W.; R. P. Tebb, as M.O.; A. F. Loos, S.O.; J. Johnson, J.O.; H. A. Dubois, I.P.M., Treas.; T. Poore, as R. of M.; F. Walters, P.G.P., P.M., Sec.; H. C. Levander, as S.D.; J. B. Shackleton, J.D.; B. Meyer, Org.; F. H. Dodson, I.G.; and other brethren. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed unanimously. Ballots, taken separately, were in each instance declared to be unanimous in favour of the admission of all the candidates for advancement. Bro. T. Poore, in his usual able manner, advanced Bros. G. S. Elliott, J.W. 1633; Henry Meyer, I.G. 1524; D. Smith, 1326; and W. Prattant, 1326, to the ancient and honourable degree of M.M.M. Bro. David Smith was appointed Assistant Secretary. Bro. James Stevens, P.P.G. Sec. Middlesex and Surrey, &c., was unanimously elected an honorary member. Some brethren were proposed as candidates for advancement. An important notice of motion was given. The lodge was closed and adjourned until Friday, February, 9th, 1877, at half-past six o'clock p.m. The usual good banquet was served. The regular toasts were given and responded to. An agreeable evening was happily spent.

MARYPORT.—Whitwell Lodge of Mark Master Masons (No. 157).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held on Thursday, the 19th October, when there was an excellent number of brethren present. The chair was occupied by the W.M.M., Bro. James Gardiner, P.G.M.I. of W., supported by his officers, viz., Bros. P. de E. Collin, P.G.M., Sec., I.P.M.; J. R. Tickle, P.G.M.S.D., as S.W.; Mandle, J.W.; J. R. Banks, M.O.; G. M. Tickle, S.O.; J. H. Banks, J.O.; Joseph Nicholson, P.M.G.S.W., Treas.; R. Dodgson, Sec.; Nicholson, S.D.; Robinson, J.D.; Smith, P.G.M. Org.; Mitchell, I.G. Amongst the brethren we noticed Bros. John Lawson, James Quay, W. B. Gibson, P.G.M.S.B.; and others. The W.M.M. commenced the business of the evening by balloting for Bro. E. Tyson, P.G.M.I.G. of the Beehive Mark Lodge,

No. 147, as a joining member, and for Bro. G. Kenworthy, P.P.G.S.W., and P.M. 119. The ballot proving unanimous in both cases Bro. Kenworthy being in attendance he was duly admitted, and regularly advanced to the honourable Degree of M.M.M. The lodge was then closed, and the brethren retired to refreshment, where the rest of the evening was spent in much social enjoyment.

SUPREME GRAND CHAPTER.

The Quarterly Convocation of Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Freemasons of England was holden on Wednesday evening at Freemasons' Hall. Comp. Dr. Hamilton acted as G.Z.; S. Rawson, as H.; Capt. W. Platt, as J.; J. Hervey, S.E.; Col. Creaton, as N.; J. A. Rucker, as P.S.; the Rev. S. R. Wigram, 1st A.S.; Robt. Grey, 2nd A.S.; J. M. Case, D.C.; Benj. Head, H.; J. P. Dumas, Joseph Smith, Thos. Fenn, C. A. Murton, E. J. Barron, Nicholas Bradford, James Glaisher, F. Driver, Chas. F. Hogard, Arthur J. Leared, A. Durrant, F. G. Baker, H. G. Buss, Edwin Marsh, Rev. W. Taylor Jones, Herbert Dicketts, A. A. Pendlebury, W. Dodd, H. Massey ("Freemason"), John Boyd, W. Stephens, W. F. Laxton, George J. Row, John Coutts, Joshua Nunn, F. R. Vine, and C. B. Payne, G.J., were also present.

After the formal opening of Grand Chapter, Comp. Hervey, S.E.; said he had received a letter from Lord Donoughmore, G.S.N., apologising for his absence that evening, which was occasioned by his being detained in Ireland on very urgent business. He had also a telegram from Comp. Boord, M.P., one of the Sojourners, expressing his great regret at not being able to be in his place.

The minutes were then read and confirmed, and on the motion of Comp. Col. Creaton, seconded by Comp. Joseph Smith, the report of the Committee of General Purposes was taken as read, and ordered to be received and entered on the minutes.

Afterwards, on the motion of Col. Creaton, seconded by Comp. Joseph Smith, charters were granted on petitions:—

1st. From Comps. Thomas John White, as Z.; the Rev. William John Lyte Stradling, as H.; Thomas James, as J.; and seven others, for a charter to be attached to the Cambrian Lodge, No. 464, Haverfordwest, to be called the "Hwelford Chapter," and to meet at the Masonic Hall, Haverfordwest, South Wales (Western Division).

2nd. From Comps. Edward Bremner Smith as Z., Robert De La Poer Beresford as H., Samuel Hazlitt as J., and six others, for a charter to be attached to the Fitzalan Lodge, No. 1432, Oswestry, to be called the "Fitzalan Chapter," and to meet at the Wynnstay Arms Hotel, Oswestry, North Wales.

3rd. From Comps. George Hunter Wildie as Z., Wm. Williamson as H., John King as J., and six others, for a charter to be attached to the St. John's Lodge, No. 1137, Timaru, to be called the "St. John's Chapter," and to meet at Timaru, Canterbury, New Zealand.

There being no other business before Grand Chapter, the convocation was then closed, the whole proceedings having lasted only ten minutes.

GRAND LODGE OF MARK MASTERS.

A meeting of the Grand Mark Lodge of England was held at the Masonic Rooms, Severn-street, Birmingham, under the auspices of the Bedford Mark Lodge, No. 115, for the purpose of constituting the Province of Warwickshire and Staffordshire a Provincial Grand Lodge of Mark Masters, and to instal Bro. the Rev. W. K. R. Bedford, M.A., Past Grand Chaplain of England, and Past Grand Mark Chaplain, the first Provincial Grand Master of the newly constituted province.

The Bedford Mark Lodge called a lodge of emergency for the reception of the Grand Mark Lodge at 3.30 p.m., on Tuesday, the 24th day of October, 1876. The lodge was opened in due form, and the circular convening the meeting was read. The Most Worshipful Grand Master, the Right Hon. the Earl of Limerick, was then announced and, preceded by his Standard Bearer and other officers, was escorted to the throne, and assumed the gavel resigned to his lordship by the W.M., Bro. David Rose. The Most Worshipful Grand Master then proceeded to open Grand Lodge, and after addressing the brethren on the necessity for Provincial Grand Lodges as an aid to the progress of Mark Masonry, and their duties, &c., proceeded to instal Bro. the Rev. W. K. R. Bedford as the first Provincial Grand Master of the Province of Warwickshire and Staffordshire.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master retired from the chair, resigning his gavel to the newly installed Provincial Grand Master, who proceeded to appoint and invest his officers as follows:—Bros. H. Murray, D. Prov. G.M.; H. Sanderson, Prov. G.S.W.; F. N. Seyde, Prov. G.J.W.; J. L. Pattison, Prov. G. Chap.; J. A. Best, Prov. G. M.O.; J. Bowker, Prov. G.S.O.; David Rose, Prov. G.J.O.; Edmund Morrall, Prov. G. Treas.; J. Fenn, Prov. G. Reg. of Marks; A. Horrocks, Prov. A. Sec.; T. H. Smith, Prov. G.S.D.; J. Muggleton, Prov. G.J.D.; Thomas Hawkins, Prov. G. Dir. of Cer.; A. R. Britton, Prov. G. Insp. of Works; F. B. Higginson, Prov. G. Swd. Bearer; H. Smith, Prov. G. Std. Bearer; W. T. Belcher, Prov. G. Org.; James Stevens, Prov. G.I.G.; H. Vaughan, J. Green, and G. S. Phillips, Prov. G. Stewards; and James Chapman, Prov. G. Tyler.

After the usual routine business had been got through the Most Worshipful Grand Master the Right Hon. the Earl of Limerick expressed his gratification at the able manner in which the work had been conducted, and desired it to be recorded on the minutes of the Bedford Mark Lodge.

A most hearty and enthusiastic vote of thanks was passed to the Most Worshipful Grand Master for his kindness in attending, to which his lordship responded, ex-

pressing the great pleasure it had given him to be present on so important an occasion, and also for the very hearty manner in which he had been received. A vote of thanks was also most heartily given to Bro. the Rev. G. R. Portal, Past Grand Master, and to Bro. F. Binckes, Grand Secretary, which was responded to by Bro. the Rev. G. R. Portal. The Provincial Grand Lodge was then closed, and after a vote of thanks to the Athol Mark Lodge for the use of their rooms, the brethren adjourned to a sumptuous banquet, presided over by the Most Worshipful Grand Master.

The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and responded to, and after a most pleasant evening, the brethren separated.

The following distinguished brethren were among the numerous visitors on the occasion:—

The M.W.G.M. the Right Hon. the Earl of Limerick; Rev. G. R. Portal, P.G.M.; Frederick Binckes, G.S.; John Wordsworth, D.P.G.M. Yorkshire; Frederick Davison, G. Treas. D.P.G.M. Middlesex and Surrey; J. M. Cunningham, Prov. G.M. Sussex; Edmund Worrall, P.G. Std. Br.; Chas. Horsley, Grand Aide de Camp, National Grand Priory, &c.; Dr. Hopkins, P.G.J.W.

PROVINCIAL GRAND MARK LODGE OF LANCA-SHIRE.

Probably the largest gathering of the Mark Degree which has ever taken place in the extensive Province of Lancashire was witnessed in Manchester on Monday, the 23rd ult., when, by command of the Right Worshipful Deputy Provincial Grand Mark Master, a Provincial Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons was held in the Freemasons' Hall, Cooper-street, Manchester. The principal business for which the brethren were summoned was to assist at the installation and obligation of Bro. the Right Hon. Lord Skelmersdale as P.G.M.M. of Lancashire, in room of the late Bro. W. Romaine Callender, M.P. The popularity of his lordship in the Province of Lancashire was again clearly demonstrated by the large and enthusiastic attendance, and there is little doubt that his Masonic rule over the Mark Masters of the whole of Lancashire will be quite as popular and successful as his government of the Craft Degrees in the Western Division of the county. There were representatives present from every corner of the province, and the whole of the day's arrangements passed off without a single hitch.

The presence of Bro. the Right Hon. the Earl of Limerick, M.W.G.M.M., gave a value and interest to the gathering, which was thoroughly realised, and added considerably to the éclat attending the important ceremony which had called so many of this degree together from nearly all quarters of the Masonic compass. The Grand Mark Master was supported by the following Provincial Grand Officers:—Bros. Le Gendre N. Starkie, P.G.M.; George Mellow, P.G.O.; Rev. C. W. Spencer Stanhope, P.G.C.; Thomas Hargreaves, P.G.D.; J. R. Goepel, P.G.M.O.; James Holroyd, P.G.S.B.; Robert Butterworth, G.S.; Thomas Birchall, P.G.J.W.; G. P. Brookbank, P.G.W.; Frederick Binckes, P.G.S.W. and G. Sec.; Thomas Entwistle, P. Prov. G.M.M. Lancashire; J. W. Ashworth, D.P.G.M. West Yorks.; John Sutcliffe, P.G.M. M.M. Lincolnshire; W. H. Prince, G.O.; John Tunnah, P. Prov. G.O.; Frederick Davison, G. Treas. D. Prov. G.M. Middlesex and Surrey; Lord Skelmersdale, D.P.G.M.; William Shortis, P.G.S.W.; W. D. Walker, P.G.J.W.; W. H. Hopkins, P.G.M.O.; J. C. Lunt, P.G.S.O.; John Driffild, P.G. Treas.; J. B. Champiny, P.G. Reg.; John Chadwick, P.G. Sec.; Rev. C. R. Hyde, L.L.D., P.G. Chaplain; Rev. John Denning, P.G. Assist. Chaplain; J. Crompton Lees, P.G.S.D.; W. J. Sly, P.G.J.D.; Amos Stott, P.G. Dir. of Cer.; John Bell, P.G. Swd. Bearer; Joseph Wood, P.G. Std. Bearer, 65; Henry Jackson, P.G. Steward, W.M. elect, 65.

Past Provincial Grand Officers: William Rome, P.P. G.R.; William Barlow, P.P.G.S.B.; Charles Davies, P.P.G.J.D.; Thomas Morris, P.P.G.S.B.; James Newton, P.P.G. Supt. of Wks.; T. Baker Ashworth, P.P. G. Reg. 20; R. Whitaker, P.P.G.D.C.; 1; N. Horrocks, P.P.G.S.B. 142; Thomas Clark, P.P.G.M.O., 65; Liverpool; R. M. D. Smith, P.P.G.J.W. Cheshire and North Wales; John Halliwell, P.P.G.M.O.; E. G. Simpson, P.P.G.R. Lancashire; Henry Maiden, P.P.G. S.O. Lancashire 123; Henry Robberd, P.P.G.O.; J. L. Hine, P.P.G. Overseer Lancashire.

Provincial Officers of other provinces: George Higgins, P.G.J.W. Cheshire and North Wales; R. Newhouse, P.G. Sec. Cheshire and North Wales; W. Alcock, P.J.P. Cheshire and North Wales; Thomas Oakden, P.P.G.J.D. West Yorkshire; H. Maiden, P.P.G.S.O. 123; J. W. Kenyon, P.G.J.O. 123; G. R. Lowe, P.G.A.D.S. North Wales and Shropshire; Henry Burrow, P.P.G.S. 65 Liverpool; William Roberts, P.P. G.D. 24, 14; James Watson, jun., P.G.S.W. Cheshire and North Wales; J. Beresford, P.S.O. Cheshire and North Wales; E. Hartley, P.P.G.S.O. West Yorkshire; Henry Nelson, P.P.G.S.O. P.M. 65, Lancashire; J. W. Newett Tanner, P.G. Chaplain Cheshire and North Wales; W. L. Banks, P.G.S.B. Cheshire and North Wales; Charles H. Horsley, P.M. 33, 69, 382, 811.

The following were the other Mark brethren who attended Provincial Grand Lodge:—Bros. J. F. Sutton, Treas. St. Andrew's; J. Kershaw, W.M. elect 141; C. M. Jones, P.M. 20; H. Thomas, S.O. Union, Oldham; T. Roberts, 64; H. Burrows, 65; Wm. Alcock, P.G.I.G. Stamford Lodge, Altrincham; J. Halstead, P.M.M. 159; W. G. Sharpe, J.O. 161; T. Horsfall, 56; Morris Davis, Langley, Cardiff; H. Johns, 143; Josiah Pollard, 189; P. H. Kirkham, 142; Jas. Crockett, J.D. 146; E. Simpson, W.M. 146; John Hayes, J.W.

65; Augustus A. Bagshawe, Chaplain 31; T. R. Peel, 34; H. L. Hollingworth, 171; F. Wynne Parry, 65; John Dunning, C. 36, P.G.J.M.C.; J. Armstrong, Reg. 65; Thomas Peak, 141; J. H. Galloway, 65; R. Garton, 20; Simeon Lord, 24; James Mill, 24; F. Cooper, 65; James Barlow, W.M. 142; Richard Brown, 65; D. O. Elliott, 142; John Alcock, P.M.M. 2; J. Horrocks, W.M. 2; Jos. Ragdale, I.G. 142; W. J. Parkinson, Treas. elect 52; Wm. Quayle, M.O. 161; Edmond Rees, 123; John Rawcliffe, P.M. 50, W.M. 189, Burnley; John Ridgway, M.M. 561; W. Nichols, J.W. Union; R. Richardson, J.D. St. Andrew's; R. Dodds, S.D. 24; George Green, J.O. 24; J. Charnock, 14; Philip Haines, C. St. Andrew's; A. Middleton, I.G. St. Andrews, John Graves, M.M.M. 171; Joseph Harrison, Sec. 171; Wm. Ogden, 141; John Ballard, I.G. 56 and 189; R. W. Waterson, Sec. 56 and 189; J. T. Richardson, 34; H. Heap, Tyler 141; Hugh B. G. Bayley, 22; Joseph Sutcliffe, W.M. 113; W. Newton, 141; Samuel Horrocks, 131; T. W. Probert, 125; Julius Aronsberg, 22; W. S. Barlow, 136; J. Shaw, J.W. 123; Robert Gough, P.G. Sec.; R. Westbury, Sec. 188; T. D. Hooper, Union; and James Sly, Tyler.

Shortly after half-past two o'clock a Mark Master's Lodge was opened, after which the Deputy Provincial Grand Masters and Provincial Grand Officers entered in procession, and the Provincial Grand Lodge was duly and solemnly opened. The M.W.G.M.M. and Grand Officers were subsequently announced and received, and after procession they assumed their seats. The roll of P.G. Lodge was then called over, and letters of apology for non-attendance were read from absent P.G. Officers. The minutes of the P.G. Lodge, held in Liverpool on the 29th October, 1875, and of the special P.G. Lodge held in Manchester on the 22nd February last, were read and confirmed unanimously. The D.P.G.M. then vacated the throne, which was taken by the M.W. G.M.M. (the Earl of Limerick), who addressed the assembled brethren on the nature of his visit, and briefly referred to the appointment of the P.G.M.M. designate. A deputation consisting of the Director of Ceremonies, two P.G. Wardens, two P.G. Deacons, two P.G. Stewards, and two P.M.'s then retired, and after a few moments' absence they re-entered, introducing Bro. Lord Skelmersdale, the P.G. M.M. designate, who was at once duly and impressively obligated, installed, and invested by the M.W.G.M.M. The patent of appointment of the P.G.M.M. was read by the P.G. Secretary (Bro. Chadwick). Bro. Le Gendre Nicholas Starkie was then appointed and invested Deputy Prov. G.M.M. The following were next appointed and invested P.G. Officers for the ensuing year:—

T. Hargreaves	Prov. G.S.W.
R. McDowell Smith	Prov. G.J.W.
T. Oakden	Prov. G.M.O.
G. Cornfield	Prov. G.S.O.
G. O'Neil	Prov. G.J.O.
Rev. Dr. Hyde	Prov. G. Chap.
A. A. Bagshawe	Prov. G. Ast. Chap.
J. Driffild	Prov. G. Treas.
E. Simpson	Prov. G. Reg.
J. Chadwick	Prov. G. Sec.
H. Jackson	Prov. G.S.D.
W. Alcock	Prov. G.J.D.
J. Sutcliffe	Prov. G. I. of Wks.
C. M. Jones	Prov. G. D. of C.
T. Bradshaw	Prov. G.A. D. of C.
W. E. Quayle	Prov. G. Swd. B.
J. Barlow	Prov. G. Std. B.
T. Horsfall	Prov. G. Org.
R. W. Waterson	Prov. G. Parst.
R. Richardson, A. Middleton, and T. W. Probert	Prov. G. Stwds.
J. Sly	Prov. G. Tyler.

A vote of thanks was given to the M.W.G.M.M. for his attendance and valuable assistance that day, and after returns of contributions had been received, the business proceedings came to a close.

Banquet was subsequently served to a large number of the brethren, Bro. Lord Skelmersdale, P.G.M.M.M., presiding, supported by Bro. the Earl of Limerick, M.W.G. M.M.M., and a brilliant assembly of Grand and Past Grand Officers. Bro. Le Gendre Nicholas Starkie, D.P.G.M.M., was unable to be present in consequence of a domestic affliction. After giving the toast of "The Queen," which was received right loyally,

Bro. Lord Skelmersdale gave "H.R.H. Albert Edward Prince of Wales, and the rest of the Royal Family," remarking that he hoped before long some member of the Royal House would be at the head of Mark Masonry in this country. (Loud applause.)

Bro. Lord Skelmersdale next proposed "The M.W.G. M.M.M. the Earl of Limerick," and in doing so spoke of the many excellent qualities he displayed in connection with that exalted position. He was indeed a thorough Mason, and a worker of the highest order. Personally he (Lord Skelmersdale) felt indebted to the Earl of Limerick for being present that day and installing him as P.G.M.M.

The Earl of Limerick, in response, said he could not but feel deeply grateful for the kind and cordial way in which his name had been mentioned and acknowledged. He had come that day with the greatest pleasure to assist in installing Lord Skelmersdale in a position which he was so well able to fill. He thanked the brethren very sincerely for the way in which he had been received that day, and he would ever have a vivid recollection of the interesting day's proceedings. (Loud cheers.)

The Earl of Limerick then submitted the toast of "Bro. Lord Skelmersdale, P.G.M.M.M.," who, he was quite sure, would prove an admirable occupant of the seat in which he had that day been placed.

Lord Skelmersdale responded in an able manner stating it was exceedingly difficult to reply in becoming terms after

the enthusiastic manner in which his name had been received. He earnestly hoped that his action in the chair would continue to merit their esteem. No doubt he had a very difficult task to perform, but if they would only help him as the Craft brethren in West Lancashire had done, there was no doubt of their continued prosperity. He asked the assistance of the Masters of lodges in his work, as this would greatly aid him in carrying out the duties of his office to the entire satisfaction of the brethren.

Lord Skelmersdale next gave "The Health of the P.G. Officers," and after submitting the toast of "The G.M.M.'s and Officers of other Provinces" his lordship retired, amid general cheering, as he had other engagements elsewhere.

The P.G.M.M. of Lincolnshire responded for the toast. Bro. F. Binckes next gave "The Masonic Charities," in an elaborate and eloquent speech, the toast being responded to by Bro. N. S. Alpess, for W.L., Bro. Hine for E.L., and the P.G.M.M. for East Yorkshire.

The toast of "The Visiting Brethren" was coupled with the name of the P.G.M.M. of West Yorkshire.

A choice selection of music was given by a capably-balanced quartette party during the evening.

CONSTITUTION OF A MARK MASTER'S LODGE IN LEICESTER.

An important meeting of the Grand Lodge of Mark Masters of England and Wales, and the Colonies and Dependencies of the British Crown, was held in this town on Wednesday, 25th Oct., for the purpose of constituting a new Mark Master's Lodge, named the Simon de Montfort Lodge, No. 194, and of installing the Mayor of Leicester, Bro. W. Barfoot, as its first Worshipful Master, by whose permission the meeting was held in the Council Chamber at the New Town Hall, which presented a brilliant spectacle.

The Fowke Lodge, No. 19, under Bro. C. Stretton, its Worshipful Master, and the Provincial Grand Lodge, under Bro. W. Kelly, Provincial Grand Master, having been opened, and some preliminary business transacted, the Grand Lodge was received, and the chair taken by the Most Worshipful Grand Mark Master Mason, the Right Hon. the Earl of Limerick.

Amongst the other officers present were Bros. the Rev. George Raymond Portal (rector of Burghclere, Hants), M.W. Past Grand Master; Major-General J. Studholme-Brownrigg, C.B., Grand Senior Warden; Dr. Cunningham, Prov. Grand Master for Sussex; W. Kelly, Prov. Grand Master Leicestershire; F. Davison, Grand Treasurer; Rev. — Studholme-Brownrigg, Grand Chaplain; Rev. Wm. Langley, Past Grand Chaplain; John Chadwick (Prov. Grand Secretary Lancashire), Grand Master Overseer; Frederick Binckes, Grand Secretary; and others. Among the members of the Provincial Grand Lodge present were Bros. George Toller, jun., and Clement Stretton, Grand Wardens; Sir H. St. John Halford, Bart., Past Grand Master; J. Waite, Grand Treasurer; Rev. W. Langley, D.P.G.M.; and Rev. C. H. Wood, Grand Chaplains; and E. H. Richardson (Belgrave), and a large attendance of other brethren.

The Grand Master then proceeded, with the assistance of his Grand Officers, to constitute the new lodge in ancient form, and to install the Mayor as Worshipful Master, who afterwards invested the officers for the ensuing year.

A vote of thanks to the Mayor and Corporation for the use of the Council Chamber, was proposed by the Earl of Limerick, Grand Master, and seconded by the Rev. G. R. Portal, Past Grand Master, who expressed his great admiration of the architectural beauty of the room in which they were assembled. The Reverend brother also took occasion to state the great pleasure it had afforded him during his tenure of the Grand Mastership, to appoint as Grand Chaplain that eminent Nonconformist Divine, the late Rev. Dr. Haycroft, and his sense of the great loss which his lamented decease had occasioned.

On the conclusion of the business a banquet took place at the Freemasons' Hall, under the presidency of the Earl of Limerick, nearly 100 members of the Order being present, and a most successful day's proceedings were thus pleasantly brought to a close.

ARCHÆOLOGICAL SECTION OF THE FALCON LODGE, No. 1416, AT THIRSK.

By special invitation the members on the 28th ult., visited the ancient mansion of New Building, the property of Bro. Charles Elsley, Esq. J. P., who received the party most hospitably, and showed its many points of interest. It was formerly styled Kirby Knowle Castle, and is supposed to have been built by Sir Roger de Lascells, who died in 1297. It afterwards passed into the possession, successively, of the families of Constable, Danby, Rokeby, Buxton, Smyth, names many of them associated with the county history. In 1827 it was sold to Colonel Elsley, of Mount St. John, whence it came eventually into the hands of the late Recorder of York and Richmond, whose son succeeded to it. The greater part of the Castle was destroyed by fire in 1568, and of the four towers of which it previously consisted, only one remained entire. In 1653, then being in a ruinous condition, it was purchased by James Danby of York, who repaired and partially rebuilt it, giving it the name of "New Building" which it has since retained. Much of the old mansion had fallen into neglect and dilapidation, but the whole has recently been renovated and extensive alterations made.

Some of the remnants of the old mansion are very interesting, especially a small secret room in the eastern wall, narrow ways which fulfilled their purpose in the old Castle, and the extensive vaults, arched with stone, whence a subterraneous passage leads, tradition says, as far as Upall. Elevated on a lofty eminence, the Mansion or Castle commands a magnificent prospect over the whole

Vale of Mowbray, bounded by the hills of Craven and Wensleydale, and extending from Darlington to York, the towers of whose minster on a clear day are distinctly visible.

THE ROYAL VISIT TO NORWICH.

A Grand Lodge of emergency for the Province of Norfolk was held on Saturday at Norwich, the D.P.G.M. Designate, Major Penrice, in the chair, to make arrangements for the approaching visit to Norwich of his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales. A Provincial Grand Lodge will be held on the 20th of November at the Drill-hall at Norwich, when several distinguished visitors are expected to be present to witness the installation of Lord Suffield as Provincial Grand Master for Norfolk by his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M. The Prince and Princess of Wales will attend a meeting in St. Andrew's Hall, Norwich, on the 20th of November, on behalf of the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital. This meeting will be held at 1 p.m., and at 2 p.m. their Royal Highnesses will lunch with the Bishop of Norwich; at 3 p.m. the Provincial Grand Lodge will be held, and at 4.30 p.m. the Prince and Princess will proceed to Gunton on a short visit to Lord Suffield. The applications for admission to St. Andrew's Hall on the occasion have far exceeded the capacities even of this large building.

HOBART TOWN FREEMASONS' HALL COMPANY.

The annual ordinary meeting of shareholders was held on the 7th August in the Freemasons' Hall. There was a good attendance. Bro. D. Lewis occupied the chair.

The advertisement convening the meeting having been read, the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

The Secretary (Bro. Toby) read the report of the directors. It stated that the balance-sheet showed (independently of the paid-up capital £2880) the liabilities to be £1174 14s 10d, due to the Commercial Bank, and sundry accounts outstanding on 30th June (since paid) £25 5s, making a total of £1199 19s. 10d. The property and assets amounted to £3987 7s. 8d., leaving to the debit of profit and loss £92 12s. 2d., 1120 shares being still open for allotment. The directors had much pleasure in congratulating the shareholders on the improved position of the company, which was mainly attributable to the increase in sundry rentals of the portion of the premises not set apart solely for Masonic purposes, which with the income from other sources, had reduced the amount due to the bank from £1256 13s. 6d., to £1174 14s. 10d., besides paying for a handsome piano for the use of the hall. The directors begged to call the attention of the shareholders and the members of the Craft generally to the unallotted shares, and to express a hope that during the current year a sufficient number would be applied for as to render the further payment of so large an amount for interest to be no longer necessary. They regretted the financial position of the company had not hitherto justified them in entertaining a scheme that was suggested for adding building accommodation suited for a Masonic Club; but they hoped, at no distant time, to place a scheme before the shareholders for accomplishing such object. The present directors were Brothers D. Lewis, W. S. Hammond, F. H. Wise, J. T. Robertson, Leo Susman, W. H. Burgess, jun., L. Riley, John Clark, J. Perkins, jun., and W. G. Macmichael, who all retired from office, but were eligible for re-election. The financial statements were also read.

On the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Bro. Riley, the report and accounts were received and adopted.

Bro. Fitzgerald moved that the retiring directors be re-elected, as he believed they had done their duty to the satisfaction of the shareholders.

Bro. Rheuben seconded the motion.

The Chairman said that Bro. Susman was at present out of the colony, but he was expected back shortly.

Bro. Wise said he had been a director since 1863, when the company first started, and he should be only too glad to retire in favour of a new man. Perhaps, if some new men were introduced into the directory, they would be able to get off some additional shares. He might suggest Bro. Fitzgerald as a director.

Bro. Fitzgerald declined, and said they could not get a more faithful and zealous director than Bro. Wise. (Hear, hear.)

The Chairman said that if Bro. Wise retired they would lose a very valuable member of the board.

The motion was carried.

On the motion of Bro. W. H. Burgess, seconded by Bro. John Clark, Bros. John Hamilton and J. M. Clarke were re-elected auditors.

Bro. John Perkins, jun., moved a vote of thanks to the Secretary. Taking into account the affliction he had suffered under during the last twelve months, Bro. Toby had discharged his duties with a large amount of energy, and with great satisfaction to the shareholders.

Bro. J. M. Clarke, in seconding the motion, said that, as one of the auditors, he could bear testimony to the excellent manner in which the books were kept.

The motion was carried, and Bro. Toby returned thanks.

Bro. W. H. Burgess moved a vote of thanks to the auditors. He regretted that the company was not in a position to mark its appreciation of their services in the usual way, and therefore it could not do less than accord them a vote of thanks.

Bro. Macmichael seconded the motion, which was carried.

Bro. Clarke returned thanks, and moved a vote of thanks to the directors.

Bro. Chisholm seconded the motion, which was carried.

The Chairman, on behalf of the directors, observed that he could only say they had done their duty. In accepting a position of grave responsibility, it was necessary that they should fill it in a proper way, and if they had satisfied the shareholders they were gratified. He regretted to find that they were not increasing the number of shareholders, but he thought they must hope to do so by increasing the members of their lodges, by encouraging more young men to come into the fraternity. By that means the debt would be reduced, because new members would each take a few shares.

Bro. Toby remarked that there had not been one new shareholder since last year, the additional shares taken up having been taken by the old shareholders. Since the hall was erected 40 or 50 new members had been initiated into the lodges, and they had not taken up any shares, although some of them were in a position to do so.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman terminated the proceedings.

GRAND LODGE OF QUEBEC.

The following is a list of officers elected for the current year:—

M.W. Bro. James Dunbar, of Quebec, Grand Master.
R.W. Bro. M. M. Tait, of Montreal, Deputy Grand Master.
R.W. Bro. J. T. McMinn, D.D.G.M. Montreal District.
R.W. Bro. C. Judge, D.D.G.M. Quebec and Three Rivers District.
R.W. Bro. Herbert B. Newell, D.D.G.M. Bedford District.
R.W. Bro. James Addie, D.D.G.M. St. Francis District.
R.W. Bro. E. B. Eddy, D.D.G.M. Ottawa District.
R.W. Bro. Percival L. Cowans, of Cowansville, Grand Senior Warden.
R.W. Bro. M. Burwie, of Richmond, Grand Junior Warden.
R.W. Bro. H. W. Nye, of Iron Hill (re-elected), Grand Chaplain.
R.W. Bro. H. M. Alexander, of Montreal (re-elected) Grand Treasurer.
R.W. Bro. Alex. Chisholm, of Montreal, Grand Registrar.
R.W. Bro. J. H. Isaacson, of Montreal (re-elected), Grand Secretary.

[Grand Master Bro. Graham's address will appear in the "Masonic Magazine" for December.]

SWEDENBORGIAN RITE.

The Supreme Grand Lodge and Temple of the Dominion of Canada, Ill. Bros. Col. W. J. B. McLeod, 33°, A. and A.; J. D. Harrington, 33°, A. and A.; Geo. C. Longley, 33°, A. and P., have been pleased to grant a charter for a Supreme Grand Lodge and Temple for Great Britain and Ireland, of the Swedenborgian Rite, a ritual which seems to give great pleasure to Masonic Archaeologists. Ill. Bro. John Yarker has been appointed Supreme G.M., but has signified his intention of resigning the same into the hands of Ill. Bro. F. G. Irwin, S.G.S.W. Ill. Bros. Charles Scott, S.G.J.W.; S. P. Leather, S. G. Treas.; Thos. Lee Shaw; K. R. H. Mackenzie, &c. By this arrangement Emmanuel Lodge and Temple, No. 3, of Canada, becomes No. 1, of Great Britain, and will shortly be transferred to Bristol with Ill. Bro. F. G. Irwin as W.M., in place of Ill. Bro. John Yarker.

A Second Edition of the "Freemason" will be issued early Saturday morning, and will contain a full report of the proceedings at the Consecration of the Canterbury Lodge, No. 1635, by Bro. the Rt. Hon. Lord Skelmersdale, M.W.D.G.M.

EARL OF CARNARVON LODGE, (No. 1642).—The consecration of this lodge will take place this (Saturday) afternoon, at three o'clock, at Ladbroke Hall, Notting hill. The ceremonies will be performed by Bro. John Hervey, Grand Secretary. Bro. W. J. Murliss, P.M. 1489, is the W.M. designate. A full report will appear in our next.

The Crichton Lodge, No. 1641, will be consecrated by Bro. John Hervey, Grand Secretary, on Saturday next, the 11th inst. Bro. J. H. Vockins, P.M. 1349, is the W.M. designate.

The oldest member of the English Royal Family, the Princess Caroline, Hereditary Princess of Denmark, completed on Saturday her eighty-third year. This venerable lady is the granddaughter of the unfortunate Queen Caroline Matilda, sister to George III., and married to the King of Denmark, Christian VII., but was subsequently divorced.

ST. PAUL'S SCHOOL.—Mr. Frederick W. Walker, M.A., High Master of Manchester Grammar School, and late Fellow and Tutor of Corpus College, Oxford, has been appointed High Master of St. Paul's School, in the place of the Rev. Herbert Kynaston, D.D., who will retire at Christmas, having held the position for upwards of 28 years.

We have great pleasure in being able to state that, at the express desire of the Czar, his Excellency Count Schouvaloff recently called on Lord Beaconsfield to express the utter repudiation by the Imperial Government of the attack made by the "Golos" on the Prime Minister, and the personal offence and indignation felt by the Czar at the article in question.—"Times."

BETHNAL GREEN MUSEUM.—In consideration of the loan of the Indian presents by His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, the Lord President of the Council has ordered that this museum shall be opened free (as an exception) on Thursday, the 9th of November, His Royal Highness's birthday, from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.

Gas superseded in day time, and daylight reflected in dark rooms. Health, comfort, and economy promoted by adopting Chappuis' Patent Daylight Reflectors, Manufactory, 69, Fleet-street, London.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

COLONIAL and FOREIGN SUBSCRIBERS are informed that acknowledgments of remittances received are published in the first number of every month.

It is very necessary for our readers to advise us of all money orders they remit, more especially those from the United States of America and India; otherwise we cannot tell where to credit them.

TO ADVERTISERS.

The *Freemason* has a large circulation in all parts of the Globe, its advantages as an advertising medium can therefore scarcely be overated.

ADVERTISEMENTS should reach the Office, 198 Fleet Street, London, not later than 12 o'clock on Wednesday, to insure insertion in the following Saturday's number. The Rates for Advertisements may be had on application at the Office.

THE "FREEMASON."

The Christmas number of the "*Freemason*" will appear on the 23rd December, and will consist of 32 pages, to subscribers as usual, to non-subscribers 4d. Orders to prevent disappointment, as the demand will be so large, should be sent at once to the Publisher 198, Fleet Street, London.

THE "MASONIC MAGAZINE."

The Christmas number of the *Masonic Magazine* will be ready on the 22nd of December, and will be a double number. To subscribers as usual, to non-subscribers 1s.

Answers to Correspondents.

A WELL WISHER is very much thanked, and his communication is under consideration.

A full report of the opening of the Worcester Lodge, 1603, at Worcester, Cape of Good Hope, will appear in our pages at the first convenient opportunity.

R.W.O.—Much obliged, but already in print.

Bro. Jacob Norton's letter, for which he is much thanked, will appear, owing to our crowded pages, in the "*Masonic Magazine*" for December.

MUSIC.—In the notice of "Our Nelly Waltz," &c., by a mistake of Bro. Anderson's, Mr. Williams was said to have been proposed in "The Great City Lodge," whereas it ought to have been the "City of London Lodge," No. 901.

REMITTANCES RECEIVED.

	£	s.	d.
Abbott, F., Canada (P.O.O.)	1	6	0
Bevan, J., New Zealand (P.O.O.)	1	4	0
Collins, James, India (P.O.O.)	0	12	0
Cook, Wm., Japan (Draft)	0	17	4
Devereux, G., Inglewood (P.O.O.)	2	3	6
Ferguson, Jas., Tasmania (P.O.O.)	1	1	0
Graham, A., New York (P.O.O.)	0	12	0
Griffiths, R., Australia (P.O.O.)	1	16	0
Hutton, Lieut.-Col. Canada (P.O.O.)	0	12	0
Money, E. M., India (Cash)	1	0	0
Pattison, S., Egypt (Draft)	0	17	4
Richardson, T., New York (P.O.O.)	0	12	0
Smith, J., India (P.O.O.)	5	0	0
Turner, N., California (P.O.O.)	0	12	0
Watkins, Jas., Bermuda (P.O.O.)	0	12	0
Wolff, E., Kronstad O.F.S. (Cash)	0	12	3

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

[The charge is 2s. 6d for announcements, not exceeding four lines, under this heading.]

BIRTHS.

BENSON.—On the 28th ult., at Brondesbury-road, N.W., the wife of H. B. Benson, of a son.

FABER.—On the 25th ult., at Clifton-hill, N.W., the wife of Louis Faber, of a son, stillborn.

GORDON.—On the 20th ult., at Staunton, Notts, the wife of G. Gordon, Esq., of a son.

LAW.—On the 25th ult., at Barnstable, the wife of A. J. Law, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

PROUT—WILLING.—On the 26th ult., at the parish church Great Wakering, W. A. Prout, Esq., B.A., Trinity Hall Cantab, to Jessie Sophia, daughter of Dr. Willing.

SKETE—SILBERBERG.—On the 24th ult., at St. Barnabas, Addison-road, Kensington, John Brathwaite Skeete, B.A., Oxon, to Emmeline Emma, daughter of L. Silberberg, Esq.

DEATHS.

MACKENZIE.—On the 27th ult., at Cornwall-cottages, Holloway, Henry, the younger son of the late Henry Mackenzie, of Claremont-row, Islington, aged 57.

MAXWELL.—On the 27th ult., at Bournemouth, Helenora, wife of Sir W. Maxwell, Bart., of Monreith.

PERRY.—On the 24th ult., at Trinity-place, Windsor, William Perry, in his 68th year.

TEALE.—On the 27th ult., Bro. W. H. Teale, aged 70.

WALTERS.—On the 29th ult., at Chester-terrace, Regent's Park, Gregory Seale Walters, Esq., in his 80th year.

The Freemason,

SATURDAY, NOV. 4, 1876.

THE PRESENT ASPECTS OF FRENCH FREEMASONRY.

We said in our last, that we should revert to the arguments of Bros. Caubet and Wyrubouff, and we do so, therefore, to-day. Bro. Caubet quite approves of the result of the meeting of the Grand Orient, and tells us that the meeting by the "calmness of its deliberations, by its wise and progressive spirit," had earned the well-merited praise of its President. He goes on to observe that if, "as we doubt not, the result of the study" or consideration "of the lodges concurs with the opinion of the Convent" (that is the Grand Orient assembled), "French Masonry will give to the world the example of the true and complete practice of liberty of conscience." Bro. Caubet also points out that Masonry is "purely a moral society, a lay society, that it is not a Church, and can therefore make no religious or irreligious manifestation. Its mission is a mission of peace and liberty, which obliges it in an absolute manner to abstain from all that can divide mankind, and from all that can rub against the legitimate susceptibilities of their consciences." We may observe that their consciences are very susceptible indeed, which can be injured by the declaration of the belief in the "existence of God." According to Bro. Caubet, "the paragraph II. of the first article of the Constitution, now under re-consideration, has occasioned sufficient acrimonious discussions, provoked sufficient acts of intolerance to render the suppression absolutely necessary."

We need not go into Bro. Caubet's eloquent peroration, because it is, as we deem it, utterly outside the question, however well expressed in verbiage. But this we see clearly, it is wished no longer to admit any formal expression of belief in the existence of God and the Immortality of the Soul, and as the Bible "has been banished from the French Lodges," nothing remains for them but human morality alone, which in itself, as we know, is a broken reed, a rotten foundation for any one to lean upon or build upon. We have long deplored the tendency of French Freemasonry to strike out for itself a new path, disassociating itself from the past and above all from Anglo-Saxon Freemasonry. We feel sure that when this intelligence reaches the United States, and Canada, the feeling there will be just as strong as in England, that no more impolitic step has ever been taken, no more unwise decision has ever been arrived at, than that which now places French Freemasonry in the position of an Order which positively cannot and will not own its belief in the existence of God. The only effect, as we said last week, will be to play into the hands of the Ultramontane party in France, and to take away from French Freemasonry those friends who would have stood by it loyally to the last. As it is, we can only shrug our shoulders and leave French Freemasonry to itself. When we turn to Bro. Wyrubouff we see that he takes, if a somewhat more philosophic view of things, yet one which, we feel bound to add, in our own humble opinion, is equally mistaken, and greatly to be regretted. Bro. Wyrubouff has written, and written well, as some may know, on the side of "positivism," and is a "positivist," but in his address he professes to speak only as a Freemason. He declares that the suppression of this paragraph is necessary "for liberty of conscience," and that "because this article is suppressed; it does not render Freemasonry therefore atheistical." No one, we apprehend, contends that the logical consequence of the act of suppression is to make an atheistical declaration on the part of French Freemasonry—that would be saying too much; but what we do assert is that whereas up to the present time French Freemasonry, like English Freemasonry, has declared its belief in the existence of God, as a necessary condition of admission, all of a sudden, this condition is to be removed; no such prerequisite condition is to be enforced any more in French Freemasonry, and

French Freemasonry assumes, therefore, an entirely novel position, and separates itself at once from a million, in round numbers at the least, of Anglo-Saxon Freemasons. Fifty valid reasons may be alleged, indeed, for this Masonic revolution, but the allegation that it is to uphold liberty of conscience is in truth alone worthy of the Jesuits, for as we have often said, there is a Jesuitism in this world of ours besides that of the affiliates of Ignatius Loyola. Those who have followed the course of French Freemasonry from the unhappy hours when it began to express an opinion on subjects beyond its competence, through the ridiculous manifestations of some Parisian Freemasons with the Commune, and in its present abnormal condition, must be aware that the dominant section is associated with an extreme party, in all matters relating to religious belief. The sentiments of Bro. Massol have still great influence with the Grand Orient of France, and that able brother, as we know, was most hostile not only to the existence of the Bible even in our English lodges, but to any form of belief at all. He was, as we all know, one of the prophets of the "Independent Morality" ("Morale Indépendante,") a teaching destructive of anything like the supernatural or the spiritual even in religion, the equivalent only of a decent and polished Heathenism, without faith in this world, and without hope for the next. When Bro. Wyrubouff states that "Atheism is a doctrine," and "the negation of God, and inevitably a philosophy," and that Freemasonry ought neither to have a doctrine or a philosophy, and "that as for him, as a Mason, he is equally opposed to materialism and spiritualism," he asserts for Freemasonry the position of an actual "religio" of some kind or other, a "tertium quid," an independent morality of its own, something very akin to that of Bro. Massol. This we hold to be a very great mistake, and even worse. Such a position Freemasonry cannot uphold, as the moment it essays to teach a morality of its own it falls, as the only true morality that a friendly and philanthropic brotherhood like ours can profess to proclaim to man is that which is founded on the Divine morality of the Bible. Any mere human code of morality is absolutely worthless, can only resolve itself into a vain or blatant philosophy, and must eventually pave the way, as all history points out, for a temporal and spiritual despotism. We can only express, once more, our deep sorrow at this, in our opinion, most regrettable proceeding. For it can have but one effect, if carried through, as Bro. Caubet expects it will be, and that effect will be the weakening and breaking up of French Freemasonry. We know, from the best of authority, that there are many French Freemasons who deeply deplore the present state of things, and the present dominant teaching of French Freemasonry, and in all kindness and goodwill to our Bros. St. Jean, and Caubet, and Wyrubouff, and others, we would say to-day, before "you burn your ships" (it is always, remember, an act of desperation), think well of the inevitable pitfall which awaits French Freemasonry, and of that shout of triumph which the Bishop of Orleans, and your many adversaries, will set up from one end of France to the other, when, fulfilling his vaticinations, you openly avow to the Masonic world that French Freemasonry will no more even declare its belief in the existence of God. It is, indeed, a mournful result of so many arduous struggles, and will be a continued source of alarm to all who value both the principles and the practice of Freemasonry.

THE LEGAL STATUS OF FREEMASONRY.

A case, which has been decided by the Westminster County Court Judge, Mr. Bayley, and which appeared in our last issue, will, we think, be very much commented upon by our brethren, and we therefore think it needful to notice it. It appears that the Hervey Lodge, 1260, sued a brother, who shall be nameless in our pages, for £15, his initiation fees, in fact. The County Court Judge held, that the "Freemasons were not a body corporate," that they could not "sue," and that in "point of law" they were a "nonentity." He declined to allow

Mr. Stone, counsel for the lodge, to amend the "plaint," or to "grant a case for an appeal," on the ground that he (Mr. Stone) "had no right to appeal, as the case cannot be supported," and declared, "I shall therefore nonsuit the plaintiff, and allow costs." And so judgment went for the defendant with costs. Such is the report of our contemporary, the "Sunday Times," and which is, no doubt, perfectly correct. Indeed, the report professes to be "verbatim." We have nothing to do with the decision, as a judicial decision, emanating from a court of law, for as Freemasons we always pay respect to the judgments of the law courts, whether favourable or unfavourable to our contentions of what we deem to be the law of this or that particular case. But as the question is in itself of some importance to the Craft at large in its legal bearings, we trust that the attention of our distinguished Grand Registrar will be drawn to the matter, as great misapprehension exists, no doubt, on the subject amongst our brethren at large, who, not brought up to the study of the law, cannot be supposed to have mastered its professional technicalities. But though we decline to express any opinion one way or the other as to this recent decision, as we do not conceive that it would be decorous or Masonic to do so, we think right to state that some blame attaches to the Hervey Lodge. If the lodge be named after our worthy and excellent Grand Secretary, how comes it that the brethren were so forgetful of his official and personal reputation? What business had the Hervey Lodge to initiate a brother who either could not or would not pay his initiation fees? What did they know of the initiate, previous to initiation? and who recommended him as thoroughly worthy of reception into Freemasonry? These are questions which will occur to every thinking Freemason, and they are questions, which, in justice to the Craft at large, dishonoured by such proceedings, the Hervey Lodge ought, in our opinion, at once officially to reply to. We are inclined to think, and we fancy we shall echo the sentiments of many, that in all such cases, happily, let us trust, very rare, lodges had much better "wash their dirty linen at home," and not offer it to public manipulation, inspection, and comment, and here we leave the matter for the present, awaiting the explanation, which no doubt the Hervey Lodge in the interests of Freemasonry will not be slow to offer. But we think, having told the tale, we now can "point the moral." What a commentary does this case afford on that haphazard admission of new members, which is now going on amongst us. No more hurtful and fatal Masonic heresy ever was pronounced than that which says, the "test of admission is the ability to pay." It has tended to loosen our entire system of caution and care, and day-by-day we are admitting many who by no possible consideration can ever be considered fit applicants for the "mysteries and privileges of Freemasonry." And then let us note the "reductio ad absurdum" involved in such a theory. When the witty French wife in Octave Feuillet's "Pour et Contre," in reply to a husband who says that a flirtation on the man's side is excusable, (though not on the woman's) and is only a "passing amusement of intellect," asks him, "but if he have no intellect?" the excellent man is shut up. So these initiates who are to be admitted because they can pay, but won't pay after all, what then? Surely we must all see the hollowness and radical error of the present hasty system, and we must make up our minds, despite the material interests of our lodges, to know something of our candidates before we propose them, and to be convinced that they are good men, and will make good Freemasons, before we initiate those who require to be sued to pay their initiation fees.

CHARITY ORGANIZATION.

It is curious sometimes to note, and not a little instructive, how true is the saying of the wise King ever still, that there is "nothing new under the sun." We make, as we often think, some remarkable progress in this matter or that, we inaugurate a striking reform, we put forward some marvellous discovery, and yet we are but reverting after all whether to first principles, or earlier, discoveries, reforms, inventions. The

truth is, that this world of ours is nothing but a constant scene of progressive and retrograde movements, of change and continuance, of flow and ebb, of amendment and deterioration; nothing is stationary, nothing is continuous, nothing is perfect. On all things here, and on all men, "nations and thrones, and reverend laws" time has cast its decaying hand, and as each generation passes onward to its grave, we note, if we look on things calmly and carefully, beneath the tinsel and outside show of this always garish life of ours, this great and unchanging law of the world and of man; we ourselves make and mar, we ourselves improve and alter as we think, but after all we achieve little that is new, and complete nothing that is permanent. And if this view of things be in truth, as it no doubt is, somewhat humiliating to our common humanity, yet of its reality we cannot doubt, and about its certainty we need not dispute. And in nothing is this, according to our notion, so true as in respect of that dealing with our fellow and suffering mortals, by the way of benevolence, which we often sum up under the one little expressive word "Charity." The poor we have always with us; they will "never cease out of the land," we may well believe, whatever our social arrangements and legislative provisions may be. We are not among those who despair indeed of materially reducing the terrible array of the "great army" of the poor, and lessening that dreadful "dead weight" which presses so often and so hardly on the honest industry of thousands, the hard earned incomes of countless fellow citizens. But this is not the exact question before us, only at any rate a subsidiary one, and we do not propose at present to talk upon it in these pages. But with the fact of the need of "Charity" of some kind we may fairly deal. No doubt much abuse exists in the giving as well as in the administration of individual charity, and no objection can be made to the efforts of individuals or societies to deal with any proven "malfeasance" in this respect of the great principle and duty of true charity. But it may be feared, we think, that in so acting, we admit, with a good intention, we have many of us fallen into as great an error almost on the opposite side of the question. We have set up a charitable bureaucracy, which, like all bureaucracies has landed us in the red-tapeism of charity, the shadow, not the substance, the outward organization and skeleton, so to say, not the inner vitality and reality of that greater and noblest of all true virtues. We have multiplied societies, with a corresponding staff, until the wretched applicant for relief is tossed about by a polite game of battledore and shuttlecock, from office to office, sick at heart and weary, and he sinks, yes, and dies from actual starvation. Some recent accounts in the papers, one of which we printed last week, are very saddening and very depressing. It is perfectly startling to the humane mind to realize, that in our great metropolis, with all our official organization, with all our unofficial associations, with many "bureaus" of intelligence and enquiry, any fellow creature should positively have to trudge from office to office for hours, and go away disappointed, and famishing, unaided at the last. The great end of all such societies, remember, is to enable relief to be given to the really destitute, and not to the vagrant, the impostor, the swindler, the man who lives on the charity of his fellows, and unless there was some great defect in such associations, some radical vice in these little centres of a pseudo-officialism, we should not have to read the record of the hopeless appeals of the truly suffering, or the vain efforts to obtain succour, whether by young and old, who really and truly need help. We beg our readers carefully to consider "Veta's" letter in our last impression, and many like which have recently appeared in the daily press, and to say whether such a state of things can be justified on any ground whatever, and whether or no there is not some great mistake in the working of our present organisations and associations. We believe it to be this—that we are substituting a hard and fast line of mere official routine and enquiry for actual and ready help, and when the truly honest applicant asks for "bread," we practically give him a "stone," we offer to him the "cold shoulder," the hopeless red tape

of stereotyped formality to a starving human being. And in saying this, our remarks do not apply to the Boards of Guardians, or the relieving officers, but rather to what may be termed without offence the "amateur officers of enquiry and relief." The Boards of Guardians and the relieving officers are governed by legal provisions, and the "Consolidated Order of the Poor-law Board," and as a rule discharge their onerous responsibilities with care, tact, and humanity. But the societies for "relief and enquiry," and the like have more freedom of action necessarily, and ought not to be merely, so to say, recording or recommending offices. If it be true that such societies do not profess to give relief, then, we contend that this is their vital blunder of action which utterly mars all their otherwise alleged utility. When the officer has ascertained that the poor applicant has a bona fide case, he should be enabled to administer "temporary relief," at any rate, "in kind," and enable the homeless man to find accommodation in a "model lodginghouse," until he can see the relieving officer of the district the next morning. But at four or five in the afternoon, after the poor applicant has been banded from office to office, to send him to a relieving officer three miles distant, is a bitter burlesque on the name of charity, and could happen in no country but England. It should not be possible that a respectable man and his son, short of work; should have to walk wearily for many hours, from office to office, and all in vain, and at last have to depend for a few mouthfuls of food, upon the casual help of a fellow sufferer as poor as themselves, and spend their night under the arches of Covent Garden Market. The sooner, then, in our humble opinion, that our charitable organizations are improved in these respects, the better will it be for us all, for as it is, their work is deceptive, and the result is very questionable, certainly not worth the expense of their officialism, or even the superabundance of their red-tape. We do not deny that many difficulties attend the question in itself, but of two evils, "always choose the least;" and we ourselves should prefer even "indiscriminate almsgiving," or what people like to term the "inconsiderateness of charitable people," to the amenities of a hyper officialism, which is very rampant just now, and appears somewhat inclined and prepared to shew to a confiding public "how not to do it," especially when an emergency arises, when honest poverty knocks suppliantly at the door.

THE RETURN OF THE ARCTIC EXPEDITION.

We are glad in being able to congratulate the gallant officers and sailors of the Arctic Expedition, many of them being our brethren in Masonry, on their safe return home to Old England, and we rejoice to think that they are permitted by a good Providence to spend the Christmas of 1876 amid happy friends and loving relatives. They have lost four of their little band; all the rest, we believe, have come back hale and strong. The result of this achievement, however wonderful, has been perused with avidity in other pages than these, and is altogether too long for our columns. As the "Times" says so well,—"But what a tale of unrequited, we had almost said gratuitous, suffering it is! How lightly do all talk of glory; how little do they know what it means! The little army had to cut its way through the ice barriers, dragging heavily laden sledges, and going to and fro, the whole force being often required for each sledge, content to make a mile and a quarter a day, in pursuit of an object still four hundred miles off, through increasing difficulties, and with barely five months, or one hundred and fifty days, wherein to go and return. The labour is a dreadful reality; the scheme itself a nightmare, the phantasy of a disordered brain. Even the smaller and subsidiary Expedition for planting an Autumn depot cost three amputations. The cold was beyond all former experience for intensity and length, and the physical effect of a long winter spent in the ships under such conditions is particularized as one reason why the men were less able to endure cold, labour, and the want of proper food. Petersen, the guide and interpreter, accustomed

as he has been to the climate and its hardships, sank under them, and became a serious addition to the labour of his comrades. Every one of the Expeditions, whatever the direction, came back in the saddest plight, some dragging the rest, and in one case only reaching the ship through the heroism of an officer pushing on many miles alone to announce his returning comrades, to procure the aid by which alone they were saved from destruction. These are episodes, but they are the matter which redeems the story and makes its truest value. They tell us what Englishmen will do on occasions beyond our feeble home apprehensions, when once they have accepted a call and are "in duty bound." We agree fully with the tone of these remarks, and though we cannot recount the achievements of our gallant countrymen amid the dangers of the ice hummocks of the Polar Seas, we can express our admiration at their dauntless courage, and our heartfelt happiness at their safe return.

Original Correspondence.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for, or even as approving of the opinions expressed by our correspondents, but we wish, in a spirit of fair play to all, to permit—within certain necessary limits—free discussion.—Ed.]

HERMETICISM AND LONG LIVERS.

To the Editor of "The Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I feel considerable difficulty in making my reply upon the symbolical language of "Long Livers," because, when I express my belief in the traditional history of last centuries' High Grades, I shall at once be met by the sceptical realist with a demand for "Minutes" of the same, and this cannot be given beyond, say a reference to the Royal Arch in 1743, and to the Templar and Templar Priest about 1780. Notwithstanding, I reiterate a belief that those "seven pillars" which the York Masons, the Ancient Masons, the Scotch Masons, and the Irish Masons, alleged were "hewn out" by our ancient brethren in 1686, are the degrees Hermetically alluded to in 1721. These three degrees, separated from the Craft by the ceremony of Past Master, I take to be the "Higher Class" alluded to by Philalethes, jun., in 1721; the language in the closing part of the dedication is almost word for word with some in the Christian orders, it is found in no other system or ritual whatever—I speak from a large ritual acquaintance—and if it does not refer to the three higher degrees I have mentioned, it is a harmless piece of mystification, admits of no other reference or explanation, and its language has no meaning.

Scholastic oaths and rites were so far common in Europe in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, that I do not see that we need doubt the actual existence of Rosicrucian ceremonies at the close of the seventeenth century, or even that they had brought them from Egypt or Constantinople, as they alleged, since ancient rites analogous to Freemasonry still exist there. It is even barely possible that some of the later mystical works, written ostensibly as Rosicrucian, are really Masonic. Thus we find the dedication to "Long Livers" 1721, alludes to the Masonic Roll of Philalethes' High Grades under the designation of the "Book M," the identical term of Christian Rosy Cross, for his Rosicrucian Roll. But that the Masonic High Grades was the veritable fraternity of Rosy Cross is, I think, disproved by the fact that at an early period a totally distinct rite, under that name was tacked on, in German, to the Masonic institution; moreover, this very book "Long Livers" was known to these German Masonic Rosicrucians, for they asserted in 1745, that "Eugenius Philalethes" was still living and President of the English Rosicrucian Masons. I follow genuine tradition and infer that in 1686 the English Rosicrucian Masons established a rite of the additional degrees which they conferred upon the officers of the Craft, and altered and adapted the same to the objects they had in view, as all system mongers have done. Bro. Leon Hyneman published a book in 1872 entitled "Ancient York and London Grand Lodges," it is not without errors, but will meet with better comprehension in this light. The Templar Priest is doubtless the degree to which Hinde claimed to belong about 1765, as the clerical or ecclesiastical branch, which had authority over the secular, with a descent from the Essenes.† The old English Templar ceremony was very different from the present, and claimed descent as a part of the mysteries from the most remote antiquity; but besides this there was a Latin work published at Amsterdam, which gave the ancient Templars a secret Gnostic or Rosicrucian origin, and that the Order was talked about amongst the Freemasons is very likely, for we find Lilly stating that his grandfather was "one of the Knights Templars or Knights of Malta," i.e., the English langue of the Hospital of St. John, or Malta.

Elsewhere I have amply proved that from the fifteenth to the end of the seventeenth century there was a sectarian party, who, because they went in fear of the stake and the dungeon, and aimed at trampling down the triple tiara, were compelled to use the jargon or secret oath-bound terms of operative alchemy by which to convey grave religious truths and hardy theosophical speculations, and I perceive, moreover, undoubtedly, that Philalethes, jun., from his Dedication to "Long Livers," was perfectly cognizant of the fact, and this, to some minds, might almost amount to a demonstration that amongst our Speculative Masons there was all along a party and a rite who were cognizant of the designs and aiding these

* Jennings' "Rosicrucian." † Bro. Bewick.

Rosicrucians. I altogether deny that his language has any reference to Operative Alchemy; it is simply a mystical description of the "Great Work," which was as much the object of the York High Grades in 1786, as of those of London in 1686, a search for that moral and religious truth which the writer mystically veiled under the language of alchemy, a search for the spiritual Gold and Silver of Divine Truth. The King and Queen—Sol and Luna—the Hermetical combination of which was to give unbounded wealth, health, and everlasting life.

Notwithstanding the objections of your able editor, I still maintain my original statement that the entire dedication has reference chiefly to the Royal Arch degree. What is the gist of the whole language? A history of a supposed Biblical Freemasonry. The writer claims that Masonry is a Patriarchal and Apostolical brotherhood, the exact assertion of the Seventh Degree of "Holy Royal Arch Knights Templar Priest;" the precise language of Laurence Dermott when he wrote about the Royal Arch last century, in his "Ahiman Rezon;" a degree which has, moreover, strong allusions to a Trinity in Unity, upon which Philalethes, jun., so strongly dwells. I wonder that any can fail to see what to my own eyes is so much more palpable than I can express.

The seven quadrates supported at the corners by four lions, I refer to the seven pillars, steps, or degrees, of this "Temple of Wisdom," so stably founded that it is symbolised by the lion. My old encampments have taught me that the French Rose Croix and Kadosh are the synonyms of the English Templar and Priest, and the Teutonic K. of Palestine, and Prince of the Royal Secret, and I do not see how we can well escape from the position, these would be again represented by the Three German Rosicrucian Grades.

In regard to the enquiry as to the time immemorial list of 1743 of the Rosy Cross in London, I may say that about 30 years ago a member of the Royal Order of Scotland published in the "Freemason's Quarterly" their oldest documents; the first of these was the list I have given of their London Lodges and Chapters, and the brethren belonging thereto "revived" the order in Edinburgh. The list is doubtless genuine, but it does not follow that their ceremonies were the same then as now. I consider that their position as to the Continental and English Rose Croix degrees disprove this, and I am more inclined to believe in the alteration of the Scotch than the Continental. Some one has introduced Bruce and suspicious doggrel. Some one has blundered.

Truly and fraternally yours,

JOHN YARKER.

A MARKED MASON.

To the Editor of "The Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

An extract from the "Sunday Times" appears in your columns of the 28th inst., stating that the Hervey Lodge, No. 1260, sued on October 10th, in the County Court of Westminster, a gentleman for ten guineas initiation fees, and five guineas subscription. The definition gentleman will pass unnoticed; it is, however, unfortunate that an omission by a section of our Craft should be brought forward within the walls of a County Court. Omission appears to apply both to plaintiffs and defendant. In our Book of Constitutions, page 86, clause 9, deals with initiation fees, and continues, "nor shall a lodge on any pretence, remit or defer the payment of any part of this sum." 1260 has evidently allowed the candidate to defer payment both of fees and subscription. The clause continues with, "The member who proposes a candidate must be responsible to the lodge for all the fees payable on account of the initiation. Let us hope he will yet renew faith with those who received him into our fraternity of square dealings, and yet become a bright and shining light, a Mark Mason in place of a "Marked" one. Fraternally yours,

J. E. L., 1458.

INSTRUCTION.

To the Editor of "The Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I am deputed by several brothers (all M.M.'s) to solicit your reply to the following question:

"Is it right for four, six, or more brothers to meet in a public-house or private residence (always with the utmost privacy), for mutual instruction in Masonry?"

Your kind and explicit reply to the above through your valuable publication will oblige.

Sir and brother, yours fraternally,

MUSICUS.

[We can see no harm in it, provided it is purely a private and friendly meeting. A Lodge of Instruction is, however, the preferable way of obtaining such instruction.—Ed.]

SPURIOUS FREEMASONRY.

To the Editor of "The Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

The enclosed handbill was placed in my hands last evening, and I find that numbers are being distributed through this town,—

"SPECIAL NOTICE.—'EARL OF DALKEITH COURT,' OF THE UNITED ORDER OF FREEMASONS FRIENDLY SOCIETY, Kingston-upon-Hull District (Registered according to Act of Parliament).—The above Court, will initiate at the following low scale on Tuesday, November 7th, 1876, and every second Tuesday thereafter for a short time:—From 16 years of age to 21, 2s. 6d.; from 21 years of age to 30, 3s. 6d.; from 30 years of age to 35, 5s. 0d.; from 33 years of age to 40, 7s. 6d. This is an opportunity rarely to be met with. £12 at the death of a member; £10 at the death of a member's wife; £8 at the death of a second wife; 10s. per week for sickness for the first six months, 7s. 6d. for the next six months, and 5s. per week for the third six months; 1d. per mile allowed to brothers travelling in search of employment. Free to receive sick and funeral

benefits in six months. Contributions.—10d. per fortnight, clear of all levies. The above Court will be opened on Tuesday, November 7th, at 7.30 p.m., when all parties wishing to become members can be made.

I should be glad to hear from you, if there are no means of preventing this club from assuming a name to which they have evidently no legal right.

A reply in the "Freemason" will oblige, yours truly and fraternally,

Oct. 28th, 1876.

C. P. R.

[We know nothing of this order. It is not Masonic.—Ed.]

THE "ALBURY MS."

To the Editor of "The Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I see an advertisement respecting the above in the "Freemason," but should like to know somewhat of its character, if you can kindly inform me.

In the "Masonic Jewel," it appears there is a review of it by Bro. Hughan, P.S.G.D. of England, &c., and the editor speaks of it as follows, so a friend tells me:—

"Our valued and esteemed correspondent, Bro. Wm. James Hughan, of England, has 'settled' the 'Albury MS.' in this number of the 'Jewel.' It is wonderful how pretension and fraud will vanish away when investigated by superior intelligence and sense. Another Masonic debt is due to Bro. Hughan for his research and dissection of this newly attempted imposition upon the Order."

Would it not be desirable to reprint it in this country?

Yours fraternally,

T. LEWISHAM.

[This review of Bro. W. Hughan's will appear in the December number of the "Masonic Magazine," which promises to be of unusual interest, and is a double number. Orders for it should be sent at once to the Publisher, 198, Fleet-street.—Ed.]

FREEMASONRY AND THE HOME RULERS.

To the Editor of "The Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

If your columns are not too much engaged, I shall be pleased to hear the opinion of the better informed brethren, as to whether a brother may belong to both societies.

Yours fraternally,

G. J.

[Members of political societies cannot join our Order as such, but out of the lodge we have nothing to do with the political opinion of members so long as they are loyal subjects, and obey the laws of the land.—Ed.]

LOST.

To the Editor of "The Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

At the installation meeting of Chaucer Lodge last Wednesday at Bro. Spencer's, Bridge House Hotel, my case with my name and lodge (Domestic, No. 177), written thereon, and containing two collars, one with silver jewel, of S.W., with Domestic, 177, engraven thereon, was taken by a brother in mistake. If said brother will return same to me at Domestic Lodge, Arderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, or to my office as below, he will greatly oblige.

Yours fraternally,

JAS. WILLING, JUN.,

301, Strand, W.C., Nov. 1. I.P.M. 1507, S.W. 177

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF DURHAM.

On Tuesday, the 24th inst, South Shields was favoured in being selected as the place for holding, this year, the annual meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Durham, and great interest was manifested in the proceedings among brethren belonging to that town. The Provincial Grand Lodge was held under the Banner of St. Hilda's Lodge, No. 240, Bro. H. Cloughton, W.M., who with the officers and brethren connected therewith exerted themselves to the utmost in making the gathering a success, and the large hall of the Free Library Buildings, in which the meeting was held, was beautifully and tastefully decorated, and rendered in every way suitable for the conducting of the interesting business connected with the Craft. The Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master, Bro. J. Fawcett, occupied the chair of K. S., and was supported in the chair by Bros. Sir H. Williamson, D.P.G.M., Victor A. Williamson, Past Grand Warden of England, P.G.S.W. J. H. Thompson, P.P.G. Supt. of Works; Bailey, P.P.G.S.D.; Stokoe, P.P.G.J.W.; E. D. Davis, P.P.G.D.C.; Lawrence, P.P.G.J.W.; Dr. Cook, P.P.G.S.D.; G. White, P.P.G.J.D.; J. Hinde, P.P.S.G.D.; J. S. Denham, P.P.G. J.W.; Jas S. Wilson, P.P.G. Supt. of Works, &c. There was present at the meeting, a numerous gathering of brethren from the various towns in the County of Durham, and, when assembled in the hall, the sight was very interesting and attractive. The Provincial Grand Lodge having been opened, according to ancient custom and in due form, the W. M.'s of the several lodges made their reports, and the Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master addressed the brethren in regard to Freemasonry, after which he appointed the following officers:—Bros. Sir H. Williamson, Bart., D.P.G.M.; Victor Alexander Williamson, P.G.S.W.; John Trotter, P.G.J.W.; Rev F. Bewsher, P.G. Chaplain; Rev John Cundill, P.G. Treasurer; Allison, P.G. Registrar; W. H. Crookes, P.G. Secretary; Robt. Candlish, P.G.S.D.; J. Tiltman, P.G.J.D.; H. Cloughton, P.G. Supt. of Works; R. Hudson, P.G.D. of Ceremonies; J. Greenwell, P.G. Assistant Director of Ceremonies; J. T. Hope, P.G.S.B.; Angelo Forrest, P.G. Organist; J. Pearson, P.G.P.; Stewards—Bros. M. Corbett, Lodge of Industry, Gateshead; D. P. Huntley, St. John, Sunderland; R. A. Luck, Restoration, Darlington; John Waugh, Earl of Durham, Chester-le-Street; J. Barker, Norman, Durham; and J. W. Wilks, Fraternity Stockton. Certain sums having been voted to Masonic Schools and Charities, lodge was closed in due form. After

wards the brethren adjourned to the Golden Lion Hotel, King Street, where a splendid dinner was provided. The Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master occupied the chair, and was supported by the leading members of the Craft, among whom were Bros. H. Cloughton, W.M., J. Roddam, P.M.; J. Ditchburn, P.M.; J. Willson, P.M.; J. Hinde, P.M.; G. White, P.P.G.J. W. and P.M.; T. G. Mabane, J. Coulson, &c. Upon the removal of the cloth, the usual loyal toasts were given, after which the Masonic toasts were introduced and heartily responded to, including "The Health of the Right Worshipful the Grand Master of England, the Prince of Wales."

The proceedings passed off most satisfactorily, and we must compliment the Worshipful Master and officers of St. Hilda's Lodge upon the excellent arrangements they made, and the great success that attended them, and the general satisfaction which was given.

During the evening Bros. E. J. Gibbon, Secretary No. 541; Thos. J. Taylor, No. 541; —J. Keeney, No. 541; and J. H. Leech, No. 997; sang several pieces of music in fine style, Bro. Angelo Forrest, P.G.O., acting as conductor.

In consequence of the Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master, with several of his officers, having to retire at an early hour, the chair was occupied during the remainder of the evening by Bro. H. Cloughton, W.M. of St. Hilda's Lodge.

GRAND LODGE OF NEW BRUNSWICK.

At the Ninth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of New Brunswick, held in the City of Saint John, on the 27th and 28th days of September, A.D. 1876, the following officers were elected, appointed, and installed for the current year, viz.: Bros. Robert T. Clinch, G.M.; Wm. H. A. Keane, D.G.M.; Thomas F. Gillespie, S.G.W.; William D. Forster, J.G.W.; Rev. Francis Partridge, G. Chap.; James McNichol, jun., G. Treas.; William F. Bunting, G. Sec.; Henry Duffell, S.G.D.; James Alfred Clark, J.G.D.; James Boone, G. Dir. of Cer.; Louis B. Messenett, Assist. Dir. of Cer.; Charles U. Hanford, G. Sword Bearer; William Osborne, G. Std. Bearer; H. Card, G. Org.; R. J. McAdoo, G. Purst.; James Adam, Hiram G. Betts, Andred J. Stewart, George Moffat, John A. McCallum, David U. Porter, Robert M. Stevens, Bowen Smith, James Cooper, Blair Estabrooks, John A. Beatty, Wm. A. Henderson, Grand Stewards; and Dingee Scribner, Grand Tyler.

In the annual address of the M.W. the Grand Master, he alluded to an act of rebellion on the part of some misguided Masons in the Province of Ontario, in the following terms:—

"The Grand Secretary will place before you a circular received at his office, asking Masonic recognition of a body calling itself the 'Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of Ontario.'"

"The Province of Ontario in the Dominion of Canada is under the Masonic jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Canada, with which this Grand Lodge has been and is in fraternal communication, and I feel it to be my duty to urge upon you, for high constitutional considerations, not in any manner to recognize the unlawful proceedings of those who are seeking to establish this so-called Grand Lodge of Ontario."

"On a careful review of the subject, you will find that among many reasons why no Masonic recognition should be accorded to their proceedings, there are two grounds either of which must be fatal to their claim."

1st. "The Province of Ontario is occupied Masonic territory, under the exclusive jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Canada, and therefore any independent action of Masons in Ontario, in seeking to form a governing body, is an act of rebellion against the recognized and lawful Masonic authority of the province."

2nd. "On the face of their own statement, the mode of proceeding was irregular and unmasonic, as the action was not by a convention of regular lodges, but was only the insufficient action of individual Masons, contrary to Masonic law and well-established precedent."

"The Grand Lodge of Canada has exercised due Masonic discipline on the offending brethren by expelling them from all the rights and benefits of Freemasonry."

"I refer the whole matter to you, confident that you will maintain the ancient rights and established laws of the Fraternity relating to independent and Sovereign Grand Lodges."

The subject was brought before the Special Committee, which committee subsequently reported to Grand Lodge as follows:—

"The committee have examined the papers submitted to them, in connection with the formation of the body calling itself the 'Grand Lodge of Ontario,' and they have had under consideration the portion of the address of the M.W. Grand Master in relation to the same organization. The so-called Grand Lodge of Ontario was formed in, and claims jurisdiction in, the Province of Ontario, which now is and, since the formation of the Grand Lodge of Canada, has been exclusively Masonic territory of that Grand Lodge. The formation of another governing body in that province is therefore an invasion of the territorial rights of a Grand Lodge with which the Grand Lodge of New Brunswick is in fraternal communication, and is not only a violation of, but, if permitted, would be absolutely destructive of the just and necessary principles underlying the whole system of Masonic government. On this ground alone, the committee advise Grand Lodge to refuse recognition to the body seeking it. The committee have not deemed it necessary to consider the matter from any other stand point, or to enter upon any discussion of the mode of formation of the self-called Grand Lodge, the attention drawn to this by the Grand Master being quite sufficient. They venture to express the hope, that the brethren now in

rebellion against the lawful authority of the Grand Lodge of Canada, and, indeed, against all Masonic law and principle, will return to their allegiance and atone for the grievous wrong they have done."

The committee submitted the following resolution:—"That the body calling itself 'The Grand Lodge of Ontario,' is an irregular and clandestine organization, and is not entitled to recognition or countenance by regular Freemasons, that persons hailing from the said organization, or bodies holding of it, are not worthy of Masonic fellowship; and that all the lodges in the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of New Brunswick be immediately warned by the Grand Secretary not to receive as visitors, or acknowledge as brothers, persons hailing from the so-called Grand Lodge of Ontario."

The report and resolution of the committee were adopted unanimously by Grand Lodge.

THE HAMER BENEVOLENT FUND.

As a Masonic province which has long and honourably held its place in connection with nearly all charitable schemes, West Lancashire has always been justly looked upon as holding a prominent position; and the number of its plans of charity was recently increased by the formation of the Hamer Benevolent Fund, the third annual report of which was presented at the last annual Provincial Grand Lodge. As there seems to be some danger of this fund being overshadowed by the matured and more extended ramifications of the West Lancashire Masonic Educational Institution, which is doing a truly noble work in the province, a few words may not be out of place in the direction of drawing the attention of the brethren throughout the Western Division of Lancashire to the more youthful but very deserving charity. The following extract from the first annual report of the charity will give an idea of the object and history of its foundation:—

"The Provincial Grand Lodge having, in 1871, voted 20 guineas to form the nucleus of a fund for providing a testimonial to Bro. James Hamer, P. Prov. Grand Treasurer, a committee was formed for carrying out this object, and an appeal was made to the lodges and brethren in the province, which has so far produced the sum of £227 19s. 6d."

"The committee, after mature consideration, decided to present to Bro. Hamer, an illuminated address, and Past Provincial Grand Treasurer's jewel, at a cost of 20 guineas, and with the balance to form a fund for benevolent purposes, to perpetuate the name of our brother among Freemasons, a sub-committee being deputed to carry out the idea."

"The committee, desirous of producing a scheme which would permanently secure from every Freemason in this province an interest in the sacred cause of Charity, believe that the Hamer Benevolent Fund is calculated to effect this most successfully."

"From the rapid increase of the Order in this province, it may reasonably be expected that there will be a very large number of claims upon our benevolence and charity; and the committee think that the 'Hamer Benevolent Fund' may be made the means of alleviating a great amount of distress, without pressing heavily upon individuals, or lodges, there being practically no limit to the relief that may be granted, provided the brethren will support this institution with small annual donations and subscriptions."

The brethren entrusted with the inauguration and management of the fund set about their work in a most enthusiastic manner, and the result was that the third annual report showed that the capital account had reached a figure which warranted the committee in inviting applications for payments to annuitants. The Institution, thus established to recognise the great services of the late Bro. Hamer, is intended to assist decayed Freemasons of the province by grants of money not exceeding £10 to any individual in any one year.

The sources of the fund are: 1. Such sums of money as may be voted from time to time from the funds of Provincial Grand Lodge. 2. Annual subscriptions and donations from lodges, chapters, &c., and brethren. 3. Donations in general, and legacies.

The present capital of the fund, and all moneys received from donations, subscriptions, legacies, &c., are invested, and only the interest, or usufruct, or a part thereof, which may be received therefrom is expended; except that the cost of the trust deed and other expenses incurred in the formation of and carrying on the business of the fund are paid out of capital.

The management of the fund is vested in the R.W. Provincial Grand Master for the time being as President, together with an unlimited number of Vice-Presidents consisting of all donors of £10 or more in one sum or in two payments within two years, a committee of ten Past Masters of lodges in the province, a Secretary, and a Treasurer of the Fund, who shall not of necessity be Past Masters.

The Hamer Benevolent Fund, perhaps the only institution of the kind in the provinces, is noble in its design, and worthy of support in West Lancashire, and calculated to prove an inestimable boon to those upon whom adverse circumstances have come hard and unexpectedly. Bro. R. Wylie, P.P.G.S.D., is the Hon. Secretary, and Bro. W. Laidlaw, P.P.G.S.D. of W., the Hon. Treasurer.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.—The sudden changes, frequent fogs, and prevailing dampness sorely impede the vital functions and conduce to ill-health. The remedy for these disasters lies in some purifying medicine, like these Pills, which is competent to grapple with the mischief at its source, and stamp it out without fretting the nerves or weakening the system. Holloway's Pills extract from the blood all noxious matters, regulate the action of every disordered organ, stimulate the liver and kidneys, and relax the bowels. In curing chest complaints these Pills are remarkably effective, especially when aided by friction of the Ointment on its walls. This double treatment will ensure a certain, steady, and beneficent progress, and sound health will soon be re-established.—*ANZ.*

Masonic and General Tidings.

The Canterbury Lodge, No. 1635, was consecrated on Thursday last by Bro. the Right Hon. Lord Skelmersdale, M.W.D.G.M., at the Masonic Hall, 33, Golden-square. A full account of the proceedings will appear in the Second Edition, which will be published early Saturday morning.

The Installation Meeting of the Elliot Lodge, No. 1567, takes place this (Saturday) afternoon at the Railway Hotel, Feltham, at 3 o'clock. Bro. Frank Green, P.M. 1445, is the W.M. elect. A full report of the proceedings will appear in our next.

Bro. the Rt. Hon. Lord Leigh, Lord-Lieutenant of Warwickshire, R.W.P.G.M., presided on Monday at the distribution of prizes in connection with the Leamington School of Art, awarded by the Science and Art Department, South Kensington.

The foundation-stone of the new harbour works, now in course of erection at Buckie, was laid by Bro. Gordon on Thursday with Masonic honours.

Bro. the Rev. J. E. Cox, D.D., P.G. Chap. of England, Vicar of St. Helen's, Bishopsgate, has devoted a considerable amount of time and attention for a lengthened period to the collection of material for a history of the parish with which he has been so long connected, and the result of his labours has produced a handsome volume, containing goopages of curious and interesting information.

Bro. the Right Hon. Lord Charles Beresford, P.S.G.W. Devonshire, has been appointed commander of Her Majesty's ship Thunderer, now preparing for sea at Portsmouth. His lordship served with the Duke of Edinburgh in the Galatea; and it was while acting as aide-de-camp to the Prince of Wales on board the Scapris that his lordship was gassed a commander.

The Duke of Marlborough—the recently appointed Lord Lieutenant—of Ireland is expected to arrive at the Viceregal Lodge on or about the 12th inst., on a private visit to the Duke of Abercorn, and will remain for about a fortnight, but will not enter upon the duties of the Viceregal office until the beginning of January. The Duke of Abercorn will retire in the month of December.

A fire occurred on Saturday last on the premises of Bro. S. Rosenthal, lithographic artist, which resulted in some damage to the property contained on the premises, but fortunately not to any great extent.

The "Michigan Freemason" for August appeals to the Craft for help, and complains that it is not adequately supported; in fact it says the present year has been the most unremunerative of any of the seven since its commencement. It is a sad commentary on the intelligence of Freemasons that they will not support periodicals solely devoted to the interests of the Order. The "Michigan Freemason" only repeats the old story, told so often by other Masonic journals.

The new Masonic Hall at Port Royal has been completed and furnished, and the members of Phoenix Lodge, No. 914, have now fine quarters. A Royal Arch Chapter is about being established, with every prospect of a large membership. A Preceptory of K.T. is also spoken of. The lodge at Port Royal has a large number of visiting brethren, principally seamen from the steamers and ships of the United States and England.

THE PROSPERITY LODGE OF INSTRUCTION (No. 65).—The meetings of this lodge are now held at the Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, E.C., where the attendance and support of the Craft is fraternally invited on Tuesday evenings at 7.30. Bro. W. C. Holland is the Hon. Secretary.

The early transactions of the Grand Lodge of New York are in course of publication by Bro. D. Sickles.

At the first annual communication of the Grand Lodge of the Province of Manitoba, the following brethren were elected:—Hon. W. A. Kennedy, M.W. Grand Master; James Henderson, R.W. Deputy Grand Master; John H. Bell, R.W. Grand Secretary, Winnipeg.

The "Keystone" says a delegation of over five hundred Canadian Masons, with their wives and daughters, visited the Centennial Exhibition. The "Craftsman" says the number was nearly double that.

The death of Bro. W. H. Teale, of the Rye House, took place on Friday week. He had been connected with that well-known place nearly 30 years, and his death is much deplored by a large circle of friends, to whom his geniality and kindly disposition had much endeared him. He was 70 years of age.

A STATUE OF BURNS.—Last week a bronze statue of the poet Burns, to be erected in George-square, Glasgow, was cast at the foundry of Messrs. Cox and Son, Thames Ditton. The artist is Mr. George E. Ewing, of Glasgow, who has succeeded in producing a very excellent likeness of the poet.

HIGHER EDUCATION OF WOMEN.—There has been so great an influx of women at the commencement of this Term at Cambridge that Girton College and Newnham Hall are unable to accommodate them, and many are compelled to take lodgings.

We have much pleasure in calling the attention of our numerous readers to the address of Bro. Charles White, which appears in our advertisement columns: Bro. White seeks to be elected on the School Board of London, and, we believe, is fully qualified for such a position. He is a true economist in business matters, and in private, a most liberal man and philanthropist, being a subscriber to many public charities in London, and also a Life Governor of each of the Masonic Institutions. As a Freemason of high character and energetic business habits, we shall be glad if he succeeds in obtaining the object of his ambition, namely, a seat on the London School Board.

JOHN MILTON.—In reference to the account in "The Times" of the recent "deconsecration" of the church of Allhallows, Bread-Street, Mr. E. Robson, of Richmond, writes to remind us that no allusion is therein made to the stone placed at the north-west corner of the building inscribed with the following words:—

"Three poets in three distant ages born,
Greece, Italy, and England did adorn;
The first in loftiness of thought surpass'd,
The next in Majesty—in both the last.
The force of Nature could no further go;
To make a third, she joined the former two."

John Milton

was born in Bread-Street on Friday, the 9th day of December, 1608, and was baptized in the parish church of Allhallows, Bread-Street, on Tuesday, the 20th day of December, 1608." Mr. Robson remarks that the above inscription is cut in the external wall about 6ft. above the ground, so that this portion of the church could be easily incorporated into any building that may be erected on its site. Thus this interesting historical record might easily be preserved.

The name of the Marquis of Bath has been added to the commission appointed to make inquiry as to the places in which documents illustrative of history, or of general public interest, belonging to private persons, are deposited, &c.

We have pleasure in noting that Bro. T. J. Middleton, Dissolving View Apparatus Manufacturer, 38, Little Queen Street, Holborn, has obtained the prize medal—and only prize medal—for his manufactures, at the Philadelphia Exhibition.

TEMPLE BAR AND THE APPROACHES TO THE LAW COURTS.—That portion of the New Law Courts by Bell-yard, Temple Bar, which is to be used as offices, is being rapidly proceeded with, and will probably be completed next year. It may perhaps not be generally remembered that the Government, acting on the advice of their own surveyors, took powers in their first Act for setting back by several feet all the houses up to the corner of Chancery-lane. This will obviate the necessity for any further widening of Fleet-street at that part, except at the point where Messrs. Child's premises bulge out most.—"City Press."

We are glad to learn that at the recent Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of New Brunswick, an application for recognition from the so-called "Grand Lodge of Ontario" was rejected by an unanimous vote. "Craftsman."

The fraternity of Romania have sent for exhibition at the Centennial, a copy of a work on their country; the Hon. B. F. Peixotto, U.S. Consul, is the bearer of the work alluded to.

Bro. George H. Durand, of Flint, Michigan, member of Congress from that district, has just been presented with an elegant jewel and badge by the Grand Lodge of Michigan. The present consists of a ribbon of purple velvet, with end pieces of gold, beautifully chased. The pendant of the Michigan coat of arms is in bas-relief. Below this is a wreath containing Masonic emblems. In the centre is a magnificent diamond. The whole comprises different shades of gold, and beautifully arranged. On the back is inscribed, "Presented to M.W. Bro. George H. Durand, our Most Worshipful Past Grand Master, by the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Mason, of Michigan. "Craftsman."

Last week Bro. Prince Leopold visited Mr. Baillie Cochrane, M.P., at Perthshire.

METROPOLITAN MASONIC MEETINGS.

For the Week ending Friday, November 10, 1876.

The Editor will be glad to receive notice from Secretaries of Craft Lodges, Royal Arch Chapters, Mark Lodges, Preceptories, Conclaves, &c., of any change in place or time of meeting.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4.

Gen. Com. Boys' School, at 4.
Lodge 142, St. Thomas's, Cannon-st. Hot.
" 1559, New Cross, New Cross Hall, Lewisham-rd.
" 1572, Carnarvon, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
" 1642, Earl of Carnarvon, Ladbrooke Hall, Notting Hill (Consecration).

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Lily, Greyhound, Richmond.
Manchester, 77, London-st., Fitzroy-sq.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 6.

Lodge 12, Fortitude & Old Cumberland, Leadenhall-st.
" 25, Robert Burns.
" 72, Royal Jubilee, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
" 144, St. Luke's, Mason's Hall, Basinghall-st.
" 188, Joppa, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
" 256, Unions, F.M.H.
" 1219, Asaph, F.M.H.

Mark Lodge 139, Panmure, Balham Hot., Balham.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Prince Leopold, Lord Stanley Tav., Kingsland.
Strong Man, Jerusalem Tav., St. John's Gate.
Sincerity, Railway Tav., Fenchurch-st. Station.
Camden, Stanhope Arms, Up. James-st., Camden To.
Eastern, Royal Hot., Mile-end-road.
St. James's Union, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Wellington, White Swan, Deptford.
Perfect Ashlar, Victoria Tav., Lower-rd., Rotherhithe.
Upper Norwood, White Hart Ho., Church-rd.,
Marquis of Ripon, Pembury Tav., Amherst-rd., Hackney.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 7.

Colonial Board, at 3.
Lodge 7, Royal York of Perseverance, F.M.H.
" 18, Old Dundee.
" 101, Temple, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.

Lodge 172, Old Concord, F.M.H.

" 217, Stability, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
" 765, St. James's, Bridge House Hot.
" 1259, Duke of Edinburgh, C. of G. H., Tav., E.
" 1261, Golden Rule, Regent M.H., Air-st., W.
" 1298, Royal Standard, Wellington Club, Upper-st.
" 1381, Kennington, Surrey Club H., Kenngn. Oval.
" 1397, Anerley, Thicket Hot., Anerley.
" 1472, Henley, Three Crowns Hot., Henley.

Chap. 507, United Pilgrims, Surrey M.H.

Mark Lodge 1, St. Mark's, Mas. R., 175, Aldersgate-st.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Metropolitan, 269, Pentonville-rd.
Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney.
Domestic, Surrey M.H., Camberwell New-road.
Faith, 2, Westminster Chambers, Victoria-st.
Prince Fredk. Wm., Lord's Hot., St. John's Wood.
Dalhousie, King Edward, Triangle, Hackney.
Prosperity, Hercules Tav., Aldersgate-st.
St. Marylebone, British Stores Tav., St. John's Wood.
Constitutional, Wheatheaf Hot., Hand-court, Holborn.
Israel, Rising Sun Tav., Globe Road.
Royal Arthur, Prince's Head, York-road, Battersea.
Beacontree, Red Lion, Leytonstone.
Excelsior, Commercial Dock Tav., Rotherhithe.
St. John of Wapping, Gun Hot., High-st., Wapping.
Metropolitan Chapter, Jamaica Coffee Ho., Cornhill.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 8.

Com. R.M.B. Institution.

Lodge 3, Fidelity.
" 9, Albion, Regent M.H., Air-st., Regent-st., W.
" 11, Enoch, F.M.H.
" 13, Union Waterloo, M.H., William-st., Woolwich.
" 15, Kent, F.M.H.
" 87, Vitruvian, White Hart, College-st., Lambeth.
" 147, Justice, White Swan, High-st., Deptford.
" 238, Pilgrim, 101, Queen Victoria-street.
" 749, Belgrave, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
" 781, Merchant Navy, Silver Tav., Limehouse.
" 820, Lily of Richmond, Greyhound, Richmond.
" 1017, Montefiore, F.M.H.
" 1306, St. John of Wapping, Gun. Tav., Wapping.
" 1503, Francis Burdett, Albany Hot., Twickenham.
Chap. 1260, Hervey, F.M.H.
" 1305, St. Marylebone, 7, New-st., Portland Town.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Confidence, M.H., Basinghall-st.
Mt. Lebanon, Windsor Castle Tav., Southwark-bdg.-rd.
Pythagorean, Prince of Orange, Greenwich.
New Concord, Rosemary Branch Tav., Hoxton.
Royal Union, Horse and Groom, Winsley-st., Oxford-st.
Mount Edgecombe, 19, Jermyn-st., St. James's.
Peckham, Maismore Arms, Park-road, Peckham.
Stanhope, Thicket Hot., Anerley.

Finsbury Park, Finsbury Park Tav., Seven Sisters'-rd.
Southwark, Southwark Park Tav., Southwark Park.
Duke of Connaught, Havelock Tav., Dalston, E.
United Strength, Grafton Arms, Kenish-town.
Islington, Crown and Cushion, London Wall.
Whittington, Black Bull Tav., Holborn.
Lewis, King's Arms Hot., Wood Green.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 9.

Lodge 91, Regularity, F.M.H.
" 206, Friendship, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.
" 263, Bank of England, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
" 534, Polish National, F.M.H.
" 657, Canonbury, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
" 860, Dalhousie, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
" 879, Southwark, Park Tav., Southwark Park.
" 1076, Capper, Marine Hot., Victoria Docks.
" 1288, Finsbury-park, Finsbury-park Tav., Holloway.
" 1321, Emblematic, Tulse Hill Hot., Tulse Hill.
" 1457, Bagshaw, Bald-faced Stag, Buckhurst Hill.
" 1471, Islington, Cock Tav., Highbury.
" 1558, Duke of Connaught, Surrey M.H.
Chap. 73, Mount Lebanon, Bridge House Hot.
" 140, St. George's, Trafalgar Hot., Greenwich.
" 554, Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney.
K.T. Precep. 45, Temple Cressing, Bridge House Hot.
" 117, New Temple, the Inner Temple.
Rose Croix, Chap., St. George's, 33, Golden-square.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Egyptian, Hercules Tav., Leadenhall-st.
Fidelity, Yorkshire Grey, London-st., W.
Finsbury, Jolly Anglers' Tav., Bath-st., City-road.
Temperance in the East, Catherine-st., Poplar.
Ebony, 12, Ponsonby-st., Milbank.
Highgate, Bull and Gate, Kentish-town.
The Great City, 111, Cheapside.
High Cross, Coach & Horses, High-road, Tottenham.
Salisbury, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Prince Frederick William Chapter, St. John's Wood.
Southern Star, Crown Hot., Blackfriars-rd.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 10.

Lodge 33, Britannic, F.M. Tav.
" 134, Caledonian, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.
" 157, Bedford, F.M.H.
" 177, Domestic, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
" 1420, Earl Spencer, New Wandsworth.
Rose Croix Chap., Mount Calvary, 33, Golden-square.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Union Waterloo, Thomas-st., Woolwich.
Robert Burns, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Belgrave, Constitution, Bedford-st., Covent Garden.
Unions Emulation (for M.M.'s), F.M.H.
Temperance, Victoria Tav., Victoria-road, Deptford.
Clapton, White Hart, Clapton.
Metropolitan, Portugal Hot., Fleet-st.
Westbourne, Horse & Groom, Winsley-st., Oxford-st.
United Pilgrims, Surrey M.H., Camberwell New-road.
St. James's, New Tanners' Arms, Grange-rd., Bermondsey.
Duke of Edinburgh, Silver Lion, Penny-fields, Poplar.
Doric, Earl Grey Tav., Mile-end-road.

Burgoynne, Grafton Arms, Prince of Wales's-road, N.W.
St. Luke's, White Hart, King's-rd., Chelsea.
Chigwell, Bald-faced Stag Hot., Buckhurst-hill.
Burdett Courts, Approach Tav., Victoria Park.
Royal Standard, The Castle, Holloway-rd.
Ranelagh, Clarendon Hot., Hammersmith.
Stability, Guildhall Tav., Gresham-st.
St. George's, Globe Tav., Greenwich.
Pythagorean Chapter, Prince of Orange, Greenwich-rd.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN WEST LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE.

For the Week ending Saturday, November 11, 1876.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 6.

Lodge 113, Unanimity, Bull Hot., Church-st., Preston.
" 1045, Stamford, T.H., Altrincham.
" 1051, Rowley, M.R., Athensum, Lancaster.
" 1264, Neptune, M.H., Liverpool.
" 1380, Skelmersdale, Queen's Hot., Waterloo.
Everton L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 7.

Lodge 178, Antiquity, Royal Hot., Wigan.
" 673, St. John's, M.H., Liverpool.
" 995, Furness, M.T., Ulverston.
" 1384, Equity, Walker's Com. Hot., Widnes.
" 1476, Blackpool, Clifton Arms Hot., Blackpool.
Chap. 203, St. John of Jerusalem, M.H., Liverpool.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 8.

Lodge 281, Fortitude, Athenaeum, Lancaster.
" 1052, Callender, P.H., Rusholme.
" 1094, Temple, M.H., Liverpool.
" 1356, De Grey and Ripon, 80, N. Hill-st.
" 1547, Liverpool, M.H., Liverpool.
Chap. 1345, Victoria, Cross Keys Hot., Eccles.
Neptune L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 9.

Lodge 216, Harmonic, Adelphi Hot., Liverpool.
" 333, Royal Preston, Vic., Garrison Hot., Fulwood.
" 477, Mersey, M.R., Birkenhead.
" 786, Croxteth United Service, M.H., Liverpool.
" 1035, Prince of Wales, Kirkdale, Liverpool.
" 1182, Duke of Edinburgh, M.H., Liverpool.
" 1213, Bridgewater, Cross Keys Hot., Eccles.
Chap. 220, Harmony, Garston Hot., Garston.
Mariners L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 10.

Lodge 1289, Rock, Bedford House, Rock Ferry.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN GLASGOW AND WEST OF SCOTLAND.

For the Week ending Saturday, November 11, 1876.

All the Meetings take place at Eight o'clock.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 6.

Lodge 20, St. John, M.H., Lesmahagow.
" 424, Kilwinning, Union Tav., Ayr.
" 704, St. Mirren, 5, Mass-st., Paisley.
" 138, Operative, Blue Bell Hot., Ayr.
" 237, St. John, Masonic Arms, Girvan.
" 332, Union, 213, Buchanan-st., G.S., Glsgw.
" 581, Plantation, M.H., Craigiehall-st., G.S., Glsgw.
Chap. 53, Dumbarton, Elephant Hot., Dumbarton.
" 119, Rosslyn, 25, Robertson-st.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 7.

Lodge 34, St. John, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
" 68, Doric Kilwinning, 44, Church-st., Port Glsgw.
" 73, Thistle and Rose, 213, Buchanan-st., Glsgw.
" 87, Thistle, 30, Cathedral-st., Glasgow.
" 173, St. John Kilwinning, M.H., Largs.
" 177, St. James, Old Monkland, M.H., Coatbridge.
" 406, St. John Dalziel, M.H., Motherwell.
" 433, St. Thomas Kilwinning, Eglinton Hot.
" 437, Govandale, M.H., Portland Buildings, Govan.
" 442, Neptune, M.H., Princes Lane, Ardrossan.
" 497, St. John, Brewery Hall, Catrine.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 8.

Lodge 178, Scotia, 12, Trongate, Glasgow.
" 333, St. George, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgw.
" 510, Maryhill, M.H., Main-st., Maryhill.
Chap. 113, Partick, M.H., Douglas-st., Partick.
" 88, New Monkland, Montrose T.H., Airdrie.
" 109, St. Marnock, Crown Hot., Kilmarnock.
" 203, St. John Operative, Olive Hall, Airdrie.
" 334, St. John, Castle Inn, New Cumnock.
" 557, Blantyre Kilg., Craig's Hall, High Blantyre.
" 570, Kenmuir, Balgray Hall, Springburn.
Chap. 50, Glasgow, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 10.

Lodge 18, Dumbarton, M.H., Church-st., Dumbarton.
" 147, Cadder Argyle, M.H., Chryston.
" 153, Royal Arch, M.H., Cogan-st., Pollokshaws.
" 170, Leven St. John, Black Bull Inn, Renton.
" 227, St. Clair, M.H., Cambusnethan.
Chap. 144, St. Rollox, 69, Garngad-rd., Glasgow.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN EDINBURGH AND VICINITY.

For the Week ending Saturday, November 11, 1876.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 6.

Lodge 429, St. Kentigern, Royal Hot., Penicuik.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 7.

Lodge 5, Canongate and Leith, 86, Constitution-st.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 8.

Lodge 2, Canongate Kilwinning, M.H., St. John-st.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 9.

Lodge 8, Journeyman, M.H., Blackfriars-st., High-st.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 10.

Chap. 56, Canongate Kilwinning, M.H., St. John-st.

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REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS.

Craft Masonry.

FAITH LODGE (No. 141).—The installation meeting of this old lodge was held on the 31st ult., at Anderson's Hotel, Fleet-street. There were present Bros. Waygood, W.M.; M. Davis, S.W., W.M. elect; Mallett, J.W.; Kennett, I.P.M.; Carter, P.M., Treas.; Stuart, P.M., Sec.; Dairey, J.D.; Bye, I.G.; Rumball, W.S.; Whitley, D.C.; Peavor, P.M.; Pope, P.M.; Hopwood, P.M.; Taylor, P.M.; Green, P.M.; Themans, P.M. The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, and the report of the auditors, Bros. Walls, Clarke, Browning, Heaphy, and Whiby, having been received and adopted, the W.M., with the assistance of his officers, raised Bro. Barrett to the degree of a Master Mason, and immediately vacated the chair in favour of the Installing Master, Bro. Kennett, who appointed Bros. Themans, P.M., S.W.; Taylor, P.M., J.W.; Hopwood, P.M., D.C.; and Carter, P.M., I.G. Bro. M. Davis was then duly presented, and a Board of Installed Masters formed, when the whole details of the ceremony were ably performed by the I.P.M. and his talented staff. Upon the admission of the M.M.'s, Bro. Davis was duly saluted and proclaimed W.M. for the year ensuing. The charges and addresses were then well delivered by the Installing Master. The officers invested were as follows:—Bros. Mallett, S.W.; Dairey, J.W.; Carter, P.M., Treas.; Stuart, P.M., Sec. and W.S.; Rumball, S.D.; Bye, J.D.; Whitley, I.G.; Morrison, A.W.S.; Heaphy, D.C.; Walls, A.D.C. Messrs. Travers and Smithers were then initiated by the W.M. in a manner that left little to be desired. His knowledge of the ritual was complete, and his delivery exceedingly clear, and by what we witnessed of his maiden effort it augured well for his rendering of the more difficult rituals of the higher degrees. The W.M. then in a few kind words presented Bro. Waygood with a Past Master's jewel. The I.P.M. briefly replied by expressing his appreciation of the honour conferred. Previously to the lodge being closed, Bro. P.M. Taylor gave notice of motion that he should propose at the November meeting that the initiation and joining fees should be raised from January next, and that, also, all new members admitted from that time should pay an increased annual subscription. In a few terse words he introduced the matter, and said that when the motion came on for consideration he should endeavour to prove that both financially and otherwise the lodge would greatly benefit by his proposed scheme. The lodge having been closed, the brethren, to the number of ninety-one, then adjourned to the banquet, which was well served. Amongst the visitors were Bros. Wilson, P.M. Stonian; H. Potter, P.M. Robert Burns; Musto, P.M. Friars; Dunn, P.M. 813; Reeves, J.W. 1381; Clement, I.G. 1310; Stranger, Kennington; Barrett, Star of the East; Phillips, Chaucer; Nichols, Great Northern; Strube, Royal Jubilee; Briggs, Friendship; Dowding and Masters, Prudent Brethren. After the removal of the cloth, the toasts of "The Queen and Craft," "The M.W.G.M.," "The Pro G.M., D.G.M.," and the rest of the Grand Officers, Past and Present, were given from the chair and warmly received. In proposing "The Health of the Initiates," the W.M. expressed a hope that they would become good Masons, and thereby confer an honour upon the lodge of their adoption. He mentioned the rapid rise that he had made in the comparatively short time that he had been a member of the lodge, and pointed out to them that an equal success would attend their efforts should they desire to aspire to the position that he occupied. The Initiates in reply expressed their warm appreciation of what they had both seen and heard that evening, and added their thanks for the honour that they had received in being accepted as members of the ancient and honourable society of Freemasons. The W.M. then gave "The Visitors," and stated how pleased he was that on that—to him—most interesting occasion he had been honoured by so strong and distinguished a gathering of visiting brethren. Bro. Clement, in his response on behalf of the visitors, said that he wished to bear testimony to the admirable way in which the ceremony of installation had been carried out that day, and also for the very distinct and able manner in which the newly installed Master had delivered the ritual in the First Degree, and for the good working of the lodge in general. In conclusion he begged to thank the lodge for the kind and liberal hospitality that they had bestowed upon his colleagues and himself, and expressed an opinion that the "Faith" was one of the best lodges in the metropolis. "The P.M.'s" toast followed, and was responded to by Bros. Waygood and Stuart, the latter brother's amusing speech being highly appreciated. In the progress of his

response, he called the attention of the members to the excellent working manifested that day by Bro. Kennett, P.M., assisted by Past Masters Themans, Taylor, and Hopwood, and believed that no lodge could display a better and stronger array of P.M.'s than that presented by his colleagues gathered round the board. The I.P.M. proposed "The Health of the W.M.," and forcibly remarked that the lodge was to be congratulated upon possessing, so amiable a Master in the chair of K.S. as Bro. Davis, whose knowledge of all Masonic details was of the first order. In conclusion he said that as the W.M.'s abilities were so well known to them, he should not detain them by expatiating thereon, but should simply desire them to wish the W.M. the enjoyment of good health during his year of office, which he hoped would be a prosperous one. The W.M., in reply, thanked the lodge most sincerely for having placed him in that chair, and said it was a source of great satisfaction to him to think that after only seven years' experience, the lodge should have deemed him sufficiently worthy to occupy the position of W.M. In the concluding portion of his response he stated that although he should look well after the creature comforts of the brethren during his year of office, yet he should also endeavour, by strict economy in some of the expenses of the banquets, to leave his successor in office a good balance in hand. (Applause). "The Health of the Treasurer, Secretary, and other Officers," followed. In introducing this toast the W.M. remarked that he had endeavoured to appoint such a staff of officers as would do credit to the lodge, and he believed that from the S.W. downwards he should be well supported, as he was quite sure that after their previous attention to his predecessors in office they would not desert him, but would strive to do all they could to render the ceremonies and other lodge details a great success. In this matter it was impossible, he said, to please every one, but he thought that his choice of officers had met with the universal approbation of the brethren. (Hear.) In the absence of the other officers, Bros. Mallett, Dairey, Rumball, Whitley, and Walls responded. The S.W. and J.W. particularly made most able replies. During the evening Bros. Robinson, Dowding, Mallet, Walls, and Pitt instrumentally, vocally, and portically amused the brethren, who separated at eleven. The next meeting of the lodge will be on the last Tuesday in the present month.

BATH.—Royal Cumberland Lodge (No. 41).—This lodge held its regular meeting at the Masonic Hall on Thursday, and inst. The lodge was opened at 7.40 by Bro. F. J. Brown, W.M., supported by Bro. Clark, I.P.M.; Cooper, P.M., &c.; Major Preston, P.M., &c.; Wilcox, P.M., &c. Acting officers: Bros. Thos. Wilton, D.C.; Ashley, Treas.; Chas. Wilkinson, S.W.; Geo. Falkner, J.W.; Braham, S.D., who kindly acted as Organist; J. Smith, J.D.; Gummer, I.G.; W. Hunt and Chas. W. Raway, Stewards. Visitors: Several old members and P.M.'s of 41; Bros. Mann, P.P.S.G.D.; Rubie, P.M., &c.; Cavey, P.M., &c.; Moutrie, P.M., P.Z., &c.; Capt. Robinson, W. Yeomans, and others. The minutes were read and confirmed, the brother initiated at last meeting was passed by the W.M. with much care and clear explanation, and Bro. Cooper, in his usual impressive manner, addressed the F.C., after which Bro. S.W. explained the working tools very clearly and impressively. On Bro. Ashley's motion being brought forward, a long discussion ensued, and it was deferred till next regular meeting. The ballot for a joining member proposed at last meeting was unanimous. Two candidates were proposed for initiation respectively by Bros. Ashley, P.M., Treas., &c., and F. Wilkinson, S.W., &c., which were duly seconded. No other business being before the brethren, the lodge was closed in harmony at 9.45.

DERBY.—Hartington Lodge (No. 1085).—The regular monthly meeting of this lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, George-street, on Wednesday evening, November 1st. The lodge was opened at 7.45 p.m., in the First Degree. The circular convening the lodge was read. The minutes of last lodge were read and confirmed. The ballot was then taken for Mr. Thomas Michael Walters, who was duly elected, and initiated into the mysteries and privileges of Freemasonry in ancient and solemn form by the W.M. The lodge being opened in the Second Degree, the questions were put to Bro. Jas. Henry Pragnell, and was answered in a satisfactory manner. The lodge was then opened in the Third Degree, when Bro. Pragnell was raised to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason by the W.M. Bro. Jas. Heathcote, J.D., and Bro. J. H. Biggs, I.G., were chosen from the lodge to be appointed Stewards to Prov. Grand Lodge for the ensuing year. The proposition of a well-known and highly respectable gentleman of this town brought the business of the evening to a close. There were present Bros. S. Pipes, W.M.; M. H. Bobart, Treas., as S.W.; J. O. Manton, as J.D.; Theodore Hills, S.D.; J. H. Biggs, as J.W.; W. Butterfield, as I.G.; T. Slin, Tyler. The brethren, after business, adjourned to refreshment, after which the usual toasts were given, and the Tyler's toast brought a very pleasant evening to a close.

FELTHAM.—Elliot Lodge (No. 1567).—The installation meeting of this lodge was held on Saturday, the 4th inst., at the Railway Hotel, Feltham, Middlesex, Bro. John Mason, W.M., presiding, supported by S.W. Bro. Frank Green, W.M. elect; J.W. Bro. Dunham, and all his assistant officers. There were also present, Bros. Jacob Chivers, Austine, Winter, Graham, Pemberton, Col. Peters, Vickers, Williams, Harris, Patten, Buss, P.G.J.W. Middlesex, Pearce, Barney, Lamb, Dixon, and others; and, as visitors, Bros. E. J. Scott, P.M. 7941; Swallow, W.M. 1563; Hyde Pullen, P.G.S.B.; W. Monckton, P.P.G.S.D.; Kent; Knight, 1414; H. Bethell, P.M. 301; J. C. Cox, P.M. 1257; Atkins, 813; Burford, 173; Hartley, 45; Myers, 820; Townsend, 820; Long, 1445; Hackford, 1388; Pulley, 340; Hornblower, 1604; J. Nicholls, 1080; J. Green, W.M.

271; Henman, 1425; Yeoman, 1460; Roberts, 700; Finch, 10; Forscutt, 749; Morgan, 1385; G. States, G.S.D.; Joshua Nann, P.G.S.B.; G. Dore, Perfect Friendship; J. N. Pimm, and Massey ("Freemason"). The business of the day was purposely confined to the ceremony of installing the W.M. for the ensuing year, and after reading the minutes of the previous meeting, the chair was taken by Bro. W. T. Howe, P.P.G.P., as Installing Master, who addressed a few words to the brethren upon the custom of the Craft as to the election of the chief officer, and upon the obligations attached to the office, after which Bro. Cottelbrune presented Bro. Frank Green, the W.M. elect (the S.W. chair being taken by Bro. Buss), and the obligation of a Master was solemnly administered by Bro. Howe, after which a Board of Installed Masters was formed, to whom Bro. Green was duly presented, and he was then duly installed into the chair of K.S., after which he was saluted with the usual Masonic honours, and the Installing M. delivered the usual orations to the Master, the officers, and the lay brethren, the whole ceremony being performed by Bro. Howe in a most impressive manner. Bro. F. Green, W.M., then proceeded to appoint and invest his officers as follows:—Bros. Dunham, S.W.; Nicholls, J.W.; Mason, P.M., Treas.; Elliott, Sec.; Iretton, S.D.; Pearson, J.D.; S. F. Green, I.G.; Clarke, D.C.; Austine, W.S.; R. F. Potter, P.M., Tyler. Bro. Frank Green: Bro. Wardens and brethren,—I claim your attention while I discharge a very pleasant duty, which I am sure will not be less pleasing to you to witness than it is to me to perform. I have now the pleasure of placing upon Bro. Mason's breast this Past Master's jewel. I am sure he will not view it in a materialistic manner, but as a memento of your appreciation of his services. I am sure that you will bear witness to the fact that the intrinsic value of the gift bears no proportion to the feelings of regard which promoted its presentation, and accepting it in this sense Bro. Mason may well be proud to wear it. I can only hope with you that he will live long to wear it in your presence, and before the heads of the Craft. I have at the same time to acquaint you with an unfortunate coincidence. I may tell you, Bro. Mason, that the presentation of this jewel was to have been accompanied by the presentation of an illuminated vellum, which I have every reason to believe is very beautiful, but it is an old proverb "L'homme propose mais Dieu dispose." I have a letter in my hands which Bro. Howe has received from Bro. Cunningham, who had taken this matter in hand, but he tells us simply in his letter that he on his part is in the hands of his frame maker, and that he had unfortunately disappointed him. Consequently we have not this testimonial which we were to have received to-night, and I am deprived of the gratification of presenting it to Bro. Mason. Everything has been done by Bro. Howe that was possible, and we must all sympathise with him in the disappointment he feels. Bro. Howe tells me that the testimonial may arrive in the course of the evening, and in the meantime I have the pleasure of presenting this goblet to you. I am very sure that the whole of this presentation will be very gratifying to our younger members. From the study of Freemasonry they have learned some of the duties that it demands; from this they will observe that duty well performed sometimes brings about a pleasurable reward. I am sure that no man in Masonry will more deeply appreciate the duties of Masonry than yourself, Bro. Mason and I have, therefore, very much pleasure in presenting you with these testimonials of the regard of the brethren of the Elliot Lodge. Bro. Mason: Worshipful Master and brethren—I am sure you will pardon me if I do not make any speech now in thanking you for the Past Master's jewel and goblet. When I took the chair of this lodge I took it with the determination to do my duty, and these tokens of your regard prove to me that whatever my shortcomings may have been, you consider that I have endeavoured to do my best. I am sure you will pardon me for not attempting to make any speech at present. The business of the meeting being now concluded the lodge was closed in the usual Masonic form. Subsequently the brethren reassembled at a handsome banquet, provided by Mr. Harris, of the Railway Hotel, and laid in an adjacent school room, which had at a very short notice been tastefully decorated for the occasion by Mr. Harris, whose exertions under rather trying circumstances are deserving of considerable commendation. Pre-eminent among the decorations was the new banner behind the Master's chair, one of the most beautiful works of the kind we remember to have seen in a Masonic lodge. It was quite evident that no expense had been spared in its preparation. On the removal of the banquet the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed by the W.M., and cordially responded to by the brethren. Bro. P.M. Mason: I am exceedingly sorry that Feltham is placed in such an awkward position. We certainly have a very good train service up to this hour of the night. We know that any business that has to be transacted must be done by ten o'clock. It has not yet arrived at that time, but it will be needful to be somewhat brief in the speeches that we have yet to get through. Till this night no man could withhold this gavel from me, but now I have it only because the Master has given me permission to hold it for a time. The toast which I have to propose to you is that of "The Worshipful Master." A man more esteemed in this lodge there could not be. He has filled the chair of S.W. in the first year of this lodge with credit to himself. You elected him unanimously to the chair, and I am sure that before the year is out you will know that you have not made any mistake about it. I am anxious for the next meeting because I am anticipating seeing the working done in such a manner as shall impress every candidate. He has already been a tiler in the Craft, and I am sure he has not forgotten his former sceptre. I am sure he will rule now as well as he did before, and that at the end of his year of office you will be able to say, "Well done, good and faithful servant." I

therefore, call upon you to respond cordially to the toast I give, "Your Master." Bro. W.M. F. Green: Allow me to return thanks, which I do with great diffidence for the kind and flattering manner in which Bro. P.M. Mason proposed my health, and for the manner in which it has been responded to. I feel a little uncomfortable that he has anticipated matters by proclaiming the good things he anticipates for my year of office. I thank him for his good opinion; I can only hope that there will be some slight fulfilment of his prognostications for the future. I can only on my own part promise you that my best efforts shall be given to the Elliot Lodge as far as in my power lies. I shall do my best to increase the good opinion that has been formed of the Elliot Lodge; and further to increase that good opinion not only in the estimation of the Provincial Grand Master of Middlesex, but also in the Craft in general. Through the exertions of your first Master, I think we may congratulate ourselves that the lodge does now stand on something like a sure foundation, and I trust that it will be my province, and also the province of succeeding Masters of the Elliot Lodge, to still further increase the soundness of that foundation, that the Elliot Lodge may be a monument established upon a sure and lasting foundation. Brethren, I feel that at this late hour of the evening I cannot do more than thank you for the kind manner in which you have wished me a prosperous year of office, and I hope you will all second my endeavours to make the year prosperous. Brother Wardens and Brethren, the next toast is one that can but meet with a cordial reception. It is "The Health of the Installing Master of the Day, Bro. Howe, P. Grand Purs. of Middlesex." Bro. Howe came forward to fill a gap. He undertook the onerous duties of Treasurer of this lodge, duties second only to the duties of the chair; and I am quite sure that when a Mason, animated by the best spirit of Masonry, comes forward to assist a young lodge, that lodge will most cordially reciprocate that service. I feel that we cannot too highly estimate that service, and I feel sure that you will avow your appreciation of it. Brethren, Bro. Howe is so well known to you all, that it is unnecessary for me to descant upon his merits. It is a task that I feel would not meet with his approval. I need only mention, to secure a hearty response to the toast of his health, that you have to-day been witnesses to the most able manner in which he has performed the duties of Installing Master in the lodge. To myself individually, the gratification is very great, for it falls to the lot of few Masters to be installed twice by the same Past Master; but I am sure that everybody who has had the privilege of being present to-day must have been struck with the able manner in which he performed the ceremony. I give "The Health of the Installing Master, Bro. Howe." Bro. Howe, in returning thanks, observed that Freemasonry implied something more than a regular attendance at the lodge, something more than a correct rendering of the ritual, something more than a gathering of friends round the festive board; it taught us the duties we owe to the Great Architect of the Universe, to our Queen, our State, our laws, to love our friends, to pity and forgive our enemies, to become wiser and better men; and he added a caution to the brethren not to be so much anxious to know whom to bring into the lodge, but rather to be careful to know whom they should keep out of it, as it was desirable to make it a good lodge rather than a large one. W.M. Bro. Green: The next toast is "Bro. Mason." I should indeed have been pleased had it been possible, if some one possessed of greater influence than I am should have proposed his health, but, being in the chair, I can concede to no one the privilege of proposing the health of the Immediate P.M., Bro. Mason. You know his work, and you have testified to his satisfaction the manner in which you have recognised his services to you. I was in the lodge compelled to crave your indulgence for an emergency which it was impossible for any of us to foresee, namely, the non-arrival of the testimonial. I am happy to shew to you now that that difficulty has been overcome. This piece of vellum, beautifully illuminated, has arrived. It is inscribed thus:—"Presented by the members of the Elliot Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of England, No. 1567, held at the Railway Hotel, Feltham, Middlesex, to Bro. John Mason, the first Worshipful Master, as a token of their high esteem and brotherly regard, and as a slight recognition of the great services rendered by him to the lodge during his year of office. November, 1876." It is signed by all the members of the lodge. I do not think you require me to say anything more, but that with this testimonial before you, you will join with me in drinking Bro. Mason's very good health. Bro. Mason: Worshipful Master and brethren,—When I was initiated into Freemasonry—I was told I should learn all the secrets of Freemasonry in due time. Well, up to to-night I have been learning. A new secret has been revealed to me to-night. I scarcely can realise it. It brings before me particularly that everything passes away. The thought has been very strongly before me to-day that we are here but a short time. Twelve months seem to have gone by very quickly since I was put in this chair. Yet, it has passed merrily along. Members have been initiated. The Elliot Lodge, was then a thing to be wondered at, whether it would succeed or not. But the brethren rowed together with me, and we have pulled it through, and it has been a success. We have paid our way, we have paid our provincial lodge dues ahead, and we have still £46 of margin in hand. But still time passes away. The gavel, being the implement of power, as we all know, with me has become a thing of the past. Pardon me, brethren, I will do my duty as long as I belong to the Elliot Lodge, and like those geraniums that were pulled up this morning, those things of the past, those events of my year of office, if taken care of through the winter, may bud into life in the spring time, and become a multitude of efforts for the good of the Elliot Lodge. I have done my best in the chair, I would like

to revert to the subject of how you have treated me. I assure you when I endeavour to express my feelings for the manner in which you have approved of my conduct, I am led to think what am I that I should be so thought of. I remember at school I had a failure once as a boy. I had worked hard to attain a certain end, but I had not succeeded, and I remember that my father patted my head and said, "Never mind, my boy, you have done your best." And that has been a lesson to me through life, to do my best without reference to what the result may be. I have done my best, and I have already commenced to reap the fruits of my labours, and this (the P.M.'s jewel) has long been a coveted prize. It has been that apple on the tree that to my eye has appeared the most cherry-checked. It is said that such always has a grub in it. This has not; it is as fair and as sound as can be. It has been given to me not as an empty compliment, but from the hearts of friends as a memento of the past. I trust that this beautiful testimonial will be handed down in my family from generation to generation. These things for which I now thank you have all the more value because I am told there was not a single dissentient voice in the lodge when the presentation was decided upon. "Success to the Masonic Charities" and "The Health of the Officers of the Lodge" were then proposed and warmly responded to. The proceedings of the evening were enlivened by some excellent vocal music from Madame Ashton, Bro. H. Ashton, and Bro. Theodore Distin, Bro. Fountain Meen presiding at the pianoforte.

INSTRUCTION.

WOOLWICH.—Union Waterloo Lodge (No. 13).—Speech Day at Westminster we all know to be the day of days with Westminster boys. Some of us, too, can call to mind the occasion of our first appearance on a public platform, in the presence of an audience, albeit mainly composed of admiring mamas, sisters, and feminine cousins, sufficiently critical to fully test our self-confidence, and set our mind galloping back to such and such a passage we were by no means certain of mastering. To the boys generally Speech Day always has been, and is likely ever to be, a day of vital importance as the annual occasion on which the world is invited to come, test, and examine the reputed champions of the school. So it is, more or less, in a lodge of instruction, when upon the day set apart for that purpose the Masonic world is invited to assemble and hear the working of those excellent moral lessons—the Fifteen Sections of our Craft ritual. The home brethren, who take more than a passing interest in these matters, cannot help but feel that the honour of the lodge is more or less at stake upon these occasions, and it behoves them to put their best foot foremost in order to put as many of their own representatives in the field as possible. The Section night of the lodge under notice was Friday week. The officiating W.M. was Bro. Rose, P.M., who had for his S.W. Bro. Griffin, P.M., the J.W. chair being occupied by Bro. Guest, 158; Bro. Preceptor Davies, P.M., Sec.; Ernest Smith, 1559, S.D.; Brown, 13, J.D.; Joskey, 1107, I.G.; Hassall, 13, Tyler. Lodge having been duly opened in the First Degree, the W.M. was assisted as follows in the working of the

FIRST LECTURE.

- 1st Section, Bro. Ernest Smith, 1559.
- 2nd " " Waterman, S.D. 147.
- 3rd " " Ernest Smith, 1559.
- 4th " " Jenkins, 1475.
- 5th " " Rose, P.M., W.M. 1622.
- 6th " " ditto.
- 7th " " ditto.

Lodge was duly opened in the Second Degree, and the W.M. interrogated the following brethren in the

SECOND LECTURE.

- 1st Section, Bro. Ernest Smith, 1559.
- 2nd " " Hutchings, 147.
- 3rd " " Waterman, S.D. 147.
- 4th " " Rose, P.M., W.M. 1622.
- 5th " " ditto.

The brethren having assisted in opening in the Third Degree, the W.M. proceeded with the

THIRD LECTURE.

- 1st Section, Bro. Hutchings, 147.
- 2nd " " Griffin, P.M.
- 3rd " " Rose, W.M. 1622.

There was a fifteen minutes' call off for refreshment between the fourth and fifth sections of the second lecture, when the W.M., officers, and workers were entertained to some light refreshment. Upon the first rising of the W.M. eight new members were elected, and upon the third enquiry Bro. Preceptor Davis proposed, and Bro. Guest seconded, the customary vote of thanks to Bro. Rose for presiding, and the five brethren who had kindly assisted him in working the sections that evening. This was carried nem. com., and Bro. Rose replied. Lodge was then closed with perfect harmony, and the brethren separated after what had been to all an enjoyable evening's entertainment. We could not obtain a list of those present, but may state that the number very nearly approached seventy.

SOUTHWARK LODGE (No. 879).—There was the usual big gathering on Fifteen Section night, Wednesday, October 25th. Under the able direction of Bro. Kent, P.M. 879, the W.M. for the evening, the work was got through in very a creditable manner, the presence of Bro. Beavis, 1158, at the S.W. pedestal, greatly assisting the workers. The following is the carte d'ouvrage:—

FIRST LECTURE.

- 1st Section, Bro. W. S. Lugg, 879.
- 2nd " " Macrow, S.W. 879.
- 3rd " " Ernest Smith, 1559.
- 4th " " W. S. Lugg, 879.
- 5th " " Bartlett, P.M. 147.
- 6th " " Beavis 1158.

SECOND LECTURE.

- 1st Section, Bro. Wise, P.M. 1158.

- 2nd Section, Bro. Magee, J.W. 1178.
- 3rd " " Davidson, W.M. 99.
- 4th " " Beavis, 1158.
- 5th " " Magee, J.W. 1178.

THIRD LECTURE.

- 1st Section, Bro. Brewster, W.M. 879.
- 2nd " " Beavis, 1158.
- 3rd " " Davis, D.C. 879.

STAR LODGE (No. 1275).—It was somewhat unfortunate for the leading members of this exceptionally fine lodge of instruction that the day appointed for the working of the Fifteen Sections should have fallen immediately after the occasions of their working in the Wellington, Southwark, and Union Waterloo Lodges. Now granted that there are many—and more particularly this is the case with the staunch and regular attendants among the Star brethren—who are so deeply interested in our beautiful rituals as to be always delighted to listen to the Craft Catechism, it speaks well for that careful and painstaking Preceptor, Bro. Govan Macdonald, W.M. 1158, that the whole of the sections were taken by "Star" brethren, and, as an immediate contrast to what was the case on the preceding evening at Woolwich, "foreign aid" was not required. It was extremely judicious of the executive in fixing the hour of commencement for 6.30, and five minutes after the appointed time the W.M. and interregator, Bro. Shaw, Preceptor of the Pythagorean Lodge of Instruction, opened lodge, having as his S.W. Bro. Rose, and J.W. Bro. Griffin. It is needless to say that Bro. Shaw, who is perhaps the best section worker on the south side of the water, went through his duties to the satisfaction of all present; indeed, his clear and excellent delivery, the careful, deliberate, and explicit emphasis, deeply impressed those who now heard him for the first time. We were delighted to see the esteemed Preceptor, Bro. Macdonald, present for the first time since his severe illness. Appended is a list of the brethren present: Bros. John Shaw, W.M.; Rose, S.W.; Griffin, J.W.; Waterman, S.D.; Catterson, J.D.; Ernest Smith, I.G.; Hogg, P.M.; Treas.; Macdonald, Preceptor; Church, Assist. Sec.; Davies, P.M. 879; Hutchings, Speight, jun., Grumman, H. Shaw, Jenkins, Goldsmith, Hassall, Milbourn, Cobley, Kirby, Hutchings, Jardine, Boston, Pritchett, Lilley, Linneker, Ives, Gloster, Cowrie, Dootson, Thompson, Gibson, Carline, Bowen, Dixon, Chalinor, and Andrews. Upon the first rising of the W.M. the following brethren were unanimously elected members of this lodge:—Bros. J. Carline, Ravensbourne, 1601; J. J. Bowen, Harrow, 1310; and Chalinor, Perfect Ashlar 1178. The customary votes of thanks were accorded to the W.M., and the brethren assisting in working the sections, and about ten the lodge was closed with solemn prayer.

Royal Arch.

DOMATIC CHAPTER (No 177).—The first meeting of the season of this popular and prosperous chapter, which was founded in 1818, was held at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, on Thursday, the 26th ult. The convocation was opened by Comps. Hayward, M.E.Z.; Adams, P.Z., acting H.; Weaver, J.; Bolton, I.P.Z.; Buss, P.Z., &c., Treas.; Palmer, S.E.; Hill, N.; Cottebrune, P.Z., acting P.S. in the place of Comp. Treadwell, who is severely ill from the effects of an accident; Weaver, First Assist. In the course of the evening there were also present Comps. Payne, P.Z., and Foulger, P.Z. The visitors were Comps. Green, P.S. 975; Walls, 185; Kent, 192; Parish, 913. The minutes of the March convocation having been read and confirmed, the M.E.Z. vacated the chair, and Comp. Bolton, I.P.Z., with the able assistance of his talented staff of officers, exalted Bros. M. P. Tench, 153, &c.; T. Morris, 177; and T. Bolton, 1381, to the supreme degree of the Royal Arch. The interesting ceremony was most ably performed, and it was particularly pleasing to witness the "working" of Comp. T. Adams, who, notwithstanding his four score years and upwards, delivered the Second Principal's address in a manner that left nothing to be desired. There being no other business before the chapter, it was closed in ancient form, and the companions adjourned to the banquet, which was served in the saloon under the superintendence of Comp. Smith. The usual loyal and Royal Arch toasts were given from the chair very briefly, and they were duly honoured. "The Health of the M.E.Z." was proposed by the Father and Treasurer of the chapter, Comp. Buss. The M.E.Z., in reply, expressed his thanks, and stated that he was sorry that he had not had sufficient time to spare to perfect himself in the working of the Royal Arch Degree, but that he hoped eventually to be in a position to discharge the duties at least creditably; and in conclusion he thanked Comps. Bolton and Adams for the valuable aid that they had rendered him that evening. "The Health of the Newly-exalted Companions" followed, and was duly acknowledged in fitting terms by Comps. Tench, Morris, and Bolton. The M.E.Z. then proposed "The Visitors." This toast having been warmly received, Comps. Green, Walls, Parish, and Kent responded. The latter, in particular, expressed at length his admiration of the working of the ceremony of exaltation that day, which he said had left upon him a most profound impression. "The Health of the Past Principals of the Chapter" gave Comp. Buss an opportunity of indulging in one of his excellent and amusing replies. The toast of "The Treasurer and S.E., and the rest of the Officers," followed. The first named, in the course of his reply, stated that he was exceedingly pleased to be in a position to inform them that the funds of the chapter were in a flourishing condition, and he hoped that that happy state of things would long continue. In conclusion he said that his duties were rendered comparatively easy by the great assistance that he always received from Comp. Palmer, S.E. He trusted that the day was

not far distant when the chapter would have an opportunity of placing that zealous officer in the Third Principal's chair as a mark of their high appreciation of his long services as S.E., and that he hoped eventually to see him discharging the responsibilities of M.E.Z. Comp. Palmer, in his response, expressed his thanks for the very kind and handsome manner in which his name and humble services had been recognised both by the M.E.Z. and the last speaker. He could only assure them that he would always endeavour to carry out his duties faithfully, and should they at some future time be pleased to place him on the road to the goal of his ambition, namely, the First Principal's chair, that nothing should be wanting on his part to mark his gratitude for the honour conferred. Comp. Hill, N., and Comp. Weaver, First Assistant, also replied. Between the toasts Comps. Foulger, Tench, Palmer, and Walls vocally and dramatically enlivened the proceedings. Previously to the last toast, the M.E.Z. stated that their Janitor had presented them with gavel for use during their banquets, which emblems of office were made, he said, from some old oak, formerly belonging to the Church of St. Mary Somerset, Fish-street Hill, and that he (the M.E.Z.) should take an opportunity of mentioning the matter at the next convocation, which will be held on the last Thursday in November.

Mark Masonry.

PROVINCIAL GRAND MARK LODGE OF LEICESTERSHIRE.—At a special meeting of this Provincial Grand Lodge, held at the Freemasons' Hall, Leicester, the R.W. Bro. William Kelly, F.R. Hist. S., P.G.M.M., presided, and among those present were the V.W. Bro. Rev. William Langley, P.G.C., D.P.G.M.M.; Bros. W. Sculthorpe, as P.G.S.W.; J. C. Duncombe, as P.G.J.W.; J. M. McAllister, P.G. Sec.; H. T. Bobart, P.G.J.D.; M. H. Bobart, P.G.S.B.; T. A. Wykes, P.G.O.; R. Taylor, P.G.I.G.; E. Mason, P.G. Steward; C. E. Stretton, J. H. Biggs, A. M. Duff, P.M., and others. The Rev. Chas. Henton Wood was appointed Provincial Grand Chaplain, and invested with the collar of office. Committees were appointed to make the necessary arrangements for the reception of the M.W. the Earl of Limerick, G.M.M.M., and the officers of the Grand Mark Lodge. The R.W. Bro. William Kelly, who is now the Senior Provincial Grand Master on the roll of the Grand Mark Lodge, was nominated by the V.W. Bro. Langley, P.G.C., D.P.G.M.M., seconded by V. Bro. J. C. Duncombe, supported by Bro. A. M. Duff, and elected unanimously to continue the discharge of the high and important duties of Provincial Grand Mark Master. Bro. Kelly's zeal and attachment to the sublime mysteries of the Craft are still in all their freshness. His works have for many years been prominently before the brethren, and his services as Provincial Grand Mark Master cannot be overrated. The Provincial Grand Lodge was closed in ample form, and the Fowke Lodge, No. 19, was opened under the presidency of Bro. George Toller, jun., I.P.M., in the absence of Bro. Clement Stretton, W.M., who recently met with an unfortunate accident. In company with Bro. Barfoot (Mayor of Leicester) Bro. Stretton was visiting the palace of the Doges at Venice, when he slipped on the marble pavement of the Piazza, and broke his arm near the shoulder. The accident excited much sympathy among the brethren, and an expression of deep regret for the unlucky cause of his absence from the meeting was recorded in the minutes of the lodge.

PROVINCIAL GRAND MARK LODGE OF CORNWALL.—The Provincial Grand Mark Lodge of Cornwall was held on Tuesday, the 7th inst., at Truro. A large number of members were present. The R.W. Bro. Sir Frederick M. Williams, Bart., M.P., was in the chair, with R.W. Bro. W. J. Hughton, P.G.W. of England, as Deputy Prov. G.M. (in the unavoidable absence of Bro. R. Rogers, through illness). A large number of members were present belonging to the six lodges in the province. The officers appointed were Bros. William Tweedy, 78, D. Prov. G.M.; Rev. W. H. Bloxsome, M.A., 175, S. Prov. G.W.; John Paull, 101, J. Prov. G.W.; John Coombe, 87, Prov. G.M.O.; J. H. Reynolds, 73, Prov. G.S.O.; T. C. Polglaze, 94, Prov. G.J.O.; Rev. A. H. Ferris, 78, Prov. G. Chaplain; William Tregay, 73, Prov. G. Treas.; William Lake, 78, Prov. G. Reg.; William James Johns, 78, Prov. G. Sec.; J. Q. James, 175, Prov. G.S.D.; Thomas Taylor, 175, Prov. G.J.D.; Samuel Mitchell, 101, Prov. G.S. of Wks.; Samuel Harvey, 78, Prov. G.D.C.; G. M. Cock, 73, Prov. A. G.D.C.; Captain Mitchell, 78, Prov. G.S.B.; R. A. Heath, 73, Prov. G. Org.; William Rooks, 78, Prov. G. Purst.; Bros. Thomas Davey, 73; G. B. Pearce, 87; W. Johns, 94; Prov. G. Stewards; John Langdon, 78, Prov. G. Tyler. The W.M.'s gave in their report, shewing 216 members in Cornwall of the Degree of Mark Master Mason, and all spoke in the highest terms of the future of Mark Masonry in the county. The W. Bro. William James Johns, P.M. 78, &c., was appointed Prov. Grand Secretary in place of W. Bro. Thomas Solomon, J.P., &c., deceased. The R.W. Bro. Sir F. M. Williams, Bart., M.P., was received most enthusiastically by the brethren.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.—The sudden changes, frequent fog, and prevailing dampness sorely impede the vital functions and conduce to ill-health. The remedy for these disasters lies in some purifying medicine, like these PILLS, which is competent to grapple with the mischief at its source, and stamp it out without fretting the nerves or weakening the system. Holloway's Pills extract from the blood all noxious matters, regulate the action of every disordered organ, stimulate the liver and kidneys, and relax the bowels. In curing chest complaints these PILLS are remarkably effective, especially when aided by friction of the Ointment on its walls. This double treatment will ensure a certain, steady, and beneficent progress, and sound health will soon be re-established.—ADV.

GRAND LODGE OF SCOTLAND.

The quarterly communication of the Grand Lodge of Scotland was held on the 6th inst., at 5 p.m., in the Freemasons' Hall, George-street, Edinburgh. The throne was occupied by Sir Michael Shaw Stewart, Bart., the Most Worshipful Grand Master Mason of Scotland, who was supported by Bro. William Mann, P.G.W., acting R.W. Senior Grand Warden; William Hay, R.W. Senior G.D., acting R.W. Senior G.W. On the dais were Bros. Henry Inglis, of Torsonce, P.S.G.M.; Colonel Campbell, of Blythswood, Prov. G.M. of Renfrewshire East; Lauderdale Maitland, of Eccles, P.G.M. Dumfriesshire; Captain Harriott of Killmore, P.G.M. of Wigtownshire; J. H. Neilson, P.P.G.M. Venezuela; John Laurie, Grand Sec.; Dr. J. T. Loth, Representative of the Grand Orient of France; Rev. A. Thomson Grant, V.W. Grand Chaplain; Alexander Hay, Grand Jeweller; John Coghill, Grand Director of Ceremonies; C. W. Miller, Grand Director of Music; Daniel Robertson, Grand Bible Bearer; Robert Davidson, Grand Organist; W. Officer, Grand Deacon; D. M. Neilson, W.M. 3 bis; George McDonald, W.M. 73, Thistle and Rose; Wm. Thomas, S.W. 103, Union and Crown; W. Hart, W.M. 178, Scotia; P. Hepburn, S.W.; A. Thomson, W.M. 333, St. George; D. Harley, S.W. 354, Caledonian Railway; J. M. Oliver, S.W. 360, Commercial; Adam Rutherford, S.W. 362, St. Clair; William Harper, W.M.; Wm. Bilsland, S.W. 408, Clyde; Jas. Louttit, W.M.; Andrew Holms, J.W. 413, Athole; J. S. Scott, W.M.; James Simpson, S.W. 410, Neptune; Wm. Phillips, W.M., and T. Phillips, J.W. 556, Clydesdale; Robert Aikman, W.M. 570, Kenmuir; and W. Bickerton ("Freemason"). The lodge having been opened and raised to the Sublime Degree, the Grand Master read a letter from the Lord Provost of Glasgow in regard to the visit of the Prince of Wales, dated 28th Oct., 1876. The Lord Provost wrote:—

"Dear Sir Michael,—On behalf of my brother Magistrates and myself, I beg respectfully to convey to the several Masonic bodies who took part in the proceedings connected with the laying of the foundation stone of the new Post Office by the Prince and Princess of Wales on the 17th inst., our hearty sense of the value of your and their services. That, notwithstanding the unpropitious nature of the weather, the several lodges should have carried out with so much steadiness and good temper the various arrangements in which they had to take part was most gratifying, and we only regret that after coming—some of them from great distances—to show their loyalty at much cost and sacrifice of personal comfort they were not favoured with better weather."

Sir Michael also stated that he had been highly pleased with the turn-out on the occasion referred to; and Bro. Inglis then proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the Grand Master. (Cheers.) He was sure the great Craft had lost nothing of its dignity that day. (Applause.)

The Grand Master, in returning thanks, said that the proceedings had given him great anxiety beforehand. He had had no fear but that the Masons would do their work well, but great difficulties had to be overcome. The Grand Secretary and the office-bearers in Glasgow, however, took considerable trouble with the arrangements. They were made as complete as possible; and, notwithstanding the inclemency of the weather, he considered it had been a most successful day. (Cheers.) He was sure the Masonic part of the ceremony would never be forgotten by those who had taken part in it. (Applause.)

The Grand Master afterwards intimated the death of the Most Hon. the Marquis of Tweeddale, K.S., R.W.P.G.M., and an expression of regret was ordered to be recorded in the minutes for the loss sustained by Grand Lodge.

Bro. Henry Inglis said he had not the slightest fear but that the motion he had to submit would be adopted unanimously. It was that Sir Michael Shaw-Stewart be elected for another year. (Cheers.)

The Grand Master said he was very much obliged for the kind manner in which his nomination had been submitted and received. He could only say that his best services were at the disposal of Grand Lodge for another year. (Cheers.) He only hoped he would have the same kind support which he had had hitherto. (Renewed cheers.)

The following office bearers were then elected unanimously:—R.W. Past Grand Master, the Right Hon. the Earl of Rosslyn; R.W. Depute Grand Master, Henry Inglis of Torsonce; R.W. Substitute Grand Master, Colonel A. C. Campbell of Blythswood; R.W. Senior Grand Warden, the Right Hon. Lord Rosehill; R.W. Junior Grand Warden, the Right Hon. Lord Ramsay.

The Grand Committee proposed that Bro. D. Kinnear be appointed Senior Grand Deacon.

Bro. Hepburn, S.W. Scotia Lodge, 171, moved as an amendment that Bro. D.M. Nelson, R.W.M., Lodge 34, should be appointed to this office.

Bro. William Phillips, R.W.M., Clydesdale Lodge 556, said that it was but right that such an important province as Glasgow should have some representation in Grand Lodge. (Cheers.) He was quite sure that Bro. Nelson would not only do his duty, but reflect credit on the office. (Cheers.)

A vote was afterwards taken, when it was seen that 84 were in favour of Bro. Nelson, and 57 for Bro. Kinnear. The announcement was received with cheers by the brethren from the western province.

Bro. Samuel Hay (Union Bank) and Bro. John Laurie were proposed for the offices of Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary respectively.

Bro. Adam Thomson, Proxy Master 262, objected to the reappointment of those office-bearers, on the ground that it might be of great advantage to infuse some new blood into these departments. The Grand Treasurer he contended annually violated the rules, and the Secretary

had neglected his duties by not replying to a greater number of communications from daughter lodges.

Bro. D. M. Nelson stated that at the Provincial Grand Lodge of Glasgow several statements had been made concerning Bro. Laurie, and a letter had been handed to him which had been prepared by a committee appointed to bring the matter before the Grand Lodge. He suggested that this letter be read.

The Grand Master had no hesitation in saying that matters in the Secretary's department were not in a satisfactory state, and he would use every endeavour to get them remedied.

Bro. George Macdonald, W.M. 73, Thistle and Rose Lodge, asked whether Bro. Laurie was not being made the scapegoat for the Grand Lodge. As far as complaints from Glasgow were concerned, he believed it was not so much Bro. Laurie who was to blame as the Grand Lodge.

Bro. Laurie, Grand Secretary, said he had listened with considerable pain to the statements which had been made, but he would not take up time rebutting them, as he might do. In going over these matters, whilst condemning what had not been done, they had overlooked what he really did do. (Hear hear, and applause.) Anyone in his position was entitled to at least some consideration, or at any rate fair play. A number of the brethren present were in a position to prove from their own knowledge of the facts that the labours of the Grand Lodge were immensely more than any single individual could possibly superintend and discharge correctly. (Cheers.) From early on Monday morning until late on Saturday night following he was scarcely ever absent from the office, and the whole of his time was taken up in attending to the interests of the Grand Lodge; and even then it was utterly impossible to overtake the labours imposed upon him. Very few were aware of the enormous amount of work required to be discharged in his department, and the consequence was that many communications could not be replied to. He would prepare a statement in his own justification, which would be submitted to the Grand Lodge.

It was ultimately agreed to appoint Bro. D. Kinnear as interim cashier.

The appointments were otherwise agreed to, and the other office-bearers elected were V.W. Joint Grand Chaplains, the Rev. W. H. Gray, D.D., and the Rev. A. Thomson Grant; V.W. Junior Grand Deacon, Colonel Wilson of Bannockburn; V.W. Architect, W. Hay; Worshipful Grand Jeweller, A. Hay; Worshipful Grand Bible Bearer, D. Robertson; Worshipful Grand Director of Ceremonies, J. Coghill; Worshipful Grand Bard, J. Ballantine; Worshipful Grand Sword Bearer, Captain G. F. R. Colt of Gartsherrie; Worshipful Grand Director of Music, C. W. M. Muller; Worshipful Grand Organist, R. Davidson; Worshipful Grand Marshal, Captain W. Hills, Edinburgh Rifle Volunteers; Worshipful Grand Tyler, W. J. Bryce; Worshipful Outer Guard, J. Baikie.

Board of Grand Stewards.—President, F. S. Melville; Vice-President, John Haig; Manager of Locomotive Arrangements, J. McLare, N.B.R.; Bros. J. Turner, A. N. Clarke, William Mann, 137; Charles Mackenzie, George Bryce Brown, A. Mitchell, Duncan Monteith, Dr. John T. Loth, Alex. Ballantine, J. Wallace, F. L. Law, H. Y. D. Copland, Wm. Smith, Colonel David Guthrie of Carlogie, William Barton, Geo. McLean, Geo. Lyon, Richard Wilson, David Small, Dr. George Dickson, Thomas Swinton, C. F. Matier, J. Macduff, J. Goodis, G. F. Roger, F. B. Niblett, Malcolm McNab, T. Field, A. Thomson, Gilbert Farie, J. H. Neilson, Geo. Miller, H. Munro, Alex. Henry, J. J. Muirhead, D. Thomson, R. Dudgeon, R. S. Brown, J. Dunlop, W.S.; J. Mackie, J. Berry, Andrew Addison, A. Henry, T. Halket, G. Robertson, H. R. Hendrie, J. Bell of Castle Creavie, W.S.; J. Walker, T. Ford, G. G. Russell, W. Caldwell, Henry Welsh, Robert White, J. A. Breysig, A. Muirhead, W. L. Mair, J. Fleming, E. Sellentin, H. E. Gordon, Major E. H. Ryan, H. J. Coventry, W.S.; W. H. Mackenzie, T. Mansfield, R. F. Shaw Stewart, E. P. Albert, W. Stevenson, J. Masterton, W. McDonald, John Bryce, A. Duff, W. Smith, J. K. Smart, A. J. Stephenson, R. Morrison, A. M.K. Millman, A. Scott, J. Addison, W. Smith.

On the recommendation of the Grand Lodge, charters, on petition, were granted to the following lodges:—"Bruce," Frickheim; "Athole," Kimberley, Griqualand; "Albert Edward," Polmadie; "Kindred Hope," Nasse-rabad, Rajpootana.

The Right Hon. Earl of Mar and Kellie was nominated as representative of the Grand Lodge of the Netherlands; Bro. W. Officer, P.G.D., for Egypt; Bro. D. Murray Lyon for West Virginia; Bro. D. Kinnear, Louisiana; the Right Hon. Lord Iverurie for Missouri; and Bro. Daniel Robertson for South Carolina.

A motion by Bro. John Monro, W.M. 360 Commercial, in regard to the raising of fees, was continued till next quarterly communication, in consequence of his unavoidable absence. The Grand Lodge was afterwards closed in ample form.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF GLASGOW.

The quarterly communication of the Prov. G. Lodge of Glasgow was held on Thursday, the 2nd inst., in St. Mark's Hall, Buchanan-street, Bro. Barrow, D.P.G.M., presiding. Bro. D. M. Nelson, R.W.M. Lodge St. John's, acted as S.W.; and Bro. George Macdonald, R.W.M. Lodge Thistle and Rose, as J.W. After Bro. Morgan, Interim Secretary, had read the minutes of the previous meeting, which were confirmed, Bro. Dr. Morton was installed as Provincial Grand Junior Warden. A report was given in from the New Hall Committee, in which it was shown that the want of a hall in the province of Glasgow was now being recognised by the brethren of the province. The Grand Lodge billet of business was next taken up, when special reference was made to Bro.

Harriott's motion, and to the management of Grand Lodge affairs and the conduct of officials. After a considerable amount of discussion a committee was appointed, on a motion by Bro. Munro, R.W.M., to protest against the indifference paid by the Grand Lodge to the interests of Masons in the province, and present it at the meeting of the Grand Lodge in Edinburgh on Monday. After discussing this motion it was agreed to consecrate Lodge Plantation on the 13th inst. at 4 p.m. This concluded the business.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF RENFREWSHIRE EAST.

The Quarterly meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Renfrewshire East was held on Saturday evening, the 4th inst., in the hall of Lodge Renfrew County Kilwinning, No. 370, Paisley. There was a large attendance. Bro. Colonel Campbell, of Blythswood, P.G.M., presided, and was supported by Bro. J. Caldwell, S.M. Bro. James Gilmour occupied the Senior Warden's chair, and Bro. J. Peter, the Junior Warden's. A communication was read from the Secretary of the Grand Lodge, stating that he had been commanded by the Grand Master, Sir Michael R. Shaw Stewart, Bart., to express his regret that at the recent ceremonial in Glasgow he had been unable to address the brethren, and he wished to convey to the various lodges his great satisfaction at the large turn-out of the brethren, and his thanks for the support they had given him on that occasion. The Provincial Grand Master then said that it must have been to the brethren as it had been to him and every one else a sad disappointment that the weather had been so unfavourable on the occasion of the recent visit of their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales to Glasgow. He did not think that the West of Scotland had ever seen a grander turn-out of the brethren. He could assure them that both His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales and Her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales had expressed to him their great regret that the weather should be so unfortunately bad. Her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales had written to his wife to tell her how much gratified she had been with everything done for the reception of their Royal Highnesses in Glasgow, Renfrew, and at Blythswood, and with the manner in which the Freemasons had conducted themselves in Glasgow. Bro. James Gilmour, S.W., said that it must be a matter of gratification to the Masonic body to learn that their services had been so highly appreciated. To their Provincial Grand Master, Col. Campbell, they were exceedingly indebted for the noble manner in which he had entertained the Right Worshipful the Grand Master of Freemasons, the Prince of Wales, at Blythswood, and he moved that a minute to that effect be recorded in the minutes of the Provincial Grand Lodge. Bro. Jas. Caldwell, S.M., seconded the motion, which was unanimously agreed to. It was also agreed that Bro. Colonel Campbell should send an excerpt of the letter written by the Princess of Wales to the Hon. Mrs. Campbell to be engrossed in the minutes of the lodge. Several motions which were to be submitted to the Grand Lodge were then considered, but were received unfavourably.

GLASGOW.—Consecration of Lodge Dramatic.—On Wednesday afternoon, 1st inst., the Provincial Grand Lodge met in the hall, 213, Buchanan-street, for the purpose of consecrating Lodge Dramatic, No. 571, on the roll of the Grand Lodge of Scotland, Bro. W. J. E. Dobson, W.M. There was a large attendance of brethren, and Bro. Barrow, acting I.P.M., presided. The P.G.D.M. having been asked to consecrate the lodge, formally opened the Provincial Grand Lodge, and after devotional exercises, conducted by the P.G. Chaplain, the charter granted in favour of Lodge Dramatic was read, and the provisional office-bearers presented. The P.G. Director of Ceremonies then, by instruction of the P.G.M., proclaimed the lodge; and after a service of praise, the business terminated.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Commercial (No. 360).—The annual meeting of this lodge was held on Friday, the 3rd inst., in the lodge-room, Hope-street, Glasgow, Bro. J. Munro, W.M., presiding. After the Second Degree had been worked by Bro. J. M. Oliver, Senior Warden, it was agreed to hold a festival to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the formation of the lodge, and a committee was appointed to carry out the arrangements. The following office-bearers, who were nominated at the previous meeting of the lodge, were then declared duly elected:—Bros. John Munro, W.M.; J. M. Oliver, D.M.; James Colquhoun, S.M.; Wm. Finlay, S.W.; Robert Reid, J.W.; George Scott, Treas.; John Smith, Sec.; Wm. Keiller, S.D.; Alex. Paterson, J.D.; George Macpherson, John Clark, B.B.; J. M. Duncan, D. of C.; Robert Brodie, D. of Music; Wm. Mar, President of Stewards; Alex. Burnet, I.G.; Bros. Mitchell and Robert Paterson, Auditors. The installation ceremony was then proceeded with by Bro. Davidson, P.M.; and Bro. G. W. Wheeler, Chaplain. Lodge 73, gave the final charge. A vote of thanks was accorded those brethren for the manner in which they had conducted the business, and in reply, they complimented the brethren on the flourishing condition of the lodge, and in their having again secured the services of so popular a Master as Bro. Munro. A Committee of Management was afterwards appointed, and the lodge was then closed.

CONSECRATION OF THE CANTERBURY LODGE, No. 1635.

On Thursday, 2nd inst., the Canterbury Lodge, No. 1635, was formally consecrated, constituted, and dedicated by Lord Skelmersdale, Deputy Grand Master, and Provincial Grand Master of West Lancashire, at the Masonic Hall, 33, Golden-square. The lodge is intended to hold a distinguished position in the Craft, and the names of the brethren who were present at the inauguration ceremony, most of whom are enrolled as members, are sufficient

evidence that this intention will be carried out. The lodge was launched amid all the elements of success, having trusty and true brethren in all its offices, competent ceremonial workers, an accomplished Organist, a high class organ, a skilful Master of Ceremonies, and the prettiest and most perfect lodge-room in London. The members of the lodge are brethren who are zealous for the honour of Masonry, and their sponsorship for intending initiates must be a guarantee for the most eligible candidates being admitted to participate in the light of the Masonic mysteries through this lodge. The hall at 33, Golden-square, has already had secured to it by the proprietary's management the highest position as a Masonic centre, and the Canterbury Lodge, following in the track of the Bayard, the Friends in Council, and other eminent lodges which meet there, will add to the lustre it has so justly acquired. The long list of brethren and gentlemen of high social position which was proposed on Thursday at the conclusion of the lodge business for joining and initiation, affords ground for believing that there is yet room for more lodges of a similar character to the Canterbury Lodge being yet established at the same place, and we do not doubt that on representation duly made to the M.W.G.M., His Royal Highness will have no hesitation in granting warrants for such worthy additions to the roll of the Grand Lodge of England.

Lord Skelmersdale arrived at the hall at the time appointed, and the brethren were immediately marshalled by Major Shadwell Clerke, who undertook the duties of Master of the Ceremonies. The brethren present were Bros. John Chynoweth, P.G. Steward; Col. H. S. Somerville Burney, W.M. 1615, P.S.G.D. Essex; N. Locock Webb, P.G.D.; Canon Harford; Dr. W. C. Grigg; Edwin M. Lott, P.P.G.J.W. Jersey; H. Evill; Gordan Adam; Thos. Holme Davis; Wm. Holme Davis; James Keene, P.M.; Capt. Phillips, P.M. 1383; John H. Scott, P.M. 271; Capt. Chas. Compton, S.D. 1615; Richd. P. Leeson, S.W. 1615; Francis C. Compton, Org. 1615; Dr. H. Sutherland, P.M. 1118; Robt. Fyers, S.D. 1615; Major Shadwell Clerke, W.M. 1383, 1615; Capt. W. F. Portlock Dajson, Sec. 1615; John Hervey, G. Sec.; and H. Massey ("Freemason").

Bro. John Chynoweth opened the lodge, having Lord Skelmersdale on his left and the Rev. Canon Harford on his right. Bro. John H. Scott occupied the chair of S.W., and Dr. Sutherland that of J.W.; Bro. Keene was Secretary; Bro. E. M. Lott, Organist; Canon Harford, Chaplain; and Major Shadwell Clerke, M.C. Bro. Keene also acted as I.G.

After the lodge had been opened in the three degrees, Lord Skelmersdale succeeded Bro. Chynoweth in the chair, and proceeded to consecrate the lodge. Canon Harford added more than ordinary impressiveness to the ceremony by his pointed delivery of the prayer and invocations, which were given without reference to a single written document. The scripture portions were also eloquently read by the rev. brother, and no opportunity was lost of imparting to the ceremony the most solemn and religious character. The only cause for regret was that with such an able Chaplain in the lodge there was no oration by that brother, as had there been, no doubt it would have compared favourably with any of those literary compositions.

When the ceremony of consecration had been completed Lord Skelmersdale, addressing the brethren, said that he greatly regretted that numerous engagements forbade him staying in the lodge any longer. He must, therefore, be debarred from participating in the pleasure of witnessing the installation of the W.M. or joining the brethren at the banquet. But it had given him great pleasure to be present and perform the ceremony of consecration, and he wished the lodge which had just been dedicated every prosperity.

The Rev. Dr. Robbins said that before his lordship retired he must, on behalf of the lodge, go somewhat out of the usual order at that period of the proceedings to thank the Deputy Grand Master sincerely for having attended, and so impressively consecrated the lodge. It was a great honour his lordship had done the lodge, and it was, moreover, a great personal kindness to himself (Dr. Robbins). He hoped, and all the brethren hoped, that Lord Skelmersdale would allow them to enrol him as an honorary member of the Canterbury Lodge.

Lord Skelmersdale thanked Dr. Robbins, and said he should accept the honour with pleasure.

His lordship then retired, and Bro. Chynoweth took the chair.

Major Shadwell Clerke presented the Rev. J. Robbins, D.D., W.M. designate, for installation, and Bro. Chynoweth formally installed him in the chair of K.S.

The officers invested were Bros. the Rev. Canon Harford, Westminster Abbey, S.W.; James Keene, J.W.; Dr. Grigg, S.D.; H. Evill, J.D.; Thomas Holme Davies, Sec.; Gordan Adam, I.G.; E. M. Lott, Org.; Col. Somerville Burney, to act as P.M.; Bro. Evill, to act as Treas. pro tem; Major Shadwell Clerke, M.C.; and George Austin, Tyler.

Bro. Chynoweth afterwards delivered the addresses.

The W.M. then rose and said that the first duty that devolved upon him was to propose a resolution in which he was sure all the brethren would most heartily concur. They had been most fortunate that evening in securing the services of so eminent a brother in Freemasonry as the Deputy Grand Master, and it would be as pleasing to the whole of the brethren to pass as, it was to him (the W.M.) to propose, a vote of thanks to his lordship for attending to consecrate the lodge. He, therefore, proposed that vote of thanks.

The S.W. seconded the motion, and said that all the brethren must feel that they were greatly indebted to Lord Skelmersdale for what he had done.

The motion was then put and carried unanimously.

The W.M. next proposed a vote of thanks to the other brethren who had assisted, among them Bro. Chynoweth,

who had so ably performed the duties of Installing Master. He was sure that there must be a very great difficulty in committing the varied charges to memory so as to deliver them with such accuracy as Bro. Chynoweth had done. They had also to thank Major Shadwell Clerke for his ability, and for displaying that courtesy which was so habitual to him. To that wonderful skill in organisation which was part of his nature the brethren were indebted for the smooth and regular way in which everything had gone that evening. The consecration had been the most impressive of ceremonies, they must all admit, that they had ever seen in their lives. That was mainly due to Major Shadwell Clerke. He must also say, en passant, that for the way in which the Chaplain had performed his duties the brethren could not thank him sufficiently. He would include in his vote of thanks, therefore Bros. Chynoweth, Major Shadwell Clerke, Bro. Locock Webb, Bro. John Hervey, and Bro. Scott, all of whom had contributed to the great success of the evening's ceremony.

Colonel Burney seconded the vote, which was thereupon put and carried.

The W.M. then said that he had already asked Lord Skelmersdale to accept honorary membership of the lodge, and his lordship had expressed his willingness to do so. He now would ask the other brethren who had assisted to accept the same position, and he would, therefore, move that Grand Secretary, Bro. Locock Webb, Bro. Chynoweth, Captain Phillips, Major Shadwell Clerke, Bro. Lott, and Dr. Sutherland, be elected honorary members of the lodge. He would take them en bloc to save time.

The J.W. seconded the motion, and the brethren passed it nem. con.

Bro. Locock Webb, G.C., in acknowledging the compliment said he could not allow the proceedings to go further without asking permission to return thanks for the honour which had been done to himself and the other brethren by this vote of the lodge. The lodge had been good enough to mention his name for two reasons, first of all for his coming on that occasion, and they had been good enough to say that they were obliged to him for it; but really he had to thank the W.M. for his kindness in inviting him, for he felt very much honoured indeed by the invitation; secondly the lodge had done him the honour to elect him an honorary member; and he accepted that honour with the greatest thanks. Grand Secretary had been good enough to request him to accept another, that of returning thanks for him. Grand Secretary felt the honour done him as much as he (Bro. Locock Webb) did; and it was only his natural diffidence, and that his heart was too full to give utterance to his feelings that he (Grand Secretary) did not return thanks for himself.

Bro. Chynoweth, responding for himself, said he was exceedingly thankful to the brethren for the honour they had conferred on him by electing him an honorary member, and for the very courteous terms in which the W.M. had proposed the vote of thanks for the assistance he had been able to render. He was sorry that in the opening ceremony he was not very fluent; but he had been called unexpectedly to act, otherwise he would have been au fait to the work. A man got naturally a little rusty by laying by, and there would then unavoidably be a little hesitation in his performance of the ceremonies. It was not often one had the opportunity of practising them, and he must beg the brethren's indulgence for any imperfections he had fallen into.

Major Shadwell Clerke thanked the W.M. and the lodge for the kind compliment they had paid him, and assured the brethren of the pleasure it had given him to be of any service to them.

Propositions for initiation and joining were afterwards taken, and a committee was appointed to frame the by-laws; after which lodge was closed, and adjourned to the 14th inst.

The brethren subsequently partook of banquet at the Cafe Royal, Regent-street, and the customary toasts were honoured before they separated for the evening.

[The above appeared in the Second Edition of last week.]

ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

The monthly meeting of the Committee of this Institution was held on Wednesday at Freemason's Hall, Bro. Col. Creton presiding. There were also present Bros. John Constable, J. T. Stevens, W. Hale, C. A. Cottebrune, James Brett, A. H. Tattershall, John Newton, Thos. W. White, S. Rawson, Charles Lacey, A. J. D. Filer, F. Adlard, Robert W. Little, W. Stephens, George Bolton, Dr. Jabez Hogg, W. Hyde Pullen, J. A. Farnfield, Rich. Hervé Girard, John Hirst, jun., L. Stean, John M. Redwell, J. R. Gallant, Thomas Fenn, H. Massey ("Freemason") and James Terry (Secretary). After the confirmation of the minutes, Bro. Terry stated that he had applied to Lord Skelmersdale as to the Chairman for the Festival of 1877, and had received an answer from his lordship, in which he advised him to apply to Bro. Collins, Equerry to Prince Leopold. He did so, and received a reply stating his Royal Highness's willingness in that respect, but that as the date was so far distant he could give no definite reply. Bro. Terry stated that he had no doubt Prince Leopold will take the chair.

The Warden's report was received, and the Committee who had visited the Institution expressed their gratification at the style in which they found all the arrangements there.

On application from the widow of a deceased annuitant for half her late husband's annuity, the same was granted. This is the first case which has occurred under the increased grant.

A letter was read from a brother at Boston, raising the novel point of whether the widow of a Freemason, who after her first husband's death married a non-Mason, also

now deceased, was eligible to come on the fund, she being in other respects qualified.

Bro. John G. Stevens said that his opinion on the point was that under the circumstances stated in the letter which had been read, a widow would not be entitled to be placed on the list. He did not wish to say anything which would prejudice this particular case, but viewing the subject as a general one, it appeared to him that there was no ground for saying that such a case was eligible. The laws of the Institution were plain and distinct with regard to those who might be placed on the funds, and unless those laws were altered the case mentioned could not be accepted. If this widow had remained a widow, there would have been no question as to her eligibility, but she ceased to have that status when she married her second husband, who happened not to be a Mason, and therefore she had no claim upon the Institution. Of course the brethren might alter the laws if they liked, but the laws were now against the case of this widow.

Bro. L. Stean adopted this view, but Bros. S. Rawson and R. H. Giraud held that on the death of the second husband the character of widow of the first husband revived.

Bro. A. J. Duff Filer wished to put a supposititious case. If a widow of a Mason became an annuitant of the Institution, and after enjoying her annuity for a time, married a non-Mason, her annuity would cease. Then, if the second husband died, she would neither have her annuity re-established nor be re-elected as an annuitant. (Hear, hear.)

Bro. R. H. Giraud then moved, and Bro. S. Rawson seconded, that such a candidate should be eligible.

The motion was put to the committee, but lost by an overwhelming majority.

The petitions of three brethren and four widows were then received and passed, as was also the petition of a widow for half her late husband's annuity.

Bro. James Terry having retired from the room,

The Chairman said that the next business on the agenda paper was the consideration of a motion of which he had himself given notice, and he felt that very few words would be necessary to render his motion acceptable to the brethren. The motion of which he had given notice was that the salary of the Secretary be increased. The Secretary had done his work exceedingly well (Hear, hear), and the funds of the Institution had increased mainly through his exertions. Therefore, the time, he thought, had arrived when the brethren ought to give their Secretary some substantial recognition of his services. He need not say any more in praise of the Secretary; had it been necessary he could easily have done so, because he believed he saw as much of the Secretary and the performance of the secretarial duties as most brethren who subscribed to the Institution; and he could assert, without fear of contradiction, speaking as he did the honest truth, that when the Secretary was not in the office, he was engaged in some good work for the benefit of the Institution. (Hear, hear.) He would conclude by proposing, in the words of his notice, "That in consideration of the large sums collected mainly by the great additional amount of work in the office of the Secretary, his salary be increased £100 from the 1st of January, 1876."

Bro. John Constable seconded the motion, which was then put and carried unanimously.

Bro. Terry having been called in,

The Chairman, addressing him, said he had great pleasure in informing him that by a unanimous vote of the committee his salary had been increased £100 per annum from the 1st of January last. He must congratulate him on having received such a recognition of his great exertions on behalf of the institution, and he hoped that for many years it would have the benefit of his services. (Hear hear.)

Bro. Terry said he need not tell the chairman and brethren that he was very pleased indeed to hear what the chairman had told him, and it enhanced his pleasure to hear that the vote just passed had been unanimous. That to a very great extent made it of double and treble its value. He might add that most of the brethren were aware he had laboured to the best of his ability for the institution for the thirteen years that he had been connected with it. To have received this mark of approbation totally unsolicited by himself was a very great compliment, and one which he should always appreciate highly. If he had always health and strength he should endeavour to act as strenuously in the future as he had in the past, and he hoped he should always have the same cordial assistance and kindly feelings of the brethren as he had hitherto experienced. (Hear hear.)

The Chairman next said the business they had now to consider was a recommendation of the Finance Committee that the salary of the clerk in the office, Mr. Knill, be increased £20 a year. It had not only been recommended by the Finance Committee, but was supported by the Secretary, who had the best opportunity of seeing how Mr. Knill performed his duties. The Secretary said that he was a good young fellow, who was worthy of the proposed increase. He (the Chairman) would propose that the clerk's salary be increased £20 a year from the 1st of December.

Bro. Thos. W. White seconded the proposition. Carried nem. con.

Bro. Terry observed that Mr. Knill was a very efficient officer, and it afforded him much pleasure to speak in his favour.

The committee then adjourned.

Lord Elcho has received a reply from the Home Secretary to the memorial of the Metropolitan Municipal Association, promising to give consideration to the subject of the government of London.

METROPOLITAN MASONIC BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION.

This Association, which has now been twelve months in existence, was formed under the auspices of the Metropolitan Lodge of Instruction, No. 1056, to enable any member of the Craft, lady or Lewis, to become a life subscriber or a life governor of the Institutions for Aged Freemasons and Widows of Freemasons, and for Sons and Daughters of Decayed Freemasons, by payment of the small sum of 1s. per week. The subscriptions from time to time received are appropriated by ballot among the members of the Association on the first Friday in every month, at the Portugal Hotel, 1155, Fleet-street, at 8.30 in the evening, after the closing of the Lodge of Instruction.

At the meeting in October last the Honorary Secretary, Bro. W. W. Snelling, referring to the bye-law of the Association which required a member to pay all subscriptions from April last, stated that this bye-law had greatly retarded the progress of the Association—two members only having joined the Association since this bye-law was passed. He, therefore, moved that such alterations should be made in the bye-laws as would enable a person to join at any time, and to commence his subscriptions on the day of his election, and after some discussion the motion was carried unanimously.

At a meeting in November the minutes of the preceding meeting were confirmed, thus rendering the Association a permanent one, and this will, we trust, be the means of largely increasing the number of members, and further benefitting our charitable institutions.

Bro. Snelling congratulated the members upon the success of the Association since its formation, and announced that during the first year seventy-eight shares had been taken, and £152 17s. received as subscriptions thereon, which had been appropriated by ballot among thirty members. Fourteen of the successful members would become life governors of the institution for Aged Freemasons; two life subscribers of the Boys' School, and five life subscribers of the Girls' School, and nine had not yet determined to which of the Institutions they would subscribe. In addition to this some of the successful members had represented their lodges as Stewards of the various charities. The election of the officers and committee was then proceeded with, and Bro. J. R. Stacey, P.M. 180, the Preceptor of the Lodge of Instruction, was re-elected as President, and Bro. J. White, P.M. 228, as Vice-President; Bro. J. Bingham, P.M. 55, W.M. 1599, as Treasurer; and W. W. Snelling, 180, as Hon. Secretary, and ten other brethren, were elected to form the committee. Bros. Denison, Larchin, Gush, and Daniel, all of 1841, were also appointed a committee to audit the accounts of the Association.

As the claims upon our charitable institutions are increasing year by year, it is necessary that every exertion should be used by members of the Craft to augment the funds of the various charities, and we cannot too strongly urge every brother who has the benefit of the Craft at heart, and who is not already a life subscriber or a life governor of the institutions, to become so through the medium of such an Association as the above.

The Association is not restricted to persons residing in the London district. Brethren in any part of the country may join, and the Honorary Secretary, Bro. Snelling, will be pleased to furnish a prospectus of the Association to any person desirous of becoming a member.

A YORKSHIRE SCHOOLMASTER.—In these days of great pedestrian feats it is worth while to record the doings of an old Yorkshireman who has just died at the ripe age of 84, at Masham, in Yorkshire. James Heap was a schoolmaster, and carried on his calling in a wild and bleak part of the country, walking every day a distance of eight miles. He lived at a cotton mill just below the village of Healey, which is the western part of that portion of Yorkshire called Mashamshire. His school-house was four miles distant at Coltersdale, which is still further west, and among the bleak moors and wild hills leading away to Westmorland. A storm of wind and rain is no trifling matter in these parts, and during a snowstorm the snow very often drifts so thickly as to make the roads almost impassable, but no condition of the weather or the atmosphere could shake James Heap's steadfast purpose, and he never had any ailment or accident which kept him from going his daily round to the school and home again. Many a time had he to wade through snowdrifts to find that his pupils were not able to reach the school, and he was certainly subjected to a drenching rain in the winter months. Yet from December, 1822, to January, 1867, he never missed a single day, and during 1292 consecutive weeks he walked more than 110,000 miles, or nearly five times round the world. Nor was he altogether idle on Sundays, for during 42 years of this period he shared with others the teaching of a Sunday-school at a place called Summerside, about the same distance from his home, and in an equally dreary and wild district on the moors with Coltersdale; 17 Sundays in each year during these 42 years did he walk eight miles to teach, which adds an aggregate of 5712 miles to the former sum, so that, taking Sundays and week days into the reckoning, he would, if he had continued his work for rather more than another year, have covered a distance equal to half the space between the earth and the moon. The old man, until quite lately, enjoyed good health, and the Schoolmasters' Association had only lately written to tell him that an annuity which he had been in receipt of for some time would, after the 1st of November, be still further increased. This arrangement, however, he did not see carried out, for he died last week.—"Globe."

HEALTH, comfort, and economy promoted. Gas superseded by day time, and daylight reflected in dark rooms by adopting Chappuis' Patent Daylight Reflectors. Manufactory, 69, Fleet-street, London.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

The General Committee of this Institution met on Saturday last at Freemason's Hall, Bro. S. Rosenthal in the chair. The other brethren present were Bros. Benj. Head, H. Browne, W. Paas, George Free, J. W. Dennison, W. Mann, W. F. C. Moutrie, W. Roebuck, John Symonds, H. W. Hunt, George Motion, and F. Binckes (Secretary).

Five petitions were accepted, and an outfit was granted to one ex-pupil. The resignation of Bro. Edward Harris, the collector to the Institution, was accepted, and a legacy of £50 less duty from Bro. Brooks Gates, was reported by the Secretary.

A committee was appointed to enquire into and report upon the office, and duties, and emoluments of the collector, after which the committee adjourned.

THE LATE BRO. SAMUEL MAY.

We regret to announce the death of Bro. Samuel May, which occurred on Sunday last, at his house at Wood Green. Bro. May, who was well known in the Craft, had long taken a leading position in it; but by nothing was he better known than by his liberal support of the Institutions of the Order, and his untiring efforts in their behalf. He was a zealous officer of his lodges and chapters, through the chairs of which he long ago passed. Until his fatal illness he was a constant attendant at Grand Lodge, and his presence whether there, in other Masonic assemblages, as well as in the social and domestic circle, was always hailed with pleasure. He was a genial companion, a sincere friend, and combined in his character all those excellent qualities which cause a man's name to be long remembered when his place on earth knows him no more.

Masonic and General Tidings.

On the 28th ult. the Grand Orient of Italian Freemasonry held a solemn re-union to receive and give a festival reception to Bro. J. C. Parkinson, J.P., P.G.D., P.P. Deputy Grand Master of Middlesex. The editor of the "Il Diritto" states that he has no doubt that this distinguished brother will receive a warm reception from his brethren in Rome.

The Provincial Grand Chapter of West Yorkshire will be held in the New Masonic Hall, Darley-street, Bradford, on Wednesday, 15th Nov., at four p.m.

On dit that the Earl of Limerick, Great Prior of the United Orders of the Temple and Hospital for England, has resigned that high office, and the Earl of Shrewsbury and Talbot, Great Marshal of the Order, and a Grand Cross of the Temple, has accepted that position. His Royal Highness the Grand Master could not have made a more popular appointment, and a new era of prosperity may be looked for in the Order through this and other changes which are imminent. Lord Limerick will carry with him on his retirement the cordial good wishes of the English Knights Templar, and those who have served under him will long remember his uniform courtesy and good nature.

Bro. T. W. Boord, M.P., was on Thursday admitted a member of the Peace of England Lodge of Odd Fellows (Manchester Unity) at Woolwich.

BRO. EMMA HOLMES' TALES, POEMS, AND MASONIC PAPERS.—The list of subscribers being now amply sufficient to cover all expenses, the first edition of the above work—500 copies—will be published forthwith.

THE CRYSTAL PALACE.—The great transept of the Crystal Palace is at the present time rendered more than usually attractive by a splendid display of chrysanthemums and pompones, grown by the company's gardener, and tastefully arranged by him in front of the Handel orchestra. The exhibition comprises at least fifty specimens of these beautiful autumn flowers, amongst the most conspicuous being the yellow Jardin des Plantes and aurea multiflora, the snow white Mrs. Russell, white globe, Virgin Queen, and Empress of India, the rich crimson Prince Alfred and Dr. Sharpe's Hermoine, in its two varieties, yellow and bluish purple tipped; the white quilled Fleur de Mai, the White and purple George Peabody, the Prince of Anemones with its lilac bluish, and the Queen of England in its three varieties, lilac, gold, and striped. The display will remain on view for at least another fortnight, and fresh varieties will be added from time to time as they come into flower.

READINGS IN THE TEMPLE.—Dr. Vaughan will resume his public readings in the Greek Testament (the 2nd Epistle to the Corinthians) on Tuesday, the 14th ult., at eight o'clock in the morning, in the lecture room of the Middle Temple, and continue them for about three weeks on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays, at the same hour. They are open to any persons interested in the study of the Greek Testament.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.—On Tuesday last the members of the "Old Scholars' Re-union" dined together at Anderson's Hotel, Fleet-street. The Head Master of the Royal Masonic School, occupied the chair. Among the 26 who sat down to dinner was the Rev. Mr. Woodward, a former Head Master and Chaplain of the Boys' School. The chief toasts of the evening were, "The Success and Prosperity of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys," and "The Old Scholars Re-union." "The Old Boys' Club," though only established in April last is gradually increasing, and is likely to become a permanent institution. The committee of the club are anxious that all old boys should join. There are some little expenses connected with starting the affair, and Masons may help in the success of it by becoming honorary members.

On Wednesday last the Royal Literary Fund voted £100 to the widow of Mr. George Smith.

NOTICE.

In consequence of the great press of Lodge Reports and other matter "The Freemason" will consist of four additional pages next week. We have to apologise to many Correspondents for unwillingly keeping back their contributions, but necessity has no law.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

COLONIAL and FOREIGN SUBSCRIBERS are informed that acknowledgments of remittances received are published in the first number of every month.

It is very necessary for our readers to advise us of all money orders they remit, more especially those from the United States of America and India; otherwise we cannot tell where to credit them.

TO ADVERTISERS.

The *Freemason* has a large circulation in all parts of the Globe, its advantages as an advertising medium can therefore scarcely be overrated.

ADVERTISEMENTS should reach the Office, 198 Fleet Street, London, not later than 12 o'clock on Wednesday, to insure insertion in the following Saturday's number. The Rates for Advertisements may be had on application at the Office.

THE "FREEMASON."

The Christmas number of the "Freemason" will appear on the 23rd December, and will consist of 32 pages, to subscribers as usual, to non-subscribers 4d. Orders to prevent disappointment, as the demand will be so large, should be sent at once to the Publisher 198, Fleet Street, London.

THE "MASONIC MAGAZINE."

The Christmas number of the *Masonic Magazine* will be ready on the 22nd of December, and will be a double number. To subscribers as usual, to non-subscribers 1s.

Answers to Correspondents.

A Member of No. 325—The affair being sub judice, we cannot well publish his letter. He will be able to make a full statement in Prov. G. Lodge.

Staffordshire—We cannot publish reports three weeks old. Had we received the account of the Provincial Grand Lodge meeting in due course, it would have appeared in our columns.

Errata—In our report of Lewes Lodge, 1185, for "Kildreth" read "Hildreth," and for "John Thomas Chase" read "John Francis Chase."

The following stand over:—Reports of Henley Lodge, 1472; Brotherly Love, 327; Tyndall Lodge, 1363; Pattison Lodge, 913; St. Asaph, 1319; Royal Commemoration Lodge, 1585; Aldershot Camp Lodge; New Cross Lodge, 1539; Lodge of Truth, 1458; Lily Lodge of Instruction; Faith Lodge of Instruction, 141; Mount Sinai Chapter; West Lancashire Mark Lodge, 65; Royal Ark Mariners, 69, Glasgow; Lodge Dramatic, 571, Glasgow.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

[The charge is 2s. 6d for announcements, not exceeding four lines, under this heading.]

BIRTHS.

CAMERON.—On the 14th ult., at Dalkeith House, the Lady Margaret E. Cameron, of a son and heir.

DUNCAN.—On the 4th inst., at Aberdeen, Mrs. C. Duncan, of a daughter.

FREER.—On the 8th ult., at Crofton Court, Orpington, Kent, the wife of the Rev. H. L. Freer, of a son.

GLOYN.—On the 4th inst., at Tywardreath, Cornwall, the wife of R. F. Gloyn, of a son.

KING.—On the 6th inst., at Surbiton-hill, the wife of M'Intosh King, Esq., of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

ARCHER—HOCKLEY.—On the 2nd inst., at St. Mary's, Lewisham, Reuben, son of Mr. Archer, of Forest-hill, to Mary, daughter of the late J. Hockley, of Catford.

PATTON—FURLONGER.—On the 1st inst., at St. Michael's, Betchworth, Frederick Joseph Patton, B.A., of Ball. Coll. Oxon., & Edith, daughter of C. J. Furlonger, Esq.

SCOTT—YOUNG.—On the 2nd inst., at Ludford, Lincolnshire, Dr. Walter Scott, of St. John's-Wood, to Fanny, daughter of R. Young, Esq., of Ludford.

DEATHS.

BARNES.—On the 2nd inst., at Tunbridge-wells, Eva Emily, daughter of E. Barnes.

BURROUGHS.—On the 6th inst., at his residence, 27 Bow-road, E., John Burroughs, aged 52 years.

CALLANDER.—On the 6th inst., at Ebury-street, Eaton-square, Mrs. Callander.

FOX.—On the 29th ult., at Brislington, near Bristol, Ellen Elizabeth, wife of E. F. Fox, Esq., aged 43.

MAY.—On the 4th inst., Bro. Samuel May, of Bow street.

The Freemason,

SATURDAY, NOV. 11, 1876.

RECENT LODGE CONSECRATIONS.

No readers of the "Freemason" can fail to be struck with the constant reports of the consecration of new lodges which appear week by week in our crowded columns. We confess that we are among those who hail this increase of Freemasonry with some gratification—firstly, as an evidence of the prosperity of our great Order; and secondly, as a proof that our principles are both understood and appreciated. Despite the attacks of ignorant adversaries (ignorant of the principles and practice they so noisily condemn), notwithstanding the abuse of the intolerant, and the puerile opposition of fanatical impertinence, this English Craft is sailing on, as the poet sung, with "a wet sheet and a flowing sea," and under admirable auspices is not only "holding its own," but is rapidly "extending its stakes" on every side of us. No doubt some cautions come in, which we shall all of us do well to attend to. Our distinguished and admirable Grand Secretary alluded to one or two points in his effective address at the opening of the Earl of Carnarvon Lodge, to which we shall all do well to listen. He pointed out the great need of caution in the admission of new members, and exemplified it ably by that regrettable incident, that a Masonic lodge had sued in the County Court a brother who would not pay his "initiation fees." The various blunders made by that distinguished lodge are too numerous to mention here; the more so, as it may be a matter of serious question whether the public action of the lodge may not have brought it necessarily under the notice of the Board of General Purposes. Every step the lodge has taken is constitutionally wrong and illegal. The lodge had no right not to ask for the initiation fee at once; and if not paid, ought to have gone to the proposer; certainly not to the County Court. And if the lodge had made a mistake, and the peccant brother could not or would not pay the customary demand, such a matter ought to have been kept in the bosom of the lodge itself, and not made the subject of public conversation or Masonic scandal. But enough on a most disagreeable subject. Bro. Hervey also alluded to a system of blackballing which is going on in some lodges, in which some one brother has been refused admission, and his friends blackball perseveringly all other candidates until he is admitted. We have known such instances ourselves, and a sad reflection they are on Masonry and Masonic principles. We have no right to import into the ballot of the lodge our private feelings, piques, injuries, animosities. It is conduct unworthy of every true Mason, and is so detrimental to the honour and interests of Freemasonry, that it must inevitably bring down any lodge eventually in which such conduct is tolerated or permitted. We thank the Grand Secretary for his seasonable and sensible words of admonition and advice, and we wish to add one more word of humble caution and fraternal admonition on our part. The one weak point in our Masonic system, just now, in our opinion, is the laxity we allow ourselves as regards the admission of members. No doubt it is a good thing for the Treasurer of a lodge to be able to report that he has a good balance sheet and a comfortable surplus at the end of the year, but, remember, financial well-being and material success may be too dearly purchased. If in order to obtain funds the character of the lodge is sacrificed, nothing but discomfort and disunion must be the result. We have always felt and said, that the mere fact of a person being able to pay the initiation fees is neither a proper test of admission, nor a befitting passport to a lodge. The lodge is a family in itself, and if we introduce into a family or social life one incongruous or heterogeneous element, we know well the unavoidable consequence of such folly, often the saddest of the sad. And equally true is it of our lodge life. No member ought to be admitted

into a lodge unless his proposer can vouch for him that he is a suitable member for that particular lodge in all respects, and that he is qualified to do credit to the lodge, and promote the happiness and comfort of his brethren. He ought not to introduce him into the lodge unless he could do so into his own family circle conscientiously. Many a lodge has been and is ruined by the intrusion of some one brother, utterly unfitted, for various reasons, for that little body of which he has become a corporate part, and we cannot too much deprecate the far too common custom of admitting members, not for "what they are," but for what "they have." We trust sincerely that the kindly notes of warning thus struck will not fall on inattentive ears, and that our brethren who comprise the lodges of our great Masonic brotherhood will take in good part what the reality of fraternal feeling suggests, and the result of masterly experience has pointed out.

MASONIC WORK.

Our metropolitan lodges are reopening for work, and some have already commenced a "new campaign." As we write to-day, the faithful brethren of many good lodges have received their W. Master's summons, and will soon rally around their Masonic centres. The recess is over, and labour has recommenced. When they meet again, no doubt some changes even in this short interval, will have taken place in the "personnel" of the lodge. When they are again assembled, some will be missing perchance—nay, rather, almost certainly—who were present at the last pleasant meeting, and in many a lodge those words of the Poet Laureate may well and forcibly recur to many minds:—

"Oh, for the touch of a vanished hand,
And the sound of a voice that's still."

But such, after all, is human life, and such is Masonic life, above all. We meet together a goodly band of brothers, we form long friendships, we interchange kindly sympathies, we become interested in each other, and gladly feel, that we are "brethren" in something more than name. And so we "move on side by side," happily and confidently and pleasantly, for many years. We meet in good feeling and good fellowship, we part in love and amity, but we meet and part, to meet and part no more in time in earthly lodge. No more "summonses" for us, no more happy re-unions or steady work, or hearty sociality. We have had to obey a "summons" higher and more solemn than anything of earth, and our place on earth, and in lodge knows us no more. And when we are gone (it may sometimes occur to us), what will they say of us? Will they miss us, and lament us, and speak kindly of us? Or will they dismiss us with a few cold, careless words? "So poor Bro. Tomkinson is no more. I am very sorry for him. He was a good worker, and a kind fellow, and a true brother." Nay, some one may even say, "I lament his loss, but he was a difficult chap to get on with, and he was not as considerate as he should be, and, to say the truth, I don't think the lodge will miss him much." Suppose that we were all able to listen to what people say of us behind our backs, or when we are "gone," what a cheery revelation would it afford to us all. Now, we need not indulge in any high-flown hyperbole in respect of the insincerity and treachery of the world. Such as the world has been, such it is, and such it will always be until its "weird is ended," and even in our little Masonic world we should be most unwise and unreasonable if we do not remember that despite its high professions, it only after all resembles that of which it forms a part. But the moral is obvious nevertheless, Let us work on while we are able, while health and strength, in the good Providence of the Great Architect of the Universe, are given to us, and let us hope, that when the Great Master of us comes in to pay his "workmen," we may be found neither unworthy of his praise, nor with our names wanting on the "Roll Call." With this re-opening session let us regard our lodges, as pleasant retreats of friendly sympathy and fraternal good will, and let us remember that we are all "brethren" bound together by

loving and indissoluble ties, which, though time may weaken, it cannot and ought not ever to destroy. "Happy to meet, sorry to part, happy to meet again," may well form, so to say, the cheerful and heartfelt motto of our Masonic gatherings; and may all our work, begun and ended in the name of God Most High, conduce to the welfare of our lodges, the honour of Masonry and the happiness of mankind.

A GOOD EXAMPLE.

Though we often all differ about the means, we are all, Freemasons as well as everybody else, greatly interested in the general spread of information and instruction, the study of the elevating arts, and the prevalence of culture and civilization. Though these are not everything in the history of man, or nations, or the world at large, yet no even-minded person will doubt their value, or question their importance. As Freemasons we are ever favourable to the extension of light, knowledge, and the refining and elevating tendencies of artistic and scientific labours, and we may rejoice to find that such is the prevailing sentiment of this locality or that institution. There is a famous old town in England, well known to many readers of the "Freemason" whose associations and memories are ever fresh and pleasant to that "Wiccamica Pubes," which once worshipped within its sacred fane, and once ascended St. Catherine's Hill. And it seems that this good city has not belied its ancient prestige, or forgotten its old renown, seeing that in 1876 it receives from one of our most distinguished statesmen and lawyer a meed of commendation as striking as it is well deserved. In opening the School of Art, a new institution at Winchester a few days ago, Lord Selborne makes use of language which we commend to the attention of all our readers, as a good example not only highly to be lauded, but to be imitated in the same kindly and liberally-minded spirit up and down our good old land. The "Times" of November 4th gives the words which follow:—"Lord Selborne said that he could not pretend to speak with impartiality of subjects connected with Winchester, and it might be that his partiality led him to see things which related to that city through a highly-coloured medium. Things which to some might appear trivial were not so to him. Though Winchester had no large manufactures, no centres of population, no great wealth, he thought it interesting in an unusual degree. In the first place, it was the most ancient historical city in the country. Its very name bore witness to a time anterior to the Roman invasion, and it has been a centre from generation to generation of great events. He was happy to think that although so old, and although it had seen so many privations, yet its public spirit was never higher and its desire to continue its great improvements more manifest than at the present time. Their prosperity and their institutions depended, as every one knew, on the habit of self-government, and that privilege depended certainly no less on the existence of municipal institutions, which were as essential as Imperial Parliaments. When he saw the amount spent and the works produced by municipal institutions here, he could not but think that Winchester might well be proud of the part it had taken in respect of having these institutions. When he looked to another part of the town and saw the splendid scale on which the administration of justice had been provided for, he said that Winchester had acted in a manner worthy of its greatness in honouring that law which was the guardian of all their liberties. Passing to an institution which, above all others, formed the mind of the man, and made what was good and bright, and comely and godly, he saw religion enshrined in a building, so solemn in its exterior and so gorgeous within, that no man could enter it without feeling something of the solemnity of the place, without feeling the true association between religion and beauty. Then they came to that College which had been the seat of learning for nearly 500 years, and had from generation to generation sent forth men to take the first place in the Church, in the Legislature, and

in all the walks of life, and not a few in the ranks of those who had defended their country by sea and land. Nature, too, had not been wanting in giving to the city natural beauties in the valley in which it was placed. It was his privilege to attend not long ago an Art Exhibition under their Mayor, and that building had been established under the highest influence. Among the first promoters of the school were the Head Master of the College and one of his most esteemed associates. There had been a cordial union of all parties. In Winchester all the institutions worked harmoniously together. There was no jealousy that one would be above the other. They saw the Church and the municipality, the Corporation, the College, and the School of Art all, hand-in-hand, promoting the same good cause—the cause of morality and instruction, improving the cause or religion and learning and art.

Original Correspondence.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for, or even as approving of the opinions expressed by our correspondents, but we wish, in a spirit of fair play to all, to permit—within certain necessary limits—free discussion.—Ed.]

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I have read with much pain the report of the action in the Westminster County Court by the "Hervey Lodge of Freemasons v. Fielder" reported in your impression of the 18th ult., and cannot think the proceedings conduce much to the credit of the officers of the lodge or its members, for had the Secretary, or the member introducing the candidate, taken proper steps to investigate his character, such scandal might have been avoided. As regards the case on its merits, the learned judge could not but nonsuit the plaintiffs, as the action was wrongly brought. Freemasons are not a body corporate, and cannot sue as such; but under Order XVI. Rule 9 of the Judicature Acts, where there are numerous parties having the same interest in one action, one or more of such parties may sue or be sued, or may be authorised by the court to defend such action; and by the consolidated County orders, under order V. rule 8, these courts have the same power given them. The judge could not amend the title of the cause without the consent of the defendant, and from his antecedents, I do not suppose such a course would have been assented to, neither could the judge allow an appeal, as the amount sued for was under £20.

I sincerely hope that other lodges will take timely warning by this miserable affair, and that in their anxiety to swell their ranks, greater diligence will be used in investigating the character of those they introduce into the Order.

Believe me, dear Sir, faithfully yours,

E. W. DEVEREUX.

Grove-lane, Camberwell, S.E.,
1st November, 1876.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

In commenting in your last issue on a County Court case, in which the Hervey Lodge sued a brother for fees, you seem to imply blame to some person, and as Master of the lodge in question I will endeavour to show you how the matter stands.

The brother having expressed a wish to be received into our lodge, and finding he held a high official public position, and "was well and worthily recommended," no possible objection could be taken either by his proposer or any member of the lodge. Therefore, having been duly balloted for and unanimously elected, and initiated, his official position was urged as an excuse for irregularity of attendance at our meetings. His dues fell into arrears, the Secretary wrote to him on the subject, and he promised to attend lodge and settle up; but failing to do so it was determined, after some fruitless correspondence, and by the advice of a brother in the lodge, who is a lawyer, to take legal proceedings to enforce the payment of a just debt.

The brother had in his communications with our Secretary acknowledged the claim, but he failed to keep his word, and it was because he held a gentlemanly public appointment that it was thought necessary to compel him if possible to pay, rather than his proposer.

You are quite wrong in supposing that the case was decided on its merits—nothing of the kind. We were non-suited on a technical question. Our lawyer sued in the name of the lodge, when it appears he should have done so in that of the Treasurer or Secretary.

I am, Sir and brother, yours fraternally,

G. HARRISON, W.M. 1260.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGES.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I have been in the habit of attending, with other Master Masons, the Provincial Grand Lodge to which the lodge I am a member of is attached. This year Master Masons are not summoned, and we are informed by those in authority that we are not entitled to be present. I know the Book of Constitutions (in clause 2, of Prov. Grand Lodges) lays down who are members of Prov. Grand Lodge but it does not say Master Masons shall be excluded, and, as they have been allowed to attend in former years, their exclusion on this occasion requires some explanation.

Surely if Master Masons were permitted to be present at the Albert Hall on the occasion of the installation of the M.W. the Grand Master of England, they might, I think, be allowed a seat at their own provincial meeting. I would add that all Master Masons of the Receiving Lodge, are to be permitted to attend. Perhaps some brother wearing the purple will kindly explain this matter for the satisfaction of those who still wear but sky blue.

Yours truly and fraternally,

MASTER MASON.

THE GROWTH OF FREEMASONRY.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

In a paragraph which appeared in your issue of the 27th ult., it was stated that the rapid increase of members was causing some anxiety in higher circles, and that at the consecration of new lodges, the officers are earnestly enjoined to make strict enquiry into the character, and standing of candidates before admitting them, doubtless every right thinking brother already feels that some more stringent means should be adopted in this respect than at present.

In the provinces, especially the larger ones, the following case frequently occurs:—A proposes B for initiation into his lodge C, the members of lodge C find out that B's character is not such as to warrant them in admitting him amongst them, and he is withdrawn. Bro. A then enlists the assistance of a member of a lodge held in a neighbouring town where B is a perfect stranger, and on the recommendation of A's friend he is admitted.

The only remedy against this evil so far as I can see is that a Central Committee be formed in each province, and that the Secretary of every lodge be required to read a copy of the circular calling such meeting to them. They (the committee) shall compile a weekly report of names proposed, and send tissue copies of same to the adjoining provinces, and different Masonic Halls and meeting rooms in the district, by this means the members of every lodge would be able to ascertain if their rejected candidate was again proposed, and a communication could be sent to the W.M. of the lodge where his name appears.

It may be said, that perchance a brother through some private pique, objects to a candidate being admitted into his lodge, although there may not be the remotest thing against his character. This fact could be communicated to the committee, who could act thereon.

I think some such plan as the above would serve to check, if not prevent the admission of black sheep into our folds.

Perhaps some more able pen than mine will devise a better scheme, or at all events improve upon this one.

I am, dear Sir and Brother, yours fraternally,

EAST LANCASHIRE.

FATHER FOY ON FREEMASONRY.

To the Editor of "The Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

In the "Hastings Observer" of the 4th November Father Foy defends his addresses. I have extracted the only material portions of it for the information of your readers, which are as follows:

I am, yours fraternally,

A FREEMASON.

I consider that my second lecture was quite a sufficient reply to your other correspondent, signing himself "A Non-Mason," with regard to the relations between the secret societies of England and the Continent. I showed how the whole of the lodges of the Grand Orient of Italy had recently been aggregated to the English lodges. There was one instance of relationship. The case of the assassination of William Morgan in America, in 1826, proved, again, that the deeds of horror connected with Continental secret societies were not unknown in other directions. And the words of the Scotch Protestant Robison, at page 11, introduction to his work on secret societies, deserve equal notice:—"This association for the express purpose of rooting out all religion still exists, still works in secret; and not only several appearances among ourselves show that its emissaries are endeavouring to propagate these detestable doctrines among us, but the association has lodges in Britain, corresponding with the mother lodge at Munich, ever since 1784." One of these societies, of which Lord Stanhope and Dr. Price were leading members, sent the following letter to the French revolutionary National Assembly:—"The society congratulates the National Assembly of France on the Revolution which has taken place in that country. It cannot but earnestly wish for the happy conclusion of so important a Revolution, and, at the same time, express the extreme satisfaction which it feels on reflecting on the glorious example which France has given to the world." (This example contained all the horrors exhibited in France before the month of March, 1790, which were then fully known in England.) "The society resolves unanimously to invite all the people of England to establish societies throughout the kingdom to support the principles of the Revolution." "Accordingly," says Robison, "this was executed, and Jacobin lodges were established in several cities in England, Scotland, and Ireland" (p. 495). I have myself a recollection that the lodge of one of our northern towns sent similar felicitations to the Commune at Paris, in the midst of its worst impieties. And I cannot but notice how the principle of the connection running all through the secret societies is given, in Germany, in the Rite for the admission of a Scotch Ancient or Grand Master:—"Friendship is the sacred bond which unites together all the brethren of our Craft; for however much scattered they may be over the face of the earth, they all compose one only body, because one is their origin, and one is their aim . . . and one the spirit by which

they are animated" (Eckert, Die Trage der Staatl. Anerk. p 12, Leipzig, 1825). Lastly, in the address of the Grand Orient of Italy to the Prince of Wales, it is said: "Italian Masonry, therefore, rejoices at this new lustre shed upon our world-wide institution, and sincerely prays that between the two Masonic communities may be drawn ever more closely those fraternal ties," &c.

Your third correspondent, Mr Gant, informs us that though "he has very little knowledge of foreign Freemasonry," he believes that, even as regards that, "there is not one word of truth in my discourse, and it is a wicked and gross libel." I think that he should acquire at least some far more extensive acquaintance with a matter before he pronounces an opinion upon it, with a profession at the same time that he has very little knowledge of it. If he will take the trouble to read the "Monde-Maçonique," the "Globe" the "Freemasons" Journal, the "Chain d'Union," the accredited organs of these associations, he will find that I have stated only what they candidly profess. If he spurns Barruel, Eckert, and Haller, there is a Scotch Protestant, Robison, the President of the Royal Society of Edinburgh, who, though a Freemason, wrote his work to prove that there was a "Secret Association, in Germany, France, &c., for the destruction of all religion, and overturning all the governments of Europe, and that its emissaries were busy among ourselves." If Barruel and Robison are not modern enough for him, Eckert and Haller, who wrote about secret societies in Germany and Switzerland, are certainly contemporaries. If, shutting his eyes to facts, he says that all these distinguished writers are obscure, he cannot say so of Dupanloup, who is one of the most public men in the world, and one of the most brilliant scholars and writers of the present day. And, say what he will, it has been a notorious fact before mankind, this quarter of a century, that the Carbonari, and their chief, Mazzini, suborned assassins; that, as we learn from "Figaro," immediately after the murder of two French generals, and on the eve of the burning of the city, ten thousand Freemasons of the Grand Orient of Paris declared that "the Commune was the modern Temple of Solomon," and that if, in America, since 1826, people have not been allowed to be assassinated under the sentence of tribunals of secret societies, the public feeling there and its indignation were too apparent to permit such crimes. This must have been very deeply impressed on the mind of Lord Beaconsfield when he declared that it was the secret societies, through Serbia, that had declared war against Turkey; that they were so powerful that no statesman could ignore them, and that, at any moment, they could bring about not only assassination, but even a massacre.

Finally, as long as there are fifty thousand Catholics in the British army, ever at the post of danger in defence of their country and their Queen, I need not trouble about the statement of your first correspondent, that "my Church does not inculcate a ready obedience to the laws of our country." They are at least as loyal as he has proved himself to be.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant, JOHN FOY.

To the Editor of the "Hastings Observer."

Sir,—I am unwilling to trespass on your valuable space at this period of the year, but for the information of "A Non-Mason" and others who may take an interest in the subject, I trust you will allow me to notice briefly Father Foy's second lecture. The Reverend Father has evidently been reading all he could find on the subject of secret societies, and being, I presume, a disciple of Maynooth, where, as a worthy Catholic bishop once told me, "they teach neither logic nor manners," he has evolved from the depths of his inner consciousness an ideal Freemason about as much like the original as a member of the Ancient Order of Foresters is to a Bashi-Bazouk. In fact, to hold Freemasons responsible for the crimes of Italian Carbonari is just precisely as logical as it would be to hold a turbaned vendor of Turkey rhubarb responsible for the Bulgarian atrocities. Father Foy asks triumphantly why Bishop Dupanloup's exposure of Freemasonry has never been refuted, and I tell him, for the same reason that Mr. Whalley's denunciations of the Jesuits or Dr. Cumming's diatribes against Popery are left unnoticed by respectable Catholics. Freemasonry is infinitely older than Popery, and can afford to laugh at the puny efforts of an army of Dupanlouns or Foyes to put it down. St. Peter's was built by Freemasons, as certain emblems and marks illegible to Father Foy show to the initiated; and when the Seven Hills are levelled and the ground ploughed over by the Roman agriculturists of the future, Freemasons in all probability will be there to see. Father Foy forgets himself in raising an Irish howl against an Order of which in England our future King is the honoured head, and the insult to its members of classing them in the same category with ruffianly conspirators and Communists would be more characteristic of a denizen of Colney Hatch than a priest of a Christian Church. If Freemasons are as black as Father Foy paints them, he should remember that there is a lodge in Hastings, and he may run the risk of becoming a victim to their sanguinary ferocity, like the misguided Yankee he mentions.

Yours obediently, A FREEMASON.

To the Editor of the "Hastings Observer."

Sir,—I have read with much amusement Mr. John Foy's lectures upon "Secret Societies," so ably reported in your paper; but I have not seen any reference to one secret organization which, beyond doubt, has caused much disorder, rebellion, misery, revolution, and bloodshed. I allude, Sir, to the Jesuits. How is it that Mr. Foy has not mentioned them? Is he a member of the order? and will he kindly give us some information as to their secret machinations? If not, you will hear again from

Yours very truly, A VERY ODD FELLOW.

CONSECRATION OF THE EARL OF CARNARVON LODGE, No. 1642.

Last Saturday afternoon this new lodge was consecrated by Bro. John Hervey, Grand Secretary, at Ladbroke Hall, Notting Hill. The lodge has been established for the convenience of the brethren residing in Notting Hill and Kensington, and is the only one in that neighbourhood. It was promoted by members of the vestry of St. Mary Abbots, many of whom are enrolled now as members. The place of meeting is a desirable building, and affords ample accommodation for large gatherings. On the occasion of the consecration, the hall was admirably fitted up for the lodge purposes, and every endeavour appeared to have been exercised to render the brethren comfortable in their new home.

At the opening of the lodge Bro. Hervey occupied the W.M. chair, having the Rev. A. F. A. Woodford, P.G.C., on his right, and the Rev. P. M. Holden, Prov. G.C. Middlesex, on his left. Bro. Joseph Smith, P.G.P., acted as S.W.; Bro. John Boyd, P.G.P., as J.W.; Bro. W. Stephens, as I.G.; Bro. James Terry, Prov. G.C. Herts, as D.C.; and Bro. Joseph Pushman, as Secretary. The other brethren present were Bros. W. J. Murlis, G. Penn, S. H. Parkhouse, W. Gordon, M.P., F. C. Clench, Rev. Charles Darby Reade, F. Delevanti, E. M. Lander, S. Smout, S. Smout, jun., R. Schofield, F. W. Moore, Deputy District Grand Master Argentine Republic; Locock Webb, G.C., 4, P.G.D.; Jno. Jordan, P.M. 4; W. Buttgenbach, 12; John Coutts, P.M. 27, P.G.P.; Chas. B. Payne, P.M. 27, G.T.; E. W. Thompson, 55; John Bingham, P.M. 55; Thos. J. Scrutton, 87; P. Kirke, P.M. 144; W. Handover, P.M. 144; Talbot Chorer, 145; Jas. G. Brockman, 150; G. Davis, I.G. 167; M. Levy, P.M. 188; Wm. Cunningham Glen, 198, P.G.S. and P.G.S.D.; E. P. Albert, 439, G.P.; S. Pardoe, P.M. 511; W. J. Russell, P.M. 511; G. A. Williams, 511; J. H. Taylor, 511; W. W. Wheeler, 511; H. Massey, P.M. 619 ("Freemason") H. Morrill, 704; G. F. Hill, 733; E. Arrowsmith, 733; S. J. Humphress, 733; Thomas Fisher, 733; John T. Woodstock, P.M. 749, T. H. Squires, 780; John Thompson, P.M. 834; J. H. Webb, 834; Thos. Kingston, W.M. 862; J. J. Michael, W.M. 1107; J. Burgess Perry, 1185; R. H. Pearson, P.M. 1196; J. E. Carpenter, P.M. 1196; Robt. Harvey, 1196; G. Musgrave, 1309; Arthur Thomas, 1319; Jas. E. Hambleton, 1319; Savage, P.M. 1425; Samuel Jones, S.W. 1425; D. F. Gellion, J.W. 1425; Thos. Craig, 1425; W. Grist, 1489; W. J. Brewster, 1489; H. W. Mayes, 1489; W. H. Lea, P.M. 1524; and T. Brown, 1611.

Bro. Hervey then delivered an address to the brethren on the nature and objects of the meeting. Drawing attention to the fact that the lodge had been projected by members of the vestry of the parish in which they were assembled, he reminded the brethren that in those assemblies very frequently unseemly squabbles and discussions arose. In a lodge generally, of course such exhibitions were not likely to be made, but he warned its members not to allow any difference of opinion that might exist between them in vestry to be perpetuated in their lodge. After alluding to several other Masonic objects, such as the extension of the Order, and the increasing number of lodges, he advised the brethren to observe caution as to the admission of initiates and joining members. He knew that it was proposed that in this lodge means were intended to be taken, which showed an increased measure of caution, and he hoped that no unworthy members would be admitted. The recent Court case, in which the Hervey Lodge, No. 1260, was plaintiff, next engaged Bro. Hervey's attention, and he spoke in very strong language on the conduct reported in that case. In conclusion he said he wanted to mention one or two practical matters to the brethren, who were to be officers of the lodge about to be consecrated. The W.M. designate was a brother had all the moral advantages resulting from the practice of Freemasonry; but he would recommend to his officers that they should, if they undertook to perform the duties of an office, prepare themselves for the efficient discharge of those duties. If an office was worth accepting it was worth filling properly. Officers should be punctual in their attendance, so that the W.M. might not be inconvenienced at any time when a ceremony was about to be performed by the officers not being present. The duties should not only be performed as a duty, but from a desire to show those who were present that they were able to perform what they had undertaken. Nothing could be more painful than to see an officer placed in a lodge, and when a candidate was introduced to the J.D. that the J.D. did not know what to do with him, or to the J.W. that he did not remember what to say to him. What could be a greater disgrace to an officer, or a greater disgust the candidate about to enter into the Order? He (Bro. Hervey) trusted this would not be the case in this lodge, but that the officers to be appointed would look upon themselves as the different wheels of a great machine without which the machine could not act. If one of the wheels of a locomotive on the line close by was out of order the engine stopped dead. If a wheel of a watch had a cog broken the watch would not go, and the officers of a lodge ought to feel that it was the same with a lodge, that it was a machine, that they were portions of the machine, that they ought to render themselves competent to carry out their duties so as to prevent any hitch. Then everything would go on right and properly, and conduce to the honour of themselves, to the credit of the lodge in particular, and to the well-being of the Craft generally. (Cheers.)

Bro. the Rev. A. F. A. Woodford in delivering the oration, said:

V.W. Presiding Officer and Brethren: As I have been honoured by the request of your worthy W.M. elect, to deliver the customary oration at this our Masonic ceremony of consecration, in order not to weary you all with

sameness, or the stereotyped repetition of oft-told truths, I have thought it best to place a few ideas, so to say, on paper, which I trust will recommend themselves to the sympathy and approval of all my brethren present. First of all, I venture to think, we may all, and should all, rejoice at this multiplication of lodges. There are those, I am aware, who take a different view of the question, but, I think, hastily and erroneously. What does this increase really mean after all? What does this planting in this important district of a new sapling of our great Masonic tree imply? Surely this, that our kindly and benevolent Order commends itself alike to the support of the thinking and the appreciation of the intelligent, and that in consequence Freemasonry is extending its stakes on all sides of us—north, south, east, and west—and making new centres of light and good-will for man. Hence then, though the great and rapid advance of Freemasonry in England, as our distinguished Presiding Officer knows, is very striking indeed, and suggestive necessarily of some precautions, it may well afford pleasure and gratification to every zealous brother of our good old Craft, and for this reason. The creation and consecration of a new lodge are not an idle ceremony on the one hand, or an unmeaning fact on the other. We do not assemble, sir, under your able superintendence, to go through, parrot like, a set of mechanical phrases. Nor does our Masonic consecration of the new lodge represent a needless repetition of an ancient but obsolete ritual. On the contrary, we are here to seek to give Masonic life, vigour, and duration to the new lodge, now about to be admitted to our goodly brotherhood, now about to be inscribed on our lengthening roll, and we sincerely trust that the words we hear, and the ceremonial we take part in will not only revive pleasant associations in the memories of us older Masons, but will encourage our younger brethren—whose Masonic life, so to say, is before them—to zeal, assiduity, earnestness, loyalty and devotion in the labours and active working of that amiable and beneficent Order, in whose kindly companionship and true fraternity many of us, as you see, have actually grown grey. That Freemasonry does mean something, not only is clear from the "nature of the case itself," but is abundantly evident from recent attacks which have been made upon our great institutions, and let us unite for the very principles on which as Freemasons we always greatly pride ourselves, and without which, pardon me, Sir, for saying so, all our professions and all our paraphernalia, our lodge gatherings and our festive array, nay, even our charitable efforts and our very "labour of love" would be but as "sounding brass and a tinkling cymbal." And what are those principles? Shortly stated, they are these. Freemasonry comes before us and appeals to our age to-day, as a religious, tolerant, peaceful, loyal, benevolent Order, proclaiming the "Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of man," invoking the solemn and sacred right of conscientious convictions, the sanctity of individual belief, deprecating controversy and detesting persecution. While on the one hand it asserts its solemn credence in the Most High, and is equally at a distance from the blind folly of the Atheist and the reckless impiety of the libertine—while it welcomes all, I say, in the name of God, the Father, Ruler, Friend of all, the True and only Potentate, the Mighty King Eternal, Immortal, Omnipotent, Omniscient, the Great Architect of the World and of Man, it keeps itself entirely at a distance from the conflicting claims of creeds and controversies. That is to say, though friendly, most friendly to all religious bodies, it does not feel competent to make any profession of general or particular belief, to lay down any actual religious test for its membership, to prescribe any other condition for its privileges beyond the acknowledgment and belief in the Great God and Ruler of all. There has, indeed, and there probably will always be a large Christian school in Masonry, and I for one hold that Freemasonry is broad and wide enough for us all, and allows within certain proper limits, a right of private judgment even in this respect. But the teaching of our Grand Lodge since 1813, at any rate, has been purely Universal, and as honest men and Masons when we expatiate on the principles of our Order we are bound, as it seems to me, always to be most particular in adhering carefully to what our own regulations prescribe, and to what our own recognized formularies proclaim. And it is on this great principle, then remember, that Freemasonry receives to-day the Hindoo, the Mahomedan, the Parsee, that we all unite (whatever our views or our denominations may be outside the lodge) inside the lodge in the teachings of fraternal union and general benevolence, and that despite those prepossessions and parties into which social life, worldly life, political life, divide us all, and sever us all, sternly at times, from one another here, as Freemasons we know nothing of political or religious differences, but are one in heart and feeling, in profession, one in practice, in concord and brotherly love. And who can convince us that we are wrong in so teaching, so doing? When our detractors tell us perchance that we are Atheists, simply because we give no prominence to the Christian, may we not reply—Is it Atheism to love our brethren, and to do unto others as we would be done by? When the Ultramontane declares that we are a disloyal and dangerous Order, because we are condemned by the Bull of Clement, may we not say that such puerile ignorance of our great tenets is perhaps as good a commentary as any on an alleged infallibility? When some foolish person asserts that our secrecy is in itself a proof of something wrong, may our rejoinder not be—No society can be wrong or injurious which is specially authorised to assemble by the laws of our land. And the day, V.W. sir, I make bold to say, that the legislature forbids all secret societies to meet, making no exception—that day Freemasonry in England must either change its character or close its lodges. It may seem to some of you almost superfluous thus to vindicate the religious,

the loyal, the peaceful character of Freemasonry, and so it would be but for one remarkable fact, the extreme violence with which one religious body, the Roman Catholic Church (though others have been equally foolish) has thought right of late to attack in every way, and in every form, our harmless, inoffensive, peaceable, loyal brotherhood. I say nothing here of pontifical allocutions and episcopal addresses, we can afford to disregard them. I do not even now allude to excommunications and anathemas, which are too childish and harmless to be adverted upon, but I think it right to call attention to an address delivered in a Roman Catholic Church at Hastings, within the last month, by a certain Father Foy, in which he has thought well to make, and make in a church, on the steps of the altar, a most mendacious statement, and to bring most serious charges against Freemasonry. First of all, he says that Lord Ripon resigned his Grand Mastership of English Freemasonry because he was alarmed at the political tendencies of this secret Order everywhere. (Loud laughter.) You, Sir, who know even better than I do that such a statement is distinctly untrue, and a cruel calumny on our late distinguished head Lord Ripon himself, than whom I will say now, when still happily amongst us, no truer man, and no more constitutional ruler ever presided over our excellent Order. This is the statement, and what do you think is the charge? That we are a socialistic, revolutionary, infidel body, whose sole object is to create revolution everywhere, and who, when we meet together indulge in orgies too disgraceful to narrate. (Much laughter and cheers.) And this was declared, as I said before, in a Church, within the last month, at Hastings, and is said to have made a great impression on the hearers of this imaginative individual. It is almost incredible, were it not printed in a respectable paper "The Hastings Observer," and as you will see, in the "Freemason" of next week, Father Foy defends his veracious statement. I may add that Father Foy's two addresses will appear "in extenso" for the information of the brethren in the "Masonic Magazine" for December and January, as I think it is most advisable for us all to know accurately what friends and foes alike say of us. Father Foy, so far from withdrawing from his statements, seeks to justify them in a letter he has subsequently written to the same newspaper. Well, you may say, we can afford to laugh at such statements; so no doubt we can; but long experience in life has told me that nothing is so potent as calumny when judiciously spread and when deliberately persisted in. There is no reason that I can see, moreover, why our useful and philanthropic sodality should be made, either the subject of untruthful assertion, or the object of shameful criticisms, and therefore I think it well to remind you all to-day, and the members of this lodge especially, what Freemasonry is, what it teaches, and what it does. It is a friendly brotherhood animated by the most gracious sentiments, and proclaiming the grandest of all morality, based, and based alone, on God's Word, ever open in our lodges. It inculcates every patriotic duty and every social virtue. Its motto is "Loyalty and Charity," its scope and aim universal beneficence and brotherhood. It maintains, with unflinching clearness, liberty of thought and belief, toleration and consideration for all. It avows that it is in favour of light and truth, the advance of education and science, the general development of the arts that constitute the safety of true national life and the peaceful progress of the civilization of mankind. But it bases all its hopes and views, and declarations on obedience to the laws of the land which Freemasons belong to by birth, or reside in for a time, and it seeks on all occasions to advocate the domestic and moral virtues in their ennobling, enduring and undying responsibilities. We are to be good Masons, but we are also to be good men, and no true Freemason will ever forget that grand and solemn truth of personal accountability which ever encircles us, that we have all to stand one day before God, the Judge of all, and to listen to our own eternal sentence whether for good or evil eternally from Him who sits on the Great White Throne, and before Whose glorious presence the earth and heavens will flee away. But Freemasonry does not stop here. No. To its public teachings and its outward organisation, it adds above all the practice of true benevolence. By its noble charities Freemasonry essays to prove to all around that its professions are real, and that its practice squares with its theory. It educates the orphan sons and daughters of our brethren, it cares for the aged and the suffering brother; it sympathizes with and aids the widow; and not only this, but by a wise and careful system of benevolent grants it relieves monthly all those who can make a fair claim on its brotherly beneficence. And I say that Freemasonry is in itself the best reply to its traducers and enemies, and that our best answer to all enquirers as to its use and good, is "Si queris circumspice;" listen to its words of sympathy, behold its deeds of good, and believe that that association is indeed most worthy alike of your admiration and support, which so inculcates and so practices the goodly and blessed attributes of charity and toleration, kindness and brotherly love. A Masonic poet has truly said:

"Its grand foundation nobly is designed
To warm the soul and elevate the mind.
It soothes the troubled heart amid distress,
And paints soft pity in her native dress.
We hail sweet concord in her highest flight,
We censure wrong, and vindicate the right.
We oft describe fair virtue's peaceful seat,
And trace fair friendship to its lone retreat.
We point the way to honour and to truth,
And curb the passions of fantastic youth.
In mystic characters we represent
Masonic laws and human hearts cement.
The humblest object of sweet charity
We glad welcome and teach humanity;
No stimulant to action is required,

Each Mason's heart to charity is fired.
The widows' tears are dried, we thus impart
The grand resources of our Royal Art.
In schools well suited to the infant mind,
The morals guided and the thoughts refined.
Our charity and love united stand,
To bless the needy with a liberal hand,
We labour truly to instruct our youth,
In paths of duty, honesty, and truth.
How grand is Masonry in its rich display,
On some high festive interesting day,
In solemn form within due Compass move,
The Bible, and the Square our minds to prove,
With knowledge to the worthy Mason given,
He builds on trust and soars towards a heaven,
The mind unfettered and the conscience free,
Point to that blissful scene of purity.
By faith's uplifting power we look on high,
Part with the world, nor heave a transient sigh,
Hope's golden wing resistless paves the way,
And lifts the soul to everlasting day.

Brethren, my imperfect task is done, and I end it with sincere thanks, V.W. Sir and brethren all, for the patient audience you have favoured me with, and with hearty good wishes for the future prosperity and success of the Earl of Carnarvon Lodge. (Cheering.)

The ceremony of consecration was then proceeded with, the musical portions being beautifully rendered by Bro. F. Delevanti, Bro. Talbot Chever, and others, and the Rev. P.M. Holden delivering the Scripture portions and invocations. When the lodge had been formally consecrated and constituted, Bro. Hervey installed Bro. W. J. Murlis as first W.M., and the following brethren were invested as officers:—Bros. Geo. Penn, S.W.; S. H. Parkhouse, J.W.; the Rev. Chas. Darby Reade, Chap.; W. Stephens, Treas.; J. Pushman, Sec.; William Gordon, M.P., S.D.; F. Clench, J.D.; Lander, I.G.; S. Smout, D.C.; F. Delevanti, Org.; S. Smout, jun., W.S.; and T. Schofield, Tyler.

Votes of thanks were passed to Bros. Hervey, the Rev. A. F. A. Woodford, Joseph Smith, John Boyd, the Rev. P. M. Holden, and James Terry for consecrating the lodge, and honorary membership of the lodge was unanimously conferred on them. The lodge was then closed, and the W.M. read the following letter, which he had received from the secretary of the Pro Grand Master, after whom the lodge had been named:—

COLONIAL OFFICE,
4th Nov. 1876.

SIR,—Lord Carnarvon regrets very much that your letter of the 30th Oct. should have remained so long unanswered, and he wishes me to add the expression of his regret at being unable to be present at the consecration of the Earl of Carnarvon Lodge, No. 1642, which his engagements render quite impossible. His lordship wishes me, however, to say that he readily consents to his coat of arms being used for the new lodge.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

(Signed)

ARTHUR A. PEARSON.

W. J. Murlis, Esq.

The brethren afterwards adjourned to a sumptuous banquet, which was served by Mr. Linscott, proprietor of the hall, and the catering gave unmingled satisfaction to the brethren present, the dinner and the attendance equally meriting praise.

The banqueting hall was profusely decorated with choice plants and flowers, which were most artistically arranged, the coup d'œil giving complete evidence of good taste and judgment in floriculture.

After the banquet the W.M. proceeded to propose the toasts. After the toasts of "The Queen and the Craft," and "The Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M.," had been duly honoured, the W.M. gave "The Pro Grand Master, the Earl of Carnarvon," and hoped, though his lordship had not been present at the consecration of the lodge named after him, that the day would come when they would have the pleasure of his company.

The Rev. A. F. A. Woodford, P.G.C., responded to the toast of "The Dep. G.M., Lord Skelmersdale, and the rest of the Grand Officers," and in doing so said: Though I have addressed my brethren a great many times during my Masonic career, I must confess that I never addressed them with such feelings, I may say, of embarrassment and diffidence as I do this evening, because when I see around me so many older and most distinguished Grand Officers, I feel that the task might have been left in far worthier hands than mine, in hands which I feel certain would have done more justice to the toast than I am able to do. I see on my right Bro. Locock Webb, one of Her Majesty's counsel learned in the law, and a most distinguished Past Grand Officer, and when I look on my left I see our Bro. Joseph Smith, a twofold pillar of the Masonic Order, who is always ready to assist us on every occasion, and to give us the pleasantness of his smiles and genial presence to cheer us in our work. I should have been very glad, above all, if our distinguished Grand Secretary had taken upon himself the duty you have cast upon me of responding to this toast. But as I have been called upon I must do my duty as a Mason, and respond, at the same time commending the few remarks I have to make to your kindly consideration. I am not a young Mason—I was made in 1842; but I can honestly say that I have never repented of the step I took when I became one of the fraternity. I can assure you that the longer I have been a Mason, the more have I seen the value and importance of Freemasonry; and I have looked upon it from the time I entered it until to-day as one of the greatest blessings given to us in the good Providence of God. It unites men of the most opposite views and sections, of all religions and all nationalities; at the same time that it separates us from the jarring world without, and binds us together in one phalanx of brotherly union, concord, and love, ready to assist, support, and sympathise with one

another. Many of us standing here to-day have already grey hairs, for we may be said Masonically to have borne the burden and heat of the day; but none of us have ever regretted the time we have given or the labours we have offered to that old Order of ours, which commends itself to every affection and sentiment of human nature. When we contemplate the world without, and see the various divisions which the human family is subject to, surely it is a happy thing to remember that there is one spot where we may all meet together, whatever our politics or our religion may be, where we may all enjoy the blessings of fraternal unity and concord, and work for the good of all, the happiness of our fellow creatures, and the glory of our Great Creator. I beg to say to you, in conclusion, that as a day will come when our place will know us no more, I trust sincerely that the younger Masons among us will seek to serve the Craft as we have, honestly, if imperfectly, done, and will still rally round its famous banner, and endeavour to advance not only the interests of our good old Order, but the welfare of our common brotherhood, and the lasting happiness of mankind. (Great cheering.)

The W.M. proposed the toast of the evening, "The Consecrating Officer, Bro. John Hervey." He had briefly expressed his thanks to Bro. Hervey previously for consecrating the lodge. He hoped Bro. Hervey might live for many years to come among them. He was a near neighbour, and though his official duties were heavy he trusted that he would come and see how they were getting on. He would always find a hearty welcome. There were only two persons he had wished to consecrate the lodge, the Earl of Carnarvon or Bro. Hervey. He did not care which, and his wish had been gratified; Bro. Hervey having performed the ceremony.

Bro. Hervey thanked the W.M. very much for his kind deed of approbation. It was very gratifying to him that the consecration had gone off so well. If he were to speak for a long time he could not do more than express his gratitude for the compliment the W.M. and brethren had paid him. He wished success to the lodge, and he was pleased to see Bro. Murlis again in the chair of a lodge which he (Bro. Hervey) had consecrated.

Bro. W. Stephens proposed "The W.M.," and the W.M. having replied, proposed a special toast in honour of Bro. Moore, Deputy District Grand Master of the Argentine Republic.

Bro. Moore returned thanks. Linking his name with a toast greatly enhanced the pleasures of the evening. He fully appreciated the honour paid to the Argentine Republic, which he represented on that occasion, and himself. The brethren of the Republic would be most peculiarly interested in the details of the ceremony he had been permitted to witness, and when he returned thither he should inform the brethren of what he had seen. He must despair of ever attaining to one tithe of the efficiency and readiness and dignity to which Bro. Hervey had attained, as well as the rev. brethren who had assisted him. Since he had been in England he had had the pleasure of visiting several lodges, and had been led to form an opinion, that Masons who lived at home at ease knew nothing of the greatest pleasures that Masonry afforded; they had not learned to appreciate thoroughly the value of the Masonic passport which was contained in the Grand Lodge certificates, or properly understand the pleasure a Mason like himself felt in returning to his native country, and being received in lodges, the members of which were entire strangers to him. Abroad the pleasure was fully appreciated of receiving a brother in a foreign country, and within the sacred portals of those foreign lodges extending to him the right hand of fellowship. After thanking the brethren for the toast and his reception, Bro. Moore informed the brethren that if they should ever visit the Argentine Republic they would find there a welcome extended to them if possible a hundred fold that dispensed to him that evening. (Cheers.)

Bro. Savage, P.M. Hyde Park Lodge, returned thanks for "The Visitors," and was followed by Bros. Locock Webb, Q.C., and Jordan.

Bro. James Terry replied for "The Charities," and delivered an exhaustive account of what all the Masonic Institutions had hitherto accomplished.

Bro. Stephens, Treasurer, replying for "The Officers," said that £60 had already been promised for the Stewards' List of this lodge for the next festival of the Benevolent Institution. He wanted £300.

The S.W. and J.W. also replied, and Bro. W. Gordon, M.P., responded for "The Junior Officers," and was followed by each of these brethren in turn.

The proceedings were then brought to a close, and the brethren separated.

Obituary.

FUNERAL OF THE LATE REV. E. I. LOCKWOOD, D.P.G.M. SUFFOLK.

On Wednesday, 25th inst., amid general expressions of sorrow and regret, the remains of the esteemed Rector of Belstead were consigned to the tomb. The deceased clergyman was buried by the side of his late wife, in a grave situated at the end of the chancel of Belstead Church. The burial service was impressively performed by Rev. H. J. Hasted, Rector of Sproughton, and the Hon. and Rev. F. D. Gray, Rector of Copdock. Among the clergy present were Revs. J. R. Turnock and C. A. Raymond, St. Mary-le-Tower, Ipswich; J. H. Henderson, St. Mary Stoke; J. Tweed, Chapel St. Mary; and W. Andrews. The "British Union" Lodge (of which deceased was a member and D.P.G.M. for Suffolk) was represented by Bro. W. Boby, P.M., Bro. W. Spalding, P.M., Bro. Casley, and Bro. Rev. G. Godwin (Chapel). Besides these the chief mourners comprised the daughters of deceased and relatives, including Mrs. J. Tweed and Mrs. Andrews. Although the funeral was regarded as a private one, there was also a large number of parishioners,

amongst whom was Mr. T. Harwood, of Belstead Hall. Mr. Cobbold's carriage was also present. At the grave as well as in the church two funeral hymns were softly sung by the school children—a part of the service which was very impressive. Mr. F. Fish, of Suffolk House, had the management of the funeral arrangements, the coffin being conveyed in his new funeral carriage, the violet pall being used. The coffin, which was of plain oak, bore the inscription on a brass plate, "Rev. E. I. Lockwood, M.A., parish priest of Belstead. Died on Friday, 20th October, 1876, aged 78 years."—"East Anglian Daily Times," 26th Oct. 1876.

METROPOLITAN MASONIC MEETINGS.

For the Week ending Friday, November 17, 1876.

The Editor will be glad to receive notice from Secretaries of Craft Lodges, Royal Arch Chapters, Mark Lodges, Preceptories, Conclaves, &c., of any change in place or time of meeting.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 11.

- Lodge 108, London, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.
 " 173, Phoenix, F.M.H.
 " 1328, Granite, F.M.H.
 " 1361, United Service, Greyhound, Richmond.
 " 1426, The Great City, Cannon-st. Hot.
 " 1446, Mount Edgumbe, Swan Tav., Battersea.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

- Lily, Greyhound, Richmond.
 Manchester, 77, London-st., Fitzroy-sq.
 Star, Marquis of Granby, New Cross-rd.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 13.

- Lodge 29, St. Albans, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
 " 59, Royal Naval, F.M.H.
 " 90, St. John's, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
 " 136, Good Report, Cannon-st. Hot.
 " 193, Confidence, Anderson's Hot., Fleet-st.
 " 222, St. Andrew's.
 " 1366, Highgate, Gatehouse Hot., Highgate.
 " 1571, Leopold, Woolpack Tav., Bermondsey-st.
 Chap. 22, Mount Zion, Guildhall Tav., Gresham-st.
 " 720, Panmure, Horns Tav., Kennington.
 " 1319, Asaph, F.M.H.
 Red Cross Con., 2, Plantagenet, Caledonian Hot.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

- Prince Leopold, Lord Stanley Tav., Kingsland.
 Strong Man, Jerusalem Tav., St. John's Gate.
 Sincerity, Railway Tav., Fenchurch-st. Station.
 Camden, Stanhope Arms, Up. James-st., Camden To.
 Eastern, Royal Hot., Mile-end-rd.
 St. James's Union, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
 Wellington, White Swan, Deptford.
 Perfect Ashlar, Victoria Tav., Lower-rd., Rotherhithe.
 Upper Norwood, White Hart Ho., Church-rd.
 Marquis of Ripon, Pembury Tav., Amherst-rd., Hackney.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 14.

- Lodge 96, Burlington, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
 " 166, Union.
 " 180, St. James's Union, F.M.H.
 " 194, St. Paul's, Cannon-st. Hot.
 " 198, Percy, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.
 " 211, St. Michael, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
 " 228, United Strength, St. John's Gate.
 " 235, Nine Muses, Long's Hot., Bond-st., W.
 " 435, Salisbury, Café Royal, Regent-st.
 " 548, Wellington, White Swan Tav., Deptford.
 " 917, Cosmopolitan, Cannon-st., Hot.
 " 933, Doric, Anderson's Hot., Fleet-st.
 " 1604, Wanderers, F.M.H.
 Rose Croix Chap., Oxford and Cambridge, 33, Golden-sq.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

- Metropolitan, 269, Pentonville-rd.
 Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney.
 Domestic, Surrey M.H., Camberwell New-road.
 Faith, 2, Westminster Chambers, Victoria-st.
 Prince Fredk. Wm., Lord's Hot., St. John's Wood.
 Dalhousie, King Edward, Triangle, Hackney.
 Prosperity, Hercules Tav., Aldersgate-st.
 St. Marylebone, British Stores Tav., St. John's Wood.
 Constitutional, Wheatheaf Hot., Hand-court, Holborn.
 Israel, Rising Sun Tav., Globe Road.
 Royal Arthur, Prince's Head, York-road, Battersea.
 Beaconsfield, Red Lion, Leytonstone.
 Excelsior, Commercial Dock Tav., Rotherhithe.
 St. John of Wapping, Gun Hot., High-st., Wapping.
 Metropolitan Chapter, Jamaica Coffee Ho., Cornhill.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 15.

- Lodge Grand Stewards, F.M.H.
 " 140, St. George's, Trafalgar Hot., Greenwich.
 " 174, Sincerity, Guildhall Tav., Gresham-st.
 " 190, Oak, F.M.H.
 " 700, Nelson, M.H., William-st., Woolwich.
 " 969, Maybury, F.M.H.
 " 1044, Wandsworth, Spread Eagle Hot., Wandsworth.
 " 1150, Buckingham and Chandos, F.M.H.
 " 1349, Friars, Cheshire Cheese, Crutched Friars.
 " 1382, Corinthian, George Hot., Millwall Docks.
 " 1624, Eccleston, Grosvenor Hall, Ebury-st., S.W.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

- Confidence, M.H., Basinghall-st.
 Mt. Lebanon, Windsor Castle Tav., Southwark-bdg.-rd.
 Pythagorean, Prince of Orange, Greenwich.
 New Concord, Rosemary Branch Tav., Hoxton.
 Royal Union, Horse and Groom, Winsley-st., Oxford-st.
 Mount Edgumbe, 19, Jermy-st., St. James's.
 Peckham, Maismore Arms, Park-road, Peckham.
 Stanhope, Thicket Hot., Anerley.
 Finsbury Park, Finsbury Park Tav., Seven Sisters'-rd.
 Southwark, Southwark Park Tav., Southwark Park.
 Duke of Connaught, Havelock Tav., Dalston, E.
 United Strength, Grafton Arms, Kentish-town.
 Islington, Crown and Cushion, London Wall

Whittington, Black Bull Tav., Holborn.
 Lewis, King's Arms Hot., Wood Green.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 16.

- Lodge 23, Globe, F.M.H.
 " 59, Gihon, Gullhall Tav., Gresham-st.
 " 55, Constitutional, Inns of Court Hot.
 " 63, St. Mary's, F.M.H.
 " 169, Temperance, White Swan, Deptford.
 " 179, Manchester, Anderson's Hot., Fleet-st.
 " 181, Universal, F.M.H.
 " 733, Westbourne, Lord's Hot., St. John's Wood.
 " 813, New Concord, Rosemary Branch, Hoxton.
 " 1139, South Norwood, Public Hall, South Norwood.
 " 1278, Burdett Courts, Approach Tav., Victoria Park.
 " 1287, Great Northern, F.M.H.
 " 1365, Clapton, White Hart Tav., Clapton.
 " 1425, Hyde Park, 1, Craven-rd., W.
 " 1507, Metropolitan, 269, Pentonville-road.
 " 1512, Hemming, Lion Hot., Hampton.
 Chap. 834, Andrew, Clarendon Hot., Hammersmith.
 Precep. 128, Oxford and Cambridge, 33, Golden-sq.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

- Egyptian, Hercules Tav., Leadenhall-st.
 Fidelity, Yorkshire Grey, London-st., W.
 Finsbury, Jolly Anglers' Tav., Bath-st., City-road.
 Temperance in the East, Catherine-st., Poplar.
 Ebury, 12, Ponsonby-st., Millbank.
 Highgate, Bull and Gate, Kentish-town.
 The Great City, 111, Cheapside.
 High Cross, Coach & Horses, High-road, Tottenham.
 Salisbury, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
 Prince Frederick William Chapter, St. John's Wood.
 Southern Star, Crown Hot., Blackfriars-rd.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 17.

- House Com. Boys' School, at 4.
 Lodge 143, Middlesex, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
 " 201, Jordan, F.M.H.
 " 975, Rose of Denmark, White Hart, Barnes.
 " 1118, University, F.M.H.
 Chap. 92, Moira.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

- Union Waterloo, Thomas-st., Woolwich.
 Robert Burns, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
 Belgrave, Constitution, Bedford-st., Covent Garden.
 Unions Emulation (for M.M.'s), F.M.H.
 Temperance, Victoria Tav., Victoria-road, Deptford.
 Clapton, White Hart, Clapton.
 Metropolitan, Portugal Hot., Fleet-st.
 Westbourne, Horse & Groom, Winsley-st., Oxford-st.
 United Pilgrims, Surrey M.H., Camberwell New-road.
 St. James's, New Tanners' Arms, Grange-rd., Bermondsey.
 Duke of Edinburgh, Silver Lion, Penny-fields, Poplar.
 Doric, Earl Grey Tav., Mile-end-rd.
 Burgoyne, Grafton Arms, Prince of Wales's-road, N.W.
 St. Luke's, White Hart, King's-rd., Chelsea.
 Chigwell, Bald-faced Stag Hot., Buckhurst-hill.
 Burdett Courts, Approach Tav., Victoria Park.
 Royal Standard, The Castle, Holloway-rd.
 Ranelagh, Clarendon Hot., Hammersmith.
 Stability, Guildhall Tav., Gresham-st.
 St. George's, Globe Tav., Greenwich.
 Pythagorean Chapter, Prince of Orange, Greenwich-rd.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN WEST LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE.

For the Week ending Saturday, November 18, 1876.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 13.

- Lodge 314, Peace and Unity, Militia Mess R., Preston.
 " 1201, Hartington, H.M., C.H.B., B.-in-Furness.
 " 1350, Fermor Heaketh, M.H., Liverpool.
 " 1398, Baldwin Castle, Dalton-in-Furness.
 " 1496, Trafford, Notthumberland Hot., Old Trafford.
 Chap. 148, Elias Ashmole, Chap. R., Warrington.
 Derby L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.
 Mark Lodge 165, Egerton, Redford-road, Rock Ferry.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 14.

- Lodge 241, Merchants, M.H., Liverpool.
 " 1250, Gilbert Greenall, M.R., Warrington.
 Chap. 537, Zion, M. Chambers, Birkenhead.
 WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 15.
 Lodge 537, Zetland, M.C., Birkenhead.
 " 823, Everton, M.H., Liverpool.
 " 1086, Walton, St. Lawrence's School, Liverpool.
 " 1245, Victoria, Cross Keys Hot., Eccles.
 " 1353, Duke of Lancaster, Athenæum, Lancaster.
 De Grey and Ripon L. of I., 80, N. Hill-st., Liverpool.
 Harmonic L. of I., Mona Hot., James-st., Liverpool.
 Downshire L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 16.

- Lodge 203, Ancient Union, M.H., Liverpool.
 " 343, Concord, Militia Mess R., Preston.
 " 425, Cestrian, M.H., Chester.
 " 605, Combermere, Seacombe Hot., Seacombe.
 " 1299, Pembroke, Rawlinson's Hot., West Derby.
 Chap. 249, Mariners, M.H., Liverpool.
 St. John's L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 17.

- Duke of Edinburgh L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.
 Precep. Jacques de Molay, M.H., Liverpool.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN GLASGOW AND WEST OF SCOTLAND.

For the Week ending Saturday, November 18, 1876.
 All the Meetings take place at Eight o'clock.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 13.

- Lodge 102, St. Mark, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
 " 204, St. Paul, George Inn, Ayr.
 " 205, Garthland, Eagle Inn, Lochwinnoch.
 " 219, Star, 12, Tron-gate, Glasgow.
 " 307, Union and Crown, M.H., Barrhead.

- Lodge 362, St. Clair, 25, Robertson-st., Glasgow.
 " 384, Athole, Washington Hot., Kirkintilloch.
 " 503, St. George, Oddfellows' Hall, Helensburgh.
 " 541, Marie Stuart, M.H., Crosshill.
 Chap. 76, Chapter Abbey, 8, High-st., Paisley.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 14.

- Lodge 230, St. Barnabas, Black Bull Hot., Old Cumnock.
 " 413, Athole, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
 " 419, Neptune, 35, St. James-st., Glasgow.
 " 426, Prince of Wales, High-st., Renfrew.
 " 441, Glasgow, 21, Struthers-st., Glasgow.
 " 543, St. John, M.H., Dalmeir.
 " 556, Clydesdale, 106, Rose-st., S.S., Glasgow.
 " 579, St. Bryde, M.H., Uddingston.
 Chap. 17, Greenock, M.H., Cathcart St. Greenock.
 " 69, St. Andrew, 25, Robertson-st., Glasgow.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 15.

- Lodge 117, St. Mary, M.H., Douglas-st., Partick.
 " 354, Caledonian Railway, 30, Hope-st., Glasgow.
 " 571, Dramatic, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
 Chap. 150, Shettleston, M.H., Shettleston.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 16.

- Lodge 27, St. Mungo, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
 " 370, Renfrew County Kilw., 8, High-st., Paisley.
 " 465, St. Andrew, 69, Garngad-rd., Glasgow.
 " 547, Stewart, M.H., Kilsyth.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 17.

- Lodge 31, St. Mary Coltness, Com. Hot., Wishaw.
 " 306, St. Thomas, 60, Wellgate-st., Larkhall.
 " 321, St. Andrew, R.A., Pub. Hall, Alexandria.
 " 360, Commercial, 30, Hope-st., Glasgow.
 " 408, Clyde, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
 " 471, St. John, Stane Inn, Shots.
 " 496, St. Munn, Ardnadam, Kilmun.
 " 551, Clydesdale, Royal Hot., Larkhall.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 18.

- Lodge 512, Thorntree, School House, Thornliebank.
 " 524, St. Andrew, M.H., East Kilbride.
 " 544, St. Andrews, M.H., Coatbridge.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN EDINBURGH AND VICINITY.

For the Week ending Saturday, November 18, 1876.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 13.

- Lodge 145, St. Stephen, St. James's Hall, Writers-ct.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 14.

- Lodge 1, Edinburgh, Mary's Chapel, Waterloo Hot.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 15.

- Lodge 160, Roman Eagle, Iona Hot.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 16.

- Lodge 48, St. Andrew, F.M.H., 98, George-st.
 " 226, Portobello, Town Hall, Portobello.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 17.

- Chap. 83, St. Andrew, F.M.H., 89, George-st.

A M.M.—A Sergeant, who has taken his discharge from the Army, would like to obtain a Situation of Trust in a City Warehouse, where he would have an opportunity of improving himself; or as Time Keeper, or any place of trust. Age 28, height, 5ft 10½ in.—Address A. B., No. 25, Vine Cottages, Comos-road, Sydenham.

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REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS.

Craft Masonry.

BELGRAVE LODGE (No. 749).—The installation meeting of this lodge was held on the 8th inst. at Anderson's Hotel, Fleet-street. There was a full attendance of the officers and brethren, and among the visitors were Bros. Rosenthal, P.P.G.S.D. of Middx.; Linsell, P.P.G.P.; J. Longman Cogan, J.W. 1365; T. J. Cusworth, S.W. 813; J. D. Loverdo, 1196; and G. E. Leech, 201. The minutes were unanimously confirmed, and the ballot having been taken for Messrs. Henry W. L. Hobbs and Richd. J. Tyrrell as initiates, and one for Bro. Captain Charles T. Redhead, of the Oriental Lodge, Constantinople, as a joining member, all were unanimously elected. The W.M., Bro. William Battey, passed Bros. McCreary, Culpin, Clemence, and Chesney. The installation of Bro. Joseph William Hobbs, the late S.W., as W.M., then took place, which was worked by Bro. Garrod, who certainly deserves great praise for the manner in which it was conducted. The newly installed W.M. then initiated Messrs. Hobbs and Tyrrell in a masterly manner. The officers invested by the new W.M., each with an appropriate speech, were Bros. H. Greenwood, S.W.; R. E. Booker, J.W.; G. Gardner, S.D.; J. Coltart, I.D.; W. Groves, I.G.; H. Garrod, Sec.; W. Bunting, Treas.; Nanton, Org.; P. Parsons, P.M., and Hall, Stewards. Bro. Battey, the retiring W.M., was presented with a Past Master's jewel, and after the closing of the lodge, the brethren adjourned to a banquet, upwards of ninety sitting down. The dinner over, the W.M. gave the loyal toasts with excellent point, as he did the toast of "The Grand Officers." The toast of "The Initiates" was drunk with great cordiality, the newly-made brethren replying in appropriate terms. The I.P.M. then gave "The W.M." and said he was sure Bro. Hobbs would fully justify the choice of the brethren, as he had diligently worked to the chair, having fulfilled every office. The toast was duly acknowledged by the W.M. Other toasts followed, the company separating at a late hour, having listened to some excellent recitations by Bros. Cusworth, Barnard, and Pelham, and some capital singing by members and visitors.

COSMOPOLITAN LODGE (No. 917).—The installation meeting of this lodge was held on Tuesday evening at the Cannon-street Hotel. Bro. F. W. Jones, W.M., presided, and was supported by Bros. A. F. Rowley, S.W.; G. M. Taylor, J.W.; J. B. J. Deporter, Treas.; A. Lemarque, S.D.; Jas. Ellis, I.G.; Thos. Robinson, P.M.; J. F. Basilio, G. F. Gibson, Lovell Keays, E. Stillwell, and several lay members; and visitors Bros. F. McCarthy, S.D. 9; T. Upward, 1502; S. Thos. Emans, P.M. 141; H. A. Pratt, 192; W. Medwin, 193 and 1613; S. Edmonds, 192 and 1613; W. B. Sheen, S.W. 12; J. Skirving, 87; Levi, P.M. 188; Thos. W. Bacon, 192 and 1613; H. Massey ("Freemason"), P.M. 619; Alfred Freewannant, 228; S. Rowley, 1603. Bros. S. J. Corke, W. Pitt, and G. Ridding were raised, and Bro. J. Abbott, W. F. Barker, B. Fould, and A. Jewell were passed, the work being admirably performed by the W.M. At the conclusion of the performance of this work Bro. L. Stean, P.M., ascended the chair for the purpose of installing the W.M. for the year. Bro. Alfred Francis Rowley was presented by Bro. Jones to Bro. Stean, and duly installed as Master of the Cosmopolitan Lodge for the ensuing twelve months. The customary salutes having been given in the different degrees the new W.M. appointed his officers as follows:—Bros. Taylor, S.W.; Lemarque, J.W.; Jones, P.M., Treas.; L. Stean, P.M., Sec.; Abbott, S.D.; Ellis, J.D.; Van Ralte, I.G.; Gullock, Tyler. Bro. Jones was invested as I.P.M. Bro. L. Stean delivered the addresses, and afterwards the W.M. commenced his year's work, and initiated Messrs. Walter Rowley, Theophilus Bailey, E. Winshurst, and F. Bailey. Before the lodge was closed two presentations were made. The first was a handsome Past Master's jewel to the I.P.M., and the other a massive silver teapot to the late Treasurer of the lodge, Bro. Deporter. In presenting the P.M.'s jewel to Bro. Jones, the W.M. said: Brethren, it affords me great pleasure to present to Past Master Jones a P.M.'s jewel. I am sure he richly deserves it for the way in which he has conducted the business of the lodge during his year of office. If I follow in his footsteps I shall be quite satisfied. (Addressing Bro. Jones, the W.M., said), Bro. Jones, I present you with this jewel, and I trust you may live many years to wear it. (Hear hear.) Bro. Jones, I.P.M., in replying said: I assure you this is one of the proudest moments of my life. When I entered Freemasonry I never thought I

should have reached to the position I have attained to in it. I can honestly say that I feel it a very great thank of respect that you have conferred upon me by presenting me with this jewel. I have endeavoured to do the best I could for the lodge since I have been Master. I am happy to say that the lodge is now very prosperous and it has become prosperous since I was installed in the chair. I am glad to say that now it is in a very prosperous position, and I am also glad to find that you have recognised what I have done for the lodge by presenting me with this jewel. I sincerely thank you. In presenting the silver teapot to Bro. Deporter, Past Treasurer, the W.M. said: Brethren, it was the unanimous wish of the brethren of the Cosmopolitan Lodge when we last met to present our Bro. Deporter with some testimonial or souvenir for the manner in which he has fulfilled his duties as Treasurer of the lodge since its foundation. The choice of the brethren of the form which the testimonial should take, I believe, fell upon a silver teapot. This I now present to him; and it gives me great pleasure to do so. I have known him for many years; and since I was initiated I have been intimately acquainted with him. The testimonial has a suitable inscription, which, if you please, I will now read to you:—"Presented by the Cosmopolitan Lodge, 917, to Bro. J. B. J. Deporter, in recognition of his valuable services rendered as Treasurer to this lodge since its institution." To Bro. Deporter the W.M. said: Bro. Deporter, I present you with this silver teapot in the name of the lodge, and I hope you will live long to use it. (Hear, hear.) Bro. Deporter said, in reply: W.M. and brethren, I consider this handsome testimonial presented to me by the lodge as a fresh mark of your kindness. (Hear, hear.) It will often remind me of the many, many happy moments that I have passed in this lodge. In retiring from the Treasurership I promise to continue to render any service I can for the welfare of this lodge; and in conclusion I most heartily beg to thank you. There was no other business before the lodge, and the brethren then adjourned to banquet, which was presided over by the W.M. This repast was most completely enjoyed by the brethren; and afterwards the W.M. proposed the usual toasts. After the brethren had drunk the loyal toasts, they proceeded to drink the others. Bro. Jones, the P.M., proposed "The Health of the W.M.," and stated that he (Bro. Jones) and the W.M. had for many years followed each other step by step and worked together. Very cordially and very often they had met in lodges of instruction to learn the duties they had undertaken to fulfil, and both of them were deeply interested in the progress which their lodge was making. They had endeavoured to forward its interests, and to place it in a high position. With such desires on the part of its members the lodge could not fail to succeed, and he felt satisfied that in what he had done himself he would be ably followed by the W.M. The W.M., in reply, said it afforded him great pleasure to do his utmost for his lodge. When he entered Masonry he resolved to do his best for it, and ever since then he had always had great pleasure in entering lodges and being among Masons. Bro. Jones responded to the toast of "The P.M.'s," and all the Initiates acknowledged the toast drunk in their honour. Each of the officers replied in turn for himself. The W.M. next proposed "The Health of Bro. L. Stean, Installing Master." He was one of the founders of the lodge, and an excellent worker, as all the brethren knew. He would couple Bro. Stean's name with "The Masonic Charities." Bro. Stean, in the course of his reply, said that he did not know why his name should have been coupled with the institutions, although he certainly did, as all the brethren did, his utmost for one and all. He was not, however, connected with more than one; but he was very proud of the compliment paid to him. He had been a Mason now about forty-five years, and not only performed duties in that lodge, but in many others. He had devoted many years of his life in endeavouring to bring about a universal working in Freemasonry. For years he went on very well. He was a member of the Emulation, and he went round to a great many lodges of instruction to impart the knowledge he gained. In olden times he had had many discussions about the forms and words, but when he went to the fountain head he did not find all the difference in words which was found now. He thought that Grand Lodge should approve of certain Preceptors to instruct the brethren, and if they took the matter in hand in this way it would be found very beneficial. He wanted universal working. Do not let it be said that there was this working here, and that working there. The institution was an ancient one, and a beneficial one. Let it be alike all over the world, especially as the future Sovereign of England was the Grand Master. Bro. Stean concluded by thanking the brethren very much for the honour they had done him in drinking his health. All the visitors were called upon to reply to the Visitors' toast, and after the Tyler's toast had been given the brethren separated, with the recollection of having spent a most agreeable evening.

LODGE OF ASAPH (No. 1319).—The installation meeting of this lodge was held on Monday, the 6th inst., at Freemasons' Hall. Bro. C. S. Jekyll, W.M., presided, and opened the lodge, which was very numerously attended. Among the brethren present, besides the W.M., were Bros. W. A. Tinney, S.W., and W.M. elect; Edward Terry, J.W.; E. Stanton Jones, Sec.; Geo. Buckland, S.D.; Edward Swanborough, J.D.; Harry F. Cox, D.C.; G. R. Egerton, Org.; C. Wellard, I.G.; James Weaver, P.M.; Charles Coote, P.M.; J. M. Chamberlin, P.M.; T. A. Adams, P.G.P.; M. F. Fogarty, Charles Beckett, Wm. Smith, Henry Carter, Meyer Lutz, John Maclean, Louis Hermann, Robert Soutar, John Kenny, Frederick Delevanti, Howard Reynolds, W. Smith, H. Snyders, James C. Hambleton, Joseph Perry, J. H. Pearson, J. Horton, C. Alcas, W. F. Graves, Edward Coles, Arthur Thomas, A. Henson, J. Baker, W. L. Bartlett, J. F. Hutchins, Frank

James Amor, J. M. Ball, Chas. Harper, jun., Arthur Swanborough, John Caulfield, J. R. Poulter, Thaddens Wells, Walter Joyce, Chas. D. Hume, S.W. 742; R. Roberts, J.W. 742; Dr. Hugh Macintosh, S.D. 4; G. M. A. Low, 1389; Geo. Fox, 1339; C. A. Cottebrune, P.G.P.; James Blyth, J.D. 173; T. B. Lincott, D.C. 55; W. Robertson, 228; Thos. Kingston, W.M. 862; A. Burden, 180; Wm. Dodd, P.M. 1193; Robert White, 101; H. Massey, P.M. 619 ("Freemason"); J. W. Buckland, 9; Fred. Larran, 1269; James Terry, and John Finch, J.W. 173. After the lodge had been opened, and the customary introductory business completed, Bro. E. Stanton Jones, P.M., ascended the chair, and presentation of Bro. W. A. Tinney having been made to him, duly installed him in the chair of K.S. for the ensuing twelve months. The following brethren were invested as officers:—E. Terry, S.W.; G. Buckland, J.W.; C. Coote, jun., Treas.; E. S. Jones, Sec.; Edward Swanborough, S.D.; C. Wellard, J.D.; H. Stephenson, D. of C.; F. Delavanti, Org.; H. Cox, I.G.; C. M. Lutz, Steward; and J. Gilbert, Tyler. There was no other work before the lodge but the installation of W.M., and after the usual addresses had been delivered the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to a choice banquet. At the conclusion of the banquet, the Non Nobis was sung by a powerful choir, composed of the musical brethren, under the direction of Bro. Geo. Buckland; and the W.M. proceeded with the proposal of the toasts. After the brethren had drunk the toast of "The Queen and the Craft," the W.M. proposed "The Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M." He did so in very felicitous terms, stating that His Royal Highness took the greatest interest in all that concerned the Craft, and that the sincere wishes of the brethren were for his long life, perfect health, and supreme happiness. In giving "Lord Skelmersdale, D.G.M., and the rest of the Grand Officers," he passed a high compliment on their ability and efficiency, and said that to them Masons were indebted for the present high position of Freemasonry. Bro. C. A. Cottebrune, P.G.P., responded. The W.M. next proposed "Prosperity to the Benevolent Fund of the Lodge of Asaph," the energy of whose President, Bro. Stanton Jones, in the cause of Freemasonry must excite their warmest admiration. Bro. Jones just at that moment was unfortunately absent, but he (the W.M.) would couple with the toast the name of Bro. Chamberlin, Vice-President, whose exertions in the cause of Freemasonry were also great, and would be equally esteemed. Bro. J. M. Chamberlin, P.M., responded, and, as some initiates were present, explained that the fund was established in connection with the lodge, in order that any brother who had been two years in the lodge, and from unforeseen circumstances met with misfortune or accident, might have relief. In both branches of the profession such things would happen, and it must be in the experience of many present that some of the professors in the art had been reduced from prosperity to distress. It was on behalf of brethren of the lodge who were unfortunately situated that this fund was established. Six shillings a year were deducted from the subscriptions, and this with the assistance of voluntary donations from members on the annual banquet night made up a goodly sum. More for the good of Freemasonry than of themselves, they limited the brethren to one banquet a year. They had now £164 in hand, but although this was a respectable sum, it would not be sufficient if the claims on it were numerous. They wanted to form such a fund as that if a member should seek assistance from it they might give him not only the temporary help which would be enough for a night or two, but sufficient to tide him over his difficulty, and give him a start in life. For that purpose he did not think a sum of £164 was enough in such a lodge, and he would like to see it larger. The fund was progressing, but the rate of progression was not great enough. All that they could do was to rely on the brethren for voluntary contributions. They assisted the general charities of Freemasonry, and they might also help each other. It was a wise man who said God helped those who helped themselves, and he hoped when he sat down the W.M. would be able to announce a subscription list which would show that the brethren were not merely content to wish prosperity to the fund, but would materially aid it. Bro. Charles Coote, P.M., thought that having a benevolent fund connected with lodges was the wisest thing that could be done, because if a brother should by any means come to grief, by applying to the fund to which he had subscribed he did not come as a suppliant, but as one who was coming for a right. From the smiles he saw round the table he knew that the brethren would subscribe cheerfully what they could afford to that which would be their own. There was another subject he wished to bring before the brethren—the cause of the institutions which were attached to Freemasonry, the Boys' School, the Girls' School, and the Benevolent Fund for Aged Freemasons. Brethren who had not yet visited those establishments ought to do so, and take their wives with them, to see the admirable arrangements that were made for the education of the children and the maintenance and comfort of the old people. It gladdened his heart to see the Lodge of Asaph in such a prosperous condition, and he hoped that all the brethren who had the means would not forget what the Institutions did and would subscribe. This lodge did not spend much in eating and drinking, but spent their money in supporting the charities. Bro. J. Terry replied, and after referring to the remarks of Bro. Chamberlin, expressed the hope that instead of the benevolent fund of the Lodge of Asaph amounting to £164 it would be double and treble that sum. The Masonic Institutions had to thank the Lodge of Asaph for what it had done. It met once a year for social enjoyment, and the other seven or eight months entirely for Masonic business. It was not for him to say how they had gone on, but he would urge them to do in the future what they had done in the past. Bro. Terry then described

what the different institutions had done and were doing, the number of beneficiaries who were on their funds, and the results which were achieved. The confidence of the brethren in the committees of management had not been misplaced. He then gave some instances of the good his own institution had effected, and said that some of the inmates had found a refuge there who in the heyday of their prosperity had never dreamed of requiring its aid. The W.M. announced a subscription list of £18 7s. 6d. by brethren of the lodge. Bro. Jekyll, I.P.M., proposed "The Health of the W.M.," a brother who was the first initiate in the Lodge of Asaph. In him the lodge would have a good working Mason, and one who had the good of Freemasonry at heart. The W.M., in acknowledging the toast, said that Bro. Jekyll had informed the brethren that he (the W.M.) was the first initiate in the lodge. He was therefore the first W.M. of the lodge who could claim it as his mother lodge. For several years it had been his desire to become W.M., and on that day he had attained the height of his ambition. Whilst he had the pleasure and honour of retaining that high position he would endeavour to perform the duties of the chair with credit to himself and honour to the lodge. Enough of himself. He would now pass on to a more pleasing part of his duty, the presenting to the I.P.M., Bro. Jekyll, the reward he had so well earned. In placing this jewel on Bro. Jekyll's breast he was sure he did but express the sentiments of the brethren when he wished him years of good health and prosperity to watch over the progress of the Lodge of Asaph, and set all of the brethren an example. Bro. Jekyll said he was pleased that his conduct had met with the approbation of the brethren. He was sure that the lodge would progress favourably under its present Master, and he hoped it would always adhere to the present mode of working, and have but one banquet a year, whereby it had the means of appropriating so large a sum to the Benevolent Fund. In proposing "The P.M.'s," the W.M. took the opportunity of thanking them for the kind aid they had always afforded the Master of the lodge. Bro. C. Cote, P.M., responded, and said that as one of the founders he had taken the greatest interest in the lodge, and had supported as far as he possibly could whatever was for its benefit. It was a great happiness to him to see such a noble assembly that evening. He believed the prosperity of the lodge was mainly attributable to the way in which the brethren endeavoured to carry out the principles of Freemasonry. Bro. H. Massey ("Freemason") responded to the toast of "The Visitors," and Bro. George Buckland to the toast of "The Officers of the Lodge." The brethren separated after drinking the Tyler's toast.

THE GRANITE LODGE (No 1328).—Freemasonry as developed and practised by the members of this lodge commands at once the respect and admiration of every visitor. The mode of transacting the business of the lodge never fails to elicit the eulogy of the visiting brethren. Whether it be the custom to praise where it is unmerited, or whether it is a human failing to lay the flattering unction to one's soul, for ill-assorted performances are speculations better left to the great hereafter, suffice it, that the visitors are always ready "to cut and come again," for we notice continually the same faces paying their respectful tribute to the members of the lodge, and doing homage at the shrine of the mystic art. Futurity decides all things, and assigns them a place in the time to come; and, therefore, if there be imperfections they will leak out, and the "deep taking on" of virtues and qualities to which we may have no just title, will be exposed to contempt and ridicule. Here, however, the meetings teem with "bonhomie," and a stranger is welcomed with unrestricted heartiness, he no sooner enters the lodge than he is drawn into its fascinating circle of goodwill and fellowship, and forms at once one of a constellation. On Saturday, the 11th inst., the lodge held a meeting for the disposal of certain business, when Bro. John Oliver, P.M., presided in the absence through illness, of Bro. W. H. Muggeridge, W.M. The lodge having been formally opened, Bros. A. J. Hewitt and David Duke were passed to the Second Degree. Bro. E. F. Clarke was duly initiated, and Richard B. Austin, C.E., was approved, while Bro. James Browning, of the City of Westminster Lodge, No. 1563, joined and became a member. A donation of twenty guineas was voted to the Royal Masonic Boys' School, to be placed on the list of Bro. J. Lewis Thomas, P.M. and Secretary, who will represent the lodge as Steward at the next festival. Among the visitors were Bros. J. W. G. Martin, 1310; James W. Szlumper, P. Pro G.J.W. Western Division, South Wales, 1072; Richard Phillips, 521 (Truth); Charles Couchman, 1602 (Ravenswood); Louis Beck, S.D. 1559. Several formal matters having been disposed of, the members adjourned to a dinner in the Freemasons' Tavern, Bro. John Oliver presiding. After the cloth was drawn, Bro. Oliver gave "The Queen and the Craft," which met with a hearty response. In proposing "The Health of the Grand Master, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales," he expressed the hope that he would be spared for many years to reign over the Craft, a wish that met with true Masonic accord and sympathy. He next gave "The Health of the Pro Grand Master, Lord Carnarvon, D.G.M., and the other Officers," and coupled with the toast the name of Bro. Cottleburne, through whose assistance the lodge was so prosperous. The toast was cordially responded to. Bro. George de Maid, alluding to the absence of the W.M. from indisposition, asked the brethren to drink to his speedy recovery. The toast having been duly honoured, Bro. de Maid called upon them to drink the very good health of P.M. Bro. Oliver, who in acknowledging the signal favour, expressed deep regret at the absence of the W.M. from indisposition. For himself he hoped to have the pleasure of meeting the members of the lodge for many years, and expressed the pleasure it gave him to do anything for it. The next toast, given by Bro. Oliver was that of "The Visitors," whose presence, he said, indicated

in a strong light the solid good fellowship existing all around, and he hoped to see them on a future occasion. Bro. J. W. Szlumper, in thanking them, spoke of the extremely pleasurable evening he had spent. Although he belonged to a lodge in the remote Province of South Wales they were "civilized" enough to look upon Freemasonry as a noble institution, and did all they could to make it a success, which it undoubtedly was. He should carry back to his lodge the good wishes of the Granite. Bro. Black also responded to the toast. Bro. Martin, as connected with the Harrow and several other lodges, observed that he had never spent a pleasanter time since he had been a Freemason than he had that afternoon in the society of the members of the Granite. Bro. Phillips remarked that it gave him great pleasure to meet them. Their entertainment had created profound respect, and their mode of conducting the ceremonies had elicited his admiration. He should be only too pleased to repeat his visit. Bro. Oliver next gave "The Health of the Past Masters of the Lodge" which was drunk with true Masonic honours. He then selected the Treasurer, Bro. George Hackford, and the Secretary, Bro. J. Lewis Thomas, as the objects for the next toast, and added his testimony to the exertions of both those officers, and complimented them on their financial successes. Bro. Hackford, in reply, after thanking them for "drawing him out of the coffers, where he always hoped, to hide his head," humorously as said they had lifted him up above the sphere of the "outer world," he did occupy a position somewhat superior to that of ordinary mortals. At one time the duties were those of a sinecure, when he had no funds, no cares or anxieties; now, however, all was changed, for he had inherited one and all. He had to see that the funds were not wasted in rioting, and above everything, to secure that a large proportion should find its way into the channel of Masonic charity; and he was sure that although they subscribed liberally to the charities, yet they might further develop the scope and circumscription of their present benevolence. He hoped the time was near when the Granite would further extend its hand in this respect. They assembled not so much for individual enjoyment as for the social intercourse, and the flow of soul from man to man, brother to brother, and for the benefit of the world at large, and he hoped they would advance above the outer world in the amelioration of the outer world. Bro. J. Lewis Thomas said it gave him great pleasure to see around the festive board such a large assembly. He alluded with sincere regret to the calamity that had befallen the W.M., through whose illness nearly the whole of the ruling and carrying out of the lodge had fallen upon the Secretary's shoulders. He had endeavoured to perform the task thus involuntarily cast upon him, he hoped to their satisfaction. They had not had a great influx of new members of late, still the lodge was very prosperous. He might say they did not care to have many more accessions; the lodge was so full, and if the present number were to be exceeded it would be unmanageable. They were, therefore, at the climax of prosperity. The Horn of Plenty was overflowing. Their Treasurer did not look at the "materialism" of Masonry, but what it was intended for; that was to enlighten the world and do some good for our fellow creatures at large. He was sure the Treasurer's remarks had created a sound impression on those present. Bro. Oliver next proposed "The Health of the Officers." Bro. F. West, S.W., in responding, remarked that it was cheering to come into the presence of a body of brethren where all was peace, and he hoped that all Masons would seek to secure it throughout the world. If the world generally understood the principles of Freemasonry there would be no difficulties in the East. He thanked them for the hearty manner in which they had drunk his health and that of his brother officers. Bros. R. C. Mount, J.W.; Robert Payne, S.D.; John Rhodes, J.D.; and J. Oswald Gardner, Steward; also severally responded. Bro. Oliver next selected "The Press" as an object of Masonic favour, and coupled with the toast the name of Bro. A. C. Shelley, who, in response, after pointing out the thoroughly Masonic character of journalism, the great, and increasing good achieved by cheap literature, and the schooling influence of editorials, told them that as they had selected him for a toast he felt he should be failing in his duty to the profession to which he belonged, if he did not intimate that he should at the next meeting of the lodge propose that as the "Freemason" was essentially an official journal of the proceedings of that lodge, and faithfully recorded every Masonic data of other lodges, that a copy be directed to be sent to the W.M. every week, who should be responsible for its safe filing. He mentioned that a file of the "Times" newspaper was an invaluable addition to a politician's or a commercial man's library, and they would find a file of the "Freemason" of equal use to the Craft. He did not doubt that the members took in the paper, but did they "file" it? He very much questioned whether they did. The receipt by the W.M. of a "file copy" every week would enable members at all ordinary meetings to refer at once for any information they might desire. After spending an enjoyable evening the members separated.

YEovil.—Lodge Brotherly Love (No. 329).—On the borders of Somerset and Dorset is the above town, noted for its glove trade, and in it is a flourishing Freemasons' lodge, held at that well known hostelry, the "Three Choughs," over whose destinies presides the most urbane and courteous of hosts, Bro. Sharland, who is second to none of the bonifaces in the West of England. Just across the borders in the adjoining county of Dorset is the quiet town of Sherborne, famed for its historical old abbey and for being the head quarters of the Blackmore Vale Hunt and an excellent lodge of the Craft, Lodge Benevolence, 1168, who a few months since invited the brethren of Lodge Brotherly Love to partake of their hospitality. They attended in goodly numbers, and were well pleased with the reception they met with, and wishing

to reciprocate the kindly feelings of the child towards the mother, to strengthen the bonds of friendship, and increase the ties of brotherly love, they invited the brethren of the Sherborne Lodge to a banquet in this town, which was accepted in the spirit in which it was given, and on Wednesday, the 1st instant, the W.M., Bro. G. F. Stokes, of the Lodge of Benevolence, with his officers and some 15 of the brethren, put in an appearance at the Choughs shortly after 5 o'clock, when the lodge was opened, and the ordinary business having been dispatched it was raised to the Third Degree, and Bro. Cobb received to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason, the ceremony being most beautifully and impressively performed by the W.M., Bro. Foster, and the whole working of the lodge reflected great credit upon its officers. At the conclusion of the ceremony the lodge was duly closed in ancient form, and the brethren were called to refreshment, which took the shape of a very excellent banquet. The W.M. took the chair, supported on the right by Bros. Stokes, W.M. 1168; J. Trevor Davies, S.W. 1168; L. H. Ruegg, 1168; Price Org., 329; Summes, 1168; on the left by Bros. T.D. Davies, P.M. 1168; Milborne and Whitley, P.M. 329; Gillard, P.M., L. Elgare and Sharland King, 1168. The duties of the vice chair were very ably carried out by Bro. Cox, P.M., as the locus tenens of Bro. Damon, S.W., who although present at the lodge was unavoidably absent from the banquet until a late hour. Bro. Cox was supported by Bros. Cox, Chaffin and Brutton, P.M.'s 329; 329; Long, 1168; Dr. Colmar, S.D. 1168; H. Searle, 1168; and others. The cloth having been cleared, the W.M. gave the toast which is first and foremost at all Masonic gatherings, "The Queen and the Craft." She was a good Queen and a good mother, and needed no long speech to commend her many virtues. The next was "The Health of his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, the Grand Master of England," who had reflected great honour upon the Craft and had endeared himself to every brother of it, and he had increased its influence in his visit to India; and the Chairman said he should ever hold in his remembrance the privilege he had had of his being present at his Royal Highness's installation. He proceeded next to give "The Health of the Earl of Carnarvon, the Provincial Grand Master of Somerset and his Officers." He and all the province deemed it a high honour, and one which was esteemed by all of them, to have such a distinguished Mason at their head; all knew how he worked for them and how rarely he was absent, and then only when his Queen called for his attendance at her councils; then of course everything must give place, and he would say this, that has long as the Sovereigns of this realm had such trusty Councillors as the Freemasons the stability of the Constitution was insured. He with others had attended the recent Provincial Grand Meeting at Bridgwater, and they had hoped to have seen his lordship's genial countenance beaming upon them, but he was obliged to be absent at a Privy Council, but in Lord Dufferin he had a worthy representative. The Chairman said the next toast on his list was what he should term the toast of the evening—he dare say some of them had thought he had been a long while coming to it, but he had considered it his duty loyally to propose the healths of those in authority over them. He would give them "The Health of Bro. G. F. Stokes, and the Officers and Brethren of the Lodge of Benevolence, 1168," whom he and all the brethren of their own lodge were pleased to welcome and extend the right hand of fellowship. He was sure they were pleased in having that opportunity of carrying out the principles of the Craft. Bro. Stokes in replying said he and the brethren accompanying felt the kindness with which their Yeovil brethren had received and entertained them; they had much enjoyed the hospitality which had been so liberally bestowed upon them. He would wish their lodge every success, which success depended upon the interest every individual brother took in the welfare of his lodge; he would like to see it regularly attended. He was able to say that he had not himself been absent from his lodge but once since his initiation; he was perfectly aware that all could not do that; but many by using a little self denial might attend oftener than they did. He was proud to say that although a young brother, the province of Dorset had at its last annual meeting awarded him a collar, which might perhaps be owing to the regularity of his attendance. He would enjoin young brethren to be regular in attendance, if so they would find it would bring with it its own reward. He begged on behalf of the Sherborne brethren to return their most sincere thanks, and to express a hope that that meeting might be but the inauguration of many such meetings. Several other toasts, Masonic and complimentary, were proposed, and all of which were enthusiastically drunk and none more so than "The Health of Bro. Sharland," for his catering. The proceedings of the evening were agreeably varied with some excellent singing. The happy party separated at midnight with many fervent hopes of being present at the next merry meeting.

PLUMSTEAD.—Pattison Lodge (No. 913).—The first meeting of the brethren of the above lodge, after the installation of the present W.M., Bro. W. T. Vincent, some three months ago, took place on Thursday, the 2nd inst., at Bro. Tucker's, the Lord Raglan, Burrage-road, and was attended by a large number of both members and visitors. The other officers present beside the W.M. were Bros. A. Penfold, I.P.M.; C. Conpland, P.M., and P.G. J.W. Kent; W. Tongue, P.M., and P.P.G.W. Kent; C. Ellis, P.M.; J. McDougall, P.M.; J. Henderson, P.M.; H. Butter, S.W.; J. D. Hayes, J.W.; A. Jessup, Treas.; E. Denton, P.M., and Sec.; C. Cooke, Org.; W. B. Lloyd, S.D.; J. Chapman, I.G.; J. Randall, W.S.; and R. Lester, O.G. Among the visitors were Bros. T. Butt, W.M. 700; W. Weston, W.M. 1536; F. G. Pownall, W.M. 13, and P.M. 1536; J. Ives, W.M. 1472; T. G. Day, W.M. 1076; F. J. Dawson, P.M. 700; G. Davies, P.M. 13; R. Thompson, 1536;

R. J. Warren, 1427; J. W. Farr, 1536; J. Tame, 700; G. Beaver, 700; G. Spinks, S.W. 1536; J. Plume, 1472; C. Morton, 700; H. Carline, 1536; W. Harris, 700; W. Beaver, 700; H. Bryceson, 700; T. W. Virgo, 700; G. Brown, 13; J. McCaffery, 700, and 1536; and others. The business before the lodge consisted of balloting for Messrs. Keeble, Stabback, and Letton, who, being approved of, were, with Mr. Brock, who had been previously balloted for, duly initiated into Freemasonry. Bro. J. Franklin was then raised to the Sublime Degree, both degrees being worked by Bro. Vincent exceedingly well, and, taking into consideration the fact of this being his first night in the chair, with every promise of his occupying a worthy place among the Masters of a lodge renowned for their careful and good working. Two propositions for initiation, and three for joining members, were then given, and the lodge was duly closed. The banquet was then attended to, upwards of seventy partaking, and on the cloth being removed, the W.M., with commendable brevity, gave the usual loyal and Masonic toasts. In reply to a very hearty reception of his name in connection with the Provincial Grand Officers of Kent, Bro. Coupland said he felt it a great honour to be in a position to return thanks for the Grand Officers, who, he felt sure, would be gratified at the compliment paid them. He was now the representative of Grand Lodge in that district, and he trusted that he should be enabled to carry out the important duties of the office he held to his own and their satisfaction. Bro. Penfold, as I.P.M., then proposed "The Health of the W.M.," and drew attention to the excellent work they had seen him do that night; it showed them what they had to expect, and he felt assured that in his hands the fame and honour of the lodge would never degenerate. Bro. Vincent, in reply, briefly thanked them for their hearty reception of his name, and hoped before the end of the year to show a great improvement upon the work of that night, and that the good feeling existing in the lodge would long continue. P.M. Ellis made an eloquent reply for "The Past Masters of the Lodge," and Bros. Davies, Butt, Day, and Weston responded for "The Visitors." "The Initiates" were warmly received, and returned thanks; and after "The Officers of the Lodge" had been heartily toasted, a verse of the "National Anthem" closed the meeting.

JERSEY.—Prince of Wales Lodge (No. 1003).—The annual meeting of this lodge was held at the Masonic Temple, on Wednesday, November 8th, for the purpose of installing the newly-elected W.M., when a very large number of brethren assembled to congratulate Bro. Wm. Wetherell on the successful termination of his labours, and Bro. P. Bois on the commencement of his career as a ruler of the Craft, under auspices so favourable, with such an example before him, and with the affairs of the lodge in so prosperous a condition. Bro. Wm. Wetherell, W.M., supported by the whole of his office-bearers, and by such good men and true as Bros. P. W. Benham, P.M., P.G. Treas.; Charles H. Benham, P.M. 1339; G. J. Renouf, P.M., P.P.G.S.W.; F. Walden, P.M.; L. Pitcher, P.M., Sec.; J. Pullot, P.M.; P. Bois, S.W.; C. D. Bishop, J.W.; and others too numerous to mention, opened the lodge. Visitors: A. Schmitt, P.P.S.G.W.; J. O. LeSueur, P.M. 291, P.G. Sec.; Chas. Kingsnorth, W.M. 245, P.P.J.G.W.; Joseph O. Flaherty, P.M. 958, P.S.G.D.; W. Z. Pugsley, P.M. 245 P.P.J.G.W.; Edward Martel, W.M. 958, P.P.G.D.C.; G. F. Baker, W.M. 491, P.G.D.C.; F. P. LeMarquand, P.M. 491, P.P.G.S.D.; Edward Gilley, P.M. 491; Dr. Thomas J. Aubin, S.W. 491, P.G.S. of W.; and others. The minutes of the last meeting of the lodge were read and unanimously confirmed, and the report of the Auditors having been received and adopted, the W.M., with the assistance of his officers, raised to the Degree of a Master Mason Bro. Cartwright, and immediately vacated the chair in favour of the Installing Master, Bro. P. W. Benham. Bros. J. O. LeSueur and Martel presented Bro. P. Bois as W.M. elect. The customary enumeration of duties was made and acknowledged. The ancient charges were read and assented to, and the obligation of W.M. elect administered. The lodge was opened in the Third Degree, and all who had not passed the chair withdrew. A Board of seventeen Installed Masters was then formed, and Bro. P. Bois was duly placed in the chair of K.S. according to ancient custom. After the Board had been closed, the several classes of Master Masons, Fellow Crafts, and Entered Apprentices were in turn admitted, and the processions, salutations, and proclamations were gone through, respecting which it need only be recorded that Bro. Benham conducted the ceremonies with great exactitude and impressiveness. After the usual address to the W.M., delivered with great fervour, Bro. P. Bois briefly remarked that, fully acknowledging the difficulty of the task he had undertaken, he was sensible of the honour conferred upon him. He accepted the responsibility, and trusted that with God's help he should not be wanting in the worthy discharge of it, especially as he had been promised and could confidently rely upon efficient help from the P.M.'s. The following appointments were made, Bro. P. W. Benham in each case officiating and offering appropriate observations: Bros. C. D. Bishop, S.W.; J. Huelin, J.W.; J. Pallot, P.M., Sec.; F. C. Creese, J.D.; J. Harris, S.D.; F. Duggan, I.G.; and G. Rogers, P.M., Tyler. Lastly, the W.M. invested Bro. P. W. Benham as Treasurer, with some remarks as well deserved by his past services in that capacity as they were complimentary and sincere. No other business offering, the lodge was closed in perfect harmony. The brethren adjourned to the refreshment room, and about seventy sat down to an excellent dinner, provided by the guardian of the temple. After the cloth had been drawn, the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured with every demonstration of respect and good feeling. Bro. A. Schmitt, in paying a just and well deserved tribute of respect and

appreciation of the many and various services which Bro. P. W. Benham, the Installing Master, and father of the lodge, has not only rendered to it, but also to chapters and other Orders, said: Bro. Benham,—You have been for many years a true and genuine Mason; you have worked your way in the Craft well, steadily, and honourably, holding fast to Masonic principles, comprehending and grasping its true features; we all here feel, and are constantly enjoying, your untiring efforts to promote concord and prosperity in this province. The records of your lodges, chapters, &c., prove that at all times you were ardently performing the duties in various capacities with zeal and ability, and your happy, judicious, and harmonising spirit the Prince of Wales Lodge advanced to an honourable position. I feel confident that we cannot too highly estimate your worth as a man of honour and a Mason, and I feel sure, my brethren, that you will vividly mark your appreciation of it by cordially drinking his health. I therefore give, "The Health of the I.P.M., Founder of the Lodge, and Supporter of Masonic Charities." Bro. Benham expressed his hearty thanks to the brethren for so cordial a reception of his health, and felt assured that his efforts, humble as they had been were at least directed to one great point, the advancement of Masonry and the promotion of fraternal affection. The W.M., visitors, and officers, were next toasted, and the brethren separated at 10. The proceedings of the evening were enlivened by some excellent music from Bros. Campbell, Baker, and Dr. Aubin.

ALDERSHOT.—Aldershot Camp Lodge (No. 1331).—The annual installation meeting of the above flourishing lodge, all the members of which belong to the military profession, was held in the Assembly Rooms, on Thursday, the 2nd November. The lodge was opened at 4.30 p.m. There were about seventy brethren present, including Bros. P.M. Eve, Hacker, Gold, Hickley, Pomeroy, Panmure Lodge, Aldershot; Bro. P.M. Vine, Bro. Anderson, and Bro. Goddard, W.M. St. Andrew's, Farnham; brethren from St. John's Lodge, Knaphill, the 17th Lancers Lodge, and several other lodges. Bro. P.M. White, W.M. pro tem., officiated at the meeting, and installed Bro. John Smith as W.M. for the ensuing year, much credit being due to Bro. White for the excellent manner in which he performed the ceremony. The W.M. having been duly installed, appointed his officers: Bros. Lucas, S.W. and Treas.; Field, J.W.; Cleasham, S.D.; McCudden, J.D.; Staley, I.G.; Thompson, Tyler. After this the members of the Charitable Association attached to the lodge balloted for a life subscribership in one of the Masonic Charities. This has been introduced into the lodge by Bro. Captain Richardson, and the lucky ticket was drawn by Bro. Hickley. Bro. Frayling presided at the harmonium. After the ceremony the brethren adjourned to the Royal Hall, where a magnificent banquet had been provided by Bro. Kne. Everything was got up by Bro. Kne in his usual style of perfection, and his catering gave the most entire satisfaction to the large company present. The cloth being removed, "The Queen and the Craft" was proposed by the W.M., which was loyally received, the brethren singing the Masonic National Anthem. This was followed by the toasts of "The Most Worshipful the Grand Master, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales," "The Most Worshipful the Pro Grand Master, the Rt. Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon," "The Rt. Worshipful the Deputy Grand Master, Lord Skelmersdale, and the rest of the Grand Officers of the Grand Lodge of England, Past and Present." The toast of "The Right Worshipful the Provincial Grand Master of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight, Bro. W. W. B. Beach, M.P.," was proposed in complimentary terms, after which Bro. Hacker gave "The Very Worshipful the Prov. Grand Master of Hampshire and Isle of Wight, Bro. W. Hickman, and the rest of the Prov. Grand Officers, Past and Present," to which Bro. Eve responded. Bro. White proposed "The W.M. of the Aldershot Camp Lodge," and Bro. Smith returned thanks in a few well chosen remarks. "The P.M.'s of the Aldershot Camp Lodge" was proposed by Bro. Eve, and replied to by Bro. White. The W.M. then proposed "The Health of the Visitors," which toast met with a hearty reception, and Bro. Goddard, W.M. of St. Andrew's Lodge, responded on their behalf. This was succeeded by "The Masonic Charities," which was eloquently given by Bro. Hacker, and responded to by Bro. Eve. The next toast was that of "The Wardens, Treasurer, and Officers of Aldershot Camp Lodge," to which the Senior Warden responded, the toasts being brought to a conclusion by "The Health of the Host," and the Tyler's toast. A most pleasant evening was spent by all the brethren, the proceedings being enlivened by some capital singing by Bros. Eve, White, Page and Weild.

CHIPPING SODBURY.—Tyndall Lodge (No. 1363).—On Wednesday, 1st inst., the brethren of this lodge assembled at the lodge room in the Town Hall, Chipping Sodbury, for the purpose of witnessing the installation of Bro. Algernon Sudlow in the W.M.'s chair. There was a goodly gathering of members of the Craft, many lodges being represented from Bath, Bristol, Cheltenham, and Chippenham. It was apparent to all as they entered the lodge that the installation ceremony would be, as indeed it eventually proved to be, a great success. Shortly after three, Bro. Chas. A. Bush, W.M., entered the lodge room with his officers, and at once proceeded to open the lodge. Bro. James Payne Curtis, the Secretary, then read the minutes, which were unanimously passed. He stated the accounts had been audited, and the balance was in the hands of the Treasurer. Bro. Dr. Wm. Benham, P.M., and P.Z. No. 103, P.P.G.D.C. Bristol, then proceeded to instal Bro. Algernon Sudlow, S.W., and W.M. elect, and performed his duties in a most impressive manner, to the perfect satisfaction of the brethren present, which was marked by Masonic approbation. After Bro. Sudlow was installed, and had received the usual

congratulations, he addressed the brethren, and at once proceeded to appoint the officers for the ensuing year, investing Bros. C. A. Bush as his I.P.M.; C. M. Herm, S.W.; J. P. Curtis, J.W. and Secretary, who will now have held that office for four years in succession; J. Trenfield, Treas.; E. Crossman, S.D.; J. Limbrick, J.D.; W. Jones, I.G.; J. D. B. Trenfield, P.M., and P.G.S.B., the D.C.; W. Tayler and W. H. H. Hartley, Stewards; James Iles, Organist, and E. Holliday, Tyler. Suitable addresses were given by the new W.M. to each brother. The lodge was then closed. The brethren then adjourned to the Grapes Hotel, where a splendid banquet was provided. Upon the removal of the cloth the W.M. gave "The Queen and Craft," "The M.W.G.M., H.R.H. the Prince of Wales," "The Officers of the Grand Lodge of England," and also "The P.G. Lodge," all of which were most heartily responded to by the brethren with the usual honours. The W.M. next proposed "The Masonic Charities of our Order," to enable Bro. Colonel Henry Basevi, Past D.D. G.M., P.G.R., and Secretary to the Charity Committee of Gloucestershire, to respond, he having to return to Cheltenham by an early train. The W.M. spoke at some length upon the subject, pointing out the grand work which the Freemasons had been accomplishing for centuries, silently, but most effectually. At the same time he congratulated the brethren that they had one amongst them that evening who took the liveliest interest in the Masonic charities, and coupled with the toast the name of Bro. Colonel Henry Basevi. Bro. Basevi then described the formation and working of the Institutions, and urged the brethren to give their support, and increase the voting power in the province. Before sitting down, Bro. Basevi, in a kind and most truly Masonic manner, proposed "The Health of the W.M." "The Health of the new W.M." was then drunk most heartily. The W.M., in thanking the brethren for the honour they had conferred on him, said he had accepted the post of W.M. feeling its responsibilities, but with the determination to carry out the principles of Freemasonry to the very letter, at least as far as lay in his power, and they were nothing unless so carried out. He then referred to the grand principles of Freemasonry, the great care to be taken (now so many were pressing into the ranks) respecting admittance into the Order, and then proceeded to refute objections advanced by ignorance or prejudice against the principles of the Craft, enlarging upon Masonic matters which are forbidden to the outside world. Before taking his seat he begged to propose "The Health of the Installing Master," whom he thanked most heartily for the kind and impressive manner in which he had performed the duties of his office. No one, added the W.M., could go away from that ceremony without feeling deeply its solemnity, and every brother must feel it a great honour to the lodge to be able to include amongst its members one who so strictly adhered in theory and practice to the sublime principles of Freemasonry. Besides the officers already mentioned, we noticed Bro. Samuel Davies, P.G.S.W. Monmouthshire, P.P.G.S. Gloucester; F. J. Vizard, P.M.; W. R. Latter, C. J. H. Turvin, Wm. Higgs, J. F. Wills, T. Brooke, Moses Eyles, J. T. Brown, W.M. 41; E. Wear, 68; G. F. Knowland, 68; G. H. Cooke, W.M. 379; H. C. Hopkins, J.W. 379; A. G. Williams, 610; A. Vosper, 610; T. H. Phillips, P.M. 626; J. Lane, Treas. 626; G. J. Bailey, Sec. 636; W. T. Briscoe, J.D. 626; George Munday, 626; Jesse Hayward, J.D. 906; James Stuckey, I.G. 906, and others. The brethren spent a most enjoyable evening, and before separating they again complimented the W.M., and wished him a happy and prosperous year of office.

MANCHESTER.—Lodge of Truth (No. 1458). The regular meeting of this lodge was held on Saturday, November 4th, and there was a large attendance of brethren. Mr. Arthur Barber was initiated, and Bro. Duckworth passed by Bro. Kent, W.M. Bro. Batchelder, S.W., was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing year. Bro. Tyers, P.M., was unanimously re-elected Treasurer, and Bro. Beswick Tyler. Auditors were then appointed. There was one proposition for joining member, and the lodge was closed at 7.30 p.m. The brethren then adjourned to banquet; the usual toasts were duly honoured, and a very pleasant evening was spent at the festive board.

NORTH WOOLWICH.—Henley Lodge (No. 1472).—The usual monthly meeting of the above lodge took place on Tuesday, the 7th inst., at Bro. E. West's, the Three Crowns, Bro. J. Ives, W.M., in the chair. The following officers were present:—Bros. B. B. Brayshaw, P.M.; H. Sisley, P.M.; W. Steele, S.W.; T. Geller, Treas.; J. Henderson, P.M. and Sec.; W. T. Turner, J.D.; N. Stanfield, I.G.; J. Plume, D.C.; and Steadman, P.M., Tyler. The visitors included T. Day, W.M. 1076; H. Green, 1076; C. Cooke, Org. 13, 700, 913; C. Mitchell, 700; and C. Jolly, 913. The lodge having been duly opened, Bros. J. Jewell and J. C. Dowsett, on evidence of proficiency, were passed to the Second Degree, and Messrs. T. Doyle and W. C. Risby were approved of and initiated. Nothing could exceed the earnest and solemn manner in which the W.M. performed these several ceremonies; nor must a word of praise be denied to Bros. Turner and Stanfield, who, in the absence of the J.W. and S.D., filled those various offices admirably. Hearty good wishes having been given from the Pattison, 913, Nelson, 700, and Union Waterloo, 13, by their several representatives, the lodge was closed in due form, and the brethren adjourned to supper, which was, as usual, well looked to by the worthy host. On assembling again, the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were briefly but pointedly given by the W.M., and as cordially responded to. We must congratulate this young lodge upon its great success in doing good Masonic work.

LEWISHAM.—New Cross Lodge (No. 1559).—Nine months have now passed since the above lodge was consecrated at the Public Hall, Lewisham High Road, and during this period thirteen brethren have been initiated into the mysteries of the Craft. Thus it

will be seen that the initiations have been far from numerous, which is to be accounted for by the fact that the New Cross brethren were by no means anxious to become a numerous lodge, and the fees are somewhat heavier than is usual, more especially so for this locality. The meeting of Saturday, the 4th inst., was not by any means well attended, and some of the brethren were anything but punctual in their observation of the summons to meet at three p.m. "Punctuality is the soul of business," as we wrote in big type in our copy books at school. We are always pleased to see a full muster at the opening of lodge, and nothing carries a worse impression, at all events from a visitatorial point of view, than a bare and deserted lodge-room, that gradually fills as the ceremonies while away. In the temporary absence of the W.M., Bro. Keeble, P.M. Sec., assumed the chair, the lodge being formed as follows:—E. H. Thielley, S.W.; W. A. Simmonds, J.W.; L. Beck, S.D.; H. T. Green, J.D.; W. Hardman, I.G.; Chapman, Tyler. There were also present Bros. Solomon Jewell, Moss, Smurthwaite, Ernest Smith, D. Malpas, Metham, Grumant, Cowley, and Macgillivray, members; Bro. C. J. Hogg, P.M., P.G.S., hon. member; and Bros. J. W. Baldwin, P.M. 1423, and Andrews, 871. Lodge was opened in the First Degree, and Bro. Macgillivray, a candidate for passing, was interrogated, and having given substantial proofs of the progress he had made since initiation, in point of fact having acquitted himself in a highly satisfactory manner, was rewarded, and withdrew. Lodge was opened in the Second Degree, and Bro. Keeble, in a careful manner, passed Bro. Macgillivray to the degree of a Fellow Craft. Bros. Malpas, Moss, Grumant, and Cowley, having been examined as Fellow Crafts, withdrew, and the lodge was opened in the Third Degree. Bros. Malpas and Moss were admitted and raised to the Sublime Degree of a M.M., a privilege that was subsequently extended to Bros. Grumant and Cowley. Too much cannot be said of the painstaking manner in which the double ceremony of the Third Degree was worked by the W.M., who was throughout struggling with a bad cold. After lodge had been resumed in the First Degree, the W.M., Bro. W. B. Woodman, arrived, and relieved Bro. Secretary of the duties of the chair. The bye-laws having been read (and very well read too), in open lodge by Bro. Green, J.D., the duty of electing a successor to Bro. Woodman, whose year of office expires in February, devolved upon the lodge, and after the ballot had been taken, the W.M. announced that the choice of the brethren had fallen on Bro. Keeble, P.M., Sec., who was officially informed of the fact, and briefly responded, Bro. F. Walters, P.G.J.D., &c., was re-elected Treas., and Bro. Church, Tyler, for the ensuing year. Bros. H. J. Green, S. Jewell, and E. Smith were appointed auditors. Bro. Keeble proposed, and Bro. Thielley seconded, that the retiring W.M., Bro. W. B. Woodman, be presented with a ten guinea jewel in commemoration of his having filled the post of first W.M. of the New Cross Lodge. This was unanimously agreed to. All Masonic business being now at an end, the lodge was closed in due form, and with solemn prayer, and adjourned till the first Saturday in February. The brethren were afterwards regaled with light refreshments, and, after an enjoyable hour had been spent, separated.

PUTNEY.—Royal Commemoration Lodge (No. 1885).—The members of the above lodge met on Wednesday, the 1st inst., under the presidency of the W.M. Bro. J. Wright. There were also present Bros. Robinson and Jackson as Wardens; Bro. P.M. H. Smith, Sec.; and Bro. Watkins, as Treasurer. The lodge having been duly opened and the minutes of last meeting read and confirmed, the W.M. examined Bros. Weston and Hatfield, and raised them to the degree of M.M. Bros. Maryon, Pardoe, Williams, and Easton being present, they were found duly qualified to be passed to the degree of Fellow Craft. Ballot was taken for Messrs Bury, Rowe, Breach, Barratt, and Read, and they were then initiated into the ancient mysteries. Bro. Watt, of the Mount Edgcumbe Lodge, was balloted for, and admitted as a joining member. The W.M., rising before closing the lodge, informed the members that he had received a communication from the Secretary of the Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons, asking for a Steward to be nominated for the next festival. The W.M. offered to represent the lodge, which we believe was agreed to, and he then closed in the usual manner. On the brethren assembling at the festive board, they numbered nearly fifty, there being a deputation from the brethren of the Southern Star Lodge, who were specially invited by the W.M. and officers. The viands having been disposed of and grace said, the W.M. rose and in his usual flow of good humour gave the regular Masonic toasts. P.M. Smith handling the gavel, proposed The Health of the W.M.; which was well received by one and all. We could hardly expect anything else, for not only is the W.M. a great favourite, but the worthy Secretary proposed it in such a manner, that he could not fail to make the brethren receive it otherwise. The toast having been responded to, that of the "Initiates," was given, and some very curt replies were made. The next was the toast of the evening, and was replied to by I.P.M. Bro. Wise, of the Southern Star, for himself and co-brethren, by J. H. Watts and P.M. Mander, of the Eclectic and P.M. Simpson, of the Britannia. The other toasts were "The Secretary and Treasurer" replied to by the former, and The "Officers of the Lodge" by the S.W. Bro. Steed then gave the Tyler's toast, and this pleasant afternoon and evening were brought to a close. We omitted to mention, that whilst the candidates were being prepared, Bro. Collings the D.C., with the kind assistance of Bro. Cull (J.D. of the Mount Edgcumbe) worked the fifth section of the first lecture in a very creditable manner, the former putting the questions and the latter answering. Besides the brethren mentioned above, there were also present P.M. Messenger, 1216; Bros. Huntley, 1044; Terrington, 1366; Matthews, 180; Day, 1563; Farwig, 180; and Davis, 167.

INSTRUCTION.

RICHMOND.—The Lily Lodge (No. 820).—This lodge of instruction was opened at the Greyhound Hotel, Richmond, on Saturday, the 4th inst., at 7 p.m. Bro. H. Kyezor, W.M., I.G. of 820, 266; Bro. Digby, S.W.; Bro. Harris, J.W.; Bro. Hopwood, S.D., P.M. 1328; Bro. Hurst, J.D.; and W.M. of 1512, and Bro. Phillips, Preceptor of 820, S.W. of 925. The lodge being opened in due form the minutes of the last meeting were confirmed, it was then opened in the Second and Third Degrees, closed regularly down, and adjourned until Saturday, the 11th inst., at 7 p.m., after which the brethren sat down in the banqueting hall to one of Bro. Palmer's recherché dinners. The cloth being removed the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and responded to with all honours. The W.M., Bro. Kyezor, then rose, and said it was his pleasing duty in the name of the members of the Lily Lodge of Instruction to present to Bro. Phillips a dozen sterling silver tea-spoons and sugar-tongs, as a slight token of the esteem they held him in for the efficient and able services he had rendered them as Hon. Secretary. The W.M., concluded by wishing that Bro. Phillips might live long enough to wear them out. Bro. Phillips in a few well-chosen remarks thanked the brethren for the good feeling evinced towards him, which he should always endeavour to retain. The Tyler's toast having been given, the brethren separated, having spent a most enjoyable evening.

FAITH LODGE (No. 141).—At a meeting of the above Lodge of Instruction, held at 2, Westminster Chambers, Victoria-street, Bro. Thomas Lamb, of No. 1563, worked the first ceremony in a very able manner. After the four sections had been worked under the Preceptorship of C. A. Cottebrune, the sums of £10 10s. were voted to the Girls' School, and £10 to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, leaving a balance in hand. It was resolved that the annual banquet of the Lodge of Instruction should take place on Tuesday, the 19th of December, at seven o'clock; Bro. C. A. Cottebrune, P.G.P., in the chair. Fifteen brethren immediately offered their services as Stewards. Thirty-six brethren were present.

Royal Arch.

MOUNT LEBANON CHAPTER (No. 73).—The regular convocation of this chapter was holden on Thursday, November 9th, at the Bridge House Hotel, High-street, Southwark. The chapter was opened by Comps. W. E. Smeed, P.Z., as M.E.Z.; J. W. Baldwin, H.; John Mason, J.; F. Walters, P.G. 1st. A.S. Middlesex, P.Z., S.E.; E. Harris, P.Z.; J. T. Moss, P.Z.; and others. The warrant was produced. Letters were read, one from Comp. H. A. Dubois, M.E.Z., regretting his absence, caused by the recent loss he had sustained in the death of a younger brother. The greatest sympathy was felt for him by all the members. Also one for Comp. T. J. Sabine, P.Z., Treasurer, whose absence was attributed to circumstances beyond his control, for which he apologised. The ballots, taken separately, were unanimously in favour of the admission of Comps. T. W. Clarke, 177, Domestic Chapter, as a joining member, and W. Dunham, P.M. 700, S.W. 1567; and A. J. Ireton, S.D. 73, as candidates for exaltation. In an impressive manner, the work of the chairs being done in a faultless style by Comps. J. Mason, J.; J. W. Baldwin, H.; and W. Smeed, M.E.Z., Bro. W. Dunham was exalted, then Bro. A. J. Ireton. The candidates being introduced separately added to the solemnity of the ceremony. Too much praise cannot be given to Comp. J. Mason for his excellent rendering of the work of the J. chair. It was sacerdotal in every respect, for it could not have been done better by any one. All the officers distinguished themselves by the correct manner in which they did their work. Some important notices of motion in reference to bye-laws were given. Comp. F. Walters, in a comprehensive speech, proposed, J. W. Baldwin, H., seconded, and it was carried unanimously, "That a five-guinea testimonial be presented to Comp. W. Smeed, P.Z., from the chapter funds (and the choice of testimonial to be left with him) as a slight recognition of his many valuable services rendered to the chapter." On his return to the chapter (the motion being discussed and carried during his absence), Comp. W. Smeed was informed of the testimonial. He, in a suitable speech, acknowledged it. The usual propositions for exaltation were received. The chapter was closed and adjourned to Thursday, January 11th, at six p.m. The supper followed work. A happy evening was agreeably spent. There were present Comps. M. D. Loewenstark, J. S. Sweasey, J. H. Spencer, and many more. The visitors were Comps. W. S. Wyman, 176; W. T. Lower, 176; J. W. Clark, 177; and others.

INSTRUCTION.

MOUNT SINAI CHAPTER (No. 19).—This well worked chapter now meets regularly every Saturday evening at the Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-street, and is attended by some of the most skilled Royal Arch Masons. The officers on last Saturday week, Nov. 4, were Comps. Cameron, M.E.Z.; Barnell, H.; Hooper, J.; Reed, S.E.; Bentley, N.; and Pulsford, P.S. The ceremony of exaltation was rehearsed, Comp. H. Thompson, ("Freemason") 619, being the candidate. The interesting ritual of the degree was most ably rendered, and commanded the greatest attention from the impressive manner in which the whole of the ceremony was performed. At the conclusion Comp. Pulsford worked the first clause of the Lecture, after which the chapter was closed in due form.

The Stationers' Company have granted the use of their hall for the purposes of the celebration of the 400th anniversary of the introduction of printing into England, to take place in June next.

Mark Masonry.

ST. MARK'S LODGE (No. 1).—The November meeting of the above lodge was held on Tuesday week at the Masonic Rooms, 175, Aldersgate-street. Present: Bros. Charles Horsley, W.M., 32°, P. Prov. G. Reg. Middlesex, P.M., P.Z.; E. H. Thielley, S.W.; Simmonds, J.W.; H. C. Levander, P.M., Treas.; George Kenning, P.M., Hon. Sec.; Newton, Lea, Shepherd, and others. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The usual routine having been disposed of, the brethren adjourned to banquet.

LIVERPOOL.—West Lancashire Lodge (No. 65).—The annual installation meeting of this lodge of Mark Master Masons was held at the Masonic Hall, Liverpool, on Wednesday, the 1st inst. The lodge was opened about six o'clock by Bro. Dr. J. Kellett Smith, P.M., P.P.G.J.W., and amongst others present during the evening were Bros. W. J. Lunt, P.M., P.G.S.D.; Henry Jackson, P.G.S.D.; John Hayes, J.W.; J. R. Goepel, P.M., P.G.S.O., Treas.; A. Bucknall, Sec.; J. Burrows, M.O.; R. H. Evans, S.D.; W. H. Cooper, J.D.; J. M. Thomson, I.G.; A. C. Wylie, S.; Wm. Fletcher, Wm. Gray, Jno. Williams, J. B. Brown, W. P. Jennings, L. B. Goodman, H. W. Parry, Geo. Hutchin, R. Reader, Jno. Parker, Thos. Roberts, Fred. Cooper, M. Drake, Joseph Wood, P.P.G. Sd. Bearer ("Freemason"), and Hugh Williams (a visitor from another lodge). The minutes of the previous regular meeting were read and confirmed, after which Bro. Henry Jackson, P.G.S.D. (the W.M. elect) was presented by Bro. W. J. Lunt, P.M., P.G.S.D., and Bro. J. R. Goepel, P.G.S.O., to Bro. Dr. J. K. Smith, the Installing Master, to receive at his hands the benefit of installation. All the brethren below the rank of Installed Masters were requested to retire, and upon their return the newly-installed W.M. was saluted in the usual manner. He afterwards proceeded to invest the following as his officers:—Bros. John Hayes, S.W.; H. Burrows, J.W.; A. Bucknall, Chaplain; J. R. Goepel, P.M., P.G.S.O., Treas.; R. H. Evans, Sec.; H. Cooper, M.O.; G. Hutchin, S.O.; A. C. Wylie, I.G.; J. M. Thomson, Registrar of Marks; Rich. Reader, S.D.; F. Cooper, J.D.; Wm. Fletcher, I.G.; W. P. Jennings, S.S.; John Williams, J.S., M.O. Joppa Lodge. A vote of thanks to Bro. J. K. Smith, the Installing Master, for the excellent way in which he had conducted the ceremony was ordered to be recorded on the minutes. Lodge was then closed in due form. The brethren afterwards sat down to banquet under the presidency of the W.M., who gave the usual loyal and Masonic toasts. In giving "The R.W. Provincial G.M. Master," Bro. Lord Skelmersdale, the W.M. said that it had afforded him great satisfaction to have him present at the imposing gathering of what he would term the cream of Masonry in the two provinces of East and West Lancashire, which had recently assembled at Manchester to do honour to the R.W. Prov. G.M.M., on the occasion of his being installed by the M.W.G.M.M.M., the Earl of Limerick. He (the W.M.) wished that some of those who rather pool-pooled Mark Masonry, and spoke of it in slighting terms, had also been present, as he had no doubt their opinion of the degree would have been materially altered when they found so many men of "Mark" in the province, evidently taking a deep interest in Mark Masonry, and expressing such high regard for the degree as they did on that occasion. (Hear, hear.) He trusted that under Lord Skelmersdale Mark Masonry would flourish and spread in the county palatine of Lancaster, and soon arrive at the position it deserved. (Cheers.) Other toasts followed, and a most agreeable evening was brought to a close at an early hour.

Ancient and Accepted Rite.

MOUNT CALVARY CHAPTER.—The convocation of the members of this very old chapter was held at the Masonic Hall, 33, Golden-square, W., on Friday, the 10th inst., when Bro. Wm. Roebuck, 31°, was duly installed as M.W.S., by Bro. Hyde Pollen, 33°. Amongst the brethren present we noticed Bros. Capt. Philips, 33°, P.M., P.S.G.C.; Major Shadwell Clarke, 33°, G.S.G.; Rosenthal, 33° of France; Paas, 30°; Stohwasser, 30°; Coffin, 30°; Dewar, Morgan, Driver, Crossley, Nicoll, Raymond, and others. All business being ended, the members adjourned to the Café Royal, where a sumptuous banquet was served, and all spent a most enjoyable evening under the presidency of the M.W.S.

Scotland.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF PERTSHIRE EAST.

At the quarterly meeting of this Prov. G. Lodge, held at the Salutation Hotel, Perth, the following office-bearers were appointed for the ensuing year, viz.:—Bros. the Right Hon. Lord Kinnaird, K.T., Prov. Grand Master; J. B. Brown Morrison, D. Prov. Grand Master; Robert Martin, Sub. Prov. Grand Master; Rev. W. G. H. Carmichael, Prov. G. Chap.; Wm. MacLeish, Prov. G.S.W.; Thomas Richardson, Prov. G.J.W.; Adam M'Kenzie, Prov. G. Sec.; John Chalmers, Prov. G. Treas.; Robert Dow, Prov. G.S.D.; Robert Lees, Prov. G.J.D.; John Young, Prov. G. Architect; John Baird, Prov. G. Jeweller; David Morrison, Prov. G.B.B.; Geo. Huton, Prov. G. Dir. of Cers.; Col.-Sergt. John Scott, Prov. G. Swd. B.; William Bryson, Prov. G. Dir. of Music; James Rollo, Prov. G. St. B.; Peter Carmichael, Prov. G.S.; John Robertson, Prov. G. Inner Guard; David Cochrane, Prov. G. Tyler.

GLASGOW.—Lodge St. John (No. 34).—The regular bi-monthly meeting of this most ancient and prosperous lodge was held in their hall, 213, Buchanan-street, Glasgow, on Tuesday, the 7th inst., Bro. D. M. Nelson,

W.M., presiding; Jas. Sellars, S.W.; P. Brownlie, J.W. There were also present J. Dick, Sec.; J. D. Young, D.M.; T. B. Bell, S.M.; T. Fletcher, P.M.; William Bell, P.M.; W. H. Bickerton ("Freemason"), and a very large attendance, as usual, of members and visiting brethren. The lodge was opened by Bro. D. M. Nelson, W.M., and the minutes read and approved of. Bros. Mc Faggart and Young were proposed as joining members, and received into this lodge, the W.M. performing the ceremony. Messrs. G. Galloway, J. Henderson, Wm. Moore, and D. L. Arthur were admitted as members, and received the E.A. Degree under the careful working of Bro. Wm. Bell, I.P.M. The lodge then passed to refreshment, and after the usual loyal and Masonic toasts had been given and duly responded to, Bro. Dr. Robertson gave a very interesting account of his late travels through the United States of America, to the very great pleasure of all present. At the conclusion of this most pleasing lecture, Bro. J. G. Sharpe, eminent Scottish tenor, sang "Mc Gregor's gathering" in a most effective style. This, with other songs and toasts, made up a most pleasant evening. Bro. Nelson, W.M., said before closing the lodge he had a most pleasing duty to perform, that of presenting to the lodge, on behalf of Bro. Jas. Cruikshank, P.M., a very handsome silver mounted maul, made from a branch cut from an olive tree near to where the temple stood in Jerusalem, on his journey through Palestine at the early part of this year. Bro. Nelson said he was very proud of this most handsome gift on behalf of St. John's Lodge, and he had no doubt all the members of the lodge appreciated it as he did, and he would move that a vote of thanks be recorded in the minutes to Bro. Jas. Cruikshank in acknowledgment of their esteem of his kindness, which was unanimous. This brought the proceedings to a close.

RUTHERGLEN.—Lodge St. John (No. 347).—At a special meeting of this lodge, held on Friday evening, the 3rd inst., Bro. J. Cunningham, P.M., presiding, the following gentlemen were nominated for election for the various offices:—D. Smart, W.M.; J. Cunningham, P.M.; M. Abbott, D.M.; G. M'Call, S.M.; John Murdoch, J.M.; Thos. Alston, S.W.; John Whyte, J.W.; William Young, J.R.; W. Gardiner, Treas.; Alexander Warnock, Sec.; A. Robertson, S.D.; P. M. Ross, J.D.; Thomas Simpson, J.D.; A. Brown, P.G.S.; H. Aitken, S.S.; M. Sparkis, J.S.; A. Pearson, Chaplain; John Terrie, B.B.; J. Kennedy, B.B.; J. Shields, Swd. Bearer; W. Carlin, I.G.; J. Cairns, Tyler.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Union (No. 332).—The nomination of office-bearers of this lodge for the ensuing year was made at their meeting held in St. Mark's Hall, on Monday, the 6th inst. Bro. D. McKirdy, W.M., presided, and there was a numerous attendance of brethren of the lodge. The following were nominated for reelection without opposition, viz.:—Bros. D. McKirdy, W.M.; William Murray, S.M.; John M'Innes, S.W.; John Laird, Treas.; D. S. Mitchell, Archt.; and L. Rombach, jeweller. Bro. James Balfour was nominated without opposition to the office of Depute Master. On the motion of the W.M. (Bro. McKirdy) an office new to this lodge was created—namely, Director of Music, and Bro. Andrew M'Ewan was duly nominated to the same amid demonstrations of universal approval. Thereafter, a motion by Bro. James Balfour was read to the effect that the sum of £20 from the lodge funds be invested in shares of the proposed new Masonic Hall, at the West-end, the scheme of the R.W. Prov. Grand Master, and also that the sum of £5 from the lodge funds be given to the same as a donation. The motion is to come up for discussion at next meeting. There being no further business, the lodge was then closed in due form.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Caledonian Railway (No. 354).—The nomination of office-bearers of this lodge for the ensuing Masonic year took place in the hall, at 30, Hope-street, on Wednesday evening, the 1st inst., when the following brethren were duly proposed and seconded for the respective offices, and the nomination agreed to, nemine contradicente:—Bros. Adam B. Ferguson, W.M.; A. Arrick Smith, D.M.; John Harley, S.M.; Colin M'Kenzie, S.W.; John Harley, J.W.; D. T. Colquhoun, Treas.; Drummond, Sec.; D. Leitch, S.D.; Allan M'Donald, J.D.; John Shaw, S. Steward; D. K. Spiers, J. Steward; Alexander Dougall, Jeweller; Robert Watson, Physician; James Douglas, B.B.; Hardy, Dir. of Music; Colin More, Dir. of Ceremonies; J. Reid, Chap.; James Allison, Standard Bearer; Wm. Anderson, Banner Bearer; George Anderson, I.G.; James Minnoch, Tyler. Bros. Croall and W. R. Dunn were appointed Auditors.

GLASGOW.—St. Andrew's Chapter (No. 69).—A lodge of Royal Ark Mariners was held in the lodge-rooms, 25, Robertson-street, on the 25th ult., Thos. M. Campbell, N.; J. H. Fast, J.; David Ramsay, S. On the lodge being opened, Comps. William C. Buntin, John McInnes, James Blackwood, and Robert Brand received the degree. And on the 31st ult. the above lodge was opened at the same place, Thomas M. Campbell, N.; James O. Park, J.; and George W. Wheeler, S., when Comps. T. Cowan, John Grieve, and William E. Mc Millan received the degree. It is unnecessary to mention that the degree was given in the usual efficient manner that this chapter is famed for.

PARTICK.—Royal Arch Chapter (No. 113).—In the new Masonic Hall, Douglas-street, on Wednesday, the 8th inst., the usual monthly meeting of this chapter was held. There was a good attendance of companions. After the chapter had been opened in due and ancient form by the First Principal Z (Comp. Halket), a candidate was raised to the most excellent and R.A. Degree. Supper was then served, and Comp. George Ward (Second Principal H.) did duty at the foot of the table. Toast, song, and sentiment followed, and a very happy evening was spent. It has been arranged, in order to promote

greater social intercourse amongst members, to have a supper at the conclusion of the business of each monthly meeting.

Mulum in Darbo; or Masonic Notes and Queries.

A WARRANT 819 YEARS OLD.

The following appears in the "Masonic Eclectic" of October, 1876, Washington, U.S., and I shall be glad to know where the original is. I fancy that it is an old friend.—A MASONIC STUDENT.

"Malcolm the third by the grace of God King of Scots, wishes health and safety to the Bishops, Princes, Earls, Barons, Ministers, and Administrators of our law, and all good men of the nation, both clergy, laicks, or common people, and to all where these presents shall come, greeting. Whereas, our trusty and well-beloved friends, the Operative Masons in the City of Glasgow, hath, by their petition, humbly represented to us that the inhabitants of this city has been imposed upon by a number of unskilled and insufficient workmen that has come to work at our cathedral and other parts of the city, and also has erected lodges contrary to the rules of Masonry, and being desirous of putting a stop to such unskilled and irregular brothers, most humbly prays us to grant them our royal license and protection for stopping such irregular disorders; and being willing to give all due encouragement to so reasonable a petition, are graciously pleased to condescend to their request, and we do, by these presents, ordain and grant to our petitioners, to incorporate themselves together in one incorporation, and we strictly discharge any mason within the aforesaid city to work in it, until he serve his time as an apprentice for the space of seven years, or he be married to a freeman's daughter; and he or they shall be examined ament their skill and knowledge in the Mason Craft, by three of the ablest of the Mason trade; and if they be found of cunning or knowledge to be received into the incorporation, each shall pay twenty pounds Scots to the common funds, and three pounds to the altar and clerks, and officers' dues, which the aforesaid incorporation shall always be allowed to be the judge of that and other laws made for the behoof of the foresaid incorporation. Item, that the free and incorporate Masons of Glasgow, shall have a lodge for ever at the City of Glasgow. None in my dominions shall erect a lodge until they make application to the St. John's Lodge, Glasgow, and they considering their petition and examining their character and behaviour, grant them a charter, conform to their regulations. Item, that all the members of said incorporation shall have liberty to quarry stones, lime sand and other materials, from the grounds of persons, for paying the damages for what they occupy, or damage for building the foresaid cathedral. But if the owners of the said lands and the foresaid workmen do not agree, each party is to choose an honest man to value the expenses of the foresaid damages. Item, and that any having power from me, maintain my peace firm and stable against all other pretenders and usurpers, who encroach on me or my subjects to disturb our peace. Item, and that you and all my subjects in this obey the magistrates in things relating to my peace and the good of the city. Item, and that you instruct and teach apprentices, and that none take or employ any man's apprentice when their time of apprenticeship is not completed, under the pain of twenty pounds, the one half to the incorporation, one fourth to the lodge, and one fourth to St. Thomas' altar to say mass to their soul. Item, and I strictly charge and command that none take in hand to disturb the Free Operative Masons from being incorporated freemen, or to have a free lodge, to take away their good name or possession, or harass or do any injury to my Freemasons and petitioners under the peril of my highest displeasure; and we order that notice be taken that due obedience may be rendered to our pleasure herein declared. Given at our court, at Fordie, the 5th day of October, 1057 years, before these witnesses—Earl David, my brother, Earl Duncan, Earl Gilbert, of Monteith, Sir Robert, of Velen, Adam, of Stenhouse, and Andrew Hamilton, Bishop of Glasgow."

MASONIC PRECEPTS.—Never solicit a man to become a Mason. Never be absent from your lodge, if you can help it. Never repel a brother because he is poor. Never fail to admonish a brother if you see him err. Never become an informer or spy upon your brethren. Never forget that a Mason is your brother, and treat him accordingly. Never act or sympathize with any part or clique in the body of Masonry. Never make a display of Masonic emblems to attract attention for purposes of business. Never recommend an applicant, unless you know him to be a good man, and who will conform to the precepts of the institution. Never cast your ballot in favour of a candidate, unless you know him to be worthy, and free from reproach.—"Craftsman."

At a meeting held on Wednesday week, under the presidency of a member of the Court of Common Council, a City Permissive Bill Association was formed, and it was stated that 400 City electors had already enrolled themselves as supporters of the measure.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.—The sudden changes, frequent fogs, and prevailing dampness sorely impede the vital functions and conduce to ill-health. The remedy for these disorders lies in some purifying medicine, like these Pills, which is competent to grapple with the mischief at its source, and stamp it out without fretting the nerves or weakening the system. Holloway's Pills extract from the blood all noxious matters, regulate the action of every disordered organ, stimulate the liver and kidneys, and relax the bowels. In curing chest complaints these Pills are remarkably effective, especially when aided by friction of the Ointment on its walls. This double treatment will ensure a certain, steady, and beneficent progress, and sound health will soon be re-established.—ADVS.

The Freemasons of Warwickshire have just erected a reredos in St. Martin's Church, Birmingham. The space immediately beneath the great east window has been arcaded nearly to the full width, and beneath the canopied enrichment of the three central openings a carving in alabaster, representing the Lord's Supper, has been introduced. The modelling of the figures has been most carefully executed, the requisite solidity and effect having been gained without meretricious recourse to undue undercutting. The columns which support the canopy are of polished serpentine marble, while the canopy itself is carved fine-grained sandstone. The work so far has been executed at the cost of the Freemasons, but there is yet in the vacant arcade spaces to right and left sufficient scope for enshrining like gifts. It is proposed that those interested in the completion of the church should yet further assist in the matter, so that in the additional carvings of the "Entry into Jerusalem" the "Cleansing of the Temple," on the one side of the altar-piece, and the "Agony of the Garden," and the "Betrayal," on the other, a sequence should be afforded of some of the leading events in the life of Jesus. The figures of the four Evangelists will presently furnish the niches in the central part of the canopy; but as yet there are not funds sufficient to warrant the like furnishing of the remaining niches. The reredos has been designed by Mr. J. A. Chatwin, under whose hands the complete restoration of St. Martin's has been effected, and to Messrs. Farmer and Brindley, of London, the work of the carving has been entrusted.—"Figaro."

His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales has become the purchaser of two of Mr. Herbert Johnson's large sketches of events of more than ordinary consequence which marked His Royal Highness's tour in India. These pictures are entitled "The First Day in Nepal" and "The Hunt of the Wild Elephant"—by name Miserrimus, as Mr. W. H. Russell christened it on the spot. The artist is a Gold Medallist of the Royal Academy, and well deserves the success which he has achieved.—"Whitehall Review."

Her Majesty has commanded that instructions be given to the Master of the Mint to prepare a die, and cast a sufficient number of medals commemorative of the Arctic Expedition, to be distributed amongst the officers and crews of Her Majesty's ships Alert and Discovery, and the Arctic yacht Pandora.

The Alert and Discovery, the Arctic ships, have taken up their position in Portsmouth Harbour, and the crews are on leave of absence for three weeks. Captain Nares has been on a visit to the Prince of Wales. The Queen has conveyed her thanks to all engaged in the expedition, and the officers have been promoted. Many people incline to the belief that if the aid of engineers is called in, a passage could be speedily cut through the ice, and the Pole reached. The Pandora, which left to learn tidings of the expedition, has also returned.

LEICESTER SQUARE SOUP KITCHEN AND REFUGE.—In the year ending 31st October last, 132,787 meals of good nourishing meat soup and bread were given to the destitute by the Leicester-square Soup Kitchen and Refuge, 978 families were supplied with Christmas dinners, and 59 tons of coal were distributed in portions of half cwt. each. The Refuge afforded 2728 nights' lodgings, with suppers and breakfasts. The institution, which was founded in 1846, is situated in Ham-yard, Great Windmill-street, W., and is the only resource of the kind in the metropolis that is open all the year. The relief is given by tickets, which are dispensed by the subscribers, the clergy, the visitors to the poor, but in many cases of real and urgent distress, and in severe weather, this rule is somewhat relaxed, and hundreds of poor famishing creatures are relieved without tickets.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—The monster clock which has been in course of erection during the past six months at the south end of the building, is now completed and in working order. This clock is almost a counterpart of the Great Westminster clock, with the exception of the striking and chiming apparatus, and the dial is the largest ever yet constructed, being 40 feet in diameter, or nearly 1300 square feet in area. That of the Westminster Clock is about 23 feet. The hands, with their counterpoises, weigh nearly a quarter of a ton; the minute hand measures 19 feet in length, and moves half an inch of every beat of the pendulum. The distance travelled by the point of the minute hand is nearly 4 miles per week. During 17 days of observation, its variation was only 8 seconds.

THE GAIETY RESTAURANT, under the able management of Bro. Baylis, bids fair to secure the liberal patronage that comfort and convenience, combined with supply of articles of the best quality, command. A few months ago this Restaurant passed into the possession of Bro. Baylis, since which time extensive alterations have been made, and a new entrance built in the Strand, leading to a Refreshment Bar (for Gentlemen only) and Grill Room, the appointments of which are perfect, and supply a want long felt in this important locality. In addition, there are Banqueting and Private Rooms, Billiard and Smoking Rooms, with every convenience in the shape of Lavatories, etc. For Masonic Banquets or Public Dinners the resources of the establishment will ensure the utmost satisfaction, be the assemblage large or small. Under the present proprietorship we wish the "Gaiety Restaurant" the success it deserves.

We learn with regret that very serious apprehensions are entertained as to the issue of the illness from which the Duchess of Cambridge has for some time been suffering. The condition of Her Royal Highness on Wednesday was such as to warrant the gravest fears on the part of the Royal Family, and the inquiries at Kew Palace as to the state of the illustrious patient were numerous and anxious.—"Echo."

NOTICE.

We have deferred the Supplement until next week, and it will contain an account of Lord Suffield's Installation as P.G.M. of Norfolk by H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, G.M., and other matter.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

COLONIAL and FOREIGN SUBSCRIBERS are informed that acknowledgments of remittances received are published in the first number of every month.

It is very necessary for our readers to advise us of all money orders they remit, more especially those from the United States of America and India; otherwise we cannot tell where to credit them.

TO ADVERTISERS.

The *Freemason* has a large circulation in all parts of the Globe, its advantages as an advertising medium can therefore scarcely be overrated.

ADVERTISEMENTS should reach the Office, 198 Fleet Street, London, not later than 12 o'clock on Wednesday, to insure insertion in the following Saturday's number. The Rates for Advertisements may be had on application at the Office.

THE "FREEMASON."

The Christmas number of the "*Freemason*" will appear on the 23rd December, and will consist of 32 pages to subscribers; as usual, to non-subscribers 4d. Orders to prevent disappointment, as the demand will be so large, should be sent at once to the Publisher 198, Fleet Street, London.

THE "MASONIC MAGAZINE."

The Christmas number of the *Masonic Magazine* will be ready on the 28th of November, and will be a double number. To subscribers as usual, to non-subscribers 1s.

Answers to Correspondents.

The somewhat intemperate letter of the W.M. of the Hervey Lodge will appear in our next, and a proof of it shall be sent to him.

ERRATUM.—In the Report of Lewis Lodge last week the name of Bro. "Sayer" was spelt "Layr."

The following stand over:—Lodge of Honour, 379; Duke of Connaught, 1558; Abercorn Lodge, 1549; Domestic, 177; Morecambe Lodge, 1561; Rowley, 1051; Lodge of Fortitude, 281; Kennington, 1381; Francis Burdett, 1503; Fortescue Mark Lodge; Letters on "The Hervey Lodge," "Toleration and Father Foy."

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

[The charge is 2s. 6d for announcements, not exceeding four lines, under this heading.]

BIRTHS.

ADAMSON.—On the 8th inst., at Rottingdean, Sussex, the wife of J. D. Adamson, Esq., of a daughter.
BALFOUR.—On the 10th ult., at Bhamboorda, Poonah, the wife of M. Balfour, Esq., of a son.
EVANS.—On the 8th inst., at Kensington Gardens Square, W., the wife of A. Evans, of a daughter.
GORDON.—On the 11th inst., at 4, Queen's-gardens, West Brighton, the wife of Frederick Gordon, Esq., of a son.
JONES.—On the 9th inst., at Hayter-road, Brixton, the wife of A. M. Jones, of a son.
RODWELL.—On the 8th inst., at Thames Ditton, the wife of W. H. Rodwell, Esq., of a daughter.
SMITH.—On the 8th inst., at Rye, Sussex, the wife of A. W. Smith, of a daughter.
WHITE.—On the 9th inst., the wife of G. White, of Epsom, Surrey, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

CANNING—ATHERTON.—On the 9th inst., at Ramsbury, Wilts, John Canning, of Windsor, to Ellen, daughter of W. F. Atherton, of Whittonditch.
GREENE—PHILLOTT.—On the 7th inst., at Holy Trinity, Weston-super-Mare, William Batchelder, son of Col. Greene, of U.S., to Edith Fanny, daughter of R. Phillott, Esq., of Weston-super-Mare.

DEATHS.

BELL.—On the 9th inst., at Albany-street, N.W., Marion, widow of Sir Charles Bell, in her 90th year.
DANIEL.—On the 9th inst., at City-road, Jesse Cato Daniel, M.A., LL.D.
HARVEY.—On the 8th inst., at Paris, Joseph Harvey, of Lambeth House, S.E., aged 84.
JENKINS.—On the 9th inst., at the Vicarage, Aberdare, aged 48, the Rev. John David Jenkins, D.D.
NELSON.—On the 6th inst., at Tingewick, Bucks, George Nelson, Esq.
SMYTH.—On the 6th inst., at Bathampton House, Bath, Amelia, widow of R. G. Smyth, Esq., in her 89th year.

The Freemason,

SATURDAY, NOV. 18, 1876.

A MASONIC PRESS.

We have thought it well, as we are now in the midst of November, to devote a portion of our space to the consideration of this very important subject, for various reasons, and with a definite end. We are not insensible to the a priori reasons often brought forward against Masonic publication. We often feel ourselves, as we have previously said, how difficult is the position of the Masonic publisher, the task of the Masonic editor. For, unlike most other institutions of earth, Freemasonry "per se" gains nothing by publication, by the obtrusion of its principles or proceedings on the attention of the outside world. Indeed, it is impossible, in our opinion, any longer to justify that abuse of the Masonic press which has been going on for some time past, in the opening out to the profane world the arcana of our ritual and our lodge work. Far too much has been printed with respect to our ceremonial labours, and far too many of the technical terms of our "Royal Art" have been made use of openly in the Masonic press. During the last twelve months we have been seeking in the "*Freemason*" to curtail the exuberance of lodge reports, and the "minutiae" of detail into which many of our good correspondents have liked to fall, though we do not think that we have been successful in our endeavours, and we freely admit that there is much room for improvement in the editorial supervision in this respect. But within due bounds and proper restrictions the reports of lodge work have an interest for some brethren, and constitute a very striking portion of our Masonic life. No Masonic periodical can dispense with them altogether, and carefully supervised and, if need be, curtailed, they form, we think, a befitting feature of all Masonic journalism. We are aware of no other valid objection to a Masonic press, except the old objection—to the press itself, but which, as Freemasons, we are too liberally-minded to endorse or to support, for there is a large field for legitimate reporting, and for useful Masonic publication. The proceedings, for instance, of our Grand Lodge, and of our Prov. Grand Lodges (of course, within all due bounds), the accounts of the consecration of new lodges, the anniversary festivals of old lodges, the addresses of distinguished Masons, and, above all, the interests of our great Masonic Charities, and all Masonic charitable efforts deserve, both passing notice and becoming record. And then, thanks to the labours of Bros. Findel, and Hughan, and D. Murray Lyon, and many more, what a large and interesting field of research and discussion has a revived interest in Masonic Archaeology and history, opened out before all thinking and studious Masons. Who shall venture to say, that in this condition of affairs, a Masonic Press is not needed, is not important, is not useful? Who can pretend to lay down arbitrarily the limits of its usefulness, its necessity, or its value. On the contrary we feel ourselves persuaded that all reflecting and fair-minded persons will admit, whatever their prepossessions may be on the subject, that (within the lines we have marked out for its course), that a Masonic Press is alike important and advisable, judicious and justifiable. And it is for this one end, remember, that the "*Freemason*" has earnestly laboured since its foundation. The past history of the Masonic Press in England is not so prosperous or so satisfactory as to enable any brother to find fault with any one, who for good and sufficient reasons, has ventured to found a Masonic journal. For some time the "*Freemason*" was the only Masonic paper in England, and had it not been for the energy and efforts of our publisher, and for his liberal sacrifices, too often forgotten, English Freemasonry must have remained without any literary representative at all, for some time at any rate. But the "*Freemason*" has been established, has flourished, and is progressing, until it can boast, with no vain glory, or idle affectation, that it receives a larger measure of support than ever

was meted out, that we are aware of, to any other English Masonic paper, and not only this, but out of England it is largely read, and in India, our Colonies, Canada, and the United States, it has numerous subscribers, and friendly admirers, if we may judge by the manner in which its leading articles are transferred to the columns of other Masonic periodicals and papers. We constantly receive kindly letters of commendation, for which we are very grateful, and our able confrere Bro. MacCalla, the Editor of the "*Philadelphia Keystone*," not long ago paid us one of the highest compliments it has ever been our lot to receive. To us, then, the history of our past is pleasant, our situation in the present is most prosperous, and our prospects for the future most encouraging. Never had any Masonic paper more indulgent readers, more friendly correspondents, or more tolerant critics. Indeed, in all these respects we have nothing to wish for, nothing to want for, and nothing to demand. But there are one or two points on which we think it right to say a few words to our numerous Masonic readers and friends. Some of our good brethren indulge in a little mistake as regards the actual position of a Masonic press, which we think it worth while to try and rectify. It would almost seem as if some of our 100,000 members in England, are of opinion, almost, that a Masonic press should cost them nothing. They have a Masonic paper, with all the Masonic news of the week, carefully collected at some expense, they have the paper edited, printed, published, for them, and they are too often unwilling to pay themselves any fraction of the expense of production. A Masonic paper cannot be produced for nothing, numberless expenses make up the whole little amount, which each succeeding week has to be paid by somebody. Hence, then, it is no answer to our good publisher to say, as he so often hears it said, "I see the "*Freemason*," at the Club," or "in the lodge Library," "My lodge takes it in." We have not in these common words any sufficient principle of support to make a Masonic paper a paying concern. No doubt if every lodge under our Grand Lodge took in a copy every week, that would make an excellent foundation for the list of subscribers. But we want to go a little further, and to do a little more. If individual brethren would themselves give in their names to the subscription list, and induce one or two of their friends to do the same, the circulation of the "*Freemason*," large as it is now, would be so greatly augmented that our liberal publisher would undoubtedly be ready permanently and considerably to increase it, and still to offer it at its present most reasonable price. Indeed, we have no hesitation in saying that when you consider the weekly press of the country, it would be a very difficult task for any one to point to another paper which gives so much, for so little. We think, then, that we have made a case for the consideration of our fraternity, and we trust that we have made the matter also clear to their minds. We ask for no subsidies, and we claim no support; we neither tout for subscribers, nor do we invoke patronage. But we do say this, and we say it openly before the Craft, before all our readers and friends, who are quite competent to judge for themselves, that we give a good marketable article, at the lowest possible "quotation," and we may fairly entreat our kindly and intelligent fraternity to enable us to make the "*Freemason*" still more worthy of the position it aspires to occupy in the good opinion and conviction of all Anglo-Saxon Freemasons. For one thing, both publisher and editor pride themselves, namely, that they have carefully kept the pages of the "*Freemason*" free from anything like personality or unbrotherly feeling. While free opinion has been fairly discussed, it has never degenerated into license, and from first to last, the "*Freemason*" always has been, and always will be, distinguished by its obedience to Masonic authority, and the upholding of the regulations of the Book of Constitutions. Whatever the future may have in store for us all, no one ever can impute to the "*Freemason*" any laxity as regards our ancient landmarks, or judicious laws, and its readers will always find in its pages that proper vindication of "authority," which is, in our

opinion, ever characteristic of the loyal Freemason. With a new year of opening metropolitan work, the publisher and editor of the "Freemason" beg to offer to its friends and subscribers their heartfelt thanks, and venture to express their confident hope that in the future, as in the past, the "Freemason" will merit and maintain the favourable judgement and the cheerful support of large and increasing numbers of our ancient and honourable fraternity.

ENGLISH AND FRENCH FREEMASONRY.

Our worthy Grand Secretary has delivered some very weighty words with reference to the present unfortunate position of the French Grand Orient and their Masonic proceedings in respect of the necessary condition of religious recognition of the Great Architect of the Universe and the very existence of God. We beg respectfully to call Bro. Caubet's attention to the remarks of Bro. Hervey, given elsewhere, most important in themselves, and deserving of grave consideration by the French Freemasons, as Bro. Hervey never speaks unadvisedly, and is well-known to be one of the most cautious of officials, and peace loving of men. We hope that the Grand Orient of France and our French brethren will take his warning "notes" in good part. We quite admit the independence of national Grand Lodges, but there is one universal law of Masonry, which no particular section of the great family can contravene without damage to itself, and without disrespect to the other portions. The unchanged law of a million of Anglo-Saxon Freemasons is the recognition of the existence of God, and if French Freemasonry takes that great truth from its formularies, it separates itself necessarily from Anglo-Saxon Freemasonry, and assumes for itself, as French Freemasons have themselves clearly seen, a position of melancholy isolation and baneful negativism. We hope for better things from French Freemasonry, and we beg to commend to the notice of our French and English brethren Bro. Hervey's speech, as alluded to lower down.

THE "COSMOPOLITAN MASONIC CALENDAR" FOR 1877.

Our publisher has put out his "Cosmopolitan Masonic Calendar" for the ensuing twelve months, and we propose to say a few words respecting this useful publication, in our pages to-day. We are induced to do so for the reason that many mistaken notions appear to prevail respecting it, and some of our good brethren seem to fancy that such a publication is somehow or other (though how, "deponents saith not") an encroachment on the "Freemasons' Calendar" authorized by our Grand Lodge, and which is alone published under their sanction. Now we wish shortly to say that no greater mistake ever was made, or possibly could arise. The "Cosmopolitan Masonic Calendar" emanated simply from an idea of our publisher, who thought that he saw his way "for the information of the Craft," to utilize a little work which had previously been begun and dropped under another Grand Lodge, and to enter upon Masonic "regions," so to say, not at all trodden over by our English Craft. Accordingly, the "Cosmopolitan Masonic Calendar" was started with a two-fold object, first to give a correct reference to the existing and important bodies of the High Grades, which had no general or official almanacks; and secondly, to supply the names of foreign Grand Lodge Officers, and of foreign lodges; and this the "Cosmopolitan Masonic Calendar" certainly has most successfully achieved, and has offered to the Craft a mass of information previously unattainable and of great interest. Instead, then, of any of our brotherhood looking upon the "Cosmopolitan Masonic Calendar" as set up in opposition to the existing and needful almanack of Grand Lodge, it should be regarded as a supplemental volume of considerable importance, inasmuch as many references and much information, ready to the hand, and not otherwise procurable, and equally important for the Craft as for the High Grade Mason, is thus placed

within the reach of every brother. We do not suppose, for one moment, that any of our highest authorities or leading Masons entertain any such opinion, as their own intelligence would show them that they were under a grave misapprehension in this respect, and were doing injustice to the exertions and efforts of our worthy and energetic publisher. But there are in Freemasonry, as in all other institutions, some petty or mediocre minds, which cannot raise themselves above trade jealousies, or personal antagonism, and can see nothing good, and everything that is bad, in the praiseworthy labours of some one whom they are opposed to in business, or differ from in opinion. The publisher of the "Cosmopolitan Masonic Calendar" has only exercised the right which belongs to all Freemasons. He has published a Masonic work, not in opposition to any other work, not patronized by Masonic authority, but simply as an individual contribution to Masonic information, at his own cost, at his own risk, and which he simply commends to the open market of Masonic approval and support. If his book is worth nothing it will find no purchasers, if it is indeed "value received," it will soon find its own level, and need not fear either the cavils of the ignorant, or the criticism of the unjust. But what we fear a little is that it is not so much the work, as the success of the work, which grates on the susceptibilities and sensibilities of some whose judgement is very defective, and whose good taste and brotherly feeling appear to us often to represent the "unknown quantity." For when we open the "Cosmo" to-day, we can find no possible ground on which to found any objections, much less the slightest complaint. It contains in it a mass of information, which is found collected together, in no other Masonic Book in the world, information as interesting, as important, and which in these days is essential, not only to Masonic intercommunication, and to our Masonic officials, but to that advancing interest in all things Masonic, which is characteristic of Freemasonry everywhere at this present hour. Both the "Freemasons' Calendar" and the "Cosmopolitan Calendar," are requisite to our full knowledge of our great Masonic world, and as both give information equally valuable, but of different portions of our Universal Family, there certainly is no jarring, and there need be not the slightest opposition between them. It may suit some foolish persons to say so, for trade purposes, but the statement is untrue in itself, and deserves the condemnation and reprobation of all Freemasons. We feel sure, on the contrary, that all intelligent members of our Order will welcome now, as formerly, the remarkable amount of valuable and Masonic information, of other constitutions, foreign bodies and distant lodges, to say nothing of the lists of High Grade chapters, and councils, so laboriously provided, so carefully edited, and so lucidly arranged, in the "Cosmopolitan Masonic Calendar." We can confidently appeal to our fraternity on its "merits" alone, and we leave it in their hands, without one doubt or fear, as to what their generous and impartial verdict will be.

ENGLISH AND FRENCH FREEMASONRY.—On the 11th inst., another new lodge of the Grand Lodge of English Freemasons was celebrated at the Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell-new-road, under the title of the "Crichton Lodge," bearing the number of 1641 on the list of English lodges. The consecration ceremony, with the sanction of the Prince of Wales, Grand Master, was performed by Bro. John Hervey, Grand Secretary, assisted by several other members of the Grand Lodge, and in the presence of a very numerous body of members of the Craft. Bro. Hervey also inducted into the chair Bro. J. H. Vockins as Worshipful Master. In the course of Bro. Hervey's opening address he remarked that while on the 1st November, 1863, the whole number of lodges under the Grand Lodge of England was 942, on the 9th of November, 1876, they were 1649, being an increase of 707 lodges, or an annual average of something like 50 during that period. Although such was the satisfactory state of English Freemasonry, he could not refrain from alluding to

certain proceedings which were going on in the Grand Orient of France, which, speaking entirely as an individual, he thought must at no distant period, engage the attention of the Grand Lodge of England—proceedings which struck at the very root of Freemasonry, and which he only viewed with dismay and alarm. Should this matter ever be taken up, it would then become a very serious question as to whether French Freemasons should ever be admitted as visitors to the Grand Lodge of England. The officers were then appointed, and a banquet, at which the Master presided, followed.

THE GRAND LODGE OF ROME, AND BRO. J. C. PARKINSON, P.G.D. COMMUNIQUE.

The following article appeared in the "Unità Cattolica," November 8th:—

The "Unità Cattolica" is the leading organ of the Ultramontane party in Italy, and is esteemed to be the most ably conducted of the extreme Catholic journals. There is something very pitiable in the depth of misrepresentation to which this newspaper has descended. It should be added that the "Unità Cattolica" is credited with representing the views of Cardinal Manning, and that since the fall of the temporal power in Italy it has appeared uniformly with a deep black border on its front page in mourning for the fall of the head of the Church.

THE SPIRIT OF MASONRY IN A DIPLOMA OF MERIT TO MR. PARKINSON ("UNITÀ CATTOLICA," NOV. 8TH).

The Roman Freemasons, on the evening of the 28th October, held high festival. To the number of about 100 clothed in the insignia of their Order, they assembled in the Temple of the Grand Orient of Italy in Rome, to welcome worthily Mr. J. C. Parkinson, a Grand Dignitary of the Grand Lodge of England, and to present him with a diploma in recognition of his services to Italian Masonry. The diploma had been specially designed for him, and, according to the "Opinione" of 31st October, it represented the "Spirit of Masonry ascending to Heaven." It was handed over to him with solemn ceremony by the Deputy, George Tamaio, Grand Master of Italy, and it was acknowledged by Signor Parkinson in a lodge discourse on the origin, on the advantages, and on the duties of Freemasonry, hailing, "with peculiar satisfaction the establishment of a Grand Lodge in Rome, where the monuments are eloquent of the sufferings of generations of illustrious martyrs."

Passing over the martyrs and the sufferings of the generations, to how Masonry has gone to Rome to honour with her presence and with her temple, we may call attention to the symbol designed on the diploma presented to Mr. Parkinson. In a purely material age, when materialists are summoned from Holland to sit in the Senate of Rome, when the theories of Büchner and Darwin are held in honour, and taught in the school, when at every turn we are told that we spring from apes and frogs, and that born of matter by a transformation, we have no other destiny than to be transformed in turn, and never cease to be matter, it does appear marvellous that Masonry at Rome should admit among her symbols the spirit, and give to this a heavenward tendency.

A few weeks ago, a congress of Freemasons in Belgium decided to suppress belief in the Great Architect of Nature, thus denying the existence of God, and how can it be asserted that God does not exist, while admitting the existence of spirits and their heavenward tendency? The abbot Gyr added some documents to the beautiful work on Freemasonry of Eckert, advocate, of Dresden, to demonstrate that Masonry tends to earth and not to heaven, and admits the most stupid materialism.* And it cannot be otherwise, when the grossest errors find shelter with Freemasons, who welcome with cordiality everything that is in any way calculated to subvert the pure and sacred doctrines of the Church.

But we know too well what is the spirit of Masonry, which teaches materialism in the schools and usurps the education of youth, and at the same time pretends to make respected in itself a quality which it denies to the Deity, a haughty spirit, a spirit eminently contradictory, which speaks lies and lives wholly in lies and of lies. Pius XI. from the first day that he ascended the throne indicated this spirit, and defined it exactly when he fulminated against the secret societies "as having emerged from darkness for the ruin and desolation of all things human and divine," renewing the condemnations and anathemas of his predecessors.† It is that spirit which in conjunction with Protestantism shakes the authority of the Church, in conjunction with liberalism breaks the bonds of human authority, in conjunction with rationalism denies all authority, natural and divine, and throws around reason the mantle of "Queen." It is that spirit, in short, of which an English Freemason spoke in a discourse in Freemasons' Tavern in London in 1862. "Lucifer is the apex of the social pyramid, it is he who is the first Craftsman, the first rebel, the first martyr. We revolutionists ought, out of respect and gratitude, to display on our banner the beloved image of the heroic insurgent who was the first to dare revolt against the tyranny of God."‡ And this is what the Masons of Rome have emblazoned on the diploma of Bro. Parkinson.

This Spirit of Masonry tends to rise heavenwards, but is a foolish pretension of "Him who first turned his back upon his Maker." It is the angel of darkness, who still transforms himself into the angel of light to deceive and seduce, and directs his flight to heaven, when God has chained him to the bottom of the abyss. The efforts which it makes to destroy the Church, and to combat

Jesus Christ are incredible, its ambition is to see men fall down in adoration before it, to obtain which adoration it promises everything. It has promised Rome, and it has there obtained a temple, and now it is adored there by those who refuse to believe in the Great Architect of Nature, who bend the knee before Satan, and represent it as a spirit ascending to heaven. But it is precisely in heaven that our hopes reside, and thence will come to us the victory—

"Where Michael,

His vengeance wreaked upon the rebel proud."

*La Francmaçonnerie dans sa véritable signification, par. Ed. Eckert, tome. II., page 275.

†Enciclica di Pio Nono Qui pluribus del 9th N novembre, 1846.

‡De Camille, Storia della Setta Anticristiana, vol. II. page 38.

Original Correspondence.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for, or even as approving of the opinions expressed by our correspondents, but we wish, in a spirit of fair play to all, to permit—within certain necessary limits—free discussion.—Ed.]

A POINT OF LAW.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

In reading the paragraph, "A Point of Law," in your last issue, it reminded me of the accompanying copy of a charter that was sent by order of His Grace Henry Duke of Beaufort, Grand Master, in April, 1769, to every lodge under the immediate government of the G.M., together with two printed notes, one implying an assent, and the other a dissent, in order to have one of them signed by the Master and Wardens, and witnessed by the Secretary.

In consequence of such proceedings there were sent to the G. Sec. the approbation of one hundred and sixty-eight lodges, and the disapprobation of only forty-three.

Is the enclosed charter the bill that was brought into Parliament in 1771, by the Hon. Charles Dillon, Deputy G. Master, but on the second reading of the bill, Mr. Onslow opposed it, when the Hon. C. Dillon moved to postpone the consideration of it. Was it ever brought afterwards before Parliament, as Mr. Dillon moved to postpone the consideration of it sine die.

Yours fraternally,

R. W. O.

"COPY OF THE CHARTER OF INCORPORATION OF FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS."

"George the Third, by the Grace of God, of Great Britain, France, and Ireland, King, Defender of the Faith, to all to whom these presents shall come, greeting, whereas the society of Free and Accepted Masons have for ages held frequent meetings within this realm, and have ever demeaned themselves with duty and loyalty to us and our predecessors, with reverence and obedience to the laws, and kindness and goodwill to their fellow-subjects: And whereas, the said society appears to have been originally instituted for humane and beneficent purposes, and have distributed from time to time to all without distinction, who have had the single claim of wretchedness, sums to a great amount, collected by voluntary contribution among themselves. And whereas, our entirely beloved, &c., &c., &c. Members of the society of Free and Accepted Masons, under the Constitution of England, in behalf of themselves and many others of the said society, by their petition humbly presented to us, have most humbly besought us to grant our most gracious letters patent to incorporate the said society, and make them a body politic and corporate for ever.

Now know ye, that we out of our princely regard to a body of men, associated for such laudable purposes, willing to manifest to the world our entire approbation of their past conduct, and desirous to enable them to answer more effectually the humane ends of their Institution, of our especial grace, certain knowledge, and mere motion, have ordained, given, and granted, and by these presents for us, our heirs, and successors, do ordain, give, and grant, that for the future there shall be a perpetual society, which shall be called by the name of the Society of Free and Accepted Masons of England. And we do hereby declare, that the said society shall consist of Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Grand Wardens, Past Grand Officers, Provincial Grand Masters, Grand Treasurer, Grand Secretary, Grand Sword Bearer, twelve Stewards, and of the Masters and Wardens of the several subordinate lodges, who, together with those already numerated, compose the Grand Lodge, who, by the name of the Society of Free and Accepted Masons of England, shall forever hereafter be a body politic and corporate in deed and in law, and that, by the same name, they and their successors shall have perpetual succession; and that they and their successors, by that name, shall and may forever hereafter be enabled, and rendered capable, and have power (notwithstanding the Statute of Mortmain) to purchase, have, take, acquire, receive, possess, enjoy, and hold to them and their successors, manors, messuages, lands, rents, tenements, goods, and chattels, annuities, and hereditaments, of whatsoever nature or kind, in free and perpetuity, or for terms of life or years, or otherwise. And we hereby give and grant unto the said society and their successors, by the name aforesaid, our special license, full power, and lawful authority, to hold and enjoy lands and hereditaments which may hereafter be devised, granted, or sold to the said society; and also, to purchase, hold, receive, and possess, in Mortmain, in perpetuity or otherwise, to, or for the use of, or in trust for them and their successors, for the use and benefit of the said corporation, from any person or persons, bodies politic or corporate, their heirs and successors respectively, such manors, lands, tenements, rents, hereditaments, as they shall think fit to purchase, or

shall be given, granted, devised, or conveyed to them by deed, or otherwise, not exceeding the yearly value of —

Over and above charges and reprises, so far as they are not restrained by law; and also, to sell, grant, demise, exchange, and dispose of any of the same manors, messuages, lands, and tenements, whereof or wherein they shall have an estate of inheritance for life or lives, or years as aforesaid. And we further grant, that the said society and their successors, by the name aforesaid, may and shall by the said name of the Society of Free and Accepted Masons of England, be able to sue and to be sued, plead and be impleaded, answer and be answered unto, defend and be defended, in all courts and pleas whatsoever, of us, our heirs and successors, before any of our judges and justices, and other officers of us, our heirs and successors, in all and singular actions, suits, complaints, causes, matters, demands, and things whatsoever, and to act and to do in all matters and things relating to the said corporation in as ample a manner and form as any other, our liege subjects being persons able and capable in the law, or any other body politic or corporate, in this of our kingdom of Great Britain, called England, lawfully may, or can act or do; and that the said corporation for ever shall, and may have, and use a common seal, for the cause and business of them and their successors, and that it shall and may be lawful for them and their successors, to change, break, alter, and make new the said seal from time to time as they shall think fit. And we do hereby give and grant unto the said society a coat of arms, that is to say, and for the better execution of this our grant, we do nominate, constitute, and appoint our right trusty and dearly beloved cousin and councillor, Henry, Duke of Beaufort, to be First Grand Master, our trusty and well beloved the Honourable Charles Dillon to be the First Deputy Grand Master, each of them respectively to be and continue in their several and respective offices of Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, &c., &c., until the Feast of St. John the Evangelist, which shall happen next after the expiration of one year from the day of the date of these presents, and from thence until their fit and able persons be chosen into the said offices in their respective rooms. Provided always, that all the persons so appointed, or hereafter to be appointed, members of the Grand Lodge, shall, in all things, aid, advise, and assist in conducting the business, and in all matters relating to the regulations and government of the said society of Free and Accepted Masons of England. And we do give and grant unto the said Grand Master, or his deputy, his or their successor or successors, for the time being, full power and authority, by virtue of these our letters patent, to issue warrants for the constituting of subordinate lodges; and the said lodges warranted as aforesaid, shall be, and they are hereby declared to be, legal and regular. And furthermore, we give and grant to the said society that they shall and may hold meetings of themselves, for the better management of their funds, and the application of them to proper purposes, and the transaction of all other business relating to the society, when, and as often as it shall be necessary in any place within the City of London, or ten miles thereof. And it shall be lawful for the said society from time to time, to nominate and chuse once in every year, one fit and able person to be Grand Master, and one other to be Grand Treasurer of the said society: the other officers to be appointed in the manner and form heretofore established by the long and uninterrupted usage of the society to continue severally until the Feast of St. John the Evangelist next, after the expiration of one year from the time of their respective elections or appointments (if they shall so long live, or not be removed for some just or reasonable cause), and from thence till another be chosen. And in case the Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, &c., &c., or any of them shall die, secede, or be removed from any of the said offices respectively, then and in such case it shall be lawful to choose or appoint (according to ancient usage) a fit and able person to fill up such office as shall become vacant. And the person or persons so chosen or appointed shall continue to the expiration of the year for which their predecessor in such office had been chosen or appointed. And if it shall happen that the election of the Grand Master, and Grand Treasurer, and appointment of the other Grand Officers, cannot be perfected on the Feast of St. John the Evangelist, we do hereby grant that the Grand Master may lawfully assign or appoint any other day as near as may be after the Feast of St. John the Evangelist, for the perfecting such election or elections, which shall always be in the manner and form heretofore observed by the said society, and for the nomination and appointment of such officers as by the ancient usage of the said society are not elective, and so from day to day till the said elections and appointments shall be completed. And we further give and grant to the said society, that the Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, and constituent members of the Grand Lodge for the time being, shall and may, from time to time, assemble together in such convenient place in London, or within ten miles thereof, as the Grand Master or Deputy Grand Master (by the Grand Master's authority) shall appoint by summons or other notice, which he is by these presents empowered and required timely to issue for that purpose to all the said members; and that they being so met shall have full power to make, constitute, and ordain such statutes, bye-laws, and ordinances as shall appear to them to be good, and necessary, and expedient for the government, order, and regulation of the said society, and every member thereof; which statutes, bye-laws, and ordinances, not being repugnant to the laws of this realm, shall and may be effectually observed and kept; and to do all other things concerning the government, estate, and revenues of the said society. Provided, nevertheless, and our will is, that no bye-law, statute, or ordinance, so to be made by this corporation, shall be binding upon the said society, until the same shall have been read over and

approved of by the majority of the society assembled together for that purpose.

In witness whereof we have caused these our letters to be made patent. Witness ourself, at Westminster.

THE HERVEY LODGE.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I was much surprised to see that a lodge has actually sued a brother for his fees in one of the County Courts, and I do not see that the letter of the W.M. of 1260, published in your paper of the 11th Nov., at all improves the position.

Non-payment of fees for degrees is a matter so very easily settled that a case of such arrears occurring should never exist.

Let me suggest to Lodge 1260 the passing of a bye-law to this effect, that no degrees are given until the Treasurer reports the fees are in his hands. My father in Masonry, on hearing the work of the evening included any degrees, used to turn to the Treasurer and ask if all the fees were in for the degrees it was proposed to give that evening. If his reply was in the negative, he used at once to say, "That being the case, I regret I am unable to give Bro. — the degree he is desirous of taking, it being against the bye-laws of our lodge." The result was, that with the application for initiation, or for any higher degree, came the requisite fees; and if that was carried out in all lodges we should hear no more of suits for Masonic fees being instituted in County Courts, to the great scandal of the Craft in general.

Yours fraternally,

Bath, 13th Nov., 1876.

D.G.M.

THE ADMISSION OF CANDIDATES.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

"East Lancashire" in your last week's issue, hits a blot in our system of admitting members. I would name a case somewhat different, although perhaps more strikingly irregular, as it has reference to country candidates being admitted into London lodges. A case in point:—A resident of some years standing in this town was anxious to become a Freemason, but neither the lodge meeting here, or the one at Highbridge, some six miles distant, were disposed to receive him. Well, what does he do? Why run up to London, gets proposed, elected, and initiated into a lodge meeting at Freemasons' Hall (the Phoenix, I believe), returns home, and snaps his fingers at the Craft, and enters as a visitor a lodge that would not initiate him.

Under such a system is it to be wondered at, if black sheep get within the fold?

I think it is a subject that calls for the interference of Grand Lodge by some law being enacted whereby the possibility of such a scandal should be rendered impossible.

Yours fraternally,

Bridgwater, 13th Nov. 1876.

SOMERSET.

MASONIC CHARITY.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Your report of the meeting of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution in the "Freemason" of the 11th inst., induces me to write to you. Masonic charity, whether real or ostentatious, is now so general and so well known that the outside world are taking unfair advantage of it.

The hand of every true Mason is ever ready to obey the generous promptings of his heart in beneficence, whether the needy case be that of a brother or of a stranger; but St. Paul, who doubtless was a Freemason, and who loved to inculcate the true Masonic principles of fear towards God, honour to the King, love to the brotherhood, especially to those of the household of faith, and teach us that our love must be first shown to the brotherhood. We may agree as to the beginning of the brotherhood, and differ as to the extent and the limit of it. I conceive that every one duly initiated into Masonry is our brother, and that his nearest and dearest relatives, in the person of his wife, his child, or his dependent sister ought to be, and are the first objects of every Mason's care. This puts the wife, &c., of every non-Mason beyond the pale of Masonic charity as such. I am, therefore, pleased that the "overwhelming majority" decided to withhold relief from the widow of a non-Mason, though once the widow of a Mason. By this act they have shown negatively their love of the brethren, and have told the outer world that Mason's charity is guided by justice and discretion, that they prefer not to give the children's meat to strangers.

There is, Sir, a case similar to the above now in the enjoyment of the most valuable of our charities. The son of a deceased Mason, whose widow is again married to a non-Mason, and is in pretty good circumstances, is now receiving all the benefits that our noble institution at Wood Green affords.

The second marriage of the mother was arranged before the election of the boy, and actually took place, as I am informed, between the election and the admission of the boy to the school. By the second marriage the boy's status as the orphan of a Freemason was done away with, and he became legally the son of another man not one of our fraternity. To admit him to the school without payment is to extend Masonic charity beyond its legitimate limits to the prejudice of some other orphan boy. The fact ought to be, and probably is, known to the House Committee and to the Charity Committee of this province. I desire that it may be more extensively known by means of your valuable paper, and shall be happy if you can afford me a little space.

I am, Sir, yours fraternally,

WEST YORK.

CONSECRATION OF ST. ANDREW'S LODGE, No. 1631, GORLESTON.

The consecration of a new lodge is at all times of great interest to the Craft, but more especially so when it occurs in their own province. On Monday morning a large muster of brethren from Yarmouth, Lowestoft, Halesworth, and other places in Suffolk, as well as a few brethren from Norwich, mustered at St. Andrew's Hall, Gorleston, for the purpose of assisting at the ceremony of opening a new lodge in that remote corner of Suffolk. The foundation of the new lodge is entirely due to Bro. E. P. Youell, Esq., a resident in the town—who takes great interest in the Craft—and who not being able to find a place suitable for the purpose, has erected, at his own cost, a small but convenient lodge-room, adjoining the St. Andrew's Hall Lecture Room, and fitted it up with every requisite for the work. The new lodge has been named the "St. Andrew's Lodge;" but why this name has been chosen we cannot say, although as the church is named after St. Andrew, we suppose that Saint was the patron of the fishermen of the town and neighbourhood, as St. Nicholas is the patron Saint of Yarmouth.

The ceremony of consecration was intended to be performed by the P.G. Master for Suffolk (Lord Waveney), but his lordship was unavoidably detained in Ireland, and the Deputy Prov. G. Master (Bro. Rev. E. I. Lockwood) having recently died, the Rev. C. J. Martyn, P.G. Chaplain of England, was deputed by the P.G.M. to perform the important office. Excellent arrangements were made for the purpose, but unfortunately the space was so limited, and the number of brethren present so numerous, that the ceremony, therefore, lost a great portion of its effect. The lodge was summoned for half-past eleven, some time being usually required on these occasions, when so many visiting brethren are present, to settle the order of proceedings. At half-past eleven the lodge was duly opened by Bro. Lucia, P.G. Secretary of Suffolk, after which the warrant of constitution from the Grand Lodge of England was read, and the names of the brethren proposed as officers having been duly approved of, Bro. Rev. C. J. Martyn, accompanied by the P.G. Officers for the Province, was then introduced in due form. The ceremony of the consecration was ably carried out by him, Bro. Rev. T. Tweed, P.G. Chaplain for Suffolk, assisting, with Bro. Mann (of Lowestoft), at the harmonium. Bro. Martyn then called upon the W. Master elect (Bro. Youell) to answer certain questions, which being satisfactory, he was inducted in due form into the W.M.'s chair amidst the applause of the brethren. He then proceeded to appoint the following brethren as his officers for the ensuing year:—Bros. Capt. Dods, S.W.; J. Hammond, J.W.; Thurlby, S.D.; Stainer, J.D.; Fiske, I.G.; Bro. Bond, of the Friendship Lodge, being appointed as the I.P.M. The business of the lodge so far having been concluded, the brethren then arranged themselves in procession, and, preceded by the band of the West Norfolk Militia, wended their way to St. Andrew's Church, where arrangements had been made with the Vicar for a special service to be held. A large number of the inhabitants were present. The sermon was preached by the Rev. J. Tweed, Prov. G.C., from 1 Ecclesiasticus, 10th Verse, the offertory on the occasion being given (by desire) to the Church Restoration Fund. On their return to the lodge-room, a vote of thanks was moved by the W.M. to the Prov. G. Chaplain for his admirable Masonic sermon on the occasion, and to the Vicar for kindly granting the use of his church. A vote of thanks was also passed to the Halesworth brethren for signing the petition to be forwarded to the Grand Lodge, after which the lodge was closed in due form. As many of the brethren on these occasions come from various parts of the county it will not allow of much time to be lost, therefore shortly after five, o'clock the brethren assembled in an adjoining building, called St. Andrew's Hall, which had been most tastefully decorated for the occasion, and where a most elegant repast had been prepared. The W.M. (Bro. Youell) presided, and was supported by Bro. Martyn and the other Provincial Officers of the

Province, as well as by many visiting brethren. After dinner the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given, that of "The W.M." being given in a most felicitous manner by Bro. Martyn. The proceedings were enlivened by some excellent singing by some of the brethren present, and a most agreeable evening was spent.

We must not omit to state that the band of the West Norfolk Militia played various pieces of music during dinner in a most admirable manner.

The official number of the new lodge is 1631, and by that it appears there have been 131 new lodges opened in various parts of England since the Walpole Lodge, No. 1500, was consecrated in Norwich two years ago.

Reviews.

"THE RELIGIOUS LIFE OF ENGLAND." Part 1. By HENRY MORLEY. Cassell, Petter and Galpin.

We have received this part, No. 17 in fact, of Cassell's Library of English Literature, and are much pleased with it, and recommend it to our readers. It travels over a "terra incognita" to many of us, and gives information, often only accessible to Antiquaries and Archaeologists. But the history of the religious thoughts of our people are very interesting, and though we are not quite prepared to say, that we agree with all the views expressed by the Professor, the substantial fact remains, that he gives us an insight into ancient MSS. and forgotten works, opens out before us the roll of a buried past, with great care, skill, and lucidity. "Facts," as we often say, "are stubborn things" and "words," equally speak clearer and more fully for themselves, especially when ungarbled, the "ipsissima verba" of the writer, than the paraphrases of commentators or the explanations of Editors.

THE MASONIC MAGAZINE.

This Masonic periodical, at one time the only magazine dealing with Masonic matters in England, is now in its fourth year of existence, and deserves, we think, the support of our Order. It emanates from our worthy publisher, who has sought, at great cost to himself, to give the Craft a monthly magazine, replete with useful information, didactic articles, archaeological information, and amusing reading. In this we think that he has succeeded, as several of the papers published in the "Masonic Magazine" have been "unique" of their kind, and are most valuable for reference and information. We know of no better present for a lodge library than the three volumes of the "Masonic Magazine."

THE "ROSICRUCIAN."

This quarterly magazine continues its useful course. It is also published by Bro. Kenning, and is mainly devoted to High Grade literature. It is very ably edited, and it cannot fail to afford both gratification and edification to those for whom it is principally designed. Our publisher surely deserves the thanks of all who wish for Masonic light, and value Masonic literature. It is true that we are not all High Grade Masons, and some of us object to High Grade theories and the like. But surely that is a very narrow and unworthy view of the whole question. He must be a very superficial Mason who denies the "status" of the High Grades, by the side of Anglo-Saxon Masonry, and a most intolerant individual who would refuse them a fair hearing, or ignore their claims to regard, respect, and goodwill.

MASONIC DEMONSTRATION AT DRYBRIDGE.

A general meeting of the Lodge St. Andrew, Drybridge, was held on Wednesday, Nov. 8th, for the purpose of installing the Proxy Master and Wardens, and investing them with the Masonic clothing of the lodge. A number of the members of Grand Lodge, including Bros. W. Barton, S.M. Munro, and W.M. Bryce, the Grand Tyler, attended to take part in the proceedings. The lodge was opened by the R.W. Master, Bro. John Campbell, and some preliminary business having been disposed of, the Proxy Master, Brother Hugh Munro, and Proxy Wardens, Brothers J. Macpherson and A. Duff, were introduced with the usual honours, and addressed by the Master on the duties of their offices, and thereafter regularly installed and invested in the very handsome clothing, specially designed for the occasion. Thereafter the lodge did honour to Brother ex-Convener Daniel Robertson, the V.W. Grand Bible Bearer of the Grand Lodge of Scotland—who, as representing the Grand Lodge, had in the most felicitous manner laid the foundation-stone of their new and beautiful hall on 17th August, 1872—by presenting him a very handsome silver trowel as a memento of that occasion. The trowel, bore the following inscription, viz.:—"Presented by the Lodge 'St Andrew,' Drybridge, No. 380, to Brother Daniel Robertson, the V.W. Grand Bible Bearer of the Grand Lodge of Scotland, as a memento of his having laid the foundation-stone of the new Freemasons' Hall, Drybridge, on 17th August, 1872." At the request of the Master, the presentation was made in a very eulogistic address by Brother John Laurie, the Grand Secretary, amid the plaudits of the brethren; and Brother Robertson, in his usual happy manner, returned thanks for the compliment paid to him. Thereafter Brother D. Shepherd was deputed by the Master to present Brother Laurie with a very handsome gold pen and pencil case, in testimony of the lodge's appreciation of his uniform courtesy towards them, and

the careful attention he had given to their lodge business at all times. Brother Laurie thanked the brethren for their kindness, and assured them of the constant and deep interest Grand Lodge ever took in their welfare and on-going. The Proxy Master and Wardens were for a short time called on to rule the lodge, and gave perfect evidence of their qualification to hold their respective offices. The brethren invited the members of Grand Lodge to dinner, and all spent a very happy evening together. The unquestionable result of the proceedings will be most satisfactory for the Lodge St. Andrew, Drybridge.

IRELAND.

The Lord Mayor gave a brilliant ball on Friday the 10th inst., to their Graces the Duke and Duchess of Abercorn, His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught, and about 1000 other guests, including many representatives of the gentry, military and naval services, the professional classes, and leading merchants of the city. On no previous occasion of a similar kind have the hospitalities of the Mansion-house of Dublin been dispensed with greater munificence and splendour. The entertainment was intended to have a twofold character—as a parting tribute of respect to the Duke of Abercorn, whose approaching retirement from the office of Viceroy is regarded with universal regret, and as a warm welcome to the young Prince, whose name and title bespeak a loyal and hearty reception in Ireland, and whose courteous and genial demeanour have already made him a popular favourite. In the preparations for the event no effort was spared to render the festivity worthy of the presence of the distinguished guests, and the historic Round Room, in which its gaiety culminated, and which is admirably adapted for such an occasion, never presented a more picturesque and vivid spectacle. It was decorated and arranged with special care. The Oak-rooms and reception rooms adjoining were also elegantly fitted up, and all the available space in the building was pressed into the service of the company. His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught arrived at 11 o'clock, attended by Captain FitzGerald, Esquerry in waiting, and Captain Scott, and shortly afterwards the Viceregal cortège arrived at the entrance of the Mansion-house, escorted by a troop of Dragoons. His Grace the Lord Lieutenant, accompanied by the Duchess of Abercorn, Lady Georgiana Hamilton, and the principal members of the Viceregal household, were received with the customary honours by a Guard furnished by the 93rd Highlanders, who, with their band, were drawn up in front of the building. The National Anthem gave notice of their Graces' approach to the assembled guests, and was repeated by the band of the Rifle Brigade, which was stationed in the gallery of the Round-room, and supplied the music for the ball. The Lord Mayor, with his Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught, and attended by the civic officers with their insignia, awaited for the arrival of the Lord Lieutenant, and conducted his Grace and the Duchess of Abercorn into the ballroom, where a canopied dais had been prepared for their reception. A quadrille was then formed, the Duke of Abercorn dancing with the Countess of Granard, the Duke of Connaught with the Duchess of Abercorn, and the Earl of Granard with Lady Georgiana Hamilton. His Royal Highness and the Viceregal party retired at 2 o'clock, but dancing was kept up with unflagging spirit until a later hour.

The Conference of the Head Masters of the Schools more immediately connected with the universities will meet this year at Rugby on Thursday and Friday, Dec. 21 and 22.

INSURANCE.—The value of property insured in London is £540,000,000. Of the fires which occurred in London for the past five years, four-fifths occurred to uninsured property.

The stone of which mention is made of the "Great fire" (found at 25, Pudding-lane) is now in the City Museum, Basinghall-street, having been presented to the Corporation by Messrs. King and Son, of Aldgate. It was set up in 1681.

ALEXANDRA PALACE.—Rumour has been very busy disposing of this property. Up to the present it has been assigned for a new cemetery, to the London and North-Western Railway Company, to the Zoological Gardens and for a small-pox hospital.

This day (Saturday) will be the 600th night of the production of Mr. H. J. Byron's comedy of "Our Boys" at the Vaudeville Theatre.

The Masonic Fraternity of Shenandoah, Iowa, have subscribed 2500 dols. towards the erection of a building expressly for the use of the Order, to cost 4950 dols.

The Dublin Corporation has determined upon a scheme which contemplates as a beginning the outlay of nearly £20,000 in creating health spaces in Dublin by clearing away old buildings, the nests of disease, in which the working population is overcrowded.

A new Museum and a Lecture Hall, in connection with the Watt Institute, at Greenock, have been opened by Bro. Sir Michael Shaw-Stewart. The museum and hall are the gift of Mr. James McLean, of West Bank, and have cost £6400.

Over 24,000 Masons were made in North America during last year, and the whole number of affiliated Masons on the continent at this time exceeds 600,000.

Two gates to the East which require looking after—Constantinople and Temple Bar.—"Punch."

Masonic and General Tidings.

CRICHTON LODGE (No. 1641).—A report of the proceedings at the consecration of this last addition to the roll of London lodges, which took place on Saturday last, unavoidably stands over.

The four page supplement announced for this week will be given with our next issue, and among other matter will contain a full report of the proceedings at the installation of Lord Suffield as Provincial Grand Master of Norwich by H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M.

Lord Waveney, the courteous and urbane Provincial Grand Master of Suffolk, an estimable nobleman, and one of the most popular men holding his high Masonic rank, has appointed the Rev. C. J. Martyn, Past Grand Chaplain of England, Rector of Long Melford, Suffolk, and Rural Dean of Sudbury, to be his deputy, in the room of the late venerated brother, the Rev. E. I. Lockwood, D.P.G.M.

The consecration of the Era Royal Arch Chapter, No. 1423, will take place on Saturday next, the 25th inst., at the King's Arms Hotel, Hampton Court, at three o'clock. The ceremony will be performed by Comp. Col. Burdett, Prov. G. Superintendent of Middlesex, assisted by Comp. R. Wentworth Little, Prov. G.H. Middlesex, and several other distinguished companions. Immediately after the consecration the Provincial Grand Chapter of Middlesex will be held. The banquet, which will be held after the close of the business, will be a joint one.

The Fifteen Sections will be worked in the Burgoyne Lodge of Instruction, No. 902, on Friday, December 1st, at the Grafton Arms, Prince of Wales's Road, Bro. J. F. Wuest, P.M., is the Preceptor, and Bro. H. Slyman, Hon. Sec.

A Mason in Texas who spoke in derision of the Bible has been tried and expelled for the offence.—"Freemasons' Repository."

The Prime Minister left town on Tuesday for Ingestre Hall, Staffordshire, on a visit to the Earl and Countess of Shrewsbury.

The Duke of Connaught arrived at Bray, county Wicklow, on Saturday evening, from Dublin. He was met by Lord Powerscourt, and driven to Powerscourt House, near Enniskerry, where His Royal Highness stayed until Monday.

A movement has been set on foot at Kidderminster to erect a statue to Sir Rowland Hill, the introducer of the penny postage system. Sir Rowland, now in his eighty-first year, was born in Blackwell-street, Kidderminster, on December 3rd, 1795.

Bro. M. W. Ellwood E. Thorne, Past Grand Master, was recently presented with a five hundred dollar service of silver, by order of the Grand Lodge of New York, as a "reward of merit."

A book called "The Adventures of Captain Mago," something in the style of Jules Verne's adventures, is shortly to be published. The hero is supposed to be one of the sailors of Hiram, King of Tyre, and is sent by him to collect material for David's Temple, at Jerusalem. He sees some of the most famous personages known to Bible history, and his conversations with them are duly recorded.

Bro. C. Gosden, late of the Freemasons' Tavern and Masons' Hall, is now the manager of the Inns of Court Hotel.

Bro. the Rt. Hon. Lord Balfour of Burleigh, P.G.S.W. of England, and Lady Katharine Gordon, second daughter of the late Earl of Aberdeen, are to be married on Tuesday next.

The commission that has been given to Mr. Prinsep to paint the Durbar assembled to hear the proclaiming of the Queen as Empress of India is due to subscriptions from the civil servants of India, raised for the purpose, and amounting to £4000, with an additional £1000 for expenses. The work is to be presented to her Majesty, and will not be less than 30ft. in length, containing a great number of figures and a superb display of costumes, arms, &c. Mr. Prinsep proceeds to India immediately, and may be absent six months.

Among the things talked of, is a new Masonic Temple at Cincinnati, to cost half a million of dollars.

Mr. Pollen is engaged in decorating some of the more important chambers in Alton Towers, for Bro. the Earl of Shrewsbury, R.W. Prov. G.M. Staffordshire. The decorative features will comprise eight large designs illustrating the career of the commander whose fame is so prominently associated with the history of the family that has been so long established at Alton Towers, and whose acts are dramatically commemorated by Shakespeare.

The A. and A.'s Rite Bodies of Louisville, Ky., are fitting up elegant and commodious apartments in the old "Courier Journal" building, which will shortly be ready for occupation.

The Grand Lodge of Hungary is about to found a collegiate institute for the benefit of the children of members of the Fraternity.

The estimated cost of the new Masonic Temple at Lucknow is 150,000 rupees.

Miss Emily Mott announces her annual concert to be given at St. James's Hall, on Friday next, when she will have the assistance of Madame Blanche Cole and several distinguished artists.

M.W. Bro. Zola, Grand Master of Masons in Egypt, has contributed 14,000 dols. towards the new Masonic Temple at Alexandria.

The Polar expedition has only cost a little over £100,000, in addition to the wages of the crews, some 170 persons.

METROPOLITAN MASONIC MEETINGS.
For the Week ending Friday, November 24, 1876.

The Editor will be glad to receive notice from Secretaries of Craft Lodges, Royal Arch Chapters, Mark Lodges, Preceptories, Conclaves, &c., of any change in place or time of meeting.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 18.

- Lodge 715, Panmure, Cannon-st. Hot.
" 1329, Sphinx, Surrey M.H.
" 1364, Earl of Zetland, Old Town Hall, Hackney.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

- Lily, Greyhound, Richmond.
Manchester, 77, London-st., Fitzroy-sq.
Star, Marquis of Granby, New Cross-rd.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 20.

- Lodge 8, British, F.M.H.
" 21, Emulation, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
" 58, Felicity.
" 185, 'Tranquillity, Cannon-st. Hot.
" 790, Panmure, Balham Hot., Balham.
" 862, Whittington, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
" 901, City of London, Guildhall Tav., Gresham-st.
" 907, Royal Alfred, F.M.H.
" 1201, Eclectic, F.M.H.

- Chap. 12, Prudence, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

- Prince Leopold, Lord Stanley Tav., Kingsland.
Strong Man, Jerusalem Tav., St. John's Gate.
Sincerity, Railway Tav., Fenchurch-st. Station.
Camden, Stanhope Arms, Up. James-st., Camden To.
Eastern, Royal Hot., Mile-end-rd.
St. James's Union, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Wellington, White Swan, Deptford.
Perfect Ashlar, Victoria Tav., Lower-rd., Rotherhithe.
Upper Norwood, White Hart Hot., Church-rd.
Marquis of Ripon, Pembury Tav., Amherst-rd., Hackney.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 21.

- Lodge 30, United Mariners', Guildhall Tav.
" 73, Mount Lebanon, Bridge House Hot.
" 95, Eastern Star, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.
" 162, Cadogan, F.M.H.
" 165, Honour and Generosity.
" 704, Camden, Bull and Gate, Kentish Town.
" 857, St. Mark's, Surrey M.H.
Chap. 46, Old Union, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
" 933, Doric, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

- Metropolitan, 269, Pentonville-rd.
Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney.
Domestic, Surrey M.H., Camberwell New-road.
Faith, 2, Westminster Chambers, Victoria-st.
Prince Fredk. Wm., Lord's Hot., St. John's Wood.
Dalhousie, King Edward, Triangle, Hackney.
Prosperity, Hercules Tav., Aldersgate-st.
St. Marylebone, British Stores Tav., St. John's Wood.
Constitutional, Wheatheaf Hot., Hand-court, Holborn.
Israel, Rising Sun Tav., Globe Road.
Royal Arthur, Prince's Head, York-road, Battersea.
Beacontree, Red Lion, Leytonstone.
Excelsior, Commercial Dock Tav., Rotherhithe.
St. John of Wapping, Gun Hot., High-st., Wapping.
Metropolitan Chapter, Jamaica Coffee Ho., Cornhill.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 22.

- Lodge 2, Antiquity, F.M.H.
" 212, Euphrates, Mason's Hall, Basinghall-st.
" 507, United Pilgrims, Surrey M.H.
" 754, High Cross, Seven Sisters' Tav., Tottenham.
" 1056, Victoria, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
Chap. 13, Union Waterloo, F.M.H., Woolwich.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

- Confidence, M.H., Basinghall-st.
Mt. Lebanon, Windsor Castle Tav., Southwark-bdg.-rd.
Pythagorean, Prince of Orange, Greenwich.
New Concord, Rosemary Branch Tav., Hoxton.
Royal Union, Horse and Groom, Winsley-st., Oxford-st.
Mount Edgumbe, 19, Jermyn-st., St. James's.
Peckham, Maimore Arms, Park-road, Peckham.
Stanhope, Thicket Hot., Anerley.
Finsbury Park, Finsbury Park Tav., Seven Sisters'-rd.
Southwark, Southwark Park Tav., Southwark Park.
Duke of Connaught, Havelock Tav., Dalston, E.
United Strength, Grafton Arms, Kentish-town.
Islington, Crown and Cushion, London Wall.
Whittington, Black Bull Tav., Holborn.
Lewis, King's Arms Hot., Wood Green.
Langthorne, Swan Hot., Stratford.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 23.

- House Com. Girls' School.
Lodge 34, Mount Moriah, F.M.H.
" 65, Prosperity, Guildhall Tav., Gresham-st.
" 66, Grenadiers', F.M.H.
" 766, William Preston, Cannon-st. Hot.
" 858, South Middlesex, Beaufort Ho., Fulham.
" 871, Royal Oak, White Swan, High-st., Deptford.
" 1421, Langthorne, Swan Hot., Stratford.
" 1562, City of Westminster, M.H., Regent-st.
Chap. 5, St. George's, F.M.H.
" 177, Domestic, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
" 538, Vane, F.M.H.
" 657, Canonbury, M.H., Basinghall-st.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

- Egyptian, Hercules Tav., Leadenhall-st.
Fidelity, Yorkshire Grey, London-st., W.
Finsbury, Jolly Anglers' Tav., Bath-st., City-rd.
Temperance in the East, Catherine-st., Poplar.
Ebony, 12, Ponsonby-st., Milbank.
Highgate, Bull and Gate, Kentish-town.
The Great City, 111, Cheapside.
High Cross, Coach & Horses, High-road, Tottenham.
Salisbury, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Prince Frederick William Chapter, St. John's Wood.
Southern Star, Crown Hot., Blackfriars-rd.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 24.

- Lodge 197, Jerusalem, F.M.H.
" 569, Fitzroy, Hd-qtrs. Hon. Art. Co., City-rd.
" 861, Finsbury, Rosemary Branch Tav., Hoxton.
" 1602, Sir Hugh Myddleton, Agricultural Hall.
Chap. 862, Whittington, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
Precep. 26, Faith and Fidelity, Cannon-st. Hot.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

- Union Waterloo, Thomas-st., Woolwich.
Robert Burns, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Belgrave, Constitution, Bedford-st., Covent Garden.
Unions Emulation (for M.M.'s), F.M.H.
Temperance, Victoria Tav., Victoria-road, Deptford.
Clapton, White Hart, Clapton.
Metropolitan, Portugal Hot., Fleet-st.
Westbourne, Horse & Groom, Winsley-st., Oxford-st.
United Pilgrims, Surrey M.H., Camberwell New-road.
St. James's, New Tanners' Arms, Grange-rd., Bermondsey.
Duke of Edinburgh, Silver Lion, Penny-fields, Poplar.
Doric, Earl Grey Tav., Mile-end-rd.
Burgoyne, Grafton Arms, Prince of Wales's-road, N.W.
St. Luke's, White Hart, King's-rd., Chelsea.
Chigwell, Bald-faced Stag Hot., Buckhurst-hill.
Burdett Courts, Approach Tav., Victoria Park.
Royal Standard, The Castle, Holloway-rd.
Ranelagh, Clarendon Hot., Hammersmith.
Stability, Guildhall Tav., Gresham-st.
St. George's, Globe Tav., Greenwich.
Pythagorean Chapter, Prince of Orange, Greenwich-rd.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN WEST LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE.

For the Week ending Saturday, November 25, 1876.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 20.

- Lodge 721, Independence, M.R., Chester.
" 1502, Israel, M.H., Liverpool.
Chap. 32, Jerusalem, M.H., Liverpool.
" 1051, Rowley, M.R., Lancaster.
Everton L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 21.

- Lodge 667, Alliance, M.H., Liverpool.
" 1225, Hindpool, Hartington Hot., Barrow.
" 1276, Warren, Stanley Arms Hot., Seacombe.
" 1325, Stanley, M.H., Kirkdale, Liverpool.
" 1570, Prince Arthur, 80, N. Hill-st., Liverpool.
Chap. 605, De Tabley, Seacombe Hot., Seacombe.
Merchants' L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 22.

- Lodge 32, St. George's, Adelphi Hot., Liverpool.
" 220, Harmony, Garston Hot., Garston.
" 724, Derby, M.H., Liverpool.
Chap. 1052, Callender, Pub. H., Rusholme.
Neptune L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 23.

- Lodge 594, Downshire, M.H., Liverpool.
Chap. 292, Liverpool, M.H., Liverpool.
" 1086, Walton, St. Lawrence's School, Kirkdale.
Mariner's L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 25.

- Chap. 178, Harmony, Royal Hot., Wigan.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN GLASGOW AND WEST OF SCOTLAND.

For the Week ending Saturday, November 25, 1876.
All the Meetings take place at Eight o'clock.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 20.

- Lodge 129, St. Mirren, 5, Moss-st., Paisley.
" 332, Union, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
" 581, Plantation, Craigiehall-st., S.S., Glasgow.
Encamp. St. Mungo, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 21.

- Lodge 34, St. John, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
" 73, Thistle and Rose, 213, Buchanan-st., Glsqw.
" 87, Thistle, 30, Cathedral-st., Glasgow.
" 437, Govandale, M.H., Portland Buildings, Govan.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 22.

- Lodge 505, Burns St. Mary, Commercial Inn, Hurlford.
" 510, Maryhill, M.H., Main-st., Maryhill.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 24.

- Lodge 125, St. James, Masons' Arms, Newton Ayr.
" 153, Royal Arch, M.H., Cogan-st., Pollokshaws.]
" 195, St. John R.A., Lennox Arms, Campsie.
" 244, Union, Black Bull Inn, Stonehouse.
" 347, St. John Operative, M.H., Rutherglen.
Chap. 79, Commercial, 30, Hope-st., Glasgow.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 25.

- Lodge 28, St. John, Black Bull Inn, Kirkintilloch.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN EDINBURGH AND VICINITY.

For the Week ending Saturday, November 25, 1876.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 20.

- Lodge 44, St. Luke, F.M.H., 98, George-st.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 21.

- Lodge 36, St. David, Ship Hot., E. Register-st.
" 405, Rifle, F.M.H., 98, George-st.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 22.

- Lodge 112, St. John, Royal Hot., Musselburgh.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 23.

- Lodge 392, Caledonian, F.M.H., 98, George-st.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 24.

- Lodge 223, Trafalgar, 54, Bernard-st., Leith.

WANTED, in the County of Devonshire, a Lady of independent means, middle aged, without incumbence, as Companion and Housekeeper to an elderly Gentleman.—Apply, between 2 and 4, to Mrs. Sutterfield, 45, Hunter-street, Brunswick-square, London.

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REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS.

Craft Masonry.

DOMATIC LODGE (No. 177).—The last meeting of this lodge was held at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, on Friday, the 10th inst. There were present Bros. J. Smith, P.M., Treas., P.G.P., acting W.M.; Willing, P.M. Metropolitan, S.W.; Palmer, J.W.; Williams, Sec.; Buseall, S.D.; White, J.D.; Harris, acting I.G.; Spink, D.C.; McLean, W.S.; T. Adams, P.G.P., P.M.; Walford, P.M.; Haydn, P.M.; Ferguson, P.M.; Tims, P.M.; and Kent, P.M. The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the acting W.M. passed Bro. Millen and initiated Mr. Alfred Cox, the ceremonies being well performed. Bro. J. E. Abrams, No. 291, was unanimously elected a joining member. It having been announced by letter that the W.M., Bro. Treadwell, was still seriously unwell, and that he had had the great misfortune to lose his wife, a letter of condolence was unanimously ordered to be forwarded to him. Previously to the lodge being closed, the First, Second, and Third Sections of the First Lecture were worked by Bros. Adams, Foxcroft, and White. The lodge having been closed, the members and visitors, to the number of nearly 100, adjourned to the banquet. Amongst the latter were Bros. Terry, P.M.; F. Walters, P.M., &c., P.J.G.D. of Middlesex; T. C. Walls, S.D. 1381, &c.; Vincent, 72; Abrams, 112; Vaughan, 193; Reon, 205; Baumann, 538; Read, 713; and Thussou, 1056. The usual loyal and Craft toasts having been proposed and most warmly received, Bro. Kent, P.M., in fitting and able terms proposed "The Health of the absent W.M. and Bro. J. Smith, his substitute that evening," in which he stated how exceedingly sorry he was that one who ought to have been there that evening was, through the most untoward circumstances, prevented from taking his position. However, the chair was well occupied by Bro. Smith, the "Bluff King Hal" of the lodge. The acting W.M. said that he had to reply for a double toast, firstly on behalf of Bro. Treadwell, the W.M., whose great misfortunes all must sympathise with, and, secondly, for his humble self. He was pleased at the kind and flattering manner his health had been received, and he was proud at having had the honour—although he deplored the necessity—to preside over them that day. There were great cares attached to the office of Master of a large lodge like the Domatic, but then the Past Masters, who were good, true, and tried old servants, were always ready to assist the W.M., whose duties were in consequence greatly lightened. In conclusion he stated that he personally felt a great interest in the prosperity of the lodge, and desired to return his best thanks for the manner in which he had been received and supported as acting W.M. that day. In proposing "The Health of the Initiate," Bro. Smith stated that Bro. Cox having been exceedingly well introduced to them, they were highly pleased to see him occupying the proud position of an Initiate of the Domatic Lodge. In giving him the good right-hand of fellowship they were proud to welcome him as a brother. In conclusion the W.M. told the newly-admitted brother that if he were a good man, by carrying out the principles of Freemasonry he would, if possible, be a better one. Bro. Cox who was suffering from a severe cold, requested Bro. Terry to reply, who briefly stated that the initiate begged to thank them most heartily and sincerely for the warm manner his health had been proposed, and he (the speaker) felt convinced that had it not been for indisposition Bro. Cox, would have expressed in far better language than himself how proud he was at being Initiated in the old "Domatic." In proposing "The Health of the Visitors" the W.M. remarked that members of the Craft by visiting each others' lodges became not only conversant with the different duties, but made many great Masonic friendships. There were some visitors there that evening, who had made, he believed, their first appearance, and he was glad to welcome them. Amongst the numerous visiting brethren, he said, was Bro. Terry, who had worked hard for the position he occupied, and when an increase of £100 per annum was offered to him a few days previously to that meeting he was not too modest to accept it. Bro. Walters, the Sec. of many lodges, and a highly deserving brother, who held grand honours in the Province of Middlesex, was also a welcome guest. The speaker then

mentioned the names of some of the other visiting brethren present. This toast having been duly honoured, the first named brother replied by thanking two brethren of the lodge by whom the charity of which he had the honour of representing as Secretary had but recently been supported, namely, Bros. Kent, P.M., and Willing, jun., S.W. He believed that at the next festival the chair would be taken by H.R.H. Prince Leopold, R.W.P.G.M. of Oxon, and he said that it was a great thing for the Craft when such high personages were willing to further the good cause by presiding in public. He could remember when the aged recipients of Masonic bounty only received £15 a year, but now the men received £40, and the women £32 per annum. The speaker then called attention to the large sum (£9000) that had been collected at the last festival, and hoped that next year it would be greater. He then went on to state that if the majority of the Craft were only to contribute five shillings yearly, which small sum gave a vote, what a grand thing it would be. In conclusion he gave some interesting statistics of the Boys' and Girls' Schools, which noble institutions he said every member of the Craft should visit, for the former found room for 190 recipients, and the latter 170, who were all well boarded, clothed and educated. In consequence of this address Bro. Ferguson, P.M., offered to stand as Steward for the R.M.B.I. in 1877. "The Health of the Past Masters" followed. In introducing this toast the W.M. referred to two of those worthy brethren in particular, namely Bros. Adams and Haydn. The latter Past Master he said was a brother always to be remembered with gratitude, as by his economy and self-denial whilst occupying the chair of K.S. he had been enabled to free the lodge from debt, which happy financial state had ever since continued. (Applause.) Bros. Ferguson and Walford having replied to this toast the W.M. gave "The Secretary, Bro. Williams, and the other Officers of the Lodge." He told the brethren that at the next meeting they would be called upon to discharge a very important duty, namely, to elect a W.M. for the year ensuing, but they were not to elect the senior officer in rotation unless they thought that he was fully equal to discharge the high and serious responsibilities of the position. Personally he believed that the S.W., Bro. Willing, was in every way fitted for the chair, but of that they, the members, must be the judges. The Secretary was an excellent officer, and he, the W.M., was justly proud of all the other working staff. The Secretary, Bro. Williams, having briefly replied, Bros. Willing, S.W., and Palmer, J.W., addressed the lodge at length, but as their respective replies were principally confined to matters connected with the forthcoming election of W.M., no special notice or comment is necessary. Bros. Buseall, S.D.; White, J.D.; and Spink, D.C., also responded. "The Health of the Treasurer," Bro. J. Smith, was proposed in most felicitous terms by Bro. Walford, P.M., and was suitably acknowledged by that worthy brother. In the intervals Bros. Vaughan, Walls, Harris, and others vocally entertained the brethren. The Tyler's toast was called at ten o'clock, and the brethren separated until the second Friday in the ensuing month.

KENNINGTON LODGE (No. 1381).—The last meeting of this lodge was held on the 7th inst., at the Surrey Club House, Kennington Oval. The lodge was opened at five o'clock in the afternoon by Bro. G. Everett, P.M. 177, W.M.; Higgins, S.W.; Reeves, J.W.; Page, P.M., &c., Treas.; Stuart, P.M., &c., Sec.; Drysdale, P.M., acting I.P.M.; Mann, P.M.; Koch, P.M.; Walls, S.D.; Kohler, J.D.; Speedy, I.G.; Marston, W.S.; Ellis, jun., Org.; Robinson, A.W.S. The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the W.M. passed Bros. Webster and Fischels, and initiated W. A. W. Sleight, Esq., barrister-at-law, both ceremonies being performed in a highly satisfactory manner. Bro. Mann, P.M. proposed, and Bro. Drysdale, P.M., seconded, that a vote of thanks should be given, and duly entered on the minutes to the W.M. for the great kindness in presenting the lodge with a valuable harmonium. The resolution having been unanimously carried, and the W.M. having acknowledged the same, the lodge was duly closed, and the brethren adjourned to an excellent banquet, well catered for by Bro. F. Trotman. Upon the removal of the cloth the usual loyal and Craft toasts were given by the W.M. In speaking of the P.G. and D.G.M.'s, the Lords Camarvon and Skelmersdale the W.M. took occasion to expatiate upon the great Masonic and other abilities possessed by those Grand Officers. In conclusion, he remarked that it must be exceedingly gratifying to all true lovers of the Craft to find peers, ministers, and others high in social rank, supporting Freemasonry on all occasions, and circulating its great principles. The Order was at the present time in a highly satisfactory condition throughout the world, which prosperity was the best answer to the denunciations of the bigoted, and must prove also a death blow to its enemies. "The Health of the W.M." was proposed by Bro. Koch, P.M., who, in the course of his remarks, stated that Bro. Everett had hitherto done his duty, but as he had had opportunities of ruling over one of the largest lodges in the Craft, just immediately before he assumed the chair in the "Kennington," it ceased to be a matter of surprise. In conclusion he (Bro. Koch) stated that he personally felt proud and happy at having the honour to serve under him. Bro. Everett having briefly replied in a few happy sentences, immediately proposed "The Health of the Initiate," which toast having been duly honoured, Bro. Sleight responded by first telling them that his father had been long and honourably connected with Freemasonry, and that consequently the Institution had great and interesting claims upon his regard. In the course of his reply he told them that there were speeches he was paid for, and speeches that he was not paid for, being speeches that emanated earnestly from the heart, and that his initiation speech that evening was one of the latter. He was more than deeply impressed with the ceremony because it had struck a chord and aroused a feeling in

his breast to which he had long been a stranger. It was, indeed, a bond of friendship that he had that night cemented; new but good friends, he hoped, were around him, which friendly feeling, however, was proved by their having unanimously elected him one of their honourable body. In conclusion he forcibly stated that he was so far impressed and delighted with the holy and benevolent principles that had been inculcated during the ceremony of his initiation that he should always endeavour to discharge his duties and obligations as a good Mason, and he hoped that those who heard him would always act as true and faithful brethren to him. In proposing "The Health of the Visitors," the W.M. expressed the great pleasure it afforded him at having to entertain several highly distinguished brethren that evening upon their first visit to the Kennington Lodge. He said he should mention two in particular, namely, Bros. J. Palmer, P.M. 27, and Frith, 1426, to reply to the toast, but he hoped that the others would also say a few words. The first-named stated that in the presence of so many visiting brethren it would be bad taste on his part to occupy much time in replying. He then in the course of a few remarks expressed himself highly delighted with the whole proceedings, both in and out of lodge. Bro. Keith Frith, during the progress of his very eloquent response, which want of space, however, necessarily prevents our giving in full, stated that he was charmed with the good working, the excellent hospitality, and delightful harmony that he had enjoyed upon that, his first visit to No. 1381. He had visited many lodges, and he could honestly testify that in every respect the "Kennington" could hold its own with any in the metropolis. In conclusion he stated that Freemasonry was a glorious institution, as it not only brought men of every grade and condition into one common brotherhood, but it engendered a feeling of good fellowship, and promulgated those holy and philanthropic principles, "brotherly love, relief, and truth." Bros. Boughton, P.M. Independent; Palmer, J.W. 177; Bryan, Antiquity; Clarke, I.G. 177; Harris, 177; and Everett, 177, also responded. "The Health of the Past Masters" followed, and was responded to by Bro. Koch. In proposing "The Health of the Treasurer and the Secretary," the W.M. paid a very high compliment to those worthy and zealous officers. Bro. Stuart, P.M., Secretary, fully replied to the toast in the absence, through indisposition, of Bro. Page, the Treasurer. The toast of "The Officers" came next, and was briefly acknowledged. During the evening instrumental and vocal selections were given by Bros. Ellis, Walls, Stokes, Sirgood, Palmer, and others. The Tyler's toast terminated the proceedings, and the brethren adjourned until the first Tuesday in December.

THE GREAT CITY LODGE (No. 1426).—The first meeting of this lodge after the installation of the new Master was held on Saturday, the 11th inst., at the Cannon-street Hotel; Bro. John Seax presided, and he was supported by all his officers. The lodge was opened in the First Degree, when the minutes of the lodge were read and confirmed. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree, and Bros. Stephens and Styles were examined as to the progress they had made in the science. The usual proceedings having taken place they retired, and the lodge having been opened in the Third Degree they were impressively raised to the Sublime Degree of M.M. The lodge was then lowered to the Second Degree, and Bros. Oppenheimer, Shaw, Lütticke, and Cartwright were respectively passed. A ballot then took place, which, being successful, Mr. Alfred Cumber was initiated into the mysteries and privileges of Freemasonry. In consequence of a discussion arising as to the application of one of the bye laws, notice was given of an alteration of it at the next meeting. The lodge was then closed, and after a very light refreshment the brethren separated.

METROPOLITAN LODGE (No. 1507).—This flourishing lodge held its first meeting after the installation on Thursday, the 16th inst., at the Metropolitan Club, 269, Pentonville Road, King's Cross. Present: Bros. T. Williams, W.M.; R. T. Kingham, S.W.; J. T. Douglass, J.W.; C. J. Scales, S.D.; W. Side, J.D.; W. M. Stiles, I.G.; G. Colls, D.C.; and H. Stiles, W.S. Past Masters, J. Willing, jun., and J. J. Michael, and a numerous assemblage of brethren. The ceremony of raising included Bros. Boschart, Wrigley, Knight, Tuck, Debeuf, and Liebere. Messrs. Clare and Beattie having been balloted for were duly initiated into the mysteries of ancient Freemasonry. A long report from the removal committee was read by the W.M., and after careful consideration adopted by the lodge. The W.M. then appointed Bro. W. M. Stiles as Assistant Secretary, and passed a high eulogium on the ability and untiring energy of that brother. Bro. J. Willing, P.M., proposed that Bro. Tims, Sec., be elected a honorary member of the lodge, which was carried. The W.M. appropriately addressed Bro. Tims on his election, who briefly responded. Bro. J. Willing then called the attention of the lodge to the desirability of establishing a chapter at an appropriate time. The announcement was well received by the brethren. The lodge having been closed, the brethren retired for the preparation of the banquet. After the usual loyal and Masonic toasts had been given, Bro. J. J. Michael, I.P.M., proposed "The Health of the W.M.," who he was proud to say had done his lodge duties alike gratifying to the Past Masters as he was confident it must be to the brethren. The toast was enthusiastically received, and appropriately responded to. The W.M. then gave the toast of "The Past Masters," which was duly acknowledged by Bros. J. J. Michael, I.P.M., and J. Willing, P.M. The toast of "The Initiates" followed, the W.M. expressing his gratification in believing that from the marked attention given to the ceremony by the initiates that they would practically illustrate in their every-day life the advantages derived from the teaching of Freemasonry. Other toasts followed in rapid succession, each being suitably acknowledged, and interspersed with harmony from the brethren.

DUKE OF CONNAUGHT LODGE (No. 1558).—The first lodge meeting since the installation of the W.M. was held on Thursday evening, the 9th inst. Present: Bros. W. S. Cackett, W.M.; T. Sleaf, S.W.; W. Mitchell, J.W.; W. Snowden, I.P.M.; J. Dann, P.M., Sec.; A. Runacres, S.D.; W. Chalk, J.D.; E. W. Boyton, I.G.; C. E. Power, D.C.; J. H. Swan, Org.; T. Taylor, W.S.; F. Geider, Tyler; also Bros. J. E. Pentreath, J. Dixon, R. Scott, H. Kember, J. R. Smith, R. McIlroy, T. C. Corpe, W. Allen, W. G. Bott, E. Pearman, G. M. Le Touzel, G. E. Beach, C. Sims. Also visitors, Bros. M. S. Larham, P.M. 1539; E. G. Webster, 72; C. S. Barker, 1426; E. B. Wright, 1319; C. F. Strube, 72. The lodge was opened in the First Degree. A copy of the report by the Auditors—Bros. J. E. Pentreath and R. Scott—was placed in the hands of every member, and was taken as received. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree. Bro. Kember was entrusted and retired. The lodge was opened in the Third Degree, and Bro. Kember was admitted and raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason. Bros. Le Touzel and W. Allen were then passed to the Second Degree. After a motion respecting finances, proposed by Bro. Scott, had been lost, a proposition by Bro. Pentreath as to balloting was carried. A vote of thanks to the Auditors, Bros. Scott and Pentreath, on the motion of Bro. McIlroy, was carried unanimously. After the formal closing of the lodge, the brethren adjourned to an excellently prepared banquet, at which the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were received with every degree of heartiness. The ceremonies were admirably worked by the W.M., Bro. W. S. Cackett.

LIVERPOOL.—Merchants' Lodge (No. 241).—The usual monthly meeting of this well-known lodge was held on Tuesday, the 14th inst., at the Masonic Hall, Hope-street, Liverpool. Bro. G. Hutchin, W.M., occupied the chair, and amongst his supporters were Bros. R. Wilson, P.M., P. Prov. G.J.D.; G. Broadbridge, P.M., P. Prov. G.D.C.; J. McQuistan, acting S.W.; James Winsor, J.W.; Dr. S. J. McGeorge, P.M., Treas.; T. H. Sheen, Sec.; T. Salter, S.D.; W. Williams, J.D.; S. Jacobs, I.G.; W. H. Ball, Tyler; R. W. Barnes, J. Latta, T. Whitehead, John Winsor, B. Woolf, &c. The lodge having been duly opened, and the minutes read and approved, the W.M., Bro. G. Hutchin, proceeded to initiate in a most effective manner, and afterwards raised two brethren to the Sublime Degree in an equally impressive manner, the latter portion of the historical lecture being given by Bro. R. Wilson, P.M. The brethren subsequently adjourned to refreshment.

BOSTON.—Lodge of Harmony (No. 272).—The usual meeting of the Lodge of Harmony, No. 272, was held on Tuesday, the 14th inst., at the Masonic Hall, Main Ridge, Boston, Lincolnshire. Bro. John Queenboro, W.M., presided, and the following officers were present: Bros. W. H. B. Bratley, S.W.; C. Pickering, J.W.; J. W. Lowe, Chap.; W. R. Fowler, Treas.; H. Snaith, Sec.; A. Thorpe, S.D.; E. Organer, J.D.; J. Buck, Org.; J. Eley, I.G.; W. Warne, Tyler. Bros. Thomas, I.P.M., and Baines, P.M., were also present. The only visitor was Bro. H. Thompson ("Freemason"), 1426, and P.M. 177 and 1158. The lodge having been opened and the minutes of the last meeting read and confirmed, Bro. George Robert Mawer was introduced and questioned as to his proficiency in the science, and his answers being considered satisfactory, he retired, and the lodge was opened in the Second Degree. He was then readmitted in due form, and advanced to the degree of a F.C., the ceremony being most ably rendered by the W.M. Some private business having been disposed of the lodge was closed in due form, and the brethren adjourned for refreshment, which was served in that liberal spirit so truly characteristic of the Freemasons of Lincolnshire. At the close of the repast the W.M. gave the usual loyal and Masonic toasts, which were heartily responded to, after which Bro. Bratley, S.W., in some well-chosen words proposed "The Health of the W.M.," whose year of office was drawing to a close, but remarked that during the time he had occupied the chair he had acquitted himself in his duties to their entire satisfaction. The W.M. in acknowledging the compliment expressed his thanks to the brethren for having so cordially responded to it, and said that he had been most fortunate in having such a body of officers who had so well supported him, and one and all had been most punctual in their attendance, and carried out all that could possibly be required of them. Bro. Baines, P.M., begged to be allowed to propose the next toast, which was "The Health of their Visitor, Bro. Thompson," and could assure him that the Lodge of Harmony gave him a hearty welcome, a toast which was drunk with the utmost cordiality. Bro. H. Thompson, in reply, begged to thank the W. Master and brethren, not only for the kind manner in which the toast had been responded to, but for the bountiful hospitality with which he had been received. He could assure them that next to his initiation into Freemasonry that was the proudest moment of his life, as for many years he had desired to visit that lodge, and now the aspiration of his heart had been accomplished. As a native of the county he felt some interest in being there, but more especially so as that was the lodge in which so far back as the year 1812 his father first saw the light of Freemasonry, an event which made the greatest impression on his mind, and which he cherished and revered up to his latest hour, but years since he had passed away. In answer to his youthful inquiries as to what Freemasonry was, his reply was that it was something very good in itself, which he would in time find out for himself. In due time he had done so, and he could safely repeat the words of his departed father and say it was a very good thing, and if properly used was calculated to promote the happiness and the welfare of mankind. This brought to his mind the fact that Freemasonry was now appreciated

to an extent that had no parallel, for he found, according to a statement he held in his hand, that it was making most rapid strides all over the world, for while on the 1st November, 1863, the total number of lodges on the roll of the Grand Lodge of England amounted to 942, on the 9th November, 1856, they were 1649, or an increase of 707 between those two periods. That they would admit was a most satisfactory state of things, and showed the healthy condition of their Order in this country, but as regarded lodges in France, he was sorry to find that lately there was a very uneasy feeling in London as to the condition of lodges in that country. For some time past, he had it on good authority, they had banished the use of the Sacred Volume from their lodges, which was in itself a blow striking at the very root and existence of Freemasonry, but a proposition was now before the Grand Orient of France even worse than that, a proposition most repugnant to their Order and every well regulated mind, and that was that no religious test should be required from any candidate seeking admission to their lodges. If they admitted infidels or communists into their lodges—all repudiating the existence of a Supreme Being—he was really at a loss to know upon what principle they could bind them together when they disregarded all those sacred ties which formed the great bond and foundation of Freemasonry. If such was to be the case, what was there to prevent the admission of men who, like those of the First Revolution, worshipped the God of Reason, and caused the streets of France to run with blood. He thought it was only right that they should know what was going on, and if the subject shall ever be taken up by the Grand Lodge of England, they would know what to do when the time for action should arrive. He was afraid he had wandered from the toast which had been proposed, but being forewarned they would be forearmed, and in conclusion he begged most cordially to return them his sincere thanks for the honour they had conferred upon him. Some other toasts having been given, a very happy meeting was brought to a close.

LANCASTER.—Lodge of Fortitude (No. 281).—The monthly meeting of this lodge was held in the Masonic Rooms, Athenæum, on the 8th inst. There was a good attendance; the chair of K.S. being occupied by Bro. Thomas Atkinson, the W.M. The lodge having been opened with solemn prayer, the minutes of previous meeting were read and confirmed. Bro. Pandolfini, of St. John and St. Paul Lodge, No. 349, was unanimously elected a joining member. There being no special business the W.M. and Bro. Dr. Moore, P.G.S.B. of E., very efficiently worked the first section of the lecture on the E.A. Degree. A cordial vote of thanks was passed to each on its termination. The usual proclamations were then made, which elicited hearty good wishes from the visiting brethren, and the lodge was afterwards closed in peace, love, and harmony. This lodge has recently undergone a complete renovation, and now presents a very comfortable appearance, second to none, we should think, for its size, in the Province of West Lancashire.

LANCASTER.—Rowley Lodge (No. 1051).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held at the Masonic Rooms, Athenæum, Lancaster, on the 6th inst., Bro. Longman, the W.M., presiding. There was a good attendance of members and visiting brethren. The lodge having been opened in the First Degree with solemn prayer, the minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed. The ballot was then taken for Mr. James Vince, which proving unanimous that gentleman was regularly initiated into the mysteries of the Craft, the working being performed by the W.M. Bro. Dr. Moore, P.G.S.B. of E., afterwards gave the lecture on the First Tracing Board, and at the close was awarded a hearty vote of thanks. The congratulations of the lodge were also passed to Bro. W. J. Sey, P.M., on his appointment as J.D. of Prov. Grand Lodge of West Lancashire. The usual proclamations were then made, which elicited hearty good wishes from the visiting brethren, and the lodge was closed with the formalities of the Craft.

LIVERPOOL.—Temple Lodge (No. 1094).—The brethren of this excellent lodge were summoned to attend their Masonic duties at the monthly meeting in the Masonic Hall, Hope-street, Liverpool, at six o'clock, on the evening of Wednesday, the 8th inst., and in response to the summons there was quite a large gathering. Bro. William Healing was in the place of honour as W.M., and amongst his official supporters were Bros. R. C. Yelland, P.M.; R. R. Martin, P.M.; R. Washington, P.M.; A. Jarvis, S.W.; Thos. G. Winstanley, J.W.; J. Wood, Treas., ("Freemason"); Thos. Marsh, P.M., Sec.; T. S. Williams, S.D.; T. Birch, J.D.; W. B. Jones, I.G.; Joseph Skeaf, Org.; John Alexander, S.; M. G. Bateman, S.; H. Horspool, S.; and P. Ball, Tyler. The members present were Bros. T. Durran, W. Callow, R. Bathie, H. Jones, Geo. E. McGachen, T. Carr, F. J. Jeffery, and J. S. Tyson. The visitors' list embraced Bros. P. B. Gee, P.M. 1264; W. Hawksworth, 724; J. Pemberton, P.G. Supt. of Wks.; A. Magnus, 1264; H. S. Alpass, Prov. G. Sec.; T. M. Stanbury, 241; T. Price, 1039; P. McDulrow, P.M. 1299, P.G. Purst.; and H. P. Price, P.M. 249. The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the ballot was taken for a candidate (Mr. James Preston) who was duly elected. The lodge was then opened in the Second Degree, when Bro. Bethell was examined, and the remarkably perfect manner in which he answered gave ample satisfaction. He then retired, and the lodge was opened in the Third Degree, when Bro. Bethell was re-admitted and raised. The noble ceremony was performed in a manner which has rarely, if ever, been surpassed in the lodge, and elicited universal and hearty admiration. A circular was read with reference to the sedilia in Chester Cathedral, and the sum of three guineas was voted in aid of the fund for this purpose. Bro. H.

S. Alpass, P.G. Sec., who has taken the warmest interest in the gift, cordially thanked the Temple brethren for their gift. After other votes for charitable objects, and the transaction of some formal business, the lodge was closed according to ancient form, and the brethren retired for refreshment. The W.M. (Bro. W. Healing) presided at the festive board, and during the evening the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and loyally and Masonically honoured. Bro. R. C. Yelland, I.P.M., in proposing "The Health of the Worshipful Master" (a toast which was received with much enthusiasm), referred in eulogistic terms to the splendid style in which he (Bro. Healing) had gone through the ceremony of raising Bro. Bethell that afternoon, and also paid him a very high compliment for the exceedingly able manner in which he performed the duties of the chair generally. In acknowledging the proposition of the toast, Bro. Healing, W.M., thanked Bro. Yelland and the officers and members generally for the honour thus done to him. It was his ambition to maintain the dignity of his office and to do justice to their noble Masonic ceremonies, and he felt amply repaid for study and labour by the cordial recognition thus given by the brethren to his efforts in that direction. In the course of the evening Bro. R. R. Martin, P.M., asked and obtained permission from the W.M. to depart from the beaten track of toasts, and propose "The Health of Bro. Bethell," who had that evening been raised to the Degree of M.M. The most efficient way in which he had proved himself on receiving his degrees reflected honour not only upon himself but upon his tutor; and Bro. Bethell might also feel proud in having been raised in the presence of the P.G. Secretary, as he (Bro. Martin) believed this was the only instance in which any member had been so honoured. Bro. Bethell replied in suitable terms, and shortly afterwards the Tylers' toast brought a very pleasant evening to a close at an early hour.

LIVERPOOL.—Lodge of Israel (No. 1502).—The annual installation meeting of this lodge was held at the Liverpool Masonic Hall, last Monday afternoon, the 20th inst., when Bro. Maurice Hart, S.W., was duly installed in the chair by Bro. A. J. Henochsberg, the retiring W.M. A full report of the proceedings will appear in next week's "Freemason."

TWICKENHAM.—Francis Burdett Lodge (No. 1503).—The installation meeting of this lodge was held at the Albany Hotel, Twickenham, on Wednesday, the 8th inst., at four o'clock in the afternoon precisely. Amongst the officers present were Bros. Wigginton, P.M. 902, 1298, P.P.G.D.C. Worcestershire, P.G.S. of Works Middlesex, W.M.; W. H. Saunders, P.G.S. of Surrey, S.W., W.M. elect; Tomlinson, P.M., P.P.G.S.D. of Norfolk, J.W.; C. Horsley, P.M., &c., acting I.P.M.; Kennedy, P.M., &c.; Knaggs, S.D.; Taylor, J.D.; Court, Sec. Bro. Hervey, G.S., &c., an honorary member of the lodge, was also present. The minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed, the ceremony of installation commenced. The Installing Master, Bro. Wigginton, P.M., appointed the following members of the lodge to assist him in carrying out the ceremonial: — Bros. Hervey, Horsley, Tomlinson, and Kennedy. The whole of the interesting and arduous ceremony was then most ably and impressively performed by the Installing Master. Amongst the principal officers appointed and invested for the ensuing year were Bros. Knaggs, S.W.; Court, sen., J.W.; Tomlinson, P.M., &c., Treas.; Wigginton, I.P.M., &c., Sec.; Taylor, S.D.; Vaughan, J.D. The lodge was shortly afterwards closed, and the brethren adjourned to the banquet. Upon the removal of the cloth, the toasts of "The Queen and the Craft," "H.R.H. the M.W.G.M.," "The Pro and D.G.M.'s, and the rest of the Grand Officers, Past and Present," "The M.W.P.G.M. of Middlesex, Col. Burdett," "The D.G.M. of Middlesex, and the rest of the Provincial Grand Officers, Past and Present," were given briefly, but pertinently by the W.M. Bro. Hervey, G.S., replied for "The Grand Officers" by expressing his thanks for the manner in which the toast had been proposed and received, and, amongst other matters, stated that he was personally gratified at perceiving the great progress the lodge had made since its foundation in 1874, which prosperity he hoped would long continue. Bros. Wigginton, P.G.S. of Works, and Horsley, P.P.G.R., responded on behalf of the Prov. G. Officers for Middlesex. "The Health of the W.M." was proposed by the I.P.M., who, in the course of his remarks, hoped that the W.M.'s year of office would in every respect prove a most happy and prosperous one. The W.M., in reply, expressed his thanks to the brethren for having elected him to fulfil the duties and discharge the responsibilities of W.M. of No. 1503, which lodge, he was proud to say, was equal to any in the large Masonic Province of Middlesex, and in conclusion, he hoped that the kind wishes and anticipations contained in the I.P.M.'s speech would be fully realized. "The Health of the I.P.M. and Honorary Past Masters" followed, and at its conclusion the W.M. presented Bro. Wigginton with a very handsome and artistically designed jewel as a memorial of his two years of office. The I.P.M. made a very able and effective reply in acknowledgment of the gift. The toasts of "The Visitor, Bro. Lane," "The Masonic Charities," "The Treasurer and Secretary," and "The Officers" followed in quick succession, and the Tyler's toast at ten o'clock terminated the proceedings, which were throughout eminently successful. The next meeting of the lodge will be held on Wednesday, the 13th prox.

GREAT STANMORE.—Abercorn Lodge (No. 1549).—This young lodge completed its second season at the Abercorn Hotel on the 3rd ult. A Lodge of Emergency has also to be recorded, which was held on Sept. 5th, to advance several younger brethren, at which Bro. I.P.M. R. Helsdon presided, in the absence of the W.M. This extra meeting was not only well supported by the officers and members of the lodge, but was hon-

oured by the following visitors: Bros. Ascot, Thompson, and Brown, 733; Woodstock, 749; Fitzjohn, 192. The lodge was opened to the Second Degree at 3.45, when Bro. Meek having proved efficient was raised to the Sublime Third Degree. The lodge was then resumed, and Bros. Marshall, Clark, Fradelle, Brick, Johnson, and Darby, having been duly examined, were afterwards passed to the Second Degree. The lodge closed at 6.30, and the brethren adjourned to banquet and an enjoyable evening, under the able presidency of the I.P.M. At the closing meeting on the 3rd Oct., the chair of K.S. was occupied by the W.M., who was unavoidably deprived of the assistance of his J.W., J.D., and Organist, besides several brethren, through illness and pressing emergencies; he had, however, many able assistants, Bro. Squire, P.M. 889, visitor, and opened his lodge with the usual form and prayer at 3.45. After disposing of the preliminary business Bros. Marshall, Fradelle, Johnson, Brick, and Darby having been duly proved were separately raised to the Third Degree, and afterwards jointly invested and enlightened by the I.P.M. with the full traditional history. The usual enquiries for the good of the Craft were then made by the W.M., and the lodge was closed in peace and harmony at 5.50. The brethren afterwards adjourned to banquet, which gave general satisfaction. The usual Masonic and complimentary toasts were well given by the W.M., and heartily responded to. Much regret was expressed at the absence of Bro. Winter, Organist, as it deprived the brethren of much high-class music, but withal they had a very social gathering, many of the members contributing vocally for their enjoyment. The progress of the lodge during its second season may be considered highly gratifying—twelve brethren have been added to the ranks, nine new and three joining members, and it may be taken as a proof of the satisfaction given to the Prov. Grand Master on his visiting the lodge in July last, that he has since selected Bro. R. Helsdon, the highly respected I.P.M., as a Prov. Grand Officer, and bestowed upon him the first purple collar, to the honour of the lodge, and satisfaction of the brethren. The next season commences on the first Tuesday in April, 1877.

MORECAMBE.—Morecambe Lodge (No. 1561).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, Edward-street, on the 3rd inst., Bro. Capt. Garnett, the W.M., presiding. There was a very fair attendance of members and visiting brethren. The lodge was opened in the First Degree with the usual formalities, and the regular routine business transacted. A discussion took place relative to the formation of a Lodge of Instruction, with Bro. Dr. Moore as Preceptor, and the matter was subsequently left in the hands of that distinguished brother for arrangement. The working of the various degrees was then gone through, and the lodge having resumed working in the First Degree the usual proclamations were made and responded to, and the lodge was closed in peace, love, and harmony. This was the first meeting of the lodge in their new Masonic Hall, and although it can scarcely be said to be in a finished state, the members were anxious to occupy it, owing to the inconvenience they have hitherto experienced in not having a suitable place in which to hold their lodge. When finished and completely furnished it will be a very neat and commodious lodge room.

INSTRUCTION.

LODGE OF FELICITY (No. 58).—The first meeting of this lodge of instruction took place on Monday, the 13th inst., at the London Masonic Club, 101, Queen Victoria-street, E.C. Present: Bros. C. J. Hogg, P.G.S., P.M. 56, P.M. 1275, (Hon. Treas.), W.M.; E. W. Hub-buck, P.M. 58, S.W.; N. Reed, J.D. 755, J.W.; F. T. Kingsford, 58, S.D.; J. D. Tickle, 1105, J.W.; Geo. Briggs, I.G. 1572, I.G.; John G. Shand, Hon. Sec.; Edell, Langton, Fuller, Ford, Kimpton, Guthrie, Jardine, Walker, Rumming, Dobbing, Chas. Smith, Jno. White, and others. Visitors: Bros. Stibs, I.G. 1507; Green, W.M. 1275; Whitaker, 1572, W.M. elect; Taylor, 1572; Davage, 7; Sadler, 185; Captain Williams, Past Grand Officer Middlesex. The lodge was opened in due form with prayer, and the initiation ceremony rehearsed. The Preceptor, Bro. Mander, P.M. 1201, gave the Lecture of the First Tracing Board. The bye-laws were read. Votes of thanks were accorded and placed upon the minutes to the W.M., Preceptor, and the Committee and Directors of the Club. The lodge closed in solemn prayer and perfect harmony, and adjourned till Monday, 27th inst., at 6 p.m.

Mark Masonry.

SOUTH MOLTON.—Fortescue Lodge (No. 9).—A meeting of this lodge was held at the Masonic Hall on Monday, 13th inst., when a large muster of the members of the lodge attended, it being the day of installation of Bro. J. Wood as W.M. for the year ensuing. Bro. J. T. Shapland, W.M., having opened the lodge, the P.G.M.M.M., R.W. Bro. Capt. J. Tanner Davey, duly installed Bro. Wood as W.M. for the year ensuing. He thereupon invested the following brethren as his officers:—Bros. J. T. Shapland, I.P.M.; J. Brewer, S.W.; Wm. Cole, J.W.; John Galliford, M.O.; J. Widgery, S.O.; R. L. Riccard, J.O.; Rev. F. King, Chaplain; J. Galliford, Treas.; A. E. Galliford, Sec.; J. Widgery, Reg. of Marks; Britton, S.D.; Oliver, J.D.; Hancock, I.G.; and R. Kingdon, Tyler. The brethren afterwards dined together at Bro. Cole's, Unicorn Hotel, whose catering was all that could be desired, and a very pleasant evening was spent.

The Patent Office in Washington has decided to register British trade marks in America.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF DERBYSHIRE.

The Provincial Grand Lodge of Derbyshire held its annual meeting at the Masonic Hall, Gower-street, Derby, on Wednesday, Nov. 15th, under the presidency of Bro. H. C. Okeover, P.J.G.W. England, and R.W.D.P.G.M. of Derbyshire. The lodge was opened in ample form at two p.m., prayer being offered up by Bro. A. A. Bagshawe, M.A., P.P.G.S.W. and Past Grand Chaplain. The usual business of the Grand Lodge was then proceeded with. The W.M.'s of the various Craft lodges presented their reports, from which it appeared that Freemasonry is satisfactorily progressing in the province. The reports of the Masonic Hall Committee, and the Audit Committee were read and confirmed, after which the acting Grand Master proceeded to appoint and invest his Provincial Grand Officers as follows:—Henry Turner, P.S.G.W.; G. T. Wright, P.J.G.W.; Rev. J. Francis Nash Eyre, LL.D., P.G.C.; Thos. Cox, P.G.T.; J. M. Stafford, P.G.R.; W. Naylor, P.G.S.; S. Pipes, P.S.G.D.; E. C. Milligan, P.J.G.D.; R. Bennett, P.G.S. of W.; J. Fearn, P.G.D. of C.; J. T. Hale, P.G. A.D. of C.; W. Wise, P.G. Sword B.; W. L. Dodd, P.G.O.; J. J. Bingham, P.G.P.; E. Manners, P.G. Standard B.; T. Slinn, P.G. Tyler. Stewards: Laing, Flint (Tyrian), T. Day, A. Fraser (Arboretum); J. Heathcote, J. H. Biggs (Hartington).

After the Provincial Grand Lodge was closed, the brethren adjourned to the lower hall, where a sumptuous banquet was served up. The repast over, the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly given and responded to.

LODGE OF BENEVOLENCE.

The monthly meeting of the Lodge of Benevolence was held on Wednesday evening at Freemasons' Hall, and was very numerously attended. Bro. Joshua Nunn, Senior Vice-President, took the President's chair, Bro. James Brett, Junior Vice-President, took the Senior Vice-President's chair; and Bro. S. G. Foxall, A.G.P., the Junior Vice-President's. Among the other brethren present were the Rev. A. F. A. Woodford, P.G.C.; C. A. Cottebrune, P.G.P.; H. Bartlett, P.M. 147; Chas. F. Hogard, P.M. 205; W. Mann, P.M. 186; Joseph Smith, P.G.P.; James Mason, P.G.S.B.; Herbert Dicketts, P.M.; Wm. Stephens, P.M.; W. H. Myers, P.M.; John Wright, P.G.P.; W. T. Howe, P.M.; Wm. Hilton, P.M.; J. R. Weston, W.M. 1536; Wm. S. Cackett, W.M. 1538; H. S. Somerville Burney, W.M. 1615; John Robbins, D.D., W.M. 1635; Frederick Binckes, P.G.S.; J. M. Jolley, P.M. 87; W. J. Mur-lis, W.M. 1642; T. Knowles, W.M. 834; J. H. Wynne, P.M. 101; Thos. Brett, W.M. 700; Octavius H. Pearson, W.M. 10; Charles Birch, W.M. 256; S. H. Rowley, P.M. 174; Alfred Allworth, W.M. 1261; J. Chambers Roe, W.M. 780; Francis Bonney, W.M. 193; W. R. Morton, W.M. 263; John Green, W.M. 27; W. A. Tinney, W.M. 1319; Thomas Munro, P.M. 179; T. J. Whitmarsh, W.M. 1150; W. R. Marsh, I.P.M. 9; Geo. Brocks, W.M. 902; Thos. James, W.M. 257; W. Andrews, W.M. 147; R. D. M. Littler, W.M. 1610; James West, W.M. 890; H. T. Thompson, P.M. 742; John Bingemann, W.M. 1599; C. P. Cob-ham, I.P.M. 357; P. Cook, W.M. 1044; J. R. W. Hobbs, W.M. 748; George Allen, W.M. 144; Chas. J. Livett, W.M. 1351; J. C. Warkell, P.M. 193; C. Bur-meister, W.M. 538; J. J. Berry, W.M. 554; Geo. Andrews, P.M. 871; M. S. Larham, W.M. 1216; J. L. H. Vokins, W.M. 1461; A. J. Hollington, W.M. 58; James Hewitt, W.M. 908; John Roper, W.M. 1155; J. Newton, W.M. 1607; Peter Wagner, W.M. 201; Thos. Robinson, P.M. 709; John Seex, W.M. 1426; J. R. Gallant, W.M. 813; B. H. Swallow, W.M. 1563; J. A. Hudson, P.M. 819; Thos. Reilly, W.M. 1327, P.G.P. Hants; A. Southam, W.M. 1420; Geo. Bolton, 169; John Geo. Marsh, P.M. 28; T. J. Barnes, P.M. 22; H. W. Hemsworth, P.M. 1193; J. A. Farnfield, P.M. 907; G. R. Shervill, P.M. 23; John Gibson, Dep. M. 259; H. Massey, P.M. 619 ("Freemason"); and Thos. Cobu, W.M. 192. Bro. John Hervey, G. Sec., attended, and was assisted by Bros. H. G. Buss and W. Dodd. Bro. C. B. Payne was I.G.

At the Board of Masters, which was first held, the agenda paper for next Grand Lodge was settled.

Afterwards grants to the amount of £175, made at former Lodge of Benevolence, were confirmed.

The new cases were afterwards taken up. Of these there were 32 on the list. Two cases were dismissed. The rest were relieved with sums amounting in all to £554. One grant was for £100, and two were for £50 each. One was for £40, and one for £25. Nine were for £20 each; one was for £13; seven were for £10; four for £5 each, and two for £3 each.

The brethren were in session for four hours.

Lodge was then closed in due form.

THE COMING LIVERPOOL MASONIC BALL.—Arrangements are in active progress for the forthcoming 28th annual Masonic Ball in Liverpool, which will, as usual, be in aid of the West Lancashire Masonic Educational Institution. The Mayor and Corporation have again generously granted the use of the Town Hall, including the Council Chamber, for the ball, which will take place on the 9th January, 1877; and his Worship, the Mayor (Alderman A. A. Walker) has not only given his patronage, but has also promised his presence, along with the Mayoress. An energetic committee is now at work to make the ball a complete success, Bro. R. Wilson, P.P.G.J.D., being Chairman; Bro. H. Nelson, P.M. 1505, Vice Chairman; Bro. J. Hutching, W.M. 241, Secretary, and Bro. Pemberton, P.G.S. of Works, the Treasurer.

ILLEGALITY.

We call attention to an article from the London "Freemason," in relation to the initiation into one of the Hungarian lodges of a woman, Countess Hadick; the "Freemason" taking the ground that the action of the Grand Orient of Hungary in declaring the initiation "null and void" to be wrong. The "Freemason" admits the gross wrong on the part of the lodge initiating, but insists that "once a Mason, always a Mason," and that the action cannot be made "null and void." Here we must differ with our respected English contemporary. The action of the lodge was all wrong and illegal, and therefore the Grand Body did right in declaring it, so far as the Masonic rights of the lady are concerned, "null and void," and having violated their Master Mason's obligation, the charter of the lodge should have been forfeited and the entire membership declared expelled by the Grand Orient.

But the "Freemason" says that it is unjust to declare the lady still a profane, because she got her degree honestly, and that none but the Master of the lodge should be punished; that she was a constant reader and admirer of Masonic law and literature, and from this knowledge applied for the degrees. It would be better for his client had he pleaded ignorance for her, for being read in Masonry she knew that she could not lawfully be initiated, and could not be recognized by any legal body of Masons. Then if the Grand Orient of Hungary has done its duty and refused to recognize her legal initiation, has it not done right? Yea, verily. The Grand Orient does not say she has not received the secret of Masonry in a regular Lodge, but adheres to the law that she is not entitled to it and received it illegally, and therefore, shall not be recognized as a legal Mason. We ask our distinguished contemporary how can a Grand Body wink at an open, known illegal action of a subordinate lodge, and make an exception in behalf of an illegal subject? It cannot. The Grand Master is pledged against it and the Grand Orient is bound to sustain him.

Again we ask our Brother, the warrant of the lodge being necessarily arrested, and the officers and members being expelled for violation of an unalterable landmark, what other lodge will be silly enough to affiliate the non-descript female Mason? Would he vote to affiliate her in his lodge? We think not. And further, we think that he could not recognize her as a Mason, even for two reasons. If her lodge goes she goes with it. And not being legally made she must necessarily be a clandestine, and he knows his duty in such matters.

We are opposed to all "New Day—New Duty" schemes that may spring up all over the world in contravention of plain, well known and well understood Masonic Law, and our most anciently established landmarks. In this we are no opponents of woman's true rights in her every proper sphere, but Masons know that a woman cannot, lawfully, be a Mason, and our seal is set against making Masons of nien in their dotage, men in nonage, madmen, libertines, atheists, women and fools, and if made we will not recognize them; and we believe every American Mason will agree with us.

To illustrate: Suppose some man should steal fifty thousand dollars and give it to some favourite woman, would she be entitled to it by law, and to its benefits by right? And if she was well read and knew it to be fraudulently obtained, would she not be particeps criminis by receiving, and more by using it? So the Countess Hadick knows she is not entitled to the rights, lights and benefits of Masonry, and can raise no objection to her nor recognition by the Grand Orient of Hungary, and she and her coadjutors in Masonic crime should go to the wall together. Countess or peasant, no woman can legally be made a Mason—no legally rejected material can be allowed to remain in the great Masonic edifice, but must come out and take its proper place among the rubbish—and we believe that no woman, or other baned subject, will ever become a keystone for the completion of our mystic arch.

And finally, it will never do to establish any such precedent as the "Freemason" suggests, by making the case of this lady an exception.—"Masonic Journal."

The marriage of Lord Balfour of Burleigh, P.G.S.W. of England, R.W. Substitute Grand Master of Scotland, and Lady Katherine Eliza Gordon, youngest daughter of the late George John James, fifth Earl of Aberdeen, and sister of the present peer, was celebrated on Tuesday at the parish church of St. Mary Abbott's, Kensington. The bride was accompanied by her mother, the Countess, and her brother, the Earl of Aberdeen. The bridesmaids were the Ladies Margaret and Mary Ashburnham, Misses Katherine and Louise Gordon and Miss Gordon (cousins of the bride), Madlle. de Witt, Lady Grace Gordon, Miss Hamilton, Miss Bruce, Hon. Miss Scott, and Miss Lindsay. The bride wore a dress of Velours Indien, trimmed with Louis XIV. brocaded silk and Brussels lace, and over a wreath of natural flowers a tulle veil. The bridesmaids' dresses were of turquoise blue Cashmere, trimmed with a scarf of white broché silk, and a bouquet of ivy leaves on the corsage, beaver hats trimmed with feathers, and each lady wore a locket, the gift of the bridegroom. Lord Balfour was attended by Lord Cochrane, as best man. The Archbishop of Canterbury performed the ceremony, assisted by the Hon. and Rev. Canon Gordon, the uncle of the bride, and the Rev. W. D. MacLagan, vicar of St. Mary Abbott's. Early in the afternoon Lord Balfour and his bride left for Lady John Scott's seat near Rugby, to spend the honeymoon.

The Goldsmiths' Company have presented £1000 to the Chemical Society as a contribution to the fund being raised by that society for the promotion of chemical research.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.

A Special General Court of the Governors and subscribers of this Institution was held on Saturday last at Freemasons' Hall. The Court was held in compliance with a requisition signed by Lieut.-Colonel Creaton, Vice-Patron and Trustee, and its object was to receive the report of the Building Committee upon the new laundry, &c., and, if approved, to authorise such further expenditure as might be deemed necessary. Lieut.-Colonel Creaton, P.G.D., was called to the chair, and the other brethren present were Henry Browne, Raynham W. Stewart, A. H. Tattershall, Capt. John Wordsworth, Thos. J. Sabine, Major E. H. Finney, Thomas W. White, W. Hyde Pullen, Rev. J. M. Vaughan, H. Massey ("Freemason"), S. Rawson, John Symonds, W. F. C. Moutrie, John Boyd, Z. D. Berry, F. Binckes, James Terry, Leopold Ruf, William Roebuck, J. G. Chancellor, Dr. Ramsay, and R. W. Little (Secretary).

The report of the Building Committee, which was read by Bro. Little, shewed that the new laundry could not be built for the contract price of £1400.

The Chairman said the brethren were quite aware of the position the Building Committee were in at the present moment. The sum of £1400 was formerly voted for the purpose of building the laundry; and it was now shown, after seeing the plans, the drawings, and the estimates, that it could not be completed for anything like that sum. When he told them that out of the sum of £1400 already voted, £600 would go for engineering expenses, it would be evident that £1400 would not meet the requirements. He begged, therefore, to move that another £1000 be voted for the purpose of carrying out the scheme to make the laundry perfect.

The motion having been seconded,

Bro. Raynham W. Stewart, P.G.D., after a short pause, said that this motion must really come upon the brethren by surprise, inasmuch as the question had been repeatedly discussed, not only before the General Committee, but the House Committee. The Committee had been also told by the Chairman himself, when the sum of £1400 was voted, that they were given a larger sum than would be required, and that the estimate was over rather than under what the buildings would cost. He would ask whose fault was it that it was really under rather than over. Was it the fault of the architect? That gentleman had before him the plans that were put before the Committee, and he ought to be able to give a correct estimate. It was a very serious question. They knew that they must build a laundry, but they ought to have been so advised as to the cost that a motion for an extra sum of money should not have to come upon them. He should say that a tender for the buildings should now be offered to public competition, and not to the brother who was engaged already on the alterations. When a large sum of money like this was asked for the brethren should remember that they were bound by their duty to their subscribers, as it was public money they had to spend, to get the lowest tender, and have the work done for the smallest sum of money they could. He would ask the chairman whether there had been any alterations in the plans.

The Chairman: None.

Bro. Raynham W. Stewart: Then how could this occur? He would take the sense of the General Court upon the subject.

The Chairman said he thought Bro. Massa, the architect, could explain a good deal of the question away. The brethren were well aware that when he (the Chairman) came before them last for the £1400 it was on the faith of the architect giving that amount as the sum required. He believed the architect could explain the matter in such a way as would be satisfactory to the court. With regard to one remark which had fallen from Bro. Stewart he might explain that there was one objection to asking for public tenders, and that was that it would be very undesirable to have two sets of builders on the premises at the same time, and also to throw over till May, when the present buildings were completed, the proceeding with the laundry. He thought, after going into this estimate, although he quite agreed with Bro. Stewart, if they got fresh tenders they would not get the work done cheaper. Bro. Massa would now explain.

Bro. Thomas Massa, the architect, said the estimate for the laundry was originally a portion of the very much larger estimate, and had the original scheme been accepted, then there was very little doubt that the surplus on one building would have compensated for perhaps the deficiency in the other; but just when one building was done part of the scheme of these original estimates was stuck to. The amount was put down for each of the two buildings when the estimates came to be made. They were made originally from preliminary drawings. They were much the same as the others, but still they were preliminary. When the working drawings were made on the model of Bro. Fish's (the builder's) prices for the new buildings it came to more money. He went over it with Bro. Fish himself, and the estimate for the laundry was based upon Bro. Fish's actual model of prices for the new works, and, therefore, it could not be at all an excessive estimate. That was the explanation he had to offer.

Bro. Raynham W. Stewart replied that he did not see that it was an explanation. Bro. Massa had said part of the scheme was stuck to. There was a separate plan he always understood. When the new hall was done it was absolutely necessary that the new laundry should be made.

The Chairman: But that laundry was included in the charge.

Bro. Raynham W. Stewart: To say that this estimate was based upon Bro. Fish's ideas and schedules of prices shewed that Bro. Massa knew nothing at all about it. The brethren had no one to depend upon but their archi-

tect. If a brother was asked to build a house, and he said it would cost about £1000, and then afterwards he said it would cost £1400 because he had made a mistake in the builder's schedule of prices, what would be thought of him? He (Bro. Stewart) did not think this was any clear statement to the brethren that Bro. Massa had gone on Bro. Fish's estimate of prices. The brethren had had confidence in Bro. Massa when he said £1400, and now he came to them and asked for an extra sum. He (Bro. Raynham Stewart) would now move as an amendment that before the sum of £1000 was granted there should be a public tender for the works. He did not think the brethren ought to be simply told by the architect that he had got these prices from Bro. Fish. He would, therefore, move that tenders for the works be publicly advertised for.

Bro. Henry Browne, P.G.D., said it was a question with him whether this should not have been done before. He had asked this question, and it was settled that it should not be done. It was decided that £1400 was the proper price, and it was given to Bro. Fish.

The Chairman said he had explained that it was undesirable to have two builders on the premises at the same time, the two buildings having to go on simultaneously.

Bro. Henry Browne continued that an extra £1000 upon an estimate of £1400 was so large a sum, and so out of all proportion to anything that could happen, or be contemplated, that he submitted before they came to the Quarterly Court for it they should advertise for tenders. The obstacles of having two contractors were easily met. The present contractor must clear the ground by the 1st of April. The form of specification could state that the contractor would have the clear ground given to him on the 1st of April, when the present contractor must complete his work. He was of opinion now that they ought to have done that before coming to the Court for this enormous increase. The difficulty of having the ground cleared was nothing whatever. It could not be done, for no man would go there and dig foundations in November.

The Chairman: Bro. Fish told me he would do it next week.

Bro. Henry Browne would withdraw the expression that it could not be done. They were in a very sad dilemma. They should first of all obtain tenders for this work by public competition. They would not be bound to accept the lowest tender. They might say they would not be bound to accept the lowest or any other tender. It should be advertised, and he dared say they would find a man to do it. He concluded by seconding Bro. Raynham Stewart's proposition.

Bro. Z. D. Berry would support the original resolution. The difference in the time of year would make no difference, because Mr. Fish was already on the premises. He (Bro. Berry) had a contract last year at Lord's Cricket Ground, and he did his work. He would give this contract to Bro. Fish; he did not think it was at all fair to Bro. Fish to entertain Bro. Stewart's amendment for a moment.

Bro. Thomas W. White, P.G.S.: No doubt. Bro. Massa might tell the brethren when Bro. Fish was to finish the building.

Bro. Thomas Massa: I think it is April.

Bro. Thomas W. White: I thought it was May. Then there was a strike clause in the contract.

Bro. H. A. Dubois would like to have some information from Bro. Massa as to whether the scheduled prices were high or low, and also whether in the case of the thing being advertised for it would enhance the price if a new man came on the ground.

Bro. Thomas Massa said it appeared to him that Bro. Fish's prices were moderate. All builders' prices were inconsistent; at least he had always found it so. Some were very high; some were very low; but taken as an average, Bro. Fish's prices were moderate.

Bro. Z. D. Berry: Bricks have gone up at least 12s. a thousand since that contract was entered into.

Bro. John Symonds, P.G.D.: Supposing it was put to tender, and six or eight houses offered, would Bro. Fish, who was already on the ground, consent to go for the work?

Bro. Thomas Massa: Bro. Fish would no doubt tender.

Bro. W. Roebuck thought that a public tender was the proper thing to have, as it was public money the Committee had to deal with.

The Chairman said that the laundry was the most important thing required now. It had been long wanted; it had been necessary to have it enlarged. For the last three or four years the present laundry had not been sufficient for the number of children in the Institution. It was really more necessary to be got on with than the hall.

Bro. John Symonds was not sure that with a work of this kind it would be desirable to go to public tender. By selecting out of six or eight houses they might get the work done cheaper; but he understood that Bro. Fish would be willing to be one of those selected. It would then be rather strange not to let him; he having the plant already on the ground, would be able to compete with those coming on the ground new. In a work of this kind he did not think a public tender would be advantageous. If they selected their men they were bound to take the lowest tender. They were then on the right side; and it was Bro. Fish's fault if he did not get the contract.

The Chairman observed that there was one thing he had omitted to tell the brethren. In the original tender the fittings were not included; so that in any case, if that original tender had been carried out, there would have been £600 worth of fittings. This made a wide difference.

Bro. Henry Browne (to Bro. Massa): Did you not include fittings?

Bro. Thomas Massa: No.

The Chairman: They are included now of necessity.

Bro. John Symonds: Then we are to understand that

although the previous estimate did not include fittings, the further £1000 would include them.

Bro. Thomas Massa: It would include all.

Bro. Raynham W. Stewart: The architect may make a mistake again.

Bro. W. Roebuck supported Bro. Stewart's amendment, and he did not agree with Bro. Symonds as to the prudence of asking half-a-dozen houses to tender. This was public money they were trustees for. It was easy enough to find out whether a man was a responsible man. If they had not an architect they could place confidence in, let them change him. If they were not disposed to give the contract to Bro. Fish, let them change him. If they were not disposed to give the contract to Bro. Fish, the contract must go to public competition.

Bro. Henry Browne said that on the occasion of the first tenders being put out there were eight competitors. The lowest was accepted. He withdrew, and when that was known the two next also repudiated. That brought them to Bro. Fish, who was the fourth, and he accepted.

The Chairman then put Bro. Raynham W. Stewart's amendment, when there were found to be

For the amendment 11

Against 6

The amendment having been carried was put as a substantive motion and agreed to.

The Chairman thereupon declared the business of the meeting closed; but

Bro. John Symonds said he would like to know the exact position the brethren were in. This Court had not sanctioned any expenditure either for fittings or buildings. Would the contractors be prepared to put up everything for the money?

Bro. Raynham W. Stewart replied that the tender would be for everything.

Bro. John Symonds: Would there be authority to spend another £600, or would it be necessary to call a Special Court to sanction that? He moved that the committee be authorised to spend £600 beyond the £1400.

Bro. F. Binckes, P.G.S., thought a point of order arose here. The meeting had been held, according to notice, "to receive the report of the Building Committee upon the new laundry, &c., and, if approved, to authorise such further expenditure as may be deemed necessary." It appeared to him that the whole of the discussion had simply turned upon the question in what manner that expenditure should take place. The architect asked for another £1000, to include everything. The question was, was that to be given to Bro. Fish or was the work to be put up to open competition? Surely that very resolution that the works should be advertised and tenders solicited carried the authorisation of that Court to spend the money without any further action.

Bro. Henry Browne observed that the original tender from Bro. Fish was £3900, and that included not only the new laundry, but the alterations in the old laundry. £1400 was the estimated price of the new laundry. The works to be done included both, but the excess was in the £1400 for the new laundry. The resolution passed, as far as he was concerned, was that the whole of the works should be executed by Bro. Fish, and not to advertise for tenders for the new laundry alone. They had an excess of £1100 on the £2800. He was quite sure that the Court did not understand that the works contemplated by Bro. Fish's estimate for £2900 were now to be competed for.

Bro. Raynham W. Stewart explained that he only rose to move an amendment upon the Chairman's proposal that an additional £1000 be paid. They had an estimate there for £3922; that was what he wanted a tender for.

The Chairman: The £1400 for the old laundry is sufficient. I stick to the new laundry: the £1400 is not sufficient. (To Bro. Massa) Is that so? Is it sufficient?

Bro. Thomas Massa: Quite so.

Bro. John Symonds: I simply move "That the Building Committee be authorized to spend on the laundry £600 beyond the £1400 already authorised," and I should like to add to that, "such additional expenditure will include the fittings." With reference to what has fallen from Bro. Binckes, the question is what body is to accept the tenders. Bro. Binckes thinks if we authorise the Building Committee to send out tenders it must follow that we must accept them, but unless this Court authorises the acceptance of the tenders I apprehend it is necessary to come to a Special General Court to accept them.

Bro. Binckes: That is where I differ. The authorisation of the acceptance of tenders involves the authorisation of the expenditure of money without having to come to the Court.

Bro. John Symonds: I have never understood so anywhere. It is not so in the Corporation.

Bro. Henry Browne: Surely it must include the expenditure of money.

Bro. H. A. Dubois agreed with Bro. Binckes.

The Chairman: We have got sufficient money for the conversion of the old laundry. They had the power to carry out the alterations of the old laundry; and he would call upon the Secretary to read the minute concerning that matter.

Bro. Little having read the minute,

Bro. Binckes again read the notice convening the present meeting.

Bro. Raynham W. Stewart reminded the brethren that the chairman moved the grant of £1000 extra, and his (Bro. Stewart's) amendment was upon that.

Bro. John Symonds: My motion is "That the committee be authorised, if need be, to go to the further amount of £600, such further amount to include fittings."

Bro. A. H. Tattershall seconded the motion, which was put and carried.

Bro. Symonds then moved a vote of thanks to the chairman, which, however much he always deserved it, he still more deserved on this occasion, as he came there in great pain. Having met with an accident in riding, which,

thank God, was not more serious than it was, he nevertheless had this Institution's welfare so much at heart that he would not allow the remaining effects of that accident to keep him away from this Quarterly Court.

The Chairman, when this motion had been seconded and carried, thanked the brethren for their kindness, and said his interest in the prosperity of the Girls' School was too well-known to need remarking upon. He was thankful that his accident was not serious, and though he still suffered considerable pain, it was not sufficient to prevent his coming among the brethren when his services were required for the Institutions.

The Court then broke up.

PRINCE LEOPOLD AND THE WILTSHIRE FREEMASONS.

There was a very large and influential gathering of Freemasons at Warminster on Wednesday, in consequence of Prince Leopold, K.G., P.G.M. for Oxfordshire, having expressed his intention of visiting the annual Provincial Grand Lodge of Wiltshire, held in the Warminster Town Hall. The officers of the Longleat Lodge opened the lodge at half-past twelve o'clock, and shortly afterwards received the Provincial Grand Lodge, the long procession including the Provincial Grand Master, Lord Methuen, accompanied by Prince Leopold; Bro. Gabriel Goldney, M.P., Deputy Grand Master; Lord Henry Thynne, M.P., Past Grand Warden of England; Sir Watkin Wynn, M.P., Provincial Grand Master for Wales and Shropshire; Sir Daniel Gooch, Bart., M.P., Provincial Grand Master for Berks and Bucks; Bro. V. F. Bennett Stanford, M.P., General Doherty, the Revs. C. R. Davey, and T. F. Ravenshaw, Past Grand Chaplains; Rev. G. O. E. Gardiner, Provincial Grand Chaplain; Bro. Tombs, Provincial Grand Secretary; Bro. Biggs, Provincial Grand Secretary Berks and Bucks; and a number of other Prov. G. Officers of the Craft in Wilts, Dorset, Somerset, and other provinces. The customary honours having been accorded to Prince Leopold and the other distinguished visitors, reports were represented showing that the province was in a very satisfactory state, upon which Lord Methuen congratulated the brethren generally. Bro. Goldney, the Deputy Grand Master, in the name of Provincial Grand Lodge, presented to Lord Methuen a handsome banner, emblazoned with his lordship's arms, and an inscription giving the date of Lord Methuen's installation (1835), and also that of the presentation. Bro. Goldney delivered a brief address, asking Lord Methuen's acceptance of the banner as a token of the gratitude which the Masons of Wiltshire felt towards him for the ability with which he had for so many years presided over the Province of Wiltshire. Lord Methuen, in thanking the brethren for the expression of their kindness and good will, said that whenever his connection with the Province of Wilts ceased he should look back upon it with feelings of pleasure and satisfaction. The Provincial Grand Master presented the thanks of the brethren to Prince Leopold for having honoured them with his presence, and said he hoped His Royal Highness would never feel regret, but rather pride, that he was a member of a Wiltshire lodge. At the conclusion of the business the company adjourned to a banquet, when the usual Masonic toasts were honoured. Lord Methuen presided, and the company, which numbered upwards of 100, included Prince Leopold, Lord H. Thynne, M.P., the High Sheriff of Wilts (Bro. W. H. Poynder), Sir Watkin Wynn, M.P., Sir Daniel Gooch, M.P., Bro. Arthur Guest, Past Grand Senior Warden Dorset; Colonel the Hon. Percy Fielding (Coldstream Guards), Colonel Crawley, Colonel Everett, Col. Magrath, Bro. R. H. Collins, and others holding high office in the Masonic Craft. "The Health of the Right Worshipful Bro. His Royal Highness Prince Leopold, Prov. Grand Master of Oxfordshire," was proposed by Lord Methuen, and received with great enthusiasm. His Royal Highness, in responding, said: Right Worshipful Sir and Brethren,—I rise to return my most sincere thanks for the cordial terms in which the Provincial Grand Master has proposed my health, and also to return thanks to all the brethren for the kind reception they have given to this toast. (Cheers.) although I have spent little more than a few weeks in Wiltshire this is already the second occasion on which I have received a hearty reception from the brethren of this province (cheers). I can assure you that this fact in no small degree increases my appreciation of this county and of this neighbourhood in particular (loud cheers). It seems to me that wherever a Mason may take up his residence, however much he may previously have been a stranger in the county, he is sure to find there a nucleus of ready made friends (loud cheers). And this, brethren, is an advantage which I am sure you will agree cannot be valued too highly (loud cheers). I must add that it is a special pleasure to me to make the acquaintance of my brother Masons in Wiltshire, and to find my highly valued friend, Lord Methuen, in charge of the province (cheers). Although there are probably many present who have enjoyed the Provincial Grand Master's friendship a greater number of years than I have, I can at least say I have known him as long almost as I have known any one, and I need not add that to know him is to appreciate a manly, straightforward, and thoroughly English character (loud cheers). In inviting you to drink "The Health of your Provincial Grand Master," I congratulate you upon having so genial and cheery a chief, and I ask you to join me in praying that he may be spared for many, many years to preside over this province (cheers).—Lord Methuen responded, and the toast list was then gone through.—"Standard."

The first of a series of lectures on the History of the Craft will be given in the Confidence Lodge of Instruction on Wednesday next, at 8 o'clock, at the Masons' Hall Tavern, Masons' Avenue, Basinghall-street.

Masonic and General Tidings.

The Pro Grand Master has given notice that he will call a Special Grand Lodge to receive the report of the Special Committee on Bro. Simpson's notice of motion for commemorating the return of the Prince of Wales from India.

Bro. F. Binckes has given notice of motion for next Grand Lodge that £6000 be given by Grand Lodge to the three Masonic Charities in commemoration of the return of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M., from India.

The Powerscourt, (County Tyrone) estates have just been disposed of to an English purchaser for £200,000. Lord Powerscourt will, it is understood, devote his time and attention more to the Wicklow property than heretofore. It has been much improved of late.

His Grace The Duke of Abercorn, M.W.G.M. of Ireland, will leave Kingston by special steamer on resigning the Lord Lieutenancy on the 6th December. His Grace will hold his final reception on the 5th.

The Studholme Mark Lodge will be consecrated at the Masonic Hall, Golden-square, on the 7th of Dec.

Her Majesty the Queen and H.R.H. Princess Louise of Hesse (Princess Alice of Great Britain and Ireland) have been graciously pleased to accept copies of the second edition of the late Bro. Henry Melville's Work "Veritas, Revelation of Mysteries; Biblical, Historical, and Social," recently published by the Charing Cross Publishing Company, Limited.

Bro. J. Weaver, P.M. 862, has been presented with a handsome silver tea service, to mark the appreciation by the brethren of that lodge of the ability and firmness he displayed in the conduct of the affairs of the lodge under most difficult and trying circumstances.

H. R. H. Prince Leopold, Prov. G.M. for Oxford, will preside at the next festival of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, on the 14th February, 1877.

King John of Abyssinia has appointed Major Barlow to be generalissimo of all his forces, with suitable rank. The new commander will start at once for the "seat of war," but will, we understand, endeavour to obtain an interview with the Khédive, at Cairo, en route. Colonel Gardiner Montgomery has, we are informed, been offered the appointment of Chief of the Staff under the first European who has ever commanded a native force of Abyssinians.—"Whitehall Review."

A new weekly periodical to be called "Truth" is announced to appear in the new year. It will be produced under the auspices of Mr. Labouchere, late of the "World."

The Queen, it is announced, has conferred the vacant ribbon of the Thistle upon Sir William Stirling Maxwell, M.P. for Perthshire.

BAZAAR AT MONTROSE.—On Saturday, 18th inst., a grand bazaar was opened in the Guildhall, Montrose, in aid of the new hall proposed to be erected by the Ancient Kilwinning, No. 15, Lodge of Freemasons. The proceedings were opened by Bro. Colonel Guthrie, P.G.M. Killogie, delivering an interesting address on the advantages and benefits of Masonry. The brethren expect to realise about £300.

The third recital on the "Estey" Organs took place on Thursday, the 23rd inst., at Hodge and Essex Organ Rooms, Argyll-street, Regent-street.

Bro. The Right Hon. G. Ward Hunt, as first Lord of the Admiralty, gave a banquet on Wednesday evening, at his official residence, Whitehall, to the officers of her Majesty's ships Alert and Discovery, and to the chief officers of the Arctic vessel Pandora.

The brethren of the "Mystic Tie" who are seeking election on the London School Board, besides Bros. Sir John Bennett and Sutton Gover, both members of No. 1, are Bros. Heller and White, in the Lambeth division, and Bro. the Rev. C. Darby Reade, in Chelsea.

A Provincial Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons will be held on Wednesday next, under the auspices of the John O'Gaunt Lodge, No. 172, in the Old Hall, Gainsborough. Lodge will be opened at 1.15 p.m.

THE TRICHONOPOLY.—Whatever may be said against or in favour of the smoking of tobacco, it is certain that the more fragrant our weed the less harm is likely to come of it. Cigars have become so dear that any means of obtaining a clear smoke must be looked upon as a boon to lovers of Sir Walter Raleigh's favourite weed. As a good cigar cannot harm a smoker so may we say of a good pipe. But the fragrance of tobacco is nearly always taken away by a foul pipe, and how to keep one clean is a matter which has puzzled the most ingenious. But after all, the simplest mode is always the best, and that which, when seen, appears so simple is often made the subject of a patent. This is clearly the case in a new patent pipe called the "Trichonopoly" brought out by Adolph Frankau, & Co., and its name was taken after the straw in the Trichonopoly Cheroots. Snapped in the ordinary way, the inside of the stem is movable with the mouthpiece, and by substituting a new straw in the centre of the stem and then replacing it and fastening it by aid of the cork at mouthpiece, a new centre is placed in the pipe, which smokes better than a new one by the seasoning the bowl may have had. A bundle of straws which costs 1d., is sold with each pipe, which vary in price from 2s., so that the interior of stem may be changed to new at any time. Those who have been unable to enjoy the "pipe of peace" may now do so with certainty. We trust that the introducers of the Trichonopoly Pipe will soon see the desirability of applying their patent to meerschaums also.

The visit of the Prince and Princess of Wales to Lord Suffield, R.W.P.G.M. Norwich, terminated rather abruptly, by reason of the death of a brother of Lady Suffield. Their Royal Highnesses and suite left Gunton Station at 2.20 by special train in charge of Mr. Stevenson, district Superintendent, and reached Norwich at 3.10. Their Royal Highnesses then proceeded in the Royal saloon carriage attached to the ordinary Lynn train en route for Sandringham.

The Princess Alice visited the Victoria Hospital for Sick Children on Wednesday, the 15th inst., and intimated her willingness that one of the wards should be called after her name. A similar favour was lately conferred on this hospital by the Princess Louise.

Lord Templetown has been transferred from the colonelcy of the 60th Rifles to that of the 2nd Life Guards, in succession to the late Marquis of Tweeddale. Lord Templeton served in the Crimean War, and was present at Alma, Inkerman, and the siege of Sebastopol. He entered the army in April, 1823.

The appointment of the Earl of Haddington to the Lord-Lieutenancy of that county, in the room of the Marquis of Tweeddale, is gazetted.

Mr. Justice Hawkins has been removed to the Exchequer Division of the High Court of Justice.

Mr. Charles Greville Pridaux, Q.C., of the Western Circuit, has been appointed to the Recordership of Exeter, rendered vacant by the elevation of Mr. Lopes to the Bench. Mr. Pridaux was called to the Bar in 1836, and has for several years held the post of Recorder of Helston, which latter appointment has been conferred on Mr. Gabriel Prior Goldney, of the Western Circuit, son of Mr. G. Goldney, M.P. for Chippenham.

The death of a distinguished Mason is announced, His Excellency Marshal the Duke of Saldanha, Portuguese Ambassador, and member of the 33rd Degree in Portugal. An Obituary will appear in our issue of the 2nd prox.

The Installation meeting of the York Lodge of Mark Master Masons will take place at the Masonic Hall, Duncombe Place, York, on Tuesday next, at which the R.W. Bro. F. Binckes, Grand Secretary, has kindly consented to officiate. Bro. G. Bamford is the W.M. elect.

The Prince of Wales, who had accepted an invitation to shoot with the Duc de la Rochefoucauld-Bisaccia on November 27th, has telegraphed that, owing to imperative circumstances, his visit is postponed.

PELHAM SHERRY.—This wine was specially imported by Messrs. Fryer and Parker in 1871. Since that time, the late Earl of Yarborough selected it from a large number of samples, and it was then shipped for him under the brand of "Pelham," which title has since been registered. It is a wine of genuine good value, soft and mellow on the palate, full of flavour and character, and of great bouquet. It is worthy the notice of our readers, that this firm having less expenses than a London house, are in a position to offer their wines at a much lower price.

CONSECRATION OF THE CRICHTON LODGE, No. 1646.

On Saturday, the 11th inst., an additional link was added to the great chain of Freemasonry by the consecration of the Crichton Lodge, No. 1646, which took place at the Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell New-road, in the presence of some of the most distinguished members of the Craft. The ceremonies of consecration and installation were performed by Bro. John Hervey, Grand Secretary; assisted by Bros. the Rev. R. J. Simpson, P.G. Chaplain; H. G. Buss, P.M. 27 and P.J.G.W. Middlesex; H. A. Dubois, P.M. 1423, and P.G.S.D. Middlesex; and the following brethren:—H. Bungary, 1622; J. H. Hastie, P.M. 1216; George Barsdorff, 1329; S. J. Davis, 1208; H. Hammond, S.W. 1216; R. Scott, 1558; W. E. Bott, 1558; T. Ickstein, 1196; J. T. Bickerton, 1329; S. J. Harvey, J.D. 72; T. Hines, S.W. 72; W. May, 256; G. Hyde, 141; H. Thompson ("Freemason"), 1426, and P.M. 176 and 1158; E. Clarke, P.M. 134; R. R. Davis, P.M. 256; J. Dixon, 1558; Dawn, P.M. 72; W. Semple, P.M. 194; J. Oliver, P.M. Granite; Payne, P.M. 27; H. Martin, J.W. 1329; W. L. Cackett, W.M. 1558; W. H. Fairer, 1429; J. H. Asman, 1329; J. Sugden, W.M. 1529; T. L. Heller, 1329; C. Browne, P.M. 176; A. Stubling, 1329; H. C. Reeves, J.W. 1381; and others.

Soon after three o'clock a procession was formed, and the brethren entered the lodge-room in the assigned order, the junior members being first, and the others according to their respective ranks. All having taken their assigned places, Bro. J. Hervey occupied the chair, and the lodge was opened in the three degrees.

The consecrating vessels from the Grand

Lodge occupied a prominent position in the lodge-room.

Bro. J. Hervey, in commencing the proceedings, said it was only five weeks before that in the same building he had been called upon to consecrate and instal the 'Worshipful Master of the Rose Lodge, but since then he had consecrated another lodge, and that day, with the assistance of Bro. the Rev. R. J. Simpson, he was again amongst them for the purpose of acting as Installing Master of the Crichton Lodge, No. 1646. That in itself showed the rapidity of their proceedings, and how persons now appreciated the great principles of Freemasonry, and how ready they were to receive its benefits, as they all knew that they were naturally calculated to confer benefits upon mankind. Looking back to the statistics of the Craft for some years he found that when the numbers of vacant lodges were closed up in 1863 there were then but 942 lodges on the roll of the Grand Lodge of England, while up to the 9th of November last the number was 1649, or an increase of 707 lodges, or something like an average increase of about 50 lodges every year during that period. It was true that during that time several lodges had been removed from the register of the Grand Lodge of England, which arose in consequence of some of them having become extinct, but the great bulk of them were colonial lodges, although seceding from the English roll had joined Grand Lodges in those colonies between 1863 and the present year, but in 1876 there were no less than 1649 lodges in active working order under the Grand Lodge of England. (Hear hear.) That was a great increase in the number of new lodges, and he trusted on behalf of that Craft that they loved so well, that so long as those lodges were properly conducted, and they acted together as Masons, that they would be glad to see them continue to increase in number. (Hear hear.) He wished he could say as much as regarded lodges in foreign countries, for he was sorry to say that their late increase in numbers did not bring with it a corresponding increase in respectability. It was well known that for some past that in France the Sacred Volume had been banished from their lodges, while in some other French Lodges they would admit men whether they believed in the existence of a Supreme Being or not. Therefore, speaking entirely as an individual he thought it would be for the Grand Lodge of England to consider whether they would receive the members of foreign lodges with that state of things before them. He spoke merely as a member of Grand Lodge, but he thought the time would come when they would seriously have to consider whether they would admit foreigners into their lodges as visitors, when they would not admit members of their own lodges under similar terms. This was a subject which must occupy the attention of the Craft, and which we trust would necessarily demand their serious consideration. Having taking the first step to banish the Bible from their lodges, it was only an easy step they were taking to admit those who had no belief "whatever in the existence of a Supreme Being." Whatever these foreign lodges might do, whatever might be the men whom they chose to admit, he hoped no such step would be taken in this country, for if it was so, it would strike at the very root and existence of Freemasonry, and then the sooner the Craft fell to the ground the better. He must say that he found it difficult to introduce new topics into his address, customary on such occasions, but there was one, a very strong one, and one that was usually called charity. Now he contended that that was not solely limited to the giving of alms, but was a thing of a very different description. In talking of charity in their lectures they were told that "Happy is the man who had sown in his breast the seeds of benevolence; he envieth not his neighbour; he believeth not the tale told by the slanderer; he forgives the injuries of men, and endeavours to blot them from his recollection. Then let us remember that we are Free and Accepted Masons, ever ready to listen to him who claims our assistance, and from him who is in want let us not withhold the liberal hand." Now the brethren would admit that there was an exposition of what was charity, of a far wider

and more comprehensive range than merely putting their hands into their pockets and giving their money. It implied that charity meant that a man should not envy his neighbour for the superiority of his position, and on the scriptural principle that if a man smote them on one cheek that they should turn to him the other, and this exposition further required them to forgive the injuries of others, and blot them out of their recollection. He wished also to advert to the benefits which were held out to persons joining their Order, and the recent great accumulation of lodges, and it was tolerably well known that some now entered their society for the sake of what they could get out of it. Now he would tell them what a very old Mason said to him when one day they were talking of their charities, and giving them his own words, he said, "Brother Hervey, our charities are our greatest danger, for they induce men to come amongst us from interested motives," and he felt there was great truth in the observation. What took place at their charity festivals appeared in the newspapers on the following morning, and many a man who read it at once said that he should like to become a Mason, for if he died, his children might be got into the Masonic schools, that the wife might get a pension after his death, and if he wanted anything while he was living he might get assistance from them. Those things might induce unworthy members to come amongst them, and therefore there was an absolute necessity for brethren to be very careful whom they introduce into their Order. No man ought to introduce another man into Freemasonry whom he could not introduce into his own house, or any man who could not do credit to the Order to which they belonged. He had at some lodges lately insisted on the impropriety of using blackballs, and an observation had lately been made to him when he was attending an installation, that the Master was going to have a new set of officers, and one or two had made up their minds that he should have no work to do during his year of office. Now the fact was that one man who expected to be Senior Warden has to remain for the year as Junior Warden, and others were only to have one step instead of two. Now that was a principle that could not be too much deprecated. Blackballing might be properly used, but it should never be used for the purposes of spite, malice, or any unworthy motives.

After an opening prayer, and the reading of the petition and warrant,

Bro. the Rev. R. J. Simpson, P.G. Chaplain, addressed the brethren, and said it had been his privilege to assist at the consecration of many lodges in his early days, and to draw up an elaborate address on such occasions, but lately he had given up that practice and confined himself to saying what came to his heart at the time, and as he was coming along that day the first consideration that occurred to him as to the consecration of a new lodge was how it would stand in relation to the great and glorious past, which was the great boast of Freemasonry. The rev. brother having referred to the fidelity, endurance and suffering of their brethren of old, said coming down to the middle ages, it was then that Freemasonry became a light, although a feeble one, in the progress of civilization, and he remembered an old Masonic officer telling him that the Masons were the salvation of Spain, for he had seen much of that country, and the great trials of men there who had suffered in those days. Passing on to W. Bro. Sir Christopher Wren, with his great army of Masons, he said he had set a noble example of character, but had wisely blended it with science. Such was worthy of imitation by the rulers in the Craft at the present time. He would ask what was it that would keep up the high standard of Freemasonry, subject to observation, not only by the brethren of the Craft, but by the outer world? Why it was essentially, good conduct, good working, and good feeling. Their worthy brother in the chair (Bro. J. Hervey) had not said a word too much as regarded good candidates, for if they admitted men into their lodges who were not worthy men, they committed treason to the Craft. For himself he would not have his

own brother in the flesh a member of his lodge if he thought instead of being an honour to it he would become an unworthy member. They wanted good government and men of high character in the body of which they were members, and he again said that any man who introduced an unworthy member was a traitor to the Craft and to the lodge to which he belonged. Any man who took office in a lodge should be prepared to carry it out with assiduity and accuracy, for nothing was more unsatisfactory than to see the work carried on in a slipshod manner, and therefore he trusted that the Crichton Lodge would be a model to the Craft, and be the admiration of every brother who attended its working. Above all, let there be good feeling, for if they got a man who imported his private quarrels amongst the brethren factious feelings would spring up, leading to unhappiness, if not to the dissolution of the lodge. He was struck with the observation of their Worshipful Master in his opening address on the subject of charity, and he entirely agreed with what he said, for "charity suffereth long and is kind. Charity envieth not, Charity vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up, doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil, rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth; beareth all things, believeth all things, helpeth all things, and doeth all things." There was no doubt some Masons looked at Charity as limited to the giving of alms, but if it was limited to that, harmony would soon cease in the lodge, and there would then be but a mere scramble for the good things to be obtained. Little quarrels should be left outside; inside the lodge there should be ease and peace, and they should readily grant to each brother what they wished for themselves. Life was too short for petty quarrels when a good future lay before them, and he could not but feel obliged to the Worshipful Master for his opportune and well timed observations. He also thanked him for the manner in which he had spoken of English Freemasons, and he grieved to read the terrible changes contemplated with regard to their brethren in France. That country had gone through many troubles, but when it entered upon the perilous course of ignoring the existence of God, the great Founder of the Universe, he ventured to say that she had many and much greater troubles in store for her, and when the subject came to be considered in the Crichton Lodge he believed that its voice would be heard with no uncertain sound, but would be to the honour of the Great Master Builder, as the author of their being, and the God whom they adored.

Several anthems having been sung, and portions of Scripture read by the Chaplain,—

The Consecrating Officer made circuits three times round the lodge, each time sprinkling corn, wine, and oil, the operation being accompanied by the delivery of some appropriate moral precepts.

The Consecrating Officer then formally consecrated the lodge to God and his service, and the consecration ceremony was brought to a close by the brethren singing the following anthem:—

"Glory to God on high,
Let Heaven and Earth reply,
Praise ye his name;
Masons His love adore,
Tiled in their mystic lore,
Glory to God. So mote it be."

The ceremony of installation was then proceeded with, and the lodge being resumed to the Second Degree, Bro. J. H. Vockins, the W. Master Designate, was presented to receive the benefit of installation. After the usual ceremonies the lodge was resumed to the Third Degree, and the brethren below the degree of an Installed Master were requested to retire. A Board of Installed Masters was then formed, and Bro. Vockins was installed into the chair of K.S. in the usual form. On the re-admission of the brethren, and the customary salutes having been given, the W. Master appointed his officers as follows:—Bro. Middlemas, S.W.; Griffiths, J.W.; Mercer, Treas.; Weeks, Sec.; Gardner, S.D.; Goos, J.D.; Voisey, I.G.; Goldsmith, Steward; Geider, Tyler.

Bro. J. Hervey then delivered the addresses

to the W.M., Wardens, and brethren, and the ceremony of installation was brought to a close.

Several propositions having been made, the lodge was closed in due form, and the brethren adjourned to a banquet, the W.M. presiding, supported by Bro. John Hervey and the rest of the visitors. On the withdrawal of the cloth the W. Master gave "The Queen and the Craft," which was followed by the National Anthem, the solo parts by Bro. Asman.

The W. Master said the next toast he had to propose was "The Most Worshipful Grand Master, His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales." In proposing this toast he was going to say that it was the toast of the evening, for every Mason loved and respected him. He had endeared himself to the heart of every Mason by going about the country, and, like his father endeavouring to do good wherever he could. He (the W. Master) had the pleasure of seeing him installed as Most Worshipful Grand Master of England. That was the grandest day he had ever seen, every word the Prince uttered from the dais appeared to come from his heart. When he left this country for India their only fear was that they might not see him again. They were now all looking forward to the Grand day when they should again see him amongst them as the head of the Craft.

The toast was cordially received, and Bro. Voisey, in admirable style, sung "God bless the Prince of Wales."

The W. Master next gave "The Pro Grand Master the Earl of Skelmersdale, Deputy Grand Master, and the rest of the Grand Officers, Past and Present," coupling with the toast the names of Bro. Hervey and Bro. the Rev. R. J. Simpson, which was enthusiastically responded to.

Bro. Asman sung in an excellent manner, "Come into the garden, Maud," which was highly applauded.

Bro. Hervey said they would only have skimmed milk from him, and therefore he should leave the cream of the toast to be responded to by Bro. Simpson. (A laugh.)

Bro. the Rev. R. J. Simpson said he was very sorry that his name had been associated with bad or skimmed milk, and he confessed his inability to give them the cream of what was called a good speech. He was sure the officers of the Grand Lodge were honoured by being present that night, and they were much indebted to the brethren for the hospitality, warm reception, and kindness they had received at their hands. It was always a pleasure to him to be associated with men who adorned the Order to which they belonged. Freemasonry was becoming a great power not only in England, but throughout the world, and took its place amongst the most eminent of the land. He need not speak of the illustrious heir to the throne, but the Grand Lodge formed the sinews and the very backbone of Freemasonry. He was sure that the Grand Lodge would see with pleasure the creation of every new lodge, which like that of a man taking a wife must be for better or worse, but in proportion to the zeal and ability with which it was conducted it might become an example in Freemasonry or the contrary. He would not, however, travel over that ground, but he augured from what he had heard that the Crichton Lodge would become an example to the Craft. He had been told that it was an educational lodge, and, therefore it was that he augured great things from it—that it would take the lead in Freemasonry—that they would not be mere ciphers for the purposes only of conviviality or counting heads, but as true Englishmen and Freemasons they would not only exalt themselves, but the great body to which they belonged. He wished from his heart success to the Crichton Lodge, and now having given them some skim milk he would leave the cream to Bro. Hervey. (Loud laughter.)

The W.M. said he told the brethren that he thought the toast he was then about to propose was the toast of the evening, but he really meant that to be the toast of the evening, as it was "The Health of Bro. Hervey, the Consecrating Master." He thought the brethren would agree with him when he said that he felt himself in a quandary to give expression to his feelings on the manner in which Bro. Hervey had performed the duties of Consecrating Master. He (the W.M.)

had been present at many consecrations, but he must say he never heard Bro. Hervey speak so feelingly as he had done that evening. He had asked Bro. Hervey to consecrate the lodge; he promised to do so, and nobly he had responded to the call, and he must say that from the very impressive manner in which the ceremony of consecration had been performed, that day he had listened to it with an extra amount of interest he had never felt before. To such addresses as had been delivered by Bro. Hervey and Bro. Simpson it had never fallen to his lot to listen to before, and those brethren who were not present to hear them had lost a great treat. Their thanks were therefore due to Bro. Hervey, Bro. Simpson, and also to Bro. Buss, who was a most able assistant, and at the next lodge he intended to move that they should all become honorary members of the Crichton Lodge. He asked the brethren with all zest and zeal to drink "Long Life, Health, and Prosperity to Bros. Hervey, Simpson, and Buss."

The toast was cordially received.

Bro. Hervey said the brethren in his former observations had the skim milk, they had just had the cream from Bro. Simpson, and then they were going to have the butter. (Loud laughter.) He was glad to be with them that night, as he had long been a member of the Craft. ("Not too long.") He felt that he had been so long before them that night that they must be heartily glad to be rid of him. He rose, however, to return thanks for the compliment paid to him and Bros. Simpson and Buss, and for the cordiality and kind manner in which the brethren had appreciated their exertions. They had gone through the ceremony appointed by the Grand Lodge, but whether it was good, or bad, it was for them to judge; but he believed that they had given them satisfaction. He thanked them for the handsome manner in which they had received them. He turned to a more pleasant subject, and that was to propose "Success to the Crichton Lodge, and the Health of their W. Master." They heartily trusted that the lodge might succeed and prosper, and that at some future meeting that they should see the work of the lodge well carried out, the duties of the officers well performed, and also see them progressing, not only financially, but in the ceremonies of the lodge, and the manner in which they supported the various institutions of the Order. He believed that the work of the lodge would be carried out in a satisfactory manner, and wishing them complete success, he trusted that when he came again amongst them he should see them happy, prosperous, and united.

The W. Master, in responding to the toast, thanked Bro. Hervey for his kind wishes, and the manner in which his health had been proposed. In his selection of officers he believed that he should be ably assisted in carrying out the interests of the Craft in general, and of the Crichton Lodge in particular. Bro. Simpson has said that this was an educational lodge, but it was originally intended to be a lodge of schoolmasters. They had afterwards foregone the intention of making it entirely a scholastic lodge, but they hoped to make it a lodge that should not be unworthy of the name it bore, for they were determined to put their shoulders to the wheel, and although they might not be the ne plus ultra, they were determined that it should be second to none. He hoped that when Bros. Hervey, Simpson, and Buss should again come amongst them that they would find that the remarks which had fallen from Bros. Hervey and Simpson that night had not been thrown away.

"The Visitors" was the next toast, for which Bros. Larham and E. Clarke severally returned thanks, the latter pleasantly alluding to an observation which had fallen from the Past Grand Chaplain that this was an educational lodge. Why its very name proved that it was so, for who, without that education would know, that "Crich" was pronounced "cri," and having complimented them upon it, hoped that its work would be "admirable," and that it would go on and prosper.

The W. Master asked them to drink to the next toast, and in proposing it he hoped his remarks would receive every attention from the brethren, as it was "The Masonic Char-

ties." They had heard from their brother the Grand Secretary the rapid strides made in the last thirteen years in Masonry, but rapid as those strides had been, there had been a greater increase of feeling in regard to their charitable Institutions. Some years back it was a great thing to say that they had collected a few hundreds of pounds, but last year he was astonished to find that at the festival of the Boys' School, held at the Alexandra Palace, they had collected no less a sum than £13,000, but this year the subscriptions to the Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and their Widows was £9000 to the Girls' School, £10,000, and the Boys' over £14,000. Having descanted on the advantages of a good education, he coupled with the toast the name of Bro. Binckes, the Secretary of the Boys' School, through whose zeal and energy there had been raised in one year the largest amount ever collected for any of their Institutions.

Bro. Binckes, Secretary to the Boys' School, said it gave him great pleasure, as he always had on such occasions, to return thanks, however imperfectly he might express himself, for the Masonic Charities, and in the course of a long address he said he did not think that a few years ago any one was sanguine enough to believe that their Masonic institutions would ever be attended with that success which they had achieved during the last few years, for it was something stupendous. The success of the Boys' School had been coincident with that of the other institutions, and they had advanced to a prosperity that no one could have anticipated a few years ago, and now all he had to consider was, what was to be done in the future. He was unable to be present at the consecration of a lodge a few days ago, but having read the observations of Bro. Hervey, he looked with apprehension at this tremendous increase in the number of Freemasons, for he feared that a reaction would set in, and that there would be increased demands upon their institutions for relief. He hoped that he might prove a false prophet; he was glad to see their Order prosper and flourish, and he must say that their ranks had increased to an enormous extent, but in a country where panics sometimes set in, he could not conceal from himself, although he wished that his anticipations might not be realised, that they would be flooded with claimants for relief, and it would therefore become their duty to provide for this possible contingency. While enjoying prosperity, he prayed them not to forget that a time might come when those now in prosperity would not be so, and let them do all they could to meet a possible future. He asked Bro. Hervey to go back with him to the last half century, when they had 72 boys and 86 girls in their schools, or about 156 of both sexes, but now they had 100 girls and 190 boys, which was commensurate with the increase of Masonic distress, and he called upon them to help their institutions in their good work. He placed before them a great array of distress, and he looked for their aid, sympathy, encouragement, and their warmest support.

"The Officers of the Lodge" was the next toast, which was suitably acknowledged, and the Tyler's toast brought a very successful and harmonious meeting to a close.

Medical men have long acknowledged ginger to be one of the finest stomachics we possess, and brandy has in so many cases proved so absolutely an "eau de vie," that its value is truly inestimable. Brandy and ginger combined have formed one of the favourite remedies prescribed in cases of diarrhoea, etc., but the amalgamation has been left to chance, and through want of judgment in the combination of the materials, a great part of the beneficial effect is lost, however, a perfect form of the two ingredients is to be found in Bro. Henry Brett's "Liqueur Ginger Brandy," a cordial which must prove invaluable in all cases of weak digestion and where the tone of the stomach requires restoring, as after a chill, or when bathing is succeeded by cold or trembling. The Liqueur Ginger Brandy acts as if by magic, restoring circulation and imparting vital energy instantaneously, in fact, the almost unapproachable value of this delicious cordial was fully tested when first put before the public during the Cholera epidemic, and it has kept the high reputation it then attained. It is an indispensable item in the kit of the sportsman, the tourist and the traveller, indeed it is valuable to the community generally. For those who prefer it there is also a Liqueur Ginger Gin, possessing all the medicinal properties of the spirit, combined with the best Jamaica ginger. Both cordials are protected by the trade mark, registered label, and signature of Bro. Henry Brett.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

COLONIAL and FOREIGN SUBSCRIBERS are informed that acknowledgments of remittances received are published in the first number of every month.

It is very necessary for our readers to advise us of all money orders they remit, more especially those from the United States of America and India; otherwise we cannot tell where to credit them.

TO OUR READERS.

The *Freemason* is a sixteen-page weekly newspaper, price 2d. It is published every Friday morning, and contains the most important, interesting, and useful information relating to Freemasonry in every degree. Annual subscription in the United Kingdom, Post free, 10/- P.O.O.'s to be made payable at the chief office, London.

NEW POSTAL RATES.

Owing to a reduction in the Postal Rates, the publisher is now enabled to send the "*Freemason*" to the following parts abroad for One Year for Twelve Shillings (payable in advance):—Africa, Australia, Bombay, Canada, Cape of Good Hope, Ceylon, China, Constantinople, Demerara, France, Germany, Gibraltar, Jamaica, Malta, Newfoundland, New South Wales, New Zealand, Suez, Trinidad, United States of America, &c.

TO ADVERTISERS.

The *Freemason* has a large circulation in all parts of the Globe, its advantages as an advertising medium can therefore scarcely be overrated.

ADVERTISEMENTS should reach the Office, 198 Fleet Street, London, not later than 12 o'clock on Wednesday, to insure insertion in the following Saturday's number. The Rates for Advertisements may be had on application at the Office.

Answers to Correspondents.

BRO. W. J. HUGHAN.—Dr. Loth in our next.

BOOKS, &c., RECEIVED.—"Keystone," Philadelphia; "New York Despatch," "L'Union du Midi," "Shakespearean Annual Almanack," "Boletino Officiale, G. O. Egiziano," the "Masonic Journal," "Beavis's Popular Guide to the Isle of Man," "Proceedings of the G.L. of S. and R. Masters of Massachusetts," "Blackwood's Shilling Scribbling Diary 1877."

The following stand over:—City of London Lodge, 901; United Military Lodge, 1531; United Brethren Lodge, 1031; St. Dunstan's Lodge, 1589; Hemming Lodge, 1512; Whittington Lodge, 862; Lodge of Honour, 371; West Smithfield Lodge, 1623; United Strength, 228; Etonian Lodge, 209; Windsor; Alfred Chapter, Oxford, 340; Kennard Chapter; Southwark Lodge of Instruction, 87; Leopold Lodge of Instruction, 9; Upper Norwood Lodge of Instruction; Victoria Metropolitan Lodge of Instruction.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

BIRTHS.

BUCHANAN.—On the 15th inst., at West Plean, near Stirling, the wife of J. Buchanan, Esq., of a son.
CLAY.—On the 19th inst., at Park Lodge, Muswell-hill, the wife of R. Clay, jun., of a daughter.
GUILFORD.—On the 19th inst., at Waldershare Park, Dover, the Countess of Guilford, of a son.
HOPCRAFT.—On the 18th inst., at Victoria-street, S.W., the wife of T. S. Hopcraft, of a daughter.
LANGFORD.—On the 17th inst., at Egremont-place, Brighton, the wife of the Rev. R. J. Langford, chaplain of Assensole, E.I.R., Bengal, of a daughter.
PRICE.—On the 18th inst., at Harringay, Hornsey, the wife of F. W. Price, Esq., of a daughter.
REID.—In August last, at Otaika, New Zealand, the wife of C. H. Reid, Esq., of a son.
ROBINSON.—On the 17th inst., at Willesden, the wife of C. S. Robinson, of a daughter.
STANLEY.—On the 16th inst., at Newcastle-on-Tyne, the wife of F. W. C. Stanley, Esq., of a son.

MARRIAGE.

BALFOUR—GORDON.—On the 21st inst., at St. Mary Abbots, Kensington, Bro. Lord Balfour, of Burleigh, P.G.S.W. of England, to Lady Katherine Eliza Gordon, sister of the Earl of Aberdeen.

DEATHS.

CAMPBELL.—On the 17th inst., at Barham College, Plumstead, Jean Bland, daughter of the late D. Campbell, Esq.
BUSFIELD.—On the 10th inst., at 169, West Derby-road, Liverpool, aged 37, Elizabeth Hudson, wife of Bro. Joseph Busfield, tenor vocalist (Harmonic Lodge, No. 216).
NELSON.—On the 18th inst., at Marlborough-hill, St. John's-wood, Elizabeth Anne Nelson, aged 51.
STREEDMAN.—On the 19th inst., at Clarence-road, Clapham Park, Mrs. Leah Steedman, aged 80.
STIRLING.—On the 17th inst., at Peebles, Margaret, wife of John Stirling, Esq.

The Freemason,

SATURDAY, NOV. 25, 1876.

THE INSTALLATION OF THE P.G.M. FOR NORFOLK.

The installation of Lord Suffield, as P.G.M. for Norfolk, by our Illustrious Chief, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M., took place on Monday, the 20th inst., and a most interesting ceremony it was. We commend our report of it to our readers' notice, as we think that it deserves the perusal of all our brethren. Everything appears to have gone off most prosperously, and the arrangements were admirably conceived and carried out. Our Royal Grand Master, both at the meeting for the Infirmary and at the Prov. Grand Lodge, spoke admirably and impressively, and his words would be deeply felt by all present. We wish all prosperity to the Province of Norfolk and its noble head.

THE HERVEY LODGE

The W.M. of the Hervey Lodge has written us a letter, which we publish elsewhere, neither very courteous in tone nor logical in argument, and certainly not very Masonic in phraseology. We pass over, however, all the discourtesy, and something more, because, as we write for the Craft at large, not to please any brother or brethren, we care little for such comments, and nothing at all for such animadversions. We have a higher duty to fulfil, and a more Masonic purpose to carry out, than mere civil speeches, and mutual laudation, and as we are sincere both in our utterances and honest in our statement of facts, and certainly never have professed, and do not now profess, to be "mealy mouthed," such remarks and such a style of Masonic epistolary politeness we treat as they deserve. We can quite understand that the worthy W.M. of that distinguished lodge is just now a little "put out," and we make, as brother Masons, much allowance for the unwise acerbities which crop out in his somewhat remarkable letter. The W.M. of the Hervey Lodge seems to doubt whether we are competent to express an opinion at all on such a "vexata questio." If he had been a Mason as long as we have, or presided as often over a lodge, or studied as carefully the Book of Constitutions, he perhaps would think differently, and write a little more diffidently, and to say the truth a little more decorously. For be it remembered that all the concern we have with the question itself is from a Masonic point of view alone. A statement appeared in a contemporary greatly affecting, in our opinion, the credit of a well-known lodge, and the prestige of our common Order. We asked for information and explanation when we reproduced the statement. The answer is, that the lodge had done so and so, for reasons which seemed good to the lodge, a matter with which we have nothing whatever to do. It is always a bad thing to "give reasons," and never was this truth more exemplified than in the reasons alleged by the W.M. of the Hervey Lodge. All that we have said was based on the simple construction and distinct utterance of the Book of Constitutions. By that valuable code of English Masonic Law, a lodge has no right to defer the payment of the initiation fees beyond the time of initiation, and if there be delay the proposer is always answerable, according to Masonic law. It is no answer to this to say that the lodge thought differently, and preferred to make the candidate of "official" position pay instead of the proposer. In both these points the lodge has made a great mistake, and the sooner the error is admitted the better for all concerned. We also proceeded to point out that such a case ought never to have been brought into court, for it is in truth a reflection on the whole Order. If any lodge is so careless as regards whom it admits, (whether their "official" position be high or not matters nothing), as to require to sue them for their initiation fees, the sooner any such lodge, in the interest of Masonry, is re-

commended to "mend its ways," the speedier shall we perhaps put a stop to a growing laxity and an increasing haste of admittance, which if persevered in will ere long prove fatal to our good old Order. Now we have written, and write still, in all good feeling to the Hervey Lodge. We have no interests to serve, or purpose to gain, by laying down a too rigid line of duty and decorum in things Masonic, but we have a right to expect that every lodge shall conform to the provisions of the Book of Constitutions, and that every W.M. shall read carefully the sections which relate to any debateable matters. If the W.M. and our good brethren of the Hervey Lodge think that they have complied with the Book of Constitutions, (for that is the only issue between us), we can only remark that their version of it is different from ours. But we are a little inclined to hope and to think that, like a good many other people in the world, having made a mistake, they rather seek to defend what they have done, and on grounds altogether alien from the one real point of controversy. If the W.M. of the Hervey Lodge wishes to imply by his concluding remarks that we ought not to have alluded to the subject at all, then we can only add that he utterly misconceives the use and purpose of a Masonic press, and entirely misunderstands both the status and character of the "*Freemason*." We claim for ourselves, and shall always exercise, within the bounds of moderation and truth, the right to animadvert on every incident which seems, according to our humble judgment, to militate with the recognized injunctions of the Grand Lodge, or to prejudice in any manner the reputation and interests of Freemasonry. We believe that there is but one opinion in our entire Order as to that grave error in judgment and that entire forgetfulness of the constitutional law which led to so regrettable an action by the Hervey Lodge in a County Court.

WHO IS THE PARTY?

The "*Unita Cattolica*," from which a most friendly correspondent sent us an extract which we published last week, is, according to him, "esteemed to be the most ably conducted of the extreme Roman Catholic journals" in Italy, and to represent the "views of Cardinal Manning." Our correspondent adds, however, and we agree with him entirely, that "there is something very pitiable in the depths of misrepresentation to which this newspaper has descended." Our distinguished Bro. J. C. Parkinson can well afford to laugh at the outburst of petty malignity and perverse travesty in which the writer of that article has thought fit to indulge, both as regards Freemasonry and himself, in the "*Communiqué*" to which our attention has recently been drawn. As English Masons we are only concerned with one statement, as the allusion to Bro. Parkinson's diploma, were it not so very foolish, would be most amusing. Those of us who know him are well aware of his high character, and his manly outspokenness of opinion, but we equally are assured that the charges of sympathy on Bro. Parkinson's part with revolutionary or infidel opinions are as ridiculous as they are undeserved. Indeed, it is almost an insult to him to allude to such a libel. But there is, as we said before, a statement which does concern us all alike. It is this, that in 1862 an English Freemason, at the Freemasons' Tavern, in London, expressed the following Masonic sentiments, and sulphureous opinions:—"Lucifer is the apex of the social pyramid, it is he who is the first Craftsman, the first rebel, the first martyr. We revolutionists ought, out of respect and gratitude, to display on our banner the beloved image of the heroic insurgent who was the first to dare revolt against the tyranny of God." This affecting extract is taken from "*De Camille Storia della Setta Anti-Christiana*," vol. 11, v. 38, according to the foot-note, and if so, the "*Unita Cattolica*" is only responsible for quoting it. We have in this speech, then, a striking specimen of true English Masonic eloquence before or after dinner. This passage explains those remarkable phrases in the allocutions of the good old Pope, in which he unpolitely terms us "Children of the Evil One," and our lodges

"Synagogues of Satan." The Roman Pontiff and the Roman Curia, and Ultramontane writers clearly place us in the category of Indian "Devil worshippers." Now we feel it right at once, though the statement be most ludicrous and contemptible, to say that any such assertion is a direct and wilful falsehood. We ask the "Unita Cattolica" or Mr. "De Camille" for the name of this most unmasonic orator, though we can safely assure all our readers beforehand that no such words were ever spoken in Freemasons' Hall, and least of all by an English Freemason, even though his name were "Walker." It is a great pity when an otherwise respectable paper like the "Unita Cattolica" descends to wholesale lying, and we almost wonder that Roman Catholics themselves do not perceive the evil and degradation which such deliberate and childish fictions bring upon their entire communion. But alas, just now the love of pseudo-miracles and unreliable legends seems to have taken from the realization of the "abstract importance of truth." We ask again who is the English Freemason who then gave utterance to such accents of blasphemous folly? and, like the Irish Echo, we reply, "No one." He exists only in the imagination of some ardent but unscrupulous Ultramontane. No one in his senses, much less a Freemason, could have said anything so horribly impious, and so grotesquely absurd, and we fear that it must be credited not to Freemasons' Hall or an English Freemason, but to the "Jesuit College," or some other house of assembly for saintly libellers and infidel religionists. If the old adage be true, "Noscitur a sociis," as we hear so much of the "gentleman in black" from Ultramontanes, all we can say is, we wish them joy of the good company into which just now they seem to have fallen.

THE MODERN LADY FREEMASON.

Our American contemporary, the "Masonic Journal," of Greensboro, North Carolina, U.S., in its issue of October 24, reprints an article of ours on the initiation of Countess Hädick, and then proceeds to take us to task for our opinion "there-ant," in a very kindly and genial way. We cannot do less than return the compliment, and reprint, which we do elsewhere, our contemporary's "deliverance" on the subject. We confess that we see no reason to modify any of the opinions we have previously expressed on the subject; neither are we convinced, we feel bound to say, by any of the arguments of our good confrere. The whole point, as we apprehend it, lies in this—can the Grand Orient of Hungary, without some express provision in its laws to that effect, declare an act of initiation performed in open lodge, after the due formalities and conditions prescribed by customary procedure "ab initio," null and void? We feel quite convinced that such a step is "ultra vires" on the part of the Grand Orient of Hungary, and we will add there is no precedent for such an assumption of autocratic power, either in England or the United States, in the history of our common Order. The able writer in the "Masonic Journal" does not appear to us to note the grave and essential difference as between punishing an illegality, and declaring an act to be "null and void." We all agree that the initiation "per se" was illegal, as the rules of the Order regard men, not women; and we must all agree that the Grand Orient of Hungary would have been perfectly justified in suspending the W.M. and officers, and all assisting and abetting brethren, and closing the lodge "pro tem." But can the Grand Orient of Hungary, or any other Grand Lodge, declare an initiation "null and void" which was duly performed in open lodge? We doubt it very much indeed. How does such power accrue, and if existent, what is its effect? It is sometimes necessary to declare a ceremony invalid and informal, and to require it to be repeated according to our "lex scripta," but we know of no case in which any Grand Lodge has ever assumed to itself the authority to declare such a "fait accompli" null and void." It may declare it to be irregular, and highly reprehensible, it may censure the lodge and the W.M., it may inflict the penalty of a fine or of suspension, but can it affect

the act itself? Again we say, we think not. What the real position of this principal actress amidst these peculiar Masonic "dramatis personæ" may be is to our apprehension one of the great difficulties of the case. As we view it, however formally initiated, until Countess Hädick receives her certificate she cannot by our national and international Masonic law enter a lodge. Therefore if the Grand Orient of Hungary persists in its refusal to admit of her initiation under any circumstances, and if the Grand Orient is supreme in all such matters, she cannot in Hungary nor, we apprehend, in Anglo-Saxon Freemasonry, be received or hailed as a sister legally. If indeed under some other constitution she can be received as a joining member of some lodge, then the fact of such "healing" will become another and special question for consideration. A good deal will also turn upon the laws and customs of the Hungarian Freemasons. Is it necessary to have a Grand Lodge certificate? or will the lodge certificate suffice? and can lodges still grant certificates? All these are matters which crop up, and have to be dealt with, before we can fully adjudicate even on the question of reception. For if she can produce a lodge certificate, and such is valid in Hungary by law and custom, it will be valid elsewhere; and if she produces a Masonic certificate through her affiliation to another lodge in another constitution, we apprehend that it would not be necessary to go into the original question of the legality or illegality of her initiation. But assuming that insuperable difficulties be in the way of her recognition or reception, is it not the best solution of the dilemma to make Countess Hädick's reception a special case? We think it is; our contemporary as decidedly thinks not, and believes "it will never do." We would respectfully ask our friendly critic—why? Does not the very exception prove the rule? Is it not clear that by the Grand Orient of Hungary condoning the past and making a special case of this little incident it puts a stop to any tendency to illegal proceedings, and by no means licences, as our contemporary appears to fear, a repetition of similar acts. So far from establishing a precedent, the Grand Orient of Hungary disavows, distinctly, any similar attempts, but in the interests of peace and conciliation it "heals" the illegal reception, and simply follows out the old adage, "Fieri non debet, factum valet." In this age of reasonable compromises it seems to us absurd always to be claiming the "uti possidetis," or crying out in lachrymose vocabulary, "non possumus," and it is according to our notions both more rational and above all, more Masonic, to take a large and liberal view of questions, whether "burning" or otherwise, which are so sure to come to the surface, and with which we have to deal. Such questions, we feel it right to add, we are of opinion should be dealt with, not with the fiat of an inexorable and unaccommodating Draco-nism, but with the genial sympathy of that kindly old Order of ours, which would always act more in the spirit than the letter, and would always seek to accompany the sterner requirements of law with the softening and soothing attributes of an enlightened and liberal accommodation to the feelings of our brethren, the necessities of the case, the temper of the times, and the welfare of the Craft.

Original Correspondence.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for, or even as approving of the opinions expressed by our correspondents, but we wish, in a spirit of fair play to all, to permit—within certain necessary limits—free discussion.—Ed.]

GRAND LODGE OF ENGLAND, AND GRAND LODGE OF SCOTLAND—A CONTRAST.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

While the Wardens of the Grand Lodge of England are deliberating how they shall spend a few thousands of their surplus funds in commemoration of the safe return from India of their respected M.W. Grand Master, the Prince of Wales, the Grand Lodge of Scotland is sunk over head and ears in debt. This deplorable state of things does not arise from the niggardliness of Scotch Freemasons, or their want of loyalty to Grand Lodge which was especially proved at Glasgow a few weeks ago,

but wholly and solely from the mismanagement of Grand Lodge officials and Grand Committee. You will scarcely believe it, but it is nevertheless true, which I vouch for as a member of Grand Lodge, that we have not received a single report or balance sheet of financial matters (nor cannot get) either from Grand Secretary, Grand Treasurer, Finance Committee, or Grand Committee, since the beginning of 1873, and now we are close upon the beginning of 1877. Such a disgraceful state of matters would not be allowed to exist for a single year out of the Grand Lodge of Scotland. And what is the result of this disgraceful mismanagement of Grand Committee? It is this, that while in England with a Grand Lodge Roll of 1631 lodges, there is scarcely a dormant Lodge, while in Scotland with a Grand Lodge roll of 575, they have lodges dormant by the score, as can be seen by the Scottish Masonic Calendar for 1876. This state of matters arises entirely from the want of attention by Grand Lodge and Provincial Grand Lodge, many lodges not being visited for eight or ten years, and no more attention paid to them than if they lived in the moon; so much is this the case that it has become a common saying among the lodges, that Grand Lodge only wants the cash, and rather than continue in such a state, lodges quietly drop out of existence, or in other words dormant.

Not long ago a proposition was made to start a new Grand Lodge in Glasgow in opposition to the Grand Lodge in Edinburgh, while others propose the total stopping of the supplies to bring Grand Lodge to a total stand-still. These little matters show how the wind blows and the great need there is for improvement.

The Earl of Rosslyn while on the throne did his best to improve matters, but his efforts have not been followed up by Grand Committee, and things are going from bad to worse. Everything and everybody beyond Grand Committee are kept in a state of total darkness, and, as may be supposed, the most ugly rumours are flying about from lodge to lodge of what the end will be, and the common belief is that the end will be disastrous to Grand Lodge.

The Grand Lodge ought to be the very essence of all that is pure, honourable and business-like, as an example to the daughter lodges. Instead of that, after sixteen years' experience, I can only pronounce it a place of hollowness and rottenness, in fact a huge sham. If we send money we may get a receipt, after shewing a determination to have it. If we write upon Masonic business we may get an answer to one letter in four. The M.W.G. Master says he is aware that the Grand Secretary's office is in a bad state, but he will endeavour to improve it. The M.W. Grand Master has known the same for two years, and things are there growing worse, which is something like proof that it is past redemption. It would be a good thing if the M.W.G. Master would look into the Treasurer's accounts as well.

Sir, I hope that you will give this place in your next impression. I grieve to be compelled to write this, but all parties have had so many warnings to put their houses in order, that advice is no more heeded than the blowing of the wind. Silence would longer be a crime, and before that noble institution of the Craft, the most noble that ever was devised by man, lies crumbling in the dust I, for one, will raise my voice against the mismanagement that is bringing our Grand Lodge to ruin. Should time and space permit I may have something more to say on the subject.

I am, yours fraternally,

ADAM THOMSON,

S.P.G.M. Peebles and Selkirkshire, and Proxy Master for, and R.W.M. of St. John's Lodge, Galashiels.

THE HERVEY LODGE.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I regret to find myself once more called upon to address you on the proceedings taken against a defaulting brother of my lodge.

You will forgive me for saying that your editorial remarks on the question scarcely seem to me to be either conceived or written in that spirit of "brotherly love" which you in your opening remarks enjoin upon us; on the contrary, they partake largely of "the abuse of the ignorant" rightly condemned.

Writing of the Hervey Lodge you say, "The various blunders made by that distinguished lodge are too numerous to mention here." Now this, I need scarcely remind you, is a seriously damaging charge. As Master of the Hervey Lodge, I beg to state, that it is a most unfair and untruthful statement, and appears to me must have been made with the view of prejudicing our case should it come, as you intimate, "under the notice of the Board of General Purposes."

I may say that any complaint you, or any member of the Craft, may have to allege against my lodge will be met without hesitation, and I trust that I shall be able to give a satisfactory explanation of our proceedings before any legally constituted tribunal. But I cannot be expected to meet sweeping and general assertions such as you make, and I protest in common fairness and justice against wholesale insinuations.

You further say, "that every step the lodge has taken is constitutionally wrong and illegal." This is a bare assertion, and an attempt to support a foregone conclusion, without knowing anything of the merits of the case. The paragraph raises a question in my mind, and which you will forgive me for saying, it is quite incompetent for you to decide; at all events, it is you rather than the Hervey Lodge who have "made the subject" one "of public conversation or Masonic scandal."

I am, Sir and Brother, yours fraternally,

G. HARRISON,

Nov. 14, 1876.

W.M. 1260.

TOLERATION AND FATHER FOY.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

As "a Free and Accepted Mason," I undertake to prove that Freemasonry is as infinitely superior to Father Foy's Order as light is to darkness, or as the undisguised and always loyal proceedings of honest and candid men are to the trickeries and mysteries of an affiliation, who presumes to think their mere doctrines infallible, and who, like Iago, put money in their purse by preying upon the weakness of those who reject the commands of the Bible and accept their own instead. History informs me that for ages the Masonic brotherhood have maintained their ground in every country to which the glorious institution has reached, and that in none has it been more honoured than in those continental countries where the Roman Catholic religion was that of the State. And why? Its great and Christianlike object is to bind man to man in a brotherhood of kindness and feeling; it relieves the wants of others, careless of its own; it supports the widow and maintains the orphan, acts as the Samaritan to the wayfarer and weary, and, at a word, performs all those offices of Christian charity, duty, and love, which Christ himself insists on as the end and aim of the Godlike mission which it was the will of the Father that he should come on earth to undertake.

In every country has Masonry been welcomed, for its principles are loyal and true, and its utility apparent, and from no country has it been banished as having interfered with the interests of law and order, or having intermeddled with State affairs with which it had no possible concern. But can Father Foy give the same satisfactory estimate of the mission of his Order? or can he point to a single Catholic—Roman Catholic—country in Europe from whence some one Order or other of his Church have not had notice to quit within a certain time, under the penalty of being driven forth as peacebreakers, malcontents, firebrands, and rebels against constituted authority even of the most orthodox kind. If I wished to run my letter to unreasonable length, I might travel back to the Popes themselves, scores of whom by their lives, and actions, ought to bring a blush into the cheek of any Christian man even to name, while at the same period of time the leaders of Masonry were perfecting their great scheme, and endeavouring to undo what the Papacy had done; I might then travel into the history of the Jesuits, and prove the grasping, griping, mercenary nature of their policy, which in its celebrated proclamation of "the end sanctions the means" is at once a test of the purity of the proclaimers and of the apostolic character of their views. Before I conclude I have a few words to say to the Roman Catholic laity, which I hope they will take in good part. Most of them must have either read or heard of Father Tom Maguire, the powerful champion of their faith, in his defence of his Church in his discussion with the Rev. Mr. Pope, which was a battle fought by intellectual giants. As a theologian, who would think of comparing Father Foy with Father Maguire? Well, Father Tom Maguire, the renowned controversialist, was initiated a Freemason in Masonic Lodge 187, Drumkeiren, county Leitrim, Ireland, where he was for a long time parish priest, and I understand the records of the lodge would attest to the membership of other excellent clergymen of the same faith before his time. But that contemptible bigotry which would deny the privilege to Roman Catholics is only part and parcel of that blighting, narrow-minded Ultramontanism which has disgraced this happy country. The respectable and ever loyal body of Freemasons can well afford to treat with supreme contempt, as they do, such an odious comparison which is made between their society—whose principles all over the universe are "Justice, Morality, Friendship, and Brotherly Love"—and that atrocious bloodstained Ribbonism and Fenianism, whose diabolical but priestly patronized practices are, unfortunately for many, now too well known.

I am, Sir, yours obediently,

FREDK. LAMBERT.

Hull, 14th Nov., 1876.

ADMISSION OF CANDIDATES.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I have duly read "East Lancashire" and "Somerset" on the above subject, and have myself often wondered that a more general system of admitting members was not adopted. Now in the province to which I belong, West Yorkshire, we have a P.G. bye-law, which requires every lodge which has a proposition of a gentleman who does not reside in the town where the lodge is held to apply to the nearest lodge for particulars as to his qualifications, or otherwise, the result of which is read out in open lodge immediately before the ballot is taken. Now why cannot Grand Lodge take this matter up and make a system, which works well in one province, extend throughout the whole of its jurisdiction. By that means such occurrences as named by "Somerset" would be avoided. I should be happy to forward you one of the forms, Mr. Editor, if you think it worth your while to go further into the matter.

Yours fraternally,

November 18th, 1876.

YORKSHIRE.

THE DEPUTY PROVINCIAL GRAND MASTER OF SUFFOLK

Our much respected brother, the Rev. C. J. Martyn, Past Grand Chaplain of England, Rector of Long Melford, Suffolk, and Rural Dean of Sudbury, has been appointed by the R.W.P.G.M. of Suffolk, Lord Waveney, Deputy Provincial Grand Master, in the room of the late venerated Bro. the Rev. E. I. Lockwood.

There are of course brethren of higher social rank than

Bro. Martyn, but there could not be one more widely known, more universally respected and beloved, more popular in the best sense of the word, than our reverend brother, and we may add no one more thoroughly entitled to fill the important post to which he has been appointed by the noble Lord who rules the Province so wisely and so well.

Bro. Martyn is a very distinguished Mason, and a brief record of his Masonic career will be of interest, at all events to his brethren in Suffolk.

Unlike his predecessor, who was content to walk in the narrow groove of Craft Masonry and rarely attended a meeting even of the Royal Arch, the subject of this notice has seen so much that is excellent in the high degrees, like many of the distinguished chiefs under whom he has served, that he has risen to high rank in all the Orders allied to the Craft, either nearly or remotely, having filled the Office of Grand Chaplain in the Mark Grand Lodge; Grand Aide de Camp in the Grand Conclave of Knights Templar; Grand Prelate of the Order of Rome and Constantine. He is also a member of the Metropolitan Rose Croix Chapter. Many Lodges will rejoice in the new honour conferred on our distinguished brother, for we find he is a member of the St. Andrew's at Gorleston, consecrated by him the other day; the St. Kew, Weston Super Mare; the Apollo and Churchill, of Oxford; the Foundation of Cheltenham, the Royal Gloucestershire, of Gloucester, the Harrow Lodge, the Westminster and Keystone, Alpha, and United, of London; the Prince of Wales, Ipswich; St. Edmund's Lodge, Bury; Stour Valley, Sudbury; &c.

To show in what high estimation Bro. Martyn is held by the magnates of the Order we may mention that in 1875; he was proposed by H.R.H. the Prince of Wales and seconded by Lord Skelmersdale as a joining member of the Royal Alpha Lodge, which is limited to 33 members. Last July, when Lord Carnarvon consecrated the United Lodge No. 1629, Bro. Martyn was appointed its first Secretary. In this lodge there are only 24 members, 15 of whom are Peers of the Realm.

Besides being a Past Grand Chaplain of England, Bro. Martyn is P.P.G. Sec. of Oxfordshire, P.P.G.J.W. of Gloucestershire, P.P.G. Chaplain of Middlesex, and Past Grand Principal Sojourner Royal Arch. During the time he was Grand Chaplain the inhabitants of Cheltenham presented him with his portrait in the regalia of Grand Lodge, and we remember seeing it exhibited at the Royal Academy in 1870. It was a speaking likeness, but caused considerable wonderment amongst the uninitiated, and it is said some countrymen were overheard discussing it for some time with a very puzzled air, and at last decided that it was "one of them blown Ritualists."

Some years ago the P.G. Lodge of Suffolk met at Sudbury, and through the bigotry and intolerance of the Rector there, the use of the Parish Church was refused to the Masons, we believe on the ground that they were Atheists. Bro. Martyn immediately suggested that the brethren should attend divine Service at his own beautiful Church at Long Melford, a distance of two or three miles, and conveyances were provided to take them there.

We shall never forget that visit, for Long Melford is a very picturesque village, and its church one of the grandest in Suffolk, and we need hardly say we had a beautiful service and a fine sermon from Bro. Martyn in "The True Masonic Temple" which was afterwards published.

We met Bro. Martyn at the interesting gathering in Gloucester two or three years ago, when the Masons under Lord Sherborn, P.G.M., unveiled the splendid Reredos at the Cathedral, which they had presented, and we could not fail to see how greatly respected and affectionately esteemed he appeared to be by the brethren there.

In a recent number of the "Masonic Magazine," the following passage occurs:—

"We venture to think that if all Provincial Grand Masters made it a point of visiting every Lodge in their Province, where it is a small one, once a year, and where the Province is large, as in E. and W. Lancashire, once in every two or three years, it would tend to uniformity of working, would bring them face to face with the real working Masons, and not merely the ornamental ones, and the result would be a better selection of Provincial Grand Officers than is now often made, the doing away of many abuses that now exist, and it would prevent much of that heartburning and petty jealousy, which unhappily have an existence even amongst Masons. It often happens however that the P.G.M. is a nobleman whose political or other public avocations prevent his paying that attention to the duties of his high office which his station demands. In such cases we submit he should appoint as his Deputy an energetic brother of good social standing, a long purse, and much leisure. Such men, and they are to be found, we are persuaded, in every province, might worthily fulfil the duties delegated to them to the advancement of Masonry in general and their own province in particular."

Bro. Martyn is just such a brother as is here depicted, and the province of Suffolk is to be congratulated on having so good a Mason as its Deputy Provincial Grand Master.

* "Masonic Magazine" July, 1876, page 17.

THE PROVINCE OF NORFOLK.

INSTALLATION OF LORD SUFFIELD AS PROVINCIAL GRAND MASTER BY HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCE OF WALES, M.W. G.M.

Monday last was observed as a general holiday in the ancient city of Norwich, which day the Prince of Wales had appointed for the installation of a Provincial Grand Master in the room of Bro. the Hon. F. Walpole, deceased. Strange to say, the date selected was that on which the deceased brother was installed in the same office by Lord Skelmersdale, D.G.M., a twelvemonth ago; but this fact was not present to the Prince of Wales's mind when he made choice of the day. The announcement that His Royal Highness would visit Norwich was sufficient to attract large bodies of Freemasons and of the general public from all parts of Norfolk and the neighbouring counties, and as he was to be accompanied by the Princess of Wales it was certain that the number of visitors would be larger than if His Royal Highness went alone. On the same day a meeting was to be held in St. Andrew's Hall to further the scheme for raising £35,000 for the enlargement of the Norfolk and Norwich County Hospital, at which meeting both their Royal Highnesses were to be present, and the Prince of Wales himself was to move a resolution. Although this object was not exclusively Masonic, still as the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital is not forgotten by the Freemasons of the province when they meet in Provincial Grand Lodge, a reference to this general subject will not be out of place in the "Freemason" when reporting a Masonic ceremony in this province. The meeting in St. Andrew's Hall was first held, the Earl of Leicester presiding, and on the occasion the hall was crowded with the rank, beauty, and fashion of the county. The splendid hall was magnificently decorated, and the brilliant company, which was for the greater part composed of ladies, whose elegant attire blended well with the gay colours in the pictures of Norfolk celebrities with which the walls are covered, formed a spectacle such as is not often witnessed. The orchestral platform in front of the organ was covered with crimson baize, and this bright colour was modified by a plentiful supply of massive evergreens and numerous devices of bannerets placed in positions which would give the greatest possible effect. On this platform were some 200 or 300 ladies and gentlemen, the ladies preponderating. Among this company were Lord and Lady Stafford, Lord Waveney, R.W.P.G.M. Suffolk; Lady Bayning, Lady Crossley, Lord Sondes, Sir W. Ffolkes and Lady Ffolkes, the Bishop of Norwich, Mrs. and Miss Pelham, Sir F. and Lady Boileau, Sir R. and Lady Buxton, Sir W. and Lady Foster, the Dean of Norwich and Mrs. Goulburn, the Mayor of Norwich and Mrs. Collier, the Sheriff of Norwich and Mrs. Cadge, Mr. Clare S. Read, M.P.; Colonel Duff, M.P.; Mr. J. J. Colman, M.P., and Mrs. Colman, the Archdeacon, and others.

It had been arranged for the Prince and Princess's convenience that the proceedings at this meeting should be very short, as there was much business to be done in the brief space of time they could spare for their visit. They were to arrive at the railway station at one o'clock, then to attend this meeting; afterwards to lunch with the Bishop of Norwich at a quarter to two; at three o'clock the Prince was to install Lord Suffield as Provincial Grand Master; the Princess was to pay a private visit to the Cathedral; and at half-past four a special train was to convey the distinguished visitors to Gunton Hall, the seat of Lord Suffield. The speeches, therefore, at the hospital meeting were very concise, and the result showed that they were entirely to the point. The Earl of Leicester, though not a Mason, certainly made a very Masonic speech, for in stating the claims of the city and county hospital he remarked that the people had lately been asked to subscribe in aid of the sick and wounded in foreign countries. That day, however, they were asked to subscribe to their own sick, and he thought that charity should begin at home, and that the just wants of our own deserving

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS AND OINTMENT.—If this Ointment were well rubbed into the throat and chest at the first appearance of hoarseness and difficulty of breathing, many an attack of diphtheria, bronchitis and croup would be at once arrested, and many a bright life spared; all the inflammatory diseases of the throat and air passages are most dangerous, frequently fatal, especially in children and young people, and if imperfectly cured the ill effects they leave behind them often end in pulmonary consumption, that scourge of the Anglo-Saxon race. No mother or nurse but should have these remedies at hand, and in all households. Holloway's medicines should be kept as a safeguard and a protection against the countless ills that flesh is heir to.—Avt.

poor should be provided for before assistance was sent abroad. He would urge upon the meeting that the future welfare of this hospital must depend upon voluntary aid. He would be sorry to see the time when the great charitable institutions of this country were dependent in any way upon State assistance or local rates. The Bishop of Norwich made a highly practical speech, drawing attention to the want among the sick of the poorer classes of those aids to recovery, fresh air, privacy and quiet, and their inability to obtain in their homes the best medical skill, trained nursing, and medicine and diet.

The Prince of Wales then rose, and was received with loud cheering, which was sustained for some time. He said: Lord Leicester, my lords, ladies, and gentlemen,—I have been requested to move the second resolution, and with your permission I shall now read it—"That it is desirable both for the accommodation of the patients and for the sanitary improvement of the hospital that the proposed alterations and additions to the hospital shall be carried out, and that for this purpose an appeal be made to the county and city to raise the sum of £35,000 for the building and sustentation fund." (Cheers.) Nothing, I can assure you, would have afforded me greater pleasure than to have attended this meeting, the objects of which are so deserving our sympathy and support (cheers), and I felt much gratified, both as a proprietor in the county and as one who has taken a deep interest in everything relating to the county, when it was intimated to me that a wish had been expressed that I should take an active share in the proceedings of to-day, and make an appeal on behalf of so ancient and well-conducted an institution—an institution of such high repute alike in the metropolis and throughout England—as the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital. (Cheers.) That hospital has at all times been honourably distinguished by the great amount of good it has done in the education of medical students, although this had been done at a disadvantage, inasmuch as it has never had a regular medical school with courses of lectures, but the instruction given to pupils in its wards has been so constant and so practical and sound that they have long been celebrated in medical circles for the readiness with which they have acquired the knowledge offered to them. (Cheers.) Among the former surgeons of the hospital I may mention three who in the last generation were eminently distinguished and who achieved a lasting reputation—the names I allude to are those of Martineau, Dalrymple, and Cross. (Cheers.) The first was one of the most successful operators ever known, and Mr. Cross—whose son is now the surgeon of the hospital—was remarkable both for his great skill and his knowledge of the literature of surgery (cheers). It was from these three gentlemen that the hospital derived the reputation maintained by its present officers. Beyond the admirable and practical skill they have displayed, recent events in the hospital have proved that it may also be made a very useful institution for instruction in the art of nursing (hear, hear). Nothing but consummate and the greatest care could have put an end to the former unhealthy state of the surgical wards, but it is, I am afraid, very doubtful whether that skill and care will suffice unless the hospital be enlarged in the manner proposed. At any rate, it is certain that the whole art of surgery and the best nursing may prove of no avail without the provision of such means as are now so urgently required. (Hear, hear.) The able report which has been taken as read, and which has been circulated among you, enters so fully into the wants and requirements of the hospital that I may abstain from addressing you at any great length on this topic, but I trust I may have said sufficient to induce every one in this hall to subscribe liberally towards the object for which we are assembled here to-day. (Cheers.) My noble friend, the Lord Lieutenant of the County, has in the most generous spirit, which cannot be too highly praised, made an offer of £5000. (Cheers.) Nothing could be more handsome. I am sure you will all appreciate his liberal offer, and lend your best endeavours, so that Lord Leicester may be allowed to

carry his generous intention into effect. (Cheers.) I am happy to have it in my power to announce that a great step towards this project has already been made, and that subscriptions amounting to £8000 have already been promised. (Cheers.) I feel fully convinced, after this, that we shall not have to wait long for the remainder. (Hear, hear.) An additional number of beds and an improved system of sanitary arrangements are, I assure you, urgently needed, and are essential to the future well-being of the hospital. I trust that you will enable the board of management to carry these two purposes into execution by responding largely to the appeal which I have now the honour to make. (Loud cheers.)

A vote of thanks was afterwards passed to His Royal Highness, which he responded to as follows:—

I have to thank Lord Leicester, and also the Mayor and Lord Waveney, who moved and seconded the resolution, for the kind words they have uttered in reference to myself, and I have to thank the meeting also for the reception that has been accorded to us to-day. I can only recapitulate what I said a short time ago, namely, that it is our wish, and that it will be our endeavour, to identify ourselves with anything that is for the good of the county. (Cheers.) So long as we continue to reside in the county of Norfolk, which I trust will be for a long time (cheers), we shall always be happy to contribute to anything that is for the good of all classes. The object of our coming to this assembly I have already alluded to, and I repeat that we ought to do all in our power to support this excellent institution. (Cheers.) I feel pretty sure when I look round me that there will not be many of you who will be wanting in doing all you can for the benefit of the hospital.

The Royal party retired from the hall amidst the heartiest expressions of loyalty, and, accompanied by several eminent individuals, proceeded to the Bishop's residence to lunch. Shortly afterwards lodge was opened at the Drill Hall of the volunteers in Chapel Field, which afforded spacious accommodation for a large assemblage of the brethren. This hall had been tastefully prepared for the occasion. It was stencilled all round in chocolate colour, and trophies of flags were displayed at intervals on the four sides. The spandrels and the roof were festooned with ivy, flowers, and evergreen leaves. The lower end of the hall was screened. A portrait of the late Bro. Benjamin Bond Cabbell, Provincial Grand Master of Norfolk, was on one side of the gallery, and his arms on the other; while in the centre were the arms of the Provincial Grand Master designate, Lord Suffield, with the Square and Compasses. At the opposite end of the hall was the dais, which was about two-thirds of the entire width of the hall. This dais was approached by a flight of five or six steps. On the dais was erected a canopy of crimson, bearing the Prince's feathers, copied from the tomb in Canterbury Cathedral. At the back was the Royal coat of arms, with the Shakspearean motto, "Love all; trust a few; do wrong to none," with the Prince's feathers, in ostrich feathers, on either side. In the centre of the dais was the throne of the Provincial Grand Master, with the pedestal in front and the footstool, the chairs of Deputy Grand Master and Past Grand Master, and behind were the banner screens of the Provincial Grand Lodge and Lord Suffield, the latter by a strange coincidence being also the banner of Lord Suffield's father when he was appointed Provincial Grand Master. The centre of the hall was covered with scarlet cloth, and the Masonic carpet which was presented by Sir Henry J. Stracey to the Social Lodge was also laid down. The armoury of the Drill Hall was set apart as a clothing room for the Past and Present Provincial Grand Officers, and another room was set aside for the use of the Prince of Wales and Grand Officers. The chairs were very elegant and massive. The body of the hall was seated with chairs placed diagonally from the sides, with a wide carpeted space down the centre; and the brethren were placed right and left, according to the seniority of their lodges. Those represented by banners were—on the right, Union, 52; Social, 93; Unanimity, 102; Perseverance, 213; Cabbell, 8c7; Soudes, 996; and Doric, 1193; on

the left, Faithful, 85; Friendship, 100; Philanthropic, 107; United Friends, 313; Sincerity, 943; and Walpole, 1500. Among the brethren present were Bros. Sir E. Lacon, M.P.; Rev. C. J. Martyn, P.G.C.; D. Prov. G.M.; Rev. R. J. Simpson, P.G.C.; A. M. F. Morgan, Major Marsham, J. B. Graver Browne, Rev. H. Evans Lombe, P.S.W.; Rev. J. Cholmeley, P.G.C.; A. Master; Perrott, P. Prov. G.S.W. of South Wales; Emra Holmes, P. Prov. G.R. and P. Prov. G.D. of Suffolk; Major Allen, P. Prov. G.S.W. of Suffolk; W. Clarke, Prov. G.D.C. of Suffolk; Huddleston, Prov. G. Treas. of Suffolk; W. H. Lucia, P.G. Sec. of Suffolk; Boby, P. Prov. G.S.W. of Suffolk; Frazer, Prov. G.S.D. of Suffolk; Hedley Brown, Prov. G.S.W. of Suffolk; Parrie, Prov. G.A. Dir. of Cers. of Suffolk; J. Terry; W. Hammond, P. Prov. G.J.D. of Middlesex; Adams, P. Prov. G.S.B. of Suffolk; F. Binckes, P.G.S., Sec. Royal Masonic Institution for Boys; Long, P.P.G.D.C. of Suffolk; Sedgwick, P.P.G. Reg. of Suffolk; John Nunn, P.G.W.; Rev. H. H. Bridgwater, P.P.G.C.; G. Chamberlin, J. While, H. Bussy, H. Massey ("Freemason"), N. B. Headon, and others.

When filled, as it was, with upwards of 900 brethren in full Masonic Craft clothing, and a large number of them wearing the jewels of the higher ranks of Masonry, and lighted with a myriad of jets, the hall presented a brilliant and unique appearance. At twenty minutes to three o'clock, the Deputy Provincial Grand Master Designate (Bro. Major Penrice) ascended the throne, and the other officers having taken their seats, the lodge was opened in due form. The arrival of H.R.H. the Most Worshipful the Grand Master of All England was now awaited; the following brethren, who had been appointed as special Stewards to attend on his Royal Highness, taking up their positions for this purpose—Bros. W. A. Tyssen Amherst, R. E. Baker, Lieut. Col. Bignold, Sir F. G. M. Boileau, Bart. Sir R. J. Buxton, Bart., Lieut. Col. Boileau, G. Buxton, J. Bond Cabbell, Capt. W. Dods, Sir W. H. B. Ffolkes, Bart. (High Sheriff of Norfolk), R. T. Gurdon, J. S. Holmes, Roger Kerison, G. W. F. Loftus, Rev. H. Lombe, Rev. Dr. Mangan, Capt. W. Massey, Cecil Montgomerie, Capt. Hastings Parker, Paynton Pigott, Thomas Watson, George Wilkinson, and H. Morgan. In a short time the Prov. G.M. of Suffolk, Bro. Lord Waveney, entered the hall, and having taken a seat on the right of the throne was received with cheers. Very shortly after three o'clock the strains of "God Save the Queen," and some truly English cheers from without, indicated the approach of the illustrious Prince and Mason, and in a few minutes afterwards—for he was already "clothed," there was an "alarm"—His Royal Highness, the Grand Master of All England, claimed admission. The order was at once given, and His Royal Highness, accompanied by Lord Skelmersdale, the M.W. Deputy Grand Master, Lord Hardwicke, P.G.M. of Cambridge, and Lord Claud Hamilton, M.P., was attended to the dais by the Stewards.

The Deputy Prov. G.M. Designate at once vacated the throne and handed the gavel to His Royal Highness. It was amid much clapping of hands and cheering that the Grand Master of All England ascended the throne; but this joy and welcome partook of a more Masonic form when His Royal Highness had taken his seat, for then, at the call of Sir Albert Woods, the Grand Director of Ceremonies, they gave the greatest salute in Masonry, and the effectiveness and impressiveness with which this was rendered must have recalled the grander, but not more fervent, display at the Albert Hall. Another "alarm," and it was announced that Bro. Lord Suffield sought installation. His patent was given in and handed to the P.G. Secretary (Bro. H. Barwell), by whom it was read. Bros. Col. Bignold, E. S. Bignold, Wilkinson, Aldis, Baker, Loftus, and J. Reeve were then selected as Stewards to attend upon and escort the Provincial Grand Master Designate to the throne.

When Lord Suffield had ascended the dais, The Prince of Wales, addressing the Provincial Grand Master Designate, said: Brother Lord Suffield, in conferring upon you to-day the office of Provincial Grand Master of Norfolk,

I feel convinced—and I think I shall have the approval of the brethren in this hall—that the choice which I have made is one which will find favour in the eyes of the county. I know that you have been a good and true Mason, and I feel also firmly convinced that the duties which you are about to enter upon, you will carry out in a true and conscientious manner. I feel also convinced that the choice which I have made is one which will confer pleasure and gratification on the brethren of the county.

The necessary Masonic ceremonies were then observed, and Lord Suffield was invested with the insignia of his office, and placed in the chair of the Provincial Grand Lodge, the Prince of Wales taking the chair of Past Master. The formal salutes were given by direction of Sir Albert Woods, and the brethren having resumed their seats,

Lord Suffield said: May it please your Royal Highness, Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Ancient and Honourable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of England, I am deeply sensible, Sir, of the great honour which you have conferred upon this province by your presence here, and upon me in selecting me to fulfil the duties of the office which has been rendered vacant by the death of our late lamented Bro. Walpole. I am fully aware, Sir, of the responsibilities and of the duties devolving upon me. Accepting the responsibilities, it will be my earnest and anxious endeavour to perform the duties of my high office, and I will do as far as in me lies the best I can for the honour and advantage of Masonry in general and of this province in particular. And so, brethren, I hope to merit your approval of the choice His Royal Highness has made. (Cheers.) Circumstances have prevented my entertaining our numerous and distinguished visitors in the customary manner on the present occasion; but I hope before long to hold a Provincial Grand Lodge, to attend the usual cathedral service, and a banquet, when I trust we may be again honoured by the company of those brethren from a distance to whom I can now only offer my most sincere and hearty thanks for their kindness, their courtesy, and fraternal good feeling, which have induced them to come here to-day to assist in the ceremony which has just taken place. (Applause.)

Lord Suffield here proffered the gavel to the M.W.G.M., but His Royal Highness, with great condescension, requested the Prov. G.M. to retain it, and thereupon he proceeded to appoint and invest the Grand Lodge officers for the ensuing year as follows:—Bros. Major Penrice, D.P. G.M.; Lieutenant-Colonel Duff, M.P., P.G.S.W.; Hamon Le Strange, P.G.J.W.; Rev. E. J. Alvis, P.G. Chaplain; Lieut.-Col. L'Estrange, P.G. Treasurer; G. B. Kennett, P.G.R.; H. G. Barwell, P.G. Secretary; J. C. Chittock, P.G.S.D.; R. Wortley, P.G.J.D.; T. Lord, P.G.S. of W.; George Baxter, P.G.D.C.; E. J. Bonfellow, P.G.A.D.C.; Hon. Harbord Harbord, P.G.S.B.; G. Britain, P.G.O.; E. D. Horsfield, P.G.P.; J. B. Bridgman, C. Havers, W. Mills, and J. J. Commins, Stewards.

When the investiture of these several officers had been completed, the M.W. Grand Master, accompanied by the Prov. G.M., the more distinguished brethren present, and attended by the Stewards, left the dais, and as they proceeded from the hall the hearty cheering which rolled on either side of the building almost stifled the trumpets which announced the close of this great ceremonial.

THE MASONIC BANQUETS.

In the evening the various city lodges gave banquets, in which the visiting brethren were invited. At the Royal Hotel three lodges, viz., Social, Sincerity, and Walpole, unitedly gave a banquet, which was largely attended, and was presided over by the W.M. of Social Lodge, No. 93. Bro. J. J. Commins, supported right and left by Bros. J. C. Chittock, W.M. No. 943, and T. Isley, W.M. No. 1500.

After dinner, which was of a very substantial character, Bro. Commins gave "The Queen and the Craft," which was loyally responded to.

Bro. Chittock then proposed "The Health of the M.W.G.M., H.R.H. the Prince of Wales. He said—From the time of our earliest recollection we have always been attached to the Prince of Wales as the heir to the throne of England. When he became an inhabitant of Norfolk we Norfolk men became still more attached to him. But when he became Grand Master of English Freemasons what should we Norfolk men think but that

we ought to be still more attached to him to find that a Norfolk man should be Grand Master of all England? But although we Norfolk men are exceedingly proud of our Grand Master, I have no doubt that all those who reside in Suffolk or in any other county of England are equally proud of their Grand Master, and I am sure that it would be perfectly impossible that any man could stand in higher estimation among his brother Masons than H.R.H. the Prince of Wales. We know that in Masonry one of the great objects is charity; and when we remember that His Royal Highness has come amongst us this day for the purpose of promoting the maintenance of that noble charity, the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital, we ought to feel doubly grateful to him. It shows that he has that true Masonic virtue which ought to be among us all. We can have, as I said, no better, no greater Grand Master, than we have, and I propose the toast, which I trust you will all receive with enthusiasm.

The toast, as may be supposed, was enthusiastically received, and drank with Masonic honours.

Bro. Commins next gave "The Pro Grand Master Lord Carnarvon; the Deputy Grand Master, Lord Skelmersdale; and the rest of the Grand Officers," which was, of course, drank right loyally.

Bro. F. Binckes responded.

Bro. Chittock, in proposing "The Health of the Prov. G.M., Lord Suffield," said his lordship was highly appreciated by the brethren. They all knew him as a Norfolk man for many years, and there was no man in Norfolk who would be more acceptable as a Grand Master. His name was proverbial among Norfolk men. He had been a long time a Mason, but they had not had an opportunity—except those brethren of North Walsham—of criticising his working. But he had no doubt whatever most of them knew Lord Suffield, and he was sure that his working in Grand Lodge was an earnest of how he meant to do his duty. He was most thoroughly capable of doing it, and he meant to carry out his duties properly. (Cheers.)

Bro. Isley proposed "The Deputy Provincial Grand Master, and the rest of the Grand Officers."

Bro. A. M. F. Morgan responded, and said that a better working Mason or a better man there could not possibly be than Bro. Penrice, who had that day been appointed Deputy Grand Master of the Province. (Hear, hear.) This day was one of happy augury for Masons in Norfolk, for they had had H.R.H. the Grand Master amongst them to instal Lord Suffield—and a better choice as Prov. Grand Master could not have been made; and he trusted that the effect of the day's proceedings would be to give an impetus to Masonry in Norfolk.

Bro. Commins then proposed "The Masonic Charities," and after saying that in Norfolk these charities were not supported so well as they ought to be, he expressed a hope that in the future more would be done in this province to support those excellent institutions.

Bro. Terry, in responding, congratulated the Masons of Norfolk upon the fact that it was in this province that H.R.H. the Grand Master had for the first time since his installation performed the ceremony of installing a P.G.M. They had very much to be proud of, and he hoped that it would lead to Norfolk contributing more to the charities than it had done heretofore. The institution which he represented now supported 253 old men and widows from its funds—giving to old Masons £40 and to widows of Masons £32 per year, whereas only four years ago there were but 180 annuitants receiving £36 and £25 respectively. Thus very much had been done of late years by the Craft to assist the poor and needy brethren, and the widows of such. He appealed to them most earnestly for further funds to increase the good work which the institutions were doing, and suggested that every member of every lodge in Norfolk might at least give 5s. a year, which contribution would give one vote. He then stated that H.R.H. Prince Leopold had kindly consented to preside at the next anniversary festival, and on that occasion he hoped there would be a large contribution from Norfolk.

Bro. Binckes, Secretary of the Masonic Boys' School, also responded, and stated that at that institution 189 boys were at present maintained and educated, and a scheme was now on foot for erecting a preparatory school in connection with this institution for at least 100 boys younger than those now admitted. The benefits received by Norfolk from the various charities were out of all proportion to the contributions sent up, but this state of things he hoped would be speedily altered, and to that end he urged each lodge to do its utmost. Subsequently he proposed "The Three Presiding Masters," a toast which was warmly received.

Bros. Commins, Chittock, and Isley briefly responded, and promised to do all they could to increase the contributions from their lodges to the Masonic charities.

Amongst the other toasts was "The Visitors," to which Lord Claud J. Hamilton, M.P., who entered the room late in the evening, responded.

Several other toasts were given and responded to, and a very enjoyable evening was spent.

EMULATION LODGE OF IMPROVEMENT.—A full account of the proceedings at the festival that takes place this (Friday) evening will be given in the Special Edition of the "Freemason," which will be ready early Saturday morning.

The Installation Meeting of the William Preston Lodge, No. 766, took place on Thursday evening. Bro. W. E. Newton, J.W., was placed in the chair of K.S. A report of the meeting will appear in our next.

An ordinary General Meeting of the "London Masonic Club" Company Limited, will be held on Wednesday next at 101, Queen Victoria-street.

Scotland.

PARTICK.—Lodge St. Mary's (No. 117).—The monthly meeting of this lodge was held in the hall, Douglas-street, Partick, on the evening of Wednesday, the 15th inst., for the purpose of electing and installing the Master and office-bearers. The brethren mustered to the number of about 100, exclusive of visiting brethren, among whom was Bro. M'Taggart, ex-P.G. Secretary of Glasgow. After the ordinary business of the lodge the election of office-bearers was proceeded with as follows:—John Bain, W.M.; Wm. Borland, D.M.; J. S. Donaldson, S.M.; John M'Swan, S.W.; Thomas Wallace, J.W.; James Lyon, Treas.; Alfred Lawrence, Sec.; William Chisholm, Chaplain; William M'Farlane, S.D.; Alex. Skene, J.D.; Thos. Miller, Standard Bearer; William Murdoch, Senior Steward; Thos. W. Barclay, Junior Steward; James M'Cready, I.G.; James Bruce, Tyler. The lodge was then handed over to the care of the Junior Warden, and after spending a short time in harmony, during which the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and duly responded to, the lodge was called back to labour and closed in due and ancient form.

ALEXANDRIA.—St. Andrew's Royal Arch Lodge (No. 321).—At a meeting of the Alexandria and Bunnill St. Andrew's Royal Arch Lodge, 321, held on the evening of Friday, 10th inst., the following were installed by the P.R.W.M., John M'Leish, viz.: J. Stewart, W.M.; P. Jardine, S.M.; P. Moir, D.M.; R. M'Cowan, S.W.; P. M'Kennie, J.W.; A. M'Lintock, Treas.; C. Glen, Sec.; J. Campbell, Clerk; W. Guy, B.B.; J. Stewart, S.D.; J. Jardine, J.D.; A. M'Donald, S.S.; J. Barr, J.S.; A. Laurie, S.B.; J. Vance, I.G.; D. Jardine, Tyler. During the past year a good many new members have been added to the roll of this lodge.

GLASGOW.—St. Andrew's Royal Arch Chapter (No. 69).—The monthly meeting was held within the hall, 25, Robertson-street, on Tuesday, the 14th inst. The chapter was opened in the Mark Degree by the M.E.P.Z., Thomas M. Campbell; Comps. J. B. McNair, S.W. and S.O., M.E.P.H.; W. Harper, J.W. and J.O., when Bros. William Lightbody and Mathew Robin, of St. John's, 3 bis, Alexander Currie and John Currie, of St. Vincent, 552, were duly Marked, and their work inspected and approved of, were instructed into the mysteries of the Mark Degree.

LENNOXTOWN.—MASONIC FUNERAL.—The remains of the late Bro. Dr. Allan Marshall, whose death took place at his residence, Lennoxton, on Wednesday the 8th inst., were interred on Saturday the 11th inst., in the Lennoxton churchyard. The doctor had resided in Campsie for upwards of thirty years, and was much esteemed by a large circle in the parish, especially of the working classes, who appreciated his homely and genial manner, as well as his professional ability as a medical practitioner, and a very general feeling of regret has been expressed at his demise. A few weeks previous to his death a testimonial, valued at £50, was presented to him by the parish. The funeral was conducted with full Masonic honours, and notwithstanding the very inclement weather, a large number of people, representing all classes of the community, attended and accompanied the remains to the grave. The Masonic ceremony, which was conducted by Bro. Peter Robinson, Master of Campsie St. John's Lodge, No. 195, was of a very impressive character, and was witnessed by several hundreds of the inhabitants. Campsie parish church choir were in attendance by invitation; and as arranged, sang two appropriate pieces, "Dead March in Saul," and the 15th Paraphrase to "Soldau." After the interment the Masonic brethren retired to their lodge-room, and passed a series of resolutions expressive of the esteem in which deceased was held by them.

FREEMASONRY IN TURKEY.

The installation of the M.E.K.' and officers of the Leinster Royal Arch Chapter, No. 166, Irish Constitution, took place on Tuesday, the 17th October, in the Masonic Temple, Haskieu, Constantinople. On the evening of this date the chapter was opened in the regular form by the M.E.K., Comp. W. Dorrell, who was assisted by M.E. P.K., Comp. H. Arnold, M.E.P.K., Comp. J. Smorsitt and the officers of the chapter. The preliminary part of the evening's business, such as the confirmation of minutes, &c., &c., having been performed, the special business was then proceeded with by the introduction of Comp. H. Wetherill, K. elect, for the benefit of installation. Due consent having been given to the prescribed charges, a conclave of P.K.'s was duly formed, consisting of M.E. P.K., Comp. H. Arnold; M.E.P.K., Comp. J. Smorsitt; and the installing K., Comp. W. Dorrell. Comp. H. Wetherill was regularly installed into the exalted position of K. according to the Irish rite. On the readmission of the companions the announcement and salutation were made. The M.E.K. then proceeded to invest the officers as follows: Comps. J. Rawe, H.P.; W. B. Teadstall, C.S.; T.W. Johnson, Capt. H.; T. C. Dickinson, Sup. Tab.; J. Lindsay, R.A.C.; W. Webb, Capt. 3. V.; W. Dyke, Capt. 2. V.; P. Flucker, Capt. 1. V.; M.E.P.K., W. Dorrell, Reg. and Treas.; and J. Nock, Jan. The usual charges having been given, brought the installation ceremony to a close. There being no other business before the chapter, it was closed by the M.E.K. in peace and concord. Afterwards the companions adjourned to the refreshment room, where an agreeable and sociable hour was spent, during which the inner man was refreshed, and the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given, notably those of "The Newly-installed M.E.K.," "The P.K.'s," and "The Retiring Officers." Comps. J. J. Dunn, W. Dyke, P. Flucker, and others, greatly added to the harmony of the evening by singing a few appropriate songs.

This chapter has been in existence something like nine years, and strange to say, contrary to most things in Turkey, it never was in a better position than at the present time. The finances at their disposal are not very great, but they have the satisfaction of knowing that they have no liabilities other than the first object in Masonry—charity—and should the dark clouds now overhanging that part of the globe be, by the assistance of the T.G.A., dispersed, there is no doubt but that this chapter will become one of the most flourishing in the Levant. The previous Masonic career of the newly-installed M.E.K., and the reputation of the officers whom he has been fortunate enough to obtain, are sufficient proof that no efforts on their part will be spared to make their term of office one of the most successful since the consecration of the chapter.

FREEMASONRY IN THE UNITED STATES.

GRAND LODGE OF DELAWARE.

The following brethren have just been elected Grand Officers:—Bros. Thomas N. Williams, G.M.; William W. Lobdell, D.G.M.; Charles Jones, G.S.W.; S. W. Kilvington, G.J.W.; W. J. Maxwell, Grand Treas.; Wm. S. Hayes, Wilmington, Grand Sec.

GRAND LODGE OF ILLINOIS.

The following Grand Officers have just been elected:—Bros. Joseph Robbins, G.M.; J. A. Delancey, D.G.M.; H. E. Hamilton, G.S.W.; Rev. W. H. Scott, G.J.W.; Hon. A. A. Glenn, Grand Treas.; J. F. Burrell, Grand Sec., Springfield.

IOWA.

Sir J. C. Parish has just been elected Grand Commander of Iowa, and Comp. Paul C. Daum, Grand High Priest of Iowa. Sir and Comp. W. B. Langridge is Grand Recorder of one body and Grand Secretary of the other.

GRAND COMMANDERY OF NEW YORK.

At the 63rd annual convocation of this Grand Body, held recently, in New York city, the following Grand Officers were elected:—Sir Robert Black, Grand Commander; Sir T. Fondest, D.G.C.; Sir C. H. Holden, G. Gen.; Sir I. C. Chittenden, G.C.G.; Sir J. S. Perry, Grand Treas.; and Sir Robert Macoy, Grand Recorder. The next annual convocation will be held at Troy. At this convocation 52 delegates were present, together with representatives of the Grand Commanderies of the States of Alabama, Tennessee, Texas, Missouri, Georgia, Vermont, Minnesota, Ohio, New Jersey, Illinois, Indiana, New Hampshire, Iowa, California, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Maryland, Kentucky, Maine, Connecticut.

GRAND CHAPTER OF INDIANA.

The 31st annual convocation assembled in the Grand Lodge Hall, at two o'clock p.m., on Wednesday, October 19th, and was opened by Lucien A. Foote, Grand High Priest.

The annual address of the Grand High Priest was a very brief business document, containing no points of general interest to our readers.

He reports two new chapters organized during the past year, located at Union City and Bluffton. The report of the Grand Secretary shows a balance in the treasury of 3791.37 dols., and surplus funds loaned to the amount of 5500 dols., making the total assets of the Grand Chapter 9291.37 dols.

The Grand Treasurer was authorized to loan to the Grand Lodge of Indiana, without interest, all the funds remaining in his hands after paying the appropriations of the present sessions of the Grand Chapters.

The following allowances were made: To L. A. Foote, G.H.P., 75 dols.; Wm. W. Austin, Chairman Committee on Foreign Correspondence, 50 dols.; W. M. Black, G.C., 26 dols.

Charters were granted as follows:—

Union City Chapter, No. 94, at Union City; John Commons, H.P.; Thos. Mitchell, K.; Raiford Wiggs, S. Bluffton Chapter, No. 95, at Bluffton, Thos. L. Wisner, H.P.; W. Br Miller, K.; W. W. Angel, S.

The proposed amendments to the rules for the government of subordinate chapters, which were submitted at the last annual convocation, and referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence, who were granted time until this session to make their report, were brought before the Grand Chapter, and a majority and a minority report were from that committee. The majority report against adopting the amendments, while the minority was in favour of their adoption. A motion was made to adopt the minority report, which created a lengthy and rather spirited discussion of the subject, and finally resulted in a partial victory for the minority, by the adoption of the amendments, so far as pertains to Rule 204, which was made to read as follows:—

204. A companion who has been suspended for non-payment of dues shall, on the payment of said dues, and a majority vote of his chapter, at any stated convocation, be restored to all the rights and privileges of membership in his chapter.

The rules for the removal of a penalty, in all other cases not embraced in rule 204, remain as heretofore.

The election of officers for the ensuing year resulted as follows:—

Bros. Reuben Peden, Knightstown, G.H.P.; S. S. Johnson, Jeffersonville, D.G.H.P.; Martin H. Rice, Indianapolis, G. King; Thomas B. Long, Terre Haute, G. Scribe; Charles Fisher, Indianapolis, Grand Treas.; John M. Bramwell, Indianapolis, G. Sec.; F. M. Symmes, Crawfordsville, Gr. Chap.; A. D. Williams, Anderson, G.C. of H.; S. B. Richardson, Logansport, G.R.A.C.; W. M. Black, Indianapolis, G. Guard.

The representation at this session was not full, eighty out of ninety-five chapters sending delegates. But little business was transacted, some of the standing committees having nothing before them. Sessions were held Wednesday afternoon and Thursday morning, the Grand Chapter closing before noon of the second day.

GRAND LODGE OF OHIO.

The Grand Lodge of Ohio commenced its session at Columbus on October 18. It being understood that the question relative to the recognition of the coloured lodges was to be brought up, there was a large delegation. The question of their recognition was presented last year and laid over until this session. On Wednesday the Committee on Jurisprudence reported the matter back, with resolutions recommending recognition of the coloured Grand Lodge. A point of order was then made that under the constitution of the Grand Lodge the resolutions were not in order, except as an amendment to the constitution itself. The Grand Master overruled the point of order, and held that the resolutions were in order. An appeal was then taken from this decision, and it was sustained by the Grand Lodge, there being about seventy-five majority in favour of the appeal.

Obituary.

BRO. W. BOLLAERT.

The "Times" announces the death, on 15th Nov., at the age of 69, of Bro. Wm. Bollaert, 30th Degree Sup. Council of England, honorary member of several South American councils and lodges, Knight of the Tower and Sun, decorated with the war medal of Portugal, F.R.G.S. Cor. member Ethnological Society and Anthropological Institute, honorary member of the University of Chili. Bro. Bollaert was the author of a work in two volumes on the War of Independence in Portugal and Spain, in the former of which he had served, and as a chemist and geologist, of many publications relating to his explorations in South America. He took a particular part in investigations relating to the ancient monuments of Peru and Mexico. As a correspondent between the Masonic jurisdictions of America and England, he rendered essential services, and his death will be a serious loss. To him resorted the chief and most distinguished Masons of South America. He had long suffered from serious illness, during which he persevered in his literary labours.

FUNERAL OF THE LATE BRO. G. WHITE.

The last token of respect which the town of Brighton could pay to its late Chief Constable was bestowed on Friday, the 17th inst; the remains of the late Bro. Geo. White were then interred in the Extra-Mural Cemetery, in the presence of three to four thousand people. The weather was fine, and this, doubtless, favoured the large attendance; but the long, important and valuable services which Bro. White had rendered to the town, as the chief officer of its constabulary, and the hearty esteem which his kindly manners had won from residents and visitors, rich and poor alike, would have sufficed under any ordinary atmospheric condition to call forth a large representative gathering of the townspeople to witness the performance of the solemn rites of yesterday. At the Town Hall and in the Corn Exchange, at 1 o'clock in the afternoon, members of the Brighton, Hove, and West Sussex Constabulary forces assembled previous to marching to the residence of the deceased in Prince Albert Street. Half-an-hour later, the mournful procession started for the Cemetery. The hearse was followed by three mourning carriages. In the first, were Mr. G. White, Miss White, Master Yates (grandson), Mrs Hodgson and Mrs. Yates; in the second, Mrs. F. Napper, Mr. L. White, Mr. A. White, and Mrs. G. White; and, in the third, Mr. Hodgson and Mr. F. Napper, sons-in-law, Mr. Penfold, the deceased's medical attendant, and Mr. Thompson, the Chief Constable's clerk. The constabulary representatives were, from Brighton, Superintendents Crowhurst (Acting Chief Constable) and Barnden. Inspectors Terry, Carter, Paul, Woolgar, Dumfries, and Packham; Sergeants Turner and Reed; Inspector-Detective Gibbs, and Detectives Starley and Terry; and about twenty-three members each of the A, B, and D divisions; from Hove, Chief Superintendent Geo. Breach, Assistant Superintendent Geo. Breach; Sergeants Birchell and Bottle; and about twenty men from West Sussex, Superintendents Robinson (Arundel), Farnell (Steyning), Henderson (Horsham), Pratt (City of Chichester), Pratt (County Constabulary, of Chichester), Kemmish (Deputy Chief Constable, Petworth), and Puttock (Littlehampton). Along the route were hundreds of spectators, comprising all classes of society, but the lowest as well as the highest maintained that decorum which was in harmony with the solemn spectacle. At the Cemetery gates, representatives of the East Sussex Constabulary, in addition to members of public bodies in Brighton had assembled.

Among the brethren present we noticed Bro. J. Dickson, Provincial Grand Director of Ceremonies and P.M. of the Clarence Lodge (271); Bro. T. J. Sabine, P.M. of the Mount Lebanon Lodge (73); and Bro. J. Hackney of the Abercorn Lodge, and a large number of personal friends of the deceased.

The Freemasons were distinguished by sprigs of acacia in their button holes, and headed the procession as it entered the Cemetery. They were followed by the Guardians of the Poor, Town Councillors, and representatives of other public bodies; while the hearse, mourning coaches, and police brought up the rear. When near the chapel, a halt was made, and the first part of the procession opened up while the coffin, carried by members of the Brighton constabulary, the chief mourners, and the police passed through. The Town Councillors, headed by the Mayor of Brighton, then the Guardians of the Poor, the Freemasons, &c., followed in order to the chapel. There the Rev. J. Image, the Cemetery Chaplain, conducted the first portion of the burial service, the remainder being gone through at the grave. This is situated to the left of the path leading to the upper part of the grounds, near Rastrick's tomb. The outer coffin was of polished elm, and upon a silver plate on the lid was this inscription:—"George White, Chief Constable of Brighton, Died 10th November, 1876, in his 68th year."

METROPOLITAN MASONIC MEETINGS.

For the Week ending Friday, December 1, 1876.

The Editor will be glad to receive notice from Secretaries of Craft Lodges, Royal Arch Chapters, Mark Lodges, Preceptories, Conclaves, &c., of any change in place or time of meeting.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 25.

Chap. 176, Caveac, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
Lodges of Instruction.

Lily, Greyhound, Richmond.
Manchester, 77, London-st., Fitzroy-sq.
Star, Marquis of Granby, New Cross-rd.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 27.

Special General Court Girls' School, at 12.
Lodge 4, Royal Somerset Ho. and Inverness, F.M.H.
" 26, Castle of Harmony, Willis's R., St. James's.
" 28, Old King's Arms, F.M.H.
" 79, Pythagorean, Ship Hot., Greenwich.
" 183, Unity.
" 902, Burgoyne, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
Chap. 188, Joppa, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
Mark Lodge 5, Mallet and Chisel, Bridge House Hot.

Lodges of Instruction.

Prince Leopold, Lord Stanley Tav., Kingsland.
Strong Man, Jerusalem Tav., St. John's Gate.
Sincerity, Railway Tav., Fenchurch-st. Station.
Camden, Stanhope Arms, Up. James-st., Camden To.
Eastern, Royal Hot., Mile-end-road.
St. James's Union, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Wellington, White Swan, Deptford.
Perfect Ashlar, Victoria Tav., Lower-rd., Rotherhithe.
Upper Norwood, White Hart Hot., Church-rd.
Marquis of Ripon, Pembury Tav., Amherst-rd., Hackney.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 28.

Lodge 14, Tuscan, F.M.H.
" 92, Moira.
" 141, Faith, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
" 145, Prudent Brethren, F.M.H.
" 186, Industry, Masons' Hall, Basinghall-st.
" 205, Israel, Cannon-st. Hot.
" 259, Prince of Wales's, Willis's Rms., St. James's.
" 1158, Southern Star, Montpellier Tav., Walworth.
" 1196, Urban, Old Jerusalem Tav., St. John's Gate.
" 1348, Ebury, 12, Pensonby-st., Millbank.
" 1441, Ivy, Surrey M.H.

Chap. 21, Cyrus, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.
" 180, St. James's Union, F.M.H.
" 890, Hornsey, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
Rose Croix Chapter Palestine, 33, Golden-sq.

Lodges of Instruction.

Metropolitan, 269, Pentonville-rd.
Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney.
Domestic, Surrey M.H., Camberwell New-road.
Faith, 2, Westminster Chambers, Victoria-st.
Prince Fredk. Wm., Lord's Hot., St. John's Wood.
Dalhousie, King Edward, Triangle, Hackney.
Prosperity, Hercules Tav., Aldersgate-st.
St. Marylebone, British Stores Tav., St. John's Wood.
Constitutional, Wheatsheaf Hot., Hand-court, Holborn.
Israel, Rising Sun Tav., Globe Road.
Royal Arthur, Prince's Head, York-road, Battersea.
Beacontree, Red Lion, Leytonstone.
Excelsior, Commercial Dock Tav., Rotherhithe.
St. John of Wapping, Gun Hot., High-st., Wapping.
Metropolitan Chapter, Jamaica Coffee Ho., Cornhill.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 29.

Lodge 898, Temperance-in-the-East, 6, Newby-pl., Poplar.
Lodges of Instruction.

Confidence, M.H., Basinghall-st.
Mt. Lebanon, Windsor Castle Tav., Southwark-bdg.-rd.
Pythagorean, Prince of Orange, Greenwich.
New Concord, Rosemary Branch Tav., Hoxton.
Royal Union, Horse and Groom, Winsley-st., Oxford-st.
Mount Edgecombe, 19, Jermyn-st., St. James's.
Peckham, Malsmore Arms, Park-road, Peckham.
Stanhope, Thicket Hot., Anerley.
Finsbury Park, Finsbury Park Tav., Seven Sisters'-rd.
Southwark, Southwark Park Tav., Southwark Park.
Duke of Connaught, Havelock Tav., Dalston, E.
United Strength, Grafton Arms, Kentish-town.
Islington, Crown and Cushion, London Wall.
Whittington, Black Bull Tav., Holborn.
Lewis, King's Arms Hot., Wood Green.
Langthorne, Swan Hot., Stratford.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 30.

Gen. Com. Girls' School, at 4.
Lodge 22, Neptune, Guildhall Tav., Gresham-st.
" 1524, Duke of Connaught, Pownall-rd., Haggerston.

Lodges of Instruction.

Egyptian, Hercules Tav., Leadenhall-st.
Fidelity, Yorkshire Grey, London-st., W.
Finsbury, Jolly Anglers' Tav., Bath-st., City-road.
Temperance in the East, Catherine-st., Poplar.
Ebury, 12, Pensonby-st., Millbank.
Highgate, Bull and Gate, Kentish-town.
The Great City, 111, Cheapside.
High Cross, Coach & Horses, High-road, Tottenham.
Salisbury, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Prince Frederick William Chapter, St. John's Wood.
Southern Star, Crown Hot., Blackfriars-rd.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 1.

Lodge 706, Florence, M.H., Woolwich.
" 890, Hornsey, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
" 1489, Marquis of Ripon, Met.Soc.As., Balls-Pond-rd.
Chap. 8, British, F.M.H.
" 259, Prince of Wales's, Willis's Rms., St. James's.

Lodges of Instruction.

Union Waterloo, Thomas-st., Woolwich.
Robert Burns, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Belgrave, Constitution, Bedford-st., Covent Garden.
Unions Emulation (for M.M.'s), F.M.H.
Temperance, Victoria Tav., Victoria-road, Deptford.
Clapton, White Hart, Clapton.

Metropolitan, Portugal Hot., Fleet-st.
Westbourne, Horse & Groom, Winsley-st., Oxford-st.
United Pilgrims, Surrey M.H., Camberwell New-road.
St. James's, New Tanners' Arms, Grange-rd., Bermondsey.
Duke of Edinburgh, Silver Lion, Penny-fields, Poplar.
Doric, Earl Grey Tav., Mile-end-road.
Burgoyne, Grafton Arms, Prince of Wales's-road, N.W.
St. Luke's, White Hart, King's-rd., Chelsea.
Chigwell, Bald-faced Stag Hot., Buckhurst-hill.
Burdett Coutts, Approach Tav., Victoria Park.
Royal Standard, The Castle, Holloway-rd.
Ranelagh, Clarendon Hot., Hammersmith.
Stability, Guildhall Tav., Gresham-st.
St. George's, Globe Tav., Greenwich.
Pythagorean Chapter, Prince of Orange, Greenwich-rd.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN WEST LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE.

For the Week ending Saturday, December 2, 1876.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 27.
Lodge 148, Lights, M.R., Warrington.
" 613, Unity Palatine B., Southport.
" 703, Clifton, Clifton Hot., Blackpool.
Derby L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 28.
Lodge 897, Loyalty, Fleece Inn, St. Helen's.
" 986, Hesketh, Grapes Inn, Croston.
" 1256, Fidelity, Bull Hot., Poulton-le-Fylde.
" 1393, Hamer, M.H., Liverpool.
" 1609, Dramatic, M.H., Liverpool.
Chap. 721, Grosvenor, M.R., Chester.
" 1094, Temple, M.H., Liverpool.
Merchants' L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 29.
Lodge 86, Loyalty, M.H., Prescott.
" 484, Faith, Gerard's Arms, Ashton-in-Wakerfield.
" 580, Harmony, Wheatheaf, Ormskirk.
" 758, Ellesmere, M.H., Runcorn.
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 30.
Lodge 950, Hesketh, Royal Hot., Fleetwood.
" 1032, Townley Parker, Howard's A., Whtl-le-Wds.
" 1070, Starkie, Black Horse Hot., Kirkham.
" 1313, Fermor, M.H., Southport.
Mariners' L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 1.
Lodge 680, Sefton, Adelphi Hot., Liverpool.
" 1375, Architect, Didsbury Hot., Didsbury.
" 1387, Chorlton, M.R., Chorlton-cum-Hardy.
" 1505, Emulation, M.H., Liverpool.
Duke of Edinburgh L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN GLASGOW AND WEST OF SCOTLAND.

For the Week ending Saturday, December 2, 1876.
All the Meetings take place at Eight o'clock.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 27.
Lodge 102, St. Mark, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
" 103, Union and Crown, 30, Hope-st., Glasgow.
" 219, Star, 12, Trongate, Glasgow.
" 292, St. John, Bishop-st., Rothesay.
Lodge 362, St. Clair, 25, Robertson-st., Glasgow.
" 541, Marie Stuart, M.H., Crosshill.
Chap. 122, Thetis, 35, St. James-st., S.S., Glasgow.
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 28.
Lodge 413, Athole, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
" 419, Neptune, 35, St. James-st., Glasgow.
" 426, Prince of Wales, High-st., Renfrew.
" 543, St. John, M.H., Dalmuir.
" 556, Clydesdale, 106, Rose-st., S.S., Glasgow.
" 579, St. Bryde, M.H., Uddingston.
Chap. 67, Cathedral, 22, Struthers-st., Glasgow.
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 29.
Chap. 73, Caledonian of Unity, 213, Buchanan-st.
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 30.
Lodge 167, Free Operative, M.H., Biggar.
" 570, Kenmuir, Balgray Hall, Springburn.
Chap. 117, Govan, Portland Buildings, Govan.
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 1.
Lodge 7, Hamilton Kilwinning, M.H., Hamilton.
" 114, Royal Arch, M.H., Cambuslang.
" 116, Royal Arch, Council Hall, Rutherglen.
" 135, St. James, Crown Inn, Tarbolton.
" 156, St. Barchan, Masonic Arms Inn, Kilbarchan.
" 175, St. John, St. John's Hall, Greenock.
" 215, St. Andrew, M.H., Strathavon.
" 217, Cumberland Kilw., Old T.H., Port Glasgow.
" 243, Houston St. Johnston, Cross Keys, Johnston.
" 275, Shamrock & Thistle, 22, Struthers-st., Glsqw.
" 335, Argyle, Drill Hall, Dunoon.
" 360, Commercial, 30, Hope-st., Glasgow.
" 408, Clyde, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
" 459, Kelburne, Cumbrac Hot., Millport.
" 512, Thornetree, School House, Thornliebank.
" 551, Clydesdale, Royal Hot., Larkhall.
Chap. 112, Paisley, St. Mirren's Hall, Paisley.
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2.
Lodge 458, St. John, Wilson's Hall, Busby.
" 544, St. Andrews, M.H., Coatbridge.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN EDINBURGH AND VICINITY.

For the Week ending Saturday, December 2, 1876.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 27.
Lodge 349, St. Clair, F.M.H., 98, George-st.
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 28.
Lodge 151, Defensive Band, Alexandra Hall.
Chap. 40, Naval and Military, F.M.H., 98, George-st.
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 30.
Grand Lodge, F.M.H., at 5 p.m.
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 1.
Lodge 291 Celtic, Ship Hot., E. Register-st.

ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION

for Aged Freemasons
and Widows of Freemasons,
CROYDON.

PATRON AND PRESIDENT:

H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES, K.G., &c.,
M.W.G.M.

THE ANNIVERSARY FESTIVAL OF THIS INSTITUTION will take place on Wednesday, the 14th February, 1877, at Freemasons' Tavern, Great Queen Street, London, upon which occasion, H.R.H. PRINCE LEOPOLD, K.G., &c., &c., R.W. Prov. G.M. for Oxfordshire, has graciously signified his intention of presiding.

Brethren desirous of accepting the office of Steward upon this auspicious occasion will greatly oblige by forwarding their names, as soon as convenient, to the Secretary, who will gladly give any information required.

JAMES TERRY,
Prov. G.D. Cers. Herts,
Secretary.

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REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS.

Craft Masonry.

LODGE OF UNITED STRENGTH (No. 228).—The second meeting of the season of this old lodge was held, not at "The Gate," the home of the lodge in Old Clerkenwell, but at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, the cause of the temporary change being that the old place is under renovation. Bro. Griggs, the W.M., presided, supported by I.P.M. John White, ("Freemason") and Past Masters Joseph Crump, Sec.; Winsland, Treas.; James Terry; Colston Davies, and Hill-house. The officers were Bro. Hill, S.W.; Snare, J.W.; Halford, S.D.; Percy, J.D.; and Todd, I.G. The first business after the passing of the minutes was the raising of Bro. the Rev. — Dawson (rector of St. John's, Clerkenwell), Sandy, Phillip Woodman, J. Woodman, and Knight. It is unnecessary, and it would be out of place, to comment at length upon the work of a brother who has done so well as Bro. Griggs, but it must be said that well as he ever has done in his mother lodge, on this occasion he rose above himself, and gave the degree in a manner worthy of more than credit—and the repetition of the ceremony did not tire and pall upon the attention. The solemnity was greatly heightened by the melodious organ music at the hands of Bro. Hart. The officers also were excellent in their work, and their brethren watched the work with pride and pleasure. The lodge was then resumed, and Bro. Moulsey was tested and afterwards passed. Again was the lodge resumed, and Mr. Joseph Reynolds Green, of Bedford, was initiated, thus adding to the large contingent who have come from the birthplace of the famed dreamer to receive the light of the Craft in the metropolis, where many of them transact business. The lodge had then to discuss a question which none approached without regret—that of removing from the famed Gate, which has been found too small to accommodate the large body of brethren who assemble under the banner of the lodge. Bro. Terry had placed a motion on the paper that that lodge should remove to the hall in Great Queen-street, and well expressed the obligation the brethren had been under to Bro. Gay, the host of the Gate, and said that the brother had done wonders with the circumscribed means at his disposal in having the place so constantly in the hands of the workmen. Bro. Terry gave the results of his inquiries at various houses, and left the lodge to say which place the members would select. Bro. While urged that the lodge, if it could not meet at the Old Gate, should continue to meet in or near that neighbourhood, and, availing himself of the information conveyed by Bro. Terry, moved that the lodge should accept the Guildhall Tavern, City, as a meeting house, a place which was not far from the Moorgate-street Station, and would be more readily accessible than any other. Bro. Halford seconded this, and on Bro. Gay saying, in answer to questions put by the brethren, that the numbers of 228 were too great for the Gate, the motion became the substantive one, and was carried without a dissentient hand being held up against it. The lodge voted two guineas for the "old people's Christmas treat," and was then in due form closed. Over wine and bisuits, there being no banquet, some pleasant little species were made, and good natured badinage was indulged in, and Bros. Maples, P.M. 144; R. C. Davis, 1278; J. Defries, S.W. 45; and the Rev. — Wilson, 625, Glosop, in their speeches, spoke of the warm pleasure of witnessing the good work and sociable feeling prevailing among the brethren.

THE WILLIAM PRESTON LODGE (No. 766).—The installation meeting of this, a "banner" lodge, was held on Thursday, the 23rd ult., at Cannon-street Hotel. The lodge was opened by W.M. Pringle, with Bro. Newton, jun., in the Senior Warden's chair, and Bro. Newton, sen., the W.M. elect, in the Junior Warden's chair. It should here be stated that the S.W. had requested the brethren to give the votes they would have given to him to his father, who is his son's junior in Masonry, and Bro. Newton, sen., had consequently been elected over his son's head. This explanation is needed, but as illustrative of the kindly feeling shown by a son in standing aside from a position he would have won

upon his merits, in order that his father might become a ruler in the Craft. There were also present Past Masters Captain Kain, B. Abbott, W. J. Miller, George Newman, Augustus Braun, and W. Worrall (Sec.). The visitors included Bros. Francis, P.M. 851, P.P.G.S. of Surrey; Benham, P.M. 1339; Garrod, P.M. 177; J. While ("Freemason"), P.M. 228; Phillips, 1540; Carlton, 1295; Margetson, 90; Brown, 140; Tribbel, 1287; Harris, 1589; and W. T. Rickwood, 192. The minutes of the last lodge meeting were read and confirmed, and then Past Master Miller having taken the chair of W.M., raised Bros. Brierley and George Castle. The new candidate for the Master's chair having been presented in due form, and having answered the questions prescribed by the Book of Constitutions, Past Master Braun taking the chair as Installing Master, all under the rank of Installed Masters were dismissed when the pledge to the Fellow Crafts had been made, and the lodge had been raised to the Third Degree for the duly constituted Board of Past Masters, the usual ceremony was enacted, and according to ancient forms, Bro. Newton was placed in the chair by Bro. Braun. The body of Masters was closed, and the proclamations were made by Bro. Braun with considerable elocutionary power, and the addresses were listened to with rapt attention, the satisfaction of the brethren being shown by the great applause which followed the conclusion. In the course of investing the officers the W.M. called upon Bro. Newton, jun., the Past Senior Warden, to take upon himself that position a second time, but the brother, in a continued spirit of self-sacrifice, said he had no desire to prevent the other brethren from obtaining the promotion to which they had a right to look, and he would for the present retire from office, trusting to the remembrance of the lodge that he was eligible for the Master's chair at a future election. The generous nature of the feelings which had dictated this course of action appeared to be fully appreciated by the members. The officers appointed and invested were S. D. Ewens to the S.W. chair; Dr. Cutmore to the J.W. chair; E. Kidman, as S.D.; W. Drake, as J.D.; W. Drake, as I.G.; and P. Steinman, D.C. P.M. Captain Kain was invested as Treasurer; P.M. W. Worrall, as Secretary; and P.M. Newman as Wine Steward. The lodge agreed, on the motion of Bro. Braun, to grant a warrant for a lodge of instruction. The ballot having been taken for four gentlemen, a fine Past Master's jewel was placed upon the breast of Bro. Pringle, as a token of esteem on his leaving the chair of the lodge. "Work" was finished in the usual manner. The brethren sat down to an excellent and well-served banquet. The usual loyal toasts were given, and then Bro. Pringle, the I.P.M., proposed the toast of "The W.M.," remarking upon the filial manner in which Bro. Newton, jun., had retired so as to enable his father and brother to take the chair. The W.M., in responding to the toast, which was accepted with all heartiness, said he found himself in a very peculiar position, and one which he scarcely expected to occupy—one, too, which he felt he should not have occupied on his own merit. He had frequently, in addressing the William Preston Lodge, expressed his deep regret that he had not joined Freemasonry earlier in life, for he now felt that he had missed a great deal of enjoyment which he might have had if he had sought its light 7 years ago, for he might have spent some of his years with increased profit and pleasure. He could hardly express the peculiar feelings he experienced on that occasion. The lodge had been kind enough to place him in that high position, but it was a position which he did not deserve. No one more than he desired to forward the interests of the lodge, and if he could not come up to the brilliant Master-ship of the Past Masters who had gone before, of Bros. Miller, Newman, Braun, Worrall, and others, it would not be from want of will, but from the loss of those opportunities which never returned. He warmly thanked the brethren for their kindness, and assured them that he would do his best to discharge the duties they had entrusted to his hands. He then proposed "The Visitors," and Bros. Francis and While responded. "The Past Masters" were then toasted, and Bro. Pringle responded, and spoke in admiration of the working P.M.'s, to whose body he was now relegated, and thanked Bros. Miller and Braun for their work. "The Officers" was the next toast given, and Bros. Kain and Worrall responded. After an evening of perfect harmony, the proceedings closed with the Tyler's toast. In the course of the evening Bro. P. M. Braun asked for advice for the following case, which is a worthy one for Masonic charity. The writer says: I am the widow of Bro. —, who was by profession an artist, that is a portrait, landscape, and miniature painter; he was editor and proprietor of the National Portrait Gallery of Distinguished Americans, and at the time of his death was collecting material for another illustrated work, some of the illustrations being at that time already engraved. My husband was G.S. of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York for 29 years, and during that time and before was Master of a subordinate lodge; he was founder of the Lodge of Strict Observance, he originated and promoted the Representative System in the United States and with other countries, and was himself Representative for the Grand Lodges of France, Saxony, and Brazil to the Grand Lodge of New York. He occupied other positions of honour in the fraternity, which may be known by the medals which I have. I hope what I have written will prove to you that my husband was an honoured member of the fraternity to whom I appeal for aid; by various misfortunes I have lost everything; I have never received a farthing from any one, and nothing but the most extreme need would have induced me to ask for aid. I am sixty-four years of age, and much disabled by rheumatism.

WHITTINGTON LODGE (No. 862) held its usual meeting on Monday, the 20th ult., at Anderson's Hotel. Present: Bros. T. Kingston, W.M.; C. Walker,

S.W.; A. Moore, J.W.; J. Walmsley, S.D.; W. A. Blakemore, J.D.; C. E. Packer, I.G.; W. J. H. Jones, P.M. 862; J. Weaver, P.M. 862 and 1319, P.P.G. Org. Middlesex, Sec. and Treas. of the Benevolent Fund; Farebrother, Godden, Bolton, Tate, Roberts, Sedgwick, Brothers, Ward, Brown, Holland, Coll, Collinson, Ross, Boxer, Cox, and several others, also many visitors of distinction. Bro. Kingston, W.M., initiated Mr. G. Mackaness into the First Degree. The report of the Auditors was received with acclamation, it shewing the lodge to be free of all liabilities and a balance in hand. The new bye-laws were read; one in particular appeared to us to be a very satisfactory one, namely, "Should the W.M. expend during his year of office more than the income of the lodge he shall be held personally responsible for the excess." Bro. J. Weaver then occupied the chair, and installed Bro. C. Walker as W.M. for the ensuing year; the ceremony was given in its entirety. The three addresses were listened to by the brethren most attentively, at the conclusion of which Bro. Weaver received great applause. He then delivered an extempore speech respecting the management of this lodge, also charging the brethren to be very careful whom they introduced into Masonry, and not to introduce a person unless he was well-known to be true and trustworthy by experience. The W.M. then invested his officers as follows:—Bros. A. Moore, S.W.; J. Walmsley, J.W.; W. A. Blakemore, S.D.; C. E. Packer, J.D.; S. Godden, I.G.; A. J. Bolton, D.C.; J. Farebrother, W.S. The newly-installed Master then initiated Messrs. T. F. Lee and G. Maxwell into the First Degree in such a masterly manner that he does great credit to his tutor, Bro. Weaver, the ceremony being given very impressively. The W.M. then stated he had a very pleasing duty to perform, but he wished it had fallen into abler hands, as he felt he could not do justice to the task he had to perform. It was to present a piece of plate to a worthy and distinguished brother who had safely conducted the lodge through most difficult and trying circumstances; it had been subscribed for by the members of the lodge, and it consisted of a sterling silver tea service and an illuminated testimonial. The W.M. then called Bro. Weaver, who on approaching the W.M. was presented with the service and testimonial. The testimonial had been illuminated by one of the brethren as a labour of love, and ran thus: "Presented to Bro. James Weaver, P.M. and Secretary, as a token of their high esteem and regard, also to mark their appreciation of the ability and firmness he displayed in the conduct of the affairs of the lodge under most difficult and trying circumstances. November 20th, 1876." The inscription on the service was as follows:—"November 20th, 1876. Presented to Bro. James Weaver by the brethren of the Whittington Lodge, No. 862." Bro. Weaver was so thoroughly astonished that he could not give utterance to his thoughts beyond saying, "Brethren, I thank you;" a little later on he expressed himself more fully. Bro. Jones, P.M., proposed, seconded by Bro. Kingston, P.M., and carried by acclamation, "That a vote of thanks be recorded on the minutes for the able and impressive manner in which Bro. Weaver had installed the W.M." Three gentlemen were proposed for initiation at the next meeting. Letters of apology were received from the Grand Secretary, Col. Burdett, P.G.M. Middlesex, and others, regretting their inability to be present. The lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to the banquet room, where a most enjoyable evening was spent; the banquet being one of the best Bro. Clemow could put on the table. The usual toasts were observed, and a Past Master's jewel, a very handsome one, was presented to the retiring Master, Bro. T. Kingston. The brethren then separated, having passed one of those evenings that one remembers with the greatest pleasure.

CITY OF LONDON LODGE (No. 901).—The usual monthly meeting of this lodge was held on Monday, Nov. 20th. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The W.M. then initiated Mr. Arthur Wellington Smith, and passed Bro. Micklefield to the Degree of Fellow Craft. He then raised Bro. W. T. Trehearn, of Lebanon Lodge, 1326, to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason. This being the evening for the election of W.M. for the ensuing year, the ballot was taken, and it was unanimous for Bro. Geo. Porter. It was proposed by the P.M., Bro. Lawrence, seconded by Bro. Lewis, P.M., and carried unanimously, that a jewel be presented to Bro. H. D'Arcy, the retiring W.M., as a slight acknowledgment of his efficient services during his term of office. The W.M., in a suitable speech, returned thanks, and the brethren then adjourned to the banquet, and a most enjoyable evening was spent.

CITY OF WESTMINSTER LODGE (No. 1563).—The installation meeting of this lodge was held on Thursday, 23rd November, at the Regent Masonic Hall. Bro. B. H. Swallow, W.M., presided, and every officer was present—the Rev. P. M. Holden, S.W.; E. White, J.W.; C. A. Cottebrune, Treas.; E. J. Scott, Sec.; Benj. Phillips, S.D.; Benj. Turner, J.D.; J. G. Shand, D.C.; C. K. K. Bishop, Org.; W. C. Parsons, I.G.; and J. Wilkinson, Steward. There were also numerous lay members of the lodge, and the following visitors:—A. Bassington, S.D. 205; Rev. T. Robinson, P.M. 709; J. Swallow, 382; J. L. Baker, S.W. 1305; F. Honeyman, W.M. 1258; R. Payne, S.D. 1328; W. F. Ferguson, P.M. 177; R. Lonsdale, P.M. 382; G. Bubb, P.M. 180; J. Mason, P.M. 1567; M. Draper, W.M. 1305; James Mander, P.M. 1201; James L. Thomas, P.M. 142; Geo. Fowler, J.W. 1305; Frank Ridley, 1314; Joseph Smith, G.P.P.; W. Coombs, P.M. 382; J. Sadler, P.M. 795; E. Farwig, I.G. 180; Louis Beck, S.D. 1559; Alex. Cameron, P.M. 180; Henry Rust, P.M. 733; Thos. Lamb, 1567; J. Barney, P.M. 1567; W. Porter, W.M. 1269; Thomas Bull, P.M. 145; Raynham W. Stewart, P.G.D.; W. Watson, P.G.S.; James Terry, P.G.D.C. Herts; Col. J. Peters, W.M.

1460; Henbach, 1410; G. W. Saul, 1201; W. W. Harvey, John Palmer, P.M. 27; A. J. Ireton, 1348; W. Stephens, P.M. 1365; E. D. Willey, 9; W. P. Gardner, 1297; W. Mann, P.M. 144; W. Hilton, P.M. 780; J. Brockett Sorrell, P.M. 176; David Haslett, J.W. 145; W. Bailey, P.M. 749; W. J. Murlis, W.M. 1642; Herbert Dicketts, P.G.S.; Hyde Pullen, P.G.S.B.; Henry Fenn, P.M. 49; the Rev. E. H. Brette, D.D., P.M. 1460; James Kench, P.M. 538; John C. Cox, P.M. 1257; Joseph Wright, P.G. Purst; J. L. Coulton, P.M. 382; L. B. Pillin, J.W. 780; H. Massey ("Freemason"); C. Burmeister, W.M. 338; C. J. W. Davies, P.M. 382; J. W. Robinson, S.W. 1287; B. Brayshaw, W.M. 147; John Boyd, P.G.P., G.S.; Thomas Dayson, 582; Walter Mitchell, J.W. 1558; J. Callaghan, 177; V. Burrell, 382; W. J. Deighton, 1351. Bros. J. Dancer, 1446; A. Flatley, 205; and F. H. Tate, 795, were elected joining members. Bro. James H. Hammond was raised, and Bros. Hardwicke, Stilwell, Solomon, Linging, and Inge were passed. The ceremonies were performed by the W.M., Bro. Swallow, who afterwards installed the Rev. Philip Melancthon Holden, S.W. and W.M. elect, in the presence of a Board of Installed Masters, numbering 48. The officers appointed were Bros. Swallow, I.P.M.; White, S.W.; Phillips, J.W.; C. A. Cottebranc, Treas.; Scott, Sec.; Turner, S.D.; Parsons, J.D.; Shand, I.G.; Hutchinson, D.C.; Willis, W.S.; Bishop, A.W.S., and Potter, Tyler. Bro. Swallow concluded the ceremony by delivering the addresses to the W.M., Wardens, and brethren. Lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to banquet, which was succeeded by the proposition of the usual toasts. After proposing "The Queen and the Craft," the W.M. proposed "The M.W.G.M.," and said that when the brethren considered the graceful manner in which the Prince of Wales accepted the dignity of Grand Master when it was offered to him, and when they further considered the great attention which he had paid, more perhaps than could be expected of one in his exalted position, to the duties of the office, he having so much to do, and when they further considered his great courtesy, his gentlemanly bearing towards all with whom he came in contact, justifying his character as "the first gentleman in Europe," they ought to be proud of having him as Grand Master. He might inform the brethren that H.R.H. expressed himself to Sir Albert Woods as greatly pleased with the installation ceremony at the Albert Hall. The W.M. next proposed "The Pro Grand Master," than whom no one more deserved to be in that position than the Earl of Carnarvon, or would more command the respect of the Craft. His lordship could go into a lodge and perform all the ceremonies. It was a great thing for Freemasons to have for a Pro Grand Master a brother who brought a great mind to the work, as it showed them there was something in Masonry, its system and symbols, worthy of being sought after and enquired into. Speaking of Lord Skelmersdale, D.G.M., and the rest of the Grand Officers, the W.M. said the D.G.M. went here and there in Masonry, consecrating this and that lodge and chapter, and doing all he could to win the good opinion of the Craft. Upon one occasion he had the pleasure of sitting next to his lordship, and he must say he never sat next to a pleasanter gentleman in the whole course of his life, making one feel quite at home in his presence; with the happy knack of saying the right thing in the right place. The other Grand Officers were distinguished by their merit and ability, and gave to Freemasonry a great deal of its prestige in the eyes of the world. Bro. Raynham W. Stewart, P.G.D., responded, remarking that the Grand Officers were always ready to do the best they could for the interests of the Craft at large. Bro. Swallow, I.P.M., proposed "The W.M." The brethren had heard that the Prince of Wales was very much pleased with his reception at the Albert Hall; and the W.M. was no doubt much pleased with the reception he had just met with in the City of Westminster Lodge. If he was not, he ought to be. He (Bro. Swallow) was sure no worthier brother could go on to the chair. He had been S.W. of the lodge, and he had performed his duties admirably. It was by the brethren's unanimous vote he became W.M. He would do his duty as far as lay in his power while W.M., and would do nothing that could offend Grand Lodge or this lodge. He (Bro. Swallow) had had many pleasant evenings with him, and he trusted that his year of office would be a happy and prosperous one. The W.M. in reply said that he only wished he had the power of expressing his feelings as he desired, but they must take the will for the deed. He thanked them most heartily and warmly for the cordiality with which they had responded to the toast proposed by the I.P.M. He could assure them that in his wildest dreams at his initiation, he never could have supposed he should have been placed in the chair with so many pleasing and flattering expressions. He was very glad to have got into the chair, and he would do his utmost to maintain the good character which the City of Westminster Lodge had gained during the last twelve months. If he failed it would not be for want of bringing to bear all the power and ability he possibly could, both in working the three degrees in lodge, but in working the Fourth Degree. In conclusion, he could only say the brethren begged him in thanks. The W.M. next proposed "The Visitors," seventy of whom were present. Bro. Joseph Smith, P.G.P., replied. The W.M. then gave "The Health of Past Master Swallow," and presented him with a valuable P.M.'s jewel. Bro. Swallow was one of the founders of the lodge, and he had done his utmost to make it prosperous, in which attempt he had been entirely successful. Bro. Swallow in acknowledging the toast said he had had many difficulties to go through in connection with this lodge, but the greatest difficulty was to return thanks for the brethren's kindness. However, he should be very short in his speech, for he scarcely knew

what to say. He did not know that he deserved all that had been said in his favour; but if he did, he was both surprised and pleased. What he had done for the lodge he looked upon as nothing more than other Masons would have done. He certainly strove very hard for the warrant. He got his power from Marlborough House, and obtained the warrant after nine months' trying. He persevered, and his success encouraged him to say to others that when they began anything they should go on with it, and they would succeed. He had determined to start this lodge, and to make it a success. The charities had been well cared for. As regarded the jewel presented to him, it was a proof that what he had done had given the brethren satisfaction, and he should wear it with some feeling of pomp and vanity. He hoped to see the lodge make still further progress. To the toast of "The Treasurer and Secretary," Bro. Scott replied, and the S.W. responded to that of "The Officers." Bro. James Terry acknowledged the toast of "The Charities," and after expressing his regret at Bro. Little's absence, and thanking the W.M. and the brethren for their sympathy with him in his illness, said it was not more than he deserved. On behalf of Bro. Little, he thanked the body for its support of the Girls' School. Bro. Terry then reviewed the work of all the institutions, and pointed out to the brethren the great progress they had made, not only in the amount of subscriptions received by them, but in the increase of the benefits they conferred. The brethren shortly afterwards separated, having enjoyed a delightful evening, which was made additionally pleasant by some good singing by Bros. Knight Smith, J. Wm. Cattle, and Frank Percival.

ST. DUNSTAN'S LODGE (No. 1589).—The last meeting of this local lodge was held at Anderson's Hotel, Fleet-street, on Friday, the 17th ult. Bro. J. C. Dwarber, P.M. 55, W.M., presided, supported by Bros. Wellsman, S.W.; Dalwood, J.W.; A. Tisley, Sec.; J. H. Dodson, S.D.; Bull, acting J.D.; T. A. Woodbridge, I.G.; R. W. Williams, P.G.O. Middlesex, Org.; Gilbert, P.G.T. Middlesex, Tyler. The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the W.M., assisted by his officers, raised Bro. Platts, passed Bro. J. W. Lewis, and initiated Mr. G. A. Pearce. The three arduous and impressive ceremonies were most excellently well performed by the W.M. A notice of motion having been given by Bro. Dalwood, P.M. 860, J.W., that the sum of ten pounds should be voted towards the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, the lodge was closed in ancient form, and the brethren adjourned to an excellent banquet, well served by Bro. Clemow. Upon the removal of the cloth the customary loyal and Craft toasts were given from the chair and warmly received. In giving the toast of the evening, viz., "The Initiate," the W.M. stated that as the St. Dunstan's was a local lodge, they were pleased to welcome amongst them that evening a resident in the district in the person of their newly-admitted brother. He (the W.M.) had an objection to large lodges, because very often there were many party and other influences at work, and in consequence perfect harmony was impossible. This would, he hoped, never be the case in No. 1589, and that possibly their initiate that evening had taken a very wise step in joining a new lodge in preference to an old one. In conclusion, he hoped that he, Bro. Pearce, would become a worthy and deserving brother, and would always regard it as one of the happiest days of his life when he became a Mason. The initiate, in reply, stated that he had had a very great desire to join Freemasonry for some years past, but until recently had lacked the opportunity. He was exceedingly impressed with the ceremony, and hoped that as long as he remained a member of the lodge he should discharge the great obligations he had entered into satisfactorily. The S.W., in proposing "The Health of the W.M.," said it was to him a great pleasure in having the honour to do so. The capabilities of the W.M. that day had been severely tried, because he had had to work the three arduous ceremonies unassisted by any I.P.M., but he had, nevertheless, carried them out to the extreme satisfaction of every one. In conclusion, he said it was an honour to the St. Dunstan's Lodge in having such a Master, whose courtesy and Masonic ability, combined with his happy and pleasant manner, had endeared him to all he came in contact with. The W.M., in his response, said he was extremely obliged to the S.W. for speaking so kindly of him, but he could not take credit for all the good things therein expressed. The Master of a new lodge having no P.M.'s to support him, and the younger officers being not always at his elbow, had always a heavy task to discharge, but there was only one way to get through it, and that was by calling the lodge early and exercising personal punctuality. Hitherto his health had enabled him to pull through notwithstanding the difficulties under which he laboured in the lodge, and he hoped to be able to instal his successor. In giving "The Health of the Visitors," the W.M. said it was a toast that always afforded him a great pleasure to propose. On behalf of the lodge he wished to assure them that they were heartily welcome, and at the same time he remarked for the information of the initiate that by visiting various lodges the brethren had an opportunity of becoming conversant with the rituals and of contrasting the different styles. This toast having been duly drunk, Bros. Walls, S.D. Kennington, Dawson, 749, Dodman, 879, and Harwar, St. Clement Danes, severally acknowledged the honour that had been paid them, and complimented the W.M. personally, and the lodge generally, for the excellent "working." "The Health of the Treasurer and Secretary" followed, in which the W.M. expressed his very great obligations to the latter brother in particular, whose zeal and assiduity, he said, had been unremitting since the foundation of the lodge. In the unavoidable absence of the Treasurer, Bro. Tisley, the Secretary, replied. He said that the Treasurer had to attend the Lodge of Grand Stewards on the same night as the St. Dunstan's met, but

although not present in body he was there in mind. Upon his own behalf he could only say that he was exceedingly pleased at being Secretary to so good a lodge as No. 1589, and if there was anything more he could do to further its prosperity he should be only too happy to do it. In proposing "The Health of the Officers," the W.M. expressed himself highly pleased with them, and particularly complimented the lodge upon having two old Past Masters in the S. and J.W.'s chairs, namely, Bros. Wellsman and Dalwood, who were most excellent officers. The S.W., in reply, modestly said he could only regard himself as acting in the capacity of lieutenant to the W.M., under whose command it was a pleasure to serve. He was pleased that he, the S.W., was—although in a small degree—one of the promoters of the lodge, and it was exceedingly gratifying to him to find that it was progressing so very satisfactorily. The J.W. said he could endorse every word that Bro. Wellsman had spoken, and he further believed that the St. Dunstan's has a representative lodge would shortly equal any lodge in the City of London. In conclusion, as a P.M. of some years standing, he could vouch that the working of the ceremonies as performed by the W.M. could not be surpassed. During the evening instrumental, vocal, and poetical selections were given by Bros. Williams, Harwar, Dawson, Walls, Esson, and others. The proceedings terminated at 10, and the brethren adjourned until the third Friday in January.

WEST SMITHFIELD LODGE (No. 1623).—The first regular meeting since its consecration was held on Thursday, 18th ult., at the New Market Hotel, King Street, West Smithfield. Bro. Joseph Smith, P.G.P., W.M., opened the lodge, supported by every officer of the lodge, punctually at 3 o'clock. The minutes of the Consecration and two emergency meetings were read, put separately and all unanimously confirmed. The work, which was well and ably done, was passing (one at a time) Bros. T. M. Butt, W. Delafous, and W. Snow to the Second Degree, after which Mr. R. Leggett was introduced and initiated into Freemasonry. Some propositions for initiations and joining were given. The lodge was closed and adjourned to Thursday, 18th January, to meet at half past two. There were present besides W.M., Bros. T. W. Adams, S.W.; G. J. Elliot, J.W.; E. Mallett, Assistant Secretary, who acted for Bro. F. Walters, G.J.D. Middlesex, P.M., Secretary, absent through ill health, W.T. Howes, P.M.; S.D.; J. Johnson, J.D.; G. S. Wintle, P.M., I.G. The visitors were Bro. W. Sugg, P.M. 33, &c.; H. Fajia, J.D. 1540; J. Swasey jun. 1423, and more whose names we could not ascertain. It was decided that a lodge of instruction be held in connection with the lodge, and which gave its sanction to its being held under the lodge warrant. A good banquet was provided, and was well appreciated by all who were present. The usual toasts were given and responded to. Songs and some good recitations passed away an agreeable evening very well spent. After wishing each other the compliments of the approaching year, the members separated.

OXFORD.—Apollo University Lodge (No. 357).—A meeting of this lodge was held on Tuesday, the 28th ult., in the handsome hall adjoining the Clarendon Hotel. The W.M., the R.W. Bro. H.R.H. Prince Leopold, K.G., Prov. G.M. Oxon, fully intended to have been present, but was unfortunately prevented at the last moment from attending, in consequence of an attack of rheumatism in the knee, from which he has previously suffered. In his absence, Bro. the Rev. R. W. M. Pope, M.A., of Worcester College, Prov. G. Chap. Oxon, the W. Deputy Master, presided. There was a large attendance of members of the lodge and provincial officers, together with several visitors, including representatives of Grand Lodge, of the Isaac Newton Lodge, Cambridge, of the other local lodges, and of some English lodges abroad, nearly one hundred brethren being present. There were eight initiations, viz., Messrs. Dunn-Gadner, Cooper, Portal, Scratchley, Bright-Smith, Eyre, Kette and Jones, and nine passings, viz., Bros. Brown, Lloyd, Murray-Anderson, Moore, Frankerd, Radcliffe, Simpson, Ivory, and Harter, which is significant evidence of the flourishing state of the Craft in the University. The brethren then proceeded to the election of a W.M. to preside over them at the expiration of Prince Leopold's year of office when their choice fell upon Bro. Col. the Hon. W. E. Jackville-West, M.A., of Christ Church, and Dean and Bursar of Keble College, who at present holds the office of J.W. He will be formally installed at the annual festival next term, when he will appoint his officers for the year. On the proposition of the W. Deputy Master, seconded by P.M. the Rev. H. A. Pickard, M.A., of Christ Church, P.G.C., P.M. Reginald Bird, M.A., and Fellow of Magdalen College, D. Prov. G.M. Oxon, was unanimously re-elected Treasurer for the ensuing year. Bro. G. Norwood was again elected Tyler. Full Masonic mourning was worn, in consequence of the death of P.M. T. H. G. Wyldham, M.A., late Fellow and tutor of Merton College. At the conclusion of the business the brethren adjourned to the Clarendon Assembly Room adjoining the lodge, where a handsome banquet was served, the chair being occupied by the W.D.M., who proposed the usual loyal and Masonic toasts in graceful and felicitous terms. The proceedings were of a very festive and enjoyable character, and some excellent speeches bearing upon the well-being of the Craft were delivered in response to the personal health included in the list. Among the visitors present was Bro. the Hon. J. Hyde Harris, District G.M. of Otago, New Zealand.

HAMPTON.—Hemming Lodge (No. 1512).—A strong meeting of this prosperous lodge was held at the Lion Hotel on the 16th ult. There were present amongst others Bros. J. Hurst, W.M.; J. Hammond, P.M. (Jordan), S.W.; S. Hill, P.M. (Canonbury and Bedford), J.W.; E. Hopwood, P.M. (Faith), I.P.M. and Treas.; W. Hammond, P.M. (Jordan, Lebanon, and Hemming), Sec.; Fox, S.D.; Jessett, J.D.; Hiscox, acting J.; Walls, D.C.; Kent.

A.W.S.; B. Sharp, P.M.; Gilbert, P.G. Tyler, Tyler, Bro. Wilson, P.M. (Etonian), was a visitor. The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the W.M., assisted by his officers, initiated Mr. Julius Schmitz into the mysteries of the Order, the ceremony being well performed. The I.P.M., having by permission of the W.M. assumed the chair, then raised Bros. Dr. Hill, Finch, Murphy, and Errington to the degree of M.M.'s effectively. Several minor matters having been disposed of, the lodge was closed in ancient form, and the brethren adjourned to a collation, which was well catered for by Bro. Murphy. Upon the removal of the cloth the W.M. gave the following toasts, neatly prefaced by a few apropos remarks: "The Queen and Craft," "The M.W.G.M.," "The Pro and Deputy G. Masters, and the rest of the G. Officers, Past and Present," "The M.W.P.G.M., Colonel Burdett," "The Deputy P.G.M., Sir George Elliott, and the rest of the Provincial Grand Officers of Middlesex, Past and Present." This toast was coupled with the name of Bro. W. Hammond, P.P.G.D., who in reply expressed his thanks upon behalf of the distinguished brethren holding present and past Grand rank in the important Masonic Province of Middlesex. The I.P.M., in proposing "The Health of the W.M.," passed some very high encomiums upon the manner in which Bro. Hurst had performed for the first time as W.M. the ceremony of initiation, which effort, he (Bro. Hopwood) said, was worthy of an old P.M. In conclusion he stated that he was convinced from what he had witnessed that night that the Hemming Lodge would have no occasion to regret having elected Bro. Hurst to fulfil the duties of W.M. This toast having been well received, the W.M. briefly responded. In the course of his reply he said he was so impressed with the proud position which the brethren had elected him to fulfil, that he was determined to spare neither time nor trouble in perfecting himself in its manifold and arduous duties. "The Health of the Initiate" followed. In proposing this toast the W.M. congratulated Bro. Schmitz upon having become a member of the Craft whose proud and excellent motto was "Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth." He was sorry that the newly-admitted brother's profession would not allow of his coming very often among them, but he was sure that he would always look back with interest to the night when he was received into the ranks of the Hemming Lodge. Bro. Schmitz having suitably acknowledged the toast, the W.M. gave "The Visitors," coupled with the name of Bro. Wilson, P.M. Etonian, who had, he said, on so many occasions contributed his valuable services towards the "working" of the various ceremonies in No. 1512. This toast having been duly honoured, Bro. Wilson replied by stating that he was always ready to assist any W.M. who might have occasion to command his humble services in the Masonic ritual. He had attended the Hemming many times, and had invariably been most courteously received. In conclusion he said that whilst he continued to have the honour of an invitation to the lodge he should always feel great pleasure in aiding, to the best of his ability, the officers in the carrying out of their respective duties. "The Health of the Past Masters" followed, and was briefly responded to by Bros. Hopwood and W. Hammond. The S.W., Bro. J. Hammond, who was upon the point of leaving, requested permission to say a few words, which were to the effect that he had to apologise for not being present at the last meeting, when the W.M. had been pleased to appoint him S.W. He could only say that he was exceedingly gratified at the great honour bestowed, and hoped to merit, by attention and zeal in the discharge of his duties, the good opinion of his brethren, so that when the proper time arrived for him to solicit their suffrages for the highest position the lodge could bestow, he should be deemed sufficiently worthy for the distinction. In proposing "The Health of the Treasurer and Secretary," the W.M. personally expressed his thanks to Bros. Hopwood and Hammond for the great assistance they had rendered him during the whole course of his connection with the lodge, and he believed that both the funds and general business of the lodge would be well looked after by those worthy officers. This toast having been received with excellent "fire," Bros. Hopwood, Treas., and W. Hammond, Sec., responded. The former said he was exceedingly pleased at holding the office of Treasurer to the lodge, more especially as the funds were in so flourishing a condition. He should endeavour to discharge the duties to the best of his ability, and hoped that at the conclusion of the W.M.'s year of office, he (the Treasurer), would be able to report to the brethren that he had a very handsome balance in hand. The Secretary briefly responded by stating that he also, in conjunction with the last speaker, fully appreciated the honour that had been conferred upon him, and hoped that he should always deserve such kind encomiums as he had that evening received from the W.M. In introducing "The Health of the Officers," the W.M. stated that he was pleased at being able to bear testimony to the admirable way in which the details of the lodge had been discharged by the brethren holding office, or by their substitutes, and in conclusion he expressed an opinion that the present working staff was an excellent one. This toast having been duly honoured, Bros. Hill, Jessett, Walls, and Kent replied on behalf of themselves and their absent colleagues. "The Masonic Charities" followed, coupled with the name of Bro. W. Hammond, and gave that brother an opportunity of making a powerful appeal upon behalf of those excellent institutions. He particularly called attention to the proposed expenditure by Grand Lodge of £6000, as a memorial of the M.W.G.M.'s safe return from his Indian progress, which sum, he thought, might be devoted to the building of preparatory establishments or nurseries for the joint schools, which would, he believed, be a better way of spending the money than the scheme proposed at the last Grand Lodge meeting, inasmuch as there were many more applicants for the benefits of the schools than could be possibly accommodated. In

conclusion he reminded the brethren that Bro. Ockenden, who unfortunately was absent in consequence of indisposition, had been elected to represent the Hemming Lodge as Steward at the next festival of the R.M.B.I., and he hoped that the funds of the lodge in February would permit of a handsome sum being voted to head their Steward's list, which amount would, he trusted, be supplemented by many private contributions. In the intervals of the toasts and replies Bros. Hurst, W. Hammond, Jessett, Walls, Schmitz, Knowles, and others, musically entertained the brethren. The Tyler's toast at eleven closed the proceedings, and the brethren adjourned until the third Thursday in January next.

Ancient and Accepted Rite.

OXFORD.—University Chapter of Sovereign Princes, Rose Croix of H.R.D.M.—The anniversary meeting of the above chapter was held in the Apollo Lodge, on Monday, 27th ult., when among the brethren present were the following members of the Supreme Grand Council—Capt. N. G. Phillips, 33°; Major Shadwell Clarke, 33°; and Dr. Hamilton, 33°; and the following Deputy Inspectors General of Districts—The Earl of Limerick, 33°; and the Rev. Arthur Bruce Fraser, 33°. The visitors included Bros. R. J. Spiers, 32°; Col. Sargent, C. B., 18°; F. Symonds, 18°; G. Taunton, 18°; S. P. Spiers, 18°; W. Thompson, 18°; C. Bishop, 18°; &c. Among the members of the chapter who attended were the Rev. T. F. Ravenshaw, M.A., of Oriel Coll., 32°; the M.W.S. Col. the Hon. W. E. Sackville-West, M.A., of Christ Church and Keble Coll., 31°; the Recorder (Bro. R. J. Williamson, B.A., of Christ Church, 30°); the Rev. Dr. Whitmarsh, of St. John's Coll., 18°; Bro. Edward Chapman, of Magdalen Coll., 18°; Bro. H. R. Cooper-Smith, B.A., of Magdalen Coll., 18°; Bro. A. Symonds, of Brasenose Coll., 18°; Bro. F. B. de S. La Terriere, of Magdalen Coll., 18°; and Bro. J. Cavan, of Christ Church, 18°. The following candidates were perfected, the ceremony being admirably performed by the M.W.S., Col. the Hon. Sackville-West, viz.:—Bro. the Rev. H. Deane, B.D., of St. John's Coll., and the Apollo University Lodge, 357, proposed by the M.W.S., and seconded by Bro. Williamson; Bro. W. N. Glencross, of Exeter Coll., and the Apollo University Lodge, 357, proposed by the M.W.S., and seconded by Bro. Williamson; and Bro. O. O'Faherty Wilde, of Magdalen Coll., and Lodge 357. It was intended to have installed the M.W.S. elect (Bro. H.R.H. Prince Leopold, 30°) as M.W.S. for the ensuing year, but in consequence of his unavoidable absence through indisposition, the ceremony, together with the appointment of officers, was postponed until the next meeting. At the termination of the business a banquet was held at the Clarendon Hotel. The M.W.S. presided, and the proceedings were of a very gratifying and successful character.

EMULATION LODGE OF IMPROVEMENT.

PRESENTATION TO BRO. JOHN HERVEY, G. SECRETARY.

[The following appeared in our Second Edition of last week.]

The annual festival of the Emulation Lodge of Improvement was held on Friday, 24th ult., at Freemasons' Hall. There was an immense gathering on the occasion, some 600 brethren being present, many of whom were members of the lodge. Bro. John Hervey, Grand Secretary, presided, as W.M. The officers were: Bros. J. C. Parkinson, P.G.D., S.W.; C. A. Merton, P.G.D., J.W.; W. Smallpeice, Secretary; C. C. Dumas, P.A.G.D.C., S.D.; J. A. Rucker, P.G.D., J.D., and R. Gray, P.G.D., I.G. Bro. Thos. Fenn, P.A.G.D.C., was P.M. Among the other brethren were, the Rev. C. J. Martyn, P.G.C.; Joshua Nunn, P.G.S.B.; the Earl of Donoughmore, S.G.W.; John Derby Allcroft; Rev. P. H. Ernest Brette, D.D.; the Earl of Limerick, Prov. G.M. Bristol; John Symonds, P.G.D.; F. Pattison, P.G.D.; Capt. Platt, P.G.D. &c. McIntyre, Q.C., Grand Registrar; R. J. Spiers, P.G.S.B.; S. Rosenthal; Sir Albert W. Woods (Garter), G.D.C.; F. Davison; H. Grissell, P.G.D.; Rev. J. Edmund Cox, D.D.; the Hon. W. Warren Vernon, J.G.W.; T. W. Boord, M.P., G.D.; Colonel Burdett, Prov. G.M. Middlesex; J. B. Monckton, P.G.D.; S. Foxall, A.G.P.; Rev. R. J. Simpson, P.G.C.; Dr. Woodman, P.G.S.B.; S. Rawson, P. Dist. G.M. for China; Dr. Hamilton, Dist. G.M. for Jamaica; Col. Creaton, P.G.D.; E. J. Barron, G.D.; Saml. Tomkins, G.Treas.; Dr. Jabez Hogg, P.G.D.; Hyde Pullen, P.G.S.B.; H. J. P. Dumas, P.A.G.D.C.; E. P. Albert, P.G.P.; J. M. Case, P.G.D.; George Kenning, J. C. Bailey (late Editor "Voice of Masonry," Chicago); Capt. Phillips, Major Shadwell Clarke, Peter de L. Long, A. H. Diaper, H. Shaggeridge, F. D. R. Copestick, W. E. Gompertz, J. L. Thomas, John Boyd, Fredk. Binckes, C. Hutton Gregory, Wm. Scott, E. Moody, Baxter, E. J. Hart, J. Terry, E. M. Haigh, T. S. Carter, R. Freeman, J. Griffiths, P.P.G. Supt. of Works Monmouthshire; Glover, Jonas, J. S. Adam, P.P.G. Deacon Monmouthshire; W. Smith, H. Thompson, H. Greene, J. While, H. Massey ("Freemason"), W. O. Goldsmith ("Freemason").

The following brethren were Stewards of the festival: R.W. Bros. Lieut.-Col. Francis Burdett, Prov. G.M. Middlesex; the Right Hon. the Earl of Donoughmore, S.G.W.; the Hon. Wm. Warren Vernon, J.G.W.; Fredk. Pattison, P.G.W.; John Havers, P.G.W.; Captain Wm. Platt, P.G.W.; Sir Albert Woods (Garter) P.G.W.; V.W. Bros. the Rev. C. J. Martyn, P.G. Ch.; Samuel Tomkins, G. Treas.; &c. J. McIntyre, G. Reg.; J. B. Monckton, Pres. B.G.P.; Ernest E. Wendt, G. Sec. G.C.;

Bros. Lieut.-Colonel T. Birchall, S.G.D.; T. W. Boord, M.P., S.G.D.; E. J. Barron, J.G.D.; J. M. Case, J.G.D.; Lieutenant-Colonel J. Creaton, P.G.D.; Benjamin Head, P.G.D.; George Plucknett, P.G.D.; E. S. Snell, P.G.D.; Jabez Hogg, P.G.D.; Henry Grissell, P.G.D.; S. L. Tomkins, P.G.D.; J. Cooper Foster, P.G.D.; W. Brackstone Baker, P.G.D.; J. E. Saunders, P.G.D.; C. A. Merton, P.G.D.; H. J. P. Dumas, P.G.D.; F. A. Philbrick, P.G.D.; J. A. Rucker, P.G.D.; J. C. Parkinson, P.G.D.; C. W. Hutton, P.G.D.; T. Fenn, P.G.D.; J. Gibson, Dep. M. 259; R. Grey, P.G.D.; J. Symonds, P.A.G.D.C.; N. Bradford, P.A.G.D.C.; C. C. Dumas, P.A.G.D.C.; J. Whichcord, P.A.G.D.C.; W. F. Nettleship, G.S.B.; R. J. Spiers, P.G.S.B.; Hyde Pullen, P.G.S.B.; J. Nunn, P.G.S.B.; W. R. Woodman, P.G.S.B.; W. R. Bacon, P.M. 222; W. Beattie, S.W. 142; D. Betts, P.M. 1351; C. Birch, W.M. 256; H. Bishop, W.M. 66; J. Clever, P.M. 12; A. G. Cocke, W.M. 22; R. R. Davis, P.M. 256; C. H. Diaper, W.M. 5; A. Durrant, P.M. 1185; Montague Gosset, P.M. 66; J. J. Gosset, P.M. 66; F. Huggings, P.M. 18; J. W. Lambert, S.W. 142; W. S. Lee, 1201; E. Legg, W.M. 861; P. de L. Long, V. Pres. Board of Gen. Purposes; E. March, P.M. Grand Stewards' Lodge; E. Vaughan Morgan, P.M. 69; J. Muzio, S.W. 1150; W. R. Oliver, P.M. 330; A. A. Richards, P.G.S., P.M. 865; P. Prov. G.J.W. Middlesex; F. Robinson, P.M. 259; G. J. Row, P.M. 1185; W. Smallpeice, P.M. 1395; Sec.; G. B. Smallpeice, P.M. 370; J. Verity, W.M. 1348; G. E. Wainwright, P.M. 370; T. W. Whitmarsh, W.M. 1150; Erasmus Wilson, P.G.S.; S. B. Wilson, P.M. 59.

The lodge having been opened in the Three Degrees, the working of the sections was proceeded with, and after Bro. Parkinson had worked his section the M.W. the Pro Grand Master, the Earl of Carnarvon, was announced. On entering he was received with hearty applause, and Bro. Hervey resigned to him the seat and gavel of W.M.

By direction of Sir Albert Woods the customary salutes were given. After a short pause a magnificent silver inkstand was brought in, and placed on the reporters' table. This inkstand was intended to be presented to Bro. Hervey, who has been 30 years Treasurer of the lodge.

The testimonial consisted of a handsome silver inkstand, mounted in malachite and marble, and was designed expressly for the occasion by Bro. John Gibson, an architect well-known for his taste in decorative art. The execution of the design was by Messrs. Mappin and Webb.

The Earl of Carnarvon, who arrived shortly after the business was commenced, was loudly cheered on taking the chair. He said: Brethren—I think that I owe you perhaps an apology for interrupting, in the very midst of your interesting proceedings, this lodge, but my excuse is twofold. First of all I have extricated myself with extreme difficulty this evening from the trouble of public business, I have with difficulty snatched some ten minutes to find myself here this evening (hear, hear), and my time is so limited that after having accomplished the task which I have undertaken, I shall with great reluctance bid you farewell. And, secondly, I was desirous to be present here this evening from my high personal esteem and regard for you, our Bro. Hervey (cheers), and for the deep interest which I take in the proceedings in this hall (hear, hear). Brethren, we have met together for a doubly interesting purpose, and the great assemblage which you witness is a proof of the feelings which you entertain for our Bro. Hervey. There are few Masons in the Craft who could command such an attendance as that which I witness to-day; there are very few Masons indeed who will not be proud of the honour which such an attendance implies (cheers). Brethren, it has been my fortune to be constantly placed in business relations with your Bro. Hervey. I have known his workmanship; I have known the principles which masonically have guided him in all the advice that he has offered, in all the works that he has done. It is needless for me to say that I entertain the deepest regard for him in these capacities, and let me go further and say that I have known him now long enough to feel not only a respect for him in all our business relations, but a strong personal regard and friendship for him in the more intimate duties which Masonic life has brought about (hear). But, brethren, it is not this evening in his capacity as Grand Secretary that you have met to do him honour, and to present him with that beautiful testimonial which we have all admired. It is in his capacity as the Treasurer of the Lodge of Emulation, an office which he has held now for the almost unexampled period of, I think, some 30 years, 30 years of usefulness, 30 years of devotion to the Craft, 30 years of unblemished credit and high honour amongst his brother Masons. (Cheers.) Brethren, it is in this capacity you have met to honour him; it is in remembrance of these great services that you to-night offer him a tribute in that beautiful memorial. And, brethren, let me say, lastly, that if there be any body of Masons from whom any one may be proud to receive such an honour as this, it is the Lodge of Emulation. It is the pattern of our working—of our Masonic working. It is the motto which it boasts to set to all other parts of the Craft, and he who has held for 30 years high office and honour in that lodge stands upon a different footing from almost any Mason that I know, and the honour which that lodge does him to-night will be amongst his most vivid recollections, to the very last hour of his life. Brethren, beautiful as that testimonial is, I think the honour which this lodge does our Bro. Hervey in thus publicly marking its sense of his high character and abilities, is even a more gratifying and a higher tribute to his worth than that testimonial in silver and gold that is before us. (Hear.) Brethren, this is a time when many testimonials are given to many persons, and with many objects. We all have

experience of them; and sometimes those testimonials are given somewhat indiscriminately. But this testimonial at least is given with the fullest discrimination of character, after the longest trial and ordeal to which a Mason can well be subjected. It is given with the unanimity of the lodge,—the unanimity, I will say, not merely of the lodge, but of all those numberless members outside the lodge who watch the proceedings of the Lodge of Emulation, who respect those proceedings, and who know how high a position the Treasurer of that lodge, who has held office for 30 years, must in the nature of things hold. Brethren, I have been requested to be this evening, even in this informal manner, coming as I do for a short ten minutes among you, the channel of communication between you and our Bro. Hervey. I wish that I could have found words better and worthier for the occasion; but, and our Bro. Hervey will at least feel this, that my words are words of absolute sincerity and truth (Hear, hear, and applause), and that when I present him in your name with that magnificent testimonial of your esteem he will believe me when I say that never was a testimonial given to any Mason who more deserved it than himself, and never was given with a heartier feeling of admiration, of esteem, and of affectionate regard by every single member of the lodge, and outside that lodge by every single member who knows and esteems our Bro. Hervey. (Hear, hear.) Brethren, therefore, in your name, and without further preface, I will venture to place in the hands of our Bro. Hervey—metaphorically, for physically he cannot grasp it—the testimonial by which you desire to record your appreciation of him. (Great cheering.)

Grand Secretary, in acknowledging the gift, said: My lord and brethren,—I will not waste your time by making a long speech. I will content myself with offering my hearty and sincere acknowledgments to the Stewards who have presented me with the elegant gift which you see on the table, and offer my sincere thanks to the noble lord, the Pro Grand Master, for the too flattering terms in which he has presented it. My lord, I cannot but feel deeply gratified to have received this testimonial through your hands. Much as I esteem the Lodge of Emulation, I do not know any member by whom I could have wished to have had it presented to me more willingly than by your lordship. I can assure you I feel it a very high honour you have done me by coming here for the few minutes you have been able to spare, and I thank you. My lord, I am sure I might also convey the thanks of the lodge for your coming away from those duties which we know absorb your lordship's whole time and anxiety, and from which it is difficult to tear yourself even for the few moments you have come here. The brethren will, I am sure, permit me to limit my speech to a short acknowledgment, and to thank them for the gift, and to thank his lordship for the kind and gracious manner in which he has presented it in the name of this lodge. (Cheers.)

The Pro Grand Master then rose and said: Brethren, as public business scarcely allowed me to come here, so it now claims me a most unwilling victim. But under the circumstances I have no option. I shall reinstate now in this chair our Bro. Hervey. I beg you to believe with how much regret, having accomplished this, to me, most pleasant duty, I now retire, and how sincerely I wish the conclusion to your evening may be in every way worthy of its commencement and worthy of the cause which has brought you together.

His lordship was then conducted out of the lodge amidst the same enthusiastic applause which marked his entry, and the work of the evening proceeded.

The following Sections were worked by Past Grand Officers:—

FIRST LECTURE.

4th Section by W. Bro. J. C. Parkinson, P.G.D.
5th " " " C. A. Murton, P.G.D.
6th " " " C. C. Dumas, P.A.G.D.C.
7th " " " J. A. Rucker, P.G.D.

SECOND LECTURE.

2nd Section by W. Bro. R. Grey, P.G.D.
3rd " " " H. J. P. Dumas, P.G.D.
4th " " " Hyde Pullen, P.G.S.B.
5th " " " F. Fenn, P.G.D.

When the work had been finished propositions for joining the lodge were taken and the numbers were very large.

The Earl of Limerick afterwards rose, and said he trusted that the brethren and the W.M. would allow him to move a vote of thanks to the brethren who had taken part in the lectures. He must express the great pleasure it had given him to see the lectures so admirably worked. In the Lodge of Emulation good working was looked for, but he had never expected to see such accurate knowledge of the lectures as he had seen that evening.

Col. Burdett seconded the motion, and said he was much gratified by what he had witnessed. He agreed with what the Prov. Grand Master had said, and he would take that opportunity of thanking the brethren who had done the work for their performances that evening.

The motion was put and carried unanimously.

Bro. Hervey said, I thank you, Lord Limerick, Colonel Burdett, and brethren, on behalf of the brethren who have taken part in the work this evening, for your kind appreciation of their exertions. I, as an old Mason, certainly feel proud that the Emulation still keeps up its character in the way it has done, and I think that if brethren imagine for one moment that the Past Grand Officers of England are rather ornamental than useful, they will be agreeably surprised this evening to find that there are so many Past Grand Officers who can still work in the manner the officers have worked this evening. I thank you most sincerely for the compliment you have paid the workers this evening, and I trust that those who are present will go away convinced that the Emulation Lodge

can turn out some good pupils, and that to some extent they do their work properly. (Applause.)

The lodge was thereupon closed in the three degrees, and the brethren adjourned to an excellent banquet at Freemasons' Tavern, which was presided over by the Earl of Limerick.

The toasts of "The Queen and Craft" having been duly honoured, the W.M. rose and proposed the next toast, namely, "The Health of the Most Worshipful the Grand Master of England. He said the brethren all knew the interest His Royal Highness took in the Craft, and that he was always ready to be amongst them, unless the pressing exigencies of his high position compelled him to be elsewhere. He might point out in support of the statement that it was only at the beginning of this week that His Royal Highness was taking part in the important duty of installing the Provincial Grand Master of Norfolk. (Hear.) They all joined in the thankfulness at his safe return to his country, and he had no doubt that in a short time the Craft would perpetuate in some substantial form its thankfulness at that return. (Applause.) The W.M. next proposed "The Pro Grand Master, the Deputy Grand Master and the rest of the Grand Officers Past and Present." They must all have regretted that the Pro Grand Master could not remain longer with them to-night, at the same time they must be pleased that he should have been present earlier in the evening to perform the duty of presenting the testimonial to their worthy Bro. Hervey. They would also be prepared to recognise the ability with which the D.G.M., Lord Skelmersdale, performed his duties, not only in that office, but as Prov. G. Master of one of the largest provinces in the country. (Hear hear.) They had also several Grand Officers present, and it had been remarked earlier in the evening, that they were worthy of the position they occupied (cheers) in consequence of the accuracy with which they discharged the important duties they had undertaken. They had also amongst them a brother who was junior of some of the Grand Officers, yet promised to emulate them in zeal and diligence. He alluded to Bro. Lord Donoughmore, S.G.W., whose name he coupled with the toast. (Cheers.)

Bro. Lord Donoughmore, in reply, said he must naturally be very much flattered and gratified at the concluding observations of the last speaker, but he felt it would be more in accordance with the feelings of the brethren if he addressed himself now to the preliminary subjects which had been dealt with. He felt he could say something peculiarly useful upon those points, because he happened to know from personal experience that the regret which had been felt at the inability of the Pro Grand Master to remain longer than he did was a matter of the greatest regret. He had frequently expressed during the past three or four days his regret that the pressure of business would render it impossible to remain longer than to present the testimonial, and it was very gratifying to the Earl of Carnarvon that he had been enabled to do this. The other Grand Officers were ever most efficient, and he had this evening from some of them obtained much valuable instruction. Personally he could only say that he felt very proud that his name had been associated with the toast. (Cheers.)

The Chairman in proposing the toast of the evening, said: Brethren, I have to propose to you, "Success to the Emulation Lodge of Improvement," connected with the name of our Bro. Hervey. (Applause.) I think, brethren, it is impossible to overestimate the influence which the Emulation Lodge has had throughout the Craft. Its influence is felt far and wide in promoting accuracy of ritual, and its name is known not only throughout the United Kingdom but far and wide wherever the name of Masonry is known, and I might also say that hardly less known than the Lodge of Emulation is the name of our Bro. Hervey. (Hear hear.) It is difficult, brethren, to speak of a brother in his presence; either one says things which appear merely coming from the lip and not from the heart; or else one goes at too great a length into those qualities which we know one possessed, but which we cannot adequately do justice to in a speech. I will only say this, that I believe that in drinking his health, and coupling with that, success to the Emulation Lodge of Improvement; we drink to the health of the eminent Mason and the noble and true-hearted gentleman. (Applause.)

The toast having been drunk with the greatest enthusiasm,

Bro. Hervey rose to reply. He said: I mentioned to Col. Burdett just now that I thought I must be a very modest man, or I should be altogether spoiled; and I now feel it, my lord, because after the eulogies which the Pro Grand Master was good enough to pass upon me in the lodge, and you, sir, have now endorsed in your speech in proposing "Success to the Emulation Lodge," I feel that associating my name as you have done with it, and in the terms which you have used, are really too flattering and too eulogistic, at any rate, for anybody who is, like myself, a modest man. With regard to the toast you have proposed, "Success to the Emulation Lodge," I am proud always to be associated with that toast, because I believe the Emulation Lodge does good service to the Craft, and it shows, brethren, what is necessary to be done as far as regards the ritual of the Craft; it shows that they must study if they wish to carry out the duties which they have undertaken to perform; and I think no brother ought to undertake duties which he is not prepared to perform. If those duties are not worth studying for, if a brother wishes to bring his lodge to a dead lock, then let him take the office and not perform the duties: but if he wishes to sustain the credit of the Craft, then he ought to study at any rate for the office of which he undertakes to fulfil the duties, so that the Master may not be at fault and that the lodge may not be damaged by his teaching. So I thank you most cordially in the name of the Emulation

Lodge of Improvement for the kind manner in which you have proposed its success. I am sure all those who worked to-night are desirous of rendering all they can to its success; I am sure that there will be no lack on their part to undertake any duties which they might be called upon to perform to support its credit and to increase its renown—according to you, my lord, it is not necessary—but to support it there must be something more done than merely eulogising it as to what it does; and that is done by men who now take the burden of the day—by such men as Bro. Fenn. (Great applause.) I am proud to think you recognize the services Bro. Fenn has rendered to this lodge; I am glad to find by the cheers which just now issued all round the room that these services are appreciated. There is, my lord, another brother, the Secretary (applause), who has carried out duties which are very onerous, because the duties of Secretary to a lodge like this are not performed like the duties of an ordinary lodge; they necessitate attendance on 51 or 52 meetings a year, and they also necessitate a great amount of attention and accuracy in the accounts of the lodge (applause). Now, sir, these are the officers upon whom the credit of the lodge now depends, as to myself I cannot now give that patient attention to the duties of the lodge which I formerly did, but the brethren are kind enough to make allowance for my constant absences, and although I am Treasurer in name, sir, I am not Treasurer in fact. I thank you most cordially for having coupled my name with this toast; I thank you on the part of the lodge for having come here to preside, and I trust many years to come whatever the position of the lodge may be, whether the number of its members be great or small, we shall maintain the same character for work as we now possess. (Applause.)

Bro. Col. Burdett proposed "The Health of the Earl of Limerick," who, he said, took every opportunity of coming amongst the brethren and advancing the interests of the fraternity. He was so often amongst the brethren that they almost knew him personally, and he called upon the brethren to drink to the honour of one who was always ready to lend assistance wherever his services might be required.

Bro. the Earl of Limerick thanked the brethren very heartily for the way they had received the toast. He assured them he esteemed it a very great honour to be present to-night, and see the working of the Emulation Lodge. He regretted that the post he now occupied was not filled by the Pro Grand Master, but he was glad to do anything to join in bearing testimony to the work of Bro. Hervey.

Bro. Tomkins, Grand Treasurer, gave "The Lodge of Union," and said he was sure that nothing would please that lodge more than to observe the prosperity of the Emulation, and to observe the mark of respect which had that day been shown towards an eminent Mason (cheers). He had great pleasure in coupling with the toast the name of Bro. Birch, W.M.

Bro. Birch acknowledged the compliment, and said it was given to but few lodges to have so strong a child as the Lodge of Emulation. (Cheers.)

Bro. Hervey apologised for again addressing the brethren, but he was sure they could all wish "Success to Sister Lodges of Instruction," who, like themselves, were doing the most they could to place the working of the Craft in this great metropolis upon a satisfactory footing, by which means, and by teaching members of the various lodges how to perform their duties, the interest of the Craft must in the result be advanced. (Cheers.)

Bro. Muggeridge replied, and expressed the pleasure he had experienced in witnessing the work to-night, and also at the excellent Masonic feeling which generally existed amongst lodges of instruction. (Cheers.)

The Rev. J. E. Cox, D.D., P.G.C., proposed "Success to the Masonic Institutions." They had heard in the working of the lodge a definition of faith, hope, and charity, and he wished that could be circulated throughout the length and breadth of the world, that those outside the Craft might be able to read, mark, and digest the beautiful precepts which were thereby inculcated. To his mind, if spread abroad they would do more good than many hundred sermons preached Sunday after Sunday, and certainly they would be the means of showing those who were the avowed enemies of the Craft under the pretext of favouring religion, that they knew nothing of the great principles or truths on which the Order was founded. After passing a high eulogy on the Charitable Institutions of the Order the rev. brother concluded by proposing "Success to them."

Bro. Terry replied. He saw congregated around the table that evening some of the most distinguished supporters of the Masonic Charities. As they had had such excellent support he might venture to assert that they deserved as much support as could be extended to them. When he mentioned one fact that during the past year the largest sum that had ever yet been contributed had been raised in support of the three Masonic Institutions, he thought that was evidence sufficient to show that the Craft of the present day were capable of performing their duties. With respect to the Benevolent Institution with which he was more immediately connected he might mention that H.R.H. Prince Leopold, P.G.M. of Oxfordshire, would preside at its festival in February next. (Applause.) On that occasion if any of the brethren or the Grand Officers wished to avail themselves of the privilege and opportunity of accepting the position of Steward, and supporting His Royal Highness, he would advise them to do so. An enormous increase in the Institutions had accrued during the last four or five years, and the large demand made upon their funds justified the brethren in supporting them very liberally.

The Earl of Donoughmore then proposed "The Health of the Brethren who had worked the Sections," expressing the gratification he had felt at what he had witnessed, and

coupled the names of Bro. Parkinson and Bro. Fenn with the toast.

Bro. Parkinson, in reply, said he was very glad to have rendered a service that evening, and that all the working brethren were thankful for the recognition accorded to them. They would always refer with pride and satisfaction to the proceedings of that evening, and they rejoiced that they had the opportunity not only of assisting at that magnificent demonstration, but testifying by their attendance to the personal esteem and regard for the unobtrusive excellences of the Grand Secretary.

The toast of "The Stewards" was then proposed, to which Bro. Smallpiece responded, and the proceedings terminated with the Tyler's toast.

LAYING THE FOUNDATION STONE OF NEW MASONIC BUILDINGS AT CHACEWATER.

"Boscawen" Lodge (No 669), Chacewater, was constituted just nineteen years ago (1857), and notwithstanding that the staple industry of the locality has greatly depreciated since that time, Masonry has continued to flourish. Indeed, looking at all the circumstances, its progress has been more than one might have reasonably expected, and is therefore an apt and happy illustration of the truth of those lines so well known to Freemasons:—

"Thus, midst the ruin of revolving years,
Unhurt, unchanged, Freemasonry appears;
Its towers and monuments may fade away,
Its truth and social life never shall decay."

As the immediate consequence of the prosperity of the lodge the room in which the meetings have hitherto been held has at length been found to be altogether inadequate to the requirements, and in some respects very inconvenient. The lodge is, in fact, the largest in the county, there being 152 members on the roll. The old building was situated at the rear of Bro. Nicholas Paull's "Britannia" Hotel, and in addition to being utilised by the members of the Masonic Craft, was also used by the Oddfellows of the district. Not only was its dimensions too small, but there was another grievance—the Freemasons thought it would be to their advantage to have a room exclusively for themselves. When the building now in course of erection is finished not only will their wishes be realised, but the inhabitants generally will have reason to feel thankful for the reason that in conjunction with the Masonic room there will be another room which will be let for general purposes—concerts, entertainments, and the like. The dimensions of the structure are 30 feet by 25 feet—ground plan. It will consist of a lobby and the room last referred to on the ground floor, whilst the upper portion will consist of a lavatory, and a room entirely for the use of the Freemasons, which will be 37 feet long and 24 feet wide. The contractors are Messrs. Truran, of Blackwater, and the whole work will be under the supervision of Bro. C. Rapson, W.M., architect.

Monday last was the day appointed to lay the foundation stone, and a large number of brethren were present to witness and take part in the interesting ceremony. Among the members of the lodge present were Bros. C. Rapson, W.M.; Lee, S.W.; Pascoe, J.W.; W. T. Davey, P.M.; G. L. Church, P.M.; Chap; S. G. Moyle, P.M.; J. Ninness, P.M., Treasurer; W. Bray, P.M.; J. Paull, P.M., Secretary; J. Edwards, Assist. Sec; J. Hall, P.M.; S. Michell, P.M.; Holman, P.M.; J. Chegwidden, P.M.; Jackson, S.D.; J. F. Hooper, J.D.; J. H. Hodge; Lean, Tyler; O. Matthews, P.M.; W. G. Jeffrey; C. Chapell; W. Opie; J. Penrose; P. Skewes; W. M. Matthews, and J. Buckingham. Among the visiting brethren were Bros. E. T. Carlyon, P.M., P.G. Sec., J. Tregoning, 331, and T. Michell (Tregullow Lodge). The proceedings commenced with a procession made up in the usual order.

Having arrived on the spot where the building is in course of erection—which is the same as that where the old lodge room stood with the addition of extra ground—the ceremony of laying the foundation stone commenced with Bro G. L. Church invoking the blessing of the Great Architect of the Universe on their labours. The work was then proceeded with, those taking part therein being Bros. Hall, W. T. Davey, J. Holman, S. Moyle (who took the leading part in the ceremony and who, in return for the generous way in which he first acted in order to secure a site for the building, was presented by the W.M. with a silver trowel), Paul, Ninness, and Church. Bro. Hodge was to have taken part in the proceedings, but was unavoidably prevented from attending through professional engagements. The stone having been declared by Bro. Moyle "to be duly laid," Bro. the Rev. G. L. Church delivered a brief but very impressive address on the principles of Freemasonry. He commenced by referring to its antiquity, and remarked that Masonry could be traced from the erection of the temple by King Solomon. He had not the slightest doubt that it existed anterior to that, as he gathered from a little publication he was then taking in (which contained an account of what was being done in Palestine to find out the foundation stone of Solomon's temple) that already stones had been discovered with Freemasons' marks upon them. There could be no doubt that Freemasonry dated from an early period, and it was, in fact, one of the oldest civil associations of the universe. Coming to its objects the speaker said that primarily Freemasons were made use of simply for the purpose of constructing and making buildings, especially cathedrals, churches, and other places of public meeting. They were then called operative Masons, but they were so useful and valuable as a body that they enrolled themselves under one great charter about 16 or 170 years ago in England and became speculative Masons; that was to say, they ceased to be operative Masons. The principle was pure and holy.

They never opened a lodge without having before them an open Bible, and they dared not admit into their lodges an infidel or atheist. In short, a man must believe in God or he could not become a Freemason. That was their fundamental principle. Then they fostered, enlarged, and taught those great principles, which entered into the heart of man in all civilized states. First they were taught to remember their duty to God, then their duty to their neighbours, and also their duty to themselves. He had said that they never opened their lodge without first opening God's blessed word; he had said next that their next bounden duty was to do to their neighbours as they would have them do unto themselves; and, in the third place, they had a most important duty—their duty to themselves to conduct themselves in such a manner as to be an example to those who were not members of the Craft. Time would not permit of his enlarging upon the blessings of Freemasonry, but he must speak of the one corner stone that was used every day—he meant charity; charity to their own brethren first, and charity to strangers afterwards. He did not think—nay, he would go further—he must say that there was not a civil society in England which did so much for the fatherless and widows as did Freemasons. They had asylums for the aged, school, for the young, and homes for those who stood in need of them. Such, then, being the principles of Freemasonry could they wonder at its being so largely extended? In former days it was a secret society, and they were proud of their secrets. A Mason would not be a Mason if it were not for those secrets. In conclusion, Bro. Church congratulated Bro. Moyle upon having had the honour of laying the foundation stone of the new lodge at Chacewater. They were at present the highest in numbers in the whole province of Cornwall, and he was vain enough to tell them that he had the honour of holding one of the highest offices in the province, for which honour he was indebted to his predecessors and those who had worked to maintain the honour and integrity of that lodge. He hoped that this was the first of many meetings to be held on that spot.

The brethren then adjourned to their quarters (pro tem.) at the "Britannia" Hotel, where a banquet was provided, which was served up in such a manner as to reflect the highest credit on the host, Bro. Paull, who, with his staff, was unremitting in his efforts to secure the comfort of the brethren. The chair was occupied by Bro. C. Rapson, W.M.

The preliminary toasts having been disposed of, the Chairman proposed "The Health of the Earl of Mount Edgumbe (Provincial Grand Master), and the other Officers of the Grand Lodge of Cornwall."

Bro. E. T. Carlyon, whose name had been coupled with the toast, first rose to reply. He observed that he was most highly gratified with what he had seen there that day, and from what he had heard he had no doubt that they would have a nice lodge-room, and one suitable for all their purposes. He felt sure, too, that the Earl of Mount Edgumbe would be highly gratified to hear what had taken place at Chacewater that day, because he knew full well that his lordship took the deepest interest in all that tended to the good of Freemasonry, all that enabled it to develop itself in a healthy manner, and he was quite sure that what they had that day inaugurated would tend materially to that end. (Applause.) He believed they had commenced that day a really good work, and he must say he was also highly gratified to hear the address of his dearly-beloved Bro. Church. He could truly say that he never heard a better address on a similar occasion. (Loud applause.) He never heard, Bro. Church deliver himself so well, and perform an onerous duty so well as he did that day (Hear, hear.) He looked forward with interest to the time when they might come and meet them in their new lodge-room and take part in the ceremony of consecrating the building. Further, he was certain that Lord Mount Edgumbe would come on that occasion with the greatest possible pleasure. (Applause.)

Bro. Church, who had been called upon, also returned thanks, and in the course of an excellent speech, he said that he must admit that he really felt proud of the offices he had held—first as Provincial Grand Chaplain, and then as Senior Grand Warden. This honour was due to the lodge and not to him personally, inasmuch as it was an honour that became him as one of the old members of "Boscawen" Lodge to deserve. They wanted to let everybody outside know that Freemasonry was not an ephemeral or nonsensical institution, but was in fact the oldest in the land, and was attended with the greatest blessings to all connected with it. (Applause.) As he had before remarked that day, it was an institution founded on the principle of God's Word, and therefore its progress was not to be wondered at.

Bro. W. P. Davey gave "The Health of the W.M., Bro. Rapson," whom he warmly eulogised.

Bro. Rapson, in returning thanks, remarked that he was always willing to do his utmost for the benefit of Freemasonry, for the reason that he felt that it was a good and noble institution. Since he was first initiated in that lodge—about ten years ago—he had always made it a practice to attend the meetings if possible, as he was of opinion that the more they were educated in its principles, the more they would appreciate it.

The toast of "The Visitors" was proposed by Bro. John Paull, and responded to by Bps. E. T. Carlyon, Michell, and John Tregoning. The latter observed that it afforded him very great pleasure to be present. There was only one thing he had to regret in Masonry, and that was that he did not become a brother earlier in life.

Bro. Church then gave "The Senior Past Master of the Lodge, Bro. Samuel Moyle," and in doing so the rev. gentleman said that very many years ago Bro. Moyle used his influence to encourage Masonry, and he

had been mainly instrumental in giving them a site on which to erect their lodge-rooms. (Applause.) Bro. Moyle had always been anxious to have a lodge-room, and he (Bro. Church) had not the slightest hesitation in saying that the brethren greatly appreciated the offer, which was one that could not be exceeded in the county of Cornwall; and as he felt sanguine it would be a benefit to the members of the Craft, so he trusted it would be profitable to Bro. Moyle from a pecuniary point of view. (Applause.)

Bro. Moyle, in response, said he felt rather proud when he remembered that he was the first to introduce Freemasonry at Chacewater. That was 19 years ago, and up to the present time 125 members had enrolled themselves. Then, too, he was happy to say he was in a position to provide accommodation for the brethren, and it was still more gratifying to him to know that that day he had laid down the corner stone of a second lodge-room. (Applause.) He trusted that, in passing the building over to Bro. Rapson—who was both skillful and energetic—it would be carried out in a satisfactory manner, agreeable to himself and to the members generally. (Applause.)

Bro. Lee, in suitable terms, proposed "The Building Committee," and

Bro. Church, in returning thanks, expressed a hope that they would pull together harmoniously, and do their utmost to make the temple, they were now erecting an honour to the Craft generally as well as to themselves.

Bro. Ninness said he had always taken the deepest interest in the movement they had in hand, and he sincerely hoped the work would be brought to a satisfactory conclusion. They had had some difficulties placed in the way, but they had been overcome because their hearts were in the matter. They felt determined to succeed if they could, and from what had taken place that day it would seem as if they were to succeed in raising a building suitable for the purposes of the lodge. He took a profound interest in Freemasonry, and would be second to none in the opinion he held of it. Bro. Ninness dilated on its great object—charity, and spoke of the great influence Freemasonry exercised over men's actions. He concluded with some remarks respecting the furnishing of the lodge-room, and mentioned that three or four most important jewels had already been offered.

Bro. Rapson also briefly replied; and one or two other toasts terminated a very pleasant gathering.

UNITED GRAND LODGE.

The following is the Agenda of the business of Grand Lodge for Wednesday, 6th December, 1876:—

The minutes of the Quarterly Communication of the 6th September, 1876, for confirmation.

Nomination of a Grand Master for the ensuing year.

Appointment of a President of the Lodge of Benevolence.

Election of a Senior and Junior Vice-President of the Lodge of Benevolence.

Election of twelve Past Masters to serve on the Lodge of Benevolence for the year ensuing.

Report of the Lodge of Benevolence for the last quarter, in which are recommendations for the following grants, viz:—

A brother of the Lodge of Loyalty, No. 243, Guernsey	£50 0 0
A brother of the Royal Navy Lodge, No. 429, Ramsgate	50 0 0
A brother of the Athol Lodge, No. 74, Birmingham	100 0 0
The widow of a brother of the Worcester Lodge, No. 280, Worcester	50 0 0
A brother of the Cleveland Lodge, No. 543, Stokesley	50 0 0
The widow of a brother of the Lodge of Unions, No. 256, London	100 0 0
A brother of the Globe Lodge, No. 23, London	50 0 0
The Report of the Board of General Purposes to the United Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of England:—	

The Board of General Purposes have to report that their attention has been called to several instances of the issue of circulars on the part of proposed new lodges prior to consecration, inviting members of the Craft to become joining members of such lodges.

The Board have the special directions of the Pro Grand Master to make it known that such proceedings meet with his Lordship's entire disapproval, and entail the risk of the withdrawal of the warrant.

(Signed) JOHN B. MONCKTON, President.

To the report is subjoined a statement of the Grand Lodge accounts at the last meeting of the Finance Committee, held on Friday, the 17th day of November instant, showing a balance in the hands of the Grand Treasurer of £4086 15s. 10d., and in the hands of the Grand Secretary for petty cash £75, and for servants' wages £96 15s.

Appeals:—

(1.) Appeal of the Sussex Lodge, No. 354, Kingston, Jamaica, against the judgment of the District Grand Lodge of East Jamaica, directing the lodge to rescind its minute of the 28th of July, 1875, accepting the resignation of Bro. Louis F. Mackinnon until certain charges alleged against him had been inquired into.

(2.) Appeal of the British Lodge, No. 334, Cape Town, against the judgment of the District Grand Lodge of South Africa, directing the installation of Bro. J. W. Atwell as W.M. to be proceeded with immediately on his return to the colony, and that his Mastership should date from the 24th June last.

Notice of motion by Bro. Frederick Binckes, Past G. Steward, P.M. Grand Stewards' Lodge:—

"That this Grand Lodge desires to return its humble and hearty thanks to the Almighty Architect of the

Universe for the safe return to his native land, from his Indian visit, of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, Most Worshipful Grand Master, and in memory of that happy event determines to devote the sum of £6000 in the manner following:—

- “£2000 to the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls.
- “£2000 to the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys.
- “£2000 to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and their Widows.

To be applied in such manner as the Managing Committees of the respective institutions may deem most beneficial to the interest of the institutions, after consultation with the special committee appointed by Grand Lodge at the Quarterly Communication in September last.”

List of Lodges for which warrants have been granted by the M.W. Grand Master since the last Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge:—

- 1639.—Watling Street Lodge, Stony Stratford, Bucks.
- 1640.—Amatole Lodge, Alice, Victoria East, Cape of Good Hope.
- 1641.—Crichton Lodge, Camberwell.
- 1642.—Earl of Carnarvon Lodge, Notting Hill.
- 1643.—Perseverance Lodge, Hebburn-on-Tyne, Durham.
- 1644.—Alma-Mater Lodge, Birmingham.
- 1645.—Colne Valley Lodge, Slaithwaite, Yorkshire.
- 1646.—Sir Donald McLean Lodge, Raleigh, Taranaki, Zealand.
- 1647.—Star of the North Lodge, Whangarei, Auckland, New Zealand.
- 1648.—Prince of Wales Lodge, Bradford, Yorkshire.
- 1649.—Berar Lodge, Budnaira in Berar, Bombay.
- 1650.—Rose of Raby Lodge, Staindrop, Durham.
- 1651.—Lodge of Progress, Southbridge, New Zealand.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF LEICESTERSHIRE AND RUTLAND

The Annual General Communication of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Leicestershire and Rutland took place at Freemasons' Hall, Leicester, on Wednesday the 22nd ult., the R.W. Provincial Grand Master, the Right Hon. the Earl Ferrers, presiding, supported by the R.W.P.P.G.M., W. Bro. Kelly, W. Bro. the Rev. W. Langley, P.P.S.G.W., acting as D.P.G.M., and many present and past Provincial Grand Officers, together with representatives from every Lodge in the province. Amongst the visitors were Bros. J. Terry, Sec. R.M.B. Institution, and Richard Allen, P.P.S.G.W., Notts., one of the founders of the John of Gaunt Lodge, Leicester.

The John of Gaunt Lodge having been previously opened, the Provincial Grand Lodge entered, the R.W.P.G.M. being received with the customary honours, and the usual business of Provincial Grand Lodge was transacted.

The reply of the M.W.G.M., the Prince of Wales, to the Provincial Grand Master, officers, and brethren of this province, thanking them for their address of welcome, and for their congratulations on His Royal Highness's safe return from India, was read.

A very favourable Report of the Committee of General Purposes, on the condition of the Provincial Funds, the state of Masonry in the province, and the increase in the number of members during the past year, was presented, after which the proposed bye-laws for the establishment of a Provincial Benevolent Fund, and the formation of a Charity Committee; and certain amendments of existing Provincial Bye-laws, proposed at the previous meeting of Provincial Grand Lodge, were read and confirmed.

Bro. W. Beaumont Smith, P.M., was unanimously re-elected to the office of Provincial Grand Treasurer, a post which he has most ably filled for several years past.

The investment by the R.W. Prov. Grand Master, of his Provincial Grand Officers for the ensuing year then took place.

A further sum was transferred from the General Fund of Provincial Grand Lodge as a foundation for the intended Provincial Benevolent Fund.

Adopting a recommendation of the Committee of General Purposes, it was resolved that the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys should be the Charity to receive the special support of the province during the ensuing year, and Bro. S. S. Partridge was appointed to represent the Provincial Grand Lodge at the next Boys' School Festival, the sum of ten guineas being at the same time voted as a donation to the Charity.

Apologies for absence from the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, Sir H. St. John Holford, who was in Scotland, and from several other Provincial Grand Officers, having been read, the Provincial Grand Lodge was closed in due form,

and the proceedings terminated with a banquet, at which the R.W. Provincial Grand Master presided.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.

The General Committee of Subscribers to this Institution met on Thursday afternoon at the Library, Freemasons' Hall, Bro. Thos. W. White in the chair. There were likewise present Bros. F. Adlard, H. Potter, Major Finney, H. G. Warren, H. Browne, H. Massey (“Freemason”), A. H. Tattershall, Jesse Turner, F. G. Baker, Lieut.-Col. Peters, Robt. B. Webster, Thos. Massa, and R. W. Little, Sec.

There was a long list of minutes of committees, held between the last meeting of the General Committee and the present, read, consisting of the House and Audit Committees, and the Special and Building Committees, and the Court as to the office of Collector.

One petition for the purchase of a child into the school was rejected, the stepfather, who petitioned, and the mother being in a position to support the child. A sister of this girl is already in the school by election.

Seven petitions were received and passed.

The report of the Special Committee on the duties and office of Collector to the Institution was read by the Secretary and received. The Committee confirmed the report, and appointed the Junior Clerk's salary at £50 in accordance with the recommendation in the report.

Notice of motion was given for raising the Senior Clerk's salary to £140 a year, and fixing the Junior Clerk's at £50.

Bro. H. G. Warren suggested an increase in the amount of the securities, on account of the very large increase in the amount of subscriptions.

This was supported by Bro. Jessie Turner and several brethren, and a discussion thereupon ensued.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman concluded the proceedings.

LONDON MASONIC CLUB COMPANY (LIMITED.)

A Meeting of the Shareholders was held on the 29th November 1876, at the London Masonic Club, Queen Victoria Street, Bro. T. J. Smith, the Chairman of the Board of Directors, presiding.

The Secretary having read the notice convening the meeting.

The Chairman then proposed the adoption of the Report and Balance Sheet. The Report stated that “After very considerable difficulty the Directors succeeded in obtaining premises at No. 101, Queen Victoria Street, which, being in course of erection, could be completed in a manner to adapt them for the purposes of a Club.”

“The Club was opened on the 16th July last under the presidency of the Right Hon. Lord Skelmersdale, and from that time to this it has been well attended, and its comforts appreciated by its Members.”

“The Directors in the first instance allotted only such a number of shares as in their opinion would be sufficient to test the willingness of their brother Masons to support a Masonic Club in London, but having met with so much encouragement and support from the Freemasons in London and the Provinces, they felt quite justified in extending their operations, and in trusting to their Masonic brethren to subscribe for any further shares which it might become desirable to issue.”

“The Directors now contemplate a further issue of 1,000 shares to enable them to clear off outstanding liabilities.”

“Since the Balance Sheet has been made out, the Directors and a few of the Members of the Club have subscribed for 250 shares, and it is anticipated that before long the remaining shares will be taken up by the Members.”

“The present income of the Club from subscriptions and profits upon provisions, is at the rate of £2,485 4s. per annum, and if the subscriptions increase as they have done during the last six weeks, there will be an additional income of £1,250 by the 30th of next September, which without allowing for any increase on the profits from the sale of provisions, will yield an annual sum of £3,735 4s. The working expenses of the Club including servants wages, rent, taxes, coal, gas, &c., are estimated to amount to £3,000 per annum—thus leaving a sum of £735 4s. profit, which would be sufficient to pay 7½ per cent. on the whole of the required capital, and leave a surplus for a Reserve Fund.”

After the usual vote of thanks to the Chairman, the meeting closed.

A report of the benefit of the Printers' Dramatic Pension Fund has lately been issued by the Committee of Management, which shews a very successful termination of their labours. It appears that after paying all expenses, there is a clear balance of £100. The success obtained was mainly owing to the untiring and invaluable exertions of Bro. George J. Dawson.

CHARLES HARBORD, BARON SUFFIELD.

This nobleman, who has just been installed as Grand Master of the Freemasons of the Province of Norfolk, is a son of the third Baron Suffield, the title having been created in 1786. He was born at Gunton Park, Norfolk, in 1830, and married in 1854 the daughter of the late Henry Baring, Esq. (in 1873 Lady Suffield was appointed a lady of the bedchamber to the Princess of Wales), and succeeded to the title on the death of his half-brother in 1853. He formerly held a commission in the 7th Dragoon, but retired in 1852, and is now Lieutenant-Colonel 13th Norfolk Rifle Volunteers, and Lieutenant-Colonel of the Norfolk Artillery Militia. He is a Deputy-Lieutenant of the county of Norfolk, was a Lord in Waiting to Her Majesty the Queen from 1868 to 1872, and is now Lord of the Bedchamber to H.R.H. the Prince of Wales. His lordship's heir is his eldest son, Charles, who was born in June, 1855, and is a Lieutenant in the Scots Fusilier Guards. The first peer, who represented Norwich in Parliament for some years, was son of Sir William Mordey, Bart., K.B., who in 1842 relinquished his paternal surname for that of his maternal grandfather, Harbord. — “Graphic.”

Masonic and General Tidings.

The Winter Half-yearly Communication of the Grand Lodge of Mark-Master Masons of England and Wales will be held on Tuesday next at Freemasons' Tavern, Great-Queen-street. Grand Lodge will be opened at 5 p.m., the banquet to be provided at 7 o'clock.

The Lord Chancellor has ordered that the County Courts are to be closed on Dec. 26 and 27.

The William Preston Lodge of Instruction, No. 766, (the sanction for which was unanimously granted a short time back), meets every Friday evening, at eight o'clock, at the Feathers Tavern, Upper George-street, Edgware-road.

THE FREEMASONS' TAVERN.—The management of this well-known establishment, in Great Queen-street, has, within the past few weeks, changed hands, and promise, under the present spirited and liberal directorship, not only to hold its own, but largely extend the field of operation. We note, apart from its Masonic gatherings, four hundred members and friends of the Licensed Victuallers' Protection Society, assembled on Wednesday, and upwards of five hundred of the Scottish Corporation, under the Chairmanship of the Marquis of Hartington, R.W. Provincial Grand Master for Derbyshire, availed themselves, on Thursday, of the admirable accommodation the Freemasons' Tavern affords. Under the able management of Bro. E. Dawkins, the comfort and convenience of visitors and brethren will receive the attention that justifies the fullest confidence.

Sermons were preached on Sunday last on behalf of the Poor Clergy Relief Corporation, in the Parish Church, Streatham, that in the morning by Bro. the Rev. Dr. Cox, and in the afternoon by Bro. the Rev. R. J. Simpson, Past Grand Chaplains.

An express train conveying a large number of brethren from Manchester, to attend the Provincial Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons, meeting at Gainsborough, on Wednesday last, while passing through Worksop, at the rate of 50 miles an hour, the crank of the engine broke, and, after going a short distance, some of the wheels left the line, but, most fortunately, the pitching stones at the crossing where this took place turned the engine again on to the line, and it ran as far as Norton-wood, a distance of two miles. Another engine from Worksop took the passengers to their destination. The line was blocked for several hours before the break-down gang from Retford could remove the disabled engine.

Bros. B. Head and W. Pass have consented to act as trustees of the fund now being raised for T. J. Mace.

The next meeting of the United Strength Lodge, No. 228, will be held on Tuesday, the 12th inst., at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street. After this meeting, the lodge will be held regularly at the Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-street.

A Grand Evening Concert will be given on Thursday week, the 14th inst., at the Bow and Bromley Institute, in aid of the three Masonic Charitable Institutions. The concert, it is announced, will be under the immediate patronage of the three Secretaries, Bros. F. Binckes, R. Wentworth Little and Terry. Several acknowledged eminent artists have promised to appear.

Subscriptions are invited towards a fund which is being raised to enable an old Masonic pupil to enter Holy Orders. He was silver medallist and Maybury prizeman of the Boys' School, and after leaving studied at King's College for three years, gaining several first-class certificates and the College prize for Divinity, and was elected an associate of that college.

MARK MASONRY.—A lodge of Mark Masons will shortly be opened in Chester.

Bro. Colonel Stillwell has resigned the command of the First City of London Engineers, an office held by him for many years.

We (“Whitehall Review”) are informed that Lord Charles Beresford has no intention of retiring from the representation of Waterford, despite all that has been said to the contrary.

Tuesdays “Gazette” announces that her Majesty in Council has been pleased to declare the Most Noble John Winston, Duke of Marlborough, Lieutenant-General and General-Governor of that part of the United Kingdom called Ireland.

THE CONGRESS OF LAUSANNE.

REPORT BY THE GRAND COLLEGE OF RITES TO THE COUNCIL OF THE ORDER UPON THE LAUSANNE CONGRESS.

Translated from the last Bulletin of the Grand Orient of France by Dr. J. T. LOTH, Representative of the Grand Orient of France at the Grand Lodge of Scotland.

Very dear Brethren,

At your meeting of 11th December, 1875, you sent the memorandum, published by the Supreme Council of the Scottish Rite, under No. 45 (3rd quarter of 1875), for examination by the Grand College of Rites.

That collection contains the treaty of union, alliance and confederation of the Supreme Councils of the Scottish Rite, assembled to the number of eleven in a Congress at Lausanne, on the 6th September, 1875.

The 18th article of this document, to which the Council of the Order specially calls the attention of the Grand College, regulates the relations existing between the Supreme Councils on the one hand, and the various Masonic bodies and brethren subject to other authorities on the other.

It runs thus:—

Art 18.—1. The confederate Supreme Councils are empowered, after due declaration made, to continue friendly relations with certain Masonic bodies, even though these be not regularly recognised, provided they have been established prior to the present convention.

2. This understanding between a Confederate Supreme Council and other Masonic bodies established within its jurisdiction, is in no wise binding on the other members of the Confederation.

3. All Masonic bodies foreign to the Scottish Institution, not recognising the Supreme Council of their country, are not admitted to relations of any kind with the Confederate Supreme Councils.

4. Degrees similar to those of the Scottish Institution, above the Master's grade, conferred by a local Masonic body, are not recognised by the Confederate Supreme Councils. Consequently brethren dependent upon another Masonic power are only admitted into Scotch lodges up to and inclusive of the grade of Master, and only within the limit of jurisdiction of each of the Confederate Supreme Councils.

5. Masons belonging to bodies not regularly recognised can only enjoy the privileges reserved for members forming part of the confederation by placing themselves under the authority of the Scotch Supreme Council, constituted for the territory wherein they are settled, and by obtaining due recognition of their Masonic title from the Third Degree upwards.

Thus you see, very dear brethren, not only is the Grand Orient of France denied the right to confer the high degrees of Scottish Masonry, and its Masons the legitimacy of their possession of these degrees, but besides this limits are traced beyond which even their Master's degree may be disputed, and that, forsooth, if it is agreed to maintain friendly relations with the Grand Orient, always, however, after declaration previously made, care is taken to stipulate that other members of the confederation are in no wise committed thereto.

We are shocked by such aggression, and may well ask, on reading the resolutions of the Lausanne Congress—which is the greater—the ignorance, from a historic point of view, displayed by the movers or the unbrotherly spirit that inspired those resolutions?

Perhaps, brethren, it would be becoming in the Grand Orient of France, strong in its right, to reply to this manifesto of the Lausanne Congress simply by a disdainful silence. But we cannot hide from ourselves that the resolutions brought forward, and which have been published and made known to Freemasonry at large, have excited our lodges and our Masons, who see in them an infringement of their rights, and look to you for measures of protection. On the other hand it must indeed be acknowledged that present Masonic generations, too indifferent to our history, have not perhaps a sufficiently exact notion of the origin and affiliation of the Scottish Rite, and might allow themselves to be assailed by doubt in presence of the bold affirmations of the Lausanne Congress. It is, therefore, of importance to reduce to their just value the pretensions of the Confederate Supreme Councils, and with this object the Grand College of Rites asks your authority to publish the historical abstract annexed to this report, and for which we are indebted to one of its members, Bro. Brémond. That publication will, we hope, suffice to show how little foundation there is for the claim advanced by the Supreme Council of France to the exclusive possession of the Scottish Rite in France.

The mission entrusted to us by the Council of the Order would be imperfectly fulfilled were we to limit ourselves to the publication of that document, and we deem it not out of place here to recall to mind the state of affairs in France, from a Masonic point of view, prior to the appearance of the Lausanne Congress manifesto. To this end it is advisable to sum up the organisation of the Grand Orient of France. Art. 2 of its General Statutes prescribes:—

"Masonry comprehends lodge meetings of different degrees, under the denominations of lodges, chapters, and councils. The Central Power has, moreover, a superior lodge meeting, which under the title of Grand College of Rites, Supreme Council for France and the French possessions, has alone the right of initiating to the highest degrees of Masonry."

In accordance with the terms of this article and the universality of our legislation, the lodges of the Grand Orient confer the three First Degrees (App., Comp., and Master); the chapters confer the grades of Capitulary (Chapter) Masonry, from the 4th to the 18th Degrees (Rose Croix); the councils confer the philosophic grades, from the 19th to the 30th Degrees (Kn., Kad.); finally, the

Grand College of Rites initiates to the 31st, 32nd, and 33rd and last degree of Scottish Masonry.

On its side, the Supreme Council of France practises the same rite, possesses lodges of identical degrees; and Masons dependent on both powers have between themselves cordial and fraternal relations conformable, in all respects, to the principles of Freemasonry. Thrown in this midst, Art. 18 of the Lausanne treaty tends to disturb it and to upset everything by attacking at one and the same time the rights of the Grand Orient of France, which would thus be pointed out as an usurper of the Scottish Rite; the propriety of its philosophical and chapter lodges; and finally the legitimacy of the titles of Masons dependent on it. We know not whether the Supreme Council of France, while participating in this treaty, and perhaps calling it into existence, has well understood all its gravity; but we regret that it has not hesitated to revive a quarrel which might have been considered as extinct, and which can in no way serve the interests of Freemasonry. However, this we do know, that some among its most authoritative members deplore, in common with us, this unseemable attack, and heartily wish for conciliation and peace.

Perhaps, after all, we need not too much complain, but should even congratulate ourselves upon the possible solution, once and for all, of this vexed question of Scottish Masonry, which ever and anon recurs to bring disunion among men who ought only to be animated by the same Masonic sentiments. It was incumbent on the Grand College of Rites to inquire into the motives and object which determined the Confederate Supreme Councils to vote resolutions so little in harmony with historical facts, and so contrary to the spirit of fraternity.

These motives are plainly set forth in the text of the above-mentioned article; they consist of the Supreme Council's claim to priority in possession of the high degrees in France; claims which the Grand Orient, history in hand, has several times made good. As for the object, it is not less clearly defined in the official circular accompanying the treaty in question.

We read in this document (page 13 of the Memorandum): "We are convinced that the Supreme Councils now represented at Lausanne will adhere to the treaty of confederation; under these conditions Scottish Masonry, freely obeying one only law, and so to speak one only will, becomes an immense power."

"It alone, perhaps, is at this day in a position, by its universal organisation, to struggle advantageously against the anti-liberal spirit which menaces the legitimate conquests of modern society. An approaching convention will hold its sittings at Rome in 1878. It will certainly bring together the delegates of all the regular Supreme Councils; and should there, at that time, still exist differences of opinion, details to be settled between the Scottish powers, that convention will generalise the intimate union."

Now let us examine the consequences of these data. Up to this day Masonic dependencies have had, together with aspirations in common, an essential character of national institutions; each was justly jealous and proud of them. None had dreamt of separating the Masonic idea from the patriotic; not one of them had wished to accept laws and regulations promulgated on foreign soil; their mutual relations, though based on a communion of brotherly sentiments, were limited to a reciprocal acknowledgment of regular Masonic powers, affirmed by the interchange of accredited representatives in the name of bonds of amity by the interchange of friendly and fraternal correspondence.

Such national doctrine is affirmed by the Grand Orient of France, which, declaring itself to be French before all, has inscribed in its Constitution, Art. 2:—Freemasonry reminds all its adepts that one of their first duties, as Masons and as citizens, is to respect the laws of the country in which they dwell. The Grand Orient draws up or modifies its regulations, free from all care and untrammelled by outside pressure, and without any other pre-occupation than that of respecting the civil and political laws of its own country. On the soil of France it only recognizes as Masonic laws laws thus freely voted by the representatives of its lodges; it could not accept as such those elaborated and decreed in other lands by delegates of foreign dependencies, and which, if not to-day, perchance to-morrow, will be in contradiction with its tradition and its fundamental law.

Well now! for this eminently national doctrine the representatives of the Supreme Councils at the Congress of Lausanne appear desirous of substituting a cosmopolitan Masonic parliament, composed of delegates from different nations, voting, by a majority, laws which French Masons would be held to obey.

It is sought, in other words, to subject all dependencies to one uniform law, to a will which would thus have at its service an immense power. We are not inventing, we quote. Is that not simply, very dear brethren, the doctrine of the Jesuits which it is sought to impose upon French Freemasonry? Does not that mean the creation of a kind of Masonic pontificate, the head whereof is not yet named, but who would belong, perhaps, to a foreign nation, having its ideas, its sentiments, and who would defend its character, opinions, and interests, political or otherwise, and to whom all the Masonic groups of the globe should owe obedience, under pain of excommunication. The Grand Orient of France is too proud of its independence, too careful of its dignity, too full of respect for true Masonic principles, too faithful, in short, to the sentiments of fraternity, to follow the Confederate Supreme Councils in that path. Already, you have seen, they fulminate interdicts from which the Masons of the Grand Orient of France especially will only be released by making the amende honorable to the Masonic Papacy dreamed of by the delegates of the Lausanne Congress; for, indeed, it is nothing but a dream, that strange combination of a

few Masons, misguided by we know not what pre-occupations, which, moreover, we shall not be the first to disavow. In fact, several Supreme Councils, among those even who formed, or who were called to form, part of the Lausanne Congress, have made serious reservations with regard to the resolutions passed by that Congress.

We only mention these facts to show the value and importance of this pompously-styled Congress of Lausanne, and we think that this attempt at confiscating the high degrees, and this experiment of diverting Masonry from its proper channel by turning it aside from its objects for the purpose of leading it towards perilous destinies, ought to be pointed out by the Grand Orient of France to all the Masonic powers of the world, as sources of trouble and discredit to our great family. Silence, moreover, in such a case would be tantamount to the acceptance of an accomplished fact—namely forfeiture.

Such are the general considerations suggested to the Grand College of Rites by the question you have submitted to its examination. If, then, it were allowed, the Grand College, after having demonstrated the grievous effects of the Lausanne treaty, and established truth in this question of Scottish Masonry, to clothe its opinion in the garb of a proposition, we would propose for the decision of the Council of the Order:—

1. That all official relations shall cease between the Grand Orient of France and the Supreme Councils persisting in the resolutions passed at Lausanne.

2. That, in particular, all relations between the Grand Orient of France and the Supreme Council of France, as well as between their respective lodges, do cease from this day, and shall continue so to cease until the said Supreme Council make authentic declaration that, so far as it is concerned, the resolutions passed at the Lausanne Congress do not apply to the Grand Orient of France, acknowledging the latter to be in legitimate possession of the Scottish Rite, and the consequent right of conferring its degrees from the 1st up to and inclusive of the 33rd.

3. That, this notwithstanding, Masons of our dependency remain free to frequent the lodges of the Supreme Council. That our lodges of all degrees be authorised, and, where needful, invited fraternally to receive Masons of the Supreme Council, official relations alone being prohibited between the lodges of both dependencies. That those of our brethren who may find the degrees they hold disputed by a lodge of the Supreme Council of France, or who may be only admitted thereto upon suzerainty, shall give information of same to the Grand Orient of France, when the matter shall be taken into due consideration. The Grand Orient of France, whilst maintaining its priority in possession of the Scottish Rite, does not dispute the Supreme Council's right to confer the degrees thereof; it accepts this Masonic power as a *de facto* government, and we shall not be contradicted when we say, that a fraternal hand has always been stretched to it. For many years these two Masonic powers lived at peace, devoting themselves, in their respective spheres, to the propagation of the principles of our institution. Why should this accord, which made the force of Masonry in France, be thus disturbed by vain questions of rites and degrees? But perhaps this conflict, afflicting, yet unsought by us, will result in a solution of a nature to satisfy all minds, and which will revive harmony between men whose all absorbing care in these days, and in face of the attacks directed against Freemasonry, should be to unite their efforts with the view of increasing its prosperity. Such is, we feel convinced, the sincere desire of all French Masons, and particularly of the Grand College of Rites, which body is full of confidence in the measures to be taken by the Council of the Order for the attainment of that object.

[A summary of this appeared in the "Masonic Magazine" for November. A translation of the "History of Freemasonry in France" also appears in the November, December, and January numbers.—Ed.]

CONSECRATION OF THE KENNARD CHAPTER AT PONTYPOOL.

On Monday, 13th November, the Kennard Chapter was consecrated at Pontypool. The ceremony was most ably performed by Captain S. G. Homfray, P.G. Standard Bearer of England and P.G.H. of Monmouthshire, assisted by Bros. L. A. Homfray, P.Z. and P. Prov. J. of Monmouthshire, as H., and Captain A. T. Perkins, H. of Avalon Chapter, Wells, and P.G.S.B. of Monmouthshire, as J. The attendance was very good. Comp. Captain Homfray afterwards installed Comp. H. Griffiths as M.E.Z., and Comp. Waite as J., but in consequence of the illness of Comp. Lloyd, his installation as H. was deferred to the next meeting. Over a dozen members were proposed for exaltation, and the chapter was closed in harmony. The companions afterwards adjourned to a banquet at the Crown Hotel, and spent a very pleasant evening.

The "Graphic" of last week might well be termed a Masonic number, containing, as it did, a full page illustration of the Installation of Lord Suffield by H.R.H., the M.W.G.M., a portrait of the former and an engraving of the third figure of the Knights Templar Lancers at the Masonic ball at Cambridge. It also gave a biography of Lord Suffield, which we copy in another column.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.—Much watchfulness must be exercised as winter advances and the earliest evidences of ill-health must be immediately checked and removed, or a slight illness may result in a serious malady. Relaxed and sore throat, Diphtheria, Quinsy, Throat Cough, Chronic Cough, Bronchitis, and most other pulmonary affections will be relieved by rubbing this cooling Ointment into the skin as near as practicable to the seat of the mischief. This treatment so simple and effective is admirably adapted for the removal of these diseases during infancy and youth. Old Asthmatic Invalids will derive marvellous relief from the use of Holloway's remedies, which have brought round many sufferers and re-established health after every other means had signally failed.—ADVT.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

COLONIAL and FOREIGN SUBSCRIBERS are informed that acknowledgments of remittances received are published in the first number of every month.

It is very necessary for our readers to advise us of all money orders they remit, more especially those from the United States of America and India; otherwise we cannot tell where to credit them.

REMITTANCES RECEIVED.

	£	s.	d.
Austen, A. E., The Cape (P.O.O.)	2	9	6
Austin, W. W., Indiana (P.O.O.)	1	17	4
Collins, B., India (Cheque)	1	0	0
Davey, H., San Francisco (P.O.O.)	2	2	0
Firmin, W. R., Victoria (P.O.O.)	0	7	6
Jones, F. New York (Draft)	5	7	6
Peacock, J. R., California, (P.O.O.)	1	4	3
Sly, F., Victoria (P.O.O.)	1	0	0
Smith, D., Africa (P.O.O.)	1	4	0

TO OUR READERS.

The *Freemason* is a sixteen-page weekly newspaper, price 2d. It is published every Friday morning, and contains the most important, interesting, and useful information relating to Freemasonry in every degree. Annual subscription in the *United Kingdom*, Post free, 10/- P.O.O.'s to be made payable at the chief office, London.

NEW POSTAL RATES.

Owing to a reduction in the Postal Rates, the publisher is now enabled to send the "*Freemason*" to the following parts abroad for One Year for Twelve Shillings (payable in advance):—Africa, Australia, Bombay, Canada, Cape of Good Hope, Ceylon, China, Constantinople, Demerara, France, Germany, Gibraltar, Jamaica, Malta, Newfoundland, New South Wales, New Zealand, Suez, Trinidad, United States of America, &c.

TO ADVERTISERS.

The *Freemason* has a large circulation in all parts of the Globe, its advantages as an advertising medium can therefore scarcely be overrated.

ADVERTISEMENTS should reach the Office, 198 Fleet Street, London, not later than 12 o'clock on Wednesday, to insure insertion in the following Saturday's number. The Rates for Advertisements may be had on application at the Office.

Answers to Correspondents.

In answer to "Cape of Good Hope" we would say:—
1. On the right of the W.M., though there is no fixed rule. In G. Lodge the G. Chaplain sits on the left of the G.M.
2. The question has been answered by the G.S. It is a matter for the lodge bye-laws. 3. We think not. 4. We doubt the possibility of any such bye-law being enforced. No one can be compelled to vote.

P.M.—We know of none of any official authority or value.

The following stand over:—Reports of lodges 209, 379, 425, 477, 1069, 1196, 1386, 1502, 1531, 1536, 1597; Lodges of Instruction, 579, Victoria Metropolitan, Leopold Southwark, Upper Norwood, Carnarvon (Havant); Chapters 340, 862, 446; Mark Lodge 109; Scotch lodges, 0, 34, 73, 175, 195, 307, 317, 347, 371. Provincial Grand Mark Lodge of Devon.

"Admission of Candidates" and Bro. Thomson's letter in our next.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

[The charge is 2s. 6d. for announcements, not exceeding four lines, under this heading.]

BIRTHS

BRITTON.—On the 24th ult., at 21, Wingate-road, Hammersmith, the wife of A. T. Britton, Esq., of a daughter.

DAVIS.—On the 1st ult., at Shahjahanpur, India, the wife of Dr. J. N. Davis, of a daughter.

JACKSON.—On the 13th ult., at Lancaster, the wife of Bro. T. Jackson, of a son.

LEVY.—On the 22nd ult., at Commercial-road East, the wife of L. Levy, of a son.

MAUDSLAY.—On the 27th ult., at Upton Grove, Tetbury, the wife of H. C. Maudslay, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

PARSONS—CAMPBELL.—On Sept. 27, at Christchurch, N.Z. Frederick James, son of the late Commander W. Parsons, R.N., of Parkstone, Dorsetshire, to Elizabeth Helen daughter of the late J. Campbell, Esq.

DEATHS.

HAYWOOD.—On the 25th ult., George Haywood, of Derby, aged 45.

MELLON.—On the 25th ult., Bro. Henry Mellon, after great suffering.

MORPHEW.—On the 22nd ult., at King-street, Covent Garden, Lucinda Ann, wife of Bro. W. T. Morphey, aged 42.

PAGET.—On the 27th ult., at Aldersgate-street, Thomas Paget, aged 34.

VARLEY.—On the 21st ult., at Aldershot, Staff-Veterinary Surgeon William Varley, aged 45.

WILLIAMS.—On the 26th ult., at Wrexham, George Harvey Williams, M.D., aged 57.

WILLIS.—On the 28th ult., at Chichester-terrace, Brighton, Henry Willis, Esq., aged 67.

WYLIE.—On the 27th ult., Bro. Thomas Wylie, P.P.G.R., West Lancashire, at the Hermitage, Southport.

The Freemason,

SATURDAY, DEC. 2, 1876.

PRINCE LEOPOLD IN WILTSHIRE.

Our brethren will have read with pleasure the account of our Royal brother's visit to the Provincial Grand Lodge of Wiltshire, under its noble and worthy chief, Lord Methuen, and his able and genial address will have gratified the Craft in general as much as it did the brethren of Wiltshire in particular. It is very agreeable to all loyal Freemasons to note how the members of our Royal Family are "not ashamed" to call us "brethren," to take part in our assemblies, and, in the words of our old song, do not disdain "our mysteries to put a good grace on." May this happy state of things long continue, and be the "decus columenque" of English Freemasonry. We hope our exalted brethren will believe that they do not and cannot give us more pleasure in coming among us, sympathizing with our labours, and sharing in our social gatherings, than we do in seeing them in the midst of our loyal assemblies. We receive them, and ever shall receive them, with that becoming pride and gratification which are, so to say, innate in the bosom of every faithful Craftsman.

THE EMULATION FESTIVAL.

The Annual Festival of the Emulation Lodge of Improvement, which was held in the Grand Lodge Hall on Friday week, was presided over by the M.W. Pro G. Master, the Earl of Carnarvon, supported by the Earl of Limerick, the Earl of Donoughmore, forty of the most distinguished Grand Officers, present and past, and nearly 600 members of the Craft. One of the most interesting features connected with the meeting was the presentation of a silver inkstand to our worthy and distinguished G. Secretary, who has acted as Treasurer of the Emulation Lodge for 30 years. The admirable remarks of Lord Carnarvon, cheered as they were by the large assemblage, must have been peculiarly gratifying to Bro. Hervey, and we will add, that there is no brother in our Order who more truly deserves the regard and attachment and respect of all who know him. The sections were worked by eight Past Grand Officers, who were in past years active members of the lodge, and it was universally admitted that on no former occasion was the work so correctly and so admirably delivered. The sanction and support thus given to this celebrated lodge of improvement by the Pro Grand Master and other leading members of Grand Lodge undoubtedly places it at the head of all Lodges of Instruction, and goes far to authorize its mode of working as the model which should be universally adopted. This distinguished lodge has for some years—under the highest patronage—been extending its influence, and we trust it may ultimately be the means of establishing a uniformity of working throughout the Craft. We say all this, not dogmatically, as we are quite aware that a good deal may be said on archaeological grounds for the existence of slight discrepancies of independent rituals, and we by no means forget the services of instructors like our Bro. Muggeridge, who vary a little from the admirable system of the Emulation Lodge of Improvement. But we feel warranted in asserting that the Emulation working may well be adopted now as the general expression of the ritual and ceremonial of our English Craft.

FREEMASONRY IN BELGIUM.

In consequence of the statement in the "*Unita Cattolica*," that in Belgium all acknowledgment of belief in the G.A.O.T.U. has been already officially suppressed and erased from the Constitution, we have taken means to ascertain the facts of the case, as we think the sooner we know the exact state of things the better. We are enabled to state that though it is true that some lodges by majorities have determined to commit

this act of suicidal folly, all the lodges have not yet made their return, and the Grand Orient of Belgium has not yet, therefore, come to an official decision on the subject.

ANOTHER RELIGIOUS MASONIC PERSECUTION.

"Le Messager d'Athenes" tells us in a recent number that a certain Mr. Arsène Pandis, a priest at Corfu, was about to commence a polemical warfare against the Corfiote and Greek Masons, first of all by publishing in the Greek language Mgr. Dupanloup's famous "*Etude*." The editor does not say whether this tolerant priest is a member of the Greek or the Roman Church. We presume the former, and if so we shall deeply regret to learn that this rage of fanaticism is extending amongst that otherwise tolerant body, the orthodox Greek Church. Let us hope that Mr. Arsène Pandis will be more happily advised, and prove once again in the history of man that "second thoughts are best."

THE LAST LODGE OF BENEVOLENCE.

At the last meeting of this important organization of our Order, and which was very numerously attended, various grants of £175 were confirmed, as will be seen by our special report, and new grants were made to the amount of £554. There were 32 cases on the list, two of which were dismissed, or rather one was deferred, and the other dismissed. We shall recur to this report in our next, as the subject, for many reasons, is becoming one which deserves the anxious consideration of the Craft.

THE LONDON CABMEN.

A very important portion of our Metropolitan community is that which is represented by the London Cabmen. When we remember the extent of locomotion, and the number of passengers, ministered to by our friend "Cabbie," we shall all feel, not only how much our comfort as a community depends on this influential section of our great aggregation, but how important it is for the safety and security of society and property that our licensed cabmen should be alike respectable, sober, and law-observing. Now without saying to-day that no improvement is needed in the cab-life and cab condition of London, for that would be a mistaken optimism, we think it may be affirmed that matters are gradually improving in all that pertains to the cab system, and that we may hope ere long to see among us still more decided symptoms of permanent amelioration. The Chief Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police, Col. Henderson, C.B., addressed a crowded meeting of Cabmen and their wives at the fourth anniversary of the London Cabmen's Mission, on Monday, 20th ult., and we take the following interesting extract from the "*Times*" of his speech, which we think is alike deserving of note and comment, and is suggestive, in our humble opinion, of many most welcome and gratifying considerations: "Colonel Henderson, C.B., speaking on Monday night, at the fourth anniversary of the London Cabmen's Mission, to a crowded audience of Cabmen and their wives, said he hoped the change which had lately been made in their licences in order to save them trouble would be duly appreciated. Six hundred notices of renewal of licences had been up to the present time dispatched to cabmen, and 90 per cent. of those were upon clear licences. With respect to the sobriety of cabmen, he said that, though drunkenness among the body was not on the increase, still, it was not on the decrease, as there were 13,000 cases of drunkenness last year; but he hoped before long to see such a long list greatly diminished, as there was undoubtedly a steady and gradual improvement among the men. With regard to the cabs themselves, he would just mention what an eminent French engineer said who came over to this country to report upon the comparative merits of the railways of France and England. That gentleman said that the Metropolitan Railway of London was as superior to anything of the same kind in France

as was the English Hansom cab to vehicles which were used for a similar purpose in his country. Although they had received such high commendation, yet, nevertheless, 3500 cabs were condemned last year. There was one point to which he wished to draw particular attention, and that was the marvellous improvement which had occurred in the return of lost property, since an alteration in a clause of the lost property rules for cabs. In 1870 only 3500 articles which had been left in cabs had been brought to Scotland-yard, whereas during the past twelve months 16,000 were deposited at the same place. The present hackney carriage regulations, he thought, were just both to cabmen and the public. One circumstance had recently occurred which showed the appreciation in which cabmen's honesty was now held by the public. Two persons were the other day disputing about the ownership of a diamond necklace valued at £1000. As the disputants could not agree, one of them threw the necklace into a cab, the driver of which immediately took it to Scotland-yard, for which act of honesty Colonel Henderson hoped he would be handsomely rewarded. In conclusion the Chief Commissioner earnestly hoped that the Mission would long prosper, as it was doing a great amount of good among the cabmen of London." These simple yet striking words require no comment of ours. They will speak home to the minds of us all. May the good work thus happily begun be continued and expanded; until the Chief Commissioner can report a still greater and more enduring reformation, alike in the condition of our cab system and the general morale of the Cabmen. On the whole we are inclined to think that though there are some sad exceptions every now and then, "Cabbie" is often more "sinned against than sinning," and we ought, we think, always to seek to mete out to him that justice and liberality and fair play which we like ourselves, but which we sometimes forget is due from us all to the humblest of our fellow creatures.

Original Correspondence.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for, or even as approving of the opinions expressed by our correspondents, but we wish, in all spirit of fair play to all, to permit—within certain necessary limits—free discussion.—Ed.]

WIDOWS OF FREEMASONS.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—
If "West York" (page 514, Nov. 18th, "Freemason") will only ask what is generally done about "widows of Freemasons marrying non-Masons" in connection with other bodies, he will find that in the military service in India a widow or a daughter of an officer loses her pension on marriage; and in other services do the same, so that there seems to be no hardship in the case referred to. And as to the "son of a deceased Freemason," if "West York" can clearly prove that the widow of a Mason married before the boy was elected to the Boys' School, then he ought not to have the privileges of a free education.

Believe me, yours fraternally,

AUGUSTUS A. BAGSHAW.
P.M. and Z. 1235.

BRO. JOHN CONSTABLE'S DRAWING FOR THE ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—
For several years now I have annually alluded to Bro. John Constable's system of shilling tickets in support of our "Great Masonic Charities," as they are truly called. For 1877 the programme is a more extensive one than any of the preceding ones, as it is intended to render the ensuing year memorable by the raising of one thousand pounds through the excellent medium noted. It is a bold project, but I believe it will be done, and in a few years will not be considered much to do, though just now it is looked upon by many as quite impracticable. Bro. Constable is the originator of shilling tickets for drawings for Life Governorships in our Masonic Charities, and deserves even more support than he has yet received. We cannot understand how there can be any objections to such a scheme, for, as you have pointed out in times past, it is after all but a kind of Masonic "Art Union," if I may so express it, and each shilling goes to swell the amount until ten guineas are obtained, when a Life Governor is balloted for, just as if it were an engraving, and the happy and successful number (a brother, or a lady, or a non-Mason, or a lodge), has the ten guineas paid in his or her name to the society in question. If a brother or a non-Mason, the amount thus obtained would confer two votes at every election for life. In the event of the winner being a lady the extra privileges would be granted, as in the case of ordinary donations, and of course should a lodge be the owner of the successful number, only one vote at each be secured. I cannot, for the life of me, under-

stand the opposition which this capital scheme has received in some quarters, unless, indeed, it is, as I proved it to be last week in one case, an attempt to hide the sheer greed and selfishness of the objectors. Then, again, others stupidly talk as if Bro. Constable was to make his fortune out of the transaction! Once for all let me say, that as in all the former Stewardships (and as, in fact, in all Stewardships), the full amount paid to our friend and brother will be paid to the Secretary of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, without any deductions whatever, the expenses being defrayed by Bro. Constable himself. I have promised Bro. Constable to raise one hundred guineas to assist him in his truly Masonic work, and as the money is coming in I pay the sums at once over to him. The contributions are placed in the Consolidated Bank, to bear interest until the festival, and in the event of Bro. Constable's decease, which I pray may be long distant, the Secretary of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys has authority to draw the amount, to use in accordance with the purposes intended. In conclusion I have but to say if any brother is deserving of our aid, and has started a plan worthy of acceptance, to collect the odd shillings on behalf of our Charities, that brother is John Constable.

W. J. HUGHAN.

ITALIAN FREEMASONRY.

To Bro. George Kenning, Publisher "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—
Though I quite agree with all that has been said in the "Freemason" about the foolish attack recently made by the "Unita Cattolica" on English Freemasonry, and its utter insensibility to the claims of truth, and quite concur in all your remarks about an eminent member of your English Order—Bro. Parkinson—I yet think that there is some ground to be very apprehensive as to the present position and future condition of Italian Freemasonry. Certain facts, I apprehend, are incontestable, namely, firstly, that Italian Freemasonry mixes itself up far too much with politics; secondly, that men of very advanced views on religious matters, to say nothing more, are prominent personages in it; and thirdly, that there is a great tendency in a large portion of it, at any rate, towards what may be termed, without offence, polished Heatenism.

Without at all approving of the complaints of the Ultramontane party, many of which are chimerical, or childish apprehensions or unscrupulous allegations, yet I fear it must be confessed by an impartial English Freemason that there is quite sufficient to excite alarm and justify anxiety.

There seems to be a wish to imitate in a portion of Italy the foolish proceedings of the Grand Orient of France, and to expunge from the constitution and the ritual all acknowledgment of the Most High. As regards politics, it often happens that at the meeting of the lodges the candidature of men of the most advanced type, ultra-republican, is advocated.

Thus, for instance, "Il Picciolo" of Naples, of 20th November, tells us that the brethren (fratelli) of the Masonic Lodge Unita e Liberta held a meeting the day before, and determined to support the political candidature of Signor Biondi Luigi.

Even the profane paper remarks, whose editor is "neither a Mason nor the son of a Mason:" "We do not understand this Masonic lodge interfering in politics; if it does so it is quite clear that it has two professions of Masonic principles, one for the world without, one for the initiates within." We fear that the little incident mentioned at Naples has been reproduced "ad infinitum" up and down Italy.

Of a well-known official of one of the Italian Grand Lodges it is credibly stated that his reply to a Masonic letter recently was, "I cannot attend to Masonic business until after the elections."

Now all this and a good deal more requires attention and surveillance, and if any of your correspondents could give us an actual account of Italian Freemasonry, especially as regards the points I have mentioned, about which I apprehend there is really no doubt, it might do a deal of good.

There is no reason why Freemasonry, and English Freemasonry above all, should not flourish in Italy, inasmuch as the Italian mind is very favourable in itself alike to toleration and freedom of conscience, to culture and refinement, to the elevating studies of art, science, and literature, to the ennobling and sanctifying claims of morality and religion.

It is because I wish well, like our estimable Bro. J. C. Parkinson, to Italian Freemasonry that I pen these friendly lines to-day—and because the facts I state are, I fear, however veiled over, only too well-known to those who are "behind the scenes" in Italy.

I am, dear Bro. Kenning, yours fraternally,

A SUBSCRIBER FROM THE BEGINNING.

THE HERVEY LODGE.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I think the Hervey Lodge committed an egregious error in departing from the rules of the Craft, and afterwards exposing the error in a court of justice. Doubtless at the initiation the candidate was told before shewing him their charter or warrant of constitution, that during the evening he would be called upon for the fee, and had he been applied to at the time and refused (which I much doubt, if told, it would prevent him passing in the next degree) the lodge should then have declined to pass him, and the world be no wiser. The suggestion of the D.G.M. of Bath, that the initiation fees be previously demanded, is diametrically opposed to the custom of the Craft, and our greatest virtue—honour.

The discussion cannot fail to convince the fraternity that the rules as laid down require adhering to.

Yours fraternally,

A SOUTH LINCOLN J.W.

SPECIAL GRAND LODGE.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

In reference to a notice in your paper of the 25th November, of the Pro Grand Master calling a special Grand Lodge on Bro. Simpson's notice of motion, for commemorating the return of our Grand Master, the Prince of Wales, from India, I trust that all M.M.'s will have an opportunity of seeing our beloved Grand Master. I and many hundred others have never had that honour, and I hope that Bro. Simpson will take it into consideration, that we should like to be present to do honour to him upon so auspicious an occasion, and, if I might make a suggestion, why not make the Alexandra or Crystal Palace the centre of attraction, and let us receive our Royal Master there, when all M.M.'s that like to come would have an opportunity of seeing him; and by issuing tickets at 10s. each, it would amply pay all expenses, and not encroach on the funds of the Grand Lodge. Trusting that some abler pen than mine will take the matter up, for if held at the Albert Hall, the space being so limited there, it will be only the P.G.M.'s, P.M.'s, and those high in office, will have the privilege, whilst we of the lower grade will be left out in the cold.

Trusting you will favour me by inserting this letter in your valuable paper,

I beg to remain, dear Sir and Brother, yours fraternally,
M.M.

Duke of Connaught, 1558.

[The favour which our good brother asks for is an utter impossibility.—Ed.]

THE ORDER OF THE TEMPLE.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

As many knights who have a right to attend the Special Convent General, which has been summoned by special direction of H.R.H. the Grand Master for the 8th inst., are unaware why such Convent General has been convened, may I through you state that the "vexed question" of past rank, &c., is the business which will be discussed.

Yours fraternally,

J. E. C.

CANDIDATES FOR INITIATION.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Sir,—

Having for a long time past entertained the ardent desire of becoming a Freemason, I should esteem it a great favour if you would kindly inform me in your next issue as to the steps necessary to being admitted a Member of the Craft.

By doing so, you will greatly oblige, Sir,

Yours respectfully,

J. K. 22.

[In answer to this, one of many similar letters, we have lately received, we can only say that the applicant must apply to some friend who is a Mason who can recommend him to his own lodge. There is no general system of Masonic recommendation or initiation.—Ed.]

NEWGATE.

The following most sensible letter appears in the "Times" of Saturday:—

To the Editor of the "Times."

Sir,—Anticipating a hope which I fear will not be realized—namely, that during my year of office I should not have to be present at an execution, a duty which I am sure all the officials concerned consider a most painful one, and the desire to be present by those not concerned, in my opinion, being a morbid one, affording no reflective satisfaction, I shall feel obliged by your inserting the notice that during my year of office, it is not my intention on any occasion to avail myself of the privilege (if it be one) of issuing tickets to Newgate on such occasions.

Of course, the recognised members of the London Press will, as usual, be present.

Apologizing for troubling you, I am, yours faithfully,

W. G. EAST,

Sheriff of London and Middlesex.
Central Criminal Court, City of London, Nov. 24.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.

A Special General Court of the Governors and Subscribers to the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls was held on Monday in the Board Room, Freemasons' Hall. Bro. Lieut.-Colonel Creaton, V.P., presided, and there were also present Bros. Raynham W. Stewart, S. Rawson, Joseph Smith, H. G. Warren, Rev. A. F. A. Woodford, Hyde Pullen, Dr. Woodman, Henry Venn, Capt. J. Wordsworth, H. A. Dubois, Thos. W. White, Herbert Dicketts, John Boyd, Geo. M. E. Snow, E. Harris, H. Massey ("Freemason"), John M. Stedwell, F. W. Ramsay, M.D., C. A. Lee, George Powell, D. W. Pearce, Major E. H. Finney, Thos. Massa, C. R. Clasey, Thos. Cubitt, J. H. Stead, Thos. Kingston, D. Nicols, James Terry, E. Letchworth, W. Barrett, Thomas Meggy, J. Baxter Langley, Henry W. Hunt, Eugene H. Thielley, J. Marsh, and R. W. Little (Secretary).

The meeting was called in compliance with a requisition signed by Lieut.-Col. John Creaton, P.G.D., Vice-Patron and Trustee, "To receive the Report of the Special Committee upon the

Collectorship of the Institution, and to decide thereon."

The report of the Special Committee appointed by the Quarterly General Court, on the 14th October, 1876, was as follows:—

"To investigate and report upon the subject of the Collectorship to a Special General Court."

"Pursuant to the resolution of the Quarterly General Court, the Special Committee held its first meeting at Freemasons' Hall, on Saturday, the 4th of November, 1876, when Bro. Lieut.-Colonel Creton, Vice-Patron and Trustee, was voted to the chair, all the members of the committee being present. The subject submitted to the committee having been fully discussed, Bro. Joseph Smith proposed, 'That a Collector be appointed, and that he be paid commission on the amounts he receives.' Bro. W. Hale seconded the proposition, to which the following amendment was moved by Bro. S. Rawson, 'That a person be employed in the office to assist the Secretary in collecting subscriptions and donations.' Bro. R. W. Stewart seconded the amendment, which, on being put, was carried by 5 to 4 votes, and was then adopted as a substantive resolution by the same majority."

"The second meeting of the Committee was held at Freemasons' Hall, on Saturday, the 11th November, when, owing to Colonel Creton's absence through an accident, Bro. S. Rawson was voted to the chair. Bro. J. Symonds proposed, 'That the Secretary having stated, in reply to a question put to him, that he was willing, if provided with further assistance in the office, to undertake the collection of donations and subscriptions as part of his ordinary duties, to undertake the same.' Bro. Stewart seconded the proposition, which was carried by 4 votes to 3, there being seven members present. Bro. Symonds proposed, 'That in the event of the above recommendation being agreed to, the Secretary be allowed an additional clerk.' The proposition was seconded by Bro. Dr. Ramsay, and carried by 3 to 2 votes."

"The Committee held its third meeting at Freemasons' Hall, on Saturday, the 18th of November, when Colonel Creton presided, five members being present. Bro. Symonds moved, 'That it is the opinion of this Committee that the several resolutions passed at the two preceding meetings on the 4th and 11th of November be recommended to a Special General Court for adoption.' Bro. Stewart seconded the proposition, which was carried unanimously."

"The Chairman, as a Trustee, convened a Special General Court, to meet at 12 o'clock noon, on Monday, the 27th November."

"J. CRETON, Chairman."

Bro. John Symonds, after this report had been agreed to be taken as read, said that in moving to agree with the Committee in their report he thought it well to state that the recommendations in that report having been only agreed to by a majority of one, it was thought more courteous to the minority that the committee should simply make the report a resumé of the proceedings, leaving the argument for or against the recommendations to be stated in the speeches at the Special Court. It would, therefore, be his duty to state completely, and yet as briefly as he could, the reasons which induced him and those who concurred with him in making those recommendations. In the first place, let it be understood that they did not propose to abolish the Collector; they simply proposed that the Secretary, who was already the collector of the greater portion of the contributions, should become the collector of the whole. There was an increasing tendency on the part of the brethren to make the Secretary the collector of their contributions, instead of employing an officer who was called the Collector. In the four years ending 1872 there was a sum of £21,004 collected, of which £7155 was paid to the Secretary, and £13,849 to the Collector. But in the 3½ years ending September, 1876, of £33,009 collected, £18,144 was paid to the Secretary, and only £14,865 to the Collector; so that out of a yearly average during the last 3½ years of £8800 collected, £4836 was collected by the Secretary, and only £3964 by the Collector (hear, hear). He thought this tendency to send the amounts direct to the Secretary would go on increasing; and if so, and the brethren adopted Bro. Joseph

Smith's view, there would probably be this curious, and to the so-called Collector, who was to be paid only on what he received, this unpleasant anomaly, that whilst the prospects of the Institution might continually increase, his emoluments might continually diminish. But there was this further great difficulty, how were they to define what the Collector was to receive, and what he was not to receive? When Bro. Joseph Smith at the first meeting of the Special Committee, after a considerable amount of conversational discussion, formally moved that a Collector be appointed, and that he be paid a commission on the amount he received, he (Bro. Symonds) drew his attention to these difficulties; but as he (Bro. Symonds) did not think Bro. Smith clearly apprehended the point he (Bro. Symonds) raised, he ventured to present in the form of three short enquiries, and had sent them to Bro. Smith in a brief note which he would venture to read:—

"3, Ingram Court, 25th Nov."

"Dear Bro. Joseph Smith,—

"I am afraid I did not succeed in committee in putting so clearly before you as I could have wished the difficulties which to my mind attend the appointment of a Collector 'to be paid only upon what he receives.'"

"I therefore venture to submit for your consideration the three enquiries annexed, that you may, if you think fit, answer them at the meeting on Monday."

"Yours faithfully and fraternally,

"JOHN SYMONDS."

"Joseph Smith, Esq., P.G.P., &c., &c., &c."

"If a Collector be appointed, distinct from the Secretary, to be paid commission only upon what he receives:—

"Is it contemplated that he should have free access to correspondence and Stewards' lists (country as well as London), so that he may ascertain the names of brethren who may announce an intention to contribute, and may at once write to or call on them?

"Or is he only to apply to brethren whose names are given to him by the Secretary?

"If he apply for a subscription or donation (writing or calling, perhaps, several times), and it is afterwards paid at the office, is it contemplated that he should receive commission thereon?" Now, they could not get Bro. Smith clearly to define where the line should be drawn; he said it was a matter of detail; and if he once agreed to the detail that the Collector should be paid only on what he received, the mode of settling what he should receive could be settled afterwards. There he (Bro. Symonds) joined issue with him; he thought the settlement of the point was of the very essence of the question, and if they did not adopt it the Collector would be continually endeavouring, if they did not endeavour to settle that point before the election of the Collector, to circumvent, if he might say so, the Secretary, and get all the honour in his own hands. He would mention, by the way, that Bro. Smith, in the course of conversation, proposed to limit the collection to London, leaving out the country; but on his (Bro. Symonds) asking whether that did not seem to imply that the brethren in London were of an inferior grade to those living in the country, requiring a special officer to look after them, Bro. Smith withdrew the limitation, and the resolution now stood as in the report."

Bro. Joseph Smith observed that this was a resumé of all that was done on the committee, and it was not necessary for Bro. Symonds to go into that."

Bro. Symonds said that the statement he was making would serve to elucidate the proceedings of the committee. He had already said he thought that detail was of the very essence of the question; detail in point of fact was the principle. That was the point. He thought Bro. Smith did not clearly understand where the difficulty rested—that the Collector was to be paid only on what he received. The difficulty had arisen in the Boys' School. Bro. Harris had been paid after a fashion. There also had been some difficulties about whether he was to be paid on what he received. He endeavoured to get all he could in his hands. Let him give a case which suggested the point. A brother not long since wrote to Bro. Binckes asking what amount was

required to be paid to make him a Vice-President. Bro. Binckes wrote in reply stating that the further payment would be 40 guineas. Not hearing from him after this, Bro. Binckes called on him to know whether he had received the letter. The brother said he had; but that he would like to give the subject further consideration—would Bro. Binckes call again after a short interval? After an interval Bro. Binckes accordingly called again. The brother said he was still unsettled, and he must think over it a little further. Afterwards the brother wrote saying that he had decided to give the 40 guineas. Bro. Harris got wind of the fact; called on the brother; sent in his card as Collector; and received the subscription in a cheque payable to Bro. Binckes or order. Did he (Bro. Symonds) blame Bro. Harris for that? No; he thought it was only natural he should in the position he occupied follow the course he pursued. If he (Bro. Symonds) had been in Bro. Harris's position he should have done the same thing. If the brethren were to put him in the Collector's place to be paid on the amounts he received he should feel it his duty to himself and his family by every possible means on every possible occasion to intercept every possible donation on its way to the Secretary. (Laughter.) Now, that would be the continual result of their appointing a Collector in the mode proposed. Did he blame Bro. Binckes for not allowing the Collector to have the means to prevent the subscription coming direct to the office? Did he blame Bro. Binckes for not letting the Collector have the information that would enable him to do so? He did not blame him; and he did not think the brethren ought to blame the Secretary of the Girls' School for doing all he could also to circumvent the Collector in getting his emoluments. If, therefore, Bro. Joseph Smith passed his resolution with regard to the duties of the Collector, the General Committee, of which Bro. Joseph Smith himself was a member, ought so clearly to define what the Collector was to receive and what he was not to receive, that there would be no chance of the Secretary subjecting himself to a charge or suspicion of, on his own motive, interfering with the Collector's emoluments. But he, Bro. Symonds, still believed that the best way, better for the Institution, would be to make the Secretary the Collector. The Secretary was now the Collector of the greater part of the subscriptions; let the Collector get in the remainder, and allow him a certain sum. It was not intended that the additional clerk, whom they proposed to give to the Secretary, should be the Collector. It was contemplated by himself, Bro. Symonds, and, he believed, all those who concurred with him, that the entire responsibility should be thrown on the Secretary, who might for the subscription send his head clerk or junior clerk, or go himself. Then again, the Secretary, he might say, had expressed not only his willingness to take that responsibility, but he believed that there would be less loss by lapse of subscriptions than there was at present. This plan admitted of easy trial. The Special Committee, after considering the question of appointing a permanent Collector, thought the plan of having a clerk might be tried. If, after a short period, even a twelve-month, this plan was not found to succeed, they would give the junior clerk the stipulated notice, and they would then proceed to appoint a Collector. But if they appointed a Collector as a permanent official they would hardly, except for gross misconduct, discharge him from his office until he thought fit to retire. Having made this statement he, Bro. Symonds, did not think he had omitted anything. He thought he had stated all the reasons that occurred to him in favour of the amalgamation of the offices of Secretary and Collector. He hoped that those who justifiably sought to reject the report would not succeed, but if they did he trusted they would give him and those who concurred with him, credit for having done what they believed to be their duty, and that they were actuated by an honest desire to promote the best interests of the Institution (hear, hear). He begged to conclude by moving that the Court agree with the Special Committee in their report, and that it be referred to the General Committee for execution."

Bro. Raynham W. Stewart seconded the motion, and said he must endorse every word that had fallen from Bro. Symonds. He did so after having carefully investigated the matter with Bro. Symonds. There was just cause of complaint on the part of the country subscribers who contributed their money with the belief that it would be paid to the Secretary, and that no commission would be deducted. He knew, however, that commission was allowed on it to the disgust of the country brethren. To use a vulgar phrase, it was doubly sweated; a commission was paid on the collection in the country, and another to the London Collector. He (Bro. Stewart) also desired to have credit for wishing to serve the Institution. He thought that if the money was paid to the Secretary they would save a large amount of money, and by that saving they would be enabled to put three additional children in the Institution, instead of squandering it away. No doubt Bro. Smith had the same idea of benefiting the Institution that he had. It was not likely they would be able to get a Collector to do the London work because it would not be worth his while; and if they got a man who collected for other institutions he could not do his duty to all. Let them try the proposed scheme for a twelvemonth, and see whether it would answer.

Bro. Joseph Smith, in moving his amendment for continuing the office of Collector, said he hoped they would not think he was actuated by a desire to raise a factious opposition. (No, no.) They were all anxious to do the best they could for the Institution, and if they believed their views were right there was no harm in stating their views in opposition. (Hear, hear.) He had never taken an active part in the management of the Boys' or the Girls' School; he devoted his time to the Benevolent Institution. The Boys' and Girls' Schools were so well managed they could take care of themselves without him. But when he did take part in it, it was when he thought the brethren were going to sell the Institution, and he then made a motion, which after all turned out to be the right course, and he had a committee appointed. At a former meeting there was a feeling in favour of doing away with the Collector, and he had a committee appointed. They met, and consisted of nine brethren. After their deliberation, they were just as near a result as before. At the meeting of the Committee there were four on each side, and the Chairman gave his casting vote. At the next meeting there were seven; there were three on one side and three on the other; and the Chairman again gave his casting vote. It was a new feature to do away with the Collector, and he did not think they would get the same amount of money by the new proposition. He had moved that a Collector be appointed, and paid only on such sums as he collected. This was the principle the brethren had to decide. He had a great objection to giving a Collector commission on what he did not receive, and he thought the brethren in the country had good ground for complaint when a Collector was so paid. He did not care what poundage they gave a Collector; and he did not care if they had another clerk in the office. If they wanted him let them have him; but if they had a Secretary or clerk, unless they gave him an inducement in the shape of a commission he would not try to collect the money. The clerk might be sent out on a fine day to collect, and might think it a good opportunity for taking a holiday. The payment of subscriptions was not like the payment of taxes. If brethren promised subscriptions to Stewards you might wait a long time before the brethren promising sent the subscription to the office. If a Collector called on them they would pay. He did not stand alone in his opinion; he had canvassed, and found several brethren entertained the same views. He thought the Charities would lose by the proposed plan.

Bro. H. G. Warren seconded the amendment. He was one of the minority in the Special Committee who voted for a Collector. When he entered on his duties he expected they were to enquire into something, and take evidence upon it. The resolutions which were come to were without the slightest attempt to get at any evidence whatever. (Cries of dissent.) (Order,

order.) Bro. Symonds had gone into a statement of what took place at the Committee, and he, Bro. Warren, had a perfect right to do the same. The only title of evidence was a statement by the Secretary, which he thought would astonish the brethren as much as it had astonished him, Bro. Warren, that they had 150 annual subscribers, and it had not been usual to look up the subscriber of one year for his subscription for the next year. With the embryo life subscribers it became a rule in some lodges that before they took office they should become Life Governors of the Charities, and consequently those who had subscribed for one year were, in the course of three or four years, life subscribers. But surely out of the number of Stewards they had, they ought to have more than 150 annual subscribers. They ought to have had evidence of that; and he would like to have asked Bro. Muggeridge how often he had to call upon them. Nothing of the kind took place. He would pass that over. As regarded the payment of commission, he perfectly agreed, as he believed every one present did, that they should not pay for work not done; they should fix a sum to be paid as commission on money collected, and pay no more. He would not put the Stewards' Lists into the hands of the Collector in the first instance. It had been usual not to let the Collector have those lists until after the first meeting of the Stewards at least. It was so when he was a Steward; but this was not a matter of so much importance as that they would find it difficult to place it all in one man's hands, unless they did it by making the Secretary the manager, and the sole manager, of the Institution. (A Voice: "So he ought to be.") That was a matter of opinion; he was not going to discuss that. He did not see the difficulty discovered by Bro. Raynham Stewart of getting a Collector, or that they could not get rid of a Collector with as much ease as they could get rid of a clerk. It did not matter what the title of the officer was; they could dismiss one as well as the other. There was a difficulty as regarded payment, and this belonged solely to the General Committee; but as it was raised at the Special Committee he would not be much out of order if he stated that there was a proposition to pay not only a salary, but commission. (A Voice: "No; it was abandoned.") It was not abandoned; it was only abandoned in so far as he stated that this being a matter for the General Committee they could not go into it; and the brethren said they should not press it. (A Voice: "It was abandoned.") Then he was perfectly satisfied with that. He was of opinion with Bro. Smith that if they sent out clerks to collect money in which they had no interest they would not find the same amount come in as they did when they had a Collector.

Bro. the Rev. A. F. A. Woodford said that this was a matter which agitated the provinces in past years very considerably, as he knew perfectly well when acting officially for a large and important province. He had listened most attentively to what Bro. Symonds had said, and he felt that after that very lucid and clear statement he was bound to give his support to the Committee. He had said to Bro. Joseph Smith on more than one occasion that he for one should be quite prepared to consider the question of the employment of a Collector as regarded the London brethren, if they so wished it, and it would be convenient for them. But as there were many difficulties in the way, he thought they were going to do the right thing by taking steps to prevent an abuse which had existed for years, and had prevented worthy brethren from becoming Life Governors because they would not pay a percentage for what the Collector had not done; they would not pay money, that is, to the institution for work never executed. The proposed plan, he believed, was not only the most business-like and straightforward, but would give large additional subscriptions from the provinces. He would mention a case, a true case, which a brother at the end of the table would confirm. In a province with which he was connected they sent up some years ago £2000 for the Girls' School, and on that they had to pay the Collector a sum which would amount to two life governorships, and not a sixpence of the whole subscription had passed

through the hands of the Collector. He would ask if that was not an abuse? He believed the proposal made by the Special Committee would prevent such an abuse; and as Freemasons did not like anything which was an abuse, he hoped that the brethren would give their hearty support to the Committee. (Hear, hear.)

Bro. G. M. E. Snow attacked the existing system, and contrasted it with that of the Merchant Seamen's Orphan Asylum and the Licensed Victuallers'.

Bro. Dr. Ramsay supported the original motion.

Bro. George Powell asked the Chairman whether the new plan was to be permanent or tentative.

The Chairman said tentative.

Bro. George Powell said he thought it was worth a trial. He also said he deduced from what Bro. Warren had said, that some of the opposing brethren had not been treated quite with courtesy on the Committee, and Bro. Symonds seemed to imply that the opposing brethren had not the interests of the Institution at heart. (No.)

Bro. Henry Venn thought the opinion of the Committee was very evenly balanced; but he believed that after the long experience they had had of a Collector, they could not do better than give a trial to the new feature.

Bro. Symonds, in replying upon the different arguments, said that with regard to want of courtesy that had never been suggested, and he had never meant to say that brethren not entertaining his own views were not solicitous for the welfare of the Institution. Bro. Smith had said several times in the course of his speech that they were going to do away with the Collector. They did not propose to do away with the Collector. They proposed to make the Secretary the Collector, as he was now the Collector of the larger portion of the subscriptions. The Committee were precluded from going into an enquiry on the subject by Bro. Smith proposing that a Collector should be appointed. They were rather in a hurry. Bro. Smith was taking his observation about going into detail in very good part, and he (Bro. Symonds) did not intend certainly to deceive him, and he thought it desirable that Bro. Smith should define what he meant. If they adopted what Bro. Smith proposed by his amendment, if a Collector was to be paid only on what he received, and he applied several times for a subscription, and that subscription was after all paid to the office, they would be bound by the resolution, and could not give him a sixpence commission. There seemed to be an impression that if the subscriptions were collected by the Secretary personally, or through his clerks, there would not be an inducement to them to get the subscriptions in if there was no commission paid. Bro. Little had never been paid by commission; Bro. Binckes was so paid at one time, and a certain small salary as well. That was afterwards altered, and a suitable salary was paid to him.

The amendment of Bro. Joseph Smith was then put and negatived, and the original motion of Bro. John Symonds was afterwards put and carried by a large majority.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman concluded the proceedings.

CONSECRATION OF THE ERA CHAPTER, No. 1423.

On Saturday last, November 25th, at the King's Arms Hotel, Hampton Court, a seventh chapter was added to the Royal Arch Masonic roll of Middlesex. The interesting ceremonies of consecration and installation were exceedingly well performed by the M.E.P.G.S. of Middlesex, Comp. Col. Francis Burdett, aided by Comps. J. Boyd, R. W. Little, P.G.H., and H. G. Buss, P.G.T. of Middlesex. The chapter was opened by the M.E.P.G.S., assisted by Comps. Boyd, acting H.; Little, acting J. Amongst the numerous and brilliant gathering present were Comps. Stedwell, P.G.J. of Middlesex; Roebuck, P.P.G.H. of Middlesex; Cubitt, P.Z., P.S.E. of Middlesex; Woodman, P.Z., P.G. D.C. of England, and P.P. First A.G.S. of Middlesex; Laxton, P.Z., P.G.R. of Middlesex; W. Hammond, P. Second A.G.S. of Middle-

sex, M.E.Z. 185; Thiellay, P.Z., P.G.D.C. of Middlesex; Sabine, P.Z., &c., M.E.Z. designate 1423; Mason, P.Z.; B. Sharp, P.Z. 84, &c.; Keily, P.Z. 214; Levander, P.Z. Burdett; Pearce, P.Z. 1293; Dr. Davison, M.E.Z. of 404 and 1293; J. Wright, H. 946; E. Hopwood, J. 1326; Dr. Ernest Brette, N. Royal Middlesex; Baxter Langley, Third Principal designate 1423; Dunham, 70; Baldwin, 73; T. C. Walls, 185; and Shackleton, 1326. The founders having stated that they fully approved of the companions, mentioned in the warrant, to be the Principals, viz., Comps. Sabine, as M.E.Z.; Thiellay, as H.; and B. Langley, as J., the chapter was formally consecrated.

That impressive ceremonial being ended, the installation of the Principals was immediately proceeded with, and carried out most effectively and efficiently.

The only officers of the new chapter invested were Comps. Mason, as N., and W. Hammond, as D.C.

The M.E.Z. appointed Comps. F. Walters, P.Z., &c., as S.E., and Wilkins, P.Z., as P.S., and stated that the other appointments would be made at the first regular meeting.

The names of several joining companions having been read, the chapter was duly closed, and the Provincial Grand Convocation opened by the M.E.P.G.S., Comp. Colonel F. Burdett, assisted by Comps. R. W. Little, P.G.H., and Stedwell, P.G.J.

The other officers of P.G.C. present were, Comps. Buss, Treas.; Cubitt, S.E.; Laxton, R.; W. Hammond, 2nd A.S.; Sabine, S.B.; Thiellay, D.C. The minutes of the previous Provincial Grand Convocation having been read and confirmed, the M.E.P.G.S. invested his officers for the year ensuing as follows: Comps. Dr. Davison, H.; Boyd, J.; Little, S.E.; Levander, N.; Buss, Treas. (unanimously re-elected); Pearce, R.; Sabine, P.S.; W. Hammond, P.A.S.; Dr. E. Brett, 2nd A.S.; Holden, (by deputy), S.B.; Keily, Std. Br.; Mason, Org.; J. Wright, D.C.; Gilbert, Janitor.

The report of the auditors having been postponed the P.G.C. was closed, and the companions adjourned to an excellent banquet. Upon the removal of the cloth the usual loyal and R.A. toasts were briefly given by the M.E.P.G.S., and warmly received.

The toast of "The G.O.'s of England" was acknowledged by Comp. Woodham, P.G.D.C., in a few well-chosen words.

"The Health of the P.G.S. of Middlesex" was proposed by Comp. Roebuck. In the course of his remarks he said that the name of their M.E.G.S. was not only deservedly honoured in Middlesex, but in every other province in the kingdom. He was pleased to see him in such excellent health and spirits, and he fervently hoped that he would be spared many years to rule over the convocations and lodges of the important Masonic province of Middlesex.

The M.E.P.G.S., in reply, stated that he was exceedingly gratified that Royal Arch Masonry was slowly gaining strength in the province, but he thought that many other lodges in Middlesex might bestir themselves, and establish chapters for the advancement of the degree. He then said that he was greatly indebted to many distinguished companions present for the able assistance that they had rendered him since he had had the honour of being appointed P.G.S. He hoped that they would always support him in paying allegiance to the S.G.C. of England, and in conclusion he expressed himself greatly pleased and proud at holding the position he occupied in the province, and also that it had afforded him very great pleasure at being able to preside on that particular occasion.

"The Health of the Second and Third Provincial Grand Principals" followed.

Comp. Dr. Davison, in the course of an able reply, expressed his thanks to the M.E.G.S. for having done him the honour of appointing him to the high position of H. in the P.G. Chapter, and hoped that he should discharge his duties to the satisfaction of all.

Comp. Boyd, Third Principal, in answer to repeated calls, made an amusing speech. He said that he thought the observations of the prophet might have sufficed for the present, but as they had so warmly called upon him to say a

few words, he would endeavour to get out of the difficulty as speedily as possible. He then went on to tell them that he was exceedingly gratified with the rank that had that day been conferred upon him by their M.E.G.S., and that he would try in every way to merit the distinction, and respectfully hoped that the appointment would meet with the approbation of the companions of the province, and concluded his speech by stating that he admired the Craft, but was proud of Royal Arch Masonry.

"The Health of the Subordinate Officers" followed.

In concluding his remarks in connection with this toast, the M.E.P.G.S. said he wished them all long life, good health, and prosperity.

Comp. Little, S.E., in the course of his response said that he was glad that that day had given another chapter to the Royal Arch roll of Middlesex, which now numbered seven. When the Grand Chapter of the province was first formed there were but three chapters, and he hoped that the good work would continue to progress. In conclusion, after returning thanks for "The Present and Past Grand Officers," he stated that he had great pleasure in informing them that the funds of the P.G. Chapter were in a highly satisfactory condition.

The toast of the evening, viz., "The Era Chapter," gave the M.E.P.G.S. an opportunity of indulging in an excellent speech. He said that to a certain extent the Grand Chapter of the province had met under the auspices of the promoters of the Era, and he personally was proud at being able to preside on the occasion. He was sure that under the direction of so able and experienced a chief as Comp. Sabine, supported by those excellent Comps. Thiellay and Langley, the chapter must flourish. It was very gratifying to him to see such worthy companions inaugurating a new era in the history of their lodge by founding an "Era" Chapter. (Laughter.) In conclusion he sincerely hoped that the chapter that had that day been formally consecrated would soon become one of the most flourishing in the Province of Middlesex.

In the unavoidable absence of Comp. Sabine, M.E.Z. Comp. Thiellay made a neat reply, in which he stated that under the auspices of Comp. Sabine, the First Principal, he felt confident that the Era Chapter must prosper, and concluded by saying that he hoped the P.G. Chapter would never have occasion to regret having enrolled under its distinguished banner No. 1423.

The M.E.P.G.S. then proposed, in very complimentary terms, "The Health of Comp. Walls," for services rendered during the evening's proceedings, which honour was briefly acknowledged by the companion mentioned.

The companions shortly afterwards separated.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF EAST LANCASHIRE.

The half-yearly meeting of the above Provincial Grand Lodge was held in the Commissioners' Rooms, Middleton, on Wednesday, the 22nd November, under the auspices of the Imperial George Lodge, No. 78. There was a large attendance of the brethren from all parts of the province, amongst whom were Bros. Col. Le Gendre N. Starkie, R.W. Prov. G. Master; J. L. Hine, P. Prov. G. Warden, as Dep. Prov. G. Master; Wm. Harrison, Prov. S.G. Warden; Thomas Rose, Prov. J.G. Warden; R. H. Hutchinson, P. Prov. G. Warden; C. R. N. Beswick-Royds, P. Prov. G. Warden; James A. Birch, P. Prov. G. Warden; Rev. Alfred Salts, LL.D., Prov. G. Chaplain; Rev. S. Y. B. Bradshaw, Prov. G. Chaplain; T. J. Hooper, Prov. G. Treas.; John Barker, P. Prov. G. Treas.; Saml. Cheetham, P. Prov. G. Treas.; Saml. Statham, P. Prov. G. Treas.; Charles Heywood, P. Prov. G. Registrar; John Tunnah, Prov. G. Sec.; Albert Wolstenholm, Prov. J.G. Deacon; W. H. Prince, P. Prov. G. Deacon; Jno. S. Veevers, P. Prov. G. Deacon; G. P. Brockbank, P. Prov. G. Deacon; Wm. Slater, P. Prov. G. Deacon; Isaac W. Petty, P. Prov. G. Deacon; John Pilling, Prov. G. Supt. of Works; C. M. Jones, Prov. G. Dir. of Cers.; Robert Whittaker, P. Prov. G. Dir. of Cers.; J. H. Sillitoe, Prov. G. Assist. Dir. of Cers.; Thos. Grime, P. Prov. G. Assist. Dir. of Cers.; James Mills, Prov. G. Sword Bearer; Henry Maiden, P. Prov. G. Sword Bearer; William Barlow, P. Prov. G. Sword Bearer; Thos. Taylor, P. Prov. G. Sword Bearer; Thos. Hargreaves, Prov. G. Org.; Edwin Halliwell, P. Prov. G. Org.; W. H. Cunliffe, Prov. G. Purst.; Westry Penn, Prov. G. Assist. Purst.; also Bros. Rev. H. Bethell Jones, Prov. G. Chaplain West Lancashire; G. D. Pochin, Prov. G. Reg. West Lancashire; Joseph Travis, Prov. G. Org. Cheshire; and representa-

tives from the whole of the eighty-two lodges in the province.

The Provincial Grand Lodge was opened in due form and with prayer at half-past one o'clock in the afternoon.

The Provincial Grand Secretary read letters of apology from absent Provincial Grand Officers, including one from Bro. George Mellor, Dep. Prov. G. Master, who was prevented from being present by indisposition.

The minutes of the last meeting of Provincial Grand Lodge (printed copies of which had been circulated in the province) were, by the consent of the meeting, taken as read, and were thereupon confirmed.

Bro. Hine, Chairman of the Charity Committee, read the minutes of proceedings of the committee, which included several recommendations of grants of benevolence from the Prov. G. Lodge fund. The proceedings of the committee were confirmed, and their recommendations adopted by Prov. G. Lodge.

The following brethren were appointed Auditors of the Prov. G. Treasurer's accounts, viz., Bros. David Reid, W.M. 78; Robt. Caldwell, W.M. 1011; and Francis R. Hollins, W.M. 581.

The R.W. Prov. G. Master intimated that he was open to receive suggestions as to the place for holding the next regular meeting of Prov. G. Lodge, and applications were made for such meeting to be held at Bury, Denton, Todmorden, and Haslingden respectively. At a subsequent part of the day's proceedings the R.W. Prov. G. Master announced that he had determined to hold such meeting at Todmorden in May next.

A resolution was passed to the effect that it is desirable to erect an illuminated window in Heaton Mersey Church, to the memory of the late Bro. W. Romaine Callender, M.P., Deputy Prov. G. Master, by subscriptions from the lodges and brethren of the province, and a committee was appointed to carry the project into effect.

Bro. Hine, Chairman of the Charity Committee, gave notice that at the next meeting of the Prov. G. Lodge he would propose that grants be made from the Prov. G. Lodge fund in aid of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and Widows, and the Royal Masonic Institutions for Girls and Boys.

It was announced at the meeting that the total amount of subscriptions and donations in aid of the East Lancashire Systematic Masonic Educational and Benevolent Institution received up to this time amounted to £1607 6s.

All business being concluded the Prov. G. Lodge was closed in due form and with prayer at three o'clock in the afternoon. The brethren then moved in procession to the Co-operative Hall, where the banquet was celebrated under the presidency of the R.W. Prov. G. Master, supported by a numerous assemblage of Prov. G. Officers and brethren.

Obituary.

BRO. THE DUKE DE SALDANHA.

THE death of that distinguished Mason is announced, His Excellency Marshal the Duke of Saldanha, Portuguese Ambassador at this Court, a member of the 33rd Degree in Portugal, and one of the Chiefs of Portuguese Masonry.

We need not here allude to his biography generally, as it has been given in the "Times" and other of our contemporaries. It is in the Duke of Saldanha's capacity as a Mason that we find the key to the "Times" reference to his being the representative of the secret societies. The English officers during the Peninsular War had widely spread Masonry and protected the lodges, while they saved from the clutches of the Inquisition the Masons condemned to the flames of the Auto da Fé. One of those so saved was the famous Hippolito José da Costa. These men maintained liberalism in Portugal and Brazil, and Saldanha had joined the ranks of the Craft. He was additionally obnoxious to the clerical party as being a grandson and representative of the great statesman the Marquis de Pombal, who expelled the Jesuits from Portugal.

The "Times" and "Pall Mall Gazette" have not explained this part of Saldanha's life. Saldanha, then Count de Saldanha, was not living in England, but in Paris. Although Emperor Don Pedro was a Mason, the parties around him were indisposed to Saldanha as the head of the Constitutionalists and Masons. The Portuguese Masons had been received with great kindness by the brethren in Plymouth, and none the less by those in France on their removal thither. Thus it resulted that in Paris a great point of union for these unfavoured leaders was the distinguished R. C. Chapter of St. Louis de Martinique, in which Saldanha took an active part. As the main body were stationed by the French Government at a distance from the Spanish frontier, the Dunkirk Lodges became their protectors. Thus was formed among the Portuguese and Anglo-Portuguese what was called the northern party, including Bro. Saldanha, General Count Villafior (afterwards Duke of Perceira), Bro. General Cabrera, Bro. Colonel Henry Clarke, Count de Falkenberg, Bro. General Sir Thomas Stubbs, (afterwards Baron Villa Nova de Gaya), Bro. Lionel Tavares Cabral, (afterwards Minister), Bro. Julio Gomez de Silva Sanchez (afterwards Prime Minister), and others.

Bro. the Duke of Saldanha leaves the Duchess, an English lady, to mourn his loss, in company with so many who had benefited by his services.

We cannot go into the political history of the Duke of Saldanha, as that belongs to other biographers. We are only Freemasons.

The "Graphic" has the following:—"His Excellency the Portuguese Ambassador at the English Court died on Tuesday, at his residence in London. He was born about 1790, and was therefore about eighty-six years of age. The Duke had taken an active part in public affairs in Portugal during the last fifty years. He was Minister for Foreign Affairs under King John VI., and took a prominent part in opposing the usurpation of Don Miguel. After

the failure of that opposition he retired to England, where he remained till 1834, when he returned to Portugal, and became one of the chief counsellors of Don Pedro in his war against Don Miguel, in which he acted as General and Chief of the Staff, and signed, with Don Pedro, the decisive capitulation of Evora. The Duke afterwards became Minister of War and President of the Council; but after his retirement from office he, in 1836, was concerned in an unsuccessful reactionary movement, and was again exiled to England, where he remained until 1846, when another revolution brought him back to power. From this he was dispossessed in 1849 by the second dictatorship of Costa Cabral, whom the Duke in turn overthrew in 1851, and remained in office during the minority of Don Pedro V., until 1856. In May, 1870, he headed a military outbreak, which resulted in a new Ministry being formed under his presidency. He retained office until February, 1871, and has for some years represented his country at the British Court."

BRO. HENRY MELLON.

We learn with sincere regret of the death of Bro. Henry Mellon, which sad event took place on Saturday last. He was for many years connected successfully with the theatrical profession, but had, previous to his death, retired from the stage some little time, owing to his very indolgent health. Bro. Mellon's sufferings were very acute, but we are informed he bore them with great patience. He has left a sorrowing widow to mourn his loss.

MASONIC BALL AT CAMBRIDGE.

This ball was given by the Isaac Newton University Lodge of Freemasons, under the presidency of the Rev. J. W. Cartmell, Fellow of Christ's, W.M., the list of stewards being headed by the Earl of Hardwicke, P.G.M., and Bro. G. Ainslie, P.M., being Hon. Secretary. The Lodge was founded in 1861, the Duke of St. Albans being the first Master, and since that period the chair has been occupied by many distinguished members of the University, and several hundred members have been initiated. The first quadrille was danced by all the brethren in Craft aprons, those entitled to provincial rank wearing the distinguishing purple and gold. The members of the higher degrees afterwards assumed their respective dresses, separate sets of Lancers being allotted to the Mark Masters and Royal Ark Mariners, the Royal Arch, the Rose Croix, the Knights Templar, and the Knights of Malta.

The engraving represents the third figure of the Knight Templars' Lancers, when the knights cross their swords over their partners' heads. The dress is a white tunic and mantle, with a red cross. The head of the order in England is the Prince of Wales, and the engraving will remind its members of the Prince's reception as Grand Master, when he was received under the "Arch of Steel" by more than 400 knights. The Earl of Limerick is second in command, and Sir Patrick Colquhoun, Q.C., Grand Chancellor. The Cambridge Preceptory is presided over by Professor Kalley Miller, and among the Past Preceptors are the Rev. Dr. Bryan Walker, the Rev. A. B. Frazer, and the Rev. J. F. Hardy, of Alpine fame. The dress of the Knights of Malta is a scarlet tunic and black mantle, each of which bears the white cross of the order.—"Graphic."

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.—

Bro. Constable's tickets, entitling the holder to a chance in the drawing for Life Governorships of the above Institution, are now ready, price one shilling each. To be had of Bro. J. Constable, 13, Sise Lane, Cannon-street, London, E.C.

METROPOLITAN MASONIC MEETINGS.

For the Week ending Friday, December 8, 1876.

The Editor will be glad to receive notice from Secretaries of Craft Lodges, Royal Arch Chapters, Mark Lodges, Preceptories, Conclaves, &c., of any change in place or time of meeting.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2.

Gen. Com. Boys' School at 4.
Lodge 142, St. Thomas's, Cannon-st. Hot.
" 1572, Camarvon, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
" 1622, Rose, Surrey M.H.
Chap. 375, Rose of Denmark, Star and Garter, Kew-bdg.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Lily, Greyhound, Richmond.
Manchester, 77, London-st., Fitzroy-sq.
Star, Marquis of Granby, New Cross-rd.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 4.

Lodge 12, Fortitude & Old Cumberland, Ship & Turtle.
" 25, Robert Burns, F.M.H.
" 69, Unity.
" 72, Royal Jubilee, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
" 83, United of Prudence, Albion, Aldersgate-st.
" 144, St. Luke's, M.H., Mason's Avenue.
" 188, Joppa, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
" 256, Unions, F.M.H.
" 1319, Asaph, F.M.H.
" 1625, Tredegar, Royal Hot., Mile End-rd.
Chap. 91, Regularity, F.M.H.
" 1056, Victoria, M.H., Masons' Avenue.
Red Cross Con., Premier, 68, Regent-st., W.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Prince Leopold, Lord Stanley Tav., Kingsland.
Strong Man, Jerusalem Tav., St. John's Gate.
Sincerity, Railway Tav., Fenchurch-st. Station.
Camden, Stanhope Arms, Up. James-st., Camden To.
Eastern, Royal Hot., Mile-end-road.
St. James's Union, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Wellington, White Swan, Deptford.

Perfect Ashlar, Victoria Tav., Lower-rd., Rotherhithe.
Upper Norwood, White Hart Hot., Church-rd.
Marquis of Ripon, Pembury Tav., Amherst-rd., Hackney.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5.

Lodge 7, Royal York of Perseverance, F.M.H.
" 18, Old Dundee.
" 101, Temple, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.
" 172, Old Concord, F.M.H.
" 217, Stability, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
" 765, St. James's, Bridge House Hot.
" 1257, Grosvenor, Caledonian Hot., Adelphi.
" 1259, Duke of Edinburgh, C. of G. Hope Tav., E.
" 1261, Golden Rule, Regent M.H., Regent-st.
" 1298, R. Standard, Wellington Club, Upper-st., N
" 1381, Kennington, Surrey Tav., Kennington Oval
" 1383, Friends in Council, 33, Golden-sq.
" 1472, Henley, Three Crowns Hot., Woolwich.
Chap. 145, Prudent Brethren, F.M.H.
" 169, Temperance, White Swan, High-st., Deptford

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Metropolitan, 269, Pentonville-rd.
Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney.
Domestic, Surrey M.H., Camberwell New-road.
Faith, 2, Westminster Chambers, Victoria-st.
Prince Fredk. Wm., Lord's Hot., St. John's Wood.
Dalhousie, King Edward, Triangle, Hackney.
Prosperity, Hercules Tav., Aldersgate-st.
St. Marylebone, British Stores Tav., St. John's Wood.
Constitutional, Wheatheaf Hot., Hand-court, Holborn.
Israel, Rising Sun Tav., Globe Road.
Royal Arthur, Prince's Head, York-road, Battersea.
Beacontree, Red Lion, Leytonstone.
Excelsior, Commercial Dock Tav., Rotherhithe.
St. John of Wapping, Gun Hot., High-st., Wapping.
Metropolitan Chapter, Jamaica Coffee Ho., Cornhill.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 6.

Quar. Com. Grand Lodge, at 6 for 7.
Lodge 511, Zetland, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
" 1585, Royal Commemoration, Star & Garter, Putney.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Confidence, M.H., Basinghall-st.
Mt. Lebanon, Windsor Castle Tav., Southwark-bdg-rd.
Pythagorean, Prince of Orange, Greenwich.
New Concord, Rosemary Branch Tav., Hoxton.
Royal Union, Horse and Groom, Winsley-st., Oxford-st.
Mount Edgcombe, 19, Jermyn-st., St. James's.
Peckham, Maismore Arms, Park-road, Peckham.
Stanhope, Thicket Hot., Anerley.
Finsbury Park, Finsbury Park Tav., Seven Sisters'-rd.
Southwark, Southwark Park Tav., Southwark Park.
Duke of Connaught, Havelock Tav., Dalston, E.
United Strength, Grafton Arms, Kentish-town.
Islington, Crown and Cushion, London Wall.
Whittington, Black Bull Tav., Holborn.
Lewis, King's Arms Hot., Wood Green.
Langthorne, Swan Hot., Stratford.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7.

Lodge 10, Westminster and Keystone, F.M.H.
" 27, Egyptian, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
" 45, Strong Man, M.H., Masons' Avenue.
" 92, Moira.
" 192, Lion and Lamb, Cannon-st. Hot.
" 227, Ionic, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.
" 231, St. Andrew's, F.M.H.
" 539, La Tolerance, F.M.H.
" 558, Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney.
" 822, Victoria Rifles, F.M.H.
" 1178, Perfect Ashlar, Bridge House Hot.
" 1351, St. Clement Danes, 265, Strand.
" 1445, Prince Leopold, Sandringham-rd., Kingsland.
" 1539, Surrey Masonic Hall, S.M.H.
Chap. 2, St. James's, F.M.H.
" 9, Moriah, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
" 174, Sincerity, Cheshire Cheese, Crutched Friars.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Egyptian, Hercules Tav., Leadenhall-st.
Fidelity, Yorkshire Grey, London-st., W.
Finsbury, Jolly Anglers' Tav., Bath-st., City-road.
Temperance in the East, Catherine-st., Poplar.
Ebury, 12, Ponsonby-st., Milbank.
Highgate, Ball and Gate, Kentish-town.
The Great City, 111, Cheapside.
High Cross, Coach & Horses, High-road, Tottenham.
Salisbury, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Prince Frederick William Chapter, St. John's Wood.
Southern Star, Crown Hot., Blackfriars-rd.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8.

Lodge 134, Caledonian, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.
" 157, Bedford, F.M.H.
" 177, Domestic, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
" 1275, Star, Ship Hot., Greenwich.
" 1420, Faith Spencer, New Wandsworth.
Precep. 26, Faith and Fidelity, Cannon-st. Hot.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Union Waterloo, Thomas-st., Woolwich.
Robert Burns, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Belgrave, Constitution, Bedford-st., Covent Garden.
Unions Emulation (for M.M.'s), F.M.H.
Temperance, Victoria Tav., Victoria-road, Deptford.
Clapton, White Hart, Clapton.
Metropolitan, Portugal Hot., Fleet-st.
Westbourne, Horse & Groom, Winsley-st., Oxford-st.
United Pilgrims, Surrey M.H., Camberwell New-road.
St. James's, New Tanners' Arms, Grange-rd., Bermondsey.
Duke of Edinburgh, Silver Lion, Penny-fields, Poplar.
Doric, Earl Grey Tav., Mile-end-road.
Burgoyne, Grafton Arms, Prince of Wales's-road, N.W.
St. Luke's, White Hart, King's-rd., Chelsea.
Chigwell, Bald-faced Stag Hot., Buckhurst-hill.
Burdett Courts, Approach Tav., Victoria Park.
Royal Standard, The Castle, Holloway-rd.

Ranelagh, Clarendon Hot., Hammersmith.
Stability, Guildhall Tav., Gresham-st.
St. George's, Globe Tav., Greenwich.
Pythagorean Chapter, Prince of Orange, Greenwich-rd.
William Preston, Upper George-st., Edgware-rd.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN WEST LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE.

For the Week ending Saturday, December 9, 1876.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 4.

Lodge 112, Unanimity, Bull Hot., Church-st., Preston.
" 1045, Stamford, T.H., Altrincham.
" 1051, Rowley, M.R., Athenæum, Lancaster.
" 1264, Neptune, M.H., Liverpool.
" 1380, Skelmersdale, Queen's Hot., Waterloo.
Everton L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.
Skelmersdale Red Cross Con., 77, M.H., Liverpool.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5.

Lodge 178, Antiquity, Royal Hot., Wigan.
" 673, St. John's, M.H., Liverpool.
" 995, Furness, M.T., Ulverston.
" 1384, Equity, Walker's Com. Hot., Widnes.
" 1476, Blackpool, Clifton Arms Hot., Blackpool.
Chap. 203, St. John of Jerusalem, M.H., Liverpool.
Mark Lodge 161, Walton, Schl. Rm., Croxlands-st., Lpool.
Merchants' L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 6.

Lodge 730, Ellesmere, Royal Oak Hot., Chorley.
" 1013, Royal Victoria, M.H., Liverpool.
" 1061, Triumph, M.H., Lytham.
" 1335, Lindsay, 20, King-st., Wigan.
" 1354, Marquis of Lorne, M.R., Leigh.
" 1403, W. Lancashire, Com. Hot., Ormskirk.
Chap. 477, Fidelity, 55, Argyle-st., Birkenhead.
De Grey and Ripon L. of I., N. Hill-st., Liverpool.
Downshire L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.
Harmonic L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7.

Lodge 249, Mariners, M.H., Liverpool.
" 1473, Bootle, Assembly Rooms, Bootle.
Chap. 758, Bridgewater, M.H., Runcorn.
St. John L. of I., M.H., Runcorn.
St. John's L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8.

Lodge 155, Perseverance, M.H., Liverpool.
" 1289, Rock, Bedford House, Rock Ferry.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN GLASGOW AND WEST OF SCOTLAND.

For the Week ending Saturday, December 9, 1876.
All the Meetings take place at Eight o'clock.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 4.

Lodge 20, St. John, M.H., Lesmahagow.
" 124, Kilwinning, Union Tav., Ayr.
" 129, St. Mirren, 5, Moss-st., Paisley.
" 138, Operative, Blue Bell Hot., Ayr.
" 237, St. John, Masonic Arms, Girvan.
" 332, Union, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
" 581, Plantation, Craigiehall-st., S.S., Glasgow.
Chap. 53, Dumbarton, Elephant Hot., Dumbarton.
" 119, Rosslyn, 25, Robertson-st.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5.

Lodge 34, St. John, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
" 68, Doric Kilwinning, 44, Church-st., Port Glsgrw.
" 73, Thistle and Rose, 213, Buchanan-st., Glsgrw.
" 87, Thistle, 30, Cathedral-st., Glasgow.
" 173, St. John Kilwinning, M.H., Largs.
" 177, St. James, Old Monkland, M.H., Coatbridge.
" 406, St. John Dalziel, M.H., Motherwell.
" 433, St. Thomas, Eglinton Hot. Dalmellington.
" 437, Govandale, M.H., Portland Buildings, Govan.
" 442, Neptune, M.H., Princes Lane, Ardrossan.
" 497, St. John, Brewery Lesser Hall, Catrine.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 6.

Lodge 0, Mother Kilwinning, M.H., Kilwinning.
" 4, Glasgow Kilwinning, 162, Kent-rd., Glasgw.
" 21, Old St. John, M.H., Lanark.
" 86, Navigation, Navigation Arms Hot., Troon.
" 117, St. Mary, M.H., Douglas-st., Partick.
" 126, St. Andrew, George Hot., Kilmarnock.
" 128, St. John, M.H., Shettleston.
" 166, St. John, M.H., Airdrie.
" 198, Royal Arch, King's Arms Hot., Maybole.
" 202, St. Clement, Com. H., Croft-st., Kilmarnock.
" 233, Hamilton, Spalding's Hot., Hamilton.
" 331, St. Peter, Portland Arms, Galston.
" 354, Caledonian Railway, 30, Hope-st., Glasgow.
" 571, Dramatic, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow (3p.m.)
Chap. 87, Shamrock and Thistle, 12, Trongate, Glasgw

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7.

Lodge 11, St. John, King's Arms, Maybole.
" 22, St. John Kilwinning, George H., Kilmarnock.
" 27, St. Munro, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
" 149, St. Andrew, Masons' Arms, Irvine.
" 157, St. John Kilwinning, M.H., Beith.
" 165, Royal Arch, King's Arms, Ayr.
" 290, Blair, White Hart Hot., Dalry.
" 320, St. John, R.A., M.H., Saltcoats & Ardrossan.
" 370, Renfrew County Kilw., 8, High-st., Paisley.
" 465, St. Andrew, 69, Garngad-rd., Glasgow, (7.30.
" 547, Stewart, M.H., Kilsyth.
Chap. 147, Baron of Renfrew, M.H., High-st., Renfrew.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8.

Lodge 18, Dumbarton, M.H., Church-st., Dumbarton.
" 147, Cadder Argyle, M.H., Chryston.
" 153, Royal Arch, M.H., Cogan-st., Pollokshaws.
" 170, Leven St. John, Black Bull Inn, Renton.
" 427, St. Clair, M.H., Cambusnethan.
Chap. 144, St. Rollox, 69, Garngad-rd., Glasgow.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN EDINBURGH AND VICINITY.

For the Week ending Saturday, December 9, 1876.

- MONDAY, DECEMBER 4.**
Lodge 429, St. Kentigern, Royal Hot., Penicik.
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5.
Lodge 5, Canongate and Leith, 86, Constitution-st.
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7.
Lodge 97, St. James, M.H., Writers'-ct.
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8.
Chap. 56, Canongate Kilwinning, M.H., St. John-st.

TO BUILDERS.

THE BUILDING COMMITTEE OF THE ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS invite Tenders for erecting a NEW LAUNDRY at the premises, Battersea Rise. Forms of Tender may be obtained from the Secretary, at the Office of the Institution, Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street, W.C., and the drawings and specification may be seen at the Office of the Surveyor, Mr. Massa, 4, Dowgate Hill, Cannon-street, E.C. The quantities and particulars may be obtained on payment of £5 to the Secretary, which will be returned on receipt of a bona-fide Tender. No Tender will be received unless on the printed form issued. The Tenders are to be sent to the Office, Freemasons' Hall, not later than 12 o'clock on Thursday, the 21st day of December, 1876.

The works are to be commenced in May next, and the Contractor will have to name in his Tender two substantial sureties to enter with himself, into a bond of £1000 penalty for the due and proper execution of the Works. The Committee does not bind itself to accept the lowest or any Tender, nor to pay any expenses attending the same.

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UNITED GRAND LODGE.

The Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, was held on Wednesday evening at Freemasons' Hall. Lord Skelmersdale, D.G.M., presided, Lord Donoughmore, S.G.W.; Hon. W. Vernon, J.G.W.; Sir Albert W. Woods (Garter), G.D.C.; Æ. McIntyre, Q.C., G.R.; Dr. Rhys Williams, A.G.D.C.; J. B. Monckton, President of the Board of General Purposes; Lieut.-Col. Birchall; T. W. Boord, M.P.; N. F. Nettleship, E. J. Barron, J. M. Case, Capt. S. G. Homfray, Earl of Shrewsbury, W. W. B. Beach, R. Bagshawe, Col. Burdett, Dr. Hamilton, Rev. J. S. Brownrigg, Rev. C. W. Arnold, Samuel Tomkins, S. Rawson, Rev. R. J. Simpson, Rev. J. E. Cox, Rev. A. B. Frazer, Hyde Pullen, Rev. Sir J. Warren Hayes, H. J. P. Dumas, Rev. C. J. Martyn, Brackstone Baker, Hon. R. Giddy, Thomas Fenn, Joshua Nunn, J. R. Rucker, H. Grissell, J. M. Clabon, C. A. Murton, E. Snell, Wilhelm Kuhe, G. Org.; James Mason, Dr. Erasmus Wilson, R. J. Spiers, H. D. Sandeman, H. Browse, James Glaisher, J. C. Parkinson, John Symonds, F. A. Philbrick, Q.C., F. Pattison, Thos. Cubitt, John Emmens, George Kenning, P.G.D. Middlesex; N. B. Headon, P.M.; G. Freeman, P. M. Holden, W.M.; 563; W-S. Whitaker, F. Keily, G.T. Middlesex; J. M. Levick, Jno. Mason, Wm. Stephens, M. S. Larham, H. A. Dubois, P.G.S.D. Middlesex; W. Ramsay, C. F. Hogard, J. Bingemann, H. Dicketts, J. Boyd, P.G.P.; Jas. Willing, Jno. Douglas, F. Rinkes, P.G.S.; J. Terry, E. J. Harty, Jno. Peartree, Thos. Kingston, John While, J. Steedman, C. F. Moutrie, Horace Jones, J. W. Baldwin, J. Baxter Langley, Capt. N. G. Philips, Major Shadwell Clerke, Griffiths Smith, H. Garrod, and John Hervey, Grand Secretary.

Grand Lodge having been formally opened, Grand Secretary read the minutes of Quarterly Communication of 6th September, which were then confirmed.

Lord Skelmersdale then said that the next business on the paper was the nomination of M.W.G.M. for the ensuing year.

Bro. Gould, W.M. 92, P.M. 153, 570, and 743, rose and said: M.W.G.M. in the chair, I beg to propose Bro. His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M., for re-election as Grand Master for the ensuing year. (Loud applause).

After a short pause Lord Skelmersdale said: Has any one the name of any other brother to nominate?

This question was received with considerable merriment.

The next business on the paper being the nomination of a President of the Lodge of Benevolence, Lord Skelmersdale said: Bro. John M. Clabon, P.G.D., is appointed by the Grand Master as President of the Lodge of Benevolence. (Cheers.)

Bro. Joshua Nunn, P.G.S.B., was re-elected Senior Vice-President of the Lodge of Benevolence, and Bro. James Brett, Junior Vice-President, no other brothers having been nominated at the Board of Masters.

The election of 12 Past Masters to serve on the Board being the next business, Bro. Hervey announced that the names of 12 Past Masters only had been given in, and consequently there

would be no election. The names were Bros. Charles Atkins, P.M. 27; Henry Bartlett, P.M. 147; Herbert Dicketts, P.M. 25; Henry Garrod, P.M. 749; C. F. Hogard, P.M. 205; W. T. Howe, P.M. 1445; William Mann, P.M. 186; W. H. Myers, P.M. 820; Samuel Poynter, P.M. 1491; Griffiths Smith, P.M. 21; William Smith, P.M. 33; and William Stephens, P.M. 1365.

This was put to the Grand Lodge and confirmed.

The following grants, recommended by the Lodge of Benevolence, were then separately moved, seconded, and carried:—

A brother of the Lodge of Loyalty, No. 243, Guernsey £50 0 0
A brother of the Royal Navy Lodge, No. 429, Ramsgate 50 0 0
A brother of the Athol Lodge, No. 74, Birmingham 100 0 0
The widow of a brother of the Worcester Lodge, No. 280, Worcester 50 0 0
A brother of the Cleveland Lodge, No. 543, Stokesley 50 0 0
The widow of a brother of the Lodge of Unions, No. 256, London 100 0 0
A brother of the Globe Lodge, No. 23, London 50 0 0

The following report of the Board of General Purposes was brought before Grand Lodge.

"To the United Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of England:

"The Board of General Purposes have to report that their attention has been called to several instances of the issue of circulars on the part of proposed new lodges, prior to consecration, inviting members of the Craft to become joining members of such lodges.

"The Board have the special directions of the Pro Grand Master to make it known, that such proceedings meet with his lordship's entire disapproval, and entail the risk of the withdrawal of the warrant.

(Signed) "JOHN B. MONCKTON,
President.

"Freemasons' Hall, London, W.C.,
21st November, 1876."

To the report is subjoined a statement of the Grand Lodge accounts at the last meeting of the Finance Committee, held on Friday, the 17th day of November last, showing a balance in the hands of the Grand Treasurer of £4086 15s. 10d.; and in the hands of the Grand Secretary, for petty cash, £75; and for servants' wages, £96 15s.

Bro. Monckton said that this report being in the hands of all the brethren, he begged to move that it be taken as read.

This having been seconded, was put and carried.

Bro. Monckton said that there being nothing in the report to be confirmed on the part of Grand Lodge, he should content himself by moving that the report be received and entered on the minutes.

This motion also having been seconded, was put and carried.

Two appeals were then brought on. The first was an appeal of the Sussex Lodge, No. 354, Kingston, Jamaica, against the judgment of the District Grand Lodge of East Jamaica, directing the lodge to rescind its minute of the 28th of July, 1875, accepting the resignation of a brother until certain charges alleged against him had been enquired into.

Bro. Æ. J. McIntyre, Grand Registrar, said that in the ordinary course of his duty he should have to state to Grand Lodge the facts of this case, and the way in which the appeal came before them; but it had been intimated to him that there would be present in Grand Lodge some of the members of the appealing lodge for the purpose of supporting their claim. In that case they would be heard first, and he would state his case subsequently.

Lord Skelmersdale having inquired if any such brethren were present, and receiving no response.

Bro. McIntyre proceeded. He said this was not a very pleasing case to deal with on account of some complication of facts that might have to be stated; but he thought the result at which they must arrive was one which to some extent he must deplore, because he could not shut his eyes to the fact that some of the brothers of the appealing lodge had behaved in a manner which was extremely disrespectful to the Dis-

trict Grand Lodge of Jamaica, and they had not, as far as he could judge from the papers which had been laid before him, carried out the principles of the Craft. On the other hand, when he stated the facts Grand Lodge must come to the conclusion that the appeal must be allowed and the decision of the District Grand Master reversed.

The facts of the case were that the brother, who was J.W. of the Sussex Lodge of Jamaica, had had certain charges preferred against him before the Deputy District Grand Master of Jamaica, which shewed that he had been guilty of a violation of his obligation as a M.M. Somehow or other, probably by letters, it had come to the knowledge of this brother that this charge would be preferred, and accordingly before the charge was brought before his lodge the brother tendered his resignation as J.W. of the lodge. One of the senior brethren, a P.M. of the lodge, who was then in the chair, moved that it should be referred to a family lodge to consider whether this resignation should be accepted or not. It was agreed by the members then present that the family lodge, or lodge of emergency, should be summoned. A lodge ought to have been summoned in due course by the S.W., as the Master was absent. He did not summon the lodge, and the P.M. who had moved the resolution that a family lodge should be held, wrote to the Secretary and caused the summons to be issued. A discussion arose as to whether that brother should be allowed to resign his office of J.W. The S.W. who had neglected his duty took the objection that as he had not summoned the lodge it was not properly summoned, and could not go into the investigation; and upon that it seemed to be conceded by the brethren then present that no business could be transacted at that lodge, and the lodge broke up. After that the S.W. did summon a lodge of emergency, but on the evening before the lodge, which was called an informal lodge, met, a letter was read from the District Grand Master, which contained the charges made against the J.W., and that letter was not brought under the consideration of the lodge at all, but was kept in the possession of the Secretary or the S.W. On the 9th August, when the lodge of emergency assembled, it turned out that the J.W., in addition to his letter resigning the lodge, had sent a letter on the 28th July resigning his position as member of the lodge. On the 9th August, when the lodge met, the Master was not present, nor a P.M. of the lodge, and the brethren put into the chair a brother who had never been a Master of an English lodge, but had been a Master of a lodge under the Scotch Constitution. He, although a member of the lodge, was not a Past Master of any English lodge. In that respect the brethren seemed to have violated the constitutions, because if there were no P.M.'s of the lodge present the S.W. was to rule the lodge. In this state of things they received the second letter from the J.W. resigning his membership, and by their bye-laws, if a brother resigned and had paid his dues, he was allowed to resign. They then entered upon their minutes a resolution that the resignation should be accepted. They did not go into the matter referred to by the District Grand Master to consider the conduct of the brother who was impugned. In this respect the lodge behaved in a manner which was illegal and improper. But the lodge having accepted the resignation, and having caused that to be entered on the minutes, various protests were made, and an appeal was made to the District Grand Master, and referred by him to the District Grand Lodge. He (Bro. McIntyre) thought there could not be a doubt about this, that the lodge having behaved in the way it had, it was perfectly competent for the District Grand Master to have summoned the officers of the lodge before him, and to have dealt with them as he might be advised. But what he did was this,—he summoned the officers of the lodge, and when their minutes were produced before him, he required them to rescind the resolution at which they had arrived, and expunge from their minutes the resolution which was therein recorded, that they had accepted the resignation of the J.W. It appeared to him (Bro. McIntyre) that inasmuch as the S.W., backed up to a considerable extent

by the Secretary and the brethren, chose to evade their duty, which was to receive the correspondence of the District Grand Master, and have the matter discussed by the lodge, they behaved in a manner disrespectful to him, which might have brought down on them the condemnation of the District G.M. and the District G. Lodge. But it was quite competent for them, however contumaciously they might have behaved, to have received the resignation of the brother, and record it on the minutes. He had often laid it down in Grand Lodge, that if a brother chose to resign his position as a member, no lodge could hold him. A brother had a right to resign, and there was no need of any resolution for accepting his resignation. His resignation itself was a fact, and he ceased from the moment of his tendering it to be a member. The notion of the District G.M. seemed to be that if a brother ceased to be a member of a lodge, the District Grand Lodge and the District G.M. had no power over him. He thought the District G.M. was mistaken. While a man continued to be a Mason under the English Constitution, while he held a certificate of Grand Lodge of England, he was amenable to the Grand Lodge of England wherever he might be; he was amenable to the district or the province in which he might be residing at any time, so long as he resided there. When he resigned he excluded himself, by his resignation, from a lodge; but the District G.M. had power over him while he held his certificate, and could summon him before him to produce his certificate, to hear any charge against him; and he could adjudicate upon the charge in any way, even to suspending him from his functions in Masonry, or he might summon him to the District Grand Lodge to be expelled. Therefore, although this case must be decided in favour of the lodge, however badly they might have behaved to the District Grand Master, he might still deal with the brother, who could not be allowed to avoid an investigation into his character simply by resigning his lodge. The brother must be dealt with afterwards by the District Grand Master as he might think fit, but in the meantime the appeal must be allowed.

Bro. F. A. Philbrick, Q.C., seconded the motion, but said it would be a most disastrous thing for the best interests of the Craft if in allowing this appeal it were not clearly understood what was the position which Grand Lodge took with regard to questions of this kind. The Mason was taught at the moment of his initiation that Masonry is free, that is to say, a man was free to accept or to decline the obligation; but when he had taken it he could not by any resignation of office or membership of his lodge divest himself of the character of a Mason, or renounce the duties which he had solemnly taken upon himself. He remained for all time a Mason, as long as the authorities of Freemasonry did not expel him from the Order, and as long as he was a Mason he was bound by the obligation which we all acknowledged, and which he himself had solemnly sworn to perform. Therefore, whether the brother was a member of this lodge or no lodge at all he was amenable to the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of the district in which he might happen to be at the moment. In affirming this appeal, he trusted it would not be understood that Grand Lodge at all denied, but rather that it supported the jurisdiction over a brother under those circumstances. With regard to membership of a lodge, Masonry was a voluntary association. A man might, as Grand Registrar had said, remain in a lodge no longer than he pleased. He could not be continued by force to be liable for his dues. But for all that his status of a Mason could not be altered, and he was still, whether a member of a lodge or not a member of any lodge, amenable to the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge or the locality in which he was residing. He would conclude with one remark. By the courtesy of Grand Secretary, he had had an opportunity of perusing the papers in this matter. They were very lengthy, and raised many nice points of Masonic law. This Grand Lodge did not intend by its decision to derogate from or affect the status of the lodge complaining. That must be dealt with by the District Grand Master of Jamaica. Grand Lodge was merely called upon to express an opinion on the formal complaint that had

been made by the appeal. They would decide that, and let all other matters remain without any expression of opinion.

The resolution was then carried, and the appeal allowed.

The next was an appeal of the British Lodge, No. 334, Cape Town, against the judgment of the District Grand Lodge of South Africa, directing the installation of a brother as W.M. to be proceeded with immediately on his return to the colony, and that his Mastership should date from the 24th June last.

Bro. McIntyre explained the circumstances of this case, in which a brother on his nomination as Master had had the voice of the lodge against him, but, as at the following meeting the minutes had not been confirmed, the lodge declared him elected. The District G.M. on the appeal of some of the brethren had confirmed this, but the Grand Registrar advised the reversal of the decision, and allowed the appeal.

Bro. Monckton seconded the motion, which was put and carried.

Bro. Binckes, with reference to his notice of motion, explained that he had not been informed of the proposal of Lord Carnarvon to have a special Grand Lodge for considering the report of the Special Committee on the commemoration of the Prince of Wales's return, and said that he should not have given his notice at the Board of Masters if he had known of the meeting at the Pro Grand Master's. He, therefore, withdrew his notice.

Leave was given to withdraw the notice, and Grand Lodge was then closed.

REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS.

Craft Masonry.

URBAN LODGE (No. 1196).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held on Tuesday, 28th ult., at St. John's Gate, Clerkenwell, when Bro. J. Tickle, W.M., presided. There were likewise present among other brethren Bros. J. Simpson, S.W.; Edwin Legge, J.W.; R. H. Pearson, P.M., Treas.; J. E. Carpenter, P.M., Sec.; R. H. Blanchford, S.D.; S. Lehmyer, J.D.; R. H. Marston, D.C.; John Heath, I.G.; J. Dionysius Loverdo, J. Pearson, P.M.; J. Redding Ware, P.M.; W. Creswick, John Dicks. Visitors: J. Bell, 1178; G. Davis, 167; John M. Wike, P.G.D.; W. C. Madderer, 504; J. E. Middleton, P.G.S.; G. Gardiner, 749; and H. Massey ("Freemason"). After the usual formalities Bros. Buck, Milburn, and Butler were raised; and Messrs. Robert Cheadle, James Fenn Beck, and Reuben Charles Green were initiated. The election of W.M. for the ensuing year was then taken, and Bro. J. Simpson, S.W., was unanimously chosen to fill the chair in succession to Bro. Tickle. Bro. Robert Henry Pearson was unanimously re-elected Treasurer; and Bro. W. Steedman, Tyler. Bro. Tickle in acquainting Bro. Simpson of the choice of the brethren, said it afforded him very great pleasure to do so. He could assure him that it was an honour and a dignity to which he need not say certainly all the younger brethren aspired. He felt confident that Bro. Simpson would appreciate the honour the lodge had done him in unanimously electing him, and he knew that he (Bro. Tickle) would have in Bro. Simpson a very worthy successor in the chair. The brethren too would support him as well as they had supported their present Master. Bro. Simpson in reply thanked the brethren for the honour they had done him, and he trusted he should perform his duties with honour to the lodge and credit to himself. The W.M. in addressing the Treasurer said that the brethren were pleased with the way in which Bro. Pearson had performed his duties as Treasurer, as they were glad to have such a brother in whose hands they could place the financial concerns of the lodge. Bro. Pearson said he appreciated the honour conferred on him, and would promise to take great care of the cash, which he was always ready to receive. He would not run into debt, but during the present year the W.M. had been very generous, and the balance in hand was not so large as he would like it to be. He hoped by next year to have a larger balance, and he would do all in his power to increase it. The W.M. afterwards gave his authority for forming a lodge of instruction, to be called the Urban Lodge of Instruction. Before the brethren adjourned to banquet, Bro. R. H. Marston, P.M., D.C., appealed to the lodge on behalf of an old actor (Bro. H. Mellon), late a member of Mr. Phelps' Saddlers' Wells Company, who had requested him to bring his case before the brethren at this meeting. Bro. Mellon, however, died on last Saturday week, and the widow, with whom he (Bro. Marston) had been in communication, as she was in great distress, would feel grateful for any assistance which the lodge might feel inclined to bestow. A sum was then voted from the fund of benevolence, and at the banquet table a further grant was made by the voluntary donations of the brethren. On the motion of Bro. J. Pearson, P.M., seconded by the S.W., a Past Master's jewel was unanimously voted to

Bro. Tickle, W.M. Lodge was then called off for refreshment, and the brethren sat down to a very nice banquet, at which the W.M. presided, and, assisted by Bro. Loverdo, W.S., was unremitting in attention to the comforts of the brethren. The toasts were admirably proposed, and the brethren were treated to other than the set phrases which they are accustomed to hear. In introducing the first toast, the W.M. said the toast of "The Queen" was paramount in all assemblies of Englishmen, and not the less so in the Urban Lodge. It has been said that "Kings make reigns; and Queens make eras," and when English history—the history of the present reign—came to be written, he ventured to think that the Victorian era would not be surpassed by any that had preceded it. The health of our beloved Queen needed not many words of adulation from him, and he would therefore simply give the toast of "Her Majesty the Queen,"—the leader of English, in fact, he might say of modern society. The toast of "The Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M.," led the W.M. to say that His Royal Highness was an English gentleman as well as the Grand Master of Freemasons, and it was his qualities as an English gentleman that had made him so popular, and endeared him to Englishmen. He did not think he was travelling out of his province when he said that of all the Princes of Wales who had figured in English history there had been none so popular as the present Grand Master. After "The Health of the Pro Grand Master" had been honoured, the W.M. proposed "The Deputy Grand Master and the rest of the Grand Officers," and coupling with it the name of Bro. John M. Wike, P.G.D., referred to this well-known name in connection with the Masonic Institutions. Directing the brethren's attention to the numerous jewels on Bro. Wike's breast, he said they represented a Stewardship for these Institutions as many as fourteen times, and he ventured to say there never came within the Urban Lodge such a representative of the Charities as Bro. Wike, who had filled in past times not only the office of S.G.D. of England, but that of S.G.W. of his (the W.M.'s) native county, East Lancashire. Bro. Wike, in acknowledging the toast, said he must plead guilty to both these indictments; he had held the offices referred to, and he had done all that in his power lay for the promotion of the cause of the Masonic Charities. It was this one word "Charity" which enabled him to say something in response to the toast. There could not be a Mason who did not own that it was one of the greatest ornaments of the Order to have such institutions connected with it as the Benevolent Institution and the Boys' and Girls' Schools. That it was proper, that it was right; to relieve those brethren who from various circumstances were no longer able to support themselves, that it was their bounden duty to care for the widows of the brethren when the brethren had departed this life, was so evident a proposition—it was a duty so consonant with every principle of religion and morality—that he did not care to say one word concerning it. That it was their duty to go further, and not stopping at relieving existing wants, providing for the wants of the coming generation, was also an evident fact. In this the brethren might take credit to themselves, and stand forth without a blush before the world and say that such institutions did not exist outside the Craft. There were no such schools anywhere, simply because they were not charity schools supported by almsgiving; but the children were put into them as the children of our unfortunate brothers, and not as those receiving a pittance or dole. The brethren were improving those schools while they were increasing them year by year. Long might they continue to be the pride of the Order, nay, he might almost say, the reason why our organisation existed. But the word "charity" taken simply in that sense, was not the only sense in which Masons understood it, nor was it for charity in that sense that Masonry existed. The "charity" of Freemasonry was not simply the charity which consisted of putting one's hand in the pocket, that the man who had money should give it to the man who had none. He was bound to believe, as every Freemason believed, that Solomon was a Freemason, and that Freemasons had existed ever since; and he also believed that the Apostle Paul was a Freemason, or he would never have given such a definition of the word "charity" as he did. It was that definition of charity they ought to strive to inculcate in all the new initiates. The "charity" which was the bond of Freemasonry, which had kept Freemasons in existence, and would keep it in existence, was the charity which was represented by the shorter word "love." When a man became a Freemason the precepts of the Order taught him to be a little more loving and generous than the hard world he saw around him; he saw that he was to discover something good in men. In the "outer world" men set up a round god in the shape of a sovereign and worshipped it; but when he entered Freemasonry he found it something better. He found in it that he was taught to believe not the worst of a man, but the best; and he found when he advanced to the higher degrees of Freemasonry that he was not to believe even when a thing looked bad in a brother, but that he was to seek for a favourable interpretation, and even to believe that there was something good though he did not see it. That was the charity we should strive after, and which would keep us together as long as the world lasted, so long as we were actuated by the noble sentiment of thinking the best of each other, of believing everything that was good and repudiating everything that was evil. So long as we shewed our faith in this principle so long would Freemasonry flourish, and so long would the brethren assemble at their monthly meetings and be enabled to drink the health and do honour to the heads of the Order. (Hear hear.) In giving "The Health of the Initiates," the W.M. contrasted the present position of the lodge with the position it was in as regarded the number of its members when he was initiated five or six years ago. He thanked Bro. Wike for the noble sentiments he had given utterance to, because he

thought he had thereby instilled into the minds of the three brethren who had just joined thoughts which not only did honour to Freemasonry, but would do honour to the Initiates if they would only follow them. He believed these brethren would take advantage of the sentiments of Bro. Wike. For, what was Freemasonry? He had often told his private friends, in reply to their enquiries, that Freemasonry was a gigantic charitable institution. Some people said it was a sentiment, but this was not the fact, for it was a practical thing applied to real life. The W.M. concluded by proposing "The Health of the Initiates" who severally responded. "The Visitors" was the next toast, to which each of those brethren was called on for a reply. Bro. Wike proposed "The W.M.," who, he said, presided at the banquet table as well as he did in the lodge. He had filled the chair with the approval of every member of the lodge, and he was now quitting it with the regret of every member of the lodge. Under his presidency the brethren had felt themselves well cared for in the lodge and in the hours of refreshment. When he left the chair he would bear with him the thanks of every member. He hoped he would be as well succeeded as he had been well preceded. Nothing was so healthy a sign in a lodge as the ability of its officers, and there could not be a stronger testimony to the merits of the W.M. than the able assistance he had had from these brethren. In the course of his reply, the W.M. said he hoped that leaving the chair he should leave it with the goodwill of all the brethren. If anything had occurred during his year of office that had hurt the feelings of any of them it had not been his fault. It had been his earnest desire to do justice to all, but in doing justice to all he felt he could not consult the wishes of all. With respect to the Treasurer's remark in lodge regarding the liberality of the W.M., and its effect on the funds, he felt that when the annual account came to be made up the balance of the present W.M. would not be far behind that of the I.P.M. They had not reached the audit yet, and he dared say there were some funds to come in which would brighten the prospects of the lodge, and lighten the heart and sweeten the tongue of their Treasurer. "The P.M.'s" was the next toast, which was responded to by Bros. Pearson, Carpenter, Marston, Ware, and the Treasurer. Bro. Simpson responded to the toast of "The W.M. elect," and said he would endeavour to perform his duties with satisfaction to all the brethren. The Tyler's toast concluded a most agreeable evening. Lodge was then resumed, and afterwards closed, and the brethren separated.

CARNARVON LODGE (No. 1632).

PRESENTATION TO BRO. R. PAWSON HOOTON.

The installation meeting of the above lodge was held on Saturday last at the Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street. There was a large gathering of the brethren on the occasion, and among the brethren present were three honorary members of the lodge, Bro. John Hervey, G.Secr.; Bro. James Terry, P.G.D.C. Hertz; and Bro. H. Gustavus Buss, P.G.W. Middlesex. The lodge was opened by Bro. R. P. Hooton, W.M., assisted by Bros. W. S. Whitaker, S.W.; James Cowan, J.W.; John Clarricoats, Treas.; Montagu Scott, Sec.; T. S. Hellier, S.D.; Nelson Reed, J.D.; Thos. Brown, D.C.; George C. Searle, Org.; C. A. Brock, Steward; George Briggs, I.G.; and W. Steedman, Tyler. There were several lay members present, besides visitors: Bros. W. Porter, W.M. 1269; H. Bartlett, P.M. 147; C. J. Hogg, P.M. 58, P.G.S.; Edward Terry, S.W. 1319; Thos. Loveridge, P.M. 28; W. M. Medcalf, 1086; James J. Chapman, 1541; George Luscombe, 879; W. Barber, 754; Bertram Noakes, S.D. 92; W. Harvey, 377; J. Macey, 25; George Whitehouse, S.D. 1385; W. Manger, P.M. 1314; H. A. Lovett, J.W. 1314; H. Searle, 1168; George J. Harwood, 1056; Thos. W. C. Buck, 185; E. Morrish, 765; S. D. Ghosley, 183; Render Brock, 765; David Russell, 657; W. Buck, W.M. 657; J. McCubbin, P.P.S.G.D. Berks and Bucks, P.M. 948; George Kenning, P.G.D. Middlesex, P.M. 132; A. A. Stoltenhoff, P.M. 21; John Bumper, 1426; S. Earl, 186; J. G. Shearman, W.M. 28; G. H. Caviot, 1426; and H. Massey ("Freemason"). The W.M. passed Bro. Philip Bullock to the Second Degree, and raised Bro. George Chaffey as a Master Mason. Afterwards Bro. Hooton installed Bro. W. S. Whitaker in the chair, and the following brethren were appointed to office:—Bros. R. P. Hooton, I.P.M., P.M. 765; James Cowan, S.W. (Lodge Commercial, 180, Oban); Thos. S. Hellier, I.G. 1580, S.W.; J. Clarricoats, Treas.; Montagu Scott, P.M.; Sec.; Nelson Reed, S.D.; G. Briggs, J.D.; Geo. A. Brock, I.G.; Thomas Brown, D.C.; Fred. Morgan, W.S.; George Carew Searle, Org.; and W. Steedman, Tyler. Bro. John Hervey delivered the charge to the W.M.; Bro. Terry the charge to the Wardens; and Bro. Montagu Scott the charge to the brethren. Subsequently the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to a splendid banquet served by Bro. Jennings, the manager of the tavern. The customary toasts followed. Bro. John Hervey responded to the toast of "The Pro G.M., the D.G.M., and Grand Officers," and said that in returning thanks for these eminent brethren he might say they needed no words of praise from him, inasmuch as they were doing their work excellently, and this fact was well known and appreciated by all the brethren present. This lodge bearing the name of the Pro Grand Master, all the members must feel that they were part and parcel of the Pro Grand Master, who, although he was not present, was watching over them, thinking of them, and rejoicing in their success. As far as the Present and Past Grand Officers went, he believed they had shown that they were not wholly ornamental on more than one occasion, for even on the 24th November eight of those brethren worked the Sections in the Emulation Lodge of Improvement in a manner which ensured the gratification of all who heard them. For himself, he (Grand Secretary) had hoped and trusted to come to the Carnarvon Lodge

that evening for more reasons than one; first of all, because he expected to see the present W.M. installed, and secondly, because he knew that he should receive a cordial and kind reception from every member of the lodge. He anticipated it because he consecrated the lodge twelve months since, and he looked forward with much pleasure to this visit. That pleasure had been enhanced in several ways, by the excellent working of the I.P.M., which convinced him that during the past year all the work had been done well, and to the satisfaction of every one. He saw in the lodge a spirit of kindness and cordiality throughout, such as should pervade every lodge in the Craft; and it rejoiced him to see that the lodge had made such progress during one short year. He saw round the table an immense gathering, which spoke well for the lodge, for its members, and for the officers. It was immensely gratifying to him to see the brother who was appointed S.W. last year now installed as W.M., and the other officers also advanced a step. It was a proof that they would reflect credit on the Craft and honour on the lodge of which they were founders and first officers. He was almost astonished to find himself there, and yet not among strangers, although there were many strangers to him present. So many being present showed how the Craft had progressed and the lodge had progressed, because there were many brethren who had come into it recently, and who had joined it, he believed, under the expectation that they were entering a society which was based upon that which was not only good, but noble, and that would conduce to their gratification as a grand body. It was often asked why and for what benefit Freemasonry existed. He thought they might look round the table and say that they met together—men who were total strangers to each other for the time being; but they rubbed their shoulders together and knocked off those corners which existed necessarily outside the lodge. They came amongst each other probably as strangers, but they went away as friends. Although probably taking up too much of their time, for which he apologised he must say he was pleased to come among the brethren of the lodge, and was gratified by the compliment they had paid him. He trusted that the success which the Carnarvon Lodge had achieved during the past year might not only be equalled but exceeded in years to come. (Hear, hear.) Bro. Hooton proposed "The Health of the Worshipful Master," who, he said, was initiated only three years ago, and was a living proof of what might be done by aptitude in acquiring Masonic knowledge at lodges of instruction. The W.M. was very naturally proud of the position he occupied, not only as Master of a lodge but of a lodge so young in the Craft as the Carnarvon Lodge. All the brethren knew, but more especially those who were immediately connected with him in Masonry, how assiduous the W.M. had been since his initiation. He had attended lodges of instruction night after night, and as a result he was the pride of the younger brethren. It took him (Bro. Hooton) seven long years to attain the Master's chair; but that was a long time ago. He hoped the W.M.'s example would be followed by the junior members of the lodge, and if they only devoted time, study, and thought to their work there was nothing that might not be achieved in Masonry. The W.M. in reply, said it was with feelings of mingled pleasure and regret that he rose to reply to the toast that had just been proposed by the I.P.M., of pleasure at finding himself the occupant of his present honourable position, but of regret at his inability to find words to express his feelings of gratitude. Bro. Hooton had just said that he (the W.M.) had only been initiated three years ago; but he did not wish to arrogate to himself any distinction on that ground. He must explain to the visitors that it was owing to the confidence the brethren had placed in him that he had now the honour of occupying the Master's chair; for there were many brethren quite as competent as himself who had had to serve their seven years of office before reaching that position. He was fully sensible of the honour they conferred upon him, and he was also alive to the important duties which devolved upon him. It was essential in every candidate for the Master's chair that he should feel himself competent to perform the duties. It was doubly important in the Carnarvon Lodge that the W.M. should thoroughly understand his duties before he attempted to perform the ceremonies in the presence of brethren who also knew how to perform those duties, and who attended lodges of instruction the same as he did. If not, they must feel vexation and disappointment when they saw the ceremonies performed in a negligent and inefficient manner. He hoped they would not have that complaint to make of him, but that he would give them satisfaction. When the time came round for him to cede his office to other hands he hoped he would hand over the warrant of the lodge to his successor "without spot or blemish," well knowing that his brethren would say in the generosity of their heart, "Well done, good and faithful servant." (Hear, hear.) The W.M. then proposed "The Health of the I.P.M." He said it would ill become him to say much of so distinguished a brother, but he thought he could not speak higher in his favour than by saying that he had had fifteen initiates in his year, and that they had all been initiated, passed, and raised by him. Bro. Hooton had not only performed these ceremonies, but he had performed them well. The I.P.M. deserved all their sympathies and all their thanks, and he retired from the chair with great honour. The lodge had been pleased to vote him a Past Master's jewel, which he (the W.M.) had now the honour to place on his breast. (Cheers.) Bro. Hooton in reply said he rose to return thanks with no ordinary amount of pleasure and satisfaction. It was a very proud distinction to be the Master of a lodge of Freemasons, and if it were possible it was a still greater distinction to be Master of such a lodge as the Carnarvon Lodge. He had during his year of office endeavoured to the utmost of his ability to carry out the duties of his office. If he had succeeded it was a sufficient proof that he had endeavoured to do so,

and he could lay the flattering unction to his soul that he had performed his work with credit to himself and satisfaction to the brethren. As regarded the formation of the lodge he had taken some part in that, and the brethren could testify that he had striven to maintain its dignity. He felt satisfied that the brethren were pleased with what he had done by awarding him the massive and elegant jewel which had been just placed on his breast by the W.M. To be of any value such a present should mean something, and it was, because it meant something that he highly prized it, and should highly prize it to the latest period of his life. It recorded that he was the first W.M. of such a highly distinguished lodge as the Carnarvon Lodge, a lodge which he hoped might be ever more successful in the future if possible than it had been in the past. Every expense of the lodge had been defrayed during its first year. There were twenty-three honorary members, two joining members, and fifteen candidates. He must thank the officers and brethren of the lodge one and all for their kind co-operation with him in performing the work of the lodge. Without good officers a Master could do nothing, but with good officers he could defy the world. Twelve months ago he undertook the office of W.M. with anxiety, care, and thought. He then made a promise to carry out his duties, and that he had done so he was satisfied by the satisfaction of the brethren and the testimony of a good conscience. One of his last acts was to write to the Pro Grand Master for his permission to the lodge to bear his coat of arms, feeling sure that the lodge would not sully those arms. In reply he had received a letter from Lord Donoughmore, S.G.W. of England, as follows:—"Colonial Office, 15th Nov., 1876. Sir and Brother,—I am directed by the Earl of Carnarvon to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of Nov. 13th, and to state that his lordship has great pleasure in complying with the request therein with regard to the use of his arms by the Carnarvon Lodge. With reference to the second portion of your letter, whilst fully appreciating the kind expressions in which your invitation is couched, his lordship much regrets that he will be unable to avail himself of it. The pressure of public business at this moment, and for some time to come, will be so great both in this department and elsewhere, that his time is more than fully occupied. I am, sir and brother, faithfully and fraternally yours, Donoughmore, G.S.W." Bro. Hooton concluded by observing that the jewel which had been presented to him bore Lord Carnarvon's arms, and that the lodge had the authority of his lordship for using them. "The Visitors" was the next toast, to which Bro. Stoltenhoff and others responded. The W.M. then gave "The Masonic Charities," reminding the brethren of the definition of charity in the lectures, and that they would be called upon to vote a sum out of the £56 in the benevolent fund towards the Benevolent Institutions. Bro. Terry responded. He was certain that among all the members of the Craft there were none who had determined more thoroughly to apply themselves to the interests of the Masonic Institutions than the members of the Carnarvon Lodge. Proof has been given of this (he continued) by your balance sheet this evening, you having placed away in your first year's existence a sum of over £50 to benefit the Institutions: and I congratulate the Master of this lodge as well as its members on having done all they could to enhance the prosperity of the lodge, and to consider the wants of those who are less blessed than themselves. From what I can learn from your remarks this evening, before a very long time, brethren, you will be called upon to vote away a portion of your invested funds; and I venture to hope that the cause of the aged may not be overlooked in connection with the Institutions for the boys and the girls, and more especially so, sir, as in February next the Benevolent Institution will have the honour of having as its chairman for the first time His Royal Highness Prince Leopold, the Right Worshipful the Provincial Grand Master for Oxford; and as the Secretary of that institution I think you will agree with me that it is a very pardonable ambition on my part to endeavour on the first occasion of His Royal Highness presiding to have as large a Board of Stewards as it is possible to congregate together, with the view to having the largest amount of subscriptions ever announced on behalf of that institution. That can very readily be done if a similar plan is adopted to that which has been adopted in the Cripplegate Lodge. When I had the pleasure of giving my reply for the Masonic Institutions on the occasion of the installation meeting of that lodge, within four minutes afterwards the sum of £55 was placed on a Steward's list to represent the old people at their festival in February next. I am certain of this, that the Carnarvon Lodge is desirous to do all it can. I know the spirit of emulation exists among all its members. Subject to the condition of their own funds and their own wants, they are desirous of doing all they can when the time comes for the allotment of the money for each institution. But though you may think of the Boys' School and the Girls' School—two noble institutions that are doing admirably their duty by providing for nearly 400 children—after doing all you can on their behalf and for their welfare, do not let those who have borne the heat and burden of the day, those who have been like ourselves in prosperous circumstances, when the day of adversity has overtaken them, be forgotten; do not let it be considered that because those poor old men and poor old women who have had the misfortune to outlive their day and generation, have none of those who knew them in their day of prosperity to assist them, that it is not our duty to do so. On their behalf I venture to appeal to the Carnarvon Lodge, one of the most prosperous in the Craft, whenever the claims of the Masonic Institutions are brought before them, not to forget the Benevolent Institution. I know well I am speaking now to a very sympathetic body of brethren. I know I have but to ask, and you will give. I have not, but I venture to hope that between now and February next I may have, the

honour of receiving the name of some member of the lodge representing you as Steward at our festival; I know then that the members of the lodge will rally round him and do their duty to the lodge for the sake of the Earl of Carnarvon, the Pro Grand Master, whose name and arms you bear. I thank you, sir, very much indeed for proposing, and I thank the brethren for having very kindly responded to this toast, and I have only, in conclusion, to hope and trust that every success may attend this Carnarvon Lodge and all its members; and the best wish I think I can utter for your happiness and prosperity, is this, that largely may you give to all the Institutions, and never have any occasion to find among your members, or any of your descendants, those who may have to ask for a return of the kindness you bestowed on the charities of the Order. (Hear hear, and cheers.) Bro. James Cowan, S.W., responded to the toast of "The Officers." Considering the very recent period when his latest honours had been conferred upon him, when he had not yet recovered from his blushes, he hoped the brethren would not think his reply was inadequate. For himself, as well as the rest of the officers, he would say they considered it their duty to obey the W.M. Twelve months ago he expressed himself in that hall to the effect that it was the happiest and most glorious moment of his life that the office of J.W. had been conferred on him. On that occasion Grand Secretary invested him with the collar of J.W. He had recently had conferred on him the collar of S.W., and he considered that while it was his privilege to wear that collar he was to qualify himself for the discharge of the duties connected with the office of S.W. While in that office he should use his best endeavours to maintain the dignity of his chair, and he trusted his exertions would meet with the W.M.'s approbation. He thanked the W.M. for the graceful opportunity afforded him, by coupling his name with the toast of "The Officers," of acknowledging the kindness of the W.M. in raising him to the distinguished position he now occupied. The other officers also replied, and the Tyler's toast having been given, the brethren separated. A splendid musical entertainment was given in the course of the evening by Bros. Willcocks, Brown, Cotton, F. Willcocks, Pearce, Reed, Clarricoats, Russell, Medcalf, Earl, Searle, Morton, and Dafforn, the accompaniments being played by Bro. G. C. Searle, Organist. Bro. Montagu Scott gave his recitation of "Solomon" and Daniel.

BEDFORD.—Stuart Lodge (No. 540).—The 29th day of November witnessed another of those pleasant gatherings for which this lodge is so justly famous, it being the anniversary banquet. It was a day long to be remembered in the annals of the lodge, for it witnessed the installation, as W.M., of a descendant of one of the original founders of the lodge, who, as he inherits their revered name, so too inherits the respect and esteem in which they were ever held by the lodge. The now I.P.M., Bro. Capt. Green, after the minutes had been read and confirmed, proposed, and Bro. W. J. Nash, P.M., seconded, a grant of £25, which Capt. Green is raising for Bro. Warren, who is an old member of the lodge, and who has recently been obliged, from old age and failing sight, to resign the post of station master to the London and North-Western Railway Company at Bedford, a position which, we believe, he has held ever since the opening of the line. Bro. Green then vacated the chair, when the installation ceremony was very ably performed by Bro. Dr. Prior, P.M., and Secretary of the lodge. The newly-installed W.M., Col. Stuart, P.G.S.W. of England, P.G.H. England, &c., &c., then proceeded to invest his officers as follows:—Bros. Capt. Green, J.P., I.P.M.; W. Finlinson, P.M., S.W.; Capt. Colburn, J.W.; Rev. C. Brereton, B.C.L. and R.D., Chap.; Prior, M.D., P.M., Sec.; Alderman Sergeant, P.M. Treas.; Alderman Bull, J.P., Steward; Coombs, M.R.C.S., &c., S.D.; J. Allen, J.D.; H. Thody, I.G.; Piper, M.A., Org.; G. Reynolds, Tyler. The other P.M.'s of the lodge present were Bros. Capt. Polhill-Turner, M.P., D.L.; W. F. Nash, J.P.; G. P. Nash, Cuthbert, Billson, Trapp, and Rev. Fawcett Ward, M.A., late of Louth, Lincolnshire. Amongst the brethren were Bros. Alderman Hurst, Wicks, Peck, Lane, Lambie, Stafford, Roe, Thompson, Whittaker, Kilpin, Roberts, Leslie, and Dr. Rhys Williams, Ast. G.S. Wks. England. Amongst the visitors we noticed Bros. Haydon, P.G.S. England; Ballard, of Prov. G.L. Cambridgeshire; Aldermen Cumberland and Hazlegrave, P.M.'s of 475; Chambers, 475; Seward, 147; Richardson, P.M. 455; Roe and Game, 353; Hillhouse, 228; and Dunkley, of Tunbridge Wells. The banquet was excellent, doing as much credit to the host as the arrangements generally did to the Steward, Bro. Bull.

BIRKENHEAD.—Mersey Lodge (No. 477).—The November meeting of this flourishing lodge took place a few days ago, at the spacious Masonic Chambers Argyle-street. Bro. F. G. Adams, W.M., presided, and there was a large attendance of the brethren. Mr. George Lloyd, of Balls-road, Cloughton, was impressively initiated by the W.M., and several brethren were raised to the Third Degree. Bro. T. Barrow, of the Rock Lodge, was admitted as a joining member.

DEPTFORD.—Royal Oak Lodge (No. 87).—The regular meeting of this well-established lodge was held at the White Swan Hotel, 217, High-street, Deptford, on Thursday, November 23rd. Bro. H. J. Tuson, W.M., opened the lodge. The minutes of the previous meeting were read, confirmed, and signed by the W.M. He passed Bros. Whibley, Sanders, Fowler, and Davis to the Second Degree, raised Bros. Abbott and Michaels; and Bro. G. Andrews, P.M., D.C., raised Bros. Buchele and Wildermuth to the Third Degree. The work was ably done. Several important notices of motion were agreed to. The initiation and joining fees were raised each to ten guineas. The services of the W.M. were accepted as Steward to represent this lodge at the festival for the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons. He headed

his list with ten pounds, and the lodge will supplement that amount with a similar sum. He also received the promise of a good support from the members. It was unanimously decided to support the scheme to be introduced by the South Eastern Masonic Association for securing the election of all candidates approved of for all the Charities, Bro. Wm. Andrews, P.M., Treas., being elected as the representative from this lodge. Business ended, the lodge was closed and adjourned till January. There were present Bros. J. J. Pakes, S.W.; J. Baxter Langley, J.W.; W. Andrews, P.M., Treas.; F. Walters, G.J.D. Middlesex, P.M., Sec.; G. T. Limn, S.D.; R. Hannan, J.D.; J. G. Vohmann, I.G.; H. J. Fisher, Org.; G. Andrews, P.M., D.C.; A. Macers, W. Simmons, J. G. Thomas, R. J. Harvey, W. O. Lockhead, H. W. F. Fellows, and others. The long list of visitors included Bros. C. Relph, P.P.G.S.D. Kent, P.M. 188, P.M. 77; J. Roper, P.M. 147; B. Beaver, 700; T. Gambrell, 1194; R. J. Dart, 192; G. Brown, P.M. 169; R. W. Robinson, 879; D. Smith, 1326, and others.

PAIGNTON.—Torbay Lodge (No. 1358).—This successful lodge held its usual monthly meeting on Tuesday, 28th ult., at the Town Hall, Paignton. As on this occasion a Past Master's jewel was to be presented to the I.P.M., Bro. W. E. Warren, a large number of Past Masters, visitors, and members of the lodge assembled to do him honour. Bro. J. Couldrey presided, and was supported by Bros. W. E. Warren, I.P.M.; J. T. Goodridge, P.M.; J. J. C. Piller, P.M.; Rev. R. Bowden, P.P.G.C.; Jas. Greenfield, P.P.G.D.; C. H. Law, P.P. G.W. Herts; and J. Piggott, W.M. 328. Among the visitors were Bros. S. Burton, S.W. 328; R. C. Smith, 328; J. Salter, 328; Wakeham, 328; P. Warren, 1254, Semper Fidelis, Exeter; Willey, Exeter, Brent Lodge, 1284; and Valentine, Teignmouth 303. The W.M. opened the lodge, and the minutes having been confirmed the chair was occupied by P.M. Bro. J. T. Goodridge, who proceeded to initiate Mr. Thomas Hamlyn into the mysteries of the Craft in his usual happy manner. The lodge was then opened in the Second Degree, and Bro. S. R. Higham, a candidate for the Third Degree, having proved his proficiency, was entrusted and retired. The lodge having been opened in the Third Degree, the chair was filled by P.M. Bro. the Rev. R. Bowden, who raised Bro. Higham to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason in a manner that left nothing to be desired. The W.M. having resumed the gavel and closed down the lodge, in eloquent and complimentary language addressed the I.P.M., Bro. Warren, and begged his acceptance of a handsome Past Master's jewel, not only as a mark of the esteem and respect in which he was held by the brethren of the lodge, but for the zeal he had evinced for Freemasonry from the formation of the Torbay Lodge, of which he was the active founder, as well as for the efficient manner he had discharged the office of Worshipful Master during the past year. Bro. Warren, he remarked, was at his post every lodge night, and whatever work was to be done he was always found equal to the occasion, his rendering the various ceremonies being as nearly perfect as possible, and his ruling being as firm and as dignified as it was urbane and felicitous. The lodge felt a debt of gratitude to the W. brother for the exemplary manner in which he had discharged the great and onerous duties appertaining to his high office, and the brethren desired to mark their appreciation of his abilities and conduct whilst at their head by requesting him as W. Master to present him with the jewel voted him, and at the same time to wish him, on their behalf, long life, happiness, and prosperity. The I.P.M., Bro. Warren, said he could not adequately thank them all for their fraternal good will and kindness, manifested in the tangible token of their esteem so flatteringly bestowed upon him. His aim and object had been throughout his Masonic career (and he had filled almost every office) to do his duty conscientiously as in the sight of the Great Architect of the Universe, whom we all acknowledged, and he believed he had been so blessed with the hearty co-operation of his officers and brethren in the lodge that his duties had been rendered comparatively light. He felt, and should always regard with pleasure, the unvaried kindness and brotherly love he had received at their hands. A kind word and deed had cheered him more than once in his difficulties, and helped him in his path of duty, at the same time he also felt that he had had more honours showered upon him than he deserved. His aim also had been to rule justly and equitably, and to deserve their approbation. If their kind present meant anything, it meant that he had been successful in so doing, and the inward satisfaction of knowing that his duties had been performed in an acceptable manner was sufficiently a reward, but to be honoured as they had honoured him was more than he expected. The handsome jewel he should wear with pride and pleasure whenever in lodge, and of all his possessions he should treasure that, as the visible expression of their inward feelings of brotherly love towards him. The Torbay Lodge was, he might say, founded at his instigation, and although at the time a young Mason he had exerted himself to obtain a meeting of the brethren in the neighbourhood. This meeting was attended by distinguished members of the Craft, happily of one heart and one mind, and the Torbay Lodge became a reality, and his prayer was that from year to year it might increase and prosper even more than it had hitherto done. He would ever cherish the remembrance of this day, and hand down their valuable present to his children as an incentive to them to do their duty. Two brethren were proposed as joining members, and the lodge having been closed the brethren adjourned to an excellent spread in their clothing room, and the evening was spent in a pleasant and harmonious manner, the speeches being pertinent and pregnant with Masonic fervour.

MOLD.—Sir Watkin Lodge (No. 1477).—The

members of this lodge met at their lodge-room in the Market Hall, on Monday, the 20th ult. There was a good muster of the brethren. Bro. J. Salmon, P.J.G.W., presided, and performed the work in his usual effective style. Mr. A. Howard was initiated, and Bros. Hughes and James were raised.

CHISLEHURST.—Chislehurst Lodge (No. 1531).—The regular meeting of this new and flourishing lodge was held on Saturday, at the Bull's Head, Chislehurst, and, notwithstanding the inclemency of the weather, a goodly number of the brethren assembled to discharge their Masonic duties. Among those present were Bros. George Guest, W.M.; W. Kipps, S.W.; Gloster, J.W.; James Griffin, P.M., Sec.; Hutchings, I.G.; Hunt, W.S.; Grant, Tyler, and the following members of the lodge:—Bros. West, Williams, Wain, Hollis, W. O. Goldsmith ("Freemason"), Hooker, Samuels, Hayline, Dana, and Luck, and visitors, Bros. Thompson, 1475, and Dowsett, 79. The lodge having been duly opened, the minutes of the last lodge meeting were read and confirmed, and the usual routine business was disposed of. There being no special business for consideration, the brethren with true Masonic spirit devoted an hour in working several of the sections, in which they exhibited much proficiency. The lodge was afterwards opened in the superior degree and then closed down, when, at the request of the brethren, the S.W., Bro. W. Kipps, undertook to represent the lodge at the forthcoming festival of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution. The lodge having been closed, refreshment was served, and the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given by the W.M. and heartily responded to. In proposing the toast of "The M.W.G.M., His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales," the W.M. alluded to the gratification that every member of the Craft must have experienced at the enthusiastic reception His Royal Highness met with in India; and his safe return to his native country was a source of congratulation to every one. They all knew that the Grand Master took the deepest interest in the welfare of the Craft, and was ever ready to appear amongst them when circumstances permitted, as was evident by his recent visit to Norwich to install Lord Suffield in the important office of P.G.M. They could not but regard it as a high honour to be presided over by the Heir Apparent. The toast having been duly honoured the W.M. gave "The Pro G.M., D.G.M., and the rest of the Grand Officers, Past and Present," all of whom, he said, were entitled to the thanks and confidence of the Craft. Speaking of the Earl of Carnarvon he pointed out that only the previous day his lordship had severed himself from his important public duties in order to attend to a Masonic call, he having been present at the festival of the Emulation Lodge of Improvement. The next toast was "The Health of Viscount Holmesdale, the Prov. G.M. of Kent," who, the W.M. said, took the liveliest interest in the well-being of the province as was shown by the communications they had received from him and the close watch he kept over their proceedings. This toast, as also that of "The Rest of the Prov. Grand Officers," was heartily received. In reply to the toast of his health the W.M. regretted that the lodge had not much business to transact, but said there were accidental circumstances to account for this. They were, however, a very harmonious body; in fact, a pattern in this respect, and he believed they carried out the principles of Masonry in the highest sense. In reply to the toast of "The I.P.M. and the other Officers," Bro. Griffin, Secretary, expressed his regret that Bro. J. Coutts, P.G.P., the I.P.M., was prevented by illness from being present. They always welcomed him, and were glad to see so able and genial a worker amongst them. (Cheers.) Much sympathy was expressed by the brethren for Bro. Coutts, who was one of the founders of the lodge, its first W.M., and present I.P.M. and Treasurer. Replying to "The Masonic Charities," Bro. Kipps expressed the pleasure it would afford him to represent the lodge at the forthcoming festival of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, and said when he had previously acted as Steward on behalf of the lodge at the charities he was able to take up a good round sum. From the subscriptions he had received from the brethren during the afternoon, and the promises of support he had received from those who were not present, he had every reason to believe he should be able to hand in a considerably larger sum than before. "The Visitors" and other toasts followed, and a most agreeable afternoon was spent, the Tyler's toast concluding the programme.

LIVERPOOL.—Dramatic Lodge (No. 1609).—The most satisfactory success continues to attend this lodge, which held its monthly meeting at the Masonic Hall, Hope-street, Liverpool, on the 28th ult. Bro. Joseph Bell, W.M., presided, and amongst the largest gathering of officers, members, and visitors yet seen at the Dramatic were Bros. B. B. Marson, P.M.; W. J. Chapman, S.W.; Lindo Courtenay, J.W.; A. Woolrich, Treas.; H. J. Loveday, Sec.; W. Sandbrook, J.D.; J. Atkinson, I.G.; A. Collinson, Steward; G. Broadbridge, P.P.G.D.C.; J. Skeaf, P.G.O.; J. Hocken, P.M. 673; D. Saunders, B. Richardson, H. Leslie, F. Amey, Dr. Whittle, W. Coates, P. Shrapnell, W. Hildyard, H. P. Squire, C. Leighton, P.M. 1325, and others. Messrs. J. L. Shrapnell and John Hill being balloted for and duly elected, were initiated by the W.M. in the most satisfactory manner, and Bros. Leslie, Amey, Walton, Burgess, Dale, Cooke, and Lablache were passed to the Second Degree with equal efficiency. The W.M. read a letter from Bro. Loveday, the Secretary, tendering his resignation of that office in consequence of his removal to London in January to fulfil a professional engagement at the Lyceum Theatre. General regret was expressed that the Dramatic Lodge should lose so amiable and valuable an officer as Bro. Loveday. After a vote for charity, the brethren adjourned to banquet, and a pleasant evening was spent.

Mark Masonry.

PROVINCIAL GRAND MARK LODGE OF DEVON-SHIRE.

The annual meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Mark Masters of Devonshire was held on Thursday, 23rd ult., at the Masonic Rooms of the Sincerity Mark Lodge, No. 35, St. George's Hall, Stonehouse. The R.W. Bro. Major Tanner Davey, P.G.M.M., presided, supported by the following present P.G.L. officers: V.W. Bros. the Rev. P. H. Newnham, P.G. Chap. of England, D.P.G.M. pro. tem.; J. E. Curteis, G.D. of England, P.G.S.W. pro. tem.; W. Hugo, J.G.W.; A. R. Sethbridge, P.G.M.O.; J. B. Gover, P.G. Treas.; V. Bird, P.M.O. of England, P.G. Sec.; W. Bros. J. E. Moon, P.G. Reg.; W. Herries, P.G.S.D.; W. G. H. Boon, P.G.D.C.; C. Cooper, P.G. S. Wks.; E. Butchers, G. Purs.; R. Pengelly, P.G. St.; W. H. Crimp, P.G. St.; John Rogers, P.G. Tyler; the following past P.G.L. officers: V.W. Bros. R. H. Rae, P.P.G.J.W.; J. Latimer, P.P.G.J.W.; the Rev. T. W. Lemon, P.P.G. Chap.; T. S. Bayly, P.P.G. Treas.; Lieut. Col. Fitzgerald, P.P.G.M.O.; C. Leigh, P.P.G. M.O.; C. Gottschalk, P.P.G.D.C.; W. J. J. Spry, P.P.G. J.O.; J. Baxter, P.P.G.S.D.; E. Aitken Davies, P.P.G. J.D.; W. Browning, P.P.G.J.D.; J. N. Hifley, P.P.G.J.D.; H. Miller, P.P.G.O.; J. Way, P.P.G.O.; S. Jew, P.P.G. Treas.; J. Lynn, P.P.G.C.; J. Phillips, P.P.G.D.C.; A. Latimer, P.P.G.S.B.; D. Cross, P.P.G.S.B.; L. D. Westcott, P.P.G.S.B.; J. H. Toms, P.P.G.S.B.; also W. Bros. P. B. Clements, W.M. 64; Lieut. W. H. Jolliffe, P.M.; H. Cochrane, W.M. 16; Bros. J. T. Avery, J.W. 50; J. Brewer, S.W. 9; H. Bridgeman, M.O. 91; J. R. Harris, J.O. 91; J. H. Filmer, S.D. 16; J. James, J.O. 50; C. Croydon, J.O. 35; G. H. Evans, S.D. 50; C. Rodda, O. 50; H. Horton, I.G. 35; T. Gidley, Tyler 169; and the following were among the other brethren present: E. J. Richardson, 50; R. Bird, 50; Lieut. Littleton, 48; E. Prout, 35.

The Secretary's report showed great improvement in the lodges making their returns, but stated that some of them were yet left much later in the year than was convenient. The Treasurer's receipts and expenditure for the past year showed a balance in hand of £14 11s.

On the proposition of Bro. C. Gottschalk, seconded by Bro. J. E. Curteis, £10 was voted to the funds of the Institution in aid of Aged and Decayed Freemasons and their widows.

On the proposition of Bro. J. Latimer, seconded by Bro. J. E. Curteis, a committee was appointed to obtain a new set of collars and jewels for the P.G. Lodge.

The P.G.M., the D.P.G.M., the Secretary and Treasurer for the ensuing year were appointed as a committee.

Bro. L. D. Westcott was elected the Treasurer, and Bro. John Rogers the Tyler for the ensuing year.

The following brethren were appointed the elective members of the Board of General Purposes:—W. G. Rogers, P.P.G.J.W. 15; J. Latimer, 66; Samuel Jew, 66; J. B. Gover, 50.

The P.G.M. invested the following brethren as the officers for the ensuing year:—The Rev. P. H. Newnham, D.P.G.M., 35; Major Shanks, R.M., P.S.G.W., 35; J. T. Shapland, P.J.G.W., 9; H. Cochrane, P.S.G.O., 16; John Brewer, P.J.G.O., 9; the Rev. W. King (vicar of South Molton) P.G. Chap. 9; L. D. Westcott, P.G. Treas., 50; R. M. Andrews, P.G. Reg., 50; V. Bird, P.G. Sec., 64; M. Rickard, P.G.S.D., 64; E. Patten, P.G.J.D., 76; J. T. Avery, P.G.D.C., 50; W. Crimp, P.G.A.D.C., 50; J. Tonkin, P.G.S. Wks., 23; J. B. Price, P.G.S.B., 16; J. Billing, P.G.O., 169; C. Croydon, P.G. Std. B., 35; J. H. Filmer, P.G. Purst., 16; Stewards—R. Pengelly, 50; J. Stocker, 15; S. Searle, 100; and A. Bodley, 15.

BATH.—Royal Cumberland Lodge (Time Immemorial).—A regular meeting was held at the Masonic Hall, on Thursday, Nov. 30th. The lodge was opened at a quarter to eight by Bro. Carey, W.M., supported by the following:—Bro. Jas. Dutton, I.P.M.; Dr. Hopkins, Past G.J.W., Chaplain; Cater, S.W.; John Dutton, J.W.; Rubie, Secretary; Abraham, as M.O.; Major Preston, as S.O.; Brown, as J.O.; Murlis, S.D.; Radway, J.D.; Falkner, Reg., as I.G.; Bigwood, Tyler. There were also present as visitors Bros. Munro, P.M. 119; Amor, 119; Moutrie; and many members. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. A unanimous ballot was taken for Bro. Amor as a joining member. A candidate for advancement, who was expected, sent a note at the last moment, satisfactorily explaining his inability to attend. The bye-laws were read, also a circular announcing the meeting of Grand Mark Lodge on Dec. 5th. Bro. Dr. Hopkins reported that he had represented the Cumberland Mark Lodge at Grand Lodge meetings at Bristol and Birmingham, on both of which occasions he had occupied the chair of G.S.W. Bro. Munro thanked the brethren for their kind reception of him as a visitor, and invited them to attend the Carnarvon Lodge at Keynsham, on Dec. 14th. Bro. Amor also expressed his gratification on his admission as a joining member. Bro. Captain Moneypenny congratulated the lodge on its present thriving condition and prospects, which appeared very different from what they were when he last attended a meeting a considerable time ago. Bros. Brown and Howes proposed three candidates for advancement, and Bros. Radway and Dingle gave the name of another. No other business offering, the lodge was closed at a quarter to nine, and the brethren adjourned for refreshment.

NEWPORT.—Keystone Lodge (No. 109).—By far the largest gathering of Mark Masons ever held in the province took place at Newport, on Monday, the 27th ult., at the Masonic Hall, under the auspices of the Keystone Lodge, for the purpose of advancing duly qualified brethren, and installing Bro. W. Wattaris as W.M. for the ensuing year. The lodge was opened by Captain

S. Geo. Homfray, P.M.M., in the unavoidable absence of the W.M. Several brethren were duly advanced, and the beautiful ceremony of the Mark Degree was magnificently rendered by the presiding W.M., who is also the D.P.G.M. of the province, and P.A.G.D.C. of England. The installation of Bro. W. Watkins was then proceeded with, and it is not too much to say that this grand ceremony was given to perfection, and after being duly installed, Bro. Watkins invested his officers, viz.: Bros. L. A. Homfray, as I.P.M.; Captain S. Geo. Homfray, D.C.; Captain A. T. Perkins, S.W.; R. J. Chambers, J.W.; Walter West, M.O.; Jas. Horner, S.O.; P. Evans, J.O.; Rev. J. H. Jakes, Chaplain; J. Campbell, Sec.; W. Pickford, Treas.; W. H. W. Homfray, Registrar; H. J. Groves, Org.; A. McMahon, S.D.; H. Richards, J.D.; A. Taylor, I.G.; H. Fletcher, Tyler; and W. Hopton, A. Tyler. The lodge was then closed in due form, the brethren being impressed that such a meeting augurs well for the future of Mark Masonry in the province.

Knights Templar.

A meeting of the Tancred Preceptory was held at Cambridge on Thursday, November 30th, Sir Knight Professor Kalley Miller, presiding. Comp. John Arthur Fowler, of the Euclid Chapter, received the honour of knighthood, and Sir Knt. Robert Townley Caldwell, Fellow and Bursar of Corpus Christi College, was elected Eminent Preceptor for the ensuing year.

Red Cross of Constantine.

A meeting of the University Conclave of Knights of the Red Cross of Rome and Constantine was held at Cambridge, on Thursday, November 30th. Sir Knt. Cuthbert Edgar Pee k was installed as Sovereign, and Sir Knt. Professor Kalley Miller as Viceroy for the ensuing year.

Scotland.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Mother Kilwinning (No. 0).—On Friday, the 24th ult., the brethren of the Mother Lodge resident in Glasgow and vicinity inaugurated a series of meetings proposed hereafter to be held monthly in various districts of the town, for the purpose of bringing them periodically in closer fraternal intercourse than what has hitherto subsisted. The initial meeting was held in the house of Bro. Charles Scobie, Roseneath Cottage, Paisley Road, where about forty assembled, under the presidency first of Bro. J. A. Ferguson, Proxy Senior Warden of the lodge, and afterwards of Bro. John Clark, Treasurer for the associated Glasgow brethren. In the course of a specially pleasant evening, the Secretary (Bro. John Walker) briefly explained the object of the gatherings thus auspiciously commenced, as above indicated, and which met with the hearty approval of all present. It is a part of the scheme, moreover, that short papers on subjects more or less directly bearing on Freemasonry shall be read at each of the future meetings, thus usefully blending the intellectual with the social element amongst the brethren when monthly they "assemble a." Before breaking up it was announced to the meeting that the annual reunion of the Glasgow-resident members of the Mother Lodge was fixed to be held this year on the evening of the 8th December, in Lodge St. John's Hall, No. 213, Buchanan Street. Bro. Captain McCosh of Dalry is to occupy the chair, and it is expected that Bro. Colonel Mure of Caldwell will also be present.

GLASGOW.—Lodge St. John (No. 34).—The regular meeting of this ancient lodge was held in St. John's Hall, 213, Buchanan-street, on Tuesday, the 21st ult., Bro. D. M. Nelson, W.M., presiding, supported by Bros. Sellars, S.W.; Brownlie, J.W.; William Bell, I.P.M.; Fletcher, P.M.; Smillie, P.M.; T. B. Bell, S.M., and a large muster of members and visiting brethren. After the minutes had been read and approved of, Mr. James Cuthbert received the E.A. Degree, Bro. Bell, I.P.M., officiating. Bro. D. McGlashan was then admitted to the lodge as a joining member by Bro. D. M. Nelson, W.M., and Bro. Cuthbert. Arthur and Galloway received the Fellow Craft Degree, the ceremony being gone through in a most careful and impressive manner by Bro. Bell, S.M. The lodge was then called to refreshment, and the usual toasts given and responded to most enthusiastically. During the evening some most excellent songs were given, the songs of Bros. Rogers and Leslie, the celebrated solo vocalists and duetists, being most effectively rendered, to the admiration of all present. The W.M., before closing the lodge, notified that Bro. Rutherford, photographer, had presented three very handsome photographs, framed, taken at the last annual excursion of the lodge of those brethren that were present on that occasion. It was then proposed and carried that this present should be recorded on the minutes. This brought the meeting to a close.

GREENOCK.—Lodge Greenock St. John (No. 175).—The annual general meeting of this lodge was held on the evening of Monday, 27th ult. Bro. Alex. McMaster, W.M., occupied the chair. After some routine business the following office-bearers were elected for the ensuing year: Bros. Pollock, W.M.; Urie, D.M.; Alex. McMaster, P.M.; Anderson, P.M.; Duncan McIntyre, S.W.; Archibald Cameron, J.W.; William Wright, jun., Sec.; James Rodger, Treas.; Rev. John Balfour Robertson, Chap.; John R. Fleming, S.D.; David Anderson, J.W.; Norman Buchanan, 1st Senior Steward; Charles J. Sergeant, 2nd Senior Steward; Stevenson Stewart, I.G.; Alex. Cruden, Tyler. The newly-elected R.W.M., Bro. Pollock, having been duly installed, took

the chair, and presided with much ability throughout the remainder of the evening. The other office-bearers were then installed, and took up their respective positions in the lodge. The various reports were handed in and adopted, and after other business was transacted, hearty votes of thanks were accorded to Bro. McMaster, for his long services in the lodge, and to Bro. Urie, for acting as Depute Master so efficiently, which compliments were duly acknowledged. After a cordial vote of thanks to the other retiring office-bearers, responded to by Bro. T. N. Douglas in appropriate terms, the lodge was duly closed by the W.M. The meeting, which was a very large one, was of an exceedingly cordial and enthusiastic character. St. John, 175, is in a very flourishing condition, and much of the prosperity and success which attends it is due to the fact of its being fortunate in always possessing any number of able and hardworking brethren ready to fill the chair, as well as the other offices, and to the devotedness, competent knowledge, and conciliating courtesies of the indefatigable Secretary, Bro. Wm. Wright, jun., who is well supported by the painstaking and judicious Treasurer, Bro. Rodger.

CAMPBELL.—Caledonian St. John's R.A. Lodge (No. 195).—The annual meeting of the members of this lodge was held on Friday evening, the 24th ult., in their lodge-room, Lennox Arms Hotel, Lennox-town, W.M. Peter Robertson presiding. The principal business transacted was the election and installation of office-bearers for the year commencing on St. John's Day in December. The following brethren were duly elected and installed:—R.W.M., J. A. King; P.M., Peter Robertson; D.M., R. Graham; S.M., Andrew Hosie; S.W., James Gray; J.W., David Rodger; Treasurer, Francis Paterson; Secretary, James Martin; Chaplain, John Morrison; S.D., James Ewing; J.D., James C. Fulton; Bible-bearer, William Brown; Jeweller, Alexander Whitehead; I.G., John Bennie; Tyler, Alex. Lindsay.

CAMBERNAULD.—Lodge St. Andrew (No. 199).—A meeting of this lodge was held on Thursday, the 30th ult., for the election of office-bearers for the ensuing year, when the following brethren were elected, namely, Bros. George Stark, R.W.M.; Andrew Shaw, P.M.; Alexander Smellie, D.M.; John Longwell, S.W.; James Stark, J.W.; Archibald Young, Treas.; Robert Jack, Sec.; David Couts, Clerk; Rev. Hugh Park, Chaplain; Matthew Kirkwood, S.B.; William Leashman, S.S.; John Kinnabrough, J.S.; James Stewart, Tyler. After the election was over, and the various office-bearers duly installed, the lodge was closed. The brethren afterwards assembled in their lodge-room, when an elegant supper was partaken of, the W.M. in the chair, while the Senior and Junior Wardens acted as Croupiers, members of various lodges being present, including Lodge Star, 219, Glasgow; St. John's, 34, Glasgow; St. Andrew's, 176, Denny; and others, when a most enjoyable evening was spent, the company adjourning at 11.30 p.m.

VALE OF LEVEN.—Alexandria and Bonhill St. Andrew's R.A. Lodge (No. 321) celebrated its twelfth anniversary on Friday evening, the 24th ult., by a supper and ball in Dalmonach Hall, Bonhill. Fully 100 were present. Bro. Stewart, W.M., presided, supported by Bros. Moir, Turnbull, Hodge, &c. Letters of apology were read from Bro. Smollett, P.G.M., Arch. Orr Ewing, and John Orr Ewing. The usual loyal and patriotic toasts were duly honoured, and the National Anthem sung. Amongst the other toasts were "The Provincial Grand Lodge," to which Bro. Moir, C.P.G.L., replied; "The Visiting Brethren," by Bro. McKenzie, reply by Bro. Hodge, W.M., No. 80. An assembly followed, and the evening was most harmoniously spent.

RUTHERGLEN.—St. John's Operative Lodge (No. 347).—A meeting of this lodge took place on Friday night, the 24th ult., when the following brethren were duly elected:—David Smart, W.M.; J. Cunningham, P.M.; M. Abbot, D.M.; John Murdoch, S.M.; Thos. Alston, S.W.; W. Young, J.W.; W. Gardiner, Treasurer; Alex. Warnock, Secretary; A. Robertson, S.D.; Peter Ross, J.D.; Andrew Brown, P.G.S.; Hugh Aiken, S.S.; M. Sparks, J.S.; Andrew Pearson, Chaplain; J. Terris, B.B.; James B. Shields, S.B.; Wm. Carlin, I.G.; John Cairns, Tyler.

BRIDGE OF ALLAN.—Lodge Abercromby (No. 531).—At the annual election, which took place at the Royal Hotel, the following were duly elected as the office-bearers for the ensuing year, viz.:—Bros. Wm. McCowan, W.M.; John Carmichael, P.M.; Robt. Don, D.M.; Thomas Hamilton, S.M.; Robt. Philp, jun., Proxy Master; James Simpson, S.W.; J. Cramb, J.W.; Wm. Henderson, Treas.; P. McIlidowie, Sec.; Rev. John Reid, Chaplain; G. McColl, S.D.; Wm. McGregor, J.D.; A. Anderson, S.S.B.; G. McKenzie, J.S.B.; A. B. Haldane, I.G.; L. McKinnon, Tyler.

AN ACT OF MASONIC DEVOTION.

Bro. Hubert, in his December number of the "Chaine L'Union," gives a gallant example of Masonic devotion on the part of Bro. Lebouleiller, of the R. F. Dieppe, of the French Mercantile Marine, on the 29th of August last. It appears that the French vessel Louise de St. Servan, Captain Chevallier, was struck by a tornado while on the Bank of Newfoundland, and sinking. Capt. Lebouleiller rescued the captain and crew, in all 21, by a desperate effort, in a heavy sea; but when he got them on board he found he had not sufficient provisions for them if he remained there, the Louise having foundered almost immediately after the crew was taken aboard the R. F. He therefore gave up his own fishing and returned to France with the crew he had saved, entering the Gironde September 26th. Those who like to read this narrative in the simple French will find it in an early "Masonic Magazine."

NOTICE.

To prevent delay or miscarriage, it is particularly requested that ALL communications of whatever nature for the "Freemason," may be addressed to the Office, 198, Fleet-street, London, it being irregular to send through any other channel.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

COLONIAL and FOREIGN SUBSCRIBERS are informed that acknowledgments of remittances received are published in the first number of every month.

It is very necessary for our readers to advise us of all money orders they remit, more especially those from the United States of America and India; otherwise we cannot tell where to credit them.

TO OUR READERS.

The *Freemason* is a sixteen-page weekly newspaper, price 2d. It is published every Friday morning, and contains the most important, interesting, and useful information relating to Freemasonry in every degree. Annual subscription in the United Kingdom, Post free, 10/- P.O.O.'s to be made payable at the chief office, London.

NEW POSTAL RATES.

Owing to a reduction in the Postal Rates, the publisher is now enabled to send the "Freemason" to the following parts abroad for One Year for Twelve Shillings (payable in advance):—Africa, Australia, Bombay, Canada, Cape of Good Hope, Ceylon, China, Constantinople, Demerara, France, Germany, Gibraltar, Jamaica, Malta, Newfoundland, and New South Wales, New Zealand, Suez, Trinidad, United States of America, &c.

TO ADVERTISERS.

The *Freemason* has a large circulation in all parts of the Globe, its advantages as an advertising medium can therefore scarcely be overrated.

ADVERTISEMENTS should reach the Office, 198 Fleet Street, London, not later than 12 o'clock on Wednesday, to insure insertion in the following Saturday's number. The Rates for Advertisements may be had on application at the Office.

Answers to Correspondents.

F. P.—No.

The following stand over:—Reports of lodges: Vale of Avon; Churchill, 473; Northampton Chapter, 360; Faith, 141; Alfred, 340; Loyalty, 86; Ivy, 1441; London Masonic Club; Priory, 1000; Star, 1275; Domestic Chapter, 177; Union Lodge of Instruction; Annual Banquet Southern Star Lodge of Instruction. Premier Conclave Red Cross of Constantine. Burn's Statue and Freemasonry.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

[The charge is 2s. 6d. for announcements, not exceeding four lines, under this heading.]

BIRTHS.

FRANCIS.—On the 2nd inst., at Fellows-road, South Hampstead, the wife of A. Francis, Esq., of a son.

PRATT.—On the 1st inst., at Lyonsdown, New Barnet, the wife of J. Pratt, of a daughter.

ROSE.—On the 4th inst., at Thistleton House, Clissold-road, the wife of Mr. L. Rose, of a daughter.

WATSON.—On the 1st inst., at Clifton, Gloucestershire, the wife of the Rev. H. C. Watson, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

LEWIS—RICHARD-PRESTON.—On the 29th ult., at Brentwood Church, Edwin James, son of C. C. Lewis, Esq., Brentwood, to Frances Maude Dorothea, daughter of W. R. Richard-Preston, Esq.

MOORE—MYERS.—On the 2nd inst., at St. Peter's Church, Wm. Prentice Moore, second son of the late Charles Caught Moore, Esq., of Mile-end and Leytonstone, to Mary Kate, eldest daughter of William Henry Myers, Esq., F.S.A.

DEATHS.

DAWSON.—On the 30th ult., at Birmingham, George Dawson, aged 55.

HARTLEY.—On the 25th ult., at Brighton, Thomas Hartley, aged 63.

HAWKER.—On Sept. 6, at Akassa, West Coast of Africa, Edward Charles Hawker, aged 38.

MATTHEWS.—On the 1st inst., at his residence, Victoria Road, Heeley, Sheffield, Henry Matthews, P.M. 1239, P.Z. 139, P.P.S.G. Mark W. for W. Yks., G.J.O. for Eng., &c., &c., aged 50 years.

POOLE.—On the 3rd inst., after severe suffering, at Blackwater Cottage, Lordship-lane, East Dulwich, Charlotte, the beloved wife of John Poole, aged 55, deeply lamented Friends will kindly accept this intimation.

REYNOLDS.—On the 24th ult., at Richmond-terrace Clapham-road, Louisa Ann, eldest daughter of the late Mr. Charles and Mrs. Mary Ann Reynolds.

The Freemason,

SATURDAY, DEC. 9, 1876.

THE GRAND LODGE OF BENEVOLENCE.

We called attention in our last number to the amount distributed at the monthly meeting of this valuable body, which, assuming it to be the normal maximum of monthly relief, would reach to something like £7000 per annum. This at 3 per cent. is the interest £230,000, and represents a large capital and a serious charge on our resources. It may be questioned however, whether that amount, even large as it is, answers to the actual charge on our resources, and as by the last published quarterly accounts of Grand Lodge, it seems that the sums paid by the Fund of Benevolence, in the quarter ending March 31st, reached to £1772 2s. 8d., and that this total by no means represents the amount voted, we feel sure that we are not wrong in fixing the yearly expenditure at the very least at £7000 per annum. How then is this large amount expended? and is the best done with it that might be done? are questions which will occur to every brother. We wish that we could say, in our opinion, that the replies to these two queries could be perfectly satisfactory. But we feel bound to say we do not think that they are. Several noteworthy points crop out when we begin to dive beneath the surface, and to realize the claims for relief, on the one hand, and the "Benevolence" afforded on the other. First of all, it is very noteworthy that a large number of applications are always only just within the "minimum" of the term of subscription insisted on by the Book of Constitutions. Two-years-and-a-half is a very common period of subscription, three years, very frequent, four years may be said to be exceptional, and though, of course, we have here and there ten, fifteen, twenty, or thirty years, yet we fancy that if the average membership of the list of the applicants for the last Lodge of Benevolence was taken, it could only amount to something under four-and-a-half years, if quite so much. But, of course, we speak from memory, and do not profess, except relatively, to claim correctness in our figures, but we believe we are not far out. The next point to be noted, is the absence from lodge life which many of the applicants display, sixteen years of non-subscription we often have to deal with, and though the case be a bad one, as it often is, yet we cannot think that after so long an absence from the work and payments of Freemasonry, a brother has a right to ask our aid. We should be quite ready to add a provision to our laws, that no one out of Masonry for ten years, and who has not subscribed to a lodge for two years previous to his application (except the lodge is prepared to make it a special case), on special grounds, shall come for relief. As it is, too many who do nothing for Masonry reap the benefit, while the industrious and zealous brethren bear all the burdens. This is a growing evil, and deserves to be noticed and remedied. Another point is, the frequent applications we have from brethren who have known existing incomes, in some cases increasing, and who because they are in difficulties come to the board. It is really quite impossible to understand how such can claim the benefit of our Masonic charity, which is for those in decayed and distressed circumstances, to whom such help is really invaluable. Can such a claim really be considered as a claim for Masonic "charity"? We think not; and we feel sure that such a contingency of relief, and such an application for aid do not properly come under the consideration of the Lodge of Benevolence. The evils arising from such claims being substantiated, as a right, are so serious and manifold, as hardly to require animadversion, and we feel that we are doing no more than our duty in calling the attention of W. Masters of lodges to an innovation most unreasonable in itself, and fraught with harm to the best interests of our Order. And having said this, as we felt

it our duty to do, we feel bound to add, how greatly we rejoice to think that the wisdom of our Masonic forefathers provided this means of Masonic charity, inasmuch as in itself it is a right noble institution, and well represents the unchanging character of our goodly and chivalrous Order. Many a poor brother receives a "solatium" in hours of adversity without which he has really nothing but the workhouse before him. Many a destitute friendless man has the "right hand of fellowship" extended to him in an unexpected term of bitter earthly adversity, and the liberality of our brotherhood, and the kindness of the brethren who compose the Board of Benevolence make certainly, often most truly still the poor "widow's heart to sing for joy."

THE PRESENT ASPECTS OF THE MASONIC STRUGGLE IN FRANCE AND BELGIUM.

To all sincere Freemasons, to all members of the Anglo-Saxon family of Masonry, the position of Masonry itself in these two countries must be one of extreme anxiety. It is hardly possible to overrate the result of the foolish appeal to the lodges which is now proceeding in both lands, as in the present "temper of the times," and the "animus" of a large and important section of the fraternity, there can, we are disposed to think, be little doubt, humanly speaking, what the response will be. Our readers are aware that in both France and Belgium the question whether the belief in the "existence of God, and the Immortality of the soul" shall be retained in the constitutional laws as a condition of acceptance, as an official avowal, is now submitted to the lodge. In Belgium, as we informed our readers last week on excellent authority, some of the lodges have already voted by large majorities that the "words shall be expunged." In France the process is proceeding, but we have not yet heard of any actual voting. In perusing the official report of the meeting of the Grand Orient at Paris in September, and of the speeches pro and con, we cannot be insensible to the grave nature of the case. Let us listen to these remarks of Bro. Beke, who spoke with great moderation and effect. We give the actual French, with a translation for the benefit of some of our brethren who do not read French with facility.—"L'article 1. En disant (ce que vous ne pouvez changer): que l'immense majorité des Maçons répandus sur la surface du globe croit au grand Architecte de l'Univers et à l'immortalité de l'âme, ne porte en rien atteinte à cette liberté de conscience, puisque le paragraphe 3 dit: que la Maçonnerie regarde la liberté de conscience comme un droit propre à chaque homme et n'exclut personne pour ses croyances. Je veux vous dire, mes FF., à ce sujet ce qui s'est passé dans une Loge il y a peu de jours. Un prof.: présente: les rapports sont excellents, ce prof.: a contribué pour une somme importante à la création d'écoles laïques; il est donc admis à l'unanimité à subir les épreuves maçonniques. Dans les questions qui lui sont posées, on lui demande: s'il a jamais prié? sur sa réponse que dans des moments douloureux de sa vie, il a quelquefois adressé des prières à l'Etre suprême, il est gratifié de 27 boules noires, et l'initiation lui est refusée! Je vous demande, mes très chers FF., si ce n'est pas là de l'intolérance?" Article 1. In saying (that which you cannot change) that the immense majority of Masons spread over the surface of the globe believes in the Great Architect of the Universe and the immortality of the soul, in no way interferes with that liberty of conscience, since Paragraph 3 says that Masonry looks upon liberty of conscience as a right peculiar to the individual, and shuts out no one for his belief. I wish to tell you, my brethren, with respect to this subject, a fact that has taken place in a lodge within a few days. A profane presents himself; the reports of him are excellent; this profane has contributed an important amount to the lay school, he is therefore unanimously admitted to undergo the Masonic probation. In the questions which are put to him, he is asked if he has ever prayed? On his reply that in mournful moments of his life he has sometimes offered up prayers to the

Supreme Being he is presented with 27 black balls, and initiation is refused to him. I ask you, my very dear brethren, if that is not intolerance?" and we think that all of our readers will answer at once "Yes, a great deal more." One fact, they say, is worth a thousand arguments, and surely we want nothing more to convince us what this present agitation is tending to, and what must be the inevitable end, of the recent ill-advised decision of the G. Orient of France. It is a matter to all Anglo-Saxon Freemasons of very deep regret, as if these words are taken out of the constitutional laws of French Freemasonry there will be but one course open to all Anglo-Saxon Grand Lodges, as far as we can see—that of non-recognition of the G. Orient of France and Belgium. And for this reason, they have by a Masonic "coup d'état," removed, the great and cosmopolitan teaching of Freemasonry, and in so doing have separated themselves from a million of Anglo-Saxon Freemasons. When Bro. André Rousselle in his eloquent address thus expresses himself, we can only feel the greatest astonishment that so able a man can permit himself to be so deceived by his own theory. "Vous invoquez d'abord l'interprétation fautive et mensongère qui pourrait être faite de notre vote par les Grands Orient étrangers, et qui aurait peut-être pour conséquence d'isoler la Maçonnerie Française au sein de la Maçonnerie universelle. Vos suppositions ne me touchent guère, parce qu'elles sont purement gratuites et ne reposent sur aucun fondement. Aucune parole, aucun acte des Grands Orient étrangers ne vous autorisent à leur prêter si généreusement de pareils sentiments d'excommunication ou d'ostracisme. Après les débats aux quels nous nous livrons en ce moment, aucun homme intelligent et honnête, ne pourra dire sérieusement que le Grand Orient de France a voulu bannir de ses Loges la croyance en Dieu et en l'immortalité de l'âme, alors, au contraire qu'au nom de la liberté absolue de conscience il déclare solennellement respecter les convictions, les doctrines, et les croyances de ses membres. Nous n'entendons pas plus nier qu'affirmer aucun dogme, afin de demeurer fidèles à notre principe et à notre pratique de la solidarité humaine. S'il plaisait aux Grands Orient étrangers de nous calomnier, en travestissant nos pensées et en dénaturant nos sentiments, libre à eux. L'opinion publique les jugerait et, tôt ou tard, la vérité se ferait jour." "You then invoke the false and lying interpretation which might be made of our vote by foreign Grand Orient, and which might have the consequence of isolating French Freemasonry in the bosom of universal Masonry. Your suppositions hardly touch me, because they are purely gratuitous, and rest on no foundation. Not one word, not one act of the foreign G. Orient authorise you in lending to them so generous like sentiments of excommunication or ostracism. After the debates to which we devote ourselves at this moment, no intelligent and honest man can seriously say, that the Grand Orient of France has wished to banish from its lodges belief in God, and the immortality of the Soul, because, on the contrary, in the name of absolute liberty of belief of conscience, it declares solemnly that it wishes to respect the conviction, the doctrine, and the belief of its members. We do not intend to deny or affirm any dogma, in order to remain faithful to our principle and practice of human solidarity. If it should please foreign Grand Orient to calumniate us by travestying our thoughts, and giving a non-natural meaning to our opinions, let them do so. The public opinion will judge them, and sooner or later truth will prevail." Despite Bro. Rousselle's words, we fancy that there will be but one opinion among Anglo-Saxon Masons of the extreme folly and grave impropriety of the course which the French and Belgian Masons are now pursuing, and of the inevitable isolation which they are preparing for themselves. We are heartily sorry for them and for Freemasonry in these countries.

MORBID TASTES.

We published in the last "Freemason" a most sensible letter from Mr. Sheriff East to the "Times," because we are of opinion that we all

ought to be greatly obliged to any one who so courageously sets himself, "pro bono publico," against the "morbidity" of the hour. We thank him very much for his announcement, and we think that he has set an example worthy of universal imitation. With a deep sense of his own personal responsibility with respect to a most melancholy act of stern but needed justice, Mr. Sheriff East most truly and clearly points out that the desire to be present at such a mournful sight as an execution in prison by any one who has no call to be there, is a proof of a morbid mind. We trust that other authorities will with equal wisdom and good sense discourage the attendance on such occasions of those whom neither duty nor necessity have compelled to be present, as the desire to witness all the details of an execution within the walls of the prison is, in our opinion, almost as vitiated a taste as one can well picture to one's mind. There was a famous wit and bon vivant in former days—George Selwyn—who had a peculiar taste for all such scenes of pain and shame, and it has been said that in the dress of one of the executioner's attendants he stood by and witnessed a wretched individual broken on the wheel at Paris. But then, as Horace Walpole seems to intimate, despite his undoubted wit and remarkable "bon mots," his conduct was flighty and his habits eccentric. There have been many persons since George Selwyn to whom the execution of a fellow creature has appeared a sight to be sought after, and their presence at such unwholesome gatherings a matter of becoming pride to themselves. And the taste still lingers amongst us, the same morbid tendency still prevails in the age in which we live; and yet we never ourselves could realize, nor do we profess to understand now, why such abnormal conditions of humanity are to be dwelt upon or gloated over by any one with average sensibilities or the normal amount of common sense. There is nothing ever very heroic, either in criminals or in criminality. The criminals for the most part with whom the law has to deal, have in them little to redeem and nothing to elevate them above the level of their venal sympathies or their worthless lives. They are really very common-place scoundrels indeed, whom a round of continued criminality has either hardened into iniquity, or has rendered them impervious to every dictate of honour and humanity. For them there is nothing but the proper surveillance and detection of the police, the stern grasp of the law, the just sentence of the Court of Judicature. They ought to inspire no sympathy, and can claim no admiration on any ground of known ethics or reasonable opinion. No doubt, every now and then, the career of society is startled, and the annals of crime are darkened, by some special case of malignity, by some awful exhibition of wickedness, by some appalling and even some heart-sickening brutality, yet in such a case, though the tendency of the hour may be to dwell upon the needless details of the reporters' manipulations, and people often profess an excitement on such topics which they do not really feel, yet there surely should be no morbid desire to hear of the last words or to note the last agonies of the dying criminal. To suppose that any such exceptional literature can do any of us good, psychologically or morally, can either improve, or warn, or edify, or instruct, is one of the greatest fallacies of an unreasoning sensationalism. When the last stern sentence of the law has been passed, and society exacts its needful Nemesis, the criminal should be left to the solitude of the prison, and the solemn if painful routine of the execution morn. It may be needful and wise that representatives of the press, and those whom the law properly appoints as the jury, should be present, to witness the fulfilment of the sad requirements of justice, but for some careless idler or man about town to go to such a scene as a matter of amusement or excitement is about as great a solecism on all that is befitting and all that is becoming, as can, we venture to think, be possibly conceived by the human mind. There are some vitiated constitutions which require the constant "stimulant" to nerve them to action daily; there are some palled tastes which demand some hurtful

excitement to enable them to "kill time" probably, but for any one desiring to make it part of his day's business to attend (without any call so to do), an execution in the morning, to pass away some idle moments, is a reflexion, (we say nothing of the individual himself) alike on the reason and the philanthropy of society and the age. We, therefore, are glad to chronicle this most sensible resolution of Mr. Sheriff East, and we feel that the thanks of all are due to him, who deprecate and detest a hateful and harmful morbidity. The belief in criminals and criminality is happily on the wane amongst us, and no more forms the staple of a vivacious literature, except for reprehension and moral warning. As any detective officer will tell you, if you throw off the veil which sometimes hangs over the deeds of the daring, and the artifices of the astute, if you reduce the burglar, the "cracksman," the fence, the murderer to his true character, when the varnish is peeled off, and the petty mystery of accident has vanished, you have to deal with a most uninteresting personage indeed. Crime, as we know, begets crime, and few are criminal all at once. But whether it be for the hardened malefactor righteously suffering the well-merited meed of his prosperous criminality, or the evil doer whom passion, or drink, or revenge, or brutality has hurried to his crime and the gallows, on him, as our legislature now wisely provides, let the curtain, so to say, of oblivion drop once for all. Society can never be benefitted or edified by the tale of his often excited personal utterances, or the mournful spectacle of his last sufferings. We thank Mr. Sheriff East once again for his very reasonable letter.

CONTINUED ROMAN CATHOLIC ATTACKS ON FREEMASONRY.

We shall call attention in our next number to two recent allocutions against Freemasonry, one addressed by the Pope to the Bishop of St. Paul of Brazil and the other an address of the Roman Catholic Archbishop of Malta to his clergy.

Original Correspondence.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for, or even as approving of the opinions expressed by our correspondents, but we wish, in a spirit of fair play to all, to permit—within certain necessary limits—free discussion.—Ed.]

GRAND LODGE OF SCOTLAND.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Many thanks for the insertion of my letter, and I only hope that the "Freemason" is read in every lodge, and by every brother in Scotland. I am convinced that that letter will be approved of by almost every lodge in Scotland, while it may, at the same time, draw down upon my devoted head the denunciations of some who prefer the wrong to the right; but I have counted the cost, and am prepared to abide the decision of the Craft. I neither write from disappointment nor revenge. I have no Masonic or personal ambition to serve, nor have I any Masonic brother to sacrifice. I write because I have for years seen the Grand Lodge of Scotland going to ruin, and brethren either cannot, will not, or dare not interpose. To save life the surgeon has sometimes to cut off a limb, and to save the life of Grand Lodge of Scotland I have written that letter, but if I cannot save its existence, I will at least expose its defects, that the brethren may brace themselves up to the work of regeneration.

Allow me again to notice for a moment the financial condition of Grand Lodge. The financial affairs of any institution are the most easily managed. That is to say, they are matters of fact, and not of sentiment, and every penny, shilling, and pound ought to be accounted for at the end of the financial year, so that the brethren may see at once on which side the balance lies, and brings out the old adage that short accounts make long friends. But the most extraordinary thing is that we cannot get a statement of facts from anybody. When I say we, I mean Grand Lodge, apart from officials and Grand Committee. We have a Grand Secretary, but no report from him; a Grand Treasurer, but no report from him; a Finance Committee, but no report from them; a Property Committee, but no report from them; there are Trustees for the liquidation of debt fund, but no report from them; Trustees for the Fund of Benevolence, but no report from them. Everything is midnight darkness, and it is to be wondered at that the brethren are becoming impatient and disheartened?

If we turn to the Masonic aspect of Grand Lodge things are no better. The Craft know actually nothing about itself. No report is printed to show whether we are increasing or decreasing, progressing or retrogressing. We know nothing about how many initiates are annually enrolled, how many diplomas have been issued, how many new charters have been granted, or how many lodges

have become dormant. No Provincial Grand Master ever gives in a report, either written or verbal, of the condition of Freemasonry in his province. No question is ever asked whether the laws of Grand Lodge, Cap. 12, Section 4, has been carried out, and every lodge in the province visited. Grand Lodge Laws, Cap. 12, Section 14, enacts that if a Provincial Grand Lodge becomes dormant the lodges in the district come under the immediate superintendence of Grand Lodge and Grand Committee. The Provincial Grand Lodge of Berwickshire has been dormant for four or five years by the death of the Provincial Grand Master, and was practically dormant for four years before his death in consequence of bad health, and with these facts before them Grand Lodge and Grand Committee pay no more attention to Berwickshire than if it were a province in Timbuctoo. In fact, Grand Lodge laws are no more attended to than if they were an old song, and they appear to be obeyed only when they cannot be broken.

In conclusion, if I have made any mistake in consequence of the darkness in which everybody and everything is kept, I shall be happy to acknowledge and apologise to any one who may feel aggrieved, but I must have facts, and not mere assertions.

I am, yours fraternally,

ADAM THOMSON,
S.P.G.M. Peebles and Selkirkshire, and Proxy
Master for and R.W.M. of St. John's Lodge,
Galashiels.

ADMISSION OF CANDIDATES.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Your correspondent, "West York," simply refers to a custom which has been in operation in many parts of England for years, but which cannot claim to be even a check upon the evils complained of.

For instance, a gentleman applies to be admitted in West Yorkshire, and gives his address near Manchester. In order to have any effect, the circular referred to by "West York" would have to be sent to each of the thirty lodges in Manchester and suburbs, whereas, if a central committee were established, and copies of all the circulars calling the meetings of the lodges in the district sent to them, they would be able to afford the information required at once, i.e., supposing the would-be candidate had been rejected in any of these lodges. What we want, is some system to prevent such occurrences as the one referred to by "Somerset" in your issue of a fortnight since. Until there is some remedy "black sheep" will no doubt creep in amongst us, and by their nefarious practices bring the Order into disrepute.

Yours fraternally,

EAST LANCASHIRE.

Manchester, 29th Nov., 1876.

THE ROYAL INSTALLATION ENGRAVING.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

As many are aware I have taken a special interest in the forthcoming "historical steel engraving of the installation of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, K.G., as M.W.G.M.," believing that in Bro. Edward James Hart, S.W. 1201, we have an artist who will do justice to the subject, and who will produce a picture of the greatest Masonic event of this century in connection with Freemasonry in Great Britain.

I have had the pleasure of sending many subscribers to the artist, at least, pleasure until lately. Within the last few weeks many are becoming most solicitous to see the engraving, and have been in communication with me as to its advent, a great many times, so much so that I felt it desirable to write to Bro. Hart for an explanation of the delay in its issue, and as doubtless the same anxiety is felt by many more of your readers I herewith give a few extracts from his reply of the 1st December:—"I assure you that nothing that I could compass to insure it being brought out sooner has been left undone by me. Even as it is, no engraving that has ever yet been produced will have been accomplished anything like so quick as this will have been. . . . When I know that popular engravings with not one half the amount of labour will have taken a year longer than this will have done, I feel that I shall be absolved when it is published, as I am now positive it will be before the second anniversary."

Shortly a letter from the engraver and a communication from the artist will be sent to every subscriber, explanatory of the matter, which will be a step in the right direction, for evidently it is considered by many that an engraving of this character does not take the time it really does to insure perfection. Bro. Hart has all to lose by the delay, and the subscribers all to gain, as nothing short of real portraits of the hundreds of brethren who attended the grand and Royal installation will satisfy the artist and engraver, no matter at what cost.

I find there are still some twenty-five spaces open for portraits, and those in parts of the picture of consequence, so that it is desirable brethren who have not yet subscribed should lose no time in communicating with the artist, or, at all events, sending their cartes, as it really rests with the Craft whether all the faces shall represent brethren, or purely imaginative pictures. After April of next year the prices will be increased one third. Let this be noted.

Yours fraternally,

W. J. HUGHAN, P.G.D.

THE UNITED ORDERS OF THE TEMPLE AND HOSPITAL.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Allow me to call the attention of my brother Knights Templar to the interesting and valuable address of the

Great Prior of Canada, Colonel McLeod Moore, which appears in this month's "Masonic Magazine." Colonel Moore is one of our greatest authorities on Templar history (albeit we may not entirely agree with his views as to the Protestant Knights of Malta), and as convent general meets on Friday next, the 8th inst., specially to discuss certain matters treated of in his address, I venture to think it should be widely read by those who propose to go back to the beaten paths.

Yours fraternally,

EMRA HOLMES, P.E.C.,
Past Grand Provost, &c.

Dec. 4th, 1876,

THE MASONIC BROTHERHOOD.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

In the "Rock" of November 25th, there appeared from a writer styling himself "A Mason" the subjoined letter attacking Freemasonry. I enclose the letter and a copy of my reply to it, which I sent to the "Rock."

I am, dear Sir and Brother, yours fraternally,

M. KEITH FRITH.

Temple, Dec. 5th.

THE MASONIC BROTHERHOOD.

Sir,—I notice an enquiry in your columns in reference to some of the rules of the above society. I have belonged to that brotherhood for a quarter of a century, and I have no hesitation in saying that its tenets and its practices have a very deleterious influence upon society at large, and that it exerts a very bad influence over the Christian character; and indeed I have come long since to the conclusion that it is very antagonistic to the spread of religion. I have observed that in many localities where Freemasonry rapidly advances spiritual religion invariably declines. I know of many instances where it has ruined individuals, and I cannot see how a thoroughly religious man can remain in the society. Its practices are in many instances a mere travesty of the doctrines of Christianity, whilst in others it is a caricature. The only man who seems to understand Masonry appears to be the Pope, and this is the only thing in which I agree with him. He anathematizes them annually I believe. It has long been a marvel to me why clergymen can associate in such gatherings, characterized as they are by feasting and revelry. It is one of the things which are a great hindrance to the advancement of true spiritual religion, and needs showing up in its true character. Its show and finery attract young men of the world, as the coats of many colours do the young clerics—but both are a delusion and a snare.

A MASON.

To the Editor of the "Rock."

Sir,—May I so far trespass on your courtesy as to ask for the insertion of this letter in reply to your correspondent of Nov. 25th, and in answer to your own enquiries respecting Freemasonry? I hope and believe that your readers will not accept the unsupported assertions and wild charges of your correspondent against an ancient and illustrious Order. Freemasonry, I say, in answer to your enquiries, is an institution founded upon and teaching the purest principles of morality, and has well been said to be "great in the eyes of the generous, good, and honest, nothing to the narrowminded, the wicked, the faithless, everything to the wise and virtuous, nothing to the ambitious, covetous, and false." "Love as brethren," irrespective of the narrowing distinctions of race, nation, or creed, is a cardinal point of Masonic doctrine. And it is well known that no other institution in the world can boast with truth, as Freemasonry can, and does, of affording a common basis—a neutral ground—where the Christian of all sects, the Jew, the Mahomedan, the Buddhist, the Brahmin, and the Parsee—in fact, all creeds, all nations, which acknowledge the existence of a Supreme Being—meet in love, brotherhood, and harmony.

Freemasonry is not opposed to Christianity in any sense; on the contrary, all the moral doctrines of the Order are in unison with that creed.

This world-wide fraternity, however, professes universality, and having men of all creeds and climes under its banner, cannot, without causing dissension, teach any distinctive form of religion, and therefore in no way identifies itself with any religious sect. Whilst individual Freemasons hold their own religious views, the Order as a whole, professing no preference for any one creed, desires toleration for all. If your correspondent has ever been at a Masonic lodge of instruction he certainly did not hear any doctrine taught there which (to use his own words) would have "a deleterious influence upon society at large." On the contrary, Freemasons are taught to be regular and just in the performance of their civil, moral, and religious duties. Your correspondent either knows nothing of Masonic teaching, which he so boldly condemns, "in which case he writes about that of which he knows nothing, and consequently writes nonsense;" or, knowing the glorious tenets of Masonry, he has deliberately and wilfully chosen to misrepresent them. I wish he had a small share even of a great virtue prominently and earnestly taught by the Craft to all its members—I mean charity—for if he had, I think he would have displayed his "Christian character" and "spiritual religion" in a more truly Christian manner than by "unchristianising thousands of his fellow men, simply because they are Freemasons, forgetting that men of the most undoubted piety, and most faithful members of the church, have gladly joined, and still belong to our maligned Order" (See "Defence of Freemasonry," by the Rev. A. F. A. Woodford, M.A., Past Grand Chaplain). Is it likely such men would remain amongst us if Freemasonry were really the pernicious institution your correspondent alleges it to be? And if they are present at Masonic banquets, can it be supposed that they would continue to attend those social gatherings if they deemed them un-

worthy of their sacred calling, and derogatory to their holy profession? I admit that Pecksniff, Mawworm, Stiggins, et id genus omne, are not likely to view with favour Masonic breadth of thought, and hatred of hypocrisy. Good men in all ages, however, have found Freemasonry walking hand in hand with "pure religion and undefiled." I conclude, I challenge your correspondent to prove that Freemasonry has ever ruined any individual, as he asserts, and that spiritual religion has declined as a consequence of the rapid advance of Freemasonry in any locality. That he may have known cases of men who have perverted and misused the great opportunities for good afforded them by Freemasonry I am prepared to admit, but the logic, or the fairness, of condemning all Freemasons on that account I most strenuously deny. Because your correspondent writes in no very Christian spirit of his fellow men I might just as well denounce Christianity. And it is strange (your correspondent's charges for a moment being assumed to be true) that he should have been, before making this discovery of the character of Masonry, a Mason! (save the mark!) for a quarter of a century.

I am, Sir, yours faithfully,

Temple, Dec. 4th, 1876,

A MASTER MASON.

THE "MASONIC MAGAZINE."

Dear Bro. Kenning,

As I think that the following words from my valued friend, and kind "collaborateur" Bro. W. J. Hughan, will be acceptable to yourself and many of our readers, I think well to transcribe them from a letter of his of date December 4th.

Yours very fraternally,

THE EDITOR "MASONIC MAGAZINE."

"I am delighted with the 'Masonic Magazine' for December, as it is the most readable and interesting 'Christmas number' we have had. Surely the contents must please all the subscribers, and incite them to increase its circulation, for the paper will practically be what they determine, the character and extent being mainly regulated by the list of subscribers. Success to your efforts for 1877, and I shall be ready to assist, as I have been from the beginning."

THE LATE BRO. GEORGE DAWSON.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

It will add perhaps to the general regret which will be felt by all Masons at the sudden and premature death of our Bro. George Dawson that he was Senior Warden designate of the Alma Mater Lodge, just about to be consecrated in Birmingham, of which I am the first W.M. I had the pleasure of initiating him into Freemasonry in the Warden Lodge some sixteen years ago, and though, as far as I know, the present office was the first to which he had aspired, he always preserved his interest in and appreciation for the grand Masonic system. The warrant of the Alma Mater Lodge will have a permanent though a melancholy interest for a wide circle in and out of Masonry.

I am, dear Sir and Bro., fraternally yours,

W. K. R. BEDFORD, P.G.C.

MARK GRAND LODGE.

The half-yearly communication of Grand Lodge of Mark Masters of England and Wales and the colonies and dependencies of the British Crown, was held on Tuesday evening at Freemasons' Tavern. The Most Worshipful the Grand Master of the degree, the Right Hon. the Earl of Limerick, presided, and the Grand Lodge was formed in the following manner:—Col. J. T. Davy, D.G.M.; Genl. Brownrigg, S.W.; Rev. J. S. Brownrigg, J.W.; Rev. Dr. Brett, Chaplain; Magnus Ohren, G.M.O.; Major Barlow, G.S.O.; Charles Lacey, G.J.O.; T. W. Coffin, S.D.; T. W. Faulkner, Std. B.; Austin, I.G.; F. Davison, Treas.; H. C. Levander, Reg.; S. Rosenthal, D.C.; F. H. Cozens, G. Org.

The following brethren were also present: V.W. Bro. Fred. Binckes, P.G.J.W., G. Sec.; W. Bros. Josiah Austin, G.S.D.; J. E. Curteis, G.J.D.; Robert W. Edis, G. Supt. of Wks.; T. W. Coffin, P.G. Swd. Br., as G. Swd. Br.; J. J. Fast, G.I.G.; H. W. Binckes, G. Asst. Sec.; G. T. Speight, G. Tyler; C. Pulman, G.S.; W. Watkins, P.G.S.W. Monmouthshire; George Kenning, P.M. No. 1; Thomas Meggy, P.G.M.O.; Rev. C. J. Martyn, P.G. Chap.; Rev. A. Bruce Frazer, P.G. Chap.; Rev. D. J. Drakeford, P.G. Chap.; Rev. C. W. Spencer Stanhope, P.G. Chap.; Thos. Hargreaves, P.G.D.; George Neall, P.G. Ins. Wks.; Thos. Cubitt, P.G. D.C.; J. H. Spencer, P.G.I.G.; T. S. Mortlock, P.G. Std. Br.; G. Glover, Henry Massey ("Freemason"), G. Yaxley, P.G. Std.; Thos. Platt, P. Prov. G. Treas. Cheshire and North Wales; and a large attendance of brethren representing the Old Kent, Bon Accord, Minerva, 12; St. Mark's, 1; St. Andrew's, 63; Keystone, 109; St. Cuthbert's, 132; Panmure, 139.

Bro. Binckes, Grand Secretary, first read the minutes of last Grand Lodge, which were put

and confirmed, and after this the minutes of the movable Grand Lodge, held at Leicester on the 25th Oct., were read and confirmed.

The next business on the paper being the nomination of Grand Masters for the ensuing year,

General Brownrigg rose and said: I have the honour of proposing that the Right Hon. the Earl of Limerick, Grand Mark Master, accept the position he now holds for the ensuing year. This proposition requires no comment from me, and I, therefore, simply propose "That the Rt. Hon. the Earl of Limerick be Grand Mark Master Mason for the next year."

The M.W.G.M.M. enquired if any brother had any one else to put in nomination for the Grand Master's chair. No response being offered, he added—The next business before the lodge is the report of the General Board.

Bro. Binckes, Grand Secretary, then read the report of the General Board:—

The number of certificates issued in the six months ending 30th September last is 318.

During the same period warrants for new lodges were granted to

- No. 193, "Worthy Apprentice," Bengal.
- " 194, "Simon de Montfort," Leicester.
- " 195, "Kent Dale," Kendal.

The increasing interest evinced in the spread and prosperity of the Mark Degree has often been the subject of gratifying comment; it is most satisfactory to be able to announce that that interest continues unabated.

On Monday, 23rd October last, the M.W.G.M.M. visited Manchester, and in the presence of one of the most numerous and influential assemblies of Mark Master Masons ever known, assisted by his Grand Officers, installed, as successor to the late much lamented Bro. William Romaine Callender, the Right Hon. Bro. Lord Skelmersdale, D.G.M.M.M., as Provincial Grand Mark Master Mason of Lancashire.

On Tuesday, 24th October, the M.W.G.M.M. and his Grand Officers constituted at Birmingham a new Mark Province of the united counties of Warwickshire and Staffordshire, installing as the first R.W. Prov. G.M.M.M. the Rev. Bro. W. K. Riland Bedford, under whose rule the best results may be anticipated.

On Wednesday, 25th Oct., a movable Grand Lodge was once more held at Leicester, in which province the Order, under the able and experienced guidance of its R.W. Prov. G.M.M.M., Bro. Wm. Kelly, has made great progress. On this occasion a new lodge was consecrated, the Mayor of Leicester, Bro. William Barfoot, having been installed as the first W.M. The heartiness of the welcome given on the occasion of the last visit of Grand Lodge to Leicester was on this occasion, if possible, exceeded, the new Town Hall (by express permission of the Mayor) having been placed at the disposal of the brethren, and the arrangements in every respect having been most admirable. The same remarks are equally applicable to the gatherings at Manchester and Birmingham, and it may be questioned if these meetings in connection with any degree in Freemasonry held on consecutive days were ever more entirely successful or attended with results more calculated to promote the interests of the degree with which they were associated.

It is gratifying to report a continued increase in the work of those charged with official duties, and it has been found necessary to employ a boy in the office at a remuneration of 10s. per week.

The Board, in connection with this subject, recommends to Grand Lodge for its favourable reception the proposition, deferred for consideration at the last half-yearly communication, for an increase of £50 per annum to be divided in equal proportions between the G. Sec. and Assist. G. Sec., such increase to date from the 1st of July last.

The Board are also happy to report that on the 28th ult. the adhesion of the old time immemorial Mark Lodge of York was formally received, and the W.M. installed by the G.S., Bro. F. Binckes.

The Board regret to inform G.L. that a fire has occurred at the offices of G.L., No. 2, Red Lion Square. No damage has been sustained by

the books or documents of G.L., and the property injured is covered by insurance.

(Signed) G. R. PORTAL,
Past G.M.M.,
President.

Bro. Curteis moved, and Bro. Edis seconded, its reception and adoption, which was put and carried unanimously.

The M.W.G.M.M. having enquired whether there would be any discussion on the recommendations of the report,

Bro. Davison, G.T., said that, in the absence of Bro. Portal, P.G.M., he rose to move that the recommendation of the Board that the office salaries be increased £50 per annum, dated from the 1st July, 1876, be confirmed. The prosperity of Mark Masonry they all knew of, and they could not be prosperous without a necessary entailing of a great deal of extra work on those who held official positions, the Grand Secretary and the Assistant Grand Secretary. Since the last increase of salaries in June, 1872, there had been eight new Provincial Grand Lodges constituted—Kent, Cumberland and Westmoreland, North Wales and Cheshire, Hampshire and the Isle of Wight, Sussex, Lancashire, Bristol, and South Africa; lately Warwickshire and Staffordshire had been constituted. The increase in the number of registered members of the Order had been very great. There were now no less than 3647 members, and the number of lodges had increased from 150 to 207. He did not think he need say more in this Grand Lodge to recommend this vote to the favourable consideration of the brethren, and he trusted, in the few observations he had made, it would not lose its importance by the absence of Bro. Portal, who was to have made the motion.

Bro. Thos. Meggy, P.G.M.O., seconded the motion, thinking that the extra work in Grand Secretary's office fully justified the salaries being put up as proposed.

Bro. S. Rosenthal, P.G.D.C., supported the recommendation, and it was then put and carried without a dissentient voice.

The Rev. C. J. Martyn, P.G.C., proposed, and Bro. R. W. Edis seconded, the adoption of the report in extenso.

The brethren adopted the report nem. con.

Charity jewels were then presented by the Grand Master to Bros. Dr. Brette, G. W. Verry and Thos. Mortlock.

Bro. F. Davison, Grand Treasurer, afterwards read the Grand Treasurer's account as follows:—

GENERAL FUND.			£	s.	d.
Balance from 31st March, 1876			315	14	10
Half year's receipt	£294	10	0		
Dividend	4	18	9		
			299	8	9
Half year's disbursements	276	6	0		
Purchase of £200 New Zealand five per cent consols at 104 and brokerage	208	10	3		
			484	16	3
Balance in favour of Grand Lodge			£130	7	4
FUND OF BENEVOLENCE.			£	s.	d.
Balance 31st March, 1876			£57	6	1
Receipts for the half year					
Donations	77	2	0		
Dividends	14	16	3		
			91	18	3
Grants to petitioners			£149	4	4
			20	0	0
Balance in favour of Grand Lodge			£129	4	4
Examined and found correct, 5th Dec., 1876.					
(Signed) THOS. MEGGY,					
Auditor.					

Bro. R. W. Edis proposed, and Genl. Brownrigg seconded, the reception and adoption of this account.

Carried unanimously.

Bro. Binckes then said, that in accordance with the resolution come to at last Grand Lodge, moved by Bro. Frank Richardson, he had written to those brethren who had placed their names for subscriptions on the Benevolent Fund festival lists, and on the first application he had met

with no success. The second application, however, was so successful, that he would prefer that no action be taken on the motion, as he had no doubt from the numerous payments that had since been made, that before next Grand Lodge all the amounts would be paid.

Bro. Davison moved, and Bro. Levander seconded, that no action be taken, and it was carried unanimously.

With reference to the case of a brother who has before complained, Bro. Binckes said he had the night before received from that brother a further statement, which contained no new matter, but was an attack upon brethren of distinguished position. He would not read it to the lodge, but thought it was right that it should be considered, and for that purpose should be referred to the General Board.

Bro. Magnus Ohren moved, and Bro. Curteis seconded, the reference of the matter to the General Board.

Carried nem. con.

Bro. Binckes then read a letter from Bro. W. J. Hughan as to a new reading of the letters on the Mark jewel.

Bro. Binckes reported that he had received letters of apology from R.W. Bros. W. Kelly, Prov. G.M.M. Leicestershire; Hon. Wilbraham Egerton, Prov. G.M.M. Cheshire and North Wales; Col. Francis Burdett, Prov. G.M.M. Middlesex and Surrey; Dr. H. Hopkins, P.G.W.; W. J. Hughan, P.G.W., representative of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania; V.W. Rev. T. T. Ravenshaw, P.G.C.; Rev. C. R. Davy, P.G.C.; W. S. Webster, P.S.O.; I. J. Hooper Wilkins, P.G.M.O.; W. H. M. Green, G.D.C.; Thos. Trollope, P.G.D.C.; Henry Bagot, G. Swd. Br.; Frank Richardson, P.G.S.B.; W. H. Scott, P.G.S.B.; Robert Butterworth, G.S.; J. Cattle Mason, G.S.; Alfred Williams, P.G.S.; Augustus Great Rex, P.G.S.; Bros. C. W. Duke, 166; L. Augustus Homfray, P.M. 109; and Capt. S. George Homfray, P.M. 109.

Bro. Binckes said he did not know whether he would be doing right in mentioning the next subject in Grand Lodge, but at the last Grand Lodge an exactly similar thing was done by another brother, and perhaps he would not be considered out of order in taking the same course. He had been charged by the brethren of Cumberland and Westmoreland to ask that the next movable Grand Lodge should be held under his lordship's sanction, in the lake district, at a date to be fixed by his lordship. If his lordship agreed to the proposition, the brethren of the province of Cumberland and Westmoreland would insure the Grand Lodge a hearty welcome.

The M.W.G.M.M. said he was sure that the Grand Lodge felt the compliment of the brethren of that province; but at the same time he thought it was rather early to make the appointment. It might be well not to fix it definitely at present; but another meeting of Grand Lodge would be held in the summer of next year, when it would be fixed. At present it might be rather premature to fix it, but the Grand Lodge thanked the brethren of the province for the invitation, and would allow the matter to stand over.

Grand Lodge was then closed in due form, and the brethren adjourned to an excellent banquet, provided by Bro. Dawkins, the manager of the Freemasons' Tavern.

When the cloth was cleared the usual toasts were proposed, and after the loyal and Mark Masonic toasts had been disposed of,

Bro. F. Davison, G.T., proposed "The Health of the M.W.G.M." The brethren all knew that his lordship's heart was in his work, and that he wished well for the success of the Mark Degree. During the past two or three months he had taken the trouble to go to the meetings at Manchester, Birmingham, and Leicester, on which occasions there was a vast assemblage of Mark Masons. It was perhaps a good thing for this degree that it changed its Grand Master every three years; but there was also in it much to be regretted, for when they got the right men in the right place, as was the case with the present Grand Master, they had to part with him at the end of his term. It would be to the regret of everyone when the Earl of Limerick's term of office expired.

The M.W.G.M., in reply, said I assure you I value most highly the kind manner in which you have received this toast, as I value the confidence which the brethren have placed in me in raising me to the chair which I occupy, and who have kept me in that chair for the last two years. I assure you, brethren, that I shall only be too thankful, and shall have felt that I have no cause to be disappointed with the success of my labours in the chair if I am able to hand over the degree to my successor in no way falling short of the condition in which it was when I was placed in the chair which I occupy. I believe, brethren, I have every reason to trust that that will be the case since by the labours of several very excellent brethren whom I could name, as you heard in Grand Lodge, subsequent to our last meeting not less than four new lodges have been constituted. I have signed the warrants for two more, which in a very short time will be constituted. That speaks well for the progress of the degree. Our brother has alluded to our visit to various important centres of Masonry. As far as I am concerned, and I know as far as those who accompanied me were concerned, those visits were visits of the very greatest pleasure. It was a great pleasure to see how our Order has flourished in those important places; and it was the greatest pleasure to have the kind reception which we had at every one of them. I don't know anything that could have been more gratifying to any one holding the position I do, than to see that most magnificent meeting which we had at Manchester; and although, of course, the other two meetings were to a certain extent inferior in numbers they were by no means inferior in energy and promise. As I said it was a very great pleasure to pay those visits, and I only trust that I, as long as I continue in office, and afterwards my successor may have a continuance of that friendship which we experienced on those occasions.

All the other toasts were then given and responded to, and the brethren separated after spending a very pleasant evening.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

The General Committee of the subscribers to this Institution held their December meeting on Saturday last, in the Board Room, Freemasons' Hall. Bro. W. Hyde Pullen presided, and there were also present Bros. John W. Dennison, H. Browne, S. Rawson, H. Massey ("Freemason"), George Free, W. Paas, Thomas Meggy, F. Adlard, W. F. C. Moutrie, George J. Palmer, J. J. Hooper Wilkins, Jesse Turner, H. G. Warren, Walter Hopekirk, Robert B. Webster, John Boyd, Dr. Ramsay, J. W. Dosell, Charles Horsley, and F. Binckes, Secretary.

The reading of the minutes of different committee meetings occupied a considerable time, after which Bro. I. J. Hooper Wilkins gave notice of motion for next committee meeting: "That in consideration of the past services of Bro. Edward Harris, as collector to the institution for a period of 20 years, who has now tendered his resignation, he be granted a pension of £120 per annum from 1st of January, 1877."

On this Bro. Henry G. Warren enquired what would be about the amount of Bro. Harris's returns, when he was informed that Bro. Harris's commission on subscriptions he collected varied from £150 to £160, £170, and £180. It was also stated that Bro. Muggidge, the Collector to the Girls' School, on his resignation, was awarded a pension of £150.

The report of the Special Committee on the office duties and emoluments of the Collector was then read. It was very short, and it stated that as Bro. F. Binckes, the Secretary, had expressed his readiness to undertake the collection of all subscriptions, the Committee recommended that the office of Collector be abolished, and that the Secretary be allowed an additional clerk in his office at a certain salary.

Bro. H. Browne, P.G.D., moved, and Bro. Dr. Ramsay seconded, that the report of the Special Committee be received, approved, and adopted.

Bro. Jesse Turner asked whether it was not a part of the plan of the Masonic Institution that the rules of the Boys' and Girls' School should be on all fours, unless a grave and proper reason existed why the rules of one Institution should vary from the other.

Bro. Binckes said that that was the rule, but the fixing of the salary of the clerk would not interfere with the general uniformity of the laws of the two Institutions.

Bro. H. G. Warren, P.G.S., said it had been held at the General Committee of the Girls' School that an additional clerk could not be appointed without going to the Quarterly Court, and this question was raised by Bro. Thomas W. White, the chairman of the last meeting of that General Committee.

Bro. Browne remarked that that was overruled afterwards.

Some further discussions on the point having been had, Dr. Ramsay thought that it was quite beside the

question. The subject before the committee was the approval or rejection of the Special Committee's report.

Bro. Warren said he had brought before the General Committee of the Girls' School the advisability of increasing the amount of security to be given by the Secretary, as that officer was to receive all the subscriptions. He thought it should be at least as much as the Secretary and Collector combined gave, viz., £300 and £200.

Bro. H. Browne observed that this was a question for the House Committee. All the present meeting had to do was to confirm the report of the Special Committee. Upon the report of the House Committee the subject of the securities would come to the General Committee.

Bro. Warren having suggested that the clerks who were to be employed in collecting should give security,

Bro. Binckes said that whatever clerks were employed, they would not be Collectors; the Secretary would be the Collector.

Dr. Ramsay mentioned that it ought not to go forth to the world that the clerks were to be the Collectors, for Bro. Binckes, if the report of the Special Committee were adopted, would be the Collector, only he would have what aid he wanted in the duties of Collector.

Bro. Binckes said it was distinctly laid down in the report that the Secretary was to be the Collector.

Bro. Warren again contended that the present amount of security given was too low, and he should propose at next meeting that it be increased.

The report was then adopted.

In reply to a question, Bro. Binckes said that the subscriptions for the present year already received amounted to £14,400, and of this sum the Collector had got in about £3300.

Four petitions of widows for their boys to be placed on the list of candidates for next election in April were then read and received.

Bro. Binckes read a letter from Bro. John Symonds, P.G.D., enquiring whether Bro. Binckes's notice of motion before Grand Lodge on the 6th inst. emanated from any of the committees of the Boys' School, or whether it emanated from himself as an individual. The letter was written to Bro. Binckes, but as it contained a request that it should be read to the General Committee, Bro. Binckes complied with Bro. Symonds' request.

Bro. Binckes said that when he gave the notice of motion at the Board of Masters he was unaware that a meeting of the Special Committee on the subject of the commemoration had been held at Lord Carnarvon's house the day before. It had been kept entirely from him, but if he had known of the meeting, and that Lord Carnarvon had said he would call a Special Grand Lodge to consider the report of the committee when made, he should not have given his notice. He had given his notice in order to be in time; had he deferred it he would have been too late; and it was only after he had given notice that he was told of Lord Carnarvon's intention. When Grand Lodge met he should under the circumstances withdraw or postpone his motion. He added that his notice was given solely by himself as an individual member of Grand Lodge, and not at all as coming from any committee, or authorised or suggested by them. He did not say one word in his notice as to how the money proposed to be given should be applied, but left it to be arranged by the committees of the institutions between which he suggested that it should be equally divided.

No discussion of this subject was entered upon.

Bro. Binckes then read the draft of a circular for proposing Stewards to send to brethren from whom they desired subscriptions for the festivals of the Institutions. In the circular reference was made to Bro. Binckes's new scheme for establishing a preparatory school for 100 little boys, the sons of Freemasons. Bro. Binckes said £10,000 would be required to build this preparatory school, and if this sum was not found it could not be built. He had no doubt it would be found.

The following letter in reference to the last election was read by Bro. Binckes:—

"11, Old Jewry Chambers, E.C., London, 15th Nov., 1876.

"To the Chairman and brethren of the General Committee of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys.

Worshipful Sir and Brethren,—On the 16th October last, the day of the election of candidates into the school, I attended with several friends interested in the case of Herbert Pattison Wisby, for the purpose of promoting his success. At the close of the poll I calculated that 1220 votes (including some sent to the office) had been put into the box on his behalf.

"When the result of the poll was declared by the chairman of the meeting, I heard with astonishment that only 1124 votes had been recorded in his favour, being 96 below what I considered he was entitled to. I immediately demanded a scrutiny, which has resulted in three errors having been discovered, viz., a bundle of 28 found on the floor not entered at all; a bundle of 45 found inside a packet belonging to another case, and a split proxy included in another bundle, of which one was for the case, making a total of 74 votes to be added to the 1124 recorded, and thereby bringing up the total to 1198.

"There still remain 22 votes unaccounted for.

"It was ascertained that the box in which the greater part of the votes polled by me were placed burst open on its way upstairs, thus accounting for some of the votes having been found in other bundles, and also shewing a possibility of others being missing.

"The total of 1220 votes would have placed Herbert Pattison Wisby on the list of successful candidates, as the last elected, viz., Beck, only polled 1217 votes. And I now venture to ask you to take into consideration the fact of such mistakes having been made, and the possibility of the other votes having been put into the box; and to allow him to be received into the school should a vacancy occur before the next election.

"His widowed mother has been left in most disastrous circumstances, and the utmost commiseration and sympathy has been expressed for her, which was evidenced by the number of votes polled on this first application, and it is the opinion of many who know the foregoing circumstances, and it is my duty to call your attention to this case and to ask your committee to relieve the widow of the expense and anxiety which must attend a further candidature.

"I remain, Worshipful Sir and Brethren, yours fraternally,

(Signed) "THOS. MEGGY."

Bro. Meggy then rose and said that the facts having been very fully set out in this letter, he would not detain the brethren by recapitulating them. He could not claim that the case should be taken as an elected one; still his friends advised him to ask the Committee to take the matter into their favourable consideration, and should a vacancy occur before next election, to admit the boy into the school instead of letting him go to another election. This Committee had the power of recommending this course to the Quarterly Court in January.

Bro. S. Rawson, P. Dist. G.M. for China, as one of the scrutineers, could not agree with the statement in Bro. Meggy's letter, that because three mistakes had occurred there might have been more, and that if these additional mistakes had not been committed the boy would have been successful.

Bro. Jesse Turner thought that to adopt the course proposed by Bro. Meggy would be to open the door to fresh applications of the same sort, and it was not unlikely that after next election it would be used as a sort of precedent. The best way would be for Bro. Meggy, with the large influence he had in the Craft, to use it at next election for the same candidate, and with the 1220 votes brought forward he would be certain to carry the boy in. The course proposed by Bro. Meggy seemed so very irregular that it would be unwise to adopt it.

The Chairman said the question was whether the Committee had the power or right to do it. Bro. Meggy could give notice of motion for the Quarterly Court to the effect he proposed.

Bro. Meggy then gave notice of motion embodying his views.

A letter from Dr. Jabez Hogg, P.G.D., was read by the Secretary, stating that the boy Packwood's sight would soon be restored, and that he would soon be able to enter upon the active duties of life.

The proceedings, which had lasted over an hour and a half, were then brought to a close by a vote of thanks to the Chairman.

Obituary.

THE LATE BRO. T. WYLIE, P.P.G. REGISTRAR.

The brethren in the Province of West Lancashire will bear with deepest regret that Bro. Thomas Wylie, P.M. 86, &c., P.P.G. Registrar, died at his residence, The Hermitage, Peter-street, Southport, near Liverpool, on Tuesday, the 28th ult. Our deceased brother was closely identified with Masonry in nearly all its leading branches, and was a keen and active worker, especially in the sacred cause of charity. His name will long be remembered as being prominently identified with the erection of the Masonic Hall in Liverpool, of which he was one of the trustees, and his hand was ever ready to give help to a brother or lodge when occasion required. His loss in connection with lodge consecrations will be specially felt, as on these occasions no one gave more ready and more valuable help. While holding the office of P.G. Registrar he invariably showed talents of the highest order, and he elicited the admiration of every one by the sterling honesty and uprightness of his character and dealings. Almost his last Masonic appearance was at the recent meeting of the West Lancashire Provincial Grand Lodge, where his voice was heard pleading strenuously, wisely, and to good purpose for the liberality of the brethren in connection with the gift of a *sedilia* to Chester Cathedral. His counsel and help on many occasions were greatly prized, and therefore his loss will be universally felt throughout the province. It may be interesting to many to know something of the career of our deceased brother. Nearly a century ago Bro. Wylie's father came from Scotland and settled in Liverpool, where he carried on a good business as a stonemason and contractor. On his decease, Bro. Thomas Wylie succeeded to the business, but it proving uncongenial to his tastes, he turned his attention to the profession of a surveyor. Nearly a quarter of a century ago he was elected a member of the select vestry, and continued for many years to take a very prominent part in the administration of parochial affairs. When the extension of the parochial offices of Liverpool took place, and the parish assessment rendered it necessary to appoint a surveyor, Bro. Wylie resigned his seat at the select vestry, and was chosen as the parish surveyor. He continued to hold this office until about ten years ago, when he resigned and resumed his old occupation as an estate agent and surveyor. It was, however, in the last-mentioned capacity that he became most signally successful, and in nearly all cases of arbitration, whether enforced or voluntary, his extensive experience and sound judgment rendered him a valuable ally, and his services were much sought after. He took a great interest whilst residing in Liverpool in all that related to the progress of Congregationalism, and up to the close of a useful and active life was in religion, politics, and educational matters one of the advanced thinkers and workers.

We are compelled, through the great press of matter, to hold over the Report of the Grand Lodge of Scotland, and of many other reports of Scotch lodges.

Royal Arch.

BATH.—Royal Cumberland Chapter (No. 41).—The first meeting of the season was held at the Masonic Hall, on Tuesday, Nov. 21st, when the attendance was very limited, probably because there was no ceremony of exaltation on the agenda. Present: Ex. Comps. James Parfitt, Z.; Tompson, H.; Carey, J.; G. Parfitt, P.Z.; Keene, P.Z.; Dr. Hopkins, P.Z.; Moutrie, P.Z. and Treas.; Hill, E.; Hearn, N.; Brown, P. Soj.; Gummer, as S. Soj.; Hunt, as J. Soj.; and Bigwood, Janitor. After the opening of the chapter and the confirmation of previous minutes, nominations to office for next year were made, each of the above being advanced one step, for whom the ballot will take place at the next convocation. Comps. Keene, Dr. Hopkins, Hill, and Brown were chosen to form the Audit committee, and Ex. Comp. Dr. Hopkins was requested to conduct the ceremony of installation of the Principals. The Treasurer gave notice of a proposition to grant £10 from the funds to the Masonic Benevolent Institutions. No other business offering, the chapter was closed at 9 o'clock.

SHEERNESS.—Adam's Chapter (No. 158).—The installation meeting of this ancient chapter was held at the Masonic Rooms, Victoria Hall, Sheerness-on-Sea, on Tuesday, the 28th ult. Present, E. Comps. N. Pannell, M.E.Z.; A. Spears, P.Z.; S. L. Townsend, P.Z. and P.T.; J. Bagshaw, P.Z. and E., and Comps. E. Penney, J. Mitchell, W. Garrett, &c. The business of the chapter was to instal the Principals and invest the officers for the ensuing year. E. Comp. Spears, P.Z. and Treas., in his usual efficient manner acted as Installing Officer, and re-installed E. Comp. W. Pannell, M.E.Z. for the ensuing year. The Installing Officer having been chosen H., was duly installed by E. Comp. Bagshaw, P.Z., after which E. Comp. Spears installed E. Comp. J. Woodley, J., and duly invested the following officers of the chapter: Comps. Bagshaw (third year), S.E.; Mitchell, S.N.; Spears, Treas.; Penney, P.S.; Garrett, 1st A.S., and Akhurst, Janitor. The remaining routine business of the evening having been completed, and the chapter duly and solemnly closed, the companions partook of a most excellent repast, provided by Mrs. Green, of the Britannia Hotel, widow of the late E. Comp. John Green, P.Z. The banquet was presided over by the M.E.Z., Comp. Pannell, and the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed and drank with enthusiasm.

CAVEAC CHAPTER (No. 176).—On Saturday, the 24th November, at the Albion, Aldersgate-street, City, the regular convocation was held. There were present Comps. W. S. Wyman, M.E.Z.; J. B. Sorrell, J.; G. K. Lemann, H.; and other officers. Bro. Charles Graham, 1326 and 1540 lodges, was exalted. The elections resulted in Comps. G. K. Lemann being elected Z.; J. B. Sorrell, H.; Wike Goss, J.; F. Walters, P.Z. Treas.; R. P. Hooton, S.E.; S. Pownceby, S.N.; R. P. Tebb, P.S.; and C. T. Speight, Janitor. G. K. Lemann, P.Z., was inducted into the M.E.Z.'s chair. He installed Comps. J. B. Sorrell, H.; W. M. Goss, J. He invested with the robe, collar, and jewel of office, as his officers, Comps. F. Walters, P.Z., Treas. (reinvested for the 10th time); R. P. Hooton, S.E.; S. Pownceby, S.N.; R. P. Tebb, P.S., who appointed and invested Comps. A. Williams, 1st A.S.; C. Browne, and A.S. The M.E.Z. appointed H. Faija, D.C.; A. Middlemass, W.S.; C. T. Speight, Janitor (re-invested 10th time). A splendid P.Z.'s jewel was presented to Comp. W. S. Wyman, P.Z., for his exertions in doing the work of the past year, which had been unanimously voted to him from the chapter funds at a previous meeting. Comp. R. P. Hooton, S.E., was unanimously elected as Steward to represent this chapter at the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution for Male and Female Annuitants. The work rendered by every officer was done in an admirable manner. Comp. G. K. Lemann particularly distinguished himself in doing the installations in a careful correct style. Business ended, the lodge was closed. There were present Comps. C. T. Dorey, P.Z.; P. A. Nairne, P.Z.; M. Scott, P.Z.; R. S. Foreman, P.Z.; W. T. Lover, R. Griggs, W. Jameson, J. H. Dodson, J. B. Sorrell, jun., F. Pertwee, and others. Visitors: Comps. H. Garrod, P.Z. 507; Vockins, J. 1329; Stacey, P.Z.; and others. Banquet and dessert. The new furniture, used for the first time, was very much admired. It was complete in every detail. The chapter was closed, and adjourned to February, 1877.

WHITTINGTON CHAPTER (No. 86a).—The first meeting of the season of this prosperous chapter was held at Anderson's Hotel, Fleet-street, on Friday, 1st inst. The convocation was opened by Comp. W. Stephens, P.Z. 1365, and H. of this Chapter, in the absence of the M.E.Z., Comps. J. Weaver, P.Z., acting as H., and T. Kingston, J. In the course of the meeting Comp. W. J. Hargrave Jones, M.E.Z., was also present. The auditors' report was received and adopted, showing a balance, though small, on the right side. Comp. W. Stephens then installed Comp. J. Kingston, J., as H. for the next year. Comp. Tinney, the J. elect, having telegraphed from Reading that he had missed the train, and was unable to attend in time for installation, it was therefore deferred until the February convocation. Comp. W. Stephens was then inducted to the 1st P.'s chair by Comp. Jas. Weaver, P.Z. The following officers were then invested:—Comps. Weaver, Scribe E.; Moore, Scribe N.; W. J. Murlis, P. Soj.; John High, 1st Asst.; W. H. Norman, 2nd Asst.; Gilbert, Janitor. Bro. S. B. Wilmot, S.W. No. 874, Tunbridge Wells, was then exalted to the Supreme Degree of Royal Arch Masonry, the lecture being most ably rendered. Comp. Ch. Walker, W.M. of the Whittington Lodge, was then balloted for and admitted a member of the chapter. A letter was read from Comp. Hurlstone, P.Z. (who had been attacked with paralysis), resigning

his membership. He being nearly 90 years of age, for his former valuable services it was resolved to continue his name as an honorary member. There being no other business before the chapter, it was closed in ancient form. Amongst the visitors were Comps. E. C. Woodward, of the Hermes Chapter; Levi, Joppa Chapter; and H. Mayes, Constitutional Chapter. An excellent banquet followed the working of the chapter. The usual loyal and R.A. toasts were given from the chair, and "The Health of the M.E.Z." proposed by Comp. Hargrave Jones, P.Z. The M.E.Z. returned thanks, and acknowledged the honour conferred in placing him in the position of 1st Principal of the Chapter. "The Newly-Exalted Companion" followed, and that companion expressed his admiration of the ceremony, which had left a profound impression on his mind not readily forgotten. "The Visitors" were proposed and warmly received, each of whom responded. "The Health of the Past Principals" was then proposed by the M.E.Z., and was followed by the presentation of a superb jewel to Bro. H. Jones, the retiring M.E.Z. Comp. Stephens remarked that he would have been pleased had it been possible for some companion of more influence to have performed this duty, but, being in the chair, he would concede to no one that privilege. Those who had the pleasure of knowing Comp. Jones in the lodge, as well as the chapter, knew his worth, and recognised his services, and he trusted (and felt sure the companions reciprocated these feelings) that he might be spared for very many years to enjoy their good opinions. Comp. Jones returned suitable thanks for this recognition of his services, and trusted to enjoy the good wishes expressed, and that the chapter might continue in its present prosperity. Comp. Walker returned thanks for admitting him a member. "The Officers" followed, and each responded. Some excellent vocal music enlivened the proceedings of the evening.

OXFORD.—Alfred Chapter (No. 340).—The senior chapter in the province held its first convocation of the season at the Masonic Hall, Alfred-street, on Tuesday, 21st ult., the three Principals, Comps. G. T. Prior, M.E.Z.; J. T. Morland, H.; Walter Thompson, J., presiding, there being a good attendance of companions. The interesting ritual was ably rendered by the 1st Principal, Comp. G. T. Prior, M.E.Z., who then withdrew from the chapter. During his absence a jewel of the value of ten guineas was voted to him for his many valuable services to the chapter. On his return he was informed of it, and having given a suitable reply the chapter was closed in due form, after several candidates had been proposed for the next meeting.

WELLS.—Avalon Chapter (No. 446).—On Tuesday, 21st Nov., this chapter met at Wells, under the guidance of E. Comp. R. C. Else, as M.E.Z.; Comp. Capt. A. T. Perkins, as H.; and Comp. E. Bath, as J.; when Bros. John Arney, Chas. W. Sayer, P. Clarke, and J. Woodward were exalted by the M.E.Z. The following companions were then duly installed as Principals for the ensuing year:—Comps. Capt. A. T. Perkins, as M.E.Z.; E. Bath, as H.; C. L. F. Edwards, as J. The ceremony was performed by E. Comp. Capt. S. G. Homfray, P. Standard Bearer of S.G.C., and P. G. H. of Monmouthshire, one of the founders of the chapter. The chapter was closed in harmony.

ARCHÆOLOGICAL SECTION OF THE FALCON LODGE, THIRSK.

On Wednesday, the 29th ult., the members visited Kirkby Knowle, and were courteously and hospitably received by the rector, the Rev. L. S. Kenny, M.A., who conducted them through the church and read an interesting paper on its history and objects of interest. This was possibly one of the primitive buildings of the Northumbrian Church, and was dedicated to St. Wilfrid of York, but nothing remains of the original structure except the chancel arch, lancet pointed early English, which has been built into the north wall of the chancel; and a few relics which were found when the foundations were cleared for building the church, the second time, in 1873. A rude holy-water stoup, a piscina, some ancient grave stones, a stone coffin, two curious stone crosses, and some sculptured Runic characters were pointed out and examined. Rubbings were taken from several brass plates which are fixed in the floor in front of the altar rails, and which bear crests and inscriptions relating to the families of Danby, Rokeby and Buxton, who formerly were the possessors of the new building, and which was originally known as Kirkby Knowle Castle.

Review.

"THE GRAPHIC."

We all of us now know the "Graphic," and know it some of us well. Though comparatively a young literary aspirant, it has already come to the front rank, and has obtained a large circulation at home and abroad. And we do not wonder at it, as it is a most interesting, amusing, well edited, happily illustrated journal, and commends itself weekly to the tastes and good opinion of thousands of readers. Its editorial articles are marked by plain English common sense, and are often striking, by reason of their quiet sarcasm, but patriotic sympathies. We may say that we read it regularly ourselves, and are always pleased and improved and edified by the perusal. We have seen the Christmas number, and most heartily do we commend it to the notice of our readers. They will enjoy it as much as we did, we feel sure, and put it down with pleasurable emotions and a hearty laugh. The stories are all excellent in their way. Many of us will feel deeply for poor little "Mim," a very affecting tale, prettily

told. Mr. Anthony Trollope's "Mrs. Brown" will create some hearty merriment, and Mr. Speight's "Grass Widow," let us hope, will serve as a warning to spooney young men. The engravings are first class, and My Grandfather's Sketches are very effective indeed. From first to last the Christmas "Graphic" is a great success, and we congratulate the publisher on its appropriate character and seasonable appearance. We feel sure that it will be a popular addition to our Christmas serial literature, and we venture to predict for it (though we do not profess to set up for prophets) a very large circle of interested and gratified readers, both old and young.

PRESENTATION TO BRO. WILLIAM WORRELL, P.M., &c.

A pleasing ceremony in connection with Freemasonry took place at the Salutation Tavern, Newgate-street, on Wednesday, the 29th November, Bro. William Worrell, P.M. of the William Preston Lodge, and P.Z. of the R.A. Chapter attached thereto, also Secretary to the Royal Albert Orphan Asylum, having recently become a Benedict. The occasion was considered an auspicious one to present that worthy brother with some token of the esteem in which he is held by all who have the pleasure of his acquaintance. Accordingly a movement was set on foot by the members of the lodge and chapter to present him with an address, and also with something more substantial. The proposition met with a ready response, a foreign nobleman, who is a member of the lodge, heading the list of subscribers with a handsome sum, others followed suit, and soon a goodly amount was raised and laid out in the purchase of a handsome tea and coffee service, spoons, knives and forks; and other table requisites, which, with the address beautifully illuminated, was presented at a dinner, which took place on the day and at the place above referred to. The chair was occupied by Bro. Capt. Kain, also a P.M. and P.Z. of the same lodge and chapter, the vice-chair being occupied by Bro. John Pringle, the I.P.M. Among those present we noticed Bros. J. R. Williams, F. G. Barns, W. T. Rickwood, Dr. Cutmore, Manfield Newton, A. Le Grand, R. Sutcliffe, H. F. Partridge, J. Collens, W. Drake, G. Castle, E. B. Broomhill, &c. On the removal of the cloth the usual loyal and patriotic toasts were proposed and drank with acclamation, Bro. Rickwood responding for the Reserve Forces. At length the chairman and vice-chairman rose to do honour to the toast of the evening, "Health and Happiness to Bro. Worrell and his accomplished Bride." The chairman spoke in warm and feeling terms of the combination of good qualities possessed by their guest, in whose honour they had that evening assembled. "I have seldom in my long career," said the chairman, "met with a man so young who in so short a time has attained such high honours in Masonry. I was present at his initiation when just of age, and well remember his eloquent speech in which he endeavoured to express his delight at being brought to the light of Freemasonry, and in which speech he registered a vow to do his best to become a good man and a good Mason. Brethren, he has kept that vow. He was and is a good and true man, and having worked through all the offices with marked ability, has, as you well know, become a good Mason, and has attained, as I have said, high honours. I have now the great pleasure, sir (addressing Bro. Worrell), to present you with the following address, signed by the subscribers to the fund:—

"To the Worshipful Bro. William Worrell, Past Master of the William Preston Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, and Past First Principal of the Royal Arch Chapter attached thereto. We, the undersigned members, being desirous of bearing testimony to your Masonic ability and to your personal worth, and to the great esteem in which you are held, accept the opportunity afforded by your auspicious marriage to present you with this address, which is accompanied by a tea and coffee service, and other requisites for your hospitable table. We offer our warm congratulations on the happy event, and desire to express our 'heartiest good wishes' that you and your accomplished bride may have a long life of happiness and prosperity."

I also have great pleasure, sir, in presenting you with a handsome box containing a tea and coffee service and other requisites for your table, and long may you and your bride live to use them.—Bro. Worrell, on rising to respond, was greeted with loud applause, the cheers being again and again renewed. It was with evident emotion he returned thanks, saying that he felt almost overpowered at such manifestations of great kindness. "It is true," said he, "I have worked hard at Freemasonry, and I have been amply rewarded by the high offices that have been conferred upon me; it is also true that I have endeavoured to do my duty as a citizen of the world, and I have been also amply rewarded by the esteem of my friends, as shown by the flattering address you have been so kind as to present to me, and as shown by the splendid present accompanying it. I shall ever look upon them with pride. They would serve, if I required it, as a further stimulus to do my duty, and I hope to hand them down, with their lustre untarnished, to my descendants. On behalf of my bride I also offer my sincere thanks. She desires me to say she feels proud that the husband of her choice has earned the esteem of his fellow men. Brethren, I can say no more—words fail me to express all I feel; I can but say, God bless you all!" Bro. Worrell then proposed the health of the chairman, which was very warmly responded to and as warmly replied to. The vice-chairman's health and other toasts followed in due succession, excellent songs were sang, and it may truly be said that on few occasions was a more enjoyable evening ever passed, the chairman saying as a parting advice to the bachelors present, "Go and do thou likewise."

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF LEICESTER AND RUTLAND.

The following is a list of the Provincial Grand Officers appointed for the ensuing year, a report of which appeared in our last issue:—

S. S. Partridge, 523	Prov. G.S.W.
E. Ison, 779	Prov. G.J.W.
Rev. Canon Burfield, 1560	Prov. G. Chap.
Rev. F. H. Richardson, 1560	Prov. G. Chap.
S. W. Clowes, M.P., 1007	Prov. G. Reg.
W. B. Smith, 523	Prov. G. Treas.
G. Toller, jun., 523, P. Prov.	
S.G.W.	Prov. G. Sec.
F. Grant, 1330	Prov. G.S.D.
T. Worthington, 50	Prov. G.J.D.
C. E. Stretton, 279	Prov. G. Supt. W.
J. B. Hall, 1391	Prov. G.D. of C.
W. S. Allen, 779	Prov. G. As. D. of C.
W. E. Buck, 279	Prov. G. Swd. B.
A. Chamberlain, 1391	Prov. G. Org.
Samuel Weaver, 1130	Prov. G. Purst.
J. M. Kew, 1265	Prov. G. Ast. Purst.
C. Gurden, 279	Prov. G. Std. B.
J. Barber, 50, G. B. Atkins,	
523, A. Balmforth, 779,	
Hart, 1265, E. C. R.	
Cust, 1560	Prov. G. Stewards.
Bembridge and Dunn	Prov. G. Tylers.

INSTRUCTION.

VICTORIA METROPOLITAN LODGE

—On Friday evening, the 24th ult., a large meeting of this lodge of instruction was held. Bro. Annett, S.W. of the St. James's Union, worked the Third Degree. Bro. Stacey was P.M. and Preceptor. The work was done excellently well. The candidate was Bro. Daniel, of the Alexandra Palace Lodge, and the offices were filled in the following order:—Bros. Cowan, S.W.; Denison, J.W.; Larchin, S.D.; Gush, as J.D.; and Vincent, as I.G. In the evening the collective twopences having amounted to £5, and paid into the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution for a life governorship, a ballot was taken for the name which should be placed on the governorship, the ballot being restricted to those who had attended at least twenty-five times. This lodge has done a great deal for the charities, for in connection with it the subscription life governorships have gone on to a large number.

UPPER NORWOOD LODGE (No. 1586).—This excellent lodge of instruction, which has only been in existence since the formation of the mother lodge in April last, now numbers over thirty members. It is presided over by a brother who is well known in the South London Masonic circle for his earnest zeal in the Craft and eminent qualifications and natural adaption to impart Masonic instruction. On the first Monday in each month the First Degree is rehearsed and lectures worked; on the second Monday, the Second Degree, &c.; on the third Monday, the Third Degree, &c.; and the fourth, the installation ceremony, or any of the former. On Monday (Bro. J. Pringle, I.P.M. William Preston Lodge, in the chair), in addition to the Third Degree, by special request of the lodge on the preceding meeting the Preceptor, Bro. H. E. Frances, gave, in true Masonic style, the explanation of the Tracing Board of the First Degree. So admirably was the lecture given that the lodge unanimously resolved to have recorded on the minutes a vote of thanks, not only for the fluent, pathetic, and correct rendering of the historical illustrations, but for the accurate and excellent production of a Tracing Board, which practically evidenced that he is as familiar with the professional use of the brush as he is acquainted with the rituals of Masonry.

HAVANT.—Carnarvon Lodge (No. 804).—For the benefit of this and the neighbouring lodges we are pleased to announce that a lodge of instruction has been formed under the banner of the above lodge, Bro. J. N. Hillman, P.M. 804, P. Prov. G. Swd. B. Hants, and J.W., being the Preceptor. The first meeting was held on Wednesday evening, the 22nd ult., when the ceremony of initiation was rehearsed and the First Section worked. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, Dec. 13th, at 7.30 p.m., when the ceremony of passing is the work decided on for the evening. The subscription, which has been fixed at the low sum of three shillings annually, will be an inducement, we hope, to brethren in the district to join its ranks, and make this long felt want of a lodge of instruction a success. Bro. Thomas Frances, P.M. 804, of Emsworth, the Secretary, will be pleased to receive the names of brethren desirous of becoming members.

UNITED PILGRIMS' LODGE (No. 507).—The members of this old established lodge met in goodly numbers on Friday evening, the 24th ult. It appears that some few months ago a subscription was started among the members, the object of which was to present to their esteemed and valued Preceptor, Bro. M. S. Larham, some slight token as an acknowledgment of the many services rendered by him to the lodge, and it was arranged that the presentation should take place on the above date at the Surrey Masonic Hall, at which place the lodge meets every Friday evening at 7.30. After the usual business of the lodge had been disposed of, Bro. Drysdale, in the name of the members of the United Pilgrims' Lodge of Instruction, presented to Bro. Mark S.

Larham, their Preceptor, a valuable gold watch, which bore the following inscription:—"Presented to Bro. Mark S. Larham, P.M., by the members of the United Pilgrims' Lodge of Instruction, No. 507, as a mark of their respect and recognition of the valuable services rendered by him as their Preceptor." Also a handsome testimonial on vellum, as follows:—"United Pilgrims' Lodge of Instruction, No. 507. This testimonial, together with a gold watch, was presented to Bro. Mark S. Larham, P.M. 1539, W.M. 1216, by the undermentioned members of the above lodge, as a mark of their grateful recognition and cordial appreciation of the ability and zeal with which he has so willingly and faithfully discharged his duty as Preceptor." Then follow the names of the subscribers. Bro. Larham tendered his sincere thanks to the brethren for the beautiful acknowledgment of his humble endeavours to give them Masonic instruction. He hoped that the G.A.O.T.U. would spare him for a long time to come that he might continue to give and the brethren receive instruction. The lodge was then closed and the brethren repaired to the dining room, where a substantial supper was awaiting them, which was provided by Bro. Geider, and gave general satisfaction. The watch was made by Bro. Harvey, of the Camberwell-road, and was a fine specimen of workmanship. The testimonial was got up by Bro. Cackett, of Penton-place, Newington, and it reflected great credit on the artist.

Masonic and General Tidings.

The Sheffield Masonic Ball Committee have decided to give a Masonic Ball in the Cutlers' Hall, Sheffield, on Friday, the 5th of January next. From the success of their former balls we anticipate a brilliant gathering at that of 1877.

SERIOUS ACCIDENT TO SIR F. M. WILLIAMS, M.P.—A serious gun accident happened near Barnstaple to Sir Frederick Martin Williams, M.P. for Truro, a few days back. He was shooting with a party over the preserves of Heanton Punchardon, when, as he was loading his rifle, the cartridge exploded. One of his eyes was so severely injured by the charge that it is feared he will lose the sight of it.

CHARITY ORGANISATION SOCIETY.—The thirty-seven district committees of the Charity Organisation Society have dealt with 1519 cases (exclusive of 508 vagrant and homeless persons) for the four weeks ending November 25. Of these 584 were dismissed for various reasons; 545 were recommended to legal and charitable agencies, and 392 were assisted by grants, loans, employment, and in other ways.

It is expected that H.R.H. the Prince of Wales will, in the second week of January, visit Craigydon, the seat of Colonel Owen Williams, which is picturesquely situated on the Menai Straits. Colonel Williams was with the Prince during his Indian tour.

Bro. E. Stevens, P.M., has been elected Preceptor of the Leopold Lodge of Instruction, 1571, in the room of Bro. David Rose, resigned. We learn with regret that Bro. Stevens has resigned the honorary Secretaryship of the Peckham Lodge of Instruction.

The first number of *Yorick*, a Humorous and Critical Weekly Paper, will be issued on Tuesday. The leading distinctive features will be a Political or Social Cartoon, printed on a tint, and humorous and picturesque rather than comic treatment of subjects.

The remains of the late Bro. George Dawson were interred on Monday, in the General Cemetery at Birmingham. The funeral was attended by a large number of public men; many thousands of persons, including the members of Bro. Dawson's congregation being present at the cemetery.

The Annual Festival of the Wentworth Lodge, No. 1239, Sheffield, was held on Monday, the 4th inst., when Bro. S. B. Ellis, Hon. Sec. Sheffield Masonic Library, &c., &c., was duly installed as Worshipful Master for the ensuing year, a report of which we shall publish in an early issue.

THE LOUGHBOROUGH LODGE OF INSTRUCTION (No. 22).—Since the opening of the above (six weeks ago) there have been 53 attendances, the First Degree worked 6 times, the Second 4, the Third once, and 13 lodges represented. On Monday last, as on the previous occasions, Bro. Thomas White, P.M., with his well-known efficiency, filled the chair of K.S.; Bros. William Ashwell, S.W.; E. Towell, J.W.; J. Barton, S.D.; J. Warren, I.G.; G. Obey, Sec.; also Bros. Hooper, Brown, Tagg, and J. D. Morris. The lodge was closed with a vote of thanks to the W.M., and adjourned till Monday, December 4th, at 7.30, to meet at the Warrior Hotel, Coldharbour-lane, Brixton.

THE ROYAL GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY.—The Prince of Wales is to preside at a meeting of this society, to be held next Tuesday evening, when papers will be read on "The North Circumpolar Sea," by Capt. Sir George Nares, R.N., and on a "Sledge Journey towards the Pole," by Captain A. H. Markham, R.N.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.—This purifying and regulating medicine should occasionally be had recourse to during foggy, cold, and wet weather. These pills are the best preventive of hoarseness, sore throat, diphtheria, pleurisy, and asthma, and are sure remedies for congestion, bronchitis, and inflammation. A moderate attention to the directions folded round each box, will enable every invalid to take the pills in a most advantageous manner; they will be taught the proper doses and the circumstances under which these must be increased or diminished. Holloway's Pills act as alteratives, aperients and tonics; a simple cold or catarrh, thoughtlessly neglected, too frequently creates a future of imminent danger, which these Pills, aided by persevering inunction of Holloway's Ointment on the surface, would avert.—Advt.

The "Cosmopolitan Masonic Calendar, Diary and Pocket Book" for 1877 is now ready, price 2s., post free 2s. 1d., and may be obtained of any bookseller, or at the office of the "Freemason," 198, Fleet Street, London.

The Lords of the Admiralty have, in an official communication, conveyed their thanks to the Lord Mayor of London for the liberal entertainment which he provided for the crews of the "Alert" and "Discovery" at the Mansion House.

The rumour that the Queen did not intend to spend the Christmas season at Osborne this year, is contradicted on authority.

His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, K. G.G., M.W.G.M., was on Tuesday unanimously elected President of the Smithfield Club for the ensuing year.

Wednesday was the anniversary of the terrible disaster at the Swaithe Main Colliery, near Barnsley, in which 145 miners perished, and the sad event was fittingly celebrated by special religious services at Worsbro' Dale. It is proposed to raise a monument to the memory of the victims by the accident.

Mr. Egerton Vernon Harcourt, registrar of the diocese of York, has recently given the sum of £10,000 for the augmentation of poor livings in the diocese. Mr. Harcourt is a son of Archbishop Vernon Harcourt.

The earnings of the London Shoeblack Brigade last year are reported to have been £11,000; one set of seventy-six boys earned together £3000.

A report of the meeting of the Provincial Grand Mark Lodge of Lincolnshire, which took place on the 29th ult. is unavoidably crowded out.

METROPOLITAN MASONIC MEETINGS.

For the Week ending Friday, December 15, 1876.

The Editor will be glad to receive notice from Secretaries of Craft Lodges, Royal Arch Chapters, Mark Lodges, Preceptories, Conclaves, &c., of any change in place or time of meeting.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9.

- Lodge 108, London, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.
- " 173, Phoenix, F.M.H.
- " 176, Caveac, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
- " 1361, United Service, Greyhound Hot., Richmond.
- " 1423, Era, King's Arms Hot., Hampton Court.
- " 1426, The Great City, Cannon-st. Hot.
- " 1612, West Middlesex, the Institute, Ealing.
- Mark Lodge 144, Grosvenor, Café Royal, Regent-st.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

- Lily, Greyhound, Richmond.
 - Manchester, 77, London-st., Fitzroy-sq.
 - Star, Marquis of Granby, New Cross-rd.
- ## MONDAY, DECEMBER 11.
- Lodge 5, St. George's and Corner Stone, F.M.H.
 - " 29, St. Alban's, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
 - " 59, Royal Naval, F.M.H.
 - " 90, St. John's, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
 - " 136, Good Report, Cannon-st. Hot.
 - " 193, Confidence, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
 - " 957, Leigh, F.M.H.
 - " 1571, Leopold, Woolpack Tav., Bermondsey-st.
 - Chap. 1118, University, F.M.H.
 - " 1319, Asaph, F.M.H.

- Rose Croix, Holy Sanctuary, 33, Golden-sq.
- ## LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.
- Prince Leopold, Lord Stanley Tav., Kingsland.
 - Strongman, Jerusalem Tav., St. John's Gate.
 - Sincerity, Railway Tav., Fenchurch-st. Station.
 - Camden, Stanhope Arms, Up. James-st., Camden To.
 - Zastern, Royal Hot., Mile-end-road.
 - St. James's Union, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
 - Wellington, White Swan, Deptford.
 - Perfect Ashlar, Victoria Tav., Lower-rd., Rotherhithe.
 - Upper Norwood, White Hart Hot., Church-rd.
 - Marquis of Ripon, Pembury Tav., Amherst-rd., Hackney.
 - Loughborough, Warrior Hot., Brixton.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12.

- Lodge 46, Old Union, Cannon-st. Hot.
- " 96, Burlington, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
- " 162, Cadogan, F.M.H.
- " 166, Union.
- " 180, St. James's Union, F.M.H.
- " 186, Industry, M.H., Masons' Avenue.
- " 198, Percy, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.
- " 211, St. Michael, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
- " 228, United Strength, F.M.H.
- " 235, Nine Muses, Long's Hot., Bond-st., W.
- " 548, Wellington, White Swan Tav., Deptford.
- " 834, Ranelagh, Clarendon Hot., Hammersmith.
- " 860, Dalhousie, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
- " 933, Doric, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
- " 1538, St. Martin's-le-Grand, M.H., Mason's Avenue.
- " 1604, Wanderers, F.M.H.
- Chap. 185, Jerusalem, F.M.H.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

- Metropolitan, 269, Pentonville-rd.
- Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney.
- Domestic, Surrey M.H., Camberwell New-road.
- Faith, 2, Westminster Chambers, Victoria-st.
- Prince Fredk. Wm., Lord's Hot., St. John's Wood.
- Dalhousie, King Edward, Triangle, Hackney.
- Prosperity, Hercules Tav., Leadenhall-st.
- St. Marylebone, British Stores Tav., St. John's Wood.
- Constitutional, Wheatsheaf Hot., Hand-court, Holborn.
- Israel, Rising Sun Tav., Globe Road.
- Royal Arthur, Prince's Head, York-road, Battersea.
- Beacontree, Red Lion, Leytonstone.
- Excelsior, Commercial Dock Tav., Rotherhithe.
- St. John of Wapping, Gun Hot., High-st., Wapping.
- Metropolitan Chapter, Jamaica Coffee Ho., Cornhill.

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REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS.

Craft Masonry.

FAITH LODGE (No. 141).—A meeting of this old lodge was held at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, on Tuesday, the 28th ult. There were present at the opening of the lodge Bros. M. Davis, W.M.; E. Mallett, S.W.; E. Hopwood, P.M. 131, 1512, acting J.W.; Waygood, I.P.M.; Stuart, P.M., Sec.; Percor, P.M.; Themans, P.M.; Gumball, S.D.; Walls, A.D.C., acting I.G.; Longstaffe, Tyler. Later on the staff of officers were supplemented by Bros. Taylor, P.M.; Carter, Treas.; Dailey, J.W.; Bye, J.D.; Whitby, I.G.; Morrison, A.W.S.; Heaphy, D.C. The minutes of the installation meeting having been read and confirmed, the W.M. passed Bro. Travers, and raised Bro. Rotenberg. The ceremonies were exceedingly well performed. At the conclusion of the latter ceremony another candidate for passing arrived in the person of Bro. Stokes, who, notwithstanding his want of punctuality, had the good fortune to receive his degree. The W.M.'s labours were still further protracted by his having to initiate Mr. Allen into Craft mysteries, which "work" having been satisfactorily carried out, Bro. Taylor, P.M., brought forward a notice of motion given by him at the last meeting, that the initiation fee should be increased to ten guineas, and the joining fee to five guineas, and that the annual subscription should be raised to three guineas. In speaking upon his proposition, Bro. Taylor stated that as there appeared to be a divided opinion upon the latter motion he was willing to withdraw it, although he wished the lodge to understand that the increased subscription was only intended to affect members joining in and after January, 1877. He then went on to state that in the brief course of three or four years the lodge had drifted from a highly prosperous to a very precarious state, and concluded by saying that as the subject was so important it was necessary that it should be fully and freely discussed, and he should therefore reserve his other remarks in support of the motion until any brethren who desired to speak upon the matter had finished. Bro. Hopwood, P.M., in seconding the proposition, said that when he joined the lodge some nineteen years ago, at a low fee, there were only thirty or forty members belonging to it, but the funds were comparatively in good condition. At the present time, and with higher fees, they were three times as strong, but the balance, according to the last audit, was on the wrong side. In conclusion, Bro. Hopwood gave as his opinion that as Freemasonry had of late years made such gigantic strides by the influx of new members the Faith would find plenty of persons willing to pay ten guineas in order to have the honour of becoming members of so old and popular a lodge as No. 141. The proposition having been fully discussed pro and con by Bros. Carter, Walls, Pibrou, and others, Bro. Taylor, P.M., again addressed the brethren at length. He said he thought that 120 members, which number constituted, he believed, their present strength, was large enough for any lodge. If their numbers increased too rapidly there would not be sufficient room, either in the lodge or in the banquet hall, to accommodate them properly, and he further said that large lodges were not to be admired. Bro. Walls had said that "quality, not quantity," was the Masonic desideratum, and he (Bro. Taylor), quite agreed with him. If the fees were increased, and the house-bills economised, the lodge would be able to support the three great Craft charities to a larger extent than it had of late years done. They must also not forget that there was a very great difference in the value of money now than there was formerly, and in conclusion the speaker forcibly said that the members then present by supporting his motion, would be doing justice not only to the lodge, but to the fraternity at large. The motion having been formally put by the W.M., was carried by a very large majority. The lodge was shortly afterwards closed, and the brethren adjourned to the last Tuesday in January next. The visitors were Bros. Pitt, 463, and Whelon, 1035. There was no banquet.

CAVEAC LODGE (No. 176).—This lodge met at the "Albion," Aldersgate-st., London, on Saturday, the 9th inst. Present:—Bros. W. Goss, W.M.; P. A. Nairne, P.M., as S.W.; J. B. Sorrell, J.W.; Stansfield, S.D.; Neumegen, J.D.; Thorpe, I.G.; C. Dovey, P.M. and Sec.; C. Browne, P.M. and D.C.; P. Browne, P.M. and Treas.; Sorrell, I.P.M.; Besley, P.M., and Lemann, P.M.; Lamb, Kirkness, Griffiths, Morrice, Jones, Akenhead, Payne, Moore, Boyson, and others. Visitors:—W. Bro. the Rev. R. J. Simpson, P. G. Chaplain; James Stevens, P.M. 1246;

A. H. Lilley, P.M. 12; John Constable, P.M. 185; Edward Clarke, P.M. 134, and Alfred Grubb, 73, I.C. Lodge was opened, passed into Second Degree, and Bro. Bayson most ably passed to the degree of F.C. Several matters of lodge business having been attended to, the brethren subsequently assembled at banquet, which was most excellently served and was admirably presided over by the W.M., whose brief but apt and forcible introduction of the several loyal and principal Masonic toasts evinced a more than exceptional ability for the position of chairman. For Grand Lodge Officers, the Past Grand Chaplain, Bro. Simpson, responded, congratulating the lodge on its progress and working, and, referring to the Special Grand Lodge about to be called for the purpose of considering the best means for commemorating the return of the M.W. Grand Master, hoped that all divergence of opinion might give way to an unanimous acceptance of whatever decision might then be arrived at, he being quite assured that the object of each and all who took interest in the matter was a full and perfect accord throughout the Craft that the honour proposed might be acceptable to the Chief of the Order. The W. Master's health having been drank with enthusiastic response to the fair laudation with which the toast had been given, the W.M. replied in appropriate terms of acknowledgment, and gave the toast of "The Visitors." Bros. Lilley and Clarke replied, and Bro. Stevens, in obedience to the general request, also responded. He stated that he had accompanied Bro. Simpson from "The Great City" Lodge, then holding its meeting at Cannon-street Hotel, for the purpose of representing that lodge, and conveying to the W.M. and brethren of the "Caveac" expressions of cordial greeting and hearty good wishes. The reception he had that evening experienced at their hands was not only gratifying to himself personally, but would be greatly appreciated by the lodge he represented; and he ventured to suggest the practicability as well as policy of lodges, whose dates of meeting were concurrent, being represented by one or more members from the respective lodges in session. It would serve to cement the bond of union and good fellowship which they as Freemasons desired to encourage, and would enable them to keep up that association, the one with the other, which the circumstance of their being in different places at the same moment at present rendered almost, and in any other way, impossible. He thought it probable he might yet again meet the members of "The Great City" Lodge before they separated on that evening, and, if so, he would through the W.M. of that lodge notify to them the cordial reception they had accorded to him as their representative on this occasion. "The Healths of Bros. Dovey, Sec.; and Brown, Treas., were drank, and the charity box circulated. A "whip round," in accordance with annual custom, was made for the purpose of affording a "Cheery Christmas" to the worthy Tyler, who, after the services of "The Officers" had been recognised, gave the "final toast," and so brought an agreeable and thoroughly practical Masonic meeting to a highly satisfactory termination.

LEWIS LODGE (No. 1185).—At an emergency meeting a large number of the members of this lodge assembled at the King's Arms Hotel, Wood Green, on Saturday, 2d inst., pursuant to summons, for the purpose of passing a vote of sympathy with the widow and family of their late Treasurer, W. Bro. S. May, who was also one of the founders of this lodge, and to elect a Treasurer in his stead. Bro. Turner, W.M. presided, supported by the following Past Masters of the lodge, viz., Bros. Cover, Leared (Sec.) Edwards, Row, and Durrant, together with the officers, Bros. Shipwright, S.W.; Sayer, J.W.; Bone, S.D.; Berlie, J.D.; and Hooper, I.G. The lodge having been opened in due form with solemn prayer, there were four passings and two initiations taken first, in order to give the brethren full time to assemble, after which Bro. Turner, W.M., addressed the brethren as follows:—Brethren, I have called this lodge of emergency together for a special purpose, one which I have not the slightest doubt will recommend itself to every member—that of sympathising with the widow and family of our late much respected and lamented Bro. May, who was one of the founders of this lodge, and who has been our Treasurer from the very first; and you, brethren, know how efficiently he discharged the duties of that office. Taking into account the very kind interest which Bro. May has always taken in the welfare and happiness of this lodge, the truly Masonic spirit displayed by him on all occasions, and the deep and sincere interest which he has always taken in our noble charities—of which we are all justly proud—I have not the slightest fear but that the resolution about to be proposed by Bro. Cover—one of the founders, and now senior Past Master of this lodge, will receive your entire approbation. Bro. May was with us at our last meeting, having left, I might almost say, his death bed on purpose to be present, but was too ill to remain long. For my own part I shall ever remember the kind and hearty manner in which on that occasion he congratulated me on my installation as Master of this lodge. I shall now without further comment ask Bro. Cover to read his proposed resolution. W. Bro. Cover having addressed a few well-chosen remarks as to the high esteem in which Bro. May was held—not only by this lodge, but generally, and pointing out that of the founders there are now but two, himself and Bro. Leared, P.M. (Sec.), left as subscribing members—proposed a vote of sympathy with the widow and family of their late Bro. May, for their great and irreparable loss. This having been seconded by Bro. Leared, met with the unanimous approbation of the lodge. W. Bro. Durrant, I.P.M., was elected as Treasurer in the room of Bro. May, deceased. This having concluded the business of the evening the lodge was closed in due form, and the brethren separated, there being no banquet on this melancholy occasion.

THE GREAT CITY LODGE (No. 1436).—The regular meeting of The Great City Lodge was held on

Saturday evening, Dec. 9th, at the Cannon-street Hotel, and was well attended. Bro. John Seex, W.M., presided. There were also present Bros. R. Stanney, S.W.; J. Freeman, J.W.; R. J. Simpson, Chap.; N. B. Headon, Treas.; E. Moody, Sec.; Blockie, S.D.; Catchpole, J.D.; J. Jenkins, Org.; Hamer, I.G., and Kibble and Hook, Stewards. The lodge having been opened and the minutes read and confirmed, the lodge was opened in the Second Degree, when Bros. Shaw and Cartwright were raised to the Sublime Degree. The next business was the passing of Bro. Libersart to the Second Degree. The lodge was then resumed to the First Degree, and after a ballot Mr. Louis Charles Brooks was introduced and impressively initiated into the mysteries of ancient Freemasonry, the whole of the three ceremonies being well rendered by the W.M. The next business was the discussion of a notice of motion, given by Bro. Townend, I.P.M., for the alteration of one of the rules which pressed hardly upon any one wishing to resign the lodge, but the discussion terminated in the notice of motion being negatived. The lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned for refreshment. At its close the W.M. gave "The Queen and the Craft," which was duly honoured. The W.M. said the next toast was "The Health of the Most Worshipful Grand Master, the Prince of Wales," and remarked that there was no place where that toast was received more heartily, or shown a greater amount of honour than in The Great City Lodge. The toast was received with hearty enthusiasm and the Masonic honours. The W.M. said the next toast he had to propose he was sure would be received with the same welcome as the former ones, as it was "The Health of the Pro Grand Master, the Earl of Carnarvon, the Deputy Grand Master, Lord Skelmersdale, and the rest of the Grand Officers, Past and Present." He was sure that they would give the toast a hearty welcome, as they were not merely ornamental but useful members of the Craft, which they had lately proved by the efficient manner in which they had done the work at the Lodge of Emulation, and he had no doubt but that it would stimulate every Mason to perform his duties to the Craft. The toast was well received. Bro. Townend, I.P.M., said he was authorised to introduce a toast to their notice, which he was sure would be received with acclamation by the brethren, as it was "The Health of the W.M." For himself he regretted that he was not present to hear him work the ritual that night, but he knew from experience what he could do, and the excellent manner in which that ritual was rendered by him, and he was kind and genial to all who came in contact with him, either as a Mason or an individual. He, therefore, asked them to drink The health of the W.M. in the usual cordial manner of The Great City Lodge. The W.M., in reply, said while the honour was conferred upon him of being the W.M. of The Great City Lodge he felt the great responsibility imposed upon him of carrying out the duties of the chair. The observations of their I.P.M. exceeded anything he deserved, and his desire was to perform his duties, which would be a sufficient reward to him without being overloaded with praise. He was glad to possess their good wishes, hoping to do his duty with some credit to himself, and he trusted to the satisfaction of the members of the lodge. The W.M. said he was sure the next toast would be received in a fraternal spirit, as it was one that mainly affected the vitality of the Craft. There had been no meeting of The Great City Lodge without the W.M. having with great pleasure to refer to the subject of instruction. The brother who had that night been initiated was well known to a brother in the lodge by whom he had been proposed, and they received him with a hearty welcome. They always received a new brother with honour, respect, and esteem, and above all with that friendship which one member of the Craft should bear to another. With those few remarks he asked them to drink "The Health of their Newly-Initiated Brother Brooks." Bro. Brooks said he was greatly pleased at the manner he had been received amongst them, and hoped to belong to them for many years. The W.M. said he had then to bring under their notice a toast, which was the health of those brethren who had already reaped the honours of the occupation of the chair in that young lodge. Their Immediate Past Master, Bro. Townend, had had a very successful year; he had been well received and worked heartily for the benefit of the lodge. As to their senior Past Master, Bro. Headon, the less that was said as to his position in the lodge the greater honour would it confer upon him. He gave "The Health of the Past Masters of the Lodge." Bro. Townend, I.P.M., said that he was obliged that the W.M. had spoken of him, as he had done his duty to the best of his ability, although he had learned another ritual different from that worked in the lodge. He knew Bro. Headon's abilities as a Mason, and he only wished that he was able to work the ceremonies as he was. He assured them that at all times he was ready and willing to advance the interests of The Great City Lodge, as he always had them at heart, and he should always be willing to impart any knowledge to the younger brethren who aspired to the chair. The W. Master next gave a toast which he said was more welcome than any other to the W. Master of The Great City Lodge, as it was "The Health of their Visiting Brethren," and having enumerated those present asked the brethren to do honour to the toast. Bro. Roberts, of Lodge No. 1594, returned thanks. The W. Master in giving "The Health of the Treasurer and Secretary of the Lodge, Bros. Headon and Moody," said he looked upon that as the most important toast of the evening, for the services they rendered to the Lodge were most important and required great discrimination on their part. He was sure all the members were greatly indebted to Bro. Moody for the manner in which he carried out his duties as Secretary, for as it was a very large lodge he undoubtedly held a most responsible position, and he was sure that although he had only made

a few remarks the toast itself would ensure its hearty reception. Bro. Headon said he rose with great pleasure to return thanks for the very kind manner in which they had received the toast of Treasurer, and hoped he might have a large sum at the banker's, which he had not at the present time, for it was then very small. The Secretary, thanked the brethren for the cordial feeling that they had shown towards him that evening, which was most gratifying to him. Any hard work he had to perform would be a pleasure so long as the brethren were satisfied with him. Some other toasts were given, and the Tyler's toast brought a very harmonious meeting to a close.

IVY LODGE (No. 1441).—The last regular meeting of this young and flourishing lodge was held at the Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, on Tuesday, the 28th ult. Bro. J. J. Cantle, the P.M., presided, supported by P.M.'s Noke, Smith, Mattocks, Cottebrune, and Terry (the two latter being hon. members of the lodge), and numerous visitors, amongst whom we noticed Bros. Fabian, P.G.S.W. Hants; White, P.M. 22; Eames, P.M. 22; Frampton, P.M. 142; Hillhouse, P.M. 228; Parsons, P.M. 749, and others. The minutes of the previous meeting having been duly read and confirmed, the W.M. raised Bros. Coldwells and Arnold to the Degree of M.M. Bro. Bowley was afterwards passed into Fellow Craft. Messrs. E. W. Catling and W. G. Reynolds were balloted for, and, being unanimously approved, admitted into the mysteries of our ancient Craft. It is almost needless to say that the whole of the ceremonies were rendered in a most effective and impressive manner. Bro. J. W. St. John Hunt, of the Grey Friars Lodge, No. 1101, having been duly balloted for, was admitted as a joining member. A very pleasant episode followed. The W.M., after passing a very high encomium upon Bro. C. S. Jolly, P.M. 87, the Hon. Sec., and one of the founders of the lodge, whom he stated had from the very first worked hard for its success, presented him with a very handsome emblem, combining a Past Master and Secretary's jewel, which had been unanimously voted at a previous meeting as a slight acknowledgment of his services, and bore a suitable inscription. Bro. Jolly, in responding, thanked the W.M. and brethren, and said the work had been with him "a labour of love," and that as long as he possessed health and strength Ivy Lodge should have such hearty services as he could give. After some minor business was concluded, the lodge was closed in ancient form, and the brethren adjourned to an excellent banquet presided over by the W.M., and a very enjoyable evening was spent, an interesting feature being the introduction of two talented young ladies, Misses Lucy Steward and Claremont, whose singing was generally admired. We must not omit to notice that the well-known trio, Calcott's "Red Cross Knight," was admirably rendered by these ladies in conjunction with the W.M. A recitation by one of the initiates, Bro. Reynolds, was excellently delivered and much admired. Bro. Knight Smith presided at the piano-forte with his usual ability. The usual toasts were duly honoured. Bro. Cottebrune, who paid a high compliment to the working of the W.M., whom he had the pleasure of introducing into Freemasonry, responded to "The Grand Officers" toast. In response to the toast of "The Initiates," both the newly-made brethren made excellent speeches. Bro. Terry replied to the toast of "The Masonic Charities" at length, giving the brethren considerable information as to each of the three great institutions, and the progress which had been made during the last few years, [closing with an eloquent appeal on behalf of the Aged Masons' Institution. We understand, by the bye, that the W.M. intends acting as Steward at the next festival, when it is hoped that H.R.H. Prince Leopold may be well enough to preside, and from what we know of the Ivy Lodge, we are convinced that the W.M. will be able to present a good list. The Charities first appears to be the maxim of this lodge—a tithe of all the receipts are put by for this purpose. To the toast of "The Visitors," coupled with the name of Bro. Fabian, that brother, as the hour was getting late, only responded in a short telling speech, concluded with the hope that the Ivy Lodge might long flourish in connection with the "grand old" oak, Freemasonry. The Tyler's toast closed a very pleasant evening's proceedings.

BATH.—Royal Cumberland Lodge (No. 41).—This old lodge held a regular meeting on Thursday, Dec. 7th, and was opened by Bro. Brown, W.M., at 7.30. He was supported by the following: Bros. Clark, I.P.M.; Cooper, P.M.; Captain Floyd, P.M.; Carey, P.M.; Mitchell, P.M.; Wilton, P.M. and Dir. of Cers.; Ashley, P.M. and Treas.; Dr. Hopkins, P.M. 43 and 958; Hunt, as S.W.; Falkner, J.W.; C. Wilkinson, Sec.; Braham, S.D.; Robinson, as J.D.; Radway, Steward; Gummer, I.G.; Bigwood, Tyler, and many members. There were also present as visitors Bros. Moutrie, P.M. 906; Mundy, 906; Freeman, Fuller, and Reynolds. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The lodge having been opened in the Third Degree, Bro. Dr. Hopkins took the chair by request of the W.M., and raised Bro. Yeomans to the degree of M.M., explaining the working tools, giving the charge and an elaborate lecture on the degree, which was listened to with great attention. The lodge was then brought down to the First Degree by Bro. Brown, W.M. In accordance with previous notice, on the proposition of Bro. Ashley, seconded by Bro. Dr. Hopkins, after some discussion, an alteration was made in the rate of subscription, reducing it by one half to members who reside at a greater distance from Bath than 50 miles, provided that they also belong to another lodge; but any such non-residents holding office in Lodge 41 must pay the full subscription. A donation of ten guineas was voted to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, to be placed on the list of Bro. General Doherty, who proposes to attend as Steward at the next annual festival. A letter from Bro. Davis was read in grateful acknowledgment of the kind sympathy expressed

towards him by formal resolution during his recent long illness. Several candidates for initiation were proposed. The lodge was closed at 10 p.m.

PRESCOT.—Lodge of Loyalty (No. 86).—This fine old lodge, which has been considerably over 100 years in existence, celebrated its anniversary installation on Wednesday, the 29th ult., at the Masonic Hall, Prescott, near Liverpool. There was a larger muster than any seen at the meetings for a long time, and the admirable manner in which the day's proceedings were carried out must have given entire satisfaction. Bro. W. Tyrer, W.M., presided at the opening of the business, which commenced shortly after three o'clock, and amongst others present were Bros. J. T. Hall, P.M.; H. Scott, P.M.; J. W. Fowler, P.G.A.D.C., P.M.; Reginald Young, P.M.; J. W. R. Fowler, P.M.; Dr. S. Morris, P.M.; John Vaughan, S.W. (W.M. elect); H. Vaughan, J.W.; F. Smith, Sec.; A. Tebbutt, S.D.; R. Reynolds, J.D.; A. Fraser, Steward; R. G. Elstone, J.S.; R. C. Carter, R. Betley, J. Matthews, A. Robertson, A. Borthurst, W. Jameson, and W. H. Husband. The visitors present included Bros. Dr. Stephens, P.M. 32; P. M. Pankurst, 1384; J. B. Rumney, P. L. Fryer, 292; W. J. Dunn, 756; Calvert, C. Campion, and others. After the lodge had been duly opened, and the minutes of previous meeting confirmed, the chair was taken by Bro. J. W. J. Fowler, P.M., P.P.G.A.D.C., who installed Bro. John Vaughan as the W.M. of the "Loyalty" in a most satisfactory manner. The newly-installed W.M. afterwards invested the following as his officers:—Bros. Henry Vaughan, S.W.; A. Tebbutt, J.W.; W. Tyrer, I.P.M., Treas.; R. S. Reynolds, Sec.; N. B. Jackson, S.D.; A. Fraser, J.D.; R. G. Elstone, I.G.; and R. C. Carter and J. Matthews, Stewards. Attention was called to the death of Bro. T. Wylie, P.P.G. Registrar, one of the P.M.'s of the lodge, and it was unanimously agreed that a letter of condolence should be sent to his widow by the members of the lodge. At the conclusion of the business the brethren dined at the Crown Hotel, where an excellent banquet was provided. The W.M., Bro. J. Vaughan, presided, and he was supported by a very large number of excellent brethren. After the usual loyal and Masonic toasts had been given by the W.M. in exceedingly pointed and pithy terms (Bros. Leather and Fowler responding for the P.G. Officers), Bro. W. Tyrer, I.P.M., proposed "The Health of the W.M.," which was received most enthusiastically. Referring at some length to the history of some local lodges, Bro. Vaughan said that in 1807 there were 35 lodges in Lancashire, of which only four were in Liverpool, namely, The Sea Captains' Lodge, No. 115, which met at the Shakespeare Tavern, Sir Thomas's-buildings, every other Thursday; the Merchants, (then No. 344) meeting at the Star and Garter Tavern, on the first and third Thursday; the Mariners' Lodge (then 362, now 249), also meeting at the Shakespeare Tavern, Sir Thomas's-buildings, on the 1st and 3rd Thursday; and the Lodge of Sincerity (then 518, now 292) held at the York Hotel, Williamson-square, on the 1st and third Tuesday. In Manchester there were 9 lodges; Warrington, Wigan, Ormskirk, Oldham, Middleton, Prescott, Colne, Leigh, Haslingden, Ashton, and Staleybridge each had one, and Rochdale, Burnley, Preston, and Lancaster each had two. Of the Liverpool ones three out of the four then in existence still survive, but the Sea Captains' (then No. 115) has disappeared from the roll. Of the nine held in Manchester at the time six have become defunct, and in their case unity does not appear to have been strength, for three of the dead lodges were called Unity, Union, and Unanimity, and there are now in Liverpool and the immediate neighbourhood as many lodges as existed in the whole of the county of Lancaster, North, East, South, and West, at the time he spoke of. Of the thirty-five lodges in existence at the beginning of the century 15 have disappeared from the roll altogether; some very curious changes have taken place, too, in the numbers of several of the lodges. The Ormskirk Lodge of Harmony, now 580, was at the beginning of the century 403, and a Bury lodge which was then 37 is now 47. He merely mentioned these facts to show the progress the Order was making, and to prove that there was a considerable amount of interesting matter for inquiry. Various other toasts followed, and during the evening Bro. J. T. Hall, P.M., in name of the members of the lodge, presented a most magnificent Past Master's jewel to Bro. W. Tyrer, I.P.M., in recognition of his valuable services to the lodge, especially during his year of office.

DOVER.—Peace and Harmony Lodge (No. 199).—The December meeting took place on the 4th inst., Bro. J. Bordeaux, W.M., presided, and there was an extra large attendance of brethren. Mr. George Saville, of Buckland, near Dover, and Mr. H. Cromwell Marsh, of Dover, were very impressively initiated by the W.M. The latter is eldest son of Bro. Charles Marsh, a member of Holmesdale Lodge, No. 874, Tunbridge Wells, and one of its founders. He is one of the oldest Masons in England, having been initiated in the Royal Cumberland Lodge, Bath, 6th of August, 1819, and was P.M. of the lodge, and P.Z. of the Royal Arch Chapter, to both of which he was a subscribing member over twenty years. He is also an honorary member of the Zetland Royal Arch Chapter, Sydney, N.S.W., being present at its inauguration in 1855. He also held the office of P.S.D. of the Lodge of Somerset. We may add that he is 88 years of age, and has been totally blind over twenty years.

WINDSOR.—Etonian Lodge of St. John (No. 209).—The second meeting of the session was held at the Masonic Hall, Windsor, on the 7th ult. Present: Bros. W. R. Denne, W.M.; Wilson, P.M., Treas., acting S.W.; Hume, J.W.; Carter, I.P.M., P.G.D.C., Sec.; Roberts, S.D.; Schiemann, J.D.; Nichols, I.G.; Strange, P.W., P.P.G.C.D., Dir. of Cers.; Dixon, P.M., P.P.G. D.C.; McIlwham, P.M.; Bryett, P.M.; Stedwell, P.M.;

Cousins, G. Woods, Mitchiner, Legg, Blizard, Prince, Day, Clay, Duffield, Evans, Spindler, Webster, and others. Visitors: Bros. Tolley, P.M. 771; P.P.G.S.D.; Hopwood, P.M. 141; Powell, P.M. 771; Bingham, P.M. 771; Willett, 771; Cantrell, W.M. 1501; and others. Bro. Mitchiner was raised to the Degree of Master Mason by Bro. J. O. Carter, I.P.M. Bro. Radcliffe was passed to the Degree of Fellow Craft by the W.M., and Messrs. Pitts and Miller initiated into Freemasonry by Bro. Dixon, P.M. The sum of ten guineas was voted to the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys. Two candidates for initiation and two for joining having been proposed, the lodge was, after some routine business, closed in due form. Bro. J. Carter, I.P.M., will serve as Steward at the next festival in aid of the Boys' School.

The third meeting of the season was held on the 5th inst. at the Masonic Hall, Windsor. The W.M., Bro. W. R. Denne, presided, supported by Bros. Wilson, P.M., acting S.W.; Hume, J.W.; Carter, I.P.M., P.G.D.C. Berks and Bucks, Sec.; Roberts, S.D.; Schiemann, J.D.; Dixon, P.M., P.P.D.C.; McIlwham, P.M.; Evans, Pears, Webster, Cousins, Legg, Mitchiner, Radcliffe, Miller, Pitt, and others. Visitors: Bros. Tolley, P.M. 771; Hopwood, P.M. 141; Powell, P.M. 771; Tagg; and others. Bro. Radcliffe was raised to the Degree of Master Mason by the W.M. Bros. Pitt and Miller were passed to the Second Degree by Bro. McIlwham, P.M., and Messrs. Robinson and Larkin initiated by Bro. Wilson, P.M. The election of W.M. for the ensuing year was then proceeded with, and resulted in the unanimous election of Bro. Hume, J.W. Bro. Wilson, P.M., was unanimously re-elected Treasurer. A Past Master's jewel was voted to Bro. Denne, W.M., to be presented at the next lodge meeting. After the annual votes to the local charities had been passed, the lodge, after some further business, was closed in due form.

SHEFFIELD.—Royal Brunswick Lodge (No. 206).—The Royal Brunswick Lodge held its annual installation meeting on Monday, the 11th inst., the Worshipful Master, Bro. Henry Ecroyd, occupying the chair. The lodge met in the famous "Cutler's Hall," owing to the Masonic premises in Surrey Street being still in process of reconstruction. The muster of Royal Brunswick members was large; the Deputy Prov. Grand Master, Bro. Tew, and many brethren from the sister lodges of Sheffield, and from other towns, were also present. The minutes of the last lodge, and of an emergency lodge, having been read and confirmed, the ballot was taken for Bro. the Rev. Canon Blakeney as a joining member, and this highly-esteemed brother (Canon of York, and Vicar of St. Paul's, Sheffield), was declared duly elected. The business of the evening was then proceeded with, and Bro. John Ridal, S.W., and W.M. elect, was presented and obligated in due form. Brethren below the chair were asked to withdraw, and a Board of Installed Masters (twenty-one in number) was opened, during which Bro. Ridal was duly placed in the chair of K.S. The brethren having been readmitted they saluted the new W.M. in ancient style, after which he proceeded to appoint his officers for the ensuing year as follows:—Bros. Henry Ecroyd, I.P.M.; Walter Nicholson, S.W.; Robert Schott, J.W.; Dr. M. de Bartolome, Treas.; George Cubley, Sec.; William Skinner (M.R.C.S.), S.D.; John Marples, J.D.; Thomas Harrison, D.C.; Clement Carr, I.G.; Moses Hartley and Walter Parkin, Stewards; Samuel Suckley, Organist; and Hessey, Tyler. The important duties of Charity Steward were again intrusted to our zealous Bro. Robert Arnisson, (P.M., and P.P.G.S.B., West Yorks.) The installing officer of the evening was Bro. Ensor Drury, (P.M., and P.P.G.W., West Yorks), who performed the impressive ceremonies in his well-known masterly style. Our much esteemed Bro. William Longden was also present, and assisted in the installation ceremony. The lodge was then closed, and the brethren sat down to banquet under the presidency of Bro. Ridal, who proposed the usual loyal and Masonic toasts, and had his own proposed, to which he responded, thanking his brethren for their hearty expression of fraternal regard and good-will. Amongst the visitors present were Bros. T. W. Tew, Deputy Prov. Grand Master for West Yorks.; Major Ryan, Royal Artillery, Grand Steward of Scotland; Clement Hamill Perrott, Prov. Grand Organist, W.M., of the Phoenix Lodge, Rotherham; Hale, W.M. of the Scarsdale Lodge, Chesterfield; Samuel Bramhall Ellis, W.M., of the Wentworth Lodge, Sheffield; William Jervis, W.M. elect of the Britannia Lodge, Sheffield, and others.

OXFORD.—The Alfred Lodge (No. 340).—A meeting of this, the oldest of the Oxford Lodges was held on the 5th inst. in the Masonic Hall, Alfred St., the chief business being to elect a W.M. and other officers for the ensuing year. The W.M. Bro. Jules Buc, M. A. of Magdalene College (P.S.G.W.) presided, and there was a large attendance of the brethren, about 80 being present. After the raising of Bro. Lamborne, the election of the new W.M. was proceeded with, when the choice of the brethren fell upon Bro. John Pratt P.S.G. W., the S.W. of the Lodge. Bro. H. Houghton, P.M., was re-elected as Treasurer; Bros. E. Horn and S. Harris were again chosen as Stewards; and Bros. Stephens and Norwood as Tylers. The present W.M. was appointed a member of the Charity Committee, and Bros. Sheard, Park, Horn, Jenkins, and Harris were appointed as additional members of the Audit Committee. The anniversary festival was fixed for Tuesday, Jan. 2nd, and the audit meeting for the previous Thursday. The W.M. announced his intention of acting as Steward at the forthcoming Benevolent Institution Festival. At the conclusion of the business an adjournment was made to the banqueting room, where under the genial presidency of the W.M., an enjoyable evening was spent.

BATH.—Lodge of Honour (No. 379).—The chief meeting of the year for installation of new officers

was held at the Masonic Hall on Monday, Dec. 11th, at 3 p.m. Bro. G. Cook, W.M., opened the lodge punctually, supported by Bro. Dr. Hopkins as I.P.M.; H. Gore, S.W.; H. C. Hopkins, J.W.; Dickenson, Secretary; Robinson as J.D.; Gummer as I.G.; Gazzard, Tyler. The presence in the ante-room was then announced of W. Bro. Else, D.P.G.M., who was at once admitted, and received with the usual salute. He was accompanied by the following: Major Ramsay, District Grand Master of the Punjab, India; Cooper, P.M. 41; Brown, W.M. 41; R. Cook, P.M. 379; Capt. Peel Floyd, P.M. 41; General Doherty, P.M. 53 and 906; Davis, P.M. 379; Marshall, P.M. 53; Dr. Tunstall, P.M. 53; Bush, P.M. 1363; Payton P.M. 284; Bumsion, P.M. 855; Phillips, P.M. 626, and others. The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the lodge was opened in the 2nd Degree. Bro. Dr. Hopkins took the chair, and examined Bros. Johnston and Baldwin, after which they were entrusted and dismissed for preparation. The lodge was opened in the 3rd Degree, the candidates were re-admitted, and raised to the rank of M.M. Bro. Cooper acted as Chaplain. The symbolism of the working tools was explained by Bro. Bush. The ceremony was concluded by Bro. Dr. Hopkins giving the charge. Bro. Cook again took the chair, and resumed the lodge in the 2nd Degree. He then invited the D.P.G.M. to preside and install his successor. After the usual preliminary proceedings, the lodge was again opened in the 3rd degree, the brethren who had not passed the chair retired, a Board of Installed Masters was constituted, and Bro. Gore was installed as W.M. for the ensuing year. On the return of the brethren, the customary proceedings were efficiently carried out, and the following were invested as the new officers:—G. H. Cook, I.P.M.; H. C. Hopkins, S.W.; Dickenson, J.W.; Davis, P.M., Secretary; Smyth, S.D.; Johnston, J.D.; Baldwin, I.G.; Gazzard, Tyler. Votes of thanks were passed to the D.P.G.M. for his able assistance as Installing Master; to Bro. Dr. Hopkins for having worked the ceremony of raising; to Major Ramsay and other visitors for the sanction of their presence. Several gentlemen were proposed as candidates for initiation, other business was transacted, and the lodge was closed at 6 o'clock. About twenty brethren adjourned to the Castle Hotel for the annual banquet. This is a small lodge, and during the past year it has suffered severely from the hand of death, but there appears every promise of fresh vigour and of increased numbers.

OXFORD.—Churchill Lodge (No. 478).—A meeting of this lodge was held in the Masonic Hall, Alfred-street, on the 4th inst., when there was a large attendance of members of the lodge and visitors. The W.M., Bro. H. O. Wakeman, B.A., fellow of All Souls' College, P.P.J.G.W., presided, and was supported among others by the Dep. Prov. G.M., Bro. R. Bird, M.A., (Fellow of Magdalen College); and Bros. J. H. Jukes, P.M. 892, and Past Prov. G.J.W. of Herefordshire; W. F. Smith, P.M. of the Isaac Newton Lodge, 859, Cambridge; H. R. Cooper Smith, B.A., Magdalen College, P.M.; W. Thompson, P.M. 340; W. Peppercorn, Prov. G.R.; W. Parratt, B. Mus., of Magdalen College, Prov. G. Organist; Rev. L. K. Hilton, M.A., Chaplain of 357; Rev. H. Deane, B.D., Chaplain of 340; and others. The W.M. having held a Lodge of Instruction in the First Degree, the attention of the brethren was called to the claims of the Benevolent Institution, at the forthcoming annual festival of which the Prov. G.M. Oxon (H.R.H. Prince Leopold) will preside, a call that was duly responded to later on. The W.M. stated that he would act as one of the Stewards at that occasion. After various matters affecting the well-being of the lodge had been discussed, the brethren sat down to a banquet. The W.M. occupied the chair, and the proceedings were of a particularly festive and harmonious character. Col. Sargent, C.B., of the Melita Lodge, No. 437, who commands the military depot of this district, has been elected a joining member of the lodge.

SOUTHEND.—Priory Lodge (No. 1000).—The regular monthly meeting of this flourishing lodge was held at the Middleton Hotel, Southend, on Thursday, the 30th ult. The W.M., Bro. E. E. Phillips was supported by the following officers and brethren, viz.:—Bros. A. Lucking, P.M. 160, Prov. A.G.D.C., I.P.M.; Rev. S. R. Wigram, G. Chap., S.W.; F. D. Grayson, acting J.W.; J. A. Wardell, P.M. 160 and 1000 P.P.G.D., Organist, Sec.; J. R. Hemmann, P.M., P.P.G.D., Organist; G. F. Jones, acting S.D.; W. P. Belliss, J.D.; J. C. Johnstone, P.M., 20 (I.C.), acting I.G.; H. Rowley, P.M., P.P.G.D.; H. Luker, W. H. Lockey, W. D. Merritt; W. Waterhouse; F. Cantor, W. H. Norman, H. Hicks, B. J. Mackie, Rev. H. J. Hatch, W.M. 160, P.P.G. Chap.; F. J. Jillings, S.W. 160; W. Wallis; D. English, P. Benton, jun. Visitors: Bros. W. P. Pissey, P.M. 160, P.P.J.G.W.; J. Jonas, P.M. Panmure, 715; T. F. Barrett, Fitzallan, 1432. The business consisted of the three degrees, but the candidates for initiation and passing were both unavoidably absent, Bro. Henry Smith the candidate for the 3rd Degree being present he was raised to the sublime degree of a M.M. After a joining member had been proposed the lodge was duly closed, and the brethren adjourned to refreshment. The loyal and Masonic toasts were given and well received. The Tyler's toast brought the proceedings to a close.

DERBY.—Hartington Lodge (No. 1085).—The monthly meeting of this lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, Gower-street, on Wednesday, November 25th. The lodge was opened at 7.30 p.m. in the First Degree. The brethren present were Bros. S. Pipes, W.M.; M. H. Bobart, P.M.; W. Heathcote, S.W.; T. Godsby, J.W.; H. Bobart, Treas.; J. Worsnop, P.M., as Sec.; J. O. Mantou, as S.D.; W. Butterfield, as I.G.; T. Slinn, Tyler. Visitors: Bros. Cox, P.P.S.G.W.; Marsden, P.P.S.G.W.; Bennett, W.M. 731. After the circular had been read, and likewise the minutes of the last

lodge, the ballot was taken for Mr. William Nicholson Kay, brick manufacturer, who was duly elected. The charge in the First Degree was delivered to Bro. Walters by Bro. Cox, P.P.S.G.W., who was then examined in the questions leading from the First to the Second Degree, which being answered satisfactorily, he retired for preparation. The lodge being opened in the Second Degree, Bro. Walters was passed in ancient and solemn form by P.M. Bobart. Bro. Gore was raised to the Sublime Degree of a M.M. in ancient and solemn form by Bro. P.M. Bobart. A candidate being proposed brought the business of the lodge to a close, after which the brethren adjourned to supper, and enjoyed themselves in a most agreeable manner.

MIRFIELD.—Mirfield Lodge (No. 1102).—On Friday, the 8th inst., the installation of Bro. John Walmsley, S.W., as W.M. of the above lodge took place. The lodge was opened in due form at 4 o'clock p.m. prompt, by Bro. J. K. Ibberson, W.M., assisted by the rest of his officers and a number of brethren and visitors from fifteen lodges from the provinces. The W.M. Elect was presented by Bro. George Armitage, P.M. and Bro. John Stott, P.M., Amphibious Lodge, No. 258, Heckmondwike. The first part of the Installation Ceremony was performed by Bro. John Barker P.M. The Board of Installed Masters was presided over by Bro. John Ibberson, P.M. P.G. Reg., when Bro. Walmsley was duly installed in the chair of K.S. for the ensuing year. The working tools in the 3rd degree were given by Bro. J. K. Ibberson, I.P.M.; in the 2nd degree by Bro. Jn. Ibberson, P.M., and in the 1st degree by Bro. John Barker, P.M. The W.M. was saluted by the brethren in ancient form being proclaimed by Bro. John Ibberson P.M.; Bro. Barker acting as D. of C. The W.M. appointed the following brethren as officers for the ensuing year:—Bros. T. B. Fairclough, S.W.; J. T. Barras, S.W.; Jn. Ibberson, P.M., Treas.; T. Lang, P.M., Sec.; A. A. Stott, D. of C.; John Crowther, S.D.; Jas. Walmsley, J.D.; Jas. Barker, I.G.; W. Booth, O.G. The address to the W.M. was given by Bro. John Barker, P.M., and to the Wardens and Brethren by Bro. Jn. Ibberson, P.M. Bro. George Armitage, P.M., was unanimously elected member of the Charity Committee. Previous to the lodge being closed Bro. T. W. Tew, J.P., D.P.G.M., addressed the brethren in a few suitable words and complimented the Mirfield Lodge on the manner in which the ceremony of the evening had been performed, paying a high compliment to Bro. Jn. Ibberson, P.M. P.G. Reg. The Board of Installed Masters numbered 25, a good sign of the esteem the W.M. and the lodge is held in the neighbourhood. After the close of the lodge the brethren adjourned to the banquet, at which the following visitors were present: Bros. T. W. Tew, J.P., D.P.G.M.; Isaac Booth, P.G.J.W.; W. H. B. Tomlinson, P.P.G. Reg., Chairman Charity Committee; Henry Smith, P.G. Sec.; John Booth, P.P. G.J.W.; Mark Newsome, P.P.G.D.; John Wordsworth, P.P.G. Dir. of Cers.; Joshua Lee, P.G.T.; Raddock, P.M. 290; D. A. Shaw, P.M. 827; W. B. Alderson, W.M. 495; T. H. Good, P.M. Defence Lodge, Leeds; L. A. Shepherd; John Rhodes, P.M.; W. F. Watts, P.M.; and E. Hennyway, P.M. Three Grand Principals, Dewsbury, W. Machell, W.M.; E. Poppleton, P.M. 827; T. Pickles, P.M. 258, and many other brethren. The following brethren of the Mirfield Lodge were also present: Bros. J. Ibberson, P.M., P.G. Reg.; John Barker, P.M.; G. Armitage, P.M.; T. Lang, P.M.; J. K. Ibberson, I.P.M.; T. B. Fairclough, S.W.; J. T. Barras, J.W.; A. A. Stott, Dir. of Cers.; John Crowther, S.D.; Jas. Walmsley, J.D.; Jas. Barker, I.G.; Jas. Wright; W. Airton, J. Smith, A. W. Bramall, T. Normington, Joseph Lister, G. H. A. Lister, J. F. Crowther, Hy. Walmsley, A. Wharton, C. Ramsden, J. Kerr, A. Hardy, J. Eastwood, G. Jackson, etc. The toasts included "The Queen," "The Grand Master of England," "The Pro Grand Master," "The R.W. Deputy Grand Master and the rest of the Grand Officers, Past and Present," "The R.W.P.G. Master of West Yorks., Sir Henry Edwards, the D.P.G.M., and rest of the P.G. Officers, Past and Present," "The W.M. of the Mirfield Lodge, the S. and J. Wardens, and the rest of the Officers," "The P.M.'s of the Lodge," "The Visiting Brethren." This most pleasant and enjoyable evening, one of the red-letter days in the annals of the Mirfield Lodge, was brought to a close with the toast of "All Poor and Distressed Masons."

GREENWICH.—Star Lodge (No. 1275).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held on Friday, Dec. 1st, at the Ship Hotel, Greenwich. Bro. H. J. Green, W.M., presided. He, in an admirable manner, raised Bros. Leonard Van Boelen and W. Vassila (1326) to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason. Bros. W. A. Simons, J.W. 1559, and Mark Van Boelen were unanimously elected joining members. Several candidates were proposed for initiation. The lodge was closed and adjourned to Friday, March 2nd. Banquet and dessert followed. The regular toasts were given and responded to. Some excellent songs and recitations were given during the evening. There were present during the afternoon and evening Bros. R. W. Williams, G.O. Middlesex, S.W.; C. W. Williams, J.W.; Rev. Colles Brown, Chap.; J. Smith, P.G.P., P.M., Treas.; F. Walters, G.J.D. Middlesex, P.M., Sec.; W. Kippis, J.D.; E. W. Chetwynd, I.G.; A. Tisley, D.C.; S. Marketa, W.S.; J. Gilbert, G.T. Middlesex, Tyler; W. Ough, P.G.P., P.M.; C. J. Hogg, P.G.S., P.M.; H. Keeble, P.M.; J. J. Limebeer, P.M.; W. P. Tong, G. S. Elliott, H. W. Elmer, J. Brooks, E. Lane, W. E. Williams, Mark Van Boelen, W. Brough, and others. Amongst a large number of visitors we noticed Bros. Dwarber, P.M. 55, &c.; A. H. Fattershall, P.M. 13, P.M. 140, &c.; Frampton, 87; Thomas, P.M. 134; and others.

ROCK FERRY.—Rock Lodge (No. 1289).—On Friday evening, 8th inst., the annual installation meeting of this lodge was held, a large number of visitors

being present, amongst whom were Bros. Thos. Marwood, Prov. J.G.W. of Cheshire; J. P. Platt, P.P.J.G.W.; Jesse Banning, P.P.G. Org. Cumberland and Westmoreland, &c.; the W.M.'s of Warren and the Dee Lodges, Bros. Taylor and Chesworth; and P.M.'s of other neighbouring lodges. After some routine business, the ceremony of installation was proceeded with by Bro. E. Friend, P.M., P.P.J.G.D., the W.M. elect being Bro. John Wilson Paton, M.D., S.W., he being the first initiate of the lodge who has attained that position. The customary observances over, Bro. Paton invested his officers as follows:—Bros. Stanton, S.W.; Townsend, J.W.; Stevenson, P.P.G.S.B., Treas. (re-elected); P. J. Rarson, reappointed Sec.; Phillips, S.D.; Ross, J.D.; Fergusson, I.G.; Jones and Moffat, Stewards. Bro. Holloway was elected and re-invested as Tyler. One noteworthy feature at this meeting was the raising of the initiation fee from six to eight guineas, and the joining fee from one to two guineas, there being only one dissident among a full number of voters. Being a suburban lodge it is thus the wish of its promoters and subscribers to localise the membership as much as possible. The requisite sum was unanimously voted for the funds of the Cheshire Educational Masonic Institution, in the name of the I.P.M., Bro. Bolton to render him a life governor of that excellent institution, as an appreciation of his services during his year of office. This donation was handsomely supplemented by the brethren in the course of the evening. The brethren then adjourned to refreshment, and the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were honoured, and under the presidency of the newly installed W.M., Bro. Dr. Paton, the Tyler's toast brought a pleasant evening to an end, when the lodge was finally closed in peace and harmony.

MANCHESTER.—Lodge of Truth (No. 1458).—This lodge held its installation meeting on Saturday, December 2nd, at private rooms, Newton Heath; and was opened at 3.15 p.m. by Bro. Charles Joel Kent, W.M. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed, and the ballot was taken for Bro. S. H. Needham, 1210, as a joining member, and was declared favourable. The auditor's report and balance-sheet for year ending November 4th, 1876, were then submitted and accepted. Following the usual routine, a Board of Installed Masters was formed, and Bro. James Batchelder, S.W., and W.M. elect, was inducted into the chair of King Solomon by the Installing Master, Bro. Robert Caldwell, who performed the ceremony with his usual ability. The Board of Installed Masters having been dissolved, Bro. Batchelder was duly proclaimed W.M., and received the customary salutations. The working tools in each degree were presented to the newly installed W.M. by Bro. C. J. Kent; after which the Installing Master requested the W.M. to appoint his officers; which done, they were invested in the following order, by the Installing Master, Bro. Caldwell, P.M., Bros. C. J. Kent, I.P.M.; W. J. Kinder, S.W.; G. H. Needle, J.W.; T. Tyers, P.M., Treasurer (4th year). By Bro. Taylor, P.M., Bros. J. E. Iliiff, Secretary; W. Cox, S.D.; J. Taylor, J.D.; R. Caldwell, P.M., D. of C.; J. Proctor, I.G.; A. Yardley, S.S.; M. Kleinmann, J.S.; C. Beswick, Tyler. The address to the W.M. was delivered by Bro. W. Dumville, P.M.; that to the Wardens by Bro. Taylor, P.M., and the general address by Bro. J. Beresford, P.P.G.D. Cheshire, 104. Each address was given with an impressive effect. "Hearty Good Wishes" were accorded from the Provincial Grand Lodge of East Lancashire, the Provincial Grand Lodge of Cheshire, and private lodges 219, 104, 290, 521, 581, 993, 999, 955, 1009, 1077, 1011, 1134, 1161, 1219, 1496, 1357. Bro. the Revd. Dr. Cranswick, P.P.G.C., having implored the aid of the G.A.O.T.U. on the future undertakings of the lodge, it was then closed in peace and harmony, and the brethren retired to celebrate the festival of St. John, and sat down to banquet, which was ably served under the superintendence of Bro. Johnson. The newly appointed Stewards were well up to their work, attending to it with a fervour that added greatly to the comfort of the brethren present. Grace having been sung, dessert followed, and the first toast of the evening was then given, one that is cherished by Masons scattered throughout the universe, viz., that of "The Queen." Then followed that of "The Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M.," coupled with that of "The Princess of Wales and the rest of the Royal Family." The honour due to our Royal Chief and his Illustrious House having been justly accorded, other customary toasts followed, and in due course the toast of the evening was proposed, that of "The Newly Installed W.M." This toast received musical honours; Bro. W. Dumville, P.M., singing that heart-stirring melody, "Here's to his Health in a Song," the chorus being sung by the whole of the brethren. Bro. Jas. Batchelder, W.M., then responded in suitable terms, and remarked that the position he had been placed in that day was one he had long wished to attain, and hoped that he would be spared to bring his year of office to a successful termination. Bro. Batchelder then proposed "The health of the I.P.M. and P.M.'s of the Lodge of Truth," in a very neat and telling speech; and before concluding placed upon the breast of the I.P.M., Bro. C. J. Kent, a Past Master's jewel, in the name of the brethren of the lodge. The I.P.M. having thanked the brethren for their mark of appreciation of him, the P.M.'s then respectively replied to the toast. Other toasts followed in succession, bringing a successful day to a close—a day which at 1458 abounded both in labour and refreshment with true masonic bearing. May the Lodge of Truth have many repetitions of the kind, and may its members at all times harmonise with its title and be just and upright, true and truthful. Before concluding we must not omit to state that the evening was enlivened by a humorous recitation by Bro. R. Dottie, whose droll recitals have made more than one lodge abound with laughter. Vocal ability was well represented by a choir of well-trained voices, composed of Bros. Henry Miller, Wm. Dumville, P.M., W.

Nicholson, W. C. Jones, and Hudson Lister. Bro. Batchelder, W.M. during the evening vacated his chair for a short period, and gave a solo pianoforte, with that professional and magic touch which he at all times appears to be capable of producing.

EXETER.—Semper Fidelis Lodge (No. 1254).—The installation meeting of this successful lodge took place at the Masonic Hall, Exeter, on Monday, the 4th inst. The following brethren were present: Bros. Avry, P.M., P.G.T.; W. Page, P.M.; Quicke, P.M. 39; Warren, P.M. 1254; Horspool, P.M. 1254; Shears, P.M.; A. Bodley, P.M. 39; Long, W.M. 32; Hooper, P.M. 1254; Treas.; Barber, W.M. 1254; Huxham, S.W. 1254; Brodie, J.W.; Pidsley, Sec.; Fulford, S.D.; Gregory, J.D.; Sampson C. Sanders, I.G.; Hawker, O.; Elmore, Kendrick, Horswill, Land, J. Stocker, 39; Wills, 1284; H. Stocker, 39; Brown, Woodbridge, White, Clarke, Culley, W. Roberts, A. Roberts, Langdon, Cape, Gibson, and Densham. The minutes of the last lodge having been read and confirmed, Bro. Huxham was introduced as the W.M. elect. Bro. Barber, the W.M., then proceeded to instal Bro. Huxham into the chair of K.S., which ceremony being completed, Bro. Huxham appointed the following brethren as his officers: Bros. B. Barber, I.P.M.; Brodie, S.W.; Pidsley, J.W.; Hooper, Treas.; Fulford, Sec.; Henrick C. W. Gregory, S.D.; Sanders, J.D.; Elmore, I.G.; Hawker, O.; Sampson, D.C.; Horswell, S. Land, J.S.; and in conclusion hoped that the duties of the various offices would be conducted with the same zeal and unanimity during his year of office as it had been during the past year. Bro. Horspool, P.M., then delivered the charge to the officers in his usual effective and impressive manner. The newly-installed W.M. then presented the I.P.M., Bro. Barber, with a handsome gold P.M.'s jewel which had been unanimously voted from the funds of the lodge, and also with an illuminated address, as a further mark of the esteem in which he is held by individual members of this and other lodges. In making the presentation the W.M. spoke in warm eulogy of Bro. Barber as a Mason, and especially of the manner in which he had fulfilled the duties of the W.M. during his year, and referred in warm terms of praise to the admirable manner in which he had rendered the ceremony of installation, he being the first Master of the lodge that had installed his successor, and expressed the hope of himself and the brethren that he would live long to enjoy the honours which had been conferred on him. Bro. Cape was proposed and elected as a joining member. The lodge was then closed in peace, order, and harmony, and the brethren adjourned to Bro. Birkett's, Royal Clarence Hotel, where a recherche banquet was partaken of by them. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and most cordially received. Between the toasts several glee and songs were sung by the choir, Bros. Horspool, Gregory, Huxham, Hawker, and Barber, who received the well-earned thanks and applause of the brethren for the skilful manner in which they were rendered, especially the old Masonic glee of "Hail to the Craft," and after one of the most enjoyable of evenings the brethren separated, well-pleased with the ceremony and entertainment.

NEWQUAY.—Fort Lodge (No. 1528).—The brethren of this lodge celebrated their festival of St. John on Friday, 29th ult. A large number assembled from the neighbourhood and other parts, among whom were Bros. J. Paull, P.M. "Boscawen" Lodge, Chacewater, No. 699, P.P.S.G.D.; J. Niass, P.M. No. 699, P.P.G.Reg.; W. Lake, P.M. "Fortitude" Lodge, Truro, No. 131, P.P.G. Reg.; J. Hawken, I.P.M. "Duke of Cornwall" Lodge, St. Columb, No. 1529; Thomas Hicks, W.M. No. 1529; H. T. Whitefield, S.W. No. 1529; J. P. Rogers, W.M. "Prudence" Lodge, Plymouth, No. 1550; and J. Hooper, J.D. No. 699. The business commenced with the installation of Bro. J. G. Prout, as W.M. for the ensuing year, the ceremony being very ably and impressively performed by the I.P.M., Bro. W. E. Michell. The newly installed W.M. then appointed and invested his new officers:—S.W., B. Wellington; J.W., J. R. Bellamy; Sec., C. Bellingham; S.D., R. Martyn; J.D., W. R. White; I.G., T. Boyle; D.C., R. Kendall; Organist, A. Lawry; Stewards, W. L. Blee and W. H. Symons, Bro. W. C. Martyn was elected Treasurer, and C. Carivick Tyler. At the conclusion of the business of the lodge Bro. Wellington, on behalf of the brethren, presented Bro. W. E. Michell, I.P.M., with a handsome Past Master's collar and jewel, in appreciation of his conduct while in the chair and his zeal in the cause of Freemasonry. The brethren subsequently partook of a banquet. The usual Masonic toasts followed, and a very agreeable evening was spent.

ST. COLUMB.—Duke of Cornwall Lodge (No. 1529) held its first annual meeting on Wednesday, 29th ult., when the retiring W.M., Bro. T. Hawken, very ably and impressively installed Bro. Thomas Hicks, S.W., in the chair of the lodge, assisted by the following Board of Installed Masters:—W. Bros. Geach, Captain Colville, Pascoe, Sandoe, J. R. Rogers, Michell, and Collins. W. Bro. Hicks then appointed the following officers:—Bros. Hawken, I.P.M.; H. F. Whitefield, S.W.; E. Bridges Willyams, J.W.; W. Howard, Secretary; G. Hawke, Treasurer; Rev. D. Brown, Chaplain; J. Martyn, S.D.; S. H. Cox, J.D.; J. Besr, D.C.; N. Grose, I.G.; R. Rowe, Steward, and J. Coade, Tyler. Bro. Hawken was presented with a gold P.M.'s jewel and the thanks of the lodge engrossed on vellum as a recognition of his zeal and ability in carrying out his duties as first W.M. W. Bro. J. R. Rogers, Lodge Prudence, 1550, was presented with the thanks of the lodge for his assistance and kindness shewn in many ways during the past twelve months, and it was unanimously resolved to record the same on the minutes. The brethren then adjourned to the banquet, provided by Bro. Polkinghorne.

INSTRUCTION.

UNION WATERLOO LODGE (No. 13).—On Friday evening, the 1st inst., the weather was admirably adapted for sending brethren to the table with a keen and appreciative appetite, and many as there were who quarreled with the elements en route to the scene of action, disagreements were speedily squared when the joint became the centre of attraction, and the brethren, one and all, did their level best to obliterate the recollections of a wet night by a diligent attention to all that came within their compass. It was the "Fortune of War" that caused certain brethren to bend their steps towards the New Road, and it was the Union Waterloo Lodge of Instruction that was to answer for the heavy engagement with huge joints, and the brisk skirmishing against sundry puddings, custards, and tarts. The company mustered some score rank and file, Bro. S. Goddard, P.M. 700, being in command, having as his first luff G. A. Davies, P.M. 13, one of the Preceptors, or he might say à la militaire, Instructors, while conspicuous among the Stewards was Bro. T. E. Hassall, 13, who discharged his duties in such a masterly manner. As we paid our devoirs to the good things things in the neighbourhood of the Vice we are unable to say what came under the immediate attention of the President, but recollect that Bro. Davies devoted himself to the dispensing of that dish over which Bro. Keeble, P.M. 1275, presided in such splendid style at the banquet of the Star Lodge of Instruction. When the cloth had been withdrawn, and the Order passed "At Ease," a general charge ensued, following which the President gave "The Queen and the Craft." Next on the toast list was "Prosperity to the Union Waterloo Lodge of Instruction," which was received with rare fire. "The Visitors" were responded for by Bro. Lloyd, 913; "The Preceptors," in a modest speech by Bro. Davies, who spoke in terms of sincere regret of the enforced absence through illness of his confrère, Bro. Macdonald, W.M. 1158, and afterwards proposed "The Health of the President," which was received with "three brisk rounds." Bro. Goddard replied in an able and telling manner. Seldom have we heard at an instruction banquet such capital songs as those rendered by Bros. Harding, Morley, Motley, Davis, Butt, and Hassall. We noticed present Bros. S. Goddard, P.M. 700; G. B. Davies, P.M. 13; F. G. Powall, P.M. 1536, W.M. 13; Butt, W.M. 700; Weston, W.M. 1536; Hutton, S.D. 13; N. Brown, J.D. 13; H. S. Tyer, Sec. 13; T. E. Hassall, 13; T. J. Guest, 158; R. Pearson, 1536; G. H. Masters, 13; Price, 913; Burley, 1260; J. Dalling, 640 (Montreal, Canada); A. R. Smith, 13; Ernest Smith, 1559; W. Wilson, 166 (Constantinople); Crews, Morley, Walker, Schultze, Matley, Cleal, Martin, Percival, and Grinstead, all of 13; Joskey, 1107; Jonah Davis, 1437; Harris, 700; Harding, 1536; Beaser, 700; and McCarthy, all members of the Union Waterloo Lodge of Instruction; and the following visitors:—Lloyd, Letton, and Stabback, 913; Virgo, 700.

LONDON MASONIC CLUB LODGE (No. 58).—This lodge held its second meeting on Monday, the 27th ult., at 101, Queen Victoria-street, E.C. Present: Bros. E. W. Habbuck, W.M.; N. Reed, S.W.; John Walker, J.W.; J. E. Shand, Sec.; C. J. Hogg, Treas.; C. Jardine, S.D.; Jas. Edell, J.D.; W. Stevens, I.G.; Bros. Mosley, Hawksley, Stevens, Tickle, and others. The lodge was opened and minutes of last meeting confirmed, and afterwards opened in Second Degree, and that ceremony rehearsed and the sections of lectures worked by Bro. Mander, Preceptor. By-laws were discussed and ordered to be printed. A vote of thanks was moved and carried to the Committee, Bros. Hogg, Reed, and Shand, for devoting time and attention and drawing the bye-laws and making general arrangements for the first meeting of the lodge. Bro. Reed was elected W.M. at next meeting. Lodge closed and adjourned till six o'clock on Monday, Dec. 11.

SOUTHERN STAR LODGE (No. 1158).—When you oblige a friend you may very naturally expect that should occasion require it he will return the compliment; so when you ask a favour of your friend you no doubt feel willing if not absolutely anxious to relieve yourself of the obligation at the earliest possible opportunity. We do not go so far as to say that should you lend your friend a five-pound note you ought at some future period to expect him to do the same by you, for experience has taught us that in the majority of instances the friend who borrows never courts your friendship more, and that, although it may be more blessed to give than to receive, it is as a rule "easier to borrow than to repay," and that if you press for a repayment of a debt, your debtor is more likely to "part friendship" than to part with the money. That we are driving at something by this prelude our readers no doubt have concluded, and we will at once state our case. Last Thursday week, the Fifteen Sections were worked in the above young lodge of instruction, and the attendance was the smallest we have seen for some time past on similar occasions, no matter where. At many lodges where the Sections have been recently worked invaluable assistance has been given by the "Southern Star" brethren, who are ever ready and cheerfully willing to afford help and assistance to contemporaneous lodges. It was, therefore, only natural that some support should have been expected from those lodges that had benefited by "Southern Star" help, but we regret to say that such was not forthcoming, and the S.S. Section workers had to do the best they could. Illness prevented the attendance of Bro. Pulsford, P.M. 1158, Preceptor, who was to have presided, and the same cause kept away Bro. Govan Macdonald, W.M. 1158, Secretary, who would otherwise have taken Bro. Pulsford's place. As it happened, a very excellent substitute was found in the person of Bro. Kent, P.M. 879, Preceptor of the Southwark Lodge, who ably discharged the onerous and responsible duties he at such short notice

assumed. Bro. Beavis, 1158, Assist. Sec., was S.W., and Bro. Solway Smith, S.D. 1158, J.W., Star of the South. Somewhat later Bro. Kent took the chair, and formed his lodge as follows:—Bros. Beavis, 1158, Sec., S.W.; S. Smith, S.D. 1115, J.W.; Catterson, 548, I.G. There were likewise present Bros. Wise, I.P.M. 1158, acting as P.M.; T. Grammaat, 1559; Hutchings, 147; Field, 175; Parker and Taylor, 753; Ernest Smith, 1559; Holloway, Black, Beard, Davis, 1158; Peters, 1471; Arnold, 1319; Runacres, 212; Hutchings, 147; Sims, Harvey, and Walker. Lodge was opened up to the Third Degree, and resumed to the First, and the Sections worked as follows:—

FIRST LECTURE.

- 1st Section by Bro. Arnold, 1319.
2nd " " Catterson, 548.
3rd " " Ernest Smith, 1559.
4th " " Kent, P.M. 879.
5th " " Beavis, 1158.
6th " " Harvey.
7th " " Beavis, 1158.

SECOND LECTURE.

- 1st Section by Bro. Wise, I.P.M. 1158.
2nd " " Beavis, 1158.
3rd " " Harvey.
4th " " Parker, 753.
5th " " Taylor, 753.

THIRD LECTURE.

- 1st Section by Bro. Hutchings, 147.
2nd " " Arnold, 1319.
3rd " " Beavis, 1158.

At the conclusion of the working, the customary votes of thanks were passed to the W.M. and the brethren assisting in working the Sections, and the following were elected joining members:—Bros. Hutchings, Peters, Runacres, and Arnold.

WILLIAM PRESTON LODGE (No. 766).—This lodge of instruction held its first regular meeting under the sanction of the mother lodge, as arranged at the preliminary one presided over by Bro. Geo. Tribbel on Friday evening, the 1st inst., at the Feathers Tavern, Upper George-street, Edgware-road. The chair was taken at 8 o'clock by Bro. A. Braun, P.M. No. 766, who, after a few preliminary remarks, invested and placed Bro. Rudderforth into the chair of K.S. The W.M. then invested his officers as follows:—Bros. G. West, 1287, S.W.; G. Tribbel, 1287, J.W.; Bro. A. Braun, P.M. 766, as P.M. and Sec.; J. Kennard, 145, as Treasurer; J. Davison, 733, S.D.; Lucas, 192, as J.D.; S. Nicholls, 1287, as I.G. The ceremony of initiation was then rehearsed in Bro. Rudderforth's usual impressive manner, Bro. Hayes being candidate, after which the sections of the lecture were worked by the W.M., assisted by the brethren. A code of bye-laws was submitted, duly discussed, and adopted. Bro. Rudderforth was elected Preceptor, Bro. Braun, Sec., and Kennard, Treasurer, for the ensuing year. A cordial vote of thanks, to be recorded upon the minutes, was then passed to these brethren, who acknowledged the same in appropriate terms. Bro. G. West was elected W.M. for the ensuing week, who appointed officers in rotation. There were also present Bros. Dunham, 1287; Parsons, 325; Murch, 27; Golden, 262; Cooper; Frost, 145; Brook, 145; Webster; Chalfont; Sawyer, 145; and many other brethren. The lodge was then closed in due form. The room, which is a convenient size, presented a most happy appearance with the new furniture, and as a lodge of instruction is much needed in this locality, there is little doubt of its being a great success.

Royal Arch.

CHAPTER OF PRUDENT BRETHREN

(No. 145).—The installation meeting of this chapter was held on Tuesday evening, 5th inst., at Freemasons' Hall. There were present on the occasion above forty of the companions, among them being Comps. John Boyd, Thos. Bull, E. Moody, Joseph Last, Parkins, G. S. States, John Cox, Venn, Haslett, Walford, C. A. Long, Herbert Dicketts, Col. Creation, S. Rawson, H. G. Buss, Hyde Pullen, H. Massey (Freemason), John Constable, Scott, Martin, Murly, Levander, Headon, Barnes Amor, and Duke. After the election of principals and officers Comp. Thos. Bull was installed as Z. by Comp. C. A. Long, Z., and Comp. E. Moody was installed as H. by Comp. John Boyd, P.Z. Comp. E. H. Thiellay, who was elected as J., was not present. The other officers were Comp. Joseph Last, P.Z., Treas.; Parkins, N.; G. S. States, P.Z., S.E.; John Cox, P.S.; Venn, 1st. A.S.; Haslett, 2nd A.S.; and Grant, Janitor. After the installation and investment of officers had been completed Bros. John Jermyn Boyd, 23; Thomas Wro. Chard Leuty, 23; and Luke Bishop, 60, were exalted as Royal Arch Masons, Comp. J. Boyd taking the duties of Z., Comp. Thos. Bull the duties of H., and Comp. C. A. Long the duties of J. The work was most fluently and impressively performed, and fully sustained the high character which the Chapter of Prudent Brethren has secured as a first-class working chapter. This was still further manifested at a subsequent period by the lecture on the Royal Arch jewel, which was delivered by Comp. J. Boyd before the companions adjourned to their banquet. This intricate lecture was admirably delivered, there not being any hesitation at all on the part of the lecturer, who threaded his way through all the windings of the explanation with the ease of a most accomplished geometrician. After the chapter had been closed, the companions were reminded that though there was no banquet announced on the summons, refreshment would be provided at seven o'clock, and on repairing at that hour to Freemasons' Tavern the companions found themselves so far deceived by the announcement that a very elegant spread was provided by Bro. Dawkins,

the able manager of that establishment. Most of the companions who had been in chapter assembled round the board, and, after having done ample justice to the good things provided, proceeded to honour the toasts which were proposed with agreeable brevity by the M.E.Z. Col. Creaton, who responded to the toast of "The Grand Officers," said there were many Grand Officers who had done good suit and service to Royal Arch Masonry, and to them all the members of the R.A. owed their gratitude; more especially did they owe their gratitude to the companions who had given such an excellent treat that evening by the performance of the exaltation and installation ceremonies. The Prudent Brethren Chapter was a chapter par excellence, for never in the whole course of his Masonic experience had he seen the work done so well. Comp. C. A. Long, I.P.Z., proposed "The M.E.Z.," who, they must all agree, had fulfilled his duties in the various offices he had held in the chapter in the most conscientious manner. He had been a hard-working Mason, and it was only the just reward of his exertions that he was placed in the proud position of M.E.Z. It was by having such officers as this chapter possessed that the chapter could go on to a successful issue. The companions could congratulate themselves that they fell under such happy influences. They were in the constellation "Taurus" at the present moment; while they had Aldebaran, with stars of hardly less magnitude, on each of his horns; and the talent round him might well be said to represent the splendid cluster of the Pleiades. In fact, they had a miniature representation of the grand constellation of the "Bull." (Laughter.) The M.E.Z., in replying, said, after thanking the companions for their expressions of good feeling and satisfaction towards him, he felt grateful to them for having placed him in his elevated and proud position. It was a position which at one time he never dreamt of occupying, but it had been their pleasure to give him office from year to year, and he had advanced step by step till he had obtained the highest honours. He trusted that he should go through the discharge of his duties during his year with satisfaction to the companions. (Hear, hear.) Comp. Hyde Pullen responded for "The Visitors," and reiterated the remarks of Col. Creaton as to the work in the chapter. He afterwards referred with pleasure to the circumstances of Comp. John Boyd's son being exalted into the R.A., and trusted he would emulate his father's exertions, his virtues, and his talents. To the toast of "The Exaltees," all those companions very briefly responded. Comp. C. A. Long, I.P.Z., responded for "The P.Z.'s." As far as he was concerned he had endeavoured to perform his duties as Z. properly and conscientiously. Several times the companions had expressed themselves pleased with his work, and he had been very much pleased to receive their congratulations. As to P.Z.'s generally they must always feel somewhat as Dr. Doran would say, "Monarchs retired from business," but with this difference, they were not like ordinary deposed princes; they carried with them in their retirement the affections of their former subjects, and certainly the affections of their present companions. (Cheers.) Comp. E. Moody responded for "H. and J.," and Comp. John Boyd replied to a special toast for himself. During his connection with the Prudent Brethren Chapter, which he hoped would continue as long as he lived, he had always met, as he trusted he always should meet, with the same hearty good feeling as he had that evening. With such working as they had in the chapter, and with such good feeling as was evinced amongst the companions, the success of the chapter must be established. What had been done that evening had met with the approbation of the chapter. It was his desire to give something of the pith and substance of Freemasonry beyond the mere ceremonies—an explanation of the ceremonies; to show the companions that there was not a word throughout the ceremonies that had not its meaning, both in Craft and Arch Masonry. He hoped they would be able to carry out the idea they had, and that they would succeed in putting the needle into the lay members, to make them feel a little more enthusiasm in Freemasonry than was generally exhibited by Masons. (Hear, hear.) Comp. Joseph Last and Comp. G. S. States responded for Treasurer and Scribe E., and Comps. Cox, P.S., replied for "The Officers." During the evening some pleasant singing was performed by Comps. G. T. Carter and Distin, and Miss Florence Levander, who made a most successful debut as a vocalist at Masonic banquets.

DOMATIC CHAPTER (No. 177).—The last meeting of this chapter was held at Anderson's Hotel, Fleet Street, on Thursday, the 23rd ultimo. There were present Comps. Heyward, M.E.Z.; Cubitt, P.Z., acting H.; Adams, P.Z.; acting J.; Bolton, I.P.Z.; Buss, P.Z., Treasurer; Palmer, S.E.; Hill, N.; Payne, P.Z.; Sutton, P.Z. The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, several minor matters were discussed and the companions adjourned to the banquet. Upon the removal of the cloth the M.E.Z. gave the usual loyal and Royal Arch toasts, prefaced by a few remarks, in proposing "The Health of the M.E.Z." Comp. Buss said that he was pleased at having the opportunity of paying that duty of respect to their worthy M.E.Z. It was true that he (Comp. Heyward) was, in consequence of untoward circumstances, prevented from discharging the duties of the chair as well as many of their first Principals had done, but he hoped that the good feeling which had always prevailed in the "Domestic" would be extended to their M.E. to the conclusion of his year of office. The chair of their chapter had been filled by some of the very best Royal Arch Masons that had ever existed, and it had also been at times very indifferently occupied; but there had never been anything but kind feeling displayed towards all who had reached the proud position of M.E.Z. of No. 177, and he therefore charged them to drink most heartily the health of their old and esteemed companion the M.E. This toast having been duly

honoured, the M.E. replied by expressing his sincere thanks to the companions for the warm manner that they had responded to his health, and assured them that he had the interests of the "Domestic" Chapter at heart. He was sorry that he could not, through inability, aspire to the high honours that some of the past Principals had achieved, but he hoped to win their good opinion. Ill-health and domestic afflictions had hitherto prevented him from paying that attention to the "working" which was so highly essential to those who desired to carry out the duties of the First Principal's chair effectively, but he hoped to be able to do better in the future. The M.E. then proposed, in very complimentary terms, "The Health of their sole Visitor, Comp. Walls, 185," who duly acknowledged the honor. "The Health of the Past Principals" immediately followed. Comp. Bolton, I.P.Z., briefly replied by stating that he would always do his best in conjunction with the other past Principals to assist in the "working." Comp. Buss, P.Z., also in response said he was sorry that the I.P.Z. had been so reticent in his reply, because it necessitated him, as one of the past Principals, to say a few words in acknowledgment for the very warm manner in which their health had been both proposed and drunk. He complimented the chapter upon having had so efficient a M.E. last year, in the person of their esteemed Comp. Bolton, who had carried out the onerous duties most admirably. He was personally pleased, not only for the manner his name had been received that evening in connection with the toast, but for the invariable courtesy and kindness he had always experienced from the companions. In conclusion he congratulated them upon the financial prosperity of the lodge, which happy state for some time past, he said, had been steadily progressing. Comps. Cubitt and Sutton, P.Z.'s, also replied. In proposing "The Health of the Officers," the M.E. said that he was very sorry that two of their important officials were most sorely in need of that great blessing, health, Comps. Scott, H., and Treadwell, P.S., who were both seriously unwell, but he hoped that the new year would see them sufficiently restored to take their proper places in the chapter. This toast having been duly honoured Comps. Hill, N.; Palmer, S.E.; Buss, Treas. and Harrison, and A.S.; replied by briefly stating that they would always do their best to further the "working" and enhance the interests of the old "Domestic" Chapter in every possible way. Between the numerous toasts and responses Comps. Palmer, Ambrose, Cubitt, Walls, Heyward, Brown and others entertained the companions. The Janitor's toast at ten o'clock terminated the proceedings, and the companions separated until the fourth Thursday in January next.

NORTHAMPTON.—Northampton Chapter (No. 360).—The companions of this chapter held their first convocation in the New Masonic Hall, Abington-street, on Thursday evening, Nov. 30. Present: Comps. S. Jacob, M.E.Z.; J. U. Stanton, H.; R. Howes, J.; M. A. Boeme, P.Z., acting N.; G. Robinson, P.Z.; E. J. T. Green, acting P.S.; B. Wilkins, P.Z., D.P.G.M. Norths. and Hunts.; M. W. Flewett, P.Z.; G. Cotton, P.Z.; E. E. Welchman, P.Z.; T. Davies, P.Z.; Revs. J. T. Drake, and Stimpson, E. Roberts, F. Gadsby, J. Cove, and others. Bros. John Henry Hale (Perseverance Lodge, 455) and Henry John Atkins (Pomfret Lodge, 360) were candidates for exaltation. Being duly balloted for and elected, the ceremony was at once proceeded with, Comp. Wilkins officiating as M.E.Z. in his usual impressive manner, the other officers ably fulfilling their various duties. The whole ceremony was conducted in a manner that gained the highest encomiums from all present. The election of officers for the ensuing year was then proceeded with. Comp. Stanton was elected M.E.Z.; Howes, H.; Green, J.; Roberts, N.; Robinson, E.; Gadsby, P.S.; Hewitt, and Wilkins, Treas. The companions then adjourned to refreshment, to which ample justice was done, an unusually agreeable evening terminating with the toasts usual amongst R.A.M.'s. Although the Masonic gatherings now take place in the new buildings, the premises are not yet quite completed, so that those who attend have hardly got settled in their new home, but a bright prospect appears looming in the future for the Northampton Chapter, 360, and the Pomfret Lodge 360.

Red Cross of Constantine.

PREMIER CONCLAVE (No. 1).—The December meeting of the Premier Conclave, No. 1, was held on Monday 11th inst. at the Café Royal. Present: Sir Knts. H.; A. Dubois, M.P.S.; Dr. Brette, E.; P. M. Holden, John Mason, J. A. Acton, J. C. Bailey, R. Wentworth Little, P.S.; George Kenning, P.S.; H. C. Levander, P.S.; J. T. Moss, P.S.; Hubbard, P.S.; Hyde Pullen, Joshua Nunn, W. T. Howe, George Powell, P.S., H. Parker, T. Cubitt, P.S.; J. Boyd, Herbert Dicketts, F. Green, J. W. Mather, and others. The minutes of the last conclave were read and confirmed. Several Sir Knights were advanced to the degree of Sovereign. This mere routine business being ended the Sir Knights adjourned to dinner.

PORTSMOUTH.—Naval and Military Conclave (No. 35).—The anniversary of this old and prosperous conclave was held in the Masonic Hall, Portsmouth, on Tuesday, December 5th. Dr. Knott, the Int. Gen. Hants, was the presiding officer, assisted by his Deputy, Sir Knt. Jn. Clark; C. Groom, Vy. Eus.; Jn. Harrison, Sen. Gen.; B. Simister, Jun. Gen.; G. A. Green, H.P.; J. Clay, P.S., Treas.; A. R. Robinson, P.S., Rec.; J. W. D. Pillow, Organist; W. Tuck, S.B.; C. G. Adams, Herald; A. Reynolds, J. F. Bacigalupo, O. C. Harries, G. R. Johnson, J. Skeels, A. Nance, G. W. Smith, and G. Copus, Sentinel. The conclave was opened in ample form at 6.15. The minutes of conclave held September 6th were adopted, together with a recommendation of the Per. Council that owing to the loss of some of the P. Sovs.

by removals from the town, and other causes, it was expedient that some of the deserving members should be promoted to that exalted position; and that the Int. Gen. be requested to confer the 2nd and 3rd Grades upon Sir Knts. Reynolds and Simister, and the 3rd upon Sir Knt. Groom, the Sov. elect; by these promotions, Sir Knt. Harrison, the Eus. elect, would become eligible for the Sovereignty of the conclave for the ensuing year. Also that the Per. Council do revise the bye-laws and present them for consideration at next meeting, if possible. The ballot was then taken separately for fourteen candidates for installation, which proved unanimous in every instance. All the Sir Knts, except the Int. Gen., Dep. Int. Gen., V. Eus., Treas. and the Rec. having retired, a College of Viceroy was opened, Sir Knts. Reynolds, Simister, Harrison, and Green were introduced and admitted to the 2nd Grade. All the Sir Knts, except the Int. Gen., Dep. Int. Gen., Treas., and the Rec. having retired, a Senate of Sovereigns was opened, when Sir Knts. Reynolds, Simister, Groom, and Harrison were introduced and admitted to the 3rd Grade. The Senate was closed; the college was closed; the Sir Knts. were admitted, and the newly enthroned M.P.S., Jn. Harrison, invested the officers as follows:—G. A. Green, Eus.; C. G. Adams, S. Gen. W. Tuck, J. Gen.; A. Nance, H.P.; J. Clay, P.S., Treas.; A. R. Robinson, P.S., Rec.; J. W. D. Pillow, Prefect; W. Triggs, Sub. P.; F. G. Bradbear, Organist; J. Skeels, Stan. B.; J. F. Bacigalupo, Sen. Alde.; O. C. Harries, Jun. Aide.; W. H. Sperring, Herald; G. W. Smith and A. R. Robinson, Stewards; G. Copus, Sentinel. Bro. Jn. Lillywhite, P.M. 257; E. Groves, P.M. 903; R. Osborne, Prov. G.O.G. Reading, 487; J. W. Fisher, 175, and J. W. Stroud, 903, being present were installed and proclaimed. The M.P.S. then thanked the members for placing him in the proud position of their ruler, and after highly eulogising the energy displayed by the Int. Gen. since his promotion to the government of the division, proposed that a P.S. jewel with appropriate inscription be presented to Ill. Sir Knt. Dr. Knott in testimony of the appreciation of the members of his services. This was seconded by the Treasurer and carried by acclamation. Several names were submitted for the honour of installation and the conclave was closed. The Sir Knts. then adjourned to the refectory, where a banquet provided by Sir Knt. G. W. Smith awaited them; when we say the comestibles and wines were equally first-rate we only do the caterer scant justice. After the table was cleared, the M.P.S. proposed the usual toasts, which were all duly honoured, and much sympathy was expressed for the Most Ill. G. Sov., Sir F. Williams, Bart., under his present serious affliction, and sincere wishes for his speedy recovery. This most enjoyable evening was brought to a close by the Sentinel's toast.

Scotland.

ROYAL ORDER OF SCOTLAND.

The Quarterly Communication of the Provincial Grand Chapter and Grand Lodge for Glasgow and the West of Scotland was held on Thursday, the 7th inst., at 4 p.m., in St. Mark's Hall, 213, Buchanan-street, Glasgow. The Provincial Grand Master, Bro. F. A. Barrow, having opened his Provincial Grand Chapter, the minutes of last meeting were read and passed. Applications from Bros. Wm. H. Bickerton, Master Mason of Lodge No. 972, of England, and companion of Chapter No. 79, of Scotland, and Wm. Harper, Master Mason of Lodge No. 408, of Scotland, and Companion of Chapter No. 69, of Scotland, were entertained, and, the ballot being clear, they were received and admitted to the Order of H.R.M. The P.G.L. being afterwards constituted, the above named brethren were promoted, and received the honour of K.T. of R.S.T. C.S. from the Right Worshipful P.G.M.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Mother Kilwinning (No. 0).—The sixth annual reunion of the brethren of the Kilwinning Mother Lodge resident in Glasgow and neighbourhood was held on Friday night, the 8th inst., in St. John's Hall, Buchanan-street. The chair was occupied by Bro. J. M. McCosh, Dalry, who was supported on the dais by Bro. D. M. Nelson, W.M. (No. 30), S.D., G.L. of Scotland; and Bro. Robert Wylie (Sec.), Mother Kilwinning. The Croupiers' chairs were filled by Bros. H. Taylor and Wm. Jamieson, and among other members of the mother lodge present were Bros. John Tweed, P.J.W.; John Whinton, Treas.; A. Macmillan, &c. There were also present Bros. A. M. Gregor, W.M. (No. 458); Wm. Nairn (No. 370); G. W. Wheeler, Chaplain (No. 73); Robert Nelson, P.M. (No. 3); J. A. Ferguson, S. Prox. Warden; Macdonald, Aberdeen; Col. Robertson, U.S.; Park (No. 34), A. Ritchie; (No. 360), &c. Letters of apology for absence were received from Bros. Colonel Mure, M.P., W.M. Mother Kilwinning; Roger Montgomerie, M.P., Prox. Master; Cochran Patrick, D.M.; Baird, P.M. (No. 34), &c. After supper, and the toasts of "The Queen" and "The Prince of Wales, G.M.M. of England and Patron of Scottish Freemasonry," had been proposed, the Chairman gave—"The Grand Lodges of England, Ireland, and Scotland." He thought that in the past they had rather neglected their share of the work connected with the Grand Lodge. It was rather remarkable that the position of the Grand Masters of the three different countries—a position which was aimed at by the highest in the land—was worthily filled by those who had a certain connection with the neighbouring county of Renfrew. (Applause.) The toast was coupled with the name of Bro. Nelson. Bro. Nelson, in reply, said he did not expect that he should have had the honour of responding to this toast, as his appointment as an officer of the Grand Lodge was only a thing of yesterday. For the same reason he could not give any details of the condition of the Grand Lodge. At the same time, he did not

approve of what the worthy chairman had said with reference to their neglecting the work in connection with the Grand Lodge. During the last few years, while he had had the honour of attending meetings of the Grand Lodge as the representative of a Glasgow lodge, it had not been a period of lethargy in connection with its affairs. It was true that fifteen or twenty years ago there had been considerable stagnation, and lodges were allowed to do as they liked, while the Grand Lodge was pretty much in the same condition. Now, however, circumstances had arisen which called for more activity. They had increased in numbers, and now Masonic brethren were to be found in every profession and in every class of society. This meant that their numbers were very large, and their interests also were very large and of importance. They had at the head of the Grand Lodge of Scotland at the present time Sir Michael Shaw Stewart, and any brother who had seen him occupy the throne would acknowledge that he was not likely to descend into lethargy. He was a man of considerable force of character, and he was quite sure if the Grand Lodge ever occupied a position of eminence in times past it was more likely to attain a higher position now that Sir Michael had again accepted office. Colonel Campbell of Blythswood was also an office-bearer, and it was unnecessary to say a word in regard to the gallant colonel. He was a thorough practical man, who, whether in Masonry or anything connected with the interests of the country or country, made his influence felt. In the next few years he was sure the standard of Freemasonry would be raised more in accordance with their theories, as their practice in the past had not been quite equal to their precepts. He had every reason to believe that in time to come they would have a great deal more of the true practice of Masonry than in times past. Bro. William Jamieson then proposed "The Grand Lodges of America, with No. 4, Philadelphia." The toast was coupled with the name of Bro. W. F. Shaw, who in company with Bro. Robert Bell, had paid a visit to Philadelphia at the recent Centennial Exhibition, and been warmly received by the brethren there. "The Army, Navy, and Reserve Forces" were next given by the Croupier, and ably replied to by Bro. Robert Donaldson. The toast of the evening then followed, "Our Mother Lodge." Amongst the other toasts given in the course of the evening were "The Province of Glasgow," "Lodge St. John, No. 34," replied to by Bro. D. M. Nelson, W.M.; "The Visiting Brethren," replied to by Bro. McGregor, W.M. St. John's, Bushby, No. 458; "Bro. Robson, of the U.S. Consulate at Leith," and others.

GLASGOW.—Kilwinning Lodge (No. 4).—The monthly meeting of this lodge was held in their lodge-room, 162, Kent Road, on Tuesday, the 5th inst., for the purpose of electing office-bearers for the ensuing year. The lodge was opened by the W.M., when the following brethren were elected, viz.:—Bro. A. B. Thorburn, W.M.; Robert B. Prout, P.M.; John D. Dickson, D.M.; George Holmes, S.M.; John B. Orr, S.W.; James H. McNaughten, J.W.; James M. McKeand, Treas.; John McNair, Sec.; John Barr, S.D.; Struthers, J.D.; Alexander Rowan, Chaplain; Thomas G. Jamieson, Architect; John G. Allan, Jeweller; Thomas Orr, Bible Bearer; James Denovan, S.B.; John Graham, S.S.; Wm. S. Henderson, P.G.S.; Andrew Riddell, Tyler. Bro. Thomas M. Campbell, John Currie, and Smith were appointed Auditors, the lodge being afterwards raised to the M.M. Degree, Bro. John Murray received that Sublime Degree, Bro. Thomas M. Campbell, I.P.M. 408, &c., officiating. The sum of two pounds sterling was voted to a poor brother. The lodge was afterwards closed in due and ancient form.

GREENOCK.—Lodge Greenock Kilwinning (No. 12).—The annual general meeting of the Lodge Greenock Kilwinning was held in the Council Chambers on Thursday, the 30th ult., Bro. J. P. Fyfe, R.W.M., in the chair, when the following office-bearers were duly elected for the ensuing year:—John P. Fyfe, R.W.M.; D. Cunningham, D.M.; James Newton, P.M.; E. Blackmore, O.M.; J. R. Allison, S.M.; Alexander Smith, S.W.; Robert Allan, J.W.; Wm. Allison, Sec.; Robert Wood, Treas.; Rev. M. Durward, Chaplain; Capt. George H. B. Reid, Architect; H. R. Neill, S.D.; Alex. Neilson, J.D.; Thos. Smith, 1st S.S.; Jas. P. Harris, 2d S.S.; John Brighton, 1st J. S.; C. S. Hall, 2d J.S.; Charles Murray, J.A.; Nathaniel Tucker, Tyler. The annual statement submitted by the Treasurer showed the lodge to be in a prosperous condition.

STIRLING.—Lodge Ancient (No. 30).—On Tuesday, the 5th inst., the nomination meeting was held in the lodge-room, Broad-street. There was a good attendance of brethren. S.M. John Finlayson, in the absence of the W.M., Bro. Provost Christie, was in the chair. The following nominations for election before the ensuing festival of St. John were made:—Bro. George Christie, W.M.; W. H. Fitzpatrick, D.M.; John Finlayson, S.M.; J. W. Laurie, S.W.; John Paton, J.W.; W. Stevens, Jas. Finlayson; Jas. McIntyre, Treas.; John Paton, John Livingstone; D. Cowan, Sec.; W. Smith, Chap.; A. Watmough, S.O.; J. Livingstone, J.D.; James Baird, Dean of Guild, Bard; R. Littlejohn, Jeweller; W. Archibald; John King, A. McCulloch, Stewards; L. B. Wood, Architect; W. Brown; J. Stevenson, Dir. of Cers.; J. McPhail, Std. Br.; James Earl, Tyler. The brethren resolved to celebrate the winter festival of St. John by a supper and ball, the arrangements being left with the lodge committee.

INVERARY.—Lodge St. John's (No. 50).—At the annual meeting of this lodge, on Thursday, the following office-bearers were elected:—Q. M. Wright, R.W.M.; John Rose, D.M.; Nicol Lemon, S.M.; David Stewart, S.W.; Angus Guthrie, J.W.; Alex. Robertson, Secretary and Treasurer; Donald Henderson, S.S.; James Maitland, J.S.; Alex. Guthrie, P.M.; Wm. Rhind, Bard. The brethren resolved to make arrangements for the cele-

bration of St. John's festival by a procession, &c. During the past year upwards of twenty new members were initiated under Bro. Wright at W.M.

GLASGOW.—Lodge St. Mark (No. 102).—The installation of office-bearers of this lodge for the ensuing year took place within their own hall at No. 213, Buchanan-street, on Monday, 27th ult., P.M. Bro. Thomas Halkett presiding. The following is a list of brethren installed into office, with ample form and ceremony, by Bro. Halkett, viz.: Bro. James Thomson, W.M.; R. Jamieson, S.M.; A. Neil, S.W.; G. Littlejohn, J.W.; A. C. Paterson, Treas.; Neil Campbell, S.D.; Neil Brown, J.D.; M'Killop, Architect; Neil N. Currie, Senior Steward; David Dixon, Junior Steward; A. M'Kenzie Cameron, Sword Bearer; Charles Stewart, I.G.; and John Burton Hardie, Tyler. The W.M., Bro. Thomson, then appointed Bro. Alexander Gillan as his Depute Master, and the latter was thereupon installed into office as such, and Bro. Thomas Halkett as Bible Bearer by Bro. J. B. M'Nair, I.P.M. Lodge Union, No. 332. The ceremony of installation having been concluded, Bro. Halkett, in a few words, congratulated the new W.M. upon the position in which he was now placed, and said he had no doubt that prosperity would attend upon him during his reign of office. In reply, Bro. Thomson thanked Bro. Halkett for his kind services in performing the duties of the evening connected with the business of installation, and promised that, with the support of his office-bearers, which he trusted he should have, he would do the best in his power for the good of No. 102. The lodge was then adjourned from labour to refreshment, when an agreeable evening was spent, under the auspices of the J.W., before breaking up.

COUPAR-ANGUS.—St. John's Operative Lodge (No. 105).—The brethren of this lodge met on Monday, the 27th ult., for initiation and for the election of officers for the ensuing year. The following brethren were elected:—Robert Ritchie, R.W.M.; Charles E. Anderson, R.W.S.M.; John Doig, R.W.D.M.; James Siddens, S.W.; John Anderson, J.W.; William Hunter, Sec. and Treas.; Peter Gentle, S.D.; Robert Mills, J.D.; James Winter, Inner Guard; John Duncan, Tyler. A small committee was appointed to make arrangements for the due celebration of the approaching festival of St. John.

GREENOCK.—Lodge Greenock St. John (No. 175).—The annual general meeting of this lodge was held on Monday, 27th ult. Bro. A. M'Master, W.M., presiding, when the following were elected office-bearers for the ensuing year:—Bro. J. M. Pollock, W.M.; Robert Urie, D.M.; Alex. M'Master, P.M.; Donald Anderson, O.M.; Duncan M'Intyre, S.W.; Archd. Cameron, J.W.; William Wright, Jun., Sec.; James Rodger, Treas.; Rev. John B. Robertson, Chap.; John Robb Fleming, S.D.; David Anderson, J.D.; Norman Buchanan, 1st S.S.; John Bell M'Millan, 2nd S.S.; Charles John Sergeant, and J.S.; Stevenson Stewart, I.G.; Alexander Cruden, Tyler. Votes of thanks were passed to Bro. M'Master, for his long services to the lodge, to Bro. Urie for acting as Depute Master so efficiently, and to the retiring office-bearers.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Star (219).—A meeting of this lodge took place on the 27th ult., for the annual election of office bearers. The lodge was opened by Bro. Morgan, R.W.M., supported by J. Horn, S.W., D. Mcarns, J.W. The Secretary reading the minutes of previous meetings, and the auditors the Financial Report of the lodge for the past year, when both were adopted. The lodge has now a hall of their own, well fitted up with all that is requisite, and after an expenditure of over £50 this year in new clothing it has still over £50 to the credit. This answers well for the future prospects of the lodge. The following were then installed as office bearers for the ensuing year, by Bro. Morgan, I.P.M., in a most impressive manner, viz.:—J. Martin, R.W.M.; J. Horn, S.W.; D. Mcarns, J.W.; J. Morgan, sen., Treasurer; Fullarton, Secretary; R. Watson, Chaplain; J. Lawrence, B.B.; D. Taylor, S.D.; W. Robertson, J.D.; A. McNicol, S.S.; C. Stirling, J.S.; Struthers, architect; W. Elliott, Jeweller; D. G. Miller, P.G.S.; W. Jamieson, D. of M.; Robert Kelly, M. of C.; J. Harper, S.B.; J. McFarland, Org.; J. McMillan, I.G.; J. Pearson, Tyler. The office of depute master is left open for the choice of the R.W.M. After the installation and the newly installed R.W.M. had taken the chair a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the retiring R.W.M., Bro. Morgan. The newly installed Master, Bro. Martin, then rose and thanked the brethren for the high honour they had conferred upon him in voting him to the chair unanimously, and assured them that he would endeavour to discharge his duties faithfully, zealously and without fear, (applause) trusting in the support of his office bearers. The was then called to refreshment, and after spending a short time in harmony was closed.

ROTHESAY.—St. John's Lodge (No. 292).—At the monthly meeting of this lodge on Monday, 27th ult., the W.M. in the chair, the following office-bearers were nominated for the current year:—Alexander Duncan, R.W.M.; George Innes, D.M.; Robert M'Farlane, S.M.; Archibald Morrison, P.M.; Ernest E. Barker, S.W.; Charles Crothall, J.W.; Rev. Canon Weldon, Hon. Chaplain; George Grant, Chaplain; Thomas Gilchrist, Secretary, Alexander Stewart, Treas.; John Miller, S.D.; John Keith, J.D.; Donald M'Queen, S.S.; John M'Callum, J.S.; James Hamilton, Architect; Andrew Holden, Jeweller; John Hicks, B.B.; Ronald Livingstone, S.B.; James M'Alpine, Assistant S.B.; John Cochrane, sen., Marshall; Peter M'Lean, Director of Ceremonies; Thomas Napier, I.G.; Daniel Ferguson, Tyler.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Commercial, (No. 360).—On Wednesday, the 29th ult., the 25th anniversary of the formation of Lodge Commercial was celebrated by a festival in the Blythswood Hotel. The chair was occupied by Bro. Monro, R.W.M.; and Bro. Oliver and Finlay discharged the duties of Croupiers. The party

afterwards adjourned to their hall in Hope street, where the lodge was opened in the E.A. Degree. Bro. Monro presided, and was supported on the dais by Bros. Barrow, D.G.P.M.; Dr. Morton, P.M.; Davidson, P.M.; Julius Brode, P.M.; M'Kenzie, P.M.; Colquhoun, D.M.; A. M'Master, W.M., Greenock. The Senior Warden's chair was filled by Bro. Finlay, and the Junior's by Bro. Bickerton, (Freemason). Among others present not members of the lodge were—Bros. George Heron (86); G. W. Wheeler, Chaplain 73; Jn. Peters, P.G.J.W., Renfrewshire East; P. Brownlie, J.W. (34), &c. The W.M. stated that letters of apology for absence had been received from Bros. Murray Lyon, Ayr; Jn. Baird, S.P.G.M.; and H. Inglis, of Torsonce, D.G.M. The lodge was then called from labour to refreshment, the usual toasts being given.

GRANGEMOUTH.—Lodge Zetland (No. 391).—The annual meeting for the nomination of office-bearers of this lodge was held in their lodge-room, Grange-street, Grangemouth, on the 5th inst., when the following gentlemen were nominated: Bros. James Kennedy, W.M.; James Baxter, P.M.; Andrew Taylor, S.D.; Emil Christensen, D.M.; Wm. Peddie, S.W.; E. Voigt, J.W.; James Walls, Sec.; George Young, Treas.; Thomas Osborne, S.D.; Jno. Houston, J.D.; Theodore Dunkel, S.S.; George Palmer, J.S.; Peter Buchan, Bible Bearer; Rev. J. Falconer, Hon. Chap.; John Gibson, Bard; John Lawson, Architect; Iver J. Klooborg, Foreign Correspondent; Sven Sellstrom, I.G.; and George Wilson, Tyler.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Clyde (No. 408).—The annual election and installation of office-bearers in connection with this lodge, took place in St. Mark's Hall, Buchanan-street, on Friday, 1st inst. The R.W. Master, Bro. William Harper, presided, supported on the dais by Bros. Thomas Gordon, P.M.; Alexander Bain, P.G. Bible-Bearer; William Bell, I.P.M.; Lodge St. John, 3 bis; D. M'Kirdy, R.W.M., Lodge Union, 332; &c. It was unanimously agreed to, on the motion of the chairman, that the Secretary be instructed to insert in the minute-book a record of the lodge's attendance at the funeral of the late Past Master Bro. Duncan Downie, and also that a letter of condolence on his loss be drawn up and forwarded to the widowed mother of the deceased. Thereafter the election of office-bearers was proceeded with, the votes for the contested elections being taken by ballot. The following is the list as thus amended for the ensuing year:—John M'Innes, R.W.M.; William Harper, P.M.; Thomas Gordon, D.M.; John Clare, S.M.; William Bilsland, S.W.; John Crosbie, J.W.; William Anderson, Treas.; Alexander Cross, Sec.; Adam Collicie, S.D.; W. J. Pinkerton, J.D.; J. W. Gilchrist, Chap.; Richard Harkness, Bible-Bearer; John A. Dodds, Architect; M'Carry, Jeweller; Gray, S. Steward; John Cameron, J. Steward; James Blackstock, I.G.; David Ramsay, Tyler. The following were appointed as auditors of the lodge accounts for the past year, namely, Bros. James Morton, Andrew Wilson, and John Waddell. Thereafter the newly-elected brethren were duly installed into their respective offices by Bro. A. Bain, P.G. Bible Bearer.

CATRINE.—Lodge St. John (No. 497), held their annual meeting for the election of office-bearers in the Crown Inn Hall, on Tuesday, 5th inst., Bro. Charles M'Donald, W.M., presiding. The following were elected office-bearers:—Bros. Chas. Howatson, W.M.; Chas. M'Donald, P.M.; John Hood, D.M.; James M'Clymont, S.M.; Thomas Garry, S.W.; Archibald Means, J.W.; Andrew Cowan, Treas.; John M'Donald, Sec.; Thomas Moore, S.D.; Robert Hyslop, J.D.; Wm. Hair, Chap.; Robert Brown, B.B.; Samuel Alexander, S.B.; William M'Leoj, S.S.; David Hamilton, J.S.; Charles Arkieson, I.G.; and John Hind, Tyler.

MASONIC BALL AT ELGIN.—The Trinity Lodge of Freemasons held a grand ball in the Assembly Rooms, in honour of St. Andrew's Day. The gathering in every respect was one of the most successful ever held in Elgin. The assemblage was an influential one, numbering about 200, and the spacious ball-room, brilliantly lighted up, presented a scene of magnificent ball-room splendour, formed by the tastefully executed decorations, the glittering of the Masonic insignia of the brethren of the mystic Order, and the varied hues of the ladies' dresses. Dancing began about 9 o'clock in the evening, and was kept up in the best of style till about midnight. The music, which was of a very high-class character, was supplied by an excellent band under the leadership of the popular conductor, Mr. Frank Sutherland, Forbes. Mr. Edgar, of the Gordon Arms Hotel, in a manner that did him substantial credit, purveyed the midnight supper, and Mr. Kemp provided the wines. Supper over, apropos toasts were given, after which dancing was resumed, and the flying feet did not desist from pursuing the glowing hours till about four or five o'clock on Friday morning.

PURE BRANDY.—The *Pall Mall Gazette* lately stated that little or no adulteration in brandy is practised at Cognac. This is satisfactory, but what the brandy distillers leave undone there, is supplied to an alarming extent here. Messrs. Pellisson and Co., of Cognac, and 18, Billiter-street, E.C., who were specially mentioned in the *Pall Mall*, bring under notice their brandy of which, the eminent analysts, Dr. Bartlett and Mr. E. R. Southby speak highly, as a pure grape spirit, unsweetened, uncoloured, rich in fragrant ethers, containing a large amount of tannin and invaluable for its medical qualities. It is an advantage at this festive time to know where to obtain a spirit which connoisseurs will appreciate and do credit to one's cellar. Messrs. Pellisson and Co. have numerous agents; for this brandy, which is shipped in only two qualities, seven and ten years old.

GRAND LODGE OF SCOTLAND.

The annual Festival of St. Andrew was celebrated on Friday, 30th ult., by the Grand Lodge of Scotland very much according to their usual custom. By command of the Most Worshipful Grand Master the brethren assembled in the Freemasons' Hall, George street, at five o'clock, for the purpose of installing into their respective offices the several brethren selected at the last quarterly communication. This formal duty being completed the brethren adjourned to the great hall to partake of a banquet. Sir Michael Robert Shaw Stewart Bart., M.W.G.M. Mason of Scotland, took the chair, and was supported by Henry Inglis, Esq., of Torsorce, Depute Grand Master; Colonel A. C. Campbell, of Blythwood, Substitute Grand Master; William Mann, Esq., P.S.G.W., Acting Senior Grand Warden; D. M. Nelson, Senior Grand Deacon, Acting Junior Grand Warden; Rev. Dr. Gray and Rev. A. Thomson Grant, Grand Chaplains; John Laurie, Grand Secretary; Wm. Hay, Grand Architect; John Coghill, Grand Director of Ceremonies; Alex. Hay, Grand Jeweller; Daniel Robertson, Grand Bible Bearer; Colonel Guthrie of Carlogie, Acting President of the Board of Grand Stewards; Captain C. F. R. Colt, of Gartsherrie, Grand Sword-Bearer; Dr. Loth, Representative of the Grand Orient of France; Wm. Officer, Representative of the Grand Orient of Egypt; Robert Davidson, Grand Organist; Captain Phipps, Deputy Assistant Adjutant General; R. Bruce Gardyne, of Middleton, &c.; &c.

Letters of apology for absence were received from the Earl of Rosslyn, P.G.M.; John Whyte Melville of Benochy, P.G.M.; Right Hon. Lord Rosehill, S.G.W.; Right Hon. Lord Ramsay, J.G.W.; Col. Wilson of Bannockburn, J.G.D.; Jas. Ballantine, Grand Bard; F. I. Melville, President of the Board of Grand Stewards; H. F. Maclean, Prov. Prov. G.M. Lanarkshire Upper Ward; Charles Dalrymple, M.P., Prov. G.M. Argyll and the Isles; Col. W. M. Neilson, Queenhill, Prov. G.M. City of Glasgow; Right Hon. Viscount Strathallan, Past Sub. G.M.; and others.

After dinner the Grand Lodge was opened in the First Degree, and immediately afterwards called from labour to refreshment.

The R.W.M. then proposed "The Holy Lodge of St. John," which was drunk in solemn silence. Immediately afterwards "The Queen" was given, which toast, he said, was not to be drunk in silence. This year they had the refreshing sight of Her Majesty's gracious presence amongst them on the occasion of the unveiling of the statue of the late Prince Consort. He was not present in Edinburgh on that occasion, but he felt quite sure that all the inhabitants rejoiced to see the Queen amongst them once more. (Cheers.)

The Chairman next proposed "The Prince of Wales, Grand Master Mason of England, the Great Steward of Scotland and Patron of the Grand Lodge." They had had an opportunity of showing their loyalty towards their Royal patron on the occasion of the laying of the foundation-stone of the Glasgow Post Office. (Applause.) He was highly gratified with the way in which the Masons availed themselves of the opportunity to do honour to his Royal Highness, and he was aware the Prince and Princess were well pleased with that demonstration. (Applause.) Their own Grand Master felt proud of the Masons of Scotland that day—(applause)—not only on account of the strength of numbers in which they turned out, but for the orderly and loyal manner in which they conducted themselves. (Cheers.) It was a matter of regret to him that so few, comparatively, of the Masons were unable to witness the ceremony at the stone, in consequence of the necessary arrangements; but he was sure that the members of the Grand Lodge could tell them of the grace, manliness, and kindness with which the Prince conducted himself in performing his double duty. (Cheers.) His Highness had the duty to discharge of receiving an address from the Lord Provost and Magistrates of Glasgow, and secondly that of laying the foundation-stone. (Cheers.) Long might he continue to be Prince of Wales; but when he did ascend the Throne, they could wish nothing

better for him that he should perform his high duties with the same manliness, grace, ability, and quiet dignity which the Scotch Freemasons, on more than one occasion, had seen displayed by him. (Cheers.)

"The other members of the Royal Family" were next enthusiastically toasted.

The Chairman then gave "The Army, Navy, and Reserve Forces."

"The Craft, and Freemasonry over the World," and "The Grand Lodges of England and Ireland," were then proposed and duly honoured, the latter being replied to by Colonel Oswald of Dunnikier as representative of the Grand Lodge of Ireland.

Bro. Henry Inglis proposed "The Health of the Grand Master, Sir Michael Shaw-Stewart," who, he said, was the most dignified and courteous gentleman that had represented the Grand Lodge for many years. (Cheers.)

The toast was responded to with full Masonic honours.

Sir Michael Shaw-Stewart, in reply, said—I thank you sincerely for the high honour you have conferred upon me in responding as you have done to this toast. Bro. Inglis has only spoken in too flattering terms of my humble efforts. I feel very sure that you are all aware that I value very highly the honour which has again been conferred upon me in electing me Master of the Grand Lodge of Scotland. (Cheers.) I can only say that it has always been my earnest wish, and it will always be my earnest wish during the ensuing year, to act in such a manner as will conduce to the honour of the Grand Lodge and the prosperity of the Craft in general. (Cheers.) We meet to-night on a festive evening, and it is no part of my nature to fling a wet blanket over your enjoyment; but we cannot always paint everything "couleur de rose," and I feel it my duty to tell you the simple truth and that is, that I should now address you with a lighter heart, and I believe the office-bearers of the Grand Lodge would enjoy their festival more thoroughly, were it not for the strong shadow cast upon the Grand Lodge by certain irregularities which have taken. I am aware that steps have been taken in carrying out the wishes of the last quarterly communication, and I am glad to believe that everything now with regard to the finances of the Grand Lodge is being properly worked. (Hear, hear.) But I must add this, that certain information is necessary to the Financial Committee—information which can only come from a certain quarter—and I say deliberately that I am of opinion that it would be better for all parties in this most unpleasant matter that that information should be given freely, to enable the Grand Lodge to know how it stands. (Applause.) Do not let any brother here present think that I am hard upon any other brother also present, but there are times when a man acts a kinder part in speaking what is an unpleasant truth—and unpleasant to you to hear, no doubt—than in smoothing matters over. (Applause.) Moreover, this matter has to do with the response to the toast of my health, which has been so kindly proposed and so cordially received, because, let me tell you, these irregularities to which I have referred not only caused me great annoyance, but have given me a considerable amount of personal trouble; and when it was known to me that the Grand Lodge intended to do me the honour of again electing me to the throne for another year, one great inducement that I had in accepting the honour, which I highly value, was my wish and expectation that I should be able to leave to my successor a more satisfactory inheritance than that to which I myself succeeded. (Cheers.) I thank you again, and can truly say that the kindness and cordiality which I have always received from Scotch Masons will make me endeavour still to discharge to the best of my ability the duties of my high office. (Loud Cheers.)

Bro. W. H. Bickerton was present on behalf of the "Freemason," and the following Deputations from daughter lodges, viz.:—1, Mary's Chapel, B. F. Shaw Stewart; 2, Canongate, Kilwinning, Ebsworth; 3 bis, Glasgow St. John, Nelson; 5 Canongate and Leith, Hudson; 7, Hamilton, Kilwinning, Spalding; 8, Journeyman, Davidson; 36, St. David's, Tracey, 44, St. Luke's, Moncrieff; 112, St. John Fisherrow,

Carse; 146, St. Stephen, Edinburgh; Linton; 851, Edinburgh Defensive Band, Beveridge; 160, Roman Eagle, Laing; 225, Trafalgar, Campbell; 291, Celtic, Edinburgh, Dundas Grant; 299, Panmure Arbroath, W. Smith; 334, St. John's, N. Cumnock, Mitchell; 349, St. Clair, Edinburgh, Greenaway; 392, Caledonian Edinburgh, Swanson; 405, Rifle, Edinburgh, Apthorpe; 548, St. Margaret, Queensferry, Glendinning; 580, St. Leonard, Loanhead.

"The Provincial Grand Lodges of Scotland," "The Grand Wardens and other Office-bearers" were proposed. The toast of "Lady Octavia Shaw Stewart" was received with great applause. The lists was concluded with the usual toasts of "The Memory of Deceased Members during the past year," and "The Memory of St. Clair Rosslyn." Grand Lodge was then called to labour, and closed in ample form.

CEREMONIAL AT WAKEFIELD.

On Saturday, the 25th ult., there were great festivities over the laying of the foundation stone of the new hospital the total cost of which will be about £20,000. In order that justice might be done to the importance of the occasion, arrangements had been made for Colonel J. C. D. Charlesworth, M.A., D.L., J.P., the President, to lay the memorial-stone with full Masonic honours. A procession was formed, led off by the local Volunteers. Then came the Trades and Friendly Societies, the Fire Brigade, the Committee of the Hospital Saturday Fund, the Tradesmen's Association, the Board of Guardians and School Board, the Trustees and Governors of various Charities, Ministers of Religion, Justices of the Peace, Donors and Subscribers, members of the Medical Profession, the Borough Member, the Mayor and Corporation, the committee and officers of the Clayton Hospital, and the Freemasons. The Lodge Wakefield had previously been constituted with due formality, and Colonel Charlesworth invested pro. tem. with the office of Deputy Provincial Grand Master. When the head of the procession reached the entrance to the ground in Wentworth-street, the public societies, &c., divided to the right and left, facing inwards, thus forming an avenue through which the Masonic brethren passed to the enclosure. The proceedings commenced with the singing of the Hundredth Psalm, accompanied by the Rifle Band, after which a prayer was offered by the Rev. N. D. J. Stratton, vicar of Wakefield. Colonel Charlesworth was then presented with a silver trowel by Mr. John Binks, the popular Secretary of the Building Committee; and with this—after the inscribed memorial plate and bottle with newspapers had been deposited—the stone was laid in customary form. The cornucopia being handed to Colonel Charlesworth, he strewed the corn upon the stone with the usual Masonic ceremonies, adding a wish that the plenty of which it was an emblem might be showered down upon the building. The Masonic ewers being next handed to him, he poured the wine and oil over the stone—the first as a symbol of cheerfulness and joy; the second as a symbol of prosperity and happiness. An appropriate prayer was then offered by the Rev. J. S. Eastmead, Congregational minister, after which Colonel Charlesworth addressed the assemblage. Before the procession re-formed for the march back into the town Colonel Charlesworth announced that the Secretary would read a letter which would be most gratifying to every one around him. Mr. Binks accordingly read the following letter:—"Crofton Hall, Wakefield, 23rd Nov., 1876. My dear Sir,—I beg you will convey to the committee of the Clayton Hospital my grateful thanks for their vote of condolence on the death of my father. As a proof of the interest he took as one of the vice-presidents of that institution, I am desired by my co-executors under his will to forward the accompanying extract from that document, viz.:—'To the Treasurer for the time being of the Clayton Hospital, Wakefield, a legacy of £4000—(cheers)—for which such Treasurer's receipt is to be a discharge.' Under other circumstances, as Deputy Provincial Grand Master of the Province of West Yorkshire, I should have had great pleasure in being present at the laying of the foundation stone of the new Hospital and Dispensary, but at present, under the loss I have sustained by the death of my father, I am not taking part in any public ceremonial. Accept, however, my best wishes for the prosperity and usefulness of your institution; and believe me to remain, yours, &c., Thos. Wm. Tew, executor under the will of the late Edwd. Tew." Shortly after the procession and crowd of spectators had dispersed, a company of gentlemen interested in the new Hospital partook of luncheon together in the Music Saloon. The Mayor (Ald. Gill) presided.

A meeting of the Hospital Sunday Fund Committee was held at the Mansion House on Wednesday, the Lord Mayor presiding, at which a resolution was passed that Sunday, the 17th June next, should be the day for making the usual collections throughout the Metropolis.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.—Though it is impossible in this climate of changing temperature, to prevent ill-health altogether, yet its form and frequency may be much mitigated by the early adoption of remedial measures. When hoarseness, cough, thick breathing, and the attending slight fever indicate irritation of the throat or chest, Holloway's Ointment should be rubbed upon these parts without delay, and his Pills taken in appropriate doses, to promote its curative action. No catarrhs or sore throats can resist these remedies. Printed directions envelope every package of Holloway's medicaments, which are suited to all ages and conditions, and to every ordinary disease to which humanity is liable.—Advt.

NOTICE.

The Christmas number of the *Freemason* will consist of 32 pages, exclusive of wrapper, which will be illustrated in the highest style of the art of wood engraving, and will contain life-like portraits of

H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M.
The Right Hon. Lord Carnarvon, M.W.Pro.G.M.
The Right Hon. Lord Skelmersdale, R.W. Deputy G.M.
The Right Hon. Lord Donoughmore, R.W. S.G.W.
The Hon. W. Warren Vernon, R.W.J.G.W.
Samuel Tomkins, V.W.G. Treas.
John Hervey, V.W.G. Sec.

The price of this number to non-subscribers will be four pence.

To prevent disappointment, it is very necessary that orders should be sent at once to the Office, 198, Fleet-street, or through any news-agent.

TO ADVERTISERS.

The *Freemason* has a large circulation in all parts of the Globe, its advantages as an advertising medium can therefore scarcely be overrated.

ADVERTISEMENTS for the CHRISTMAS NUMBER should reach the Office, 198 Fleet-street, London, by 12 o'clock on Wednesday.

NOTICE.

To prevent delay or miscarriage, it is particularly requested that ALL communications for the "*Freemason*," may be addressed to the Office, 198, Fleet-street, London.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

COLONIAL and FOREIGN SUBSCRIBERS are informed that acknowledgments of remittances received are published in the first number of every month.

It is very necessary for our readers to advise us of all money orders they remit, more especially those from the United States of America and India; otherwise we cannot tell where to credit them.

TO OUR READERS.

The *Freemason* is a sixteen-page weekly newspaper, price 2d. It is published every Friday morning, and contains the most important, interesting, and useful information relating to Freemasonry in every degree. Annual subscription in the United Kingdom, Post free, 10/6.

P.O.O.'s to be made payable at the chief office, London.

NEW POSTAL RATES.

Owing to a reduction in the Postal Rates, the publisher is now enabled to send the "*Freemason*" to the following parts abroad for One Year for Thirteen Shillings (payable in advance):—Africa, Australia, Bombay, Canada, Cape of Good Hope, Ceylon, China, Constantinople, Demerara, France, Germany, Gibraltar, Jamaica, Malta, Newfoundland, New South Wales, New Zealand, Suez, Trinidad, United States of America, &c.

Answers to Correspondents.

Mark Masonry.—1. No difference. 2. Yes. 3. Yes. C.L.—He cannot vote at all in the lodge in which he was initiated as a serving brother, but can in another lodge, by paying the requisite lodge fees and subscriptions. Reports of Lion and Lamb Lodge, 192; St. John's Lodge, 279, Leicester; and Clapton Lodge of Instruction will appear in our next.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

[The charge is 2s. 6d. for announcements, not exceeding four lines, under this heading.]

BIRTHS.

ATKINSON.—On the 30th ult., at Bowdon, Cheshire, the wife of F. G. Atkinson, of a daughter.
BAKER.—On the 8th inst., at Hope Park, Bromley, the wife of A. J. Baker, of a son.
MARSHALL.—On the 10th inst., at The Crescent, Clapham Common, the wife of W. Marshall, of a daughter.
TAYLOR.—On the 9th inst., the wife of G. C. Taylor, Esq., of a daughter.

WEBB.—On the 10th inst., at Haywood Mount, Tenby the wife of Comr. A. H. Webb, R.N., of a son.

DEATHS.

CHAPMAN.—On the 9th inst., in London, Thomas Hanby Chaplain, B.A., aged 25.
GRIFFITH.—On the 8th inst., at Stoke, Devonport, Cecilia Zoffany, widow of the late P. Griffith.
MORGAN.—On the 8th inst., at Pope's-grove, Twickenham, Emma, wife of A. Morgan.
SAVAGE.—On the 12th ult., at Sault St. Mary, Canada, Mary Anne, wid. w of Col. J. M. Savage, aged 76.
SMITH.—On the 10th inst., at The Grange, Shepherd's-bush, John Smith, aged 71.

The Freemason,

SATURDAY, DEC. 16, 1876.

THE LAST QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION.

The last meeting of Grand Lodge was neither very long, nor, to say the truth, very important, though a good deal of essential business was nevertheless transacted. Our Royal Grand Master was nominated for re-election, and the hearty applause of the brethren was a good index to the feelings of our entire Craft. Bro. Clabon was reappointed President of the Lodge of Benevolence, a matter of much gratification to all. Two appeals of some little intricacy, thanks to the lucid exposition of our esteemed Grand Registrar, were adjudicated upon easily by Grand Lodge. We are to have a special meeting of Grand Lodge to consider the report of the Special Committee. This is, in our opinion, a very wise decision; and until that report is in our hands, proposals are premature and discussion is out of place. We have delegated a special work to a special committee, and until we learn what that committee has to say on the subject, whatever our personal feelings or private notions may be, we must be content to sit still and to hold our tongues.

THE DEPARTURE OF OUR BRO. THE DUKE OF ABERCORN FROM IRELAND.

No one can read the interesting account in the *Times* of this recent event without being deeply pleased, and not a little moved. There is, and there ought to be, always amongst Englishmen and Freemasons a warm sympathy for Ireland and its warm-hearted people. No one can deny the impulsive nature of the Celt, or that there still lingers amid the population of the "Green Island," many aspirations and sympathies, which fall on our cold and more phlegmatic Anglo-Saxon temperament somewhat amazedly and coldly, so to say, at times. But his must be a callous heart, or an ungenerous disposition, who does not feel much of interest in a land which often seems to us to have a very great deal to commend it alike to the careful consideration of the publicist, the ardent longings of the politician, the dream of the poet, and the admiration of the genial hearted. The good government of that important portion of her Majesty's Dominions is indeed a subject of vital importance to us all alike, and every one who has any pretence either to the character of a patriot or a statesman, much less that of a Masonic philosopher, will always rejoice to hear of the inward prosperity and onward progress of Ireland. In Bro. the Duke of Abercorn, Ireland has recently parted with an able ruler and a sagacious administrator. No more popular Lord Lieutenant has ever presided over the graceful hospitality of Dublin Castle, and the pleasant rule of his kindly administration will long be preserved green and fresh in the warm memories of the Irish people. As an Irish landlord, as a prudent and polished, and fair and courteous representative of Her Majesty the Queen, his name will long be associated, and most favourably too, with those who make up the long list of leading men, who have from time to time, swayed the Viceregal power in Ireland, and the amenities and graces of his family circle will always be remembered with sincere feelings of pride and admiration. But, as Freemasons, we owe to our brother, the Duke of Abercorn, a warm tribute of grateful acknowledgement, as well as a friendly recognition of his many excellencies, social, political, and personal. In an hour of great trial for Freemasonry he was not ashamed to own us as his brethren. When the Craft in Ireland was mourning their venerable head of many years, the kind and conciliatory "Geraldine," the Irish Grand Lodge happily offered the throne of Irish Masonry to Her Majesty's representative in that country, their eminent Bro. the Duke of Abercorn. He at once gallantly accepted the high honour, even though it exposed him to the virulence of Ultramontane insult and the turgid utterances of "Cardinal Paul." Despite the assertions of the ignorant and the

criticisms of the malevolent, he openly declared before all men, that he found Freemasonry to be (as otherwise, he could in his official position have nothing to do with it) a loyal, peaceable, benevolent order. There is a good deal more in this his act of high courage and straightforward sincerity, (in keeping with his entire career), than appears at first sight, and as Freemasons, we are bound to remember gratefully that we number him among the rulers of our Craft, and can look on him as a faithful and tried brother of our Order. In common with all classes of the Irish people, we regret his departure from a country which he has ruled so well, and while his worth and capacity are alike universally acknowledged, and his resignation of his high office truly deplored, may all of good go with him and his family, and in the clime of the sunny South may he find health and strength, for other duties to his Queen and country. We rejoice to think that his successor, the Duke of Marlborough, is a member of our fraternity, having been originally initiated, we are informed, in the famous Apollo Lodge at Oxford. We doubt not, that in his hands the prestige of the Lord Lieutenancy will be well maintained, and that under the Regime of his amiable Duchess, the hospitality of Dublin Castle will be dispensed to the cordial satisfaction of all Her Majesty's loyal subjects in Ireland.

THE PROGRESS OF THE CONTROVERSY RAISED BY THE FRENCH GRAND ORIENT.

It is somewhat amusing, though not a little serious, to note how quickly fulfilment has followed prediction, in this "vexata quæstio." We have already said, that the effect of the French agitation, and the unwise decision of the Grand Orient would be to produce isolation, and that isolation has already commenced. Indeed, it is not too much to say that the effect of the action of the Grand Orient of France has been to produce pain and stupefaction in other Masonic bodies. Bro. André Rousselle seemed to fancy that all such fears were chimerical and groundless, he will we suspect be ready to admit ere very long, that Bro. Behr and others were perfectly right in their apprehensions and prognostications. The Grand Orient of Egypt has already manifested its entire disapproval of the step. By a resolution and decree of Nov. 1, unless this motion for removing the belief in God and the Immortality of the Soul be withdrawn, it declines to acknowledge the Grand Orient of France as a lawful Masonic power, and withdraws any request for recognition, and refuses any representative on its own behalf, at the Grand Orient of France, or any representative of the Grand Orient of France in the Grand Orient of Egypt. The arguments on which the decrees are based seem to be these:—1. That the belief in God is an universal and unchangeable law of Freemasons; and 2ndly, that the suppression of belief in God, as a necessary condition of admission, must not only lead to other consequences, but must inevitably drive out of Freemasonry all believers in God. To the Grand Orient of Egypt, such a step appears, as to us, a REVOLUTION. We have never concealed our opinion of the mistaken and worse than mistaken policy which has resulted in such a dead-lock for the Grand Orient of France, as this resolution will prove to be if carried out. We conceive it to be an act of childish folly, only equalled by its mischievous perversity. Despite the eloquence and ability by which this measure has been defended, eloquence and ability deserving of a better cause to support, we, from the first, have pointed out in language nearly similar to that of the Grand Orient of Egypt, what the effect would be on other bodies, and how seriously the whole Masonic edifice was shaken by such a breach in its constitutional foundation. We still trust that there is time for the Grand Orient of France to retrace its steps. For of one thing we feel sure—of course we speak with no authority beyond our own opinion—that if by any official act, the belief in the existence of God and the Immortality of the Soul is openly repudiated by French Freemasonry, it will be

impossible for the Grand Lodge of England on its principles to acknowledge the existence or authority of the Grand Orient of France, as an integral portion of pure and ancient Masonry. We write as "Amici Curie," and in the trust that the French Grand Orient will by a special Assembly, at once put a stop to a baneful and perilous agitation.

SOME FRESH ROMAN CATHOLIC ATTACKS ON FREEMASONRY.

Two recent "mandemens" or allocutions have been submitted to our notice, which we think deserve our attention, though we are heartily sick of the subject ourselves and some of our readers may, we think, be still sicker. When they have read what follows, we trust they will say "is there not a cause," probably whether for praise or blame, whether for note or comment, for warning or animadversion. The one is a brief from the Pope to the Bishop of St. Paul in Brazil, published in the *Univers* of October 25th, and a portion of which is contained in the *Chaine d'Union* for December. We wish that our good Bro. Hubert would always give us the whole document, as "excerpts" are liable to the charge of incompleteness and inaccuracy, and in all such quotations it is better to see the text and context in their entirety. The following is a translation of the brief in French (taken from the Latin):—

"To our venerable Brother—Health and Apostolic Benediction.—If your arrival has been very agreeable to us, venerable Brother, it has become the more so by the good accounts we have received of your diocese. In truth at the moment when not only common report but the public journals by their impetuosity, their anger, their calumny, their violence, and their invectives openly show how greatly the Masonic Sect is spread in Brazil, how numerous are the persons of all ranks whom it has inveigled or altogether or partly deceived, with what tenacity it applies itself to ruin the authority of the holy bishops, and to dissolve the Catholic Unity and the Constitution of the Church at this time. We could not but rejoice to learn that the Holy Spirit, which "bloweth where it listeth," had inspired many of the priests of the diocese desirous of marching in the vocation whereto they are called to form among them an association under the name of the Prince of the Apostles, and under the tutelage of the Holy Heart of Jesus, in order that uniting themselves in this conference, called the conference of St. Peter, they could, by associating their thoughts and joining their forces, labour with an unanimous effort, with all the devotion and zeal of which they are capable, to remove the evils of religion and all that is for the souls (*sic*) [of the faithful?] a detriment and a peril." We find no fault with this document, as it is moderate "per se," but we could wish that the *Roman Curia* was a little more attentive to punctuation and lucidity of expression. "Les Maux de la Religion" may mean anything or nothing, though we presume, that the chief of these evils is the "Masonic sect" alluded to. So far from blaming the Brazilian Roman Catholic clergy, however, for forming themselves into an union, if they deem that they have cause of complaint, or apprehension, we think that they are quite right in so acting, for that at any rate is better than foolish anathemata and childish excommunications. The last Papal brief is an agreeable contrast to many preceding similar publications, and we have perused it, we confess, with no little satisfaction, as in the present state of Roman Catholic excitement we could not expect much less, nor need we ever find fault with the pious fervour of earnest religionists, acting within their own lines, and defending manfully what they believe, (if ever erroneously), to be in any way menaced from without. We wish we could say the same of the next address, which is that of the Roman Catholic Archbishop of Malta, "Carmulus Comes Siciluna," and which seems to be taken from an English paper, the *Public Opinion*, of 13th November, and translated. If some brethren will kindly procure us the Latin original of these two documents, we will publish them in the "Historical Document" portion of the *Masonic Magazine*, "for informa-

tion." There is at Malta a paper called *La Fenice*, which has been set up by some liberal-minded Roman Catholics, in opposition to the Jesuitical and Ultramontane party, and of this paper the Archbishop of Malta thus speaks:—"The evil being great, we declare that from the date of the present publication, any one who writes in that journal, or contributes to its publication, whether as printer, seller, writer, or reader, will not only commit a mortal sin, but will incur "ipso facto" the punishment of the "greater excommunication" reserved to ourselves, from which without our special permission, no confession can absolve him." Surely this is coming it rather strong? A man has committed a "mortal sin" who prints, or reads, or sells, or writes for the *Fenice*. This is liberty of the press and individual freedom, at Malta, with a vengeance. Can anything be more absurd or more mischievous, or a greater reflexion on common sense, or more, a lasting injury to religion? The angry prelate then goes on piously to say: "We hope that these measures will end not only in restraining the true 'fideles' far from this poisoned pasture, but will also cause the editors of the said paper to repent, as well as their fellow labourers, for whom we wish nothing better, and desire nothing more than their amendment and eternal salvation." Does a faint memory of the great "Pecksniff" float before any of our minds, as we peruse these words? But do not let us judge "Carmulus Archbishop, Bishop of Malta," too severely, and let us make allowance for that peculiar state of sensational morbidity into which as regards the Freemasons, the whole Roman Catholic Church seems just now to have fallen. And now we leave the subject, which we shall not return to willingly, and not at all, if the Roman Catholic Church will leave us alone, but we should be something worse than cowards, if we did not notice in the pages of the *Freemason* attacks, and a system of persecution, which though utterly worthless and harmless to our Order, are yet an insult to reason, liberty of conscience, and above all, to true religion.

Original Correspondence.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for, or even as approving of the opinions expressed by our correspondents, but we wish, in a spirit of fair play to all, to permit—within certain necessary limits—free discussion.—Ed.]

FREEMASONRY IN SCOTLAND.

To the Editor of the "*Freemason*."

Dear Sir and Brother,—We have recently heard much of the degeneracy of our noble Craft amongst our countrymen to the north of the Tweed. As an evidence of this, and as a striking proof of the urgent need existing for improvement in the supervision of private lodges as now exercised by the Grand Lodge of Scotland, I would ask you to make known the following facts:—

A lodge at Arbroath has recently built a hall to meet in, and there is a debt upon the building, which the lodge is anxious to clear off (I gather these facts from the documents I enclose), and to do this, they have got up a lottery upon the principle of the Art Union of England, offering prizes of from £30 to 15s. in value, to be drawn for on the 14th of February next, and they have issued six-penny tickets, which they are offering for sale to English lodges.

The documents I enclose came to me by post, and were directed to "The W.M. of Lodge No.—&c., &c.," from which I think it is fair to presume that similar communications have been addressed to other lodges in England, and perhaps elsewhere.

Begging from strangers is at all times unseemly, no matter for how worthy an object, and is it not still more unseemly for the Worshipful Master of a lodge to send begging letters in print to the Worshipful Masters of stranger lodges, not even under the same jurisdiction, asking them to assist in selling lottery tickets "amongst brethren and the public," to help to clear off a debt which his lodge ought never to have incurred, if they were going to live in order to pay it off?

This appears to me to be a more objectionable proceeding even than the *louting* for members by new lodges, which has very recently called for the severe censure of the Pro Grand Master and the Board of General Purposes, and I most sincerely hope no other instance will ever call for condemnation.

I am, dear Sir and Brother, yours fraternally,
S.M.M.C.O.
P.M., P. Prov. G. Sec., 31*.

To the Editor of the "*Freemason*."

Dear Sir and Brother,—I have read with deep regret the two letters of Brother Thomson, of Galashiels. If I may be allowed to

say so, I think it is better for all communities "to wash their dirty linen at home." The majority of your readers are brethren residing in England, and not in Scotland; our English brethren can only take a fraternal interest in our concerns; they can give us no help, only their sympathy.

Bro. Thomson may have just cause for complaint, but I would suggest to him to consider whether the more Masonic course would not have been to have sought to lop off the excrescences and reduce rude matter to its proper form at home.

This, I may say, is my idea of the case.

I know Bro. Thomson to be a zealous and earnest Mason; I know that he, in common with others, have grievances—and just ones too. Let us, then, one and all unite and endeavour to reduce this rude matter to its proper form.

Bro. Thomson, I am afraid, has not considered this matter in its full and general light. While he condemns the system, he offers nothing in its place. I can assure him that I have for a long time been seeking to accomplish his aim Masonically and constitutionally; but to set the Grand Lodge of Scotland on a firm basis demands many things—first, no isolated motions will or can succeed of themselves; secondly, you may change your executive office-bearers as often as you like ("but the general system requires partial, if not entire, reconstruction"); thirdly, the best system that can be conceived cannot succeed, the best officers available cannot carry out our wishes, if the lodges in general and every individual Mason in Scotland be not prompt to execute the design.

The ideas that I propose through your columns to bring before my Scottish brethren may be considered by many crude in the extreme, but after long thought and anxious enquiry, I feel they may at any rate guide our brethren in the re-arrangement required.

I have now a motion before Grand Lodge of Scotland, which I trust (if duly supported and carried) may lead to a better state of affairs than we have at present; but I should add, that if the "surgeon's knife" be put in (and no doubt rightly) to the root and the stem, the branches also must feel the incision. Our Grand Lodge can, and may, be made good by patient care and the application of good remedies; our Provincial Grand Lodges should be made to bear their portion of the work, but the daughter lodges themselves must also feel the "surgeon's knife."

If one and all will join in the restoration of Masonry in Scotland, no one will be more delighted than

Yours fraternally,

GEORGE HARRIOTT, of Killinore,
Prov. G.M. Wigtown and Kirkcudbright.

TRADING ON FREEMASONRY.

To the Editor of the "*Freemason*."

Will the editor of the *Freemason* accept this modest criticism of a still more modest "bid for trade?"

"*Higglesbury Independent Office*, 54, Church-street, Higglesbury, November 17th, 1876.

"Dear Sir and Brother,—The growth, both in numbers and importance, of this ancient Order during the last few years, and notably so since the Installation of our future Sovereign as the Most Worshipful Grand Master, has been so rapid, that it has become an object of primary importance for the weal and successful advancement of the Order, that a public means of communication between the various lodges in this and the adjoining provinces should be available."

"The Craft has not yet discovered this object of such primary importance."

"With a view to afford some facilities to the Craft for this purpose, we have decided, after due consideration and consultation, to appropriate a limited space in our columns for the special purpose of Freemasonry, commencing Saturday, December 2nd, 1876."

Very appropriate indeed! Probably to come in at the end amongst riddles, extracts from comic papers, &c.

"It is our intention to avoid, as far as possible, giving details of any circumstances which may not be of general interest to the surrounding provinces. We do not propose to report the meetings of the various lodges at full length, nor the after dinner speeches, but to give a brief record of the business done."

Masonry ceases to be a secret institution when names, &c., are put in print in a local paper.

"It is also our purpose to open a list of meetings, to be held during the week after publication, with notices of adjournments, and other information necessary to avoid the disappointment and annoyance so frequently experienced by brethren who happen to attend at the usual hour and place of meeting, and find that the lodges have adjourned for vacation."

Calendars at 1d. each, compiled by authority, give date, time, and place of meeting of every lodge, chapter, etc., in the province.

"We intend also to notify the meetings of Provincial Grand Lodges, and to report the proceedings as far as admissible, giving the names of the newly appointed officers; and we hope in doing so to avoid the errors so frequently committed by our local contemporaries in giving the initial titles to each."

This is sufficiently well done at present. Initial titles are surely understood by the Craft!

"In order that all our reports may be strictly correct and in accordance with the constitutions of the Order, and that nothing unmasonic or disadvantageous to the Craft may be inserted, and that the ancient tenets of the Order—Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth—may be ever maintained amongst the brethren, we shall place the editorial supervision of this department in the hands of a brother, who is fully conversant with the details of every branch of Freemasonry."

Name? Where is the guarantee? It follows, that there will be correspondence and bickering over petty details, and members being personally known will be "spotted."

"We solicit your co-operation, and request that you will kindly send us a copy of the circulars convening the meetings of your lodge, and a short report of the proceedings of such meeting, together with notices of any changes, or other matters which may interest our Masonic readers."

Masonic readers have journals of their own, deserving of their support, without encouraging a local newspaper, of whatever political colour, to take them in hand at present.

Possibly not one per cent. of the craft was aware that a newspaper called the *Higglesbury Independent* was in existence.

"The *Independent* is published every Saturday morning. Subscriptions 6s. 6d. per annum, post free, payable in advance.

"Yours, faithfully and fraternally,

"THE EDITOR."

[We give this paper at the request of our correspondent. If any of our brethren cannot find "Higglesbury" in "Bradshaw" it is no fault of ours.—ED.]

THE BURNS STATUE AND FREEMASONRY.

To the Editor of the *Glasgow News*.

Sir,—In the report you give in Monday's paper, of the proceedings at the meeting of the committee and the representatives of the various trades held on Saturday afternoon last, Mr. Gordon Smith mentioned that the poet's mother lodge is dormant. Now, for the information of the Craft, permit me to state that eight years ago a body of Masons here met, and made all the preliminary arrangements to have the poet's mother lodge—Saint David's, Tarbolton, No. 125—resuscitated, and a petition with that object was in due form presented to the Grand Lodge, and a sum of money deposited with the petition. Beyond sending a receipt for the cash, the Grand Lodge has taken no further notice of the application, and still retains the deposited money. The dormancy, which in itself is not creditable to true Masons, your readers will thus see rests entirely with the Grand Lodge, whose officials will, sooner or later, have to give an explanation.

I enclose my card, and am, &c.,
Mauchline, 29th November, 1876.

M. M.

THE PAST MASTER'S JEWEL.

To the Editor of the "*Freemason*."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Can any among your readers tell me whether a Past Master of a Craft lodge, not being the I.P.M., has a right to wear the P.M.'s jewel otherwise than on a collar? It is most frequently worn as a medal. I do not want a mere expression of opinion, which is worthless, unless backed by authority.

Yours fraternally,

A. T.

TEMPLAR HISTORY.

To the Editor of the "*Freemason*."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I see from No. 3 of the *Rosierucian* that the A.D. 1778 Laws of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the so-called "Modern" Masons, led to those of the Bristol Templar confederation of 1780, which are an adapted copy, and both Orders base their powers upon a "Charter of Compact." (Query,—Granted by, to themselves?) I see also that Joshua Springer, who aided the Bath and Bristol Templar confederation of 1780 was a "Modern" Mason, belonging to Lodge No. 138, No. 167 at the Union. Prior to these two dates I suppose these degrees amongst the "Moderns" had no separate Grand Governing body. I should be pleased to see the writer of "Records of the Craft" follow these clues further. Now the Templars have dissolved the "Tripartite Treaty" there is a respectable and independent future again for that Order.

JOHN YARKER.

Manchester, Dec. 9th, 1876.

THE ORDER OF THE TEMPLE.

A National Great Priory of England and Wales was held in the Cannon-street Hotel, Cannon-street, on Friday, 8th inst., the Right Hon. the Earl of Limerick, Great Prior, presiding. There was a very large and unusual attendance, nearly 200 Knights being present. This large assemblage was doubtless due to the vote to be taken on the motions regarding the restoration of Past rank &c., to be made by the Provincial Prior of Lancashire, and in support of which much interest has for a long period been excited in the Provinces of Lancashire, Dorset, and Devon. The Provinces of Stafford and Warwick were also well represented by a goodly number of Sir Knights, who loyally assembled to do honour to their late chief, the new Great Prior, and in consequence they were allowed the privilege of forming the Arch of Steel nearest the throne.

After the minutes of the last Great Priory had been read and confirmed, the installation of the Right Hon. the Earl of Shrewsbury and Talbot, vice the Earl of Limerick resigned, was duly proceeded with.

In presenting the Earl for Installation, Sir Patrick Colquhoun, the Great Chancellor, delivered an eloquent address on his ancient and noble lineage, in the course of which he recited the following passage from Shakespeare's play of Henry VI. (Part I, Act iv., Scene vii.), in which Sir William Lucy rehearses the titles of the great and celebrated Lord Talbot, an ancestor of the Earl, describing him as,—

"The great Alcides of the field,
"Valiant Lord Talbot, Earl of Shrewsbury,
"Created for his rare success in arms,
"Great Earl of Washford, Waterford, and Valence;
"Lord Talbot of Goodrig and Urchingfield,
"Lord Strange of Blackmere, Lord Verdun of Alton,
"Lord Cromwell of Wingfield, Lord Furnival of Sheffield,
"The thrice victorious Lord of Falconbridge;
"Knight of the noble Order of St. George,
"Worthy Saint Michael, and the Golden Fleece,
"Great Mareschal to Henry the Sixth,
"Of all his wars within the realm of France."

After the presentation, the installation was concluded, and the Earl was duly proclaimed by the Great Marshal, who rehearsed all the noble Knight's titles, foremost of which is that of Premier Earl of England.

Having assumed his seat under the customary honours, the noble Knight returned thanks for the honour conferred upon him by H.R.H. the Grand Master, and for the cordial approval of his appointment by the Sir Knights present. It would be his earnest endeavour to rule the Order with firmness and good sense, and he hoped to succeed in restoring it to a state of quietness by his resolve to allow full and free, but temperate discussion of every point. He paid a high tribute to the abilities of his predecessor, the Earl of Limerick, and he trusted he might always count upon his valuable aid and support, and also upon that of all the officers of Great Priory, who he begged would favour him by continuing in office until he had time to make his selections after a closer acquaintance with the members of the Order.

The noble Knight having resumed his seat amidst loud and protracted applause, the business of Great Priory was proceeded with.

The following report of the Council was read by the Great Chancellor, Sir Patrick Colquhoun, Q.C., &c., &c.

Very High and Eminent Great Prior,

Your Council has the honour to report that it has graciously pleased His Royal Highness the Grand Master to appoint the Right Honourable the Earl of Shrewsbury and Talbot, Great Prior of England and Wales, in succession to yourself, and to express its regret at your resignation of that office.

Your Council has further to report the lamented death, on the 18th of June last, of Theodore Mansel Talbot, the Provincial Prior of South Wales.

The Warrant for raising the Dominion of Canada to a Great Priory has been sealed and transmitted to its destination. Letters Patent have also been passed, under the Seal of the Order, appointing Colonel W. J. Bury McLeod Moore, Great Prior of Canada, and he was on the 10th of August last installed into his office by the delegates of the Grand Master.

Your Council begs to report that a letter has been received by the Chancellor from the Arch-Chancellor of the Order, stating that a resolution was passed by the Convent General, held in Dublin, on 27th of October last, to the effect that the Report of the Ritual Committee had been received by that Convent General, which had thereupon resolved that copies of the Ritual be distributed to the Order by the Great Priors, through their respective Chanceries, and on such terms and conditions as shall be determined by their respective Councils.

Your Council recommends grants from the Benevolent Fund of 50 guineas to the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, and £50 to the Male Fund of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, in the name of the Order, to be represented by the Great Prior for the time being, and that the Sub-Prior be requested to place these sums on his list.

The following balances are in the Treasurer's hands—

General Account	£197	17	5
Benevolent Fund	247	5	7
Total	£445	3	0

By order of the Council,

P. MAC C. DE COLQUHOUN.

28th November, 1876.

Chancellor.

On the motion that the above report be received and adopted, opposition was raised to the fourth paragraph relating to the report of the Ritual Committee, but it was withdrawn, and the motion carried, after a long discussion, on the understanding that the proposed "distribution" of the report of the Ritual Committee was only for the purpose of its being further considered by the Order at large through the various great Priors.

The Grants of Fifty Guineas from the Benevolent Fund to the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, and £50 to the Male Fund of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, recommended by the Council, were unanimously confirmed.

The following motions proposed by Sir Knt. J. E. Curteis were discussed.

1. That Statute No. 4, page 8, be altered by striking out the words "31st day of March," and substituting in lieu thereof, "last day of February."

2. That Statute 7, pages 9 and 10, be altered by striking out the words "appointed and,"—"The Great Prior shall appoint four members and" on the first and second lines of page 10.

3. That Statute 50, pages 22 and 23, be altered by striking out the words "the Prelate," "the Constable," "the Marshall," "four members of the Great Priory to be appointed by the Great Prior," and to insert after the word "five," in the fourth line of page 23, "Members of the Great Priory."

4. That Statute 56 be altered by striking out the words "31st day of March," and substituting in lieu thereof "last day of February."

After a long and animated discussion, Nos. 1 and 4 were carried, and Nos. 2 and 3 rejected.

The Great Prior then declared National Great Priory closed, and the Special Convent General open, which had been convoked by order of His Royal Highness, the Grand Master, "for the consideration of such notices of motion as were not proceeded with at the Convent General holden at Dublin on the 27th October last."

The following amendments to Convent General statutes were proposed by Sir Knight the Earl of Limerick, seconded by Major S. H. Clerke.

AMENDMENTS TO CONVENT GENERAL STATUTES.

Page 10—Cap.—The Convent General.—Omit "in England and Ireland on such day as the Grand Master in Council may determine, of which day not less than four weeks' notice shall be given"; and insert, "in England on the second Friday in May, and in Ireland on the —day of—."

Page 11—Cap.—Qualification to attend, speak, and vote in Convent General.—Amend that it may read, "all Past Grand Masters, Great Priors, Past Great Priors, Great Officers, Past Great Officers, Sub-Priors, Provincial Priors, National Great Officers, Grand Crosses, Commanders, Past Vice-Chancellors who have held that office for two years, Past Sub-Masters who have held that office for two years, and Preceptors," shall be, &c. (as before).

Page 14—Cap.—Honours.—After Ireland 10, insert Canada 10; after Ireland 20, insert Canada 20. At end of section insert, "The Grand Master may also appoint knights of foreign jurisdictions to the honours of Knights Grand Cross and Knights Commander, and such appointments shall not be included in the numbers as limited above."

Page 18—Cap.—Constitution of Great Priors.—After "in the Convent General," insert "of the Past Provincial Priors and Past Great Officers of the Nationality, and of the Past Vice-Chancellors and Sub-Masters who have been two years in office as such in the Nationality."

Page 19—Cap.—Rank and Precedence.—Omit the whole.—Insert, "In consideration of

the introduction of the dignities of Knights Grand Cross and Knights Commander, no person in future shall receive any rank or precedence analogous to Past Rank except in virtue of some qualifying office which he has held for twelve months at the least."

Page 23—Cap.—Precedence.—After "The Grand Master," amend the paragraph to run—

"Past Grand Masters, the Great Priors, the Great Officers, the Sub-Priors, Past Great Priors and Great Officers, the Provincial Priors, the National Great Officers, Past Sub-Priors, Provincial Priors, and National Great Officers, the Knight Grand Crosses, the Commanders, the Officers of the Order, Past Vice-Chancellors and Sub-Masters who have held those offices for two years, the National Officers, Past National Vice-Chancellors and Sub-Masters who have held those offices for two years, Preceptors, Chaplains, Knights."

Exception having been taken to the discussion of these amendments, on the ground that the Earl, having failed to move them himself at the last Convent General, or to secure their being moved by some other Knight, they had fallen to the ground, and could not be re-discussed without the usual notice of motion, the Great Prior allowed the exception, and ruled the Earl of Limerick's motion out of order.

It was proposed by Sir Knight A. H. Royds, Prov. Prior Lancashire, and seconded by Sir Knight Thomas Birchall, Constable of that Province,

"1st. That in the Clause entitled 'Title of the Order' the word 'Masonic' be inserted between the words 'United' and 'Religious.'"

"2. That the Statutes headed 'Rank and Precedence' (pages 19 and 20, Statutes of the Convent General) be expunged in order that the Past Rank of the various officers and their right to bear the insignia thereof may be restored and recognized as formerly.

"3rd. That wherever throughout the said Statutes the words 'Preceptory' or 'Preceptories' shall occur, such words be expunged, and the words Encampment' or 'Encampments' be inserted in lieu thereof, and in like manner, wherever the word 'Preceptor' or 'Preceptors' shall occur, the same be expunged, and the words 'Eminent Commander,' or 'Eminent Commanders' (as the case may be) be inserted in lieu thereof, so that the changes in the designations of the meetings of the Order may be abolished, and the previous titles restored."

After a lengthened and stormy debate, in which several amendments, suggestions, and emendations were moved and rejected, the whole motion was, after a division on each separate paragraph, declared duly carried. Sir Knight the Earl of Limerick gave notice that he would at next Convent General, move the resolutions which he had not been able to introduce that evening, subject to the verbal emendations necessary on the passing of Sir Knight Royd's motions. The Arch Treasurer Sir Knight Curteis also gave notice of a motion, the wording of which we could not gather. The Convent General was then closed, and the Great Prior and his officers retired under the Arch of Steel about nine p.m., the proceedings having lasted for nearly six hours.

CONSECRATION OF THE STUDHOLME MARK LODGE, No. 197.

On Thursday, the 7th inst., the Right Hon. the Earl of Limerick, M.W.G.M.M.M., consecrated this new Mark Lodge at No. 197, Golden Square. He was assisted in the ceremony by the Rev. J. S. Brownrigg; General Brownrigg, C.B.; Capt. N. G. Philips; Bros. Hugh D. Sandeman, Dr. Hamilton, Major Barlow, S. Rawson, Major Shadwell H. Clerke, F. Binckes, Hyde Pullen, Col. H. Somerville Burney, Capt. Dadson, the Earl of Donoughmore, the Rev. A. B. Frazer, and the Rev. — Morse. Bro. Massey was present on behalf of the *Freemason*.

After the ceremony of consecration was completed, Bro. the Rev. J. Studholme Brownrigg ascended the chair, and in splendid form advanced to the Mark Degree the following brethren:—Capt. R. R. Leeson, Capt. Gilbert, Kenneth Robert Murchison, Col. C. W. Randolph,

Capt. Palliser, Capt. M. S. Brownrigg, and E. C. Willing.

The installation of the W.M. designate was then proceeded with, and Bro. the Rev. J. Studholme Brownrigg installed Bro. General Brownrigg as Master of the lodge. At the same time, Dr. Hamilton having been appointed as Grand Master of Jamaica, that brother was obligated in due form for the discharge of the duties of that office. Bro. Capt. Philips was appointed the P.M. of the lodge, Bros. the Earl of Donoughmore, S.W.; Major Shadwell Clerke, J.W.; Dr. Hamilton, M.O.; S. Rawson, S.O.; Major Barlow, J.O.; Rev. — Morse, Chap.; Hyde Pullen, Registrar of Marks; Col. Somerville Burney, Sec.; Capt. C. W. Randolph, S.D.; Capt. Brownrigg, J.D.; E. C. Willing, Org.; Capt. Portlock Dadson, D.C.; Capt. Palliser, I.G.; and Austin, Tyler.

At the conclusion of the lodge-work the W.M. rose and proposed a vote of thanks to the Earl of Limerick for consecrating the lodge, and then moved that his lordship be elected an honorary member, as well as Bros. the Rev. G. R. Portal, Past Grand Master; Lord Skelmersdale, Binckes, the Rev. J. Studholme Brownrigg, Hyde Pullen, and Col. Burdett. He also stated that the brethren were very much indebted to Lord Limerick for coming and discharging the important office of Consecrating Master, and to the Rev. J. Studholme Brownrigg, for the fluent and efficient way in which he had advanced the candidates for Mark Masonry.

The Earl of Limerick in acknowledging the compliment said: W.M., I thank you very much for electing me an honorary member of the Studholme Lodge. It has given me great pleasure to be here to consecrate your lodge, which from what I have seen promises so well. I think from the performances of this evening the most favourable expectations may be entertained of a lodge the working of which commences under the rule of such a good old Mark Mason as our Bro. General Brownrigg. It may not be known to all the brethren present that although he, for the first time, takes the chair of a lodge, he has been a Mark Master Mason three-and-thirty years. From that he must certainly be the father in Mark Masonry of those present; and there are not, I venture to think, very many working members of Mark Masonry who can exceed him in that number of years as members of the Order. We all know, brethren, how well he discharges all the duties that he takes upon him, and that he never undertook a duty without the fullest intention of doing it to the utmost of his ability, and we know how great that ability is. I therefore form the greatest expectations of the work of the Studholme Lodge. Perhaps you will allow me as a remembrance of the pleasure I have had in consecrating the lodge, to present the lodge with two Deacons' jewels. They are not of the present pattern; they are old jewels which were made in the year 1780; but I think anyhow you will keep them as a memento, and if you and your successors in your discretion should allow them to be worn by the Deacons, by the authority of my office I would excuse their not being according to the present pattern of Mark Masonry. It would be possible, I think, to adopt them to modern Mark Masonry by hanging the Mark at the bottom of them instead of placing them on the Mark as is generally the custom. I thank you, W.M. and brethren, for making me an honorary member of the lodge, for which I wish every prosperity in its future career. (hear, hear).

General Brownrigg then proposed, the Earl of Donoughmore seconded, and Captain N. G. Philips supported a vote of thanks to the Earl of Limerick for this handsome present, and the vote was put and carried unanimously. The W.M. said to Lord Limerick, we accept them very gratefully, and will have them adopted for the Deacons' collars.

Bro. F. Binckes, the Rev. J. Studholme Brownrigg, and Bro. Hyde Pullen also returned thanks for being elected honorary members of the lodge, and the days of meeting were fixed for the first Thursday in April, June and December, every year.

The lodge was afterwards closed in ample form, and the brethren adjourned to a splendid

banquet at Willis's Rooms, where they subsequently honoured the usual Mark Masonic toasts.

PROVINCIAL GRAND MARK LODGE OF LINCOLNSHIRE.

A Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of the Province of Lincolnshire was held in the Old Hall at Gainsboro' on November 29th, by command of the Right Worshipful Grand Mark Master, Bro. John Sutcliffe.

Among the very large number of brethren present were Bros. C. F. Matier, P.G.W.; Wm. Roebuck, G.M.O.; J. N. Scheeling, P.G.J.O.; F. Binckes, G. Sec.; Thos. Cubitt, P.G.D.C.; J. D. Sugden, P.G.S.B.; Thomas Perkinson, Prov. G.M.M.M. W. Yorks.; Thos. Entwisle, P.P.G.M.M.M. Lancashire; J. Y. Strachan, P.D.P.G. M.M.M. N. and E. Lanc.; W. S. Wade, P.P.G.S.W. West Yorkshire; Wm. Roberts, Jesse Firth, T. Oakden, Thos. Clarke, H. Maiden, Wm. Briggs, F. N. Stevenson, G. Green, P.G.J.O.; Rev. E. Sewell, Rev. A. A. Bagshawe, W. Cooke, R. Newhouse, Prov. G. Sec. Cheshire; Mark Newcome, P.P.G.J.D.; J. B. Crossby, P.P.G.S.B. of West Yorkshire; John Bell, P.P.G.S.B. Lancashire; N. Horrocks, P.P.G.S.B. Lancashire; S. B. Ellis, A. Britton, W.M. Copley, 111; W. Denison, P.J.W. Copley, 111; J. W. Swann, P.S.D. Copley, 111; W. M. Tyers, Sec. Copley, 111; J. Calverley, Copley, 111; Thos. Ruddock, Truth, 137; Hiram Barley, Truth, 137; M. Kemp, W.M. Humber, 182; W. Needler, S.W. Humber, 182; M. Haberland, J.W. Humber, 182; J. Walker, S.O. Humber, 182; R. Boggett, Sec. Humber, 182; John Sutcliffe, Prov. G. M.M.M.; Charles Harrison, Deputy Prov. G.M.M.M.; W. Watkins, Prov. G.S.W.; A. Kirke, P.G.M.O.; A. Bates, P.J.G.O.; Jack Sutcliffe, Prov. G. Treas.; R. C. Carline, Prov. G. Reg. of M.; Robert Gough, Prov. G. Sec.; C. Scorer, Prov. G.S.D.; R. Goodman, Prov. G.D.C.; W. H. Roberts, Prov. G. Assist. D.C.; W. E. Howlett, Prov. G. Sup. of W.; W. Mason, Prov. G. Org.; James Robinson, Prov. G.I.G.; W. Marshall, P.G.S.; P. P. Dickenson, P.G.S.; J. S. Codd, P.G.S.; D. Swaenstone, P.G.S.; W. H. Rodley, P.P. G.S.W. Lincs.; F. Watson, P.P.G.J.W. Lincs.; C. J. Hayward, P.P.G.S. of W. Lincs.; C. Mann, Prov. G. Tyler; A. L. Peacock, Remigius, 117.

The large gathering is mainly attributable to the convenient and liberal train arrangements effected with the various railway companies by Provincial Grand Mark Master Bro. Sutcliffe, and to the liberality with which the Right Worshipful Master distributed his invitations to the banquet which followed the business of the lodge, and which were accompanied by a programme giving in detail all the information that was necessary to be known in reference to accomplishing the journey from distant provinces, the special railway tickets—issued at a first class single fare for the double journey—being available for three days.

After the ordinary duties of the lodge had been gone through, the R.W. Prov. Grand Mark Master Mason appointed and invested the following brethren as Prov. Grand Officers for the ensuing year:—

Charles Harrison	D. Prov. G.M.M.M.
Alfred Kirk	Prov. G.S.W.
W. W. Copeland	Prov. G.J.W.
Chas. Scorer	Prov. G.M.O.
M. Crowden	Prov. G.S.O.
P. P. Dickinson	Prov. G.J.O.
Jack Sutcliffe	Prov. G. Treas.
R. Cotton Carline	Prov. G. Reg. of M.
R. Gough	Prov. G. Sec.
Joseph Chapman	Prov. G.S.D.
Geo. Housham	Prov. G.J.D.
W. H. Roberts	Prov. G.D.C.
J. Moxon	Prov. G. Asst. D.C.
H. S. Close	Prov. G. S. of Wks.
G. M. Lowe	Prov. G. Swd. Br.
C. J. Hayward	Prov. G.I.G.
Geo. Motley	Prov. G. Steward.
Wm. Pollitt	Prov. G. Steward.
Chas. Mann	Prov. G. Tyler.

A further matter of special interest and attraction in the day's proceedings was the presentation to the Right Worshipful Prov. Grand Mark Master of a picture containing portraits of himself and his first Provincial Grand officers, who were photographed in a group whilst being entertained at Stallingsboro' House. The photograph was subsequently enlarged, finished in oil, and handsomely framed. The Mark Masons represented in it are—Bros. John Sutcliffe, Chas. Harrison, F. Watson, H. Watson, T. H. Oldman, J. Bellamy, Wm. Watkins, Jack Sutcliffe, R. Cotton Carline, R. Gough, W. J. Bland, F. S. Judd, C. J. Hayward, T. E. Jacobson, Geo. Robinson, E. J. Cullen, Chas. Scorer, R. Goodman, Rev. D. Ace, D.D., W. G. Moore, Capt. Lowcock, Chas. Mann, F. Binckes, and Wm. Roberts. The frame is enriched with Masonic emblems, and the inscription engraved on a brass plate is as follows:—"First Prov. G.M. Officers for Lincolnshire; Presented to the R.W. Bro. John Sutcliffe, Prov. G.M.M.M., 29th November, 1876." The formal presentation of the picture was made during the after-dinner proceedings, and the terms in which it was offered and accepted will be found reported below in the "post prandial" speeches.

The banquet to which about 160 sat down, was of a magnificent description. The "menu" was in harmony with the high character of the occasion, comprising every available delicacy, and the dinner was served "à la Russe." Great credit is due to the provider of the dinner.

The Right Worshipful Prov. Grand Mark Master, Bro. Sutcliffe, occupied the chair, and, in commencing the toast list, gave "The Queen and Mark Masonry" in terms,

glowing with loyalty. The Right Worshipful brother also gave "H.R.H. Albert Edward Prince of Wales, the Princess of Wales, and the members of the Royal Family," observing how little need be urged in recommending the toast, and that the more they said about it the greater damage they might do it. They all admired the lovely Princess of Wales; all England were ready to lay down their lives for her. He might add that at the moment they were sitting here their brother Prince Leopold was being installed in office as Master of a Mark lodge at Oxford. They would therefore add his health to the toast, and if he were present he would respond to it in a way they would all be pleased to hear. (The National Anthem was sung after the first toast, led by Bro. Copeland.)

Bro. P. P. Dickenson, Mayor of Lincoln, in rising to propose "The Bishop and Clergy," said he had pleasure in serving the chairman in any position he might call him to. He asked the company as Mark Masons to join him in drinking the health of those men who by their piety showed them the way of life and invited them to walk therein.

Bro. the Rev. A. A. Bagshawe responded, remarking that although he did not belong to this diocese he was a member of the Mark in Lancashire, and as such he had been honoured by being made the Provincial Grand Chaplain, and also the Chaplain of his lodge, of which he was very proud. He felt a very deep gratitude to the Provincial Grand Master of Lincolnshire for inviting him and the lodge to which he belonged. They came with a right hearty and especial pleasure, because they knew what a large-hearted man Bro. Sutcliffe was, whose heart was in Mark Masonry, and he rejoiced that he was to be the Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Mark Master of Lincolnshire for the second period of three years.

The Chairman proposed "The Most Worshipful the Grand Mark Master Mason, the Right Honourable the Earl of Limerick, and all other Grand Officers, Present and Past," calling upon Bro. Roebuck, the Grand Master Overseer, to respond.

Bro. Roebuck, in acknowledging the toast on behalf of the Earl of Limerick, observed that it would be his special privilege to report to Grand Lodge the reappointment of the Provincial Grand Mark Master of Lincolnshire for another three years. It had been gratifying to him to find the reception that had been given to the name of the Most Worshipful Grand Mark Master, not only by Lincolnshire, but by the provinces around. He was aware the Earl was well known in this and other counties; he was also known in London as a good Mark and Craft Mason, and as a supporter of the Charities. (Applause.)

The Chairman next proposed "The Right Worshipful the Provincial Grand Mark Master Masons of other Provinces, and all Present and Past Provincial Grand Officers." In doing so he said he need not occupy their time long in urging the claims of this toast. The characters of the Provincial Mark Masters were all so well known that they required no recommendation from him to insure them a hearty and cordial reception. They ought to feel highly honoured that a brother came here to-day from Newcastle to visit their provincial lodge. He himself (the Chairman) felt highly complimented by Bro. Strachan, D.P.G.M. for Northumberland and Durham, coming amongst them. They also had Bro. Tom Perkinson, P.G. M.M.M., from West Yorkshire. He must not forget to say that he had not the opportunity in lodge of reading a number of letters of apology from brethren not present, and he might inform the brethren from Lancashire that he had received a very polite note from Bro. Le Gendre Starkie, D.P.G.M. for Lancashire, saying that previous engagements prevented him coming. He wished to say that for the information of the brethren from Lancashire.

Bro. Strachan said he felt highly honoured in having the opportunity of thanking the Most Worshipful chairman for inviting him and the other Northumberland and Durham brethren, and must say how honoured he also was by the way he had received them, by the way he had proposed their healths, and by the way they were received in the province.

Bro. Perkinson acknowledged the pleasure he felt in having his name connected with the toast. He had been a Provincial Mark Master 3½ years, and now his time was nearly ended. ("No, no.") He had been very much cheered with what he had seen to-day. He was very much attached to Mark Masonry, and it would ever live in his heart.

Bro. Prince was also proud to respond for his province, whose Grand Master, like the Lincolnshire Grand Master, was a man with a large heart. Addressing the chairman the speaker said—I thank you, Right Worshipful Sir, for the kind support you give to Mark Masonry. You are a most honoured man in this district, and if others can be found like you when your time is run out we shall have cause to be hopeful for the future of Freemasonry. I trust you will accept through me the thanks of our Provincial Grand Mark Master for what you have done to-day. (Applause.)

Bro. Perkinson again rose, and said he would give without much preface, "The Health of the Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Mark Master Mason for Lincolnshire, Bro. Sutcliffe." (Great cheering.) Nothing he could say would add to the esteem of those present, by whom he was so well known.

The toast was drunk with Masonic honours.

The Chairman, who was received with prolonged cheers, said he felt very much obliged to his brethren for the proposal of his health and the kind reception it had met with. He knew not what he could say more. He valued their opinion, and allowed them to be the best judges. He could only say he thanked them—thanked them most heartily—for the generous reception they had given to the toast. He would not sit down without taking the opportunity of proposing the toast of the evening, that was,

"The Health of the Visiting Brethren," and he would call upon them to open their lungs and open their shoulders (laughter), and to receive the toast in a way that would be heard through Lancashire, Yorkshire, Northumberland, Cheshire, and North Wales. It was not often they had representatives from so many provinces, and he thanked them for the honour they had done the Province of Lincolnshire in coming from all corners of those counties to the old port of Gainsboro'. The Old Hall in which they were assembled would be interesting to archaeologists, and he thought they would like to visit him in that fine old hall, where they were all on a par—all on an equality, which did not exist in any other kind of assembly. (Hear, hear.) Having thanked them again most heartily and sincerely, he coupled with the toast the name of an "old friend" of his—Bro. C. F. Matier.

Bro. Matier, in returning thanks, said that all the compliments bestowed upon the Right Worshipful Bro. Sutcliffe had been justly made, and he could only say ditto to all that had been said in his honour. He narrated what he called a "little incident" that occurred on the journey to Gainsboro'. When about three miles on this side of Worksop, and when they were going about 50 miles an hour, the driving axle of the engine broke, but he was happy to say—thanks to the Great Architect of the Universe—no fatality had occurred. He was only too pleased in coming to visit the Provincial Grand Mark Master for the first time, and he sincerely trusted it would not be the last. He hoped he would see him again elected for the third, fourth, or twentieth time. (Applause.)

Bro. Roebuck also responded, saying he would be second to none in giving his adhesion to the Right Worshipful Master. It had been said he was a large-hearted man: so he was, but he was also a large-headed man, and so all would say if they knew him as well as they did in West Yorkshire, where they had proved him before he came into Lincolnshire. No better man was ever put into shoes than Worshipful Master Sutcliffe. He said it freely, and without fear of contradiction—with all respect and without flattery—that there never was a man who worked himself up to the position Bro. Sutcliffe now held more rapidly and more successfully than he had done. It was only the week before last that he (Bro. Roebuck) was at a meeting of Royal Arch Masons, and if this gathering had only heard the remarks which were then passed by the brethren of the provincial chapter with reference to their brother who now presided at this meeting, there was no one but would have been proud, and deeply proud, to have had those feelings expressed towards himself. There was no worthier man than the present Worshipful Master of their Mark lodge. The speaker then referred to the Masonic schools, mentioning the desire that Bro. Sutcliffe had evinced to have them placed on a proper footing. They were all, he said, actuated by one feeling, and they wished to place those schools in a right position. They didn't want to have "fish for one and flesh for another," and he for one wished to find out the feeling that existed in the province of West Yorkshire, and he was determined to do so. (Hear, hear.)

Bro. Kemp proposed the toast of "The Deputy Provincial Grand Mark Master Mason, Bro. Harrison, and all other Present and Past Grand Officers of Lincolnshire," and reverted to Bro. Sutcliffe, saying he had made them feel that Mark Masonry was no simple thing, and had made them feel proud that they were Mark Masons, and whether they were recognised by Grand Craft Lodge or not it was a fact, and might she mark well.

Bro. Harrison, in responding, said: I assure you, Worshipful Sir, we feel the honour of being here under your presidency, and hope for many years' to see you at the head of the province. I have a very pleasing duty to perform. At the last Provincial Grand Mark Lodge the Provincial Grand Mark Master was kind enough to invite the officers to breakfast to Stallingboro' House. When we arrived an artist was there from Grimsby, and we were photographed in a group. We felt that we would like, as a memorial of our visit, to have it enlarged and painted, and ask our Worshipful Master to accept it. I have now, on behalf of the Past Provincial Grand Mark Officers, to request you to accept this picture as a mark of the esteem and respect of those who had the honour of acting as your first Provincial Grand Mark Officers. (Applause.)

The Chairman gave some account of the first production of the photographic group. He called on the artist to order a copy for each provincial officer, but was informed that several brethren had requested him to finish it, and he was about to do so. Therefore it was taken out of his—the Chairman's—hands altogether. It was his intention to present that group to his officers, but he was told in a sense to mind his own business, and he saw no more of it. He thought it had taken the wrong turn, but still he thought they would all agree with him that he could not be so ungrateful as to refuse the honour of accepting that handsome picture. It would not belong to him; it would belong to Masonry—Mark Masonry—and he felt bound to accept it; and some day they would see it hung up in the province of Lincolnshire as a mark of respect to the Worshipful Master. I accept it (concluded Bro. Sutcliffe) at your hands, and thank you on behalf of the family to whom you have paid this high honour. (Cheers.)

The brethren then separated to return to their homes by their respective trains.

The quantity of game killed during the late visit of the Prince of Wales to the Maharajah Dhuleep Singh at Elvedon amounted to 8141.

The Duke of Norfolk has announced his intention of giving pieces of open ground at Sheffield, each ten acres in extent, as places of recreation. These are in the neighbourhood of some of the largest works, and will be a great boon to the working population.

ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

The Committee of this Institution met on Wednesday last in the library, Freemasons' Hall, Bro. Colonel Creaton, presided; and there were also present Bros. S. Rawson, Griffiths Smith, W. Levy, Thomas Cubitt, William Stephens, Hyde Pullen, A. H. Tattershall, Joshua Nunn, James Brett, Thomas W. White, J. Newton, J. M. Case, Richard Hervé Giraud, Henry G. Warren, Charles F. Hogard, John Constable, Dr. Erasmus Wilson, J. G. Hill, W. F. Nettle-ship, W. Lane, H. Massey (Freemason); and James Terry, Secretary.

After reading the minutes Bro. James Terry informed the Committee that he had read a letter from Bro. R. H. Collins, on the part of His Royal Highness, Prince Leopold, P.G.M. for Oxfordshire, announcing that H.R.H. would take the chair at the annual festival on the 14th February. This letter was dated 18th November, but he had subsequently received another letter from Bro. Collins, dated the 30th November, altering the date for the festival to Monday, the 12th February.

Bro. Terry then read the Warden's report in which that brother informed the Committee that Dr. Strong had presented to the Asylum at Croydon a number of flowers and shrubs for the garden.

The petitions of seven men and six women were received, examined, and passed, and as some of these came from the Province of Devon,

Bro. John Constable, P.M. 185, asked how many male and female annuitants there were at the present time on the funds of the Institution from the Province of Devon.

Bro. James Terry said there were ten men receiving £40 each, or £400 a year, four widows at £32 each, or £128 a year, and one widow receiving half her late husband's annuity, or £18 a year; making in all £546 a year from this Institution for the Province of Devon.

Bro. Constable asked whether Devon was not the largest province in this respect on the Institution.

Bro. Terry said he thought East Lancashire was receiving over £600.

Bro. Constable thought that as the festival of the Institution was approaching, it would be but fair to the Institution to solicit the Province of Devon and its Grand Master for its support on that occasion.

The Chairman said the number of Devonshire cases in the Institution was certainly an argument in favour of that province being asked to support the institution as much as possible on that occasion.

Bro. James Bell asked Bro. Constable how he was going to do it.

Bro. Constable said by letter.

Bro. Terry obtained leave for the use of the hall of the asylum for the Christmas entertainment to the aged inmates on the 3rd of January.

Bro. S. Rawson gave notice that he would at the next meeting move an alteration of one of the rules of the Institution to the effect "That in the event of a widow marrying again, and being again left a widow, she shall still be eligible as an annuitant." He said that he was induced to bring this forward in consequence of what took place at last meeting, when the existing bye-law would not allow the widow of a Mason who subsequently married a non-Mason and again became a widow, to be eligible. He thought that this was never the intention when the rules were framed.

Bro. J. W. Case said that believing, as was formerly stated, that the existing rule was inconsistent with general usage he had made enquiries and found that other funds were different to this fund. In the navy, while the widow was under coverture she lost her pension; but in the event of her losing her second husband her former status reverted to her. That was also the case in the Army; and on enquiring at the Indian Office found that the same rule with one exception, existed. He had also been many years connected with the Naval Benevolent Society, where the rule was that under coverture a widow was deprived of the benefit of the fund, but in the event of her becoming again a widow it revived. All the brethren felt that they should

open the door of the Institution to worthy and deserving objects, rather than draw a line which would exclude them, and he had laid the above facts before them as additional information to guide them in coming to a conclusion.

Bro. R. H. Giraud mentioned a case in which a lady lost her pension for forty years and afterwards got it again.

The Committee then adjourned.

Masonic and General Tidings.

The anniversary festival of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution will take place on Monday, the 12th February, not Wednesday, the 14th February. The alteration of the day of meeting has been made by request of H.R.H. Prince Leopold, R.W.P.G.M. Oxfordshire, the 14th of February being Ash Wednesday.

The Loughboro' Lodge of Instruction No. 22, held its eighth Meeting at the Warrior Hotel, Colharbour Lane, Brixton, on Monday last. The First and Third Degrees were worked. Present Bros. Thomas White, W.M.; E. Towell, S.W.; J. Warren, J.W.; J. Brown, J.D.; W. A. Breeding, I.G.; G. Obeys, Asst. Sec.; F. Mercer and Thos. Parrott. It was resolved that a supper take place on the first Monday in February, next, also that in future the hour of meeting should be seven.

It has been decided by the committee of subscribers that the Brighton Memorial to the late Bro. Sir Cordy Burrows shall take the form of a statue in Sicilian marble, to be placed in the Pavilion grounds.

The first Mark Lodge in the City of Chester was consecrated on Tuesday last by the Hon. W. Egerton, M.P., R.W.P.G.M.M.M., of Cheshire and North Wales, assisted by the officers and brethren of the P.G.M.M. Lodge. A report of the proceedings will appear in our next.

The Portuguese corvette *Reina de Portugal*, from London for Lisbon, and having on board the remains of the late Bro. Duke de Saldanha, had to put into Falmouth on Tuesday through stress of weather.

The Annual Masonic Ball, in connection with the Hartington and Hindpool Lodges, Nos. 1021 and 1225, will be given in the Town Hall, Barrow-in-Furness, on Tuesday, the 18th proximo, under the distinguished patronage of the Rt. Hon. Lord Skelmersdale, D.G.M., and many Officers Past and Present of the Province of West Lancashire. Judging from the success of the former balls we anticipate a brilliant gathering and a fair balance of cash to hand over to the Masonic Charities.

KING'S COLLEGE SCHOOL.—The distribution of annual prizes and the recitations will take place on Wednesday next, at seven o'clock, when the chair will be taken by the Right Hon. J. G. Hubbard, M.P.

The consecration of Bro. the Rev. Lord Plunkett, R.W. Grand Chaplain, Ireland, as Bishop of Meath took place on Sunday, the 10th inst., at Armagh. The Primate was assisted by the Bishops of Down and Kilmore.

The bishopric of Truro has been offered to the Rev. Christopher Benson, D.D., Chancellor of Lincoln Cathedral, and formerly Head Master of Wellington College.

The circulation of the *Daily Telegraph* has reached the enormous number of 200,377 daily.

The importation of tea has increased this year from British India. The declared value amounts to £2,192,937, against £1,944,897 in the same period of the period year.

Wednesday being the anniversary of the death of the Prince Consort, her Majesty the Queen, with the Prince and Princess of Wales and other members of the Royal family, attended a memorial service in the Mausoleum in Frogmore-gardens, as usual.

THE ACCIDENT TO MR. BARRY SULLIVAN.—Mr. Barry Sullivan was prevented from playing the part of Macbeth at Drury-lane Theatre on Wednesday night, owing to an accident which befel him the previous evening during the performance of *Richard the Third*. In the fight between Richard and Richmond, Mr. Sinclair, by some accident, injured Mr. Sullivan in the face. Last night *Macbeth* was to have been performed, but previous to the rising of the curtain the stage manager came forward and read a certificate from Dr. Mills, of Southampton-street, Strand, to the effect that owing to his accident Mr. Sullivan was "totally incapable" of appearing. Mr. James Bennett would, it was announced, take the character of the Scottish chief. The wound was received after Mr. Sullivan had fallen at the close of the combat with Richmond, and while the audience were loudly applauding. Drs. Mills and Canton were called in, and it was found that the left eyelid had been cut through, and the effect of the injury to the pupil was such as to occasion partial blindness, from which, we understand, Mr. Sullivan still suffered last night.

Bro. His Grace The Duke of Marlborough, having been formally sworn in as Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland, left Kingstown Harbour, on Tuesday night for London. The departure was private. It is expected that the Duke will return to Ireland in state in January.

CONFIDENCE LODGE OF INSTRUCTION.—The second of the series of Lectures upon the History of the Craft will be given in this lodge on Wednesday next at Masons' Hall Tavern, Basinghall-street.

The Christmas Number of the *Freemason* will be ready for the trade early on Friday Morning, the 22nd inst., price 4d. It will be a double number and have in addition an illustrated wrapper with seven life-like Portraits.

A REWARD FOR HEROISM.—The Duke of Manchester presided on Tuesday at a chapter of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem, held at St. John's Gate, Clerkenwell, when the bronze medal of the Order was voted to George Gates, a sewer flusher, who recently, with gallant disregard of personal danger, went back into the New-road sewer at Battersea, although himself in a half-stupified state, and rescued two men—Scott and Plester—who, but for Gates' courageous conduct, would probably have shared the fate of their comrade, Lomas, who was killed by the poisonous gases. This medal, which is also awarded in silver, is conferred by the Order for the reward of deeds of valour in saving life on land.

We are very pleased to learn that The Health of H.R.H. Prince Leopold R.W.P.G.M. has considerably improved.

FREEMASONRY IN NEW ZEALAND.

The interesting ceremony of installing Bro. Clayton, W.M. of the Prince of Wales Lodge, took place at the lodge-room, Star Hotel, Auckland, on Thursday, Sept. 28th. The ordinary business having been proceeded with, Bro. Clayton was presented to P. M. Leers, who acted as Installing Master for the occasion, and conducted the ceremony in a most impressive manner. Bro. Clayton having been duly installed according to the prescribed form, proceeded to appoint the following officers for the ensuing year:—

Bros. W. H. Skinner, I.P.M.; C. M. Nelson, S.W.; F. W. E. Dawson, J.W.; E. Browne, Chap.; W. H. Kissling, P.M., Treas.; M. S. Leers, P.M., Sec.; R. C. Dyer, S.D.; W. Rattray, J.D.; G. N. Brassey, P.M., Dir. of Cers.; C. T. Saxton, Org.; J. H. Gosset, I.G.; C. Burton and W. S. Collins, Stewards; C. Porter, Tyler.

The W.M. then closed the lodge, and the brethren, to the number of about forty, adjourned to the banquet room. After the many good and excellent things provided by mine host, Bro. Gorman, had been partaken of, the W.M., Bro. Clayton, as Chairman, proposed the following toasts:—"The Queen and the Craft." (Choir: "God Save the Queen.")—"H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M. of England." (Song and chorus, "God Bless the Prince of Wales.")—"The M.W.G.M.'s of Scotland and Ireland, Sir Michael Stewart, and the Duke of Abercorn."

The Chairman next proposed "The Three District Grand Masters, English, Scotch, and Irish, Bro. Sir Donald McLean, K.C.M.G., Bro. John Hislop, and Bro. G. P. Pierce." The toast was drunk with full honours.

Bro. P. M. Leers then proposed the health of the W.M. of the Prince of Wales Lodge (drank with Macduff honours), who briefly acknowledged the toast.

Bro. P. M. Skinner proposed the health of the Installing Master, Bro. P. M. Leers.

Brother C. M. Nelson, S. W., who acted as vice-chairman, next proposed the health of the Past Masters of the Prince of Wales Lodge. This toast was drunk with Macduff honours, and responded to by Bros. P. M. Skinner and Leers.

The remaining toasts were then given: "The Visiting Brethren," responded to by Bro. P. M. Wade; "The Wardens, Chaplain, Treasurer, and Secretary," proposed by Brother Dyer, and responded to by Bro. Nelson; "The Honorary and Junior officers" proposed by Bro. Dyson, and responded to by Bro. Dyer; "The newly initiated brethren;" "The Choir;" "The Ladies;" "Host and Hostess." Immediately before the Tyler's toast Bro. Nelson proposed "The memory of the late P. M. Diethelm, first W.M. of the Prince of Wales Lodge." He spoke of him as a most active and enthusiastic Mason, and one whose loss would be severely felt by the Masons of Auckland. Both this and the Tyler's toast were drunk in solemn silence.

The evening's proceedings were enlivened by selections on the organ by Bro. Rees, and vocal pieces by Bros. Harker, Sexton, and Skinner. The brethren separated at about 12 o'clock, after spending a most enjoyable evening.

Obituary.

BRO. WYLIE, P.P.G.R. W. LANCASHIRE.

Bro. Wylie was initiated in 1840, in the Lodge of Sincerity, No. 368, now 292; continued a subscribing member till his death, and was twice W.M. of the lodge—the second time about 25 years after the first occasion, when he was installed by his son, Bro. Robert Wylie, P.P.G.S.D. The deceased also filled the office of P.G. Secretary for ten years; and, besides being P.G. Registrar, as we have stated, he was also appointed P.G.J.W. and H. in the Prov. G. Chapter. He especially distinguished himself as one of the original promoters of the Masonic Hall, in consequence of which he was appointed one of the trustees when the land and premises in Hope-street were brought. He took the warmest interest in everything appertaining to Freemasonry, especially in the Province of West Lancashire, and was presented with jewels by the brethren in the Furness district, and also by those in the neighbourhood of Southport for services rendered to the lodges and chapters. He was also presented with a splendid service of plate (subscribed for by the brethren) on his resignation of the Prov. Grand Secretaryship. Amongst his other honours it may also be mentioned that he was P.Z. of Chapter 36.

METROPOLITAN MASONIC MEETINGS.

For the Week ending Friday, December 22, 1876.

The Editor will be glad to receive notice from Secretaries of Craft Lodges, Royal Arch Chapters, Mark Lodges, Preceptories, Conclaves, &c., of any change in place or time of meeting.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16.

Lodge 715, Panmure, Cannon-st. Hot.
" 1365, Earl of Zetland, Old Town Hall, Hackney.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Lily, Greyhound, Richmond.
Manchester, 77, London-st., Fitzroy-sq.
Star, Marquis of Granby, New Cross-rd.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 18.

Lodge 1, Grand Masters, F.M.H.
" 8, British, F.M.H.
" 21, Emulation, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
" 185, Tranquillity, Cannon-st. Hot.
" 222, St. Andrew's, Inn's of Court Hot., Laen's-ism.
" 730, Panmure, Balham Hot., Balham.
" 862, Whittington, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
" 1201, Eclectic, F.M.H.
Chap. 12, Prudence, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Prince Leopold, Lord Stanley Tav., Kingsland.
Strong Man, Jerusalem Tav., St. John's Gate.
Sincerity, Railway Tav., Fenchurch-st. Station.
Camden, Stanhope Arms, Up. James-st., Camden To.
Eastern, Royal Hot., Mile-end-road.
St. James's Union, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Wellington, White Swan, Deptford.
Perfect Ashlar, Victoria Tav., Lower-rd., Rotherhithe.
Upper Norwood, White Hart Hot., Church-rd.
Marquis of Ripon, Pembury Tav., Amherst-rd., Hackney.
Loughborough, Warrior Hot., Brixton.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19.

Lodge 30, United Mariners, Guildhall Tav.
" 73, Mount Lebanon, Brid.Hou.Ho., London-brdg.
" 95, Eastern Star, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.
" 435, Salisbury, F.M.H.
Chap. 11, Enoch, F.M.H.
" 19, Mount Sinai, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Metropolitan, 269, Pentonville-rd.
Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney.
Domestic, Surrey M.H., Camberwell New-road.
Faith, 2, Westminster Chambers, Victoria-st.
Prince Fredk. Wm., Lord's Hot., St. John's Wood.
Dalhousie, King Edward, Triangle, Hackney.
Prosperity, Hercules Tav., Leadenhall-st.
St. Marylebone, British Stores Tav., St. John's Wood.
Constitutional, Wheatsheaf Hot., Hand-court, Holborn.
Israel, Rising Sun Tav., Globe Road.
Royal Arthur, Prince's Head, York-road, Battersea.
Beacontree, Red Lion, Leytonstone.
Excelsior, Commercial Dock Tav., Rotherhithe.
St. John of Wapping, Gun Hot., High-st., Wapping.
Metropolitan Chapter, Jamaica Coffee Ho., Cornhill.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 20.

Lodge 140, St. George's, Trafalgar Hot., Greenwich.
" 174, Sincerity, Guildhall Tav., Gresham-st.
" 700, Nelson, M.H., William-st., Woolwich.
" 969, Maybury, Inns of Court Hot., Lincoln's-inn.
" 1044, Wandsworth, Spread Eagle Hot., Wandsworth.
" 1349, Friars, Cheshire Cheese, Crutched Friars.
" 1382, Corinthian, George Hot., Millwall Docks.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Confidence, M.H., Basinghall-st.
Mt. Lebanon, Windsor Castle Tav., Southwark-bdg.-rd.
Pythagorean, Prince of Orange, Greenwich.
New Concord, Rosemary Branch Tav., Hoxton.
Royal Union, Horse and Groom, Winsley-st., Oxford-st.
Mount Edgumbe, 19, Jermyn-st., St. James's.
Peckham, Maimore Arms, Park-road, Peckham.
Stanhope, Thicket Hot., Anerley.
Finsbury Park, Finsbury Park Tav., Seven Sisters'-rd.
Southwark, Southwark Park Tav., Southwark Park.
Duke of Connaught, Havelock Tav., Dalston, E.
United Strength, Grafton Arms, Kentish-town.
Islington, Crown and Cushion, London Wall.
Whittington, Black Bull Tav., Holborn.
Lewis, King's Arms Hot., Wood Green.
Langthorne, Swan Hot., Stratford.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21.

House Com. Girls' School, at 3.
Lodge 23, Globe, F.M.H.
" 49, Gihon, Guildhall Tav., Gresham-st.
" 169, Temperance, White Swan, Deptford.
" 179, Manchester, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
" 813, New Concord, Rosemary Branch, Hoxton.
" 1139, South Norwood, Public Hall, South Norwood.
" 1287, Great Northern, F.M.H.
" 1339, Stockwell, Tulse Hill Hot., Tulse Hill.
" 1475, Peckham, Surrey M.H.
" 1507, Metropolitan, 269, Pentonville-rd.
Chap. 79, Pythagorean, Ship Hot., Greenwich.
Precep. E., Observance, 14, Bedford Row.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Egyptian, Hercules Tav., Leadenhall-st.
Fidelity, Yorkshire Grey, London-st., W.
Finsbury, Jolly Anglers' Tav., Bath-st., City-road.
Temperance in the East, Catherine-st., Poplar.
Ebony, 12, Pensonby-st., Milbank.
Highgate, Bull and Gate, Kentish-town.
The Great City, 111, Cheapside.
High Cross, Coach & Horses, High-road, Tottenham.
Salisbury, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Prince Frederick William Chapter, St. John's Wood.
Southern Star, Crown Hot., Blackfriars-rd.,

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 22.

LODGE OF INSTRUCTION.

Union Waterloo, Thomas-st., Woolwich.
Robert Burns, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Belgrave, Constitution, Bedford-st., Covent Garden.
Unions Emulation (for M.M.'s), F.M.H.
Temperance, Victoria Tav., Victoria-road, Deptford.
Clapton, White Hart, Clapton.
Metropolitan, Portugal Hot., Fleet-st.
Westbourne, Horse & Groom, Winsley-st., Oxford-st.
United Pilgrims, Surrey M.H., Camberwell New-road.
St. James's, New Tanners' Arms, Grange-rd., Bermondsey.
Duke of Edinburgh, Silver Lion, Penny-fields, Poplar.
Doric, Earl Grey Tav., Mile-end-road.
Burgoyne, Grafton Arms, Prince of Wales's-road, N.W.
St. Luke's, White Hart, King's-rd., Chelsea.
Chigwell, Bald-faced Stag Hot., Buckhurst-hill.
Burdett Courts, Approach Tav., Victoria Park.
Royal Standard, The Castle, Holloway-rd.
Ranelagh, Clarendon Hot., Hammersmith.
Stability, Guildhall Tav., Gresham-st.
St. George's, Globe Tav., Greenwich.
Pythagorean Chapter, Prince of Orange, Greenwich-rd.
William Preston, Feathers Tav. Up George-st., Edgware-rd.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN WEST LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE.

For the Week ending Saturday, December 23, 1876.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 18.

Lodge 1502, Israel, M.H., Liverpool.
Chap. 32, Jerusalem, M.H., Liverpool.
Everton L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19.

Lodge 667, Alliance, M.H., Liverpool.
" 1225, Hindpool, Hartington Hot., Barrow.
" 1276, Warren, Stanley Arms Hot., Seacombe.
" 1325, Stanley, M.H., Kirkdale, Liverpool.
" 1570, Prince Arthur, 80, N. Hill-st., Liverpool.
Chap. 605, De Tabley, Seacombe Hot., Seacombe.
Merchants' L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.
Liverpool Red Cross Conclave, M.H., Liverpool.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 20.

Lodge 537, Zetland, M.C., Birkenhead.
" 823, Everton, M.H., Liverpool.
" 1086, Walton, St. Lawrence's School, Liverpool.
" 1345, Victoria, Cross Keys Hot., Eccles.
" 1353, Duke of Lancaster, Athenaeum, Lancaster.
De Grey and Ripon L. of I., 80, N. Hill-st., Liverpool.
Harmonic L. of I., Mona Hot., James-st., Liverpool.
Downshire L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.
Mark Lodge, 31, Fidelity, Norfolk Hot., Hyde.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21.

Lodge 203, Ancient Union, M.H., Liverpool.
" 343, Concord, Militia Mess R., Preston.
" 425, Cestrian, M.H., Chester.
" 605, Combermere, Seacombe Hot., Seacombe.
" 1299, Pembroke, Rawlinson's Hot., West Derby.
St. John's L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 22.

Chap 680, Sefton, M.H., Liverpool.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN GLASGOW AND WEST OF SCOTLAND.

For the Week ending Saturday, December 23, 1876.
All the Meetings take place at Eight o'clock.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 18.

Lodge 129, St. Mirren, 5, Moss-st., Paisley.
" 332, Union, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
" 581, Plantation, Craigiehall-st., S.S., Glasgow.
Encamp. St. Mungo, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19.

Lodge 34, St. John, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
" 73, Thistle and Rose, 213, Buchanan-st., Glsow.
" 87, Thistle, 30, Cathedral-st., Glasgow.
" 437, Govandale, M.H., Portland Buildings, Govan.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 20.

Lodge 117, St. Mary, M.H., Douglas-st., Partick.
" 354, Caledonian Railway, 30, Hope-st., Glasgow.
" 571, Dramatic, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow (3 p.m.).
Chap. 150, Shetleston, M.H., Shetleston.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21.

Lodge 27, St. Mungo, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
" 370, Renfrew County Kilw., 8, High-st., Paisley.
" 465, St. Andrew, 69, Garngad-rd., Glasgow.
" 547, Stewart, M.H., Kilsyth.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN EDINBURGH AND VICINITY.

For the Week ending Saturday, December 23, 1876.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 18.

Lodge 44, St. Luke, F.M.H., 98, George-st.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19.

Lodge 36, St. David, Ship Hot., E. Register-st.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 20.

Lodge 160, Roman Eagle, Iona Hot.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21.

Lodge 48, St. Andrew, F.M.H., 98, George-st.

" 226, Portobello, Town Hall, Portobello.

Chap. 152, Perseverance, 86, Constitution-st., Leith.

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